

REFUGEE BIODATA VERIFICATION APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE (API)

SYSTEM - TECHNICAL PROJECT REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Refugee Biodata Verification Application Programming Interface (API) System** is a secure, web-based platform designed to streamline the verification of refugee status and issuance of National Social Security Fund (NSSF) numbers in Uganda. The system allows authorized officials to efficiently verify refugee eligibility, access detailed personal records, and issue NSSF numbers for qualified individuals through a simple, intuitive interface.

By digitalizing these workflows, the system reduces manual email exchanges and reduces processing time from days to minutes, minimizes errors, and ensures that refugee records are accurate, secure, and compliant with national and international regulations.

Below is the link to the Github account containing a cloned repository.

https://github.com/Noellkwap/B35094_MSDS_2025_ADVENT_OOP_Python_Programming

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Identification

- **Project Name:** Refugee Biodata Verification Application Programming Interface (API) System
- **Deployment Environment:** Web-based application
- **Target Users:** NSSF Staffs

Core Objectives

- Replace manual, email-based processes with automated, secure digital workflows.
- Ensure that refugee records are accurate and validated to prevent duplication and errors.
- Reduce verification and NSSF number issuance time from hours or days to minutes.

- Maintain adherence to Ugandan refugee regulations and international data protection standards.
- Support a growing refugee population with a robust and maintainable database architecture.

TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURE

Project Structure and Database Schema

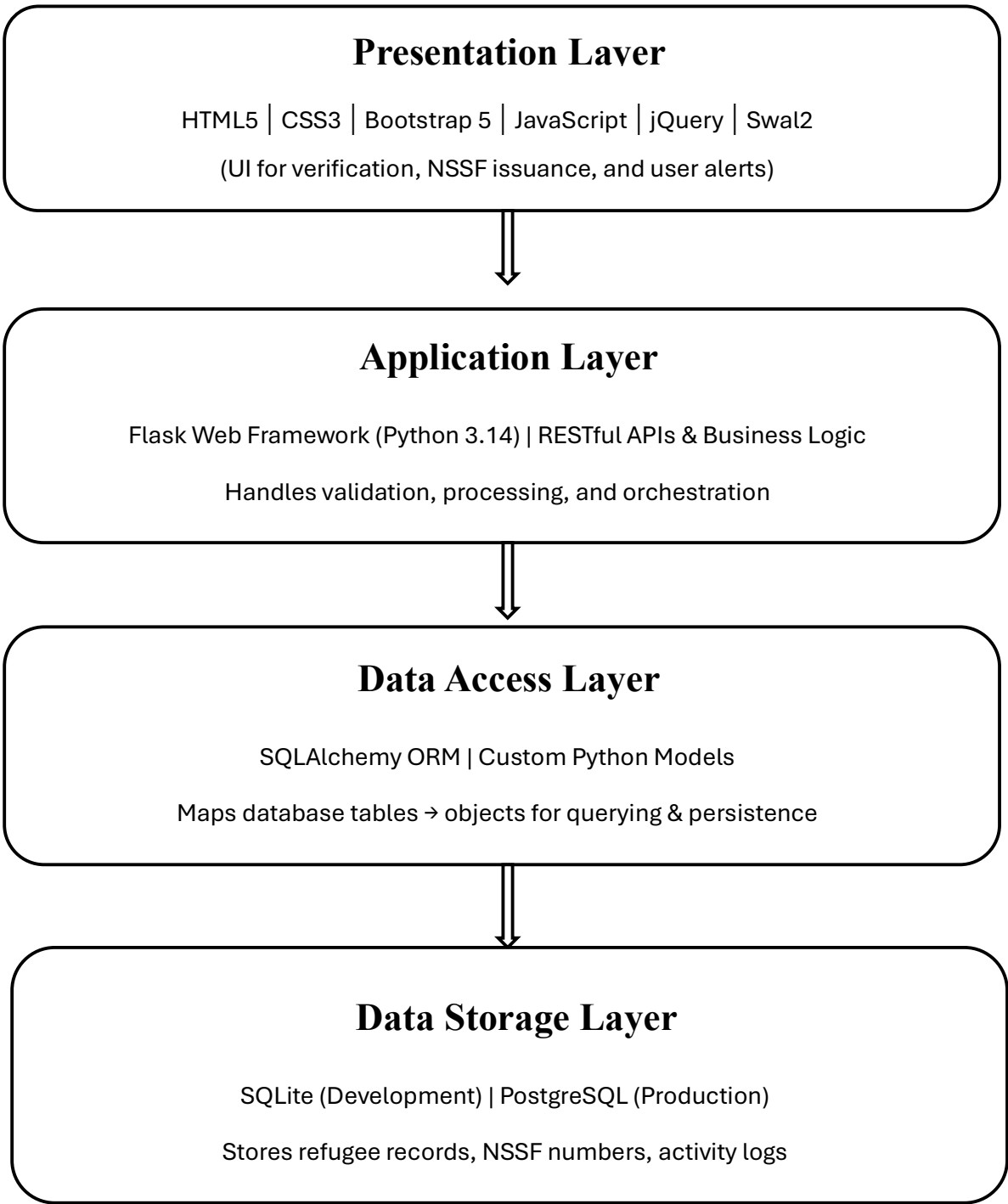
```

refugee_flask_app/
  _pycache_/
    models.cpython-314
  data/
    nssf_issuance_log.csv
    refugees.csv
    verification_status.csv
  instance/
    refugee.db
  routes/
    _init_.py
    refugee_routes.py
    verification_routes.py
  static/
    css/
      style.css
    js/
      script.js
  templates/
    404.html
    base.html
    case_details.html
    index.html
    verification.html
.env
app.py
config.py
create_db.py
create_table_data.py
insert_data.py
models.py
readme.md
refugees.db
requirements.text
update_country.py

