UNHCR 2019 Participatory Assessment Findings

Uganda Operation

Background and Methodology

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UNHCR Participatory Assessments

- Primary tool for meaningful participation of refugee women, men, girls and boys of diverse backgrounds
  - Age, Gender and Diversity approach

Methodology

Collaboration between UNHCR, OPM and partners

Desk Review

275 **Focus Group Discussions** (women, men, boys and girls of diverse backgrounds)

264 **Key Informant Interviews** (refugee and host community leaders / representatives, authorities, partners, etc)

Key Findings

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Priority areas

1. Access to registration and documentation
2. Access to quality food assistance
3. Access to quality healthcare

Different priorities according to age, gender and location

Barriers to access assistance

- Long distances
- Long waiting times
- Lack or limited access to information
- Language barriers
- Negative attitudes of service staff
- Discrimination on the basis of nationality, ethnicity and sex

Discrimination and Barriers based on AGD

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- Restrictive socio-cultural norms
- Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
- Unequal distribution of burden of care
- Barriers to access services

Community Participation

- Community structures play key role in the community

- Reliance on structures for guidance and counselling, mediation in community and domestic disputes, and referrals

Barriers to Access Information and Feedback Mechanisms

Delayed and lack of response to feedback and complaints

Language barriers

Illiteracy

Technical challenges (e.g. lack of connectivity, technical equipment)

Child Protection

- General sense of insecurity
- Neglect and abandonment
- Physical assault
- Child labor
- SGBV

Most vulnerable children according to the community:

- Separated and unaccompanied children
- Children living with disabilities
- Orphans
- Girls (12-17 yo)
- Child headed households

Safety and Security

- Lack of security lighting at night

- Hostility from the host community

- High number of theft and robbery incidences

- Alcohol and drug abuse

- Witchcraft

- Unattended mines

- Dilapidated housing

- SGBV

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Sexual and Gender Based Violence

Common types of SGBV:

- Rape and defilement
- Intimate partner violence
- Verbal and emotional abuse

Reporting challenges:

- Fear of retaliation
- Stigmatization
- Long distances
- Inadequate response

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Access to justice

- Corruption of RWCs, police and courts
- Lack or delayed responses from RWCs, police and courts
- Discrimination
- Language barriers

Registration

- Delays in service delivery and long waiting times
- Long distances to registration centers
- Language barriers
- Errors in the registration process
- Lack of information about ID issuance
- Lack of documentation from country of origin
- Corruption and intimidation of registration staff
- Uncooperative and negative attitude of staff

Education

- Financial constraints as barriers for school enrollment
- Traditional beliefs in the community
- Long distances to schools
- Sexual harassment and assault on the way to school
- Unsafe school environment
- Inadequate school infrastructure

Capacities and Recommendations

Capacities within the refugee community

The community is willing and able to contribute to their own protection

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Recommendations from the refugee community

The report highlights recommendations from the refugee community on how to improve their situation

Questions?

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