CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO REFUGEE GOVERNANCE IN UGANDA

BY

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JANUARY, 2019
DECLARATION

I Kisaka Sarah declare that this thesis entitled, “Contributions of the International Community To Refugee Governance in Uganda” is my original work and has not been submitted for any other award of a degree and published at any institution of higher learning.

Signature

Date
APPROVAL

This thesis titled, “Contributions of the International Community to Refugee Governance in Uganda”, has been produced under my supervision and it is now submitted for examination.

[Signature]
Name of Supervisor

[Signature]
Signature

29/05/2019
Date
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my beloved mother, Justine Nambuya for loving me so very much. I also dedicate it to my lovely and caring sisters, Daphine and Patricia; brothers, Tom W., Nicholas and Baguma. Lastly, I wish to dedicate this piece of work to my sweet family, my wonderful husband, Ochan Livingstone, and my children, Tracy, Trudy and Trevor. All of you thank you for supporting and encouraging me to be on this journey.
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This study assessed the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance in Uganda, with the objective of evaluating the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda, and assessing the role of international organizations and the challenges they face. Owing to the nature of this study, it took on the international relations theory of Rational Choice Institutionalism (RCI). RCI is a theoretical model that explains institutions with a premise that different institutions actors use institutions to maximize their utility and decision making. Through the use of an exploratory design and by utilizing a sample of 125 participants; key informant interviews and focus group discussions, demographic characteristics and key themes were identified. This study revealed that refugees who are engaged in gainful employment can ultimately contribute to the national GDP, although the negative consequences such as increased economic burden and strain on the social services are still dominating the consequences. In addition, INGOs continuously engage in activities that empower refugees through helping them build efficient social, economic and cultural ties with the host government and community, despite the overwhelming number of refugees and their governance programs being bitterly underfunded. The study argues that although INGO’s, continue to offer commendable lifesaving protection, and advocacy, as well as livelihood support, more refugees are in need of gainful employment, capacity building and empowerment. This study concludes that funding aid cuts have severely affected most INGOs programs particularly those that deal in education, health water/sanitation, and shelter. The study recommends engagement of refugees and other migrants into viable self-reliance ventures and livelihood programs that will curb unemployment and lessen the burden on the INGO’s and the host county. There is need to fully protect all refugees regardless of their historical circumstances or background. This study appeals to the donor community to increase funding for refugees and adopt fair policies that aim at welcoming refugees and migrants to their countries, and lift a burden on some poor countries that are feeling a full weight of the refugee plight.
CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

The introductory chapter enlists the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, scope of the study, significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

This part of the introduction highlights the historical, theoretical, conceptual and theoretical perspectives.

1.1.1 Historical Perspective

Migration and Refugee governance is a transnational and global phenomenon which, with an estimate of more than 244 million international migrants in the world, affects most States, as countries of origin, transit and destination, often as all three (Kemirere, 2007). This complex and multifaceted issue is closely linked to other global policy areas, such as development, trade, health, environment, security, integration and human rights. The cross-cutting nature of international forced migration has been acknowledged by the international community, together with the need to address the phenomenon in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner. Forced migration is one of the main manifestations of globalization, as it cannot be managed unilaterally by national policies.

The war in the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) entered its seventh year in March 2017. Over 5.1 million people have fled Syria, seeking safety in Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. Refugees have grown increasingly vulnerable—with the vast majority living below the poverty line and facing difficulties in accessing services and providing food, housing, healthcare and other
basic needs for their families (UNHCR, Highlighted Underfunded Situations In 2017, 2017). UNHCR’s response to the needs of Syrian refugees and IDPs is critically underfunded, with additional contributions required to avoid dramatic cuts to essential and life-saving services to Syrians in the last quarter of the year. Without urgent funding, up to 300,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq may not receive financial assistance. Other needs that will go unmet across the region include life-saving healthcare interventions, winter assistance, prevention and response to SGBV and child protection cases and shelter upgrades, as well as support to the 50,000 persons stranded in dire conditions at the Berm between Jordan and Syria.

More than two million Somalis are currently displaced by a conflict that has lasted over two decades. An estimated 1.5 million people are internally displaced in Somalia and nearly 900,000 are refugees in the near region, in Kenya, Yemen and Ethiopia. The ongoing process of political and security stabilization in Somalia presents a critical moment in renewing efforts to finding durable solutions for Somali refugees, whilst maintaining the protection space in countries of asylum and responding effectively to the drought that is increasing the risk of famine-induced displacement in the region (UNHCR, Highlighted Underfunded Situations In 2017, 2017).

Over the past two decades, the behavior of countries on refugee issues has been constrained and shaped by a range of norms, processes and institutions which have been developed beyond the national State through international cooperation (Bwambale, 2017). Uganda, where the number of refugees from South Sudan has now reached one million people is the largest host country in sub-Saharan Africa, followed by Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Central African Republic (UNHCR, Highlighted Underfunded Situations In 2017,
Refugees from South Sudan have been granted prima facie refugee status by these countries, demonstrating strong commitment to refugee protection despite limited national resources. Despite not directly bordering Burundi, Uganda continues to receive an influx of Burundi refugees. In 2016, this influx has been higher than initially anticipated, but declined since May 2016. On average some 30 Burundi refugees entered Uganda per day in September 2016, or 937 per month (UNHCR, UGANDA: 2017 Refugee Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2017). In 2017, it was expected that Uganda received a steady trickle of Burundi refugee arrivals of up to 20,000 new refugees. Burundi refugees enter Uganda mainly through Rwanda and Tanzania, and in smaller numbers through DRC. The main border entry points in Uganda are Mirama Hills, Mutukula and Bunagana. Refugees are mainly settled in Nakivale settlement, but also in urban areas. Arrival numbers peaked in March 2016. The response operation is coping with the continued influx, but faces two main challenges. First, the new settlement areas in Nakivale settlement allocated to new arrivals from Burundi are very remote and under-developed. This is mainly due to the fact that Nakivale settlement, hosting some 124,842 refugees from multiple countries as of March 2017, is slowly reaching its maximum capacity.

The influx from the DRC to Uganda has been continuous since 2014, albeit in lower scale than the South Sudan influx. Refugees arrive mainly from North Kivu through various border points along the South-western border (UNHCR, Highlighted Underfunded Situations In 2017, 2017). In 2016 alone, Uganda received almost 40,000 new DRC refugees. Refugees cite militia activities, general insecurity and harassment as the main reasons for flight. As of April 2017, Uganda hosts 227,413 DRC refugees. Unless dramatic events occur in Eastern DRC, it was anticipated that some 60,000 new DRC refugees fled to Uganda in 2017. UNHCR maintains two transit centres and three
reception centres to receive Congolese refugees, who are currently mainly settled in Rwamanja settlement. Kyaka II and Kiryandongo are contingency settlements for refugees from the DRC. The main priorities of the DRC RRP are to provide life-saving protection and emergency assistance to newly arriving refugees, stabilize the situation in all settlements currently hosting DRC refugees (Rwamanja, Nakivale, Kyaka II, Kyangwali), provide support to DRC refugees (and other nationalities) in urban areas, and to maintain a high level of emergency preparedness in case the refugee influx rate.

1.1.2 Theoretical Perspective

Owing to the nature of this study, it took on the international relations theory of Rational Choice Institutionalism (RCI). RCI is a theoretical model that explains institutions with a premise that different institutions actors use institutions to maximize their utility and decision making. RCI in international relations is next to new institutional economics, from which we can reduce insecurities, and anticipate the behavior of other factors and allow for strategic interaction (Luong, 2002). The theory advocates for the creation of institutions as a way of reducing costs of collective activities which would be relatively higher without such institutions (Shepsle, 2005).

According to Weingast (1998), “Institutions persist after their development because they attempt to reduce uncertainty and allow gains from international exchange”. Therefore RCI assumes that stake holders (actors) within the institutional setting have a fixed set of preferences (Shepsle, 2005). In order for institutions to maximize those preferences, their actors’ behavior is highly instrumental through systematic foresight and strategic cost-benefit calculation. RCI also believes that decisions that humans make are based on maximizing an individual’s own benefits while minimizing that which can potentially hurt the individual (Hall, 1996).
Actors can be states or countries which have the responsibility of governing refugees. In this perspective they are obliged to succumb to the legal norms underscored in the refugee governance protocols (Ssemugenyi, 2011). If they fail to meet their obligations, the aggrieved refugees are entitled to seek court redress. Mikkelsen (2005) in the same line asserts that, by committing themselves to ratifying the refugee governance treaties, states are expected to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights for all citizens regardless of their refugee status. Actors such as organizations and individuals have the moral obligations to accord respect and promote refugee governance. They not only manifest themselves on the local levels but also at the international scenes and may include; IGOs, NGOs, aid agencies, private sector organizations, multinational organizations, regional organizations, the United Nations and so on (Mikkelsen 2005).

RCI is relevant for this study because it provides refugees a platform to assume power and take part in issues pertaining to their lives that might suppress their assumed freedom. It is also an avenue through which refugees can legally demand accountability from the actors. In other words, it is a yard-stick through which the performance of the actors towards the refugees can be assessed (Ssemugenyi, 2011). RCI aims at creating mechanisms of empowering those whose rights are denied to assess their plight, to identify the major cause of their marginalization, and to take action individually or collectively to define, claim and realize their rights (Active Participation and Human Rights Research and Advocacy 2010 in Ssemugenyi, 2011). Under the RCI, actors are recognized and these include international organizations, countries, NGOs, government agencies and other actors.

