

OXFAM IN UGANDA



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



Oxfam participated in the 2nd Biennial Uganda National Conference on Health, Human Rights and Development (UCHD 2025), organised by its partner, [CEHURD](#).

With funding from Global Affairs Canada, Oxfam together with CEHURD, Femme Forte Uganda, Reproductive Health Uganda and the Makerere University School of Public Health are implementing a six and a half years Stand-Up for Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) project in West Nile and Eastern Uganda.

Organised under the theme, “The Right to Health: Bridging Gaps across Sectors to Achieve Equitable Health for All,” the convention served as a wake-up call for participants to look beyond traditional healthcare and examine the deeper social determinants of health.

These include how poverty, inequality, climate change, and social exclusion rob millions of their healthy years.

Dr. Charles Olaro, the Director of General Health Services at Ministry of Health highlighted the double burden the health sector faces including road accidents, increase in communicable and non-communicable diseases and climate challenges.



He implored participants to shun and avoid risky behavior such as alcohol abuse and having unprotected sex, Dr Olaro also urged them to also prioritise regular medical checkups.

PEER EDUCATORS FROM STAND-UP PROJECT SHINE AT THE CONFERENCE

Edwin Wangira – 29 – a community peer educator from Banda sub-county, Namayingo District who supports in creating awareness on SRHR under the Stand UP for SRHR project was a panelist that contributed to the conversation on the barriers faced by the people living on the island district in accessing health services.



Some of the challenges highlighted by Edwin include long distances to health centres, limited youth friendly spaces, no secondary school in the whole sub county of Lolwe Island, no health centres III in Banda sub county, poor support of recreational activities as well as negative social norms. [Learn about Edwin's Impact in his community in Namayingo District](#)

PEER EDUCATORS FROM WEST NILE PERFORM A DRAMA

Arua City Peer Educators' drama group from West Nile also performed a skit on 'Bridging Service Delivery Gaps, Building Health Systems Beyond the Clinic,' which highlighted the need to achieve equitable access to quality healthcare, efforts must go beyond the walls of health facilities.

Under the Stand Up for SHRH Project, Oxfam and partners work with peer educators to addresses key gender inequality and human rights issues, particularly harmful social norms, traditional harmful practices, and taboos regarding gender and sexuality; lack of adequate information on or access to comprehensive SRHR services; and lack of meaningful decision-making power by young women and girls regarding their health and sexuality. [Watch the conference proceedings.](#)

UPDATES FROM THE WEBSITE AND YOUTUBE

THE URBAN FOOD HIVES PROJECT: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS IN CITIES

With funding from Oxfam America, Oxfam in partnership with the Community Integrated Development Initiative implemented 'The Urban Food Hives Project' in Luzira, a Kampala Suburb and Soroti City. The four-year initiative equipped communities – especially women, youth, and schools, with practical urban farming techniques for cultivating nutritious vegetables and herbs and innovative recycling practices. The project reached **95** direct participants (72 females and 23 males), and **600** indirect participants.

- Read [Evidence of impact presented in the photos and case stories](#)
- Watch [How Maimuna Umar is Using a Small Piece of Land to Produce Food](#)
- Watch [Visual Project Impact highlights](#)



Rich countries have broken their
climate finance promises to eight
highly vulnerable African countries



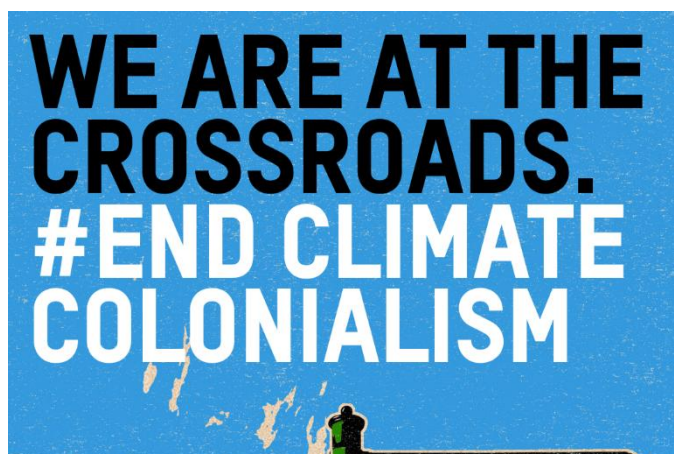
OXFAM'S CLIMATE FINANCE REPORT FOR IGAD'S REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

The countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)—Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda—bear little historic responsibility for climate change but are greatly exposed to its impacts. The findings of the report demonstrate that climate finance flows remain inadequate to address the urgent needs of countries in the IGAD region. East Africa is facing some of the worst impacts of the climate crisis despite contributing just 0.09% of global carbon emissions. In 2024 alone, over 63 million people across seven countries in the region experienced severe food insecurity. The climate crisis is deepening inequality. [Learn more](#)

70% OF MINERALS FOR RENEWABLES LIES IN GLOBAL SOUTH BUT THE MAJORITY OF PROFITS ARE CAPTURED BY THE WORLD'S RICHEST

The vital transition from fossil fuels into renewable energy is being captured by super-rich polluters – individuals, companies and countries – reproducing colonial patterns that are entrenching inequalities and fuelling human rights violations, says Oxfam's new report "Unjust Transition: Reclaiming the Energy Future from Climate Colonialism". Although Global South countries hold roughly 70% of transition minerals reserves, the majority of the investments in renewable energy are concentrated in the Global North (46%) and China (29%) – with those profits largely falling into the hands of the richest 1%. [Read more](#)

**WE ARE AT THE
CROSSROADS.
#END CLIMATE
COLONIALISM**



UPDATES FROM THE WEBSITE



WHEN YOU ARE A TEACHER, YOU ARE A ROLE MODEL TO THE COMMUNITY

Amayo Hilary, 35, teaches Computer Applications and AutoCAD at Ladongo Polytechnic Institute in Yumbe District. Hilary shares that 'The teacher learning centres (TLCs) have taught me professional conduct and the principles teachers must uphold. As a teacher, the community looks up to you, so character and integrity matter.' [Learn how TLCs have helped Hilary to improve how to teach and relate with students](#)

THIS IS HOW ORGANIC FARMING CAN FEED THE WORLD

In 2025, Betty Asio's group began training in organic farming, moving away from the harmful chemical pesticides and fertilizers they had relied on for years. "We used to grow tomatoes and vegetables using chemicals, but after learning the dangers to both crops and our health. Organic fertilizers and pesticides smell better, are healthier, and are much cheaper than industrial ones. They work well on mangoes, oranges, and other vegetables," Betty adds. [Read Betty's story](#)



BULAMU GONZA'S VIEW OF STAND-UP FOR SHRH PROJECT

For the last four years, Bulamu Gonza, the Senior Probation and Social Welfare Officer of Namayingo district has been engaged in the implementation of Stand-Up project in Namayingo District. Gonza says that 'Many projects only engage adolescents at health centers, but the Stand-Up Project has taken a broader, multisectoral approach, bringing health, education, and community-based services together. It ensures that both in-school and out-of-school youth get the help they need,' [Read more](#)

UNLOCKING CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING IN UGANDA: LESSONS FOR FUTURE OF RENEWABLE CONFERENCE GHANA 2025

