

MINUTES of MEETING FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT FOR REFUGEE AND HOST POPULATION

VENUE: Piato Restaurant (hosted by World Vision Uganda)

DATE: Thursday, 10 May, 2018

Agenda

1. Host introduction and [short presentation](#)
2. Remarks from the Chair
3. [Review of Last Minutes](#)
4. [Presentation from MoWE Directorate of Water Resource Management](#)
5. [Presentation from Enabel - Belgium Development Agency](#)
6. [Presentation from World Vision](#)
7. AOB

1. Host introduction and [short presentation](#), World Vision Uganda

Simon Manning, from World Vision Uganda welcomed participants and gave a short overview presentation of World Vision Uganda’s work. **World Vision** has been operational in Uganda since 1986 and is one of Uganda’s largest NGOs. Over 900 staff in over 70 districts. Strategic priorities include child protection, education, health/nutrition, resilience and livelihoods (incl. climate change adaptation). WV has West Nile Refugee Response Transition Strategy (March 2018 – March 2020) with child protection and resilience/livelihoods (food security, income diversification + environment) as core focus and Farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR) for environmental focus.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Ranya Sherif (UNHCR) and John-Paul Magezi (OPM) also welcomes participants and gave opening remarks.

3. Review of Last Minutes

Previous minutes were accepted without exception. Action items from the previous meeting were reviewed and updates provided as follows:

April Meeting Actions

ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	Update
Circulate meeting minutes	Natasha Katusiime-LWF		Complete
Invite relevant Government ministries to take part in the future meetings	John Paul Magezi (OPM)	03.05.2018	Invitations are being sent out on a rolling basis. Priority to invite Ministry of Energy.
Provide input to Data Model	All Partners	02.05.2018	Open Street Map is incorporating environment/energy data to their data collection at community level.
Develop and circulate 4W/stocktaking survey	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	10.05.2018	In progress, hopefully to be completed within two weeks.
Task force meeting for Kyangwali	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	18.04.2018	Meeting took place
Create and circulate a	Ranya Sherif	10.05.2018	This is now redundant due to 4Ws

template for the purpose of incorporating activities done by various Partners.	(UNHCR)		
Sharing vital information for the Mid-month News letter	All willing partners.		Complete
Training about the Open Street Mapping	Rupert Allan (H.O.T)	01.05.2018	Training scheduled at Red Cross for May 17 & 18 – sign up with HOT (Rupert Allen)
Prepare guidelines for environmental considerations in site planning	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	01.05.2018	Completed as part of updated site planning guidelines and submitted to OPM for review prior to wider circulation.
Prepare guidelines and BOQs for institutional stoves	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	01.05.2018	To be followed up with GIZ.

May Meeting Actions

ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	Update
WMZ contacts and CMPs for refugee-hosting catchments to be made available by MWE	Dr. Callist Tindumiguya (MWE)/Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	01.06.2018	Pending

4. MoWE Directorate of Water Resource Management, Dr. Callist Tindimugaya; Integrated Water Resource Management in Refugee Hosting Catchments – [presentation link](#)

Dr Callist gave a detailed presentation on integrated water resource management (IWRM), followed by discussion and Q&A. MWE is developing Catchment Management Plans (CMP) for all the water catchment zones in the country and is producing simpler versions to be popularized. A catchment management plan guides investments within a given water catchment area. In the context of the refugee settlements, all environment related interventions should be guided by the CMPs to avoid any negative tendencies on the watercourse.

Uganda is a country with a lot of water and yet there is limited access to water. Access to safe water is 66% in rural and 72% in urban areas. Economic and social development is increasingly related to water – e.g. hydropower. Increasing pressure due to population growth in country = 3.4% per annum. There is degradation of water resources due to urbanization, industrialization and poor land use practices. Water shortages and droughts across the country are an ongoing problem and water does not follow administrative boundaries.

The country is divided with 4 major basins that each have regional offices. Northern Uganda = Upper Nile (office at Lira), Albert (office at Fort Portal), Kyoga (office at Mbale) and Victoria (office in Mbarara). Catchment Management involves many different departments in government – agriculture, livestock, forest, rural water supply, urban water supply, irrigation, power, industry, fisheries, environment, transport, tourism, groundwater, surface water, trans-boundary, etc. There are also many stakeholders – national, regional, district, sub-county, community and household level. Stakeholders engage through

Catchment management organizations (CMOs). The catchment management committee is the executive arm of the CMO with strategic guidance chaired by LC5 of a participating district. The Catchment Technical Committee is the technical arm of CMO.