As far as RCI is concerned, actors who are the international community act within the institutional framework and in accordance with the principles of resource maximization with predetermined and premeditated preferences. International organizations play a role in refugee
governance by providing a practical legal framework and policies that direct expectations, limit
the range of choices an actor can make and at times offers sanctions and incentives. As a basis for
the analysis of the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance, it is
critical to conceptualize and theoretically substantiate organizations as well and initiate change of
institutions. As far as this theory is concerned, refugees are the reasons as to why international
organizations which govern them exist and once their desires are ascertained it will determine the
likely outcomes, which is good governance. Therefore, INGOs could use RCI to explain and
predict the behavior of refugees. An organization that serves refugees can logically predict their
needs and help them appropriately. RCI takes the notion that actors are all rational entities with
intrinsic preferences driven by self-interest.

On the basis of this framework above, the refugees and actors are herein referred to as the
host government (Uganda), UNHCR and other refugee-related organizations. The framework was
used to assess the role and contributions of the government and other duty bearers in governing,
supporting and protecting the rights of refugees in Uganda. The challenges of refugee governance
accrue from social processes that involve different actors. Therefore, in order to clearly evaluate
the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda; assess the role and challenges, the
RCI framework was adopted as a tool of analysis of the problem of proper refugee governance.

1.1.3 Conceptual Perspective

 Refugees are forced involuntarily to relocate from their entire communities, from their homes to
semi-permanent settlements directly or indirectly under the control of military units (Kemirere,
2007). Alternatively, forced migration, is a general term that refers to the movements of refugees
and internally displaced people (those displaced by conflicts) as well as people displaced by natural
or environmental disasters, chemical or nuclear disasters, famine, or development projects
In this study, by definition, forced migration shall refer to movements of people who are compelled to flee their homes because their stay is dangerous to their life.

The notion of “migration governance” was initiated in the early 1990s with the aim of achieving a new international framework on global mobility and migration. According to the World Bank, ‘management concerns the day-to-day operation of any program within the context of the strategies, policies, processes, and procedures that have been established by the governing body’. More recent developments have transformed it into “refugee governance”. Governance can be defined as the ‘framework of accountability to users, stakeholders and the wider community, within which organizations take decisions, and lead and control their functions, to achieve their objectives’ (Ogwang, 2014). Accordingly, rather than focusing on the day-to-day operation of their national refugee policies, countries have opted for a more structural and strategic approach to forced migration with a view to addressing economic, social, demographic and other related issues, in coordination with other, and especially the international community.

According to the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) 2002, forced migration is usually related to the movements of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Forced migration is a phenomenon that has existed throughout human history and it is different from voluntary migration. In forced migration there is no prior intention or plan to leave. The concept describes a complex emergency situation that forces communities to relocate due to a particular type of disaster. On the other hand, UNHCR describes IDPs as: … persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border (UNHCR, 2016). According to the 1951 UN Convention
on the status of refugees, a refugee is “a person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear is unwilling to return to it”.

This study assessed the contributions of the international organizations (independent variable) which is being conceptualized as the active participation in aiding refugee governance and refugee programs such as increased host community support, advocacy, and refugee and host population empowerment, while the dependent variable (refugee governance) was conceptualized as establishment of structures, programs and processes that are designed to ensure life-saving protection, livelihood support and education provision.

1.1.4 Contextual Perspective

This study was carried out in Kampala, Uganda. Uganda is home to about 1.3 million refugees, according to UNHCR (Bwambale, 2017). Specifically it will be conducted in Kampala Capital City, which hosts most of the urban refugees (15,000) – escapees from wars in Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. The city in question was chosen because it is inhabiting numerous international organizations that deal directly with refugees. It is where the seat of the government of Uganda, specifically the Office of the Prime Minister is found.

The Uganda Office of the Prime Minister (OPM, Refugee Department) and UNHCR facilitate inter-agency planning, coordination, implementation, and of the overall response to the refugee emergency situation in Uganda. At the field level, the District Local Governments form part of the response, working closely with UN and NGO partners supplementing governmental efforts. The refugee response in Uganda includes partners such as, District Local Governments,
UN agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO etc.), and IGOs and NGOs such as Action African Help (AAH), Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan), Action Against Hunger (ACF), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Care International (CARE Int.), and Caritas.

Districts hosting refugees in Uganda are appealing for more funding to cater for the growing numbers that are putting a strain on their resources (Bwambale, 2017). Inadequate infrastructure, Language barrier and poverty are among the challenges identified in the districts that host refugees. The Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees in June 2017 provided an opportunity to mobilize international support and funding. However, without further funding and support, UNHCR will struggle to deliver life-saving assistance and provide even the most basic aid. The funding shortfall will affect UNHCR’s operations particularly in the following areas: 175,000 IDPs will not receive core relief items, South Sudanese refugees in Uganda will not have access to sustainable water supply, over 211,000 women and girls will not receive sanitary materials (UNHCR, 2017).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

A comprehensive migration and refugee governance program should facilitate an orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. In fact, a country should have well-planned and well-managed migration policies, through the system of institutions, legal frameworks, mechanisms and practices aimed at regulating forced migration and protecting refugees (Scholten, Collett, & Petrovic, 2016). However, the government of Uganda, is still struggling to monitor the entry of migrants and governing refugees (Ogwang, 2014). One of the main issues today is the ever-increasing number of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) …., and its negative impact on the social, economic, political and human development
(Rwamatwara, 2005 in Ogwang, 2014). With more than 1.2 million, it is currently Africa’s leading refugee-hosting country (Ongaro, 2017). According to Kwesiga (2017) the Belgian ambassador to Uganda, Hugo Verbist, voiced fears that with 2,000 refugees continuing to pour into Uganda daily, the country’s generosity is being strained. The country is experiencing the fastest growing refugee crisis in the world, with the numbers stretching state and host community resources (Bwambale, 2017). Although some progress has been made in some refugee strategic sectors, governance of refugees is largely lacking.

It is clear that the fragility of states can contribute to forced migration, thereby creating a problem of refugees to a host country, this unmanaged situation has led Uganda to be in need of both financial and material supplies (Ogwang, 2014; Ongaro, 2017; & Kwesiga, 2017). The aim of governance is to regulate the causes and consequences of forced migration and refugee crisis in order to change a traditionally spontaneous and unregulated phenomenon into a more orderly and predictable process (Crépeau & Atak, 2016). Unless we enforce governance laws and fully involve the international community in assisting refugees and support the host communities and country; to pursue its refugee protection, management and social integration policies, we will continue to have trouble with governance due to the current rate at which people are fleeing conflict infested areas; which exceeds the humanitarian community’s already pessimistic estimates. This study therefore, sought to examine the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to examine the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance in Uganda.
1.4 Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study were to:

i. To evaluate the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda.

ii. To assess the role of international organizations in refugee governance in Uganda.

iii. To assess the challenges of refugee governance in Uganda.

1.5 Research Questions

The research questions for the study will be;

i. How does forced migration and refugee crisis affect Uganda?

ii. What is the role of international organizations in refugee governance in Uganda?

iii. What are the challenges of refugee governance in Uganda?

1.6 Scope of the Study

1.6.1 Geographical Scope

This study was carried out in Uganda. Uganda is home to about 1.3 million refugees, according to UNHCR (Bwambale, 2017). Specifically it will be conducted in Kampala Capital City, which hosts most of the urban refugees (15,000) – escapees from wars in South Sudan, Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. The city in question was chosen because it is inhabiting numerous international organizations that deal directly with refugees.

1.6.2 Content Scope

This study was limited to assessing the contributions of the international community (independent variable) which was conceptualized as the active participation in aiding refugee governance and refugee programs, while the dependent variable (migration and refugee governance) was defined
as establishment of structures and processes that are designed to ensure life-saving protection, livelihood support and education provision.

1.6.3 Time scope

The study was conducted based on a time period of 15 years; that is from 2002 to date, which means that Uganda is experiencing its peak of refugees. Based on the activities and events happening around the landlocked country, refugee governance is a process yet to be achieved.

1.7 Significance of the Study

The findings of the research will help the government in the line ministries to review, improve existing laws and frameworks to come up with new policies to cope with the changing contemporary needs of refugees. In addition, the outcomes of the study will identify the challenges and areas of weakness in management of resources in the camps, settlements, and conflict infested countries, thereby providing solutions that can enhance their effective sustainability. Finally, the outcomes of the study will be useful to scholars and other researchers who may be interested in pursuing further studies in this area, having contributed to literature.

1.7 Operational Definition of Key Terms

**Refugee governance.** Establishment of structures and processes that are designed to ensure life-saving protection, livelihood support and education provision.

**Life-saving protection.** The actions and processes that the government of Uganda and INGOs utilize to save refugees’ lives.

**Livelhood support.** The actions and processes the government of Uganda and other INGOs utilize to help refugees participate in activities that sustain life.
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviewed literature regarding the objectives of the study from different scholars and authors.

2.1 Theoretical Review

Two major theories as regards to this research are reviewed. One is the Rights-Based Approach (RBA) of Mikkelsen (2005) which refers to having the urge to build strong local, national and international movements that advocate for specific duties to be fulfilled by governments, corporations and individuals that will enhance all people to enjoy their rights (Ssemugenyi, 2011). The core of the RBA is a two pointed strategy agitate for realizing human rights by; strengthening duty bearers to fulfil their obligations and empowering the rights-holders to demand for their rights (Mikkelsen, 2005). RBA aims at creating mechanisms of empowering those whose rights are denied to assess their plight, to identify the major cause of their marginalization, and to take action individually or collectively to define, claim and realize their rights (Active Participation and Human Rights Research and Advocacy 2010 in Ssemugenyi, 2011). Under the RBA, three agents are recognized and these include duty bearers, rights-holders and other actors.

