

# ReHoPE Strategic Framework

The transformative programme towards community led development and sustainable refugee protection which will strengthen public service delivery and stimulate economic empowerment for refugee and host communities in Uganda.

## Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE)

### A People-Centred Approach to Sustainable Economic Empowerment

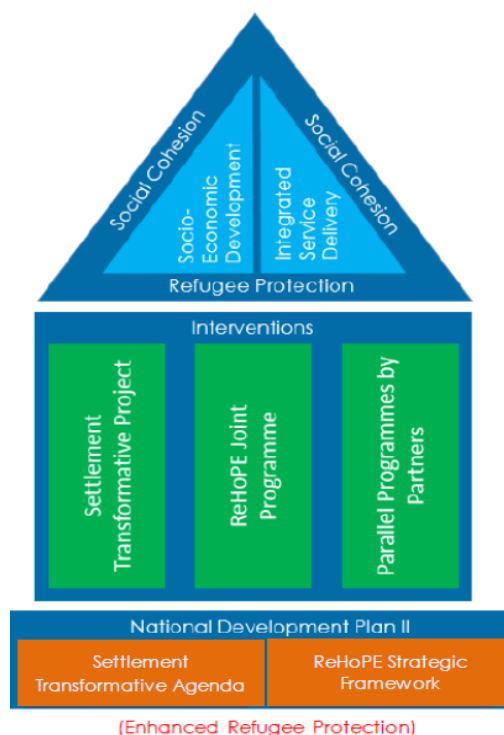
ReHoPE is a self-reliance and resilience strategic framework targeting refugees and host communities in Uganda's nine refugee hosting districts. It is a five year commitment which recognises the need for creative durable solutions. It is in line with humanitarian principles, but also, has a special focus on self-reliance and resilience of refugees and host communities alike. Through a holistic approach, ReHoPE addresses the sustainable development of the host country on a district level and enhances refugee protection.

The ReHoPE strategy provides the basis for proposed joint programming of up to \$350 million over five years, involving UN agencies, the World Bank, the Government of Uganda, development partners and the private sector. Through a multi-sectorial partnership, new development programming focused on improving social services and enhanced livelihoods will enable refugees and host communities to meet their immediate needs and prepare them for future shocks. It is also envisaged that support for self-reliance and resilience will serve refugees equally in the event of a prolonged stay in Uganda, as well as upon their eventual return to their countries of origin.

**Uganda has since the 1950's hosted at least 160,000 refugees in any given year. Currently there are almost half a million refugees in Uganda. In some districts, such as Adjumani, one in three persons is a refugee.**

### ReHoPE is Expected to Deliver:

1. **Sustainable livelihoods** based on:
  - modernized agricultural practices and improved market linkages
  - market-driven technical skills and small-scale enterprise.
2. **Integrated and Sustainable Social Service Delivery** with District Local Government systems focused particularly on the health and education sectors.
3. **Community and system resilience** based on dialogue and peaceful co-existence.
4. **Protection including emergency response** Preserve equal and unhindered access to territory and protection space and promote the full enjoyment of rights, while maintaining the civilian character of asylum
5. **Preparing refugees for solutions**, such as building knowledge, skills, and capacities for refugees when they return home



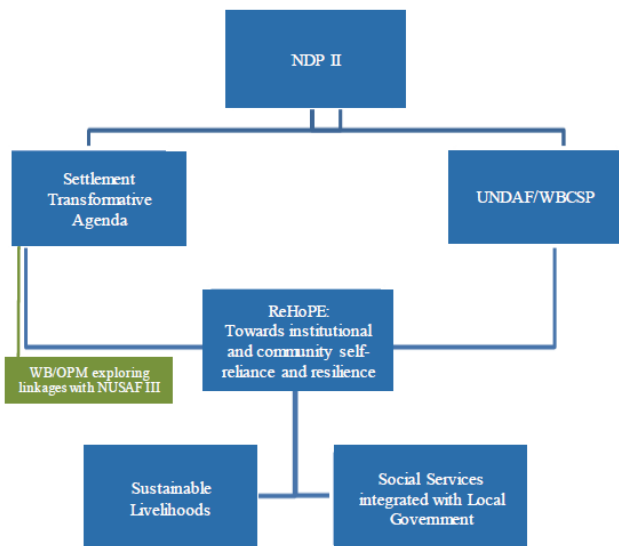
### Why Uganda is Different

Uganda demonstrates how a progressive refugee policy is economically and socially advantageous for both refugees and the host communities. When communities recognize that refugees are agents of development and that they positively contribute to the sustainable development of their districts, the refugee asylum space is not only protected, but strengthened.

