

# RURAL INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT WEST NILE



RICE-WN

ANNUAL REPORT

JAN-DEC 2019



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN BOD



*Can. Onesmus Dralega  
Chairperson*

On behalf of the Board of Directors of RICE- WN, I thank the Secretariat for the hard work during the period January to December 2019. All the RICE- WN Board of Directors do appreciate the tremendous work and impact that we have seen in the operations of the Organization. We have all the confidence to say that it has been possible because of the competent team we have put in place.

Occasionally, I personally visited the office and found on ground a committed and hardworking team that knew their work.

We are proud that over time, we have a team of staff that is not only committed and competent but also willing and ready to learn. I appreciate the Executive Director for steering the team that worked tirelessly throughout the year. We in equal measure appreciate the Advisory Council for the oversight it

has provided to the Board of Directors.

In a very special way, I do thank our partners and or Donors who committed resources to further RICE- WN Projects. Our success as an Organization is your success too. Without the resources you committed, we would not have taken the strides that we have taken as an Organization. We believe that with continued partnership with you, we can do better.

Upon a closer look at the Annual Report, you will discover that we were able to do much notwithstanding our financial constraints. That only goes a long way to prove to you the competence of RICE- WN to handle bigger Projects and resources. With open hands, we look forward to a continued and lasting relationship with you.

In RICE –WN, we value friendships and believe that one friend leads us to another. As such, we are eagerly awaiting to make many other friends and partners through you.

I once again appreciate the entire RICE –WN family, friends and our partners for the work well done.

Yours,

**Can. Onesmus Dralega**

**Board Chairperson**

## MESSAGE FROM THE ED



**Pax Sakari**  
**Executive Director**

Dear esteemed stakeholders, to mention; the governments of varied levels, development partners, our promoters, beneficiaries to mention but a few, we are greatly honored to account to you for what we did in the year 2019. Our theme for the year was 'Blowing RICE WN to its full potential'.

I would like to start by appreciating the government for the trust bestowed on us to operate without interruption, the confidence our development partners built in us over time, cooperation we received from our beneficiaries, the oversight role played by the governance bodies of RICE WN, the tireless effort exhibited by my beloved staff to work day and night cannot be overemphasized to say are contributory to these achievements therein.

During the year 2019, in total we implemented 13 projects funded by a range of donors which contributed to our mission that is to advance and promote health community development through broad intervention areas including; Environment and Natural Resources, Community Health, Sustainable Agriculture, Skills Development and Integrated Humanitarian Response. E.g. under Integrated Humanitarian Response alone, we implemented 5 projects that included; promoting peaceful co-existence among refugees and host communities, Transforming lives of conflict affected children and youth through skills development, improving quality of care for People Living with HIV and climate resilience projects. Under Environment and Natural Resources, we implemented two major projects i.e. Land rights and sustainable development and Clean, Renewable energy promotion projects. In total, we reached **41, 837** people directly under the different projects we implemented. We say "KUDOS" for all the tremendous support from different stakeholders that enabled us to reach the marginalized communities.

Finally, this page is merely a tip of the iceberg, meaning you have every reason to proceed and appreciate the great work done by opening and critically reading through the next pages that provides a summary of RICE WN's projects and some organizational activities over the past 12 months including achievements organized under the core program areas, some challenges, lessons learnt and finances at a glance. We count on your honest feedback which we believe will make us better in the subsequent years.

**Pax Sakari**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

## INTRODUCTION

*RICE-WN is a human right and empowerment-oriented NGO based in West Nile sub region of Uganda. It seeks to promote the respect and protection of all rights holders in the west Nile sub region through partnering with various stakeholders including Government, Local governments, CSOs and community members. We therefore focus substantively on community empowerment through capacity building and engagement*

*The mission and vision are executed through the 2019 Strategic direction i) Community development initiatives i.e. Community Health – Environment and Natural Resources – Skills Development – Sustainable Agriculture – Integrated Humanitarian Response*

*ii) Organizational development*

*iii) Partnerships and Networking*

*iv) Resource Development*

Theme of the year 2019

**“ Blowing RICE WN to her full potential ”**

### Our Mission & Vision

**VISION:** A model community based social services provider for holistic transformation.

**MISSION:** To advance and promote healthy community development.

### Our Core Values: **STRENGTH**

1. Simplicity
2. Time consciousness
3. Respect
4. Excellence
5. Novelty
6. Guardianship
7. Teamwork
8. Honesty

2019 Geographical Area

Adjumani District

Maracha District

Pakwach District

Moyo District

Arua District

Nwoya District

Koboko District

Nebbi District

Buliisa District

### Partnership and Networking

During the reporting period, RICE WN worked with a range of partners and networks that included the following; Donors, Media, Government, CSOs, Religious leaders, cultural leaders, Community leaders and the beneficiary communities.



