



## **Acknowledgement**

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WFP, UNHCR and OPM

## **List of Acronyms**

AAHI	Action Africa Help International-Uganda
ACF	Action Contre la Faim/ Action against hunger – USA
AHA	Africa Humanitarian Action
CHWs	Community Health Workers
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
DLG	District Local Government
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
EDP	Extended Delivery Point
EVIs	Extremely Vulnerable Individuals
FDP	Food Distribution Point
FMC	Food Management Committees
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GIZ	German International Cooperation
HC	Health Centre
HHs	Households
HIS	Health Information System
IDA	Iron deficiency Anaemia
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IMAM	Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition
IPs	Implementing Partners
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
JAM	Joint Assessment Mission
LLITN	Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets
MOH	Ministry of Health
MTI	Medical Teams International
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
NFIs	Non-Food Items
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NSAMIZI	Nsamizi Training Institute
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister of the Government of Uganda
PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
REC	Refugee Eligibility Committee
RWC	Refugee Welfare council
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SFP	Supplementary Feeding Programme
SGBV	Sex Gender Based Violence
TFP	Therapeutic Feeding Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

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## Executive Summary

Uganda currently hosts close to 160,000 refugees see, the majority of which come from the Democratic Republic of Congo (54%), Somalia (13%), Sudan (12%), Rwanda (10%), Burundi (5%) and Eritrea (4%).

World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) of the Government of Uganda conducted a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) in all refugee settlements in Uganda from 25 November to 10 December 2011. The 2011 JAM was aimed at defining the types of food assistance, livelihood support (assistance for self-reliance) and non-food assistance requirements of refugees during 2012-2013.

The JAM was organized along the following five thematic areas: (1) food security and livelihoods; (2) food and non-food items distribution, warehousing, logistics and roads; (3) water, sanitation, hygiene, health and nutrition; (4) Environment, shelter and education; and (5) refugee registration, verification, durable solutions and coordination.

Main assessment findings and recommendations:

- The overall food security outlook/prospect for a majority of refugees is positive. Most long-term refugees (those who have been in Uganda for more than three years) have settled and adjusted reasonably well to their current environment. As they take advantage of access to land given to them by the government or land use rights acquired through informal arrangements with nationals and as they continue to derive income from on-farm and off-farm activities, the need for continued relief food assistance diminishes and food assistance can and should be scaled down with little or no adverse impact.
- Accordingly, revised rations are recommended for refugees as summarized in the table below:

Criteria	Recommended WFP food ration	Effective date for new ration
EVI (existing criteria to be reviewed and harmonized and annual verification to be conducted)	100%	July 2012
Refugees 3 years or less in Uganda	100%	July 2012
Refugees 4 to 5 years in Uganda (West Nile)	50%	July 2012
Refugees 4 to 5 years in Uganda (Southwest)	60%	July 2012
Refugees more than 5 years in Uganda (West Nile)	0%	January 2013
Refugees more than 5 years in Uganda (Southwest)	50%	July 2012

- Alternative food assistance modalities (cash and vouchers) should be explored and implemented where appropriate;
- Over the years, UNHCR has been providing livelihood support (provision of seeds and tools, goats, bee-keeping, extension advice, skill training, etc) to refugees although the coverage in any given year remains limited to a small proportion of refugees. Scaling down of food assistance should be accompanied by further robust and wide ranging livelihood support interventions.
- The rates of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) are close to or within acceptable levels among refugee populations in Uganda. On the other hand, stunting rates remain high;

- Despite an ongoing intervention by UNHCR, rates of iron deficiency anaemia (<11 mmol/dL) remain above the severe public health threshold of 40 percent in some settlements and requires continued intervention;
- Considering the high stunting rates, the high prevalence of anaemia among children and mothers, it is recommended that the ongoing SFP and the CSB in the general food distribution ration be maintained;
- UNHCR, OPM, WFP and IPs should hold quarterly coordination meetings at Kampala level and monthly coordination meetings at field and settlement level in order to improve effective programme implementation;
- Government should consider local integration of long-term refugees while in the short-term ensuring them continued access to cultivable land in order help support themselves;
- The JAM makes additional specific recommendations in the areas of health, water, sanitation, environment, shelter, education, registration, verification as detailed in the report;
- While UNHCR, OPM, WFP should ideally endeavour to address all the issues identified in the 2011 JAM, objective reality both in terms of funding prospects and implementation capacity require that due consideration and priority is given to the most pressing issues and needs of the refugees.
- The key recommendations from the JAM should be used to develop the Joint (WFP, UNHCR and OPM) Action Plan for 2012-2013.

## Chapter 1 - Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of refugee statistics in Uganda and outlines the JAM objectives and methodology.

### 1.1 Refugee numbers and demography

Uganda's relative political and economic stability and a friendly refugee policy attract refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from neighbouring countries such as South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi but also from other countries in the region such as Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Kenya.

Although there has been substantial voluntary repatriation of refugees in recent years, mainly to South Sudan and Rwanda, Uganda continues to host a large number of refugees. The country currently hosts close to 160,000 refugees see (Table 1). A majority of the refugees come from the Democratic Republic of Congo (54%), Somalia (13%), Sudan (12%), Rwanda (10%), Burundi (5%) and Eritrea (4%).

Table 1. Number of Refugees by Country of Origin

Nationality	Number of refugees
DR Congo	86,969
Somalia	20,490
Sudan	18,811
Rwanda	15,617
Burundi	8,026
Eritrea	6,314
Ethiopia	1,990
Kenya	1,590
Others (22 countries)	132
Total	159,939

Data Source: UNHCR, 1 Dec 2011.

Table 2. Number of Refugees by Settlement

Settlement Location	# of Refugees	% of Total
Nakivale	56,560	35%
Kyangwali	25,049	16%
Kyaka II	16,192	10%
Oruchinga	4,888	3%
Kiryandongo	4,422	3%
Southwest Total	107,111	67%
Adjumani	6,816	4%
Imvepi	1,667	1%
Moyo	1,646	1%
Rhino Camp	1,250	1%
West Nile Total	11,379	7%
Kampala/Urban refugees	41,449	26%
Grand Total	159,939	100%

Data Source: UNHCR, 1 Dec 2011.

Nearly a quarter of the refugees in Uganda live in Kampala. The rest live in nine settlements spread across West Nile and Southwest Uganda (Table 2). A majority of the refugees in settlements currently receive food and non-food support.

In accordance with the Global agreement between WFP and UNHCR, Joint Assessment Missions (JAMs) are carried out usually every two years in order to assess the condition of refugees and make recommendations for programme

review and/or adjustment. While the main focus of these assessments is food security and nutrition, other key areas for support to refugees are also covered during JAM.

### 1.2 Joint Assessment Mission Objective and Methodology

The 2011 OPM/WFP/UNHCR JAM was aimed at defining the types of food assistance, livelihood support (assistance for self-reliance) and non-food assistance requirements of refugees during 2012-2013.

The JAM field work was carried out from 25 November to 10 December 2011 and it was a joint undertaking between WFP, UNHCR and OPM with active participation by local government and partners on the ground (see Annex II for list of participants).

Members of the assessment mission were organized into the following five thematic areas:

- Food security and livelihoods
- Food and non-food items distribution, warehousing, logistics and roads
- Water, sanitation, hygiene, health and nutrition

- Environment, shelter and education
- Refugee registration, verification, durable solutions and coordination

Prior to the JAM, the assessment teams reviewed available information from WFP, UNHCR, OPM and other sources with respect to the five thematic areas. Also before the JAM, WFP and UNHCR in collaboration with ACF carried out a Food Security and Nutrition Assessment of refugees. The results from this assessment informed the findings under the food security and livelihoods thematic area.

During the field work, assessment teams held initial discussion with WFP, UNHCR and OPM staff as well as staff of implementing and cooperating partners and local authorities and relevant staff of district line departments. Based on these discussions, sample sites were selected for field visit and discussion with key informants and focus group discussion with refugees. The assessment teams visited crops in the field, markets, health centres, boreholes, schools, roads, and warehouses for food and non-food items.

This JAM report is intended to highlight the main issues that arose during a review of available information, during field interaction with staff of WFP, UNHCR, OPM, local authorities, partners, refugee leaders and refugees in both West Nile and South West settlements. The issues were further reviewed and concrete recommendations developed and shared with OPM, UNHCR and WFP for their comments/ or inputs. An internal JAM meeting to review and agree on the key issues and recommendations was held at WFP on 17th January 2012. The draft report was subsequently shared with colleagues and stakeholders in the field prior to finalization of the report.

The report is organized as follows: Chapter two through Chapter Six give an overview of each thematic area and highlight main issues and key recommendations related to it. Chapter Seven summarizes the main conclusions, recommendations and the way forward.



## Chapter 2 – Food Security and Livelihoods

In late October/early November 2011, WFP and UNHCR commissioned ACF to conduct a Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods Assessment of refugee populations in settlements in West Nile and Southwest regions of Uganda. The food security and livelihood objectives of the assessment looked at Household Food Consumption and Dietary Diversity, crop cultivation practices, livestock ownership, main sources of food and income as well as major food and non-food items on which households spend their income. The assessment also looked at the use of coping strategies when experiencing food shortages.

The sections below summarize the key findings from the food security and livelihood components of the assessment as well as the JAM field work. Summaries of key findings from the nutrition component of the October/November survey are presented in Chapter 3.

