

Refugee Access to Livelihoods and Housing, Land, and Property

May 2019
UGANDA

CONTEXT

Uganda is currently hosting the largest number of refugees in the region with over 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers, primarily from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Burundi.¹ According to a 2018 Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) study on Housing Land and Property (HLP) rights in Uganda, refugees face challenges accessing and enjoying some of their HLP rights, often living in poor conditions, both in urban areas and in settlements. There are key information gaps on how access to or lack of HLP for refugees impact their potential for sustainable livelihoods, in the context of broader HLP issues among host community populations. In partnership with NRC, REACH conducted an assessment from 3 December 2018 to 15 March 2019 to collect baseline data on refugees' access to livelihoods and HLP in order to better understand the linkages, to identify opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and factors influencing potential movement within Uganda.

METHODOLOGY

A mixed methods approach was used, driven by a household-level structured survey, semi-structured key informant interviews (KIIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs). The quantitative household-level survey produced results representative for the refugee population in 30 refugee settlements (considered as 25 due to five combined settlements in Adjumani) across 11 districts, as well as selected divisions of Kampala (Makindye, Kampala Central, and Kawempe) with a 95% confidence level and 10% margin of error at the settlement level for all questions asked to the entire sample size. A total of 3,165 households were interviewed for this assessment. All questions referring to a subset are footnoted.

KIIs and FGDs were used to triangulate the data and provide context to quantitative findings. KIIs targeted settlement leadership, including Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) commandants and UNHCR staff, refugee welfare committee leaders, district local government officials, and key partners working in relevant sectors. Semi-structured FGDs were stratified by gender and conducted with refugee and host community groups in each location.

Findings in this factsheet are representative of refugee households in Adjumani district. A total of 1,408 refugee households were interviewed in Adjumani.

POPULATION PROFILE OF REFUGEES IN UGANDA

Demographics¹

Female	Age	Male
2%	60+	1%
20%	18-59	16%
8%	12-17	9%
13%	5-11	13%
9%	0-4	9%

Female-headed HHs (HHs):
67%

Average household size:
7

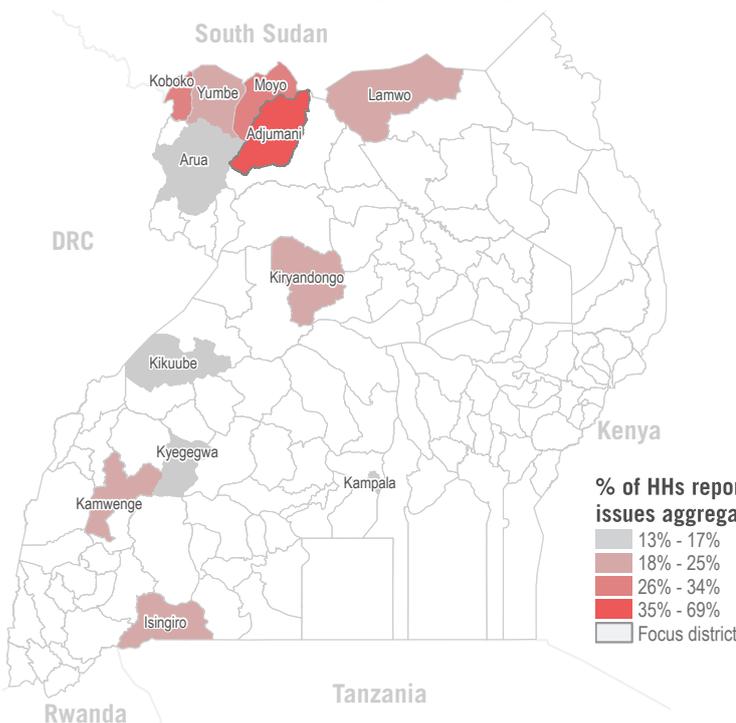
Displacement demographic

Top countries of origin:¹

- 1 South Sudan (65%)
- 2 DRC (27%)
- 3 Burundi (3%)
- 4 Somalia (2%)

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ADJUMANI DISTRICT

Adjumani district, in the West Nile region, hosts the highest number of refugee settlements (18) in the country, accommodating around 203,671 refugees. Some settlements were established in the 1980s during earlier Sudanese civil wars and others were more recently established to host refugees fleeing from South Sudan after July 2016. Refugees compose 55% of the district's population.



