

# RYVU NEWSLETTER

REFUGEE YOUTH  
VOLUNTEERING  
UGANDA

November 2020



Peter Kanyandago  
Chair of the Board of Directors of the  
African Volunteers Association (AVA)



The link between volunteering and SDGs is evident in the grassroots-level volunteers. For example, our research on refugees in Uganda shows that volunteering can be an opportunity to harness the experiences and motivations of refugees to help them develop self-reliance, networks and skills, and build confidence.



Prof. Peter Kanyangado, Co-I on RYVU led a well-received talk at the Global Technical Meeting and High Level Political Forum on "Reimagining Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda" in July, viewed online by over 12,000 people. Prof. Kanyandago's full discussion can be viewed online here. Along with other experts in the field of volunteering, Prof. Kanyandago discussed the topic "What is volunteering doing for the SDGs?" examining the significance and sometimes overlooked impact that volunteering has had on the SDGs, and how it will continue to shape the SDG agenda going forward.

The RYVU team were also busy presenting RYVU at various conferences over the summer, with Dr. Moses Okech and Dr. Sarah Mills presenting at the 2020 IMISCOE Conference, while Dr. Aisling O'Loghlen presented an overview of the project at the Development Studies Association conference in August, which can be viewed online here.

## FUNDED BY



Economic and Social  
Research Council



Global Challenges Research Fund

Funded by the Economics and Social Research Council (ESRC)  
Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), ES/S005439/1

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Follow updates on the project at: [www.ryvu.org](http://www.ryvu.org)

@RYVUganda



Photo credit: Dr. Robert Turyamureeba, boda boda in market Rwamwanja

## Project Update - Fieldwork Restarts!

After a comprehensive and lengthy review of safety procedures both at Northumbria University and by the Ugandan National Council of Science and Technology (UNCST), RYVU has been given the green light to restart fieldwork, subject to strict adherence to Covid-19 safety procedures.

Robert and Moses have been busy linking up with the youth advisory boards across the four settlement areas to get the most up to date information on the ground, before beginning the pilot of the mobile phone survey in the next couple of weeks. This will be followed by the full survey which is hoping to collect data from over 1,500 young refugees on their experiences in relation to volunteering in Uganda.

Co-I Dr. Aisling O'Loughlen will be leaving the RYVU team shortly, however the project management aspects of the project will be in good hands with the addition of Dr. Owen Boyle to the team. The search for a new Co-I is also underway.

### Get to know the RYVU Team, this month: Owen

Owen recently joined the RYVU team in a project management role. He is originally from Newcastle and returned to the UK in 2019 after a decade of living and working in Sweden, Denmark, South Africa and Australia. Owen has a background in human rights law and completed his PhD in this area at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. Following this, he worked as a consultant both for the private sector and for international organisations. Away from his work, Owen is a keen football fan and also loves to travel and try new foods.



### We hope you have enjoyed our latest newsletter

You can find out more about the team and the activities we are involved in along with working papers, blogs, etc. by visiting our website at [www.ryvu.org](http://www.ryvu.org)

If you have any questions, comments, or if you would prefer not to receive future newsletters please email [owen.d.boyle@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:owen.d.boyle@northumbria.ac.uk)