```

System Architecture Diagram

The system follows a layered architecture to separate responsibilities and improve maintainability:



This structure allows for modular development and ensures that the system can scale efficiently without compromising security or performance.

Primary Table: refugees

```
PS C:\Users\Admin\Documents\refugee_flask_app> python create_db.py
Database refugee.db created successfully!
```

Check if details have been updated into the database by Going to your command line and typing “`cd C:\Users\Admin\Documents\refugee_flask_app`” so you can navigate to the actual project folder.

Open SQLite in Terminal by running “`sqlite3 refugees.db`”

Check if table exists by typing “`.tables`”

The name of my table is refugees and to be able to view some rows I typed this command. “`SELECT * FROM refugees LIMIT 10;`”

And below is the screenshot of the results. I was able to generate over 10,000 random records for all the columns to work with since I could not access a live environment and I also found it hard to find datasets to work with.

```
C:\Users\Admin>cd C:\Users\Admin\Documents\refugee_flask_app
C:\Users\Admin\Documents\refugee_flask_app>sqlite3 refugees.db
SQLite version 3.51.1 2025-11-28 17:28:25
Enter ".help" for usage hints.
sqlite> .tables
refugees
sqlite> SELECT * FROM refugees LIMIT 5;
UGA-00000001|Pending|FG-001|John Doe|4|35|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Kampala|1988-05-12|2025-12-12|
UGA-53076688|Closed|UGA-25-0000001|Jennifer Rollins|6|21|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Reedborough|1953-07-13|2025-07-23|
UGA-66318391|Active|UGA-21-0000002|Paige Evans|8|57|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Sandrafort|2021-06-19|2021-11-05|NSSF-5599
UGA-56679290|Active|UGA-21-0000003|Edgar Lawson|7|16|Female|Pakistan|Refugee|New Bruce|1962-07-24|2021-07-08|NSSF-7070
UGA-51403325|Closed|UGA-20-0000004|Andrea Morales|7|61|Female|Pakistan|Refugee|West Erica|1978-03-29|2020-11-05|
sqlite> SELECT * FROM refugees LIMIT 10;
UGA-00000001|Pending|FG-001|John Doe|4|35|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Kampala|1988-05-12|2025-12-12|
UGA-53076688|Closed|UGA-25-0000001|Jennifer Rollins|6|21|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Reedborough|1953-07-13|2025-07-23|
UGA-66318391|Active|UGA-21-0000002|Paige Evans|8|57|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Sandrafort|2021-06-19|2021-11-05|NSSF-5599
UGA-56679290|Active|UGA-21-0000003|Edgar Lawson|7|16|Female|Pakistan|Refugee|New Bruce|1962-07-24|2021-07-08|NSSF-7070
UGA-51403325|Closed|UGA-20-0000004|Andrea Morales|7|61|Female|Pakistan|Refugee|West Erica|1978-03-29|2020-11-05|
UGA-65877735|Active|UGA-21-0000005|Matthew Alexander|9|72|Female|Pakistan|Asylum Seeker|Fordview|2008-08-03|2021-11-11|NSSF-1755
UGA-63309171|Active|UGA-21-0000006|Justin Cunningham|8|37|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Port Danielle|1951-01-12|2021-02-12|NSSF-6430
UGA-48497059|Closed|UGA-23-0000007|Ernest Bentley|3|17|Female|Pakistan|Asylum Seeker|Port Sarahfort|1978-09-23|2023-02-27|
UGA-95681620|Closed|UGA-24-0000008|Frederick Jackson|3|37|Male|Pakistan|Refugee|Kellyberg|2011-11-07|2024-01-14|
UGA-34228451|Closed|UGA-23-0000009|Megan Parks|8|45|Male|Pakistan|Asylum Seeker|South Andrew|1980-08-12|2023-05-07|
sqlite> |
```

