



CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATION CENTRE

**SEMI ANNUAL REPORT ON EARLY RECOVERY PROGRAMME
OF IDPS IN RETURNED AREAS OF APAC, DOKOLO, LIRA,
OYAM AND PADER DISTRICTS
(CONTINUATION OF PSYCHOSOCIAL AND EDUCATION
SUPPORT PROJECT)**

**LANGO SUB REGION
(NORTHERN UGANDA)**

2007 - 2008

Annual Report

Education support to OVCs and micro- enterprise empowerment of foster parents (2007-2008)

Goal:

To provide continued education of 2,000 children including the 300 orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) recently supported and micro enterprise empowerment of foster parents towards self sustenance with saving culture aimed at supporting the education of their children during or after the intervention.

Overall Achievements/Constraints:

➤ Key project accomplishments:-

The project was a continuation of the psychosocial and education support being renewed under a new project title *“Early Recovery Programme of IDPs in Return Areas of Apac, Dokolo, Lira, Oyam and Pader Districts”* through provision of exercise books, pens, pencils, and sanitary kits to grown up girls.



The type of lifestyle the orphans and vulnerable children were living before selected for education support.



Orphans and vulnerable children recruited from IDP camp as beneficiaries

The project has noted some achievements in the provision of scholastic material support to 1840 children including our 300 children recently supported from areas of return in Apac, Dokolo, Lira, Oyam, Pader, Katakwi and Amuria districts as incentive towards go back to school and education retention campaign.

This undertaking was expected to run from third term of (September) 2007 up to end of second term (August) 2008 with provision of the education material support to the children being supported every term.



Orphans and vulnerable children rehabilitated through go back to school education material support

➤ **The OVCs who directly/indirectly benefited from the project:-**

The education material support was given to 141 children in Apac (56 boys and 85 girls), 925 children in Lira (778 boys and 147 girls), 257 children in Dokolo (162 boys and 95 girls), 282 children in Oyam (212 boys and 70 girls), 84 children in Pader (43 boys and 41 girls), 62 children in Katakwi (37 boys and 25 girls) and 89 children in Amuria districts (52 boys and 37 girls).



Orphans and vulnerable children who received education material support



The Mayor of Lira Municipality commissioning the children as they go back to school with the education material support made available to them for one year.

➤ **The training and education activities conducted for caregivers and its direct/indirect benefit to OVC:-**

Care givers were trained in group dynamics, resource mobilization for self help projects (IGAs), positive parenting, child's rights, child protection and care, psychosocial issues (peace-building, conflict management and prevention activities, community dialogue, social restoration and networking), and mobilized to form family network groups referred to as *Obanga Okonya Family Network* abbreviated *OKAN* which in Luo, a local language meaning "*Save For Future*"



Caregivers on training for micro enterprising and community reconciliation strategies.

➤ **How the project facilitated community involvement and participation to provide support for OVC:-**

Local authorities and school administration are involved in monitoring of the children while at school and care givers through coordinators are monitoring the children from home to ensure they are going to school as well using the education materials provided as required.

➤ **Notable success stories, lessons learnt, good practices:-**

i) Success stories:

Out of the 300 orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) supported from 2005/2006, 292 children were able to complete school up to third term of December last year 2007. According to the results 16 passed in grade 1, 116 passed in grade 2, 160

passed in grades 3 and 8 passed in grade 4 respectively and 8 did not sit for end of year exams.

From the reports of the headmasters from the schools where the children we supporting are, they say our children are very disciplined, friendly and cooperative.

The care givers who were trained have had access to small group loans from micro banking institutions in Lira and are running small agro based business activities to help raise income to improve their livelihood and support their families.

ii) Lessons learnt:

The LRA war has made every body needy and every parent, caregiver/guardian including even the local leaders would want all their children registered for whatever support available in their area.

There are so many orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) which prompted us to strictly select the neediest ones from the community especially maternal or paternal orphans only.

All foster parents/guardians had to be regrouped under zones being headed by the representative zonal leaders whom they elected and had them trained in leadership and group dynamic skills for easy and effective beneficiary management.