### 2.1 Key Assessment Findings

The adequacy and diversity of households is widely being used as a proxy measure for household food security. Using household interviews that record the types of food consumed within households over the previous week (7-days), the data is transformed into Household Food Consumption Scores (FCS). Households are then classified into three categories based on the range within which their respective FCS falls:

- i) *Poor*: FCS  $\leq$  21 (these are households who are not eating well both in terms of quantity (frequency) and quality (diversity) of their diets; this group of households face a high risk of hunger if they maintain their current diet over a prolonged period;
- ii) *Borderline*: FCS = 21.5 to 35 (these are households whose diet is considered borderline both in terms of quantity (frequency) and quality (diversity); this group of households face a moderate risk of hunger if they maintain their current diet over a prolonged period;
- iii) *Acceptable*: FCS > 35 (these are households who are eating well both in terms of quantity (frequency) and quality (diversity) of their diets)

Table 3. Mean Food Consumption Scores (FCS) and Proportion of Households by Food Consumption Categories and by Settlement Grouping

Categories	West Nile	Southwest		Combined
		Kyaka & Kyangwali	Nakivale & Oruchinga	
Mean FCS	39.8	40.2	46.1	42.3
% of HHs with Poor FC	13.4	9.7	7.6	10.0
% of HHs Borderline FC	30.6	27.2	16.7	24.2
% of HHs Acceptable FC	55.9	63.1	75.8	65.7

Data Source: WFP, UNHCR, ACF Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Draft Results, Nov 2011.

The mean food consumption score for all settlement groups is well above the threshold for acceptable food consumption. A small proportion of households (8-13%) across all settlement groups had Poor Food Consumption compared to the majority of households (56-76%) who had acceptable food consumption (Table 3). Those with poor food consumption tended to eat mainly staples (cereals and tubers) and some vegetables with little or no fruit or protein. Those with acceptable food consumption tend to have a more diversified diet, including consumption of animal protein.

Table 4. Proportion of Households by Main Source of Food and by Settlement Grouping

Categories	West Nile	Southwest	
		Kyaka & Kyangwali	Nakivale & Oruchinga
Own production	20.9%	36.5%	22.1%
Market purchase	26.3%	29.4%	31.0%
Food aid	46.5%	28.2%	41.4%
Other	5.0%	5.0%	5.2%

Data Source: WFP, UNHCR, ACF Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Draft Results, Nov 2011.

Whereas a significant proportion of food consumed by households comes from food aid, a sizable proportion also tends to come from own production and purchases from the market (Table 4). For food purchases from the market, a majority of households tended to use income derived from casual labour employment, agriculture, food aid and commercial activity/petty trade.

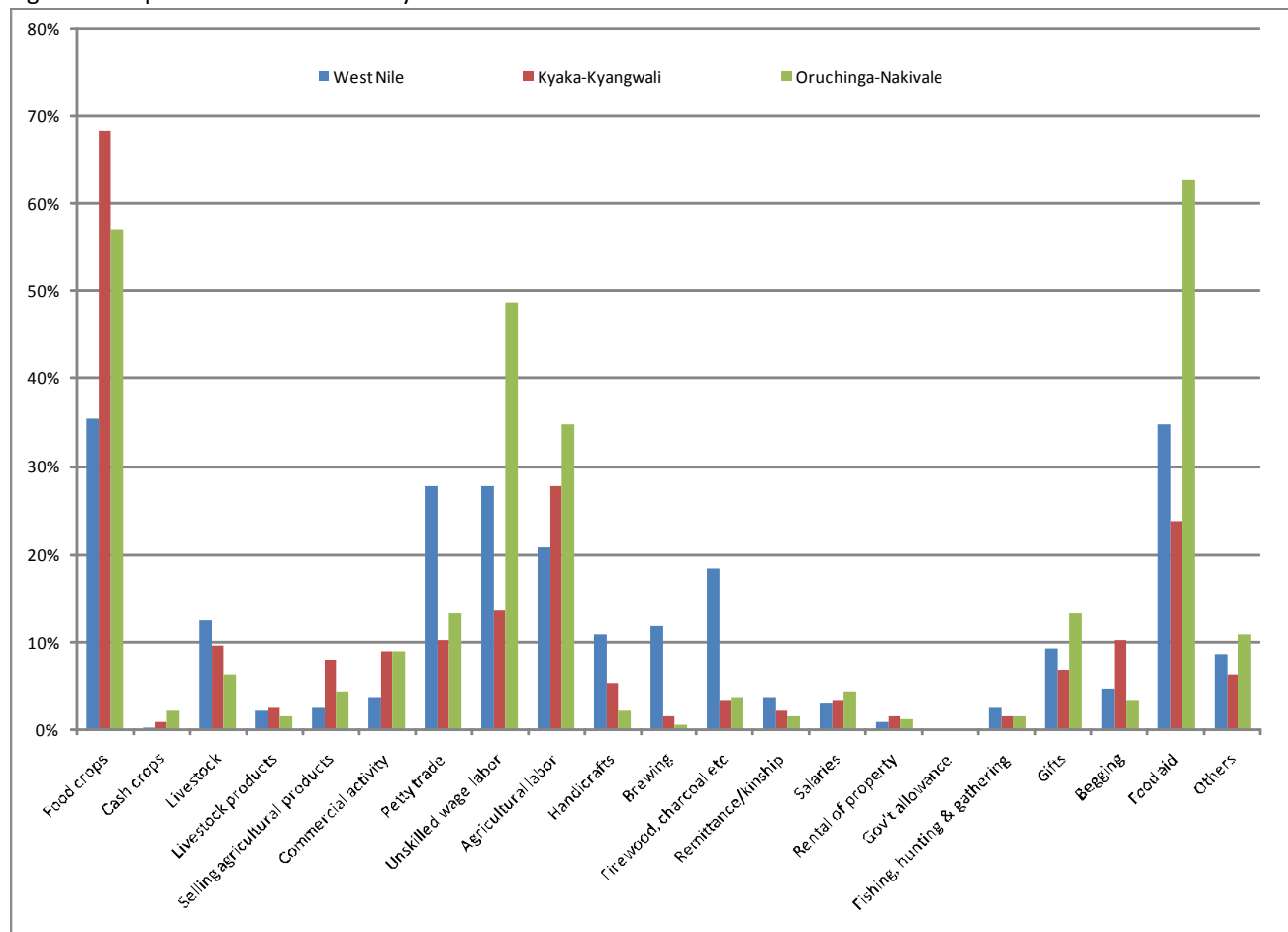
Table 5. Proportion of Households who Cultivated Land in 2011 by Settlement Grouping

Categories	West Nile	Southwest	
		Kyaka & Kyangwali	Nakivale & Oruchinga
% of HHs who cultivated crops	65% [83.4% when corrected for (excluding) urban refugee in Adjumani town who do not cultivate crops]	82.5%	68.4% [77.2% when corrected for (excluding) Somali refugees in Nakivale who pursue non-farm livelihoods]

Data Source: WFP, UNHCR, ACF Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Draft Results, Nov 2011.

A majority of households cultivated crops during the 2011 agricultural seasons (Table 5). The importance of agriculture to household food security and livelihoods is also reflected in the relatively high proportion of household income derived from agriculture and agriculture related activities. Food crops, unskilled wage labour, agricultural labour, petty trade and food aid are important sources of food and livelihood. Refugees in West Nile appear to have more diversified income/livelihood compared to those in settlements in Southwest.

Figure 1. Proportion of households by Main Source of Household Income



Data Source: WFP, UNHCR, ACF Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Draft Results, Nov 2011.

In terms of livestock ownership, refugees tend to own more poultry, goats and pigs than cattle.

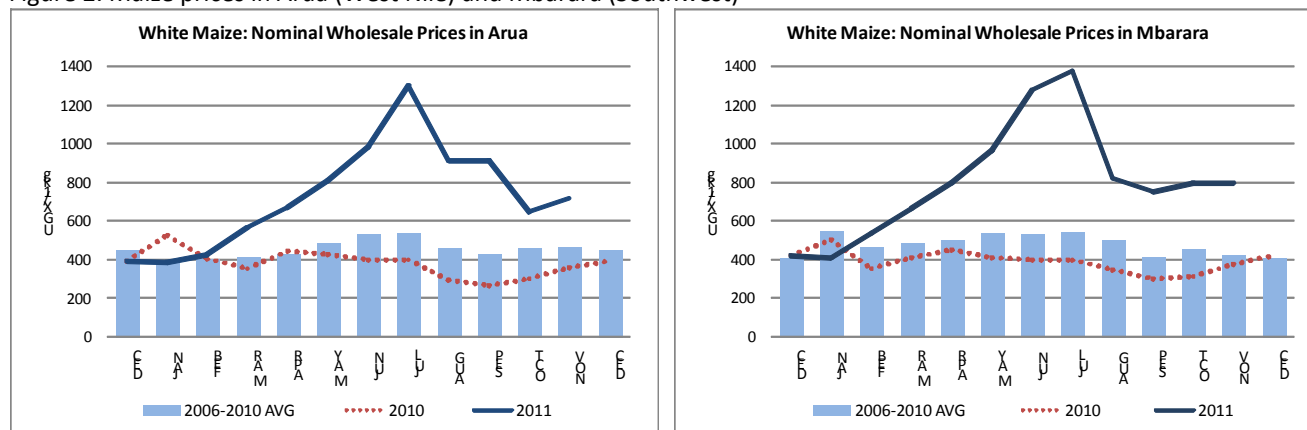
The assessment also compared the food security status (food consumption profile) of refugees based on how long they have lived in Uganda as refugees (Table 6). Although there are no significant differences between food consumption profiles based on timing of arrival, long-term refugees tend to be more self-reliant, deriving a major portion of their food from their own production and purchases and less from food assistance.

Table 6. Proportion of Households by Timing of Arrival in Uganda and by Food Consumption Category

Arrival in Uganda:	Household Food Consumption Category		
	Poor (%)	Borderline (%)	Acceptable (%)
3 years or less	5.9	20.1	74
4 to 5 years	9.6	23.4	66.7
More than 5 years	11.6	25.9	62.5

After a steady increase during the first half of 2011, wholesale white maize prices declined substantially in both West Nile and Southwest Uganda following the arrival of the 2011 first season main harvest in June/July. Prices dropped substantially in both Mbarara and Arua in July through September, and have remained more or less stable since then (Figure 2). The main reasons for the observed decline in maize prices has been increased market supply from the 2011 first season maize and other staple crop harvests.

