

**MEETING MINUTES FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT  
FOR REFUGEE AND HOST POPULATION EMPOWERMENT, HELD AT FAO BOARD  
ROOM, ON 06<sup>TH</sup> /03/2018**

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## Meeting Agenda

1. Introduction of participants
2. Welcome remarks from host (FAO)
3. Remarks from the Co-chair (OPM, UNDP)
4. Remarks from MoWE and MEMD
5. Review of previous minutes from co-chair – UNHCR
6. Update on E&E Joint Response Plan, Next steps , Emerging field issues- UNHCR
7. HOT Open Street Map presentation- Arua Mapping Pilot (5 Min)
8. ICRAF Presentation –Tree nurseries in Arua (5 Min)
9. Upcoming FAO/UNHCR/UNDP West-Nile mission (5 Min)
10. AOB

Issues Discussed	Responsible Person (s)
<b>Min. 01.6.03.2018</b> <b>Introduction of participants</b>	
- Meeting was hosted by FAO and started at 10:30 am. - A brief self-introduction was done by all participants.	All to note
<b>Min. 02.6.03.2018</b> <b>Welcome remarks from meeting host</b>	<b>FAO</b>
- The welcome remarks from the host (FAO) was extended by Ms. Beatrice Okello - In her opening remark, she thanked members for turning up in big numbers for the meeting and wished the participants a fruitful deliberation.	
<b>Min. 03.6.03.2018</b> <b>Remarks from Co-chairs</b>	<b>OPM, UNDP</b>
<b><u>Remarks from OPM:</u></b> - The chairman for the meeting, Mr. John Paul Magezi from the OPM, thanked members for turning up in big numbers for the meeting. - Thanked FAO for accepting to host the meeting - Remarked that the E&E TWG meetings are hosted, on a rotational basis by the agencies involved - Thanked UNHCR for putting up the necessary documentation for the meeting - Emphasized on the relevance and importance of synergies and harmonized implementation to avoid duplication of efforts and misuse of resources. He suggested that during the AOB session, members should discuss further the proposed idea of having separate meetings for Energy and Environment.	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Remarked that the OPM delivered successfully one of the recommendations from the 2<sup>nd</sup> E&amp;E TWG meeting, in which the OPM was tasked to bring onboard other partners in the E&amp;ETWG discussions. Adding that the large turn up of participants in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was a confirmation of this.</li> <li>- In addition, he explained the limited representation of government ministries, to have resulted due to the limited time the OPM in light of other priorities.</li> <li>- He assured the meeting that the relevant government ministries will be invited to take part in subsequent meetings.</li> <li>- He requested to take his leave due to other urgent engagements and delegated Mr. Onesimus Muhwezi, UNDP to continue with the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Remarks from UNDP:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Muhwezi, thanked members for turning up in big numbers for the meeting</li> <li>- Noted that the Energy and Environment issues was one of the last issues to capture the attention of people in as far as response to refugee crisis is concerned</li> <li>- He observed that there are currently many issues emerging on environment and energy, which he emphasized that if not addressed then it would complicate refugee response in Uganda.</li> <li>- Thanked OPM and MWE for prioritizing issues on environment and energy.</li> <li>- He also thanked OPM for their efforts in mobilization work that resulted into such a big group turning up for the meeting.</li> <li>- He mentioned that issues involving livelihoods and environment are interconnected which makes them almost inseparable. He, however, noted that there could have been reasons why this was done during the emergency time.</li> <li>- He suggested that the meeting could explore this issue, further and provide insights.</li> <li>- He wished everyone a fruitful deliberation.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Min. 04.6.03.2018</b> <b>Remarks from MoWE and MEMD</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A representative, Mr. Kabi Maxwell remarked that MoWE pledged to give its full support to environmental issues pertaining to the refugees.</li> <li>- There was no representative from MEMD at the meeting.