

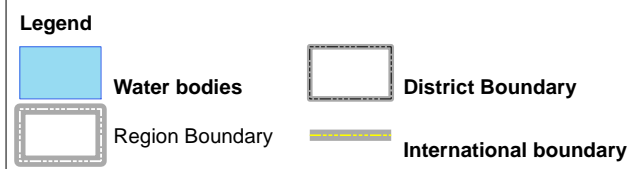
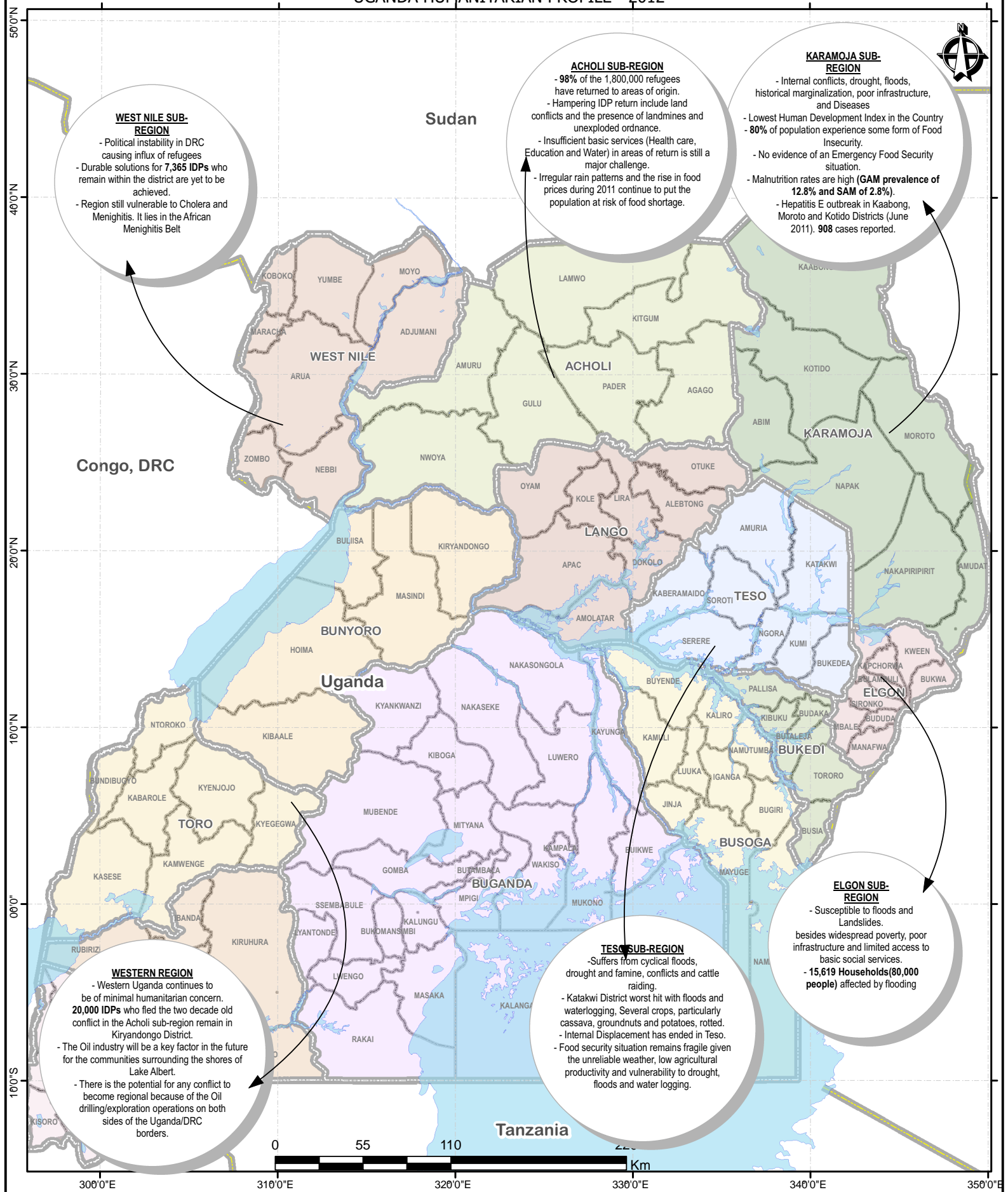


UGANDA HUMANITARIAN PROFILE - 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1. CONTEXT OVERVIEW	3
INTRODUCTION	3
2011 IN REVIEW	4
1.2.1 Security and Access.....	4
1.2.2 Political Situation.....	5
1.2.3 Economic Situation.....	5
1.2.4 Natural Disasters, Environment and Climate Change	6
1.2.5 Humanitarian Access	7
1.3 KEY HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENTS IN 2011	8
1.3.1 Approval of National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy.....	8
1.3.2 The Uganda Parliamentarians Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction	8
1.3.3 Transition of OCHA	8
1.3.4 Food Insecurity in Karamoja.....	9
1.3.5 Contingency Planning	9
1.4 ANALYSIS OF KEY HUMANITARIAN ISSUES IN UGANDA	9
1.4.1 Elgon Sub-Region	9
1.4.2 Karamoja Sub-Region.....	10
1.4.3 West Nile Sub-Region.....	10
1.4.4 Acholi Sub-Region.....	11
1.4.5 Teso Sub-Region	11
1.4.6 Western Uganda (South Western/Albertine Regions)	12
PART 2: HUMANITARIAN APPROACH	13
2.1 STRATEGIC HUMANITARIAN FOCUS	13
2.1.1 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).....	13
2.1.2 Emergency Preparedness and Response.....	13
2.1.3 Partnerships and capacity-building.....	14
2.2 POSSIBLE HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES OF EXPECTED EVENTS	14
2.2.1 Natural Disasters.....	14
2.2.2 Internal and cross-border conflicts	18
2.2 TRIGGERS AND EARLY WARNING INDICATORS	20
2.3 MONITORING AND PREPAREDNESS PLANNING	21
2.4 COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS AND KEY CONSTRAINTS	21
2.4.1 The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction	21
2.4.2 The District Disaster Management Technical Committees.....	22
2.4.3 The National Emergency Coordination & Operations Centre (NECOC).....	22
2.4.4 City Disaster Management Technical Committee (CDMTC)	22
2.4.5 Development of legal preparedness for international disaster response.....	23
2.5 RESOURCE MECHANISMS TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES	23
2.5.1 Government Funds.....	23
2.5.2 Flash Appeal	24
2.5.3 Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	24
2.5.4 Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).....	24
PART 3: RELATED PROCESSES AND FRAMEWORKS	25
3.1 OVERVIEW OF ONGOING NEEDS ASSESSMENTS IN UGANDA	25
3.1.1 DesInventar	25
3.1.2 Damage, loss and needs assessment.....	25
3.2 OVER VIEW OF STRATEGIC PLANS	25
3.2.1 National Development Plan (NDP) for Uganda	25
3.2.2 Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda.....	26
3.2.3 Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Programme (KIDDP).....	28
3.2.4 The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).....	28
3.2.5 The National Policy on Disaster preparedness and Management.....	29

UGANDA HUMANITARIAN PROFILE - 2012



STRUCTURE OF THE UGANDA HUMANITARIAN PROFILE 2012

PART 1. CONTEXT OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Uganda humanitarian profile 2012 is the second version after a decision was made to end the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) in Uganda. It builds on the humanitarian profile for 2011 to provide an update on the humanitarian issues in the country. This is both a preparedness and resource mobilization tool which is updated every year to inform government and the humanitarian community on key humanitarian issues in the country.

Western Uganda continues to be of minimal humanitarian concern at this point but the region also hosts refugees. Congolese refugees, in particular, are unlikely to return home in the near future given the fact that conflict continues in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In fact, fresh influxes are likely should the conflict continue or deteriorate. The discovery and development of oil reserves in western Uganda could also increase political tensions with local communities in western Uganda. Local opposition has already arisen over land rights and forced displacement, the oil development companies' employment of foreigners rather than natives, and concerns over how the wealth will be distributed.

