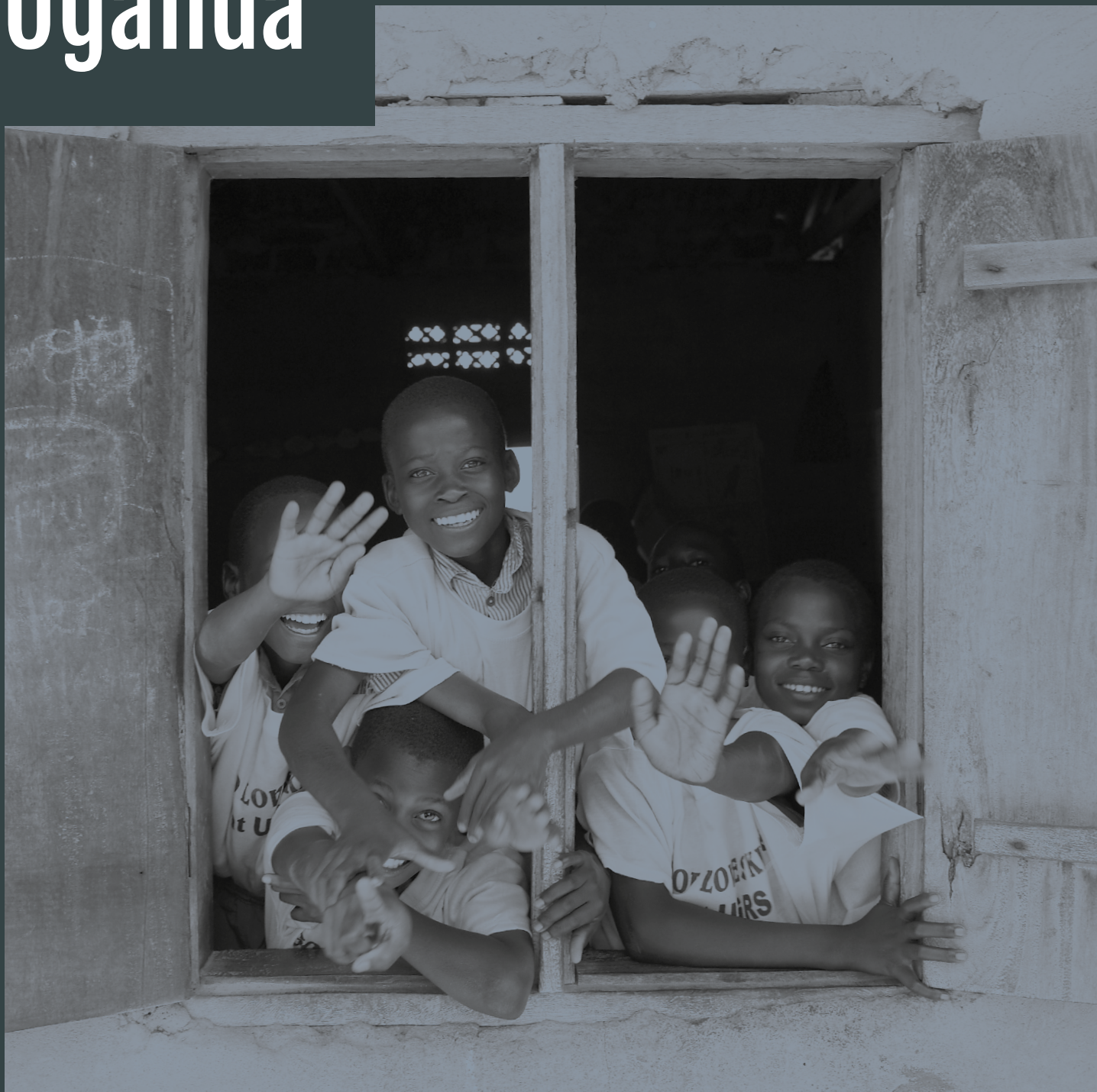


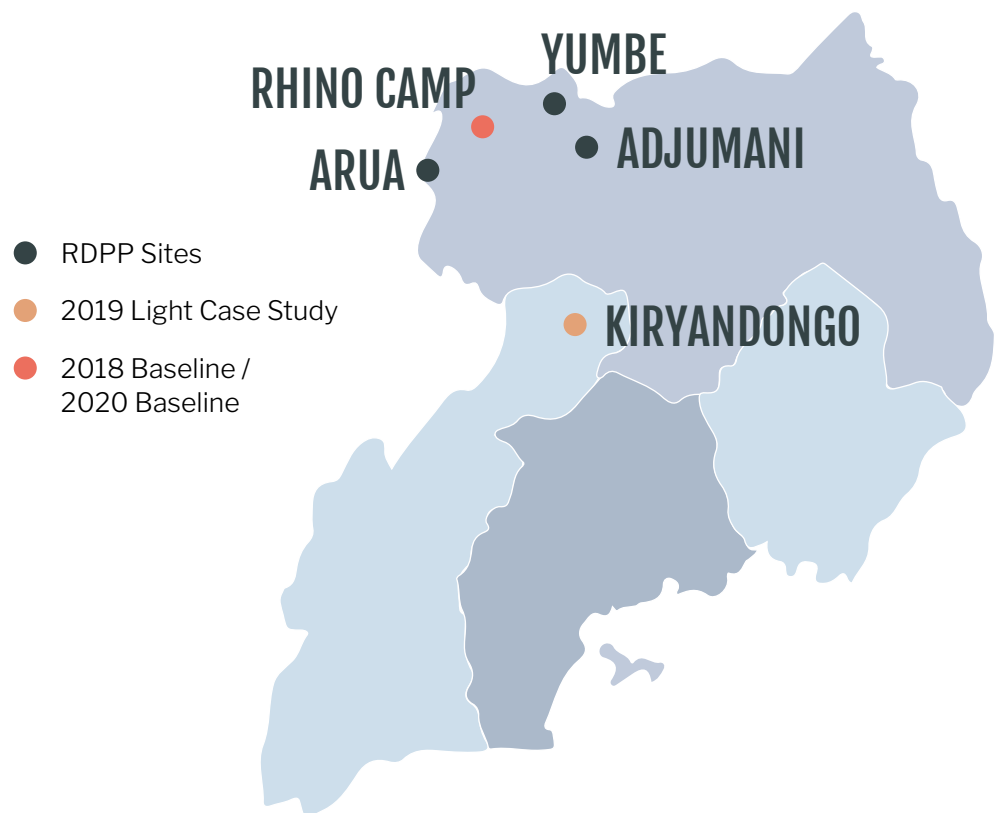
Uganda



RDPP in Uganda (Rhino Camp, Arua): Endline assessment

The Learning and Evaluation Team (LET) of the Regional Development Protection Programme (RDPP) presents its impact evaluation (2018-2020) of the integrated approach to refugee and host communities. The results of this endline evaluation build on the baseline evaluation conducted in 2018.

View summary video [here](#).



LET composition:

Co-leads: Samuel Hall & MDF Consultancy

Consortium Members: Maastricht University & ECDPM

This evaluation is supported and guided by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and presented by the LET. The report does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The report was authored by the research team at Samuel Hall, led by Nassim Majidi, Stefanie Barratt and Rebecca Frischkorn with contributions from Sonja Fransen and Melissa Siegel at Maastricht University and Anna Knoll at ECDPM. “Samuel Hall, MDF, Maastricht, ECDPM (2021) Progressive Effects Evaluation of the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP): Uganda Country Chapter, funded by the Dutch MFA, Netherlands.”

Key Take-Aways

1. Relevance

RDPP interventions are aligned with local and national priorities, while providing a needed platform to bring humanitarian and development actors together

RDPP activities in Uganda are aligned with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). They are part of the Support Programme for Refugee Settlements in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU) and focus on the following elements: water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), livelihoods, learning (ALP), social cohesion between refugees and host communities and labour market skills development. The SPRS-NU has a number of built-in mechanisms that allow interventions to be based on the demand of refugees and host communities, and are aligned with national and local authorities' plans.

2. Coordination

Coordination both internally among IPs and externally with local counterparts is a best practice that should be shared widely

Implementing partners regularly consulted with the community to ensure programming addressed the target population's needs. Coordination between partners and local government appears equally strong. Local government structures, such as leadership councils, Refugee Welfare Councils (RWCs), and local police have increased coordination to better address disputes that arise between the host and refugee communities.

3. Effectiveness

Positive steps taken to address local livelihoods with more work still needed at national level

Between 2018-2020, refugees were encouraged to save money to facilitate the shift from food to cash-based assistance. However, refugee and host focus still lies on vocational training, of which the scope of programme does not match the demand. The new Technical and Vocational Education Training policy has been approved and its link with operationalization is a fundamental next step to ensure gains in livelihood dimension scores. Programming to enhance trading centers is a necessary next step in adaptive programming: they hold a key to livelihoods and social cohesion improvements. This presents an opportunity to link programming with banks and private sector actors, and to ensure programming is not seen as benefiting one group over another.

Key Take-Aways

4. Impact

Progress in social cohesions between refugees and hosts remain mixed, more adaptive approach needed

The 2018-2020 comparison shows gains in education, but points to the need to link livelihood, social cohesion, and integration further for better results. Relationships between refugees and host and levels of social cohesion remain mixed. Any progress made remains at risk due to deteriorating economic and social effects of COVID-19. Revenues decreased, transport costs increased, and food insecurity is now an issue due to an increase in food costs, exacerbating many of the issues RDPP sought to mitigate through its programming.

5. Sustainability

Strong commitments at the national level

Prospects for sustainability of programming appear better in Uganda than some of the other RDPP locations thanks to efforts made in terms of coordination with national counterparts. Stakeholders on the ground nonetheless consider that the gains made are fragile, particularly in a context of Covid-related lockdowns and a general economic downturn. The strong focus on TVET will bear more fruit if efforts are made to identify a market for the projects produced by those who partook in trainings – government engagement in this regard is key to sustainability of livelihoods programming under RDPP.

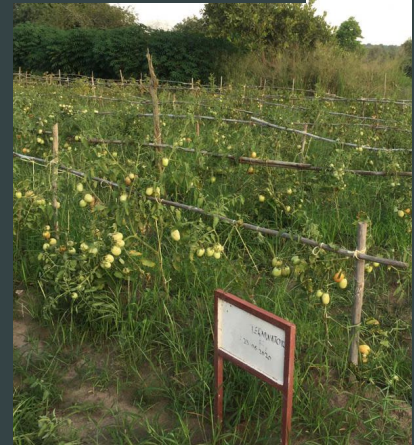


Residents taking turns to fill their containers with water at Ofua II

A new solar-powered water pump in Ariwa community



An outdoor tomato demonstration farm at the Youth Skills Development Centre, Siripi



A carpentry workshop at Siripi trading centre founded by a graduate of the Youth Skills Development Centre



A Greenhouse at the Youth Skills Development Centre



Children playing at the grounds of Siripi Primary School



Ofua II market

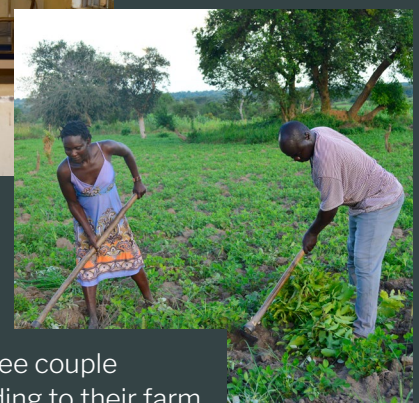


Beneficiaries of technical education programme making facemasks for the UNHCR

Hand washing facilities



In-patient ward at Siripi Health Centre III



Refugee couple attending to their farm

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Acronyms

ACAV	Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
ALP	Accelerated Learning Programme
CEFORD	Community Empowerment for Rural Development
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
ENABEL	The Belgian Development Agency
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IP	Implementing partner
KII	Key Informant Interview
LET	Learning and Evaluation Team
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
RDPP	Regional Development and Protection Programme
RWC	Refugee Welfare Council
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Society
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-based Violence
SPRS-NU	Support Programme for Refugee Settlements in Northern Uganda
SSI	Semi-structured Interview
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VHT	Village Health Team
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
ZOA	Zuidoost Africa

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

The Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) is a European programme to create evidence-based, innovative and sustainable protection and development approaches for refugees and their host communities in Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda. The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs contracted the Learning and Evaluation Team (LET), co-led by MDF and Samuel Hall with Maastricht University and ECDPM, to conduct evaluations of RDPP over the three-year implementation period, 2018-2020. At the end of the programme, a combined quantitative and qualitative progressive effects evaluation was organised to assess progress and provide learning that will feed into policy making both nationally and regionally. **This country report provides an overview of the results from Uganda with a specific focus on Rhino camp in Aura district – one of four sites of RDPP implementation.** It can be read in complement to the full *Final Regional Progressive Effects Evaluation*, which synthesises learning from all five countries.