Figure 2. Maize prices in Arua (West Nile) and Mbarara (Southwest)



Source: World Food Programme Uganda Market Update, 21 December 2011

The decline in maize prices is considered to have a positive impact on household food security among refugee populations as they rely on purchases from the market for a sizable portion of their staple food consumption.

The amount and distribution of the 2011 second season rainfall has been generally good and is expected to have positive impact on household food security both through increased availability of home-grown food as well as potential reduction or stability in market prices.

Access to cultivable land is a major determinant of household food security. Long-term refugees both in West Nile and Southwest tend to have good access to land both from plots originally allocated to them as

well as additional land acquired through informal arrangements (i.e. cultivating land vacated by repatriated refugees or informal land access arrangements with nationals in the surrounding areas).

For a majority of long-term Somali refugees who live in Nakivale, they are primarily engaged in a whole range of business activities: shops, supermarkets, foreign exchange, money transfer, transport, electricity generation and other activities. They tend to exhibit a comparatively better wealth profile than other refugee communities as demonstrated in the businesses they run, relatively large houses they live in with access to electricity and their tendency to employ other refugees or national for chores that require manual labour.

In summary, most of the remaining refugees have access to land which they cultivate with a variety of crops for home consumption and the market. They cultivate a variety of crops: maize, sorghum, millet, cassava, plantain/matoke, sweet potato, simsim, groundnuts, cowpea, etc. Refugees acquire land both through allocation by the Government of Uganda and through informal arrangements with nationals. Consequently and combined with good rains, a majority of the refugee farmers have enjoyed reasonably good harvests during the 2011 agricultural/cropping season. This is notwithstanding localized problems that affected crop performance: prolonged dry spells during the first season affected crop yields; during the second season, crop yields in low-lying areas along river banks in West Nile have been affected by water logging; wild and stray animals also damage crops; there is also encroachment of land gazetted for refugees by some nationals.

In addition to farming, refugees (including PSN) pursue a range of livelihood activities to supplement their income (rearing goats/poultry, casual wage labour, charcoal/firewood, brewing alcohol, papyrus mats, etc).

The overall food security outlook/prospect for a majority of refugees is positive. Most long-term refugees (those who have been in Uganda for more than three years) have settled and adjusted reasonably well to their current environment. As they take advantage of access to land given to them by the government or land use rights acquired through informal arrangements with nationals and as they continue to derive income from on-farm and off-farm activities, the need for continued relief food assistance diminishes and food assistance can and should be scaled down with little or no adverse impact.

Over the years, UNHCR has been providing livelihood support (provision of seeds and tools, goats, bee-keeping, extension advice, skill training, etc) to refugees although the coverage in any given year remains limited to a small proportion of refugees. Scaling down of food assistance should be accompanied by further robust and wide ranging livelihood support interventions.

For those who benefited from vocation training, access to material inputs and market for their produce remains a major challenge.

In some of the older settlements, mainly in West Nile, there have been a large number of hammer mills established to support grain milling for refugees. Due to inadequate maintenance and massive repatriation of refugees, only a handful of the hammer mills remain functional. For those that are still functional, high cost of fuel and high cost of maintenance for major breakdowns remain a major challenge.

## **2.2. Review of Existing Rations and Proposed Adjustments**

Currently, the main ration categories being distributed to refugees within settlements in Uganda are: (1) 100 percent WFP food ration to new arrivals and extremely vulnerable households; and (2) 50 percent WFP food ration to long-term refugees. The current food rations were established in 2008. Due to high food prices prevalent at the time and concerns about continued drought, the 2009 JAM recommended maintaining the rations as they were.

In West Nile where a majority of the refugees are South Sudanese, large scale influx of Sudanese refugees into West Nile occurred in the early 1990s. Further displacement of some refugees took place in 2004 due to LRA activities. Substantial repatriation of refugees back to Sudan has taken place between 2005 and 2009.

A majority of the “LRA-displaced refugees” in Adjumani, who to this date continue to receive 50 percent ration on the basis that they were displaced from their original clusters by LRA back in 2004-2005. Some of them have already returned to their original clusters, settled in town or found alternative means of livelihoods. Therefore, there is no reason to treat them as a special category for food distribution.

Some refugees, who reside in fertile areas and arrived to Uganda more than 10 years ago no longer require food assistance and continue to rely on their own sources of food and income. Except for extremely vulnerable households who receive 100 percent WFP food ration, a majority of South Sudanese refugees who remain in Uganda in settlements in West Nile are currently on 50 percent WFP food ration<sup>1</sup>. An exception to this are refugees in Mireyi ‘transit’ settlement where they have been receiving 80 percent ration due to the presumption that the refugees are Dinka pastoralists who do not know how to cultivate land and live in a ‘transit’ settlement with no access to cultivable land.

In reality, a majority (75%) of the Dinka refugees live in Adjumani town and only come to Mireyi to collect their food rations during food distribution. They live in Adjumani town in rented accommodation, pursuing gainful urban livelihoods in both formal and informal sector. For those who live in Mireyi settlement, they enjoy substantial access to land, cultivating several plots of land vacated by their compatriots who have repatriated to South Sudan in recent years.

For Kenyan refugees in Kiryandongo, they have been on 100 percent WFP food ration since they arrived in Uganda in late 2008. As with other long-term refugees, the Kenyan refugees have adjusted well, cultivate land and pursue other livelihoods.

There are a small number of Burundian and Congolese refugees who have been relocated from Southwest to Kiryandongo in 2009 and 2010. These are on 100 percent WFP food ration.

In early 2012, UNHCR and OPM plan to relocate long-term refugees from Moyo to Adjumani and from Imvepi to Rhino settlements as part of the periodic settlement consolidation process. The relocation is planned such that it causes minimal disruption to the food security and livelihoods of the refugees. The refugees will be moved after they harvest their 2011 second season crops and before the start of the 2012 first season rains so that, once re-settled, they will be able to cultivate crops during the 2012 first season in their new location.

In Southwest, a majority of the refugees are Congolese, some that are long-term and others that are new arrivals. The other large refugee populations in southwest are long-term Somali and Rwandan refugees who live in Nakivale and Oruchinga settlements.

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<sup>1</sup> About 25 percent of the refugee population in Adjumani/Moyo has been successfully phase off food support for some time now due to their access to adequate fertile land for cultivation. Similar phase off has also occurred in Kyangwali and Kiryandongo settlements with 51 percent and 68 percent, respectively, of the total refugee population no longer receiving food assistance.

Oruchinga settlement has been home to long-term Rwandese refugees currently receiving 50 percent WFP food ration. Due to congestion in Nakivale settlement, 5,018 mainly Congolese and some Burundian new arrivals were settled in Oruchinga since May 2011 and are currently on 100 percent WFP food ration.

Kyaka II has 91 percent of its general refugee population still on 100 percent to date. This also includes refugees that arrived in 2005 (more than five years ago) who are still on 100 percent WFP ration.

In addition to extremely vulnerable households who receive 100 percent WFP food ration, a substantial number of refugees in Southwest continue to receive 100 percent ration as their 'new arrival' status has not yet been reviewed and adjusted. These include 12,251 refugees in Kyaka who arrived in Uganda since 2005.

Extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) eligible for 100 percent WFP ration are meant to be those without adequate manpower and physical and health disposition to support themselves and their families. In practice, however, during the JAM it was noted that many of those currently identified as EVIs engage in various livelihood activities (crop cultivation, brewing, poultry, etc) and enjoy strong communal support, including assistance in cultivating, weeding and harvesting their crops. At present, there is no consistency between settlements in the criteria used for the identification of EVIs and its use. As such a review of the categories of EVIs in need of 100 percent WFP ration is required.

Although nearly all refugees receiving WFP food ration are required to appear in person and bring along proof of identity (family attestation) and ration card during food distribution, this has not yet been on Somali refugees in Nakivale. Somali refugees pool their ration cards together and delegate the responsibility of receiving rations on their behalf to eight community groups called 'companies'.

As a substantial number of Somali refugees live in Kampala although they have a registered address in Nakivale, we currently have a situation where Somali refugees currently living in Nakivale have multiple ration cards (as many as 15 to 20 ration cards) entrusted to them by their compatriots who live in Kampala. Those with multiple ration cards collect the food and sell most of it<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to facilitating substantial leakage and diversion of food aid, the current food aid distribution system for Somali refugees has created resentment among other refugee communities who experience a much stringent distribution mechanism.

Current WFP/UNHCR refugee assistance practice in Uganda is that urban refugees (those with registered addresses in Kampala) are not eligible for food assistance as refugees who chose to live in urban areas tend to be better off and have better livelihood opportunities and support structures (remittances, family and kinship support, etc) compared to those living in settlements. Refugees who have registered addresses in settlements but who live in towns should have been subject to the same policy but continue to receive food assistance to date due to lack of enforcement on Somali refugees of the requirement for them to present their identification and ration cards and collect their food rations in person<sup>3</sup>.

A majority of the Rwandese refugees have repatriated to Rwanda. Those who remain in settlements (8,341 in Nakivale and 1,399 in Oruchinga) have been receiving 50 percent food ration for a long time. With the intention of encouraging them to repatriate to Rwanda, the Government of Uganda has placed a ban on Rwandese refugees to access and cultivate land since 2009. Despite the ban, the Rwandese refugees continued to cultivate land and support themselves reasonably well. However, with the arrival of new

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<sup>2</sup> Maize is not a staple food among Somali refugees. As a result, Somali refugees tend to sell their maize/maize meal ration and buy rice, spaghetti, milk, sugar, meat, etc which form a major part of their normal diet.

<sup>3</sup> E.g. Somalis registered in Nakivale but living in Kampala with no family members left behind in the settlement.

