TOGETHER AGAINST INEQUALITY

UGANDA COUNTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018





ABOUT OXFAM IN UGANDA

Oxfam is an International confederation of 20 organizations working together with partners and local communities in more than 90 countries around the globe; working to find practical, innovative ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive.

In Uganda, Oxfam started work in the 1960s, partnering with local Organizations, volunteers and supporters as well as poor communities to bring about developmental change. We believe that fundamental change will happen in Uganda with a shift in policies and practices, and when citizens are able to exercise and claim their rights and responsibilities as enshrined in the Constitution.

OUR VISION

A Uganda free of extreme inequality and Injustice: A society where citizens (and particularly) across all age groups claim and exercise their rights and responsibilities and are able to influence decisions that affect their lives.

Our one country program is hinged on three thematic goals, which aim to promote women's rights, good governance and accountability, resilient livelihoods, as well as enhance preparedness, reduce vulnerability to disaster and ensure an effective response to humanitarian crises.



























COMMITMENT TO FIGHT INEQUALITY

2017/2018, MOBILISING PEOPLE AGAINST INEQUALITY

Working with our staff, partners and networks, we rallied citizens to influence their leaders, the policies and structures against inequality. We witnessed women and men actively participate in decisions that affect their lives and in many fronts openly speak out against poor services and the imbalances this creates.

Our work this year was anchored on our inequality report 'Who is Growing?' that was released in March 2017. The report showed that the prevailing imbalance in Uganda is further promoted by national investment choices in health, education and agriculture that do not speak to the needs of the citizens. This has left the richest 20 percent of the population growing richer while the poorest 20 percent is growing poorer.

This rising inequality is a threat to Uganda's future and it is the reason we brought all our resources together to address the different drivers. We carried out research

and engaged with the public and the government on addressing issues such as land, tax justice, women's economic empowerment, extractives and humanitarian crisis, where inequality is highly evident.

This annual report is our opportunity to express gratitude and showcase the impact our work with your support had on addressing the issue of inequality and transforming thousands of lives. It is a celebration of every staff, partners, media, donors, service providers and global colleagues and networks that contributed towards our vision of a Uganda free from extreme inequality and injustice.

OUR COUNTRY STRATEGY FOCUSES ON

- Deepening governance & accountability processes.
- Fostering resilient livelihoods.
 - Strengthening humanitarian capacity as well as responding to humanitarian crises.

We do this through three programme themes, with women's rights at the center



THEMATIC GOAL 1: GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Oxfam is working to ensure that Vulnerable Women, youth and men have increased space for and role in contributing meaningfully to decision—making in development processes and holding Governments, Private sector, Social Institutions and Civil Society Organisations accountable.

We are building active citizenship around taxes & budget allocation, extractives and women leadership.



THEMATIC GOAL 2: RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

Focus is on ensuring that vulnerable women, youth, marginalized men and other vulnerable groups in a range of Ugandan livelihood settings are economically empowered and enjoy their rights to food as well as have increased incomes.

Under this theme, we focus on promoting land and seed rights for women and pastoralists, engendered value chain and markets, private sector engagement, climate change adaptation, youth employment, and addressing Gender Based Violence (GBV) and unpaid care work for women.



THEMATIC GOAL 3: HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

We work to empower vulnerable women, youth and men with skills and knowledge so that they are able to mitigate and cope with shocks and enjoy their rights to a life with dignity. In cases of disaster, Oxfam works together with partners to provide lifesaving assistance that meets the needs of those affected.

We strengthen humanitarian capacity at local level to ensure better, quicker and cost-effective preparedness and response to humanitarian situations.

PROGRAMME REACH

1,054,114TOTAL (REACHED)

50.3%
WOMEN/GIRLS



334,975

PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH GOVERNANCE WORK



62,421

PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH OUF RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS WORK



635,763

PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE ACTION



20,955

PEOPLE REACHED WITH OUR WOMEN'S RIGHTS EFFORTS PARTICULARLY IN WOMEN LEADERSHIP AND ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT OUR WOMEN'S RIGHTS WORK CUTS ACROSS ALL OUR PROGRAMMING.

COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The Oxfam year 2017/18 has again been a successful year characterized by Oxfam in Uganda stepping up its campaign around inequality and responding to the refugee crisis caused by the continued violence and insecurity in South Sudan and towards the end of the year, DRC. This year's guiding theme for the Oxfam programme has been the fight against inequality, which was highlighted by the successful release of our Inequality Report "Who is Growing?" in 2017. This report drew in a lot of attention and propelled the debate around growing inequality in Uganda and its drivers.

This annual report shows the width of the Oxfam programme in Uganda towards addressing this growing inequality, ranging from supporting refugees to defending civic space, from addressing governance issues within the extractives sector to improving value chains so that farmers increase their income resulting from the produce, as well as supporting local and national actors to take on the frontline positions in emergency response. All these initiatives have been undertaken with a clear focus on gender relations and women leadership.

Throughout the year, our programme has been growing considerably, resulting in larger organization, more partners, more donors and more projects.

Without the trust and support of our partners (national partners and donors alike) and the dedicated staff, it would not have been possible to deliver the programme of which the summary is contained in this report. This is also the place to thank our donors, partners as well as the staff for all their trust and efforts over the last year. Without them the achievements reflected in this report would not have been possible.

A last reflection concerns the crisis that hit Oxfam in early 2018. Oxfam has already taken many steps to avoid such crises re-occurring in the future and will continue to do so, so that Oxfam is a safe organization for those who work for it, a reliable partner for those who support it and for those whom it aims to assist. This is a responsibility of all who work for and with Oxfam.

Let us work to make the coming year even better and more impactful.

Vincent Koch

VINCENT KOCH

Country Director







LAND AS A DRIVER OF INEQUALITY RESEARCH

Oxfam's Inequality report (2017) indicated that productive resources, particularly land could be a driver of inequality if the issues of use, access and control are not well addressed. In September 2017, Oxfam commissioned a study to interrogate how land perpetrates inequality in Uganda and provide policy proposals and actions that will address inequality

arising from land ownership, access and use.

The report established that land is a major driver of inequality because of its dual role as a factor of production and a store of value. It further interrogates how land governance (laws, policies, regulations and institutions) can create and

propagate inequality in income and wealth. It identified the notable features of land that influence inequality to include: size available to an individual; security of tenure within the context of multiple tenure systems; marginalization arising from cultural beliefs and practices in relation to age and gender; the type of livelihood that these attributes of land can support; and structure of legal and institutional structures that determine usage and sharing of social and political power.

We hope that with this report, we will engage meaningfully in influencing land governance in the country. We shall use the finding to inform actions like public campaigns and other influencing engagements on legal and policy processes in the country.

CASE STUDY

Following the completion of the study, Oxfam had the opportunity to make a poster presentation to different actors at the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, 2018 in Washington DC. We used this platform to call upon global actors (UN, WB, IMF) to implore governments to broaden the development approach for the inclusion of the poor as a fundamental prerequisite for any positive reforms policies, laws as well as large-scale land projects in countries.

ENHANCING CIVIC SPACE

The Government continues narrowing civil society operational space through restriction and control such as the Public Order Management Act. In order to enhance freeing of civic space, Oxfam in partnership with the Uganda National NGO Forum commissioned a study, intended to unearth the joint contribution of NGOs to Uganda's economy. The negative rhetoric about NGO's being self serving continuously gets used to support attacks on civic space and specifically on NGOs engaged in policy issues like corruption, inequality and governance.

The study once completed, will provide NGOs, activists and citizens at large with evidence of the NGO contribution to continue challenging this status quo and in turn facilitate freeing of civic space. This study is projected to be finalized in the following year.

CAN YOU OPEN FISCAL SPACE BY CLOSING CIVIC SPACE?

Not if you want domestic revenue mobilization to succeed



On July 1, the government of Uganda enacted a social media tax, as well as a mobile money tax – which will make freedom of expression and access to information more expensive.

The government has committed to step up its efforts around revenue collection, or Domestic Revenue Mobilisation (DRM) — joining 42 other countries as signatories of the Addis Tax Initiative (ATI). In development circles, there is increasing emphasis on DRM and getting countries to be less dependent on external funders who may have their own agenda. But should the basic human rights to freedom of expression, access to information and inclusion be sacrificed at the altar of domestic revenue collection? Of course not. In fact, it is likely to be counterproductive.

