INTERVENTIONS OF BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT DONORS

How they support both refugees and their hosts

Examples from the CRRF in Uganda

Field Visit Northern Uganda
26 Nov. - 3 Dec 2018
Empowering Local Authorities

JICA is resolved to address the resource and capacity gap that fails to cater for increased development and service delivery needs at the local level.

In response to the refugee influx, JICA was one of the very few bilaterals to open a sub-office in Arua, Northern Uganda, in 2017.

In the spirit of GCR, JICA works to strengthen institutional capacities and infrastructure at local level, including through funding and capacity building.

Advocating for a strong role of district local government (DLG) to ensure greater sustainability of the refugee response, JICA has reinvigorated participatory planning (district, sub-county, parish, village levels) and helps districts with budgeting. Planning tools were introduced, to foster evidence-based prioritization of resource allocations. 17 districts (planners, parish chiefs, community development officers) were trained to use these tools.

"We now have clear and credible prioritization criteria.

- District Planner"
76% of sub-counties in West Nile have used the planning tool during the 2018-2019 planning cycle.

The local government officials of the three districts (Arua, Yumbe, Koboko) now own and use the tools.
For the first time this year, lower local governments have their own line of budget (See Local Government Planning Services in table 1). This is expected to enable local governments to assess the needs of the communities and provide service delivery and development interventions to match the needs.

In response to the refugee influx, a senior advisor from Tokyo, Dr. Hanatani, works since July 2017 in a JICA sub-office in Arua, while a Japanese district planner expert, Satomi Kamei, is embedded in the Arua local district government office.
Table 1: A sample budget of a sub-county in Northern Uganda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>ASSOCIATED LG MANDATE</th>
<th>LG SELECTED MANDATE FOR EXPENDITURE FY 2019/20</th>
<th>ALLOCATION (BUDGET) FY 2019/20 IN UGX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-county Administration</td>
<td>• Coordination of LG activities monitoring, organization</td>
<td>Stationary Monitoring</td>
<td>1,000,000 2,000,000 1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Records management, public relations</td>
<td>Monitoring Record management and coordination of sub-county activities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Management &amp; Accountability</td>
<td>• Revenue mobilization, budgeting, financial management and accountability</td>
<td>Revenue mobilization</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Budgeting</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial management and accountability</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Statutory Bodies</td>
<td>• Council, SEC, standing committees: policy formulation and budgets, monitoring of administration</td>
<td>Council and standing committee, approval of plan and budget</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Land Board: processing land rights/land administration issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Planning Services</td>
<td>• Coordination of planning function, data management (MIS, surveys, etc.), reporting, M&amp;E</td>
<td>Coordination of planning function</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Data Management M&amp;E</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Oversight of PFM / management of internal controls, reporting and recommendations to Council</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Audit (Town Council Specific)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12,800,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amidst the unfolding refugee influx in mid-2016, the European Union through the EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) started an EUR 20 million Support Programme for Refugees and Host Communities in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU) programme. This 4-year programme aims to reduce the risk of violent conflict between host communities and refugees in the refugee-hosting districts of Northern Uganda, namely Adjumani, Arua, Kiryandongo and Yumbe, through improving their living conditions by enhancing food security, inter-community dialogue and conflict prevention, and provision of basic services such as education, water and sanitation.
A host community group started with 20 beehives in June 2016. First harvest was three liters, the second now already eight liters, sold at 20,000 UGX per liter.

Cassava, sesame, potatoes, eggplants... visible results of the group’s agri-production.

With their grand mills machine, the farmer group can make up to 40-60,000 UGX a day.

