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Livelihoods: Food distribution in Mukono with support from PepsiCo
Remarks

As Uganda Red Cross, we have put the Red cross machinery at the centre of the Pandemic to save lives. Our ambulances are all deployed and used by the Ministry of Health to support emergency evacuations. We are doing Risk Communication in communities, Surveillance and Screening at border points / Points of entry, we have provided hand washing facilities to public places and worst case scenario, the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Health gave another mandate of managing safe and dignified burials. We are also complementing Government of Uganda’s effort in food distribution. Our teams are working to make sure the rest of the people in Uganda are safe.

Robert Kwesiga
Secretary General - Uganda Red Cross Society

We have trained more health teams to work through this pandemic. Our auxiliary role to Government during this pandemic has been proved stronger by playing a complementary contribution to what Government is able to do with the little resources available. Uganda has done well compared to the rest of the cases we see in other countries. We have registered no deaths so far and we undertook surveillance, disease prevention and control measures very early, making us handle preparedness more than curative. This is good. We shall continue strengthening all lose ends and eventually we know the Government has good leadership and all efforts undertaken will enable us to fight the spread of the virus.

Dr. Josephine Okwera
Director Health and Social Services – Uganda Red Cross Society
COVID - 19 Pandemic: Global

► December 31, 2019
The Government of China reported a cluster of cases of pneumonia of an unknown strain transmitted from person to person in Wuhan city, Hubei Province. A novel coronavirus was then identified and has been scientifically code-named COVID-19.

► January 30, 2020
World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern.

► March 11, 2020
WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Pandemic. Most of the world’s countries and territories have now reported at least one confirmed case of COVID-19, and the risk of continued spread between and within countries is very high.

► May 12, 2020
According to the World Health Organization, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases globally is 4,201,921+ with more than 286,835 deaths. However, there are many unregistered cases and deaths.

According to Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Research Center, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Africa continue to rise and are at 66,319 confirmed cases with 2,344 deaths and 23,143 recoveries. Europe and the United States are now epicentres of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The case of Uganda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmed cases</th>
<th>Recoveries</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Samples tested for COVID - 19
61,460

Institutional Quarantine
657
Institutional quarantine discharged
377
Self Quarantine
141

Source: Ministry of Health as of 12th May 2020

► First Case: 21st March 2020
► Imported cases: 96%
► Local transmission: 4%
► Most positive cases are travellers returning from other countries with COVID-19 cases and truck drivers involved in cross-border business.

► The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry of Health is undertaking a number of initiatives to curb the spread of the virus into the communities.
Government of Uganda oversight

► Ministry of Health
In response to the COVID-19 global outbreak, the Ministry of Health - Uganda developed a National COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan to respond to the evolving pandemic, modelling data and new evidence aimed at reducing the importation, transmission, morbidity and mortality as well as economic social disruption.

► The President of Uganda
H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of Uganda has on numerous occasions held nation addresses to inform Ugandans about the status of COVID - 19 while announcing measures to curb its further spread such as: closure of educational institutions, banning of mass gatherings, suspension of communal prayers, banning of public transport, prohibition of all passenger travel from coming into Uganda by air, land and sea except for cargo planes and trucks, closure of all non-food businesses (except medicines and farm inputs) in markets and other locations.

► National Lock Down
The President also announced a 14-day partial lockdown till 14th April, that was later extended by 21 days to 5th May 2020.

The lockdown has further been extended by 14 days till 19th May 2020.

► URCS COVID - 19 Response
To this end, Uganda Red Cross Society mandated by an Act of Parliament by the Government of Uganda developed a six months COVID-19 Preparedness and response plan (Jan to June 2020) aligned to the National Response plan that highlights strategies under the pillars of surveillance, risk communication, community engagement, case management, mental health, psychosocial support, worse case scenario handling and Safe and Dignified Burials.

Red Cross volunteers complementing Government efforts in food distribution
The role of URCS in COVID-19

- Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) is a leading humanitarian organization in Uganda which was incorporated in 1964 by an Act of Parliament of Uganda, the Red Cross Act, Cap 57. The URCS is a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Uganda. Our mandate is to save lives and alleviate human suffering.

- URCS is a membership and volunteer-based organization with branches across the country.

- URCS is a member of the National Task force for Public health emergencies and works in partnership with Ministry of Health - Uganda, UN agencies and other partners to prepare, prevent and respond to epidemics.

- In the recent past, URCS supported the Government’s efforts in Ebola prevention and response activities by deploying 700+ volunteers who conducted risk communication, social mobilization and community sensitization in 14 districts along the border with Democratic Republic of Congo and deployed volunteers to conduct screening at over 50 (Official & non-official) points of entry.

