

# Uganda Emergency Update

Covering the southwest, midwest and northwest

19 March – 1 April 2014

For internal and external distribution

## Highlights

- A total of **93,980 South Sudanese refugees** have been assisted in Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo districts of Uganda since the influx began on 16 December. More than 20,000 arrived in March and the country is rapidly approaching the 100,000 arrivals mark that was anticipated for the end of 2014.
- Response to the tragedy on Lake Albert continues after 109 people drowned when a boat carrying spontaneously returning Congolese refugees sank on 22 March. The 41 refugee survivors and their families were provided with assistance and counselling. Most of the bodies were returned to DRC though 21 were buried in nearby Bundibugyo District.
- Several thousand Congolese refugees are estimated to have returned to DRC in the last month, though the exact number is difficult to determine given the porous border between Uganda and DRC and varied means of transportation. Many of the returnees to the Kamango area have moved to Nobili IDP camp.



**On 22 March, two boats ferrying spontaneously returning Congolese refugees left Senjojo landing on Lake Albert in Uganda (pictured here). One of the boats, reportedly overloaded with more than 150 people and luggage, sank, and more than 100 people drowned, 45 people survived (including 4 Ugandans). ©UNHCR/S. Allen**

## Regional dynamics:

In response to the tragic boat accident on Lake Albert, a high-level delegation led by the Ugandan Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, the delegation from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) composed of

the Minister of the Interior, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Commissioner for Refugees and Congolese Ambassador, and embassy officials in Uganda, was fielded. In Bundibugyo the delegation was received by UNHCR, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Local Government, and aimed to review issues surrounding the accident. Mission members talked with those survivors still in Uganda and paid their respects at the grave site. During a meeting with Congolese refugees at Kyangwali settlement, the DRC delegation encouraged the refugees to be patient until the modalities of a tripartite agreement on returns were decided between the governments of DRC and Uganda and UNHCR.

Most of the refugees came from Kyangwali refugee settlement in Uganda. Although using Lake Albert has been discouraged prior and since the accident by the authorities, the settlement borders the lake and water transportation is a practical and less expensive means for refugees to return to the DRC.

Also in the DRC, security officials reported that FARDC forces, backed by UN brigade, began an offensive against the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) rebels based in areas of DRC bordering Kisoro. However, no increase in refugee arrivals has yet been reported in Uganda.

In South Sudan ongoing insecurity and inter-ethnic violence continues to cause civilians to flee to neighbouring countries. Since the 5 March incident in Juba and pursuant clashes elsewhere in the country, South Sudanese seeking refuge in Uganda continued unabated with more than 20,000 arrivals in March.

#### **Preparedness & Response:**

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR, with the support of partners, are coordinating the maintenance in the northwest of Nyumanzi reception centre (RC), Ocea RC and Waju II TC; in the midwest of Bubukwanga TC and Kiryandongo RC; and in the southwest of Nyakabande and Matanda TC.

**Contingency Planning:** The Contingency Plan for a refugee influx from South Sudan has been overtaken by events and the operational planning figure has been raised to 100,000 individuals. The emergency response strategy for South Sudanese was validated by partners. Discussions are now ongoing to increase the operational planning figure to 150,000 refugees by end of 2014. Contingency planning discussions have also started.

#### **Statistics:**

##### **Countrywide**

At 28 February, the asylum seeker/ refugee population was 328,997 individuals.

##### **South Sudanese: northwest and midwest**

A total of **93,980 South Sudanese refugees** have been assisted in Uganda since 16 December. OPM with support from UNHCR is recording refugees in the proGres database using biometric registration before they are relocated to settlements for longer-term assistance.

There were some 24,000 South Sudanese refugees in Uganda prior to the recent influx, of which 14,000 refugees were in Adjumani and Arua districts. About 8,500 of them arrived in Uganda since early 2012.

Adjumani has received and assisted a total of 66,526 refugees since 16 December. Nyumanzi RC is accommodating about 11,800 individuals and Nyumanzi settlement 22,000 individuals. Ayilo has about 18,600 individuals, Baratuku 5,200 individuals, and Boroli 5,900 individuals. The remaining refugees have plots in other nearby settlements. Most of these sites were part of former or existing refugee-hosting settlements from which most South Sudanese refugees of the 1980s and 1990s repatriated by 2010.

Arua has received and assisted 10,138 individuals in 2,166 households since 16 December. Out of this number Ocea reception centre in Rhino Camp settlement is accommodating 542 individuals.

