

Working Group on Energy and Environment for
Refugee and Host Population Empowerment
WorkGrEEen 4 ReHoPE

Monthly National Coordination Platform

MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2019

09:00 – 12:30

CARE BOARD ROOM

CO-CHAIRS	John Paul Magezi, Ranya Sherif
NOTE TAKER	Christopher Tusiime

Attendees

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Joseph Jjagwe		
Ryan Lee	ACE	ryan@ace.co.k
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Agenda topics

- o Opening Prayers
- o Introductions and Remarks from the Co-Chairs (5 Min)
- o Review of Last Minutes and Actions - (10 min)
- o Sector response plans
- o Feedback on fact sheet and Activityinfo status
- o VENE update
- o CBI Strategy for E&E
- o Uganda Water & Environment Week Planning –MWE (30 min)
- o Presentations of Concept Notes (5 minutes each)
 - a. The Hive
 - b. ACE
- o AOB (10 min)

REMARKS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Prayer was led by Annet Kandole from CARE International o Suggestions on how to improve the working group are welcome as we get close to the end of the year. o Global refugee forum will take place in December o Coordination meeting at UNHCR – Welcoming new entrants in the refugee operations o Appreciated partners for their efforts in the serving the refugees <p>Ranya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Appreciation to DRC for hosting the previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for enhanced coordination and communication with the field to ensure two-way information at all levels. o Any other agenda items or questions/comments? Agenda was adopted for the meeting. 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Have a committee in place to support in developing a communication strategy o New vision is willing to support as their CSR o Adapt the UNHCR template of success story o Sustainable energy refugee response plan o Fact sheet o Market and health safety aspects of the plastic recycling innovation plot of CARE o DRC concept on permaculture o How to track the number of trees planted and their survival rate? Site –species plan should be shared widely. o MWE is planning a national tree planting day with a target of planting 45 million trees –Partners in the refugee operations should plan for refugees as well 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Member to share their WHATAPP numbers – Link was shared to allow member add themselves	Ranya Sherif	Complete
RGF to make a presentation on the concept with DCA in the next meeting	Sarah Basemera	November
CARE to share the link to access the call for proposal for innovation challenges. Work offline with UNHCR and OPM on the details of the call before its launch.	Annet Kandole	October 18 th
Partners interested in visiting Coca cola plastic recycling plant in Kampala should register with Ranya	Ranya Sherif	TBD
Partners involved in nursery management should be potting as of now in order prepare well for the coming rainy season.	All to note	
Provide update on the tools by NFA to be used by partners in tracking tree survival rate	Emmanuel Ekakoro	
Field teams to liaise closely with DFS and Regional Forest Officers on the tree species to be planted in specific areas.	All to note	

RESPONSE PLANS

DISCUSSION

- Quick recap on the CRRF: CRRF was adopted in September 2016 with the NY Declaration on Refugees and Migrants; Uganda was the first country to pilot the CRRF and remains at the forefront of implementing this new approach, focusing on longer-term development planning, integrate refugees into national service delivery systems under the leadership of the respective Ministry, while addressing the urgent/immediate needs of refugees and host communities.
- To advance this approach, a High-Level CRRF Steering Group, co-chaired at ministerial level by OPM and MoLG, was established in October 2018; Representation includes: Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Government, Refugee-hosting districts, refugees (through the Refugee Engagement Forum), development and humanitarian donors, financial institutions, private sector, INGOs (represented by Country Director DRC), NGOs (represented by Country Director CAFOMI), Uganda Red Cross Society
- In line with Uganda's National Action Plan on the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees, the CRRF Steering Group identified the following priority areas and comprehensive sector response plans were/are being developed (by the respective Ministry in partnership with development and humanitarian partners): Education, Water and Environment, Energy, Jobs and Livelihoods and Health
- On Response Plans
 - Water and Environment sector response plan for refugees and host communities was endorsed during the 8th CRRF Steering Group meeting and further discussed during the recent SWG meeting; it will be finalized and launched soon
 - Ministry of Energy is the newest member of the CRRF SG; the Ministry is taking the lead in developing the sustainable energy response plan; consultations with energy partners will take place, importantly with the WorkGrEEen; MEMD aims to have an outline ready before the Global Refugee Forum
- 8th CRRF Steering Group meeting took place in Hoima (3 Oct) with a field visit to Kikuube District and Kyangwali Refugee Settlement (2 Oct)

