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## NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT HELD

By Michael Wangusa, United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO)

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Left: UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo delivering a statement on behalf of the UN system in Uganda at the National Dialogue on Food System Summit © UN Uganda

Right: President Yoweri Museveni (extreme right) speaking with UN Resident Coordinator. Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo (extreme left) at the National Dialogue on Food System Summit © UN Uganda

Following five months consultative process on Uganda's national food systems transformation, the Office of the Prime Minister convened a national dialogue the Food Systems Summit at which the identified challenges and solutions were presented to President Yoweri Museveni. The event held at Kololo grounds on August 19, 2021, brought together key players involved in the country's food systems chain.

The UN Food Systems Summit was announced by the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, on World Food Day in October 2020 as a part of the Decade of Action for delivery on the SDGs by 2030. The aim of the Summit is to deliver progress on all 17 of the SDGs through a food systems approach, leveraging the interconnectedness of food systems to global challenges such as hunger, climate change, poverty and inequality.

The summit will be held on 23 September 2020. A head of the summit, countries all over the world have been involved in extensive consultations. The national dialogue in Uganda was preceded by four regional dialogues, for western, eastern, Northern and Central regions, which were held online due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

While delivering a statement on behalf of the UN System in Uganda, UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Susan Ngongi Namondo noted that 'the most valuable part of the food Systems Summit is really the national discussions and the decisions they will trigger for national development plans. No country's food system exists in isolation of the whole, thus





## IN KASESE, VILLAGE HEALTH TEAMS TAKE TO DOOR-TO-DOOR SENSITIZATION TO BATTLE COVID-19

UNICEF provides equipment and protective gear to facilitate sensitization efforts and their safety

*By Joachim Buwembo, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)*

## NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT HELD

the need for a global conversation. These national dialogues however form the solid foundation upon which a global discussion can be had around some of the cross border challenges and opportunities around our interconnected food systems.'

Speaking at the national dialogue, the President of the Republic of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni said that with the right investment, Uganda has the potential to be the centre of food production in the region. He asked the United Nations System in Uganda to support the country's efforts towards transforming the agri-food system.

While Uganda has made significant progress in food production, the country is yet to optimally exploit its production potential. Yields at the farm level remain only a third of what is obtained at research stations.

The President noted the bottlenecks that to be addressed in the third National Development Plan 2022/2021–2024/2025, including boosting the volume and quality of production through manufacturing and commercialization of agricultural inputs, supporting food producers to access affordable financing, increasing access to agricultural extension services, providing incentives into farmers to acquire appropriate mechanization technologies, increased investment in and access to irrigation technologies and digitization of agriculture and farmers' access to and utilization of information and communication technology.

Other issues to be addressed include; Post-harvest handling, storage and agro-processing, market access, building resilience to climate change-related risks and shocks, accelerating the reduction of malnutrition, empowering small-holder farmers, among others.

The views from the various consultations in Uganda will be compiled by the Office of the Prime Minister into the national report, which be presented by the Uganda delegation at the UN Food Systems Summit on 23 September 2021. 🌍



Mary Kiiza, Village Health Team (VHT) member from mountainous Buhuna Parish of Karambi sub county in Kasese District traverses communities educating them about COVID-19 disease, transmission and prevention. She and other VHTs have been trained by UNICEF and provided with protective equipment to facilitate their safety ©UNICEF Uganda/2021/Kabuye

**It is mid-morning on a Thursday when we find Mary Kiiza preparing to leave her simple neat home in the mountainous Buhuna Parish of Karambi sub county in Kasese District. The Village Health Team (VHT) member is in a hurry as she goes about her work, mobilizing her community for the battle against COVID-19.**

Her kit contains printed Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials and other health responder's equipment, but the most important item for today's mission is the megaphone. She checks the batteries, removes them, opens a new pack, and puts in fresh ones for a better charge this morning. She tests the microphone and the megaphone responds with a loud sound.

Kiiza slips on her easy shoes, flings her kit bag over the shoulder, grabs her megaphone, and sets off, maneuvering the hilly terrain effortlessly.

Reaching a small hill, she calls out, "Fellow citizens..." and goes on to greet the people, telling them in the same breath that she wants to rally them to keep the deadly

COVID-19 disease away from their lives and their homes.

The thing with these megaphones is that they may not sound so loud to the person standing next to the speaker, but their sound carries far. Perhaps the terrain helps too. From many hills around, she sees the number of people grow. All come out to listen to Kiiza as she explains how COVID-19 is transmitted. She explains the importance of the facemask. The figures of speech she uses in the local Lukonzo language tickle the children and their sharp shrieks of laughter ring out from several homesteads on the hills. Farther down on a curvy road, people have stopped to listen.

Kiiza is discussing handwashing and something she said must have amused the women, as it is their turn to laugh this time.

It is amazing, the number of people who are listening. She tackles social distancing and then vaccination. All activity has virtually stopped in many homes and even on the footpaths, nobody is moving as they pay attention. She concludes her address, which has lasted about 30 minutes and she hits the road again.

She walks to another hill, and she repeats the session. In all, she does three sessions from atop three hills this morning.



### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

UNICEF, which has been supporting the training of VHTs in the district, provided 42 megaphones for 42 parishes. Government of Uganda topped up by procuring another 150 pieces.

In addition to the equipment, as part of its infection, prevention, and control interventions, UNICEF with financial assistance from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) has procured and availed VHTs like Kiiza with personal protective gear, cloth masks to support their day-to-day work and facilitate safe interaction with communities especially during the pandemic.

After her three sessions that cover the whole parish, Kiiza embarks on her home visits. In the homestead of Diphrose Mbambu, she meets with a widow in her sixties who lives with three of her eight children and five grandchildren. Diphrose is drying her cassava in the compound and she welcomes Kiiza who is well known to her.

After pleasantries are exchanged Kiiza starts asking about the state of preparedness in the home. Are the masks clean? Do the

children always wear them before stepping out of home? Do they remember social distancing? What about the last burial Diphrose attended – did she keep her mask on?

Kiiza visits two more homes as she does her checks on the residents.

An hour later, the district health educator leads an open-air meeting where the parish leaders are holding a community dialogue, assessing the work of the local taskforce and the elected leaders/councilors in ensuring that COVID-19 is contained. Kiiza listens attentively. At the meeting, leaders and VHTs review their work as residents raise their latest concerns.

