

Environmental Protection and Clean Energy Technology Promotion

The Key problem facing the environment in refugee settlement is heavy dependence on wood fuel and locally sourced shelter materials. This has contributed to high levels of forest cover loss within the settlements. Renewable energy, particularly local production and promotion of briquettes has remained a gap due to limited resources. Protection of planted trees against stray animals in dry season has remained a challenge.

Much efforts was enforced in 2014-2016 to discourage tree cutting through tree marking, raising and distributing tree seedlings of different species, community environmental protection awareness campaigns, provision of the briquette moulds, as an alternative to cutting trees, but still the survival rate of the planted trees has been affected by both the natural factors and human activities.

In the past one year RICE-WN has been implementing a project titled Environmental protection and clean energy technology promotion in Rhino Camp and Imvepi refugee settlements with support from UNHCR. The project is managed under a core program area of Environment and Natural



*Tree seedling at the Omugo Nursery Site
Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement*

Resources Core with a purpose of promoting efficient management of natural resources and environment to achieve sustainable development.

RAISING AND DISTRIBUTING TREE SEEDLINGS

In 2019 first quarter of this project, RICE-WN established two nursery sites, one in Omugo to serve Rhino camp refugee settlement and another one in Imvepi to serve Imvepi refugee settlement.

The two nursery site have a total of 825,000 seedlings (523,000 seedlings in Rhino Camp and 302,000 seedlings in Imvepi nursery) that have germinated against the target of 1,100,000 seedlings. The difference will be cared for by the seeds that are sown totaling to 325000 and 100, 0000 Sesbania seeds that will be planted directly.

There are 19 different species of trees on the two nurseries comprising mostly fast growing tree species and favourite trees for the

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area and the people from the two settlements.

Since there were no much rains in the first quarter this year, this period was used to identify and prepare farmers to plant trees. RICE-WN currently has mobilized 54 model farmers and refugees (24 in Imvepi and 32 in Rhino Camp) who are ready to establish woodlots totalling to 74 acres of land for tree planting (48 acres in Rhino camp and 36 acres for Imvepi) for 2019 season. The beneficiaries were identified in the villages of Yinga, Amia, Likido, Jue, Yinga, ndulu in Imvepi and Otakia, Obiyu, Etiyo, Widi, Ocia, Amurua, wanguru, Tika, Abiri, Osa, Odrua, Yelulu,

taken where a total of 15,240 trees were marked, 6,600 trees marked in Rhino camp and 8640 trees were marked in Imvepi.

Local leaders like LC 1 and RWC1 were charged with the responsibility of ensuring that these marked trees are not cut down by community members. In Omugo, the trees were marked in village 4 and 6 while in Imvepi the trees were marked in zone III, zone II and zone I.



community marking trees during Tree Marking exercise



Tree seedling at the Imvepi Nursery Site Imvepi Refugee Settlement

Ariwara, Siripi, Avuga and Akinoa villages in Rhino camp settlement.

FOREST PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

Tree marking exercise was under-

DISTRIBUTION OF IMPROVED ENERGY COOK STOVES

A total of 2,000 stoves were distributed to vulnerable households who cannot easily afford the stoves were targeted and also large households that do not use improved cook stoves to reduce huge amounts consumption of wood fuel in the two settlements.

Demonstration on the use of cook stoves in the settlement was done to sensitised communities on the usage of cook stoves. A total of 925

participants were reached of which 662 were refugees and 263 were host communities. In Imvepi there were 241 (211 refugees and 30 host communities) while in Rhino camp there were 684 People (451 refugees and 233 host communities).

Post distribution monitoring was done for 187 households in Rhino camp and 55 households in Imvepi. The monitoring found out that there was 98% use of the stoves. The 2% who had not started using their cookstoves were urged to utilise them.

Additionally, the TOTs constructed 34 locally constructed energy stoves, 19 were given out in Rhino Camp and 15 in Imvepi respectively to aid the reduction of the use of fuel wood in the households.



Improved energy cook stove



One of the improved energy cook stove beneficiaries in Rhino Camp