Duty bearers can be states or countries which have the responsibility of observing human rights. In this perspective they are obliged to succumb to the legal norms underscored in the human rights tools (Ssemugenyi, 2011). If they fail to meet their obligations, the aggrieved rights-holders are entitled to seek court redress. Mikkelsen (2005) in the same line asserts that, by committing themselves to ratifying the human rights treaties, states are the ultimate duty bearers and therefore are expected to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights for all citizens. A rights-holder is entitled to rights, entitled to demand their rights; entitled to seek accountability from the duty-bearers and
has the responsibility to accord respect to the rights of others. Actors such as organizations and
individuals have the moral obligations to accord respect and promote human rights. The moral
duty bearers who not only manifest on the local levels but also at the international scenes and may
include; IGOs, NGOs, aid agencies, private sector organisations, multinational organisations,
regional organisations, the United Nations and so on (Mikkelsen 2005).

Owing to the nature of this study, it took on the international relations theory of Rational Choice
Institutionalism (RCI). RCI is a theoretical model that explains institutions with a premise that
different institutions actors use institutions to maximize their utility and decision making. RCI in
international relations is next to new institutional economics, from which we can reduce
insecurities, and anticipate the behavior of other factors and allow for strategic interaction (Luong,
2002). The theory advocates for the creation of institutions as a way of reducing costs of collective
activities which would be relatively higher without such institutions (Shepsle, 2005). According
to Weingast (1998), “Institutions persist after their development because they attempt to reduce
uncertainty and allow gains from international exchange”. Therefore RCI assumes that stake
holders (actors) within the institutional setting have a fixed set of preferences (Shepsle, 2005). In
order for institutions to maximize those preferences, their actors’ behavior is highly instrumental
through systematic foresight and strategic cost-benefit calculation. RCI also believes that
decisions that humans make are based on maximizing an individual’s own benefits while
minimizing that which can potentially hurt the individual (Hall, 1996).

Actors can be states or countries which have the responsibility of governing refugees. In this
perspective they are obliged to succumb to the legal norms underscored in the refugee governance
protocols (Ssemugenyi, 2011). If they fail to meet their obligations, the aggrieved refugees are entitled to seek court redress. Mikkelsen (2005) in the same line asserts that, by committing themselves to ratifying the refugee governance treaties, states are expected to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights for all citizens regardless of their refugee status. Actors such as organizations and individuals have the moral obligations to accord respect and promote refugee governance. They not only manifest themselves on the local levels but also at the international scenes and may include; IGOs, NGOs, aid agencies, private sector organizations, multinational organizations, regional organizations, the United Nations and so on (Mikkelsen 2005).

RCI is relevant for this study because it provides refugees a platform to assume power and take part in issues pertaining to their lives that might suppress their assumed freedom. It is also an avenue through which refugees can legally demand accountability from the actors. In other words, it is a yard-stick through which the performance of the actors towards the refugees can be assessed (Ssemugenyi, 2011). RCI aims at creating mechanisms of empowering those whose rights are denied to assess their plight, to identify the major cause of their marginalization, and to take action individually or collectively to define, claim and realize their rights (Active Participation and Human Rights Research and Advocacy 2010 in Ssemugenyi, 2011). Under the RCI, actors are recognized and these include international organizations, countries, NGOs, government agencies and other actors. As far as RCI is concerned, actors who are the international community act within the institutional framework and in accordance with the principles of resource maximization with pre-determined and premeditated preferences. International organizations play a role in refugee governance by providing a practical legal framework and policies that direct expectations, limit the range of choices an actor can make and at times offers sanctions and incentives. As a basis for
the analysis of the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance, it is
critical to conceptualize and theoretically substantiate organizations as well and initiate change of
institutions. As far as this theory is concerned, refugees are the reasons as to why international
organizations which govern them exist and once their desires are ascertained it will determine the
likely outcomes, which is good governance. Therefore, INGOs could use RCI to explain and
predict the behavior of refugees. An organization that serves refugees can logically predict their
needs and help them appropriately. RCI takes the notion that actors are all rational entities with
intrinsic preferences driven by self-interest.

On the basis of this framework above, the refugees and actors are herein referred to as the host
government (Uganda), UNHCR and other refugee-related organizations. The framework was used
to assess the role and contributions of the government and other duty bearers in governing,
supporting and protecting the rights of refugees in Uganda. The challenges of refugee governance
accrue from social processes that involve different actors. Therefore, in order to clearly evaluate
the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda; assess the role and challenges, the
RCI framework was adopted as a tool of analysis of the problem of proper refugee governance.
2.2 Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.1: the conceptual framework showing the contributions of the international community towards refugee governance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent Variable</th>
<th>Dependent Variable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Community:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Refugee Governance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- UNHCR</td>
<td>- Life-saving protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- NRC</td>
<td>- Livelihood support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- OPM</td>
<td>- Education provision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The conceptual framework in Fig 1.1 reflect that the international community (Independent variable) were conceptualized as the active participation in aiding refugee governance and refugee programs such as increased host community support, advocacy, and refugee and host population empowerment, while the dependent variable (refugee governance) was conceptualized as establishment of structures, programs and processes that are designed to ensure life-saving protection, livelihood support and education provision.

2.3 Review of Related Studies

2.3.1 The Concept of Refugee Governance.

The notion of “migration governance” was initiated in the early 1990s with the aim of achieving a new international framework on global mobility and migration. According to the World Bank, ‘management concerns the day-to-day operation of any program within the context of the strategies, policies, processes, and procedures that have been established by the governing body’. More recent developments have transformed it into “refugee governance”. Governance can be
defined as the ‘framework of accountability to users, stakeholders and the wider community, within which organizations take decisions, and lead and control their functions, to achieve their objectives’ (Ogwang, 2014). Accordingly, rather than focusing on the day-to-day operation of their national refugee policies, countries have opted for a more structural and strategic approach to forced migration with a view to addressing economic, social, demographic and other related issues, in coordination with other, and especially the international community.

According to the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) 2002, forced migration is usually related to the movements of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Forced migration is a phenomenon that has existed throughout human history and it is different from voluntary migration. In forced migration there is no prior intention or plan to leave. The concept describes a complex emergency situation that forces communities to relocate due to a particular type of disaster. On the other hand, UNHCR describes IDPs as: … persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border (UNHCR, 2016). According to the 1951 UN Convention on the status of refugees, a refugee is “a person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear is unwilling to return to it”.

2.3.2 A review on the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on the host country

Numerous studies such as (Fisk, 2018; Yousaf, 2018; Anagnostopoulos, Giannakopoulos, & Christodoulou, 2017; Crépeau & Atak, 2016; Kemirere, 2007) have proved that forced migration and refugee crisis has an impact on the host country. For instance, previous research demonstrates that refugee populations can threaten the security of receiving countries. Fisk (2018) conducted a study that sought to examine the physical security challenges refugees face in host states. Through utilizing a new, geographically referenced data set on sub-country refugee demographics to test the hypothesis that locations home to larger refugee populations were more likely to experience one-sided attacks by conflict actors. Results demonstrated that refugee accommodation was a significant predictor of one-sided violence in Africa. In particular, combatants committed significantly more acts of violence against civilians in locations home to larger numbers of self-settled refugees compared to other locations (Fisk, 2018).

 Forced migration refugee crisis restrain the health care and welfare systems of the host country in case such resources are limited. An example is Greece which is the main host country for African and Asian refugee population (mainly from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq and Bangladesh). Anagnostopoulos, Giannakopoulos, & Christodoulou (2017) discussed the contexts that economic and migrant crises shaped and suggested possible effects of this intersection on mental health risks, especially among children, adolescents and their families. The study revealed that, in the context of an almost devastated healthcare and welfare system, resources are limited. The demand for public health services increases considerably, and yet the finances of the migrant families do not allow continuation of treatment in the private sector.
Forced migrants tend to arrive in places where there are few job opportunities for them (Dadush & Niebuhr, 2016). The problem of finding a livelihood is far more severe in the ten or so poor countries or regions receiving large numbers of forced migrants than in rich countries which, with few exceptions, receive tiny numbers of forced migrants relative to their population. In poor countries or regions receiving large numbers of migrants, the depressing effect on the wages of native unskilled workers can be extremely severe (Maystadt & Verwimp, 2009). Bahcekapili & Cetin (2015) analyzed the Syrian refugee movement and its effects on seven different regions based on certain macroeconomic variables. The most prominent and parallel findings came from internal migration and foreign trade indicators. In all of the seven regions included in their study, internal migration rate increased and foreign trade balance improved when the Syrian refugees arrived. The improvement in trade stemmed from two possible reasons. The first reason was the fact that exports to northern Syria were interrupted and imports from the same region also declined with the outbreak of the civil war. The second reason was that commercial activities of Syrian refugees with other regional countries increased Turkey’s exports to those regions.

The impact of immigration on commodity prices and inflation is one of the issues often examined in the literature. Ruiz and Vargas-Silva (2012) in Bahcekapili & Cetin (2015), in their theoretical work related to the economics of forced migration, emphasized the necessity to study the effects of migration on prices together with. They said that parameters such as the different preferences of migrants and native people, their budgets and the amount of the aid had different effects on aid-related and non-aid food prices. Maystadt & Verwimp (2009) with a survey they did in Tanzania in 2008 examined the effects of forced migration from Burundi in 1993 and Rwanda in 1994. According to their findings, in contrast to expectations the forces migration had had a positive
impact on the wealth of the native population. In the migration receiving regions while agricultural workers complained from competition and increasing food prices and self-employed farmers benefited from cheap labor, businesses boomed in non-agricultural sectors. Also, there was not much change in the welfare of the self-employed tradesmen.