Thanks to SIDA funds through UNICEF, Kiiza, and dozens of her counterpart VHTs in Kasese District are combing the hillside settlements, doing risk communication and education, to keep the people informed and prepared to ward off the deadly COVID-19 virus. 🌍

## RIGHTS AND CHOICES: YOUNG PEOPLE SPEAK OUT ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACCESS

By Evelyn Matsamura Kiapi, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



Providing access to sexual reproductive health information to young people can help them make informed choices about their health © UNFPA Uganda

**In a televised symposium on July 9, titled: “The role of young people in advancing the campaign against Teenage pregnancy and child marriage in Uganda,” the young panelists said they are hindered from making informed choices about their sexual and reproductive**

**health due to attitudinal and environmental barriers, as well as lack of access to information and services.**

Ms. Agnes Sanyu, from the Uganda National Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS cited ignorance, fear, stigma and discrimination as some of the factors hindering many young people from accessing sexual and reproductive health services.

“Some young people assume they will not be listened to. But also, stigma and discrimination play a part. For instance, among young people living with HIV, survivors of teenage pregnancy, gender-based violence and forced marriage may be afraid to seek services in fear of stigma,” Ms. Sanyu said during the panel discussion on television. “Sometimes we are ignorant. The services may be there but we may not know what to do. We may not know how to use a condom or the health worker may not be friendly,” Ms Sanyu said.

From a disability perspective, peer educator with a youth-led organization, Reach-a-Hand Uganda, Ms. Norine Ondoru said that people with disabilities should be included in all aspects of life including access to sexual and reproductive health services.

“For instance, youth- friendly centers cannot be friendly enough if they are not disability -friendly. While laws and policies provide for interpreters at all service delivery points, there are also communication barriers like the unavailability of sign language interpreters.”

“Furthermore, other services may not be available in braille for those with physical impairments. All public buildings should have ramps as provided by laws, but you find even some courts of law are inaccessible,” Ms. Ondoru said.

UNFPA Programme Specialist Ms. Batula Abdi agreed, “Laws and policies are not enough. We have to go a step further in implementation and having interventions that address in term of inclusion. When we talk about Youth-Friendly Services, that friendliness has to be defined and that includes accessibility, affordability and availability.”

Ms. Batula recommended the need to ensure young people with disabilities are able to access sexual and reproductive health information developed in terms of IEC materials and braille’s for those with hearing impairments to enable them make informed choices.

Ms. Nageeba Hassan Tegulwa, Executive Director Restoring and Empowering Communities appealed for better coordination and an urgent need to address the social determinants of teenage pregnancies and child marriages:

“To empower girls with skills and knowledge is not enough. Pregnancies come because of different things; poverty, ignorance, social pressures, so we need to work on all these aspects concurrently. Give knowledge, skills, information, supporting them stay in school and supporting families economically.”

Director Family Health, National Population Council, Dr. Betty Kyadondo stressed the importance of recognizing and investing in and harnessing the potential of young people who make 78 percent of Uganda’s population under 30 years.

“If we invest in this young population by ensuring access to social services including health and education and access to sexual and reproductive health services, we are likely to overcome some of our development challenges including reducing teenage pregnancy and child marriage,” Dr. Kyadondo said.

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**“**  
**If only women can embrace family planning and we reduce the total fertility rate, ensure we are reducing the maternal mortality and address issues of access to sexual and reproductive health including providing family planning for young people who are sexually active, we are going to make a big difference,”** Dr Kyadondo added.  
**”**

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The symposium was organized by National Population Council with support from UNFPA and funding form the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Uganda. 🌍



A group of learners in Adjumani district enjoying a light moment. By investing in adolescent and young people’s sexual and reproductive health services, development challenges including reducing teenage pregnancy and child marriage can be overcome to achieve Uganda’s Vision 2040 and the SDG Goals ©UNFPA





## DENMARK EXTENDS ADDITIONAL 5 BILLION SHILLINGS TOWARDS THE COVID-19 RESURGENCE RESPONSE IN UGANDA

By Edmond Mwebembezi, World Health Organization (WHO)



WHO Representative in Uganda, Dr Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam (white shirt) and Mr. Henrik Jespersen, the Head of Cooperation, Royal Danish Embassy in Kampala exchange signed agreements as Hon Hanifa Kawooya (yellow) and Dr Diana Atwine (white and black) look on at the Ministry of Health headquarters in Kampala © WHO Uganda

### The Government of Denmark through the Danish Embassy in Uganda has extended a grant worth 5 billion Uganda, Shillings, to the Government of Uganda through the World Health Organization (WHO) towards the implementation of the COVID-19 Resurgence Response Plan developed by the Ministry of Health.

The one-year project will support coordination of the COVID-19 response through: strengthening national and district coordination of the COVID-19 response, strengthening COVID-19 detection, reporting, and response in the community schools, and closed settings. In addition, the project will also support the strengthening management of severe and critical COVID-19 cases.

The grant will be managed by WHO but implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Health and District Health COVID-19 Response teams.

The agreement signing was witnessed by the Minister of State in Charge of General Duties, Hon, Hanifa Kawooya who appreciated the Government of Denmark and WHO for the support to Uganda in the COVID-19 outbreak.

“The grant from the Danish Government is going to be a great contributor to our efforts towards managing the outbreak and vaccinating our citizens”, she said. Hon Hanifa also implored development partners to support Uganda to acquire vaccines to safeguard the lives of Ugandans.

The Head of Cooperation at the Danish Embassy in Kampala, Mr. Henrik Jespersen acknowledged the good partnership WHO has, not only with the donor partners but most significantly with the

Ministry of Health and district health offices. While signing the grant, he thanked WHO and the Ministry of Health who are the lead institutions in the COVID-19 response.

“We are optimistic that this additional financial support will contribute towards improved national and district coordination of COVID-19 responses and the lifesaving facilities will minimize avoidable COVID-19 infections and deaths”, said Henrik Jespersen.

While speaking at the signing ceremony, the WHO Representative in Uganda, Dr. Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam expressed appreciation to the Government of Denmark for the financial contribution towards COVID-19 management and prevention in Uganda. He noted, “the support from the Danish Government is a much needed, due to the surge in COVID-19 cases in the country.”