Internal conflicts, drought, floods, historical marginalization, poor infrastructure, and diseases still affect the Karamoja region, with significant impacts on human welfare and quality of life. The sub-region has the lowest human development indices in the country. Human rights concerns remain prominent as a result of the UPDF's disproportionate use of force and violations during cordon and search operations associated with the forced disarmament programme. Nearly 80% of the population experiences some degree of food insecurity, mainly due to unreliable rainfall. The seven districts of Kaabong, Abim, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Amudat, Napak and Moroto, are all located within a "red" food security zone, according to a recent government assessment. WFP, working with the government's Karamoja Productive Assets Programme to increase household incomes and create assets, provided targeted relief food to the 140,000 extremely vulnerable persons in 2011. Malnutrition rates however, remained high in this region.

In Acholi sub- region, Residual IDPs persist in the Acholi sub-region even as the development phase begins. Five years after the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement between GoU and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), the majority of IDPs have left the camps. More than 98% of the 1.8 million IDPs who lived in camps at the height of the conflict have returned to their areas of origin or have resettled in new locations. The sustainability of returns, however, remains in doubt. Despite the peace and stability in the region since 2006, returns have outpaced recovery planning and implementation. Most IDPs have returned to areas offering few basic services such as water, health care and education. Current and planned efforts notwithstanding, there is general agreement that it will take many years to rehabilitate northern Uganda.

The Elgon and Teso sub-regions are suffering from landslides and floods, drought and famine, conflicts and cattle raiding. This vulnerability to floods, compounded by unpredictable weather patterns and Karamojong cattle raiding, continues to negatively impact the livelihood security of people at community and household levels in the sub region. While internal displacement has ended in Teso, several factors are undermining sustainable resettlement and recovery. Gaps in social service provision and limited livelihood opportunities continue to hamper the quest for durable solutions. A big number of people have been affected by mudslides and displaced by floods across eastern Uganda during the months of August and September 2011 following torrential rains that submerged homes and devastated villages. Government has resettled 602 house hold from the region, but the resettling and recovery programme is far away to be completed.

The humanitarian profile will be a living document which will be regularly updated to reflect evolving situation in the country. The Department of Disaster Preparedness in the Office of the Prime Minister spear headed the development of this version on the humanitarian profile and it will continue to coordinate the regular update of the document.

2011 IN REVIEW

1.2.1 Security and Access

As of November 2011, there have been no terrorist attacks in Uganda despite several alerts. Ugandan forces continue to form the backbone of the African Union force in Somalia (AMISOM), which in 2011 went on the offensive against the extremist Al Shabaab militia. Al Shabaab has repeatedly threatened to mount further terrorist attacks within Uganda in retaliation. In September 2011, some of those alleged to have committed the July 2010 Kampala bombings (which killed over 70 civilians and were allegedly ordered by Al Shabaab) went on trial in Kampala.

The build-up to and formal secession of South Sudan from the Republic of the Sudan on 9 July triggered security concerns along Uganda's northern border and fears that any new conflict in South Sudan might lead to refugee flows into Uganda. While humanitarian organizations duly developed contingency plans and mapped out potential refugee receiving sites, the situation on the Uganda–South Sudan border has remained calm and no significant refugee flows have occurred to date.

Most of the population in Acholi sub-region, internally displaced during the long conflict in northern Uganda, have returned to home sites or resettled in trading centres. The return process has been marred by land conflicts, sometimes leading to violence. Many women and female-headed households have been deprived of access to land, and there have been widespread allegations of land-grabbing by influential people from within and outside the region. Land dispute resolution processes, including magisterial courts, local council mechanisms, and elder-driven mechanisms have largely been overwhelmed by the number of cases and are sometimes seen as biased, leading many to take matters into their own hands.

In the Karamoja region of northeastern Uganda, cattle raiding, banditry and the widespread presence of small arms continue to destabilize the security situation and make travelling along remote roads dangerous due to the risk of ambushes. In August

and September, serious flooding destroyed some bridges and washed out roads, leaving communities isolated.

1.2.2 Political Situation

The February-March 2011 national and local government elections were accompanied by some localized violence but concluded as planned. Results returned the National Resistance Movement (NRM) to power in parliament and Yoweri K. Museveni to another term as President. Voter turnout was 59% of the 14 million registered voters with lower participation in local level elections, particularly in rural areas. There were widespread allegations of malpractice, including vote buying before the elections and stuffing or switching of ballot boxes. Questions were also raised about the independence of the government-appointed National Electoral Commission. The European Union Election Observation Mission reported widespread abnormalities and abuse of incumbency in the national-level election, but accepted the result.

Some demonstrations occurred following announcements by opposition presidential candidates rejecting the election results. More widespread protests were to follow in April, mainly in response to the deteriorating economic situation, particularly against high fuel and living costs. While the protests were largely peaceful, the heavy-handed response from police and the Army resulted in several deaths in Kampala and elsewhere. Clashes in Masaka, Gulu and Mbale were particularly violent and continued for days.

Following the violent police crackdown, the pressure group and opposition politicians behind the demonstrations devised the 'Walk to Work' campaign as a form of protest. Opposition leaders participating in the campaign were repeatedly detained, while homes of main opposition leaders were surrounded by police, keeping them under temporary and informal house arrest. On April 28, main opposition leader Kizza Besigye was attacked by security agents and doused in pepper spray, suffering injuries to his eyes that necessitated treatment in Kenya. By July, the protests and the Walk to Work campaign had petered out, with activists resorting to advocacy and legal challenges. However, public anger and dissatisfaction persist as commodity prices remain high and the Uganda Shilling continues to perform dismally.

More long-running conflicts, such as that between the Buganda Kingdom and the Central Government, remain unresolved. In the recent past, issues around land ownership have sparked off confrontations which have led to riots, especially in 2009 and 2010.

The discovery and development of oil reserves in western Uganda could also increase political tensions with local communities in western Uganda. Local opposition has already arisen over land rights and forced displacement, the oil development companies' employment of foreigners rather than natives, and concerns over how the wealth will be distributed.

1.2.3 Economic Situation

Uganda has experienced sustained economic growth averaging 7% annually over the past 15 years. In 2010, the economy grew at about 6% while core inflation remained low, falling to 2.5% by the end of the year. However, since the beginning of 2011, the country

experienced price increases for food crops, fuel and most consumer goods. The general price level of all items increased by 16.1% per October 2011 reached 30.5%, the highest since January 1993 when it was 34.2%. The price of food crops also rose dramatically, reaching an annualized inflation rate of 42% in July while prices for Electricity, Fuel and Utilities (EFU) items increased by 9.1% for the year ending September 2011.

At the beginning of 2011 food prices increased partly due to a prolonged dry season in most parts of the country, resulting in a 16% output reduction by the agricultural sector. Furthermore, increased demand for staple food items such as maize and beans from South Sudan and Kenya and other neighboring countries saw Uganda selling much of its food for export, which is also causing food scarcities on the local market. The 2011/2012 budget paper confirms that there was a reduction in the overall growth in agricultural output to 0.9 per annum, compared to 2.4% recorded in the previous year (MoFPED, 2011). In addition, increased regional demand for food has also contributed to the surge in food prices. At regional level, countries in the East African Community have all suffered high food inflation as a result of drought and the high global food prices and in turn they have looked at Uganda as a food basket. Inflationary pressures have also been driven by both increased global commodity prices and the depreciation of the Uganda Shilling, which has affected domestic prices in general. A change of such magnitude in food prices and basic consumer goods has had large welfare and distributional consequences for the Ugandan populace. The overall impact of food price levels on poverty is not easily deduced but research has revealed that poor households in Uganda tend to be net buyers of food staples and, therefore, suffer welfare losses when food prices increase. This is most pronounced in urban areas, but holds true for most rural households as well.

1.2.4 Natural Disasters, Environment and Climate Change

Vulnerability to natural disasters remained a key humanitarian concern in Uganda in 2011. Although the disasters experienced in 2011 were less severe than those of 2010, landslides in Bulambuli district in Elgon Zone in eastern Uganda and thunderstorms in several parts of the country were life threatening.

