



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GiveDirectly will support nearly 50,000 enrolled recipients in COVID-19 program despite termination of \$10M USAID grant once NGO Bureau lifts suspension

KAMPALA, UGANDA. Today, GiveDirectly is disappointed to share that its Uganda operations remain suspended due to an ongoing investigation by the NGO Bureau. The Bureau has yet to provide additional details on the status of their investigation, impacting over 100,000 Ugandans enrolled across GiveDirectly programs. Citing the prolonged suspension, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) terminated a \$10M COVID-19 relief grant to GiveDirectly.

Given the magnitude of the humanitarian crisis generated by COVID-19 and ensuing necessary lockdowns, GiveDirectly will continue working closely with the government to resolve this suspension. GiveDirectly is continuing to cooperate with the NGO Bureau, and submitted a formal response on September 18 to all concerns outlined in the NGO Bureau's initial suspension letter. Their team remains strongly committed to supporting Ugandans; despite the termination of USAID's COVID-19 relief grant, GiveDirectly is pursuing alternate funding sources to support the nearly 50,000 already enrolled recipients when the suspension is lifted.

Launched in August, the COVID-19 relief program expected to reach 120,000 households across Moroto, Kabale, Gulu, Mbarara, Lira and Mbale. The partnership, led by the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Kampala Capital City and Metropolitan Affairs, built on a long-standing relationship between GiveDirectly and the Government of Uganda since GiveDirectly began Uganda operations in 2013.

Due to the continuing suspension by the NGO Bureau, GiveDirectly is unable to complete pending payments or enroll additional participants, delaying relief to over 100,000 Ugandans. Before suspension, GiveDirectly delivered cash to 19,000 Ugandans as part of our COVID-19 efforts and obtained consent from or enrolled an additional 90,000 individuals. This suspension also impacts another 18,000 Ugandans, including refugees and young girls, enrolled or awaiting enrollment in other GiveDirectly programs.

For any questions, members of the public or press can email press@givedirectly.org.

About GiveDirectly: GiveDirectly is the first - and largest - non-profit that delivers cash directly to people living in poverty. Across the last decade, GiveDirectly has distributed \$300M+ to over 500k recipients across nine countries, ranging from Houston, USA after Hurricane Harvey to remote parts of Congo (DRC).

To measure impact, GiveDirectly has partnered with independent researchers to conduct 13 experimental evaluations (RCTs) documenting the impacts of direct cash transfers on recipients and on the local economies. Since launching in Uganda in 2013, GiveDirectly has supported nearly 70,000 households in Lamwo, Bukedea, Kyegegwa, Iganga, Kiryandongo, and Kampala.

GiveDirectly has no religious, political, or sectarian affiliations, and remains committed to serving recipients regardless of their tribe, religion, sex, and political beliefs.