



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



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Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Moyo District and Obongi District Local Economic Development Strategy Launch

20 November 2020



January 2017: Mass influx of refugees from South Sudan into Moyo District.

November 2020: 123,000 registered refugees in Palorinya Settlement, Obongi District.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework



Moyo Town is the main municipal, administrative, and commercial center of Moyo District. Given its location, the district has access to a large market of the population in South Sudan, north and eastern DRC, and Uganda of approximately 71 million people.

LED PILLARS

- **Enabling infrastructure:** transport, electricity, water, telecoms, land, business parks and business incubators.
- **Supporting local private sector development:** addressing market failures that constrain growth.
- **Upgrading human capital:** Shoring up capacity for value addition, including vocational skills training.
- **Attracting investment:** Creating an enabling environment for business including through tackling issues such as improved regulations on taxes, licenses, duties, business registration and access to land.
- **Changing attitudes towards local economic development:** working with community leaders and opinion shapers to improve attitudes towards civic participation, entrepreneurship, employment and investment.

Local Economic Development in the context of refugee response

Moyo District and Obongi District have formulated their five year development plans under the Comprehensive National Development Framework with a vision to have a transformed population that is productive and prosperous by 2040.

The inclusion of refugees in the District Development Plans marks a watershed in the humanitarian-development nexus, and provides stakeholders with a structure to transition towards resilience building interventions that empower refugees and host communities to participate actively in economic and social development. This is in line with Uganda's Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), which aims to promote social and economic development in areas hosting refugees for both refugees and host communities in partnership with the United Nations, World Bank and other stakeholders.

Obongi District has a population of 50,000 (2014 census) and is home to Palorinya Settlement with a registered refugee population of nearly 123,000. Palorinya borders Moyo District's Laropi, Lefori and Moyo Sub Counties. Moyo District is a gateway for refugee flows from South Sudan, hosts self-settled refugees, and is strategically located as potential trade gateway linking the West Nile sub region to South Sudan. The LED strategies envision refugees as producers and consumers. Refugees have demonstrated their potential through farming and as traders and consumers, evidenced by bustling trade in Konyokonyo Market established by refugees Palorinya Settlement, and the largest and busiest in Obongi District.

NDP III PROGRAMMES

- I. Enhance value addition in Key Growth Opportunities
- II. Strengthen the Private sector to drive growth and create jobs
- III. Consolidate and increase the Stock and Quality of Productive Infrastructure
- IV. Increase productivity and wellbeing of the population
- V. Strengthen the role of State in development



The newly constructed Obongi District headquarters. Obongi, where Palorinya Refugee Settlement is located, became a District in July 2019. [G.Tako/ODLG, 2020]

Private sector as a driver of investment and enterprise growth

Uganda's National Local Economic Development Policy is underpinned by the key assumption that private sector development will be a major driver of investment and enterprise growth. Accordingly, the Obongi District and Moyo District Local Economic Development strategies are geared towards improving competitiveness by driving inclusive and equitable growth, increasing employment, strengthening domestic and export trade earnings, and improving livelihoods.

The LED strategies provide frameworks for the Ministry of Local Government and the respective District Local Governments to implement the National LED Policy and Strategy. This will deepen the decentralization process, reduce poverty and ensure inclusive, sustainable and equitable growth. The LED strategies moreover provide a defined framework for District leadership to engage stakeholders in prioritizing LED needs, identifying service delivery and livelihoods interventions, and monitoring the implementation of resulting projects. Increased community roles in the design and implementation of development interventions will support social accountability and contribute to improved social cohesion.

Host populations and refugees will benefit from investments in infrastructure to access services and opportunities to participate in the economic life of refugee hosting and refugee affected areas. In asylum, refugees constitute a potential source of human capital to drive economic development. When conditions become conducive for safe and sustainable return to their country, they will be strong partners in cross-border commercial trade.

NDP III OBJECTIVES	Obongi District	Moyo District
Agro-Industrialization	●	●
Community Mobilization & Mindset Change	●	●
Development Plan implementation	●	●
Digital Transformation	●	●
Governance & Security Programme	●	
Human Capital Development	●	●
Innovation, Technology Development & Transfer		
Integrated Transport Infrastructure & Services	●	●
Manufacturing		
Mineral-based Industrialization		
Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land & Water Management	●	●
Private Sector Development	●	●
Public Sector Transformation		●
Regional Development	●	●
Sustainable Development of Petroleum Resources	●	
Sustainable Energy Development	●	●
Sustainable Urbanization & Housing	●	●
Tourism Development	●	●

Konyokonyo Market in Palorinya Settlement is the largest and busiest in Obongi District, drawing traders from different parts of Uganda.

[Suzuki/UNHCR, 2020]

Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)

In the spirit of responsibility sharing, partners are called upon to strengthen the resilience and self-reliance of refugee and host populations to ensure the sustainability of Uganda's settlement approach and safeguard asylum space by mitigating the impact of a significantly increased population in some of the country's poorest regions.



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LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



Response to increased demand on Government Service and creation of economic opportunities in Uganda (RISE)

The overall objective is, in line with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and ReHope Strategy for Uganda, to strengthen local authorities in delivering basic social services to all people in the refugee-hosting districts and to enable greater resilience and self-reliance among both refugee and host communities. The RISE project contributes to objective 1 of the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) to foster greater economic and employment opportunities, establishing inclusive economic programmes that create employment opportunities, especially for young people and women in local communities, with a focus on vocational training and creation of micro- and small enterprises. Further, it supports objective 2 of the EUTF to strengthen resilience of communities and the most vulnerable, as well as refugees and displaced people.



is taking steps to improve the refugee response model in Palorinya Settlement. In line with the CRRF aims and objectives, UNHCR has repositioned itself as a catalyst to socio-economic development and is promoting the transition from care and maintenance programming to resilience and solutions-oriented approaches. Efforts are being made to harmonize approaches towards achieving common goals aligned with District development plans with the goal of improving outcomes for refugees and host communities through cash-based initiatives and community-led interventions. UNHCR engaged a consultant to support the Obongi and Moyo District Local Governments to develop the LED strategies.