Kiryandongo refugee settlement has received and assisted a total of 17,316 South Sudanese refugees in 3,985 households since 16 December. Of this

number, 860 individuals are registered at the reception centre, many of the refugees registered at Kiryandongo settlement are known to be living in the nearby community or have spontaneously moved on to Kampala. New arrivals are being registered with biometric registration soon after arriving and then relocated to land plots usually within three days.

### **Congolese influx**

In Koboko District the total population is 3,484 individuals of 849 households. The current population at Waju li TC is 109 individuals of 34 households, while the rest have been relocated to settlements.

In Bubukwanga TC 247 individuals are being accommodated. The total number of refugees relocated from Bubukwanga TC to Kyangwali settlement since 14 August 2013 is 15,632 individuals. Kyangwali refugee settlement population is 38,330 individuals.

In Nyakabande TC in Kisoro District the population is 200 individuals. In Rwamwanja the population is 52,258. Settlement capacity is 55,000.

### **South Sudanese Emergency**

Nyumanzi RC and Adjumani settlements

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Ocea RC and Rhino Camp settlement in Arua

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Kiryandongo refugee settlement



Newly arrived South Sudanese refugees sing during a service overseen by an Anglican pastor in Adjumani District of northern Uganda. ©UNHCR/F. Noy

### **Protection Issues:**

**Border monitoring:** Among recent arrivals Adjumani received hundreds of South Sudanese who had been staying at an IDP camp in Nimule and in Melekiele which lie on the outskirts of Nimule town. Refugees said they left owing to hunger and an outbreak of diarrhoea. Some refugees reported that while government forces controlled major towns in South Sudan, there was still a lot of fear among the population and as a result they were moving to Juba, Nimule and Uganda.

In Arua, few South Sudanese have been arriving through Koboko border point with a little more than 100 people arriving in all of March.

**Land:** In Adjumani two more sites have been identified by OPM to settle newly arrived refugees. Plots are presently being demarcated at one site in order to begin relocating refugees from Nyumanzi RC as soon as possible. Access roads are also being prepared. This site lies next to Ayilo settlement and can accommodate roughly 10,000 people. Both newly identified sites formerly hosted

South Sudanese refugees and the large number of available plots and proximity to existing settlements will facilitate their development.

**Reception Centre:** In Adjumani Nyumanzi RC is extremely overcrowded following the spate of new arrivals in the last weeks. Refugees are scattered in the bushes behind the RC and are also sheltering under trees. The centre has a maximum capacity of 4,000 but is hosting more than 10,000 people at the moment. Tensions are high between refugees jostling for services.

**Relocations:** Refugees are relocated from reception/transit centres to land plots in settlements and receive household and shelter construction items as well as a monthly WFP food ration.

In Adjumani, the relocation of refugees from Nyumanzi reception centre to Ayilo settlement resumed on 28 March. Altogether, 1,298 individuals in 281 households moved to the site. As well, 178 households comprising 1,140 individuals were relocated from Nyumanzi reception centre to Boroli settlement.

In Arua: UNHCR / OPM relocated 260 individuals in 41 households from Ocea RC to various villages. Most of the 10,000 plus South Sudanese refugees who have arrived in Arua since 16 December have been relocated to settlements.

In Kiryandongo, with the recent surge in refugee arrivals the RC is congested and relocation to land plots is a priority. Some 2,000 individuals have been relocated from the RC to the settlement in the last two weeks.



Children make up 65% of recently arrived South Sudanese refugees. Here, a group of Dinka children play around in front of the camera in northern Uganda's Adjumani District. ©UNHCR/ D. Lusweti

**Protection:** In Adjumani, OPM/UNHCR with partners the Danish Refugee Council (DRC-DDG), the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Save the Children Uganda (SCiU) and the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) carry out protection and community services activities in the settlements.

In Arua, public health volunteers underwent training on protection and gender issues facilitated by Oxfam and Humedica.

**Persons with specific needs (PSNs):** In all settlements PSNs are being identified, assessed and assisted, in particular with shelter construction.

In Adjumani, UNHCR is identifying PSNs at Elegu collection centre including the elderly persons, pregnant women, and unaccompanied minors, among others.

Special transport is provided for them from the border area to the RC and the individuals will be followed up by UNHCR / partners.