Forced migration and refugee crisis has affected the economic, environmental and political stability of the transit and final destination countries. In fact, countries which host big numbers of refugees have complained of the latter’s destruction of environment in terms of tree-cutting in search of firewood, water pollution, deforestation for setting up camps (Ogwang, 2014). When forced migrants arrive in large numbers in a poor region, they place an enormous strain on public services and infrastructure and on the public purse, and they can also severely fray the social and political fabric, leading to deterioration of the investment climate (Dadush & Niebuhr, 2016).

2.3.3 A review of the role of International organizations in refugee governance

The UNHCR, the United Nations’ refugee organization, is mandated by the United Nations to lead and coordinate international action for the world-wide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems (UNHCR, 2005). The UNHCR’s primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state and to return home voluntarily. By assisting refugees to return to their own country or to settle in another country, the UNHCR also seeks lasting solutions to their plight. The UNHCR’s efforts are mandated by the organization’s Statute and guided by the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. International refugee law provides an essential framework of principles for the UNHCR’s humanitarian
activities. However, under international law, it is the state that has the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to civilians in their country, as well as to refugees.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is the world's largest humanitarian organization providing assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class, or political opinions (Betts, 2010). Founded in 1919, the International Federation comprises 181 member Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, a Secretariat in Geneva, and more than 60 delegations strategically located to support activities around the world. There are more societies in formation. The Red Crescent is used in place of the Red Cross in many Islamic countries. The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. Vulnerable people are those who are at greatest risk from situations that threaten their survival or their capacity to live with an acceptable level of social and economic security and human dignity. Often, these are victims of natural disasters, poverty brought about by socioeconomic crises, refugees, and victims of health emergencies (Bahcekapili & Cetin, 2015).

The IOM was established in 1951 as an intergovernmental organization to resettle European displaced persons, refugees, and migrants (Betts, 2010). It is not part of the UN system, but it maintains close relations with UN bodies and operational agencies. The IOM has as partners a wide range of international and non-governmental organizations. The IOM has become a leading international organization working with migrants and governments to provide humane responses to migration challenges. Its mission is to work with its partners in the international community to: Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; Advance
understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants (UNHCR, 2005).

Several studies have tried to share the role of International organizations in forced migration and refugee governance (Bahcekapili & Cetin, 2015). The international organizations have been well known in provision of monetary aid and public relief to refugees. For example Bahcekapili & Cetin (2015) commented that different international organizations and countries, primarily the UN, provided monetary aid and public relief to Syrian refugees. In the report dated April 2015, published by UNHCR, a total of 100 million USD in aid was provided for Syrians residing in Turkey between January and April 2015. The amount of aid collected in 3.5 years between 2012 and 2015 reaching nearly 420 million USD. The biggest contribution in total assistance was provided by UNHCR with 190 million USD. However, the need is much higher than the said amount. The Turkish government is trying to meet the needs of the Syrian refugees through its AFAD budget. In the above-mentioned 3.5 years, the budget allocated to AFAD reached 3.3 billion USD. Undoubtedly an important part of the budget was used to meet the humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees.

Hoffstaedter (2015) points out, the divisive assumptions that restrict support for urban refugees in relation to those accommodated in refugee camps have historically been held not just by ‘host’ states but also by UNHCR and other INGOs, who have been reluctant to respond to the complexities of refugee provision in urban environments. Non-governmental organizations have missions and mandates covering a wide range of activities. Some of them deliver services contracted to them by mandated organizations. For example, a range of NGOs assists the UNHCR
in carrying out a number of protection and assistance activities. Other NGOs have self-appointed mandates ranging from human rights reporting, advocacy, legal services, and other protection-related activities. Often, humanitarian and human rights NGOs complement each other’s work but might not make that widely known if it would compromise either’s ability to carry on with their work.

The international community has a role of promoting self-reliance in the refugee community. Self-reliance is “the social and economic ability of an individual, a household or a community to meet essential needs (including protection, food, water, shelter, personal safety, health, and education) in a sustainable manner and with dignity” (UNHCR, 2006). Self-reliance emphasizes building the capacities of refugees to “enable refugees to live with dignity and create a future for themselves and their families” (UNHCR, 2014). More recently, self-reliance has become “a critical component” of the UNHCR’s livelihood programming, which calls for “the reduction of dependency through economic empowerment and the promotion of self-reliance” as central to its protection mandate. The UNHCR is a key international actor that is promoting self-reliance globally as part of its current refugee management approach (Ilcan, Oliver, & Connoy, 2015). For example, in Eastern Sudan, the 80,000 refugees who reside in camps in the Gedaret, Kassala and Red Sea states are allocated between five and 10 acres of land by the government and encouraged to engage in self-reliance strategies as advocated by the UNHCR (Ilcan, Oliver, & Connoy, 2015).

International and local bodies also play the role of resettlement, resolution of refugee situations and resettlement criteria (Kwesiga, 2017). The UNHCR seeks to reduce situations of forced displacement by encouraging states and other institutions to create conditions that are conducive
to the protection of human rights and the peaceful resolution of disputes. In pursuit of the same objective, the UNHCR actively seeks to consolidate the reintegration of returning refugees to their country of origin, thereby averting the recurrence of refugee-producing situations.

International and local bodies have been increasingly associated with the work of the agency with civil society (Wolff, 2015). First, have signed several working arrangements with the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), the ILO, Interpol, IOM, the OSCE, UNHCR and UNODC. Most of these organizations are associated with providing training on integrated border management; preventing trafficking in human beings; and cooperating with each other’s projects. Some IOs have cooperated, although modestly, in selected joint operations as well as in risk analysis (Anagnostopoulos, Giannakopoulos, & Christodoulou, 2017).

2.3.4 A review on the assessment of the challenges of refugee governance.

In forced migration and refugee governance, there is a challenge that it can easily be blurred when there is unacceptance of refugees from some countries but not others. Typically, most explanations focus on the host state’s ability to absorb the economic and security costs that refugees generate. The study by Moorthy & Brathwaite (2016) sought to explain refugee flows in international politics by asking why states accept refugees from some countries but not others. They argued that transnational factors associated with rivalry and alliances, particularly characterizing the relationship between the refugee producing country and the potential host, impacted the type of refugee groups in a destination country. In fact, they posited that interstate rivalry and alliance
arrangements influenced the domestic cost calculus of a host state about receiving refugee groups originating from certain countries.

Research has also shown that some refugees face sexual exploitation (McGinnis, 2016; Freccero, Biswas, Whiting, Alrabe, & Seelinger, 2017) which is a force to reckon with. The refugee and migrant crisis in Europe has drawn international attention to the issue of sexual exploitation of unaccompanied and separated refugee boys, requiring humanitarian actors and service providers to quickly develop responses in the absence of an established evidence base (Freccero, Biswas, Whiting, Alrabe, & Seelinger, 2017). Preventing sexual exploitation and other forms of gender-based violence requires an ecological approach in which risk factors at multiple levels, including the structural, community, family, and individual levels, are addressed said Freccero, Biswas, Whiting, Alrabe, & Seelinger (2017) but is still a challenge. While host countries have often been presented as contributing positively to enhance livelihoods of refugees, this study argues that under certain conditions migrants and refugees have been exploited.

Establishment of safe and regular pathways for migration is still a challenge. According to a UN report, more than 75 per cent of migrant and refugee children trying to reach Europe via the Central Mediterranean route face appalling levels of abuse, exploitation and trafficking, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) must act (UN, 2017). Children and youth traveling alone or over longer periods, along with those possessing lower levels of education, were also found to be highly vulnerable to exploitation at the hands of traffickers and criminal groups over the course of their journeys (UN, 2017). For people who leave their countries to escape violence, instability or poverty, the factors pushing them to migrate are
severe and they make perilous journeys knowing that they may be forced to pay with their dignity, their wellbeing or even their lives. Host countries are challenged in providing safe and legal migration pathways, establishing protection corridors and finding alternatives to the detention of migrants and refugees.

Financial/funding constraints. Host countries have also complained of spending considerable amounts of money over refugees which would have been used to improve the standard of living of their own citizens (Rwamatwara (2005) in Ogwang (2014). A study by UNDP on Uganda’s contribution to refugee protection and management shows that hosting refugees will cost the country $323m, which amounts to about 62% of the country’s health budget (Bwambale, 2017). Accordingly, the government of Uganda, the UN and partners need about $8b (sh28 trillion) to meet the needs of refugees in Uganda, between 2017 and 2020 (Bwambale, 2017). It is having a negative impact on local economies. Global migration governance lacks a clear vision (Betts, Global Migration Governance – the Emergence of a New Debate, 2010). Unlike many other areas, it also lacks articulate leadership. There can be no single, objective vision for better governance. While some migration governance choices are ‘win-win’ for all stakeholders, others involve inevitable trade-offs. Most decisions about migration governance involve inevitably prioritizing between three competing aims: rights, security and the economy (Betts, Global Migration Governance – the Emergence of a New Debate, 2010). Any substantive vision needs to take seriously the trade-offs inherent to migration policy-making, and to recognize that there are winners and losers from any governance model.
The death of Aylan, a Syrian 3-year-old boy on a Turkish beach, prompted European leaders and public opinions to acknowledge that Europe is the deadliest migration destination in the world (Wolff, 2015). In spite of this disturbing truth, there is little agreement on an EU solution to the Syrian refugee crisis. In September 2015, the EU Interior Ministers struggled to agree over the relocation of 120,000 refugees through a common compulsory mechanism, as Eastern European countries oppose the idea of “sharing the burden.” Progress regarding other solutions such as a European rescue at-sea-mission, the delivery of humanitarian visas or the opening of legal means of migration have also met strong member state resistance (Scholten, Collett, & Petrovic, 2016).