Some of the random individual numbers include.

UGA-00000001

UGA-53076688

UGA-66318391

UGA-56679290

UGA-51403325

RESPONSIVE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS AND ILLUSTRATIONS FROM THE ACTUAL APPLICATION

Pictorial explanation of the user interface and how it works with the logic embedded in the application can be shown in the below narrations. This Includes HTML layout, input validation, and responsive design. The UI responds dynamically to; Invalid cases, Minors (age < 18), Closed process status, Asylum seekers (ineligible), Already-issued NSSF numbers and Verified eligible refugees

Landing Page

National Social Security Fund

View Report

Refugee Verification Portal

Official System For Verifying Refugee Status Before Issuance of NSSF Numbers.

Both Ugandans and Foreigners/Refugees are eligible to register for NSSF. The employee's contribution amounts to 5 of their monthly wage, while the employer's contribution amounts to 10 of the employee's monthly wage. This new law allows for midterm access of members' benefits, with up to 20 Ugandans aged 45 years and above qualifying for up to 20 of their NSSF savings. The Fund covers all employers, irrespective of the number of employees between 16 and 55 years of age, except for those under the Government Pensions scheme. Employers are obliged to remit contributions to the Fund for their employees every month. Members can opt to receive payments if they reach the age of 50 and have already retired from regular employment.

Verify Refugee Status

Individual Number

Enter Individual Number (e.g., UGA-13975301)

Enter the unique refugee individual number. Format: UGA-00000000

VERIFY CASE

Need Help?

Format must be exactly: UGA-00000000

System contains records from 2005 to present

Enter individual number.