In Arua, Care International is constructing shelters and latrines for extremely vulnerable individuals in various villages. DRC-DDG carried out ten home visits. Many PSNs are waiting for shelters though construction is ongoing. At present assessments have been done for house construction for 16 UAMs and 20 PSNs in Odobu II, 7 UAMs and 30 PSNs in Siripi by partners. Counselling services were offered in the different villages over the week to 7 adolescents.

In Kiryandongo, PSNs are verified upon arrival by the AAH-U. Six elderly persons received assistance with settling on their land plots. Home visits were made to 7 elderly PSNs following up shelter construction for them and 16 PSN households were visited. Construction of PSN shelters by AAH-U is ongoing with 16 shelters in process, while 5 shelters for women-headed households were completed under supervision of the UNHCR site planner.

**Child protection:** In Arua and Adjumani districts, unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and separated children (SC) are registered by URCS, and family tracing is ongoing with URCS / ICRC. SCiU, supported by UNICEF, and URCS, work with UNHCR to identify, register and follow up UAM and SC respectively. URCS identifies foster families for UAMs and with UNHCR ensures basic needs such as water, shelter and food. Nyumanzi RC has a tracing centre for UAMs / SC.

In Adjumani, many children are in dire need of clothes at Nyumanzi RC. UNHCR /OPM and LWF will distribute what is available, though clothing donations are welcome.

In Arua: Save the Children (SCiU) verified 330 children who had been identified as separated children. The NGO also supervised the construction of a building to house early childhood care and development activities, and facilitated psychosocial support at the Child Friendly Space through play and recreation that benefitted 736 children aged 2-6 years. SCiU now has five staff and three volunteers on the ground to carry out child protection activities.

In Kiryandongo, unaccompanied minors or separated children, are being identified at registration for assessment and follow-up. In addition 54 children were verified as separated from their families. 35 separated children were newly identified and 78 BIAs conducted by AAH-U. Home visits were also carried out for 10 separated children in four households.

**GBV:** In Adjumani, UNHCR gathered information on GBV allegations in settlements and is following them up through field visits, discussions with refugee leaders, the police, and with OPM.

In Kiryandongo, two sensitisations were conducted at both the RC and in villages on child education and GBV.

**Community mobilization:** In Adjumani, on 25 March refugees voted to elect community leaders to fill 10 positions representing the community. The posts will help raise community participation in the settlements and enhance coordination between them and organizations.

## **Sectoral Highlights:**

**NFIs (non-food items):** In Adjumani and Arua districts a standard non-food items package is being distributed to refugees upon relocation to land plots.

In Adjumani, LWF is distributing NFIs and is active in warehousing. ADRA is also distributing NFIs in Adjumani District.

In Arua, UNICEF, Oxfam, Care International and OPM/UNHCR provide assorted NFIs to support WASH activities in Rhino Camp settlement. UNHCR distributed NFIs in Ocea RC to 144 households of 447 individuals pending relocation. SCiU distributed 6 bales of clothes; 500 pairs of underwear, 100 pairs of shoes, and 100 blankets.

**Food:** At reception centres two to three hot meals are served daily with WFP food rations and on relocation refugees receive a monthly WFP food allocation.

**Health/nutrition:** In settlements the District provides health services including immunization, nutrition screening and curative services. UNHCR provides various additional support through MTI to health services, UNICEF/WHO support immunization and nutrition programmes and MSF-F also provides support in Adjumani. During the reporting period the supply of medicines and medical supplies has been stable with 3 interagency health kits in Adjumani, 1 in Arua and 1 in Kiryandongo. This is in addition to medicines and supplies from other partners like UNFPA, WHO, MSF-F, MTI, GRI and IRC and the Ministry of Health.

In Adjumani, Dzaipi health centre has been receiving 2,000 to 3,000 patients per week, mainly at its outpatient department (OPD). The centre has only two medical officers which is insufficient to attend to all the patients. The District has also noted that the x-ray and sonogram machines were not working and that there was a shortage of blood units for transfusion. As a result MSF-F is setting up a blood bank and training laboratory technicians, and will also operate a temporary health centre II in Ayilo settlement. The centre will have OPD services and a maternity ward. A health post is planned for the site. Five days of every month will be devoted to vaccination to ensure children have access to immunization. The prevalence of anaemia is very high among newly arrived and previously settled refugees and a strategy to improve the nutritional status must target both.

In Kiryandongo, the health post and immunization at the RC continues to carry-out routine medical and malnutrition screenings and immunizations. MUAC assessments were done for 47 children and all were normal. Polio and measles immunisation was provided for 40 children, while 35 others received a vitamin A supplement and 30 were dewormed.

