

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Youth and Community Development:** This aims at mobilizing youth as the most active URCS volunteers, to build their capacity to respond to the needs of the vulnerable in their communities and to disseminate Red Cross ideals, as well as Community Development. When they become members, URCS youth take part in all program activities including: first aid services and training, blood donor recruitment and donation, community based health care, immunization, road safety initiatives, dissemination of Red Cross principles and ideals and many more. At the international level, the youth participate in exchange visits with other Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies, humanitarian agencies, NGOs and community based organization. From these exchange visits, partnerships are built, and ideas are generated which in effect help URCS better its work in the communities.
- Branch Capacity Development:** URCS has works through a network of 50 branches, spanning the whole country. The branch capacity building program aims at enhancing the ability of branches to efficiently implement Red Cross activities at the grassroots level.

They are: Adjumani, Apac, Aura, Bundibugyo, Bushenyi, Busia, Entebbe, Gulu, Hoima, Iganga, Jinja, Kaabong, Kabale, Kabarole, Kagadi, Kalangala, Katakwi, Kampala Central, Kampala East, Kampala North, Kampala South, Kampala West, Kamuli, Kasese, Kapchorwa, Kibaale, Kitgum, Kisoro, Kumi, Lira, Luwero, Masaka, Masindi, Mbale, Mbarara, Mityana, Moroto, Moyo, Mpigi, Mukono, Nakasongola, Nebbi, Ntungamo, Pallisa, Rakai,



COMMUNICATION AND CORPORATE FUNDRAISING DEPARTMENT

The Communication and Corporate Department embraces three components—Dissemination, Information/Public Relations and local Resource Mobilisation.

- Dissemination:** This component focuses on building effective communication and dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the principles and ideals of the Red Cross Movement. Now that former Internally Displaced People (IDPs) are returning to their communities, its imperative that they learn and adjust to leaving with each other. URCS dissemination activities are conducted most intensively in conflict areas, but also in non-conflict areas.
- Public Relations:** The Public Relations function aims to increase public knowledge, understanding and goodwill for the Society. This involves establishing and maintaining partnerships with different publics, enhancing the visibility and image of the Society especially through media publicity, along with a host of other activities. Through Public Relations, URCS has won a lot of public support & continuous relations with the media.
- Resource Mobilisation/ Corporate Fundraising:** URCS undertakes several fundraising initiatives in order to widen the Society's revenue base. Working closely with partners especially from the corporate sector, URCS has been able to make a difference in the lives of millions of Ugandans. The partnerships have also in the past enabled the Society respond to emergencies like floods in Northern & Eastern Uganda, Ebola in Western Uganda, Hepatitis E in Northern Uganda, Cholera in Kampala and other parts of the country, Marburg in Western Uganda, collapsed buildings in

HOW YOU CAN JOIN UGANDA RED CROSS SOCIETY

Uganda Red Cross Society is a membership organization, with over 150,000 registered members. Membership is open to all people who have the inclination to serve humanity.

Annual subscription is as follows:

Junior youth:	Sh1000
Senior youth :	Sh2000
Annual members:	Sh5000
Life members:	Sh20,000
Corporate members:	Sh100,000
Youth links:	Sh5000
Women groups	Sh5000

Uganda Red Cross Society is committed to improving the lives of the vulnerable in Uganda. URCS invites you to be part of its life-changing mission. Your support in cash or in kind will be a link to others around the world who share a commitment to prevent and ease suffering and to protect human life and dignity.

For more information contact:

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VISION

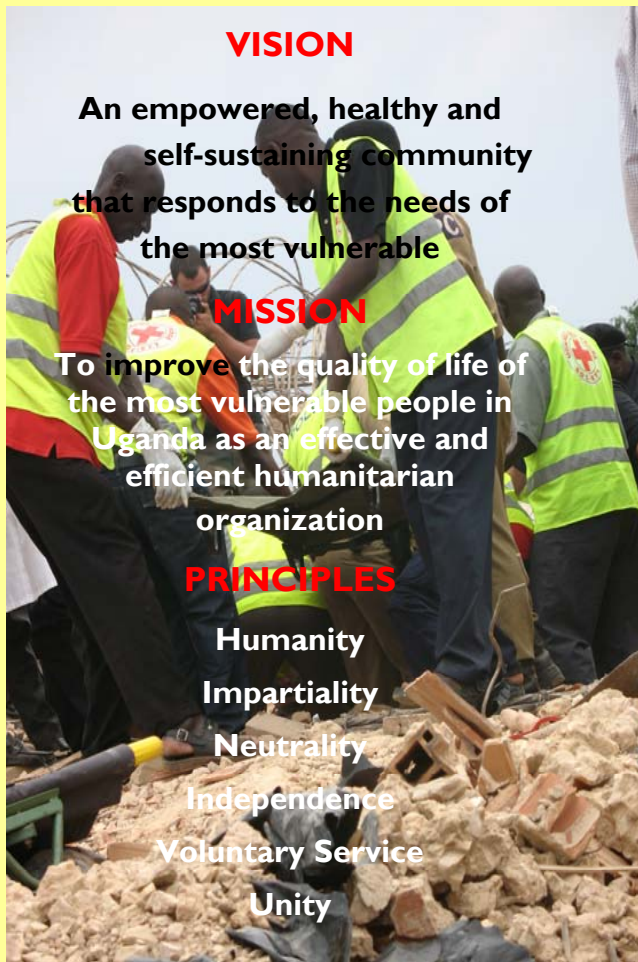
An empowered, healthy and self-sustaining community that responds to the needs of the most vulnerable

