Oruchinga settlement, which opened as a transit center in 1959 and was officially established as a settlement in 1961, hosts more than 6,800 refugees from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. The settlement is not receiving new arrivals, aside from family reunifications, referrals, and protection cases. Although shelter and infrastructure are developed, and the refugees seem to be well integrated with the host community, protection concerns and conflict over land and resources remain a challenge.

Gaps & Challenges

Refugees reported having to walk long distances to the health centers that are overcrowded and lack available equipment. Pregnant mothers and persons with disabilities struggle in overcoming this challenge due to their decreased capacity to travel. Furthermore, the limited stock of medication in the health centers combined with the poor referral systems present increase refugees’ inability to access health services.

Both refugees and the host community emphasized the long distances they have to walk to reach the water points that are severely overcrowded, often leading to tensions between the two groups. The quality of the water was reported to be poor with the water containing high levels of iron. The lack of provision of water purification tablets thus means the population is accessing unsafe water. Refugees also requested support with the construction of community latrines to support families who do not have latrines as well as support with latrine construction materials.

Insufficient vocational training institutions has prohibited refugees and nationals to acquire relevant skills to access employment or start small scale businesses. Though several groups were supported this year with access to capital and cash grants by livelihoods partners, FGD participants reported still needing further access to capital. Refugees requested an increase in the implementation of income-generating activities to enable them to earn a living, which has been particularly hard due to the unfavorable climate damaging agricultural practices.

High dropout rates have resulted from high tuition fees, early pregnancies and marriages, overcrowding in the classrooms, a lack in school materials and an inability of education partners to translate refugee children’s certificates from their original countries to the Ugandan educational system. Refugees as well as the host community struggle to further their education after primary school due to the limited scholarships available and few secondary schools in and around the settlement.

Refugees participating in the FGDs reported several cases of rape and assault of young girls where women are attacked in and around the settlement. This has meant that families restrict young girls’ movements especially at night.

Strengths & Opportunities

The coordinated and close communication between humanitarian actors, the host community and refugees has improved information sharing on the needs of both nationals and refugees. This has led to a shift in the response where reducing the development gap has become a priority aiming to improve the living conditions of nationals and refugees. This has increased the presence of development partners in the settlement, which is expected to streamline service delivery and infrastructure development.

The presence of refugees was reported to have increased production capacity. Maize and banana production were boosted due to the availability of cheap labor from refugees. Furthermore, the growth in production has led to a shift in the response where reducing the development gap has become a priority aiming to improve the living conditions of nationals and refugees. This has increased the presence of development partners in the settlement, which is expected to streamline service delivery and infrastructure development.

Partner organizations

AIRD, ARC, CAPOMI, HIJRA, MTI, Nsamizi, Tutapona, UNHCR, URCS, UWESO, WFP, WIU

* Refugee statistics source: Refugee Information Management System (RIMS) • Office of the Prime Minister
1. Demographic data used is valid as of June 2018
2. Indicator standards to measure gaps were determined by global humanitarian standards, Ugandan national standards, or sector experts for each settlement. Data was from collected from 25 June to 30 July, 2018.
3. The gaps and challenges were collected through Focus Group Discussions with both refugees and host communities separately undertaken on 19 and 20 March 2018 with the host community and on 03 July 2018 with the refugees.
Protection

**Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)**

- 100% of SGBV survivors receiving multi-sectoral support in the past three months.
- 0% of SGBV survivors not receiving multi-sectoral support in the past three months.

**Psychosocial**

- 27 psychosocial awareness activities conducted in the past three months.
- 1,395 refugees receiving psychosocial support.
- 0 children registered to access psychosocial support.

**Persons with specific needs (PSNs)**

- 413 PSNs have received services for their specific needs.
- 635 PSNs need to receive services for their specific needs.

**Child protection**

- 100% of child PSNs need to be provided with individual case management.
- 0% of unaccompanied or separated children not being provided with appropriate care.
- 100% of cases in the past three months of child abuse or exploitation have not received adequate gender services.

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**

- 0 additional litres per person per day (l/p/d) of water needed.
- 26% average l/p/d provided.
- 0% of SGBV survivors have been provided with dignity kits or sanitary materials.
- 83% of reproductive-age women not provided with dignity kits or sanitary materials.

**Education**

- 2,328 refugees are attending school in or around the settlement, with gross enrolment rates.
- 922 refugees aged 3-5.
- 2,620 refugees aged 14-17.
- 956 refugees aged 6-13.

1. Oruchinga is not taking in new arrivals but allows family reunification.
2. Oruchinga has no Child Friendly Spaces.
3. The number of PSNs children receiving individual case management is higher than the number of PSNs children registered as some children receive case management support without being registered.
4. Water sources are shared between the refugees and 6,168 nationals.
5. The gap of pre-primary enrolment could not be calculated here as children above the age of 5 are also enrolled in pre-primary education.
6. The gap of primary enrolment could not be calculated here as children above the age of 13 are also enrolled in primary education.
7. The gap of secondary enrolment could not be calculated here as children above the age of 17 are also enrolled in secondary education.
**Food assistance**

- 101 metric tonnes of food were distributed during the latest distribution in the settlement.
- 316 eligible refugees have not received 100% in-kind or Cash Based Intervention (CBI) food assistance in the latest distribution.
- 6,536 eligible refugees have received 100% in-kind or CBI food assistance in the latest distribution.
- 0 cash for food was distributed during the latest distribution for the settlement.

**Livelihoods and environment**

- 200 households still need to receive improved cooking stoves and efficient energy for cooking.
- 996 households have received improved cooking stoves and efficient energy for cooking.
- 162 refugees have access to self-employment or facilitated businesses.
- 1,346 refugees and host community members trained on agricultural practices.
- 18 refugees received vocational training in the past three months.
- 9,876 trees planted.

**Health and nutrition**

- 0% of refugees with HIV are not receiving ART.
- 100% of refugees with HIV are receiving ART.
- 0% of refugees under the age of 18 with HIV are not receiving ART.
- 100% of refugees under the age of 18 with HIV are receiving ART.
- 51 women delivered without skilled healthcare staff in the past three months.
- 9 women delivered with skilled healthcare staff in the past three months.
- 0% of children identified with severe acute malnutrition in the past three months have not been admitted into treatment.
- 100% of children identified with severe acute malnutrition in the past three months were admitted into treatment.
- 166 children suffering from malnutrition.
- 181 children suffering from anemia.
- 131 non-pregnant women suffering from anemia.

**Shelter, site, and non-food items (NFIs)**

- 121 PSN shelters have been constructed.
- No arrivals in the past three months provided with household NFI kits.
- No households in total have been provided with NFI kits.
- No arrivals in the past three months received shelter materials and toolkits/cash.

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8. Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
9. Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA), October 2017, UNHCR
10. Oruchinga is no longer taking in new arrivals, but allows family reunification.