



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Cover photo: Welding is one of the vocational skills youths are learning in the Refugee Settlements

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BOARD CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Our ambition to ensure communities have dignified lives

In 2018, our commitment to support the refugees, host communities and other vulnerable communities that we serve in Uganda continued with us making great strides in our work. Our holistic programming approach that we have always relied on ensures targeted communities are able to achieve better health outcomes, have improved livelihoods and are able to live their lives with dignity. Beyond the circumstances that they find themselves in, our work in Uganda is providing avenues for communities and young people to be self-reliant.

We joined the larger AAH-I community to reflect on our organisation's work following the lapse of our five-year strategy that had run its full course in 2018. The exercise culminated in the 2019-2023 strategy that will guide our work over the next five years and AAH Uganda has defined the areas it will concentrate on in those five years in line with the three programming pillars i.e.a) Communities capacity for disaster risk reduction and management strengthened; b) Communities are food and income secure; c) Communities access quality health services

AAH Uganda values partnerships because we know that the work we do is only possible when we collaborate with other stakeholders. Our partners are diverse and they include development partners, the government and the private sector. Related to this, we hosted in May the EU Trust Fund country representative Christelle Jocquet and the UNHCR field coordinator Jens Hesemann when they paid a visit to our Adjumani Logistics workshop in Northern Uganda. The workshop provides critical services in vehicle repair and maintenance, fleet and fuel management for UNHCR and its partners. The workshop is also a training hub for refugee and host community youth on various demand-driven skills such as vehicle mechanics, welding and plumbing. In 2018, 450 of them graduated from the programme.

Our year was also marked with changes in our country programme leadership. We said goodbye to Dr Bukenya and welcomed Mr Peter Avenell as the AAH Uganda Country Director in mid-2018. Peter has over 25 years' of experience leading diverse teams in humanitarian and developmental programming in Eastern and Central Africa.

As always, we count on your support to help us deliver on our mission which is to support Uganda's communities to sustainably improve their quality of life.

Stella Biwaga
AAH Uganda Board Chair

COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Making each effort count for refugees and their host communities

Our work in 2018 added to the efforts of supporting an estimated 1.3 million refugees from surrounding nations who seek safety in Uganda. This past year, we implemented a portfolio of diverse projects in humanitarian relief and early recovery, basic services (health and water, sanitation and hygiene), environmental management and food and income security. We worked with communities in Kyangwali refugee settlement, Adjumani, Lamwo, Kiryandongo and Arua, benefiting over 200,000 people through funding support from the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP) and Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency.

Throughout the year, we continued to witness a steady influx of refugees especially from the Democratic Republic of Congo where escalating violence over land and fishing grounds in the north-eastern province of Ituri resulted in at least 42,000 refugees crossing into Uganda at the Sebagoro landing site on Lake Albert. In response, AAH Uganda stepped up its operations to counter the pressure on the existing resources due to the high numbers of newly arrived refugees and ensured they have access to critical services. In February, we worked with UNCHR to strengthen our health, water and sanitation services following a cholera outbreak in Kyangwali Settlement.

Even as we responded to humanitarian emergencies, AAH Uganda's development efforts have ensured that communities build their resilience in the face of prevailing challenges. We continued our work particularly with agro-pastoralists communities in the Karamoja region of Uganda. Through the Karamoja Economic Empowerment Project (KEEP) project funded by UN Women and Irish Aid, we supported 500 women and girls with enterprise development services and business loans to start and expand their businesses.

Throughout the year, we worked closely with all our partners in expanding the footprint of our work. Our supportive communities, implementing partners, the government of Uganda, our development partners and donors were part of our 2018 success story and we are grateful for that.

We look forward to another year of fruitful collaborations.