A Rural Development Component

Implemented through an NGO Consortium

226 groups @ 25 members

Number of people assisted in developing income-generating activities:

25,000 Beneficiaries

50% HOSTS 50% REFUGEES

This farmer group (25 members – 13 refugees, 12 nationals) started their activities in February 2017. They received training in participatory agri-enterprise development for 6 months, followed by village savings and loan association training (VSLA). On basis of a business plan, they received a grant of average $1,000 - mainly agricultural inputs (e.g. seeds). Through initial inputs received, they now sustain themselves, with 1,7mill UGX saved since Feb 2017. Advisory accompanying services are provided during 3 years on weekly basis.
Complementing income generating activities, the SPRS-NU programme also aims at preventing, mitigating and resolving the most prevalent conflicts among refugees and host communities. This includes resolving natural resources & other disputes through conflict mitigation with (a) local leaders, (b) elderly, (c) religious leaders. 9,170 beneficiaries were trained through ZOA (Arua and Yumbe) in (1) resource management, (2) conflict sensitivity, (3) conflict resolution.

"ZOA brought us together."

Beneficiaries talk about issues that were resolved through dialogue.
Another component of the SPRS-NU programme is the AEP component for school drop-outs, running since 2017 in 7 centers.

Accelerated Education Program for 4040 children (across 4 districts) aged 10-17.

A compressed curricula that summarizes 6-7 years of education in 2-3 years. Once children caught-up they are able to join formal school.
Through Livelihoods support, the SPRS-NU has created more than 5000 jobs in the four targeted districts. For instance in Kiryandongo district, the programme targets 204 groups (5100 individuals) in achieving food security and income.

Skills4Jobs

The SPRS-NU, through Enabel, supports Skilling Uganda livelihood and labour market relevant skills development for refugees and host communities. Exams are certified by the Directorate of Industrial training/Ministry of Education.
Through implementation by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the programme contributes to moving away from emergency provisions to sustainable and permanent water and sanitation arrangement. The programme is jointly implemented with the Ministry of Water in order to ensure sustainability of the actions. Only in Kiryandongo, the newly created water pump station will provide water for 31,000 people in the Kiryandongo settlement. It will also serve nearly 20,000 members of the host community within 4-6 km.

31K people, mainly in Kiryandongo will be provided with water

20K members of the host community within 6-4km will also be served
The Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative (NURI) is one of the three engagements in the Danish Country Programme 2018-2022, under the thematic area - Uganda Programme on Sustainable & Inclusive Development of the Economy (UPSIDE). NURI is implemented in 11 districts in the Acholi and West Nile sub-regions.

NURI aims to enhance resilience and equitable economic development in the supported areas of Northern Uganda, including for refugees and host communities.

A DANIDA-supported integrated group (refugees/hosts) built a community access road (6.3km).
NURI promotes:
1. climate smart agriculture
2. agriculture-related rural infrastructure
3. water resources management

The project plans to increase agricultural production and annual agricultural cash income of 120,000 households (including refugees and nationals) by 20%, and significantly reduce the number of households that report periods of food insecurity. Local governments approve, supervise and monitor activities and provides coordination with related activities. Local NGOs and programme units implement the CSA activities, while rural and water infrastructure is implemented by DRC, with water activities planned under the Ministry of Water and Environment.

From July 2017 to December 2018 a number of NURI pilot activities were run parallel with the predecessor RDNUC. The first quarter of 2019 was the inception phase, with implementation commencing in April 2019. Since then a good agricultural season has got NURI field activities off to a good start.

The total budget for NURI is DKK 285 mill (or UGX 164 bill. or USD 47.1)
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

Linking humanitarian and development approaches: The “WAY” Programme

With support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark/ Danida, UNFPA is implementing the ‘Women, Adolescents and Youth Rights and Empowerment’ (WAY) programme. The five-year programme (2018-2022) targets both refugees and Ugandans in 8 selected districts in Northern Uganda. The aim is to empower women and young people in Northern Uganda, including refugees, to contribute to their own and their communities’ development through the realization of their right to live healthy and productive lives. Programme interventions are based on an integrated approach to gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, as well as socio-economic empowerment.

At the end of the programme in 2022, it is expected that utilization of SRHR and GBV services among young people and women in Northern Uganda, including refugees, will have increased, resulting in 1,591,830 women and young people leading more healthy and productive lives.
Since Dec. 2016, 130,000 pregnant women and over 550,000 children under five receive support through UNICEF’s Health Systems Strengthening approach, that is building capacity and the systems of the national hospitals to reduce neonatal mortality. New technology was introduced (eg. resuscitation machines), midwives and doctors recruited and trained.

