



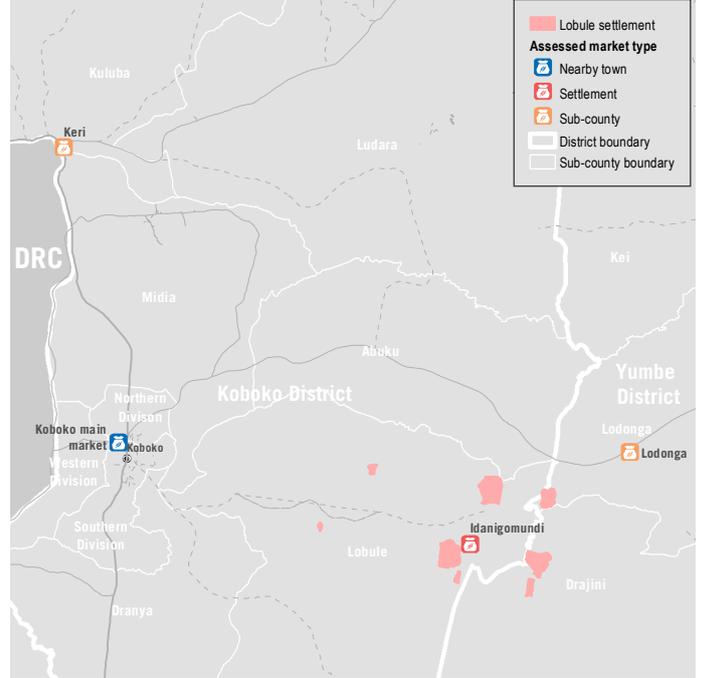
## Market Factsheet: Lobule Settlement UGANDA

### CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

Uganda is one of the world's top refugee-hosting states, having taken in more than 1.3 million refugees who exhibit diverse vulnerability profiles and capacities to cope.<sup>1</sup> Due to these variations, there is a need for a humanitarian delivery system that allows actors to more closely align the modality and amount of assistance provided with individual refugee households' economic and protection-related needs.

The objective of this market analysis, conducted under the framework of the Vulnerability and Essential Needs Assessment (VENA), was to assess market functionality and capacity in the vicinity of Uganda's refugee settlements and to understand the potential for market-based assistance to meet essential needs. Data collection took place between 9 August and 7 October 2019 in 13 refugee settlements.<sup>2</sup> Two parallel methodologies were employed: 2,820 structured individual interviews were conducted with market traders in or near each assessed settlement, supplemented by 35 semi-structured interviews with key informants who had knowledge of local markets. The assessment was led jointly by REACH, the World Food Programme (WFP), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with support from five additional partners (see page 5). Findings refer solely to the situation during the data collection period and should be considered indicative only.

### AREA COVERED BY FACTSHEET



### MARKET AND TRADER CHARACTERISTICS

Refugees living in Lobule settlement accessed three main markets at the time of data collection. These markets reportedly served refugees living in Lobule settlement and Koboko district, host community members, as well as Congolese and South-Sudanese nationals who visited the markets from nearby border points. The markets varied in size, with some having less than 150 traders and others more than 350 traders from both the refugee and host communities. Though all of the visited markets were comprised of semi-permanent structures, Koboko Main Market was reported to operate on a daily basis, whilst the other markets operated on specific days of the week.

**4** Total number of markets assessed near this settlement (via **289** trader interviews and **3** key informant interviews)

Gender of interviewed traders:



41.5% Female  
58.5% Male

Population group of interviewed traders:



100% Host community  
0% Refugee

**2.3%** of traders interviewed reported employing at least one other person.

#### Top 3 nationalities of interviewed traders:



#### Classification of traders interviewed:<sup>3</sup>



#### Top 3 most common types of market customers reported by interviewed traders:<sup>3</sup>





### SUPPLY, DEMAND, AND PRICES

The supply and demand of market items throughout the year were reported to be influenced by seasonality. For example, the demand for scholastic items was reported to be higher during the school terms, and lower during the school holidays. Additionally, the supply of food items such as beans increased during the harvesting seasons, since more producers had stock to sell. Moreover, the supply of cooking items was also reportedly affected by seasons; firewood had increased supply in dry season and low supply in the wet season. Other commodities, such as dry cells and torches, were reported to have a steady supply and demand throughout the year.