Part of wider crack down on civil society

Restricting space for citizens to raise their voices in exchange for tax revenue is not a viable domestic revenue strategy. Reducing civic space erodes the social contract between citizens and government, which is the most important component of a strong and fair tax system. With restricted civic space, citizens have no avenue to hold government accountable. The taxes have evoked a lot of ire among citizens who already feel stifled in offline civic spaces that the government has actively clamped down on.

In Uganda, free speech online has been under attack for several years. The government blocked access to Facebook and Twitter just before a tight presidential election in 2016. This new social media tax further threatens freedom of expression by hampering access to 58 digital platforms – ranging from Facebook, WhatsApp to Skype, and mobile network companies have already adapted to facilitate the tax.

In the Uganda context, this is worrisome. With the recent Public Order and Management Act (which requires police permission for more than 5 people to assemble), social media platforms were providing an important alternative to assembly and association. As one Ugandan journalist, Lydia Namubiru, put it: "For Ugandans, the social media levy isn't just another tax. It is the latest in the government's efforts to punish and discourage online expression."

The poor are most affected

These two taxes will squeeze poor Ugandans the most. The social media tax will make access to information even more unaffordable – estimated to cost the poorest Ugandans nearly 40 percent of their income for 1GB of data. And in a country where one in two adults access mobile money, the mobile money tax could make poverty and inequality worse. Poverty levels in Uganda have actually increased recently, rising from 19 percent in 2013 to 27 percent today. Inequality, too, is increasing and many Ugandans lack access to basics such as health and education.

Tax policy (and Domestic Revenue Mobilisation strategies) should be designed to reverse these trends, not accelerate them.

Ironically, these taxes only serve to sow suspicion against a government that is bent on collecting

money from a silenced citizenry. If citizens do not trust their government or its institutions, raising revenue will be an incredibly difficult task (ask any tax administration about the importance of voluntary compliance). And in Uganda, efforts to increase domestic revenue are already quite challenging – collecting very little and relying greatly on consumption-based taxes, which disproportionately affect poorer households.

Better ways to raise revenue

There are many ways to raise revenue without overburdening citizens and violating their rights. Why not take up excise tax reforms (as proposed by Tax Justice Alliance-Uganda) which could raise at least 122 billion Ugandan shillings? Or reduce tax exemptions that, according to research by Oxfam and SEATINI, amount to US\$630 million annually – a big chunk of which are giveaways to the most capable taxpayers, including foreign companies and even parliamentarians. These are just two potential options for Uganda to consider.

Uganda has recently announced its intention to develop a Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS) – something that donors like the IMF and World Bank are keen to support. Its success will depend on generating broad buy-in from Ugandan society and greater trust. Repealing the social media and mobile money taxes would be a good start to winning back citizens. But a public dialogue on creating a fair and transparent tax system is the necessary next step.

By: Nathan Coplin, Joseph Olwenyi, Sophie Kyagulanyi, Patience Akumu

NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION SDGS SHADOW REPORT

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) adopted in September 2015 represent the most ambitious sustainable development agenda ever agreed on by UN member states. By committing to SDG's, countries commit to leaving no one behind during their implementation and therefore addressing the inequality gaps.

We worked with NGO Forum to support and develop the NGOs shadow report showing the progress in meeting the various SDGs. Specifically, Oxfam contributed to reporting on progress in meeting SDG one on ending poverty in all its forms. Oxfam's contribution highlighted the need for economic interventions that address both poverty and inequality in order not to leave the vulnerable such as women and youth behind. The report was launched at a meeting in November attended by 100 people, including representatives from the National Planning Authority and Office of the Prime Minister. Oxfam added its voice to demand for accountability from government in fulfilling its international commitments. This process was therefore a vital accountability tool to ensure there are deliberate efforts and progress towards addressing inequality.



INFLUENCING THE COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) process in Uganda offers a unique opportunity to establish new ways of working within the country's emergency response context. Oxfam played a part to influence the prioritization and implementation of the CRRF in the areas of effective participation and representation of key stakeholders in the CRRF including refugees, local actors and local governments.

Oxfam also worked to influence the setup of an INGO refugee policy and advocacy sub group comprised of INGOs in the refugee response in Uganda. Oxfam chairs this group through which, a policy paper on localization was developed to address funding gaps and capacity strengthening of local actors. It majorly emphasized the need for integration of refugee management into local government structures and planning.

As a result of this work, the CRRF is hosting a series of workshops on localization of the refugee response in Uganda.

CASE STUDY

Oxfam participated in discussions with UNHCR around strengthening effectiveness of refugee engagement in the CRRF. This resulted in setting up the CRRF Refuge Advisory Council, which process Oxfam supported.

NATIONAL BUDGET FRAMEWORK PAPER FOR LANDS SECTOR

Together with partners, we developed a position paper and presented it to the Physical Planning Committee of Parliament. This was to ensure that the key policy questions in the Lands sector have policy solutions in the National Budget Framework Paper 2018/19, which informs the national budget. To further popularize the position paper, a press conference was organized on January 9th, 2018, which we participated in with our partner, CSBAG. We hope that the recommendations in the position paper will reflect in the next budget reading. In turn, we hope that the next budget reading will reflect an increase in allocation of funds to pro - poor sectors like education, health and agriculture in order to reduce inequality.

Oxfam's inequality report revealed that the inequality gap would widen if government does not invest in these pro-poor sectors.



CO - CONVENING THE JOINT AGRICULTURAL SECTOR ANNUAL REVIEW

Together with our partners, we influenced the decision to have a regional Joint Agricultural Sector Annual Review (JASAR) in Lira district to provide opportunities for more farmers to participate and interact with key government officials. In the past, the annual reviews have not involved the grass root farmers who are key to the decisions that the government officials make on their behalf.

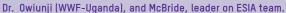
Oxfam and partners worked with Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) to plan and convene the 2017 JASAR. In collaboration with the ministry, Oxfam and partners co-funded the regional and national JASAR and made key recommendations on adaptation and agriculture sector financing. The government committed to adopt in the 2018/19 financial year.



Okello in Omoro district who hosted JASAR team that led a discussion on water for production.

PROMOTING COMMUNITIES' RIGHTS ALONG THE PROPOSED EAST AFRICA CRUDE OIL PIPELINE







Urban Development during the EACOP meeting

117 we The meeting focused on issues

Oxfam believes that Uganda's growing extractive industry is an opportunity for the country to overcome the injustice of poverty and inequality. We work to ensure that citizens and government get a fair share of their natural resource revenues and that these resources translate into improvement in people's socio-economic wellbeing. An important consideration for our work too, is to ensure participation of women and men in decision - making in this industry and to ensure that their rights are not compromised in the quest to develop the industry.

In line with the above, in August 2017 we worked with like-minded organizations in Tanzania and Uganda [HakiRasilimali, CRED, GRA, ACODE and WWF-UCOl to convene the first-ever 'Uganda-Tanzania Civil Society convening on the Proposed East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline [EACOP]'. The event attracted more than 80 participants from civil society, government at both national and subnational levels, representatives of international oil companies, academia, media. local community-based organizations from Uganda and Tanzania as well as activists from Chad, Nigeria and USA.

The meeting focused on issues relating to land acquisition, environmental rights, communities' social and cultural rights associated with the EACOP and knowledge and experience sharing from other pipeline projects across the world.

A number of ideas and asks were generated and packaged in a communiqué which was issued at the end of the event. The event was also an important first-step towards strategizing for a more coordinated civil society and citizen participation in the development of the EACOP across Uganda and Tanzania.

INFLUENCING FOR A SUPPORTIVE POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SME'S)

Together with SEATINI Uganda, we strengthened SMEs' competitiveness by providing 5 policy recommendations to inform the review of the Investment Code Bill, 2015 and the Local Content Bill, 2017.

We hope that these recommendations will contribute to putting in place policies that support the growth and competitiveness of SME's and therefore, boosting their incomes.