The RDPP in Uganda aims to strengthen integrated solutions and foster long-term capacity-building and governance. The overarching approach to RDPP interventions in Uganda contributes to the development of a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) for which Uganda is one of the first target countries. With a budget of €20M budget, the RDPP programme acts specifically in the districts of Adjumani, Arua, Kiryandongo and Yumbe, supports access to equal livelihood opportunities and services to the host populations and the large number of refugees in the country, with the objective of easing the tensions arising between these communities (Table 1).

Table 1. RDPP in Uganda

Full Project Name	IPs	Locations
Support Programme to the Refugee Settlements and Host Communities in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU)	ADA (Austrian Development Agency)	Adjumani, Arua, Kiryandongo, Yumbe
	Consortium: DRC (lead), Save the Children, ZOA and Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD)	
	Consortium: ENABEL, DRC	

Focused on refugee population in Rhino camp, as well the host communities in the vicinity, SPRS-NU had three main objectives

1. Improve livelihoods, food and nutrition security
2. Mitigate risks of further escalation of conflicts
3. Increase access to education

Each Implementing partner (IP) targeted different sectors: ADA focused on water, sanitation and health (WASH), ENABEL on livelihoods and a DRC-led NGO consortium including Save the Children, ZOA and CEFORD addressed livelihoods, conflict management and education.

This endline country report follows the [previous baseline evaluation](#) to provide a broad view of conditions for the refugee and host communities in the site of study, while considering specific RDPP activities implemented and their wider impact. The evaluation was guided by 12 key questions listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Key evaluation questions

Relevance	
EQ1.	How does the RDPP adapt to context dynamics?
EQ2.	To what extent have different sub-groups actively contributed to needs- and context assessments? What are mechanisms for feedback and influence of refugees and host communities on projects?
Coordination	
EQ3.	How does the RDPP coordinate with partners and authorities?
EQ4.	Did the RDPP help to strengthen the capacity of IPs and local authorities to develop and implement an integrated approach towards refugees?
Effectiveness	
EQ5.	To what extent and how did RDPP help to strengthen the legal protection of refugees, with emphasis on vulnerable groups?
EQ6.	What results have been achieved in integrated access to/use of energy, water, education and health, and employment?
EQ7.	Which factors positively or negatively impact the effectiveness of individual interventions?
Impact	
EQ8.	What is the impact on beneficiaries? What is the income effect? How is social cohesion influenced by the RDPP?
EQ9.	How do project and programme results impact potential future migration decisions of refugees?
Sustainability	
EQ10.	Which challenges hinder the successful implementation of projects?
EQ11.	Is it possible to elaborate on the sustainability of individual interventions? What are the main determinants for sustainability? Which challenges hinder the successful implementation of projects?
EQ12.	What are key governance factors for effectively implementing policies aimed at sustainable protection and development approaches for refugees and their host communities?

1.2 Contextual Challenges

Uganda host the largest population of refugees in Africa.¹ As of 2020, the population amounts to 1,404,858 refugees and 24,410 asylum seekers. The majority, 61.7% (882,699), of the refugees come from South Sudan, followed by the 29.3% (418,994) from the Democratic Republic of Congo and others, to a lesser degree, from Burundi, Somalia, Rwanda and Eritrea.² 94% live in refugee settlements across the country, where women and children comprise 81% of the population.³ Many of these refugees have lived in the camps for the past three decades and in 2019 the majority was under 18.

Through the rollout of RDPP, Uganda has maintained a progressive outlook towards the refugee population. It continues an open-border policy and refugees can exercise their freedom of movement, seek formal employment and receive education. In 2017, Uganda began the implementation of CRRF which underlines the promotion of self-reliance amongst refugees. In 2019, the Global Compact on Refugees was established, to which Uganda responded by updating its National Plan of Action. Refugees are included in national policies and from July 2020, the 13 refugee-hosting districts were incorporated into this group into their long-term planning.⁴

The response to the refugee situation is hampered in a situation of general lack of development. The demand for services such as water, health and education are not fully met in many states. For example, schools are severely overcrowded and 86% of secondary school refugee students are out of school.⁵ Land scarcity is predicted to soon become a problem as well.⁶ Uganda has recently been impacted by the locust infestation, flooding and the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to the worsening of the economic situation in 2020. There was also rising uncertainty about the upcoming elections in February 2021.⁷

The economic situation in Uganda is predicted to worsen significantly. GDP growth in 2020 was below 2% compared to 5.6% in 2019. With increased unemployment, up to 3 million people will fall into poverty.⁸ A recent survey by the World Food Program highlighted that many refugees living in urban areas lost up to 75% of their income during the pandemic.⁹ The refugee population, as one of the most vulnerable groups in the country, will be especially impacted in the long-term. Even though UNHCR pledged to provide an exceptional, one-time support for this group, it will remain to be affected by the economic downturn.

¹ European Commission. (2020). Uganda. Factsheet. European Commission. | ² UNHCR. (2020). Uganda. Comprehensive Refugee Response Portal. UNHCR | ³ Uganda. Refugee Statistics August 2020. | ⁴ UNHCR. (2020). Fact Sheet. Uganda. January 2020. UNHCR. | ⁵ UNHCR. (2020). Fact Sheet. Uganda. January 2020. UNHCR. | ⁶ European Commission. (2020). Uganda. Factsheet. European Commission. | ⁷ World Bank. (2020). Uganda. Overview. World Bank. | ⁸ World Bank. (2020). Overview. Uganda. World Bank. | ⁹ Alam, D. (May 2020). Urban refugees face hunger in Uganda coronavirus lockdown. UNHCR.

1.3 Methodology

The selection of Rhino camp in Aura was based on recommendations from the implementing partners (IPs), considering feasibility of access, population size and level of implementation by all partners. While the spread-out nature of Rhino camp created some logistical challenges, the presence of host households living in the vicinity of the camps and benefitting from RDPP activities could be easily identified.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, research activities had to be adapted to account for the challenging context in 2020, utilizing both remote and minimum-contact methods. The 2020 endline data collection included a phone-based quantitative survey, focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs) and semi structured interviews (SSIs) by following WHO recommended COVID-19 (Table 3). Further, a desk review was based on submitted IP reports, related reports and evaluations, and output indicator monitoring.¹⁰ The LET team's researchers and network of enumerators were closely involved in data collection in Uganda, despite the challenges created by COVID-19, and remotely, exchanging daily with key local stakeholders.

For the quantitative survey, the study relied on a contacts database from the 2018 baseline to reach host and refugee respondents. The sample was selected from the baseline with additional contacts snowballed when necessary. Respondents who participated in the qualitative study were purposefully selected based on age, gender, nationality and population distribution in the study location. The study also produced field photo and video evidence, and community observations which contributed to the contextual analysis of key study sectors.

Table 3. Data collection for the endline study in Uganda in 2020

	Refugee	Host	Mixed	TOTAL
FGDs	3	4	7	14
SSIs	2	2	-	4
KIIs	-	-	-	12
Community Observations, including photos and video	3	1	-	4
Survey	431	424	-	855

¹⁰ LET objectives and approach are distinct from the ongoing monitoring and learning efforts by Altai Consulting across all projects (focused at EU Trust Fund (EUTF) Horn of Africa portfolio level).

1.4 Limitations and Constraints

Given the COVID-19 pandemic situation at the time of fieldwork, and with related travel restrictions and for safety and ethical reasons, a COVID-19 sensitive approach was used, including methods that minimised in-person interaction, and transforming traditional methods into digital ones. Although this strategy was largely successful, pandemic-related challenges remained regarding the project's timeline and scope. The fieldwork schedule was re-adjusted continuously in order to follow changing government regulations, which caused a delay in research implementation.

Fieldwork progress was further slowed due to the size of Rhino camp and poor roads between Arua town and the refugee camp. Additionally, the data quality control team spent more time assessing the quality of field data since the study relied completely on field-based researchers. However, the team successfully adjusted the fieldwork schedule to account for needed adaptations.

The establishment of a call centre and use of mobile survey limited first-hand interaction with respondents. An initial high unsuccessful call rate made it difficult to hit the required daily targets. However, the research team expanded the database of phone numbers through in-person phone number collection and snowballing from participants.

2. Background: The RDPP Story in Uganda

The RDPP was launched in June 2015 and has been incorporated as one of the flagship initiatives of the broader Valletta Action Plan in support of the European-African migration dialogue. The Horn of Africa is host to the largest - and growing - refugee population in Sub-Saharan Africa, fleeing from conflict and drought. In Northern Uganda, tensions exist between host-communities, long-term refugees and many of the new arrivals from South Sudan over the last several years. Limited resources, such as firewood, water and land, and access to services has exacerbated conflicts, evidenced by recent violent clashes in September 2020.¹¹

The underlying assumption of RDDP interventions is that if host communities and refugees benefit from shared livelihoods assets, improved service delivery and conflict management mechanisms, inter-communal relations and development outcomes will improve. The focus then in Uganda was on three specific objectives:

1. Improve food security, nutrition and livelihoods of the refugee population and host communities in a sustainable manner, through increasing production locally and through intensification of exchanges between refugees and the neighbouring communities.
2. Improve intercommunity dialogue at local level and put in place conflict prevention mechanisms to avoid clashes between the host and the refugee communities or within the communities themselves.
3. Improve the level of education and increase, through skills development, medium and long-term economic opportunities for refugees and host communities – especially for youth and women, in order to contribute to a better integration of refugees.¹²

The following provides a high-level overview of actions implemented and their progress before proceeding with an assessment of Rhino camp and its neighbouring host communities.

¹¹ Samuel Okiror (2020). Uganda calls in troops as violence flares between refugees and locals. The Guardian | ¹² Rider number 1 to Action Document for the implementation of the Horn of Africa Window T05 – EUTF – HoA – UG – 07

2.1 Addressing WASH

As part of the target to improve food security, nutrition and livelihoods, ADA leads the WASH component to ensure sustainable access to safe water and improve environmental sanitation conditions in targeted communities. A number of activities took place, including two piped water supply schemes constructed, implementation of various WASH and environmental campaigns that reached 1,138 individuals. 63,272 people now benefit from improved water sources thanks to RDPP programming.¹³ Boreholes were drilled in key locations despite a number of challenges faced, such as low underground water potential which led to very low yield and dry wells in some settlements.

2.2 Building an integrated approach to conflict mitigation

The DRC consortium focused on reducing the risk of conflict between refugee and host communities, focusing on four major areas: conflict management, livelihood (including food security), education through Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP), and research. The project's key achievements include the completion of the Enabling Rural Innovations training module and agricultural support to 573 livelihoods groups. Business support was extended to 1,770 persons, strategic support to 16 Producer or Marketing Associations. Close to 3,400 children received education via the accelerated learning programme. DRC established children's clubs in which youth received training and guidance on decision making and life skills (problem solving, critical thinking and assertiveness).

Altai Consulting reports that the DRC project has provided 29,686 people with food security-related assistance and provided 36,541 individuals with nutrition assistance. Further, 31,450 persons benefitted from the formation of Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups and formal linkages to financial services.¹⁴

2.3 Fostering skills development

ENABEL's component of the SPRS-NU project focused on enhancing 'livelihood and labour market relevant' skills for youth, women and girls of the refugees and host communities in Northern Uganda, specifically through skills development (training, entrepreneurial skills and start-up kits). In terms of livelihood support, the ENABEL project provided 4,494 people professional trainings through Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) and/or skills development (e.g. coding, soap making, pig farming and other life skills).¹⁵ ENABEL also reached 1,822 persons participating in conflict prevention and peace building activities.¹⁶ Importantly, ENABEL implements awareness and promotion campaigns to encourage vulnerable groups' participation in their trainings.

A key objective of ENABEL was coordinating skills development in Northern Uganda with the national Skilling Uganda strategy approach. It engaged in labour market scans to identify environment-friendly approaches and solutions linked with skills provision. Further through supporting local coordination structures, relevant stakeholders were able to discuss training needs, skills anticipation, private sector involvement in skills development, etc.