Cooperation across IOs and the development of a “joined-up approach” has also sometimes been difficult, including in the Mediterranean. Thus, partnership between IOM and UNHCR in North Africa only started as of 2006 (Wolff, 2015). This is largely because, with the exception of Mauritania where it has little stake, IOM has historically been far ahead in its level of cooperation with the Maghreb states and had a comparative advantage to UNHCR in the areas that are of greatest concern to those states, such as tackling economic migration, readmission and border control (Betts, 2006). In Lampedusa, the Praesidium Project was identified as “one example of good cooperation between UNHCR, IOM, the Italian Red Cross and Save the Children to improve reception, identification, profiling and referral of refugees, but never adequate (Wolff, 2015).

2.4 Gaps in the Literature

The literature review and analysis shown that International bodies have been instrumental in framing an alternative debate on forced migration, mobility and international protection in the world particularly Europe. That work has been particularly geared towards the EU, and other International organizations working particularly in Africa, have not relied on their network and
expertise to build communication bridges with local and host partners. The review shows that multi-level advocacy is absent on the international scene. Since EU member states and UNCHR are the main gatekeepers, multi-level advocacy has not extended more towards host countries, a gap that this research is seeking to fill. Refugees in Africa are mainly settled in rural areas, but also in urban areas. Arrival numbers peak every day. The response operation is to cope with the continued influx, but face challenges as revealed by the literature. The settlement areas allocated to new arrivals are very remote and under-developed.

A review of literature revealed that International organizations and NGOs provide an array of services for refugees and other vulnerable people including immediate relief – food, water, shelter, legal advice, education and health care. These are not only stakeholders in governance, but also the driving force behind greater international cooperation through the active mobilization of public support for international agreements. Despite the existence of the various organizations, legal-cum-constitutional, policy, and institutional frameworks for proper governance of peaceful migration, there is yet much work to be done in strengthening research on forced migration and refugee governance, a gap which this study seeks to fill. In view of the gaps identified, this study explored the following unanswered questions in the review: These are: How does forced migration and refugee crisis affect Uganda? What is the role of international organizations in forced migration and refugee governance? And what are the challenges to forced migration and refugee governance in Uganda? Several issues, therefore, become critical for consideration regarding forced migration and refugee crisis. They raise pertinent policy concerns which call for relevant information regarding various decisions to be made.
CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction
This chapter deals with describing the nature of the research design for the study, the study population, techniques of choosing the sample, instruments of data collection, procedure of data collection and analysis.

3.1 Study Area
This study was conducted in Kampala which is the capital and largest city of Uganda. The city is divided into five administrative divisions that oversee local planning: Kampala Central Division, Kawempe Division, Makindye Division, Nakawa Division, and Rubaga Division. Kampala hosts most of the urban refugees (52,620) from Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia (OPM, 2018). The city in question was also chosen because it is inhabiting numerous international organizations that deal directly with refugees. It is where the seat of the government of Uganda, specifically the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is found. The Uganda OPM, Refugee Department and UNHCR facilitate inter-agency planning, coordination, implementation, and of the overall response to the refugee emergency situation in Uganda.

3.2 Research paradigm and design
This study employed the qualitative approach. Specifically, the study utilized an exploratory design, using qualitative methods of data collection. An exploratory design is conducted about a research problem when there are few or no earlier studies to refer to or rely upon to predict an outcome. The focus is on gaining insights and familiarity for later investigation or undertaken when research problems are in a preliminary stage of investigation. The study was qualitative
because, it involved participants’ own description and analysis of complex phenomenon which helped in comparison and analysis. It also involved a small number of respondents, and pertinent data were collected from all of them, once because the nature of the research necessitated a small but highly knowledgeable participants with relevant expertise and experience in refugee governance.

3.3 Study Population
This study targeted a total population of 2600 officials of major international organizations dealing in refugee affairs in Uganda (UNHCR, 2017). These organizations were UNHCR, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, CRS, UNICEF, WFP, IRC, EU, JRS, and NRC. In addition it targeted 160 officials from the OPM (OPM, 2017). Furthermore, 52,620 urban refugees residing in Kampala were also targeted (Bwambale, 2017). Thus a total population of 17,760. All the above categories constituted the target population because the government of Uganda needs the continuous support of the international community to address refugee governance concerns and challenges.

3.4 Sample size
According to Collins et al. (2007) the criteria for sample size in qualitative research are not based on probability computations but expert opinion. Therefore, the study sample involved 45 registered residual urban refugees in Kampala and 80 officials of international organizations and OPM. Together they formed a sample of 125 participants.

3.5 Sampling Techniques
The sampling techniques that help in choosing settings, groups, and/or individuals that are conveniently available and willing to participate in the study, were employed. As such, convenience and random purposive sampling as statistical methods for selecting the sample were used for this study. The 80 key informants (KIs) and 45 registered residual urban refugees were
conveniently and purposively selected to discuss their views, observations and perceptions relating to refugee governance. The key informants and urban refugees were found and interviewed at the organizations where they work and seek refugee related services respectively. To attain the sample sizes, Kampala District was stratified into 5 strata. In each stratum, one representative organization from each urban council was selected. As such a total of 5 organizations were selected in addition to the OPM.

*Table 3.5.1 showing organization and the sample size*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Central</th>
<th>Nakawa</th>
<th>Kawempe</th>
<th>Makindye</th>
<th>Rubaga</th>
<th>Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UN Agency</strong></td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INGO</strong></td>
<td>EU</td>
<td>IRC</td>
<td>NRC</td>
<td>JRS</td>
<td>IRCS</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPM</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refugees</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Field Data, 2018.*

3.6 Data collection methods

The study being qualitative in nature employed three methods of data collection.

a) **Key informant interviews (KII)**. This study involved 80 key informant interviews with officials from the UN Agency of UNHCR as well as those from the EU; IRC; NRC; JRS, IRCS, and OPM. These were included in the study so as to get their views on the contributions of the international community towards forced migration and refugee governance, and their recommendations on how to improve it.

b) **Focus Group Discussions (FGD)**.

The study conducted focus group discussions (FGDs). FGDs consisted of men and women of varying ages. Each group consisted of 5 to 7 participants as shown in the
table 3.5.1 above and lasting between 45 minutes and one hour. Specifically 10 FGDs were conducted in total, sometimes with other KIIs also participating in some.

3.7 Data collection tools

The data in this study were collected using key informant interview, and focus group discussion guides. These allowed the researcher to question participants and probe responses with further questions. The item questions in the guides elicited information on the definitions of refugee governance; the major causes of forced migration; the consequences of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda’s economic, social, cultural and development; the role of the international organizations in forced migration and refugee governance; the factors that impede the organizations or country’s efforts and ability to enforce proper refugee governance; lessons government and humanitarian agencies learn to reduce/control future forced migration and ensure refugee governance; and implications for the international community and the Uganda Government to improve the situation of refugees.

3.8 Data Management and Analysis

The data collected was prepared for analysis and then later on, analyzed. Data collected was subjected to a thematic analysis, retaining the general ideas in order to examine the possible contrasts in the views expressed (Bruan & Clarke, 2006). The researcher used manual coding on the transcripts to identify the significant statements across individual interviews. Further readings of the significant statements assisted in identifying sub-themes emerging within the patterns. For presentation of thematic findings, both textural and structural descriptions were used in the results section. Structural descriptions are the interpretation of the context or setting that influenced participants’ experiences. For textural descriptions, the quotes of participants were given in italics.
with the participant to whom the quote was identified. The structural descriptions as interpreted by the researcher were provided in plain text.

3.9 Reliability and Validity of the Data Collection Tools

Quality control of data is an integral part of all research and as such took place at various stages; during data collection, and data checking. The researcher intended to develop suitable procedures before data gathering starts. The interview and focus discussion guides were given to content experts to evaluate the relevance, wording and clarity of questions or items in them. Then, they were pre-tested using one Key informant interview, focus group guide and thereafter adjusted for the main fieldwork. See appendices 1 and 2 for the data collection tools.

3.10 Procedure

An introduction letter was obtained from the Directorate of Higher Degrees and Research (DHDR) for the researcher to solicit approval to conduct the study from respective areas highlighted in this report. Selected research assistants who assisted in the data collection; were briefed and oriented by the principle investigator in order to be consistent in conducting, administration, and follow-up on the guides.

3.11 Ethical Considerations

Ethical approval was sought from Kampala International University, DHDR. Verbal consent was obtained from the participants. They were informed that they could withdraw from the discussions and interviews at any time. To ensure confidentiality of the information that was provided by the participants, they were coded instead of revealing their names and identity and the researcher presented findings in a systematic and generalized manner without revealing the identity of the respondents.
3.12 Limitations of the Study

In view of the above, the researcher encountered the threat of participants’ unwillingness to participate in the study which could have affected the results given. However, the researcher managed to appropriately conduct a thorough study; through anonymity, confidentiality and the privacy of the participants being preserved and letting them know, they were volunteers who could have withdrawn from the study at any time and with no ramifications.
CHAPTER FOUR
DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction
This chapter presents the analysis of the data gathered and interpretation thereof. It gives the demographic characteristics of the key informants and focus group participants as per the objectives that guided the research.

4.1 Participant’s profile information
The participants’ profile information from both focus group discussions and KIs is hereby given. The study managed to have the following categories of participants, UN Agency of UNHCR (05); EU (03); IRC (12); NRC (06); JRS (12), IRCS (09), and OPM (32). Together with 45 urban refugees, they were 125 participants.

