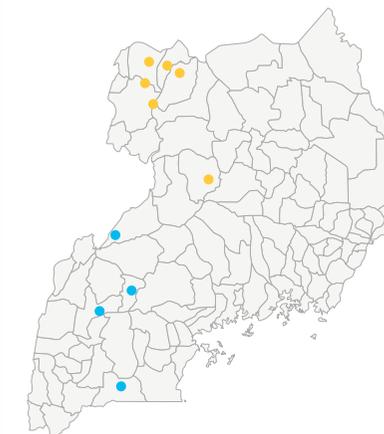


Key trends

Ground Truth Solutions conducted a second round of phone interviews with 6 religious leaders and 95 community leaders in the 10 most populous South Sudanese and Congolese refugee settlements in Uganda in June 2020.

- Findings from this round are largely in line with the first round of key informant interviews, although leaders are slightly less optimistic about refugees having the information they need to protect themselves from the virus.
- Congolese leaders are more positive about their community's access to information and ability to avoid contracting the virus than South Sudanese leaders.
- Leaders report refugees mostly wear facemasks to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but caution that masks are becoming difficult to afford.

Location of the refugee settlements



● Congolese settlement ● South Sudanese settlement

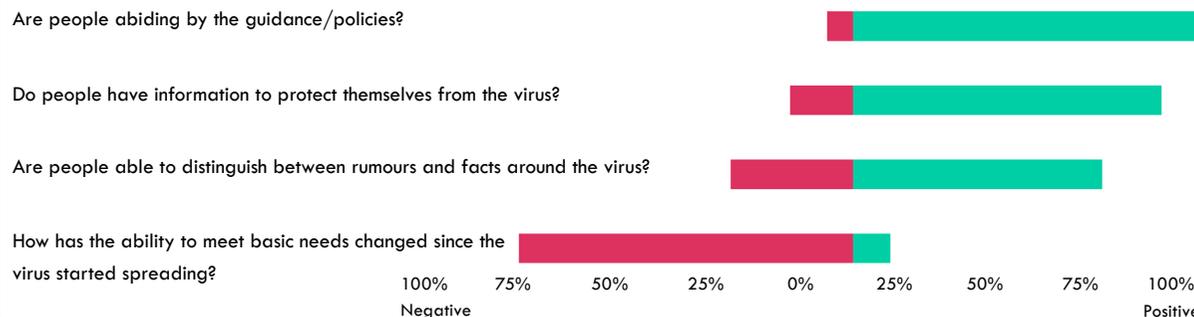
Economic impact

- Refugees' ability to meet their essential needs has obviously worsened since the beginning of the pandemic.
- Communities are as concerned about the losing their jobs/source of income as they are about the health risks that COVID-19 presents.

Information

- NGOs are the most trusted information source on COVID-19, followed by community groups, UN agencies, and local government.
- The most trusted information channels are low-tech: megaphone, door-to-door sensitisation, and radio are preferred.
- Leaders report that communities are overall well informed and have the information they need. Around a fifth say that refugees cannot distinguish between fact and rumour around COVID-19, with female leaders more negative on this front.

Main survey results



Social impact

- Social relationships are increasingly strained, with children identified as the most negatively impacted group.
- Lack of access to food and education are said to be causing early marriages, sexual abuse, and engagement in manual labour.
- Relations between refugees and the Ugandan host community has worsened according to leaders. Primary causes for this are stigma of refugees spreading the virus, conflict over firewood, and generally less interaction between the two groups.

Behaviour

- Most refugees are seen to be abiding by recommendations to contain COVID-19.
- Keeping a distance from others remains the most challenging measure.
- The majority of refugees still visit health centres for non-covid related health issues and would contact health providers if they were to experience symptoms.