Verify Refugee Status

Individual Number

UGA-94820657

Enter the unique refugee individual number. Format: UGA-00000000

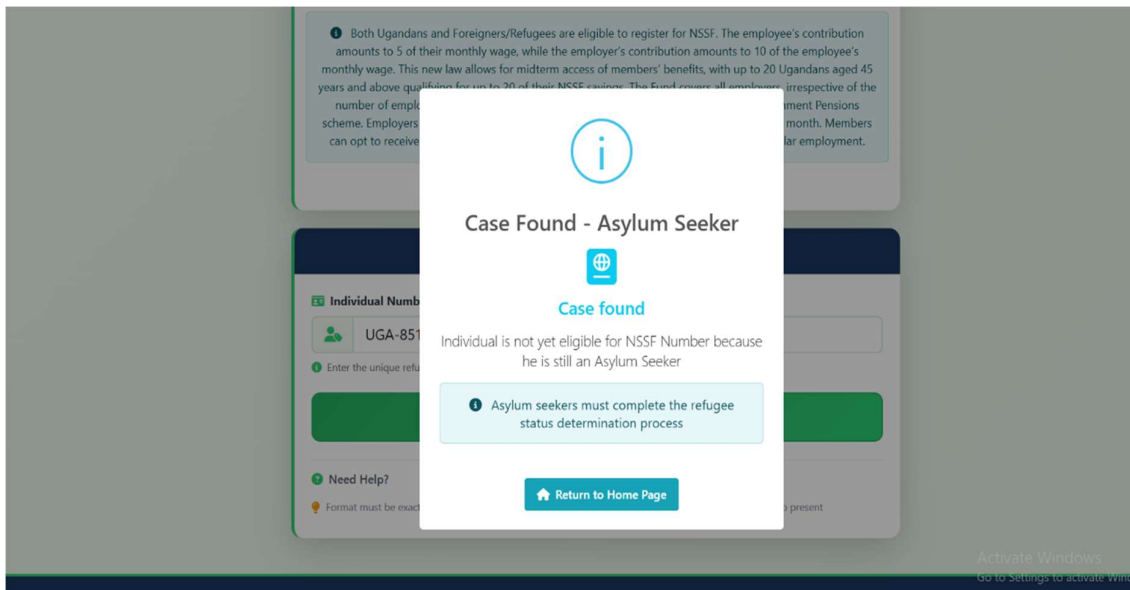
VERIFY CASE

Need Help?