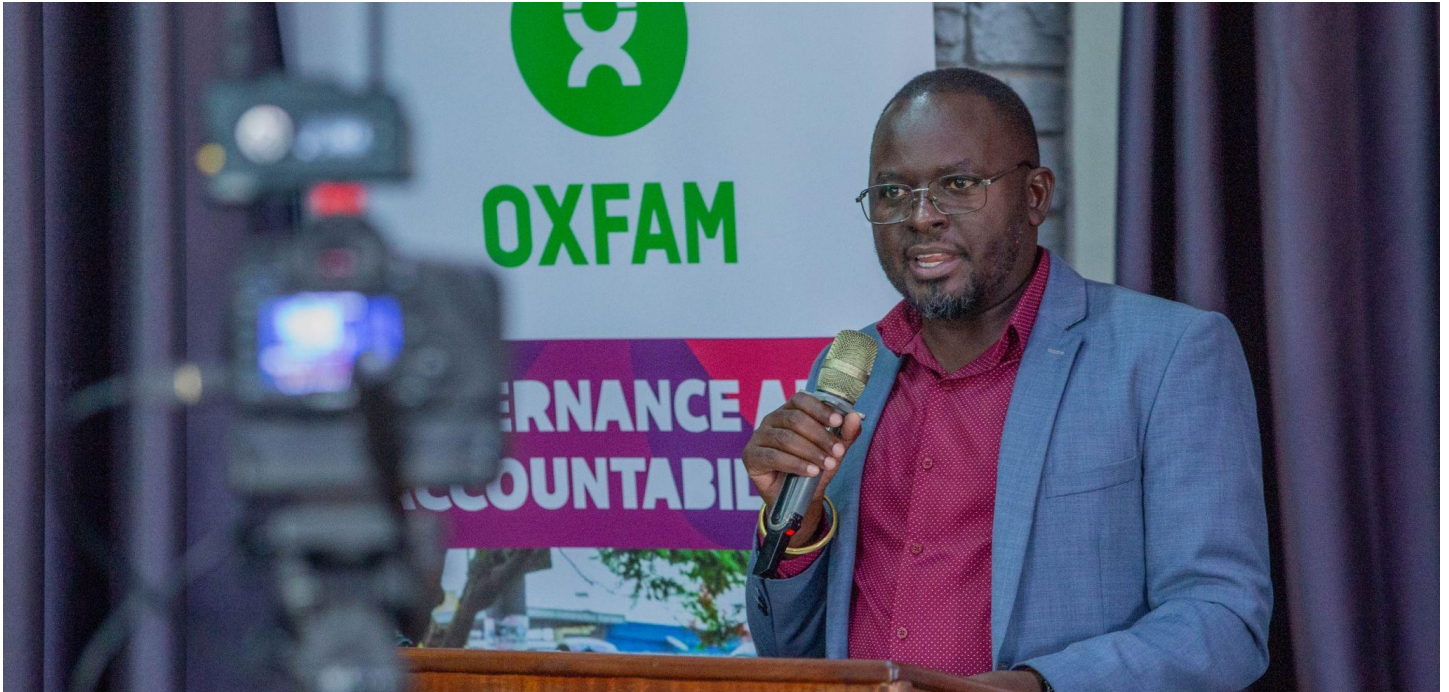
Organized by the Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP), The Future of Energy Conference 2025 convened policymakers, investors, civil society, and industry leaders to address Africa's energy challenges and opportunities from August 26–27, 2025, at the Labadi Beach Hotel in Accra, Ghana. Siraji Magara Luyima, The Energy and Extractives' Coordinator at Oxfam shares lessons for unlocking clean energy financing in Uganda. [Read more](#)



HOW GALS BROUGHT HARMONY TO MUSA AND VIVIAN

After enduring years of marital conflict, Musa Lochoringole, aged 31, and his wife, Vivian Chemkea, aged 25, from Arol village in Karita sub-county, are now enjoying a peaceful marriage, thanks to the benefits of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology. The couple were among over 30 couples trained in GALS components by Oxfam partner, NAWOU. [Learn more about their story.](#)

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON DIGITAL RIGHTS AND INCLUSION



Francis Shanty Odokorach, Oxfam in Uganda's Country Director giving remarks at the dialogue at Fairway Hotel, Kampala

Oxfam and Center for Constitutional Governance (CCG) recently convened a National Dialogue on Digital Rights and Inclusion in Kampala under the ReCIPE Project.

The [Recentering the Civic Internet through Partner Engagement \(RECIPE\)](#) Project is implemented by Oxfam, CCG and funded by European Union through Oxfam Ireland.

The dialogue brought together key players in Uganda's digital economy including government, CSOs, academia, private sector, tech companies and media to hold conversations towards achieving positive shifts that are rights respecting and inclusive.

'This workshop is an opportunity for multi-stakeholder collaboration to move from dialogue to tangible solutions,' said Judith Atim who represented the CCG Executive Director, Dr. Sarah Bireete.

'The workshop came at an important time when Uganda is preparing for its 2026 elections making it relevant to secure civic freedoms and rights online as was highlighted in the remarks of the Oxfam in Uganda Inclusive Governance Manager.