All OVCs on our education support scheme have leaders whom they elect from the school they attend to help in monitoring school attendance, performance, progress and participation of every child at school

iii) Good practices:

Community social fabrics is restored and sustained through family network groups, community watch groups and child protection committees who are pioneers in community leadership and network building.

There was good working relationship between our organization and other stakeholders in providing education services to the beneficiary children in the project areas. The Government of Uganda signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) with our organization as auxiliary organization to implement Government services to vulnerable communities in Uganda 17th December 2007

➤ **Constraints faced during implementation of activities:-**

The number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) who need education support are very many in every district we have outreach. The number of children supported

compared to those not supported is ranked at the ratio of 1:5, which indicates that we are supporting only about one fifth of the total orphans and vulnerable children so far.

Another area of constraint is that the LRA war has created negative impacts on the displaced communities even though they have returned to their places of origin, especially the rate of AIDS infections has gone very high with many people at family level becoming sick from this life threatening disease, equally making all members of households vulnerable due to physical weakness and ailments of an adult who perhaps is a bread winner or a child who would be the heir and hope for the family. There are many child headed families with no adults, a situation which exposes the children to high risks of holistic poverty (physical, spiritual, social, and economic).

Among our children and their care givers, we have identified cases of AIDS infections which we could not handle neither provide appropriate assistance though have referred them for further treatment and management from other organization dealing in HIV/AIDS projects, we are not sure whether they are given attention and necessary support.

Conflicts over land have become a regional issue immediately the IDPs returned to their original places as most of them did not expect or they were not prepared on how to address or handle conflicts in a more transformational way.

➤ **Recommendations for better programming:-**

There is need for intervention with component of economic and social development activities which are HIV/AIDS focused as it is on the government policy and agenda for rural communities in areas of IDP return to help curb down HIV/AIDS prevalence on the rise again. This may include education and prevention efforts; voluntary, confidential and relevant counseling; community/family-based care and support programs for people affected by HIV/AIDS; and community-based orphan care programs

Conflict transformation is another urgently needed intervention to equip the IDPs in areas of return and the rural communities with workable skills to handle conflicts at family, village, parish, sub county and regional levels to build up their transformational coping mechanisms towards peaceful coexistence.

The project could continue with support to the 300 orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) which has been ongoing to enable them have access to school retention and further their education development up to higher secondary level , a level one can access multiple development opportunities.

Activity Report:

The following strategic inputs were the requirements for the project implementation:-

- Purchase of 2,000 dozens of picfare brand exercise books of 96 pages, 166 dozens of Bic pens, 166 dozens of pencils, and 41 dozens of sanitary kits to be given to 2,000 children including the recently supported 300 orphans and vulnerable children for a period of one year from September 2007 - August 2008 for 3 terms.
- Acquisition of 2 motor cycles for field operations to help in mobilizing the target beneficiaries through sensitization, monitoring and evaluation of the activities in the districts of operation.
- Logistical support to CCC head office and project staff to facilitate the project activities operations in the districts of coverage.

Challenges:

The organization had conflict with one of our donors over the year 2007 when they changed their focus into supporting a new project outside our working scope, which overstretched our capacity in project administration procedures and reporting mechanisms.

The organization went through a period of transition over the same year in restructuring its board members, its executives and redesigning program core areas.

The overwhelming number of orphans and vulnerable children that needs help makes selection of the true beneficiaries for the intervention difficult.

Signing the memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the government of Uganda has added us more task and responsibility in dealing with orphans and vulnerable children including providing humanitarian assistance in disaster affected areas in the whole country as the government will deem possible for our organization to handle.

