



AAH South Sudan

LIVELIHOODS, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT

From January 2018, the South Sudan programme of Action Africa Help International (AAH-I) is implementing a *Livelihoods, Environment and Energy Conservation* project targeting the refugee population in Gorom and Juba. The project is funded by UNHCR. The goal is for refugees to engage in meaningful work in a safe environment and rebuild their lives in dignity.

The specific objectives are to:

- Build self-reliance and improve livelihoods
- Protect the environment and shared natural resources
- Promote social cohesion between refugees and the host community
- Improve access to safer fuel and energy

We are achieving these objectives by promoting context-appropriate and diversified agricultural practices, encouraging the adoption of non-farm income generating initiatives, encouraging the refugee community in Gorom to participate in environmental protection activities which promote the sustainable use of natural resources and, supporting increased access to sustainable/renewable energy.

Immediate outcomes

Improved agriculture production

To reduce dependency on handouts and food aid, the project is advocating and supporting more refugee households to access arable land from the host community, and providing them with seed and farming tools. This is complemented by continuous training and mentoring to promote agriculture best practice to increase productivity.

Improved household income

The project is rallying refugee households to equip them with business management and literacy and numeracy skills, and training them on the Village Savings and Loans (VSLA) model. This model allows participating members to collectively mobilize resources, which are invested in

income generating activities, subsequently contributing to increased household income. In collaboration with the Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training under the Ministry of Education, the project is facilitating training on vocational skills such as tailoring and auto-mechanics.

Increased awareness of environmental conservation and social cohesion with the host community

The project is conducting campaigns to raise awareness on environmental protection and the sustainable use of shared natural resources. Additionally, to stem potential animosity due to competition over scarce natural resources, the project is working with the Gorom camp management to have refugee households use open spaces within the camp for agriculture. This reduced the need for refugees to look for land outside the designated camp area, therefore reducing the strain on shared resources. For sustainability, we are working with the community to plant woodlots that will in future increase the supply of wood fuel and poles for fencing poles and shelter construction.

Improved access to safe fuel and energy

The use fuel wood for cooking is economically unsustainable, leads to environmental degradation and exposes women to protection concerns. To address this, we have designed a customized energy-saving cooking stove for over 50% of the refugee households in Gorom Camp. The stoves are energy-efficient and use less fuel wood thereby reducing pressure on the forest.

The project complements Sustainable Development Goals



Our reach as at December 2018



443

People trained on agronomy, poultry, apiary, fisheries and livestock management



18,438

Tree seedlings planted



Percentage survival rate of tree seedlings planted



480

People received production kits or agriculture/livestock inputs



7
Hectares of woodlots planted



226

People reached with messages on energy conservation and adoption of energy-saving stoves



384

Energy-saving cooking stoves constructed



87
People actively participating in Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) out of 141 trained on the VSLA model



71

Small businesses received grants and the owners equipped with entrepreneurship skills



\$113

People received cash/vouchers to use as capital for business start-ups



60
People equipped with literacy and numeracy skills



32

People enrolled in vocational skills training such as auto mechanics and tailoring

With support from



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