**Reproductive health:** In all settlements distribution of sanitary materials continues to women of reproductive age and ante-natal care is available at identified health centres.

In Adjumani, UNFPA is supplying health centres with dignity and hygiene kits for new mothers.

In Arua, Oxfam distributed female hygiene kits to 477 females of reproductive age in Katiku, Tika and Odoibu villages.

**HIV/AIDS:** In Adjumani, services are available at Dzaipi health centre supported by the NGO Baylor, however, funding shortages will oblige it to decrease its activities. HIV testing kits are lacking at all the health centres.

**Water:** In Adjumani, 14.2 litres per person per day (l pp/pd) were available at Nyumanzi reception centre and the settlements, including 8.9 l pp/pd at Nyumanzi RC, 19.4 l pp/pd at Nyumanzi settlement, 19.8 l pp/pd at Baratuku settlement, 10.8 l pp/pd at Ayilo, and 9.9 l pp/pd at Boroli.

Though indicators using registered refugee numbers show further interventions are required, the water situation has reportedly improved significantly. The ongoing self-relocation by refugees is being adjusted through verification exercise due to be completed in a week's time.

Also in Adjumani, borehole drilling is underway in Nyumanzi, Ayilo, Boroli, Alere and Baratuku settlements and 14 water tankers are servicing the various settlements. Nearly 40% of all water supplied involves the use of hand pumps. Two URCS water treatment units are operating and treating river water. Water trucking is being phased out.

In Arua, the average daily water supply in Rhino Camp settlement was 14.2 litres pp/pd. DRC-DDG/UNICEF phased out water trucking and Oxfam's hired water

truck was ending its contract on 31 March, and UNHCR-hired water trucks will follow suit by mid-April. It is projected that new boreholes will be functional by then, including the ones currently undergoing rehabilitation. Oxfam and DRC-DDG continue to support in coordination of water trucks as well as in chlorination of the trucked water from the river. The borehole drilled by Humedica at Olujobu HC III is now functional.

Also in Arua, following the hydrogeological survey of four Rhino Camp settlement sites by UNICEF, the organization began borehole drilling on 29 March. A total of 33 boreholes have been rehabilitated so far by various partners including 9 by ZOA-Uganda, 8 by IAS and 16 by Oxfam. UNICEF is in the process of rehabilitating 10 boreholes. Malteser International is getting quotations for motorizing a borehole in Odobu 1 and URCS continues to support water treatment for several sites.

In Kiryandongo, the available water was adequate to cater to RC population. In Ranch 1, the water indicator stood at 20.3 l pp/pd. Borehole drilling on recently re-surveyed sites continued with two boreholes producing a very good yield.



**A UNHCR Water and Sanitation Officer checks water equipment at Nyumanzi settlement in Adjumani District. ©UNHCR/ D. Lusweti**

**Hygiene & Sanitation:** In Adjumani, the average latrine to person ratio in the RC and settlements is 1:57 persons.

Also in Adjumani, 190 digging kits were distributed to 1,900 households (9,500 people) willing to dig their own latrines. Additionally, 686 households which finalized the excavation of their pits were issued a latrine slab to cover it. Several partners are recruiting hygiene promoters to increase their presence at sites.

In Arua, the average latrine to user ratio remained at 1:130 based on the communal latrines with regard to newly arrived South Sudanese refugees. DRC-DDG, through funding from UNICEF, will support 1,000 household sanitation and hygiene kits and also support 250 households with its own funds. At Rhino Camp settlement, IAS and Oxfam delivered 400 and 1,000 plastic slabs respectively. Hygiene promotion continues as does household excavation of pit latrines.

Also in Arua, Oxfam public health volunteers (PHP) underwent training on hygiene and health facilitated and supported by the Oxfam regional office as well as Humedica health staff. As well, environmental cleaning campaigns continued in all settlements. Through focus group discussions, health messages on household and personal hygiene, the safe water chain, excreta disposal and medical care have been delivered. Over 1,800 persons have participated. PHP

volunteers also identified over 100 persons in ill health and referred them to the nearest health centre.