4.2 Demographic Characteristics of the study participants
This section covers the demographic characteristics of the participants in terms of gender, age, religion, education level, employment status, experience, and marital status. The table below gives the summary of the findings. Key informants were n=80 and FGD n=45.

Of the key informants, the majority (56%) were males, aged between 35 and 43. The majority of them 53% were officials of INGOs with an average experience of 3 years. The highest educational level attained by the key informants was a certificate (03); diploma (17); bachelors (40); and masters (20). 42 of the participants were married. For the FGD participants, 20 were male and females were 25. They were mostly aged between 25 and 43. The data shows that 71% were Christians, with those with secondary school levels and above comprising of 69%, with the majority unemployed (78%).
### Table 4.1 Characteristics of the participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Key Informant Interviews (n=80)</th>
<th>Focus Group Participants (n=45)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age (Years)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-43</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44-52</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;53</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary/Post-Sec.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Formal Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Years of working experience</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;20</td>
<td>02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>07</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 4</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Religion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td></td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: primary data, 2018*

### 4.3 Summary of Key Findings

This study revealed that refugees who are engaged in gainful employment can ultimately contribute to the national GDP, although the negative consequences such as increased economic burden and strain on the social services are still dominating the consequences. In addition, INGOs continuously engage in activities that empower refugees through helping them build efficient
social, economic and cultural ties with the host government and community, despite the
overwhelming number of refugees and their governance programs being bitterly underfunded. The
study argues that although INGO’s, continue to offer commendable lifesaving protection, and
advocacy, as well as livelihood support, more refugees are in need of gainful employment,
capacity building and empowerment.

4.3.1 An Evaluation of Forced Migration and Refugee Crisis on Uganda.
The first objective of this research was to evaluate the impact of forced migration and refugee
crisis on Uganda. The researcher achieved this objective by asking the questions; what is meant
by the concept of forced migration and refugee governance. Study participants were able to give
numerous definitions as given below. The majority of the respondents 88(70.4%) felt that forced
migration refers to “involuntary movement of people from their areas of abode due various
factors”. Other definitions included, “a group of people being forced to leave their country of
origin for a number of reasons, how they are managed and helped in their host country. “Forced
migration is the movement of people within or out of their countries due to war, environmental/natural disasters or persecution”. Others suggested, “It is a compulsory movement
of people from their country of origin to another country to seek safety”.
On the other hand, refugee governance refers to, “how they are managed by the different
international bodies like UNHCR”. Other participants defined it as, “protection of those displaced
within the principles of human rights”.
“Refugee governance is the state of having specific policies to deal/handle refugees in the
country”.
“Refugee governance is also the authority exercised on people who have fled from their countries
of origin because of insecurity”.
The results reviewed above indicated that the study participants had the knowledge of the concepts of forced migration and refugee governance.

In addition, the study was interested in evaluating the impact of forced migration and refugee governance crisis on Uganda. In relation to that, major causes of forced migration were sought. The participant’s responses were split in factors and the findings were clustered and analyzed thematically. The table below represents the identified themes.

The themes revolved around the major causes of forced migration. During the focus group discussions and interviews, a number of determinants of forced migration emerged.

**Table 4.2 Key themes on the causes of forced migration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Key Concepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Natural disasters</td>
<td>Floods, drought, earth quakes, mudslides, famine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Racial/tribal diversity, sexual differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wars/conflicts</td>
<td>Civil wars, armed/non-armed conflicts, insecurity, tribal disputes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persecution</td>
<td>Political, religious, economic, differing political opinions, statelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human trafficking</td>
<td>Smuggling of people, kidnappings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking protection</td>
<td>Unemployment, food insecurity, developmental projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemics</td>
<td>Cholera, Ebola</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: primary data, 2018*

Most participants suggested that conflicts/wars and natural disasters were the major determinants of forced migration, while some acknowledged diversity for example racial and sexual differences and insecurity as the determinants. For example, the FGD participant noted:

“I left my country due to political issues. I was thrown in jail and later released. But I feared for my life, and I had to leave. I need safety.”

Another FGD participant noted:

“I am here because all my people were killed due to war in South Sudan FGD participant.”
Another participant who had just come to Uganda, shared her experience:

“I lost my family in the conflict, I decided to leave my country because I almost lost my life.”

One Key informant summarized his views:

“The majority of refugees come due to different political opinions and racial/sexual differences. Some come due to armed and non-armed conflict.”

The findings reveal that most people who come as refugees have been forced to leave their countries of origin. The majority that live in Kampala are parents who have little children. These parents have to work and earn a living to take care of their children. Their ordeal and sojourns from their countries of origin is almost related in a similar fashion. The quote below is evidence to this claim:

“We had family conflicts due to land. I had to move with my children/family to safety, because my husband’s people were fighting over my husband’s right to inherit his property that was given to him. Now, I am struggling here in Uganda just to take care of my children.”

FGD participant.

The study sought the consequences of forced immigration and refugee crisis on Uganda’s economic, social and cultural development. This study discovered several consequences of which some were positive and others negative that were analyzed and presented as below:

Economically, the study participants acknowledged that the forced migration and refugee crisis are straining Uganda. There is pressure on the little resources available that is land, forests, and water resources. Most key informant felt the refugee’s crisis has brought scarcity of jobs and
goods; unemployment, destroyed the environment and increased a burden on the few resources available. As one of the KIs explained:

“This crisis has led to a strain on social services e.g. health care due to the increasing numbers of refugees”.

Another remarked:

“There is increased burden on the limited structures and economic resources. Unemployment that is common among the nationals has escalated. .....whereby the few jobs available are divided among refugees and nationals. That’s a big problem. It is hard to conduct business in a refugee community that’s why I do not have a job or a business for myself.”

Table 4.3 Key themes on the consequences of forced migration and refugee crisis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Key Concepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic consequences</td>
<td>• Contribution to the national GDP from refugees who are in gainful employment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increased economic burden on the existing limited government resources, land, water, favorable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Unemployment among refugees and lost communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Unplanned urbanization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Environmental degradation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Scarcity of essential goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social consequences</td>
<td>• Increased burden on the limited existing structures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• High population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Xenophobia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Kidnappings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Conflicts between the refugees and the host communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Strain on the social services e.g. health care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cultural development

- Loss of cultural ties and introduction of new ones.
- Moral fabric is affected
- Discrimination against refugees

Source: primary data, 2018

For other key informants, they felt that refugees contribute to the country economically. As one KI put it,

“Consequences can be positive and negative at the same time. Most refugees contribute to the national GDP …..Refugees can support us economically due to their businesses they bring to Uganda. The contributions of the refugees who are in gainful employment, cannot be understated.”

Most of the refugees who participated in the FGDs highlighted that unemployment who so high among them because they lack papers to compete and some were orphaned at an early age. In fact they disclosed that they were young when they came as the example illustrates:

“…..some of us are not educated and we cannot speak the local language so they cannot offer us jobs, and yet we have families to look after.”

Refugee, FGD.

Social and cultural consequences highlighted by the participants included, loss of cultural ties and disruption of families, loss of moral values, discrimination against refugees, lawlessness, phobia and the existence of social conflicts. Generally participants indicated that in several communities the relationships between the refugees and the host community is not that good. The responses between the KIs and FGDs indeed differ as these quotations illustrate:

“In my area, we witness social conflicts between the refugees and the host community. Conflicts due to land issues, tribalism, and services provided to the refugees make the host community feel neglected ……….. As such, conflicts lead to xenophobia.”
“In my village, where I reside, the members are not good to us. Now days, people do not want to rent us houses. They fight us, abuse and call us refugees. It is so annoying. However I deal with it by fighting back.”

Refugee, FGD.

“There are kidnappings going on almost unnoticed. We fear for our lives…….. should I say, that the security is not good. We walk and sleep in fear of being kidnapped, especially we who are political refugees………..”

Political refugee, FGD.

4.3.2 Assessment of the role of INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance.

The second objective of the study was to assess the role of INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance. The study attempted to probe on the activities that aimed at increasing host community support, advocacy and refugee and host population empowerment. The study further probed on what could the international community and the Ugandan government do to improve on the situation of the refugees. Again, although the responses somehow differ between the refugees and the key informants they share several sentiments as illustrated in table 4.4 below.

Table 4.4 Role of INGOs & government of Uganda towards refugee governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Key Concepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Saving Protection and</td>
<td>• Protection of refugees (security)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>• Protection of human rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Empowerment of refugees and host community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Resettle them to other countries and reduce the burden in Uganda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Inclusion of refugees in the country development plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Provision of identification documents on timely basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Treatment of refugees with dignity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Livelihood support

- Provision of essential basic needs e.g. food, clothing, and shelter.
- Provision of psychosocial counseling
- Social provisions e.g. education
- Promotion of refugee participation in country development initiatives.
- Strengthen local integration of refugees.
- Provision of life skills and free education
- Capacity building

Source: primary data, 2018

4.3.2.1 Lifesaving protection and advocacy.

Many participants felt that the role of the international organizations and the government of Uganda is to offer saving protection and advocacy. The actions and processes that the government of Uganda and INGOs utilize to save refugees’ lives through proper protection. Under this theme, INGOs advocate for refugees to have access to legal affairs such as rights to employment, own a business and financial services. Above all, access to land ownership and freedom of mobility. This theme targets empowering refugees in building efficient social, economic and cultural ties with the host government, community and capacity to demand for what is right. It should be noted that some refugees in the FGDs queried some of the support the INGOs give. Although they were very much aware of the roles INGOs play in forced migration and refugee governance. For instance, the INGOs assist in refugees’ registration and protection. They also provide identification and other documents. In addition they resettle them in other countries and reduce the burden on Uganda.

