



Security situation in Northern Uganda and West Nile areas

- West Nile has been separated from Northern Uganda to form an Independent Security Risk Management Area covering the districts of Pakwach, Nebbi, Zombo, Arua, Maracha, Koboko, Yumbe and Moyo. Two new districts, Obongi and Madi Okollo – created out of Moyo and Arua respectively – will become operational in July 2019.
- Civil unrest has occurred in Palorinya, Bidibidi and Omugo refugee settlements. However, with the help of Uganda police and local leaders these issues have been controlled and United Nations operations have managed to go ahead with minor interruptions. The protests have chiefly been around employment, food distribution methods and lack of clean water.
- The major security threats facing the region during the reporting period have been civil unrest; crime; hazards such as road traffic accidents; and disease outbreaks, with Ebola just across the border in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other cases of pneumonic plague, anthrax and measles reported in some of the refugee settlements. Awareness about these contagious diseases and on how to avoid contracting the diseases has been disseminated to staff through the district health team who have been running programmes on FM radio stations.

West Nile refugee/host population update as of end 2018

District	Arua	Yumbe	Moyo	Adjumani	Koboko	Lamwo
Refugees	157,661	224,095	119,201	203,200	5,194	38,953
Host population	846,491	584,221	147,997	170,029	236,900	139,093
%	16%	28%	45%	54%	2%	22%

Key interventions of United Nations agencies & partners; alignment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

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United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): SDG 8, 15 and 17

- In partnership with World Vision, Volunteers Effort for Development Concern and Living Earth Uganda, UNDP is implementing a project on 'Strengthening the Humanitarian-Development Nexus in Responding to the South Sudanese Refugee Crisis in West Nile, Northern Uganda and 'Emergency livelihood support through cash for work for in Arua, Yumbe and Moyo districts. These activities benefitted both refugees and host communities: As of end of Dec, 3,500 beneficiaries accomplished 30 days of Cash for Work activities including the opening and rehabilitation of 358.2 km of road; woodlot tree planting across 30.6 acres; construction of two markets of 32 stalls, one community hall, 23 garbage pits, 10 culvert linings, a drainage channel of 2.1km, two stance pit latrines and fencing for one market and a football pitch.
- 666 beneficiaries were selected (461 female and 205 male) from Arua and 346 from Moyo were trained in financial management, entrepreneurship and business skills, formed 42 village savings and loan association (VSLA) groups and developed strategic business plans for work including retail, animal trading and marketing (pigs, goats, chicken and ducks), fishing and fish marketing, mill grinding, DSTV, tailoring and second-hand clothing sales. These projects have resulted in improved sanitation and hygiene, security and safety, and access to major social and economic services like schools, markets, water access points (boreholes) and health centres.



3km of community road sections before, during and after (L>R) construction, connecting Longamere primary school (refugees) to Imvepi health centre and

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) SDG 16

- From 1st to 5 October 2018 OHCHR, in partnership with the Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC), conducted two trainings on Gender Equity planning and budgeting. The overall objective of the trainings was to build the capacity of district local governments on gender and equity planning and budgeting. Head of districts, departments, and LCVs from Amuru, Arua, Adjumani, Koboko, Nebbi districts Lira b Agago, Dokolo, Kole, Kitgum and Lira districts participated. A total of 71 men and 11 women attended the training.
- OHCHR held a training on human rights and gender-sensitive reporting for journalists from Acholi and Lango sub-regions, prioritizing the participation of women journalists. Specific objectives of this training included 1) to understand the current situation of women journalists, identify the risks/threats and/or violations against women journalists and what measures to take to address them and 2) to understand the need for a gender-sensitive reporting approach by media. The training brought together 48 journalist participants, including 28 women from the Acholi and Lango subregions.
- OHCHR held two joint monitoring missions with the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) in the Lango and Acholi subregions, aimed at strengthening the capacity of UHRC to address critical human rights concerns. During both missions, OHCHR and UHRC held group interviews with detainees (women and men), discussions and advocacy with local authorities, especially the law enforcement officials, to address human rights concerns recorded. The joint team met also with CSOs to gather information on the human rights situation in both sub regions. Following the advocacy of the joint monitoring team with local law enforcement authorities during these missions, several victims of arbitrary arrest or/and detention were released from police cells and prisons.

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United Nations World Food Programme (WFP): SDG 2 and 17

- WFP successfully rolled out new biometrics-based food and cash collection procedures in the remaining three settlements of Palorinya, Adjumani and Bidibidi; provide food assistance to crisis-affected households to support the improvement of nutrition in refugee settlements and in collaboration with partners implemented the Targeting Supplementary Feeding Programme, Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) programmes in all settlements.
- WFP, together with an NGO, Right To Play, conducted a community stakeholders dialogue meeting on school meals programming to explore potential areas of partnership on 14 November in Adjumani district
- Support community asset creation: WFP's partnership with the International Lifeline Fund was introduced to various stakeholders including the DLG in Lobule refugee settlement, Koboko district to implement the Safe Access to Fuel Energy project.
- Prevent & treat chronic & acute malnutrition: WFP progressively integrated programme activities to support nutrition programmes in refugee hosting districts and improve links with food security and livelihood interventions which includes MCHN (pilot approach without food support); nutrition mass screening and promotion of IYCF.

- Link



WFP nutrition programming in action

smallholder farmers to markets: WFP supported Nyamahasa Area Cooperative Enterprise to sell over 1,224 bags of white maize in Kiryandongo district as a part of the WFP contribution to shortlisted farmers organisations for smallholders food procurement.