In Kiryandongo InterAid (IAU) and URCS volunteers continued sanitation sensitizations and have been very active distributing excavation tools and latrine construction materials, including slabs and treated poles. At Ranch 1, UNHCR and URCS continued with house-to-house visits to encourage proper waste disposal and emphasize the need for each household to have a latrine. Follow up and sanitation sensitization in Ranch 37 was carried out by IAU and 10 latrines slabs were distributed to households who had finalized pit excavation. Follow ups will be done in the week with support of DRC-DDG/UNICEF partner which will be working in Ranch 1 for the wider population on sanitation infrastructure development.

**Education:** In Adjumani, the current student enrolment at Nyumanzi Primary School stands at 1,348 with refugees constituting 1,055 of the pupils (708 males, 347 females). UNHCR held a coordination meeting with partners to get updates on planned activities and challenges for each location and school. Any education-related implementation will be guided by an assessment report released in March to avoid duplication of services and ensure that resources are directed to needy communities.

In Arua, ZOA supported five schools in Yoro, Ocea, Tika, Siripi and Odobu by providing desks for pupils, chairs for teachers and educational material. It also provided Tika Primary School with two water tanks and built a six-stance latrine block in Yoro Primary School. A number of tents have been put in place by UNICEF, including assorted learning kits.

In Kiryandongo, Windle Trust Uganda (WTU) has shared their workplan and is to commence implementation of activities in the settlement. OPM has given them an open space in the RC to start work while they put up their office structure.

**Environment:** In Adjumani, UNHCR and ACORD, DRC-DDG, ADRA and the District Environment Office/Forestry Office established a working group and will conduct a rapid environmental assessment to inform stakeholders on the prevailing situation in settlements and required environment-related activities.

In Arua, the District Local Government mobilized leaders and farmers from Ocea, Katiku, Olujobo and Odobu for training in conservation education and awareness on tree marking. They also held discussions on fruit tree planting in Siripi and Simbili and CARITAS is undertaking procurement of tree seedlings. CARITAS also started training field extension workers and creating food security committees in Agulupi, Simbili, Siripi, Odobu I and Odobu II.

Also in Arua, CEFORD continues to provide energy saving stoves to PSNs. IPs have been encouraged to consider environmental re-generation at Rhino Camp settlement and tree seedling are to be purchased in the west Nile region with guidance from the Arua District Environment Department.

## Missions

UNHCR Africa Bureau Director visited Adjumani, Arua and Kiryandongo operations accompanied by the Acting Representative. The Director acknowledged the hard work and various challenges faced in responding to the ongoing and large influx of refugees from South Sudan.

A two-member team from ECHO Nairobi visited Arua, Adjumani and Kiryandongo and were accompanied by staff from UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP.

Staff of the British Embassy in Uganda also paid a visit to Adjumani and Arua and were briefed by UNHCR staff on the ground.

## Congolese Emergency

Waju II TC and  
Lobule  
settlement

Bubukwanga  
transit centre

Nyakabande  
and Matanda  
transit centres

Rwamwanja  
refugee  
settlement

Kyangwali  
refugee  
settlement



Following a recent rainfall at Kyangwali settlement, Congolese refugees prepare the land for planting new crops. © UNHCR/ J.K Lotweny

## Protection Issues

**Border monitoring:** In Bundibugyo District, according to the border security official at Busunga near Bundibugyo town, spontaneous returnees are crossing with their luggage and returning to the area around Djapande, Nobili, just across the border. Most of the refugees have been staying at Kywangwali refugee settlement.

UNHCR monitoring indicates that the spontaneous returnees are all from North Kivu, Beni and Batalinga. The majority of them are from the Kamango area and not returning to their villages but relocating to Nobili IDP camp, as parts of Kamango area are still considered unsafe. While push factors of limited food rations in January and February, difficulty to access health care as well as language barriers were cited as reasons for return, a local chief has also been urging refugees to return through radio and letters. Refugees have also indicated that they simply wish to go back home.

In Kisoro, reports of an offensive by FARDC forces, supported by the UN intervention brigade, against the FDLR rebel group has been reported along the border area. As well, security officials and refugees report insecurity in Masisi area due to Mai Mai militias. Still the area remains calm. Despite this activity, 70 refugees crossed back to DRC through Bunangana last week mostly heading for the Rutchuru area.

**Protection:** In Rwamwanja: 32 refugee leaders (4 males and 28 females) were trained in leadership skills. The training was organized by LWF in collaboration with OPM and the police. As well, a sensitization on conflict and resolution measures was carried out for nationals at a village within the settlement and focused on how to live harmoniously with refugees.