¹³ Altai reporting | ¹⁴ Altai, output monitoring reporting | ¹⁵ Ibid | ¹⁶ Ibid

3. Results Overview: Baseline to the Endline Comparison

A high-level analysis of key indicators in and around Rhino Camp, both directly in the RDPP results framework and more broadly important contextual variables related to basic needs, shows a mixed picture with some improvements but also a number of areas where conditions have deteriorated. Not always did activities result in gains for both refugees and hosts – indeed, in a number of domains, conflicting evolutions can be observed.

3.1 A review of key indicators

The following table highlights key indicators and their evolution between 2018 and 2020 in and around Rhino Camp.

- **Green:** rising values highlighting significant improvement
- **Red:** decreasing values between the baseline and the endline highlighting challenges

Table 4: Data comparison on key sectors and indicators – 2018 vs 2020 – for hosts and refugees

		2018		2020		p-value	
		Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees
Food security	Was never without food in past month	14%	10%	44%	17%	0.000	0.002
Housing	Owns or rents shelter	96%	81%	94%	45%	0.095	0.000
	Owns or rents land	78%	20%	84%	56%	0.014	0.000
WASH	Tap as primary water source	43%	46%	42%	80%	0.386	0.000
	Borehole as primary water sources	47%	44%	41%	17%	0.041	0.000
	Access to private pit latrines	27%	60%	76%	83%	0.000	0.000
Waste and Infrastructure	Does not find that there is a lot of garbage outside	97%	92%	87%	94%	0.000	0.129
	Has grid access	0%	0%	1%	1%	0.023	0.022
	Has access to a generator (gov., private, community)	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	Has solar (private)	34%	31%	45%	21%	0.001	0.001
Health	Children having received vaccinations (full or partial)	95%	97%	99%	95%	0.000	0.071
	Sought out treatment after suffering serious illness/ injury***	97%	97%	97%	96%	0.500	0.217
	Judged treatment to be of high quality	62%	43%	53%	28%	0.005	0.000
Safety and Protection	Feel completely or mostly safe	80%	76%	87%	68%	0.003	0.005
	Sought out protection after a legal problem	97%	95%	80%	81%	0.000	0.000
	Content with the protection received	64%	57%	56%	47%	0.010	0.002

Cont'd below

		2018		2020		p-value	
		Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees
Education	Regular school attendance	70%	84%	96%	91%	0.000	0.001
	Fewer than 50 children per teacher	0%	1%	11%	13%	0.000	0.000
	Quality of education judged high or very high	34%	28%	23%	19%	0.000	0.001
Livelihoods	In paid work of self-employed	74%	51%	74%	53%	0.500	0.282
	Earned redundancy (more than one income earner)	48%	11%	54%	24%	0.043	0.000
	Among working population, hosts working inside and refugees working outside camp	26%	24%	57%	17%	0.000	0.006
	Among working population, holds skill certification	10%	12%	31%	59%	0.000	0.000
	Average monthly expenditures*	\$20.41	\$27.33	\$36.70	\$33.70		

* The p-value is the probability of finding the observed difference in sample proportions or greater if the underlying populations had the same proportion (the null hypothesis). In line with industry standards, this null hypothesis is rejected for p-values below 0.01.

Over the course of the assessment period, both hosts and refugees interviewed in Rhino Camp were found to have **significantly improved food security** indicators, with more displaced and – especially – host respondents noting they had not been completely without food in the month preceding the data collection. Undoubtedly due to RDPP efforts, **improvements can be found in the WASH domain**, with significantly more refugees stating their primary water source was tap water, and access to private pit latrines greatly improved for both groups.

In the **safety dimension**, the evolution observed in Rhino Camp is **mostly negative**: fewer refugees feel safe, and both refugees and hosts appear to be less likely to seek out help after a legal problem. Those who do seek out help appear less likely to receive the needed protection services, as evidenced by a higher degree of discontentment. At the same time, the drop in the protection dimension is not as stark as those observed in other RDPP contexts, which might suggest that RDPP contributed to mitigating the impact of the Covid-pandemic and subsequent downturn of conditions both economically and overall.

Again, possibly in a testament to RDPP efforts, the indicators in the **livelihoods domain often showed improvement**. The number of interviewed refugee households with more than one income source rose from one in ten to one in four, making them less vulnerable and more resilient. An important raise was observed in the number of respondents who hold a skill certificate, which speaks to the reach of TVET activities under RDPP.

3.2 The RDPP Outcome Metric

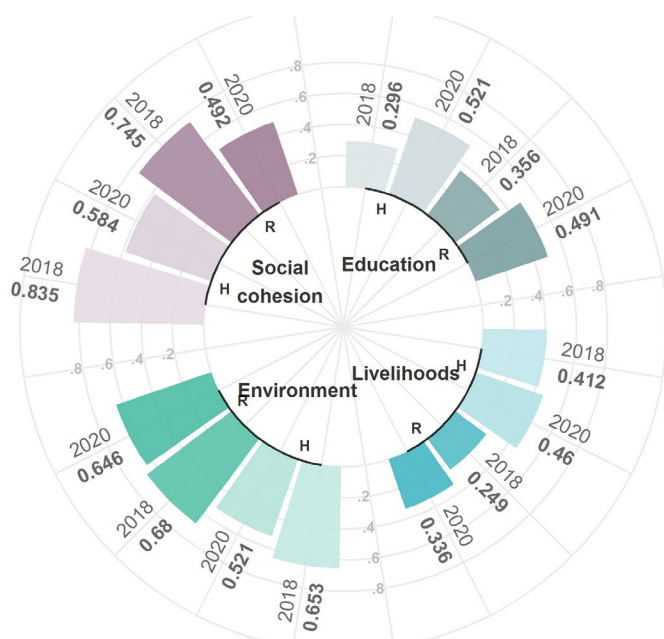
The LET set out in 2018 to build a RDPP outcome metric to assess the impact of programming on key outcomes.¹⁷ The aim was to be:

1. **Context specific:** focus on RDPP programming variables expected to influence durable solutions
2. **Targeted:** to identify gaps between hosts and refugees, and pinpoint areas of programming and dimensions most relevant for enhancing integration
3. **Locally situated:** ascertain whether improvements in dimensions have taken place in each context

In the case of Uganda, this metric focused on the RDPP intervention areas of WASH, livelihoods, and education (See Annex 1 for further details). These are the areas in which one would expect to see changes in outcomes directly due to RDPP programming implemented by partners in Rhino Camp.

Figure 1 provides a visual representation of the different experiences of refugees and hosts across key RDPP dimensions in Uganda.

Figure 1: Uganda-specific RDPP outcome indicators – evolutions for Hosts(H) and Refugees(R)



The assessment of outcome scores between 2018-2020 for refugee and hosts highlights three key trends:

1. **What has worked well: Aggregate education** scores increased between 2018 and 2020, based on a strong coverage of different levels of education (from primary to technical), strong uptake by local stakeholders and improved coordination between 2018-2020. The local stakeholders believe that the ALP is a positive education modality as it helps reintegration learners from the refugee community into formal education systems. However, other informants' opinions diverge. A discussion on ALP is included in this report.
2. **What has worked less well: Aggregate social cohesion** scores decreased in 2020. Although hosts and refugees coexist peacefully in and around Rhino camp, there have been ups and downs in the last three years linked to perceptions of programming and of preferential treatment of one group over another. Local concerns continue to be voiced over the RDPP programming benefiting the refugees more than hosts, a concern expressed at both the baseline and the endline stage.
3. **Improvements to be made: Aggregate livelihoods** scores improved for both groups, but remain dismally low overall. The context of 2020 (with data collection at the height of the Covid pandemic) likely biased livelihood outcomes. But structural problems beyond just Covid are evident: skills improvement alone can only have limited impact in a context where there is no market for products generated. This type of context requires a strong value chains approach and long-term commitment.



My recommendation is, let them (development partners) consider the host community (for programme support) so that we continue co-existing with them because sometimes the partners are the ones bringing conflict between the refugees and the host community. So that we can share all the resources however little it is.

REFUGEE COMMUNITY LEADER

¹⁷ See Annex 1 for a description of the indicators composing the metric.

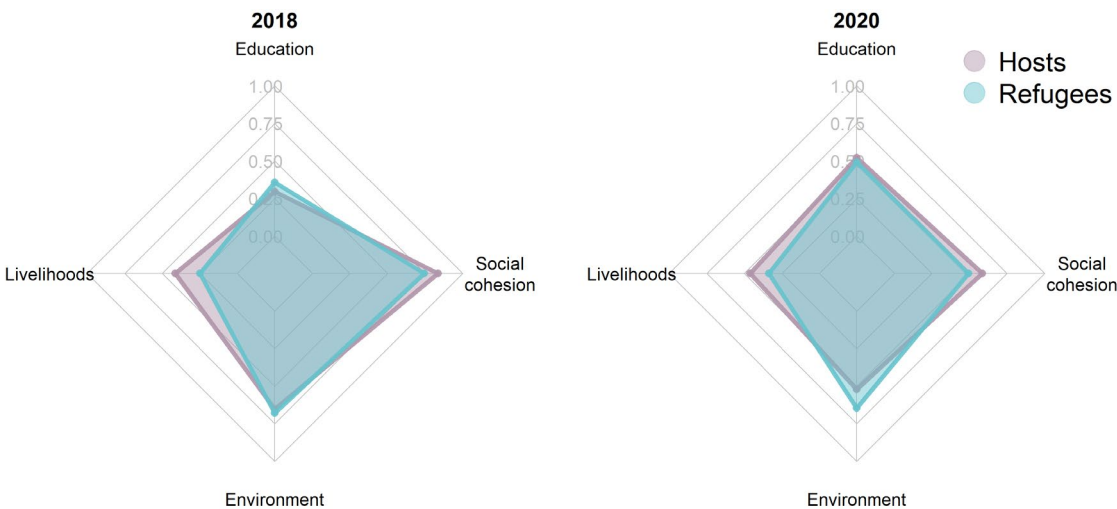
Figure 2 illustrated how hosts scores dropped considerably between 2018 and 2020 in the social cohesion and environment dimension but improved in the education dimension. Refugees fare relatively better but also witness a sharp drop in social cohesion results (unsurprisingly given that in an environment as integrated as Rhino Camp, tension is felt by all groups).

Figure 2: Evolution of outcome scores for hosts and refugee communities



Comparing by group rather than across time shows that refugees in 2020 fare better in the Environment/ WASH dimension, but rather than absolute improvement in this domain this is due to a deterioration of conditions for hosts (Figure 3). Hosts continue to display higher scores in the livelihoods dimension. A sign of integration, albeit at a low level in terms of absolute well-being, both hosts and refugees continue to score similarly in most dimensions.

Figure 3: Comparison of host and refugee outcome scores, 2018-2020



The lower levels of social cohesion might be partly explained by perceived unfair distribution of support in a time of hardship. In general, refugees received much higher levels of aid - both food, non-food in kind, and cash compared to hosts. A review of the type of aid given to hosts and refugees in Rhino Camp shows the extent to which assistance is largely perceived (Table 5) as being catered for refugees over hosts, showing a discrepancy in the RDPP-intended model of greater inclusion and integration of host populations within each sector and form of assistance. Food, non-food in kind assistance and VSLAs stand out in their capacity to reach more hosts.

Table 5: Data comparison on the type of assistance given – 2018 vs 2020 – to hosts and refugees

		2018		2020	
		Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees
Food in kind assistance	% received	1%	83%	5%	81%
	% happy with	40%	51%	64%	49%
	% requesting	52%	10%	29%	19%
Non-food in kind assistance	% received	3%	34%	12%	79%
	% happy with	86%	55%	78%	62%
	% requesting	27%	31%	16%	16%
Cash	% received	0%	12%	1%	26%
	% happy with	100%	55%	40%	46%
	% requesting	27%	17%	21%	46%
Business grants	% received	4%	16%	4%	5%
	% happy with	100%	100%	80%	55%
	% requesting	33%	63%	58%	74%
VSLA	% received	18%	37%	42%	31%
	% happy with	82%	62%	76%	74%
	% requesting	3%	3%	17%	32%
TVET	% received	24%	20%	24%	29%
	% happy with	93%	60%	73%	65%
	% requesting	9%	16%	43%	55%
Legal	% received	3%	5%	6%	9%
	% happy with	66%	90%	59%	63%
	% requesting	1%	9%	8%	29%

The RDPP livelihoods programming was the first attempt to implement the Skilling Uganda strategy in an emergency situation with vulnerable populations still receiving humanitarian assistance. In that context, ENABEL's vocational skills component mainstreamed the national business, technical and vocational and education training reform strategy in a context of displacement. This has brought results at the local level, with demands from beneficiaries and local authorities to scale up such opportunities – especially at a time of COVID-19. The share of those requesting access to TVET opportunities thus increased greatly between 2018 and 2020.

