

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Rapid Diagnostic Assessment of Land and Natural Resources Degradation in Areas Impacted by South Sudan Refugee Influx in Kenya and Uganda

A. Context

1. Uganda and Kenya are key host countries for growing numbers of refugees arriving from South Sudan.
2. **Uganda has been generously hosting refugees and asylum seekers for many years** from the conflict-affected countries in its neighborhood, especially the South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Rwanda, and Burundi. Since achieving its independence in 1962, the country has been hosting an average of approximately 161,000 refugees per year. Uganda is currently hosting more than 1.3 million refugees.
3. **Uganda's refugee laws are among the most progressive in the world.** Refugees and asylum seekers are entitled to work, have freedom of movement and can access Ugandan social services, such as health and education. The Uganda Refugee Policy, embodied in the 2006 Refugees Act and 2010 Refugees Regulations has many impressive aspects: (1) opening Uganda's door to all asylum seekers irrespective of their nationality or ethnic affiliation, (2) granting refugees relative freedom of movement and the right to seek employment, providing prima facie asylum for refugees of certain nationalities, and (4) giving a piece of land to each refugee family for their own exclusive (agricultural) use. But refugee-impacted areas are at risk due to underlying poverty, vulnerability, and limited resilience to shock further exacerbated by the presence of refugees.
4. **In recent years, Uganda and Kenya have experienced a rapidly-growing influx of refugees from South Sudan.** These have come mostly into northern areas of Uganda and Kenya. Uganda has now registered to host over 1 million people who have been forced to flee their homes following economic collapse and fighting in South Sudan. An average of 1,800 South Sudanese have been arriving daily in Uganda over the past year, of which more than 85 percent are women and children under the age of 18.
5. **Kenya hosts a large and long-term refugee and asylum-seeking population,** reaching around 490,000 persons in 2017 (UNHCR). The majority of this population (close to 70 percent) are Somali citizens, while the South Sudanese make up around 20 percent of the asylum-seekers and refugees. Other smaller groups include Ethiopians, Congolese, and approximately 20,000 stateless people. Recent conflicts in South Sudan and Somalia and terrorist attacks within Kenya in the last decade have prompted Kenya to toughen its refugee policy. Kenya recognizes two classes of refugees: prima facie and statutory refugees. One significant change to the policy was an encampment requirement for all asylum seekers and refugees in urban areas, with their expected relocation to designated camps. Encampment also restricts opportunities for the refugees to engage in informal employment due to their constraint ability to move around the country. While refugees are free to apply for naturalization by law, if they meet certain requirements, in practice Kenya does not naturalize refugees and rarely issues work permits to refugees. According to the UNHCR statistics, half of the refugees in Kenya (50 percent) reside in the Dadaab/Alinjugur area, 37 percent in Kakuma, and 13 percent in urban areas (mainly Nairobi).
6. A specific issue and challenge facing Kenya and Uganda is how to address a growing land and natural resources degradation problem associated with a recent rapidly growing influx of refugees from South Sudan. These circumstances are leading to a range of difficult issues, including land degradation, woodland loss, competition for scarce water and rangeland resources, safe access to wood energy for cooking and significant impacts on local services of host populations (e.g. education and health care). An assessment

undertaken in one settlement in Uganda (Bidibidi) in February to March 2017 (UNHCR / FAO)¹ concluded that, given current levels of demand for fuelwood, forest/woodland resources within the area assigned to the settlement will be entirely depleted within 3 years unless mitigation measures are introduced. This study also highlighted the need for attention to gender aspects including substantial levels of gender-based violence against women whilst collecting firewood and water. The study proposed the need for urgent interventions that reduce demand for wood biomass (e.g. through introduction of fuel-efficient stoves) and increase supply (e.g. by establishing woodlots and plantations of fast growing tree species). Supporting the provision of improved cookstoves as part of livesaving assistance and implementation of market-based livelihood programs can help reduce gender-based violence by removing the need for women to venture into unsafe areas to collect firewood. However, it is expected that different areas impacted by refugees will have needs specific to the different conditions in each area.

