Project for resilience and empowerment of refugees and their host communities in partnership (PREP)
Project for resilience and empowerment of refugees and their host communities in partnership (PREP) – is a unique collaboration in Uganda, between the Uganda Red Cross Society and Vi Agroforestry, that improves the health of vulnerable refugees and farmers, and secures access to drinking water, sanitation and food, thereby increasing their nutrition and livelihood options. The project is characterised by innovation and strives to contribute to solving an acute problem that poses great challenges for these communities and other parts of Uganda.

The project is implemented in Parolinya Refugee Settlement, Zone 3 East and neighboring host community.

REFUGEE POPULATION IN UGANDA

Among East African countries, Uganda has received the largest number of refugees since 2013 from its conflict-affected neighbors. Majority of the refugees are from South Sudan. Today Uganda hosts over 1.4 Million refugees.

In the project area (Parolinta refugee settlement), over 180,000 refugees, divided into 30,000 households, live here. The refugees live with substandard water and sanitation conditions, and the situation is unsustainable from a long-term perspective. Due to temporary and insufficient water and sanitation, the risk of disease is very high. Women and children (many of whom are unaccompanied) are especially vulnerable to walking long distances to access better water services and are exposed to risks of abuse when accessing communal hygiene and sanitation facilities. The pathways are poor lit in the night and this makes them more insecure.

There is a great need for improved water and sanitation services as well as hygiene education among both refugees and the host community.

As refugees come to Uganda, the Government provides land for each family to settle. However, many of them lack basic knowledge of sustainable agricultural land management practices. Majority of them are not farmers and have not accessed basic agricultural training. Access to food to sustain their families becomes a bigger problem in the short and long run. Even among the local population, there is need to improve and adapt methods to increase food security at household and community level.

There is need for refugees to access humanitarian aid covering food, water and publicly placed basic sanitation facilities. Long-term solutions are required to enable the refugees to establish themselves and to contribute to a sustainable society.

Project goal:

The goal of the project is to develop a sustainable model that meets the basic water, hygiene, sanitation and sustenance needs at household level.

**Milestone 01:** The target communities have increased access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene as well as training in sustainable agricultural land management.

**Milestone 02:** Sustainable livelihood and improved environment by using SALM, inclusive agroforestry and efficient wood-burning stoves.

**Milestone 03:** Increased social security and economic development.

Area of Operation

The project operates in Palorinya Settlement, Zone III East, Itula Sub County and neighboring host communities.

**Target population**

15,000 beneficiaries both women and men from over 2,500HHs, 70% refugees and 30% host communities.
The 30 x 30 SALM Model.

This is a small piece of land given to each refugee family with dimensions of 30x30 meters used to implement Sustainable Agricultural Land Management practices (SALM) while meeting the needs of accommodation, latrine, water for domestic use, nutritious food and firewood. The aim of this model is promote self-sufficiency. The model is jointly designed through a learning process by all PREP partners.

**Illustration of a 30 x 30 SALM model**

**Benefits of implementing the 30x30 SALM Model**

**Increased food security.** Households will grow their own food using backyard gardens and the integration of food crops to boost household food rations.

**Increased incomes.** Families will increase their incomes through access to on-farm income generating activities and sell of surplus food items from their back-yard gardens.

**Positive health effects.** Families will achieve improved health through health practicing proper hygiene, sanitation and access to latrine facilities.

**Positive effect on the environment.** The model increases self-sufficiency on wood-fuel and other household tree products. Families will grow their own trees on their 30mx30m plots.
Vi Agroforestry
Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish development cooperation organisation, fighting poverty and climate change together with smallholder farmers and their organisations. The foundation of Vi Agroforestry’s work is sustainable agriculture and agroforestry - growing trees alongside crops and livestock. Since its inception in 1983, the organisation has reached over 2.3 million people through education, advisory services and planted more than 120 million trees in the Lake Victoria basin.

Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS)
The Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) is the leading humanitarian organization in Uganda. The Uganda Red Cross was Incorporated by an Act of Parliament in 1964 by the enactment of Red Cross Act; Cap 57 of the Laws of Uganda. We are a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement who draws mandates from the Geneva Conventions to deliver lifesaving interventions to the most vulnerable people in Uganda.

Moyo District Farmers’ Association (Moyo DFA)
Moyo District Farmers’ Association (MDFA) started in year 1998 and has a membership of 2,000 registered members. The organisation promotes sustainable agriculture and natural resources management with a goal of ‘Increasing household food security and incomes to eradicate poverty’ through agricultural advisory services, marketing and value chain development, alongside appropriate agricultural financial services through the Farmers’ Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (SACCO) to members in Moyo district.

Project Partners:
PREP is a unique collaboration between the Red Cross, Vi Agroforestry and Moyo District Farmers’ Association (Moyo DFA)

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