Congolese and Burundian refugees in Oruchinga as of May 2011, the land that has thus far been cultivated by Rwandese refugees is being given away to the new arrivals. The ban on Rwandese refugees to access and cultivate land did not seem to have the desired effect thus far. If seriously enforced, however, the ban threatens the food security and livelihood of Rwandese refugees. Most of the Rwandese refugees prefer local integration or even staying as refugees in Uganda without food support as long as they are allowed access to land and they are not forcibly repatriated.

#### Recommendations:

- Considering the overall improvement in the food security situation of refugees and the considerable adjustment they have made, food assistance for long-term refugees in West Nile that have been in Uganda for more than five years should be completely phased off by the end of 2012; refugees have to be sensitized in the interim period;
- There is no justification to continue to treat the present category of “LRA-displaced refugees” in West Nile as a special category; their ration should be adjusted according to the foregoing;
- For refugees that have successfully been phased off food assistance previously, their status will remain unchanged;
- For refugees in Southwest who have been in Uganda for more than five years, food assistance ration to this group should be adjusted to 50% by July 2012; refugees have to be sensitized in the interim period;
- For refugees in West Nile who have been in Uganda for more than five years, food assistance ration to this group should be adjusted to 0% by January 2013; refugees have to be sensitized in the interim period;
- For refugees who are arrived in Uganda between four to five years, assistance should continue at 50 percent WFP food ration in West Nile and 60 percent WFP food ration in Southwest; food assistance for this group should be reviewed every year and those that reach more than five years be treated as per the previous recommendations;
- For refugees who have been in Uganda for less than three years, food assistance should continue at 100 percent WFP food ration; food assistance for this group should be reviewed every year and those that reach four years be treated as per previous recommendations;
- Food assistance to Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs) should continue at 100 percent WFP ration; however, the existing process and practice of identification, selection and verification of EVIs (based on well defined and agreed criteria) needs to be reviewed in order to ensure that only extremely vulnerable households without adequate family and social support qualify for food assistance;
- Since EVI situation may change from time-to-time there is a need for annual verification;
- For refugees relocating to Adjumani and Rhino, their current level of food assistance should be maintained in their new location, subject to the provisions reflected in the foregoing recommendations; their situation should be monitored and the need for additional food assistance reviewed accordingly;
- Based on the foregoing, a summary of the revised ration recommendations for refugees living in settlements are presented in the table below:

Criteria	Recommended WFP food ration	Effective date for new ration
EVI (existing criteria to be reviewed and harmonized and annual verification to be conducted)	100%	July 2012
Refugees 3 years or less in Uganda	100%	July 2012
Refugees 4 to 5 years in Uganda (West Nile)	50%	July 2012

Refugees 4 to 5 years in Uganda (Southwest)	60%	July 2012
Refugees more than 5 years in Uganda (West Nile)	0%	January 2013
Refugees more than 5 years in Uganda (Southwest)	50%	July 2012
Refugees that have successfully been phased off food assistance based on the results of previous assessments	0%	Continue with the status quo

- Currently, food assistance is not provided to refugees in urban areas in Uganda; this practice will be maintained;
- All refugee household representatives should be required to appear in person and bring with them proof of identification and WFP ration card;
- Alternative food assistance modalities (cash and vouchers) should be explored and implemented where appropriate;
- Drawing lessons from past and ongoing livelihood projects (including those currently being implemented by Nsamizi and DRC), initiatives aimed at livelihood support should be scaled up in order to promote self-reliance among the refugees;
- While finding a lasting solution to the situation of the Rwandese refugees is highly imperative, in the interim, Government should consider reviewing its decision on land access and cultivation;



### Chapter 3 – Nutrition, Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

This chapter summarizes key findings from the late October/early November 2011, WFP and UNHCR Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods survey of refugee populations in Uganda. Key findings from the JAM field work on water, sanitation, hygiene, health and nutrition are also presented in the sections that follow.

#### 2.1 Nutrition

According to the World Health Organization (WHO, 2000), levels of malnutrition can be categorized as follows:

- Wasting - acceptable: <5%; poor: 5-10%; serious: 10-15%; and critical: >15%
- Underweight - acceptable: <10%; poor: 10-20%; serious: 20-30%; and critical: >30%
- Stunting - acceptable: <20%; poor: 20-30%; serious: 30-40%; and critical: >40%

For refugee settlements surveyed in late October/early November 2011, the rates of global acute malnutrition (GAM) were well within acceptable levels in Southwest whereas it was slightly outside of this range in West Nile (Table 6).

Table 6. Nutrition Survey Results by Settlement Grouping

Categories	West Nile	Southwest	
		Kyaka & Kyangwali	Nakivale & Oruchinga
Wasting/GAM (<-2 weight for height z-score)	5.4% (3.7-7.7)	3.9% (2.0-7.4%)	2.5% (1.4-4.1%)
Severe Wasting/SAM (<-3 weight for height z-score)	1.0% (0.3-1.95%)	1.2% (0.6-2.5%)	0.1% (0.0-0.8%)
Underweight (<-2 weight for age z-score)	7.9% (6.0-10.4%)	9.9% (7.2-13.5%)	8.6% (6.5-11.4%)
Stunting (<-2 height for age z-score)	14.2% (11.7-17.0%)	37.7% (32.8-42.8%)	34.6% (29.4-40.2%)

Data Source: WFP, UNHCR, ACF Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Draft Results, Nov 2011.

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate 95% confidence interval limits.

Levels of underweight are within acceptable levels in all three settlement groupings. However, rates of stunting in Southwest are serious although they are much lower compared to a stunting rate of 49.6 percent for the host population of the southwest region as reported in the 2006 Demographic Health Survey (DHS).

Reported childhood illnesses, two weeks prior to the survey were very high in West Nile and Kyaka and Kyangwali, 85.4 percent and 72.7 percent, respectively. This was mainly due to episodes of malaria and acute respiratory infections (ARI).

Iron deficiency anaemia (IDA) has an impact on the immunity, cognitive function and growth of children and increases the risk of mortality of infants and young children. Rates of anaemia (<11 mmol/dL) in children 6-59 months in West Nile (60.3 percent) and Kyaka and Kyangwali (48.4 percent) were above the severe public health threshold of 40 percent. The rates among children 6-59 months and women of child bearing aged 15-49 years in Nakivale and Oruchinga are below the acceptable threshold. Since 2010, UNHCR has been implementing a special anaemia project called minimum package for implementation of prevention, control and treatment of anaemia targeting both refugees in the settlements as well as urban refugees, especially those living in Kampala.

Measles vaccination was below the national recommended 90 percent coverage levels in Kyaka and Kyangwali, with 83.1 percent of children immunized. Nakivale/Oruchinga was close to the national standard with 89.9 percent of children immunized. In all settlement groupings, Vitamin A supplementation was below the national target coverage of 90 percent.

In southwest settlements, WFP has been supporting moderately malnourished children through the provision of supplementary food (Supplementary Feeding Programme-SFP), including rehabilitation of severely malnourished children that are discharged from Therapeutic Feeding Programmes (TFP).

The criteria for establishing targeted SFPs are based on the need to rehabilitate: (1) large numbers of mild or moderately malnourished individuals (prevalence of 10-15 percent wasting in the population); (2) large numbers of children who will likely become mild or moderately malnourished due to factors like poor food security, high levels of disease (prevalence of wasting between 5-9 percent plus aggravating factors); and (3) those children discharged from existing therapeutic feeding programmes. The main criteria for establishing a therapeutic feeding programme (TFP) is an excess of severe wasting cases that cannot be adequately treated by existing health facilities.

Rates of malnutrition (wasting) among refugees in recent years have been consistently close to or within acceptable levels and do not warrant continuation of robust selective existing feeding programmes but rather integration of treatment and prevention interventions based on community based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM)/Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM). However, considering the high stunting rates, the high prevalence of anaemia among children and mothers, maintaining existing nutrition programme would be beneficial despite the high costs.

At present, most health workers including community health workers (CHWs) have not been adequately trained on CMAM and basic nutrition to carry out regular and routine case detection, referral and management of acute cases. Few health centres in the South West is implementing CMAM, which is not the case in West Nile.

#### Recommendations:

- Considering the high stunting rates, the high prevalence of anaemia among children and mothers, it is recommended that the ongoing SFP and the CSB in the general food distribution ration be maintained;
- Strengthen & intensify health and nutrition education at community level including early case detection & referral for appropriate care;
- Select and train /equip community health worker including CHWs to better address nutrition counselling of mothers during pregnancy, breast feeding and promoting IYCFP practices, including community screening of malnourished children using MUAC;
- Anaemia prevention and treatment project should be strengthened, scaled-up and linked with reproductive health, maternal and child health, and malaria control and prevention programmes in order to improve its effectiveness;

## 2.2 Health

In West Nile, health service delivery has been integrated into and handed over to the national health system whereas in Southwest, health services are being provided by Health Centres run by UNHCR implementing partners with the view to support and compliment the Uganda government's efforts to cope with the large number of refugees living in the area.

#### Issues:

- A substantial proportion of the patients who use health services in and around settlements are nationals. In the absence of adequate complementary budget provision from the Government, UNICEF, etc, health service delivery is sometimes thinly spread;
- Community-based structures in West Nile have become non-functional since hand-over to local government;
- Irregular and sometimes inadequate supply of drugs;
- Inadequate staffing levels are also reported in some health centres;
- Laboratories do not have adequate equipment to conduct basic tests;
- Inadequate distribution of mosquito nets and lack of awareness on proper use;

- Inadequate transport means on ground to conduct referrals and out-reaches (ambulance, motorcycle, bicycles);
- Accommodation for staff in some health centres is inadequate and poor;

Recommendations:

- Improved partnership between UNHCR, OPM, MOH, DHO, UNICEF and others stakeholders is paramount in order to improve delivery of health services to both refugees and nationals where service delivery is handed-over to government or service is accessed by nationals;
- Supply of drugs to health centres should be improved; the current requisition order for medicines should be reviewed based on morbidity patterns, consumption rates;
- Staffing levels should be improved where these are lacking;
- Laboratories should be equipped so that they are able to conduct basic tests;
- There is a need to strengthen community mobilization to promote the utilization of the already distributed long lasting treated mosquito nets in the settlements;
- Transport availability for referrals and out-reach health services should be improved. At the same time, communities should be encouraged to improve the access roads;
- Improve accommodation for health staff where this is lacking or inadequate;
- Need to fence all the health centres with a chain-link fence-Government standards to provide protection/security to the staff and their property and the patients

### 2.3 Water

In all refugee settlements, water facilities are shared between refugees and the nationals living within and around the settlement. For instance, Nakivale Settlement is currently estimated to have 35,000 nationals who comprise about 40 percent of the population benefiting from water facilities established for refugees; while in the West Nile settlements nationals exceed 60 percent of the total population in the settlement catchments area.

