

# CASH FOR WORK // TREE PLANTING FOR WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

The WatSSUP Cash for Work (CfW) tree planting activity takes place between April and November 2022. It aims at improving the water source protection of water supply system catchment areas as well as delivering positive impact on household incomes. The activity covers a total of 18 acres in the West Nile Region in Northern Uganda. 9 acres of trees are planted in Yumbe district (Bidibidi refugee settlement) and 9 acres in Terego district (Imvepi refugee settlement).

## BACKGROUND

The Programme Water Supply and Sanitation for Refugee Settlements and Host Communities in Northern Uganda (WatSSUP) operates on the nexus of humanitarian and development work and focuses on both refugee and host communities. The programme is implemented under the special initiative on forced displacement of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in line with Germany's commitment to international burden and responsibility sharing under the UN Global Compact on Refugees. The overall goal of WatSSUP is to ensure sustainable water and sanitation services in the three refugee settlements of Imvepi, Rhino Camp and Bidibidi in the districts of Yumbe, Terego and Madi Okollo in the West Nile Region in Northern Uganda.

The transition from a mainly humanitarian approach to a development approach in Uganda is driven by sectoral action plans under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). The Action Plan for Refugees and Host Communities, called the Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan (WESRRP) of 2019 promotes the inclusion of refugees to ensure effective management of water and environmental resources for socio-economic development.



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
Ministry of Water and Environment



DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by:



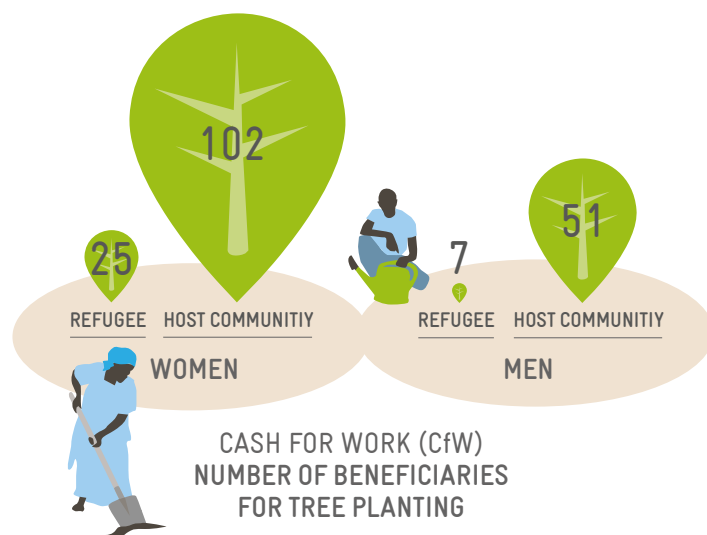
## OUR APPROACH

In line with the national framework, the Upper Nile for Water Management Zone (UN-WMZ) of the Ministry of Water and Environment conducted a water source assessment in 2021 that informed the roll out of the tree planting activity, along with the Local Government District Environment Officers of Terego and Yumbe districts. A local Community Based Organisation (ACOSS), was contracted by GIZ WatSSUP to undertake the tree planting activity.

The CfW beneficiaries were registered from the local communities that neighbor the sites of the established tree plantations, they comprised refugees and host community members and belong to vulnerable groups. The beneficiaries were chosen by the following selection criteria:

- › Women headed households
- › Households with the elderly persons
- › Households with persons with disability
- › Households with persons with chronic illness
- › Large household sizes i.e. greater than 8 house-hold members

A specific focus was put on the engagement of women in the intervention because of women's meaningful role in rural development with an important contribution towards economic, environmental and social changes. Sixty-nine percent of the registered CfW beneficiaries in this activity are female, which will promote their economic self-reliance, make them less vulnerable to exploitation and has a positive impact on gender dynamics in the society.



## IMPACT

A total of 185 CfW beneficiaries comprising of refugees and host community members in Bidibidi and Imvepi refugee settlements mentioned that their income had improved for the period that they were engaged in the tree planting activity of 18 acres that commenced in April 2022.

Looking at indirect beneficiaries of the tree planting activity, at least 1,017 household members of the CfW beneficiaries are profiting from the cash earned. Over 4,868 people who live near the tree plantations will gain from the long-term effects of the activity due to the improved environmental conditions. The graphic above shows the CfW beneficiaries disaggregated by gender and status (refugee/host community).



**EXPERIENCE** // My name is Emmanuel Loruba and I am 39 years old. I am from South Sudan but now live in Imvepi refugee settlement in Terego district. I am engaged in the cash for work tree planting activity since April 2022. I am living with a disability. I head a team of 25 beneficiaries during the cash for work activity at the Imvepi primary school in Terego district. Through this activity, I am able to earn some money to support my family. Also, I work in harmony with the people from the host community, Odupi sub county. We hope that the trees will thrive and contribute to the conservation of our environment!

## BEST PRACTICES

- ✂ Use of institutional land (school land, local government land etc.) for tree planting ensures ownership and effective long-term care by local authorities.
- ✂ Targeting vulnerable people, specifically women, improves their economic self-reliance.
- ✂ Using a local Community Based Organization empowers the organization for longer engagement in development issues in their community beyond this activity.
- ✂ Working in a group has motivated the beneficiaries to engage the Community Development Officer with intent to form and register a savings group for socio-economic progress.
- ✂ School involvement adds value as children learn to care for the planted trees and participate in the conservation of the environment.



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