RESTORING HOPE
Saving lives now and in the future









Disclaimer

This publication highlights our humanitarian work in the program area. For more information about all our program work, please contact the country office for details.

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Saving lives now and in the future

March 2016

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACORD CEFORD	Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development Community Empowerment for Rural Development
EFSVL	Emergency Food security and Vulnerable Livelihoods
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PSN	Persons with Special Needs
PWDs	People with Disabilities
SGBV	Sexual Gender Based Violence
RUMPS	Re-Useable Menstrual Pads
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Program
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of
	Humanitarian Affairs



ABOUT OXFAM IN UGANDA

Oxfam has been working in Uganda since the 1960s focusing on development and humanitarian programs that use innovative ways to practically support people lifting themselves out of poverty. We work among poor communities through local organisations and volunteers to achieve our objectives of a world without poverty.

We believe that fundamental change will happen in Uganda with a shift in government, donor policies and implementation practices and when all citizens, including women and youth, can claim their rights in the Constitution, and hold duty bearers and elected officials to account.

OUR WORK

Advocacy and Campaigns

Together with partners and civil society organisations, we are campaigning and lobbying the national and local governments on a wide range of issues, including tax justice, climate change, food security, extractives, youth empowerment, land rights, disaster management and resilience and conflict resolution as well as gender equality.

We believe that enabling the advancement of women's rights is key to addressing drivers of poverty and inequality. To do so we pilot and scale up inclusive methodologies and tools such as the Gender Action Learning System [GALS] and care work analysis tool all towards achieving gender justice.

We pilot initiatives in rural and urban areas that enhance youth skilling and employability. The

pilots are a basis for wider advocacy in policy and practice change.

Research

We invest in research, knowledge management and evidence building to anchor our advocacy for alternative policies and practice.

Strengthening Capacity

We work with and support partners to carryout regular emergency and vulnerability analysis, maintain early warning systems and respond to humanitarian emergencies.

The evidence we generate out of this also informs our advocacy for local, national and global systems that respond to the needs of the vulnerable especially women. We have a special focus on strengthening local humanitarian actors.

Our Geographical Focus

Our country strategy is a national strategy although our program footprint is in the Greater North. We work with strategic partners across the country to generate wider evidence for our work.

Program

To deliver our (one) program, we have organized our work around three major themes which are;

Theme 1: Governance and Accountability

Theme 2: Resilient Livelihoods

Theme 3: Humanitarian

All these themes have a deliberate bias on promotion and protection of women's rights.



THE SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEE SITUATION

The South Sudanese conflict that started on 15 December 2013 has cost over 50,000 lives, displaced more than 2.3 million people of which 1.69 million are internally displaced within South Sudan, and over 648,000 are refugees in neighbouring countries.

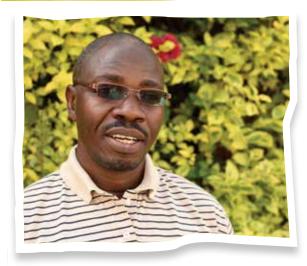
[UN OCHA, March 2016]

As of February 2016, a total of 189,712 South Sudanese refugees were registered and active in Uganda since the influx began in mid-December 2013, including 112,561 in Adjumani, 21,654 in Arua, 47,494 in Kiryandongo and 7,765 in Kampala. These do not include the pre-December 2013 caseload of 17,908. [UNHCR Uganda Update For The South Sudan Emergency, Feb 18-Mar 2, 2016]





OUR HUMANITARIAN WORK; RESTORING HOPE, SAVING LIVES NOW AND IN THE FUTURE



Edward Mwebaze Sembidde Humanitarian Manager, Oxfam in Uganda.

Our humanitarian work is informed by the Oxfam Country Strategy [OCS] that, among others, aims to enhance preparedness, reduce vulnerability to disaster and ensure effective response to humanitarian crises. The specific focus under Goal three of the OCS establishes that vulnerable women, youth [female and male] and men are empowered to be able to mitigate, cope with shocks and change, and enjoy their rights to life with dignity.

Risk assesment, preparedness, mitigation, response and resilience building

We are alert about the various potential emergency situations that communities we work with are exposed to on a daily basis. In such scenarios we take extra measures to work with communities, assess the risk, determine preparedness, mitigation, response and resilience measures we can put in place to reduce the impact of disasters. To do this we support the efforts of the central and local government structures and civil society organisations in disaster prone areas.

We work to enlist those with capacity and commitment to address the risks identified and we provide technical support to them to put in place contingency plans.

Currently the main risks we have in our contingency plan are: the impact of regional political conflicts (for example in the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Somalia. These have resulted in the influx of refugees that we continue to respond to. In addition, food insecurity is recurrent across the country mainly in the Karamoja region. We are also concerned about the negative impact of climate change on the natural environment as well as epidemics and disease outbreaks like Ebola and Marburg. We work to support the existing structures and systems to predict and address potential disaster risks.

Partner capacity strengthening

Oxfam believes it is imperative to strengthen humanitarian capacity at local level. This would ensure better, quicker and cost effective preparedness and response to humanitarian situations. We have taken actions to strengthen the capacity of local humanitarian actors in all our areas of work. In delivering humanitarian assistance through partners, Oxfam takes full responsibility to ensure that all programs meet required local and international standards. This is partly the reason Oxfam in Uganda commits significant resources to capacity building, training, coaching and general program quality investments. To this end, we have an ongoing humanitarian capacity building program with 15 national organisations. These partners are part of our contingency planning, continuous vulnerability analysis and readiness.

