

## Attendance

1. Bo Hurkmans – UNHCR
2. Anders Petersson – WFP
3. Kathryn Clark – FAO
4. Sarah Gilbert – CRS
5. Cristobal Mingo – WFP
6. Ally Hamud Said – UNHCR
7. Insa Nieberg – CRRF Secretariat
8. Marijke Deleu – U-Learn
9. Immaculate Atieno – FAO
10. Rebecca Pietrelli – FAO
11. Joseph Kasoma – DRC
12. Youri FRANCX – Humanity & Inclusion
13. Mohamed Aly – UNHCR
14. Ernest Achell – FCDO
15. Stanslus OKURUT – WFP
16. Joshua Mugume – CRRF Secretariat
17. Jordi TORRES MIRALLES – ECHO
18. Geoffrey Arum – CARE
19. Lisa Gutierrez – USAID
20. Dave Moore – US BPRM

## FAO Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis (RIMA) findings

- RIMA findings were presented by Kathryn Clark, Rebecca Pitrelli and Immaculate Atieno.
- Objective of RIMA is to inform interventions in Uganda and identify the challenges to achieve resilience and self-reliance by refugees.
- The baseline was established in December 2017, the first round of data collection was conducted in February 2018 and the second round in December 2019. The third round is currently ongoing.
- RIMA uses a panel dataset of 3,824 rural HH, follow-ups are made with these HH over time.
- ProGres ID numbers are collected so that data can be linked with existing refugee information.
- In terms of food security, refugees are behind host communities on food consumption, dietary diversity and food expenditure.
- Land, wealth and agricultural asset indexes are key drivers of food security together with limited agricultural productivity. Continuous support to increase access to / ownership of assets is therefore encouraged for refugees.
- Participation in training improved agricultural practices and boosts food security while cash and food assistance supported food consumption with cash strengthening food expenditure and diversity.
- The resilience analysis uses factors based on pillars that define resilience, such as access to improved toilet/water; closeness to school/hospital/markets; wealth/agricultural asset indices; participation in VSLAs; level of education/training; diversification of income sources; crop diversification etc.
- Resilience increased irrespective of if the district received new refugees or not, with positive pathways through social networks and access to credit to facilitate sustainable access to productive assets.
- Diversification of income sources play an important role in increasing resilience that has not yet been fully optimised across refugee and host community households in all refugee-hosting districts.
- Drought, crop pests and diseases and high agricultural inputs prices pose the major challenges, exacerbated by limited access to meteorological information and low levels of livelihood adoption practices to mitigate against climate change. However, in general, there is a decline in the number of shocks reported to have affected livelihoods.
- In terms of social cohesion, there is a good level of trust between the host community and refugees, but some districts show tensions (there is no time series analysis available for the social cohesion results as this part has been added in 2019).
- Strong initial patterns are observed between refugee-host interactions and comfort levels in interacting as well as frequency of refugee interactions with Ugandan businesses and levels of resilience.

### *Feedback*

- WFP: Did you find refugees that do not receive food assistance and are those that did not receive assistance comparable in terms of location, displacement status etc.?

- HI: Is there any disaggregation linked to different identities, vulnerabilities, disabilities and age ranges?
- RIMA team: The report contains additional analysis on resilience and food security profiles by gender of the households' head and by district – disaggregated by refugee and host status and by baseline (2017/18) and follow-up (2019). The data collected allows for further analysis that takes other elements such as vulnerabilities into account, the dataset will be shared with partners who are interested in conducting their own analysis.
- WFP: WFP is definitely interested in working with FAO to understand better how the level and type of assistance to households impact their self-reliance and resilience. Households expenditure is collected through many surveys, but RIMA's comprehensive approach to food production and income generation is definitely adding value.

## CRRF/UBOS SOPs for the conduct of assessments in the refugee response

- The background on the SOPs and the Strategic Directions / National Plan of Action were presented by Insa Nieberg.
- Decision by 7<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting in July 2019 to develop SOPs, the objectives are to:
  - Facilitate use of effective research methodologies
  - Promote coordinated research activities
  - Avoid duplications and use resources efficiently
  - Improve sharing of research findings
- SOP were developed by UBOS and presented at the 12<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting in December 2020.
- The following was discussed in relation to the draft SOP as presented:
  - Need to distinguish between long-term research and short/medium-term analysis on implementation level to plan and adjust programming
  - Layers of approval involving several MDAs: wish for clear-cut, lean procedures in order to avoid delay with regard to time-sensitive information
  - Exceptions for emergencies need to be clearly defined
  - Need to work with existing structures (incl. Assessment Technical Working Group) and take into account the national guidelines for research
- The Steering Group decided and recommended the following:
  - Establish a Task Team to further refine the SOPs (Members: UBOS, OPM CRRF Secretariat, OPM DOR, UNHCR, IFIs, LDPG) – to be tabled at first Steering Group meeting of 2021
  - Presentation of OPM Monitoring Tool at first Steering Group 2021 (knowledge repository)
- Consultations on the National Plan of Action are ongoing with all stakeholders in Kampala from December 2020 – February 2021 ([online form for consultations](#)), the draft NAP will be shared with all stakeholders in January for comments and is expected to be endorsed by the CRRF SG in March 2021.

### *Feedback*

- ATWG co-chairs: It is strongly suggested to add the remaining co-chairs (WFP and REACH) to the Task Force in order to ensure that the ATWG is fully represented. The need to involve the ATWG was also flagged in the CRRF DPG.
- FAO: The CRRF DPG also raised a concern that the SOPs should not dissuade research.
- USAID: The question of ongoing research/evaluations vs. new assessments was also raised as needing clarification.

## AOB

- UNHCR:
  - The IPE, led by UNHCR in collaboration with key partners, was due to start in May but was delayed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. A re-start was planned to pilot the exercise in December 2020 in Oruchinga. This, however, has been postponed in order to align the verification exercise with the IPE which is schedule in 2021.
- WFP:
  - The Joint UNHCR/WFP Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub has been asked to support with vulnerability analysis in a follow-up to the VENA.
- WB/UBOS/UNHCR:
  - The report and questionnaire of the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the High-Frequency Phone Survey on COVID-19 are available on the [website of the World Bank](#).
- U-Learn study on COVID-19 risk communications and community engagement:
  - Round table to be organised, for more information please contact Marijke Deleu ([marijke@ulearn-uganda.org](mailto:marijke@ulearn-uganda.org)).