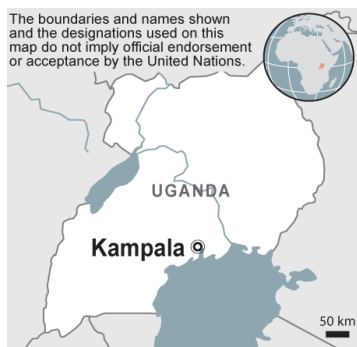


# Reproductive health project for internally displaced persons in Gulu District



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



## Fast Facts

**Country:** Uganda

**Duration:** April 2002 to January 2004

**Implementing UN Agencies:** UNFPA

**Other Implementing Partners:** African Medical and Research Foundation; Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief Uganda

**Budget:** \$282,901

**Key Words:** Access to health care; IDPs; capacity-building

## BACKGROUND

Although the National Resistance Movement came to power in Uganda in 1986, the conflict with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) continued unabated in the northern regions of the country. In order to escape rape, murder or forced recruitment of children by LRA forces, large numbers of impoverished people were forced to leave their homes and head for refugee camps. By 2001, more than 90 percent of the

population in the Gulu District were living in camps with little or no access to health care, including reproductive health (RH) services for vulnerable women. As a result, maternal mortality rates escalated to 750 per 100,000 births, which, coupled with increasing incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, made the overall health condition of women exceedingly dire and insecure.

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With emphasis on displaced and impoverished women of reproductive age, the goal of the project was to increase the quality of and access to RH services in the Gulu District. To reach this goal, the project focused on (i) improving the capacity of existing health clinics

to deliver adequate RH services; (ii) promoting safe and responsible RH practices through awareness-raising activities; and (iii) enhancing knowledge among internally displaced persons (IDPs) on the dangers of STIs and HIV/AIDS.

### BENEFICIARIES

The project targeted 422,000 IDPs living in refugee camps in the Gulu District. The primary beneficiaries included men and women of reproductive age who obtained increased access to RH information and services in the camps such as family planning services, post-sexual violence medical care, STIs and

HIV/AIDS treatment, contraceptives and other health kits. Moreover, the project provided a series of training courses for health workers, including midwives, nurses and birth attendants, on topics related to RH, family planning, sexual and gender-based violence, STIs and HIV/AIDS prevention.