Owing to the village-like nature of the refugee settlements in Uganda, the implementation of the UNHCR WASH Programme primarily measures its achievements against the national WASH standard for rural areas; such as the standards relating to maximum walking distance to a water facility being 1km (compared to UNHCR's Standard for camps which is 200m). Nonetheless, UNHCR and the WASH Partners continue to strive to have at least one water point per village in order to improve access.

Currently Nakivale Settlement faces the greatest challenge regarding inadequacy of water quantity, unfavourable groundwater quality and long walking distances now averaging at about 1.5km. With the completion of the 2011 implementation of the High Commissioner's WASH Project, it is expected that more than 80 percent of the communities in the South Western settlements will be within 1km radius of a water facility.

Issues:

- Inadequate water supply in some settlement especially in Nakivale, where 24 villages out of 76 do not have reliable water points within the village boundaries;
- Some health facilities & schools do not have sufficient water supply since the available sources are shared by patients, staff and host community;
- Routine water quality assessment is not conducted by the local governmental partners implementing WASH programme in West Nile;
- Number of latrines are inadequate in many schools;
- Contamination of water source/water shade, sharing of water points with livestock;
- Poor management of water points due to reluctance of both refugees and nationals to pay water user fees when a borehole breaks down;

- There is no or very minimal involvement of the district in the management of WASH programs in settlements. Hence, there is no coordination between the IP/OP and the government/district regarding WASH in the South West;

Recommendations:

Strengthen water quality assessment in all settlements for all water points;

- New technologies/ innovations are needed to deal with the poor groundwater quality in Nakivale.
- Encourage and promote the use of bio-sand filtration for appropriate household water treatment;
- Strengthen water management committees within settlements including a review of existing water user fees;
- Install and regularly maintain rain water harvesting systems in all institutions to supplement the water supply;
- Need for re-fresher training for hand pump mechanics, water user committees and Village Health Teams;
- Improve involvement of and coordination with District/local government in WASH;

## 2.4 Sanitation and Hygiene

The High Commissioner Special WASH Project of 2011 enabled the provision of various hygiene materials to the refugees in the South Western Settlements, including 20-litre drinking water storage Jerry cans, sanitary materials, 5-litre Jerry cans for hand washing, soap for menstrual hygiene support etc.

Issues:

- Poor sanitation coverage and inadequate hygiene promotion activities in settlements;
- Lack of grass or plastic sheeting for roofing latrines is also an issue especially in Nakivale as it affects the utilization and how long latrines stay in good functioning condition; heavy rains sometimes cover the pit or destroy the latrines since most lack proper roofing;
- Scarcity of construction materials especially strong logs and termite infestation have contributed to low latrine coverage in some locations such as Kiryandongo, Kyaka II and the West Nile Settlements;
- Some Clusters in the West Nile do not have adequate tool kits for maintenance of water points by the community based hand-pump mechanics;
- Households latrine coverage is still low especially in the west Nile settlements;
- Some refugee houses do not have functioning dumping pit at household level for proper waste disposal;
- No material support provided to elderly women for personal hygiene with regard to urine incontinence;

Recommendations:

- Mobilize refugee communities so that each Household has a dumping site for proper domestic waste disposal in order to avoid cross-contamination;
- Need for support to community health workers (CHWs) and community based sanitation aid workers;
- Need for improvement of the staffing levels for the sanitation and Hygiene sectors;
- Consider material support to elderly women for urine incontinence;

## **Chapter 4 – Food and Non-Food Items Distribution, Warehousing, Logistics and Roads**

This chapter summarizes key findings related to food and non-food item delivery and distribution, warehousing, logistics and roads within refugee settlements.

### **4.1 Food Distribution**

Food distribution to beneficiaries is done on a monthly basis. WFP delivers the food from its Central Delivery Points (CDPs) in Kampala and Tororo to Extended Delivery Points (EDPs) - central warehouses within settlements, and finally to Final Delivery Points (EDPs) where the actual distribution takes place.

#### **Issues:**

- Although there has been changes in the food security and livelihood condition of refugees, food rations provided by WFP to refugees have not been reviewed and adjusted in a long time;
- Due to pipeline constraints on the part of WFP, there have been several delays in food delivery and distribution although there has been improvement in communicating anticipated delays in food delivery and distribution to stakeholders and beneficiaries;
- There is a challenge in delivering small quantities of food to asylum seekers who join settlements after the monthly distribution; it is costly to do so;
- There are delays in resolving the problem of refugees who have lost their ration cards;
- Non-standard scooping utensils lead to friction among refugees;
- Milling costs have increased recently by up to 25% and are a burden to beneficiaries that receive grain as part of their food ration;
- Refugees requested adequate advance notification and sensitization in case of reductions in food ration or complete phase out;
- Some refugees move/relocate to other zones within the settlement without notifying relevant authorities and they miss out during food distribution in their original place of registration;

#### **Recommendations:**

- WFP food ration to refugees should be reviewed and adjusted as per the recommendations made in Chapter Two above;
- WFP should improve its food pipeline in order to ensure timely delivery and distribution to beneficiaries;
- Food assistance delivery to asylum seekers who join settlements after the monthly distribution should be reviewed and delivery schedules adjusted appropriately per settlement taking into account the number of new arrivals and the rate;
- WFP, UNHCR and OPM should expedite the process of investigating and re-issuing ration cards to refugees who claim to have lost them;
- Food Management Committees should be strengthened in order to address issues of complaints related to unfair distribution due to non-standard scooping utensils, etc;
- Ensure regular food basket monitoring and post distribution monitoring report are shared with the agencies concerned;
- WFP should endeavour to distribute maize meal instead of maize grain and also endeavour to expand the establishment of community-operated hammer mills;
- Refugees should be given 2-3 months advance notification and sensitized before any reduction and/or phase out is implemented; to the extent possible, ration adjustments should also be timed to coincide with the harvest period;
- Refugees should be sensitized to notify relevant authorities when moving to a different location than where they are currently registered;

## 4.2 Non-Food Items (NFI) Distribution

Some of the NFI currently in storage include: plastic sheeting, tents, spades, axes, pangas, slashers, blankets, shoes, jerry cans, mosquito nets, sanitary pads, soap, second-hand clothes, etc. NFI general distribution (tarpaulins, blankets, mosquito nets, saucepans, jerry cans, basins, etc) to refugees is done upon arrival at settlements and in case of emergency such as a house is burnt or household belongings are destroyed by fire. Other NFIs such as soap, sanitary pads, etc are distributed to targeted beneficiaries periodically.

### Issues:

- There is lack of clarity among beneficiaries on the eligibility criteria, entitlement and frequency of distribution of non-food items (who receives what, when);
- Settlement, local and law enforcement authorities should endeavour to deter the sale of food and NFIs while refugees should be sensitised not to sell items distributed to them;
- NFI distribution should be considered for the old case refugees whose NFIs are worn-out or damaged based on needs assessment;
- Mechanisms should be put in place to serve eligible refugees who are absent during NFI distribution;
- Extend support to the elderly in terms of wrapping clothing for sanitary wear

### Recommendations:

- Sensitize beneficiaries and staff on the ground on the eligibility criteria, entitlement and frequency of distribution of non-food items (who receives what, when);
- Settlement, local and law enforcement authorities should endeavour to take a coordinated approach in order to deter the sale of NFIs and intercept and confiscate UNHCR-marked NFIs being traded in shops/markets;
- After serving new arrivals, NFI distribution should give priority to old case refugees whose NFIs are worn-out or damaged;
- Mechanisms should be put in place to serve eligible refugees who are absent during NFI distribution;
- UNHCR, OPM and partners should develop a plan to distribute NFIs that have been in storage for a long time in order to avoid spoilage and also de-congest the stores;

## 4.3 Warehousing

### Issues:

- The condition of both food and non-food warehouses in some settlements requires improvement (insufficient pallets, worn-out rub halls, leaking roof, cracked wall and floor, lack of proper lighting and guard posts, inadequate or collapsed fencing and poor compound surface structure, disused NFIs strewn around warehouse compounds are some of the problems highlighted during the JAM mission);
- Thus far, Oruchinga settlement is supplied with food assistance from the EDP in Nakivale; with the recent influx of more than 5,000 refugees to Oruchinga, there is a need to review the current arrangement;
- Staff working in NFI stores do not have proper protective wear (gloves, facemask, etc);

### Recommendations:

- Existing food and non-food warehouses and compounds should be renovated and improved to a level that meets appropriate quality standards and capacity requirements; priority should be given to warehouse improvements that have a direct bearing on maintaining the quality of food and non-food items stored in them;
- The food store in Oruchinga should be renovated and reactivated as a full-fledged EDP, with commensurate staffing and equipment;
- Protective gear should be provided to staff working in NFI stores;

#### **4.4 Transport, Logistics and Roads**

Issues:

- Capacity of secondary transporters in Nakivale/Oruchiga is inadequate;
- Some of the roads and related infrastructure (culverts, bridges, etc) are in poor condition;
- With the influx of a large number of refugees to Oruchinga and settlement consolidation in Adjumani and Rhino Camp settlements, some of the access roads that lead to newly settled areas within the settlement require opening up;

Recommendations:

- Consider ways of expanding secondary transport capacity for Nakivale/Oruchiga settlements;
- Secondary/feeder roads and community access roads should be maintained through improved coordination between UNHCR, OPM, UNRA and district authorities; priority should be given to roads that are currently affecting the delivery of services to refugees; communities should be encouraged and mobilized to basic maintenance on access roads;
- Access roads that lead to newly settled areas within the settlements need to be graded/or appropriately improved;

## **Chapter 5 – Environment, Shelter and Education**

This chapter summarizes key findings related to environment, shelter and education in and around refugee settlements.