Landslides and Flooding

As of November 2011, flood waters had receded in many areas of Bulambuli, Butalejja and Sironko districts but there was renewed flooding in Kisoro, Moyo, Kampala and Nebbi. Following a verification exercise that involved local leaders, the Uganda Red Cross established the death toll at 34 since the rains began and the total number of affected households across Uganda at 15,650 households (77,446 people). In Sironko District, 1,639 households in four sub-counties were affected and continued to require emergency interventions. In Bulambuli and Sironko, 35 schools were affected, with latrines collapsing and roofs blown off. As a result, education programmes were disrupted as some schools needed to be relocated. In Soroti District, the worst-hit area was Gweri sub-county, specifically the parishes of Awoja and Gweri where 271 households were affected. In the western Uganda district of Kasese, 360 households were affected most of them in Nyakiyumbu sub-county.

The rains and flooding rendered some roads impassable (e.g. Weri road between Soroti and Katakwi) and others completely cut off (e.g. the Ajeleik Bridge to Amuria District and the Awoja Bridge to Soroti).

Disease Outbreaks

During the first half of 2011, Uganda continued to experience a yellow fever epidemic whose first cases were reported in Abim District (Karamoja) on 8 November 2010. At least 10 cases were confirmed in the five districts of Abim (4 cases), Agago (2 cases), Kitgum (2 cases), Lamwo (1 case) and Pader (1 case). One additional case was retrospectively confirmed from serum samples collected from Pader District in June. Although laboratory tests remained negative for suspected cases in nine other districts including Kaabong, Kotido, Arua, Lira, Gulu, Nebbi, Napak, Dokolo and Yumbe, the cases met the surveillance case definition of yellow fever. Hence, overall, a total of 272 suspected yellow fever cases including 58 deaths (CFR 21.3%) were reported from the 14 districts as of 10 March 2011. In response to the outbreak, the Ministry of Health (MoH) with support from partners developed a national response plan focusing on key control interventions, including: strengthening surveillance and conducting extended outbreak investigation; provision of prompt and effective clinical care; community mobilization/public information; and, reactive mass vaccination from 22 – 26 January 2011 in the five districts that confirmed the disease. The immunization campaign met with a good response from communities and achieved an 81.7% overall coverage in the five districts.

Climate Change

Uganda's economy and the wellbeing of its people are highly vulnerable to climate change and variability. Climate change in terms of higher temperatures, increased drought and rainfall and shift in seasonality has had some impacts on human health and some sectors (Mid-Term Review Report on Climate Change, August 2011). Higher temperatures lead to high incidences of malarial and respiratory problems. Increased drought results in increased risk of water-related diseases, food shortage and famine. Heightened risk of waterborne diseases and floods/landslides results from increased rainfall and shift in seasonality.

A recent study¹ indicated that variability has long been a characteristic of Uganda's climate, and coping with it is part and parcel of rural livelihoods. However, the capacity of individuals and communities to respond to climate variability remains generally low, particularly in rural contexts, where livelihoods are especially sensitive to fluctuations in seasonal rainfall. The effects of premature, delayed, prolonged or failed rains are particularly pronounced in the semi-arid northeast. The report also showed increasing trends in both maximum and minimum temperatures in key communities, although available data on total annual rainfall shows no significant changes in the amount of rainfall. Additionally, the report indicated that communities are now aware of and perceive climate change as: unpredictable rainfall patterns; increasingly prolonged droughts; increased temperatures; increased intensity of flash floods and flooding; and, prolonged rainfall.

1.2.5 Humanitarian Access

Access to sites affected by natural disasters, particularly in eastern and northeastern Uganda, were seriously hampered due to landslides and/or washed out roads and bridges, delaying receipt of much needed humanitarian assistance. Poor road conditions coupled with torrential rains damaged bridges in Karamoja, Teso, West Nile, and Western Uganda and limited access to marginal communities in affected areas. On

¹ **Preparing for the future in Uganda:** Understanding the influence of development interventions on adaptive capacity at the local level, Africa Climate Change Resilience Alliance (ACCRA) Uganda Synthesis Report

the other hand, overall security in eastern Uganda improved, although there remained sporadic road ambushes and security issues along the route to Karamoja.

1.3 KEY HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENTS IN 2011

1.3.1 Approval of National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy

The approval of the National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management in May 2011 was a major achievement of the Government of Uganda (GoU) in its efforts to enhance disaster management in the country. The policy reflects a shift of focus from disaster response to disaster reduction, with the objective of providing a comprehensive disaster management framework to guide programming and actions of key stakeholders in this sector. It recognizes the need to empower communities to cope with and mitigate the impact of disasters, as it does the need to protect the rights of vulnerable groups and persons with special needs. It is hoped that the policy will go a long way in increasing coordination of programming by actors in disaster management.

The mission of the policy is to ensure an effective framework through which Disaster Preparedness and Management are entrenched in all aspects of development processes, ensuring sustainable development by focusing on saving lives, livelihoods and the country's resources. The overall policy goal is to promote national vulnerability assessment, risk mitigation, disaster prevention, preparedness, effective response and recovery in a manner that integrates disaster risk management with development planning and programming.

1.3.2 The Uganda Parliamentarians Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction

To improve on political commitment to addressing disaster risk reduction, the Uganda Parliamentarians Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction was launched on the 17 August 2011. This Forum will increase legislators' knowledge of disaster risk reduction in the process of building national- and community-level resilience. The forum will ensure monitoring of policy implementation at the national level and oversee budget allocation to ensure adequate resources to disaster risk reduction.

1.3.3 Transition of OCHA

In line with the overall improvement of the humanitarian situation, OCHA Uganda has strategically phased down and reduced its staffing level as appropriate over the past three years. In December 2010, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) concluded humanitarian action in the LRA-affected areas and began advocating for development actors and government to recognize their role in achieving durable solutions. This also marked the end of the cluster system, which was activated in 2005 to support humanitarian action. With recovery and development programming gaining greater support and momentum, OCHA began undertaking final preparations to close its Country Office in Uganda with effect from 1 January 2012. A successful OCHA phase out signifies the success of the humanitarian endeavour and consolidation of the transition to recovery and development.

1.3.4 Food Insecurity in Karamoja

Karamoja region, which shares a similar context with drought-affected communities in the Horn of Africa, received normal to above-normal rainfall throughout the cropping season, leading to good yields. In fact, some places in the region experienced excessive rains to the extent of causing floods and water logging.

1.3.5 Contingency Planning

OCHA, together with Office of the Prime Minister, has been supporting contingency planning processes in Karamoja. Through this process, districts in Karamoja were supported to develop contingency plans against prioritized hazards. In spite of the challenges encountered in contingency planning in Karamoja, the process has registered some achievements. There is a noted shift from a response/firefighting mode by DDMCs and partners in the region to a more proactive approach to emergency management. The process has also raised the profile of disaster preparedness and improved partnership and joint action among partners in this field. The process and methodology for contingency planning in Karamoja are being replicated by partners in other parts of Uganda and this could be the start of a common framework for contingency planning in the country. For instance, UNICEF and Oxfam are duplicating the process in West Nile and western Uganda, respectively. Lastly, the contingency plans in Karamoja could be useful referents to the Central Government when it embarks on the planned national contingency planning process.

1.4 ANALYSIS OF KEY HUMANITARIAN ISSUES IN UGANDA

1.4.1 Elgon Sub-Region

The Elgon sub-region of Uganda is susceptible to landslides and floods, besides widespread poverty, poor infrastructure and limited access to basic social services. Drenching rains in many parts of Uganda have resulted in flooding, water logging and landslides resulting in death, displacement and destruction of property and crops. At least 21 people had died in mudslides and thousands displaced by floods across eastern Uganda during the months of August and September 2011 following torrential rains that submerged homes and devastated villages.

According to URCS, over 15,619 households with a population of over 80,000 people were affected by the floods, mostly in eastern Ugandan. Bulambuli District was the most affected, losing at least 31 people. In many districts, local governments are unable to cope with the impact of torrential rains and require assistance from the Central Government and humanitarian agencies. The GoU required tents, tarpaulins, blankets and water purifiers for the approximately 50,000 people affected by the recent floods and water logging. In the medium term (6-12 months) the GoU is looking at establishing a Disaster Preparedness and Response Coordination Office in Mbale District to oversee disaster preparedness and response in eastern Uganda.

