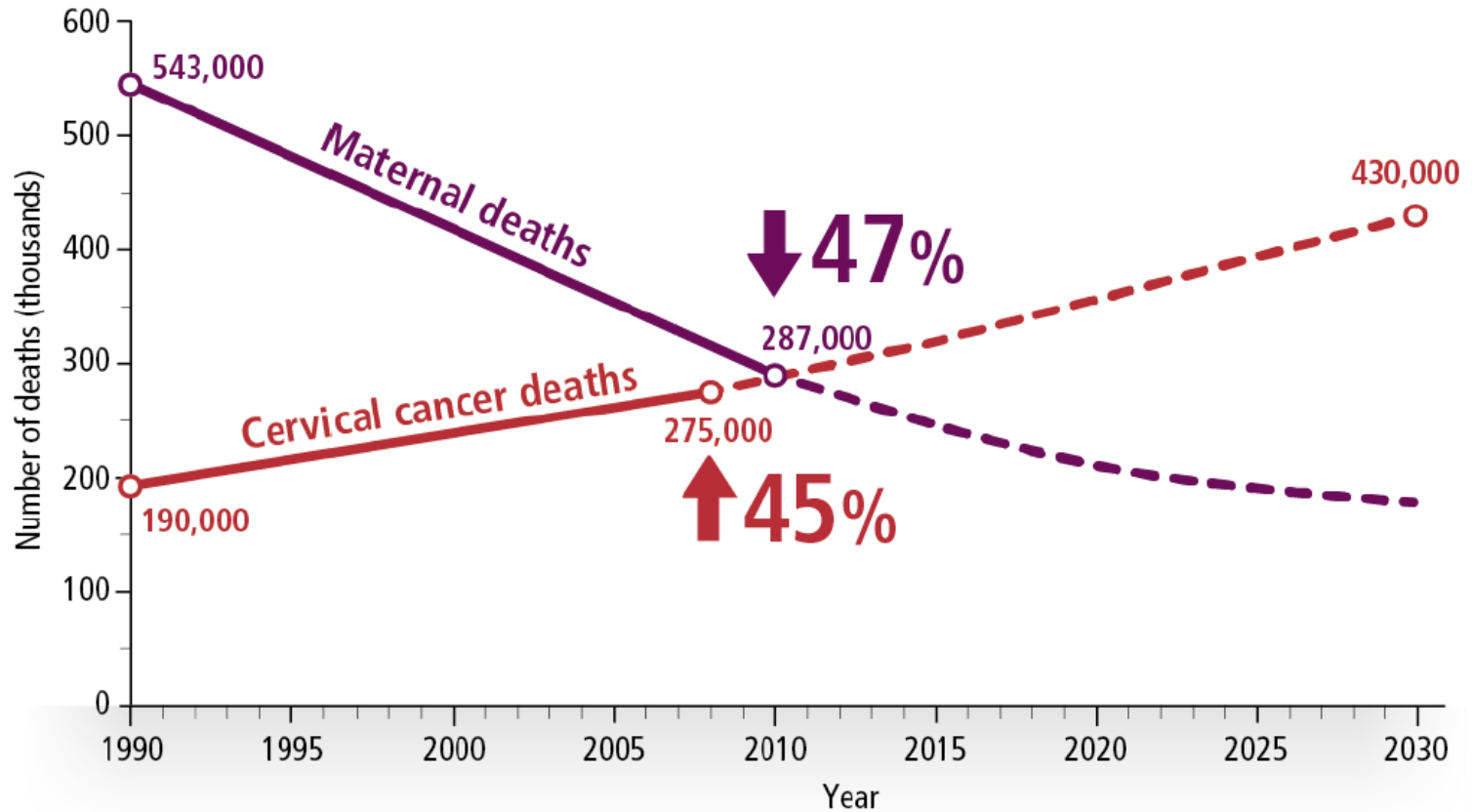


# Screening pre-cancerous lesions of the cervix– UNHCR experience from Uganda



# Global maternal and cervical cancer mortality



Sources: Globocan, 2008

Pistani et al, Estimates of worldwide mortality from 25 cancers in 1990. Int J Cancer 1999 83(1) 18-29