Networks	RICE-WN POSITION
Arua District NGO Network	Member
Northern Albertine CSO Network on Environment and Petroleum (NANEP)	Member
Uganda Water Sanitation AND NGO Network (UWASNET)	Regional Coordinator
Human Rights Network Uganda	Member
Renewable Energy CSO Network	Member
Environment and Natural Resources CSO Network	Member

## KEY FACTS – Year 2019 in numbers



**26,333**

COMMUNITY LEVEL BENEFICIARIES REACHED WITH SENSITIZATION & AWARENESS MESSAGES



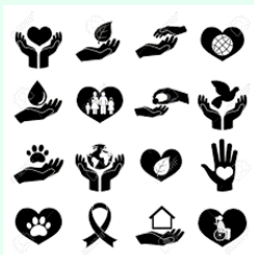
**7,865**

SCHOOL LEVEL BENEFICIARIES REACHED WITH SENSITIZATION AND AWARENESS MESSAGES



**722**

KPs SERVED AT VURRA CUSTOMS



**120** VHTS, **20** ENVIRONMENT CLUBS, **12** PEACE CLUBS, **59** PEACE MONITORS, **157** COMMUNITY MONITORS, **60** EDUCATION MONITORS, **58** TOTs ENGAGED



**13,234**

PEOPLE REACHED IN HARD TO REACH AREAS WITH BASIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES



**434** SOLAR HOME SYSTEMS, **537** IMPROVED COOK STOVES DISTRIBUTED



**88**

**BENEFICIARIES IN VOCATIONAL AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS SUPPORTED**



**32 FARMER GROUPS, 5 WASTE RECYCLING YOUTH GROUPS REACHED UNDER CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROJECT**



**1,383**

**(512 females, 871 males)**

**PUPILS AND STUDENTS SENSITIZED ON TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN OIL AND GAS SECTOR**



**372**

**PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV SERVED USING COMMUNITY DRUG DISTRIBUTION POINT MODEL**



**1,302,321**

**TREE SEEDLINGS PLANTED (500,171 IN IMVEPI AND 802,150 IN RHINO CAMP)**



## COMMUNITY HEALTH

Many of the issues we face all tie back into one central concern – public and community health. Pollution, water scarcity and overpopulation all present a clear threat to public health. Nearly one out of every four deaths each year are directly caused by unhealthy environments, according to the World Health Organization. The rapid population growth at national and global levels has become a concern to NGOs like RICE WN, CSOs and other government bodies responsible. HIV/AIDS is also still on the rise in our country despite the 95 95 95 government strategy to contain the virus. Aware of the plight of the communities, these health challenges prompted RICE-WN to develop project proposals to address such concerns to contribute towards improving the quality of health of the targeted communities. The following interventions were implemented under community health with their respective beneficiaries reached;

### *Increasing uptake of family planning and other services in Hard to reach communities of West Nile project funded by CHASE Africa.*

This project aimed at providing a variety of health services including uptake of Family Planning services by women in reproductive age. The following achievements were registered;

**12** mobile clinics conducted in Arua and Pakwach districts  
**13,234** people reached; out of which **772** were for family planning,  
**60,000** condoms distributed and  
**8** community dialogues were conducted on Family planning services, health seeking behavior among other topics; reaching a total of **676** people (**415F 261M**).  
**40** VHTs were trained to support the activities.

### *Community Drug Distribution Point Application Project (CDDP App Project) funded by Ugandan Academy for health Innovation and Impact – a program under IDI*

This project aimed at improving the quality of care and management of HIV/AIDS and TB for the People Living with HIV/TB and their contacts in Rhino Camp and Imvepi refugee settlements as well as the immediate host community. RICE WN partnered with 5 health facilities namely; Olujobo, Ocea, Yinga, Siripi and Ofua in delivering this work. A total of 13 community drug distribution points were established to serve the targeted PLHIV. In summary;

**13** CDDP groups formed and served under the **05** partner health facilities  
**372** People Living with HIV (PLHIV) reached during the CDDP sessions to improve the quality of life  
**722** clients served at the Key Population Drop in center  
**326** contacts of index clients tested for HIV; out of which **16** new HIV Positive cases were identified in the refugee settlements  
**258** PLHIV reached with Psychosocial Support and adherence counseling services  
**266** TB contacts traced; out of these **22** new TB cases were identified and initiated on treatment  
**507** lost HIV clients followed up; out of which **216** were returned back to care.  
**84%** viral load reduction registered among the PLHIV served

## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### Clean Energy Project (CEP) funded by WWF-UCO

Overtime, the world has witnessed changes in environment, but not for better. There are many issues that are associated with environmental degradation all of which point towards endangerment of human life. At least 15 percent of greenhouse gas emissions don't come from cars or factories **Error! Bookmark not defined.** — they come from deforestation. By 2030, we may only have 10 percent of the rainforests left – the rest have been cut down for wood or wood pulp products, or cleared for agricultural uses. According to an article released by theworldcounts.com, more than 70 percent of the planet's plant and animal species live in forests<sup>1</sup>. Because of deforestation, species lose their habitat, ecosystems die out, climate change continues, there are fewer trees to produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide.