The DDMC of Bulambuli and Sironko districts coordinated response with URCS and other partners, including UNICEF, WHO and NGOs working closely with the Government to respond swiftly and effectively to the disaster. The local governments and stakeholders mobilized logistics and relief assistance for affected communities. The URCS headquarters in Kampala coordinated with the Ministry for Disaster Preparedness /OPM in sharing information with stakeholders.

1.4.2 Karamoja Sub-Region

Internal conflicts, drought, floods, historical marginalization, poor infrastructure, and diseases have been characteristic of Karamoja, with significant impacts on human welfare and quality of life. The sub-region has the lowest human development indices in the country. Human rights concerns remain prominent as a result of the UPDF's disproportionate use of force and violations during cordon and search operations associated with the forced disarmament programme. Nearly 80% of the population experiences some degree of food insecurity, mainly due to unreliable rainfall. The seven districts of Kaabong, Abim, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, Amudat, Napak and Moroto, are all located within a "red" food security zone, according to a recent government assessment.

However, while the 2011 rains were late and a lean season was experienced in June-July, there was no evidence of an emergency food security situation. According to the Ministry of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, only a small proportion of Karamoja's population was potentially at risk, despite some food shortages due to a late planting season. Only about 10% of the population was deemed to require food assistance, with possible urgent gaps in the areas of school feeding, nutrition and animal health. .

WFP, working with the government's Karamoja Productive Assets Programme to increase household incomes and create assets, provided targeted relief food to the 140,000 extremely vulnerable persons in 2011. Malnutrition rates, however, remained high, according to a May 2011 report by UNICEF, GoU and Action against Hunger (ACF). The report found global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 20.4% and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) at 5.6% in Nakapiripirit District. Overall, the region had GAM prevalence of 12.8% and SAM of 2.8%. Households in Amudat, Kaabong, Kotido, Moroto, Nakapiripirit and Napak were expected to remain "stressed" through September 2011.

Projections by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) for July to December 2011 indicated that milk would remain an important source of food for pastoral households until October when the dry season was expected to be supplemented with grain and pulses. From August to October, households were likely to cope with their own harvest of cereals and pulses, supplemented with milk and meat. The harvest contributes 25% of annual food needs. The likelihood of near- to above-normal rainfall in the July-September 2011 period also meant that rangeland conditions and livestock productivity were expected to be good.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) in June 2011 confirmed an outbreak of Hepatitis E in Kaabong, Moroto and Kotido districts. A total of 908 cases of the viral disease were reported and were admitted at Kaabong Hospital. Hepatitis E now seems to be found endemically in Karamoja where inadequate sanitation is prevalent.

1.4.3 West Nile Sub-Region

The political instability in neighboring Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan has led to a significant number of refugees seeking asylum and assistance in West Nile over the years. Refugees from Sudan and Rwanda are also hosted in settlement sites in the sub-region. Additionally, the two-decade long conflict in northern Uganda also forcibly displaced inhabitants in Adjumani district. About 7,365 IDPs who remain within the district are yet to achieve a durable solution. A disruptive pre- and or post-election period in neighboring DRC may trigger a new influx of refugees into the sub-region. In the past, West Nile has also been susceptible to disease outbreaks such

as cholera and meningitis; the region actually lies along the so-called African meningitis belt.

1.4.4 Acholi Sub-Region

Difficulties for returnees and residual IDPs persist in the Acholi sub-region even as the development phase begins. Five years after the signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement between GoU and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), the majority of IDPs have left the camps. More than 98% of the 1.8 million IDPs who lived in camps at the height of the conflict have returned to their areas of origin or have resettled in new locations.

The sustainability of returns, however, remains in doubt. Despite the peace and stability in the region since 2006, returns have outpaced recovery planning and implementation. Most IDPs have returned to areas offering few basic services such as water, health care and education. Current and planned efforts notwithstanding, there is general agreement that it will take many years to rehabilitate northern Uganda. The Government and its international partners did not start to implement recovery programmes until 2008, and their impact is yet to be felt. There is increasing awareness that peacebuilding and reconciliation activities need to feature more prominently in recovery efforts. The extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) - older persons, female/child-headed households, persons with disabilities and the chronically ill - continue to have specific needs. Northern Uganda has arguably the highest incidence of persons with disabilities in Uganda as a result of landmines, explosive remnants of war and other war-related injuries including mutilation by the LRA. Further hampering IDP return is land conflicts and the presence of landmines and unexploded ordnance.

The sub-region went from an acute food and livelihood crisis (Phase 3) to a moderate/borderline food secure (Phase 2) classification in 2010. However, irregular rain patterns and the rise in food prices during 2011 continued to put the population at risk of food shortage

1.4.5 Teso Sub-Region

Teso sub-region is one of the poorest in Uganda, suffering from cyclical floods, drought and famine, conflicts and cattle raiding. The sub-region experienced some flooding in the last quarter of 2011 following torrential rains in the neighboring Karamoja sub-region, the source of small rivers that flow into the low-lying parts of Teso. Affected sub-counties included Palam, Ongongoja, Ngariam and Magoro sub-counties in Katakwi District where several crops, particularly cassava, groundnuts and potatoes, rotted. This vulnerability to floods, compounded by unpredictable weather patterns and Karamojong cattle raiding, continues to negatively impact the livelihood security of people at community and household levels in the sub region.

While internal displacement has ended in Teso, several factors are undermining sustainable resettlement and recovery. Gaps in social service provision and limited livelihood opportunities continue to hamper the quest for durable solutions.

Moreover, the food security situation remains fragile given the unreliable weather, low agricultural productivity and vulnerability to drought, floods and water logging. Local governments and humanitarian actors continue to address food security issues, but disaster risk reduction activities are still inadequate. Consequently, a large number of communities were in 2011 once again affected by serious water-logging and flooding, which caused crop failures.

1.4.6 Western Uganda (South Western/Albertine Regions)

Western Uganda continues to be of minimal humanitarian concern at this point. According to UNHCR, approximately 20,000 IDPs who fled the two decade old conflict in the Acholi sub-region remain in Kiryandongo District. The region also hosts refugees. Congolese refugees, in particular, are unlikely to return home in the near future given the fact that conflict continues in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In fact, fresh influxes are likely should the conflict continue or deteriorate.

The oil industry will be a major factor in the future of the communities surrounding the shores of Lake Albert in Western Uganda. However, there have been concerns raised at the national and local levels over the transparency of the oil deals. There is, for instance, no information regarding revenue sharing, land allocation and ownership, as well as the social impact of oil production. Land wrangles and forced evictions have already been reported in some areas. In addition, since the oil drilling/exploration areas border the Democratic Republic of the Congo, there is the potential for any conflict to become regional.

Furthermore, some of the oil discoveries are located in wildlife-rich areas. Oil exploration is being extended into the conservation areas of Murchison Falls National Park, a move strongly opposed by conservationists.

PART 2: HUMANITARIAN APPROACH

2.1 STRATEGIC HUMANITARIAN FOCUS

2.1.1 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Uganda continues to be exposed to natural and man-made disasters whose frequency and magnitude are influenced by more and more extreme climatic conditions. The major hazards affecting communities include drought, floods, human and epizootic epidemic disease outbreaks, hailstorms and lightning, and episodic hunger across many communities. This situation is exacerbated by the lack of accurate data to inform the decision making process. Moreover, most communities face high levels of vulnerability without crucial knowledge about the risks they face, a concern the Government has undertaken to address through a drought risk assessment.

For communities to overcome this vicious cycle there is need to support linkages between relief and development to engender local and national processes which address the root causes of vulnerability in the long-term while meeting humanitarian needs in the immediate term. A more coherent and strategic approach to DRR and climate change adaptation will facilitate the achievement of sustainable and equitable development. Above all, greater political commitment and additional financial resources will add impetus to this process. Uganda's National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy, which was approved in 2011, should provide the framework for a clearer institutional focus.

Community and National level adaptation strategies are necessary to address the plight of communities most affected by extreme conditions related to climate variability. To address the concerns of affected areas, accurate early warning systems, appropriate dry-land farming, rangeland management, improved soil and water management, integrated watershed management, forestry management (including community forestry), and soil and water conservation practices need to be strengthened.

