



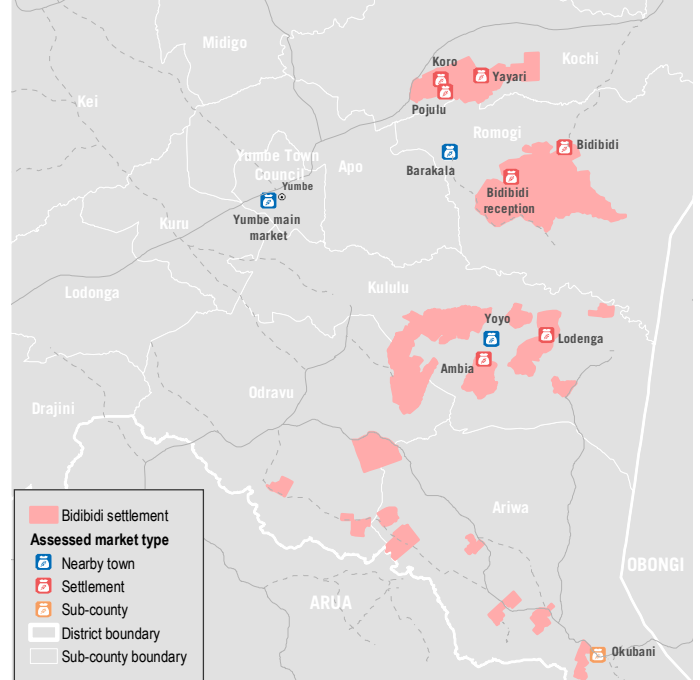
## Market Factsheet: Bidibidi Settlement UGANDA

### CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

Uganda is one of the world's top refugee-hosting states, having taken in more than 1.3 million refugees who exhibit diverse vulnerability profiles and capacities to cope.<sup>1</sup> Due to these variations, there is a need for a humanitarian delivery system that allows actors to more closely align the modality and amount of assistance provided with individual refugee households' economic and protection-related needs.

The objective of this market analysis, conducted under the framework of the Vulnerability and Essential Needs Assessment (VENA), was to assess market functionality and capacity in the vicinity of Uganda's refugee settlements and to understand the potential for market-based assistance to meet essential needs. Data collection took place between 9 August and 7 October 2019 in 13 refugee settlements.<sup>2</sup> Two parallel methodologies were employed: 2,820 structured individual interviews were conducted with market traders in or near each assessed settlement, supplemented by 35 semi-structured interviews with key informants who had knowledge of local markets. The assessment was led jointly by REACH, the World Food Programme (WFP), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with support from five additional partners (see page 5). Findings refer solely to the situation during the data collection period and should be considered indicative only.

### AREA COVERED BY FACTSHEET



### MARKET AND TRADER CHARACTERISTICS

Refugees living in Bidibidi accessed markets within and outside of the settlement, all of them serving both refugees and host community members. The size of the markets varied greatly. Some markets, particularly those within the settlement, had under 50 traders operating regularly, whilst Yumbe market, a sub-county level market outside the settlement, had approximately 2,000 traders. Most markets operated every day, though Koro Market was reported to operate once a week. All markets were comprised of temporary structures, aside from Yumbe market, which also had permanent structures.

**11** Total number of markets assessed near this settlement (via **178** trader interviews and **4** key informant interviews)

Gender of interviewed traders:



**41.6%** Female  
**58.4%** Male

Population group of interviewed traders:



**68%** Host community  
**32%** Refugee

**4.2%** of traders interviewed reported employing at least one other person.

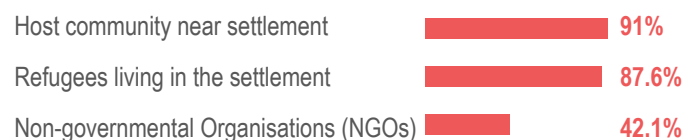
#### Top 3 nationalities of interviewed traders:



#### Classification of traders interviewed:<sup>3</sup>



#### Top 3 most common types of market customers reported by interviewed traders:<sup>3</sup>





### SUPPLY, DEMAND, AND PRICES

Though certain market items such as dry cells, sanitary pads, and charcoal were reported to have a constant demand and supply, other commodities were found to be impacted by seasonality or the provision of humanitarian assistance. Traders reportedly experienced a high demand for scholastic materials such as pens and exercise books at the start of the school term, for instance. Moreover, the supply of food items was particularly affected by changes in seasons, with commodities such as leafy vegetables and cassava becoming less available during dry seasons, resulting in shortages.

