



## UNHCR Monthly Protection Update Community Based Protection October 2018

### Key Figures

**119,724**

#### Identified Persons with specific needs

<b>39%</b>	<b>Children at risk (including UASC)</b>
<b>20%</b>	<b>Older persons at risk</b>
<b>13%</b>	<b>Disability</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Single parents</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Serious medical condition</b>
<b>6%</b>	<b>Woman at risk</b>
<b>2%</b>	<b>Other</b>

**34,354**

Number of members of community  
structures (estimated)

### ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

**209,059**

Number of PoC with psychosocial needs  
receiving psychological support

**6300**

Number of people trained on community  
leadership and decision making

#### Community Community Mobilization

- The first meeting of the Refugee Advisory Forum (RAF) was held on 16-17 October, bringing together over 70 refugee leaders and youth representatives from all settlements and Kampala. This was the first time that refugee representatives came together at the national level. The group decided on the key messages to present at the CRRF Steering Group meeting on 18 October, and elected two representatives (1 female, 1 male) who would represent refugees' voices at the meeting. The group will hold a second meeting with this configuration in early 2019 with the goal to agree to the criteria for selecting 16-30 RAF members and ensure responsibilities for engagement of the wider refugee population that they will represent.
- OPM and UNHCR Arua conducted meetings with partners to review and validate the Refugee Election guidelines, in preparation for the Refugee Welfare Council (RWC) elections in Rhino Camp in November. Jointly developed by OPM and UNHCR Arua, the guidelines aim to systemize the structure for the refugee leadership election process in settlements in Arua, and ensure a fair and transparent process as well as representation of women and minority groups.
- UNHCR Arua conducted Women's Participation and Leadership trainings in the settlements, aimed at addressing cultural norms and practices that limit women's participation in decision making. Training was provided to refugee women on basic gender concepts as well as leadership skills.
- Capacity-building of 11 chairpersons of the Women's Centres in Bidibidi was conducted, focusing on skills such as leadership, lobbying and conflict management, to equipping them to manage the activities of the centre.
- Participatory assessment exercises were conducted in the settlements in the South-West, Arua, and Kampala, engaging women, men, boys and girls as well as key informants to identify protection risks, needs and priorities, their capabilities, and

solutions. The findings will be shared once available and will inform planning and implementation in 2019.

### Persons with Specific Needs (PSN)

- PSN continued to be identified through various channels including at reception and registration, verification, continuous registration followed by PSN assessment exercises and community outreach. In October, multi-partner PSN assessment exercises were completed in Palabek, Rwamwanja and Nakivale



Figure 1: Members of HUMURA group (of parents / caregivers of children with disabilities) in a discussion on how to expand their craft business at the Community Centre in Kampala. InterAid

### Psychosocial Support

- UNHCR Senior Mental Health OfficerQ undertook a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) mission to Kyangwali, South-West, Rhino Camp and Bidibidi settlements to assess current MHPSS activities and identify challenges / solutions. In the West Nile, there was a particular focus on the increase in suicide attempts, an issue which can only be addressed through multi-sectoral response and community engagement.
- 12 Crisis Response Team (CRTs) members who double as RWC members were trained in Imvepi on key issues on suicide, including how to identify any person with suicidal mind and referral, to enable community leaders to keep vigilant to prevent suicidal tendencies in the settlement. In Rhino Camp, a meeting with 27 CRTs was held,

aimed at empowering them with basic psychosocial skills mainly in detecting and handling suicide cases within the community.

- In Bidibidi, TPO Uganda conducted community psycho education on suicide prevention for the community attended by 75 participants, which included signs and symptoms of depression, and different signs and symptoms of people with suicidal behavior and thoughts, aimed at capacitating them to be able to identify these cases and refer for support.
- In Imvepi, 213 adolescent girls participated in psychosocial education and importance of education following concerns raised by the school on girls expressing loss of hope and being helpless, poor school attendance and drop out due to inadequate guidance from adults. 50 girls were immediately enrolled for in-depth interventions.
- Bidibidi settlement hosted a DFID mission on 17-18 October including a roundtable meeting with partners in child protection, education and MHPSS aimed at exploring how to strengthen psychosocial support in education in emergencies investments.