This is especially given that SMEs are an important source of employment – creating 19 out of 20 non-agriculture jobs with young people occupying 94.7% of these jobs.

ADVANCING RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE YOUTH MINISTERS MEETING

Youth unemployment is one of the challenges that Oxfam works to address. It is clear that some of these challenges have been perpetuated by policies that are not inclusive.

As part of influencing policy, Oxfam participated in the Youth Ministers-Stakeholder's (Non-state actors)

Forum to discuss resourcing youth development.

Out of this meeting, the non-state actors came up with recommendations that were forwarded to the Commonwealth Nations Youth Ministers to inform their discussions. The Youth Ministers in the end

made several commitments to ensure that youth development is a youth led agenda so as to meet their needs. Oxfam will be following up keenly to ensure that the leaders live up to these commitments.



Panel discussion on Resourcing and Financing Development and the Sustainable Development Goals



Participants of the non-state actors Stakeholders Forum

HIGH LEVEL INFLUENCING WITH THE ECONOMIC MONITORING GROUP

Following the launch of Oxfam's inequality report and campaign, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic development invited Oxfam to present the inequality report to the Economic Monitoring Group (EMG). This was recognition of Oxfam as a thought leader when it comes to inequality. It was an opportunity to present Oxfam's work and influence the planning and budgeting process in this core economic planning group that included key staff of the ministry such as the commissioners

and permanent secretary. The Economic Monitoring Group also comprises development partners such as World Bank, IMF and USAID. They all lauded Oxfam's inequality report for raising important development issues and pledged that progressively, the budgets and plans for the country will not only address poverty but also inequality. We shared updates on the engagement on twitter, receiving 33,000 impressions.



Oxfam staff that participated in the Conference of Parties (COP) 23 in Bonn, Germany. The conference saw a number of recommendations taken up and incorporated in future implementation activities.

CONTRIBUTION IN PRUDENT PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT



World Bank Spring meetings

OXFAM recognizes that increased long - term oriented investments need to be complemented by

measures to assist the poor and vulnerable people.

In May 2017, Oxfam in Uganda together with partners under the Financing for Development project participated in the World Bank/IMF 2017 Spring Meetings in Washington. The team organized a session on "Prudent Public Finance Management Practices that can deliver for citizens". Discussions centered around generating proposals on fighting inequality, domestic revenue mobilization and enhancing citizens participation in fiscal processes. These have since shaped national Civil Society Organizations policy engagements resulting in a call for a more vibrant and structured engagement between CSOs and IMF, hence promoting mutual accountability and ownership of fiscal policy outcomes.

The same efforts yielded in IMF organizing a high-level meeting back in Uganda where Oxfam and partners were in attendance. A Civil Society Organization position paper highlighting the proposals raised at the spring meeting was presented.

PROMOTING OPEN CONTRACTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Clear, transparent and fair frameworks for public contracting were widely promoted by Oxfam and partners for improving public procurement. Oxfam worked with partners to foster increased transparency and accountability through access to information among others.

To recognize the outstanding efforts towards pushing for accountability, Oxfam partner Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC) was honored with an Award by the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) for distinguished work in promoting open contracting in Uganda and the region. This was during the East African Procurement Forum on November 3, 2017 hosted by the Republic of Uganda.

The Award followed AFIC's successful advocacy engagements targeting the Uganda Government to embrace open contracting and foster public use of published data.

INFLUENCING FOR GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE CARE INFRASTRUCTURE

Oxfam, UWONET, EPRC and Makerere School of Women and Gender Studies shared a research report showing the ways in which the unpaid care and domestic workload on women keeps them poor and perpetuates inequality over generations. According to the report, women spend 6 hours daily on domestic and unpaid care work, which is five times more than men.

Oxfam and UWONET engaged key Ministries, Departments and Agencies on the need to include care work conversation on the agenda. This was to make sure it is translated into public policies, programmes, and infrastructure to reduce the burden of care work on women.

We engaged with Ministry of Water and Environment, calling them to focus on accessibility, availability and affordability of water; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to institute care transformative national and community programmes as well as Uganda National Bureau of Statistics to include care data in National surveys and demonstrate contribution to National development continued.

To further profile unpaid care work, Oxfam supported partner UWONET to participate in the 62nd UN Commission on the status of women in New York where recommendations on transforming unpaid care work were presented.

As a result, in the outcome document Article 12, 29 recommendations on unpaid care work were taken into account. Some of the recommendations included infrastructure development, social protection policies and accessible, affordable and quality social services. These same recommendations were discussed in-country with over 40 Civil Society Organizations to build a vibrant movement on advocacy on unpaid care work.

We are looking forward to the next year where we shall roll out a public campaign to engage and build a movement of citizens to rally behind pushing for recognition and valuing of unpaid care and domestic work.

INFLUENCING THE BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY BILL

We worked with partners such as Food Rights Alliance, PELUM Uganda, ESAFF Uganda and SEATINI to review the law that seeks to regulate the production of Genetically Modified Organisms in Uganda.

We shared opinions that contributed to the NGO position on the law, highlighting that there is need not to pass it into law or have flexible provisions that protect farmers' rights. Our push was for the law to have provisions that will protect systems. farmer's seeds Following the concerns that Oxfam and other NGOs raised, the president declined to assent to the law after parliament passed it. He called for further consultation and research on the law. Oxfam and partners are still working to ensure that the law is passed in a form that is inclusive and protects the food rights of women, who do most of the agricultural work in the country, and the poor.

INFLUENCING FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE BUDGET



Oxfam participated in several press conferences pushing for citizen inclusion in the decision making.

Together with partners such as CSBAG, we engaged with government and other NGOs to influence the budgeting processes. We appeared on various media to analyze the budget and why it should address inequality. We led the discussion on ways in which the budget can be improved to address gender inequality, highlighting the need to invest in sectors of the economy that most affect women, such as health, agriculture and education.

In addition, we held 10 community dialogues to collect ideas on how the budget can best address inequalities. Eleven of the recommendations made in a CSO position paper that included consultations with the communities were adopted.



HARNESSING WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE **VOICES DURING THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM**

During the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, Oxfam and partner UWONET convened a critical reflection platform with women leaders across various sectors. This dialogue came at the height of Women targeted kidnaps and murders in the country. The platform shared and strategized on how to reinstate women's rights as a priority of the country's social, economic and political agenda. The other discussions were on efforts to promote women's political and public leadership as well as mechanisms to ensure their security in the public sphere. This consolidated voice from the women of Uganda in all spheres will go along way in building momentum on women's rights issues.

We continue building a critical mass of women leaders in all spheres of our work.



PUSHING FOR INCLUSION OF LOCAL HUMANITARIAN ACTORS



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OXFAM scaled up Empowering Local and National Humanitarian Actors (ELNHA). This was to enable them become stronger; visibly occupy space among other actors; and influence the agenda at local, national and international levels. Oxfam aims to see a shift of power, resources and capabilities towards local/national humanitarian actors in order to address the underlying inequalities within the humanitarian system.

MOBILIZING NATIONAL AND LOCAL **ACTOR VOICE FOR THE SOLIDARITY** SUMMIT

The President of Uganda alongside the UN Secretary General agreed to call together a high-level dialogue. This was in response to the significant increase in refugee numbers in Uganda. The refugee Solidarity Summit intended to showcase Uganda's strong refugee policies and actualize the government commitments to the New York Declaration to support the refugee response in Uganda. It provided time to reflect on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework that is being piloted in Uganda as part of the Global Compact on Refugees. The summit took place on 21st June 2017 in Kampala.

Prior to the Solidarity Summit, Oxfam mobilized fifty national and local organizations for a dialogue in Gulu on 7th to 8th June 2018 to discuss issues and concerns relating to the role of local and national Civil Society Organizations in the refugee response. The issues and recommendations to Government, Private Sector, UN agencies, and International NGO'S were captured in a communiqué, which was presented at one of the side events during the solidarity summit.

Speaking on behalf of fifty national and local organizations who were consulted ahead of the summit, Paparu Lilian Obiale, Humanitarian Program Manager at CEFORD, an Oxfam partner in the West Nile region, said: "Ugandan civil society hopes that the summit would not only raise the profile of refugees in Uganda but also bring much-needed funding and encourage real discussion about the root causes of the displacement in the region. There needs to be genuine discussion about how we foster sustainable futures both for refugees and those in hosting communities."