- Following the declaration of the COVID-19 outbreak in China in Dec 2019, URCS developed a contingency plan which is aligned to the National plan with strategies under the different pillars of surveillance, risk communication, case management, mental health and psychosocial support.

**URCS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan of action**

**Intervention areas:**
- Coordination with the National task force
- Risk communication
- Community engagement,
- Surveillance (including contact tracing),
- Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) safe & dignified burial (SDB),
- Psychosocial support (PSS)
- URCS Capacity strengthening.
- Ambulance services for referrals
- Developed SOPs for food distribution
- Co-chair National vulnerable groups sub-committee.

**The new UN Emergency Appeal**

- To guide prioritization of the most urgent interventions to be carried out in Uganda in the next six months (April to September 2020) in support of the Government-led response to COVID-19.

- To guide prioritization of the most urgent interventions to be carried out in Uganda in the next six months (April to September 2020) in support of the Government-led response to COVID-19.

- Building resilience of communities and families affected by COVID-19 and other natural disasters,
**National Society - Plan of action**

### Branch Network
URCS placed its 51 branches and volunteers across the country on alert in the case of a potential outbreak, since February 2020.

### URCS Task Force
Set up at the URCS Headquarters to guide both internal and external response during this period as well as develop a business continuity plan.

### National & District levels
- URCS is part of the health task force
- Red Cross sits on the National Task force chaired by the Prime Minister
- URCS is a co-chair of the National vulnerable groups sub-committee/Relief (for food and other community welfare issues - represented by the Secretary General)

### Screening points
- Set up screening points at high risk markets across Uganda (in Kampala and Wakiso, Kisoro, Jinja, Entebbe and Iganga yet to scale up to other areas.
- Set up screening at points of entry (Northern, Easter, Western and West Nile borders)

### Risk communication and community Engagement
Ongoing in the high risk markets countrywide, border points of entry and refugee settlements such as Kyaka 2, Imvepi, Kyangwali and Nakivale

### Beneficiary verification
URCS is supporting beneficiary registration and verification in the ongoing Government of Uganda effort to provide food relief to the urban poor in the areas of Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono and through the different districts where district task forces have received and distributed food, involving URCS branch offices.

- Red Cross surveillance team that supports and carries out screening at border points in West Nile, Northern, Eastern and Western borders.
Partners - Red Cross Red Crescent

In this COVID - 19 response, the National Society is working closely with other Red Cross Red Crescent partners to support. The partners have committed to support URCS COVID-19 activities as well as other project response activities. The RCRC partners include:

► The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
► German Red Cross
► Netherlands Red Cross
► Austria Red Cross
► Belgian Red Cross
► IFRC
► Swedish Red Cross

Non Red Cross Partner support

Government and partners have been implementing public health preparedness an response activities along eight core pillars: Coordination and Leadership, Surveillance, Laboratory support, points of entry screening, risk communication, social mobilization and community engagement, case management, infection prevention and control, ICT and innovation, WASH, mental health and psychosocial support and logistics.

The URCS is represented on the multi sectoral national task force and other groups such as the corporate business groups, meetings with the UN agencies, inter-ministerial meetings and district task forces among others.

Through these meetings the National Society has been able to share our capacity and where we can support the Government of Uganda to be able to strengthen response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Activity</th>
<th>Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food distribution</td>
<td>► Office of the Prime Minister (Government)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► All Districts (Task force)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food procured under URCS</td>
<td>► PepsiCo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Coca-cola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Total Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life saving (Health)</td>
<td>► Ministry of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► MTN Uganda Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Standard Chartered Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► PepsiCo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Coca-cola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Mazars Audit Firm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>► Office of the Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee response</td>
<td>► Office of the Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► UN Agencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
URCS COVID-19 response activities in Uganda

The National Society has a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan of action that has been key in guiding its preparedness and response. The key local operations URCS has undertaken for COVID-19 include:

**Health**

► Screening at border points of entry in West Nile (Vuura, Odomachako, Ngomrom, Elegu), Eastern (Malaba, Busia, Jinja port), Western (Busunga, Mpondwe, Kikagati, Bunagana, Cyanika, Ishasha, Mutukula, Ntorko main, Mirama Hills).

► Risk communication/ sensitization in high risk major markets across the country in Kampala, Wakiso and Entebbe and all refugee settlements in Uganda.

► Procured supplies to support COVID-19. These include IPC & PPE materials.

