Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

UGANDA

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
Several localised conflicts have been affecting Uganda in the past years. Tensions prevail over disputed land ownership, which led to forced evictions in Adjumani district in 2017. Cases or armed men attacking illegal dwellers were common. Such attacks are usually accompanied by the burning of dwellers' huts.

Uganda also suffers from ethnic tensions which sometimes result in armed violence. It was the case for clashes in Nwoya district which displaced people in 2017. The last big wave of violence occurred in 2016 when members of the Bakonzo and Bamba ethnic groups in western Rwenzori region clashed following contested local elections and political infighting. The clashes displaced over 23,000 people.

Armed clashes between herders and farmers over land and pastures are also common, however, IDMC did not record any instance of displacement induced by such clashes in 2017.

The Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) has been involved in a guerilla war against the government since 1987. Despite a truce in 2006, LRA remains active, especially in neighbouring countries such as DRC and CAR. Nearly two million civilians were historically forced to flee their homes in Uganda because of LRA violence and some of them have not reached durable solutions yet. No new displacements related to LRA activity were recorded in 2017.

**Stock:** 24,000  
**New displacements:** 1,300  
**Returns:** N/A  
**Provisional solutions:** 30,000
UGANDA - Map of major displacement events in 2017

More than 1,000 people were displaced due to two attacks waged by armed men on residents occupying disputed tribal land in Juka village. Location: Adjumani
Dates: March - June 2017
Source: Daily Monitor

As many as 340 people were displaced following a clan revenge attack in Koch Goma sub-county. Location: Nwoya
Dates: 25 - 26 January 2017
Source: All Africa

Sources: Displacement data (IDMC); map (OCHA, Reliefweb) created in Sep 2013. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations and IDMC.
UGANDA - Stock: 24,000 IDPs
This corresponds to the total number of individuals in a situation of internal displacement at the end of 2017

Sources and methodologies
We use several sources for our stock estimate: media articles from the Daily Monitor published in March and June 2017, which quote local authorities, a media article from All Africa which also quotes local authorities, and a Human Rights Watch report, which covers the Bundibugyo district as of July 2016 and cites humanitarian agencies operating in Uganda.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
The geographical coverage is limited as no systematic assessment of internal displacement has taken place in Uganda since 2012. We only receive sporadic reports of displacement through local and international media. Furthermore, we did not receive any proof that any of the IDPs displaced in 2016 and 2017 managed to return home or find any sustainable solution to their situation, and therefore we continue including them in the stock figure.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The figure represents a sum of 1,000 new displacements triggered by two attacks waged by armed men on residents occupying the disputed Apaa land in Adjumani district in March and June 2017, 340 new displacements in Nwoya district due to inter-clan clashes in January 2017, and 23,000 people that were displaced in 2016 in Bundibugyo district as a result of post-electoral violence in February and April 2016.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
For the 2016 figure, we reported on 30,000 people displaced in the district of Agago, Gulu, Kitgum and Lamwo by fighting between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Ugandan military in the 1990s and 2000s which remained in displacement as of January 2012. As contextual information implies that these IDPs are in the process of integrating in their areas of displacement, however, we no longer consider that there is sufficient evidence that they remain displaced. They are therefore included in the 2017 estimate of IDPs having reached provisional solutions.
UGANDA - New displacements: 1,300

This corresponds to the estimated number of internal displacement movements to have taken place during the year

Sources and methodologies
We use media sources for the new displacement estimate; including media articles published by the Daily Monitor in March and June, which quote local authorities, and a media article published by All Africa in January which also quotes local authorities.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
Our only source is media articles. No systematic assessment of internal displacement took place in 2017. Due to reporting bias, and due to the likelihood that not all IDP movements in the country have been identified, we consider the figure to be an underestimate.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The figure represents a sum of 1,000 new displacements triggered by two attacks waged by armed men on residents occupying the disputed Apaa land in Adjumani district in March and June 2017, and 340 new displacements in Nwoya district due to inter-clan clashes in January 2017.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
This figure is a significant decrease compared to the one reported past year, when we registered around 23,000 new displacements due to electoral violence in Bundibugyo district.
UGANDA - Returns: N/A

This corresponds to the number of individuals for which sufficient evidence exists to indicate a return to the habitual place of residence.

We did not identify or obtain relevant data in relation to this category.
UGANDA - Provisional solutions: 30,000

This corresponds to cases of individuals who IDMC considers to not have achieved a durable solution.

Challenges in accounting for returns

We consider 30,000 people displaced in the district of Agago, Gulu, Kitgum and Lamwo by fighting between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Ugandan military in the 1990s and 2000s which remained in displacement as of January 2012 as having reached ‘provisional solutions’ to their displacement. As contextual information implies that these IDPs are in the process of integrating in their areas of displacement, however, we no longer consider that there is sufficient evidence that they remain displaced.