Sources, prices, and restocking data for selected items<sup>4</sup> sold in or near this settlement, as reported by interviewed traders:

Commodity	Most common source of item	Item price in markets in or near this settlement (October 2019) <sup>5</sup>	Median # of days that remaining stock is estimated to last	Estimated median amount of time item remains in stock before sale
Maize flour	Retailer outside the subcounty	2,600 UGX <sup>6</sup> /Kg	21 days	One to four weeks
Beans (dried, nambale)	Retailer outside the subcounty	1,778 UGX /Kg	20 days	One to four weeks
Sorghum grain	Retailer outside the subcounty	2,000 UGX /Kg	10 days	One to four weeks
Cassava (whole, fresh)	Farmers outside the subcounty	590 UGX /g	2 days	Less than one week
Leafy vegetables	Own production	542 UGX /g	2 days	Less than one week
Laundry soap	Retailer outside the subcounty	4,000 UGX /Kg	7.5 days	One to four weeks
Sanitary pad (disposable)	Retailer outside the subcounty	3,000 UGX /packet	30 days	Less than one week
Exercise books	Retailer outside the subcounty	500 UGX /piece	30 days	One to four weeks
Jerry can (plastic, 20 L)	Retailer outside the subcounty	8,000 UGX /piece	7 days	Less than one week
Blanket (cotton)	Retailer outside the subcounty	No data	30 days	No consensus
Mud bricks (unfired)	Own production	No data	45.5 days	No consensus
Grass thatch	No consensus	No data	3 days	Less than one week
Charcoal	Own production	571 UGX /Kg	4.5 days	Less than one week
Firewood	Own production	164 UGX /Kg	2.5 days	Less than one week

Seasonal fluctuations in supply for selected items<sup>4</sup> sold in or near settlements in Northwest, Uganda, as reported by key informants (KIs):<sup>7</sup>

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maize flour	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Beans (dried, nambale)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Sorghum grain	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Cassava (whole, fresh)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Leafy vegetables	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Vegetable oil	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Cooking salt	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Tilapia (smoked)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Milk (fresh)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Laundry soap	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Sanitary pad (disposable)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Dry cells	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Torch	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Exercise books	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Jerry can (plastic, 20 L)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Plastic basin	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Blanket (cotton)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mingle (wooden stirrer)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Panga (knife)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Hoe	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Steel roofing nails	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Nylon rope	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Eucalyptus poles	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mud bricks (fired)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mud bricks (unfired)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Grass thatch	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Charcoal	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Firewood	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)

Legend: Supply  High season (increased)  Low season (decreased)  Baseline levels / No high or low season



## BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS<sup>8</sup>

KIs reported that the poor road network, ethnic segregation, and discrimination were factors affecting trading operations. They also noted that a few incidents including fire outbreaks and natural disasters, such as heavy, violent winds, caused destruction of market property in the past, which negatively affected traders. Furthermore, petty theft reportedly carried out by youth in the area had caused security concerns for customers and traders accessing and operating in the markets.

**9.7%** of households (HHs) reported facing barriers when trying to access marketplaces.

Of this 9.7%, top 3 most commonly reported barriers:<sup>3</sup>

Long distance to the market		<b>90%</b>
Physical attacks by host community		<b>10%</b>
Verbal harassment by host comm.		<b>6.7%</b>

% of households that reported mainly accessing marketplaces using the following modes of transport:

<b>90.9%</b>	Walking
<b>6.2%</b>	Boda boda (motorcycle taxi)
<b>2.9%</b>	Car



Median travel time reported by households to get to and from the nearest marketplace selling food: **30 min**

**39.4%** of interviewed traders reported having faced a security incident related to operating their business.

Of this 39.4%, top 3 most commonly reported types of incidents:<sup>3</sup>

Theft		<b>92%</b>
Verbal harassment by host comm.		<b>42.5%</b>
Physical attack by host comm.		<b>15.9%</b>

Top 3 most common triggers for security incidents reported by interviewed traders:<sup>3</sup>

Distance related		<b>71.7%</b>
Money/business disputes		<b>54.9%</b>
Tension between the host community		<b>32.7%</b>

## MARKET OPERATIONS & PRICES

The prices of commodities in all assessed markets were reportedly set by the local town councils and municipalities. Whilst some commodities maintained a constant price throughout the year, such as sanitary pads, others faced fluctuations throughout the seasons. Indeed, food items in particular experienced increases in prices, such as for green leafy vegetables or beans, when the commodities were less available during the dry seasons, and thus harder for traders to supply.