Our partners participate in designing our programs. Through these partnerships, we ensure local



communities are directly involved in implementing the interventions and that the interventions are sustainable.

Empowering Local and National Humanitarian Actors

Oxfam has recently embarked on a program called "Empowering Local and National Humanitarian Actors (ELNHA)" to build on and amplify Oxfam's extensive experience of building the capacity of local humanitarian actors. The program's three objectives are: First, to strengthen the capacity of local and national humanitarian actors, so they are equipped to lead humanitarian actions in their countries/localities.

Secondly, to give local and national humanitarian actors the voice to create a strong domestic humanitarian agenda by giving them the opportunity to design and implement quality humanitarian programs.

Thirdly, to create more space for local and national humanitarian actors by influencing other international NGOs and donors to contribute to this systemic change.

The Ugandan program focuses on selected districts in the greater north including Kotido, Kaabong, Lamwo, Agago, Koboko, and Arua. These districts face challenges from climate change, prolonged droughts and food insecurity as well as refugee influx due to conflict in the neighbouring countries. Oxfam's long term engagement with partners and focus on building trust enables effective capacity building trajectories that include equipping with both 'hard' and 'soft' skills. This has been applied in the technical aspects of our humanitarian work in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Emergency Food Security and Vulnerable Livelihoods (EFSVL). The 'soft' skills include gender

mainstreaming, conflict sensitivity, leadership and accountability, as well as supporting institutional development.

Our Humanitarian Response

Oxfam along with local partners have since January 2014 supported approximately 85,000 South Sudanese refugees and members of Ugandan host communities with safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion. We have also extended emergency food security and livelihood support that includes energy saving stoves, Cash-for-Work program and support for agriculture based livelihoods. This support integrates environment protection.

At the centre of our intervention is gender and protection of refugees, largely using the evidence generated from this work for advocacy. All this work is linked to our development work of building the resilience of these communities. Oxfam's response targets both the refugees and host communities.

Linking the humanitarian work with our development work

In line with Oxfam's One Program Approach principle we link long-term development, humanitarian response and other campaigns (advocacy and mobilization for action). In the emergency refugee response, we deliver WASH, Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods, SGBV and protection interventions in a way that promotes inherent capacities of the affected people to sustainably respond to challenges. We improve the connection between crisis response and long-term development by applying a cross-sectoral approach in the implementation of integrated programs, for improved cross-sectoral outcomes, linking ongoing emergency to recovery interventions.



SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEE RESPONSE

CURRENT SITUATION

Whereas the numbers of arrivals have come down as compared to the previous year, more refugees continue coming into Uganda. In January 2016, the number of new arrivals increased to over 300 per day.

OXFAM RESPONSE

To date, Oxfam and our local partners CEFORD and ACORD have supported 85,475 South Sudanese refugees and members of Ugandan host communities. We provide clean water for drinking and household needs, improve sanitation facilities, and promote good hygiene to prevent disease outbreaks like cholera.

We also distribute energy-saving stoves and provide short-term jobs in a Cash-for-Work program.

MORE THAN
200,000
SOUTH SUDAN
REFUGES
HAVE FLED INTO
UGANDA SINCE
DECEMBER 2013

Oxfam and partners also distribute tools and seedlings and train the refugees to enable them establish kitchen gardens to supplement their diet. The refugees are also offered fruit tree seedlings to establish an own natural resource for sustainable use and environmental protection.

Oxfam is also actively engaged with the Office of the Prime minister and other key humanitarian players to ensure that they adopt approaches that put the safety and protection needs of refugees, especially women, at the forefront of the response.

We continue to engage with national, regional and international stakeholders through the coordination forums to influence actions and support towards the refugees.

PROVIDING CLEAN WATER

Oxfam is providing water to 17,500 people in the settlements of Arua and Adjumani. For the longer term, we have drilled and rehabilitated boreholes to provide refugees with sustainable water sources through hand-pumped bore holes and motorised Solar pumped water systems.

Water sources are strategically placed in areas that benefit both refugees and host communities, reducing resource strain and potential tensions, while ensuring everyone has access to water.

Oxfam is supplying approximately 17-20 litres of water to each person per day.

SANITATION

With the increase in the number of refugees, and few sanitation facilities, open defecation is common and increase the risk of water

contamination and disease. Oxfam provides refugees with construction tools and materials including latrine slabs so they can construct household sanitary facilities. We have constructed 551 dome shaped latrines for people with special needs. We have also distributed potties for children who are unable to use latrines.

Over 8,564 households - with an average size of 5 members have constructed latrines and bathing shelters with Oxfam's support. Permanent latrines including wash rooms for girls have been constructed in selected primary schools in both refugees and host community. Oxfam has constructed Communal latrines for the new settlements which are still in the process of constructing their household facilities. Garbage pits in markets and schools have also been

120,000
REFUGEES
10,000
LITRES OF WATER
PUMPED DAILY
17 LITRES
PER PERSON

Edward Mwebaze, Humanitarian Manager, Oxfam in Uganda

constructed including Laundry decks for washing clothes at the water points.