When asked on the role of the international organizations in Forced migration and refugee governance, one official from the INGO commented:

“To complement government of Uganda’s efforts in responding to the needs of forcibly displace people, INGOs provide social services, continue advocacy, and raise resources to support services such as education, livelihood, health, etc.”
Another had this to say:

“INGOs can put more resources into the refugees envelops and strengthen local integration of refugees into the country’s development plan.”

A male participant who works with the OPM’s office had this to say.

“International organization such as the UNCHR mobilize and provide resources used in the protection and management of refugees.”

One official from NRC had this to say,

“………Our mandate is to influence various governments, non-governmental organizations and the communities hosting refugees to embrace beliefs and practices that ensure the protection of refugees.”

A female participant at UNHCR elaborated:

“We strive to transform numerous policies that undermine the services received by refugees and displaced populates not only here in Uganda but also in other countries of asylum and origin. Therefore, we need policies, practices and laws that are in compliance with international standards and that’s one of our mandates.”

A key informant INGO official remarked:

“Here at our organization, we work in order to protect the most vulnerable refugees like women, children and the orphans. Although we work for all refugees, our services are tailored to meet the needs of the most vulnerable. We provide legal & physical protection to refugees.”

The study found out that most refugees fleeing war or persecution were very vulnerable. They were being kidnapped and persecuted even in the host country. They lacked security or protection, suggesting that the international community has relaxed in its mandate to protect. In fact the study
found out that their governments persecute them instead of giving them protection, as shown in this quotation:

“I need my life and freedom back. I am being targeted by the Rwandan government. They see me as a spy……. Recently I was kidnapped by unknown men. I was taken somewhere and questioned…… I think UNHCR and the government of Uganda can intervene and help me and others that are in similar situations to regain our freedoms.”

Refugee, FGD.

4.3.2.2 Livelihood support.

The study found out that refugees need to have the capacity to acquire basic necessities of life. Those who can support their existence can do it financially or skills wise. That is livelihood support. The actions and processes the government of Uganda and other INGOs utilize to help refugees participate in activities that sustain life e.g. provision of water, food, shelter, and clothing. In assessing these roles, the study gathered mixed views from the sample, as shown in these quotations from the study participants. For instance one participant from the FGD said.

“The role of the INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance is to improve on the welfare of refugees in terms of food, water, shelter…… In fact, WFP, WHO, OPM, UNHCR does this, but they can do more! “INGOs can provide adequate health service and security. In addition, they can provide refugees with skills for survival and education for enlightenment.”

Another said,

“INGOs can provide basic needs support…..what I mean is INGOs should provide free education services and support the hosting governments to combat the situation. But even OPM can do more and resettle refugees who have difficult cases”
Another INGO official claimed,

“We help individuals and families support themselves through skills training and help them secure a sustainable market to sell their skills and products. However, Government working with the international community need to intensify its efforts of fundraising for requisite resources to ensure effective refugees protection and management.”

4.3.3 Challenges to forced migration and refugee governance.

The third objective of this study was to assess the challenges to forced migration and refugee governance. To achieve this objective, questions such as what factors do you believe impede your organizations or country’s efforts and ability to enforce proper refugee governance? In addition, the study sought strategies the government of Uganda and other humanitarian agencies can use to reduce/control future forced migration and ensure efficient refugee governance. In most cases, there appears to be several factors that were revealed to impede efforts and ability to enforce proper refugee governance. Three major challenges emerged as obstacles to proper refugee governance. These were: Limited financial resources/funding; Overwhelming numbers of refugees; and insufficient facilities, equipment and human resource.

4.3.3.1 Limited financial resources/ funding

One of the major challenges mentioned by the study participants was limited funding. Funds are critical in enforcing proper refugee governance. As such, any funds that are sourced for refugee affairs contributes immensely to refugee survival. With limited resources/funds, it is no surprise and doubt that the refugee crisis will heighten and worsen. The majority of the study participants concurred that the refugee resource envelope is indeed inadequate and is restraining the country’s and other organizations efforts to promote proper refugee governance. One of the INGO official remarked:
“The disastrous budget cuts are hitting the government of Uganda hand. We need more funds to implement education and health services. If we do not get additional funds, schools will close, and highly dangerous epidemics will consume lives. Wealthy countries should step up and support countries that are still welcoming refugees.”

Another official from the OPM shared:

“Refugee arrivals in Europe and us have dropped drastically. In the meantime, Uganda still accepts refugees, and yet funds and aid for refugee survival have been cut. Consequently, lifesaving programmes that enhance refugee governance have been forced to shut down. Programs for housing/shelter, hygiene, education have been hindered by a sharp reduction in funding aid.”

4.3.3.2 Overwhelming number of refugees.

The participants of the study reported another key challenge to proper governance of refugees as being the highly increasing cases/numbers of refugees pouring into the country. The fact that Uganda is a host to 1,411,794 refugees and having recently faced two emergency refugee influxes particularly from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), it is no surprise that the study revealed the challenge of overwhelming numbers of refugees with limited funding and capacity to govern them. As one OPM official put it,

“In recent years, the refugee influx trends have been increasing. Wide spread violence has led to the increase in refugee populations, particularly the worsening scenarios in the overall security in South Sudan and DRC. You will not believe, but it has strained our resources.”

Another asserted:

“Uganda lost many women refugees including children and men in need of protection.”
All of this is complicated with the increasing cases of arrivals every day.”

Another official explained:

“An increase in refugees has led to the poor services by INGOs in many refugee settlements. In fact, all these refugees scramble for the few available services. Currently the numbers have outgrown what we can offer.”

The high rates of refugee influx in recent months has been partly due to violence and conflict from their countries of origin. This has been hindered by the lack of land to give them to cultivate. As on refugee explained:

“I was in Kyangwali camp….the conditions were terrible. So many refugees and no land to plant crops for my family. I failed to get it and moved to Kampala.”

With the increasing number of refugees, comes another vice; criminal activities and scandalous or corruption deals. The study found out some refugees that are unaccounted for, resort to dubious deals or criminal acts like theft and violence, as a way of surviving. Study participants had views on this. They asserted that refugees needed to be accorded the best opportunities to curb those vices, but the numbers are just overwhelming! The study participants also mentioned that the big numbers have led to overcrowding in the settlement camps. According to the document reviewed in accordance with this objective, found out that the number of refugees and asylum seekers registered by the government of as of October 2018 were 1.1million. That’s unbelievable, considering the resources available.

4.3.3.3 Insufficient facilities, equipment and staff

The study participants revealed that one humanitarian challenge to forced migration and refugee governance is insufficient facilities, equipment and human resource/staff. Generally, participants
highlighted that the available facilities cannot optimally serve the needs of the refugees. A female official explained:

“With respect to refugees, the insufficient facilities affect refugee governance affairs, like registration and extending basic social services to them. As such, shortage of facilities and equipment not only affects our effectiveness in the delivery of the refugee services but also in achieving the goals we have set for our work.”

The inability of the funders to avail them with adequate financial resources makes it even more difficult for them to procure the necessary facilities and training equipment. In addition the well-functioning equipment are limited. This was echoed by one official from INGO who acclaimed:

“The success of the refugee staff to achieve the goals that have been established by the organization largely depends on the availability of facilities and equipment. Because we lack the facilities, the quality of the services delivered is affected. This ultimately weakens our function, ability and the intent of the refugee governance institutions.”

Also the study found out that, most refugee governance institutions do have inadequate human resource. As well, it was revealed that some refugees who are semi-skilled are hired to complement the existing skilled staff. An official from the INGO expressed concerns about the issue:

“An organization that lacks human resources has a burden of achieving and consolidating a solid relationship with the refugees and yet they need our help. Poor relations that you have witnessed and the slow delivery of services is due to shortage of human resources.”

Similarly, another official from the OPM had this to say:

“Adequate stay is key to the efficient running of any organization. Here at the OPM we are overwhelmed by the large numbers of refugees we serve each day. Our activities are
limited and so is our staff. Nevertheless, we strive to be the best in our duties of protecting and serving refugees.”

The fact that human resource and facilities/equipment are critical aspects that enhance the smooth running of any organization, there is no doubt that this challenge has posed a threat to proper refugee governance in Uganda. Furthermore, it has resulted in work production inefficiencies and consequently undermining the proper low of refugee governance operations.
CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter offers an insight into the findings of the study, and relates them with other studies especially those included within the related studies in the literature review section of this report. Conclusions and recommendations are then made before the researcher suggests areas for further research.

5.1 Discussions of findings.

The study examined and assessed the contributions of the international community towards forced migration and refugee governance in Uganda. In this section, the findings presented in chapter four are discussed in line with the findings of the previous studies per the study objectives. It should be noted that, the study yielded diverse views and experiences.

5.1.1 Discussions on forced migration and refugee crisis.

Firstly, the study sought to evaluate the impact of FM and refugee crisis on Uganda. As far as the definitions and conceptualizations of forced migration and refugee governance are concerned, the study found out that they were consistent with those of other scholars (IASFM, 2002; Kemirere, 2007; & Ogwang, 2014) which suggest that forced migration is the movement of people who are compelled to flee their homes because their stay is dangerous to their life. As far as the findings on the causes of forced migration are concerned, previous studies also present wars, conflicts, persecutions, natural disasters, and epidemics as the major determinants of forced migration. For example, Fisk (2018) and Yousaf (2018), found out that people were compelled to flee their homes due to wars and conflicts. In addition, the study findings indicate that Uganda is taking a toll due to forced migration and refugee crisis. Similar findings reported previously (Fisk, 2018; Yousay,
2018; Crepeau & Atak, 2016) suggested that forced migration and refugee can have an impact on the host country. However these studies do not point out that these could be positive as well as negative consequences. As such, this study revealed that refugees who are engaged in gainful employment can ultimately contribute to the national GDP. The study also suggested new cultural relationships that are born and while others are lost due to intermarriages and mingling of nationalities. Although the negative consequences such as increased economic burden and strain on the social services are still dominating the consequences.