Oxfam also published a press release in which it called on the international community to provide funds, humanitarian aid and, crucially, pave the way for a peaceful resolution to conflicts in neighboring countries.

The summit ended with governments committing \$117 million for the country's South Sudan Refugee Response.

We continue to be leaders in the discourse of inclusion of these actors for a more effective. sustainable and affordable humanitarian response. This effort is being realised through the continuous engagement of government, UNHCR, local and national NGOs in order to increase funding that goes to local actors.

CITIZENS RISE TO ADDRESS GAPS IN SERVICE DELIVERY



The Inequality caravan included a People's Parliament session which aired on NTV Uganda, chaired by Agnes Nandutu. **PHOTO:** Julius Caeser Kasujja/Oxfam

"Recently we received dry orange seedlings from Government which could not be planted as they were no longer viable. Moreover, we poor farmers find it difficult to get money from Operation Wealth Creation program. The money instead benefits those who don't even need it as much". Ms. Jessica Omodo a female farmer, during the people's parliament debate.

In January 2018, Oxfam in Uganda launched the 'Inequality Caravan' in North Eastern Uganda, as one of the first actions of the Inequality campaign. The caravan gave a platform where citizens shared about the challenges they face like the gaps in service delivery.

One of the caravan activities was a live debate broadcast on NTV programme popularly known 'People's Parliament'. Here people shared their personal experiences and called on their leaders to



address the gaps in order to address inequality. The debate targeted over 1 million viewers.

"There is a regional imbalance in terms of resource allocation by the Government. Most industries and education facilities are in Central and Western Uganda." Hellen, a farmer said.

Voices of citizens such as these were shared at a conference in Davos on "Raising citizens' voices to the World Economic Forum (WEF)" in 2018 under the slogan Creating a shared future in a fractured world.

We hope that by taking the inequality caravan across the country, citizens get a chance to voice issues that they are faced with and this will facilitate dialogue on inequality and its impacts in Uganda. Ultimately, we want to influence policy makers and other stakeholders to understand and effectively address growing inequality by putting in place policies and structures that encourage inclusive growth.

HUMANITARIAN PLATFORM FOR LOCAL ACTORS



Uganda National NGO Forum in partnership with Oxfam launched the Humanitarian Platform for Local and National NGOs on Wednesday 7th March 2018. The platform acts as a collective voice and promotes partnerships and collaboration among members and humanitarian stakeholders. The launch brought together key stakeholders from Government, Development Partners, UN agencies, Private Sector, Academia, and Civil Society and was officiated by the Minister of Relief and Disaster Preparedness. Some of the discussions were around the platform's strategic focus, as well as, fostering relationships amongst actors.

The initiative to create the platform came, during the Humanitarian Consultative Meeting on Uganda's Refugee Crisis and National Civil Society Response held in June 2017, Civil Society Organizations emphasized the need for an open platform to strengthen the coordination and contribution of local and national organizations to the humanitarian system in the country. The Uganda National NGO Forum was selected to host the Platform.

MOBILIZATION FOR THE LAND AWARENESS WEEK



Female farmers march for their land ownership rights the Land Awareness Week. PHOTO: Julius Caesar Kasujja/Oxfam

According to the Oxfam inequality report, the causes of inequality take place within a framework that governs ownership and usage of productive resources resources like land. There is need to address land

issues that contribute to growing inequality, poverty and hinder sustainable development.

Oxfam supported the Land Awareness Week (LAW) which took place in Soroti under the theme "Our Land, Our Heritage for Socio-Economic Development". The awareness week sought to raise awareness of the different land laws, Policies and Regulations in the country.

Oxfam worked with partners to handle cases by providing on - spot legal counseling, and the majority were referred to other partners providing legal aid

services in Soroti like Legal Aid Project of Uganda Law Society. More than 1,400 people were reached and 123 cases registered.

Land conflicts are rampant despite the existence of policies and laws addressing these conflicts. This is attributed to the underlying reasons such as; ignorance of the existing policies and laws among the population, ineffective institutional arrangements, ever – increasing population, inadequate funding for land conflict management, impunity and political interference among others.

The Land Awareness Week aims to close the awareness gaps by demystifing the various misconceptions around land laws, and disseminate information on the operations of the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development Zonal Offices. It further enables documentation of evidence-based land issues to inform national level advocacy on land governance and land administration issues/policies and laws.

Where are we?

Onek Jervise Atunya (76 years old);

Elder from Apaa, Amuru district says;

The government should help clarify our land boundaries. Are we in Adjumani District, the Wildlife reserve or Amuru District? We have had a prolonged challenge with our land since 2006. A court order passed on 9th April, 2012 deterred Uganda Wildlife Authority from unsettling the community but they never listened. Land ownership here is not clear. Trading centers cannot even develop because people fear to invest their money. Government should see us as partners in development.

Most women in this community do not own land much as they are allowed to use it for agriculture. This has limited food production to subsistence level with limited intentions for commercial production. Land is either communally owned, male individually owned or publicly owned.

VOICES FOR HOPE

Abalo Irene Otto (28years old)

Freelance Journalist

I have repeatedly reported about women land rights. The fact that women have to get authorisation from men to use the land makes the product of their labor men's property too. To end violence against women, we need to answer the land question. We need to begin viewing women as partners in the development of this country because they are the ones doing productive work especially in agriculture. Women are feeding this nation so they deserve the right to own land.

To end violence against women, we need to answer the land question.



PROMOTING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

Oxfam believes that the complex threats to women rights today require a critical mass of women movements to influence change. Through the year, we rallied women leaders especially the women Members of Parliament to take advantage of their positions and numbers to influence gender sensitive policies.

Working with Uganda Women Parliamentarian Association (UWOPA), Oxfam and partner UWONET mobilized and trained Members of Parliament on

effective lobbying, advocacy, influencing and moving resolutions on the floor of parliament. Equipped with a better understanding on the content of the marriage bill, UWOPA pledged to forward not only the bill but other policies that benefit the citizens.

Under the women leadership project, Oxfam trained women leaders to influence governance processes and influence district agendas such as social services prioritization and budgeting.

Because of these trainings, women leaders in the districts of Lamwo, Nebbi and Kotido moved at least fifteen (15) motions on women's rights, which efforts have ensured better outcomes for primary school

girls.

"All primary schools in the district have toilets for girls because we realized that some girls were dropping out of school due to lack of access to such sanitary facilities. Low education levels increase vulnerability of women and girls to violence." Councilor, Nebbi District.

In Kotido district, women leaders were able to challenge gender inequality and pave way for transformation of women in their district, which saw the Kotido council pass motions to restore land to widows.



Hon. Ruth Nakabirwa during the Orientation of Members of Parliament on the Marriage Bill.



Nebbi Councillors drawing action plans on women's rights

CONVENING A GLOBAL EXPERT MEETING ON INEQUALITY AND PUBLIC SPENDING

Oxfam under its strategic partnership project organized an expert meeting on inequality and public spending. The objective was to push for publicly funded health care, education and social protection, which would support economic growth in the long run, especially benefiting women and girls, the most.

The meeting brought together experts from 14 countries and representatives from UN Women, Development Finance International, Civil Society and the Ugandan Ministry of Finance.

FACILITATING WOMEN AND GIRLS IN PASTORAL COMMUNITIES TO ENGAGE POLICY MAKERS ON ACCESS TO QUALITY SERVICE DELIVERY.

Inequality affects people disproportionately, with the vulnerable most affected. Voice, an Oxfam program aims to address inequality by strengthening the capacity of Civil Society Organizations representing the voices of the most marginalized and discriminated groups.

Through Voice, Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC), provided platforms for women and girls in the pastoralist communities of Ntoroko and Kasese to engage policy makers. The engagement was on issues of access to quality health and education services, employment and business opportunities.

Before Voice, experts were championing most of the issues affecting the women and girls. By providing spaces such as 'Face the citizens' rallies for engagement for these marginalized groups, the women were able to present a petition requesting the district to upgrade Nyakatonzi Health Centre II to Health Centre III. Youths similarly presented their demands for a vocational school and highlighted the absence of teachers at Omuruti primary school.