“Partners like the Danish Government have been instrumental in disease outbreak responses, and we, yet again, recognize their immense support in the COVID-19 response. Coordination is a core part of any outbreak response and WHO, working with the Ministry will use this support to boost the already existing structures”, he added.

The grant is in addition to roughly UGX 9.3 billion, which was granted in April 2020 for the Emergency Response to COVID-19 outbreak in Uganda.

The resurgence plan was developed by the Ministry of Health in line with global guidance and the WHO’s April 2020 COVID-19 Strategy Update and intends to provide a framework for a robust response to an acute and gradual but sustained rise in the number of cases, mitigate the risk associated with COVID-19 resurgence and to strengthen sustainable structures for emergency response in the country. 🌍



# JUDICIARY VIDEO CONFERENCING SYSTEM SUPPORTED BY UNDP EASES ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN MASAKA

By Joel Akena, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



A visual display of the video conferencing system in use in the court at Masaka ©UNDP

## Inmates, court officials say the system has transformed the administration of justice in Masaka and want it extended to other districts.

“Previously, it was hard to believe that virtual court sessions are a reality, but after attending a virtual court session, I realized it is better than the physical ones..... The video conferencing facility is quicker and easier to use. I could hear what the judges were saying clearly, I could hear what the lawyers were saying clearly, and they also could hear me very well. I want to thank UNDP and the Judiciary of Uganda for setting up this facility. Now more than ever, I feel safer, health-wise due to the current COVID-19 and freer to express myself to the judges without any intimidations whatsoever,” an anonymous male prisoner at Masaka Main Prison said.

His story exemplifies the benefits of the video conferencing system in the Judiciary supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The system was installed in Masaka High Court and Masaka Main Prison in early 2021 to address the challenge of case backlog in the Judiciary and enhance institutional transparency and access to justice. The facility is a key sustainable solution to case backlog and addressing high rates of pretrial detention.

In the second national lockdown instituted to suppress further transmission of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Uganda, case backlog remains a bottleneck to the right to a speedy trial, a key facet of the right to a fair hearing and is the principle upon which the saying “justice delayed is justice denied” was coined. In fact, the Uganda Code of Judicial Conduct principle 6.2 requires judicial officers to dispose of cases expeditiously and deliver judgment within 60 days. However, this is not always the case. In 2019, the Justice, Law and Order Sector reported that the case disposal rate in the justice sector was at 45% - meaning that many cases remain pending in the Judiciary over long periods of time.

## TESTIMONIES FROM COURT OFFICIALS

The anonymous prisoner is not alone. Judicial officers also appreciate the contribution of the video conferencing facility to the administration of justice and want the system extended to other courts.

According to Hon. Lady Justice Katamba Victoria Nakintu Nkwanga, the Resident Judge, Masaka High Court, the system has improved security and made witnesses freer to give evidence.



I am happy that there is security for both inmates and witnesses. Because of the facility, the court case witnesses are freer to give evidence especially children since they are separated in different places and locations. Previously, children would give their evidence in chambers, where there could be danger of feeling threatened while giving evidence especially with cases involving relatives since the chamber rooms are small,” Lady Justice Katamba Victoria Nakintu Nkwanga said.

Justice Nakintu also highlighted the need to extend the system to Kalangala Chief Magistrate’s Court whose location requires movement of inmates from the different islands to the court in Kalangala and back, which is very cost-ineffective and time-consuming.



Case backlog has undermined the reputation of the Judiciary, with the public becoming, skeptical about the ability of the Judiciary to serve it. The delays in clearing cases and dispensing justice promptly have led to a rise in mob justice, substantial overcrowding of prisons and inordinate periods of pretrial detention.

At the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a clear understanding that human rights, peace, security, and development are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. Through its entirety, the importance of enhancing access to justice, ensuring safety and security, and promoting human rights for sustainable development are reflected. The support toward the video conferencing system fills a gap by fostering timely case hearings and thereby accountability, which is in line with the sixteenth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 16) under the 2030 Agenda.

**HOW THE VIDEO CONFERENCING SYSTEM WORKS**

The system allows for witness testimony and hearings to be carried out at a distance, without having to transfer detainees physically to the courtroom. It also enables any person who has an interest in court proceedings to be involved in a hearing from a remote location. In its simplest form, a witness at a remote location may give his/her evidence via a video link to the court with audio-visual aides in the courtroom and in the remote location.

**ABOUT THE VISIT TO MASAKA HIGH COURT AND MASAKA MAIN PRISON**

The UNDP team led by Annet Mpabulungi Wakabi, Team leader, Rule of Law and Constitutional Democracy, and the Justice, Law and Order Secretariat led by Ms. Lucy Ladira, Advisor, Criminal Justice, visited Masaka High Court and Masaka Main Prison to obtain firsthand information on how the video conferencing facility was working in terms of delivering technical, functional, and efficient justice services; create room for interaction among the Judiciary of Uganda who organized the visit, UNDP and the service users including the judges, the inmates and the technical teams across the board. The visit also sought to obtain any immediate successes, challenges, lessons and recommendation and thereby inform e-justice programming, advocacy points for acceleration of e-justice and strategies for addressing any challenges and to gauge the state of preparedness on ground ahead of the scheduled official

launch event of the video conferencing facility for the Masaka High Court and Masaka Main Prison.

During the visit, the team was taken through how the installed video conferencing equipment works and observed good uptake of the video conferencing services. The Masaka Main Prison, however, requires more support to facilitate the uptake of the technology by putting in place reliable internet connectivity and training on how the system works.

“This visit has been helpful; it has enriched how we are going to position this support going forward. We are having a digitalization program in the forthcoming UNDP Country Programme 2021-2025; the experiences from Masaka offer critical lessons,” said Annet Mpabulungi, Team leader Rule of Law and Constitutional Democracy at UNDP.