WHO UNICEF UNFPA and World Bank, Trends in maternal mortality: 1990-2010



# UNHCR's commitment

## Cancer cervix prevention



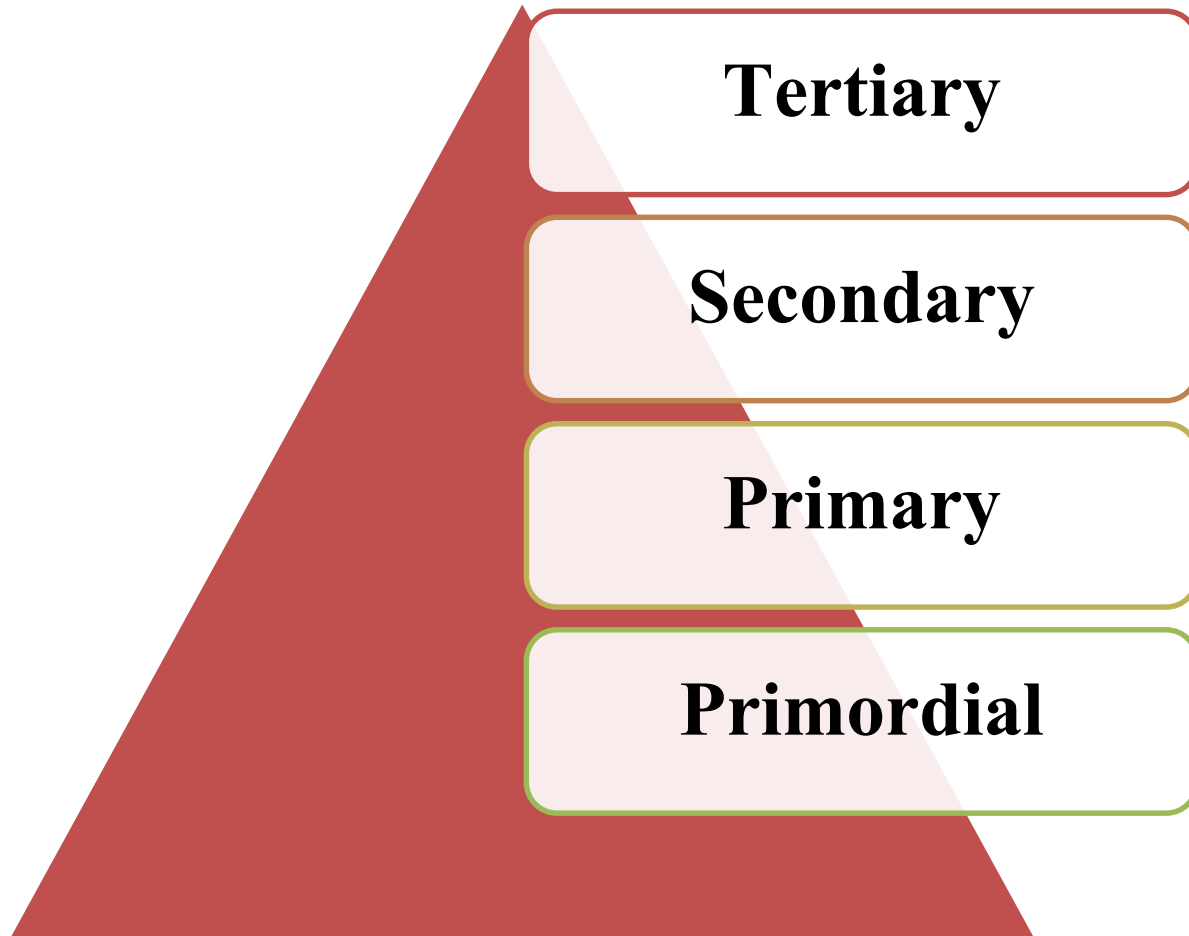
### GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health - HIV and Reproductive Health - Food Security and Nutrition  
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

