

COMMUNITY INFORMATION PROFILE

NSOoba, KAWEMPE DIVISION – KAMPALA, UGANDA

1. Community Overview

Nsooba is a vibrant and densely populated community located within Kawempe Division, one of the five administrative divisions of Kampala City, the capital of Uganda. Positioned in the northern part of the city, Nsooba lies near the Kiteezi landfill area and is bordered by residential and commercial neighborhoods such as Kalerwe, Kyebando, and Mpererwe.

The community is part of Uganda's expanding urban landscape, characterized by a youthful population, small-scale entrepreneurship, and strong social networks. Despite facing infrastructural and environmental challenges, Nsooba remains a place of resilience, cultural diversity, and innovation.

2. Administrative and Geographic Context

- Country: Uganda
- Region: Central Region
- District: Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)
- Division: Kawempe Division
- Parish: Kyebando-Nsooba Parish
- Approximate Coordinates: Latitude 0.373° N, Longitude 32.595° E
- Population Estimate: Approximately 15,000–20,000 residents (as of 2024)

Nsooba sits on slightly elevated terrain, with patches of wetlands and low-lying areas that experience seasonal flooding. The area has semi-urban features—combining informal settlements, small businesses, and agricultural pockets used for vegetable cultivation and poultry rearing.

3. Socioeconomic Background

The majority of Nsooba residents engage in small-scale trade, food vending, urban farming, motorbike transport (boda-boda), waste collection, and informal construction work. Women and youth form the backbone of community livelihood activities, often participating in local food markets and cooperative savings groups.

While unemployment and poverty levels remain relatively high, the community has demonstrated creativity and solidarity through local initiatives promoting food safety,

environmental hygiene, and vocational training. Several youth-led groups and churches have begun promoting peace dialogues and interfaith cooperation.

4. Education and Health Services

Nsooba hosts a number of primary schools, nursery centers, and community-based education initiatives supported by NGOs and religious institutions. However, access to affordable and quality secondary education remains limited, forcing many children to walk long distances or drop out early.

Health services are provided through Kawempe National Referral Hospital (nearby), private clinics, and community health outreach programs. Public health challenges include sanitation, waste disposal, and waterborne diseases, particularly during rainy seasons.

5. Environmental and Climatic Conditions

Nsooba experiences a tropical climate, with two rainy seasons (March–May and September–November). Due to poor drainage and rapid urbanization, flooding and waste management issues are frequent. The proximity to the Kiteezi landfill has raised community concerns about air and water pollution.

In response, local organizations such as Friends of Hum Food Safety Initiative Ltd are promoting urban tree planting, organic composting, and clean cooking programs to improve environmental health and resilience to climate change.

6. Cultural and Social Life

Nsooba is a culturally diverse community comprising people from various regions of Uganda, including Buganda, Busoga, and Western Uganda. Luganda is the dominant language, though English and other local languages are widely spoken.

The community is rich in cultural and religious diversity, with churches, mosques, and community centers serving as platforms for unity, dialogue, and peacebuilding. Traditional music, dance, and drama are frequently used as tools for community education and mobilization.

7. Peace and Security Context

While Nsooba occasionally experiences urban-related challenges such as youth unemployment and petty crime, the overall security situation remains stable. Residents rely heavily on Local Council structures, community policing, and faith-based organizations to resolve conflicts and promote peaceful coexistence.

The community has shown increasing interest in peace education and social cohesion projects—particularly linking food safety, health, and environmental restoration as pillars of sustainable peace.

8. Challenges

- Inadequate waste management and drainage infrastructure
- Food safety concerns in informal markets
- Youth unemployment and limited skills training
- Poor housing and sanitation facilities
- Limited access to clean water and healthcare
- Environmental degradation near Kiteezi landfill

9. Opportunities and Strengths

- Strong youth and women's engagement in community initiatives
- Existence of active civil society and faith-based organizations
- Strategic location within Kampala City for partnerships and visibility
- Emerging local leadership committed to peace and sustainability
- Potential for urban greening and community waste recycling projects
- Support from development partners such as Friends of Hum Food Safety Initiative Ltd

10. Conclusion

Nsooba, Kawempe, embodies the resilience and determination of urban Ugandans striving for peace, health, and sustainable livelihoods. Despite ongoing challenges, the community has the human potential, social networks, and environmental awareness necessary to become a model International City of Peace.

With continued support, Nsooba can evolve into a center of transformation—where food safety, environmental care, and peaceful coexistence define the daily life of its residents.