► URCS deployed seven hardtop vehicles to support Kampala and Wakiso risk communication activities. The two districts were high risk and recorded the highest number of COVID-19 cases.

► The National Society also dedicated all ambulances to the Ministry of Health to support emergency referrals of suspected persons.

► Set up an isolation centre in Kalangala district.

Red Cross volunteers disinfecting heavy duty trucks at Cyanika point of entry as part of disease prevention and control
Livelihoods

URCS is a member of the National Task force chaired by the Prime Minister (OPM). The primary role of URCS in the ongoing food relief distribution is to support beneficiary registration and verification in Government’s efforts to provide food relief to the most vulnerable countrywide.

URCS Volunteers and staff selected from the 7 Branches of (Kampala Central, Kampala East, Kampala South, Kampala North, Kampala West, Wakiso and Mukono) were deployed to support this activity to provide food relief to the most vulnerable countrywide.
Risk communication

► MTN Uganda Foundation has supported disease control and prevention in high risk communities. According to the National priorities, markets were ranked high risk considering the number of people accessing them.

► URCS in coordination with Ministry of Health and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) selected 16 high traffic markets within Kampala and Wakiso.

► Risk communication in markets is yielding positive results and there is need scale up the same intervention across the country.

► People are adopting to good handwashing practices, as the volunteers emphasize the need to not only do it from the markets but also in their homes and communities.

► Routine temperature checks enable URCS to control risks of susceptible cases.
Safe and Dignified Burial

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Health mandated Uganda Red Cross Society to carry out Safe and Dignified Burials for COVID-19 and any other infectious diseases.

Much as Uganda has not registered any COVID-19 related deaths, Ministry of Health has mandated URCS to conduct Safe and Dignified Burials for all persons that die under unclear circumstances. URCS has buried 4 cases thus far: Kisoro (1), Kayunga (1), Namisindwa (1) and Bundibugyo (1).

Red Cross trained SDB team conducting a safe and dignified burial in Kayunga
URCS operates at 15 points of entry. The volunteers conduct risk communication, screening, infection prevention and control. The PoE’s include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Point of Entry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Nile</td>
<td>Vuura and Odramachako</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ngomrom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elegu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>Malaba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Busia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jinja port</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Busungu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mpundwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kikagati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bunagana and Cyanika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ishasha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mutukula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ntoroko main</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mirama Hills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Red Cross partner support to COVID - 19 response in Uganda

German Red Cross West Nile project (INFLWAHE)

- Location: Moyo, Arua and Yumbe
  Supported Wakiso branch

COVID - 19 Activities:
- Conducted 2 trainings with the District Health teams and trained over 37 volunteers in risk communication. 16 volunteers have been deployed in Zone 5 thus far.
- Trained and deployed 12 volunteers to support 3 markets in Wakiso
- Trained and deployed 12 volunteers to support 3 markets in Kampala

Austria Red Cross (BIDISAWA Project)

COVID - 19 Activities:
- 10 volunteers trained and deployed to carry out risk communication and integrated to support WASH activities in Bidibidi camp

Netherlands Red Cross Health: COVID - 19 response

COVID - 19 Activities:
- Supported procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Belgium Red Cross Refugee Response Project

The project has supported district task forces and Uganda Red Cross Society branches in the areas of Hoima, Kabarole, Bundibugyo, Kasese and Kisoro which share borders or are near to Democratic Republic of Congo through:
- Food security and livelihoods
- Basic hygiene and sanitation
- Supporting to procure PPE and IPC materials.

ICRC

- Area of operation: All refugee settlements and Entebbe branch.
  ICRC supported the training and deployment of volunteers to conduct Risk Communication in the following areas:
  - All refugee settlements: Bibibidi (Yumbe), Rhino (Arua), Imvepi (Arua), Parolinya (Moyo), ADjumani (18 settlements), Palabek (Lamwo), Kiryandongo, Kyangwali settlement, Kyaka II, Rwamwanja, Nakivale and Oruchinga, Nyakabande settlement
  - 30 volunteers trained and deployed to conduct screening and risk communication in Entebbe markets and on the Islands.

COVID - 19 Activities:
- Risk communication
- Screening
- IEC Materials (2,000 posters)
- Procured IPC materials
- Radio spots for COVID - 19 message dissemination, covering 13 refugee settlements.