Uganda's DRR strategy is guided by the ISDR, with OPM as the lead government entity. A DRR roadmap drawn up in early 2011 with various agencies is in place to guide the key actions to be undertaken by respective government and non-governmental entities. It is also clear that some of the key actions, including the integration of DRR into the school curriculum, are already in progress.

2.1.2 Emergency Preparedness and Response

Natural hazards cannot be prevented, but it is possible to reduce their impacts by reducing the vulnerability of people and their livelihoods. Priority 5 of the Hyogo Framework for Action calls for strengthening of disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels. Being prepared, including conducting risk assessments, before investing in development at all levels of society will enable people become more resilient to natural hazards.

To ensure that a holistic understanding of preparedness is reflected in planning, resource allocation, and implementation of programming in Uganda, a focused awareness-raising campaign on preparedness should be undertaken with all possible in-country stakeholders, including donors. Previous interventions by some agencies have seen some districts in Uganda prepare better for their communities.

The process to set up a national, as well as district-level, structure to address emergency preparedness and response continues. The structure will streamline preparedness and response issues at national and district level to improve activities, especially related to response to disasters. Currently, many agencies and stakeholders operate their own contingency planning and funding processes.

With the phasing out of the UN Cluster system, key sectoral preparedness and response activities have not been mainstreamed into respective government ministries working under the overall supervision of OPM. At the same time, the new Disaster Management and Preparedness Policy proposes the establishment of response coordination structures and mechanisms at national and district levels to effectively manage emergency responses as and when required.

The Office of the Prime Minister and agencies have undertaken various assessments and analyses whose purpose is to help communities make risk-based choices to address vulnerabilities, mitigate hazards and prepare for response to and recovery from hazard events.

2.1.3. Partnerships and capacity-building,

Capacity-building is the cornerstone of successful and sustainable protection strategies and activities. Currently, OPM, in collaboration with agencies and other stakeholders, is engaged in strengthening the DRR capacities of a variety of actors and stakeholders. On the one hand, these capacity-building activities are focused on national and district authorities so that DRR is mainstreamed into local planning systems and mechanisms. On the other hand, strengthening the capacities of partner NGOs and civil society actors in order to create an additional pool and source of knowledge and skills in mainstreaming DRR remains a core objective. To achieve these goals, regular workshops, trainings, conferences and thematic meetings have been held in many disaster-prone districts in Uganda.

Almost all agencies in Uganda have at one time or another engaged in building DRR capacities of their own staff or the communities within which they operate. Throughout 2011, UNOCHA, UNICEF, URCS, Oxfam GB, Plan Uganda, WVU, CARE, Save the Children in Uganda and others have invested in building the capacities of national, district and local government personnel and structures.

2.2 POSSIBLE HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES OF EXPECTED EVENTS

2.2.1 Natural Disasters

A number of natural disasters continue to affect an increasing number of communities within Uganda with widespread effects on and disruption of livelihoods. For 2012, potential hazards include floods, drought, human and plant disease and pest outbreaks, and landslides.

Floods

Normal floods are expected and generally welcomed in many parts of the world as they provide rich soil, water and a means of transport. However, flooding on an unexpected scale with excessive frequency causes damage to life, livelihoods and the environment. Over the past five years, the pattern of floods across Uganda has been changing, becoming more frequent, intense and unpredictable for local communities, particularly as

issues of development and poverty have led more people to live in areas susceptible to flooding.

During 2012, many areas in Uganda will experience any or a combination of predictable, flash, urban or slow onset floods which will block access to some regions, displace people, damage infrastructure and crops, or block urban drainage.

The magnitude of the impact of the floods will be determined by the vulnerability or susceptibility of the affected communities. There will also be the potential for diseases outbreaks as a result of widespread flooding.

Hazard Analysis

Geographical Area	Intensity	Seasonality	Secondary effects
Areas around Lake Victoria	Minor flash floods	July to November	Hailstorms, cholera outbreaks
Low-lying areas around Teso sub-region	Major	July to November	Landslides, epidemics, food insecurity
Low-lying areas of the Elgon sub-region	Major	July to November	Landslides, epidemics, food insecurity
Kasese and surrounding areas	Major	July to November	Landslides, drought
Kampala	Minor flash floods	July to November	Cholera outbreaks

Suggested flood risk reduction measures include strengthening community preparedness and coping mechanisms against floods, improving early warning, and exploring innovative ways of taking advantage of floods.

A good understanding of water and sanitation conditions, disease surveillance, speedy response and preparedness of stakeholders should reduce the threat of outbreaks during and after flooding.

Landslides

Uganda has experienced landslides, with communities in the Elgon and Rwenzori regions most continually affected. The districts most affected include Mbale, Kapchorwa, Bukwo, Manafwa, Sironko, Bundibugyo, Kasese, and Kisoro.

In 2010, Mbale experienced the most violent episode with close to 300 people killed in a landslide that swept through an entire village.

The districts mentioned above remain prone to the risk of landslides owing to increased precipitation in the highlands and the destruction of normal foliage cover on mountain slopes.

Many more communities continue to settle in flood plains owing to the lack of land access and/or unplanned settlement. Therefore communities are at risk of losing infrastructure, personal property and livelihoods should landslides occur during 2012.

Hazard Analysis

Geographical Area	Intensity	Seasonality	Secondary effects
Mt. Elgon area (Kapchorwa, Bukwo, Sironko, Manafwa, Mbale)	Major	July to November	Food insecurity as a result of poor crop yields; low income from farming and food shortages; shortage of land for settlement farming as land becomes unusable; population displacement; land disputes
Western Uganda Mts. of Rwenzori and Muhavura (Kisoro, Kabale, Kasese, Bundibugyo, etc)	Minor event	July to November	Food insecurity as a result of poor crop yields, low income from farming and food shortages Population displacement Shortage of land for settlement farming as land becomes unusable Land disputes

Reducing the threat of landslides to communities will require possible relocation to lower ground, training on environment conservation, strengthening Participatory Natural Resources Management planning approaches, and enforcing building codes in the vulnerable areas.

Drought

With a range of ecological and livelihood zones in Uganda, there are differing probabilities of drought. It is important to note that drought may occur in Uganda at a time interval of three to five years, with some areas experiencing the effects for up to 12 months.

Owing to extreme weather patterns and deteriorating environmental conditions, many parts of Uganda are now more prone to drought than they used to be, including, Mbarara, Rakai, Sembabule, Nakasongola, Luweero, Soroti, and the Karamoja sub-region. The most affected groups will include pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities, children under five, elder members of the community, and children in school.

Hazard Analysis

Geographical Area	Intensity	Seasonality	Secondary effects
The cattle corridor: a dry stretch of land extending from Rakai (in the south) through Sembabule, Luwero and Soroti to Karamoja in the north east	Potential to be major, especially in the north-east. Effects of drought are cumulative.	October to December March to May	Forest and bush fires, food insecurity, loss of livestock

Strengthening drought early warning systems, food preservation, appropriate water saving technologies, improved nutritional practices and food reserves are some of the suggested avenues to reduce community vulnerability to drought.

Epidemic and disease outbreaks (human and animals)

Human and epizootic epidemics and outbreaks of disease continue to affect humans, animals and crops countrywide. HIV/AIDS, viral hemorrhagic diseases [Ebola and Marburg], swine flu, cholera, dysentery, hepatitis A and B, plague, meningococcal meningitis and malaria affect communities everywhere. Pests and plant diseases continue to be a major problem during the growing and harvesting seasons. Pest numbers increase due to one or a combination of ecological factors and the common ones include the banana weevil, coffee wilt, cassava mosaic.

The high levels of displacement, continuing conflicts, unrestricted movement and migration, exacerbated by low health service capacity make it difficult to predict the intensity and magnitude of consequences an epidemic would have on the country. The main effects of epidemics will include the loss of lives and disruption of services.