4. Results Findings

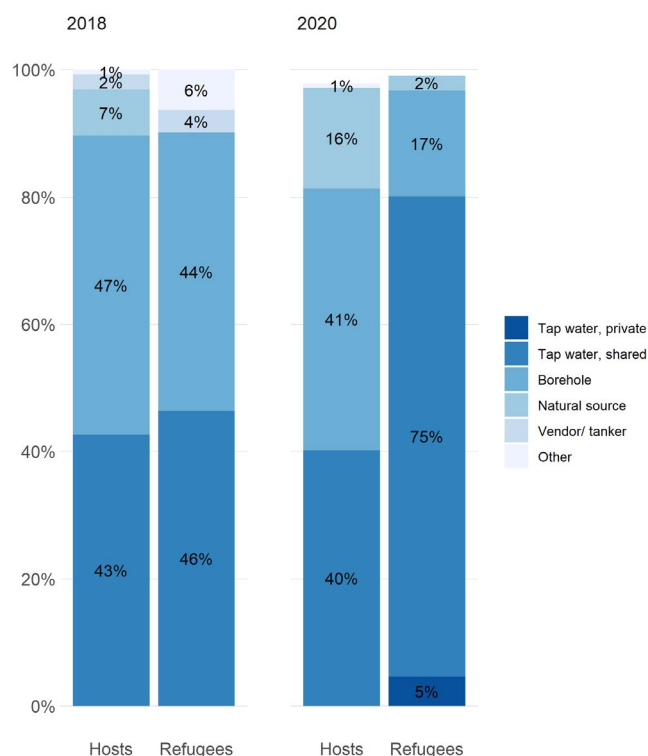
The endline country reports focus on the needs on the ground and how those needs were met by RDPP activities. This section explores selected achievements and issues to monitor within critical sectors, beginning with key sectors for integrated service delivery – WASH, health, protection, education and food security. As critical basic needs indicative of broader context for refugee and host populations, additional sectors also included though not a direct intervention area for RDPP. Livelihoods and social cohesion, as core sectors under RDPP, follow.

4.1 Basic Service Delivery

4.1.1 WASH

Access to quality water has improved over the least 3 years for both Rhino Camp and nearby host communities. Previously, residents were using boreholes, which were often few and far apart and prone to break down regularly. Now, both refugees and hosts obtain their water from taps, which are more numerous, which has reduced waiting time significantly. Hosts acknowledged that the quality and access to water had changed due to the presence of refugees within their community. Refugees are more reliant on tap water than hosts - whose 2018 and 2020 usage remained similar, with 43 % and 40 % of hosts using shared taps as their primary water source. The biggest change was in primary water sources used by refugees, with 75 % of refugees using shared taps in 2020, compared to 46 % in 2018. The number of hosts using natural water sources doubled between 2018 and 2020 (Figure 4).

Figure 4. What is the primary source of drinking water for this household?



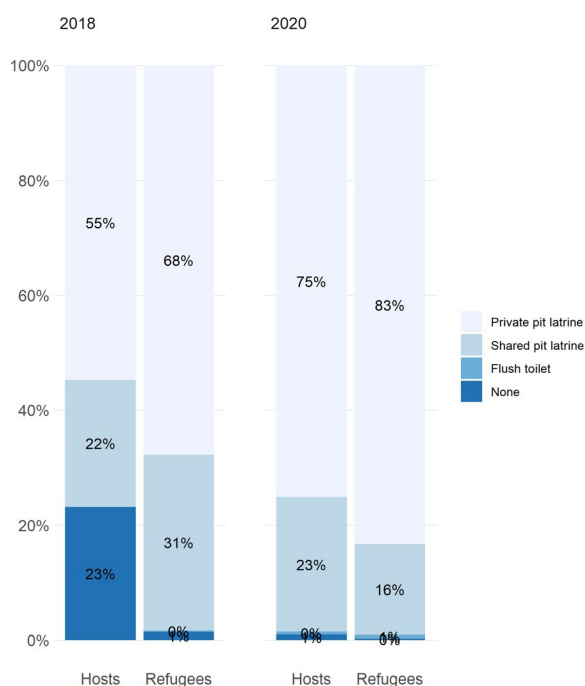
The issue of water is one of the things we want to thank these people (UNHCR and partners) for. Nowadays, water points are everywhere in the settlement; if you want to drink water, you just go with a cup to the water point. It has become very easy to access water. Women in the host community can come to the market with jerry cans and easily fetch water.

The results have been **especially positive for women**, who are primarily responsible for fetching water within refugee and host communities. Less of their day is taken up by fetching water due to reduced waiting times. Community elders from both communities recognized the value of these water taps in giving women more time to engage in other household activities. Lastly, the installation of motorised pumps has made water less cumbersome for women to manage and carry.

Most households now have a private pit latrine, thanks to campaigns by ADA and community healthcare workers. 83% of refugee households reported having access to private pit latrines. The numbers for host households were slightly lower - 76% - but vastly improved compared to 2018 numbers, where slightly over half of host households had access to a private latrine (Figure 5). In 2018, nearly a quarter of host households reported having no toilet facilities, which reduced to a mere 1% in 2020. However, digging latrines is challenging due to the nature of the soil texture in Rhino Camp, which is not particularly strong and collapses easily when it rains. Although many have bought logs to cover their latrines, they often sink down.

As a result of tap installation and improved access to water, the rate of water-borne illnesses has reduced significantly within both refugee and host communities. Respondents reported being able to reduce their cost of healthcare, as they had less need to visit the hospital due to illnesses caused by poor sanitation and hygienic conditions. Both refugees and hosts found that the taps contributed positively to their ability to grow crops, highlighting that their diet improved as a result of the higher quality pumped water. This also extended to their animals. Some noted that this enabled them to grow enough vegetables to sell for income.

Figure 5. What type of toilet facilities do you have access to in your household?



“

Easy access to water has improved our ability to focus on livelihoods, because people (refugees) don't spend on health care like they used to before. We used to have diarrhoea quite often as a result of the poor quality drinking water from valleys and rivers

FGD25, MALE REFUGEE YOUTH

However, there are remaining challenges to safe drinking water access within Rhino Camp and nearby host communities. Often, there are water shortages and people must resort to using the old boreholes or collecting water from the river. Many interviewees reported that there would be days where the taps would be out of water. Additionally, although the majority of interviewees stated that access to water had improved significantly, this access does not extend to those who live far from Rhino Camp. Many hosts felt like access to water had improved mostly for the refugees, who tend to live closer to the majority of the water taps installed in the area. Those living further from the installed water taps could not easily access them. Additionally, although there are more taps, this does not equate to more water supply.

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In previous years, animals never had the chance to drink water frequently enough and that translated into poor health of animals but these days, there is enough waste to share with the animals too; they are looking better

FGD35, HOST ELDERS

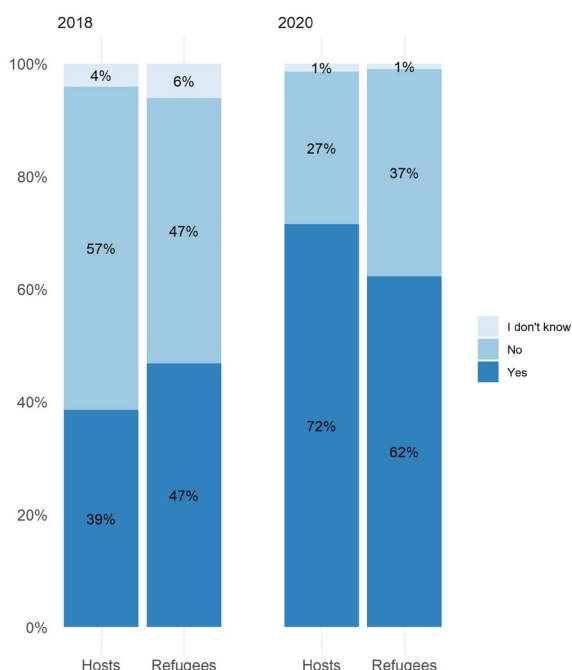
Since the taps have been installed, several water usage committees have been formed to maintain the water points and enforce sanitary conditions and usage. This has led to improved sanitary conditions at water collection points, as committee members have sensitized the host and refugee communities about proper hygienic procedures and enforce hand washing prior to water collection in order to ensure the water source remains clean.



What has changed greatly is the fact that people have been trained and a water committee has been formed to take care of the water points. People can now tell the difference between safe water and dirty water. The containers they use for fetching water are now mainly clean and safe.

FGD27, REFUGEE/HOST COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Figure 6. Have you heard if there have been any concerns or disputes about natural resources like water, fuel and toilets?



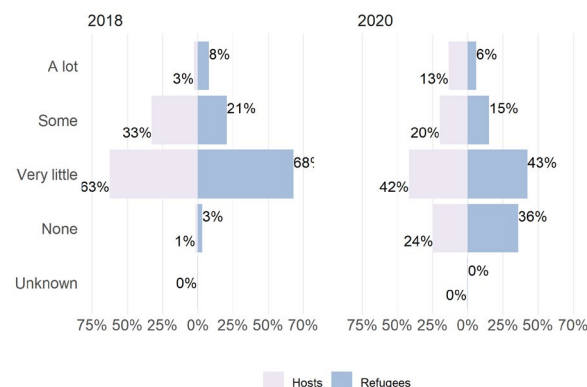
Each household must contribute a monthly sum of UGX 1000 (\$0.30) to maintain the water points, which is collected by the water committees. This sum is difficult for many families to contribute and many felt that maintenance should be the responsibility of the implementing partner (ADA). Furthermore, sometimes the fee was charged to access the water point, which people felt was an abuse of power by the water committees.

Although the taps have reduced conflict over water resources, tensions over water still exist between the refugee community and hosts. Surveyed respondents reported increased concerns and disputes regarding natural resources in Rhino Camp - numbers nearly doubled for hosts and increased by a third for refugees.

Although refugee and host communities have access to the same water points [tap and bore holes], sometimes fights occur when nationals arrive late to the water point, and refugees state they have the right to fetch water first because of their refugee status. This occurs in areas of Rhino Camp, such as Ariaze B, that do not have enough water points for the population. Additionally, the taps are sometimes vandalised and repairs can take months. The refugees suspect that the hosts are vandalising the taps. This has led people to fetch water from old boreholes or the nearby river at night, putting young women at risk of exposure to unsafe conditions.

Between 2018 and 2020, refugees and hosts both reported decreased amounts of garbage. A larger number of hosts reported a lot or some garbage in their communities, compared to 21 % of refugees. The biggest change from 2018 numbers was in the number of respondents who reported no garbage - a quarter of hosts and a third of refugees stated an absence of litter in their communities, compared to 1% and 3 % in 2018 (Figure 7).

Figure 7. How much garbage would you say there is cluttering the area where you live?



4.1.2 Health

Health is not one of the areas covered by RDPP, but there is significant overlap with RDPP programmes - namely the effects of WASH initiatives carried out by IPs on the health of residents. Over the last years, respondents generally agreed that access to healthcare had greatly improved, citing Siripi Health Centre III as the main health centre in the area. Many respondents felt that they received good care at the health centre, with many citing that the facilities and level of care had vastly improved compared to previous years. Many refugees cited the location at the trading centre as being convenient and central for many. However, travelling the 5km distance was difficult for those refugees and hosts living in Ariwa.

“

This health center is helping us a lot, especially us mothers, we get maternity services easily, and they also provide counselling services to the girls – though not that frequent. We are treated well, they don't discriminate against us. All the services are free and we are treated equally. We only have a challenge of language for new refugees who may require the help of a translator to be able to communicate

SSI21, FEMALE REFUGEE

Women feel their needs are partially addressed – recognizing the efforts made to provide female-friendly spaces, maternity services, counselling for female youth, and additional nurses. However, there were still many respondents – including women and young mothers – who found the quality of the healthcare offered at the hospital remained poor, citing poor electricity, absent healthcare workers, or insufficient transport for those who live further away.

“

Even if we are not refugees, we are also vulnerable and we are the owners of this land. We deserve to benefit from the facilities as much as refugees do. Sometimes they don't tell you that you will need to pay for your treatment until you get there. There was a lady who was taken to the hospital but since she didn't have any money, she did not get her treatment on that day

FGD31, MALE TVET BENEFICIARY

As highlighted in the baseline report, medication remains expensive and not adequately prescribed. A major complaint emerged around access to medicine and prescriptions. For most hosts and refugees, purchasing from a private clinic was difficult given their income level. The cost for medicine and drugs ranged from UGX 4,000 to UGX 60,000.

