

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

Monthly National Coordination Platform

MINUTES

JULY 15, 2020

14:00 – 16:00

MS TEAMS

CO-CHAIRS	John Paul Magezi & Emmanuel Emorut Ekakoro chaired.
NOTE TAKER	Miriam Natabo

Attendees

#	Full Name	Organisation	E-mail
1.	John Paul Magezi	OPM-DOR	johnpaulmagezi@gmail.com
2.	Emmanuel Ekakoro	UNHCR	ekakoro@unhcr.org
3.	Miriam Natabo	UNHCR	natabo@unhcr.org
4.	Clement Okia	ICRAF	C.Okia@cgiar.org
5.	Phillip Kihumuro	ICRAF	P.Kihumuro@cgiar.org
6.	Emmanuel Adowa	DanChurchAid	aemm@dca.dk
7.	Henry Mukiibi	Lutheran World Federation	henry.mukiibi@lutheranworld.org
8.	Sarah Basemera	RGF	sbasemera@raisinggabdho.org
9.	Pamela Komuhendo	RGF	pkomuhendo@raisinggabdho.org
10.	Grace Shisha	RGF	gshisa@raisinggabdho.org
11.	Emmanuel Aziebor	Mercy Corps	eaziebor@mercycorps.org
12.	Katherine Santi Nelson	Danish Refugee Council	katherine.nelson@drc.ngo
13.	Ben Butele Adrama	GIZ	ben.butele@giz.de
14.	Christopher Tusiime	CARE	christopher.tusiime@care.org
15.	Christine Nandora	Rescue	christine.nandora@rescue.org
16.	Walter Mapanda	FAO/SPGS	Walter.Mapanda@fao.org
17.	Sam Mosallai	UNHCR	mosallai@unhcr.org
18.	Yoko Iwasa	UNHCR	iwasa@unhcr.org

Absent with Apologies:

1. Emmanuel Aziebor – Mercy Corps

Agenda topics

1. Remarks from the Co-Chairs
2. Review of Last Minutes and Actions
3. Presentation of Draft National AGD Workplan – Yoko
4. Seedling Collection by Partners from NFA Nurseries – OPM/NFA
5. Tour de Table on Partner Programmes and Activities during the lockdown and plans after lockdown
6. Next Meeting

1. REMARKS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

DISCUSSION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Apologies for not participating in previous coordination meetings due to technical challenges. ii. Thanked members for continued interventions in doing their E&E activities amid COVID-19 challenges. He noted that as government eases lockdown, the momentum shall build up. Thanked partners who have kept us updated on various interventions informally.

- iii. Receive a group of refugees of Congolese origin in Zombo with plans to settle them in Rhino Camp and Imvepi following discussions with UNHCR and other government security MDAs.
- iv. OPM will convene the annual review stakeholders' meeting for the sector during the month of August.
- v. Members were reminded of that Q2 submissions in ActivityInfo were ongoing and the deadline is today 15th July. Thanked those who'd already made submissions (LWF, CEFORD, HADS, Kisoro DLG and Nsamizi) in time and urged those who haven't yet submitted to do so before end of today.
- vi. UG RRP revision process to extend it to 2021 is ongoing. Objectives, Indicators and Targets at national and settlement level were set by sector co-leads based on past sector achievements and needs. A communication to both current and new partners to submit their indicator targets and financial requirements for the revision of the RRP was made.
- vii. A call for concept notes/proposals was published on the GGGI website for consideration under the Green Climate Fund (GCF). GCF has communicated to all countries that based on current GCF portfolio, they can fund up to 5 proposals per country on average. Also approved projects should be in line with approved country program that sets priority areas to maximize complementarities. MFPED is working on finalizing the priority setting for the Country Program. MFPED has expressed specific interest for projects with a government entity as a partner, although for GCF it's not a must.
- viii. MWE has sent out invitations for the Joint Technical Review (JTR) Meeting which is planned for 29th July 2020 to undertake a mid-term review of progress of implementation of last year's undertakings. The MWE shall circulate the undertakings to members before 29th July. Participants from the government MDA will attend in person while the rest are free to join the meeting virtually via zoom.
- ix. Our co-chair Onesimus Muhwezi who's been the Team Leader, Environment, Climate Change and disaster Resilience at UNDP will be leaving Uganda for a new assignment to eSwatini. Members expressed appreciation for his efforts towards for the sector.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
i. Members to submit their Q2 Achievements in Activity Info before deadline.	All to Note	15 th July 2020
ii. Partners urged to submit indicators and targets for revision of RRP 2020/2021 before deadline.	All to Note	16 th July 2020
iii. Interested organizations should submit their CNs before deadline	All to Note	20 th July 2020
iv. Last year's undertakings and link for the virtual JTR shall be shared to members	Miriam Natabo	N/A
v. Members to compile their respective activities to be ready for the Annual Stakeholders' Review Meeting in August.	All to Note	N/A

2. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

DISCUSSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Presentation on Water Resource Management under the NURI Project made by DRC was shared with members together with a link to the video showing the work being done under the same project. ii. NFA does not object on establishment of the Nursery at the proposed site in Pagrinya in Adjumani. However, it is not feasible for raising seedling in 2020 but for future planting seasons.
ACTION ITEMS
i.

3. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT NATIONAL AGD WORKPLAN – Sam & Yoko

DISCUSSION		
<p>i. Introduction: UNHCR updated its AGD policy in 2018 to incorporate some new principles and focus. The main gist in this policy is conflicts affect different populations differently. Different groups have different needs and capacities which need to be taken into consideration. The policy seeks to ensure that all persons of concern participate in decisions that affect them and throughout the programming cycle and enjoy their rights at equal footing with others.</p> <p>ii. When the AGD policy was issued in 2018, there were five (5) countries of focus for the roll-out and Uganda was one of them. UNHCR held a deep-dive workshop with field actors and partners as well as with sector leads and developed a draft action plan and now the current draft aligns with the UNHCR results framework. The goal of the draft workplan is to mainstream AGD considerations across all sectors in the operation including E&E.</p> <p>iii. Two strategic directions and policies are brought together in the updated AGD Policy i.e. Accountability to Affected People (AAP) and Gender quality.</p> <p>iv. Compliance to the policy is mandatory for all working with UNHCR.</p> <p>v. Outcomes in the Workplan that are specific to E&E in include: Increased protection and AGD mainstreaming in Environment programming; Implementation of the UNHCR AGD policy by implementing partners; Increased use and analysis of AGD disaggregated data; Improved accessibility of information for women, men, girls and boys of diverse background and Increased organizational learning and adaptation.</p> <p>vi. The language in the work plan should be customized for the Uganda context as some aspects in the draft workplan may not be suited for Uganda by law. This will be changed.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
i. UNHCR AGD Policy to be shared with members.	Sam Mosallai	22 nd July 2020
ii. Another meeting shall be held next week to specifically discuss this.	All to Note	22 nd July 2020

4. SEEDLING COLLECTION BY PARTNERS FROM NFA – OPM & Emmanuel

DISCUSSION		
<p>i. NFA is charged with responsibility of raising seedlings to be taken up by partner sin the various settlements to distribute among refugee and host communities and this exercise has been on from March to last the entire planting season.</p> <p>ii. A joint Monitoring Mission together with OPM, NFA, DLGs and E&E IPs, we visited all the NFA nurseries that were raising seedlings for the operation and it was noted that in many nurseries, seedling uptake was very low generally ranging from 0 – 80% absorption, but majority were between 25% - 40%. Part of the challenges that affected these activities were COVID-19 pandemic movement restrictions, delayed and inadequate rainfall and transportation of seedlings from nurseries to the field which means there are many seedlings still remaining in the nursery.</p> <p>iii. The transport issue is closely related to coordination issues. Any partner with transportation challenges, should communicate their plans in advance (2 – 3 weeks) to the local UNHCR field office specifying where the seedlings are to be delivered to allow for coordination with AIRD – the UNHCR logistic partner. We ae notified by Programmes that the hiring of vehicles for seedlings transportation is highly discouraged unless in special circumstances.</p> <p>iv. OPM together with UNHCR and NFA are discussing the possibility of streamlining the collection of seedlings from the central nurseries because of challenges encountered. Need standardised documentation where the</p>		

details of the beneficiaries of the seedlings are captured including who and where they are and GPS locations for follow-up and to ensure better coordination at field level to deliver seedlings the moment they are ready in the nursery.