7. **Uganda and Kenya are expected to benefit from the new IDA 18 sub-window for refugees and host communities.** This new US\$2 billion financing ‘window’ for refugees and host communities was created under the current replenishment of the World Bank Group’s International Development Association (IDA). Both countries are likely to be eligible for significant amounts of additional resources under the sub-window in light of the current situation (and, in the case of Uganda, in light of the country’s progressive refugee policies). Support to the refugee hosting communities is already provided under the following World Bank projects: Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP) – P152822 in Uganda and P161067 in Kenya.

B. Rationale

8. There is an urgent need to better understand the dimensions of the natural resource impacts of the refugee influx and to assist the Governments of Uganda and Kenya to develop and finance intervention strategies that can help alleviate and mitigate pressures on land and other natural resources. These interventions need to be cost-effective and designed to ensure that sound management of remaining natural capital (forests and other woodlands, water resources, rangelands, and soils) continues to underpin livelihoods of both host communities and refugees. The rapid assessment is, therefore, designed to provide a clear profile of the scope with a focus on forest resources (wood and non-wood forest products) management challenges, assessment of a range of possible intervention strategies and then propose practical recommendations for appropriate interventions that could be considered for inclusion in financing packages submitted to the IDA 18 sub-window for refugees and also inform the ongoing support under the DRDIP.

C. Objective

9. The objective of this rapid assessment is to conduct a rapid diagnostic assessment of land and forest resources degradation in areas in northern Kenya and northern Uganda in areas impacted by the influx of refugees from South Sudan and to identify intervention options to mitigate the pressure on the environment, ensure access to energy for cooking and contribute in building the resilience of displaced and hosting communities.

D. Broad Geographical Area of Engagement

10. The broad area of engagement is shown in the maps in Annex. In Uganda specifically, the broad initial area will include the Arua, Adjumani, Moyo, Yumbe, Lamwo districts. While the target area of this study in Kenya will focus on the Kakuma refugee camp.
11. The table below indicates the target settlements (TBC) of this study related to the recent refugee influx from South Sudan:

¹ FAO & UNHCR. 2017 - <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7849e.pdf>

| # | Settlements | Established in | Area (km ²) | Population 12.10.2017 |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| | UGANDA | | | |
| 1 | Bidibidi | 8/1/16 | 234.00 | 284,927 |
| 2 | Imvepi | 2/12/17 | 56.95 | 123,469 |
| 3 | Rhino extension - Omugo | 1/8/17 | 23.40 | 14,553 |
| 4 | Agojo | 1/1/16 | 0.78 | 3,770 |
| 5 | Ayilo I | 1/1/15 | 4.96 | 22,236 |
| 6 | Ayilo II | 7/6/14 | 2.67 | 10,838 |
| 7 | Boroli I/II | 1/1/14 | 1.9 | 12,775 |
| 8 | Maaji I * | 1/1/97 | 0.14 | 671 |
| 9 | Maaji II * | 1/1/97 | 3.5 | 17,252 |
| 10 | Maaji III * | 1/1/97 | 1.89 | 16,370 |
| 11 | Nyumanzi | 1/1/14 | 5.00 | 41,795 |
| 12 | Pagrinya | 1/1/16 | 5.68 | 31,958 |
| 13 | Palorinya | 12/9/16 | 37.58 | 183,734 |
| 14 | Palabek | 4/13/17 | 77.00 | 37,274 |
| Total | | | 455.45 | 801,622 |
| | KENYA | | | |
| 15 | Kakuma | 1/1/92 | | 183,542 |

