Rotary Intercountry Committees



ICC African Story - UGANDA

PDG Barbara Wolf-Wicha, ICC Austria – Tanzania - Uganda



ICC Meeting - 13 March 2026 - Ibis Paris Tour Eiffel / Paris - France

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FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

InterCountry Committee Austria-Tanzania-Uganda was **STARTED** by the close friendship of governors of Tanzania and Uganda, Sharmila Bhatt (D9211), and of Austria, Ismail Sadek (D1910) and Barbara Wolf-Wicha (D1920) – and continues!





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The ICC initiated **LIBRARIES** in two primary schools in **MITYANA**, supported girl‘s empowerment and proposed skill-training





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„***Adopt a village Kidera***“: A Global Grant, initiated by ICC 2021 between the local Club Gaba with RC Innsbruck-Alpin and RC Kitzbühel. It developed, created 2024 new partnerships of RC Tororo -Sam Owori and RC Kampala with Innsbruck-Alpin, Kitzbühel, and RC Bonn-Rheinbogen: creating the primary school model farm, supporting women, creating skills-training in Tororo. The team is usually welcomed by His Royal Highness the Kwar Adhola (see the meeting in 2025)



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His Royal Highness the Kwar Adhola, Moses Stephen Owor, leader of the Adhola Cultural Institution, and Rotarian (founder of RC Tororo), follows the developments in Kidera and Tororo with great interest.

He was celebrated recently on his **100th Birthday** by his family, people from Kenya, Uganda, many RCs and the Austrian chair of the ICC.



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*„**Joheidi Nursery and Primary School**“* developed by active collaboration of two medical assistants from Fieberbrunn, Heidi Bachler and Johanna Astl, in Health Centre Panyangasi and friendship to the medical advisor Remigio Epuvat in his home village **ASINGE**: they planned to build a new primary school (7 classes) and a Nursery (3 classes) for 600 children! Building started in 2025, all by private support and partnership for girls and boys in Asinge. *„If you dream it, you can do it“*: 2026 first classrooms are completed!







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Global Grant was initiated by the ICC for RC Entebbe and RC Bad Soden-Königstein with the aim of **CLEAN WATER** for the **NAMASAGALI** Health Center III and 1300 children in primary school. Instead of collecting rainwater from the roofs or from boreholes, water will be abstracted from the Nile by solar power, will be distributed by pipes to HCIII and the school, will be cleaned, and are available for them as safe drinking water.









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NAKIVALE, created 1958, was the first **OPEN SETTLEMENT**, for now **277.411 refugees** (dates 28 Feb 2026). **Uganda** with 47,54 people **inhabits 2 million refugees in 14 settlements**. The background of hosting refugees was to train them in resilience, self-reliance, support them in income-generating activities, enhancing economic activity in the settlement. Refugees are educated in respectful interaction in the varied group of refugees and with the neighbors, and together to care for the environment.



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The Division of Nakivale in **3 Zones** (dates 09/2025): **RUBONDO** (104.964 people), **BASE CAMP** (68.335 people), **JURU** (97.651 people).
Challenges arise due to the continued increase of new refugees, reduced proportion of land for them, and different health- and educational infrastructure. Out of 277.411 people (02/2026), 96.242 are children (0-11 years), living in 104.780 households; still 3.720 are asylum seekers, while 273.691 people are refugees.



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Refugee law **grants** refugees **MANY FREEDOMS**: right to work, freedom of movement, access to basic services as health care and education. All received a small plot of land for personal livelihoods.

NAKIVALE hosts refugees from the DR Congo (207.122), Burundi, Rwanda, Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea.

The refugee settlements are overseen by a combination of the **Uganda Government** and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, **UNHCR.**



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- The **LEAVING EXAM** for learners, who have completed the 7th grade of the PRIMARY school is important: it is an entrance test for secondary school, symbol of academic success, and hope for the future!
- The SECONDARY school headteacher told me, that nobody ever left the secondary school before the final exam. Many hope to continue their education at one of the universities (though it is still difficult for former refugees)!
- Government- and government-aided schools in Nakivale Refugee Settlement are primarily supported by Windle International Uganda (WIU) in partnership with the UNHCR.





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Disputes with the neighbors arose, when refugees CUT DOWN trees needing wood. But they have learned to **CARE FOR THE ENIVIRONMENT!**











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In each of the 3 Zones of Nakivale, **ROTARACT-Clubs** were established by refugees:

1. **Rotaract Club of Nakivale** (D9213); founded 2017 by Paul Mushaho, established in the Base Camp Zone. The Club helped a "*Football Tournament for Positive Peace*".
2. **Rotaract Club of Nakivale Juru** (D9213); established 2019; charter president Fidele Hitimana believed in the power of sport to unite people, refugees and local neighbors!
3. **Rotaract Club Nakivale Rubondo** (D9214), established 2024; Charter President Elie Nuru Elbag organized a medical camp at Rubondo Health Centre II, because medical service in this zone is not as good as in Base Camp.





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All refugees **find work** to be independent, as in „Nakivale Training Centre", learn new skills in „Empower Rise", others attend „**Hope Training Centre and Smile for Refugees**" or „Grapes of New Hope". Children learn baking or develop their artificial talents in „Nakivale Heritage Art Centre". Many refugees work in **AGRICULTURE**, receiving training by UNIDOS and African Agriculture. Special emphasis helps overcoming hatred, wishing to form a new generation of peace by „World BEYOND War". The „**NAKIVALE UNITY CITIES OF PEACE**" is a community, dedicated to fostering peace, resilience, and unity within the settlement!







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