A UNHCR Strategy 2014-2018

 **UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

# Levels of prevention





**Detection and treatment**

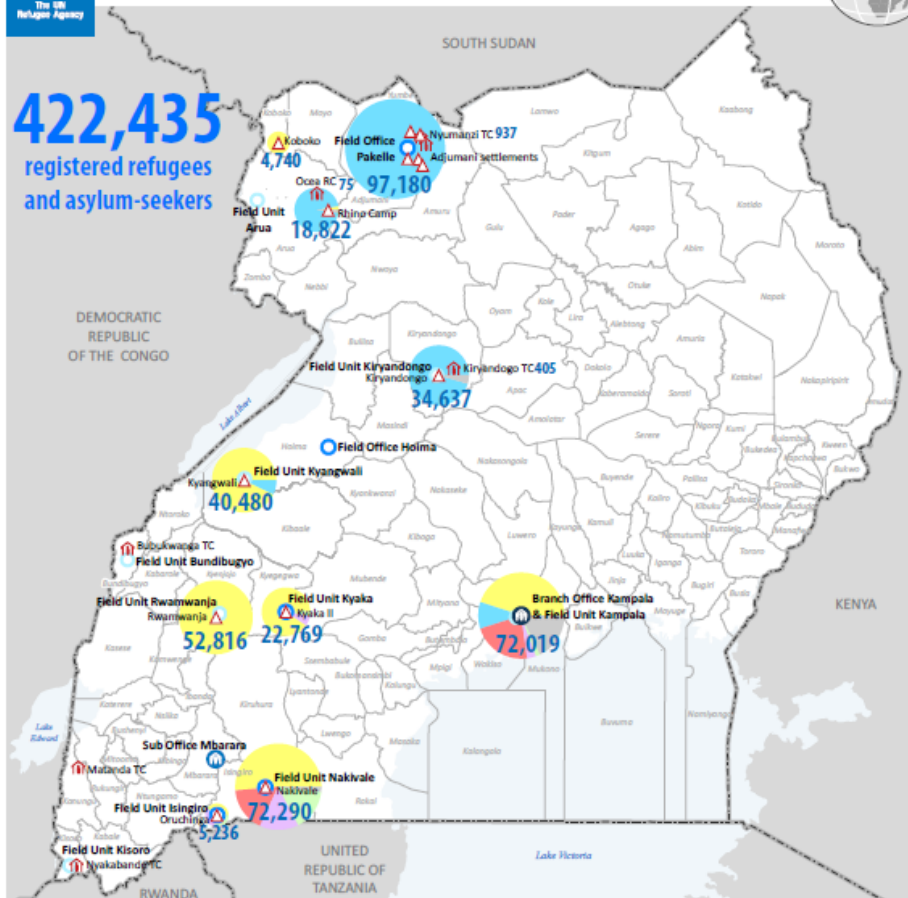
**Screening – pre cancer**

**HPV vaccination**

**Healthy lifestyle**



**422,435**  
registered refugees  
and asylum-seekers



Refugee Location	Country of Origin						Total	Percentage
	DR Congo	South Sudan	Somalia	Rwanda	Burundi	Others		
Adjumani	7	97,095	-	-	-	78	97,180	23%
Nakivale	37,175	24	12,000	10,566	11,151	1,374	72,290	17%
Kampala	32,366	7,245	15,995	2,461	1,147	12,805	72,019	17%
Rwamwanja	52,763	-	-	53	-	-	52,816	13%
Kyangwali	37,258	2,860	7	301	18	36	40,480	10%
Kiryandongo	203	32,811	1	26	15	1,581	34,637	8%
Kyaka II	20,615	3	2	1,582	535	32	22,769	5%
Rhino Camp	535	17,848	-	17	8	414	18,822	4%
Oruchinga	2,147	-	-	1,595	1,493	1	5,236	1%
Koboko	4,740	-	-	-	-	-	4,740	1%
Nyumanzi reception centre	-	937	-	-	-	-	937	0.2%
Kiryandongo Transit Centre	-	405	-	-	-	-	405	0.1%
Ooca reception centre	-	75	-	-	-	-	75	0.02%
Nyakabande transit centre	-	29	-	-	-	-	29	0.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>187,838</b>	<b>150,303</b>	<b>28,005</b>	<b>16,601</b>	<b>14,367</b>	<b>16,321</b>	<b>422,435</b>	
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>		

**Legend:**

- UNHCR Branch Office
- UNHCR Sub Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- Refugee settlement
- Refugee transit centre
- International boundary
- District boundary

**Source countries of refugees**

- DR Congo [45%]
- South Sudan [38%]
- Somalia [6%]
- Rwanda [4%]
- Burundi [3%]
- Others [4%]

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
 Creation date: 13 January 2015 Sources: UNHCR Kampala, UNCS Feedback: UNHCR Regional Support Hub In Nairobi kerngh@unhcr.org

## **KEY STATS.**

About **3,915 new cervical cancer cases** are diagnosed **annually** in **Uganda** (estimations for 2012).

Cervical cancer **ranks as the 1<sup>st</sup> cause** of female cancer in **Uganda**.

Cervical cancer is the **1<sup>st</sup> most common** female cancer in **women aged 15 to 44 years in Uganda**.

