

# UNHCR Monthly Protection Update

## Child Protection (CP)

### November 2019



## Key Figures

**824,107**  
Registered refugee  
children

**60%**  
Percentage of children  
amongst refugee  
population

**55,118**  
Number of children at  
risk including 40,044  
(UASC) registered in  
proGres V4

**45,046**  
Number of children at  
risk receiving case  
management support  
including 36,008 UASC



Participants of the proGres v4 roll-out of Child Protection and SGBV modules in Adjumani Sub-Office  
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- 526 (227F/299M) children were assumed to be at risk in Nyakabande & Matanda transit centres, Nakivale, Oruchinga, Kyangwali, Rwamwanja, Kyaka II, Adjumani, Lamwo, Bidibidi and Arua settlements. Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) are being conducted to ascertain protection risks children are exposed to and how to provide assistance.
- Across the operation, 31 BIDs are under the review process to be panelled.
- 782 (431M/351F) children in Bidibidi, Kiryandongo, Kyangwali and Arua settlements were supported to receive food from the various Food Distribution Points through the litigation desks.
- Child Protection partners conducted 1,779 (922M/857F) home/shelter visits in Kiryandongo and Bidibidi Settlements to unaccompanied, separated and children at risk to monitor progress of case management, issues arising and provide assistance.
- After conducting needs assessments in Kiryandongo, Bidibidi and Arua settlements, 1924 (992M/932F) children including UASC were supported with case-by-case material assistance such as clothes, footwear, mattresses, mosquito nets, food items and sanitary wear among others to improve their living conditions.
- 1,437 (711M/726F) community members from Arua, Kyangwali, Bidibidi, Rwamwanja settlements attended joint community dialogues on child protection. Pertinent issues discussed include; legal implications of child abuse, referral pathways, importance of child rights and participation, promotion of community ownership of Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) activities, create awareness on CFS functionality and discuss issues affecting children while at the CFS and draw actions to mitigate them. Community members committed to support the child protection activities through timely reporting of child protection related issues for on-spot interventions.
- 28,141 (14,488M/13,653F) children from Bidibidi, Nakivale, Oruchinga, Rwamwanja and Arua settlements accessed psycho-social support activities such as games, music and peer to peer mentoring from the CFS. The children's attendance significantly shot up since most had started their holidays.
- In Adjumani, UNHCR conducted a 3-days training to roll out the proGres V4 (Child Protection and SGBV modules). The sessions targeted 55 participants from UNHCR and partners based in Adjumani and Lamwo. Key action points highlighted in the roll-out road map are: completing the partner vulnerability assessment (IT equipment and connectivity), opening user accounts for case management staff, continuous technical support and refresher trainings, uploading all cases into proGres v4, and contextualization of the National SOPs for CP and SGBV proGres v4 modules.

- In Lamwo (Palabek Settlement), 403 girls of reproductive age were trained in life skills. The girls were equipped with knowledge and skills of self-esteem and assertiveness to reduce school dropout rates, child marriages and teen pregnancies.
- In Kyaka II, 14 (8F/6M) case workers attended a training on child safeguarding and child protection, case management and the referral pathway. The agreed action points included; timely follow up, referrals and giving feedback to the community, case closure when all protection concerns have been addressed, empowerment of the community to address their own challenges as well as continuous sensitization and community strengthening initiatives.
- In Rwamwanja, 44 (26M/18F) individuals participated in a training on case management and harmonization of Ministry of Gender referral guidelines for refugee child protection case management. The training sought to build capacity of community structures in the national case management, national referral guidelines for refugee structures among others.
- In Kyangwali, 120 (76M/44F) children participated in a children's parliament session. The discussion was centred on school drop-out, challenges faced by the girl-child, and environment conservation as a way of promoting their individual self-confidence and esteem.
- In Kyaka II Settlement, 86 (63F/13M) parents and caregivers attended the alternative care arrangement and feedback meeting on parenting without violence, feedback and action planning. During the meeting, the participants raised the concern of limited or lack of livelihood support to provide for their families.
- In Kiryandongo and Adjumani Settlements, 44 (17M/27F) foster parents attended monthly reflection meetings that focused on positive parenting and caring for adolescents. Concerns raised by the foster parents included; children disrespecting parents, inadequate material support for children, lack of community support in guidance and counselling of children, children staying out late and declining to do household chores. However, foster parents continued to pledge their commitment to look after the children under their care.

#### CHILD PROTECTION CHALLENGES

- High mobility of cases increases difficulties in tracking and follow up of individual child protection cases.
- Birth notifications are issued at health centres in all settlements, but birth certificate issuance is not

granted. Challenges ranging from clarity on payment to delays in processing at the districts level

- High levels of abandonment of children in settlements by mothers who cross back to South Sudan and/or remarry has contributed to minors missing food/cash assistance and school dropout.
- Limited targeted support to out-of-school adolescents and youth.

#### CHILD PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS

- Strengthening of case management services through capacity development, enhanced identification, prioritization and referral of children at risk
- Provision of alternative care arrangements (mainly family-based foster care) for unaccompanied children and training of foster parents on positive parenting and providing them with livelihood support
- Strengthening child protection coordination through regular meetings of Child Protection Sub-Working Groups at settlements and national level.
- Strengthening of child protection community structures through training, mentoring and support to identify, monitor and refer children for case management services
- Family tracing and reunification of UASC through collaboration with relevant actors.
- Providing children with spaces for playing, socializing and building resilience, through strengthening CFSS and ECD services.
- Strengthening psychosocial and mental health services for children having been identified as having psychosocial distress.
- Awareness raising through dialogue sessions, media campaigns and advocacy.

#### CHILD PROTECTION PARTNERS AND RESOURCES

**Implementing Partners:** DRC, LWF, HIJRA, WVI, AAH, TPO, SCI, InterAid Uganda, HADs

**Operational Partners:** UNICEF, Plan International, ASVI, URCS, War Child Canada, War Child Holland, Tutapona, CAFOMI

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