Also in Rwamwanja, a community policing training was carried out for 64 community members, while a training on alternative dispute resolution was held for 38 (18 males and 20 females) participants. Two detainees at Rwamwanja's main police station were provided with legal counselling.

In Koboko, DRC-DDG helped establish committees for VHTs, social welfare, education, production and environment for 77 households in two villages. To

build capacity they will then be trained on their roles, leadership skills, and good governance. The NGO also organized community dialogues in all of Lobule settlement to involve communities in all issues and empower them to build response mechanisms to the constraints. As well, LWF facilitated two community dialogues for 77 persons aimed at promoting peaceful coexistence between refugees and the host community including topics such as the Government's role in promoting human rights as facilitated by OPM, GBV issues and conflict management.

**People with Specific Needs:** In Rwamwanja PSN verification and identification continued. Five PSNs were identified from convoy 66, including 3 unaccompanied children and two older persons at risk, while shelter construction began for an elderly woman and a shelter repair undertaken for another PSN. In addition, 10 persons with special needs were supported with clothes, soap, blankets, cups and clothes, as well as with home visits and counseling.

In Kyangwali, AAH-U conducted home visits for 28 PSNs to monitor their wellbeing and provide psychosocial support. Apparently, many PSNs said that their roofs were damaged by the recent heavy rains.

**Child Protection:** In Nyakabande TC, two unaccompanied minors (UAM) were registered which brings the total at the TC to 6. In addition, a separated child (SC) was received at the TC. The UAM/SC are being followed up.

In Rwamwanja at the protection house two swing sets and two sets of balances were installed for children to encourage children to be active. As well, training for 35 Child Protection Committee (CPC) members in case management and follow up was conducted. The main objective for this training was to promote community participation in child protection. As well, in collaboration with URCS and SCiU, family reunifications were conducted for two boys who will receive support from community structures with guidance from child protection actors.

In Kyangwali SCiU conducted training on children's rights and advocacy for 60 CPC in three villages with the participation of AAH-U facilitators. Also in the settlement, UNHCR / AAH-U with the help of partners, distributed some 7,000 pairs of TOMs shoes to school-going children. Additionally, 1,500 children accessed child friendly spaces which SCiU is supporting with numeracy, writing, play and recreation activities for them. The NGO also distributed more than 60 notebooks to CPCs.

**GBV:** In Nyakabande TC, three rape cases were registered that occurred in the country of origin, and survivors were provided with medical and psychosocial care. Daily tent-to-tent visits and a GBV sensitization about the causes and consequences of GBV and available services was attended by 143 refugees.

In Rwamwanja a GBV training was conducted for the police unit.

In Kyangwali, ARC and partners conducted joint GBV community sensitization for all villages reaching more than 2,000 refugees. The sessions focused on the implications of living with the fear of gender-based violence.

Also in Kyangwali, 33 volunteers, peer counsellors and Gender Task Force members were trained on GBV and reproductive health issues alongside a GBV SOP sensitization. The training reviewed their duties and roles and responsibilities in providing support to their fellow refugees.

In Koboko, LWF conducted 5 community awareness sessions in Lobule settlement on GBV and HIV/AIDS for a total of 217 persons. The sessions aimed to improve behaviours and attitude through informed decisions. In addition 5 GBV committees were trained in GBV care and management and referral tools and designing an implementation plan per village as facilitated by LWF.

## Sectoral Highlights

**Food:** In all transit/reception centres hot meals are served to refugees being accommodated there, and upon relocation to settlements refugees receive standard food rations provided by WFP.

**Health:** Standard vaccinations following Ministry of Health and WHO standards are carried out at all transit / reception centres and in settlements.

At Nyakabande HC II, 531 consultations were provided at the outpatient department (OPD). In total, 18 children are now enrolled in feeding programmes in addition to five pregnant women.

In Bubukwanga TC OPD consultations included 13 refugees and 452 nationals. The inpatient department catered to 3 refugees and 28 nationals. A total 230 children of which 40 refugees were screened for malnutrition, with malnourishment indicated in one refugee and 15 nationals.

In Rwamwanja 1,493 outpatient consultations were conducted at 4 health facilities, and 69 people were admitted for inpatient consultation.

In Kyangwali, integrated health services were provided to 317 persons. Nutritional screening did not reveal any malnourishment. In addition, health education was conducted on malaria prevention, risk in pregnancy and importance of hygiene.