Sources, prices, and restocking data for selected items<sup>4</sup> sold in or near this settlement, as reported by interviewed traders:

Commodity	Most common source of item	Item price in markets in or near this settlement (October 2019) <sup>5</sup>	Median # of days that remaining stock is estimated to last	Estimated median amount of time item remains in stock before sale
Maize flour	Retailer outside the subcounty	3,000 UGX <sup>6</sup> /Kg	7 days	One to four weeks
Beans (dried, nambale)	Retailer outside the subcounty	3,000 UGX /Kg	14.5 days	One to four weeks
Sorghum grain	Retailer outside the subcounty	909 UGX /Kg	14 days	One to four weeks
Cassava (whole, fresh)	Own production	411 UGX /g	2 days	Less than one week
Leafy vegetables	Own production	794 UGX /g	2 days	Less than one week
Laundry soap	Retailer outside the subcounty	4,000 UGX /Kg	14 days	One to four weeks
Sanitary pad (disposable)	Retailer outside the subcounty	3,000 UGX /packet	30 days	More than one month
Exercise books	Retailer outside the subcounty	400 UGX /piece	30 days	More than one month
Jerry can (plastic, 20 L)	Retailer outside the subcounty	5,000 UGX /piece	30 days	More than one month
Blanket (cotton)	Retailer outside the subcounty	No data	30 days	More than one month
Mud bricks (unfired)	Own production	No data	60 days	More than one month
Grass thatch	Retailer outside the subcounty	No data	21 days	One to four weeks
Charcoal	Retailer within the subcounty	251 UGX /Kg	7 days	One to four weeks
Firewood	Retailer outside the subcounty	167 UGX /Kg	5 days	One to four weeks

Seasonal fluctuations in supply for selected items<sup>4</sup> sold in or near settlements in Northwest, Uganda, as reported by key informants (KIs):<sup>7</sup>

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maize flour	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Beans (dried, nambale)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Sorghum grain	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Cassava (whole, fresh)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Leafy vegetables	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Vegetable oil	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Cooking salt	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Tilapia (smoked)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Milk (fresh)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Laundry soap	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Sanitary pad (disposable)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Dry cells	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Torch	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Exercise books	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Jerry can (plastic, 20 L)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Plastic basin	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Blanket (cotton)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mingle (wooden stirrer)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Panga (knife)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Hoe	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Steel roofing nails	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Nylon rope	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Eucalyptus poles	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mud bricks (fired)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Mud bricks (unfired)	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Grass thatch	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Charcoal	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)
Firewood	Supply	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)	Baseline levels / No high or low season	High season (increased)	Low season (decreased)

Legend: Supply High season (increased) Low season (decreased) Baseline levels / No high or low season



## BARRIERS TO MARKET ACCESS<sup>8</sup>

Most key informants interviewed reported security issues related to theft in the markets. Indeed, the KI in Lodenga Market highlighted that some traders sleep in the market in order to protect their items. The suggested remedies by KIs revolved mostly around the increase of security personnel in and around the markets.

**10.4%** of households (HHs) reported facing barriers when trying to access marketplaces.

Of this 10.4%, top 3 most commonly reported barriers:<sup>3</sup>

Long distance to the market		65.9%
Physical attacks by host community		45.5%
Physical attacks by refugees		38.6%

% of households that reported mainly accessing marketplaces using the following modes of transport:

97.6%	Walking
1.6%	Boda boda (motorcycle taxi)
0.7%	Bicycle



Median travel time reported by households to get to and from the nearest marketplace selling food:

**30 min**

**22.6%** of interviewed traders reported having faced a security incident related to operating their business.

Of this 22.6%, top 3 most commonly reported types of incidents:<sup>3</sup>

Theft		82.5%
Verbal harassment by refugees		27.5%
Verbal harassment by host comm.		25%

Top 3 most common triggers for security incidents reported by interviewed traders:<sup>3</sup>

Money/business disputes		67.5%
Distance-related insecurity		17.5%
Social discrimination		17.5%

## MARKET OPERATIONS & PRICES

Prices of commodities were found to fluctuate particularly due to the changes in their supply and/or demand, which was often reportedly caused by seasonality. During the harvesting season, for instance, hoes increased in price due to the high demand for the item. Moreover, commodity prices were reported to fluctuate due to in-kind humanitarian assistance, which reportedly led to a decrease in demand as refugees no longer need to buy the item they received through the distribution.

