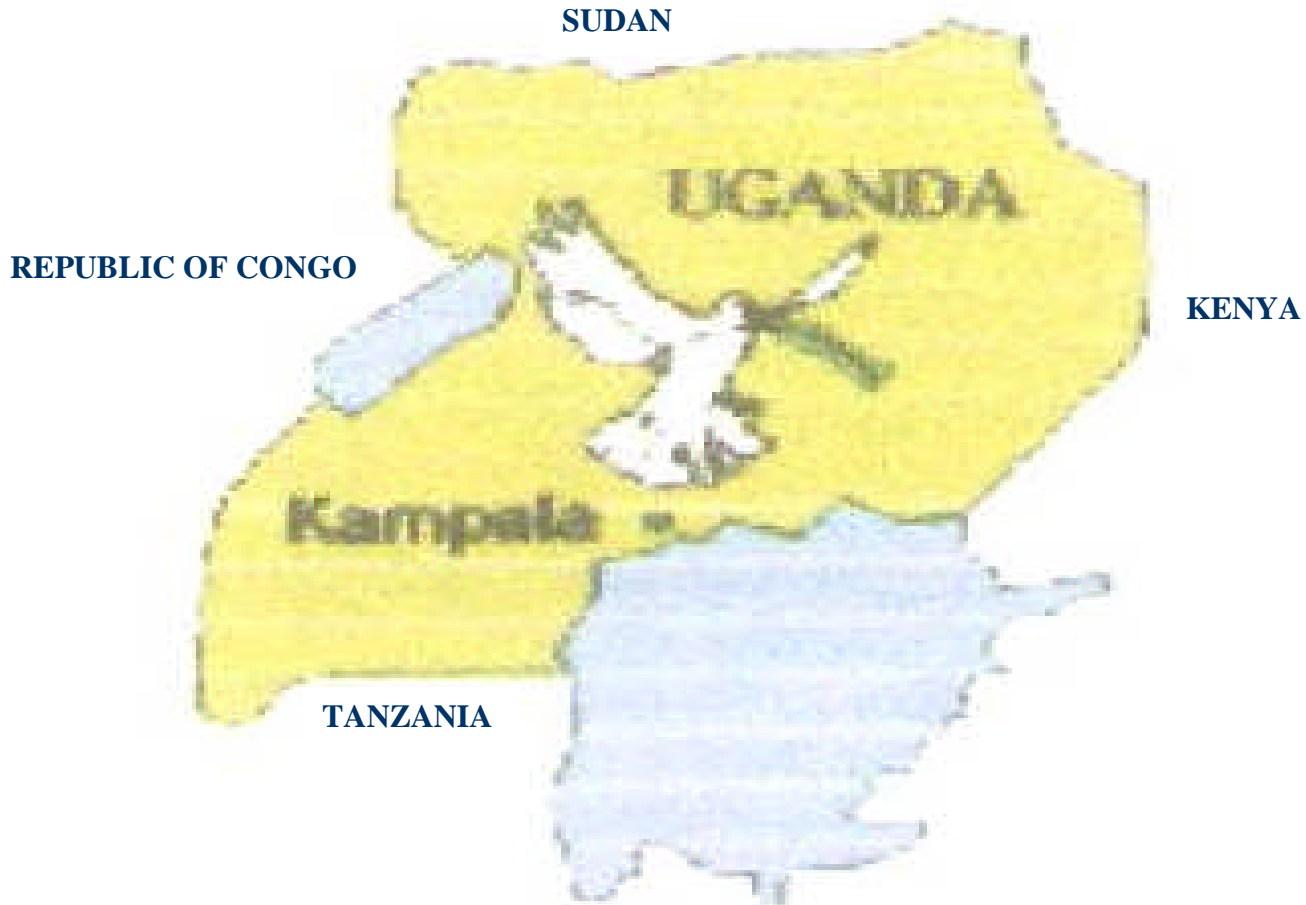




UGANDA VOLUNTEERS FOR

PEACE

(UVP)



MEMBER OF ICYE FEDERATION

National Profile 2009-10

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UGANDA VOLUNTEERS FOR PEACE

ICYE UGANDA SUMMARY-PROFILE FOR THE YEAR 2009/10

Dear Exchangees,

This National Profile is intended to provide you with summary information/ideas of what you expect during your exchange year period in Uganda.