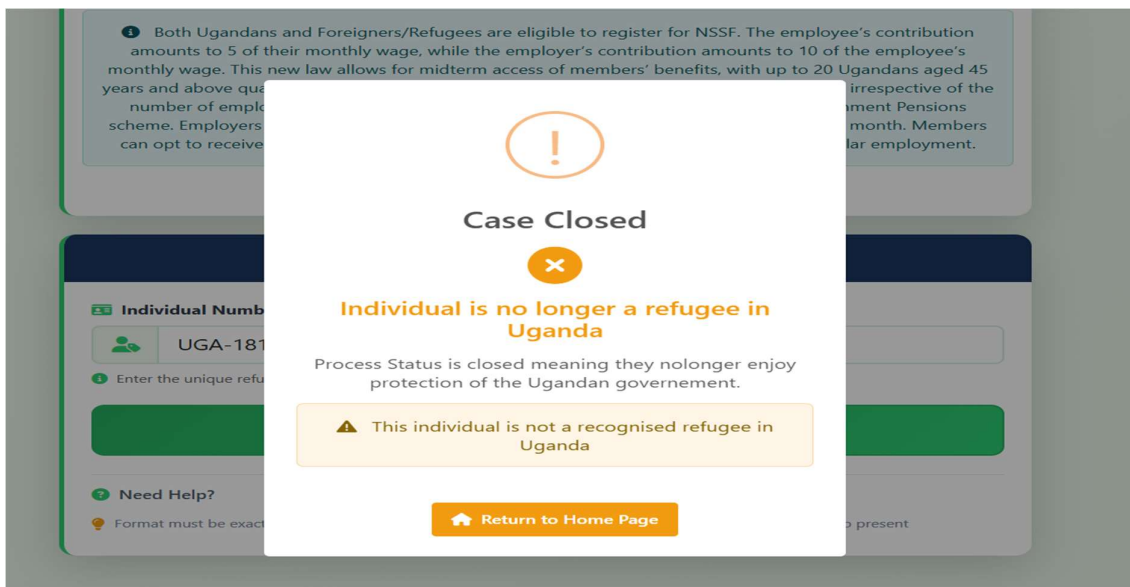
Format must be exactly: UGA-00000000

System contains records from 2005 to present

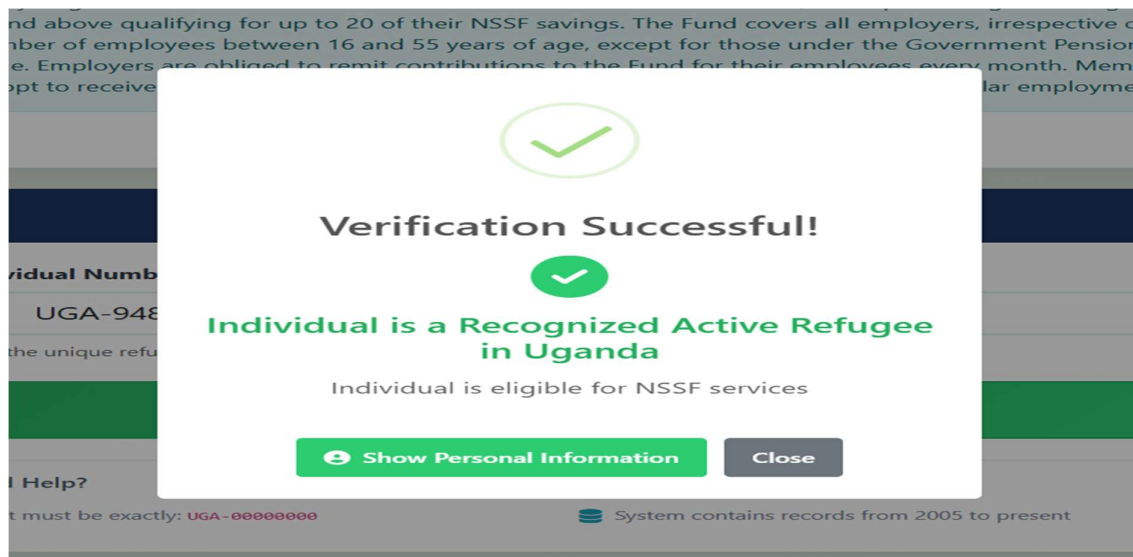
If the case is Active (process_status) and legal_status is an Asylum seeker it displays “case found -Asylum seeker and since Asylum seekers are not eligible for NSSF Numbers, it says “individual is not eligible for NSSF Number because he is an asylum seeker, asylum seekers must complete the refugee status determination process. It rejects the case nevertheless.



If the case has a process status of closed, irrespective whether they are refugees or asylum seekers, it rejects the case and returns a message saying individual is no longer a refugee in Uganda. Process status is closed meaning they no longer enjoy protection of the Ugandan government hence they do not qualify for any services in Uganda including NSSF. Snapshot below shows that pop-up.



If the case has been found, it displays a pop-up showing verification Successful and notifies the staff that the individual is a recognised Active refugee in Uganda and that the individual is eligible for NSSF services and prompts the user to either close or show personal information for more confirmation.



The screenshot below shows the personal information for verification and clearly shows the the NSSF number has not yet been issued. And prompts the user to proceed and issue Nssf number or return to the home page.

A form titled "Personal Information" with a user icon. It is divided into two columns: "Personal Details" and "Status Details".
Personal Details:
Individual No.: UGA-94820657
Full Name: Robert Dunlap
Age: 44 years
Gender: Male
Date of Birth: 1975-05-04
Status Details:
Legal Status: Refugee
Country of Origin: Pakistan
Registration Date: 2025-06-11
Location/Address: Raymondborough
Family Size: 10
Below these is a section titled "NSSF Status" with an orange header. It says "NSSF Number: Not Issued" in red, followed by "Click button below to issue" and "National Social Security Fund Identification". There is a "Secure ID" button with a shield icon. At the bottom are two large buttons: "Proceed and Issue NSSF Number" (green) and "Return to Main Page" (grey). Small text below the green button says "Generate and assign NSSF number" and below the grey button says "returns to main screen".

If the nssf number has already been issued, it will show that NSSF number already issued and it will deactivate the Proceed to issue NSSF button to prohibit the user from proceeding.