Because of these engagements, the area Chief Administrative Officer committed to upgrade the Health Centre II to a Health Centre III while two teachers were allocated to the school. We continue to support the marginalized groups and amplify their voices to be heard and included in the development processes.

ENABLING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN BUDGET PROCESSES

The commitment to fight inequality can be seen from the budgeting process and allocation of money to sectors that benefit the welfare of the poor. The challenge however is that citizens, especially the marginalized, do not understand nor participate in these budgeting processes. This contributes to budgets that do not speak to their needs.

Through Oxfam's Voice program, National Union of Disabled Persons (NUDIPU) was facilitated to enhance participation of Persons with Disabilities in the budget process in a project entitled "Amplifying the Voices of Persons with Disability in National Plans and Budgets in Uganda". This intervention was informed by a study by NUDIPU in 2014 which found that; although PWDs have an opportunity to participate in budget processes, their influence in budget allocation and involvement

in planning is curtailed by limited understanding of the processes and the highly technical nature of budget documents.

The grant to NUDIPU enabled the Organization to conduct capacity building of its members including Uganda National Association of the Blind (UNAB), Mental Health Uganda (MHU), Uganda National Association of the Deaf (UNAD), among others. These were equipped with skills on budget analysis and advocacy to effectively review Government budgets and then engage civil servants in prioritizing the needs of Persons with Disabilities in the health and education sectors.

The support through Voice also enabled Persons with Disabilities to engage on these issues on various platforms including radio and TV shows, advocacy meetings with Parliamentary Committees for Health and Education, and public budget dialogues on the People's Parliament aired on NTV. Because of utilizing these spaces and increased awareness, the concerns of Persons with Disabilities are increasingly being prioritized.



For example, following the presentation of PWD concerns including the call for fast tracking the enactment of the Mental Health Bill, 2014 by Parliament, there have been consultations of stakeholders including Disabled Persons Organizations on the Bill by the Parliamentary Committee on the Health sector. It is envisaged that continued awareness and pressure will result into incorporation of the needs of Persons with Disabilities in the two sectors.

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH THE VALUE CHAINS TO BRIDGE THE INEQUALITY GAP

In Uganda, over 70% of the agricultural labour force is made up of women. They however face a number of social - economic challenges as compared to men. This keeps them at the bottom of the agricultural value chains and not participating in processes like adding value to their produce as well as markets. Such inequalities are due to differential access to labour, inputs, and information among others.

The gender situation in Agriculture has been worsened by division of roles among men and women with women engaging in less productive stages of the value chains like planting and weeding.

Oxfam and partners came in with a tool to create gender balance at the different levels of the value chains. Using the Gender Action Learning System tool also known as GALS, families and groups were able to see the value of working together at all levels as the tool provided them with an opportunity to reflect on the opportunities and challenges in their lives.

The farmers were also trained on group and leadership dynamics, savings, post-harvest handling among others with an aim of building strong producer groups and improving on women participation.

Because of this tool and trainings, we have seen women participating along all the stages of the value chains just like men, engaged in marketing their produce and having control on how the proceeds are spent.

In order to also support youth in these value chains, Oxfam, with partners like IFRAD offered business

development services especially to the youth. Through several businesses and entrepreneurship trainings like value addition (packaging and branding), 31 youth were able to start new businesses.

Overall, through this value chain work that focused on cassava, honey, fruits and coffee, we reached and changed the lives of 4118 small scale holder farmers especially women.

CASE STORY

Irene from Patiko Subcounty Gulu District started a horticulture business growing watermelon and cucumber. She sells these to various restaurants in her community and at the weekly village market in Patiko. Her sales have been boosted to 50,000UGX per week during the peek harvesting season. Due to that, Irene is now able to save money unlike before where she worked as a casual labourer. "With my profits, I plan to buy an ox with a plough which I can hire out to the people I worked for before."







Oxfam, working with local partners supported around 635,763 refugees and host communities in the different response areas. The response is in Bidibidi and Rhino settlements in Arua district, Imvepi settlement Yumbe district, and Palabek settlement Lamwo district.

In these response areas, refugees and the host communities were provided with safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. Oxfam also provided emergency food security and livelihood support that includes energy saving stoves, agriculture inputs and tools and cash for work programme.

Oxfam's intervention also included gender and protection of refugees and largely using the evidence generated from this work for advocacy.

All the response interventions are linked to our development work of building the resilience of these communities. Also key is that Oxfam has and continues to take periodic actions to strengthen the capacity of local humanitarian actors. Beyond saving lives, we are strengthening humanitarian capacity of local actors (partners and local governments) as a way of ensuring better, quicker and cost effective preparedness.

FOR SANDRA, DREAMS DO COME TRUE

She keeps her vivid green Oxfam vest on while she enters a hair salon just off a dusty road in Kyakya II refugee settlement. "I promote equal rights;" her vest says on the back side. She welcomes me to the salon with a big smile.

She came to Uganda in 2001 at the age of eight, fleeing the violence in the DRC together with her mother and sister.

Sandra has been volunteering with Oxfam since April this year. "I like it," she says. "I am educating people about gender equality here in the settlement, simplifying the concept so that everyone can understand. Given that there are so many new arrivals to the settlement, I hope Oxfam will keep educating people about peaceful coexistence in the family and in the community," Sandra points out.

Whenever time allows her, she walks into a place very dear to her - the hair salon. "As a child, I loved salons and always dreamt about managing one. Here in Kyakya II, my dream came true," she tells me. Looking around me, I see the place is simple but well equipped. Posters depicting various hairstyles and hair plaits in different colours decorate the raw walls.

"My clients are both refugees and Ugandans. People here have not much money so they can afford going to a saloon rather rarely. Often I have no more than two customers per week," she mentions. "However, it helps me a lot. Thanks to the saloon that I initiated with Danish Refugee Council's (DRC) support, and thanks to Oxfam that pays me some money for promoting equal rights among refugees, I can buy food and clothes for my family and invest more in my salon."

Sandra now teaches styling skills to other women interested in hair styling and retouching. "My course is much cheaper than similar courses outside the settlement," she explains. "I know how difficult it is for a big majority of refugees to afford anything but the basic needs," she says while observing one of her students helping her in the saloon.

"I hope that one day, this saloon will be well known. I would like even people in Kampala to know about it."





LEFT: Sandra in her salon. RIGHT: Sandra's student prepares to work on a customer's hair. PHOTO: Viktorija Jeras/Oxfam

WASH COORDINATION AND RESPONSE



Florentine, a refugee from DRC at a water point in Kyaka refugee settlement. **PHOTO:** Viktorija Jeras/Oxfam

In 2017 and early 2018, Oxfam provided people with access to safe water through water trucking, borehole drilling and motorised water systems. This was in partnership with local service providers, government and partners in the refugee settlements.

Rainwater harvesting tanks were installed in institutions (schools and health facilities) to facilitate rainwater harvesting for both refugees and host populations. The district Water Offices of Arua and Yumbe were equipped with water quality testing equipment and volunteers trained on residual chlorine monitoring for trucked water.

The water systems constructed, especially the motorised ones, are not just providing refugees and host communities with sustainable water sources but demonstrate a preparedness plan and cost effective approach.

PROMOTING SANITATION AND HYGIENE



Children wash their feet at Sweswe reception point in Kyaka II refugee settlement. **РИОТО:** Viktorija Jeras/Oxfam

We improved sanitation by supporting the construction of communal and individual household latrines and bathing shelters. Garbage pits at markets and schools along with laundry decks for washing clothes at water points were constructed to ensure hygiene at settlement level.

To further promote the uptake of good hygiene practices, we used activities such as supply of hygiene kits, involving children as change agents, training of hygiene maintenance committees in markets and at water points and facilitating weekly environment cleaning campaigns. We further built capacity of users to form committees responsible for ensuring proper maintenance of the facilities to the hygiene standards put in place.

Oxfam also promoted sanitation and hygiene in schools to enhance the safety of the children while supporting their

education. 31 school sanitation clubs were formed/reactivated and trained on good hygiene practices. To ensure that the girls are kept in school, at least 8,500 pupils; 60% girls were supported with reusable sanitary kits.