MISSION

To improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable people in Uganda as an effective and efficient humanitarian organization

PRINCIPLES

**Humanity
Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Voluntary Service
Unity**



BACKGROUND

Uganda Red Cross Society is the biggest indigenous humanitarian organization in Uganda. It started as a branch of the British Red Cross in 1941. In 1964, under an Act of Parliament, the Uganda Red Cross Constitution was adopted bringing into existence what we know today as the Uganda Red Cross Society. A year later in 1965, the Society was admitted as a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Uganda Red Cross Society has continued to grow over the years and it now boasts of 49 branches, and 5 sub-branches spanning the whole of Uganda. The society also works with a number of partners in the execution of its mission. These include the government of Uganda, United Nations agencies, international funding agencies, corporate companies and participating sister Red Cross National Societies.

Fundamental principles

Humanity: The Red Cross movement aims at providing assistance to the vulnerable without discrimination to prevent and alleviate human suffering. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for human dignity. The movement also promotes mutual understanding and lasting cooperation among all people.

Impartiality: It makes no discrimination, as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions.

Neutrality: To earn the confidence of all, the movement takes no sides in hostilities nor does it engage in controversies of a political, social, religious or ideological nature.

Independence: The national society, while an auxiliary to the government and subject to the laws of the land, should maintain autonomy.

Voluntary Service: As a humanitarian organization, the Red Cross is a voluntary movement not prompted in any manner, by desire for gain.

Unity: There can only be one Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all and carry out humanitarian work throughout its territory

Universality: The Red Cross/Red Crescent movement is

HEALTH & CARE DEPARTMENT

It aims to facilitate communities to improve their health status by reducing morbidity and mortality due to common diseases through a variety of activities including;

- **First Aid, Road Safety & Emergency Health:** Provision of first aid services in emergencies and at public functions, providing first aid training to various clients, undertaking road safety activities and intervening in emergency health related disasters.
- **Road Safety:** Working with various partners to promote road safety through media campaigns, road safety seminars
- **Blood Donor Recruitment:** Working closely with UBTS, URCS recruits blood donors throughout the country through organization of special blood donation drives.
- **Water & Sanitation:** This aims at improving access to safe & adequate water, sensitizing communities on proper hygiene & sanitation through Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST).
- **HIV/AIDS control initiatives:** Provision of health education for HIV/AIDS control, involvement in HIV/AIDS advocacy/sensitisation activities and community based HIV/AIDS home care and support.
- **Social mobilization for routine immunization:** mobilization of communities to control vaccine preventable diseases and participating in national supplementary immunization campaigns for killer diseases including measles, polio, tetanus and many others. This is in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.
- **Reproductive Health:**URCS aims at increasing awareness and improving access to reproductive health services in targeted communities through the promotion of community



DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Uganda Red Cross Society is a key player in the management of disasters in Uganda. Its role is highly regarded and profiled in the government national disaster preparedness and management policy, and the IDP Policy

The URCS strategy in this area is to predict, prevent, respond and mitigate the impact of disasters. The emphasis is to reduce the impact of disasters on vulnerable communities through raising community awareness and public education in high-risk areas.

Activities under the program include:

- **Disaster preparedness:** Propositioning of emergency stocks and equipment, hazard risk mapping and contingency planning, human resource development and coordination.
- **Disaster response:** Quick response to emergencies, both natural and manmade. Disease outbreaks e.g cholera are the commonest emergencies the program responds to.
- **Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM):** This is a new approach in which the Disaster preparedness and response program puts emphasis on community resilience and ability to manage disasters at grassroots level.
- **Restoring Family Links (Tracing)** Uganda Red Cross Society offers tracing services to help re-establish family links during or after disasters and to enable beneficiaries obtain vital personal or official documents. The program aims at alleviating moral suffering resulting from the loss of family contacts and separation. Given the political and social upheavals that Uganda often experiences and the various natural disasters that befall different communities, many family members may be separated, lose contact, be taken as prisoners or go missing.

Where to get tracing services: national tracing secretariat, URCS branches, Tracing assistants based in refugee/IDP camps, Tracing field officers, URCS volunteers

PLANNING, MONITORING & EVALUATION DEPARTMENT

It aims at strengthening programme planning for effective delivery of services in a decentralized framework and also strengthen & utilize an effective monitoring & evaluation framework for all URCS programmes at all levels.

The Department is tasked to carry out the following activities:

- Enhance collaboration and effective integration of plans between and among the Society's programmes.
- Continue to decentralize programme according to branch capacity.
- Enhance shared understanding of programmes, policies & guidelines for effective delivery of quality services.
- Promote gender focused planning & programming.
- Develop and adopt guidelines for project selection, placing and exit.
- Roll out Information, Communication & Technology policy to URCS branches.
- Computerize the Society's systems at all levels for effective service delivery.
- Review and strengthen reporting & feedback modalities at all levels.
- Build capacities of the Society & branches in ICT.



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