HYGIENE PROMOTION

In addition to providing clean water and sanitation, Oxfam distributes relevant hygiene materials, including bar soap, basins, sanitary towels for women, children's potties, brooms, gumboots, gloves, and detergent, and promotes good hygiene practices including waste disposal. 20ltrs jerricans and 14 litres buckets were distributed to 10,684 households to ensure safe water chain is maintained.

Oxfam is using hygiene promotion approaches such as working with schools to involve children as change agents and weekly environment cleaning campaigns where cleaning materials are distributed. Hygiene promotion plays a key role in fostering ownership and sustainable use of water and sanitation facilities.

Over 13,258 households in the Settlement of Adjumani and Arua have received services related to the improvement of hygiene. For sustainability of all the facilities put in place, Oxfam working with partners and volunteers has built the capacity of refugees to form committees responsible for ensuring the good usage and maintaining the hygiene standards put in place. These include hygiene promoters, water user committees, schools health clubs and market sanitation committees.



EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY AND VULNERABLE LIVELIHOODS

ENERGY-SAVING STOVE DISTRIBUTION

One of the biggest challenges facing refugees is accessing sufficient firewood to prepare meals. Refugees, typically women, have to walk long distances to collect firewood, putting them at risk of sexual assault. Harvesting wood can also create conflicts with host communities over the right to use local forests. To help refugees save time and make the limited firewood as efficient as possible, Oxfam has distributed Energy Saving shielded fire rocket Stoves to over 12,280 households with an average size of 5 members.

CASH-FOR-WORK PROGRAM

Oxfam is providing short-term employment to both refugees and host communities to help ensure that they can earn small amounts of money to meet basic needs.

Oxfam's Cash-for-Work program includes basic construction work like clearing access roads and

112,741
SOUTH
SUDANESE
CHILDREN
AFFECTED
(OPM DECEMBER 16, 2015)

digging waste pits. This work is carried out on a criterion that is gender sensitive ensuring that the work does not become a burden to those carrying it out. As newly-arrived refugees work alongside host community members, the initiative helps to minimize conflict between the different groups, and improves the infrastructure that they all share. To date, over 13,180 people have benefitted from the Cash-for-Work activities.

ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS SESSIONS AND FRUIT TREE SEEDLINGS DISTRIBUTION

Given the current population statistics and climatic conditions, coupled with heavy reliance of communities on wood for fuel and forest products like poles for construction, there is likelihood of adverse effects on the environment due to increasing demand for environmental resources without replenishment particularly the wood component.

Oxfam is carrying out environmental awareness sessions to enlighten refugees and host communities including primary schools on environmental conservation as well as distributing fruit tree seedlings to refugees and the hosts to establish own natural resources for environmental protection. 73,360 people have benefitted from environmental awareness and fruit tree seedlings.

KITCHEN GARDENING

Oxfam with Partners is supporting households to establish kitchen gardens by distributing seedlings and farming tools so as to grow vegetables for home consumption to improve on their nutrition. The gardens are normally 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. So far 34,075 people have benefitted from seeds and tools.



PEACE BUILDING, GENDER AND PROTECTION

Oxfam and partners have carried out analysis of the protection needs for the different gender, designed and continue to deliberately implement activities that reduce vulnerability and prevent gender based violence among refugees and host communities. Oxfam ensures that the safety, security and dignity of people's lives are taken care of through provision of gender sensitive services like sanitation facilities that are segregated according to gender, distribution of solar lamps to unaccompanied minors, paying special attention to the needs of children, survivors of SGBV and persons with disabilities. Peace building and conflict resolution campaigns through Music Dance and Drama have been conducted which have contributed to the reduction of SGBV cases and promoted peaceful coexistence at household level and between refugees and host community.

Community structures have been created such as the Gender and Protection Committees and Women Own Forum whose members identify protection

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112,561
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47,494 IN KIRYANDONGO,
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[UNHCR Uganda, June 2015]

threats and risks and refer them appropriately. Six motorized tricycle ambulances have been procured to facilitate referrals of emergence cases from the community to the nearest health centres. Recreation activities like football targeting mainly the youths have been implemented which have helped the youths to develop their talents but also to live in harmony.

Trainers of trainees in Energy Saving Stoves construction were trained to replicate the knowledge and many people can now construct their own stoves. This has reduced on environmental degradation due to less cutting of trees, has reduced conflicts between refugees and host community on sources of firewood and increased enrolment of the girl child in schools as women and girls spend considerable time looking for firewood.

Women and girls have been trained in making Reusable Sanitary Pads (RUMPS). This was in response to the high levels of school dropouts due to stigma to the girl child associated with the menstruation periods.

Oxfam is also supporting the formation and strengthening of peace committees made up of refugee and host communities and engaging in national, regional and international advocacy to encourage peace building and reconciliation.

22,891 Persons of Concern in selected settlements were reached under standalone gender and protection activities besides others reached under WASH and EFSL where gender and protection activities are mainstreamed.



