

East, Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region – Regional Livelihoods Working Group

Meeting Location	Webex Meeting	Date and time	25 June 2020 09:00 – 10:30
Organizers	Anna Gaunt and Sarah King		
Next Meeting	(TBD)		

Agenda

1. Introductions (UNHCR)
2. Recap of the history and previous activities of the Forum (NRC) – 5 mins
3. Tour de table, with each Organization/INGO/NGO presenting: countries covered and key priorities (with Video please if possible, when you present)
4. Review the purpose and TOR; capture any proposed adjustments (NRC) – suggestions of topics for next meeting; agree time of next meeting
5. Round of updates from participants on economic inclusion activities / initiatives in the region, if time permits - IFC, Kalobyeyi Challenge Fund (UNHCR and others)
6. AOB

Attendance

Agency	Name	Email
AVSI	Simon Kiarie	simon.kiarie@avsi.org
CARE	Emmanuel Osako	Emmanuel.Osako@care.org
DanChurchAid (DCA)	Karen Poore	kapo@dca.dk
DRC	Winfred Wangari	winfred.mwangi@drc.ngo
FAO	Deborah Duveskog	Deborah.duveskog@fao.org
FAO	Zalina Kochenova	Zalina.Kochenova@fao.org
ICRC	Glenn Hughson	ghughson@icrc.org
IFC	Vishal Ashvin Patel	vpatel1@ifc.org
NRC	Lili Mohiddin	lili.mohiddin@nrc.no
NRC	Sarah King	sarah.king@nrc.no
REBUILD	Priscilla Dembetembe	Priscilla.Dembetembe@rescue.org
ReDSS	Cate Osborn	c.osborn@regional.dss
RefugePoint	Belinda Muya	muya@refugepoint.org
RefugePoint	Mary Wangui	wangui@refugepoint.org
UN-Habitat	Ang Jia Cong	jiacong.ang@un.org
UN-Habitat	Ishaku Maitumbi	ishaku.maitumbi@un.org
UN-Habitat	Lennart Fleck	lennart.fleck@un.org
UN-Habitat	Stephanie Loose	stephanie.loose@un.org
UNHCR	Anna Gaunt	gaunta@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Celine Mersch	mersch@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Ibrahima Sarr	sarri@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Lucy Kariuki	kariukil@unhcr.org
Village Enterprise	Job Masеше	jobm@villageenterprise.org

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Meeting minutes:

Introductions (Anna Gaunt, UNHCR)

Welcomes all participants and elaborated on the meeting's agenda and purpose: as an avenue to link up and discuss on group priorities, ongoing partner activities and key priorities in order to promote linkages and synergies, frequency of meetings, joint webinar series on topics of interest. Time permitting, to hold discussions on the ToRs and purpose of the working group. It is co-hosted by UNHCR and NRC.

Recap of the history and previous activities of the Forum (Sarah King, NRC)

The Regional Livelihoods Working Group was formed in March 2019 as a forum to discuss on regional displacement, economic inclusion and livelihoods. Three meetings and one training on MERS were held in 2019. It is a group of practitioners at regional level that come together to exchange ideas, good practices, technical tools and information around the topic of livelihoods and economic inclusion for refugees and other displacement affected populations. The group intends to remain informal, informational and participatory.

Tour de table, with each Organization/INGO/NGO presenting: countries covered and key priorities

Agency	Regional Coverage	Key Priority Areas
AVSI	Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Mozambique	Education and Livelihoods
CARE	Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda	Livelihoods (Cash Assistance), CVA adoptions to COVID-19
DanChurchAid (DCA)	Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda	Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion (VSLAs, CVA)
FAO	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda	Humanitarian and Resilience (Energy and Environment, Livelihoods)
ICRC	Global Technical Support	Livelihoods, Cash and Market-based Response (VSLAs, etc), Social Protection
IFC	Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia	Economic development through private sector.
NRC	Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Yemen	Food Security, Durable Solutions, Economic Inclusion, Employment opportunities, Youth and Agricultural Livelihoods
IRC	East Africa	Sustainable Livelihoods, Assessments, Research, Ideation workshops
ReDSS	Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia	Support Partner programming, Measuring, Self-reliance Index
RefugePoint	East Africa, Southern Africa	Resettlement, Child Protection, Self-reliance, Livelihoods, Field-building, Systems-change dialogues
UN-Habitat	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia	Urban displacement linkages with Livelihoods, Durable Solutions and support to Local Authorities

