



Action by Churches Together

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Coordinating Office

Rapid Response

Payment Request No. 30/2008

Funds Sent To: Church of Uganda Planning, Development and Rehabilitation
Department (CoU-PDR)

Amount Sent: US\$ 56,333

Date: November 2008

Details of Response

Emergency: Congolese Refugees in Uganda

Date of Emergency: 5 November 2008

Implementing Member: Church of Uganda, Planning, Development and Rehabilitation
Department (CoU-PDR)

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The Democratic Republic of Congo borders Uganda on the southwestern side and borders Rwanda on the northern side. The DRC has experienced a number of ethnic conflicts. This area bordering Uganda and DRC is mainly occupied by Hutus. The minority group in the area is the Banyamurenge ethnic group who feel marginalized.

Since the death of Mobutu, many rebel groups have emerged. Currently a rebel group led by Laurent Nkunda is fighting the Kinshasa government in the area of Rushuru. Mr. Nkunda belongs to the Banyamurenge ethnic group in the above-mentioned border area.

The fighting has been ongoing, but in September and October has intensified, forcing many Congolese to seek refuge in Uganda. It is reported by the office of the Prime Minister and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that over 6,500 Congolese refugees have entered Uganda in the districts of Kanungu and Kisoro as a result of the fighting. The majority of those who have crossed the border are children and women. The number is likely to increase as the fighting intensifies in the Rucuru area and towards Goma (North Kivu province).

Most of the refugees fled from Rugarama village, 17km from the Uganda boarder through Busanga boarder post in Kisoro. Most of these refugees have been relocated to Nakivale Refugee settlement according to UNHCR. Nakivale is 400km away from the Uganda-Congo border.

ACT is a global alliance of churches and related agencies working to save lives and support communities in emergencies worldwide.

The ACT Coordinating Office is based with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) in Switzerland.

This influx has led to lack of adequate provisions of food, water, health and sanitation facilities in several villages at the border and in the Nakivale Refugee Settlement. The situation has been made worse by a terrible hailstorm on 11 October, which has damaged property and food crops in the gardens in the areas of the refugee influx. Nakivale resettlement area is also a semi-arid area, and this creates a constraint of lack of shelter as there is no grass and trees to use in the construction of shelters and safe water.

A number of agencies have been approached for assistance. The Dioceses of Kinkizi, Muhabura and Ankole have received these refugees. Kinkizi and Muhabura are at the border and are therefore the entry points; Nakivale is located in Ankole Diocese. These Dioceses have approached COU-PDR for its intervention. The core objective is to provide the refugees with basic needs of life to ease their suffering. The main items required by the refugees include clothing, plastic sheeting, water and water containers, blankets, sanitary wear and food.

ACTIONS TO DATE AND EMERGENCY NEEDS

An assessment of the emergency was carried out by the ACT forum members, Church of Uganda, Planning, Development and Rehabilitation Department (CoU-PDR) and Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Uganda. At the ACT forum meeting on 5 November 2008, it was agreed that there is need to carry out immediate intervention. Since COU-PDR has had a long practical working experience in the affected area, it was agreed that it would lead the needed emergency intervention. COU-PDR has recognizable presence in the area through its structure which is based on Dioceses throughout Uganda. COU-PDR carried out a rapid response assessment and had consultations with the office of the Prime Minister in charge of refugees. These two activities resulted in the objectives of the emergency response as given below.

RESULTS

In total some 10,000 Congolese refugees have arrived in Uganda since the latest round of fighting erupted in late August., according to UNHCR sources. The number is increasing day by day as the fighting intensifies. They are entering Uganda through the same mentioned entry points. Women and children constitute the majority. These two categories make 68% of the refugees.

The Red Cross, UNHCR, the WFP and Government of Uganda are providing food and non-food items; however, the need is overwhelming as more refugees continue to arrive. The COU-PDR has presented this appeal so as to add support to the refugees.

PROPOSED EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Objective(s) of the emergency response

The specific objective of this programme is to assist 6,000 refugees with food and non-food items as follows:

1. Provision of 10 units of plastic sheeting
2. Provision of 6,000 pieces of blankets
3. Provision of 10 bales of assorted second hand clothes
4. Provision of 200 pieces of plastic jerrycans
5. Provision of 200 plastic buckets
6. Provision of 20,000 kgs of maize flour
7. provision of 10,000 kgs of beans
8. Provision of 300 kgs of common salt
9. Provision of 100 dozen plastic cups
10. Provision of 100 dozen plastic plates
11. Provision of 10 packets of 150 sanitary pads in each for an estimated 700 women in productive age bracket.
12. Provision of 30 cartons of bar soap

TARGET POPULATION

There are more women and children than men. The number of women and children combined is 4,420 and the men are 2,080. According to age, the children and women are the most affected (0-35 years). Church of Uganda, PDR plans to assist a total of 6,000 refugees.