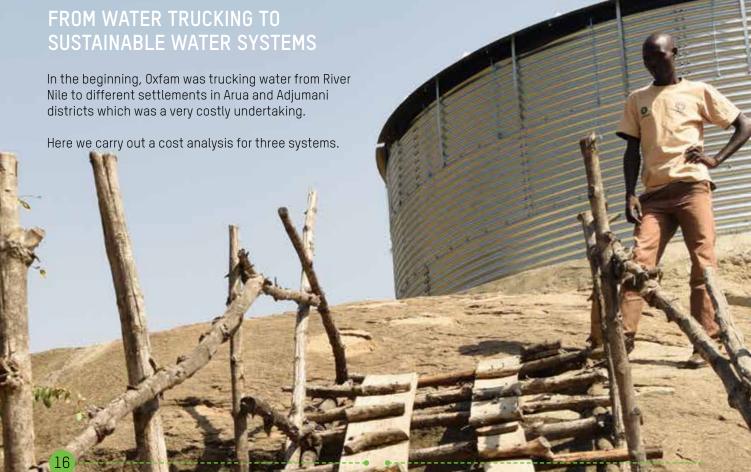




A truck delivers water to be stored in water bladders

The water trucked was stored in Oxfam bladders.





COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR SOLAR, DIESEL RUN AND WATER TRUCKING (APPROXIMATIONS)

Consider Barakutu water supply with an average of 70m3 (70,000 litres) water production per day when run purely on solar. Considering 7 hours of daily pumping.

COSTS (UGX)	SOLAR POWERED (UGX)	DIESEL POWERED (UGX)	WATER TRUCKING (UGX)
Initial installation cost	98,000,000(solar modules) + 45,000,000 (gen -set)	45,000,000	Negligible
Daily cost	Zero	5 litres diesel / hr* 7 hours = 35 X 3000 = 105,000	Average, 1m3=30,000 70 X 30000=2,100,000
Monthly cost	250,000 diesel (lump sum)	Fuel: 105,000 X 30 = 3,150,000 Routine servicing (4 times a month) = 163,000 X 4 =652,000 Total = 3,802,000	2,100,000 X 30 = 6,300,000
Annual cost	3,000,000 diesel	3,802,000 X 12 =45,624,000	6,300,000 X 12 = 75,600,000
Consider 10 years	30,000,000 diesel + control panel over haul 2,000,000	45,624,000 X 10 = 450,624,000 over haul of generator = 45,000,000 Total = 495,624,000	75,600,000 X 10 =750,600,000
Total Costs at 10 years (Initial and running costs)	175,000,000	540,624,000	750,600,000

NOTE: The expected life span of photovoltaic modules (solar panels) is 20 – 25 years. Other related costs including guards, pump operator, costs of the pump (and accessories) are cross cutting and therefore were not considered in the analysis.

WATER
TRUCKING
TOTAL COST AT
10 YEARS
750.6 MILLION UGX

SOLAR
WATER SYSTEM
TOTAL COST AT
10 YEARS
175 MILLION UGX

hoto: Denis Onyodi/Oxfam





USING THE SUN TO INCREASE WATER SUPPLY

Oxfam in Uganda water engineer, Richard Ochaya, details how solar energy is being harnessed to increase water supply in South Sudanese refugee settlement areas like Rhino camp, Ayilo and Baratuku

The Background to the solar water systems

Before the response, Oxfam carried out a needs assessment and found a gap in Water and Sanitation Hygiene. The number of people was overwhelming with the minimal sources of water available, creating tension between the refugees and the host communities. We also realized that according to the international or national recommendations, the amount of water per person per day was too low. The supply level was only 3 liters per person per day. Our goal became increasing this supply level to at least 15 liters per person per day. We embarked on immediate live saving interventions, including water trucking, rehabilitation and building new boreholes. The manual hand-pumped bore holes however were not efficient to deliver the required water output. There were frequent technical issues with boreholes so we selected alternative systems such as the solar powered water system.

Constructing the Solar pumped water system

Oxfam conducted Hydro-Geological/Geophysical Survey on a number of sites, where we discovered 8 yielding wells that would sustain longterm water harvesting with a consideration of a minimum of 15 liters per person, per day. A generator system would be costly so we focused on the reusable solar energy to run the submersible pumps to draw water and distribute it to different reservoirs within the camp.

The water systems were designed to provide water for the host community who are themselves faced with water shortages as a result of drought.

Accessibility

To complement this hybrid system which has a pumping capacity of 10 cubic meters (10,000 liters) of water per hour and has 8 reservoir tanks of about 10,000 liters each, Oxfam has been able to establish a transmission line of 12 kilometers with a network of 14 water taps all over the settlement, which are able to absorb the pressure in terms of water demand from both the host community and the refugees.



Impact

With the water system in place, the challenges of fetching water from long distances have been addressed. Issues of gender based violence at water points due to few water sources leading to long queues and conflicts between the host communities and refugees have diminished tremendously. Children who were spending a lot of time looking for water can now attend school as water is close to households. The gender related risks like defilement were also mitigated as young girls no longer have to walk for away to look for water.

Maintenance and Sustainability

For maintenance and sustainability, the technical team involved members of the local community and refugees right from inception, design and the implementation processes. The weather conditions around Rhino camp are favorable for solar energy generation to adequalety meet the need. To complement this, we installed a backup power system of generators (Gen-Set) to handle any cases of shortfalls. In the long run, we found this to be cost effective in terms of human usage, sustainability and reliability.

The plan was that maintenance and operations of the system are taken up by both the host communities and refugees. In line with this, we have been training the system operators for the purpose of future functionality and troubleshooting of system defects. We also initiated and have been training water user committees, pump operators and security guards as a way of streamlining capacity building of the local human resource for future sustainability and handover to the government of Uganda under the Office of the Prime Minister.