Based on the above harsh realities being experienced in RICE-WN's areas of operation coupled with the influx of refugees in the West Nile sub region of Uganda, RICE WN partnered with the district local governments and sixteen district based CSOs with funding from WWF-UCO to promote clean and renewable energy technologies across six districts of West Nile namely; Arua, Nebbi, Maracha, Koboko, Moyo and Adjumani. This project aimed at increasing access to sustainable and renewable energy alternatives for communities in the West Nile sub region to reduce overdependence on biomass for their energy needs.

#### Summary of achievements:

- **434** Solar Home Systems (SHS) and **537** Improved cook stoves (ICS) distributed
- 2 Renewable Energy strategies developed for Koboko and Nebbi districts to guide RE planning, interventions and resource mobilization strategies aimed at increasing access to RETs in the beneficiary districts
- **26** shops identified for display of the Renewable Energy technologies (RETs) at community level
- New partnerships established with **3** ICS producers, **24** cultural and religious leaders for awareness creation and 1 MFI for recovery of loans
- Capacity of **11** partner CSOs enhanced in advocacy and lobbying
- **7** Solar technicians trained in solar installation and maintenance in beneficiary communities
- **6** community groups trained on construction and maintenance of Lorena - energy saving cook stoves



<sup>1</sup> <http://www.theworldcounts.com/stories/deforestation-facts-and-statistics>

### ***Community Support for Sustainable Oil and Gas Governance (COSU-OGG) project funded by DGF***

RICE WN with funding from DGF implemented the COSU-OGG project in four districts of Arua, Pakwach, Nwoya and Buliisa. The project was designed to enhance Transparency and Accountability of government in Oil and Gas industry through; an informed and active citizenry that hold leaders accountable on issues of oil and gas and improved government responsiveness to the community concerns and voices in the oil and gas industry. Key achievements in this project were as follows;

**1,383 (512 females to 871 males)** pupils and students belonging to **16** schools across the four districts reached with sensitization on transparency and accountability in oil and gas sector

Four **(4)** annual follow up meetings to document impact of awareness creation on oil and gas governance held across the project districts reaching **107** citizens **(46 females to 61 males)**

**01** meeting organized by regional networks i.e. NANEP and BAPENECO to engage the local governments on advocacy issues in oil and gas industry so as to improve Government's responsiveness to community concerns and voices in the oil and gas industry through strengthened collaboration and networking.

**228 (80 females to 148 males)** citizens participated in a regional awareness campaign on infrastructural development contributing to increased awareness on issues related to oil and gas governance through the information platform created for communities, AGODA, central government and oil companies to disseminate plans and feedback on progress.

### ***INTEGRATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE***

Uganda is one of the top refugee hosting countries in Africa and the world. It has been praised as a generous country with progressive refugee policies and laws that reflect the country's national, regional and international obligations. However, a number of challenges ranging from increasing refugee numbers, protracted refugee situations, the burden of hosting refugees, to limited resources and little international support threaten Uganda's hospitality. Due to the influx of refugees from South Sudan and other neighboring countries into West Nile Districts of Uganda, there have been numerous disputes for the scarce resources e.g. Land, trees for firewood and construction, food, shelter amongst refugees and between refugees and host communities.

RICE-WN had numerous interventions in the refugee settlements to address some of the concerns including; a CARE International in Uganda and UNHCR funded projects focusing on climate resilience and Environmental protection and clean energy promotion respectively.

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/325178867> Uganda and the Refugee Problem Challenges and Opportunities

### ***Stimulating Adaptive Capacities for Communities project (SACC) funded by CARE International***

The project is a response to the high level of environmental degradation and climate change in communities with heavy dependence on natural resources for food and income generation. It was designed to strengthen the capacity of women and youth to become resilient to shocks and stresses from natural resources degradation and climate change in Omugo and Uriama sub counties of Imvepi and Rhino Camp refugee settlements in Arua District. Key achievements of the project included;

**32** farmer groups and **5** waste recycling youth groups engaged in climate resilience activities.

**30** community groups comprising **863** people (**202M, 661F**) supported to undertake individual saving and borrowing through the village/youth savings and loans associations.

**16** groups comprising **447 (116M, 331F) refugees** and **24** groups comprising (**528F 159M**) host community members including **318** youth (**139M, 179F**) practicing Climate smart agriculture to enhance their livelihoods through kitchen gardens, cultivation of short-term crops, agro-forestry practices etc.

**15** farmer groups have established demo sites for high value crops such as onions, tomatoes, hibiscus, cassava, okra among others.