L-R: Lady Justice Katamba Victoria Nakintu, the Resident Judge, Masaka High Court; Annet Mpabulungi Wakabi, the Team leader, UNDP; and Ms. Lucy Ladira, the Advisor, Criminal Justice at JLOS ©UNDP



Stakeholders in front of Masaka Main Prison ©UNDP



# WAKISO DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE LAUNCHES ITS FIRST EVER HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME

By Bernard Amwine, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)



OHCHR Staff and Wakiso District Human Rights Committee members during the handover of IT equipment to the committee © OHCHR Uganda

**In order to strengthen the capacity of the senior police officers on relevant human rights norms applicable in the context of their security and law enforcement functions, the UN Human Rights Office in Uganda has facilitated training sessions for senior police officers from Wakiso District on “Human rights standards in security and law enforcement operations and equipped the District Human Rights Committee with training materials, including computers and internet gadgets to ease connectivity and sustainability of the training programs.**

According to the Human Rights Watch report on Uganda between 1995 and 2015, human rights violations dropped drastically from 54% to 20%. This was attributed to the effectiveness of laws and policies on human rights and the rule of law. Drawing from Uganda’s Universal Periodic Review in 2016, Uganda made clear pronouncements that aim to implement a bottom-up approach in the protection and promotion of human rights, but there is hardly any protection strategy for an effective local government human rights protection and promotion approach.



This is an eye opener for those of us in enforcement,” said Superintendent of Police Immo Shadrack of Entebbe Police Station. “It gives us a refresher on how to go about our work. Many of us error, not because we do not know, but because we do not have such sustained trainings on human rights.”

Shadrack said after the training, he expects improved police and community relations in his area of jurisdiction.

The Wakiso District Human Rights Committee is a pioneer district local government committee established in December 2019 seeking to integrate the norms, systems, principles and standards prescribed by the Uganda Human Rights Commission for local government plans and policies, as well as to enhance development. The committee looks at policy and programing at all levels of local government within the district. It also works to reinforce the capacity of both the technocrats and the political leadership of the district, in human rights protection promotion and reporting.

The formation of the Human Rights Committee at the district level was a recommendation of the Uganda Human Rights Commission, supported by a Ministerial Policy Statement by the Ministry of Local Government. The District Council also passed a resolution to actualise the statutory notice, and constituted the Committee composed of members from the Judiciary, Uganda Prisons Services, Uganda Police Force, Civil Society, the Media, the District Technical Team and the District Executive. It also comprises of the Community Development Officers who are the Human Rights Focal Persons, in their respective Lower Local Government.

The Committee believes in fast tracking the realization of a human rights based approach to development, and looks at aiding research to create ground for the identification of key human rights concerns within the local governments. 🌍





## CREATING SMOKELESS KITCHENS, HEALTHIER HOUSEHOLDS BY TURNING DOMESTIC WASTE INTO CLEAN ENERGY

By Agatha Ayebazibwe, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



Ms. Caroline Awachano, her husband and children. The family now enjoys preparing meals together since they got a flexi-biogas system ©FAO

**In a country like Uganda where eight in every ten people rely on wood biomass for heating, cooking and lighting, the pressure on forests is enormous. Relatedly, the other social impacts of collecting wood biomass for domestic use have serious impacts on women, girls and children, for whom such chores are traditionally reserved.**

At Musupo Primary School in Moroto District, Karamoja, sub-region, children have to forfeit some of their lessons to collect firewood from Mount Moroto, if they are to have a meal ready during their lunch break.

In Nebbi District, Caroline Awachano, a primary school teacher often started her classes late, and sometimes missed them because she would spend more time collecting firewood to cook meals for her family of seven. Caroline and her husband, also a teacher, commute to their respective schools daily, a routine that requires them to start their day very early.

“Before the COVID-19 pandemic, my day would start by collecting and splitting firewood to prepare breakfast for the family before going to work. I would return late in the evening to prepare dinner. This requires a constant supply of firewood but we cut all trees around our home and now we have to move long distances to collect firewood,” she explains her daily challenges in finding firewood for cooking.

Today, Caroline’s story is different. She is one of the host beneficiaries of the Flexi-Biogas System that FAO is promoting through the Climate Resilient Livelihood Opportunities for Women Economic Empowerment (CRWEE) project, funded by the Swedish

Government through the Embassy of Sweden in Uganda. The USD 8million project aims to provide clean, safe and labour-saving energy technologies, influence gender roles and help to reverse the effects of climate change in the West Nile and the Karamoja regions of Uganda. This is done by turning agricultural residue and waste into clean energy. Through piloting the use of biogas in rural households, this intervention intends to increase women’s access to and control of productive resources and decision-making, improve household income, enhance women’s resilience to climate-related shocks and increase adaptation to climate-smart ecosystems through promoting bioenergy plantations, biogas models and energy-saving technologies.

Not only has this initiative helped women like Caroline by saving them from everyday smoke of wood fuel and related health risks, but it has also saved them the time spent collecting firewood for cooking. Their homes are cleaner and meals are prepared in time.

“

We use cow dung as the raw material, it’s available at home and we don’t have to walk to look for it. When the system is fed very well, I have clean energy to cook my meals for the next couple of days. Previously, my husband would never enter our smoke-filled kitchen but he now enjoys cooking with me. Often, he prepares meals for the children when I am not around,” says Caroline.

For 51-year old Margaret Alitango, a resident in Parombo sub-county, Nebbi District, the biogas system has saved her weekly expenses on firewood and enabled her daughter to have more time for her schooling.

“This biogas system has reduced the amount of firewood I used to use. I also spend less; I used to spend Shs 8000 on firewood weekly, but since I got the biogas, I spend Shs 1500 or less,” Margaret says. “It has also reduced the time I used to spend cooking,” she adds.

Margaret and her husband are both living with HIV and because of the fragility of their health, cooking with firewood increased their risk of other health-related complications. The biogas system is providing relief to the couple whose wish is to see other members of their community receive the same. Margaret says that by using the Flexi biogas system, she no longer suffers in anguish from the pain in her eyes, caused by the smoke from the firewood.

The dependency on wood biomass as a main source of energy in Uganda not only escalates natural resource destruction but also has related social challenges such as children skipping school to collect firewood, escalating Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as women and girls trek long distances to collect firewood. Precious resources such as time and labour which would be used for other household productive activities such as farming are considerably reduced by the need to collect firewood.

Mr Emmanuel Zziwa, the CRWEE Project Coordinator, says that biogas is the most plausible technology for using crop, animal and domestic wastes to generate cooking energy.

“While we need to increase forest coverage by planting new forests where forests have been cut, we cannot conserve the existing ones unless we provide alternative sources of energy,” he says, noting that biogas is one of the alternatives that can be adopted to reduce continuous cutting down of trees.

Once installed, the system requires animal manure such as cow or pig dung, poultry droplets or household wastes such as crop harvests or residues to generate energy for cooking.