In this booklet you will find more information about our country (Uganda), **UVP-Uganda** Volunteers for Peace/**ICYE-International Cultural Youth Exchange Programme**; Uganda office (hosting committee), projects living conditions and exchangee's agreement/contact for Programme year 2010-12.

During your stay in Uganda, you will surely like the scenery of the “Pearl of Africa”- Uganda e.g mountains, lakes, plains, plateaus, the different cultural diversities in the country and the experience shall not leave you the same.

Please try to focus on your project preferences as priority to avoid disappointments during your time in this country.

If your expectations are different from what ICYE-Uganda/UVP offers you, sorry you will be disappointed.

For specific questions or clarifications you would like to share with us before your arrival please contact us directly by phone call or by email.

You are warmly welcome.

Yours,

SEMAKULA STUART .G.

National Correspondent ICYE Programme

Uganda

THE COUNTRY OF UGANDA

Uganda in brief

It's located in Eastern Africa, west of Kenya.

Uganda is an agricultural country with favourable rainfall throughout the year. Rainfall varies with areas, in both duration and intensity. During the sixties, Uganda was self sufficient in food supply except for wheat and rice.

There is great variety of food crops, which are adequate to supply Ugandan needs, however, there has been a serious shortage of storage facilities at all levels and lack of transport to connect farms and markets. Uganda's agricultural sector dominates national output, exports, income generation.

Subsistence farming, forestry, fishing contributes about 35% of the total domestic output. Uganda is found at the very heart of Africa in (East Africa Region) which is expanded to (Great Lakes Region) with Rwanda and Burundi inclusive. Uganda has River Nile, the world's longest river with its source.

It bursts with earth shaking life through Murchison falls and off on its immersing journeys, nourishing millions as it goes before flowing on into the Mediterranean Sea.

The exuberant life is inescapably present everywhere in Uganda. Perched on a breeze brushed equatorial plateau, the country pulses with nature's joyous self-celebration. The abundant forest, lakes, rivers, Savannah Mountains, even the towns and cities are bursting with life of every kind. Here there are over 1000 bird species, the greatest varieties of primates in the world big game, vast river fish, variety to plenty of butterflies and endless spectrum of lives infinity variety.

Population

Just over 27million people live in Uganda. Life expectancy is around 51 years. Birth rate is on average 6.7 per woman. 4.1% of the population is believed to have HIV/AIDS. Literacy rate is just under 70%.

Languages

English (official national language, taught in grade schools, used in courts of law and by most newspapers and some radio broadcasts), Ganda or Luganda (most widely used of the Niger-Congo languages, preferred for native language publications in the capital and may be taught in school), other Niger-Congo languages, Nilo-saharan languages, Swahili, and Arabic.

Ethnic groups

Baganda 17%, Ankole 8%, Basoga 8%, iteso 8%, Bakiga 7%, Langi 6%, Rwanda 6%, Bagisu 5%, Acholi 4%, Lugbara 4%, Batoro 3%, Bunyoro 3%, Alur 2%, Bagwere 2%, Bakonjo 2%, Jopodhola 2%, Karamojong 2%, Rundi 2%, non-African (European, Asian, Arab) 1%, other 8%.

Religion

Roman catholic 33%, Protestant 33%, Muslim 16%, indigenous beliefs 18%.

Geography

Uganda is located in east Africa and lies across the equator. It is a land locked country bordered by Kenya 933km in the East, Tanzania 396km and Rwanda 169km in the south, Congo 765km in the west and Sudan 435km in the North. The country has an area of 241,038 square km. 18% of which is open water and swamps and 12% is forest reserved and game parks. Lake Victoria the largest lake in East Africa region makes up most of the open water area and is shared by Kenya and Tanzania. Uganda has a favourable climate because of its relatively high altitude. Temperatures range between 170C and 260C in the central, west and south west region receive heavy rainfall during the month of March throughout May and light rainfall between September and December.