**60.7%** of interviewed traders reported having a license to operate in their market.

**44.6%** of interviewed traders reported paying market dues.

% of interviewed traders reporting using the following types of storage:

57.8%	Own storage
19.2%	Rented storage
2.8%	Other
20.2%	No storage



**19.2%** of interviewed traders reported having taken out at least one loan in the past to support their business.

Estimated median amount of outstanding debt reported by interviewed traders:<sup>9</sup> **120,000 UGX**

% of interviewed traders reporting that they currently use each of the following sources of capital:<sup>3</sup>

Own savings		92.7%
Credit or loans		16.3%
Shared with HH/business partners		7.9%
Support from NGOs		1.7%

Estimated median monthly expenditures reported by interviewed traders in the following categories:

Market dues (past month)	<b>6,800 UGX</b>
Rental of storage space	<b>25,000 UGX</b>
Round-trip transport to restock retailled items	<b>40,000 UGX</b>
Transaction cost to obtain new stock (loading, unloading, storage, tax, etc.)	<b>20,000 UGX</b>



## ABILITY TO SCALE UP

Most common predictions of interviewed traders regarding their ability to meet increased demand stimulated by cash programmes:<sup>10</sup>

### Category of commodities

### In case of doubled demand...

	Would you be able to stock enough of your current items to meet the demand?	If yes, how long would it take you to obtain additional stock to meet the demand?	Would you be able to obtain this amount using only your current supplier?	If unable to stock enough, what would make it most difficult for you to increase your supply?
Fresh food	Yes (90.7%)	One week (75.5%)	Yes (81.6%)	Lack of storage
Non-fresh food	Yes (95.1%)	One week (54.5%)	Yes (85.7%)	Lack of capital
Sanitary items	Yes (91.3%)	One week (36.5%)	Yes (95.2%)	Lack of storage
Household items	Yes (93.6%)	One week (41.1%)	Yes (95.2%)	No consensus
Shelter and livelihoods items	Yes (93.3%)	One week (34.9%)	Yes (95.2%)	Lack of capital
Lighting items	Yes (85.2%)	One week (41.3%)	Yes (91.3%)	No consensus
Educational items	Yes (79.2%)	One week (34.2%)	Yes (97.4%)	Lack of storage
Cooking fuel	Yes (89.5%)	One week (64.7%)	Yes (61.8%)	Lack of capital

## Endnotes

1 Figures based on United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) refugee population figures, updated as of September 2019, retrieved from <https://ugandarefugees.org/en/country/uga> on 8 November 2019.

2 For the purposes of sampling and analysis, the 18 settlements in Adjumani district were grouped into a single refugee hosting location.

3 Respondents were able to select more than one option when answering this question.

4 In total, 34 market commodities were assessed, but due to space limitations, a selection are displayed in this factsheet. The list of selected commodities was based on a subjective determination of which items were most central to Ugandan households, and was then modified to ensure representation of all assessed categories of items. Data on other assessed commodities is available upon request.

5 Price data was derived from WFP, Minimum Expenditure Basket in Uganda: Joint Price Monitoring, October 2019, retrieved from <https://reliefweb.int/report/uganda/minimum-expenditure-basket-uganda-joint-price-monitoring-october-2019> on 12 December 2019.

6 The Ugandan shilling to United States dollar exchange rate was 3,668.05 on 24 December 2019. <https://www.xe.com/>

7 Seasonality calendars were constructed on a regional level to capture variations in agriculture and livelihoods across Uganda while encompassing enough interviews to allow for meaningful aggregation. The regions used were: Northwest (Adjumani, Bidibidi, Imvepi, Lobule, Palabek, Palorinya, Rhino, Kiryandongo) and Southwest (Kyaka II, Nakivale, Oruchinga, Rwamwanja, Kyangwali).

8 All indicators referencing the household were derived from the VENA household-level assessment, which was conducted concurrently with this market assessment and in the same settlements. A total of 5,737 household interviews were conducted between 12 August and 7 October 2019. Methodological details of this component of the VENA are available [here](#).

9 Among traders who reported non-zero expenditures and/or debt in each of the following categories.

10 All indicators in the box that follows are subjective, with results based on self-reporting by market traders. A full capacity assessment to objectively determine these traders' ability to scale up was not conducted.

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