

OXFAM IN UGANDA



AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER

WE CARE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT IN UGANDA



The WE-CARE team paid a courtesy visit to the Commissioner – Dr. Anaela Nakafeero at Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development offices

For more than 13 years, the Women's Economic Empowerment and Care (WE-Care) Programme has demonstrated that recognizing, reducing, redistributing, representing and rewarding unpaid care and domestic work is critical to advancing women's economic empowerment and gender justice.

In Uganda, the programme has contributed to changing narratives and gender norms around care, strengthened advocacy for investment in care infrastructure and services, and supported policy engagement aimed at ensuring unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) is recognized in development planning.

Against this backdrop, the WE-Care Programme Management Unit (PMU) conducted a five-day monitoring and learning visit to Uganda from 3rd to 7th August 2026.

The visit sought to strengthen programme delivery, financial accountability, donor compliance and reporting, while providing an opportunity to learn directly from implementing partners, communities and other stakeholders.

PROGRAMME'S PROGRESS AND LEARNING

The visit brought together the PMU, Oxfam in Uganda, UWONET, GAFI, Mission Uganda and other stakeholders to reflect on progress under Phase 5.3 of the programme and identify areas requiring further attention.

The week began with Oxfam's engagements with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Oxfam in Uganda Country Director Francis Odokorach highlighted the contribution of WE-Care to communities and encouraged greater integration of unpaid care and domestic work into other programmes to sustain the gains beyond the life of the project.

Dr. Angela Nakafeero at the ministry highlighted policy shifts influenced by the programme and reflected on government programmes that have incorporated unpaid care and domestic work.

Throughout the week, the team met implementing partners, women leaders, members of the Care Coalition, religious leaders and community savings groups.

These engagements provided an opportunity to hear directly about how communities and institutions are challenging unequal care responsibilities and promoting changes in social norms.

One particularly promising example came from engagements with the Orthodox Church in Namungoona, where unpaid care and domestic work has been integrated into church activities, guided by a pastoral letter.

This demonstrated the important role that religious institutions can play in sustaining conversations and actions on unpaid care work beyond the lifespan of individual projects.

The team also interacted with members of the Kisa Kya Mukama Savings Group in Ggaba, further demonstrating the value of bringing conversations on care into community and economic empowerment spaces.

Despite the progress, the visit identified areas that require greater attention. The programme needs to strengthen the engagement of men and boys, religious and cultural leaders, and leaders at different levels as part of efforts to transform social norms around unpaid care and domestic work.

Another recommendation was to create more opportunities for cross-learning among religious institutions, Care Coalition members and other programme actors. Sharing experiences and approaches that have worked can help successful interventions to be replicated and sustained in other communities.

The visit concluded with a debrief at Oxfam in Uganda's offices in Muyenga. Ultimately, the visit reaffirmed that addressing unpaid care and domestic work requires more than short-term interventions.

Sustaining progress will require stronger documentation, continued investment in community-led approaches, meaningful engagement of men and influential leaders, improved cross-learning, and the integration of unpaid care work across wider programmes and policies.

PARTNERS REFLECT ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE ACTION AT ECHO PROJECT CLOSE-OUT MEETING IN MBALE CITY



Since September 2022, Oxfam in partnership with Uganda Red Cross Society and Caritas Tororo has been implementing disaster preparedness project to strengthen the capacity of communities, local authorities, and other stakeholders to anticipate, prepare for, and respond effectively to disaster risks.

Funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the project focused on enhancing resilience through improved disaster risk reduction mechanisms, early warning systems, community preparedness structures, and stakeholder coordination.

On 27th August 2026, Oxfam conducted a close-out meeting with key stakeholders in Mt Elgon Districts of Bulambuli, Sironko, Butaleja, Bududa, Namisindwa, Mbale District and Mbale City.

This meeting was to formally mark the end of project implementation, share achievements and lessons learned, and discuss sustainability measures for the interventions established during the project period.

The meeting provided an opportunity to reflect on the results achieved, assess the contribution of different stakeholders, and strengthen commitment towards maintaining and scaling disaster preparedness initiatives beyond the project lifespan.

The stakeholder engagement process was intended to ensure an orderly transition of project-supported structures, tools, and knowledge to the relevant government departments, community structures, and partner institutions.