S/No.	Age Group	Females	Males	Total
1.	Children 0-5 years	700	300	1,000
2.	Children 6-17 years	1,200	800	2,000
3.	Youth 18-50 years	1,400	600	2,500
4.	Adults 51 and above	600	400	1,000
		3,900	2,100	6,000

Specific Protection, Security

Currently the refugees are staying in the open under government protection. UNHCR with the government have relocated the refugees to Nakivale Refugee Settlement in Isingiro District, 400 kms from the border.

Vulnerability

The situation in Congo is escalating due to failure of negotiations between the government of DRC and the rebels under the leadership of Nkunda. The number of refugees is increasing and yet the assistance is not increasing.

Gender

Gender concerns have been taken into consideration during the design of the intervention and will continue to be of concern since the number of men and women, boys and girls have been clearly identified.

PROPOSED ASSISTANCE:

S/No.	Proposed Activity	Outputs	Indicator
1.	Resource mobilization	Resources to make intervention	6,000 refugees assisted with food and non food items
2.	Selection of target beneficiaries	6,000 most vulnerable selected for assistance	6,000 people assisted with food and non-food items
3.	Sensitization of the refugees in sanitation and poor hygiene	Improved health for the refugees, reduced illness due to hygiene and sanitation related illnesses	Number of healthy children among refugees
4.	Purchase of items	Items purchased	Receipts from suppliers
5.	Transportation of items to Dioceses	Items delivered to settlement	Delivery notes signed by the settlement
6.	Distribution of items	Items distributed	Acknowledgements of receipts of goods by the beneficiaries
7.	Reporting	Progress and end of intervention, reports made	Reports produced and shared with partners

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Church of Uganda, PDR will spearhead the implementation of the intervention. The Church of Uganda, PDR will network with the office of the Prime Minister in Nakivale Refugee Settlement to implement the intervention.

Church of Uganda, PDR and the Dioceses will work hand in hand with Government authorities especially at local levels.

Information shall be shared with other agencies like Red Cross, WFP and other community based agencies. LWF as the other member of the ACT forum will not be involved in direct implementation of this rapid response. However, it will be involved in information sharing and advice on progress of this RRF project implementation.

The principles of the code of conduct have been considered and shall strictly be adhered to.

COORDINATION

All interventions in this emergency are coordinated by the office of the Prime Minister of Uganda based in Mbarara. COU-PDR just like other agencies shall work hand in hand with the office of the Prime Minister to implement the response.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Provincial Secretary is the official spokesperson of COU and is available to assist with the media activities.

PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

The implementation of this intervention under the RRF will be for a period of two months.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

BUDGET

Item	Unit	Amount	Cost in Ug.shs	Total Cost in Ug.shs.	Total in USD
<u>Food</u>					
Maize flour	kgs	20,000	2,000	40,000,000	22,222
Beans	kgs	10,000	1,800	18,000,000	10,000
salt	kgs	300	1,000	300,000	167
<u>NON FOOD ITEMS</u>					
Plastic jerrycans	Pieces	200	4,500	900,000	500
Plastic buckets	Pieces	200	5,000	1,000,000	556
Plastic plates	dozen	100	500	50,000	28
Plastic cups	dozen	100	400	40,000	22
<u>Shelter, Beddings & Clothing</u>					
Plastic sheet	roles	10	200,000	2,000,000	1,111
Blankets(Simba)	pieces	1,109	12,000	13,308,000	7,393
Second-hand clothes(assorted)	Bales	10	350,000	3,500,000	1,944
<u>Health & Sanitation Support</u>					
Sanitary Wear for women	Packets 10	1,500	3,000	4,500,000	2,500
Bar soap	25x1 cartons	30	30,000	900,000	500
<u>Transport & Handling</u>					
Hire of Lorries for transporting items	Trips	3	1,500,000	4,500,000	2,500

Running costs for 2 PDR Vehicles	Trips	12	500,000	6,000,000	3,333
Storage ,loading &off loading	weeks	2	500,000	1,000,000	556
<u>PROGRAMME COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</u>					
Administration & Coordination	Months	2	900,000	1,800,000	1,000
Report Production	Number			602,000	334
<u>AUDIT</u>					
External Audit		1	3000000	3,000,000	1,667
TOTAL				101,400,000	56,333
exchange rate	1800 Ug.shs.	1 USD			

ACTION

The ACT Co-ordinating Office has approved the use of US\$ 56,333 towards the budget from its Rapid Response Fund and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish the fund. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered as an advance.

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