### *Environmental protection and clean energy technology promotion in Rhino Camp and Imvepi refugee settlements project funded by UNHCR.*

#### **Key project achievements:**

**1,302,321** tree seedlings (**500,171** in Imvepi and **802,150** in Rhino Camp) were raised and planted in institutional and community level woodlots

**10** community sensitization sessions conducted in Imvepi and **12** in Rhino camp on environmental protection and renewable energy technologies

**12** farmer groups were trained and provided with bee hives and accessories

**20** Environment clubs were trained on proper waste management in both settlements.

**47 ToTs** were selected and trained in Rhino Camp and in Imvepi refugee settlements.

**2,000** ICS were distributed to PSNs (**1000** in Rhino Camp and **1000** in Imvepi).



## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

The present Universal Primary Education (UPE) system of education has existed in Uganda since 1997. Despite its promising boosts in enrolment, issues with funding and organization have continued to plague the UPE. Only some of the primary school graduates go on to take any form of secondary education. This is contingent upon their passing their Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE). Additionally, although 60,000 to 70,000 students in Uganda leave secondary school each year qualified to go on to higher education, only 35 per cent of them (at most 25,000) are able to find places at the limited number of institutions.

This implies, Vocational and Technical Education is a necessary aspect of the education system in Uganda. RICE- WN with knowledge on these issues of national concern is implementing skills development projects aimed at supporting vulnerable children in formal education systems i.e. O and A-Levels as well as vocational skills training institutions for school drop outs to obtain skills for personal development and income generation. Projects implemented under this program area included;

### *Transforming lives of conflict affected youths and children (TLC) project funded by MCC*

The project seeks to promote access to quality secondary and vocational education to see improved retention in both secondary and vocational schools and enhance the development of technical and vocational skills of the selected beneficiaries in order to improve their incomes and livelihoods.



#### **Key achievements;**

- **88** beneficiaries sponsored in Vocational and Secondary schools
- **6** Psychosocial support visits made to needy and traumatized beneficiaries
- **6** Mentorship sessions conducted on life skills and personal development
- **3** peace clubs established and mentored with a total membership of **137** students who are responsible for conflict resolution and they help sensitize other students on peaceful co-existence
- **1** peace club debate competition organized on peaceful co-existence
- **1** Joint project review meeting organized with the key stakeholders.

### *Fund for Global Human Rights (FGHR)*

The Project's goal is to achieve a right based approach to pupils' performance through retention, improving teacher and pupil's attendance by reducing the rates of absenteeism, provision of child friendly learning environment and reducing child abuse and child labour. This project was implemented in six primary schools of Ezuku, Owaffa, Urukuru, Lionga and Kaligo Primary schools within Arua and Madi-Okollo Districts. The key achievements included;



- **5000** pupils trained on their rights and responsibilities,
- **48** child education monitors formed and trained on monitoring child rights in schools
- **12** community education monitors formed and trained to document child rights cases in the communities and follow up with the school and community leaders
- **6** school dialogues were organized on children's rights and support for their education in the beneficiary schools reaching **314** stakeholders (parents, pupils, LCs, sub county leaders) thus increased knowledge on children's rights and responsibilities.

## SUCCESS STORIES

### *Increased interest and uptake of family planning methods among men and youths*



*Mr. Owonda John*

During the mobile clinics organized by RICE-WN, some men started showing more interest in taking up family planning methods for men especially male condoms that became on high demand. A total of **15,000** male condoms were distributed during the outreaches.

Mr. Owonda John who is 35 years old, a husband and father to 11 children from

Lobodegi village in Payango Sub County, was one of the men who requested for vasectomy so that he would stop producing. Mr. Owonda opted for vasectomy because of his land size that was too small to accommodate all his children in the near future, need to educate them and the family planning method his wife used had caused her negative side effects such as losing weight and heavy menstrual bleeding with a lot of pain thus agreeing for him to take-up vasectomy. This case was referred to Arua regional Referral hospital and follow-ups are ongoing to help the client.

***“I feel like swallowing back my children, I can’t afford all the basic needs for them yet I cannot also leave my wife to stay alone with the children. I have moved to all these health centers but have not got support to do the method I want. Arua is far and I cannot even afford transport to go there but I am willing to get the service. I will be happy if you come back and provide this service in my village here so that people in my condition could all be helped” John Lamented while talking to a health facility personnel during a counselling session.***

### ***The power behind giving women a voice and economic empowerment***

Women are now able to use platforms created through projects implemented by RICE WN to raise sensitive and predominantly male dominated issues such as land and household income. For instance in Logiri sub-county during a dialogue, women raised an issue of sale of produce from land they have cultivated by their husbands; one of the women had this to say;

***“The men only appear to take part in selling the produce harvested and we do not benefit from the hard-earned money. This bad practice should stop because most times they end up misusing the money which could have supported the family with basic needs”***

Additionally, women have started reporting land cases to the elders within their communities. In this reporting period a total of **49** cases were reported and so far, **37** have been resolved. **2** of the cases have been referred to court and **7** are in the process of being handled by the elder’s council.