Swedish PREP Project

Area of response: Palorinya Refugee settlement in Moyo
- The project has reached out to 17,179 people (11,358 Female and 5,821 Male)
- 7,694 are from the settlement (5,295 Female/2,399 Male)
- 9,485 are from the host community (6,063 Female and 3,422 Male).
URCS COVID - 19 branch activities

**Kalangala branch**

- Screening at Bugoma and Bukakata landing sites which are ferry points. 4 Volunteers and 2 Health workers were deployed to support screening at the two landing sites.
- Established an understanding with Kalangala Infrastructure Services (KIS) to pay the volunteers and the health workers.
- Established 4 hand washing facilities in Kalangala Central Market and Taxi park.
- Supported sample collection.
- Provided psychosocial support and camp management services at the institutional quarantine established at Bishop Dunstan Memorial Secondary School.

**Masaka branch**

- Supported Surveillance, contact tracing and sample collection, as assigned by the district task force.
- Deployed 10 Volunteers to support screening at the Masaka Regional Referral hospital.
- Provided psychosocial support at the isolation center where 2 Volunteers were deployed.
- Carried out periodical sanitation and water treatment at the Regional Referral Hospital.
- Risk communication and community engagement activities conducted at Triage Hospital.

**Kisoro branch**

- Screening at two border points of entry to include Kyanika and Bunagana; 4 URCS Volunteers are deployed.
- Screening and risk communication and community engagement activities conducted at Kisoro old market; 8 URCS Volunteers are deployed to support this.
- Distributed 1,750 kgs of maize flour, 770kgs of beans and 520 sachets of salt as food relief to 47 Batwa household community consisting of 137 individuals.

**Busia branch**

- Conducted risk communication and community engagement through radio talk shows.
- All the URCS branch managers are part of their respective district COVID-19 Task forces.
- Some URCS branches have been given the mandate to receive and distribute all in kind support to their respective districts.
- URCS has been given the mandate of contact tracing.
COVID-19: RED CROSS REFERS OVER 100 FOR FURTHER MANAGEMENT

By Vision Reporter

Some of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) such as the four-meter social distancing, according to the Uganda Red Cross spokesperson, Irene Nakatusa, had failed two hand for hand komon
market-goers.

Uganda’s situation has since worsened. People are said to be suffering more severely.

Nakatusa said in Kampala, Nakatusa told Vision News, the phrase placed at entrances of different markets had detected over 100 cases of individuals with abnormal high temperatures. Those, too, were referred to the health ministry for further management.

In Maasai, the University Research Co (URC) had referred four cases of individuals with high temperature to the health ministry as of Monday.

Meanwhile, the URC has handled a number of emergencies since the government imposed a lockdown at the fortnight ago.

Those, according to Nakatusa, include households removing some villagers in Moroto and Kasese, and enforcing individuals banned to
in public by govern.

As a director fire prevention and rescue services at Uganda Police, Joseph Magia, an incident on Monday involving a fuel tanker in a district in the most serious over the last two weeks.

“A fuel tanker burst into flames, killing two people and injuring four. Otherwise, the situation is so far calm,” Magia told Vision News in a telephone interview yesterday.

As of Monday, Uganda had 52 confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), but no death.

The government passed the law to imprison offenders.

Robert Nakatusa and Magia have appealed to Ugandans to banish drugs, stay calm and let the COVID-19 storm pass.

GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO DISTRIBUTE FOOD

Ruth Nabanya, 62, receives food items: 10kg of maize flour, 3kg of beans and salt as part of the government programme to distribute food to the vulnerable during the ongoing countrywide lockdown. This was in Mbwaya, a Kampaala suburb, on Saturday.

COVID-19 PHONE CALLS OVERWHELM POLICE

The sick and vulnerable get free food

The sick and vulnerable get free food

Funeral service providers quarantined over Qatari body

By Betty Amukamara

While members of A-Team Funeral House have been quarantined after they handled a body from Lusaka, Zambia.

According to the dance of health workers, the remains of a man, who succumbed to acute respiratory syndrome, were received at Entebbe Airport on Sunday by the A-Team team and remitted to the burial.

“Upon learning of the incident, the health ministry and Uganda Revenue Authority took over the burial. The people who handled the body have been put under institutional quarantine at Entebbe district. Members said using social media, the socio-economic inquiry as to pay the man from the health ministry, stated that "A security company that handled the body and the remains should be investigated," according to Vision News.

The Red Cross team that had been trained to carry out burials.

BETWEEN THE LINES

On April 15, President Yoweri Museveni, while giving guidelines on fighting the virus, said

"If we are going to do anything, we should not allow anyone who has died of COVID-19 in Uganda to be buried.

We are seeing people who are being killed and they should be investigated. People are being killed and we are not allowed to bury them.

People are being killed and we are not allowed to bury them.

"The team will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and ensure that the country is not affected by the pandemic."