Furthermore, Anagnostopoulos, Giannakopoulos, & Christodolau (2017) revealed that in the context of an almost devastated health care and welfare system, resources are limited to cater for the incoming refugees. This is in line with what the study findings showed. Uganda is largely having a broken health care system. Consequently the influx of refugees has strained it further. In the cities, urban refugees and the locals (host communities) compete for the few available social services like health. As evident in this study, unemployment among the nationals makes it difficult for refugees to even acquire meaningful employment. No wonder, many are unemployed and cannot conduct business in a highly dominated refugee community. This result was echoed by Dadush and Neibuhr (2016) who remarked, “Forced migrants arrive in places where there are few jobs opportunities for them.”

5.1.2 Discussions on the role of INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance.

The role of INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance according to the study findings cannot be underestimated. The major themes identified were offering lifesaving protection and advocacy; as well as livelihood support. The study revealed that INGOs continuously engage in activities that empower refugees through helping them build efficient social, economic and cultural
ties with the host government and community. In addition, they provide refugees with the capacity to demand for their rights and also acquire the basic necessities of life. This revelation is in line with studies conducted by Bahecekapili and Cetin (2015); Hoffstaedter (2015), and Ilcan, Oliver and Connoy (2015). These studies were of the view that it is the mandate of the INGOs to complement each other’s work that range from human rights reporting, advocacy, legal services provision, and protection related services. They do that, but they can do more. In fact, the evidence from the study says, INGOs AND OPM can do more in improving refugee governance. More recently, self–reliance programs have become a critical component of the UNHCR’s livelihood program. This implies that INGOs can provide adequate health services and security. In addition they can provide refugees with skills for survival and education for enlightenment. A critical key finding of this study was that Uganda as a host country of 1.15 million refugees, has taken upon itself the obligation to cater for refugees. Astonishingly, the refugee governance aspect is bitterly underfunded. As such, in the assessment of the role of the INGOs in refugee governance, mobilization, and provision of such resources is needed to protect and manage refugees. This piece of evidence is supported by the findings of Bahecekapili and Cetin (2015) who suggested that INGOs should provide monetary aid public relief to refugees.

5.1.3 Challenges to forced migration and refugee governance.

The third objective of this study was to assess the challenges to forced migration and refugee governance. It was found that INGOs and OPM had several similar challenges in their work. This strengthens other studies (Moorthy and Brathwaite, 2016; McGinnis, 2016; UN, 2017) which indicate that INGOs encounter numerous challenges during their work of protecting and managing refugees. One of the major challenges discovered in this study is limited financial resources. This opinion was shared by Rwamatwara (2005); Ogwang (2014) and Bwambale (2017). According to
Bwambale (2017) the government of Uganda, the UN and its partners needed about and $8b (Shs. 28 trillion) to meet the needs of refugees in Uganda, between 2017 and 2020. But with the disastrous budget cuts, most of the refugee activities have stalled or been halted. A study by UNDP on Uganda’s contribution to refugee protection and management showed that, hosting refugees protecting and managing them, will cost Uganda between 2016 and 2022, $323, which amount to about 62% of the country’s health budget. This is in harmony with the findings of this research, in that organizations enforcing proper refugee governance are in shortage of funds. Because of this, the refugee crisis is worsening. The resource envelope is indeed inadequate and is restraining the country and other organizations that depend donations to promote proper governance.

One other issue that was revealed in this study was the overwhelming number of refugees that are pouring in the country. Uganda currently hosts 1, 411,794 refugees. Similarly, studies that have been conducted in Syria, Yemen, Rohingya (Betts, 2010; UN, 2017) show that those countries are seriously in a crisis due to the large numbers of refugees. The finding of overwhelming numbers of refugees as a core predictor of improper refugee governance supports earlier scholarly literature. UNHCR and OPM 2018 joint report remarkably contends that 2000 refugees cross into northern Uganda per day, overwhelming the government registration system. This finding implies that resources to manage refugees are constrained due to overcrowding in camps. Despite the overwhelming numbers the there are several women and children refugees that are in need of life saving protection. According to NRC (2018) “funding cuts have forced a sharp reduction of NRC’s programmes for education, shelter, water and sanitation.” This has led to shortage of water and cholera outbreaks. The finding of inadequate facilities, equipment and staff is consistent with previous studies. Betts (2010) argue that global migration governance lacks appropriate staff and
facilities to provide safe and legal protection and detention of migrants and refugees, as such this impacts their health negatively. Similarly, Dako-Gyekie and Adu explored the challenges among Liberian refugees in Ghana. Although, their study focused on challenges they faced and the coping strategies, the issue of insufficient facilities, equipment and resources was a serious challenge that organizations faced, in that there were disputes erupting over resources at the settlements.

5.2 Conclusions.

Despite the fact that there is a wide array of studies on the assessment of the role of INGO’s in forced migration and refugee governance, not much of it focuses on INGO’s within a host country. As such this study concludes:

Objective one of the study was to evaluate the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda. The study concludes that the impact of forced migration and refugee crisis has been felt in Uganda, negatively and positively. Whereas refugees in gainful employment contribute to the national GDP, there remains a big portion of them that need eminent support in terms of livelihood support and a favorable protection environment for proper early recovery. There are those in need of employment to support themselves and their families.

As far as the assessment of the role of INGOs in forced migration and refugee governance is concerned, the study concludes that although INGO’s, continue to offer commendable lifesaving protection, and advocacy, as well as livelihood support, more refugees are in need of capacity building and empowerment. The fact that some refugees live in fear of being kidnapped, and persecuted, shows that legal services provision and protection related services to refugee is inadequate. In addition INGOs are in need of in more financial and other resources.

Furthermore, in view of the third objective which was to assess the challenges of refugee governance in Uganda, the study concludes that INGOs still suffer from the consequences of
improper forced migration and refugee governance policies regarding funding in Uganda. This study concludes that funding aid cuts have severely affected most INGOs programs particularly those that deal in education, health water/sanitation, and shelter, among others. Those organizations that have been severely underfunded have not been effective in managing refugee programs, due to staff shortage and equipment.

5.3 Recommendations.

This study gives the chance to engage in some migration and refugee governance policy implications that should be embraced by all international organizations and the government of Uganda to improve on how they govern and manage the refugee crisis. By embracing these results, the government OPM and INGO’s can take the following actions:

First, the study recommends engagement of refugees and other migrants into viable self-reliance ventures and livelihood programs that will curb unemployment among them. This is critical to proper refugee governance because, if refugees are provided with evidence-based solutions and the necessary assistance, they will be productive and that will lessen the burden on the INGO’s and the host county.

Secondly, although Uganda is still struggling with the plight of refugee its policies were an inspiration to major UN reforms. Nevertheless INGOS and OPM need to improve on their polices of life saving protection and advocacy. There is need to fully protect all refugees regardless of their historical circumstances or background. Understanding the problem of refugees can help services providers to become sensitive to the challenges they face.

Thirdly, while INGOs and other numerous humanitarian organizations are usually challenged by limited funds, insufficient facilities, resources and staff, developing and adopting effective strategies and interventions will ensure that refugee programs are adequately managed. This study
appeals to the donor community to increase funding for refugees and adopt fair policies that aim at welcoming refugees and migrants to their countries, and lift a burden on some poor countries that are feeling a full weight of the refugee plight. In addition, the issues of inadequate personnel can be handled through proper human resource planning.

5.4 Areas for further studies.

Future studies on forced migration and refugee governance should demonstrate economic benefits for host countries that integrate refugee masses into their broad economies. In addition, future researchers can focus their attention on the institutional challenges that INGOs face and how they can alleviate them as they deal with the refugee crisis. Researchers can also search for better effective sources of funding that enhance and support refugee work other than relying on donor support.
References


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Appendices

Appendix 1: Key Informant Interview Guide

The following broad research questions will be used to guide the researcher and research assistants to collect data during the individual interviews.

Section A: Informant’s demographics

1. Your current Job Position ________________________________
2. Your Designation
   - A UN Agency Official
   - B IGOs/NGOs Official
   - C Office of the Prime Minister Official (OPM) Official
3. What is your sex?
   - 1. Male
   - 2. Female
4. What is your Age group?
   - 1. Under 25
   - 2. 25 - 34
   - 3. 35 - 45
   - 4. 45 - 55
   - 5. Above 55
5. How long have you been in your current position: _______ years?
7. Highest Level of Education
   - 1. Certificate
   - 2. Diploma
   - 3. Bachelor’s Degree
   - 4. Master’s Degree
   - 5. Others (Please Specify)______________________________________

SECTION B

1. What is your definition of forced migration and refugee governance?
2. What are the major causes of forced migration?
3. What are the consequences of forced migration and refugee crisis on Uganda’s economic, social, cultural and development?
4. What is the role of the international organizations in forced migration and refugee governance (probe on the activities such as Increased host community support, Advocacy & Refugee and Host Population Empowerment)

5. What factors do you believe impede your organizations or country’s efforts and ability to enforce proper refugee governance?

6. What lessons can government and humanitarian agencies learn to reduce/control future forced migration and ensure refugee governance? (How does the government support? Describe the life and support in the camps.

7. What can the international community and the Uganda Government do to improve the situation of refugees? Probe on Life-saving protection, Livelihood support, Education provision.