Hazard Analysis (Human Epidemics)

Geographical Area	Intensity	Seasonality	Secondary effects
Cholera: Northern Uganda, West Nile, Central Uganda and South Western Uganda regions	Major	Rainy seasons – April to June and July – November	Loss of lives; loss of livelihoods due to morbidity; isolation and psychosocial trauma
Bacillary dysentery: Gulu, Amuru, Kitgum, Pader, and Moroto districts	Minor	Rainy seasons – April to June and July – November	Loss of lives; loss of livelihoods due to morbidity; isolation and psychosocial trauma
Plague West Nile esp. the districts of Arua, Nebbi	Minor	Anytime during the year	Loss of lives
Meningococcal meningitis: West Nile, Northern Uganda and Karamoja regions	Major	Starts in the middle of the dry season (December to February)	Loss of lives; loss of livelihoods due to morbidity; isolation and psychosocial trauma
Viral hemorrhagic fever diseases (Ebola and Marburg): Gulu, Amuru, Masindi, Mbarara, and Bundibugyo districts	Major	Anytime during the year	Loss of lives; loss of livelihoods due to morbidity; isolation and psychosocial trauma
Malaria in all areas in Uganda	Major	Anytime during the year	Loss of lives; loss of livelihoods due to morbidity

Animal diseases and pests are blamed for pre- and post-harvest losses to farmers, and poor quality yields.

Hazard Analysis (Epizootic Outbreaks)

Geographical Area	Intensity	Seasonality	Secondary effects
Pests and diseases in all areas where host crops grow. North and northeastern Uganda are vulnerable to locusts	Intensity will depend on type of pest and area affected	Seasonal	Food insecurity due to pre-and post-harvest losses; loss of agricultural land; loss of income from farming; malnutrition

Pre-positioning medical supplies and farm inputs, health awareness training, communication with communities about outbreaks and epidemics, resource mobilization, farmer training, and increased coordination between national and district health authorities are measures aimed at reducing the effects of human and epizootic epidemic outbreaks.

2.2.2 Internal and cross-border conflicts

Internal and cross-border conflicts appear as the strongest drivers for displacement during 2012. Key countries identified outside Uganda include Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo owing to presidential elections, and South Sudan owing to internal and external factors at play. Within Uganda, political contestation and land issues have been identified as possible drivers of conflict and displacement and, therefore, require more attention.

Uganda

Tensions between the Government and various groups have been simmering for the last three years, especially surrounding the political space that is available to the people. These tensions have been exacerbated by longstanding issues of governance and identity, a poorly-performing economy characterized by high levels of poverty, double-digit inflation and rising unemployment, mostly affecting the youth. Riots in Kampala and other cities around Uganda have demonstrated the dire consequences Uganda might experience should they escalate throughout the country.

An outbreak of violence could cause disruption of basic services, new displacement or mass movement of people, disease outbreaks due to health services breakdown, increased insecurity and violation of human rights, and inaccessibility to key areas. Agency operations would be impacted and would lead to operational constraints.

Sudan

With independence from Sudan formalized, two factors will largely shape the transition in South Sudan: the degree to which the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) will allow a genuinely multi-party system to take hold, and how much internal democratic reform will be allowed within the SPLM. There are already worrying authoritarian tendencies with the SPLM that threaten to suppress the opposition and undo much of the goodwill created by a political parties conference in 2010.² Differences between South Sudan's many ethnic groups, which were glossed over during the years of struggle against the common enemy in the North, have already started to manifest.³

² WDR 2011: Conflict, Security, and Development, Overcoming conflict and fragility, South Sudan: The Dangers Within, <http://wdr2011.posterous.com/south-sudan-the-dangers-within>

³ Ibid

With the declaration of independence, the single historical common enemy of the southerners - the "Northern Government" - will be replaced with internal struggles for political and economic influence.⁴ During the protracted war, the various ethnic groups within South Sudan had a unified narrative and leadership. This might not continue to be the case as recent cases of tensions and sporadic ethnic clashes attest. Incidences of violence between armed civilians from different tribes, or from different sections of the same tribe, appear to have increased since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)⁵.

Internal conflict within South Sudan will lead to flight and therefore movement of people to districts in northern Uganda, among other areas. The districts likely to receive such an influx include Arua, Koboko, Yumbe, Moyo, and Kitgum, where refugees have resided before.

Elections in Kenya

Rival ethnic groups in Kenya who fought after the 2007 election are re-arming in readiness for violence at the 2012 poll, a BBC investigation has found.⁶ The still-smoldering issues in Kenya include demobilizing militias that fought during the post-election violence, addressing the impunity of implicated officials, and tackling poverty and youth unemployment.⁷ The ongoing International Criminal Court (ICC) actions against key political figures in Kenya have not eased the tensions thus far.

Should violence erupt during the 2012 elections, Uganda will receive Kenyan refugees fleeing the violence. The districts most likely to experience this influx include Mbale, Tororo and Busia. . At the same time, the Mombasa-Malaba trade route is likely to be disrupted, further putting pressures and limitations on Uganda's access to key commodities and services. The lack of a fully developed alternative route does not help matters; the Dar-es-Salaam-Mutukula route is much longer and expensive option.

Elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The DRC embarked on major reforms of the constitution. Key changes include the limitation of presidential election to one round, eliminating the runoff system (meaning that a candidate only needs a plurality to win), and giving the president the power to dissolve provincial assemblies and remove governors. The opposition, however, has boycotted parliamentary elections, claiming that President Joseph Kabila is seeking to shore up his power.⁸ The revised election law puts an age cap of 65 on presidential candidates. This provision is seen as a ploy to disqualify key opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, leader of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress. Tension, therefore, continues to characterize the political scene in the country.

The other dimension to the DRC election revolves around Ituri and the Kivus (North and South), which form a key region for two reasons: they are the sole part of the DRC still harbouring armed groups, and they provided an important reservoir of votes for the

⁴ Paul Mugo, Peace and Conflict Monitor.
http://www.monitor.upeace.org/innerpg.cfm?id_article=805

⁵ Ibid

⁶ BBC, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8293745.stm>

⁷ Washington Times, <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/mar/1/rights-group-warns-of-violence-in-kenyas-2012-elec/>

⁸ International Crisis Group, **Congo: The Electoral Process Seen from the East.**
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/central-africa/dr-congo/B80-congo-the-electoral-process-seen-from-the-east.aspx>

ruling party in the 2006 elections.⁹ It is therefore probable that dissent against Joseph Kabila and the changes in the electoral process may lead to conflict in eastern DRC with resultant displacement of large numbers of people into western Uganda. Districts in western and northeastern Uganda will bear the full brunt of the influx. Areas to continue monitoring are Arua, Koboko, Kisoro, and Bundibugyo.

2.2 TRIGGERS AND EARLY WARNING INDICATORS

HAZARD	TRIGGERS	EARLY WARNING INDICATORS
Floods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sudden increase in precipitation • overflowing rivers and streams • blocked water ways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Niño periods • prolonged, high-intensity rainfall • violent thunderstorms of short duration causing flash floods
Landslides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sudden increase in precipitation • deforestation of vegetation cover 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Niño periods • prolonged, high-intensity rainfall • human settlement on sloping areas, poor land use and management practices
Drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extended dry spell • high temperatures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deficiency in rainfall • signs of food insecurity • lack of groundwater • La Niña events
Epidemics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presence of the infective agent and vector (agent of transmission) in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presence of the infective agent and vector (agent of transmission) in the area • drought - see above • floods and landslides – see above • depending on the type of pests and weeds, weather conditions such as humidity, rainfall, light and wind favour breeding and spread. Locusts breed in desert areas
Internal Conflict	<u>Uganda</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic hardships- inflation and unemployment • political differences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increased insecurity • violation of human rights • mass movement of people from key areas
Cross-border Conflict	<u>Kenya</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elections • ICC hearings <u>DRC</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elections <u>South Sudan</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ethnic conflict • South Sudan/Republic of Sudan conflict 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ethnic clashes • mass movement of people into Uganda

⁹ Ibid

2.3 MONITORING AND PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

OPM coordinates activities of various humanitarian agencies and stakeholders in disaster preparedness and response. At the district level this mandate is with the District Disaster Management Technical Committees (DDMTCs). The Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management at OPM is currently developing an implementation strategy for the recently- approved National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction coordinates the development of national contingency plans, e.g. the El Niño contingency plan of 2009 and the La Niña contingency plan of 2010. At district level, there have been several initiatives to support local governments to develop contingency plans against prioritized hazards. A committee was established under the National platform for DRR to provide guidance, tools and template to contingency planning initiatives in the districts. To date, some districts in Karamoja and Acholi, Kapchorwa, Kasese, Bundibugyo, Fort portal and Kabarole have benefited from contingency planning initiatives supported by agencies like UNOCHA, UNICEF and Oxfam. However, lack of institutionalization of contingency planning processes remains a critical challenge to preparedness initiatives in both the districts and the central government.