Independence

Independence from British colonial rule was obtained on 9th October 1962. After achieving sovereignty, Uganda became a member of the common wealth, the United Nations, African Union and member of the African Caribbean-Pacific states.

Politics in Uganda

Political history

Uganda achieved independence from the UK in 1962. The dictatorial regime of Idi Amin (1971-79) was responsible for the deaths of some 300,000 opponents, guerilla war and human rights abuses under Milton Obote (1980-85) claimed at least another 100,000 lives. During the 1990s, the government promulgated non-party presidential and legislative elections.

Present Situation in Uganda

Today Uganda is the first country in the world to document declining HIV prevalence rates have continued to sentinel surveillance rates to decline in both rural and urban surveillance areas in the country. The overall prevalence rate was 6.1% in 2000.

Data on HIV intension trends is obtained from pregnant mothers attending sentimental surveillance areas in various parts of the country. This is because they represent a sexually one major hospital in Kampala.

Many community-based initiative have come up in a bit to improve the communities own health through epidemic, we have generated community participation and the disease is being used as our entry point for primary health care. At present we can send a disease to a stage where it is no longer of public health importance.

The government strategy to fight HIV/AIDS is to work on new emerging epidemics. Every body in Uganda is requested by the government to play a roll in the war against AIDS, which has generally been successful.

Emergency Contacts

On events that there is need for help on social and economic aspects especially in rural areas where project service isn't easy accesses, emergency numbers for hospitals and

police are available during orientation program on arrival. The hosting committee, hosting family, and host project will provide necessary security to the volunteers.

Way of Living

People speak diverse languages, and the common settlement pattern in rural areas is extended in nature, and African food is available for meals.

Economic Overview

Uganda has substantial natural resources, including fertile soils, regular rainfall, and sizeable mineral deposits of copper and cobalt. Agriculture is the most important sector of the economy employing over 80% of the work force. Coffee accounts for the bulk of export revenues. Since 1986, the government- with the support of foreign countries and international agencies-has acted to rehabilitate and stabilize the economy by undertaking currency reform, raising producer prices on export crops, increasing prices of petroleum products, and improving civil service wages. The policy changes are especially aimed at dampening inflation and boosting production and export earnings.

During 1990-2001, the economy turned in a solid performance based on continued investment in the rehabilitation of infrastructure, improved incentives for production and exports, reduced inflation, gradually improved domestic security, and the return of exiled Indian-Ugandan entrepreneurs.

Telephone and Postage

Telephone services and postage service are available throughout the country. In the city and big towns you find fax, internet services, the postal system is reliable.

Leisure Time

In the city and towns throughout the country, the life style is a lot western influenced and the local both in dressing and dancing, food and drinks at various prices are available.

Entertainment which includes theaters, disco, cinema, Live band are available according to individual preferences.

The game reserves and national parks, Murchison Falls interesting river flows of water on earth, impenetrable forest and a bamboo glade, equator, extraordinary diversity in each kingdom of creation.

HOSTING COMMITTEE (UVP/ICYE UGANDA)

UVP/ICYE Uganda-Organizational Structure

General Assembly of Members



Executive Committee



Administration



Members

Location of ICYE Uganda Offices

ICYE UGANDA/UVP offices are located just adjacent to Hotel Mansy behind Mid field Secondary School on the top of Benton Centre (U) LTD office at Kavule, Kibuye on Entebbe High Way to the international airport.

ICYE Uganda/UVP Programme

There are 5 sessions of the Programme

- On arrival/orientation camp
- Language, quarterly reviews
- Mid term camp
- Final camp
- The travel and tour months

The Arrival/Orientation Camp

The exchanges are expected to arrive in Uganda within the window dates, they are picked from the airport by our staff, and then next day the orientation camp starts which lasts for seven days, organized by ICYE/UVP office and assisted by staff volunteers and co-workers, with the (language course, culture and history).

This also involves learning general history, political, people, culture, cultural shocks, project situation and security of Uganda.

All exchangees get their language lessons during the camp by a profession teachers, volunteers should expect to continue learning local language at their families and host projects for the rest of the period.

Quarterly Review Meetings

UVP/ICYE Uganda started organizing some quarterly meetings depending on three major factors.