Although an ambulance was added, transport remains one of the biggest health-related challenges for hosts. Hosts and refugees alike question the commitment of the medical personnel in the facility, commenting on their irregular work hours or their tendency to prescribe the same medicine. Beyond the day-to-day concerns of the quality of services locally, respondents were most concerned about how they would save someone's life, especially in a case of emergency. They consider the quality of health care provided does not allow them to respond confidently to this question.

Hosts felt that refugees were often prioritized over nationals at the Siripi health centre, even though the two communities use the same health services. Many hosts reported instances where refugees were seen first, especially if the majority of health workers working that day were mostly from the refugee community. This was a common concern across all forms of assistance where refugees were seen as generally receiving more support than hosts.

This complaint re-emphasises the importance of the work of community health workers to ensure that adequate information reaches hosts and refugees alike. Rhino Camp has several Village Health Teams, which help with health training and sensibilization campaigns regarding the importance of family latrines or hand washing. The teams have been active in carrying out COVID-19 awareness campaigns within the camp. Many refugee Village Health Teams felt that this was good professional experience should they decide to return to South Sudan.

4.1.3 Protection

Groups such as Save the Children and ZOA have engaged with women and children to improve child food security and nutrition within Rhino Camp. The implementation of a school feeding programme has incentivized parents to send their children to school. Stakeholders related the need to better understand child protection as a result of two components – the right to an education and the fight against child abuse or illness. The cross section of education, health and protection is key to partners. However, the Refugee Welfare Council (RWC) are concerned over the need to improve child labour identification and monitoring.

There is a child protection committee in Rhino Camp, which ensures that children are attending school and that their rights are protected. The committee fights against child abuse and child labour within the community. Although these issues have reduced significantly in the last 2-3 years, they do still exist. The RWC has been particularly active and liaises with UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister if there are urgent issues that cannot be solved.

There are still cases of domestic violence and assault within Rhino Camp, especially related to cases of teenage pregnancies, which tend to be associated with drinking alcohol. Community members often respond to incidents of early or forced marriage, early pregnancy, child labour, and Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV). They typically refer the victim to health workers and report incidents to the local police.

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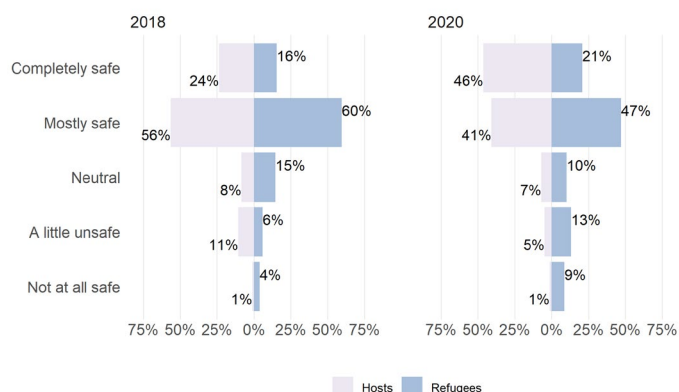
For the case of early child marriage, it's somehow complicated to handle because some cultures, especially for the refugees, marry off young girls, though these days the cases are not as many as before because of the persistent community sensitization against early marriage. I have not heard of any rape case, only assaults by those who like drinking alcohol.

SSI22, MALE HOST

Respondents acknowledged that progress had been made regarding SGBV due to training by various partners, especially the DRC, mediations and higher numbers of women representatives.

Larger numbers of hosts reported **feeling completely or mostly safe** - numbers rose from 80% in 2018 to 87% in 2020 (Figure 8). Numbers of refugees who felt completely or mostly safe decreased slightly from 2018 numbers - from 76 % to 68 % in 2020. Although their numbers are still small - less than 10 % - larger numbers of refugees reported feeling unsafe in their community. Generally, people from both host and refugee groups seemed to feel safe within Rhino Camp and reported having peace of mind, especially as the host and refugee communities exist in relative harmony.

Figure 8. I feel safe in my community



“

The community is now safe because of efforts by organisations and the local government, notably to put police posts within the community and deploy officers to work there. Even in the communities, they have tried to have at least some other personnel who, in case of any insecurity, will report cases to the police post so that they are handled. We had previously suffered from theft and assaults, but with the police posts, security is now ok.

SSI22, MALE HOST

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The rate of crime has reduced. In a week, we only received two cases – one of defilement, the other of assault. We would have about three a day before.

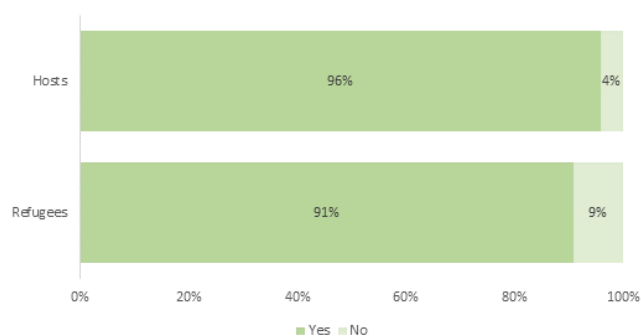
KII52 POLICE OFFICER

However, although police presence has reduced crime, issues with corruption remain. Sometimes, the police will ask for money in order to release people from jail, which is supposed to be free. Additionally, there are not enough police to adequately serve the community.

4.1.4 Education

Within Rhino Camp and the neighbouring host communities, there are 4 primary schools, 4 secondary schools, and 1 tertiary school. There is an accelerated learning school which is implemented by Save the Children. Overall, refugees and hosts agreed that access to education had improved significantly over the last 2-3 years, especially regarding the number of children attending schools, thanks to the DRC-led consortium's activities in enrolling and supporting child education via the ALP. Almost 100% of host children and 91% of refugee children attended school regularly (Figure 9). This covers the period before learning institutions were temporarily closed in an attempt to contain the spread of coronavirus pandemic.

Figure 9. Do all school-aged children in this household regularly attend school?



Members of both communities attend the schools together. The four primary schools seemed to be accessible to all in terms of cost and location. Windle Trust, Save the Children, and UNHCR have been the most active in providing education support in Rhino Camp. They employ the teachers, who are both nationals and hosts, as well as provide children with scholastic materials. Respondents also mentioned that the additional facilities built by NGOs have reduced levels of crowding in primary schools. Overall, the presence of the DRC-led consortium of Save the Children, ZOA, and CEFORD and their involvement in education in Rhino Camp had positive effects for primary school attendance, especially among the refugee community. The number of hosts attending school had also increased.

Although people seemed to agree that access to education had improved, many mentioned that primary classes remained crowded (80-300 pupils per class), due to lack of space and too few teachers. This had a negative effect on children's education, as

teachers were able to devote less time to ensuring that individual students grasp key concepts. Since 2018, opinions regarding the quality of education in Rhino Camp have decreased - two respondents out of three rated the quality of education as "very high" or "high". Two years later, this has decreased - only 23% of hosts and 19% of refugees felt that way. 40% of refugees reported "low" or "very low" opinions compared to a quarter of hosts.

Whereas quantitative data does not reveal reasons behind the change of attitude, teachers and community members who participated in focus group discussions and key informant interviews talked of a number of issues that did not impress them as far as education provision is concerned. In addition to the overcrowding classes and teacher inadequacy, lack of enthusiasm about education by the host community was termed as one of the reasons why there was a low transition of learners from lower to upper primary level, with many parents not bothered about their children's progress in school. Learners [mostly girls] drop out due to early marriage coupled with teenage pregnancy. Lastly, both refugees and hosts mentioned the existence of several school levies that were too expensive for them, such as Parent Teacher Association funds and exam fees. Many felt that this was linked to corruption from the administration and teachers and were dubious about how their fees were spent. They felt that teachers were increasingly concerned with collecting money over providing quality education.

“

It usually varies but they tend to be 200 pupils per class. So that means the classes are crowded and lack adequate human resources. In addition, some teachers posted by the government have a negative attitude towards teaching in the camp. They usually dodge classes and miss days.

FGD30, REFUGEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

Conversations on access to education also revealed the situation of out of school children in Rhino camp and its surroundings. Previously Save the Children supported Accelerated Education Programme targeting for children and adolescents who have missed out on basic education. However, the program ended (2 years ago), which led to a number of learners dropping out of school and are currently finding it hard to get back to school. There are also other children who feel they are too big to be in primary school and may face stigma from as a result.

Some respondents expressed concerns around monitoring of teacher performance at the schools within Rhino Camp and the host communities. Generally, respondents found that the majority of teachers were well trained by NGOs and had the right experience. However, given the remoteness of the region, they cited that oversight is a challenge and that teachers tended to be more negligent when they had less supervision from implementing partners.

Access to secondary education remains a challenge. Many refugees stated that continuing on to secondary education was often difficult due to unaffordable fees. For this reason, students from families with low financial ability often fail to transition to secondary school. Others felt there were not enough secondary schools, as those living further away faced difficulty getting to school due to poor road quality. For those primary students who perform well, many mentioned that scholarships were provided for those students to continue their education, which was a significant change in the last 2-3 years.

Early school leavers who failed to transition to post primary/secondary level for one reason or another found vocational education as a viable alternative. TVET was lauded as a significant instrument in reducing youth unemployment and accelerating local economic growth. Various Youth Skills Development Centres that are supported by organisations such as Welthungerhilfe, ENABEL, CEFORD and PALM CORPS offer skills training in areas such as: Bricklaying and concrete practice, carpentry and joinery, tailoring, catering amongst others. A number of youth from the host and refugee communities who have gone through vocational training have become professionals in various fields. Despite the recorded gains, the centres are unable to meet the demand as many youth have expressed interest in joining various programmes.

“

The only challenge here is the lack of supervision. The place is remote so the supervisors do not come frequently, hence laxity among teachers. At times, if supervision is relaxed, some teachers also relax in spite of being good teachers.

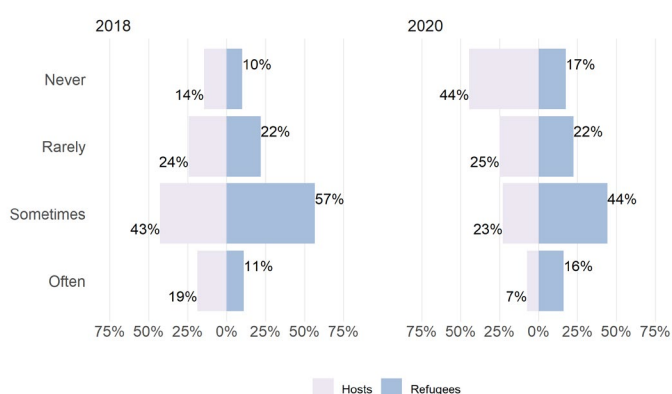
FGD36, TEACHERS

4.1.5 Food Security

Food security for both refugees and hosts appeared to improve, with hosts reporting the largest improvements.

Almost half of hosts reported that there was never a time when their household lacked the resources to get food - compared to 14% of households in 2018. Refugee numbers improved slightly - 17% of refugees reported never lacking food. However, the amount of refugee households reporting that they often lacked resources to procure food increased since 2018 - from 11% to 16%.

Figure 10: In the past four weeks, was there ever no food to eat of any kind in your household because of lack of resources to get food?



Partners raised the concern that without access to land, refugees can only do subsistence farming. The produce thereof cannot be stored long term or extended to other seasons, leading to continued dependency on food aid and assistance.

“

We used to suffer but since the refugees have come, we are better. The support given to them is given to us hosts too. For instance the seeds which were given to them, I received them too and I planted them last year

FGD26 WOMEN HOSTS

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In addition, farmers have been supplied with fertilizers and pesticides, which they use to grow crops; this has tremendously increased farm outputs. Our lives have changed.

FGD32 WOMEN HOSTS

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This supplements the food that the World Food Programme is giving. Refugees only used to depend on the ration alone but that is now changing

FGD27, COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES FOR REFUGEES

“

We don't have supplementary food from the garden in large enough quantities to add on the little that we are getting in terms of direct assistance. We are doing small vegetable gardening at home, but we still rely 100% on the food given by the World Food Programme

FGD30, REFUGEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

A number of efforts have been instituted to address food security and diversity. Specifically, CEFORD, as well as other NGOs such as Welthungerhilfe, have been active in distributing seeds and conducting demonstrations and training for farmers, which has increased access to a diversity of foods available in Rhino Camp. Previously, sesame (sim sim) was the main crop – this has expanded to include crops such as cassava, tomatoes, onions, and maize. The seeds were distributed to both hosts and refugees, which has enabled some refugees to depend less on the food ration (or cash assistance) delivered by the World Food Programme (WFP). Welthungerhilfe informed farmer's groups of refugees and hosts, which guide farmers in cultivation strategies for the seeds they have been given.