Local leaders have pledged to enforce laws and policies on women’s land rights since this is clearly stipulated in the laws of the country such as the land policy and Land Act cap **33**.

Women have also changed their attitudes towards acquiring own land through hiring and or purchasing land for farming activities following awareness raising sessions conducted by RICE WN. For instance, Ms. Atim Lilian from Nebbi municipal confessed that she is married as a second wife and has never received a piece of land from her husband and or her relatives thus she decided to hire a piece of land for cultivation of rice and beans for income and food security following sensitizations on land

rights conducted by RICE WN. Additionally, Ms. Gorretti of Atego Sub County, 35 years and having with 3 children, sold her livestock to purchase a piece of land after she separated with her husband and the relatives refused to give her land to settle and cultivate for her family. She now uses this land to produce food for income and consumption as well as settlement.

### **From Darkness to Better Life**

This is the story of Mr. Festus Aluma, a 31 Years old man from Uriama Sub-County, Arua district. He is a member of Akino youth group which was formed in January 2019 under the STRENPO program implemented by RICE-WN with support from CARE International in Uganda. Festus happens to be an upcoming model farmer with 1.5 acres of sorghum and three-quarter acre of Okra for both food security and household income.



*Mr. Aluma in his garden of simsim intercropped with white teak*

Before RICE-WN interventions, Mr. Aluma used to cut down trees to get fuel wood for sale to Tobacco Companies, appear once or twice during his former group meetings, spend most of his earnings and savings on alcohol and dig on small scale only for his family's consumption. Additionally, when planting he used to broadcast seeds in the garden, clear and burn bush in the process of land preparation, plant without consideration of the seasonal calendar and

work without an action plan. These poor practices made Mr. Aluma's land less fertile and this was frustrating him. However, after trainings on good agronomic practices using Enabling Rural Innovation (ERI) Approach and VSLA methodology, Aluma has accomplished a lot in his farming life.

Mr. Aluma is now one of the most committed members in his group saving 5000 Ugx per week and he is looking forward to completing his 4 Meter by 6 Meter permanent house which was one of their

***"I have planted 800 tree seedlings of White Teak supplied to me by RICE-WN under the Environment protection and Renewable Energy promotion project funded by UNHCR, I have also planted some mango and orange tree seedlings obtained from Uriama Sub-County under Operation Wealth Creation Program. Am doing all this as my contribution to Environment restoration since I cut down a lot of trees in the previous years" – Says Mr. Aluma***

long-term goals in the group action plan developed during visioning under Participatory Diagnosis module 1: of the ERI Approach. Out of his passion for a transformed society, Mr. Aluma offered a plot of land to his group to be used as a demonstration site for growing Sesame2.



Mr. Aluma looking at his sorghum planted on 1.5 acres of land



Mr. Aluma's 6 Meter by 4 Meters permanent house under construction



Mr. Aluma with his Family

***“I personally feel proud because I used to only dig on small scale for family consumption but now, I have 1.5 acres of sorghum and ¾ of Okra, I have planted trees which are going to improve soil fertility of my land and am almost done with my permanent house. I thank RICE-WN and CARE International in Uganda for their transforming interventions and continuous support that has picked me from darkness to better life. Thank you!” – He appreciated.***

### ***From a hopeless food deficient family head to a community role model farmer;***

Borogo Andrew is a 55-year-old member of the Loroketu refugee farmer and VSLA group found in Omugo village 3. Just like any other refugee in the settlement, Andrew was allocated a 50 \* 50 meters piece of land for settlement and subsistence farming. He constructed a hut out of tent material to lodge his family that consists of seven biological children plus the wife living the rest of the land idle due to poverty of the mind that had barred him from making good use of the available resource he had. As a result, Andrew's family experienced harsh food crisis as they depended entirely on the food ration given by implementing partners that would hardly last for a month. The inadequate and unbalanced feeding did not only see his children and the wife become malnourished and despised in their community but also had frequent attacks by neighbors for failure to provide adequate food for his children who always caused shortage during meals in the neighbors' homes. This condition made Andrew appear a defeated man and an outcast in the community.

Andrew's story changed when RICE-WN with funding from American Jewish World Service selected Loroketu farmer and VSLA group to benefit from the peaceful co-existence project in which the group members received training on good agronomic practices using Enabling Rural Innovation (ERI) approach. Some of the modules they covered included; 1. Planning (Participatory Diagnosis - PD) under which they covered topics such as getting started, visioning, identifying what you have and action planning. 2. Checking progress (Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation - PME) that includes topics such as basics of Monitoring & Evaluation, design of methods and tools, Analysis of results and



evaluating ourselves. 3. Learning about markets (Participatory Market research - PMR) under which topics covered include marketing basics, preparing for market visits, analysis and preparation for feedback from market visits, selecting an enterprise, preparation for market chain analysis, business meeting and market chain analysis, preparing for feedback.