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Min. 05.6.03.2018</b> <b>Review of previous minutes</b></p>	<b>UNHCR</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The co-chair, Ranya Sherif thanked everyone for sparing their time to come for the meeting.</li> <li>- Noted that the huge turn up was indeed very encouraging.</li> <li>- Remarked that there is still need for other organizations to join/come on board.</li> <li>- A quick review of the minutes of the previous meeting was done highlighting the action points. Members requested that in addition to the action points, a quick summary of the key issues be elaborated, given the fact that many of them did not participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> E&amp;E TWG at UNDP.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>General remarks from UNDP on the previous meeting minutes:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A number of engagements are coming up on energy in the refugee response. The ReHoPE in itself provides a strategy where addressing environmental degradation is a key objective</li> <li>- The refugee post emergency response should start to tackle/address issues around environment and energy.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Within the refugee communities, the need for biomass is enormous for both poles and firewood. In addition, the brickmaking activities which are a source of livelihood are depleting trees in the area.</li> <li>- The growing numbers of the refugees, coupled with the fact that the tree resources around the settlements are depleted is prompting the refugees to move long distances in search for wood and fuelwood products; this is not safe especially for the women who face sexual assault, in the process.</li> <li>- There is need to reconsider the kind of settlement pattern to adopt to counterbalance the intake of biomass.</li> <li>- The proposal to merge once again livelihoods and environment issue should be revisited.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Min. 06.6.03.2018</b>  <b>Update on E&amp;E Joint Response Plan, Next steps, Emerging field issues</b></p>	<p><b>UNHCR</b></p>
<p><b>A brief presentation from the UNHCR field visit highlighted the following key issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Per concerns raised at the previous meeting with the lengthy acronym, the branding of the group was revisited and presented as the Working Group on Energy and Environment for Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (WorkGrEEEn for ReHoPE)</li> <li>- There are significant impacts on land and forest cover in the settlements; the satellite imagery for Bidibidi showed a very huge change in land cover between Aug 2016 to December 2017 and exemplified the impact that settlements are having.</li> <li>- Under CRRF, Environmental Protection is part of both the emergency response in Pillar 2 and longer term response in Pillar 3. Environment cuts across all sectors and will require inter-sector and inter-agency coordination.</li> <li>- There is synergy between environment and livelihood which are at the nexus of humanitarian and development responses. The working group will work to bridge the two through joint programming especially in planning and reporting. The main objective of the working group is to address environmental degradation in refugee hosting areas per ReHoPE and in line with the STA.</li> <li>- The logframe in ReHoPE objective 4 will need to be updated in its next revision to reflect the 5 results areas adopted by the WorkGrEEEn.</li> <li>- The overview of Energy and Environment Response was shared as well. The outputs in Livelihood and Resilience 3 should be provided by the Livelihood Sector Working Group. There is a massive demand for wood causing environmental degradation but this is also a large market and livelihood opportunity for sustainable sources of construction material (poles, grass, bricks) and sustainable energy sources for households and institutions.</li> <li>- The Central Forest Reserve (CFR) near Kyangwali is at risk of depletion because of the basic need for fuel wood and construction material.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Livelihood Sector WG</b></p>