400 mama kits were given to Omugo Health Center to support safe delivery for pregnant mothers and 41 Village Health Teams within host communities were trained on Community Led Total Sanitation [CLTS] approach and key hygiene and sanitation practices.

We run campaigns to create awareness and behavioral change in hygiene practices like hand washing among others. Aids like billboards were used to share messages promoting safe water chains, hand washing with soap among other good hygiene practices.

EMERGENCY FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Saving energy daily

Oxfam designed and distributed energy saving fire shielded rocket stoves, which reduced the use of fuel, wood or charcoal by half to over 12,652 households. This also helped in saving time in collecting firewood and cooking, reduced the risk of sexual assault for the women, and conflict with host communities over the right to use local forests. To enhance sustainability and resilience, we carried out a training of trainers on energy saving stoves. These trainees have been able to replicate the trainings and many people can now construct energy saving stoves on their own. With the solid waste management initiative, we conducted trainings in recycling solid waste into briquettes in Arua as a way of conserving the environment as an income generating activity.

Enhancing nutrition through kitchen gardening



Mary watering her vegetable garden in Bidibidi settlement. **PHOTO**: Julius Caesar Kasujja/Oxfam

Oxfam supported refugee and host community households to establish kitchen gardens by enabling access to seedlings and farming tools. We encouraged those groups to grow vegetables for home consumption to improve on their nutrition. The gardens are easily accessible, easy to maintain and less laborious and can be managed by both men and women. Different varieties of crops like tomatoes, cabbages and green pepper are grown.

GENDER AND PROTECTION



Isabela is an SGBV survivor and currently works as a leader in the gender and protection committee in Palabek settlement. PHOTO: Oxfam

Oxfam carried out an analysis of the protection needs for the different genders in the different response locations, designed and continued to deliberately implement activities that reduce vulnerability, mitigate and prevent gender based violence among refugees and host communities. Community structures were nurtured and strengthened like the Gender and Protection Committees and Women Own Fora whose members identify protection threats and risks and refer them appropriately. Women and girls were trained in making Reusable Sanitary Pads [RUMPS];



Women refugees in Bidibidi settlement making reusable sanitary pads (RUMPS). **PHOTO:** Dxfam

this is majorly in response to the high levels of school dropouts by the girl child for fear of being stigmatised by their male counterparts when they soil their dresses while they are in menstruation periods. Oxfam has further trained these groups in the referral pathways for them to understand how to deal and best refer cases of gender-based violence. Other innovations within gender like the waka waka solar lighting were all geared towards improving the safety of women especially in the night.

Building peace & social harmony

Oxfam supported the formation and strengthened peace committees within the different response locations made up of refugee and host communities. These committees were trained and engaged in facilitating social harmony. They are engaged in counseling but also other activities that promote peaceful co- existence like campaigns for peace through songs and drama. They are also crucial in identifying key issues that lead to conflicts as well as possible solutions and engage in settlement advocacy around this. Different agencies including Oxfam used their messages and voices to call for

peace building and reconciliation at different levels, including the need to involve women refugees in the peace building processes.

PREPAREDNESS

We continued to monitor the situations in the region especially in South Sudan and The Democratic Republic of Congo. We developed a national multihazard contingency plan with consultations from UNHCR and humanitarian partners. This enabled Oxfam to prepare, fundraise and respond to the increased influx of South Sudanese refugees in West Nile Region and Lamwo District from February 2017 and DRC refugees in Kyaka II settlement early 2018.

Oxfam under the Empowering Local and National Humanitarian Actors project, supported capacity building of both local and national actors to enhance their preparedness to respond to all categories of emergencies. The capacity building was through training, mentoring and coaching.

INNOVATIONS AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE LIVES:



Members of Loketa women's savings group from Rhino camp settlement engage in making fuel briquettes out of crop waste. ©Elizabeth Stevens/Oxfam

Within the year, innovations and new technologies to address WASH challenges in humanitarian actions were scaled up. Oxfam continued to work with sector partners on water and sanitation product research and development of WASH innovations. Research like the Gender Based Violence and Sanitation Lighting survey explored the potential risks that persons of concern may be exposed to within the different settlements. Oxfam leveraged on such studies and surveys to stand out and bring on board more innovations in WASH and GBV response and prevention. These included solar lights, recycling solid waste into briquettes among others.

These were piloted within the settlements and contributed hugely to improving the lives of refugees and their host communities.

Solid wastes recycling into briquettes in Arua reached 5 groups of 25 members who were trained and equipped with machines and protective gear. They are now producing and selling briquettes in the long run recycling waste and protecting the environment.

The solar lights also known as the waka waka solar lights were installed in the settlements as well as smaller ones given out to groups categorized as vulnerable. These were to aid in lighting at night. The categories included – police, health centres, Gender and Protection committees, breastfeeding and pregnant mothers, child-headed households, survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence and torture, persons with terminal ailments like cancer and people living with HIV/AIDS.



PHOTO: ONE OF THE 16 STREET SOLAR LIGHTS INSTALLED IN RHINO EXTENSION – OMUGO

REBUILDING LIVES WITH BEADS AND A MEGAPHONE



Sarah, the chairperson of a handicrafts group in Bidibidi refugee setttlement, calls women to join her group. **PHOTO:**Kieran Doherty/Oxfam



Womens group members demonstrate their intricate bead work in Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement in Uganda.

Sarah leads the beading group which gives women the opportunity to make money and a safe space to share their experiences.

In Uganda's Bidibidi refugee resettlement, one woman is helping others make money—and heal—through a jewelry-making group.

Forced from their homes after three years of brutal civil war in South Sudan, more than a million people are starting again as refugees in resettlement areas in Uganda. Though life is tough here, hope is sprouting.

Take Sarah, who is empowering other women through a handicrafts group she runs out of her home. She knows only too well how easy it is to lose sight of hope when war has taken your loved ones and forced you to leave your country.

Like so many others fleeing South Sudan, Sarah has had an incredibly traumatic few years. Her husband was killed during the conflict in Juba and she had to run with her children-leaving everything else behind. She ended up in Uganda's Bidibidi refugee settlement, a 100-square-mile area near the South Sudanese border where the country's government has given small plots of land to people arriving so they can feed their families, and start again.

Oxfam has an undeniable presence at Bidibidi. We supply 70 percent of its residents with clean waterand we've also helped Sarah get an ingenious idea off the ground, too.

Sarah's helping other refugees start over—and that's something to shout about.

Before the conflict, Sarah enjoyed creating her own brightly colored jewelry and selling it at the local market to supplement her family's income.

When she got to Bidibidi, her life was consumed with preparing her plot of land. It was extremely

hard work for her and her children, so she didn't give much thought to the jewelry. But then people started to compliment her necklaces.



The group gives women the opportunity to make money and a safe space to share their experiences. **PHOTO:** Kieran Doherty/Oxfam

The group gives women the opportunity to make money and a safe space to share their experiences.

"The idea of the group just came to me," says Sarah. "People started asking me how I make the necklaces. They'd bring back materials and other women, and I started teaching them. Now, I just take a megaphone and call the women to come to the meeting."

With help from Oxfam, Sarah hosts the group at her new home, where the women craft jewelry together to be sold at the local market. As well as putting a bit of money in their pockets, the meetings also give them an opportunity to share their traumatic experiences in a safe space.

Besides the supplementary income, Sarah says the group has given her a renewed sense of purpose. "It gives you something bigger, something that you can push life on with," she says. "I am staying happy because of that."



MONITORING

As a way of ensuring quality program delivery, we held several joint monitoring visits. Out of these visits, we checked project progress, identified support needs, received feedback from the participants as well as offered onsite support. Under the Right to Food (R2F) project monitoring visits that were conducted in November 2017, critical issues were immediately addressed and a detailed roadmap with strong commitments was developed and implemented by Oxfam and partners. Within the reporting period we had over 7 monitoring visits.