Uganda's refugee asylum policy and refugee settlement approach is widely regarded as an exemplary model where refugees are integrated within the host communities and have access to the same services as nationals. They have the right to work and establish businesses, the right to go to school, freedom of movement, access to documentation, and are allocated land for agricultural use. **These laws provide a pathway for refugees to become self-reliant.**

### Innovations under ReHoPE

- ReHoPE is an innovative approach to humanitarian interventions: multi-sectorial, multi-year and development oriented
- The ReHoPE interventions build on existing initiatives and programmes
- Uganda provides a generous policy environment that creates linkages between refugees and national populations
- ReHoPE is an example of how to enhance the protection of the asylum space – in Uganda and elsewhere
- ReHoPE fosters development through integrated service delivery and socio-economic development to refugee hosting areas, recognized by the Government of Uganda as a vulnerability criteria in the National Development Plan II
- ReHoPE promotes a shift from dependency on humanitarian assistance towards self-reliance for refugees
- ReHoPE improves social cohesion and supports peace-building efforts
- ReHoPE enhances environmental protection and conservation of refugee hosting areas



## The Policy Environment: Situated Within National and Global Dynamics

Continuing exposure to refugee influxes resulted in the Government of Uganda taking the bold decision to include refugees in its development planning, thereby integrating refugee management and protection into Uganda's national development.

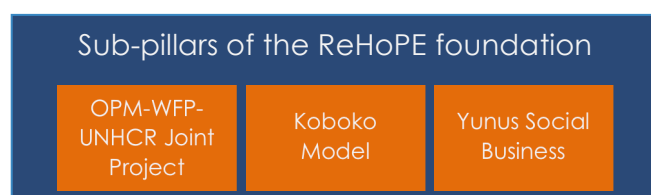
On an institutional level, the ReHoPE strategic framework is thus aligned to the interests and priorities of the Government of Uganda, the United Nations, as well as the World Bank.

On a global level, ReHoPE is clearly reflected in Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as it "promote[s] peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development".

## Galvanising Support for ReHoPE through Innovative Partnerships

ReHoPE is not an isolated approach as it builds on existing initiatives. The following initiatives and activities have been launched in support of ReHoPE:

- **OPM-WFP-UNHCR Joint Project for Self-Reliance** – a partnership targeting 3,500 refugee and host community households in agriculture and non-farm income generating activities.
- **Koboko Partnership** – a public-private partnership targeting 7,500 refugee and host community households in modern, commercial-scale agriculture.
- **Yunus Social Business** – a social entrepreneurship initiative designed to empower and capacitate youth in refugee and host communities.
- **The Enhanced Japan-UNHCR Uganda Partnership** – a comprehensive partnership with JICA, the Embassy of Japan, and private sector actors that supports rice value chain upgrading, vocational training, and rehabilitation and construction of vital infrastructure.



## Expected Outcomes:

### 1. Enhanced Social Cohesion and Coexistence

- Uganda is hosting refugees at historic highs. The equitable development of the district will thereby foster peaceful co-existence and further protect the refugee asylum space. By including both refugees and nationals in interventions, ReHoPE aims to bolster economic, social, and service delivery support to the wider refugee hosting districts.

### 2. Preparing Refugees for Solutions

- ReHoPE aims to build knowledge, skills, and capacities for refugees and host communities. The return on investments in human capital has life-long and transformative impacts on individuals and societies. Degrees, certifications and other forms of accreditation will yield an "income premium" for the individual. Refugees are then able to contribute to the development of their host country and ultimately enhance their socio-economic integration. Furthermore, when peace returns, these dividends will enable them to engage in the rebuilding and reconstruction of their homeland.



## Resource Mobilisation Strategy and Linkages

ReHoPE has three distinct components, which are jointly coordinated to ensure maximum outreach and quality of programme delivery. These three components are:



Aside from resource mobilisation and programme implementation, ReHoPE is also a forum for advocating for refugees to be included in development planning; helping to identify the needs and gaps in the various sectors. Overall, the success of ReHoPE depends on an integrated, joint, coordinated and multi-sectorial approach owned by all partners.