Some organizations, such as Welthungerhilfe, DRC and ENABEL, distributed goats to community members. The goats were mainly given to households that did not have enough land to grow crops. Those who received the goats were able to exchange them for land to cultivate crops. However, distribution was not uniform and there were some issues in their management, such as residents lacking structures to house them or lack of veterinary services nearby.

“

I have seen a change since the reduction of the food ratio. Now we struggle to get land from the host as they sometimes refuse or they take the land back when they realise that we are not given food.

FGD24 FEMALE REFUGEE YOUTH

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Last year, I bought a piece of land from the host community for 30,000 KSH and cultivated it. This year when I tried going back to plant new crops, I found the land already used and the owner had planted his own crops in it. They wanted to give me another bush to clear, but I refused.

FGD28, FEMALE REFUGEES

Land distribution is unequal between hosts and refugees. Hosts make up the majority of landlords in the community and often lease land to refugees in order to grow crops, either in exchange for money or domestic animals. However, many refugees are unable to afford this expense, which negatively affects their food security. Additionally, those able to lease land from hosts reported some challenges, such as owners selling less fertile land to refugees or taking over plots they had previously sold to plant their own crops. Welt Hunger Hilfe seemed to be aware of this issue, as evidenced by their Optimum Land Use Management strategy designed to support kitchen gardening for those who did not have land.

In addition to the seeds and training given by implementing partners, refugees receive monthly food assistance mainly from WFP and UNHCR. Refugee respondents frequently mentioned that their food portions had been reduced significantly by donor organizations. Previously, they had received monthly deliveries of 8kg, which was recently reduced to 6kg portions delivered every other month. The reasoning given was refugees should be less dependent on food from UNHCR and WFP since many implementing partners had provided the community with seeds and training on farming practices. However, the reduced amount was not sufficient for most recipients, especially those who cannot afford to purchase land on which to grow crops, who reported running out of food after one and a half months. Based on the responses from both the host and refugee communities, although food security has improved significantly within Rhino Camp and the surrounding region, the food produced at the household level remains insufficient.

“

For us refugees, food security is a challenge because there is not enough land to cultivate. If you have some money, people usually rent from the host population. They use the food given to them to be able to rent the land. But right now, food is being reduced from 12kgs to about 6kgs which cannot sustain us.

FGD24 FEMALE REFUGEE YOUTH

Additionally, some members of the community leave their animals to wander. Stray animals pose a threat to crops, which hinders food security. In order to prevent this, host elders and local government members have begun to implement punitive measures that will incentivize people to keep their animals fenced in so they do not wander and destroy crops.

Many also mentioned storage as a problem affecting food security. Although overall yields had increased over the last two years, residents were unable to safely store what they had produced, which meant that often rats would infiltrate their food reserves, cancelling out the progress made in Rhino Camp regarding food security and self-sufficiency.

“

A few farmers are now doing commercial farming. Some organizations have come up to support farming and livelihood – like CEFORD – so farming has changed and will hopefully further change over the years.

FGD23, MALE YOUTH

One of the improvements the female host cited above points to is the connections made between training, improved techniques, and food security outcomes. ENABEL, ZOA and CEFORD have linked their livelihood strategies in Rhino Camp to food security, providing further training through the Uganda skilling strategy which includes agricultural mechanization, crop and animal husbandry. Entrepreneurial training is linked to training that can directly impact food security. However, the food security outcomes of this effort will take more time to be assessed and should be closely monitored.

“

Agribusiness is the major source of livelihood here. Just last month (August 2020) I earned UGX 1 million (about \$250) from agribusiness. I planted tomatoes on a quarter of an acre of land, which turned out to be very marketable.

FGD32, FEMALE HOST

4.2 Economic Well-being and Livelihoods

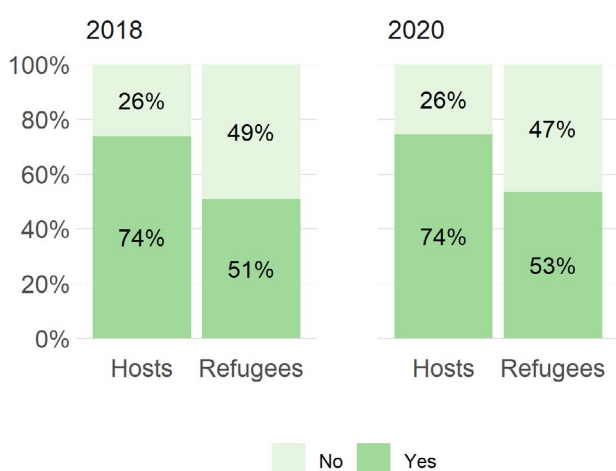
Refugee and host farmers frequently mentioned the climate as a challenge for food security in the region. Farmers depend on rain to grow crops, since the community lacks any sort of irrigation. As the climate is not forgiving – respondents cited either too much sun or too much rain as destroying crops – this has been a persistent challenge in terms of maintaining consistent food security and self-sufficiency. Within focus groups and interviews, no one mentioned that irrigation had been discussed for future implementation by implementing partners.

Overall, people found that Siripi centre offered the most opportunities for earning money than other parts of the region, serving as the economic hub. Generally, it was agreed by both hosts and refugees that it was easy to earn money with any enterprise – whether it be agriculture, tailoring, restaurants, or petty trade – so long as it was located in Siripi. Both hosts and refugees worked and owned businesses in the centre, and refugees would often employ hosts and vice versa.

4.2.1 Economic Well-being

Employment for both host and refugee communities remained static between 2018 and 2020. Three quarters of interviewed host households reported at least one wage earner, compared to about half of refugee households. Refugees and hosts seemed to be engaged in similar business activities, with members of both groups owning mobile money businesses and selling goods at the market. This has contributed to improved and frequent interactions between the two groups.

Figure 11. Does anyone in this household earn an income?



Host households were more likely to have multiple income sources – 54% of hosts had more than one source of income compared to 24% of refugee households. Earner redundancy for refugees has not increased much in the last two years and it has decreased somewhat for hosts. The numbers of hosts and refugees holding skill certification increased significantly from 2018 numbers – host numbers tripled, and refugee numbers increased five-fold. However, the percentage of hosts holding certificates was nearly half the numbers reported by refugees.

Monthly expenses have risen for both groups since 2018. Average household expenses rose by nearly 80% for hosts and 23% for refugees. Curiously, refugees had higher levels of expenses compared to hosts in 2018 – this has reversed, with hosts spending around 10% more than refugees each month.

Farming is the main source of livelihood for both hosts and refugees in Rhino Camp. Some members were able to cultivate enough from the seeds provided by IPs to sell tomatoes, cassava, sweet potatoes, sesame, and groundnuts at the market in Siripi centre. CEFORD and ZOA were engaged in offering training to foster greater food security and agricultural livelihoods.

Refugees cannot open bank accounts in Uganda as they lack national ID cards, so many refugees reported keeping their money with a relative or hiding it in order to prevent theft.



I save it in a hole on the floor of the bedroom. After safely putting the money, I cover it with soil and smear the floor to cover it up. My husband does not know where the money is key – that way he won't be able to steal it.

FGD34, FEMALE TVET BENEFICIARIES

Some hosts felt that the refugees were able to save more money, due to membership in savings groups in addition to cash support from aid agencies or relatives back in South Sudan. Over the last 2-3 years, Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (SACCO) groups have been formed, which comprise both hosts and refugees. These groups have had a positive impact for community members, especially women, who have started their own businesses by taking loans from their SACCO group. This has enabled women to earn more money by selling their goods at greater numbers of markets and trading centres in the area.



The only place where we can get money from here is the SACCOs which only give money to members. But they only give us small because they also do not trust people because we do not yet have stable businesses that can earn us enough money to pay these loans

FGD34, FEMALE TVET BENEFICIARIES

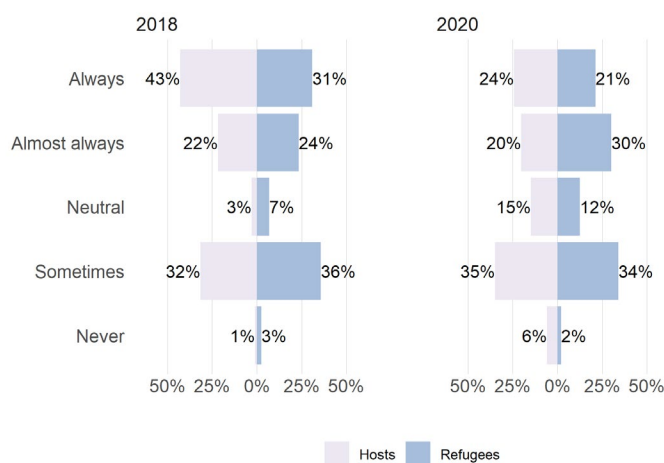


The change for women these 2-3 years is that they are now interested in taking part in business activities. They have started SACCO groups for saving, they have joined those groups, picked up a loan to start a business, then they start moving to different markets like Kubala to buy goods for sale. This has brought changes in their lives, they never used to go to far places; only to church perhaps.

FGD29, HOST MALE YOUTH

The number of hosts lacking income to cover basic needs all the time or almost, decreased significantly between 2018 and 2020 - from 65% to 44%. Refugee numbers decreased slightly - from 55% to 51%.

Figure 12: On average, how often do you not have enough income to satisfy the basic needs of your household / month?



4.2.2 Livelihood Training

Vocational training programmes (TVET) targeted youth between the ages of 18-25, focusing on five core trades offered at skill centres – catering, tailoring, bricklaying, welding, and carpentry. These courses are mainly offered by Welthungerhilfe, ENABEL, UNHCR, DRC and Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari (ACAV). Under its “Enhance Livelihood and Labour Market Relevant Skills for Youth, Women and Girls” project, ENABEL sub-contracts other training providers, such as Welt Hunger Hilfe, as well as works with official TVET training centres. The skills trainings programmes included entrepreneurship courses, industrial attachment, apprenticeships and start-up kits for graduates. Overall, more youth were employed because of the TVET programmes, noting that they provided outlets and reduced idleness.

Agricultural and TVET training and livelihood support were seen as transformative in Rhino Camp, as they expanded the availability of economic opportunities. Hosts seemed to feel that the refugees had improved host community livelihoods, citing greater need for carpentry or increased market for agricultural products since their arrival in the region.

Those who completed the TVET courses had positive feedback regarding the trainers themselves, saying that they felt supported and guided throughout the process. The trainers themselves seemed engaged and involved in their jobs and were trained by development agencies, which included ENABEL. These trainings did not occur on a regular basis (i.e. on a quarterly or semester schedule) – trainers cited 3 trainings in total over the course of 5 years. They also stated that their own lives had improved because of the vocational training programs.

Although participants enjoyed the training programs, many faced difficulties earning money following completion, citing that they lacked enough capital to buy the materials needed to start their own businesses. Providing tools and resources was not always part of the course, which contributes to many participants being unable to see and pursue opportunities once the course is completed. Those who were supported under ENABEL, such as Welthungerhilfe, and ACAV reported being given materials, but those supported by Welthungerhilfe were only given a partial materials package. The limitations put on refugees’ businesses – specifically acquiring loans - further hindered entrepreneurship, especially for women.

However, options for women in TVET programmes remain limited, as they choose not to access male-dominated training courses, such as bricklaying and concrete practice and carpentry, due to stigma and harassment. This limits their choices to cooking, hotel management, hairdressing, and salon management. Women also felt discouraged from applying to vocational training programs because they often lacked the qualifications required. Distance to the training centres and issues with childcare was also cited as a hindrance for women joining the vocational training programmes.

Two of the initial courses offered - welding and hairdressing – were dropped by implementing partners because they were too expensive. This further limited training program options for young women, as it removed one out of two of their options. Many suggested that the number of courses was too limited in Siripi, as everyone was trained in the same 4-5 sectors leading to an oversaturation of the market.

Many suggested that the age cut off was too low, as there were many people over the age of 25 who were willing participants who would benefit greatly from the vocational training programmes offered. This was also suggested by TVET trainers themselves, who sometimes took overage learners based on their level of interest in the training programme. They found older students to be an asset in knowledge transfer, as younger students looked to them as role models and sometimes understood concepts better when taught by fellow students.