- v. There was a change in E&E Partners in November last year and some of the new partners did not have a shared vision. In future it is important to check with outgoing partners to identify which activities need to be carried over and these should be discussed during the hand-over.
- vi. Following discussions during the recently concluded Joint Monitoring Mission with NFA, OPM, IPs and DLGs, it was agreed that there is need for improved coordination among stakeholders especially with information sharing for all actors to be updated on work under the ReForest Project.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
i. Any partner with transportation challenges, should communicate their plans in advance (2 – 3 weeks) to the local UNHCR field office for better planning with the logistics partner.	All to Note	N/A
ii. OPM should be involved in all interventions at field level for better coordination including involvement of DLGs to make coordination easy.	All to Note	N/A

5. TOUR DE TABLE ON PARTNER ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS DURING LOCKDOWN

DISCUSSION
<p>ICRAF – Ohia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In West Nile, tree planting has been going on as the second rains have commenced, though progress was slow due to break down of the transport vehicle. ✓ For this year, the target for ICRAF was to plant at least 100,000 trees but so far, they have planted atleast 50,000 seedlings. ✓ All the seedlings planted are being documented and also mapping the planted areas and shall be providing detailed reports on work being done. ✓ Will keep DLGs informed on all the work being done. ✓ ICRAF is exploring how to link tree growing with energy by teaming up with partners promoting energy efficient cookstoves and designing a reward system for those that plant tree to enable them access energy saving cookstoves. <p>LWF – Henry Mukiibi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Already doing seedling distribution for the second planting season. So far, about 150,000 assorted tree seedlings have been distributed in Palorinya. Palabek and Adjumani. ✓ In Palorinya, 25 youth and women groups were trained on briquette production. ✓ Trained 25 local stove artisans in Palorinya on construction of rocket lorena stoves. <p>RGF – Pamela</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ So far reached 1,032 refugees and host community members with energy saving baskets, energy saving stoves, handy briquette machines and 3kg of briquettes per household in Kampala. ✓ Challenges faced during the distribution of the energy saving products as some refugees who had come from settlements before lockdown and hand been locked down in Kampala who also wanted to receive these products. RGF sought guidance and approval from UNHCR. Some of these were served with UNHCR

approval, while others weren't served.

- ✓ Plan to re-open RGF shops for energy products which will be open by 20th July and shall continue to monitor performance of the distributed energy products at household level.

GIZ – Ben

- ✓ The award decision for the consultancy for the Sustainable Energy Refugee Response Plan (SERRP) was concluded, contract drafted, and Inception meeting is being organized to commence the SERRP development process.
- ✓ Assessment for solarization of six (6) health centres in Rhino Camp and Imvepi was concluded. The process is in advanced stages for the procurement of the contractor.
- ✓ Construction works for additional energy kiosks commenced and sites were handed over to contractors the previous week.

DCA – Emmanuel Adowa

- ✓ Received guidance from the Settlement Commandant in Imvepi that one of the sites DCA had planned for the cash-for-work environment activities had been earmarked for settling refugee arrivals from Zombo, so DCA activities planned for that site have been put on hold.
- ✓ Managed to secure 70,768 tree seedlings from NFA nurseries and the DCA field team is engaging in distribution. But a major constraint has been transportation of these seedlings. Already engaged UNHCR at field level on the matter.
- ✓ Distributed fruit seedlings to 1,011 households in Arua and Yumbe, targeting each household receiving a maximum of 5 different varieties of fruit seedlings.
- ✓ Supported and engaged 1,028 youth groups under the cash-for-work modality in the environment-related activities e.g. tree planting, woodlot maintenance and management in Yumbe, Arua and Kiryandongo.
- ✓ Managed to support two (2) groups as an initiative to promote green livelihoods which groups were trained on apiary management and value addition and the groups are being monitored to ensure the knowledge gained and skills acquired can be replicated.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
i. The Joint Monitoring on seedling verification of NFA nurseries and planting to be shared with members for input.	Emmanuel	Before Next Meeting
ii. ICRAF should be involved in monitoring activities in West Nile for to also visit sites and beneficiaries for ICRAF	All to Note	N/A
iii. Partners should have mechanisms for ensuring the seedlings taken up are planted.	All to Note	N/A
iv. Need to build local capacity in tree growing to minimize seedlings being raised in bulk at central locations.	All to Note	N/A
v. There is need to establish holding centres within the settlements or host communities where they could keep the seedlings after transportation for the seedlings to recover before transplanting to improve seedling survival.	All to Note	N/A

- 6. Next Meeting – August 12th @ 9 – 11 am.

We confirm that this is a true record of the proceedings.

Dated this Day of 2020

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Chairperson (E. Ekakoro)

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Secretary (M. Natabo)