Training in the 1<sup>st</sup> three ERI modules (mentioned above) conducted in April 2019 by RICE WN staff and Community Based Trainers did not only equip Andrew with knowledge but also propelled him into real action. By May 2019, Andrew apportioned his plot into sections and planted a number of short term crops such as onions on 1\*10 meters, tomatoes on 1\*10 meters, *sukumawiki* on 2\*10 meters and cabbages on 1\*10 meters using organic pesticides that boosted the yields of the crops so that the family members could now have a balanced diet rich in vegetables as he planned to sell some for other domestic needs.

Andrew is now a very excited Sudanese man because of the crops he has grown and the money he is expecting to get in the near future as a result of the knowledge he got from RICE WN.

***“...it’s better to get knowledge than get handouts that do not last for even a second...” Andrew now commands respect from the neighbors and is considered a role model farmer in the community as many people come to consult him on how they can improve on their farming for better yields. “...I have now become the trainer myself, my neighbors now come to consult me on what I am using for my crops to yield well...” Andrew explains excitedly to the RICE WN team during an outcome harvesting activity.***

## CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Demand for tree seedlings exceeded supply for the same. Although RICE WN raised over 1.5million tree seedlings in two nurseries established in Rhino Camp and Imvepi refugee settlements with funding from UNHCR, the number of seedlings raised was not enough to meet the refugee and host community demand for seedlings. There is need for RICE WN to increase the number of tree seedlings raised if more community members are to freely access tree seedlings and establish woodlots to contribute towards conserving the degraded environment.

Limited resources to address the numerous communities needs and short-term project duration. For instance, the CDDP App project which had a one-year duration (from 2018 to 2019) was not long enough to effectively support persons living with HIV/AIDs in the beneficiary communities. Sustaining distribution of drugs to the clients in the newly established CDDPs where the clients had already started enjoying the benefits of the project became a challenge. As a recommendation, there is need for RICE WN to mobilize more resources for longer term projects and also strengthen partnerships with local government to sustain such projects.

Limited visibility of RICE WN work especially at national level. RICE WN through the different projects implemented does a lot of work that is not widely shared especially at national and international levels to increase visibility of the organization and attract new partnerships and opportunities to further this work. This challenge was majorly attributed to the lack of funds for media profiling and appearance on nationwide print and electronic media among others and efficient documentation equipment like cameras, recorders etc. There is need for RICE WN to acquire high quality video cameras and recorders for quality documentation of interventions and mobilize more resources for wide dissemination of her work.

## LESSONS LEARNT

Private sector partnerships and promotion of social enterprises like the Clean Energy project hinged on a revolving fund model for distributing renewable energy products where the beneficiaries acquire the products at affordable prices with flexible repayment plans increases ownership and sustainability of such interventions beyond the donor funded project timeframe.

Subcontracting to refugee or host community led CBOs to undertake peacebuilding activities does not only strengthen capacity of the people of concern but also increases ownership and achievement of sustainable project results. For instance, subcontracting YSAT, ERA that are refugee led CBOs in Rhino Camp refugee settlement to undertake peacebuilding interventions in villages that had registered a series of conflicts saw these organizations achieve sustained peace among refugee and host community youth that were conflicting.

## FINANCE AT GLANCE

### Funds Received in the year 2019

<i>DONOR CODE</i>	<i>DONOR</i>	<i>FUNDS RECEIVED</i>
<b>INTEGRATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE</b>		
RD08	UNHCR	1,103,225,600
	MCC	132,595,000
RD09	AJWS (Peaceful Co-existence)	133,663,000
RD010	FGHR	33,000,000
RD011	IDI	162,108,670
RD012	GFC	48,954,500
RD03	CARE	245,956,000
<b>Total (Integrated Humanitarian Response)</b>		<b>1,859,502,770</b>
<b>SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE</b>		
RD014	Sustainable Agriculture	178,448,000
RO3	Investment	392,580,000
<b>Total (Sustainable Agriculture &amp; Investment)</b>		<b>571,028,000</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>3,282,998,055</b>

### Expenditure in Percentage

<i>DONOR CODE</i>	<i>DONOR</i>	<i>UTILIZATION %</i>
<b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; NATURAL RESOURCES</b>		
RD01	AJWS (ENVIRONMENT)	100%
RD02	DGF	100%
RD04	WWF	100%
RD05	CIVORIDE	100%
RD06	SAFERWORLD	69%
<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH</b>		
RD07	CHASE	97%
<b>INTEGRATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE</b>		
RD08	UNHCR	100%
	MCC	100%
RD09	AJWS (Peaceful Co-existence)	100%
RD010	FGHR	100%
RD011	IDI	93%
RD012	GFC	100%
RD03	CARE	62%