**48.8%** of interviewed traders reported having a license to operate in their market.

**59.2%** of interviewed traders reported paying market dues.

% of interviewed traders reporting using the following types of storage:

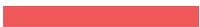
<b>48%</b>	Rented storage
<b>26.6%</b>	Own storage
<b>22.5%</b>	Other
<b>2.8%</b>	No storage



**18.8%** of interviewed traders reported having taken out at least one loan in the past to support their business.

Estimated median amount of outstanding debt reported by interviewed traders:<sup>9</sup> **65,000 UGX**

% of interviewed traders reporting that they currently use each of the following sources of capital:<sup>3</sup>

Own savings		<b>96.9%</b>
Credit or loans		<b>18%</b>
Shared with HH/business partners		<b>9%</b>
Other		<b>1.4%</b>

Estimated median monthly expenditures reported by interviewed traders in the following categories:

Market dues (past month)	<b>15,000 UGX</b>
Rental of storage space	<b>15,250 UGX</b>
Round-trip transport to restock retailled items	<b>10,000 UGX</b>
Transaction cost to obtain new stock (loading, unloading, storage, tax, etc.)	<b>2,000 UGX</b>



## ABILITY TO SCALE UP

Most common predictions of interviewed traders regarding their ability to meet increased demand stimulated by cash programmes:<sup>10</sup>

### Category of commodities

### In case of doubled demand...

	Would you be able to stock enough of your current items to meet the demand?	If yes, how long would it take you to obtain additional stock to meet the demand?	Would you be able to obtain this amount using only your current supplier?	If unable to stock enough, what would make it most difficult for you to increase your supply?
Fresh food	Yes (61.8%)	One week (94.1%)	No (38.2%)	Lack of capital
Non-fresh food	Yes (55.3%)	One week (73.8%)	No (38.1%)	Lack of capital
Sanitary items	Yes (52.8%)	One week (36.8%)	Yes (57.9%)	Lack of capital
Household items	Yes (64.6%)	Two weeks (51%)	Yes (37%)	Other
Shelter and livelihoods items	Yes (62.2%)	Two weeks (43.5%)	No (37%)	No consensus
Lighting items	No (38.5%)	One week (50%)	Yes (70%)	Lack of capital
Educational items	No (42.9%)	One week (44.4%)	Yes (66.7%)	Lack of capital
Cooking fuel	Yes (60%)	One week (66.7%)	No (33.3%)	Lack of capital

## Endnotes

1 Figures based on United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) refugee population figures, updated as of September 2019, retrieved from <https://ugandarefugees.org/en/country/uga> on 8 November 2019.

2 For the purposes of sampling and analysis, the 18 settlements in Adjumani district were grouped into a single refugee hosting location.

3 Respondents were able to select more than one option when answering this question.

4 In total, 34 market commodities were assessed, but due to space limitations, a selection are displayed in this factsheet. The list of selected commodities was based on a subjective determination of which items were most central to Ugandan households, and was then modified to ensure representation of all assessed categories of items. Data on other assessed commodities is available upon request.

5 Price data was derived from WFP, Minimum Expenditure Basket in Uganda: Joint Price Monitoring, October 2019, retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int/report/uganda/minimum-expenditure-basket-uganda-joint-price-monitoring-october-2019> on 12 December 2019.

6 The Ugandan shilling to United States dollar exchange rate was 3,668.05 on 24 December 2019. <https://www.xe.com/>

7 Seasonality calendars were constructed on a regional level to capture variations in agriculture and livelihoods across Uganda while encompassing enough interviews to allow for meaningful aggregation. The regions used were: Northwest (Adjumani, Bidibidi, Imvepi, Lobule, Palabek, Palorinya, Rhino, Kiryandongo) and Southwest (Kyaka II, Nakivale, Oruchinga, Rwamwanja, Kyangwali).

8 All indicators referencing the household were derived from the VENA household-level assessment, which was conducted concurrently with this market assessment and in the same settlements. A total of 5,737 household interviews were conducted between 12 August and 7 October 2019. Methodological details of this component of the VENA are available [here](#).

9 Among traders who reported non-zero expenditures and/or debt in each of the following categories.

10 All indicators in the box that follows are subjective, with results based on self-reporting by market traders. A full capacity assessment to objectively determine these traders' ability to scale up was not conducted.

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