PROGRESS
The ERP was launched in September 2018. One year later, it is already having an impact:

More children are now in school
56.5% of school-age refugee children are now in education, compared to 43% when the ERP was launched. About 90,000 more refugee children are now in school.

65% target exceeded
Primary: Up from 58% to 73%
Secondary: Up from 11% to 15%

Better quality and more inclusive learning
Innovative and cutting edge approaches are being piloted and rolled out in Uganda - such as developing multilingual strategies to support teachers in the classroom, piloting new technology solutions, and working with teachers to ensure children with disabilities actively participate in lessons.

Improved infrastructure
At least 530 new classrooms have been constructed
936 teachers hired
2,434 latrine stances built

The response is better coordinated
There has been progress on integrating the ERP in district and national public planning, to ensure a more coordinated and effective response. All refugee hosting districts are developing locally adapted budgets based on realistic and achievable targets in each location.

A lot has been done but there is a long way to go, and too many children are still not getting a quality education.

CONTRIBUTING US$ 1 MILLION TO THE PLAN COULD:

- Provide 125,000 primary school children with scholastic materials for one year
- Train teachers to ensure that 25,347 children will receive a better quality education
- Provide assistive devices such as hearing aids and braille textbooks to 10,416 children with learning disabilities
- Construct 59 permanent classrooms for 4,720 learners
- Provide sanitary materials and training to keep 54,644 adolescent girls in school
- Support 1,388 youth to graduate from non-formal vocational technical institutes
- Pay the salary of 431 teachers for 1 school year, benefiting 37,963 children
- Build 40 permanent child-friendly spaces serving 28,000 children
- Equip 166 schools with a safe playground
- Support 13 refugee-hosting districts to have stronger capacity to coordinate, monitor and make refugee-inclusive planning
- Provide 4,385 conflict-affected adolescents with life skills

What is still needed
4,239 classrooms
74,088 textbooks
52,357 desks
2,522 teachers

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS
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When families affected by conflict are asked what are their biggest priorities, most say education. In Uganda, mothers and fathers go hungry and sacrifice themselves to try and put their children through school. Education is every child’s right, but it also protects, enlightens and empowers the next generation who will shape the future of their home and host countries.

Yet most children are not getting the education they deserve.

- Uganda hosts one of the biggest percentage of refugees in the world and more continue to arrive.
- Many have experienced extreme violence.
- They have been welcomed into some of the poorest parts of the country, putting further strain on already limited resources in host communities.

601,799 children still out of school

161 children per primary classroom

1 teacher for every 88 children.

Classrooms are dangerously overcrowded and teachers are overwhelmed, and in such conditions the quality of learning is often poor.

There is an education crisis in the refugee response in Uganda, and funding is urgently needed.

The Plan is ambitious but realistic, based on extensive analysis and costing. To implement the ERP and get a quality education for 567,500 learners will cost $389 million in the period 2018 - 2021. The Plan’s activities target all key stages between the ages of 3 and 24.

• Pre-primary: A child’s development in their first few years will shape the rest of their lives, for better or worse. We are training caregivers in Early Childhood Development (ECD) and engaging communities and parents. Total $19.5m

• Primary and Secondary: Classes are massively overcrowded and lack essentials from desks and books to clean water and safe toilets. We are constructing new facilities, training teachers, supplying materials and making schools safe and accessible. Total: $194m (primary) and $52m (secondary)

• Out-of-school adolescents and youth: We are getting young people back into relevant education, for example through Accelerated Education Programmes (AEP) – using a specially designed condensed curriculum for older children who missed years of schooling; vocational training to help young people get decent work; and life skills to reduce the risk of early marriage, teenage pregnancy and sexual violence. Total: $120m

• System strengthening: National and district level support is critical to ensure effective delivery. We are providing support in institutional development, coordination and planning, data and information management. Total $3m

UGANDA HAS A PLAN

To address these huge needs, the Ugandan Government – working closely with UN agencies, NGOs, humanitarian and development partners and hosting communities – developed the multi-year Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities (ERP). It is the first of its kind worldwide and it sets out exactly how we can provide children with a quality education:

- Improve equitable access by constructing classrooms and other facilities; equipping schools with essentials such as books and desks; expanding vocational skills opportunities; and making schools safer and more accessible for all children.

- Improve quality by training teachers and improving pedagogy, piloting innovations, providing teachers’ salaries, setting up school clubs and strengthening school governance.

- Strengthen systems at both national and district level through policy and advocacy work, institutional development, supporting district-level coordination and planning, enhancing community engagement and better data and information management.

The ERP represents a new way of working in Uganda and globally.

• A paradigm shift: from a mainly humanitarian focus to developing integrated long-term services that are more appropriate for this increasingly protracted crisis.

• Greater alignment: It shows how over time partner projects and donor financing can become increasingly coordinated towards one common vision and plan.

• Increased accountability: Implementation is overseen by a steering committee co-chaired by government and donors, with representatives of UN, NGOs and refugees.

• Global ambition in action: It is a concrete embodiment of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), for which Uganda is a trailblazer country.