Neo-natal intensive care unit was just inaugurated in Arua Regional Hospital with SIDA funds.
VisionFund (VF) has 92 branches in Uganda, but none in the West Nile. Before expanding their operation in West Nile, VF has completed a feasibility and market assessment with 200 VSLAs (village saving and loan associations) and farmer groups, engaged with both refugee and host community in different settlements.

Through the assessment, VF has identified 3 geographical areas in West Nile to open branches and has developed 4 new financial products for refugees and low-income nationals. The products are: Savings Group Linkage Loan for VSLAs, Safety Net/Asset Loan for farmers groups, Group Loan for Business for non-farmer groups, and Commercial Agriculture. In this 3-year project, VF will open 3 branches in Moyo, Adumani, and Yumbe. VF’s target is 3000 clients for 2019 starting with Moyo and expand from there.

With this 3-year project, VF will pilot cashless and paperless lending and repayment and embedded financial education modules (4 modules) for the first time in Uganda. VF will track social impact (improvements in school enrollment, health access, etc.) of these products to the clients using an app currently under development.
The Netherlands feel that District Local Governments (DLG) have a key role to play in transitioning from short-term emergency response interventions to long-term development solutions. Their “Nexus programme” is a capacity development programme implemented by VNG International—supported district local government to manage the refugee influx within Adjumani, Koboko and Yumbe DLGs.

The programme assisted amongst others in scenario planning, discussed roles and responsibilities in the refugee space between national and local government and assisted in conducting the mid-term review in preparation of the next district development plan, to ensure the inclusion of both host community and refugee challenges. They also supported Koboko in conducting a self-settled (urban) refugee study, which were accounted for the first time (23,216 in population of 60,000).
Germany

Clean drinking water

Motorized solar pump stations - Welthungerhilfe (WHH) has drilled 59 wells, and outfitted 5 of them with large solar-powered pumps, altogether providing clean drinking water for 30,000 people every day.

The first motorized solar pump water station. This pump in Imvepi settlement runs since April 2018. The pump produces now 100,000L per day with 28 solar panels.

Others are under construction at Imvepi settlement:
Vocational Training with Job Placement

Germany supported Welthungerhilfe in the set up of a unique of its-kind vocational training center in the settlement of Siripi. 400 youth (refugees/host) are receiving/have received 6 months hands-on training in carpentry, tailoring, welding, building, hospitality, followed by 2-3 month internships in private sector companies.

Start-up kits are provided (800,000 UGX average), here in Rhino settlement, women running their tailoring business from home, and men running a carpentry workshop:

92% of trained youths who have started micro-businesses (self-employed) or jobs (employed) after graduation & earning income.
78 farmer groups (2340 beneficiaries) – 50/50 refugees/hosts - are currently being trained by Welthungerhilfe throughout the life cycle of crops, from planting to harvesting (6 months). Since inception, 26,000 individuals in the FFS households have been reached.

One of the farmer field groups with their savings of 3,5mill UGX (first 6 months of activity in 2018).
Farmer Field Schools

Trained by WHH

26,000 Individuals Reached

2,340 Beneficiaries

“You can do 20 times the work in a day with an oxen-pulled plow” says a farmer.

WHH provided 1000 oxen to groups of farmers.
Germany funded the maternity ward in Ocea Zone, Rhino camp, Arua district. Women no longer deliver their babies in tents on the floor; have new health standards with piped water.
Co-funded by Japan, the 3x6 approach is a model for economic development of most vulnerable groups developed by UNDP and Japan to help the transition from immediate humanitarian needs to longer term development.

UNDP targets 1250 beneficiaries (60% women at risk). With support from Japan ($1,5mill), the 3x6 approach runs from UNDP sub-offices in Gulu and Yumbe since April 2018.

Beneficiaries are enrolled in cash-for-work (community infrastructure, tree planting), a saving scheme, business training and a top-up grant to start their micro-enterprise.

“First time I have money in hand”, Mofua from South Sudan.