In 2010, the National DRR Platform established a sub-committee on drought and early warning to coordinate actors involved in those fields. As of 2011, however, this group had not yet lifted off effectively.

There remains an important need to monitor and coordinate information sharing, operational responsibilities and participatory partnerships, as well as to strengthen linkages between disaster management and sustainable development, and comprehensive resource mobilization for disaster management.

Additionally, greater attention needs to be directed toward the increasing number of cross-cutting factors that are compounding the already complex disaster picture in Uganda, making a predictable disaster management future very difficult. These factors include climate change, poverty, pre- and post-election security and possible humanitarian consequences of potential political conflicts, HIV/AIDS, rapid population growth and urbanization, and gender issues among others.

2.4 COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS AND KEY CONSTRAINTS

2.4.1 The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

In 2008, the Government established the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in compliance with the recommendations of the 2005 Hyogo Framework for Action. Led by OPM, the National Platform invites humanitarian and development partners to work with the Government on the management of disaster risk reduction. The DDMTCs are accountable and report to the Platform in Kampala on actions related to DRR in their respective districts. The Platform brings together Government sector ministries, humanitarian and development actors, and the academic and the business communities on matters of DRR. The forum is hosted by OPM and chaired by the Commissioner for Disaster Preparedness and Management on behalf of the Permanent Secretary.

2.4.2 The District Disaster Management Technical Committees

The DDMTC is the lead government structure at district level for the coordination of emergency preparedness and response and for long-term DRR strategies. The committee comprises district local government departmental/sectoral heads and humanitarian and development actors in the district to deliberate on DRR matters. This committee is chaired by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the district.

The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management also provides for other coordination structures at the lower levels of sub-county, parish and village. These are chaired by the Sub-county Chief, Parish Chief and Local Council 1 chairperson, respectively.

Although the coordination structures for emergency preparedness and response as provided for in the policy is elaborate, there are key constraints that hinder their effective functionality. The National DRR Platform is mainly dominated by the UN and INGOs with less representation from key line ministries. The lower structures for disaster management are not actively functioning in most districts, while the DDMTCs are operational in only a few districts. The structures remain non-functional in most districts due to technical capacity and resource gaps.

While early warning systems are in place in some regions, e.g. Karamoja, outreach to communities need to be strengthened to ensure wider knowledge and involvement.. There is also need to strengthen investment in improved equipment and in human and financial capacities. Furthermore, effective information and communication systems also need to be developed, standardized and/or enhanced by the responsible sectors. In this context, the importance of inter-institutional capacity building for the processing of data is evident.

2.4.3 The National Emergency Coordination & Operations Centre (NECOC)

The National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) within OPM deals with sudden-onset emergencies and is responsible for the effective coordination and networking of the various emergency response institutions of Government, such as the Fire Brigade, Police Rapid Response Units, UPDF Emergency Support Units, Uganda Red Cross, hospital emergency units and the private emergency firms. The NECOC is headed by a National Incident Commander (NIC and is linked to the UPDF and other security organs of government.

The critical role that NECOC has to play is to provide liaison with and coordination of the military to support the response of the Government, UN agencies, NGOs and INGOs to a complex humanitarian emergency. The Incident Commander, who is a member of the military, takes lead in giving daily security briefings, providing security for convoys, ensuring general security and safety for emergency responders, and marshaling technical assistance, including communications and small machine repair. This allows access to critical facilities under military control, such as ports and airfields.

2.4.4 City Disaster Management Technical Committee (CDMTC)

The disaster management policy provides a mandated City Disaster Preparedness and Management Technical Committee (CDP&TC) in each City. The committees are chaired by the City Town Clerk and comprise city heads of department, Division Assistant Town Clerks, the Police, an army representative and other relevant Government agencies,

representative of the business community, representative of the transport bodies and development partners within the city. These are to provide a link between the national Disaster Preparedness and Management Committee and the city structures responsible for disaster preparedness and management

2.4.5 Development of legal preparedness for international disaster response

Uganda was chosen as one of the few African countries by the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as a pilot project for technical assistance to the Government in the strengthening of its legal preparedness for international response to disasters and health emergencies in the country. The national disaster management policy lays the foundation for the enactment of a comprehensive law on disaster preparedness and management in the country.

The present legal provisions in areas related to cross-border activities are not sufficient to address most of the issues that arise in international disaster response. The laws on tax, visas, customs, domestic legal status and transport do not address sufficiently or at all, the issue of international assistance in emergency situations. Although Uganda has ratified a number of international and regional legal instruments on disasters, none of these have been domesticated into national legislation.

The country's legal framework in regard to international response to disasters and epidemics is far from adequate. The constitutional provisions on disasters are yet to be operationalized by the necessary consequential legislation.

2.5 RESOURCE MECHANISMS TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES

2.5.1 Government Funds

OPM currently relies on supplementary emergency releases from the Ministry of Finance that are authorized by a Cabinet sitting during an emergency. This process is time consuming, bureaucratic and unable to provide timely and effective response to save lives. Now that the National Policy for Disaster Preparedness has been approved, it is envisaged that OPM will have a sound basis for advocating for a contingency fund for humanitarian response.

The new Policy recognizes resource mobilization as one of the processes of planning for and providing a dynamic response to disasters. If the policy is implemented, OPM and all ministries responsible for disaster management will endeavor to secure adequate resources to implement disaster preparedness and management activities. Line ministries are to plan and budget for DRR activities within their respective ministerial mandates. Districts are to integrate disaster preparedness and management into their development plans and budgets.

In addition, Parliament is to ensure that adequate resources and facilities are provided to OPM's Directorate of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees to enable it perform its functions effectively. The Policy also urges the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development in liaison with OPM to develop and present to Cabinet and Parliament a National Disaster Preparedness and Management Fund Bill. The bill should, amongst others, provide for annual allocation of a minimum of 1.5% of the

annual approved budget to the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Fund. The Fund will be employed towards Disaster Preparedness and Management in the country. International and other National Development partners are encouraged to contribute to the fund.

2.5.2 Flash Appeal

In case of a large-scale emergency, the humanitarian community under the auspices of the Humanitarian Coordinator/UN Resident Coordinator can launch a Flash Appeal. The Flash Appeal is a tool used for structuring a coordinated humanitarian response for the first three to six months of an emergency. It provides a concise overview of urgent life-saving needs, and may include recovery projects that can be implemented within the timeframe of the Appeal. Government ministries cannot appeal for funds directly through this facility, but may be partners in UN or NGO projects.

For more information: <http://ochaonline.un.org/tabid/5839/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

2.5.3 Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

The CERF is a humanitarian fund established by the UN to facilitate more timely and reliable humanitarian assistance to those affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts. CERF grants have two windows; one for rapid response and one for under-funded emergencies. The CERF is funded by voluntary contributions from Member States, private businesses, foundations and individuals. The Fund, which is managed by UNOCHA in New York, allows the UN and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to react immediately when a disaster strikes by making funding available for life-saving activities.

For more information: <http://ochaonline.un.org/cerf/CERFHome/tabid/1705/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

2.5.4 Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)

The DREF is created by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross/Red Crescent response to emergencies. Allocations may be made as start-up funds in the case of large-scale disasters and also to cover the costs of response to small-scale emergency operations and preparedness activities in the case of imminent disasters.

For more information: <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref.asp>.

PART 3: RELATED PROCESSES AND FRAMEWORKS

3.1 OVERVIEW OF ONGOING NEEDS ASSESSMENTS IN UGANDA

3.1.1 DesInventar

OPM in partnership with UNISDR are working to create a Disaster Inventory System (DesInventar). DesInventar is a conceptual and methodological tool for the construction of databases of loss, damage, or effects caused by emergencies or disasters.

It is an all-inclusive rapid assessment tool, which is able to answer the immediate questions at the onset of a disaster - “what”, “where”, “how many people are affected” and “needs”. The tool will be under the custodianship of OPM and is included in the DRR work plan.