Mr Daniel Johansson Århem, Head of Section for Political Affairs, Trade Promotion and Communication at the Embassy of Sweden in Uganda, notes that the Embassy’s current strategy is focused

on building climate resilience and gender equality. Promoting the adoption of the Flexi biogas systems to improve the lives and livelihoods of rural women becomes paramount.

“We hope that people who are benefiting from this intervention will no longer need to cut down as many trees to cook their food; and will also free up time for many women to engage in more productive activities,” he says.

Through the CWREE project and a second project funded by the European Union- Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA+) project, FAO will establish 200 Flexi-Biogas systems in the West Nile districts of Arua, Maracha, Koboko, Nebbi, Yumbe and Zombo, as well as in the Central Cattle Corridor Districts of Gomba, Kalungu, Kiboga, Luwero, Lyantonde, Mubende, Nakaseke, Nakasongola and Sembabule.

About 48 youth were selected and are currently receiving training as Service Provider Entrepreneurs (SPEs) in installation, maintenance and scaling up Flexi-biogas technology. These youths are training in fabrication, installation (plumbing works), maintenance and providing technical support to beneficiary households of the biogas units. 🌍



Ms. Caroline Awachano, her husband demonstrate cooking using biogas ©FAO



Ms. Caroline Awachano’s biogas system ©FAO





## DUTCH ENVOY INSPIRED BY ENTERPRISING YOUTH REFUGEES IN NAKIVALE SETTLEMENT

By Grace Rwomushana, International Labour Organization (ILO)

“

I have seen people with hopes and dreams. Youth and women who are trying to produce products to earn an income.” With these words, Her Excellency Karin Boven, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Uganda, summed up her first visit to Uganda’s oldest Refugee Settlement- Nakivale in Isingiro district.

The Ambassador was in Isingiro district on August 25th and 26th to visit activities being implemented under a partnership for improving prospects for forcibly displaced persons and host communities, known as (PROSPECTS).

This is a multi-year programme, funded by the Netherlands, that brings together five agencies; namely International Finance Cooperation (IFC), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Bank to devise collaborative and innovative approaches for inclusive job creation, education and protection in contexts characterized by forced displacement.

Unleashed, whose tagline is ‘potentials in motion’ is a refugee youth-led organisation where the Ambassador spent sometime during the visit. The organisation was started in 2018 to restore hope among young refugees, build self-esteem and confidence, develop skills and talents to enable them live meaningful lives through social entrepreneurship.

“We wanted to give fellow young refugees hope to do something productive with their lives instead of sitting and waiting for repatriation, which you never know when it will come, if it comes at all,” Victor Mafigi Turatsinze, a 30 year-old Congolese refugee told the Ambassador and her delegation that included ILO, UNICEF and UNCHR teams. Turatsinze, who co-founded Unleashed, has been a refugee in Uganda since 2012.

Unleashed uses a five-stage empowerment concept starting with entrance, exploration, concentration, linking and mastery. Although the organisation had been training youth since 2018, it did not have a well-designed curriculum until Taratsinze was introduced to the ILO’s Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) training packages late 2019, with support of PROSPECTS Programme.

Developed by ILO, SIYB is a management programme with a focus on starting and improving small businesses as a strategy for employment creation. Through four inter-related packages – Generate Your Business Idea (GYB), Start Your Business (SYB), Improve Your Business (IYB), and Expand Your Business (EYB) – SIYB aims to create jobs by enabling potential and existing small entrepreneurs to start viable businesses, increase the profitability of their existing enterprises and improve the working conditions of their employees in a way that enhances productivity.



Ambassador Karin Boven hands over a gift to Victor Turatsinze © ILO



L-R: Botanica’s founder, Patient Baraka; Unleashed’s Isaac Balikudembe and Victor Turatsinze at Unleashed offices in Nakivale Refugee Settlement, August 25, 2021. Some of the products produced by Botanica and Oasis Bakery are displayed in the foreground © ILO

“Connecting with SIYB has been very important for us to deliver our empowerment concept at Unleashed. We use Generate Your Business Idea (GYIB) at the entrance stage and all the way to acceleration, we follow SIYB curriculum,” he explains.

Turatsinze has trained 60 refugee youth with the SIYB curriculum, some of whom have started businesses or are trying to improve existing ones. For example, Oasis Bakery, which produces five types of bread started this year while Botanica, which produces a mosquito repellent jelly, Parafuita that makes fruit juice and a crafts and tailoring business, called Moddahlys, are being improved after the owners attended the SIYB training offered by Turatsinze at Unleashed. All these enterprises are located in Nakivale Refugee Settlement and collectively, they provide direct employment to 19 full-time refugee workers, with opportunities in distribution and input supplies for the bakery, mosquito repellent jelly and fruit juice processing.

These are just a few examples where hope and dreams of young refugees were exhibited to the Ambassador and her delegation. Small businesses with potential but still need to be nurtured to grow, create more and better jobs. 🌍



## THE SHE-CAN PROJECT EMPOWERING TEENAGE MOTHERS IN KAMULI DISTRICT

By Maureen Namuleme, UN Women



SHE-CAN project was run by The Thriving Women Initiative ©UN Women



Training on making hygienic reusable sanitary pads ©UN Women

**The SHE-CAN project was run by The Thriving Women Initiative, a team of three amazing women that are passionate about girls' and women's empowerment; Stella Marris Kizza, Musiime Maureen, and Harriet Kamashanyu.**

In March 2021, we traveled to Balawoli Village in Kamuli District, Eastern Uganda to execute the She-Can project. Our motive was to build the capacity of young mothers so they could be able to make bold decisions as well as enhance their participation in decision-making processes at home and in their communities. We had a goal of teaching between 50 and 100 teenage mothers with survival mechanisms to improve their quality of life and curb the vicious cycle of teenage pregnancies in Kamuli District – Eastern Uganda.

The strongest pillar in our intervention was the feminist leadership session which involved an in-depth discussion on self-awareness, self-care, and community care. This went hand in hand with a session on entrepreneurial innovation for income generation, where we taught the basics of soapmaking. The women shared their stories of frustration as young mothers and after a long dialogue, they were able to commit to a fresh start with the ability to make informed choices.