'We gather not just to exchange knowledge but to reflect on how technology is shaping our democracy, our civic space and our everyday lives,' said Pauline Agnes Apolot, Oxfam's Inclusive Governance Manager, in a speech at the workshop speaking.

Sophie adds 'this dialogue is a chance to listen, to learn and to chat pathways that strengthen digital rights as part of a broader struggle for human rights.

In his remarks, Francis Shanty Odokorach, Oxfam's Country Director drew comparisons between the internet and a village square which provides a platform for people to share ideas and engage each other on different issues describing the digital eco-system with gate keepers and regulators.

The internet as we know it is our modern-day village square and today 'I've learnt that the challenges that we experience in the Ugandan civic space and internet are not isolated and can be found in other countries both within the continent and globally"

Odokorach underscored Oxfam's commitment to advancing digital rights. "As Oxfam we want to be a key player to ensure that those that need their voices heard regardless of the platform they use are represented and have their voices heard whether it is in the digital space or the village market or even parliament"

This dialogue was a follow up to the Digital Rights and Inclusion Forum (DRIF25) held earlier this year in Lusaka, Zambia which convened diverse actors from civil society, government, private sector, and development partners which highlighted pressing issues in the African digital space including online censorship, harassment of women and minorities, data surveillance, and digital exclusion.

It provided a platform for all stakeholders to further work towards having healthy policies for digital rights, meaningful innovation, and civically engaged and conscious of emerging trends in the digital landscape.

- You can access the video on [You tube](#)?
- Learn more about [ReCIPE Project](#)

THE LAUNCH OF THE GAC'S COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR PARTNERS



Fatia Atugonza, the Gender Justice and Women's Rights Programme Manager emphasized that the workshop was a unique opportunity to recognize collective efforts in SRHR advocacy. She also stressed the importance of collaboration in addressing the existing gaps.

Earlier this month, Oxfam joined the Global Affairs Canada's (GAC) Mid-Term Evaluation Workshop, which also marked the launch of the GAC's Community of Practice for partners in Kampala.

GAC provides funding support for four consortiums implementing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) projects across the country. The workshop sought to bring together the different consortiums to share knowledge and draw lessons while acknowledging the progress made in their implementation of SRHR programs

Oxfam and partners [CEHURD Uganda](#), [Reproductive Health Uganda](#), [Femme Forte Uganda](#), and [Makerere University School of Public Health \(MakSPH\)](#) are implementing the GAC-funded Stand Up for SRHR project in Eastern Uganda and West Nile and joined partners; CARE International in Uganda, ADRA Uganda and Right to play who lead the "She Soars", "Together" and "Share consortiums respectively"

Speaking on behalf of the Country Director, Fatia Atugonza, the Gender Justice and Women's Rights Programme Manager, emphasized that the workshop was a unique opportunity to recognize collective efforts in SRHR advocacy. She also stressed the importance of collaboration in addressing the existing gaps.

The workshop featured:

- A presentation on adolescent health strategies and guiding documents
- Mid-Term Evaluation Findings
- Testimonies from project participants sharing real impact stories

We heard inspiring voices from:

"Richard Jumadhe, a peer educator from Imvepi Refugee Settlement, who highlighted the challenges refugees face such as food insecurity and limited economic opportunities that fuel teenage pregnancies and school dropouts. He called on stakeholders to continue supporting refugees"

"Betiva Nakiganda from Mayuge District, who shared her journey of resilience. Supported by the Stand-Up project, she returned to school after pregnancy and is now in her final year at KIU pursuing a degree in Social Work and Social Administration. Her message was clear: "Teenage pregnancy shouldn't stop girls from going to school."