* Settlements re-opened in early 2015

E. Indicative Tasks

12. The following tasks are likely to be required as part of the diagnostic assessment.

- 1. Establish Clusters and Areas of Interest (AOI):** This is expected to be based on desk analysis prior to a field mission. Through a cluster approach the settlements defined above will be grouped for size, date of establishment and other biophysical and socio-economic characteristics to define representative field assessments and the specific AOIs. This will require a combination of desk review of existing analyses, in close collaboration with UNHCR, and through use of remote sensing analysis to identify areas of forest/biomass loss and of land degradation in 15 km radius around each settlement. This analysis will combine also socio-economic data on population and activities of refugees to establish linkages attributable to resource use by refugee populations. It is anticipated that this analysis will require use of very high-resolution satellite imagery for validation and will include, but not limited to, data from the European Space Agency's Sentinel system (Sentinel-1 and -2) for pre-assessment to identify magnitude and timing of changes. This first step will establish the clusters and AOIs for focus in (3) below. The results and rationale for selecting of AOI should be discussed with the Task Team Leader (TTL) and the DRDIP team and agreed to prior to the start of field assessment (below).
- 2. Stakeholder mapping.** The assessment team will also be expected to conduct rapid stakeholder mapping, identifying relevant environmental initiatives (supported by the development partners and large NGOs) in the refugee impacted areas.
- 3. Rapid assessment of biomass uses for refugees and related land degradation issues and intervention options.** This step will entail a rapid field assessment in one representative AOI as identified in (1) above through the cluster approach, of refugee-related land degradation issues and

intervention options. These should seek to characterize and where possible and feasible, estimate the consumption of forest resources with a focus on woodfuel demand, define gender aspects of resource use, and implications for livelihoods of refugees and host communities. This assessment will use existing data from national forestry inventory and the biophysical field data obtained through the FAO-UNHCR assessment in Bidibidi settlement (FAO-UNHCR, 2017). Ground-truth validation will be carried out through observations and measurements at different levels within the sampling frame of one representative AOI. Reference should be made to existing good practice and methodologies for example the ‘*Land health surveillance and response*’². The assessment should also draw-upon and reference other approaches to assessing and addressing natural resources degradation associated with the influx of refugees in Northern Uganda and Northern Kenya. Use of scenarios could be used to structure and present the results of this analysis. The assessment team can rely on the DRDIP team to facilitate support at the field level.

4. **Analysis of intervention options.** This will present forestry interventions options for addressing key natural resource degradation, energy access and livelihood issues. It could use the scenarios defined in (3) to present a range of preliminary costed options for intervention and possible inclusion in future IDA financing support. The analysis of intervention options should consider existing institutional capacities of local institutions as well as the broader range of stakeholders (including NGOs and international organizations) already engaged in support of refugees and host communities in the broad area of engagement. Attention should be given to the full range of technical options (e.g. forest rehabilitation, reforestation, woodlots, improved cook stoves, wood fuel alternatives, soil and water conservation practices, etc.) and combinations of options that might be appropriate in specific contexts. Intervention should consider gender dimensions (e.g. mitigating possible additional risks of gender-based violence for women involved in tree-planting and woodland management activities). Reference should be made to existing good practice for example the Save80 stove distributed in one settlement in Kenya (Kakuma) in September 2016 by the UNHCR which enables cooking with very small amounts of fuelwood, hence a significant reduction of emissions to the environment and frequency of firewood collection trips for women. Community Driven Development approaches should be considered where possible and feasible and proposals for interventions should also consider ‘how’ these intervention options could be most efficiently and effectively delivered in support of refugees and host communities.
5. **Reporting and liaison:** The assessment team will be expected to liaise closely with the TTLs (below) and with appropriate staff in the Uganda and Kenya World Bank Offices. The key deliverables are defined below.

F. Deliverables

1. **Scoping report:** This should identify AOIs and present remote sensing/GIS analysis of impacted areas in northern Uganda and Kenya (by 31 January 2018).
2. **Technical report:** This should provide a clear and practical assessment of forest resources degradation issues and analysis. The report should include clear maps, GIS images, photographs as appropriate and should be based on a combination of desk-based analysis and field assessment. The technical report should also propose specific intervention strategies and delivery modalities and provide an assessment of indicative costs for potential integration into IDA support packages. (by 30 April 2018)

² Shepherd, Shepherd, and Walsh, “Land health surveillance and response: A framework for evidence-informed land management”, *Agricultural Systems* 132 (2015) 93-106

- 3. Summary document:** This should summarize the headline issues of the technical report in a highly-readable and concise manner - suitable for key decision-makers. It should provide a clear narrative on the need to address natural resource management sustainability issues in the context of refugee-impacted areas in northern Uganda and Kenya, a clear summary of the range of available intervention options available and recommendations for delivery modalities and indicative costings. (by 15 May 2018)

G. Timing

The above work is to be started as soon as the contract is in place and completed prior to May 31, 2018.