The project also focused on raising awareness about Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and disseminating the appropriate information on the root causes and effects of Gender-Based Violence and some SRHR components such as safe pregnancy and birth, the prevention and treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), dismantling menstrual stigma, and unpacking information on family planning and contraceptives. We

also trained over young mothers, 100 schoolgirls, and 10 primary schoolboys to make hygienic reusable sanitary pads.

Our team of young feminists is deeply concerned about creating a better world for our fellow sisters, especially here at home, in vulnerable situations, and in hard-to-reach areas. Uganda has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Sub-Saharan Africa with over 25% of pregnancies registered among teenagers every year. The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting school closures caused a drastic increase with a United Nations Population Fund document reporting more than 600 cases in Luuka District Eastern Uganda alone. Our needs assessment survey, therefore, directed our project to Kamuli District – Balawoli village. We found the local leadership of Balawoli village and the school administrators extremely supportive as they were all able to adjust their programs to ensure the execution of this project.

We registered a couple of challenges, but we found that they were also learning points for us as feminist leaders. The time given for the activity was not sufficient, so we had to implement it quite quickly. The weather also proved to be a challenge as the rainy season made it difficult for most participants to move long distances and we took more time on the road than anticipated.

Despite all of this, the project was a success because of the firm grounding we achieved in the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI). The virtual training that led us here equipped us with the skills to lead the 'Feminist Leadership' sessions that were key in our project implementation. Our choice of a participatory approach during the training was a good choice as it helped us in obtaining information on what participants already knew and tailor the sessions accordingly. The AWLI also prepared us to develop a needs-based project for greater impact and hone our



proposal writing skills to gain funding. Our respective mentors were invaluable right from the ideation of the project to specific and challenging feedback on our theories that kept us evolving. We are humbled to have had a great support system throughout the entire process.

We learned several things during the course of our project. First, we had to tailor our dress code to fit in and learn the language to engage with the community better. This enabled us to form great relationships with the individuals we trained, some of whom we are still working with, in a long-term mentorship relationship to support the practical application of the skills we taught. We also quickly realized the necessity of teamwork and our synergy enabled us to support each other in all ways as we worked towards our shared destination. One of the things that helped us achieve this was consistent internal evaluation during the activities that helped us reflect daily on our progress and strategize new ways to improve.

Our gratitude goes to Akina Mama wa Afrika and UN Women for the opportunity to run the Community Action Projects (CAP) as an end activity after our feminist leadership training. It empowered us to pass on the knowledge and insight attained as well as build our confidence and teamwork in serving the community. We are on the path to attaining our primary goal of creating a movement of girls/women feminists empowered holistically through a membership/SACCO approach. The community we chose welcomed our initiative and both the young mothers and the school leadership at Balawoli Primary committed to making the liquid soap on a large-scale basis with a goal of becoming the leading liquid soap supplier in the entire district. We intend to have continuity of this project in this area with a possibility of expanding to more villages and sub-counties in Kamuli District. We have a vision of partnering with local associations in the communities that are doing familiar work to avoid duplication of resources and also ensure project sustainability. 🌍



Training on making hygienic reusable sanitary pads ©UN Women





# MANAGEMENT BOARD APPROVES 6 ADDITIONAL PROJECTS FOR FINANCING, SPURS POLICY CHANGE

By Joan Alupo, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

Kampala, Uganda - Support to Agricultural Revitalization and Transformation (START) Management Board last month approved six investment proposals for financing during its quarterly meeting. The projects, which had initially failed to make the pipeline, received pre-investment business development services support to address operational gaps in their business processes, allowing them to move to the proposal development stage and ultimately before the Board for approval.

START provides business development support to targeted small and medium enterprises (SMEs) at different stages of growth to help address both basic and complex business challenges to enable the businesses access funding from START and other financial institutions. The business development support is also designed to address issues that may affect the growth and performance of the SME after accessing financing.

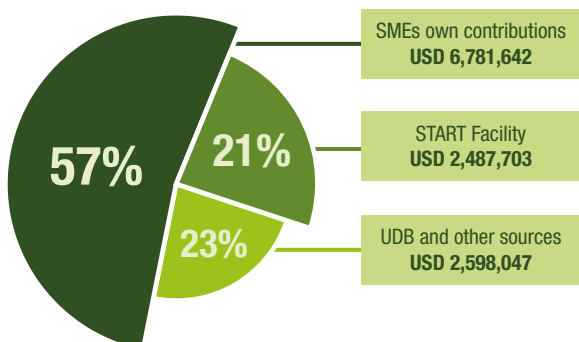
Projects approved by the Board are submitted to Uganda Development Bank (UDB) for concessional loan structuring and disbursement. This process includes credit analysis and due diligence as per the bank's standards. However, many SMEs still struggle with the bank's requirements such as paying appraisal fees, providing appropriate collateral and valuation, which cause delays in disbursement.

"Given this experience, UDB is rolling out an SME policy that will allow SMEs to access money faster and make it simpler for them to qualify for funding. We have revised our requirements so as to allow more SMEs [to] benefit from the bank's financing options," shared Stephen Kakonge Senior Investments Manager Agriculture, UDB.

The six projects approved bring the total to 28 of the active START pipeline, achieving 70 percent of the facility's target to finance 40 SMEs by the end of the five-year period of 2018 to 2022.

The total project cost for the 28 projects stands at UGX 41,535,883,827 (US\$ 11,867,395) with UGX 8,706,961,127 (\$2,487,703) contribution from START leveraging UGX 23,735,747,602 (\$ 6,781,642) in owner contributions and UGX 9,093,165,098 (\$2,598,047) from UDB and other financial institutions. The facility is achieving financial leverage of 1:1 from UDB and other financial partners.

**CONCESSIONAL LOANS:** 28 Projects  
**Total Project Size:** USD 11,867,395



START provides concessional finance to agribusiness SMEs engaged in value addition. Kana Grain Millers in Omoro district, has used financing from the facility to purchase modern equipment for drying, storing and packaging maize flour. ©UNCDF

"While the project was designed to require only 25 percent contribution from the SMEs, the actual contribution has been overwhelming at nearly 60 percent implying the high potential of the targeted SMEs to contribute to local economic development. The facility is also using the limited project funds to unlock financing from other financing partners at a ratio of 1:1, thus helping to achieve the project goal of increasing access to finance," said Deus Tirwakunda START Facility Manager, United Nations Capital Development Fund.