George William Ebulu
Ag. Country Director, AAH Uganda

OUR REACH IN 2018



127,607

People provided access to health, safe water and sanitation services



30,000

People supported to improve their livelihoods through agriculture and income-generating activities



63,787

Refugees received during emergencies and provided with core survival items



500

Women and girls provided with business development services and funding for economic empowerment



245,000

Tree seedlings distributed to replenish tree cover



2,644

People provided with entrepreneurship/business training



A patient receiving care at one of the 5 health facilities support by AAH Uganda

Ensuring reach to essential services among vulnerable communities

Delivering health services to refugees and host communities

SDG 3: Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages



We are supporting communities to access to quality healthcare services and safe, effective, quality medicines and vaccines

The provision of essential health services to refugees living at the Kyangwali Settlement in Kikuube District and surrounding host communities remains one of AAH Uganda's critical component.

In 2018 alone, the programme catered for the health care needs of 127,940 people who comprised of 92,272 refugees and 35,668 Ugandan nationals. These services were offered through a network of five health centres (Rwenyawawa, Kyangwali, Kasonga, Ngurwe and Malembo) and three health posts (Malembo, Mukunyu and Kagoma Reception centre). These facilities work through a referral system where cases needing secondary and tertiary medical care are escalated to other facilities. 3,413 of such cases were referred in the past year.

Apart from providing general curative services, the country programme is helping improve access and utilization of essential maternal and child health, adolescent and youth sexual reproductive health services, Nutrition, and HIV/AIDS services. In 2018, 26,967 children under the age of five were monitored for growth and their mothers advised on good nutritional practices. Additionally, 91.7% immunization coverage

rate was achieved indicating that children were receiving the lifesaving vaccines that they require to prevent childhood illnesses.

Providing testing and counselling services for HIV is one of the tenets of the health project in Kyangwali, facilitating individuals to learn their HIV status so they can access prevention, care and treatment services. In the past year, 21,438 people were reached with these services and out of those 745 were found to be infected and were put on treatment. 252,507 people were provided with male and female condoms as part of the project's support in prevention.

The prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV is another of the services offered through the project. In 2018, 168 pregnant women who were counselled, tested and found to be infected received preventive treatment (anti-retroviral prophylaxis) to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus to their unborn child.

Providing access to safe and clean water, sanitation and hygiene services

SDG 6: Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



We are supporting communities to access to quality healthcare services and safe, effective, quality medicines and vaccines

In partnership with the Kikuube District local government, AAH Uganda has been working to ensure refugees and surrounding host community have access to safe water and adequate sanitation and hygiene in line with the national standards. In 2018, in support of this, AAH Uganda and its partners conducted a Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey to assess existing gaps to facilitate evidence-based future planning. Water consumption in the Kyangwali settlement is fairly stable at 14.2 litres per person per day against the recommended emergency standard of 15 litres per person per day. However the influx of about 90,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo in October 2018 led to increased demands for water and sanitation services which put pressure on the existing facilities and exposed the people to the risk of water-borne diseases. To address these shortages, AAH Uganda had to re-plan activities around provision of water to households. This included increasing water trucks from one truck to nine and water storage tanks were increased from 11 to 12 and this allowed for households to receive at least 15 litres of water per person per day for their household needs.

In the past year, the programme provided 96,985 people access to a clean water service point, supplying them with 98,717,000 litres of water through trucking and piping systems and this is an achievement of 92 per cent coverage of people collecting water from protected sources against an emergency standard of 70 per cent. In the same period, the project ensured water remained safe through continual testing for contamination and ensuring the water was chlorinated at source. In addition, 76 hand pumps were rehabilitated against the target of 18 hand pumps, ensuring optimal supply to the population. Sustained efforts in sanitation and hygiene saw 57,094 people reached with awareness messages. To support the community to maintain good health, 65 Village Health Teams were facilitated with tools while 44 hand washing facilities were provided to institutions (schools, health facilities and eating places) and 2,322 tippy taps to households. 144 communal latrines were constructed and thereafter decommissioned, while 1,977 household latrines were constructed against a target of 500.



The Kagoma Reception Centre is the first call for support to arriving refugees before re-settlement

Safeguarding the dignity of conflict-affected populations

Promoting the protection, safety and rights of refugees

SDG 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies



We are promoting equal access to justice and participatory decision making

In 2018, 3.2 million people were affected by conflicts and other disasters in East and Horn of Africa according to OCHA. Refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Somalia and South Sudan are hosted mainly by Uganda and Kenya. Since 1993, Uganda in particular has hosted about 1.4 million refugees mainly from South Sudan and the DRC and the AAH Uganda programme has been a key implementing agency of the UNCHR in refugee operations.