Field visit

- OPM thanked partners who engaged in the field visit
- **CRRF Steering Group adopted the following recommendations from the field visit**
 - Environmental degradation was noted with concern. To address environmental degradation, innovations to produce alternative energy/fuel such as briquettes and energy saving cooking stoves need to be scaled up across refugee-hosting districts. MEMD is requested to identify and suggest initiatives to promote alternative sources of energy in the upcoming Sustainable Energy Response Plan.
 - Tree planting/growing projects/initiatives shall be expanded across refugee-hosting districts;
 - Establishment of buffer zones to prevent further forest loss shall be further explored; and
 - Coordination between OPM, including the Settlement Commandant, and NFA shall be further strengthened.
 - All Partners engaging in tree planting/growing are requested to
 - Implement the Government's policy directive regarding tree planting and environmental restoration;
 - Work closely with NFA and the DLG throughout the project cycle including during the identification of tree species;
 - Put in place management and maintenance plans for all tree growing and tree nursery sites.
 - NFA is urged to
 - Strengthen its presence in refugee-hosting districts to increase sensitization, surveillance and policing;
 - Consider establishing tree nurseries in refugee-hosting districts in partnership with District Local Governments and Partners, including in Kyangwali Refugee Settlement in Kikuube District, to ensure a Government-led and partnership approach to prevention and response to environmental degradation.
 - The feasibility and economic viability of solid waste management plants need to be further established, including through benchmarking with existing plants (such as in Parolinya Refugee Settlement). CRRF Secretariat will follow up and an update will be provided at the next CRRF Steering Group meeting.

Global refugee Forum (GRF)

- As anticipated in the Global Compact on Refugees, the first GRF will take place in Geneva on 17-18 December 2019
- GRF is a priority for Uganda: GoU (OPM/MoFA) together with UNHCR developed a concept note to leverage the GRF for Uganda's refugee response; GoU developed pledges including on environment; high-level national consultation meeting is planned to take place at the end of October to explore possibility to align donor pledges

with GoU pledges; Uganda will participate in the Forum with high-level delegation including Minister Onek, Minister from Ministry of Water and Environment, Minister of Health etc

- To raise awareness about Uganda's lead role in implementing the Global Compact on Refugees/CRRF, the GoU has submitted good practices from Uganda; all partners are requested to submit good practices (template will be shared)

DACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Circulate read out and action points from the 8 th CRRF Steering Group meeting	CRRF Secretariat	13 November
Circulate the ToR for the task team for the sustainable energy response plan and the ToR/road map for the development of the plan	UNHCR/Ranya Sherif	13 November
The final Water and Environment sector plan will be shared soon after input from CRRF SG / PS MWE is incorporated.	CRRF Secretariat /UNHCR/Ranya Sherif	13 November
Share template for good practices for GRF with all partners	CRRF Secretariat / UNHCR	13 November
Partners to submit good practice template to give Uganda good visibility at the first Global Refugee Forum	All	13 November
All partners organizing side events/spotlight sessions during the GRF should communicate in advance	All	13 November

FEEDBACK ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY DASHBOARD

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Shared quarterly based on the partner reporting o UNHCR is in the process of updating settlement site plans o Data submission consultation meeting was held at UNHCR but only 2 partners attended 		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Technical people need to be trained as well to easy reporting and improve on the accuracy	UNHCR	
Bilateral discussions before reporting should be explored more	All	
All partners should expedite reporting as the deadline has passed	All	

Presentations –The hive, ACE.

Discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The HIVE currently working in Karamoja, West Nile and Western Uganda o Undertakes beekeeping as an environment friendly enterprise o It's an enterprise that is friendly with every one young, old, vulnerable and refugees as well <p>Reactions Relationship between The Hive and TUNADO? The Hive is a member Economics of beekeeping The risks involved in Beekeeping especially in the refugee settlement. This entirely depends on how the farmers have been trained.</p> <p>ACE African Clean Energy –The ACE 1 Hybrid Cook stove 50-70% More efficient than traditional stove Pay as you go model</p> <p>Reactions Do you have different sizes of stoves? Yes, currently but they working on modifying to manufacture bigger sizes What type of energy do they use? Payment plans and any innovations to reduce the cost? We hope that when we set up a factory the cost will go down Sustainability –Have you trained local artisans in case it breaks down? Plans to have locals trained in the maintenance are under way. The stoves are currently being imported but we working on setting up a factory in Uganda</p>

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline

CBI Strategy

DISCUSSION

Recommended uses of cash-based interventions for domestic energy needs and environment

Modality	Application	Uganda E&E Sector
Unconditional cash grants	Cash transfer for minimum basic needs that include the cost of utilities, fuel, etc. These can include cost of arrears.	<i>Not recommended until sustainable energy supply chains are well established, regulate and enforced</i>
Vouchers	These can be exchanged or redeemed for fuel, fuel-savings stoves, solar lamps, etc.	<i>Recommended for household energy access; currently being piloted in the Urban Project</i>
Cash for work	These can be used for labour in natural resource management, soil and water conservation, reforestation, etc.	<i>Recommended and In Progress for environmental restoration and fabrication of energy-saving equipment</i>

Key areas of concern include:

- Lack of beneficiary financial literacy
- Increased purchasing power for charcoal and unsustainable firewood
- Lack of long-term financing for tree maintenance
- Lack of existing supply chains for quality products for lighting and sustainable fuel
- Other potential risks and impacts are articulated in Annex 1 and 2.

Key impacts include:

- Increased access to energy for basic needs
- Support for targeted vulnerable beneficiaries
- Stimulating a market-based approach towards self-reliance
- Income generation for local vendors
- Incentives to protect and restore the environment

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Partners to track and report on CBI approaches used in E&E interventions	All to note	

TOUR DE TABLE

DISCUSSION

WFP

- Updating country strategy to include Environment & Climate Change

CARITAS

- Planning to plant trees along the river belt in Bidi Bidi
- Got funding from CARITAS to provide energy saving stoves to 100 HH
- Seeking tax exemption for the solar cooker in order to reduce costs
- Preparations for the tree nursery should start now.
- ICRAF to support in providing information on nursery preparations at the centre

Commented [CT1]: I missed out some partners here.

CARE

- Partners should take advantage of the UNHCR/NFA partnership to access seed/nursery inputs
- Secured funding from EUTF to enhance emergency preparedness in Kikuube
- CAMP+ project will be launched in November 2019

RGF

- Active in Bidi Bidi linking quality products to communities
- Participating in the kampala Innovation week
- 3 energy kiosks are open (Bakuli and Makindye) selling refugee-made cooking baskets, stoves, briquettes

CAFOMI

- Aquaponics pilot in Adjumani

MERCYCORPS

- Supporting the private solar companies to sell their products with paygo in BIDI BIDI – cryptocurrency pilot
- Call for innovation of ideas
- Share concept note of the project for better coordination and understanding who is doing what and where.

ICRAF

- Travel of the MPs to Arua
- DRC and ICRAF are starting up a project
- Training of non-wood forest product value addition are starting in November (shea nut and Bee keeping)

UNHCR

- Vulnerability Energy Needs Assessment undertaken by REACH, WFP and UNHCR. The assessment has been done and compilation is in progress
- Next meeting November 13th - tentatively to be hosted at Mercy Corps
- December meeting – tentatively to be hosted at RGF

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
All partners to share concept notes and calls for circulation		