Some interventions identified in CMPs include: gravity diversion of water and pump delivery for bulk water supply for many purposes, mini / micro-hydropower and solar power, water-saving irrigation, river bank stabilization, fish farming in wetlands, water/soil conservation, nursery beds for improved species, stone and soil bunds on steep hill slopes etc.

Catchment-based IWRM provides a nexus between water and natural resources management and an approach to sustainably develop and protect water and natural resources while improving refugees and host communities' livelihoods.

Key questions/issues raised include:

- Q: How does MWE coordinate with other key actors including government agencies?
A: MWE acknowledges it has a significant role to play in refugee hosting districts and can no longer leave water resource management to OPM/UNHCR. MWE will engage actively with all actors and its capacity to do so will be enhanced by opening of an Arua office in July (in addition to its existing Lira office). MWE's role is primarily technical with OPM remaining responsible for overall coordination.
- Q: The catchment zones are very large. Are there sub-zones?
A: It is agreed this is a challenge and the plan is to open further sub-offices to improve zone management.
- Q: Will this approach be mainstreamed? Are there sufficient resources available?
A: Resources are a continual constraint, but MWE is hoping for additional resource.
- Q: How can actors collaborate on groundwater recharge, recognizing that individual agencies are drilling boreholes in refugee settlements?
A: Collaboration is essential and coordination through OPM and UNHCR is vital. Recharging studies are needed. MWE will provide technical support to agencies drilling boreholes.
- UWASNET has published a [Practioner's Guide](#) for IWRM in Uganda
- GIZ prepared a [report on IWRM](#) in refugee settlements in the North

5. [Enabel Presentation](#) - Belgium Development Agency

Niels de Block from Enabel gave a presentation on their work on skills development (linked), followed by discussion and Q&A. Enabel focuses in training and skilling the youth in different areas of interest. They have two programmes: SSU = Support to Skilling Uganda and SPRS-NU = Support Programme for Refugee Settlements in Northern Uganda. The SSU approach is funded by Belgium, Ireland, EU. The objective of the 5-year project is that employability of youth is increased through better quality instructions and skills development.

Nexus guiding principles – mainstreaming skills development in the national Business, Technical, Vocational Education and Training (BTNET) strategy. Increase absorption capacity of existing institutional services. Training for sustainable growth – green skills for green economy. Livelihoods and IGA.

Skills Development Fund (SDF) – youth get skills needed on market and find jobs easier. SDF have a selection committee. There are Skills Development Platforms per District. Enabel works through

livelihood actors to select beneficiaries to go to trainings. Enabel provides the training (equipment and consumables).

Enabel offers an instant skills training voucher scheme – agriculture, construction, post-harvesting techniques. Inter-locking stabilized soil technique with bamboo instead of wood.

Key questions/issues raised include:

- Q: Does Enabel provide electronic instant s/tech skills training? How flexible is Enabel on which trainings it provides?
A: Enabel doesn't define skills, but rather responds to demand from market actors. Enabel is very flexible.
- Q: Does Enabel provide training in bamboo production and products?
A: Bamboo is a very promising product and Enabel has a technical expert in this.
- Q: Has Enabel done any market assessments?
A: Yes, but many other agencies have as well (at least 38 in northern Uganda). Enabel has done two meta-studies of other agency assessments.
- Q: What is the district-level entry point for Enabel's skills development work?
A: There are various coordination mechanisms because skills training doesn't fit neatly into the standard sectors. There are district-based platforms for coordination.

6. World Vision Presentation, Tony Rinaudo, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration

Tony Rinaudo from World Vision Australia, international expert in Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) gave a presentation (linked), followed by discussion and Q&A. FMNR approach was recommended for Bidibidi with a possibility of integrating it with other approaches to land cover regeneration.

Limited time was available for questions and discussion, but a few points shared are summarized below:

- Q: Theft is a threat to FMNR.
- A: Yes, a holistic/whole of district approach is needed to reduce all kinds of risk. It should not be seen as a settlement-only issue.
- ICRAF has also had success working with FMNR in Uganda and has research it can share on this. ICRAF emphasized the important of indigenous regeneration. MWE study shows Uganda has 8 million hectares in need of regeneration.

7. AOB

- Announcement from OSM that they are looking for partners to participate in mapping in Kyangwali.

8. June Meeting: Tentative 12 June 2018 @ 10am - 1pm Austrian Red Cross, including presentations on: Energy Development in Refugee Hosting Districts - Rural Electrification Agency/Norwegian Embassy/USAID, WFP/CREEC Study Findings

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

Working Group on Energy and Environment Meeting

VENUE: PIATO Restaurant

Date: Thursday 10th May 2018

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