By providing customized business development support START is empowering local businesses to access markets, finance and acquire skills and technology to manage sustainable enterprises that promote local economic development. By the end of 2020, the projects had created market for 85,000 farmers and over 500 jobs.

Read more about the facility's progress in our recently released brochure: <https://uncdf.link/start>

## ABOUT START

Established in 2018, START is improving access to affordable finance for SMEs engaged in agro value addition in Northern Uganda. The facility provides a customized mix of business development services, project development and finance structuring services, and financial products in the form of concessional and zero interest loans, technical assistance grants and partial credit guarantees.

START was designed to support the implementation of the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) programme's food security, nutrition, and livelihoods component by providing affordable financing to improve access to locally diversified foods. 🌍





## IOM HANDS OVER RELIEF ITEMS FOR VICTIMS OF FLOODING IN WESTERN UGANDA

By Innocent Vuga, International Organization for Migration (IOM)



Chief of Mission Mr. Sanusi Tejan Savage (Right) performs the formal handover to Minister Hilary Onek © IOM

### **The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recently handed over relief items to the Office of the Prime Minister, meant to support victims of the recent flooding in the western district of Kasese.**

The items were on 10 August 2021 presented to the Minister of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, Hilary Onek, at the office of the Prime Minister in Kampala. They included hand washing stations, buckets, laundry soap, sanitizer, and reusable face masks, valued at nearly UGX 22.4 million.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, IOM Uganda Chief of Mission, Mr. Sanusi Tejan Savage said Internal displacement such as that caused by natural disasters is one of the issues on which IOM is mandated to support the Government and people of Uganda.



Experience shows that when people are displaced, hygiene and sanitation are critical life-saving interventions," Mr. Savage said, adding that IOM was also working with Uganda Red Cross to provide further support on displacement.

The event was also attended by Mr. Gerald Menhya, the Acting Commissioner for Refugees, and Brig. Gen Stephen Oluka, Head of the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC). Mr Menhya said the water levels in Uganda's water bodies had been swelling since last year, and the recent flooding in western Uganda had displaced at least 2,000 people.

Minister Hilary Onek welcomed the support from IOM, and hoped more support from other organisations would follow. He said the current COVID-19 pandemic had affected the government's capacity to cater for victims of disasters like floods. The minister cited other districts that have been affected, such as Ntoroko, where three sub-counties are submerged, as well as Buliisa, Amolatar. "With heavy rains coming back, we expect landslides. There are already some landslides but it is not yet catastrophic."

Meanwhile, Minister Onek said, in the Karamoja region in the northeast has suffered irregular rains, which has led to crop failure. The Government now fears the region could face famine.

According to IOM Uganda's Acting Programme Coordinator, Ms. Odette Bolly, the agency is embarking on a European Union-funded project to support OPM and several district local authorities on disaster risk detection, reduction and response. 🌍





## MEET KARAMOJA'S GREAT DEBATER

By Patience Akumu, World Food Programme (WFP)



Stella Adokorach in conversation with WFP. She loves to debate and hopes to one day become a policewoman. The take home ration from WFP, with support from Ireland, enables her stay home and concentrate on revision. © WFP

**When COVID-19 broke out, World Food Programme, with support from Ireland, replaced hot school meals with a take home ration to reduce the school dropout rate and encourage learning at home. Adokorach Stella, 16, is in primary six at Kacheri Primary School, Kotido. She is one of the learners who receive food every month. Before COVID-19, she also enjoyed hot school meals, often her only food for the day. She spoke about the impact of school feeding on her life and dreams.**

Before COVID-19, we had a district debating competition. I love to debate. I am one of the best debaters in my school, and I was happy to represent Kacheri Primary in the competition. I wore my clean uniform then went to school to take porridge. It was nice warm porridge from WFP. I had a lot of energy. I was excited and ready. The motion was Educating a girl child is better than educating a boy child. I was a

proposer, debating in support of the motion. I made the point that a girl child never gives up on her people. My school was number two, and I was named the second-best debater in Kotido.

When schools closed due to COVID-19, what I missed the most was debating. But my biggest worry was that I would not be able to have school food. That is why I was excited when they announced that we shall receive food even at home. The girls who had already dropped out of school said,



**I wish I knew. I would not have dropped out of school. Now I would be receiving a take home ration."**

All these girls are now planning to go back to school after COVID-19 so that, next time, they do not miss out on such good support. 🌍





## MAMA K: AN OUTSTANDING UNHCR FRONT LINE HUMANITARIAN WORKER

By Yonna Tukundane, UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)



Mama K during her border monitoring visit at Ngomoromo Boarder -Lamwo District, Uganda © UNHCR

### **Agnes Kanyonyi, mostly referred to as Mama K, started her career with UNHCR on 1st December 2003, as a Protection Associate at UNHCR Kibondo Sub-office in Tanzania.**

“While working as an Interpreter for the Inspector General’s Office mission, I was inspired to join UNHCR to promote women and children rights, I am now retiring as an Associate Filed officer, what an encouraging to other staff, it is a matter of being committed and serving Persons of Concerns to UNHCR with passion and Integrity, the promotion will automatically follow you, I am the witness” said Mama K.

Before joining UNHCR as an Interpreter, Mama K worked with UNHCR as a Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) Project staff under Ted-Turner Funds. Through Ted Turner funding UNHCR was able to initiate a multisectoral approach involving different protection stakeholders like community services partners, lawyers, magistrates, refugees, and the host communities. The team facilitated the development of the SGBV how-to guide.

“My best memory day at work is when I became part of the first UNHCR Innovation Fellowship team member in 2014,” said Mama K. Mama K prepared a proposal to promote Secondary Education to young mothers and vulnerable children who had dropped out of school due to SGBV and exploitative behaviours/ labour. As of today, several young mothers from the project joined tertiary institutions, acquired degrees and completed other courses. “My message is never give up if you believe you are doing the right thing and on right direction,” said Mama K.

“I always remember when I was attached by bandits when going in the camp for non-food item-(NFI) distribution to refugees while working with an NGO before joining UNHCR,” recalls Mama K. “The attacker pushed me down on the hard rock. I ended up losing one of my essential senses, but I strongly moved on after treatment to serve the persons of concern.”

