

P-World of Design Free Skilling Camp for Nakivale Refugee Settlement

Uganda needs more of Dr. Phiona Charlene Namanya: The Interior Architect Empowering Refugees Through Design

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[/EINPresswire.com/](https://EINPresswire.com/) -- Located in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in Uganda, the P-World Of Design Free Skilling Camp is making a significant impact on the lives of refugees. Founded by interior architect and entrepreneur Dr. Phiona Charlene Namanya, the camp has successfully trained 250 refugees in a variety of skills in its first month-long cohort - this graduation ceremony was aired on NBS TV and UBC TV. The camp is set to take place every three months, and later on expand into other refugee camps across Uganda with the goal of empowering as many refugees as possible in skills such as tailoring, basketry, soapmaking, crafts, bricks and pavers making, baking, I.T, English language and financial literacy.



Nakivale Refugee Camp

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AfricaNewsOnline

The P-World Of Design Free Skilling Camp provides refugees with the opportunity to gain valuable skills that can help them become self-sufficient and build better lives for themselves and their families. Participants in the camp have reported feeling more confident and empowered as a result of the training they have received, some have found jobs and others started their own businesses.

In addition to the practical skills training, the camp also offers financial literacy and English language courses to help refugees understand how to sell their products, manage their money and plan for their future. The impact of the P-World Of Design Free Skilling Camp is evidently already being felt in the Nakivale Refugee Settlement, and with plans to continue the camp every

three months, the hope is to empower as many refugees as possible through the power of education and skill development.

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Nakivale refugee settlement was established in 1958 and officially recognized as a refugee settlement in 1960 through the Uganda Gazette General Notice No. 19. Nakivale refugee settlement is the 8th largest refugee camp in the world. Largest in Africa.

Nakivale refugee settlement is approximately 200 km away from Kampala, Uganda's capital. It is one of the oldest refugee settlements in the Uganda - the oldest refugee camp in Africa. It is estimated at well beyond 180 square kilometres. This enormous area is geographically divided into three administrative zones – Base camp, Juru and Rubondo. These three zones, in turn, contain a total of 74 individual villages.

It currently hosts 129,587 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Somalia, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, etc. Although many refugees in the area have been living there for several years, recent conflicts in nearby countries are increasing the number of arrivals per day. The majority of refugees in the settlement are Congolese although the population is largely heterogeneous with many cultures and groups from different nationalities. The settlement is divided into 79 villages with an average of 800 to 1,000 people per village.

A special thanks to the Ugandan Government For it's hospitality towards refugees. Uganda is one of the largest refugee-hosting nations in the world, with 1,529,904 refugees (as of 28 February 2022). The vast influx of refugees is due to several factors in Uganda's neighboring countries such as associated economic crisis and political instability in the region. Uganda has relatively 'friendly' policies that provide rights to the refugees, such as rights to education, work, private property, healthcare and other basic social services. This model emphasizes self-reliance and community-based approaches, with a focus on providing refugees with the opportunity to work



The Award Winners



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and support themselves. However, despite these efforts, many refugees in Uganda continue to face significant challenges, including limited access to education and employment opportunities.

Objective: To provide refugees in the Nakivale settlement with free, high-quality skills training, in order to improve their entrepreneurial culture, employability and overall quality of life.

Mission: Our mission is to empower refugees in the Nakivale settlement through the acquisition of valuable skills. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of their circumstances.

Activities: Our skilling camp will offer a range of skills , including tailoring, basketry, soapmaking, crafts, bricks and pavers making, baking, I.T, English language and financial literacy. Classes will be held for a whole month, on a quarterly basis and will be taught by experienced industry professionals and volunteers. In addition to technical skills training, we will also offer workshops on topics such as Emotional and Social intelligence, start -up business strategies, resume building and job search strategies to help our students succeed in the job market.

Impact: We expect that our skilling camp will have a significant impact on the lives of the refugees in the Nakivale settlement. By providing them with valuable design skills, we hope to improve their employability and overall quality of life. In addition, we believe that our camp will help to foster a sense of community and belonging among the refugees, as they learn and grow together.

The increasing costs of hiring instructors, purchasing supplies and materials, graduation ceremonies, a small start up package for every graduand, daily food and security, workshops and building a facility to host the classes required that we get as much support from donors as we possibly can.

Dr. Phiona Charlene Namanya is a successful Global Award Winning Interior architect and entrepreneur in Uganda with 13 years of experience tucked under her belt and a Doctorate Of Organisational Leadership with a number of Global Awards such as 28C.O.E - Credentials Of Entrepreneur "Seral Entrepreneur Africa Award based in Malaysia, Chamber Of Young Entrepreneurs- Innovative Brand Of The Year and Influential Brand Award Of the Year but she is also making a significant impact in her community through her charitable work.

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