- If 50% of volunteers are hosted outside the city
- Living conditions of exchanges in general
- Changing of projects after 3months period

So with these factors mentioned, UVP/ICYE Uganda found it necessary to have quarterly meetings to reduce challenges.

Mid Term Camps

These are held normally between January and February and the purpose is to evaluate the exchange performance on the Programme and to discuss any challenges exchangees have encountered and reflecting on the volunteer's experience at the project/host family. This involves incoming exchangees, staff, and the co-workers. It is a 4/5 day event.

Final Camps

These are also held over the weekend and it is regarded as the last group meeting of exchangees and this is the time to discuss the volunteers period of stay in Uganda and a way forward for ICYE Programme.

Global Programmes

1. Sensitizing the Uganda community on peace education
2. Women empowerment
3. Human rights awareness
4. HIV/AIDS awareness

5. Conflict resolution

Travel and Tour Month

During the travel month all exchangeees are totally free and independent throughout this period, so UVP/ICYE Uganda is not responsible for their travel expenses, food and those exchangeees who want to travel outside the country should note that they will pay double entry Visa to re-enter Uganda, so UVP/ICYE Uganda is not responsible.

ICYE-UGANDA/UVP-PROJECTS 2009-10

The ICYE/UVP projects available are mostly centered on activities like; working in primary schools as assistant teachers/care guides, working with children in kindergarten centers, disabled centers, working with HIV/AIDS patients, working in orphanage centers for children.

All exchangeees interested to work in the mentioned projects should take note on the advice below;

Those who want to work with children in schools should come when prepared with materials like books, pens, pencils, rubbers, sports items etc.

In kindergarten and primary schools, exchangeees will need to teach music, games and teaching languages for those interested in this.

The centers are really poor and do lack many things at times to use, so exchangeees should also try to be supportive where need arises.

Target groups include; needy communities, children, youth and women.

Living Arrangements

The exchangeees are provided full accommodation by the host project and host families and identified by UVP/ICYE Uganda office.

Project Location

ICYE Uganda projects are mostly located outside the capital city and our project partners are in the country sides. The rural areas are the best for all exchangeees to experience local languages, cultural awareness etc. most of the projects are found in central/south/west and in eastern regions.

Transport

Host projects will provide exchangeees with transport from the airport to the hosting organization on arrival, then to their projects, and then back to the airport at the end of their projects to and to UVPs meetings e.g mid term and final evaluation camps.

ICYE Uganda will provide local transport to exchangeees only for ICYE Uganda's events and also in case of host project is poor then ICYE Uganda will come in to support the exchangee.

The exchangeees are advised to bring with them the following;

- Clothes to suit the weather
- Enough shoes
- Extra pocket money for personal needs
- Books, magazines, photos, bed sheets, gifts, music instruments
- Sleeping bags, sports wear, mosquito nets

Visa information

All foreign volunteers from Europe are allowed to obtain visa on arrival at the airport-Entebbe with cost of \$50 which officially covers 3 months period of stay.

For volunteers of 6 months, their stay shall be extended for 3 months with cost of 92,000shs i.e special pass (SP) equivalent to Euro50.

For volunteers staying for period of 1 year will be issued the first visa on arrival at the airport then the hosting committee UVP will process their working permits with cost of 250,000shs equivalent to Euro150.

All incoming volunteers to Uganda must send or present an on arrival police clearance or certificate of good conduct which are strictly needed by immigration authority for purpose of visa extensions and work permits.

VOLUNTEERS CONFIRMATION FORM

Please sign this confirmation and send it back with your most interest.

Ihave read and understood the UVP/ICYE Uganda’s National Profile 2009-10 and I do confirm to participate in the ICYE Programme and abide by the laws of the Uganda government and the rules of the national hosting committee (UVP).

The sending organization should send the exchangees application and motivation letter to us together with this confirmation form to avoid delays in volunteer’s placement process.

NamesAge.....Sex.....

Nationality.....Period of stay.....

Passport No.....Valid.....

Sending organization.....

Official stamp.....

Date.....

Exchangees/Volunteer’s signature.....

Project Preference List

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