In Uganda, Mama K worked in the Palabek refugee settlement as an Emergency Response Team (ERT) staff member. She was part of the team that established the settlement and witnessed the arrival of the first refugee. At the time, her daily commute between home and office was over 130 kilometers. Mama K served as an Associate Field Officer, member of Peer Advisor and trainer for Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Code of Conduct (CoC) in the Kyaka II refugee settlement.



As I retire on September 30, my general observation is that with the UNHCR job, we work beyond the call of duty, especially when receiving new arrivals or facilitating repatriation, which is rewarding to serve the needy,” she said.”

Uganda hosts the largest number of refugees in Africa – more than 1.49 million, mostly from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi. Mama K will keep in touch with UNHCR Innovation headquarters to support the different initiatives even in retirement. 🌍



## EMPOWERING REFUGEES AND ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES IN THEIR LIVES

By Collins Aduabango, UN Area Coordination (UNAC) Office, West Nile



Kennedy Lukaya and his wife Betty with their Maize harvest on their compound

### Over the years, various UN Agencies through their Implementing partners have extended livelihood support to refugees in various settlements.

This support has proven to be one of the most effective tools to provide refugees with steady revenue reducing over reliance on relief. A tour of Rhino Refugee Settlement – Madi-Okollo district provides an insight into how refugees convert this support to “Pillar of the livelihood”.

#### THE STORY OF LUKAYA KENNEDY KENYI

Lukaya Kennedy Kenyi 36-year-old refugee from Lake State – Rumbek in South Sudan a father of 3 children came to Uganda separately with his wife Betty Kayonga after they were separated by war in South Sudan. Lukaya was a businessman with booming business in South Sudan before he was interrupted by war. In 2015, Lukaya was abducted by the rebels after looting him of all his belongings. He was forced to join them or else lose his life as he narrates. Three months later, Lukaya escaped from the bush up to Uganda. Before reaching Uganda around the border, he was arrested by South Sudan Army and taken back to barracks where he was tortured and left to go home. Lukaya then escaped to Uganda through Koboko district where he linked up with his wife Betty who had escaped earlier on his advice and was in Wanyange zone C in Rhino refugee settlement.

#### THE LIFE IN UGANDA

Life was extremely difficult since I came with nothing and starting from zero and depending on relief, he narrates. He did a lot of casual work for his family to survive. Building shelters and digging pit latrines for new arrivals under Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and CARE. On 27th June 2016, Lukaya and family was re-allocated a plot of land for settlement in Wanyange Zone in Rhino Refugee settlement in Madi-Okollo District (by then Arua District). He then chose extreme end of the plots being allocated where to-date, he established his farm.



Being an orphan, my aunt taught me how to farm and taught me not to choose places in the middle of people to progress with development if I want to. I took that advice and when the time for re-allocating plots came, me and my wife chose to come to extreme end where we established ourselves and determined to work hard for our future,” he narrated.

In August 2016, FAO gave them 20 chicken, which they kept and multiplied. In 2017 Easter time, they sold the chicken which had reached 45 in number to DRC for Easter package for their staff in Yoro base camp. From the chicken alone, they raised UGX 1.5 million. The income from the chicken and the casual work changed their life. They were also able to buy 100 chicken, 2 pigs. From sales of these items, they raised UGX 2.7 million. The money was used to raise bricks for People with Special Needs (PSN) and part of it he bought a Heifer at UGX 680,000.

In 2018, they used some proceeds to take their children to a boarding school in Arua.

In 2019, the project expanded to include rice production where he harvested 1500 Kgs, bought 28 piglets and later constructed a strong poultry shelter and pig sty.

In 2020, he sold a cow and used the money to expand the poultry business and from sales of the birds, he received UGX 4.6 million. He was then taken for a training on piggery at Adraa Farm in Madi Okollo District.



## UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL DAYS FOR JOINT COMMEMORATION BY UN UGANDA IN 2021

	INTERNATIONAL DAY	LEAD UN AGENCY	PARTICIPATING UN AGENCIES	PARTICIPATING PARTNERS
15 SEPT	International Day of Democracy	UNDP	OHCHR	Parliament of Uganda
21 SEPT	International Day of Peace	UNDP	UNWOMEN	Office of the Prime Minister
29 SEPT	World Tourism Day	UNDP		Ministry of Tourism Wildlife and Antiquities Uganda Tourism Board

## UN & SDGS AWARENESS MONTH 2021

	INTERNATIONAL DAY	LEAD UN AGENCY	PARTICIPATING UN AGENCIES	PARTICIPATING PARTNERS
05 OCT	World Teachers' Day	UNESCO	UNICEF	Ministry of Education and Sports
05 OCT	World Habitat Day	UNHABITAT	UNCDF UNDP	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
10 OCT	World Mental Health Day	WHO		Ministry of Health
11 OCT	International Day of the Girl Child	UNICEF	UN WOMEN UNFPA	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
13 OCT	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	UNDP		Office of the Prime Minister
15 OCT	International Day of Rural Women	UN WOMEN	FAO UNFPA	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
16 OCT	World Food Day	FAO	WFP	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
17 OCT	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	UNDP	FAO	National Planning Authority
24 OCT	United Nations Day	RCO	All agencies	Office of the Prime Minister SDG Secretariat Ministry of Foreign Affairs
31 OCT	World Cities Day	UNHABITAT		Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development

### EMPOWERING REFUGEES AND ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES IN THEIR LIVES

#### Consolidated benefits

To date Lukaya boasts of having 40 pigs, 2.5 Acres of maize, 1 acre of rice, 0.5 acres of banana plantation, 0.5 acres of trial sesame seeds, 0.5 acres of cassava and groundnut (pea nut) and employs 5 casual labourers on daily basis. He supplies piglets to several farmers in the settlement

**Challenges:** Lukaya's main challenge is lack transport to connect to his customers and quality of his produce that cannot yet compete with other serious farmers.

**Motivation:** Lukaya's motivation comes from H.E. President Yoweri Museveni's preaching about model farmers. He plans to be the farmer that the President talks about.

**Dream:** Lukaya dreams to be that farmer in the region whom everyone looks up to and he wants to create a name for himself as one of the big farmers in the country.

**Request to well-wishers:** Luakaya request for means of transport to reach his customers and exposure to training opportunities to other farms. 🌍



Kennedy Lukaya attending to his pigs



UNITED NATIONS  
UGANDA



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