### Accountability to Affected People

- The inter-agency comprehensive feedback, referral and response mechanism (FRRM), including a toll-free helpline, was piloted in Nakivale and Kiryandongo settlements on 10 October and in Oruchinga on 29 October. Efforts are ongoing to raise community awareness on the FRRM, including developing and disseminating posters and other IEC materials. By the end October the helpline had received 409 calls as awareness of the community in the concerned settlements increased. The FRRM refugee helpline will be fully rolled out to the entire refugee response by end January 2019.
- Protection Desks/Information Support Centres (ISCs) continue to receive and refer protection concerns raised by the community. For example, in settlements in Arua, 723 complaints were received from PoCs (65% female, 35% male). The main concerns were related to shelter, registration, food, livelihoods and core relief items (CRI). 95% of the cases were referred to various actors for follow-up and 5% were resolved on the spot.

- 64 complaints / suggestion boxes were installed in all locations in the South-West. Protection meetings are held at village level, with presence of all service providers allowing expedited response and referral.
- A UN team (UNHCR and UNFPA) conducted a 2.5 day training on PSEA Community-Based Complaints Mechanisms (CBCM) for 25 UN and partner staff operating in Kyaka II. This was part of a series of PSEA CBCM trainings being rolled out in the country to support the operationalization of the UN PSEA Action Plan, using modules developed under a IASC project for inter-agency coordination in PSEA activities.

### Peaceful co-existence

- The Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment -West Nile (RICE-WIN) commenced the peace building and conflict resolution project funded by UNHCR. RICE conducted conflict mapping and analysis in the three settlements in Arua. The result of the exercise as well as the proposed strategy for peace building and conflict resolution will be presented to partners in November. Training of 28 community conflict monitors was conducted to strengthen an early warning network.
- In Adjumani, an inter-settlement friendly football competition was held between refugees and host community with the aim of promoting peaceful co-existence in the settlements and host communities. The Young Villa Football club (comprising of youth from both refugee and host communities) won the game.
- A sports club in Rhino Camp comprising of both refugees and nationals was supported with football and netball equipment and uniforms to promote their social wellbeing and peaceful coexistence among refugees and host communities. In Imvepi, over 1,500 refugee and host community youth commemorated the Ugandan Independence Day at the Youth Recreational Centre where a friendly match was played.

### Gaps / Challenges

- Limited incentives/support for community structures which affects their commitment to conduct outreaches in the communities.
- Low level of women's participation in leadership structures, owing to illiteracy, lack of confidence and limited affirmative action.
- Insufficient number of PSN shelters
- Long distances to distribution points for PSNs
- Need to enhance MHPSS efforts increasing the coverage of the PSS providing centres and outlets, as well as identifying cases with increased needs of specialized intervention
- Delays in distribution of menstrual hygiene kits for women and girls of reproductive age.
- Limited education and livelihood opportunities for youth, negatively impacting on their well-being and development, and Idleness among youth leading to increase in crime.

### Priorities / Interventions

- Enhance and strengthen community-based protection mechanisms including community mobilization and empowerment, clear referral pathways, as well as individual outreach and case management
- Build on the capacities of the community and support empowerment of women, youth and other diverse groups for their active engagement in community management and leadership structures.
- Establish effective and efficient complaints and feedback mechanisms and ensure that all actors provide timely protection, access and accountability to persons of concern, with particular attention to at-risk groups.
- Strengthen peaceful co-existence between refugee and host communities and promote resilience.

#### UNHCR implementing partners for community-based protection:

AAH, AIRD, ARC, CAFOMI, CTEN, District Local Governments, DRC, HIJRA, IAU, IRC, LWF, MTI, NRC, OPM, Tutapona, TPO

Contact: Yoko Iwasa, iwasa@unhcr.org