- Reduce post-harvest losses: The WFP Gulu field office supported bulking and sales activities at Satellite Collection Points (SCPs). A total of 61,200,000 Ugandan shillings' worth

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women): SDG 5, 8

- UN Women, through the generous support of donors Norway, Sweden and UN CERF, supported South Sudanese refugees and host women and men through the comprehensive Leadership, Empowerment, Access and Protection programme.
- During commemoration of the 16 days of activism campaign against SGBV in the districts of Adjumani, Yumbe and Moyo through tailored training, radio talk shows, information sessions, community policing, and stakeholder dialogues. As a result, a total of 1907 (1366 female and 541 male) refugees, host community members and key stakeholders such as district officials, the police, judiciary, health service providers and media gained knowledge on the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and of sexual exploitation and abuse.
- A Gender Reference Working Group (GRWG) for the humanitarian context was established in partnership with Adjumani DLG comprised of 8 women's rights organisations, 7 I/NGOs working on promoting gender equality and district officials from health, education, production and community development departments. The GRWG will promote and offer

guidance on accountability, engagement and knowledge management; and provide coordination and leadership on gender equality and women's empowerment for the humanitarian community

- To empower women and men with basic knowledge and skills in literacy and numeracy. Un women in partnership with Refugee Law Project enabled 259 learners to take the Level One English for Adults examinations and 191 (166 female, 25 male) obtained above the average of 50%, while 67 (63 female, four male) obtained below the average of 50%. The learners can read, write and speak basic English.
- A total of 474 refugee and host community women and 740 men accessed legal aid on cases related to rape, defilement, domestic violence, family neglect by husbands, return of bride price and custody of children. 1,224 refugee and host women attained reduced symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. These graduated from the End Violence Against Women psychosocial CBTT sessions and acquired skills in business development, savings, and enterprise selection; and were supported with income generating projects.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- UNFPA supported Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) to undertake demand generation for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and GBV services through setting up and managing platforms for the provision of SRHR/GBV and gender rights & information to beneficiaries under the Women, Adolescents and Youth Rights Empowerment (WAY) program. 174 anti GBV school clubs in schools, 49 women and girls' spaces for psychosocial counseling and 65 male action groups were established across the Northern and West Nile regions along with 593 SASA activities in 65 sub-counties of Lamwo, Adjumani, Moyo and Arua districts. An additional 4,860 highly vulnerable out-of-school girls aged 15-19 have formed 162 groups across these districts with the participation of 30 girls in each group for income generating activities.
- UNFPA through implementing partners CARE, the International Rescue Committee, and the Agency for Coordinated Research and Development conducted 92 mobile integrated outreach services on SRHR/GBV in refugee settlements and continued to support SRHR/GBV service provision to refugees and host communities in Adjumani, Moyo, Lamwo Yumbe and Kiryandongo, allocating 16 midwives to 15 selected health facilities and procuring and distributing 16 delivery beds to Arua, Moyo, Lamwo and Kiryandongo refugee hosting districts at 16 selected health facilities. As a result, 52,917 affected people and 27,591 adolescents were reached with SRH/HIV/GBV services, 143 sexual violence survivors provided with post rape services and 1,597 GBV survivors supported/referred for other services, 2,713 women who have delivered were provided with dignity kits and 1,688 pregnant women were referred for emergency obstetric care through strengthened ambulance system and addition support was provided for 92 mobile clinics/outreaches, to 50 health facilities to provide emergency obstetric care and 49 health facilities to provide clinical management of rape services.
- UNFPA and the Government of Uganda, led by the National Population Council, conducted a joint district monitoring and coordination strengthening mission to the districts of Yumbe, Moyo, Adjumani and Lamwo. The objective was to identify bottlenecks to improving the quality of delivered services and interventions to the refugee and national populations in the districts supported by UNFPA and generate field evidence for the 2019 annual planning process.
- UNFPA also provided technical support in the assessment of Obongi HCIV to offer services as a second Comprehensive Emergency Obstetrics and Neonatal Care site and distributed 12 tents to support sexual reproductive health services in Lamwo (Palabek), Moyo (Palorinya), Arua (Invepi), and Kiryandongo; each received three tents.
- UNFPA, through the Communications for Development Foundation Uganda, supported the districts with seven radio talk shows for Yumbe, Moyo, Adjumani and Arua. Through Reach A Hand Uganda, UNFPA reached 6,962 out of school young people aged 10 – 15 and engaged them in table talk events.
- For successful implementation of the UNFPA programs, direct support was provided by UNFPA program field staff to districts to coordinate implementing partner activities under the CERF

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- UNICEF supported community-based services to help coordinate and strengthen the child protection systems as part of its broader support for child protection at district level in Kitgum. The district has formed subcommittees for case management which will support the probation office in following up cases of violence against children within the justice, law and order sector. Before these coordination committees, many cases of child abuse and violence against children (VAC) were manipulated and the cases dismissed by courts of law as the case files of these incidents got lost.
- The case management committee, chaired by the probation officer, intervened and reported two cases of defilement and aggravated defilement to higher police authorities. The perpetrators were arrested, and the cases are now sanctioned and already before court for hearing.
- In addition, the subcounty authorities in partnership with non-governmental organizations averted a case of child marriage where a 16-year old was to be married. The subcounty authorities immediately intervened by arresting 10 people who were participating in the marriage function. The matter was communicated to the probation officer, who also linked up with the police child family protection unit to have the perpetrators brought to book. The perpetrators were charged with procuring defilement and the case is ongoing, with the case management committee following up closely.
- The sub counties, which formerly saw 15-20 cases of VAC and child abuse per month, are now reporting less than three cases per month thanks to the help of these child protection subcommittees.