**Reproductive health:** In Nyakabande TC, antenatal care (ANC) continued to be offered at the health centre.

In Bubukwanga TC, 12 deliveries (1 refugee and 11 nationals) were carried out at the health unit, while 2 refugees and 52 nationals accessed antenatal care.

In Rwamwanja, 35 deliveries were made and 115 women accessed ANC. As well, women of reproductive age from convoy 66 were provided with sanitary materials including underwear, soap and pads.

In Kyangwali nine mothers benefited from ANC and 27 clients accessed voluntary family planning services. ACORD screened 15 pregnant women from Kentomi and Mkunyu villages and referred them for ANC. About 80 community members in Mkunyu and Kentomi villages were sensitized on birth preparedness and the dangers of home delivery. As well, more than 2,800 youths were sensitized on the available sexual and reproductive health services.

**HIV/AIDS:** In Rwamwanja, 139 people voluntarily tested for HIV/AIDS and five people were enrolled in Antiretroviral Therapy. As well, some 15,000 condoms were distributed.

In Kyangwali, HIV counselling and voluntary testing was provided for 10 clients.

**Water provision:** In Nyakabande TC, the average amount of water per person per day was 40.1 liters.

In Rwamwanja a rainwater harvesting system was constructed at the base camp. As well, refresher training for 75 people from the water user committees of several villages took place on operation and maintenance of water facilities, financial management, sanitation and hygiene management, conflict related to water supply and sanitation, gender issues and having a work plan.

Also in Rwamwanja, 6 boreholes, 10 underground water tanks and 7 protected springs in host community were monitored, while fencing of 2 boreholes was done and soak pits constructed to reduce water run off at source.

In Kyangwali safe water availability stood at 18.5 l pp/pd at new sites but averaged 29.5 l pp/pd for all refugees in the settlement. UNHCR/AAH-U delivered 336,000 litres of water to Malembo and Kirokole villages. The UNICEF-funded water project in Malembo continued with trenching and pipe supply. When complete water trucking to Malembo will stop. Protection work for spring

source in Kirokole village and shallow well construction for Nyambogo village under AAH-U were completed.

In Koboko: DRC-DDG and LWF supported a variety of water and sanitation activities each in the Koboko area, including drilling and rehabilitation of boreholes, water trucking, and setting up and training of water user committees. URCS ensured water chlorination to the transit centre.

**Hygiene & Sanitation:** In Nyakabande TC, general hygiene and sanitation was reported as good. There were 131 stances of latrines in operation, 109 bathing shelters and composting pits are being used.

In Rwamwanja a sensation of a village with nationals was conducted to discuss personal hygiene and good and bad sanitation and hygiene practices.

In Kyangwali to encourage good practices, UNHCR / AAH-U distributed 45 hygiene kits to the best five water source committees that ensured clean water sources in Kentomi and Kitoro villages.

In Koboko, LWF conducted more than 300 household visits in six villages to monitor access and utilisation of sanitary facilities constructed and assess behavior change with regard to hygiene campaigns. Progress has been noted with an additional 11 household latrines, 18 household rubbish pits, 8 drying racks and 12 household bath shelter, 3 tippy taps in Waju II. As well, LWF and DRC-DDG conducted container cleaning campaigns for 108 individuals including to improve the safe water chain in households.

Also in Koboko, DRC-DDG distributed 20 concrete slabs for household latrine construction in Lobule settlements. It also mobilized the community and backfilled the 3 stance pit latrine in Ponyura village which was vandalized last week. As well, DRC-DDG distributed 50 sanitary digging kits in various Lobule settlements to facilitate the process of household latrine construction.



**In Koboko's Lobule settlement, sanitary digging tools have been prepared for distribution in Waju I village. ©UNHCR/ C. Angua**

**Livelihoods & Environment:** In Rwamwanja monitoring of business groups and also school demonstration gardens was conducted, the latter to improve children's diet and empower them with basic agronomic practices.

Also in Rwamwanja, tree marking took place to provide physical sensitization to refugees and encourage preservation of certain species and prevent deforestation.

In Kyangwali DRC-DDG distributed 60 kgs of beans and maize to 10 members in Malembo, Kamango and Mukunyu villages. FRC conducted training for 5 common Interest groups in sustainable crop production and disease control and provided maize, beans, cabbage, and pesticides, spraying pumps, tomatoes and ground nuts seeds to boost food production to ten supported groups. FRC also held an entrepreneurship forum for more than 500 beneficiaries and supported 19 common interest groups to develop their own participatory monitoring and assessment plans that will be a bench mark for FRC will gage project progress.