Next steps to Develop 2018 Response Plan and Logframe:

- Draft Harmonized Indicators and Targets
- Draft Actions, Milestones, Roles & Responsibilities, Risks, and Budget
- Stocktaking: who is doing what where?

OPM/UNHCR

Finalize data model and roll out monitoring and evaluation tools

**Comments and questions on this presentation:**

**Comment.** Stephane, ILF: One of the pictures from the settlements showed a charcoal stove in a kitchen and yet use of charcoal is increasing deforestation. It is noted that in Uganda, the process of charcoal making is wasteful, resulting in the loss of huge amounts of energy.

**Response:** Agreed, charcoal places an even higher demand for fuel wood than firewood. There is a need for good quality alternatives like sustainably harvested wood and good quality briquettes. Energy efficient stoves should be installed in all institutions such as reception areas and use of alternative fuels to biomass such as biogas for institutions like schools where possible. All partners should include this feature in any new facility. The WorkGrEEen will provide guidelines and BOQs.

OPM/UNHCR

**Question.** How far has UNHCR gone with site designs along contours?

**Response:** Guidelines need to be developed for this in conjunction with site planning team. A draft is available, and the OPM/UNHCR are planning to hold a workshop on site planning along that line. The ministries can plan to take part in the workshop.

OPM/UNHCR/  
Shelter & Site  
Planning SWG

**Comment.** NFA: Bidibidi and Kyangwali refugees' settlements have been in place for quite long. There is need to re-think and draw a broader plan, looking at the whole landscape and scope where refugees can be taken. Attention has however not been given to water pollution, conservation and livelihoods etc.

**Comment.** Land use and management plan, in Yumbe and Bidi bidi specifically, there is land allocated to the refugees for agricultural production but it is far. There is thus need to develop a land use plan, considering unproductive area for settlements and consider productive land for farming.

**Comment:** Settling refugees on unproductive land can pose a serious challenge of low/inadequate water supply such as in Malembo C, Kyangwali where water-tr.

**Comment.** Restoration approach suggested where the ecosystem can be evolving with the refugees in place.

**Comment:** Need to have energy, environment and livelihoods strengthened together. Brick making is a livelihoods activity and yet negative to the environment. Thus we cannot plan for the environmental restoration in isolation of livelihoods interventions.

**Comment:** Kyangwali CFR had resources for the National Forest Authority (NFA) which have been depleted by the refugees. The refugees will encroach on another government resource if there are no interventions to set up woodlots to meet their energy demands and or need for construction material.

<p><b><u>Comment from UNDP:</u></b> UNDP is supporting governance issues by integrating local governments in planning to ensure they can take charge of the environmental assessment before allocating the land. There is need to work together on long term initiatives to refugee response in Uganda.</p> <p><b><u>Comments from World Food Programme</u></b> -How do we raise the results; having a strategy is good but how can it be translated into work. -Who does what where? We need to carry out a mapping of who is doing what, where.</p> <p><b><u>Response:</u></b> A stakeholder mapping survey is being developed and will be circulated</p> <p><b><u>Comments from the World Bank:</u></b> The World Bank is focusing on supporting biomass generation in the refugee settlements. They are interested in determining the gaps to refocus their planned interventions.</p>	
<p><b>Min. 07.6.03.2018</b> <b>HOT OpenStreetMap</b></p>	<p><b>HOT</b></p>
<p>The Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (H.O.T) are involved in the Northern Ugandan Community Mapping Refugee Data. It is a team of 60,000 people. This is a free, open-source system being used to create public map data in refugee settlements and host communities. Pilot has been completed in Arua. Sensitive data is stored on HDX platform. Partners involved are using it as a decision making tool. Data is collected using free Android smartphone software.</p> <p><b><u>Comment from UNHCR:</u></b> Training courses will be made available for partners to use the system and a common data model including Energy and Environment is being developed as the basis for monitoring and evaluation (Pillar 5 Knowledge Management). LWF's presentation will further demonstrate how geospatial data can be used in tracking progress of interventions such as dissemination of stoves.</p> <p><b><u>Comment:</u></b> Need to liaise with NFA for the historical trends of the vegetation cover. NFA is the custodian of the Country National Biomass information.</p> <p><b><u>Question:</u></b> Is it your mandate to do this work?</p> <p><b><u>Response:</u></b> The H.O.T is collaborating with UBoS and other agencies to capture, store and manage data on their interventions within institutions like schools and hospitals. Data capture is detailed, it indicates the implementer, and other relevant details.</p>	<p><b>UNHCR IM Team</b></p> <p><b>LWF</b></p>
<p><b>Min. 08.6.03.2018</b> <b>ICRAF presentation</b></p>	<p><b>Dr. Okia Clement</b></p>
<p>-ICRAF is implementing a project with funding from DFID and GIZ within the Bidi bidi refugee settlement. Using a landscape approach, to promote safe management of water, forestry, trees and access to energy. This is because environment management and access to energy have been found to be neglected in the refugee response.</p> <p>-GIZ is focused on the energy and water components and the restoration of water catchment areas is being addressed by MoWE.</p>	