Meanwhile, Irene Nakatusa, the Uganda Red Cross Society publicist, yesterday said they have
### Funding for URCS COVID-19 response activities in Uganda

- URCS developed a total budget to support food distribution, disease prevention and control (Health and Livelihoods) towards COVID-19 response. This is an indication of the budget, amount received and the funding gap as shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total budget: 8,253,991,855 UGX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food relief</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Received: 2,582,836,311 UGX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food relief</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding gap: 5,671,155,544 UGX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food relief</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Funding gap

- URCS seeks additional funding of **Ugandan Shillings 5,671,155 544 (Five Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy one million, One hundred and Fifty five thousand, five hundred forty four shillings)**

- This is in effort to sustain and support the curbing of the spread of COVID-19 in Uganda, URCS intends to roll out more COVID-19 prevention and mitigation activities and to scale-up risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), contact tracing activities, food security and health interventions.

### URCS continues to:

- Carry out risk communication in high risk areas countrywide.

- Screening and social mobilization across the country. More than 360 volunteers have been trained and will be deployed across the points of entry/ cross border points

- Community based surveillance at points of entry in West Nile, Northern, Eastern and Western borders.

- Psychosocial support to families and patients in quarantine.

- Contact tracing in the communities where alerts are shared through the Red Cross branch networks in close coordination with Ministry of Health.
Summary of achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People screened at Points of Entry (POEs)</td>
<td>► Males: 23,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Females: 8,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>► Children: 4,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alerts for susceptible cases in Bundibugyo, Kisoro, Ntoroko, Kasese and Kanungu districts</td>
<td>► 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People reached with preventive measures on COVID - 19 across the country</td>
<td>► 1,760,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers oriented to support Risk communication</td>
<td>► 540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referrals through community surveillance system</td>
<td>► 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening at border points of entry (Eastern, Northern, Western and West Nile)</td>
<td>► 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People reached through screening in high risk markets</td>
<td>► 56,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene sessions conducted</td>
<td>► 68 to reach 6,420 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URCS Volunteers deployed</td>
<td>► 540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URCS Staff supporting COVID-19 response in districts</td>
<td>► 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch Managers supporting districts</td>
<td>► 51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges

► There is difficulty in changing people's behaviours in a short time. Covid-19, by the nature of its spread needs a consistent and robust approach intended to instantly ensure behavioural change adoption.

► There has been high fuel consumption during the lock down which requires URCS to pick volunteers from their homes and take them back on a daily basis.

► There is a high call for community based intervention (door to door risk communication and sensitisation), which we currently cannot do due to limited funding.

► There is scarcity of goods and essential medical items, which has largely been caused by the closure of shops and manufacturing plants hence the reason why prices for essential items such as PPE kits and IPC materials have abnormally shot up. This has in turn affected the operations because sometimes less items are procured to fit in the available budget hence not being able to serve all the affected and vulnerable population.

► There is a continuous risk of COVID - 19 importation into Uganda especially from neighbouring countries since the borders are still open.

► Further still, there is still a high risk presented by the sustained person-person transmission and rapid spread across the globe. It is pertinent that Uganda remains on high alert and prepares adequately for response in the event of an outbreak of COVID - 19.

► There is limited funding yet the coverage is wide, as large as national scale.

► There is need to further strengthen inter-market and cross border screening especially at the borders where URCS is non-existing.
## Key contacts for URCS COVID - 19 response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Email address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Kwesiga</td>
<td>Secretary General</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sgurcs@redcrossug.org">sgurcs@redcrossug.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Josephine Okwera</td>
<td>Director, Health and Social Services/URCS COVID - 19 incident commander</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jokwera@redcrossug.org">jokwera@redcrossug.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irene Nakasiita</td>
<td>Communications and Public Relations - External partner liaison/COVID - 19</td>
<td><a href="mailto:inakasiita@redcrossug.org">inakasiita@redcrossug.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Arnold Ezama</td>
<td>Coordinator COVID - 19 response</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aezama@redcrossug.org">aezama@redcrossug.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

URCS Secretary General addresses the media during a visit to Nakawa market.
Partners in the COVID - 19 response in Uganda

► Government of Uganda

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

► Corporates

MTN

pepsi

Standard Chartered

Coca-Cola

Total

MAZARS

AUDIT • TAX • ADVISORY

► Red Cross partners

ICRC

IFRC

Deutsches Rotes Kreuz

Swiss Red Cross

European Commission

AUSTRIAN RED CROSS

The Netherlands Red Cross

Belgian Red Cross

Belgian Red Cross Flanders

USAID

Röda Korset