CAPACITY BUILDING/TRAINING/ SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

As a Strategy to build resilience in communities where we work, we have incorporated other components in our development work such as training communities engaged in agriculture as well as partners on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA). For example from 17th to 23rd October 2017 AFCE and 440 farmers (185 Female, 255 Male) in the coffee value chain were taken through the same training. Other capacity building trainings were; Farming As a Business (FAAB), Saving With a Purpose (SWAP) and using Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) as an inclusive gender planning tool. In the humanitarian work, a number of groups were trained on making reusable sanitary towels, briquettes out of solid waste as well as on the GBV referal pathways. With this, we have been able to build the resilience capacities of the people we work with.

A Gender Action Learning Systems training was done for partner staff of both Africa 2000 Network (A2N) and NaCRRI as well as selected project beneficiaries of the Cassava Applied Research for Food Security project. Unlike before, the partner staff appreciated the efforts that Oxfam puts in to ensure that women rights are respected. Partners are now able to deliver gender sensitive interventions, keeping in mind the differences in community.

Partners' capacity was built in a 2 days' workshop on national, regional and international seeds policies. It was in collaboration with The Hague office, Integrated Seeds Sector Development (ISSD) & Bioversity International as key national allies. The workshop helped Oxfam to know and advocate for the passing of Uganda seeds laws and policies that are in draft forms and focus more on international and regional seeds laws.

We also conducted trainings on Farmer Field Schools methodology to empower partners and farmers to actively engage in participatory plant breeding activities at local and national level. The 10 days Training of Trainers session benefitted a total of 25 partner staff and was facilitated by a team of 5 facilitators from The Philippines and Zimbabwe. Through this training, Oxfam and partners were motivated to strengthen their work on seeds right and responded to a funding call on plant genetic resources under sowing diversity equals harvesting security program of SIDA.

BUILDING STRONG INSTITUTIONS TO ADDRESS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

During the year, our women's rights work expanded to work with institutions that provide justice to survivors of Gender Based Violence. Through our work with Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP), Oxfam enhanced capacity of key actors in the referral pathway. The key actors included police officers, health professionals, and key leaders at district level. These actors were trained on what constitutes GBV, the legal provisions and the actors in GBV prevention. Despite progressive legislation on gender equality, enforcement is weak, which further exacerbates women's and girls vulnerability. We believe that once the institutions have the capacity with the right attitude and skills, they will go a long way in providing the much-needed services like case identification and follow up by police, timely and proper medical examination from health professionals, expeditious justice dispensation from the courts of law. In the Women's rights project operational areas; the women and girls have gained confidence to reach out to these institutions for support and services. Ultimately, we believe this will lead to reduction of the inequality gap between women, men, girls and boys.

LEARNING

REGIONAL LEARNING EVENT ON SME'S

Oxfam hosted a learning event in Nairobi with Oxfam colleagues and partner representatives from 6 countries involved in SME development projects. It was a very valuable exchange between like-minded practitioners. One of the talking points was the need to focus more on impact-driven SME's, those companies that deliver social and/or environmental impact through their core business (i.e. products, operations, sourcing). These businesses can benefit significantly from business support and access to

growth capital. We further learned about the value of storytelling and that personal stories (successes and failures) from entrepreneurs have real power.

REVIEWS

Together with partners we held both bi annual and annual project review meetings. These meetings helped us to strategize, learn from each other and share experiences. We also established feedback mechanisms among partners but also with the people we work with.

On 4th September, Oxfam in Uganda convened R2F partners and reviewed the project Monitoring,

Evaluation and Learning (MEAL) plan and its baseline report to solidify understanding on these documents and this helped improve the understanding of the baseline report and the project MEAL plan.

DOCUMENTATION

Some of the activities we have engaged in are baseline surveys, mapping of best practices in different fields as well as research, data collection for ongoing projects to inform reporting among others. We have also used mechanisms such as collection of case stories/studies to keep track of our work.





Oxfam staff and partners during different review meetings.



STAFF

By the end of the reporting period, we had a total of 109 staff, with 45 women, 66 men. Our staff levels doubled in number and are expected to grow further due to the expansion of our humanitarian program portfolio to meet the demands of the increasing influx of refugees. This has necessitated the establishment of additional mini offices in the refugee settlements of Imvepi and Bidibidi for better support and closer follow up of response activities.

As a result of this growth, the overall country structure was reviewed to accommodate and manage the effects of the growth on staff, structures and systems.

Ours is a diverse team along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, age, religious and political beliefs, and several other ideologies. We celebrate this diversity by respecting each individual's uniqueness and recognizing our individual differences. This has in the end created synergy in our workplace.

This was evidenced during our annual staff retreat that was held in January 2018, to celebrate achievements and strengthen team cohesion. We had meaningful interaction and fun team building activities. It was a time for reflection and renewal of our commitment to the Oxfam vision.

TRAININGS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

As more than half of our human resource is made up of new staff, we carried out induction and trainings for all staff on Oxfam key policies and procedures in all offices.

Through the year, there has been deliberate effort by

our competent HR team to continuously strengthen and grow the capacity of staff in both technical and soft competences in order to effectively deliver our country strategy.

Safeguarding has been Oxfam Uganda's priority and trainings have been conducted. This helped to enhance staff awareness of their rights and obligations as employees of Oxfam. It also created an environment where we hold each other accountable. In the same light, there was a review of our National Staff Terms & Conditions and Code of Conduct, hence the need for refresher trainings in these areas.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY HERE TO PROTECT US

I had no idea how protected I am by my organizational policies until after a staff reflection session I participated in during the 16 days of activism against Gender based violence. In fact, until then, I always imagined that these policies that we are made to sign when we are joining the organization were just a bunch of strict laws sugarcoated in many English terms meant to scare people into being on their best behavior.

On so many occasions; if not all, I have just passively appended my signature to such documents because it is a requirement, and I need the position. I hardly took time to read and understand them because they are usually wordy and kind of difficult to read on your own.

During the reflection that was held at Oxfam Lamwo field office, we had group work in which we studied Oxfam Anti bullving/Harassment policy and the

Employment Act on sexual violence at work. It was a very practical and enlightening experience that had one of my colleagues exclaiming that he had never been able to read and understand these policies on his own. It felt like he was reading my mind. I am sure so many employees from their respective organizations could be in the same boat; appending signatures just for the sake of it.

Sexual harassment at work is prevalent. It is not something that activists are ranting about for the sake of it. So many men and women especially, are being harassed -through the language used, the portrayal, some women have been cornered by their superiors to do sexual favours, others have been raped!

You could be saying, "no one can harass me or intimidate me into having sex with them", power to you for standing up for yourself! There are so many young boys and girls, however, that are fresh out of university, or those that don't have a developed self esteem that are being preyed on by unscrupulous beings.

It is disgusting. What is more disturbing is that so many of these women fear to speak out not only because they are scared of being branded with scathing names, but mostly because they are not aware that there are laws and policies in place to protect them or to give them justice.

This staff reflection session to me was a big success. I believe if all employers took such initiatives to make their employees fully aware of their rights and responsibilities, we shall have put up a really big fight against sexual harassment; and who knows, we will win it!

By Hariet Ayugi/Oxfam Public Health Promotion Officer

7.0 OUR PARTNERS / COLLABORATIONS



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

By Stella Grace Lutalo, Country Coordinator, PELUM Uganda

PELUM Uganda has enjoyed great collaboration with Oxfam since 2006. Our journey together has been very rewarding. In the earlier years, we greatly profited from institutional strengthening of PELUM Uganda, her members and the farmers on Farmer Led Documentation and Knowledge sharing.

Later on, we started to jointly tackle issues on poverty and injustice, where we promoted agriculture market development for smallholder farmers while addressing gender injustices using the Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) Methodology.

GALS has now become a household methodology within PELUM Uganda. We have extensively used GALS in value chain development and have also developed models of integration of the methodology in climate change, advocacy, land rights and seed security interventions. With GALS, gender justice results are assured for generations.

In the more recent years, Oxfam took on a new

approach in which we have been working as partners. We are jointly working on emerging development concerns of the spiraling inequality and together, we are confronting drivers of inequality such as land grabbing and gender inequality as well as building resilience of farming communities through enabling them realize their right to food as a way of narrowing the growing gap between the rich and the poor.

Our focus has been on influencing policy processes and changes in favor of the marginalized communities.