BELOW ARE THE STORIES FROM THE COMMUNITIES ON HOW THE PROJECT IMPACTED THEIR LIVES

EARLY WARNING ALONG RIVER MANAFWA: READING THE RIVER BEFORE

IT RISES: Moses Were is one of the community volunteers helping people in Doho Village monitor River Manafwa, observe changing water levels, and share warning information with nearby households before flooding becomes severe. Whenever heavy rains hit the highlands of Bududa and Mbale districts, Moses Were keeps an eye on River Manafwa. [Learn how Moses shares early warning messages](#)





The story of Naume Khanakwa, the woman who steps in before Disaster Strikes:

After a devastating landslide in Bulambuli district in 2024, Naume Khanakwa – a teacher, became a dedicated river gauge reader. She uses her voice to keep her community safe. In this video, watch Naume's daily journey from monitoring river levels to alerting communities to mobilizing women's savings groups and leading reforestation efforts - [Watch her story](#)

How Cash Assistance Helps Disaster-Affected Families: Through the crisis modifier, which is a flexible financing mechanism, it allowed Oxfam and partners Uganda Red Cross Society and Caritas Tororo programs that to respond quickly to approximately 68,640 households affected by floods and landslides across the Mt Elgon and Sebei regions. [Learn more](#)



Strengthening Community Resilience for Disaster Preparedness in the Mt Elgon Region:

In this video, we highlight how local communities are transforming from disaster-vulnerable to disaster-ready. From the construction of bridges that ensure children can reach school safely to the strategic management of the Eastern Region Warehouse, see how preparation and local leadership are saving lives in the face of disasters. [Learn more](#)



Surviving a Flash Flood: Catherine Wegosasa's Story of Resilience: In this story, Catherine shares her harrowing experience of surviving a nighttime flood that destroyed her home and the subsequent journey to protect her community. After losing everything to the water, Catherine is now a dedicated advocate for disaster preparedness. She works with her neighbours to implement life-saving strategies. [Her story](#)

The Initiatives that were undertaken to respond to Disaster Risk Reduction in the Mt. Elgon Region in ECHO Phase 1 (2022/24)

[Download the overview to learn the project's impact in:](#)

- Enhancing vulnerability and capacity assessment activities
- Strengthening Community Early Warning Information
- Creating awareness
- Establishing a regional contingency stock warehouse



UPDATES FROM THE WEBSITE

RENEWABLE ENERGY MUST BE CLOSER TO COMMUNITIES: Radio talk shows remain authoritative platforms for advocacy and creating public awareness about social, economic and development issues directly to the communities. Oxfam's energy experts Siraji Magara Luyima, The Energy and Extractives Coordinator and Micheal Nimusiima, Project Officer, Innovative Energy Solutions were hosted on [Radio One on Tuesday 25th Aug 2026 at 7 PM](#) to discuss how better planning and budgeting can accelerate access to renewable energy. [Listen to the radio talk show proceedings](#)

REFUGEE AND HOST COMMUNITY MEMBERS RECEIVE TRICYCLES AND GRINDING MILLS TO STRENGTHEN LIVELIHOODS: As part of efforts to strengthen agricultural livelihoods among farmer groups, Oxfam, in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) handed over two tricycles and three grinding mill machines to selected farmer groups in Bidi-bidi and Imvepi Refugee Settlements. The equipment are intended to support farmer groups in improving transportation, processing, market access and marketing, promote value addition and marketing of agricultural produce while creating income-generating opportunities for group members. [Read the story](#)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE 2ND EAC REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION IN NAIROBI: From 25–28 August 2026, Oxfam and partners joined education stakeholders from across East Africa and beyond for the 2nd East African Community Regional Conference on Education (EACREC 2026) at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya. Under the theme "Transforming Education in East Africa," with the sub-theme "From Commitments to Impact: Fostering Resilience and Future-Ready Systems for Sustainable Development, the conference created space for governments, civil society organisations, development partners, donors, researchers and educators to share ideas and explore how the region can move from commitments to real impact in education. [Samuel Mawa shares reflections from the conference.](#)

OXFAM IN THE PRESS

- [Half a Million People Face Acute Hunger in Karamoja, Oxfam Says](#)
- [SEATINI, OXFAM and Partners Reconvene to consolidate Position on Tax Laws for FY 2022/23](#)
- [Civil society call for fairer taxes as 2027/28 budget process begins](#)
- Radio Talk show on renewable energy - [Radio One on Tuesday 25th Aug 2026 at 7 PM](#)



OXFAM Plot 3459, Tank Hill Road, Muyenga
P.O. Box 6228, Kampala, Uganda
Email: kampalaooffice@oxfam.org

Website: uganda.oxfam.org

Follow: Oxfam in Uganda     

Compiled by Dorah Ntunga, Sarah Mazirwe, and Ivan Rackara