Furthermore, Oxfam has given bicycles to each pump operator to enable them move within water supply areas with ease and collect information on leakages or regulate water supply to all water points.

The District Water Office has also been involved and engaged right from the beginning providing supervision and support.

"THE SUPPLY
LEVEL WAS ONLY 3
LITERS PER PERSON,
PER DAY, WHICH
WE LOOKED AT
INCREASING TO AT
LEAST 15 LITERS PER
PERSON PER DAY.."

Tracy Angela Amwaka

Public Health Promotion Coordinator Oxfam in Uganda





"I offered land for the water harvesting system"

My name is Jenit Malayaru, a national and I am grateful for the provision of water services to Rhino camp. I am humbled to have been in a position to provide land which was used for setting up water harvesting points that have greatly impacted the lives of the community. This has reduced on the dangers community members used to face in search of water in the night.



I am grateful for the extension of water into the camp. Previously I used to walk from Para village for more than 2 kilometers to collect water from the shallow wells in other villages which have unfortunately dried up. We now have a constant water supply and the tap-stands have been of great benefit to the community.





My name is Patrick Onviti, a national from Odobu 2 settlement, Adjumani District and I am the water pump operator. I attained basic water engineering skills from a training facilitated by Oxfam and I am now able to support the community in case the pump is out of service.

This training has helped me earn a living to support both me and my family.



My name is **Olim Godfrey**, a national, the pump operator Baratuku settlement, Adjumani District.

For water supply, we use a hybrid option which involves pumping water using a combination of solar energy and fuel powered generators (Gen-Set system). The genset system is always a fall back option when the solar system is not reliable like for instance on a cloudy day when the solar system runs for about two hours.

My training to operate the systems was facilitated by Oxfam and I learned about simple mechanics of running the system, refuelling, changing oil and other system maintenance techniques.

I am formally employed and this has helped me earn a living and improve the wellbeing of my family. I have also been able to buy livestock like cows and goats, to add to my properties.

"WE USED TO SHARE
A WATER POINT
WITH ANIMALS
AT RIVER BALALA,
BUT OXFAM
AND CEFORD
REHABILITATED
OUR COMMUNITY
BOREHOLE AT
ODOBU VILLAGE"

Anguyo Sabino

Chairperson, Borehole Committee Odobu Village, Rhino Camp.









At community level, approaches like Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) have been applied in mobilization of the community members. Through facilitating them in WASH problem identification, problem analysis and identification of lasting WASH solutions for implementation.

To ensure sustainability, these activities have been done jointly with district line departments, and our local partners CEFORD and ACORD.

Mawejje Rashid. Public Health Officer - Oxfam.

Oxfam and CEFORD have been involving different groups in the refugee communities to promote hygiene and sanitation activities. These include market management committees, water user committees, tap stand committees, motorized water system management boards and hygiene promoters at community level for sustainable management of WASH facilities.

One of the innovative approaches was the Children Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation Initiative (CHAST) from which we formed child health clubs in schools where tips and lessons about hygiene and sanitation are promoted and encouraged.

Subject areas like hand washing, keeping the environment clean, use of latrines, and protecting water sources have been promoted. The CHAST initiative has so far been implemented in 20 schools in both Adjumani and Arua districts. We are also training the School health club masters and matrons to support these clubs as a sustainable measure.





Foska Ababiku is a teacher at Mireyi Parents Nursery School, Mireyi Settlement, Adjumani District.

The school began in 2012 as a community school, owned and run by the parents. When Oxfam and CEFORD came in 2014, they formed the child-to-child club where she was one of the child facilitators.



"They trained us in matters of hygiene and offered us support with items like soap, nail cutters, tooth brush, files pencils and others for the pupils," Foska says.

Oxfam/CEFORD have been greatly involved in the hygiene and sanitation programs in the school continuously providing wheel barrows, rakes, buckets, hoes and other support. The children as beneficiaries have also attained knowledge in maintaining hygiene through activities like cleaning toilets after use, cutting down bushes, washing hands after using the toilet, keeping finger and toe nails short and brushing teeth.

Some of these have been reflected in their homes where they impart knowledge gotten from school.

Foska affirms that she is certain that if one visited any of her pupils' homes, they would find these practices being carried out.



My name is **Asumpta Mazira** and I go to Mireyi Parents Nursery School. I am 4 years old, in top class and when I grow up, I want to be a lawyer. In school they have taught us about washing hands, brushing teeth and they have given us soap, jerrycans, drinking water buckets and life straw water filters.

I ask other children to wash their hands before eating.

"I AM 4 YEARS OLD IN TOP CLASS AND WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BE A LAWYER. IN SCHOOL THEY HAVE TAUGHT US ABOUT WASHING HANDS, BRUSHING TEETH..."





"As a sanitation measure, I always advise people to wash their jerry cans with soap before fetching water. The water availability has greatly impacted on the community especially that now women can properly conduct other household activities other than before when they spent a lot of time at the wells collecting water." Chan Alfred Member, Water Clean Committee Ocea Market

"... TOOLS LIKE
WHEELBARROWS,
RAKES, SPADES AND
GUMBOOTS USED
FOR CLEANING HAVE
BEEN PROVIDED
TO MAINTAIN THE
HYGIENE AROUND
THE MARKET."

