

# Oasis Uganda

## General information on Uganda

Uganda became a British protectorate in 1894, but became independent in 1962. After four years of independence Uganda suffered political catastrophes which lead to poverty and violence. By 1971 under Idi Amin, mass killings and torture became common, and in 1972 the Ugandan Asians were given 3 months to move out, causing a devastating effect on Uganda's economy.

In 1978 Uganda invaded Tanzania, and by 1979 the Tanzanian army moved the war back into Uganda. Idi Amin was overthrown, but violence continued under subsequent presidents. In 1986 the National Resistance Army (NRA) took control of Kampala, and Museveni became President. He has been responsible for major changes – economic reform, improved education. Since Museveni came into power, Uganda has been relatively stable. However, there was still chronic insecurity in the north and west, and lack of development in these areas, until the ceasefire with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in 2006. In recent years, more stability has been restored to these areas, and infrastructure is

## Fast Facts

starting to be rebuilt.

<b>Capital:</b>	Kampala
<b>Currency:</b>	Shilling (UGS)
<b>Population:</b>	27 million (2008 estimate)
<b>Language:</b>	English, Luganda, other Niger-Congo and Nilo-Saharan Swahili, Arabic
<b>Religion:</b>	Roman Catholic 42%, Protestant 42%, Muslim 12%, other 4%
<b>Life Expectancy:</b>	52.34 years
<b>Infant mortality:</b>	65.99 deaths/1,000 live births
<b>Living with HIV/AIDS:</b>	530,000 (2001 estimate)
<b>Literacy:</b>	Male: 76.8%, female: 57.7%



## GAT Teams to Uganda

Teams to Uganda are placed at one of several partner Christian projects outside Kampala. Global Action Teams are involved in a variety of work supporting the church and local community. The kinds of activities the teams are involved in include running kids clubs, leading youth discipleship courses at schools, leading evangelistic assembly presentations, teaching, praying with AIDS victims and teaching conversational English classes.

Teams **sometimes** help at Oasis Uganda projects at weekends and during school holidays, but this is **NOT** the focus of the placement.

Team placements are in rural areas, so accommodation is basic. There are no showers, so you have to wash with a bucket, and collect your own water with jerry cans, but the team have very quickly got used to it. The toilets are pit latrines so toilet paper and antibacterial handwash is vital! The teams eat with the Pastor/Leader and his family on-site, and meals are traditional African food. Team members must dress smartly and modestly in Uganda—for girls this will mean wearing skirts for most of the time, and for boys wearing smart trousers and sometimes a shirt and tie.