### **5.1 Environment and Shelter**

Issues:

- Loss of vegetation cover (trees) in and around settlements, especially the ones that have been long-established and are still active;
- There has been widespread cutting of wood and firewood for charcoal making and construction material both as a source of income as well as for home use;
- In Southwest, loss of vegetation cover has led to serious shortage of construction materials (poles, grass, etc) for shelter construction for refugees;
- Repeated crop cultivation without fallowing and crop rotation has led to soil degradation;
- The survival rate for trees planted by refugees is low due to termite infestation and destruction by stray animals;
- Shortage of firewood in the vicinity of settlements is forcing refugees to travel longer distances in search of firewood, often leading to conflict with nationals living in the area;
- There has only been limited attempt to expand the use of energy efficient stoves;
- There is a perception that refugees are not allowed to build houses with corrugated iron roofing;
- Some refugee houses in low-lying areas are frequently affected by flooding, especially during the rainy season;
- Some of the refugee houses have leaking roofs due to damages on the plastic sheeting that covers the roof;

Recommendations:

- Refugees should be encouraged to establish and abide by bylaws that regulate community members' activities which degrade the environment;
- Support community tree planting and training on good agronomic practices through training and sensitization;
- Agencies implementing environment conservation related activities should supply refugees with adequate seedlings;
- Alternative technologies that require less wood for the construction of shelter should be explored;
- Additional effort should be exerted to expand the use of locally made energy efficient stoves through community mobilization, sensitization and training;
- Clarify/review policy on shelter construction for refugees so as to enable them to build houses using iron sheets and mud bricks;
- Alternative sites should be sought for refugees who currently have houses in low-lying, flood-prone areas;
- UNHCR and OPM should conduct needs assessment in order to determine distribution of plastic sheets to refugees whose houses have leaking roofs;

### **5.2 Education**

Issues:

- Inadequate and poor conditions of classroom blocks and furniture;
- Inadequate number of latrines in schools;
- Old Edition text books which do not conform to the changes in curriculum;
- Long distance travelled in search of education, especially secondary education;
- Absence of skills training centre and repatriation of the skills training instructors;
- Corporal punishments seem to be rampant in all the schools;



- Language barriers as the language of instruction for lower primary is mother tongue (thematic curriculum); this is as a result of having many national teachers who do not speak language of refugees;
- Limited access to water in schools especially during dry season;
- Inadequate land for expansion of schools in some areas and as a result most schools have no school gardens;
- Land for some schools has not been demarcated and is being encroached by community members;
- Teacher's accommodation remains a major challenge;

Recommendations:

- Additional class rooms should be constructed and provided with adequate furniture, focusing on schools that have major problems;
- Schools should be provided with the text books that are in conformity with the new curriculum;
- Additional schools, including secondary schools should be constructed in areas where refugee students currently have to travel very-long distances in order to access education;
- Skill training centres should be established and additional refugee teachers be trained in the provision of skills training;
- Parent-teacher associations should be established to address issues related to learning, including eliminating the need for corporal punishment in schools;
- Explore ways for addressing the language barrier between teachers and pupils at lower primary classes;
- Improve access to water in schools, including through rain water harvesting;
- Government should consider allocating additional land to schools in order to promote school gardening, play grounds as well as enable expansion of schools when the number of students increases;
- Demarcation should be carried out as soon as feasible for schools that do not yet have demarcated boundaries;
- Additional teacher accommodation should be constructed, giving priority to schools in areas where alternative accommodation is not available for teachers;

## **Chapter 6 – Registration, Verification, Coordination and Durable solutions**

This chapter summarizes key findings related to refugee registration, verification, coordination of activities among partners providing support to refugees and the search for durable solutions.

### **6.1 Registration and Verification**

Issues:

- Asylum seekers sometimes stay in the Reception Centre for a period of between 2 to 6 months without being registered and therefore not given any food assistance. This is because food assistance cannot be given to them until they are registered in ProGres;
- Rejected asylum seekers who have to appeal to REC claim they do not understand the process (whom to appeal to and against whom) especially considering the fact that it is the same REC;
- Asylum seekers who missed REC claim that they missed because REC came when they were not aware and some had gone to look for food among nationals;
- The refugee status determination process takes a long time, sometimes years;
- The Reception Centre for Asylum seekers in Nakivale is in extremely poor condition (congestion, leaking roof, muddy floor, no separate place for cooking, unsanitary latrine conditions);
- Asylum seekers who come with no documents from their countries of origin tend to be ignored;
- Some refugees (Congolese) who returned to DRC for a brief period due to several reasons (which range from funerals, visiting sick people to picking family members) were put on hold in ProGres making it difficult to access food aid since they do not appear on the food log;
- There have been cases where family attestations have been misplaced by settlement authorities, leading to refugees being unable to access support, including food;
- Verification and profiling exercise is to be carried out next year (around April 2012);

Recommendations:

- Registration of asylum seekers at Reception Centres and relocating them to settlements should be expedited in order to decongest the centres and ensure that asylum seekers will be able to access the necessary support, including food assistance;
- The registration process for asylum seekers without documents and the appeal process within REC should be clarified for asylum seekers;
- The Reception Centre in Nakivale needs to be renovated and equipped to a standard that is commensurate with its intended purpose;
- UNHCR should expedite the investigation of Congolese refugees who have been put on hold so that those that have been verified can continue to access food and other assistance;
- Mechanisms should be put in place to expedite the replacement of lost family attestation documents;
- Refugees should be adequately sensitized in advance of the planned verification in April 2012 in order to avoid lengthy appeal processes for those who are absent during the verification exercise;

### **6.2 Coordination**

Issues:

- Coordination between UNHCR, OPM, WFP and partners both at Kampala, field and settlement level is not strong and participation of implementing partners in coordination meetings particularly at Kampala level is inadequate ;
- Population statistics for nationals in and around settlements are not clear and it makes planning of community services very difficult;

Recommendations:

- UNHCR, OPM, WFP and IPs should hold quarterly coordination meetings at Kampala level and monthly coordination meetings at field and settlement level in order to improve effective programme implementation;
- Until 2012 Population Census data becomes available, RDO should take the responsibility for compiling accurate population statistics for nationals and sharing these with partners;

### 6.3 Durable Solutions

A majority of Sudanese refugees have repatriated to South Sudan in recent years. Kenyan refugees in Kiryandongo are not willing to repatriate to their country of origin for fear of persecution. Voluntary repatriation of Rwandese refugees remains a challenge. The current situation in DR Congo also does not lend itself to voluntary repatriation of refugees in the foreseeable future.

Issues:

- The Rwandan refugees and Burundian asylum seekers do not want to return to their countries of origin due to several reasons which include;
  - Only the *Tutsis* are considered to have been killed during the genocide although in reality many *Hutus* were also killed;
  - The *Ibuka* (memorial) only recognises the *Tutsis*, yet the *Hutus* also claim their people were killed.
  - Many Rwandans still have property restitution problems which usually end up being politicised and end up in people being labelled as either *genocidaires* or anti-government, which leads them to flee;
  - The Rwandans indicated that they prefer local integration as a durable solution for them;
  - Rwandan refugees who participated in focus group discussions indicated that 95% of all the Rwandans who left Nakivale came back to Uganda and are living among the nationals as Ugandans or registered as Congolese refugees; they claim that a large proportion of the 5% that remained in Rwanda were either arrested and are detained in various prisons;

Recommendations:

- Government should consider local integration of long-term refugees while in the short-term ensuring them continued access to cultivable land in order help support themselves;

## **Chapter 7 – Conclusions and Way Forward**

Several advances have been made in the provision of support to refugees following the 2009 JAM based on follow-up actions that have been taken by the Government/OPM, WFP and UNHCR through the implementation of their Joint Action Plan. However, as highlighted in the previous Chapters drawn from the key findings of the 2011 JAM, several challenges remain to be tackled.

Some of the challenges are of a policy nature and require further discussion and deliberation with policy makers both within the Government as well as UNHCR and WFP. Others are of operational nature and can be addressed through adequate resource mobilization, allocation and improved coordination among the key stakeholders. There are still a number of challenges that could be reasonably addressed as part of regular day to day activities of individual institutions and organizations.

While all three stakeholders should ideally endeavour to address all the issues identified in the 2011 JAM, objective reality both in terms of funding prospects and implementation capacity require that due consideration and priority is given to the most pressing issues and needs of the refugees.

The key recommendations from the JAM should be used to develop the Joint (WFP, UNHCR and OPM) Action Plan for 2012-2013 in late January/early February 2012. The JAM will also help guide review and design/adjustment of refugee-related programme activities for the three institutions and their partners.

## Annex I

### Terms of Reference 2011 Uganda Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) (21 November-10 December 2011)

#### 1. Background

Uganda currently hosts over 156,000 refugees:

Nationality	Number of refugees	% of Total
Congo (DRC)	82,828	52.9
Sudan	19,911	12.7
Somalia	19,548	12.5
Rwanda	16,217	10.4
Burundi	7,794	5.0
Eritrea	6,387	4.1
Ethiopia	2,056	1.3
Kenya	1,593	1.0
Other (from 24 countries)	143	0.1
Total	156,477	100

Data Source: UNHCR, Nov 2011

Nearly 41,000 (or 26 %) of the refugees live in Kampala. The rest of the refugees are spread across settlements in West Nile and Southwest of the Country. The refugees in settlements currently receive food and non-food support.