Due their vulnerability, refugees are exposed to violence and human rights violations with women and children often being the most affected. AAH Uganda programme provides protection and legal services to refugees, ensuring they receive the help they need to lead dignified lives despite the circumstances they face. In 2018, the project continued to support interventions to prevent gender-based violence (GBV). 11 people were assisted to seek legal assistance and 102 people reporting cases were facilitated to seek justice. The changes in the refugee population from about 35,791 to 90,000 individuals following the influx of new refugees into Kyangwali settlement from the Ituri region of the DRC has drastically demanded for the community to be more organised and empowered to take on community level concerns. The programme is working with community members to create leadership structures in the new villages and helping them organise to choose their leaders to fully take the responsibility to manage their affairs. This also

has also emphasized the participation of women in leadership and public decision making processes.

During the year, other complementary services offered to those of concern included provision of core relief items (CRIs) that helped 66,881 individuals in refugee households carry on with their lives. 18,114 women of reproductive age were supported with sanitary materials to maintain their hygiene. In addition, services for groups with specific needs were strengthened. During the period, psychosocial well-being and general welfare of 1,167 of persons with specific needs (elderly people and those with disabilities - PWDs) was improved through counselling services, provision of complementary food items to 114 older persons, home visits to 798 and provision of assistive/mobility devices to 19 PWDs and referrals for other services.

Part of securing the well-being of refugees is to provide for their needs during humanitarian emergencies and recovery through optimal service delivery which is dependent on effective logistical support. AAH Uganda has been a partner of UNCHR supporting the logistics and supply chains which also serve the operations of other implementing agencies in Adjumani, Moyo, Lamwo, Yumbe, and Koboko and Arua.

In 2018, the programme supported the running of vehicle repair and maintenance workshops, equipment and plants, fuel management, warehousing, and procurement services. The programme operates with a fleet of 11 light vehicles (ambulances and pick-ups), one water truck, eight generators and 10 motorcycles. In addition, the programme oversaw the disbursement of over 250,000 litres of diesel and close to 6,000 litres of petrol.



Empowering young refugees with tailoring skills provides a steady- income for many families

Securing household livelihoods

Assisting communities to attain adequate and sustainable income

SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



AAH-I works to make communities food and income secure by improving the productivity of small-scale farmers and developing enterprises for women and youth

AAH Uganda's goal is to contribute to making communities self-reliant by improving their livelihoods through better farming and livestock keeping practices and support in enterprise development. In 2018, a total of 8,800 people benefited from such interventions. Four farmer groups were supported to start piggery units, while 600 farmers were provided with treadle pumps to support crop production (mainly vegetables) through irrigation. To improve access to markets, 2,115 farmers were trained in group dynamics and cooperative management and a further 1,515 trained in agri-business. Since 2016, AAH Uganda has been implementing the Karamoja Economic Empowerment Project (KEEP) project that is funded by UN Women and Irish Aid. The project focuses on the economic empowerment of the poorest and most excluded women and adolescent girls (16-24 years) living with HIV/AIDS and those at risk of infection living in the Karamoja sub region (in the urban and remote villages of Moroto, Napak, Kaboong and Kotido districts), by supporting them to run sustainable businesses. In 2018, the KEEP project moved into the Accelerator phase and worked with 240 through their women groups to provide them with enterprise development assistance on savings, investment and income mobilization, self-esteem and confidence, and decision making to enable them run profitable enterprises. Part of this training was to

ensure that Women Business Enterprises (WBEs) have increased access to financing and markets. During the year, profiling of selected WBE was conducted in all four districts and 20 groups in Napak and Kotido districts met the needed criteria to received approximately US \$26,000 worth of grants to fund their businesses. In addition, 191 out of a total of 505 of women under this project have had access to loans. The WBEs also received mentorship and eight mentors worked with members to start, implement and manage their enterprises.