HHs WITH VULNERABLE MEMBERS

Unaccompanied/separated child, orphan	49%
Disabled members	70%
Pregnant / lactating women	42%
Female-headed HHs	87%

HHs reporting member with persons with specific needs (PSN) card: **58%**

HHs reporting that some members are not registered as refugees: **12%**

TOP 3 HLP CHALLENGES²

Property ³	38%
Housing	31%
Land accessed for housing	24%

¹ Figures based on United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) population figures updated as of April 2019.

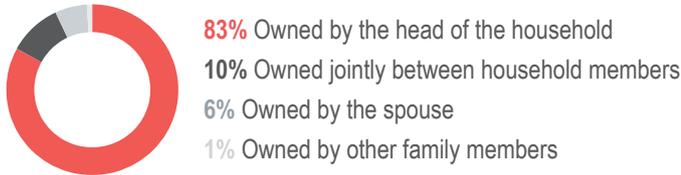
² This question was only asked to the 69% of respondents facing HLP challenges. The level of confidence may thus be lower than 95%.

³ Respondents could answer more than one option for this question.

HHs perceiving themselves at risk of eviction: **64%**

TENURE ARRANGEMENTS

% of HHs by shelter tenure:



0% of HHs have documentation proving ownership or legal occupancy of shelter.

% of HHs by methods of shelter acquisition:

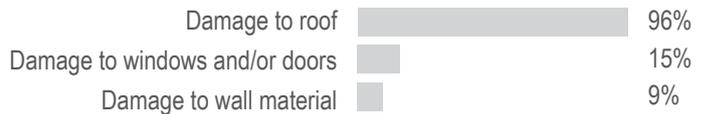


Of the 99% of HHs that reported constructing their shelter, most commonly reported ways of acquiring materials:³



SHELTER CHALLENGES

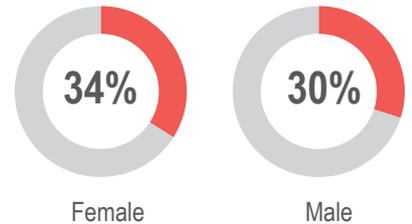
87% of HHs reported shelter damage. Of those, the most commonly reported parts of the shelter damaged are:³



45% of HHs reported not being able to conduct repairs. Of those, the most commonly reported reasons include:³



% of HHs reporting members do not feel safe in their current shelter by gender:



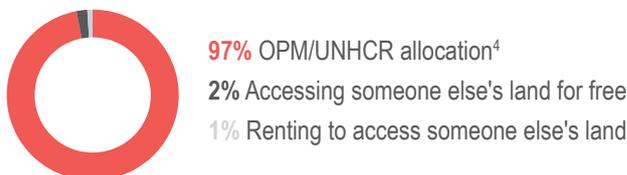
LAND

ACCESS TO LAND

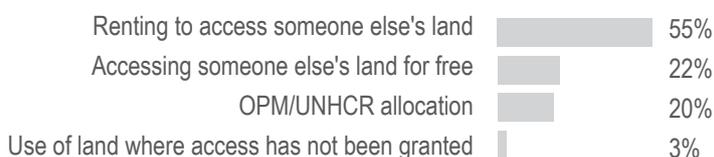
% of HH reporting:³



Method of accessing land around shelter plot:

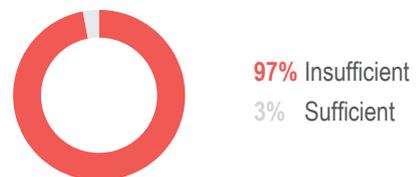


8% of HHs reported accessing land outside their shelter. Of those, the most commonly reported methods of accessing that land are:³



USE OF LAND FOR CULTIVATION

91% of HHs reported using their shelter plot for cultivation. Of those, the following reported on sufficiency of the land to provide food for the HH in the most recent harvest.



FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Of the **3%** that access land around shelter plot through renting, free access, or ownership, **0%** of HHs have a formal agreement to access the land

Of the **77%** of land accessed by refugees outside of their shelter plot through renting, free access, or ownership, **9%** is accessed through formal agreement

⁴ The Government of Uganda allocates land for residential and agricultural purposes, to refugees, irrespective of ethnicity and origin. This is done via OPM with the support of UNHCR.

