



FINN CHURCH AID (FCA)

Improving access to Quality Education in Uganda

Finn Church Aid's (FCA) operations in Uganda span across the rights to quality education, sustainable livelihoods and peace. FCA's role and responsibility has grown in response to the massive influx of refugees from South Sudan since July 2016.

The resource-scarce West Nile region hosts the majority of over 900,000 South Sudanese refugees, and we seek to enable more and more children to obtain quality education.

Other key areas include skills training and supporting the livelihoods, particularly of young people and women. All our education responses have inter-linkages with protection activities to ensure children have an opportunity to study in safe and protective learning environments. In 2016, FCA reached 14 935

direct beneficiaries in Uganda (9,128 women, 2,675 men, 1,481 girls and 1,651 boys).

Following the renewed fighting in South Sudan, the number of South Sudanese refugees has increased rapidly in Uganda. As a reliable humanitarian actor, FCA was invited by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to respond to the influx in July 2016. In the initial phases, FCA participated in the overall response by providing support staff to the registration process of the refugees at the transit centres along the border entries, and later mobilised internal resources to construct the first permanent classroom structures in Bidibidi settlement to facilitate safe and protective learning of the students.

OPM and UNHCR acknowledged FCA's work and selected FCA as an implementing partner in

education and livelihoods for 2017 in Bidibidi, Yumbe district – the world's largest refugee settlement.

FCA supports and manages the education sector response in the settlement through the provision of school materials, construction of permanent classrooms and latrines, facilitating teacher training, and enhancing the capacities of the school staff and families to advocate for sustainable solutions to protection and livelihoods. FCA's other current donors in the refugee response include the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Website: <https://www.kirkkonulkomaanapu.fi/en/work/africa/uganda/>



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