Malimu Omar,

Chair Market Management Committee Ocea, Rhino camp

"Intervention saved us from poor conditions we lived in."



"Before the intervention, we had a small area where we set up a makeshift market. The space was small and, as a result, the hygiene and sanitation of the area was also very poor.

But after the intervention, a better place was alloted for the market and a committee was set up to ensure a more hygienic surrounding. Better display tables were also added to the market as well as a garbage bank set up. A truck responsible for fetching rubbish from the dumping sites was also provided. Most of us who are involved in the maintaining of the dumping area do it on a volunteer basis and this includes everyone in the market." Regina Acukia, Market Management Committee, Ocea, Rhino Camp

"The training we got enlightened us on maintaining good hygiene."



"My name is **Sol Regina**, I live in Ocea, Rhino Camp. I am a national and have been living here for the last 20 years. Before, the market was in a sorry state and people used to dump garbage everywhere, but after the training we learnt to maintain a clean environment and even dumping of rubbish is done at the garbage bank."



"Outbreaks of hygiene-related diseases have reduced."



One of the key elements of this intervention is the building of toilets for the communities. **Kenneth Scopas Bashir** is a Community Based Mobilizer (CBM) for CEFORD in Wanyange B Settlement, Arua District.

As a mobiliser, he is tasked with responsibilities of making sure latrines and the environment they live in is maintained in a clean way to avoid disease outbreaks.

They have equipped some members of the settlement with knowledge on constructing their own household latrines. In addition to this, Oxfam has so far constructed another 12 specialised latrines for persons with disabilities (PSN Latrines). Tarpaulins are provided to the different stake holders to help them construct temporary bathing shelters.

Kenneth says, "The level of outbreaks of hygiene-related diseases like diarrhoea, cholera and other have reduced. Most people in the settlements own latrines and bathing shelters next to their households which has greatly improved the life and hygiene of the community.

My name is **Lawrence Doraki**, a teacher from Amelo Primary School, Adjumani district. As a school, we have benefited from Oxfam's intervention with school programs like planting trees which provide timber poles and shade for the children. They have also been promoting water, hygiene and sanitation in the school which lessons the children pick and practice in their different communities and homes.





"lam making a living from enhancing sanitation in my community"

My name is Isaac Bida, a 27 year old refugee and I got to this settlement through Adjumani during the first civil war in South Sudan. But when we came here the



situation was hard, we used to walk long distances to fetch water, and sometimes we would get arrested when conflicts over water points with the host communities arose.

The sanitation was very poor and most often we had occurrence of diarrheal diseases. The latrines were in poor condition and rubbish was everywhere. Apart from what was provided in the camp, we didn't have anything else to feed on, nor did we have any money to enable us buy some basic needs.

With the intervention of Oxfam and its partners, the situation has been changing. For instance boreholes have been constructed and are maintained, children are getting an education and sanitation is being improved around the market area.

To boost our livelihood we have engaged in activities like planting sim-sim, maize, and sorghum. From this, we have been able to supplement the food we get from UNHCR and are able to sell some and get money which we can spend on any other necessities. For example, I was able to use some of the money to pay for fees and finish my primary seven in 2003 at Ocea Primary School.

"...I WAS ABLE
TO USE SOME OF
THE MONEY TO
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PRIMARY SEVEN
IN 2003 AT OCEA
PRIMARY SCHOOL."

The intervention has greatly impacted on our lives and now water is available in the settlement thanks to the motorized pump systems that support water distribution here at Rhino Camp.

I am now employed as a Community Based Mobiliser (CBM), assisting the Oxfam and CEFORD staff in coordinating community activities. It has helped me gain skills and experience, as well as earn income. The Oxfam and CEFORD intervention in Rhino Camp has benefited both the refugees and the host communities.















'CASH FOR WORK' PROGRAM, PROVIDING MUCH NEEDED INCOME.

This is a program that engages refugees to participate in the development activities of the camp. In return, the refugees are paid some amount of money in this 'Cash For Work' arrangement, providing them with income to take care of their needs.

The Oxfam-supported project targeted one individual per household who were entitled to Shs5000 for 3 hours of daily work, paid after 10days having accumulated to Shs50,000. The labour activities involve clearing bushes around camps, opening up paths to social centers like schools, health centers, markets, water points, digging of waste pits and other basic manual labour needs.

Sunday Anyole, a CEFORD field officer based in Rhino Camp, says that their core target was to reach 535 households of especially refugees who had totally lost everything as they fled the conflict to settle in Uganda. He adds that those who were enrolled on the program have greatly benefited since they have been able to earn an income and supplement the food that is distributed in the camp.

Gerald Kansiime, the EFSVL Project officer with ACORD, Oxfam's implementing partner in the settlements of Adjumani District says that, with the 'Cash For Work' initiative, some members in the communities had managed to start up small businesses to supplement their incomes and cited those who had started engaging in livestock farming and as a result, are able to educate their children.

Mr. Kansiime also notes that the program has been responsible for the increase in the number of meals per day, from 1 to 2 meals. Overall, Kansiime says that the program has so far engaged more than 1400 people at house hold level.

