

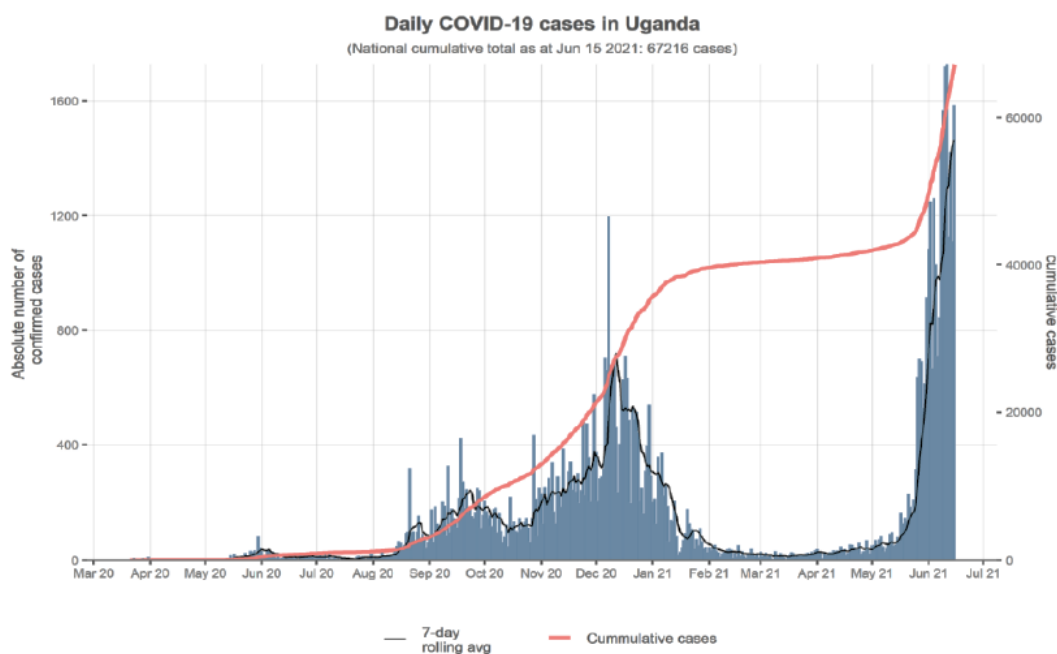
Concept Note for life-saving oxygen and personal protective equipment for high-risk populations in Uganda

unicef  for every child



29 June 2021

COVID-19 has hit Uganda at an overwhelming rate, with a 7,837 per cent increase in new cases between March and June 2021. As the country faces this devastating second wave, hospitals are overwhelmed, and oxygen and vaccine shortages are widespread. We need to act now.



The outbreak continues to escalate, with the peak nowhere in sight. The capital, Kampala, accounts for 80 per cent of the daily cases reported in the last week.

In parallel, Uganda is also host to more than 1.4 million refugees, the highest number in Africa. As the COVID-19 pandemic blazes on, the Government of Uganda is providing life-saving support to refugees arriving from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan and other countries, as well as the Ugandan communities who host them. In June 2021, Uganda has received a new influx of refugees fleeing from DRC who will require PPE such as face masks and life-saving vaccinations.

Uganda's healthcare system has been highly stretched under the explosion of new cases, with hospital beds, essential drugs and oxygen running out as the country faces COVID-19 vaccine shortages. Families are

battling to find care and to source oxygen cylinders to help treat loved ones, often searching from hospital to hospital for any remaining oxygen available. With approximately 6,000 cylinders of oxygen needed per day, and an increase expected as Uganda comes closer to peak infections, the availability of oxygen has become life or death for the country to limit COVID-19 fatalities.