## RICE WN FAMILY AND CELEBRATIONS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS in 2019



*CAN. Onesmus Dralega  
Chairperson BoD*



*Mrs. Adubango Harriet Debo  
Vice Chairperson BoD*



*Mrs. Queenie Annette N Adriko  
Chairperson Program Management Committee*



*Dr. Wilson Enzama  
Member*



*Mr. Philliam Philip Orionzi  
Chairperson Finance and Planning Committee*



*Mr. Peter Asea  
Member*



*Mr. Ronald Ocatre Miria  
Member*



*Mr. Pax Sakari  
Secretary BoD*



*Ms. Yikiru Comfort Mercy  
Staff Representative BoD*

## 2019 RICE WN FAMILY

# 57

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES



22 Male 35 Female

### Women's Day Celebrations

As part of the organization culture, we celebrate Women's Day as a family at RICE WN Head Office. Women have a special stake in building the organization and management support aimed at realizing their full potential as men. On this special day, men are tasked to cook for the women who spend the day learning from motivational speakers and other successful women in different fields chosen by the staff to inspire themselves to perform better as a working woman as well as a mother, wife among other roles they play in their professional and personal lives.



RICE WN women listening to a motivational speaker on Women's Day



RICE WN male staff cooking for their female colleagues during Women's Day celebrations at head office



### **Staff End of year party**

To us, a family culture means sharing every moment together, putting arms around each other and holding each other's hands for support and being there for each other in all circumstances. After a whole year's dedicated work with great achievements registered in 2019, RICE-WN family celebrated end of year party at Camp Luda Ville in Koboko District. The team engaged in different activities as shown in pictures below:



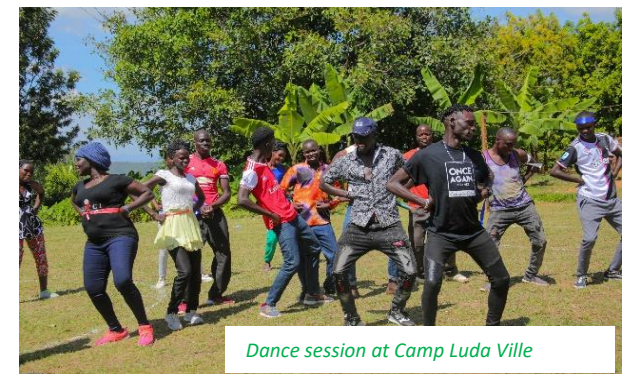
*Photo moment at Miradua Falls in Maracha District*



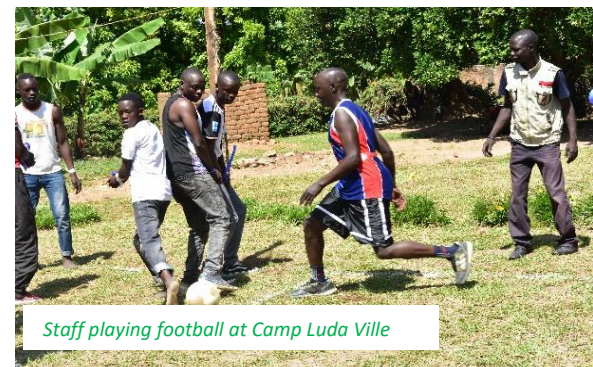
*Lunch time!*



*Staff playing volleyball at Camp Luda Ville*



*Dance session at Camp Luda Ville*



*Staff playing football at Camp Luda Ville*



*Ladies pause for a photo during the after party with a white theme for the dress code at Camp Luda Ville*

## GALLERY

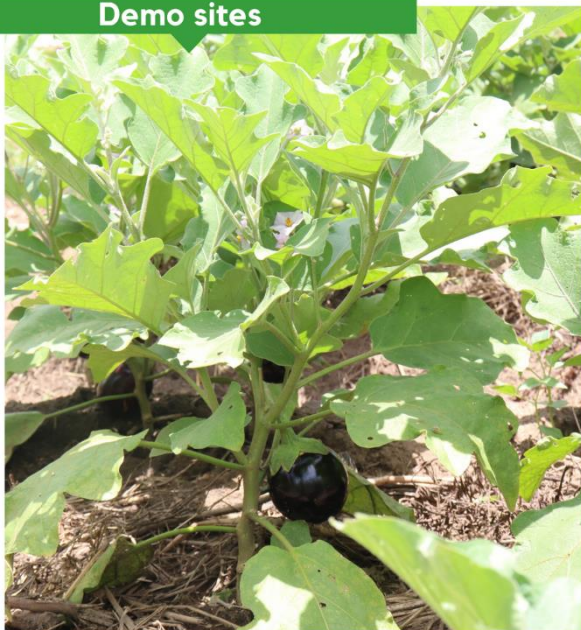
### Capacity building on waste recycling



5 youth groups comprising of **100** youth groups (**68M 32F**) were trained on plastic waste recycling into building materials for income generation. This has been done under the STRENPO project slogan resilient livelihoods, resilient ecosystems.