As an incentive for the 'Cash For Work,' Oxfam and partners are also engaged in the distribution of seeds for cultivation. Mr. Anyole asserts that CEFORD distributed vegetable seeds to 525 beneficiaries. Mr. Kansiime adds that in the settlements of Alere, Oliji, Olua 1 and 2, maize, simsim, sorghum and soybean seeds have been provided to 1,028 households. Some of these households have gone ahead to plant and earn income from the harvest, a factor he attributes to the occasional training sessions to the community facilitated by the district's extension workers.

Cash For Work activities are scheduled for specified hours and are distributed according to abilities.

THE CASH FOR WORK PROGRAM HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MEALS PER DAY, FROM 1 TO 2 MEALS.







HOPE AGAINST THE ODDS

My name is **Olivia Manziru** and I am the vice secretary of Women Own Forum, Rhino Camp. I appreciate Oxfam and its partners for their support in boosting our livelihood in agriculture where they have provided us with rakes, hoes, seeds and water cans. They have also taught us how to grow food stuffs like tomatoes and onions.

"WE ARE ABLE TO
PAY SCHOOL FEES
FOR OUR CHILDREN
AND BUY OTHER
NECESSITIES AT HOME
FROM THE MONEY WE
RECEIVE AS PAYMENT
FROM THE CASH FOR
WORK PROGRAM."

Chandia Queen, Chair, Oliji Settlement

My name is **Denis Taban**, a Stove Builder here in Oliji Settlement. I fled to Uganda from South-Sudan in 1994 and I have been here since. In 2015, I was one of the few selected to train in making stoves, a training that lasted three days. I am now able to build stoves, a job I get paid for. This became a very big boost later on because it helped me support my children with school fees and improve on the family livelihood. Community members have commended the stoves because they have eased the process of cooking while saving the environment.





My name is **Betty Akwero**. I work as the Programs Technical Officer at Germany International Corporation (GIZ) energy program in the West Nile region.

The energy saving stove program

I have been on this program for the last six years majorly promoting renewable energy technology. Oxfam working with CEFORD had already been facilitating the production of stoves in refugee settlements and later, partnered with GIZ in the area of quality assurance. Our work is to ensure high quality, efficiency and functionality of the stoves such that they meet both national and international standards.



In our methodology, only those stoves that have been seasoned, accepted by a household and put in use to derive their functionality are what we consider to be "in use" and not just numbers produced. According to the Ministry of Energy estimations, one stove is equivalent to minimizing wasting an acre of woodlot for a period of one year. This means that for every stove used, there is a direct social, economic impact.

The benefit of the stoves to the community

At household level, the stoves are time efficient, saving up the time to collect firewood and cooking thus availing more time for other engagements. The economic benefit to the households has been substantial with up to 25% in household energy cost savings.

We are happy to note that 750 stoves are in use at the moment and our minimum estimate is that for every household, the stove can prepare a meal for five people or more. Our main challenge has been the increasing influx of refugees in the settlements which surpasses the stove production demand.

As GIZ we would like to see our partners have energy focal personnel trained in standard stove construction and usage.



Anyole sunday,CEFORD Field Officer, Rhino camp



"Sometimes we would eat half cooked food because of the strong wind..."

My name is Mary Dawa a refugee from South Sudan and a member of the Women Own Forum. I came to this settlement because of the war in South Sudan and I was received at the border of Sheri by the UNHCR and OPM staff.

We were provided with plots of land to set up shelter and later we received food supply. It was a hard experience going to the bushes to collect firewood but the problem became even harder with strong winds blowing heavily as we cooked in the open. Sometimes food wouldn't fully get ready, making us fall sick.

So the introduction of the Lorena energy saving stove for us was a great relief since they use less fire wood and charcoal and get the work done without a lot of difficulty. The beans are now able to get ready quickly and as soft as required.

ENERGY-SAVING
SHIELDED FIRE
ROCKET STOVES
DISTRIBUTED TO OVER
12,280
HOUSEHOLDS
WITH AN AVERAGE
SIZE OF 5 MEMBERS











I am Wilson Senyoyi, a Gender and Protection Officer with Oxfam, based in Adjumani.

Our gender and protection work

Our task is to ensure that the refugees that come into the settlements are integrated into the gender and protection activities.

The activities we have been running include awareness and information dissemination campaigns on gender based violence, while underlining the different country laws and regulations that address such matters.

We also have been promoting peace building and conflict resolution campaigns as a way of fostering peaceful co-existence. The biggest challenge has been in the sharing of resources between the host communities and the refugees where local people believed that they have all the access rights to the land and its resources on one side and the refugees on the other end believed that they were the reason the resources were brought in. So, through such campaigns we have been able to reconcile these issues.

Results of our interventions

We were able to provide persons with disabilities [PWDs] with equipment to ease their mobility and enable them access different services instead of being confined to their homesteads. Wheel chairs, crutches and solar lamps have been distributed.



Charles Adraku,

Asst. Commandant [OPM] Mungula Settlement, Adjumani







My name is **Joyce Sabule**, the secretary for Women Own Forum, a group of eight members. My role is to take minutes and facilitate meetings.

The training we received helped us learn how to deal with issues affecting families in our communities. For instance, children who were not going to school are now able to attend, reducing on child labour and domestic violence.

We have also received some appliances like solar lamps, umbrellas and gumboots given to gender and protection committees to facilitate our work.