The Uganda programme has been working to increase access to market-driven skills to youths through vocational skills training in various trades. The courses are accredited by Uganda's Directorate of Industrial Training. The training is offered to both refugees and the host communities in the Kyangwali Refugee Settlement, and Arua and Adjumani districts. Funding in 2018 from Enabel (Belgian Development Agency) and UNCHR supported the training of 450 youth. 13 training manuals and eight community-based work stations – two in Adjumani, three in Arua, two at the AAH workshop, and one at the Flaminio Vocational Technical Centre were established and equipped. The programme has successfully created linkages with both public and private sector partners and over 50 per cent of the trainees have been retained in businesses and institutions after their internship. Tracer studies and follow up visits to the project beneficiaries show that 63 per cent of the graduates are either formally employed or engaged in their own businesses.



Community members in Kyangwali Settlement attend an environment open day

Promoting environmental protection and sustainability

Supporting communities' access to greener energy resources

SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



AAH-I is contributing to resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters

AAH Uganda is working to close the gap between humanitarian and development interventions by implementing environmental protection activities that benefit both refugees and the host community in the Kyangwali Settlement. This is in line with the Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) strategy supported by the UNCHR. In Kyangwali, part of these activities include the joint management of natural resources and the protection of the shared environment. In 2018, this included increasing the tree cover in the settlement and surrounding areas. In that period, 11 woodlots equating to 152 hectares were established up from 112 hectares in 2017. The programme supported distribution of over 200,000 seedlings of a variety of tree species to the communities through raising nurseries and a partnership with a private company. Tree planting was successfully done through small organized groups, churches and schools.

In the Kiryandongo refugee settlement, increased tree cover was achieved from 152 hectares in 2017 to 157 hectares through establishment of woodlots and orchards. 23,176 assorted tree seedlings were distributed to 1,365 households of both refugees and host communities. A further 2,100 tree seedlings of *Grevillea* were planted and caged along the major roads and public places. Trees have many uses for the residents

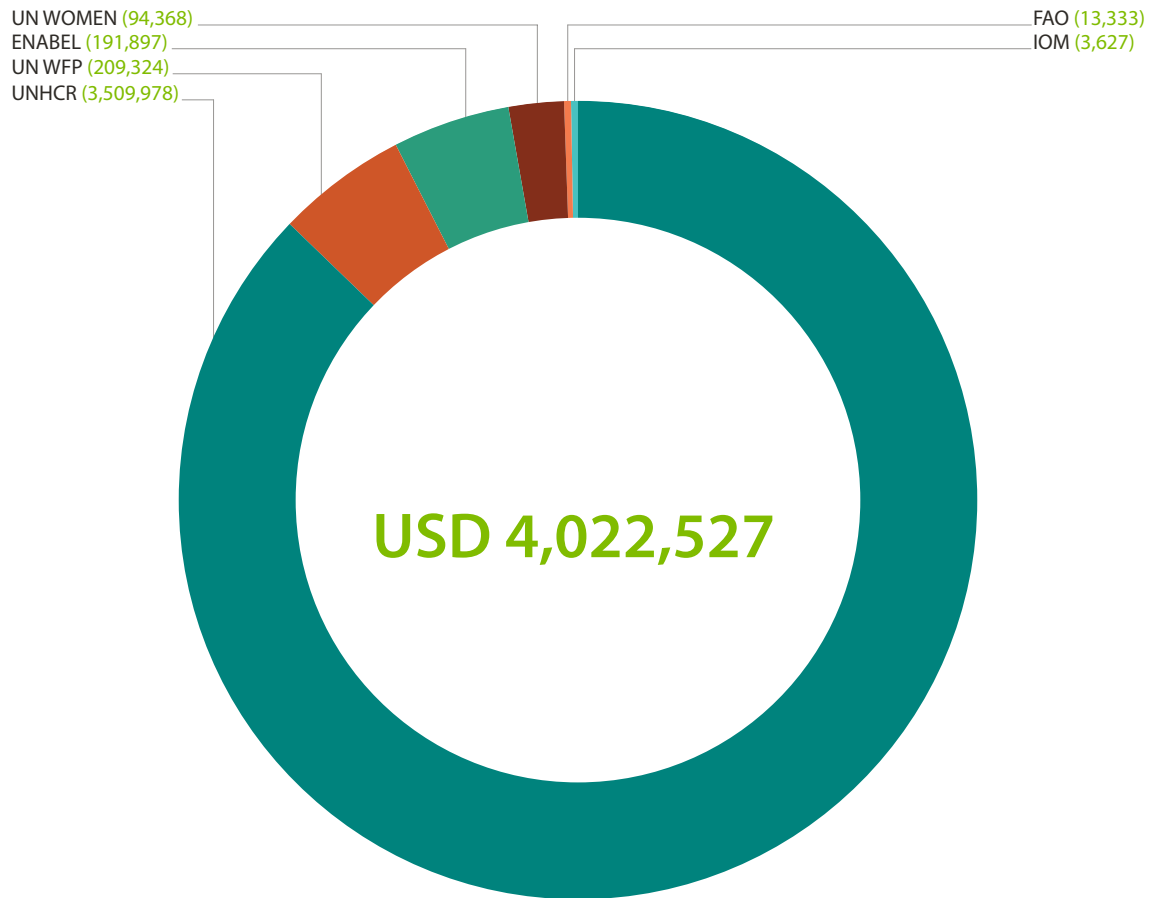
and are a source of income. The drive for afforestation