3.1.2 Damage, loss and needs assessment

To be able to make a good damage, loss and needs assessment after disasters occur in the country, OPM with support from the World Bank has finalized putting up a comprehensive database. This is intended to ease a multi-sector review of damage and losses incurred following the a disaster to make it ease come up with an estimation of the disaster impact in each sector. This will ease the action plan for the identification of needs for recovery and rebuilding the affected community.

3.2 OVER VIEW OF STRATEGIC PLANS

3.2.1 National Development Plan (NDP) for Uganda

DRR is incorporated into the National Development Plan (NDP 2010).

The DRR thematic area aims to contribute to realization of the following national development objectives over the medium-term:

- a) To develop and optimally exploit the natural resource-base and ensure environmental and economic sustainability.
- b) To strengthen good governance and improve human security.

Specific objectives

- a) To develop and optimally exploit the natural resource-base and ensure environmental and economic sustainability, the thematic area will pursue the following specific objectives: (i) Reduce natural and eliminate human-induced disaster risks in the country. (ii) Develop capacity of Central Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as Local Governments, Private Sector and Non-governmental Organizations in disaster risk reduction management. (i) Mainstream disaster risk reduction in sectoral and sub-national development programs and budgets.
- b) To strengthen good governance and improve human security, the thematic area will pursue the following specific objectives:

- (i) Increase resources to provide for relief and rehabilitation assistance to disaster-affected people each fiscal year;
- (ii) Promote immediate resettlement of disaster-affected people.

3.2.2 Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda

The Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) is a three-year Government of Uganda plan for the recovery and development of Northern Uganda, which currently covers 55 districts and nine municipalities in the Greater North. The implementation of the PRDP is managed and coordinated under OPM.

All development actors, Government and non-government agencies, are expected to align their interventions in Northern Uganda against the PRDP framework.

Full scale implementation started in July 2009, and is currently programmed to run until June 2012, although an extension is envisaged. Cabinet approved the proposal to extend PRDP to PRDP2 with effect from July 2012 to June 2015.

The overall goal of the PRDP is stabilization in order to regain and consolidate peace in the region and lay the foundations for recovery and development of Northern Uganda. The full scale implementation started when the Government of Uganda made a contribution of Uganda Shillings 100 billion that was earmarked in the 2009/10 budget.

The PRDP is organized around four main Strategic Objectives (SO), namely:

- SO 1: Consolidation of state authority
- SO 2: Rebuilding and empowering communities
- SO 3: Revitalization of the economy
- SO 4: Peace building and reconciliation

In June 2011 the OPM organized a mid-term review to assess the progress made to date towards the achievement of the objectives named above. The review shows that the plan was on course although there may be disproportionate alignment to the Strategic Objectives.

The PRDP Monitoring Committee Meeting of 5 December 2011 in Kampala approved eleven resolutions in view of Cabinet approval of PRDP 2, to focus more on functionality of the investments under PRDP2. The Resolutions are provided in the following table:

RESOLUTIONS OF THE SIXTH PRDP MONITORING COMMITTEE (PMC)
MEETING – 5 DECEMBER 2011.

1. Noted and appreciated Cabinet's decision to extend the life-span of PRDP with effect from July 2012 to June 2015;
2. Resolved to change the name of the Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Programme (KIDDP) document to Karamoja Integrated Development Programme (KIDP) to focus more on recovery and development interventions since disarmament had been scaled down;
3. Approved the proposal to use KIDP as a framework for the implementation and monitoring of all interventions in Karamoja;
4. Agreed to sensitize districts on the DFID Grant being implemented through Private Sector Foundation (PSF) and to request the PSFU to review the grant modalities and guidelines to enhance accessibility by potential beneficiaries;
5. Resolved to develop the M&E framework for PRDP 2 and align it to the National Development Plan (NDP) ready for presentation to PMC before the implementation of PRDP 2 begins (i.e. at the next PMC);
6. Resolved to maintain the PRDP 2 geographical coverage and endorsed the PRDP 2 grant allocations formula weighted according to conflict impact and population;
7. Resolved that the PRDP modality had proved efficient and recommended that Government considers extending the modality to the implementation of other Government programmes beyond PRDP;
8. Resolved that sectors set standards for PRDP 2 and oversee their implementation. OPM to prepare guidelines before PRDP 2 begins;
9. Resolved that consideration be made to have the ongoing cattle branding programme in Karamoja extended to the neighboring districts of Karamoja;
10. Resolved that all NGOs align their activities to the District Development Plans;
11. Agreed to have sub-regional prioritization during PRDP 2 implementation.

For more information PRDP, visit <http://www.opm.go.ug>, <http://www.prdp.org.ug>

3.2.3 Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Programme (KIDDP)

The Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Programme (KIDDP) came into being in 2006 after wide-ranging consultations involving Government ministries, departments and agencies; bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors, international development partners, and non-governmental organizations at national, regional, and district levels.

KIDDP is an overarching framework to guide, coordinate and monitor different development interventions in Karamoja. Its cardinal objective is to promote conditions for human security and recovery, as well as formulate a course of action that will define interventions by governments and other stakeholders necessary to achieve sustainable development in Karamoja.

KIDDP Programme components:

1. Provide and ensure adequate security for the people of Karamoja
2. Establish law and order in Karamoja
3. Support the provision and delivery of basic social services to the people of Karamoja
4. Support the development of alternative means of livelihood for the people of Karamoja
5. Undertake stakeholder mobilization, sensitization and education in Karamoja
6. Enhance the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of KIDDP interventions
7. Cross-cutting issues

OPM, in consultation with the sector ministries, is carrying out the review of the KIDDP for the next five years (2011 to 2015).

For more information: http://kiddp.org.ug/about.php?kiddp_id=10

3.2.4 The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

Through the UNDAF, the UN system in Uganda supports national efforts and capacities to ensure that growth, prosperity and social transformation as envisaged in the National Development Plan (NDP) will be equitable, inclusive and sustainable in a manner that will contribute to reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and enhance peace, recovery and development in the north.

In line with the UN reform on 'delivering-as-one', the UNDAF has been accorded to joint programming and joint programmes as a means of implementation and to joint institutional arrangements for management and review of progress and results. Together with the Government, the UNDAF has adopted three expected outcomes for the period 2010-14:

1. Capacity of selected Government institutions and civil society improved for good governance and realization of human rights that lead to reducing geographic, socio-economic and demographic disparities in attainment of Millennium Declaration and Goals;
2. Vulnerable segments of the population increasingly benefit from sustainable livelihoods and, in particular, improved agricultural systems and employment opportunities to cope with the population dynamics, increasing economic disparities, economic impact of HIV&AIDS, environment shocks and recovery challenges;
3. Vulnerable populations in Uganda, especially in the north, increasingly benefit from sustainable and quality social services.

A mid-term review of the UNDAF will be carried out in 2012.

More details are available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/11428/UNDAF-text.pdf>

3.2.5 The National Policy on Disaster preparedness and Management

The complexity of disaster-induced problems requires a comprehensive and coordinated disaster management policy and legislation. These instruments are meant to re-orient national and local efforts to address disaster-induced challenges in a more comprehensive and integrated manner. This strategy constitutes the fundamental basis for achieving the overall policy goal and promoting sustainable development through the mitigation of disaster occurrence.

The National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management, therefore, seeks to:

1. Set the overall policy goal and objectives for disaster risk management
2. Provide a broad policy framework for the harmonization of sectoral and cross-sectoral policy objectives, principles and strategies
3. Establish an integrated and multi-sectoral approach to disaster management
4. Promote positive behavioral and attitudinal change towards disaster management
5. Provide a basis for the formulation of a comprehensive disaster management legal framework
6. Establish an institutional framework for disaster preparedness and management
7. Establish an effective monitoring and evaluation system
8. Provide for an effective information management system to facilitate collection, storage, analysis and dissemination of disaster management information.

The overall policy goal is to promote national vulnerability assessment, risk mitigation, disaster prevention, preparedness, effective response and recovery in a manner that integrates disaster risk management with development planning and programming.

The policy is housed in the Directorate of Disaster Preparedness and Management of OPM. More details: <http://opm.go.ug/manage/pdfs/DISASTER%20POLICY.pdf>