Oxfam has also offered satisfactory psycho-social support where people are able to share experiences and find solutions to several challenges.







"We are now free to mingle and continue with our work during the menstrual period."

Isaac Avuyi

Refugee, Wanyange, Rhino Camp, Arua District

I am Isaac Avuyi, 16 years old, from Marivi in Southern Sudan. I together with a group of other refugees arrived in Uganda in August 2015. The conflict had left us completely helpless as our property was destroyed and we basically had nothing to support us.

We were young and faced with the challenge of the menstrual cycle that affects every woman. Given that we did not have any kind of sanitary provision, this deterred us from freely mingling with our peers.

We were later to be trained by the Oxfam and CEFORD team in the making of the Re-Useable Menstrual Pads (RUMPS) and this knowledge has helped us gain our dignity and confidence. We are now free to mingle and continue with our work during the menstrual period.

"I am able to change meals after selling Re-usable pads..."

Anna Utua came to Mungula refugee settlement in Adjumani district in February 2015 having escaped the civil war in South Sudan.

She says that when she arrived, the situation was difficult, especially in the menstrual seasons.

Anna narrates that they used pieces of cloth since they did not have money to buy pads but the situation changed when Oxfam and ACORD staff trained them in the making of RUMPS which have greatly improved their hygiene.

She says she is now able to make some pads for herself and some for sale at Shs 1,000 a piece and Shs12,000 (\$3) a dozen. Anna affirms that from this money, she has been able to change meals and buy some basic needs.

She recently has been recruited as a trainer in the making of Re-Usable Menstrual Pads [RUMPS] to new groups joining the settlement and to others from the host community.

THE PADS ARE SOLD AT SHS 1,000 A PIECE AND SHS12,000 (\$3) A DOZEN.















Sister Gwatru DoreenDistrict Health Educator, Arua District

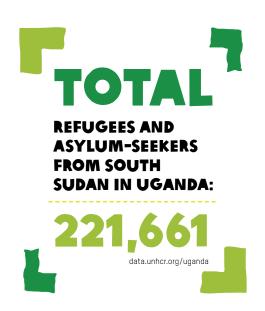
The Oxfam intervention has been of great value since the district officials are involved in the implementation of the various programs. For instance the WASH programs have made water accessibility possible and sanitation facilities easily attainable at different camp sites.

I would wish to appreciate the Oxfam team for their swift response when called upon, for example once when we had a cholera outbreak, we informed the Oxfam team and they reacted swiftly, giving us the necessary support in the camp and also in the district. This team has been involved in the community as well as being available for consultation with other stake holders especially the district.

They have also been involved in the education and sensitization of the refugee communities on embracing the different projects activities.

Oxfam has also supported the constitution of Village Health Teams (VHTs) which are the equivalent of the Health Centre 1s in the Ministry of Health structurea. This was done by training some of the refugees and including them in service delivery to support areas like communications and translation. Incidences of disharmony have been reduced in the refugee camps by encouraging the host communities to work together with the refugees.

Though we are still faced with the migratory nature of some of the refugees like the Dinka community whose lifestyle as pastoralists means they keep moving from place to place, we still appreciate the work of Oxfam interventions.





PARTNER PROFILES

CEFORD

Community Empowerment For Rural Development (CEFORD) is an indigenous Non-Governmental Organisation operating in the 6 districts and 24 Sub-Counties of West Nile region.

CEFORD runs on the vision of an empowered poverty-free society and works on a mission to provide capacity development services that build the resilience of disadvantaged women, men ,youth and children to realise their rights and improve their wellbeing.

CEFORD is an Oxfam partner in both development and humanitarian areas.

CEFORD has been working in partnership with Oxfam responding to the South Sudanese refugee crisis in Arua and Adjumani.

ACORD

Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) is a Sub-Saharan based organisation working to defend rights and promote justice. Oxfam works with ACORD in both development and humanitarian areas in West Nile and Acholi sub regions.

ACORD has been working in partnership with Oxfam responding to the South Sudanese refugee crisis in Arua and Adjumani.

SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEE STORIES

Football for peace: World Cup fever helps bridge barriers for South Sudanese refugees

http://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/14-06-23-world-cup-south-sudan-refugees-football-peace

South Sudan's young refugees in Uganda: a hope for peace

http://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/14-06-20south-sudan-young-refugees-uganda-hope-forpeace

My children are my strength

http://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/14-05-12-south-sudanese-refugee-uganda-children-strength

http://www.oxfam.ca/blogs/my-children-are-my-strength

A critical look at aid in the South Sudan crisis

http://www.oxfamblogs.org/eastafrica/?p=7091

Meet Deng Bol, a teacher who sought refuge from conflict in South Sudan by crossing the border into Uganda.

http://www.oxfamblogs.org/ eastafrica/?p=7000#more-7000

Fleeing and Forgotten

http://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/14-02-25-south-sudanese-refugees-uganda-fleeing-and-forgotten

South Sudanese refugees benefit from computer training

http://www.oxfamblogs.org/eastafrica/?p=7154

PHOTOS

Oxfam photo gallery

https://www.flickr.com/photos/120920004@N04/

Bladders and Trucks - Bringing water to South Sudanese refugees in Uganda

http://www.flickr.com/photos/oxfam/ sets/72157641596864375/with/12810549234/

NOTES





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