Personal Information

Personal Details

Individual No.:	UGA-94820657
Full Name:	Robert Dunlap
Age:	44 years
Gender:	Male
Date of Birth:	1975-05-04

Status Details

Legal Status:	Refugee
Country of Origin:	Pakistan
Registration Date:	2025-06-11
Location/Address:	Raymondborough
Family Size:	10

NSSF Status

NSSF Number:
NSSF976127
Issued just now
National Social Security Fund Identification

Secure ID

NSSF Issued
Generate and assign NSSF number

Return to Main Page
returns to main screen

If the client is active and a refugee but is below the age of 18, it will reject issuance of Nssf number stating that the client is a minor and is below the age of 18 and deactivate the proceed to issue nssf number button it will also highlight the age line on the personal details table clearly stating minor as seen below.

Personal Information

Personal Details

Individual No.:	UGA-10161878
Full Name:	Elizabeth Saunders
Age:	15 years Minor
Gender:	Male
Date of Birth:	1948-08-02

Status Details

Legal Status:	Refugee
Country of Origin:	Pakistan
Registration Date:	2025-09-13
Location/Address:	Catherineville
Family Size:	6

NSSF Status

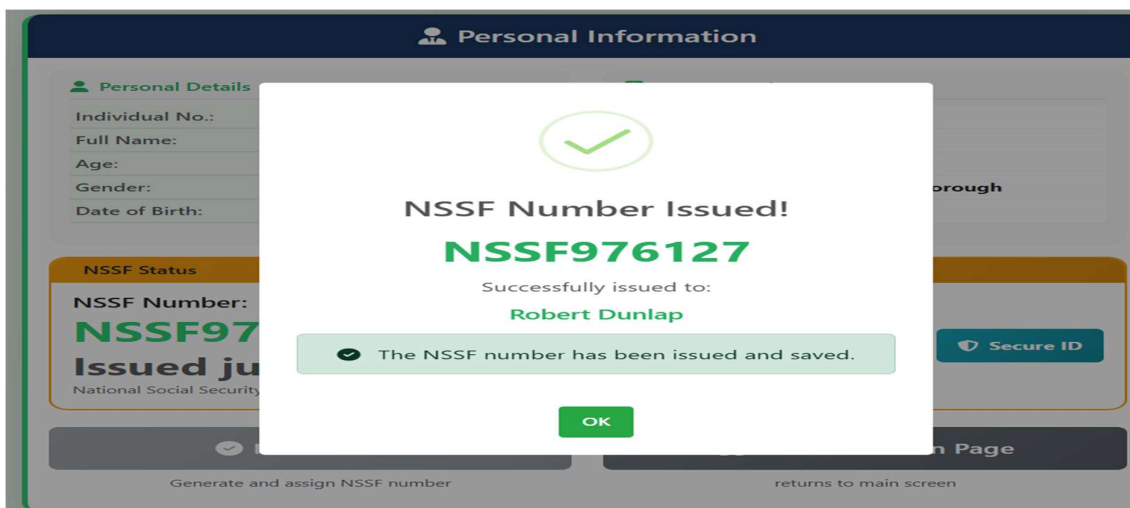
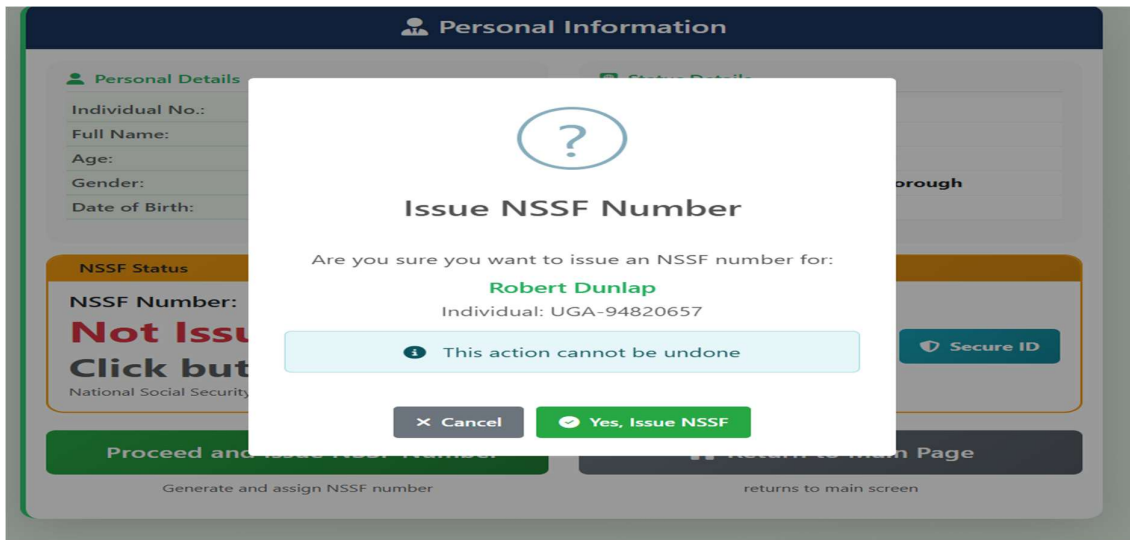
NSSF Number:
Cannot Issue - Minor
Age: 15 years (below 18)
National Social Security Fund Identification