Section II. OVC (orphans and vulnerable children) program output data tables

1 Table 2.1: Summary of Individual OVC provided with Primary or Supplemental Direct Core Program Area Services

Summary of OVC served by types of services	INTEGRATION OF OVC SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUAL BENEFICIARIES			Female	Male	<i>Total</i>	
	2.2i	Supplemental Direct Support: Individual OVC that received 1 or 2 Core Program Area services			367	1,173	1540
	2.2ii	Primary Direct Support: Individual OVC that received 3 or more Core Program Area services			133	167	300
	2.2iii	Total Supplemental & Primary Direct Support (2.2i + 2,2ii)					

Table 2.2: Number of OVC Served and the name of the service outlet where the service was provided

OVC served by service outlet				No. of OVC served by type of OVC service provided											
District name	Service Outlet		Sub-county name	No. of OVC		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Name	Type		Primary direct	Suppl. Direct	Social Econ. Sec.	Food Secu. Nutri.	Care & Support	Mitig. Impact Conflict	Educ.	Psycho Social Supp.	Basic health	Pall. Care	Child Prot	Legal Supp
Apac	School	Educ materials	Alito	55	86					√	√			√	
Dokolo	School	Educ materials	Batta	63	194					√	√			√	
Lira	School	Educ materials	Ogur	78	847					√	√			√	
Oyam	School	Educ materials	Otwal	50	232					√	√			√	
Pader	School	Educ materials	Omot	54	30					√	√			√	
Katakwwii	School	Educ materials	Wera	-	62					√	√			√	

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Amuria	School	Educ materials	Orungo	-	89					√	√		√		
Total OVC Served (primary + supplemental)				300	1540										

◇ The data indicates number of OVC served for each service outlet and the Core Program Area. OVC served are unique individuals, and not repeated counts of the same OVC.

◇ Beneficiaries from Katakwi and Amuria districts were served from Amugo rural settlement IDP camps created by Lira district local government as they waited demobilization into their original places of residence.

2 Table 2.3: Training OVC Caregivers/Service Providers

Number of caregivers/service providers trained	Female	Male	Total
	561	319	880

*Only caregiver/service provider trained within a fiscal year (Oct – Sept) is counted **only once** even if they were trained more than once in the fiscal year.*

3 Table 2.4 OVC Program Service Gap

OVC served by service outlet				No. OVC who could NOT ACCESS needed OVC services									
District name	Service Outlet name	Sub-county name	Total no. of OVC who could NOT ACCESS needed services directly or through leveraging	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Social Econ. Sec.	Food Secur. Nutri.	Care & Support	Mitig. Impact Conflict	Educ.	Psycho Social Supp.	Basic health	Pall. Care	Child Prot	Legal Supp
Apac	Village	Alito	520	100		78	123	219					
Dokolo	Village	Batta	600	11		23	321	245					

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Lira	Village	Ogur	2,086	904		108	402	672					
Oyam	Village	Otwal	1,015	15		24	39	937					
Pader	Village	Omot	349	36		14	65	234					
Katakwii	Village	Wear	407	30		12	53	312					
Amuria	Village	Orungo	430	2		-	17	411					

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Future Plans:

The organization viewed the following program activities below for future programming towards transforming the vulnerable communities due the effect of massive displacement and routine return back to places of origin.

- Establishment of King of Glory Chapel and Community Centre to be centre for moral, social and spiritual transformation to the community of Barlonyo and neighboring communities.
- Agricultural support of raising birds, animals, planting of trees (fruits and woodlots), crop production and bee keeping projects.
- Education support by establishing children's home for orphan care and sponsorship to orphans due to war, disaster and HIV/AIDS in Lango Sub region, Northern Uganda.
- Community Health support by acquiring 4WD vehicle to provide mobile unit service to communities in hard to reach areas of Lango sub region, Northern Uganda. The vehicle will be a multi means of transport for both organizational staff during field ministries as well as emergency transport for bedridden patients (HIV/AIDS, acute pregnant mothers with acute complications, babies and children) to Referral Health Units for further treatment management. The same vehicle would help in the transportation of dead bodies to ancestral home for burial.
- Water and sanitation to cover well drilling or repairing of springs and wells in areas with poor or lack of clean fresh water to enable communities live in healthy bodies and environment.
- Micro banking scheme to be established for rural communities to enhance their micro business knowledge and skills for improved family income and livelihood.

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