<p>-Initial engagements has been on species identification, where to grow them and the estimated quantities needed, considering the plot allocation of 50m X 50m per refugee household. The preliminary results of the survey indicate that there is more demand and interest in fruit trees than timber species. In addition, the refugees prefer to have trees on their allocated plots.</p> <p>-In recognition of the UNHCR capacity development program for Arua DLG on tree management interventions; ICRAF is considering making an MOU with the Arua DLG to ensure close supervision and technical backstopping within the settlements. Some management issues, however, have been identified, like bush fires which are quite detrimental to trees.</p> <p>-ICRAF will also be setting an agroforestry community learning centre. The focus is on indigenous species.</p> <p>- A tree nursery has been set up to provide the seedling needs.</p> <p><b>Comment:</b> ICRAF has been doing some work for the past six (6) months. Working in close collaboration with the NFA. In addition, the Arua DLG shall be involved to in the implementation to address the skills gaps and need for training.</p> <p>ICRAF is available as a technical resource for partners</p>	
<p><b>Min. 09.6.03.2018</b>  <b>Upcoming WB/FAO/UNHCR West-Nile mission</b></p>	<p><b>Ms. Beatrice Okello</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Planned Mission next week by FAO/WB/UNHCR to build on the wood assessment work done in Bidi bidi</li> <li>- FAO/NFA has been engaged to do a study on Biomass in the West Nile region with World Bank funding</li> <li>- Preliminary results of the above two assessments shall be brought to the attention of members in the next WorkGrEEen meeting, in addition to a presentation on the new initiative by FAO to rejuvenate the refugee settlements by supporting woodlots for energy.</li> <li>- The terms of reference for the study are available on the portal <a href="https://ugandarefugees.org/category/sector-coordination/ee-twg/">https://ugandarefugees.org/category/sector-coordination/ee-twg/</a></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Min. 10.6.03.2018</b>  <b>Closure remarks:</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Onesimus Muhwezi</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Onesimus Muhwezi thanked everyone for granting him the honours to chair the meeting</li> <li>- Emphasised the relevance of the meeting, adding that there is need to share information from time to time.</li> <li>- He remarked that there is need to continue with the discussion on whether energy, environment and livelihoods group should be merged at the next meeting.</li> <li>- It was tentatively suggested that the next meeting would be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018</li> <li>- LWF offered to host the 4<sup>th</sup> WorkGrEEen meeting at their offices along Gaba road, after the American Embassy.</li> <li>- The meeting was officially adjourned at 12:30pm.</li> </ul>	

## Summary of Action Points

#	Action	Person responsible	Deadline
1	Circulate Meeting Minutes	Bedijo Nelly Grace (FAO)	
2	Invite relevant Government ministries to take part in the future meetings	John Paul Magezi (OPM)	5.04.2018
3	Present WorkGrEEEn update at Inter-agency Coordination Meeting	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	9.03.2018
4	Finalize WorkGrEEEn TOR Membership Matrix	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	30.03.2018
5	Develop and Circulate 4W/Stocktaking Survey	Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)	10.04.2018
6	Proposal to have joint planning but separate working groups for Environment& Energy and Livelihoods	Onesimus Muhwezi (UNDP)	10.04.2018
7	Presentation By FAO/UNHCR at the next meeting	Nelly/ Beatrice Okello (FAO)	10.04.2018
8	Presentation on GIS-Based Monitoring and Evaluation of interventions	LWF	10.04.2018
9	Prepare guidelines and BOQs for institutional stoves	UNHCR/OPM	01.05.2018
10	Prepare guidelines for environmental considerations in site planning	UNHCR/OPM/Shelter and Site Planning WG	01.05.2018
10	Recommend outputs for Livelihood and Resilience Pillar	Samuel (UNHCR Livelihood Co-chair)	08.05.2018
11	Draft Data Model for E&E M&E	UNHCR	10.04.2018
12	Call next meeting	John Paul Magezi	10.04. 2018

Co-Chairs

Ranya Sherif (UNHCR)

Onesimus Muhwezi (UNDP)

Chairperson

John Paul Magezi (OPM)