HLP Challenges

69% of HHs reported facing HLP challenges. Of those:

Most commonly reported areas of HLP issues (% of HLP issues):³



Most commonly reported types of HLP issues (% of HLP issues):³



HLP ISSUE RESOLUTION

41% of the **1,200** HLP issues reported were attempted to be resolved by the HHs

Out of the HLP issues that HHs attempted to resolve, the following mechanisms were used:³



30% of the HLP issues reported were resolved

PROPERTY

26% of HHs reported having no property at all. Out of the **74%** who do:

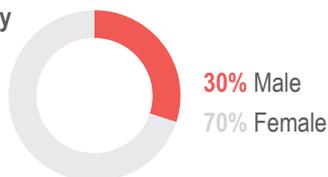
HHs with income-generating property **23%**

Most commonly reported type of property:³



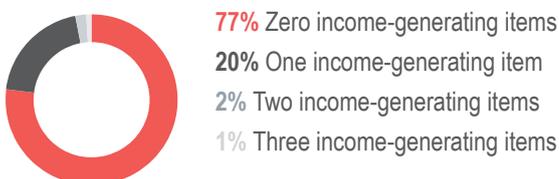
97% of property items are owned by one owner

Proportion of those by sex of owner:



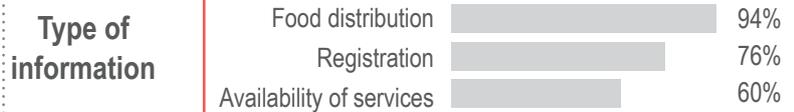
11% of HHs that own property/assets reported having documentation proving ownership or legal access

% of HHs by number of income-generating property items reportedly owned



ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Most commonly reported sources and types of information HHs access:³



97% of HHs reported trusting the information they receive

Most commonly reported information needs of HHs by area:³



HHs reporting perceived livelihoods challenges:

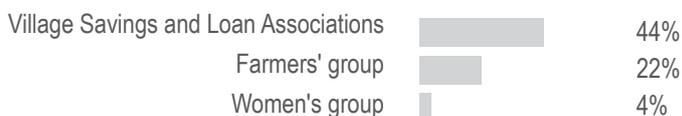
100%

LIVELIHOODS SOURCES

Out of the **98%** of HHs who reported having a source of income, the most commonly reported sources are:³



Most commonly reported livelihood groups HH members participate in:³



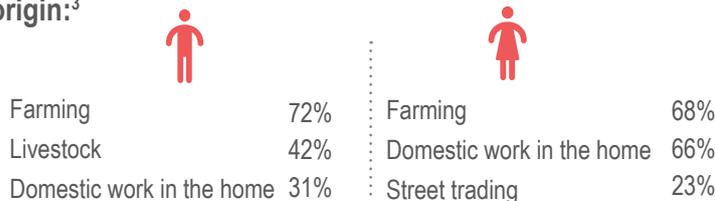
Most commonly reported livelihoods challenges:³



SKILLS AND ASPIRATIONS

85% of HHs have men of working age and **97%** of HHs have women of working age. Of those:

Most commonly reported livelihoods skills gained in country of origin:³



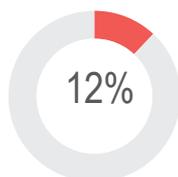
Most commonly reported livelihoods aspirations:³



MOVEMENTS WITHIN UGANDA

PAST MOVEMENTS

% of HHs that had at least one member move in the year prior to data collection:

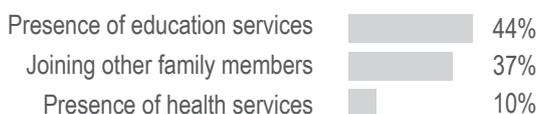


Of those:

Types of destinations:



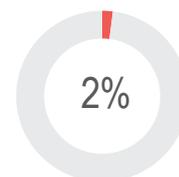
Most commonly reported reasons for moving:³



75% of the HHs with at least one member who moved reported that they receive resources from the member that moved

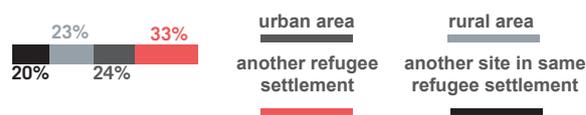
MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

% of HHs that have at least one member planning to move in the 6 months following data collection:



Of those:

Types of destinations:



Most commonly reported reasons for planned movement:³

