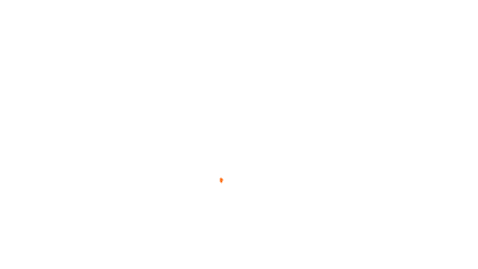
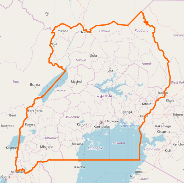
Rwamwanja Settlement



*Rwamwanja is located in Toro region, western Uganda.*

Rwamwanja refugee settlement is located in Uganda’s western Kamwenge District. The settlement covers an area of approximately 127 km2, and encompasses a number of small host villages.

Rwamwanja’s refugee population is around 78,000, comprised mostly of refugees from the DRC. Originally established in 1964 but closed in 1995, it was reopened in 2012 to accommodate refugees from DRC’s North and South Kivu provinces. The Ugandan population of Kamwenge District is around 430,000.[1]

This market profile seeks to inform businesses and entrepreneurs of the opportunities and challenges of operating in Kamwenge District. The references cited here can serve as resources for further market analysis.

# Livelihoods

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Photo caption (credit:)* | **Top sources of household**  **cash:**[2]  ~20% each  ~10% each  1-4% each   * None * Humanitarian aid * Agricultural wages * Casual labor * Sale of cereals * Sale of cooking fuel * Self-employed * Sale of fruit/veg * Petty trade * Business |
| **Business activity**   * Kataryeba, the main market for Rwamwanja, counts over 200 shops. [3] * Only 11% of the businesses in Kataryeba are less than one year old.[3] * Business activities in the settlement include retail shops, beauty salons, bakeries, hotels, restaurants, workshops, and grain milling.[4] * Several agro-processors and small businesses are also located near the UNHCR basecamp.[4] * Two commercial banks operate in Kamwenge: Post Bank and Finance Trust. A number of SACCOs and farming cooperatives are also active.[5] | |

# Income and Expense

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Photo caption (credit:)* | Annual income for refugee households (UGX)[6] | |
| **Refugee expenditure:**   * 59% live on less than UGX 2,000 per day.[2]   **Refugee employment:** in southwestern Uganda: [2]   * 37% farm their own land * 25% are self-employed * 30% are unemployed or out of the labor force | | **Refugee income:** 43% of households earn less than UGX 500k per year. 84% earn less than UGX 2 MM per year. [4] |

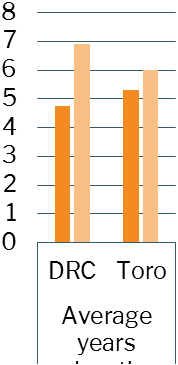
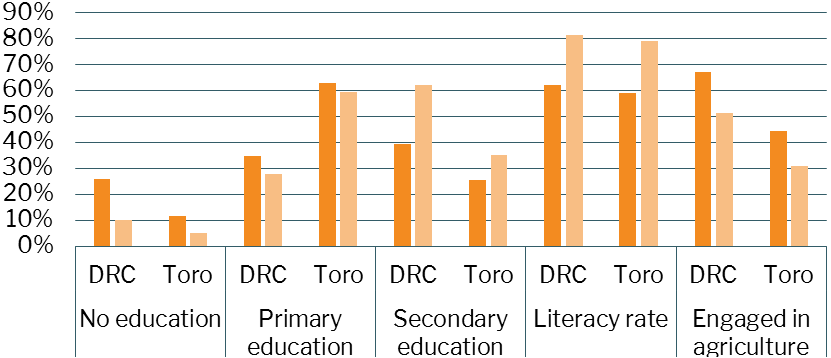
# Agriculture

Refugees are provided with plots of land for farming, and are highly integrated into the host economy.[5] The official allocated plot size for refugees in Rwamwanja is 2500 m2. [6] Though actual plot sizes vary.

* In Kamwenge, just over 15% of refugees have access to between 0.5 – 1 acres, just over 40% access less than 0.5 acres, while around 40% have no access to land at all. [2]
* While 80% of refugees report sourcing food from markets and gifts or aid, only about 30% of refugees consume home-grown food. [2]

Kamwenge Districts’s main economic outputs are agricultural, principally banana, but also fish and maize.

# Education and Skills



*Indicators of educational attainment, literacy, and agricultural skills. Statistics presented for DRC are averaged for North and South Kivu provinces.* [9][8]

# Energy[4]

**Grid access**

Uganda’s Rural Electrification Agency (REA) is currently undertaking grid extension into the northwestern part of Rwamwanja. In coordination with REA, Power Africa has identified 8 potential mini-grid sites in areas of the settlement that will not be covered by grid extension.

REA grid expansion

* Villages: Mukole, Nkoma, Katalyeba, and Rwencwera
* Approximate households: 2,000

Potential mini-grid sites

* Villages: Kyempango, Mahani, and Ntenungi
* Approximate households: 2,600

**Standalone solar**

* Small solar systems for lighting, from around 10 – 100 W, are found throughout the settlement. These are component-based systems, rather than branded solar home kits.
* PV components and solar lanterns are sold through retail shops within the settlement.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Photo caption (credit:)* | Narrative |

# Internet and Mobile

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Public connectivity** [7]  Observed access   * Spotty MNO coverage creates a “patchwork of quality” that varies from operator to operator across the settlement. * Disparity observed between the quality of service in basecamp and poorer quality in the settlement. * Reliance on travel to nearby town (2km away) for connectivity; | **NGO connectivity** [7]  Perceived quality   * NGOs reports that quality is low to “OK” * Non-connected data collection/transfer methods (e.g. USB memory sticks) are often used by NGOs. * Poor connectivity leads to de-emphasis on data use for NGO management.   NGO access modes   * VSATs * Mobile hotspot * Personal devices   NGO access costs   * Reported at ~$200/Mbps/month | | |
| **Phone charging**   * The cost to charge a mobile phone is UGX 500.[4] | | | **Mobile networks** [7]   * Airtel * MTN – 3G |
| **Technology in use** [2]  *Communications technologies used in refugee households.* | | *Technologies used to access the internet.* | |

# References

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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