Secure ID

Cannot Issue - Minor
Generate and assign NSSF number

Return to Main Page
returns to main screen

If everything is fine, it will proceed and issue the NSSF number accordingly below are screenshots of the last parts of the system.



Incase one needs to view the number of cases issued with Nssf numbers, they can click the view report link at the top right corner of the application to view the report and the report will be displayed as seen below.

The screenshot shows the 'NSSF Issuance Records' report. It features a table with columns: #, NSSF NUMBER, INDIVIDUAL NUMBER, FULL NAME, AGE, ISSUE DATE, and STATUS. The table contains 13 rows of data. A 'View Report' button is visible in the top right corner of the application interface.

#	NSSF NUMBER	INDIVIDUAL NUMBER	FULL NAME	AGE	ISSUE DATE	STATUS
1	NSSF-5599	UGA-66318391	Paige Evans	57	Invalid Date	Active
2	NSSF-7070	UGA-56679290	Edgar Lawson	16	Invalid Date	Active
3	NSSF-1755	UGA-65877735	Matthew Alexander	72	Invalid Date	Active
4	NSSF-6430	UGA-63309171	Justin Cunningham	37	Invalid Date	Active
5	NSSF-8748	UGA-64333323	Haley Wallace	30	Invalid Date	Active
6	NSSF-5640	UGA-43260738	Steven Phillips	66	Invalid Date	Active
7	NSSF-8740	UGA-20484531	Andrea Jacobs	8	Invalid Date	Active
8	NSSF-6518	UGA-60511300	Joe Brennan	16	Invalid Date	Active
9	NSSF-8644	UGA-99020261	Kim Cruz	41	Invalid Date	Active
10	NSSF370811	UGA-48454797	Erika Hernandez	6	Dec 12, 2025, 05:05 AM	Active
11	NSSF851489	UGA-89860852	Yolanda Aguilar	67	Dec 12, 2025, 04:49 AM	Active
12	NSSF178594	UGA-86436091	Cheryl Cannon	8	Dec 12, 2025, 04:13 AM	Active
13	NSSF830787	UGA-90091748	Kelsey Wall	29	Invalid Date	Active

DEPLOYMENT ARCHITECTURE

Production Stack:

- └Web Server: Nginx 1.22+*
- └Application Server: Gunicorn 20.1+*
- └Database: PostgreSQL 14+ / MySQL 8+*
- └Cache: Redis 7+*
- └File Storage: AWS S3 / DigitalOcean Spaces*
- └Monitoring: Prometheus + Grafana*

MONITORING & MAINTENANCE

Key Performance Indicators

- Uptime: 99.9% SLA
- Response Time: < 2 seconds
- Data Accuracy: 100% verification accuracy

Maintenance Schedule

- Daily: Database backups, log rotation
- Weekly: Security updates, performance optimization
- Monthly: Full system audit, data integrity checks
- Quarterly: Major updates, feature enhancements

COMPLIANCE & REGULATIONS

- Uganda Data Protection Act (2019)
- UNHCR Data Protection Policy
- ISO 27001 Information Security Management

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Submitted by Name: Noel Ikwap

Access Number: B35094

Registration Number: S25M19/017

Class: Master of Science in Data Science and Analy cs