I am proud to say that over the years, the collaboration between PELUM Uganda and Oxfam has successfully reached over 300,000 vulnerable men and women in Uganda.

Throughour collaboration, PELUMUganda has had great learnings on research and documentation, influencing, gender mainstreaming and most importantly looking beyond poverty to its underlying issues and concerns of governance, inequality and injustice.

As we move towards the future, we look forward to further collaboration with Oxfam to confront the emerging inequality catastrophe in Uganda.

OXFAM IN UGANDA PARTNERS 2017/18

PARTNER ACRONYM	PARTNER FULL NAMES
A2N	Africa 2000 Network
AAU	Action Aid International Uganda
ADOL	Action for Development of Local communities
ADP	Aridland Development Programme
AFCE	Agency For Community Empowerment
AFIC	Africa Freedom Of Information Center
AU	Albinism Umbrella
AWYAD	African Women And Youth Action For Development
CARE	Care International
CARITAS	Caritas Kotido Diocese
CCI	Children's Chance International
CEDOVIP	Centre For Domestic Violence Prevention
CEFORD	Community Empowerment For Rural Development
CEGED	Centre for Governance and Economic Development
CEWIT	Citizens Watch It
CERID	Community Empowerment And Rehabilitation

PARTNER ACRONYM	PARTNER FULL NAMES
CSBAG	Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group
CREAM	Community Organisation For Rural Enterprise Activity Management
COPACSO	Coalition Of Pastoralists Civil Society Organisaitons
CHAPTER FOUR	Chapter Four
DRT	Development Research And Training
ESAFF	Eastern And Southern Small Scale Farmers Forum
FRA	Food Rights Alliance
FAWE	Forum for African Women Educationalists - Uganda Chapter
FIDA	Uganda Association Of Women Lawyers
FRO	Friends Of Orphans
FOKAPAWA	Forum For Kalongo Parish Women Association
FHRI	Foundation For Human Rights Initiative
GRA	Global Rights Alert
GLOFORD	Global Forum 4 Development
IIRR	International Institute For Rural Reconstruction
IFRAD	International Foundation For Recovery And Development

PARTNER ACRONYM	PARTNER FULL NAMES
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
KIDFA	Kitgum District Farmers Association
KRC	Kabarole Research and Resource Centre
KAPDA	Karamoja Peace And Development Agency
LUTINO ADUNU	Lutino Adunu (Children At Heart)
LANDNET	Landnet
LASPNET	Legal Aid Service Providers Network
LGIHE	Luigi Giussani Institute Of Higher Education
MADA	Manna Development Agency
NUDIPU	National Union Of Disabled Persons Uganda
OCA	Open Capital Advisors
P4C	Passion 4 Community Development
PAC	Public Affairs Centre
PAG	Pentecostal Assemblies Of God
PACHEDO	Partner For Community Health And Development

PARTNER ACRONYM	PARTNER FULL NAMES	
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management	
SEATINI	Southern And Eastern Africa Trade & Information Negotiations Institute	
SCF	Save the Children International	
SORUDA	Soruda	
SORAK	Sorak Development Agency	
TUNADO	The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organisation	
UDN	Uganda Debt Network	
ULA	Uganda Land Alliance	
UNATU	Uganda National Teachers Union	
URAA	Uganda Reach the Aged Association	
URDMC	Uganda Refugee And Disaster Management Council	
UWONET	Uganda Womens Network	
UYONET	Uganda Youth Network	
WORUDET	Women In Rural Development	

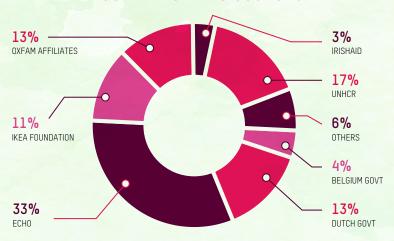
8.0 OUR INCOMES AND EXPENDITURE

INCOME - FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT (EUR)	%
Belgium Govt.	€ 605,067	4.2%
Dutch Govt.	€ 1,936,627	13.4%
ECH0	€ 4,743,447	32.8%
IKEA Foundation	€ 1,650,662	11.4%
Oxfam Affiliates	€ 1,807,793	12.5%
IrishAid	€ 421,412	2.9%
UNHCR	€ 2,376,465	16.4%
Others	€911,773	6.3%
TOTAL	€ 14,453,245	

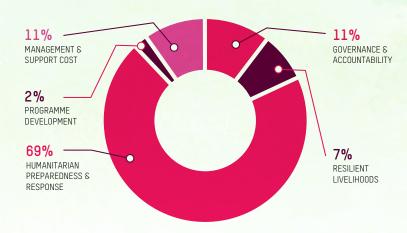
INCOME SHARING	AMOUNT (EUR)	%
Oxfam	€ 6,780,351	47%
Partner Organisations	€ 7,672,894	53%
TOTAL	€ 14,453,245	100%

THEMATIC INVESTMENT	AMOUNT (EUR)	%
Governance & Accountability	€ 1,595,621	11%
Resilient Livelihoods	€1,086,614	8%
Humanitarian Preparedness & Response	€ 9,997,623	69%
Programme Development	€ 233,331	2%
Total Programme Cost	€ 12,913,190	89%
Management & Support Cost	€1,540,055	11%
TOTAL	€ 14,453,245	100%

INCOME - FUNDING SOURCES



AMOUNT (EUR)



9_LO IN THE NEWS

ONLINE PRESENCE

Our online presence on Facebook, twitter, Youtube and Flickr continues to grow.

This year, we gained over 2,800 supporters across our platforms. We actively engaged with our supporters across all platforms with 1,200,000 impressions.

In a move to make information access and reach better, we launched our country website (uganda.oxfam.org) which has increased involvement of the public.













Vampire Diaries star applauds Uganda's refugee policy

By Jaquiline Emodek

Added 18th July 2017 08:58 PM

The actor has been in Uganda for the past week documenting the humanitarian crisis in the Bidibidi settlement and the Myepi settlement



Actor Daniel Gillies during a press briefing on fundraising to support refugees from South Sudan at the Protea Hotel. Photo by Tony Rujuta

Daniel Gillies who is popular for his role as Elijah Mikealson in the series "Vampire Diaries" and "The originals" has hailed Uganda for its refugee policy that gives refugees dignity inspite of their situation.

"Uganda is not the wealthiest country in the world but the fact that it is offering education, land among other things which allow refugees to maintain their dignity is amazing," he said during a press conference at Protea Hotel in Entebbe.

Gillies has been in Uganda for the past week documenting the humanitarian crisis in the Bidibidi settlement and the Mvepi settlement which house 273,000 and 125,000 refugees respectively.



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Vampire Diaries star applauds Uganda's refugee policy By Jacquillee Emodel: Associates buty 2007 09 59 PM

The actor has been in Uganda for the past week documenting the humanitarian crisis in the Bidibidi settlement and the Myeni settlement



Actor Daniel Gillies during a press briefing on fundraising to support refugees from South Sudan at the Protea Hotel. Photo by Tony Rujuta



Hollywood star Gillies appeals for

support for refugees in Uganda

Visiting Hoflywood Actor Daniel Gillies has halled Uganda for its continued openness and acceptance of people fleeing fighting in their home countries.

This comes at a time the country is hosting about 1.3 Million refugees mainly from south

Interview: Daniel Gillies on his work with Oxfam in Uganda



Having starred in four season of CW's 'The Originals', Daniel Gillies talked to us about his experience of moving into the Director's Chair.

AC: This season on 'The Originals' you moved into the Director's chair what was it like

Daily Monitor ress sucress use securiserates manages Vampire diaries' Elijah visits Uganda, calls for refugee awareness



The Telegrapis

News

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The world's largest refugee settlement you've never heard of

HOME NEWS

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he number of South Sudanese refugees sheltering in Uganda has reached I million, the United Nations said Thursday, a grim milestone for what has become the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis.

The largest of the settlements hosting refugees from South Sudan is

It is roughly 230 square kilometres (\$8.8 sq. miles) and houses at least 272,000 refugees - making it the largest settlement of its kind in the

Drone footage has been released by Onfam to highlight the scale of







more land for pipeline





For more information, please contact

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