Also in Kyangwali, AAH-U conducted home visits to assess whether community members were adopting environmental conservation mechanism. 110 persons were reached and these indicated adoption of tree protection by marking, use of energy saving stoves and food storage in Malembo and Kentomi villages.

**Education:** In Rwamwanja, training in child rights was also provided for 19 teachers and school administrators in an effort to promote advocacy and sensitization of child issues through schools.

In Kyangwali seven schools supported by UNHCR through AAH-U and two learning centres implemented by SCiU were inspected by the Ministry of Education and Sports, Assistant Inspector of School and Center Coordinating Tutor, AAH-U and UNHCR. After inspection advocacy for female teachers was recommended for gender balance in schools. As well, AAH-U handed over 200 desks to Malembo Primary School, and with DRC- DDG conducted adolescent friendly clinics in two primary schools.

**Infrastructure:** In Lobule settlement villages of Koboko district, DRC-DDG has constructed 2 km of community access roads in Waju I village, 3 km in Ponyura village, and 2 km in Kuku village, while gravelling works on 2.7 km of road along Pijoke Health centre is on-going.

## Working in partnership

### **OPM / UNHCR are being supported by partners on the ground**

#### **Bundibugyo District**

Governmental partners: Bundibugyo District Local Government (DLG) authorities and various technical departments, the Uganda Police Force (UPF), and the Uganda Prisons Unit.

Humanitarian partners: Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD), Danish Refugee Council (DRC-DDG), Emesco Development Foundation, Humedica, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Malteser, Medical Teams International (MTI), Oxfam, Pentecostal Church of Uganda/fida International (PCU/fida), Save the Children in Uganda (SCiU), UNFPA, UNICEF, Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS).

#### **Kyangwali Settlement**

Government partners: Hoima DLG authorities and various technical departments and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian partners: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), ADRA/ FAO, AIRD, American Refugee Council (ARC), ICRC, IOM, PCU/fida, Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), Médecins Sans Frontières France (MSF-F), Samaritan's Purse (SP), SCiU, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), WHO and WFP.

#### **Rwamwanja settlement, Nyakabande TC and Matanda TC**

Government partners: OPM, Kisoro, Kanungu and Kyenjojo DLG authorities and various technical departments.

Humanitarian partners: ACORD, ADRA, AHA, AIRD, FAO, Feed the Hungry, GOAL Uganda (GOAL), HIJRA, ICRC, LWF, MTI, IOM, PCU/fida, SP, SCiU,

UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, Water Missions, WFP, WHO, Windle Trust Uganda (WTU).

### **Kiryandongo refugee settlement**

Government partners: OPM, Kiryandongo District Local Government (KDLG) and the Uganda Police Force.

Humanitarian/implementing partners include: Action Africa Help Uganda (AAH-U), Samaritan Purse (SP), Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), African Initiative for Relief and Development (AIRD), Inter-Aid Uganda (IAU) and Windle Trust Uganda (WTU).

Operational partners: Action Contre la Faim (ACF), DRC-DDG, ICRC/URCS, IRC, UNICEF, and WFP.

### **West Nile**

Government partners in all locations: OPM, Adjumani, Arua and Koboko DLG authorities, various technical departments and Uganda police force.

Adjumani Implementing Partners and sister agencies: AIRD, DRC-DDG, LWF, MTI, OXFAM, UNICEF, UNFPA, URCS, and WFP.

Adjumani operational partners: ACF, ADRA, CRS-CARITAS, MSF-F, IOM, Plan-Uganda, SCiU, URCS, and World Vision International.

Arua humanitarian partners: AIRD, Care International, International Aid Services (IAS), DRC-DDG, Global Refugee International (GRI), MSF-F, Oxfam, SCiU, ZOA, UNICEF, URCS and WFP.

Koboko humanitarian partners: AAH-U, AIRD, Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari (ACAV), ACORD, AIRD, DRC-DDG, FAO, ICRC, Kids in Uganda (KIDS), LWF, MSF-F, MTI, UNFPA, UNICEF, URCS, WFP, WHO and World Renewal Ministries (WRM) and ZOA.

### **Coordination Meetings:**

Kampala: An interagency meeting was held on Thursday, 6 March. The next one will be held on 20 March.

South Sudanese emergency coordination mechanism: please refer to the meeting schedule circulated with recent inter-agency meeting notes.