Read about the [Stand up for SHRH Project](#)

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING ON GOVERNANCE, COALITION, AND NETWORK BUILDING TO ENHANCE POLICY INFLUENCING IN LAND RIGHTS



Land actors under the National Land Coalition Uganda and Oxfam held a two-day multi-stakeholder training on governance and coalition/network building to strengthen policy influencing from the grassroots to the national level. The training brought together farmer field schools' members and land actors, particularly civil society organizations engaged in land governance. The training was aimed at enhancing collaboration, influence land policy, and build a vibrant network of land rights advocates and activists committed to ensuring equitable and inclusive land governance in Uganda. The participants were also awarded certificates of participation.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 3RD EDITION OF ELGON HALF MARATHON IS OPEN



On 1st November 2025, Oxfam will join Joshua Cheptegei Development Foundation, United Nations Development Programme and other partners for the 3rd edition of the Mt Elgon Half Marathon in Mbale City. The marathon will involve Races of 21 km, 10 km, and 5 km

Organised under the theme “Promoting Sports Tourism for Environmental Conservation, Good Health, and GBV Prevention Awareness,” it will serve both as a sporting event but also as a platform to promote sustainable development.

The participants will also engage in activities such as tree planting and the development of eco-trails in collaboration with the Uganda Wildlife Authority while also showcasing the natural beauty and cultural richness of the Mt. Elgon area.

REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE

- Pay <https://pegasus.co.ug:8895/elgonhalfmarathon/pay>
- Scan the QR Code on the flyer to pay and register instantly



THE NATIONAL CSO CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (FFD4) COMMITMENTS



Oxfam joined government and other Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) stakeholders including CSBAG Uganda, ActionAid International Uganda and Center for Basic Research at the National CSO Consultative Meeting on Financing for Development (FfD4) Commitments under the theme 'Building Consensus on a Roadmap that Aligns Financing Strategies with Development Priorities and Strengthens Mutual Accountability.'

During the discussions, Sophie Nampewo, the Finance for Development Coordinator, highlighted some of Uganda's pressing development finance challenges, including rising public debt and the heavy burden of debt servicing, low domestic revenue collections coupled with losses from illicit financial flows (IFFs) and tax evasion and increasing climate vulnerabilities that threaten key sectors.

EAST AFRICA REFUGEE LEADERS CONVENE TO REVIEW GRF 2023 COMMITMENTS

Oxfam in Uganda, together with the Independent Diplomat, convened the regional refugee leaders from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda to review progress on the commitments made during the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in 2023. The round table discussions aim to put refugee voices at the centre of regional and global discussions.



The two-day roundtable was held at the Oxfam Offices in Kampala on 29th September 2025, and it provided a platform for refugees to share experiences and learn from one another.

On 2nd day, refugees, government representatives, development partners, and international non-governmental organizations convened at Skyz Hotel to review the 2023 GRF commitments ahead of the High-Level Meeting in Geneva in December 2025.

With funding from Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Oxfam is implementing an advocacy project strategy through national and local partners, including refugee led organizations under the localization agenda 2016.

THE ALLIANCE OF CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS FOR PEACE BUILDING



Meet Rt. Hon. Tuku Ismael, Prime Minister of Lugbara Kari, a member of the Cultural and Religious Leaders' Alliance Committee. The committee is a community-based initiative designed to promote peaceful co-existence and resolve conflicts in refugee-hosting areas. It includes cultural and religious leaders, landlords, local authorities, and representatives from women and youth groups. The alliance serves as an early warning system, addressing tensions in refugee and host communities before they escalate into violence. Operating in Rhino Camp, Imvepi, and Bidibidi settlements, it brings together leaders from both communities to collaborate on conflict resolution.

- [Read about the peace building efforts in refugee communities](#)

OXFAM IN THE PRESS

- [IGAD region pays price of climate inaction](#)
- [Regional Farmers' Forum Launches Fourth Land Camp in Arua](#)
- [ESAFF-Uganda 4th Land Camp Kicks Off in Arua District](#)
- [ADRA Uganda makes strides in defending health rights](#)
- [West Nile Farmers Seek Extension of Dutch-Funded "Power of Voices" Project](#)
- [West Nile farmers call for extension of Dutch-funded "Power of Voices" project](#)
- [Government aims to issue Shs 10k treasury bills](#)



OXFAM

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

Website: uganda.oxfam.org

Follow:      Oxfam in Uganda

*Compiled by Dorah Ntunga, Sarah Mazirwe, and Ivan Rackara
Photos – contributed by various programme teams*