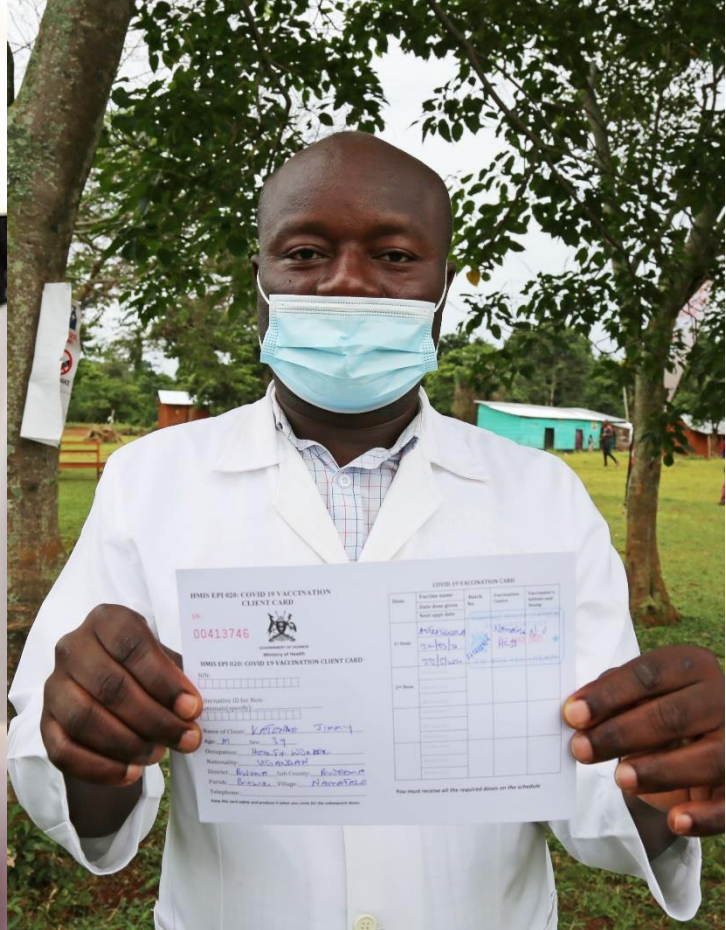
UNICEF has been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic to help tackle the devastating impact that the virus, and the measures taken to control it, have had on the country's children and families; improving availability of oxygen and more recently to support the rollout of vaccines. As the country faces this alarming second wave, UNICEF, in coordination with the World Health Organization and other partners is supporting the Government of Uganda to tackle the immediate needs and secondary impacts the pandemic will have on children and families living in Uganda.

We urgently need your support to help save lives during this new deadly and devastating wave of COVID-19 infections, by boosting access to critical oxygen therapy and the availability of personal protective equipment for health workers.

- Procurement of lifesaving oxygen cylinders, associated supplies and distribution to referral hospitals. UNICEF will also support the refilling and distribution of oxygen cylinders to health facilities and support human resource surge capacity for High Dependency and Intensive Care Unit staff for three months with a focus on highly affected hospitals. UNICEF will build the capacity of health workers on intensive care with the aim of standardizing lifesaving high-quality care across the hospitals. For longer term sustainability, UNICEF will increase the oxygen production capacity at hospitals by supplying nine oxygen supply plants.
- Procurement and delivery of critical infection, prevention and control (IPC) and personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies to 17 referral hospitals (regional and national), covering for three months of supply. UNICEF will provide refresher training to health workers on the effective use of PPE.

Activity description of main activities	Quantity	Total (US\$)
Rapidly increase the oxygen delivery capacity		1,662,400
Procure oxygen cylinders (7500L) and accompanying delivery equipment and supplies and distribute	2,000 cylinders	1,840,000
Support the refilling and distribution of oxygen cylinders to health facilities	2,000 cylinders	900,000
Support HR surge for High Dependency and Intensive Care Unit staff for 3 months with a focus on highly affected hospitals	51 staff	81,600
Build capacity of health workers on intensive care with the aim of availing standardized high-quality lifesaving care across the hospitals	102 Health workers	40,800
Increase the oxygen production capacity		1,886,400
Procurement, installation and operationalization of oxygen plants at referral hospitals	9 Oxygen plants	1,800,000
Provide operational support to oxygen plants for three months	4 Oxygen plants	86,400
Improve availability of IPC/PPE supplies at selected health facilities		370,000
Procure and distribute PPE and supplies to hospitals reaching referral hospitals and covering for three months of supply	17 Hospitals	170,000
Refresh and train health workers on rational and appropriate use of PPEs	500 Health workers	200,000
Visibility¹		25,000
Technical supervision and monitoring costs		150,000
Programme support costs		391,880
Total Programmable		4,310,680
UNICEF Recovery Cost 8%		344,844
Grand Total		4,655,524

¹ If required by the donor.



For further information, please contact:

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