

Refugees plant moringa and baobab trees during ceremony for World Nature Conservation Day.

On 28 July 2018, the world marks the World Nature Conservation Day, which recognises that a healthy environment is the foundation of a stable and productive society. The day also promotes the concept of the well-being of present and future generations.

In the Lóvuá Settlement, where there are currently more than 13,700 refugees who fled from the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2017, this was an opportunity for more than 150 refugees to learn principles of the conservation in the settlement. There was a brief introduction with speeches from World Vision (WVI) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) with a focus on the importance of youth and environmental sustainability.

There was also an emphasis on the environmental issues that are related to agriculture such as bush burning and deforestation. Afterwards, Moringa seeds and Baobab trees were planted by children and women.



Figure 1: WFP, World Vision and UNHCR teach a girl the basis of planting moringa trees ©UNHCR/Omotola Akindipe

Moringa trees have many healthy components such as vitamin A, iron and potassium. Whilst Baobab trees are popular in Angola as the fruit can be used in a variety of methods such as ice creams, juices and desserts.

Contacts

Robert Ahebwa, Ass. Livelihoods Officer
Ahebwa@unhcr.org; UNHCR
Omotola Akindipe, Ass. Reporting Officer
akindipe@unhcr.org; UNHCR

Anabela Araujo, Officer in Charge Dundo
Anabela.araujo@wfp.org; WFP
Maina King'ori, Project Manager
Maina_kingori@wvi.org, WVI