

Uganda

Project Info Sheet



IFED has coordinated a number of project with the Katara School in Uganda, to include refurbishing 90 school desks, installing blackboards in every classroom, obtaining textbooks for every class and each subject, initiating a playground/sports program and furnishing early childhood development class material for parents with infants.

Uganda Education Facts

- In 2011, Uganda joined the Global Partnership for Education, an organization that creates access to education in developing countries, and launched initiatives for helping girls stay in school while menstruating and providing education opportunities for refugees.
- The national adult literacy rate rose from 68.1 percent in 2002 to 73.8 percent in 2015—and the literacy rate among youth soared to 87 percent.
- Though 90 percent of children attend primary school, less than 25 percent attend in secondary school due to facility shortages. This disparity contributes to continued poverty, as those without a secondary education have lower chances of pursuing careers.
- Space is a major factor in the future of education in Uganda, especially in the face of conflict in Sudan. Uganda accommodates more than one million refugees, half of whom are children.
- Last year, Bidi Bidi became the world's largest refugee settlement, with around 270,000 occupants. The people of Uganda are as passionate about keeping others safe as they are about educating them—but to excel at both, the nation must implement plans to find a balance between the two.
- Though Uganda highly values education, issues such as funding have stunted its growth. Uganda relies largely on international aid to support refugees' basic needs—but, so far, has obtained just 14 percent of the \$781 million requested from the UN to fund education for Sudanese refugees.
- Teacher absenteeism is another barrier to education growth. Due to low and delayed pay, many teachers are forced to take on additional jobs, and spend less time in the classroom.
- The Ugandan government and Promoting Equality in African Schools (PEAS) are working to dismantle these inefficiencies in the education system. The groups have launched an initiative to assess and correct the quality of education and school management in 21 schools.
- The initiative plans to refine curriculum and teaching standards but first requires some basic resources—including a reliable source of electricity.
- While the challenges to improve education in Uganda may seem staggering, a recent refugee solidarity summit held in Kampala garnered \$358.2 million in pledges, which will provide resources for education.