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UNHCR	Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania	Livelihoods, Social Protection, Socio-economic assessments, Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and Global Refugee Forum (GRF)
Village Enterprise	DRC, Kenya, Uganda, (rolling out to Ethiopia, Mozambique)	Partner support Technical assistance, Poverty Coalition Network

Round of updates from participants on economic inclusion activities / initiatives in the region

IFC

- June 2020 – Launched the Kakuma Kalobeyei Challenge Fund (KKCF), a five-year \$25 million project, aimed at expanding business opportunities for refugees, host communities and supporting the local government structures.

RefugePoint

- 20 May 2020 – Launched the Self-Reliance Index (SRI), the first global tool for measuring the progress of refugee households toward self-reliance
- Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative
- Poverty Alleviation Coalition (PAC) Network

ReDSS

- March 2020 – launched the Adaptation Strategy to COVID
- Planned research on rethinking Displacement Financing (linkages with UNHCR Financial Inclusion Mapping, IRC work in Nairobi and Kampala)

DanChurchAid (DCA)

- Testing the Digitization of the VSLA Facilitator Training (Malawi, Uganda, Kenya)
- Insect Farming and Consumption
- Smart Communities Coalition (Public-Private Partnership): refugee populations in Kenya and Uganda; focus on energy access, renewable energy, connectivity and digital tools
- Financial Inclusion Working Group – study on Financial Inclusion for refugee populations in Bidibidi and Kakuma

IRC

- RE:BUILD Partnership – IRC|ReBUILD Partners leading the research and programme design of the urban component of the IKEA funding

AVSI

- Business skills training, VSLAs, Youth Vocational training, Community dialogues

FAO

- Recent studies - Assessment related to wood fuel requirements, forest and biomass base around selected refugee locations
- Partnership with IKEA Foundation on refugees and host communities market linkages of and private-sector actors (INSTAR RUTFP)
- Joint FAO/UNHCR partnership – joint programming initiative on livelihood, environment and energy
- Mapping locust response and refugee locations

NRC

- Regional Desert Locust Alliance
- Resilience programmes: BRCS Consortium - Building Resilient Communities in Somalia; etc
- Market-based approaches - Online and digital skills training
- Online employment and marketplaces (Kenya, Somalia)

UNHCR

- IKEA Foundation GRF Funding pledge - \$100m for the region (\$40m urban component led by IRC and \$60m rural component led by Alti Consultants)
 - World Bank Assessments on COVID-19 Implications on refugees (Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda)
 - Policy Note on employment in Uganda
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- COVID19 Socio-economic Assessments
 - Regional Livelihoods Working Group Portal – interagency information portal is repository of partner initiatives. Nominated Partner focal points will be given access to upload documents.
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Review the Working Group TORs

Members requested to review the draft terms of reference (ToRs) for the Regional Livelihoods Working Group (RLWG) shared earlier in order to finalize them. Document will be available online for collaborative feedback.

Useful links: Regional Livelihoods Working Group Portal
[Kenya COVID tracker](#)
[The Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative \(RSRI\)](#)
[VSLA Facilitator Training App](#)
[DCA report on Financial Inclusion for refugee populations in Bidibidi and Kakuma](#)
[DFID Sustainable Livelihoods Framework](#)

AOB Proposed themes for upcoming meetings:

1. Partner examples on COVID-19 project adaptation and transformation
- 2.

Frequency of meetings: Monthly (initially) - date of next meeting tbc
Partners encouraged to share contacts of organizations and/ focal points to be included in the RLWG to Anna (UNHCR) and Sarah (NRC).