Reporting Arrangement

The focal points for this project are Ross Hughes and Svetlana Khvostova, Task Team Leaders (TTLs), World Bank, Washington D.C.

Annex: Maps

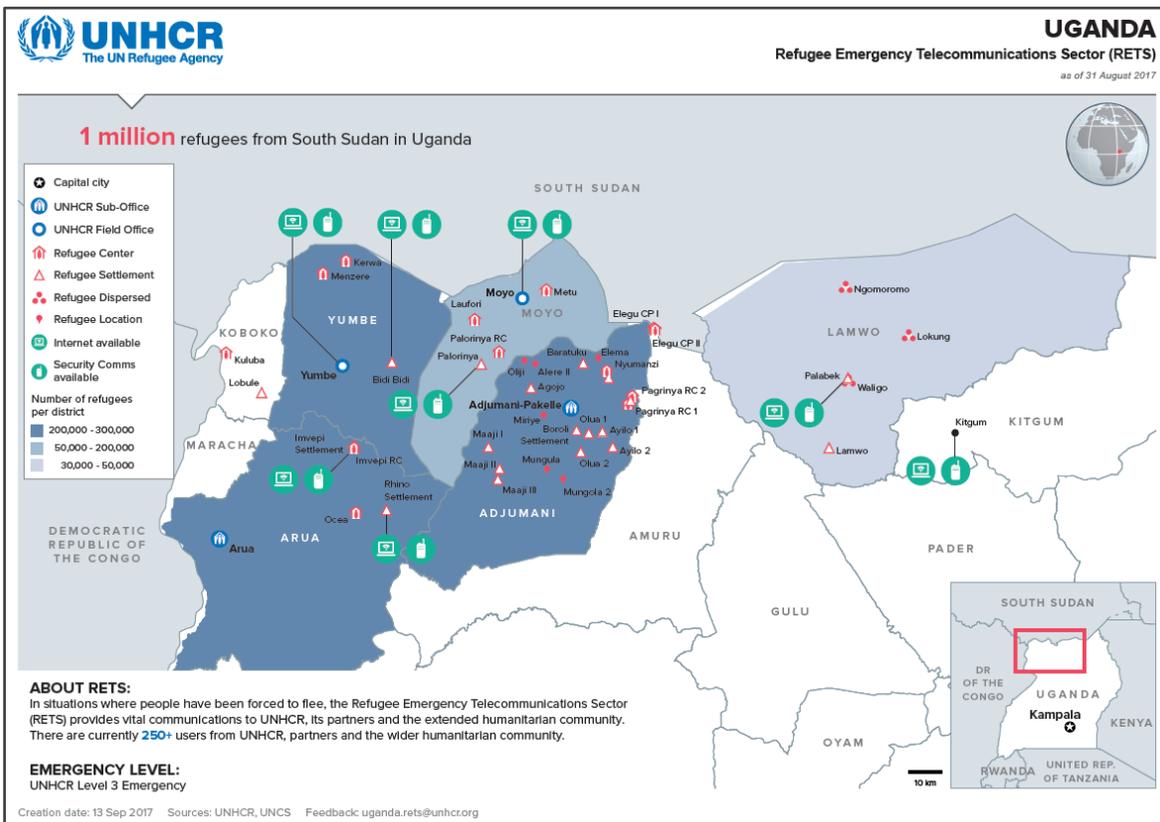
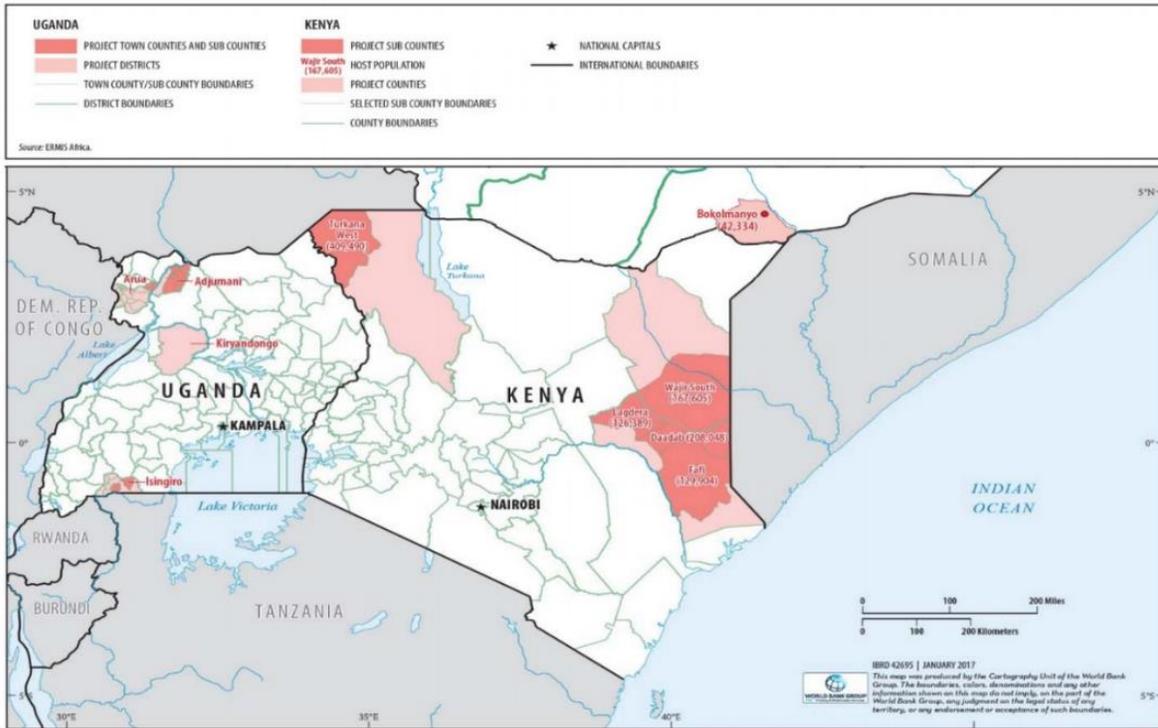
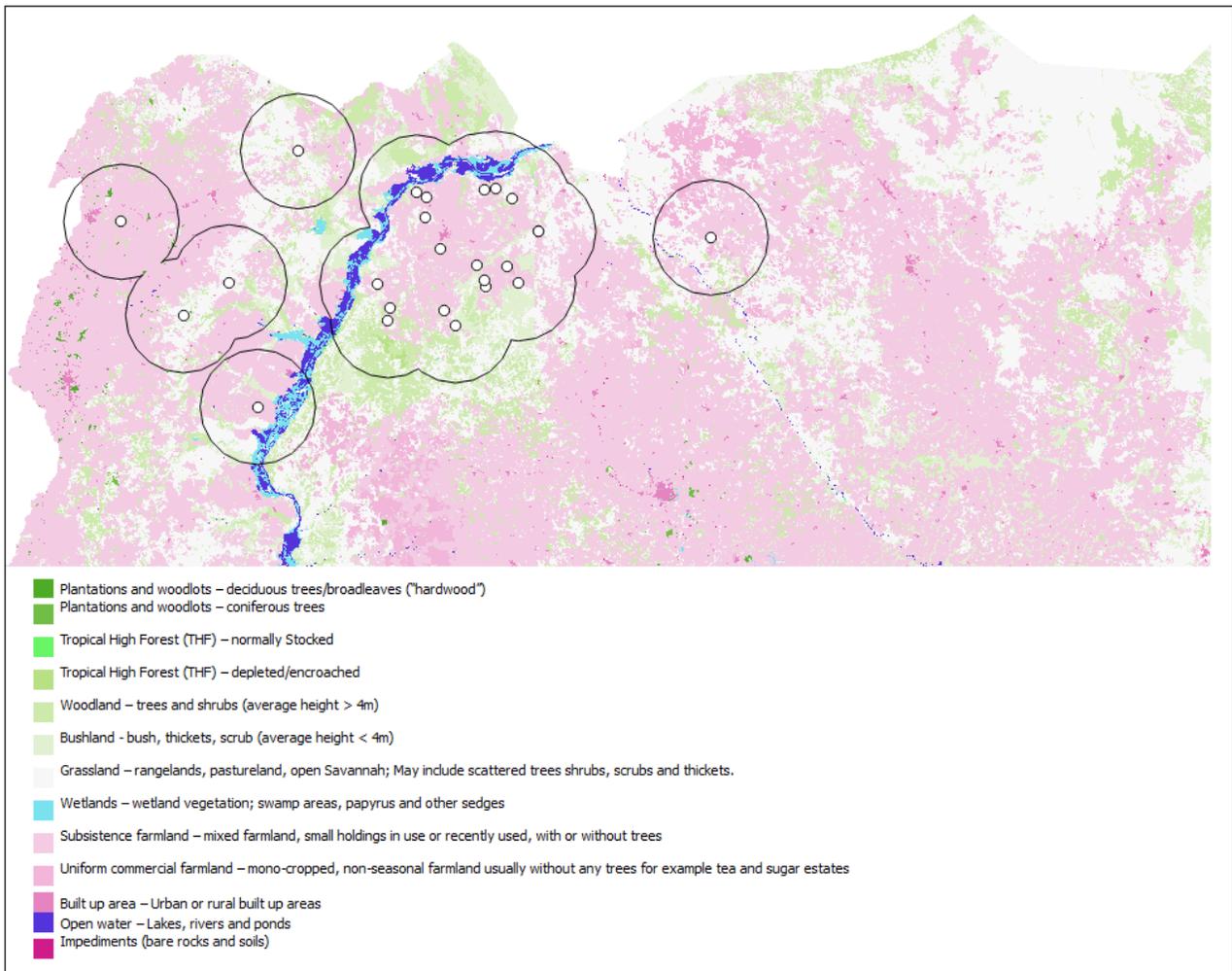