### Demo sites

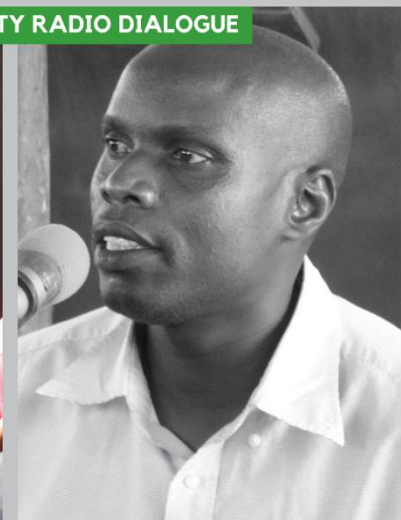


**8** field demo sites were established in Imvepi, Rhino Camp refugee settlements and host communities in Omugo and Uriam Sub Counties to promote opportunities for learning good agronomic practises and climate resilient agriculture capacity development.

*Ms. Wasima Sadik is one of the beneficiaries who benefited from Transforming Lives of Conflict-affected Girls project in West Nile Arua District funded by GFC. In 2015 she was enrolled for a 3 months certificate course in Agriculture at Innovative Institute of Agriculture in Arua District. In 2016-2017 she proceeded for a two-year certificate course in Agriculture under the same program. Later in 2018 she pursued a one-year Diploma Course in Agribusiness and graduated in December 2019. She is currently volunteering at RICE WN head office as Project Assistant Sustainable Agriculture.*



**Peaceful Coexistence COMMUNITY RADIO DIALOGUE**



*Community Radio Dialogue approach was used to promote Peaceful Coexistence among refugees and between refugees and host communities in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement in Arua District. During the year, **16** Community Radio Dialogues were recorded and aired through Radio Pacis to preach peace and harmony in host and refugee communities. This platform provides a mutual ground for both communities to express their challenges, recommendations and find solutions to issues that affect livelihood, education, security, health and environment among others in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement. Some of the topics included; Awareness on Environmental Degradation, Health Seeking Behavior of Refugees and Host Communities, Access to Education Services, Awareness on SGBV, Increasing Community Vigilance on Personal and Household Security among others.*



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS | Group Capacity Building



Abirinjenduku Farmer's Group



Ngunanging Youth Group



Tomorejojo Women's Group

**40** CBOs trained on **5** ERI modules (Participatory Diagnosis, Participatory Market Research, Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, Farmer Participatory Research and Enterprise Development) and cross cutting issues (Gender, Savings and Loans, HIV/AIDS, Hygiene and Sanitation) to improve household food security and incomes to enhance capacity of communities to cope with shocks and stresses resulting from climate change and displacement.



#CleanEnergy



Communities in Arua and Adjumani Districts were empowered and trained on how to construct improved cook stoves at their own home using available free resources. This activity is supported by WWF Uganda Country Office.



In 2019 434 Solar Home Systems and 537 Improved Cook Stoves were distributed in Adjumani, Moyo, Koboko, Maracha, Arua and Nebbi Districts

## ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AGODA	Albertine Graben Oil Districts Association
AJWS	American Jewish World Service
BAPENECO	Bunyoro Albertine Petroleum Network on Environmental Conservation
BOD	Board of Directors
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CDDP	Community Drug Distribution Point
CHASE	Community Health and Sustainable Environment
COSU-OGG	Community Support for Sustainable Oil and Gas Governance
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility
E.g.	For example
ERA	Elderly Emergency Rehabilitation Action
ERI	Enabling Rural Innovation
FGHR	Fund for Global Human Rights
GFC	Global Fund for Children
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICS	Improved Cook Stoves
IDI	Infectious Disease Institute
IGA	Income Generating Activities
KP	Key Population
MCC	Mennonite Central Committee
MFI	Micro Finance Institution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NANEP	Northern Albertine CSO Network on Environment and Petroleum
OVC	Orphans and other Vulnerable Children
PLE	Primary Leaving Examination
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PSN	Persons with Special Needs
RETs	Renewable Energy Technologies
RICE-WN	Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment West Nile
SHS	Solar Home System
STRENPO	Strengthening Resilience and Promoting Inclusive Governance Program
TB	Tuberculosis
ToTs	Trainer of Trainees
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WWF-UCO	World Wide Fund for Nature – Uganda Country Office
YSAT	Youth Social Advocacy Team



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