at the Settlement has helped recover the depleted tree. Other activities involved increasing awareness in tree planting and environment conservation through 10,142 home visits and 114 awareness campaigns that reached 19,368 people. The community was also sensitized on waste management during commemorations of the World Environment Day (WED) whose 2018 theme was 'Beat Plastic Pollution.'

Enabling access to energy for communities is another key result area for the country programme. In 2018, project interventions were designed to increase access and usage of renewable energy technologies - briquettes, solar and biogas for refugees and host communities. Working with private sector partners such as Green Bio-energy (GBE), adoption of briquettes and solar energy for lighting was increased through community-based energy promoters and awareness campaigns. In Kiryandongo, awareness for the rocket Lorena stoves reached 19,368 community members through 1,042 home visits. In Kyangwali, 6,315 energy saving stoves were constructed in the five villages and hands-on training done in 5,110 households with 56 being those of People of Concern. Two open days and 35 joint promotion campaigns on briquettes were held to increase community awareness and access to different energy technologies. In the past year, Kyangwali households earned approximately US \$700 from briquette sales being used in homes, restaurants, barracks, and schools.

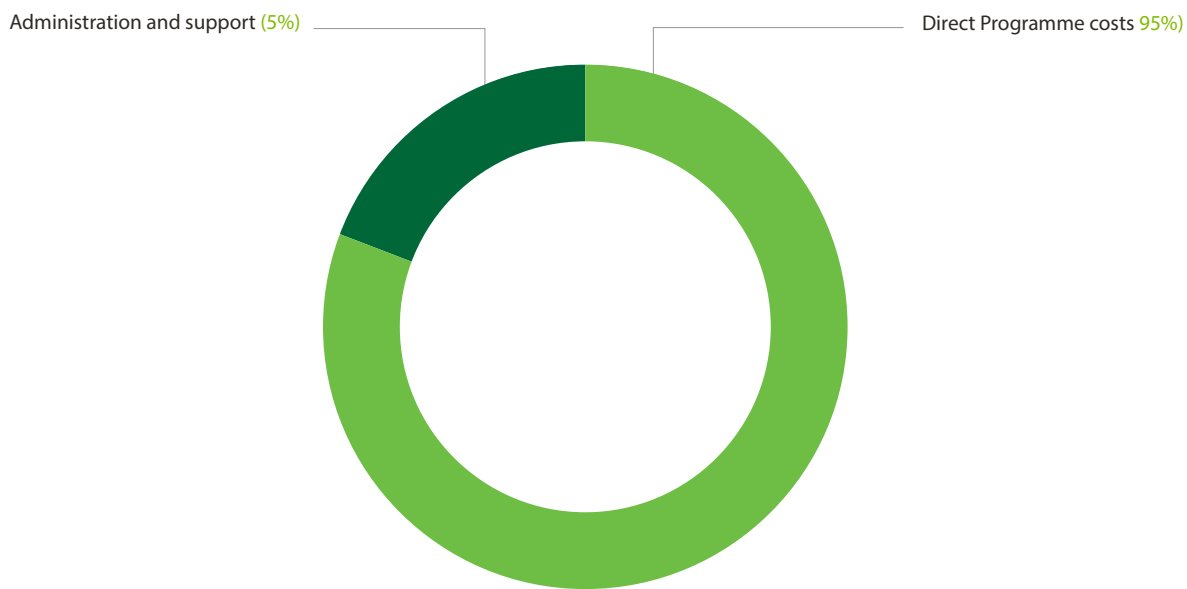
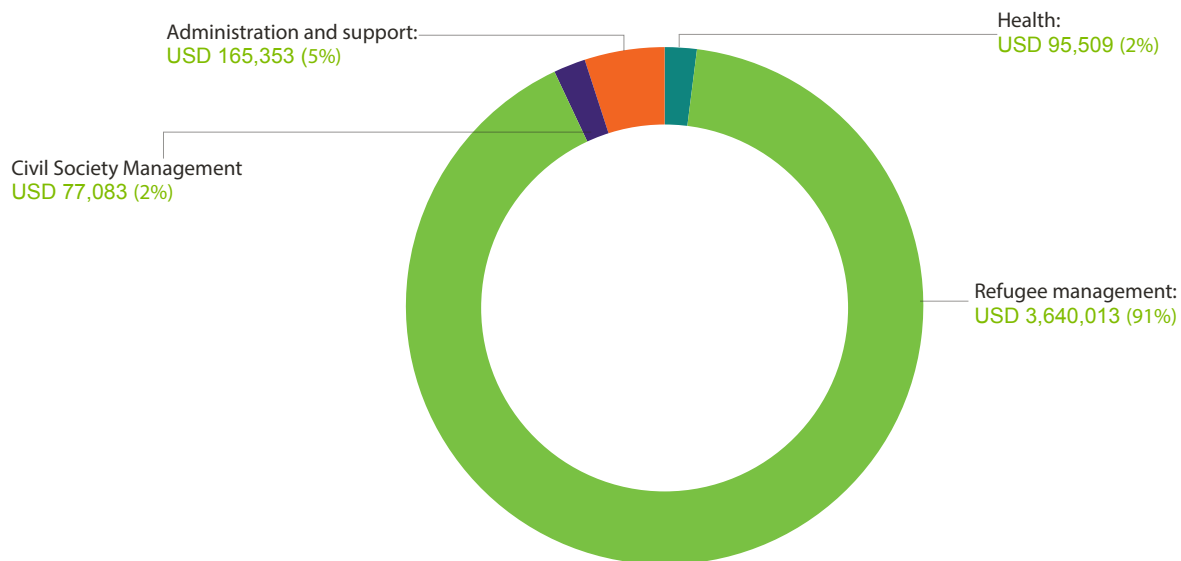
FINANCIALS

Source of Funds (USD)



FINANCIALS

How We Spent Funds



PARTNERS

Enabel (BTC)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
United Nations for High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
United Nations Women (UN Women)
United Nations World Food Program (UN WFP)
Kikuube District Local Government
Moroto District Local Government
Napak District Local Government
Kotido District Local Government
Kaabong District Local Government

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Stella Biwaga (Chair of the AAH Uganda National Board)
Mr. Simon A.L. Nangiro (Member)
Ms. Christine Mulindwa- Matovu (Member)
Mr. Rhobert Korutaro Muhereza (Member)
Dr. Caroline Kisia (Executive Director- AAH-I)
Prof. Vinand Nantulya (Member representing the International Board)
Mr. Peter Douglas Avenell (Country Director /Secretary to the Board)