In accordance with the Global agreement between WFP and UNHCR, a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) was carried out in November 2009. Subsequently, a Joint Action Plan was developed and is currently being implemented by OPM, UNHCR and WFP on the basis of the 2009 JAM recommendations in collaboration with partners (GIZ, AHA, AAHI, NRC, AIRD and NSAMIZI).

As JAMs are normally conducted every two years, another JAM is proposed to be carried out from 21 November to 10 December 2011 in order to assess current and future food assistance and livelihood support (self-reliance) needs, taking into account progress made towards the implementation of the 2010 Joint Action Plan<sup>4</sup> and recommend appropriate interventions and follow up actions for 2012-2013.

Prior to the JAM, the assessment teams will review available information from WFP, UNHCR, OPM and other sources with respect to the main issues highlighted under the five thematic areas. Thematic group leaders are expected to synthesize available information so that the focus of the field work would be to fill gaps in existing information and/or collect additional information when already available information is inconclusive /inconsistent.

#### 2. Mission Objective

The 2011 OPM/WFP/UNHCR JAM is aimed at defining the types of food assistance and livelihood support (assistance for self-reliance) required during the next 12-24 months and the number of people to be assisted and supported.

Specifically the JAM will review the following:

##### (1) Food Security and Livelihoods

<sup>4</sup> As part of the preparation for the UNHCR, WFP and OPM will review progress made towards implementation of the recommendations made during the 2010 Joint Action Plan (i.e. recommendations of the 2009 JAM).

- Review the food and non-food supply situation of the refugee population;
- Assess the food security and future food and non-food requirements taking into account population projections, sustainability and support activities undertaken by the refugees; including refugees' access to alternative food and income sources and identify coping mechanisms, their effectiveness and levels of food dependency;
- Review the composition of current food rations being provided to refugees in the various settlements and recommend required adjustments (if any) to reflect the food security status and resilience of newly arrived/recent refugees (two years or less) and refugees that have been in settlements for long (two to five years) and longer time periods (more than five years), as much as possible suggesting harmonized rations for ease of implementation and clarity among beneficiaries;
- Review existing targeting criteria for assisting vulnerable households/individuals
- Review methods of food processing including milling and cooking habits, as well as the acceptability of food being provided and explore the reasons why certain commodities are being sold;
- Review ongoing livelihood support interventions and make recommendations to improve their effectiveness; and
- Explore the acceptability and feasibility of alternative interventions such as cash vouchers etc;

## **(2) Logistics, Warehousing, Roads and Non-Food Items (NFIs)**

- Review management of GFD and NFIs with emphasis on the amounts, frequency and distribution modalities, equipments used and monitoring systems; involvement of key stakeholders in the monitoring of distributions;
- Review warehouse management, capacity and status of NFIs and food, rehabilitation and renovation of the stores;
- Review the current transport services in terms of trucking capacity and availability for food and non food items; identify gaps and make recommendations for improvement;
- Review delivery of food and NFIs from the CDPs, EDPs to the FDPs; considering timeliness, quantities planned verses actual;
- Assess the status of roads/bridges especially the feeder roads in the settlements taking into consideration the rainy season and various road users and how these affect the delivery of services in the settlements; and
- Assess status of refugee shelter in the settlements;

## **(3) Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, Health and Nutrition**

- Review water, sanitation and hygiene practices as well as environmental health related issues as they relate to the nutrition and health of refugees; at household and community level;
- Review the health and nutritional status of the refugees in the settlements, identifying gaps and recommending ways and means to cover such gaps;
- Review programmes that provide supplementary food to support malnourished people, paying particular attention to community screening and referral processes;
- Review other programmes affecting health and nutrition, particularly malaria, safe motherhood, iron deficiency, anaemia, HIV/AIDS;

## **(4) Environment, Shelter and Education**

- Review access to household fuel for cooking, noting issues of environmental degradation of surrounding areas due to deforestation, collection of firewood for sale or burning charcoal, as well as possible tensions arising with host communities should these activities be widespread;
- Review ongoing interventions related to conservation and environmental protection
- Service provision with consideration of gender and protection issues, with focus on indicators such as; factors affecting enrolment, attendance, retention and how they can be addressed;

**(5) Refugee registration, numbers, new arrivals and durable solutions, coordination (policy issues)**

- Review and document the refugee registration and verification process and highlight any gaps identified that hinder the effectiveness of programme interventions;
- Assess refugee relations with host communities (initiatives to ensure employment possibilities, more land, more sustainable inputs, etc);
- Assess refugee protection concerns related to camp life, host communities and the delivery of services and support interventions; and
- Review and document sustainable options for refugees, including voluntary return and integration in host communities;

The methodology to be used for the assessment is outlined below.

**3. Mission and Team Composition**

The Mission will be composed of and jointly led by relevant technical staff of Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP). Technical staff from partner organizations (GIZ, AHA, AAHI, NRC, AIRD and NSAMIZI) will be invited to join the assessment. Donor representatives will also be invited to join the mission as observers.

The Mission will be composed of two teams with six core members each.

**4. Briefing and Reporting**

The Mission will hold briefing and debriefing with relevant stakeholders (government representatives, WFP, UNHCR, local government, partners and donors) in Kampala and at field level both prior to the start and at the end of the Mission.

The mission will produce a report depicting the areas addressed in the terms of reference and provide the basis for the development of an OPM/UNHCR/WFP Joint Action Plan for 2012-2013<sup>5</sup>. The consolidated draft report will be submitted to OPM, WFP and UNHCR for review and feedback. Based on comments, the mission will then prepare a final report.

**5. JAM Core Team Composition**

Function/Responsibility	Team One	Team Two
Team Leader	1 Team Leader	1 Team Leader
1. Food security and livelihoods	1 Thematic group leader	1 Thematic group leader
2. Logistics, warehousing, roads & NFIs	1 Thematic group leader	1 Thematic group leader
3. Water, sanitation, hygiene, health and nutrition	1 Thematic group leader	1 Thematic group leader
4. Environment, shelter and education	1 Thematic group leader	1 Thematic group leader
5. Refugee registration, numbers, new arrivals and durable solutions, coordination	1 Thematic group leader	1 Thematic group leader
TOTAL	6	6

While the core assessment teams will be those listed above, at field level, the Mission will be joined by local authorities, field staff of OPM, WFP, UNHCR, partners, donor representatives as well as refugee leaders at various stages of the assessment as needed. Representatives from partner organizations and donors are

<sup>5</sup> For WFP, the findings of the JAM will form the basis for the design and implementation of a new PRRO.

expected to organize their own transport and travel expenses for the Mission while ensuring close coordination with the core teams.

The Mission will require 4 field/4WD vehicles for the duration of the assessment (two per team).

## 6. Tentative Schedule for the 2011 JAM Mission

Dates	Itinerary
10 Nov	Finalization of TOR for the 2011 JAM
14 Nov	Identification and confirmation of Mission participants
14-18 Nov	Finalization of logistical preparation for field mission
17 Nov	Training for Mission participants (including a review of 2009 JAM recommendations), JAM Briefing for Stakeholders in Kampala (including presentation of preliminary findings from the 2011 Food Security and Nutrition Assessment of Refugees)
21-25 Nov	Field work (West Nile)
28 Nov - 2 Dec	Preparation of the draft 2011 JAM report (West Nile part) – in Kampala
5-10 Dec	Field work (Southwest); final day is for draft report preparation
12-14 Dec	Preparation of the consolidated draft 2011 JAM report
15-16 Dec	Review of the draft report by OPM, WFP and UNHCR
19 Dec	JAM debriefing for Stakeholders in Kampala
20-23 Dec	Finalization of the report

## 7. Assessment Methodology

Prior to the JAM, the assessment teams will review available information from WFP, UNHCR, OPM and other sources with respect to the main issues highlighted under the five thematic areas. Thematic group leaders are expected to synthesize available information so that the focus of the field work would be to fill gaps in existing information and/or collect additional information when already available information is inconclusive /inconsistent.

Within the framework outlined above, assessment teams should collect and compile information through a combination of:

- Reviewing and analysing available reports on (i) the numbers and the situation of the refugees in different locations and any recent movements, (ii) their backgrounds, skills and capacities, (iii) the effectiveness and efficiency of current food and related assistance programmes, (iv) the current food security, health and nutrition situation and factors influencing health and nutritional status, including review of preliminary results from the 2011 Refugee Food Security and Nutrition Surveys (v) natural resource potential, particularly fuel-wood, (vi) security, protection and gender concerns
- Meetings with relevant national, regional and local authorities, NGOs and other organizations working with the refugees in food security and livelihoods programmes (including self-reliance)
- To the extent possible, visits to all, or a representative sample of, refugee settlements for:
  - meetings with site managers, the personnel responsible for food, health, water, sanitation and community services, and with refugee leaders and representatives involved in the implementation of food and nutrition-related programmes;
  - meetings/focus group discussions with groups of refugees – men, women and young people/adolescents –representing distinct socio-economic subgroups identified within the population;
  - discussions with refugees engaged in self-reliance activities;
  - inspection of general conditions at the site, in household or communal shelters, in cooking areas, around water sources, in toilets/defecation areas, in storage areas on or near the site;



- observation of food and water availability and cooking arrangements in a sample of households, and informal discussions with women, men and children in the household;
- observation of food distribution operations, selective feeding programmes operations and self-reliance activities;
- visits to clinics, schools and other community services; discussions with health workers, teachers and community service workers;
- observation in markets within the settlement and in the vicinity, and discussions with traders as needed;
- Meetings with local community leaders, health officials, public health workers, agricultural extension officers, market traders.
- Visits to warehouses and key locations in supply and logistics chain, and other facilities that could be used: discussions with managers/traders; observation of operations; inspection of facilities, the condition of food stocks, and records;

Before leaving each location/area, discussion should be held with the local authority, local leaders, major NGOs and refugee leaders, concerning the team's observations and tentative conclusions concerning immediate food and related needs, and recommendations for action (including targeting and distribution mechanisms).

