HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE
In Palabek Settlement, Lamwo District
About The Project

Since July 2016, the renewed fighting in South Sudan has led to an influx of refugees into Lamwo district, Northern Uganda. By December 2017, Uganda had become host to 1.35 million South Sudanese refugees.

Because of the ever-increasing number of refugees entering the country, a new refugee settlement was opened up in Lamwo district to host the new arrivals.

Palabek Settlement, divided into seven zones, was opened in April 2017, in Lamwo district and has a population of 30,587 refugees as of January 2018.

Oxfam and partners SORUDA, AWYAD and Lamwo District Local Government are providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Emergency Food Security and Vulnerable Livelihoods (EFSVL) and Gender and Protection services in different zones of the settlement, as well as the host community around the settlement.

These are the stories of some of the refugees who work with Oxfam as volunteers to help better their communities.
As a hygiene promoter, I have carried on the training I received from Oxfam into the community where I teach the health benefits of a clean homestead and proper waste disposal.
When I arrived into the settlement, water accessibility was very limited.

With the nearest water tank miles away, we feared for our safety on the way but now that Oxfam constructed more accessible water sources, fetching water has become much easier.

As the water source caretaker, I ensure that the water point is always clean and functional, and that people are following the rules of procedure at the water point.
I am Lotoko by tribe and in our community, some members believe in open defecation, they also believe that when a pregnant woman uses the latrine, she can give birth to a stillborn.

I was pregnant, I used a latrine, and my child is alive! What I do now is create awareness among community members, advocating for the use of latrines.
I am a GBV survivor. My husband and I fought mostly because he disagreed with my work volunteering as a women’s leader. When AWYAD and OXFAM intervened, they counselled us and now there is no violence in my household.
I arrived in Uganda with my daughters on a very rainy night, and we had no shelter. We had no option but to sleep outside that night. Cutting logs for construction was difficult because the block and zone in which I stay only has people with special needs.

With money from SORUDA and OXFAM, I started a business which paid for the construction of my shelter and earns me a side income which I use for extra expenditure.
AWYAD-OXFAM is implementing gender and protection interventions within the settlement through gender and child protection committees.

We are also training women under the reproductive age within the refugee and host community on making reusable sanitary pads for their personal and commercial use.
I oversee the engineering aspects of our intervention in Palabek settlement.

Initially we collected water from a river 25.5 km away, treated, loaded it into tanks and delivered it to different stations.

Now, as we phase out water tracking, we plan to increase the number of boreholes as an alternative source of clean and safe water.
When I had just arrived at the settlement, I was elected youth leader and Oxfam took me through a training on gender-based violence types and causes.

I now use music, dance, drama and sports to address the issues of gender-based violence in the community.