“

Before, we had a challenge of communication. But now we have employed village agents or volunteers who have some form of education and are able to speak both English and the language of the refugees. Having done that, we have been able to attract more participants, motivating beneficiaries to attend the skilling projects.

KII45, ZOA ARUA

“

Ever since the end of the training, I've been able to work for myself, earn my own money and cater for myself. Because I benefit a lot from it, and I like the independence. I feel I got an opportunity in this and I really appreciate it. I've been getting some contracts for face masks so it's a very profitable venture for me.

TVET GRADUATE, INTERVIEWED 2020

TVET trainings occur in Siripi centre and Arua, which is far for residents of Ariwa, who are mostly nationals. They often are not well informed about available training opportunities or felt that the programs were too far away for them to take part in them.

Many hosts complained about the unequal proportion of refugees versus hosts chosen for the vocational training programmes – 30 % of opportunities are given to nationals and 70 % to refugees. Many stated this needed to be changed to equal representation of both communities. Many hosts felt that refugees were informed first about these opportunities and that implementing partners were not equal in sharing information with refugee and host members. While information sharing efforts have improved, more can be done to extend them.

The Siripi skills training centre linked up with local businesses to help graduates integrate into the workforce. One of the most successful partnerships was the Desert Breeze Hotel, which the TVET Principal stated had a high retention rate for graduates who had completed an apprenticeship there. Additionally, some former graduates of TVET programmes became sources of apprenticeships for future TVET students.

“

Yes I have five; two tailors, one carpenter who is here at the [trading] centre on your way to siripi, then there are some girls. For instance, one is called Awinjeru (she'd been with the interviewee 10 minutes before the interview), she is a tailor. In Ariaze (a zone in Rhino Camp), I have a lady called Pamella; in Yelulu, I have some lady there too, she is doing training [apprentice] in town (Arua). I have one lady who is now preparing cakes for weddings in Arua, all these people learned from here.

KII38, TVET PRINCIPAL

WHH actively followed up with trainees to gauge their levels of employment and conduct mentorship. They found overwhelmingly positive results, with the majority of trainees employed, either via self-employment or via others who had completed the program. ENABEL also mentioned that they conducted follow-up tracer studies six months after the end of the training programme in order to measure the impact. They provided graduates of their programmes with start-up kits in order to help them start their own businesses.

A tracing study conducted for TVET graduates in Rhino Camp found the overall effect on graduate's lives to be positive: over 80% of those interviewees that had received training in 2018 had improved income situations - due to either employment, fairly successful small-scale businesses or access to occasional work in the learned skill in 2019. Those that were traced remained mostly positive about the effect that the training had on their livelihoods with only two pointing out a worsening of their economic situation due to COVID-19. One of them noted: "For a year the training did change my life a lot and I was doing well working on construction sites, but that became more difficult to get, so it is not so good now." Others were able to get more business due to the Covid-19 measures.

The study also found significant differences based on graduates with networks in Arua or other towns and those who without connections. Those graduates with a family network are able to stay overnight or for longer periods in order to work, compared to those without connections who have to decline job offers due to prohibitively high costs renting a place to stay in the city.

4.3 Social Cohesion

4.3.1 Levels of Integration

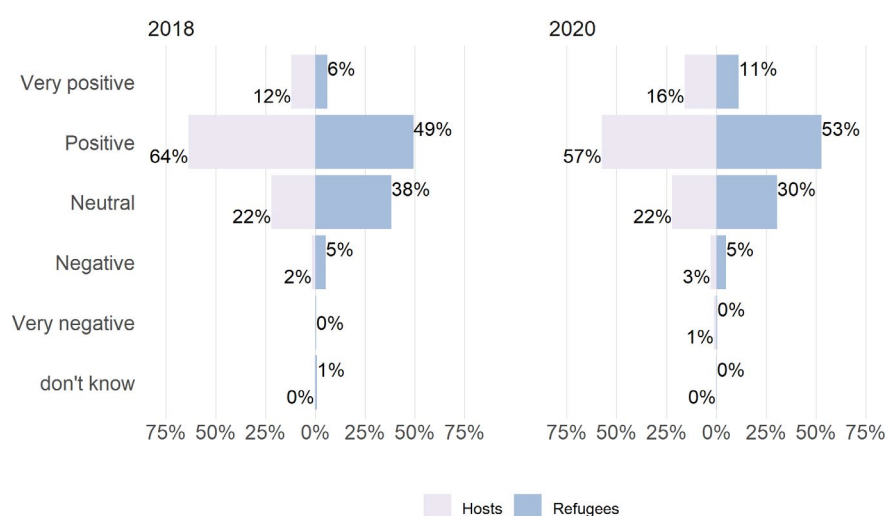
Both refugees and host respondents in Rhino Camp reported feeling safe in their communities. Beyond the ability to inhabit the same space, refugees and hosts are positive that both economic and social integration are on the rise.

Figure 13: Evolution of perceptions between 2018 - 2020

	2018		2020	
	Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees
Deem living conditions of refugees to be better than those of hosts	76%	27%	62%	32%
Think that authorities treat refugees better than hosts	79%	30%	74%	30%
Have not experienced conflict with the other group in the past month	80%	82%	80%	78%
Believe economic integration is on the rise	84%	74%	94%	86%
Believe social integration is on the rise	91%	82%	96%	94%

There is a significant gap in perceptions regarding refugee treatment by authorities - three quarters of hosts felt that the authorities treat refugees better than hosts, compared to only 30% of refugees who felt they received preferential treatment. However, increasing numbers of hosts and refugees felt that economic and social integration was on the rise. Numbers regarding social integration were close - nearly 100% of both groups felt that levels of social integration were growing.

Figure 14: My perception of the 'refugee/host community' is ...
(host households asked about displaced, and vice versa)



“

The way we socialise with the host community is not like in other camps where the hosts get into conflicts with refugees, or even killing people. Here there is nothing like that..

FGD24, FEMALE REFUGEE YOUTH

Many refugees reported having friends from the host community, and vice versa and that they would attend funerals together. Many cited that intermarriage between the host and refugee communities has contributed to improved relations. The DRC conducted legal training for refugees regarding the laws of Uganda, which has also reduced conflict between the two groups.

The trading centres and markets at Siripi, as well as water points, were the most common places of interaction between hosts and refugees. Both hosts and refugees found the positive inter-community interaction and socializing to be a valuable asset to Rhino Camp. There appears to be very limited segregation in terms of education, gathering places, markets, and other common shared spaces. Many hosts and refugees reported being able to depend on members of the other community for aid when they were facing food or cash shortages. The ability to resolve small misunderstandings and disputes between hosts and refugees has improved significantly over the last 2-3 years.

Vocational and farming training programs have played a large role in uniting the host and refugee communities, as they admit members of both. Additionally, school has contributed to levels of social cohesion, as refugees and hosts attend the same schools. This not only gives children the opportunity to interact, but also gives the parents a chance to get to know each other. Hosts also rent the land comprising school grounds, which they did to benefit from closer schools for children within their own families and communities.

“

Some of the refugee children encourage the Lugbara children to come and register so that they can have access to free education. This has helped us because we can now study for free.

FGD24 FEMALE HOST YOUTH

“

Our children study in the same schools. One of my children has a friend who is a Ugandan national. He sometimes comes for lunch since his home is far from school. The parents even paid a visit one day, to get to know me better.

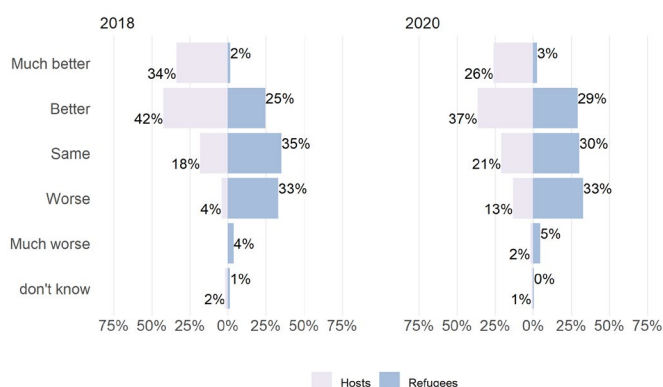
FGD28, FEMALE REFUGEE

4.3.2 Perceived Difficulties

Although the two communities seem to live in relative harmony, levels of distrust and suspicion still exist along host/refugee lines. Nationals sometimes believe that refugees are wizards and bring evil spirits, and refugees believe that it is the nationals who are wizards. There are also lingering disputes regarding dating and marriage between the two groups – especially from hosts who do not want male refugees to date female hosts.

Attitudes regarding the difference in living conditions between host and refugee households have not shifted significantly between 2018 and 2020. Hosts felt that they had better living conditions than refugees - three quarters stated that they were much better or better off than refugee households in 2018. This number decreased somewhat in 2020 - only two thirds felt that they were better or much better off. The number of hosts who felt they were worse off than refugees tripled between 2018 and 2020 - although the number remains a minority (13 %), this increase is significant. One potential source could be the 30/70 rule for recruiting hosts and refugees for vocational training programs, as well as the higher numbers of refugees using tap water.

Figure 15. How are the living conditions of 'Refugee' households different from 'Host community' households?



When women who speak Lugbarati (local language) sit together, it is very difficult for someone who does not speak to sit together with them

FGD25, MALE REFUGEE YOUTH

Language remained a point of conflict, although many acknowledged that this has improved significantly over the last few years, as some members of each community (especially children) have been able to learn some of the others' language due to increased interaction and socialization between communities. Hosts speak Lugbara and Kiswahili and refugees speak Arabic and Kakwa. Conflicts tend to arise over misunderstandings in language – namely, someone will think they are being insulted because they do not understand the other person's language.



Both refugees and nationals sell in the markets but the common challenge is language. You may be a national who isn't fluent in Arabic and Kakwa, while a refugee will not know English, Kiswahili and Lugabara. Communication becomes a problem. Sometimes shouting starts because of language problems.

FGD32, FEMALE HOST

Another source of conflict between the two communities is between herdsmen, who tend to be hosts, and refugee farmers. Many herdsmen let their animals roam free and they often destroy crops growing on refugees' fields. Additionally, those refugees that do not own land and those with small land plots let their animals wander onto host grazing land. Local government and police get involved to resolve conflicts and disputes.

4.3.3 Attitudes Regarding Migration

Aspirations to move on internally or abroad increased in the last two years for both refugees and hosts.

Table 6: Plans to migrate

	2018		2020	
	Hosts	Refugees	Hosts	Refugees
Would like to migrate, but no concrete plans	1%	11%	13%	35%
Plan to migrate	2%	9%	24%	21%

Larger numbers of both refugees and hosts expressed wishes to leave their community. In 2018 nearly 100 % of hosts wished to stay, which decreased to 55% in 2020, with a quarter of hosts citing plans to migrate and an additional 13 % who had aspirations but lacked the means to migrate. In 2018, three quarters of refugees wanted to remain in Rhino Camp, which decreased to a third of those surveyed in 2020. 35% of refugees wished to migrate but could not, and 21 % stated they had plans to migrate in the next year. Regression analysis confirmed that refugees are significantly more likely to have plans to move, even after controlling for demographic variables such as age, gender and marital status. Families with children showed significantly more desire to move away.

5. Evaluation Conclusions

The following provides needed overarching conclusions regarding the results and impact of RDPP activities in Uganda along the key evaluation questions, asking the fundamental question, “**How have the RDPP interventions strengthened durable solutions in Uganda?**”

1. Relevance

RDPP interventions are aligned with local and national priorities, while providing a needed platform to bring key actors together

RDPP activities are relevant and aligned with the context, whether the CRRF or the SPRS-NU programs supporting access to equal livelihood opportunities and services to the host and refugee communities in an effort to ease community tensions. Partners on the ground have adopted a development response connecting the dots between sectors, effectively bringing humanitarian and development actors together under a common objective and shared vision of integration. The strength of an actor like ENABEL on skills development was seen in the appetite, interest, and demands for greater TVET training. The translation of those opportunities into livelihoods and income remains to be further explored. The biggest gains were made on education and training through these RDPP interventions.

2. Coordination

Coordination both internally among IPs and externally with local counterparts is a best practice that should be shared widely

One of the key positive outcomes of the RDPP programming in Uganda is its gains in coordination – that can stand as an example for other countries in this regional programming. Engagement with government and local authorities, including the police, was done early and well. As a result of RDPP, there has been increased demand and commitment for funding from the Ugandan government. The approach used with several IPs who each have a comparative advantage and strengths in a particular area has encouraged complementary programming and avoided duplication. This has also contributed to a refocusing of program outputs on beneficiaries - hosts and refugees.