Figure3: Settlements in north Uganda on a land cover map 2015



Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Kenya

Aug-17



Data Source: Registration

UNHCR Kenya

Introduction

All figures are based on the UNHCR registration of refugees and asylum-seekers in Kenya using UNHCR registration system (proGres).

Total Registered Refugees and Asylum-seekers* 487,688

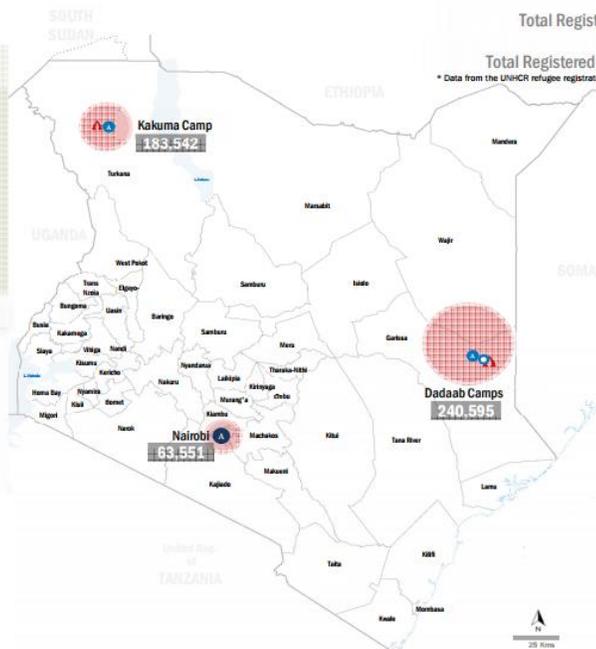
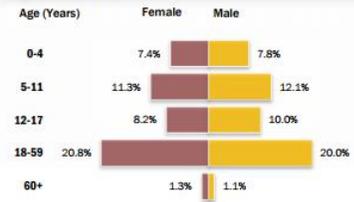
Total Registered Refugees* 433,212

Total Registered Asylum-seekers* 54,476

Refugees & Asylum-seekers by Country of origin Based on Registration



Age & Gender



Legend

- UNHCR Country Office
- UNHCR Sub Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- Refugee Camp
- Main refugee Locations

The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Sources: UNHCR

For more information, contact UNHCR B.O. Nairobi Data Management Unit: KENNAODMI@unhcr.org