Analysis by assessment teams should:

- Document the progress of actions taken to implement the recommendations of the 2009 JAM recommendation and its related Joint Plan of Action, including the reasons for lack of progress; Identify any aspects on which there are disagreements on matters of fact or on the interpretation of available data, check the plausibility of data and try to resolve discrepancies or differences of interpretation;
- Determine whether current targeting and distribution arrangements succeed in providing assistance to different groups of refugees according to need, and whether there are alternative methods that could be more effective and efficient;
- Determine the extent to which food rations distributed have enabled refugees to meet part or all of their nutritional requirements and what the effects have been of any failure to deliver the planned rations while taking into account refugees' access to food from other sources (own production, purchase from the market using income earned through livelihood activities);
- Determine the extent to which the refugees, or different groups among them, are able to meet the food needs of their families and how the level of self-reliance can be expected to change during the next 12-24 months, whether there are any possibilities for increasing the refugee's self-reliance and what measures and inputs would be required;
- Identify the ways in which the refugees access to sufficient appropriate food can be assured during the next 12-24 months and, where there are alternatives, the pros, cons and implications of each; Identify factors that assure or inhibit the receipt of food rations by vulnerable/at risk individuals, and measures that could reduce inhibiting factors;
- Identify factors contributing to or inhibiting the effective and efficient use of available food, and measures that could reduce inhibiting factors;
- Identify factors that could be contributing to any observed malnutrition, and possible measures to address those factors;
- Identify factors contributing to or inhibiting the effectiveness of supplementary and therapeutic feeding activities, and measures that could reduce inhibiting factors;
- Determine the effectiveness and efficiency of logistic arrangements and the level of losses in the supply chain, and identify ways of increasing efficiency, reducing losses and overcoming any logistic constraints;

- Assess the usefulness and relevance of indicators used for monitoring and, if needed, propose revised indicators of the food situation and related concerns that should be monitored in future;

## **8. Reporting**

The main output of the Mission will be a concise report that:

- summarizes the findings and analysis, specifying any uncertainties due to data limitations; highlights the changes that have occurred in the general situation since the last joint assessment/review;
- describes the extent to which previous recommendations have been implemented, the outcomes of those actions and/or the reasons for no action;
- analyses the particular problematic issues identified in the TOR, and any that may have been identified during the review/re-assessment process, and proposes solutions;
- describes the prospects for durable solutions and the probable scenarios for the next 12-24 months, and proposes (i) a set of core planning assumptions and (ii) the contingencies for which specific contingency plans should be prepared;
- presents the pros, cons and implications of various possible measures and assistance interventions that could improve the food security and self-reliance of the refugees, address any problems of malnutrition and contribute towards durable solutions, in the next 12-24 months;
- highlights any inter-dependence between food aid and non-food interventions;
- presents similar information concerning any measures needed to protect or enhance the food security and nutritional status of the local host populations;
- demonstrates (where appropriate) how food aid and the manner in which food aid is distributed, together with complementary non-food measures, can also contribute to protection and other objectives;
- describes any logistic constraints and proposes measures to increase capacity and efficiency, where possible, and provides cost estimates for those measures;
- provides, in light of all the above, recommendations for specific objectives and a strategic plan for food security and self-reliance for the next 12-24 months, and the corresponding actions to be taken by the government, WFP, UNHCR and other partners;
- specifies for food assistance:
  - a planning figure for the number of persons to be provided with specific levels of food assistance during the next 12-24 months, and appropriate targeting mechanisms;
  - the types of food required and rations for different groups,
  - the related assistance (e.g. utensils, water containers, cooking fuel, etc.) necessary to ensure that the food supplied can be efficiently used by the refugees;

Before finalizing the report, the provisional conclusions and recommendations should be presented to the host Government, other concerned UN-agencies, the major donors and key NGOs in a specially-convened wrap-up meeting, in order to benefit from last-minute contributions and with a view to securing the endorsement of all these parties and their support for the recommendations, if possible.

## Annex II

### List of JAM Participants

#### Core JAM Team

Daniel Molla	WFP Kampala	Samanya Slyvia	OPM Kampala
Gimono Catherine	WFP Kampala	Sarah Ngolombi	MOH Kampala
Nabuzale Beatrice	WFP Kampala	Kevin Tsatsiyo	UNHCR Kampala
Anyanzo Kenneth	WFP Kampala	Byaruhanga Emily	UNHCR Kampala
Bafaki Charles	OPM Kampala	Bihagire Didan Akiki	UNHCR Kampala
Helen Asibo	OPM Kampala	Mawadri Michael	UNHCR Kampala
Magezi Paul	OPM Kampala	Mwebesa Juliet	UNHCR Kampala
Okaimo Robert	OPM Kampala	Nuwamanya Abel	UNHCR Kampala

#### Other JAM Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Wadri Henry	ADLG	David Mugenyi	OPM
Titre Robert	ADLG-CAO	Chandia Johnson	OPM Kyaka
Martin J. Gwokto	ADLG-DCAO	Muwonge George	OPM
Neri Ogen	ADLG-DHO	Monica Mugisha	OPM Kyagwali
Onziru Zakai	ADLG-Forestry	Basikania Armitage	OPM kyaka
Adroa David	ADLG-Works	Mudathir Doka	UNHCR Pakelle
Madrama Francis	DRC Arua	Opoka Johnson	UNHCR Pakelle
Peter Okot	DRC Arua	Atwine Immaculate	UNHCR Pakelle
Magezi Dismas	OPM Kyagwali	Passi Simon	UNHCR Pakelle
Andama K. Abdu	OPM Arua	Brewah Charlie	UNHCR Pakelle
Arianaitwe John	OPM Arua	Madelena Hogg	UNHCR Arua
Kamuza Julius	OPM Arua	Salome Ayukuru	UNHCR Arua
Kusasira Darlson	OPM Arua	Pross Katuura	UNHCR Mbarara
Mugabe Stephen	OPM Oruchinga	Kofi Dwomo	UNHCR Mbarara
Kamara Yellow	OPM-Nakivale	Morshed Anywar	UNHCR Mbarara
Byaruhanga Godfrey	OPM Nakivale	Prasad Rasal	UNHCR Mbarara
Omondi Walter	OPM Mbarara	Bataringaya Henry	UNHCR Mbarara
Joseph Agotre	OPM Adjumani	Peter Emuriat	UNHCR-Hoima
David Mugenyi	OPM Adjumani	Kizito Charles	UNHCR Mbarara
Okot Johnson	OPM	Ruza Olga Nora	UNHCR Hoima
Mugabe Leo Assimwe	OPM Kyagwali	Amos Mwesigye	WFP Kampala
Monica Mugisha	OPM Kyagwali	Johnson Mbogha	WFP Mbarara
Tuhwezize Francis	OPM Kyagwali	Charles Okwakol	WFP Mbarara
Mugabe Stephen	OPM Oruchinga	Juma Afidra	WFP Mbarara
Adam Shamilal	OPM Oruchinga	Hadijah Nakayiza	WFP Arua
Mabisi Joseph	OPM Kyaka	Juma Repent	RWC-Imvepi

Ariye Jenifer	RWC- Imvepi
Manyon Jacob	RWC- Imvepi
Broputo Stephen	RWC- Rhino
Martin Wafula	RWC- Rhino
Mary Martin	RWC-Imvepi
Guma Emmanuel	RWC-Rhino
Tehiza Mwamagizi	RWCIII-Kyagwali
Kabugo Lukambo	RWC III Kyaka
Mubabura Zamule	RWC III Kyaka
Benson Lokele	RCWIII Kyagwali
Zawadi Gahima	RCWIII Kyagwali
Espramce Ngoba	RCWIII Kyagwali
Munyambabali Jidedio	C/M RWCIII Kyagwali
Richard Gisamabagobo	C/M RWCIII Kyagwali
Hategeka Jean Lcaude	/M RWCIII Kyagwali
Jimmy Hitimana	RCWIII Kyagwali
Nzabonimpa Samuel	RCWIII Kyagwali
Okeny Jackson	RCWIII Kyagwali
Akut James	AAH-I
Jacob Angulya	AAH-I
Anyidi Nobert	AAH-I
Jackie Kitenferal	AAH-I
Muhuroa Mary	AAH-I
Kebirungi James	AAH-I
Magesa Erisa	AAH-I
Mary Muhuruzi	AAH-I
Tino Mary Gorreti	SA Kyaka
Timtim Adolfo	Nsamizi
Obbo Raphael	Nsamizi
Adul MA	Nsamizi
Jimmy maguru	Nsamizi

Kataama Clement	GIZ Nakivale
Adaha Million	GIZ
Muhumuza Abel	GIZ Nakivale
Namyalo Safinah	GIZ Nakivale
David Bwire	GIZ Kyaka
Benjamin Kawa Abooki	GIZ
Teddy Babirye	GIZ
Muthgazi Richard	GIZ Kyaka
Mawa S. Christopher	GIZ Kyaka
Namiko Briget	GIZ Kyaka
Okedi Thomas	GIZ Kyaka
Kintu Fred	GIZ Kyaka
Dr. Ntege Arnold	GIZ Kyaka
Orikiriza Satrus	Red Cross Mbarara
Jennifer Flavia Atugonza	NRC
Odokorach Michael	NRC Mbarara
Okello Ben	NRC
Atugonza Jennifer Flavia	NRC Kyaka
Odonkare Charles	NRC Kyaka
Phillip Adriko	FRC Kyaka
Adriko Filiam	FRC
Kobuyangye Olivious	FRC
Walendu Innocent	AIRD
Innocent Walendu	AIRD
Dr. Omora Christopher	MTI Mbarara
Kyalikoba Rachael	MTI Mbarara
DR. Erumuka Patrick	AHA Nakivale
Norman Vincent	FIDA international
Annie Stephanie Gacukuzi	US Embassy BPRM

## Annex III

### Map Showing Current Number and Location of Refugees in Uganda