Partners interact with leaders and are involved in consulting with the community regarding their needs. They emphasized the importance of involving beneficiaries in the programs/projects from the start, as they are key stakeholders with valuable knowledge of the context. Coordination between partners and local government is strong. NGOs always inform local police when they are visiting the settlement and pay the police extra for security services during their visits to Rhino Camp. NGOs always seek approval from the local government prior to implementing any activity. Local government structures, such as leadership councils, RWCs, and local police also seem to have increased coordination between themselves in order to resolve disputes that arise between the host and refugee communities.

3. Effectiveness

Positive steps taken to address local livelihoods with more work still needed at the national level

One of the greatest expectations of hosts and refugees lies in vocational training. ENABEL mentioned funding being a challenge for implementing the vocational training programmes - although what has been done so far has been good, it is a fraction of what is needed to reach all refugees and host communities in the West Nile region. The government has approved a new TVET policy, but there are concerns regarding the timeline for establishment of a TVET council. This implies that coordination and operationalization activities at national level remains challenging and requires deliberate efforts. It therefore still requires intensive policy dialogue and broader support.

4. Impact

Progress in social cohesions between refugees and hosts remain mixed, more adaptive approach is needed

Respondents identified the programme itself as a source of some tensions, recommending that implementation should be more strongly focused on ensuring such tensions are better mitigated in the future. More broadly, naturalisation of refugees remains a key challenge - there are no opportunities for naturalisation in Uganda and Ugandan law does not encourage integration of refugees as citizens. Limitations on citizenship also limit refugees' investment and uptake of durable solutions as a process to invest themselves in.

Further, progress in Rhino Camp is at risk due to COVID-19's impact across sectors. Refugees and hosts have suffered economically, many are self-employed and rely on selling goods at Siripi centre for income. Revenues decreased, transport costs increased, and food insecurity is now an issue due to an increase in food costs. Education has been particularly affected. The skills training centre in Siripi has been closed due to the pandemic, and those selected for the training face delays in beginning the programme, further prolonging their chances to earn a livelihood. Recent training graduates were unable to complete internships, feeling disenchanting. This has potential to further exacerbate tensions and undermine progress. Protection has been impacted, with higher reported incidences of cases of domestic violence.

5. Sustainability

Strong commitments at the national level ensure success of durable solutions programming

Overall engagement is strong at the central level. Commitments by area of livelihood and the CRRF framework are linked to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development. The RDDP strategy of coordination in existing structures clustered organisations into different working groups, as seen in the CRRF model under the Refugee Response Framework. This approach has enabled the RDDP to streamline interventions and avoid duplication and has contributed to lessons learnt in programme implementation. However, due to the size of the program, coordination is a challenge.

ENABEL recommended their policy of designating one point person to facilitate activity organization, as this ensured that they were apprised of the organization's activities in Rhino Camp - not just for one particular sector (i.e. just WASH activities) but for all ENABEL projects in the area.

6. Recommendations

The following section summarises recommendations that can serve as a basis for future programming:

6.1 Overall

While promising progress has been made, further sensitization on durable solutions will be needed. Community perceptions regarding the preferential treatment of one group over the other should be addressed going forward.

To address that, gains in coordination and locally led processes can be made, as a step forward in ensuring locally led durable solutions programming. While the government could take over the leadership of the TVET project, district leadership needs to continuously monitor the market for the skills and products, as well as continuous monitoring of the group activities. Without this, the government may not be able to sustain the programmes. In addition, the government needs financing for these programmes and graduates to enable beneficiaries make profits, integrating them into the mainstream education system for continuity purposes. While the training to local stakeholders has been provided (for instance ZOA trained sub county officials to continue carrying out TVET programming), financing will be required to sustain it.

6.2 By Sector

Education

- **Make funding of schools a priority to address challenges such as overcrowding of classes, inadequate learning materials and shortage of qualified teachers.** With an improved access to education for hosts and refugee populations alike, concerns were raised on the quality of education with specific concerns of teacher to pupil ratio, overcrowdedness, drop out cases, transition rates between lower and secondary levels and exclusion of youth who are older than the official school-age range but would like to get basic education.

Protection

- **Strengthen child protection committees to protect children from exploitation and abuse.** Formation of child protection committees in Rhino Camp had a remarkable input towards ensuring children are attending school and that their rights are protected. However, school dropout cases, child labour, teenage pregnancies, SGBV and early or forced marriages are still reported. There is an opportunity to continue putting in more efforts in strengthening child protection systems targeting refugee and host communities. More networks at the community level and close coordination with stakeholders such as parents, teachers, community members and law enforcement authorities will not only safeguard the gains but also hugely contribute to the overall impact.

Food Security

- **Improve adaptation strategies and risk mitigation measures for small scale farmers to boost food security.** While food security improved at the household level, small scale farmers and agriculture in general is at risk due to unpredictable weather conditions, inadequate farm inputs, unequal access to land and limited financing options amongst other factors. Refugees for example can only do subsistence farming, which most of the time does not meet the demand of large families, leading to continued dependency on food aid and assistance. Beyond provision of farm inputs, there is a need to have a robust market linkage strategy to improve productivity. Despite the challenges there remains great potential to develop agricultural value. This will have a huge impact on the desire to transform subsistence farming to commercial agriculture.

Livelihood

- **Enhance TVET curriculum to deliver value-based education and market-led skills for vulnerable youth.** Labour is by-and-large informal, with most youth unemployed altogether since the training centres have not managed to absorb the large pool of young people who are interested in skills acquisition. Refugees and hosts are largely engaged in similar business activities. There are active sectors of the economy such as ICT that have further potential to provide employment or income generating opportunities for youth. The government should be involved in identifying a market for the products from those who had completed training programmes and in continuous monitoring of their activities in order to sustain these actions. Plans to link trainees to banks to access start-up capital and to address one of the key constraints raised by refugees themselves is another area for coordination with the government over regulation. Finally, the district local government will need liaise with the SRPS-NU structures to integrate these into the upcoming SUPREME project to be implemented by World Vision, and other forthcoming projects.

Social Cohesion

- **Improve dialogue, engagement, and understanding between host and refugee communities.** Generally, the relationship between the refugee and host community is good. However, levels of distrust and suspicion still exist along host/refugee lines, which have sometimes led to physical confrontation. Small-scale conflict over natural resources especially water, and aid especially food is more prevalent. Finally programming has been reported as a source of tension between the groups. Further sensitization about the aims of programming, and involvement local representatives in project design will ensure that such perceptions are adequately addressed. **A key to social cohesion is a greater engagement with displacement-affected communities.**

Concluding Remarks – Programming during COVID-19

The gains made in the three years of the RDPP programming in Rhino Camp and documented in this report are at risk with the impact of COVID-19 across multiple sectors.

Donor countries reduced their aid allocation during the pandemic, leading to 70% cuts in funds for the refugees. WFP decreased their support by 30%, prompting the Ugandan government to introduce food rationing in refugee camps. Additionally, food is now being distributed every two months to avoid overcrowding in the distribution centres.¹⁸ Schooling activities within refugee camps have also halted.¹⁹ The Refugee Eligibility Committee had to suspend its operations due to the pandemic, but resumed its sessions in July 2020, so that 3,197 persons received the refugee status. There was a sharp, 55% increase of SGBV in refugee settlements, owing to the rising unemployment, food rationing and the rise in alcoholism. The pandemic is the primary cause of the worsened conditions found in Rhino Camp.²⁰ UNHCR engaged in providing support for the survivors.

Refugees and hosts were both affected by COVID-19. Most have suffered economically, as many in Rhino Camp are self-employed and rely on selling goods at Siripi centre. Markets and trading centres are less crowded due to social distancing measures, which has meant decreased revenue. Furthermore, transport costs have increased to UGX 20,000 - 30,000, as people can transport less people due to COVID-19 measures limiting passengers. The combination of higher transport prices and decreased income means people are less able to transport their goods to sell in markets and trading centres.

Food security has also become an issue as food costs have increased due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Refugees receive food rations from WFP every two months, which has made food management difficult. Some people reported eating only one or two meals per day, due to decreased availability of food as well as price inflation. Respondents reported that one tomato could cost between UGX500 – 1000, which was unaffordable.

Education has been particularly difficult - children have not been in classrooms since March due to school closures. Parents are trying to teach their children, but some do not speak English, the common language of instruction. Furthermore,

parents stated that their children did not take them seriously as teachers. Additionally, school closures have contributed to high rates of teen pregnancy and early marriage within Rhino Camp and the neighbouring host communities, as young girls are no longer attending school due to the pandemic. Many respondents felt that many young girls would not return to school once in person courses resumed.

In addition to schools, the TVET centre has been closed due to the pandemic. Those who would have undergone the training will have to wait longer in order to begin, delaying their chances of earning a living. Additionally, recent graduates of the training programs were unable to complete internships because most businesses are closed or operate with limited hours due to the pandemic. As such, these groups feel disappointed with their experience in these programs. ENABEL avowed that COVID-19 had been “a mess” and had slowed vocational training programmes down. Some who were initially selected are no longer interested and others have gotten pregnant, so their eventual numbers will be much lower whenever the programmes can resume. The trainers themselves have been impacted because they have lost their jobs and salaries during this difficult period.

Many mentioned reduced services from NGOs and other organizations present within Rhino Camp. Some organizations were supposed to provide people with radios and books in order to facilitate distance learning during the lockdown, but these never materialised. The pandemic has led to higher cases of domestic violence, either between spouses or between children and parents.

One positive aspect of the pandemic was that it had led to vastly improved hygiene and sanitation measures within the camp. Multiple people in all of the focus group discussions mentioned that people were taking the correct hygiene precautions and washing hands was widely respected and practiced within the community. Every household has handwashing facilities, which were provided by DRC. Furthermore, the Village Health Teams have been very proactive in their sensitisation campaigns regarding the pandemic and best practices to combat spread. Others mentioned that due to more time spent at home, they were able to focus more energy on cultivating crops in their home gardens, which they hoped to sell in order to earn some income.

¹⁸ Baribrye, J. (2020). Effects of COVID-19 on the refugee communities in Uganda. Office of the Prime Minister. | ¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ UNHCR. (2020). COVID-19 response. Bi-monthly Update. UNHCR.

Annex 1: RDPP Outcome Metric for Uganda

Outcome metrics were developed focusing only on variables RDPP programming would expect to be able to influence. In Rhino Camp, these activities focused on WASH, livelihoods, and education. Based on these broad categories, the following indicators were selected to form part of the Uganda-specific RDPP outcome metric:

Table 7. Uganda-specific RDPP outcome indicators

Education	Regular school attendance
	Teacher-student ratio of 50 or less
	Quality of teaching judged high or very high
Social cohesion	Households who judge that economic integration is on the rise
	Households who judge that social integration is on the rise
	Trusting one's own community
	Trusting neighbouring community
	Has not experienced conflict in the past month
	Has a neutral, positive or very positive perception of the group
	Respondents who never struggle to meet expenses
Environment	Access to tap water
	Access to some kind of toilet facility
	Garbage-free environment
	Disputes over natural resources
Livelihoods	Working-age individuals in paid work or self-employed
	Households which have income redundancy (more than one earner)
	Main income earner works in and out of camp
	Main income earner holds a diploma or skills certification related to his work
	Individuals who have access to TVET to foster their skills
	Respondents who find their economic opportunities as good
	Respondents who never struggle to meet expenses

Method of calculation: For each category, several binary (true/false) indicators were assembled representing the status of each respondent within the domain. Given the responses to these indicators of all host and refugee respondents in our sample, a multiple correspondence analysis was used to determine a set of weights that would maximise the variance of the weighted sum of these variables among the sample. These weights are then averaged with a set of uniform weights to ensure that variables with very little variance are considered. Such empirical indices are often used in the absence of an a priori set of weights based on an intimate knowledge of the underlying populations with respect to the themes. These weights were then used to compute a numeric score for each respondent household in each dimension.

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs contracted the LET - composed of Samuel Hall, MDF, Maastricht University and ECDPM - to conduct a combined quantitative and qualitative impact evaluation for RDPP in order to assess progress and provide learning for adaptation, feed a regional programme narrative and inform policy making and regional dialogues. Led by Samuel Hall and MDF, the evaluation team combines academic rigour and subject-matter expertise on migration, displacement, refugees, protection and integration.