## **KEY STATS.**

About **2,275 new cervical cancer deaths** occur **annually** in **Uganda** (estimations for 2012).

Cervical cancer **ranks as the 1<sup>st</sup> cause** of female cancer deaths in **Uganda**.

Cervical cancer is the **1<sup>st</sup> leading cause** of cancer deaths in **women aged 15 to 44 years in Uganda**.

# Similar behaviour between refugees and host nationals

**Table 16: Casual sex partnership in past 12 months, by relationship status**

Variable	Relationship status	Refugees			Nationals		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Relationship status	Stable partnership <sup>‡</sup>	<b>37</b> 13.6%	<b>10</b> 3.2%	<b>47</b> 8.0%	<b>51</b> 13.5%	<b>19</b> 4.4%	<b>70</b> 8.6%
	Unstable partnership <sup>##</sup>	<b>15</b> 8.9%	<b>12</b> 7.5%	<b>27</b> 8.2%	<b>41</b> 22.9%	<b>30</b> 15.6%	<b>71</b> 19.1%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b> 11.8%	<b>22</b> 4.6%	<b>74</b> 8.1%	<b>92</b> 16.5%	<b>49</b> 7.8%	<b>141</b> 11.9%

<sup>‡</sup> *Stable partnership is defined as individuals who identified as married or co-habiting*

<sup>##</sup> *Unstable partnership is defined as individuals who were never married, divorced or widowed*



# Interventions

Advocacy for inclusion of refugees in national HPV vaccination

Training of service providers in screening using VIA

Procurement of cryo-machines

Establishing SOPs and simple monitoring tools

Referral care





# Results

HPV vaccination – 13,539 girls aged 9-15 years in 2014

Screening for pre-cancerous lesions and single visit approach rolled out in settlements

1330 women screened

36 women identified with pre-cancerous lesions

35 women provide cryo-therapy

2.7% positive lesions and 97% received treatment

# Challenges

Staff turnover

Availability of CO<sub>2</sub> gas

Monitoring

Scale-up

# Lessons learnt

Cancer cervix prevention programmes are possible in resource limited settings

Partnerships are critical for successful roll out

There is added benefit for including refugees in national cancer control programmes