



UNHCR

**The UN
Refugee Agency**

UNHCR UGANDA IDPs STRATEGY 2008

A. GOALS

On the basis of the cluster approach, in support of the Government of Uganda and in close cooperation with the District Authorities,

- I. To ensure protection for all IDPs and seek durable solutions to their displacement within the framework of the PRDP (Peace, Recovery and Development Plan) and the District Development Plans, and through the establishment of efficient linkages with other clusters
- II. To ensure a coordinated response in terms of policy and operations from the Camp Coordination/Camp Management and Protection clusters

B. OBJECTIVES

Protection:

- I. IDPs enjoy the right to Freedom of Movement and are able to make a free and informed decision as to whether to return to their home communities, remain where they are, or settle elsewhere in the country.
- II. Monitor that no coercion has been used to induce or to prevent return or resettlement.
- III. Support the Government of Uganda in providing physical safety and security.
- IV. Support the Government of Uganda in providing legal protection before the law
- V. Support access to mechanisms for property restitution or compensation

Durable Solutions:

- VI. IDPs are reintegrated into society, i.e., they are able to exercise their social, economic, civil, political and cultural rights, and on that basis they enjoy peaceful, productive and dignified lives.

In accordance with the “**Framework for Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons**” of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons (RSG), three durable solutions will be pursued, so that formerly displaced persons enjoy without discrimination an adequate standard of living:

- 1. voluntary return to former place of residence
- 2. long-term or permanent settlement in areas to which they have been displaced
- 3. voluntary relocation to another part of their country¹

Cluster leadership

- V.II Effective and efficient cluster leadership

¹ The UN Guiding Principles and the National IDP Policy refers to the last two (2. and 3.) durable solutions as **resettlement**.

C. Activities

To achieve the above mentioned objectives the following activities will be implemented using an AGDM approach:

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Cluster Leadership | | | |
| I. Ensure effective and efficient cluster leadership | 1. Coordination of CCCM and Protection Clusters at national and district levels PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | CCCM: June 08 – Protection December 08 |
| | | Katakwi | CCCM: June 08 – Protection December 08 |
| Protection | | | |
| II. IDPs enjoy the right to freedom of movement and are able to make a free and informed decision | 2. Protection monitoring, including continued advocacy for freedom of movement PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | December 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | December 2008 |

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| | 3. Mass information campaign to ensure informed choice. Strategy to be determined by UNHCR PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | December 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | December 2008 |
| III. Monitor that no coercion has been used to induce or to prevent return or resettlement | 4. Return monitoring and reporting in camps and in return areas PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | December 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | December 2008 |
| IV. Support the Government of Uganda in providing physical safety and security | 5. Support to police (training, bicycles, communication equipment, tents and supplies) PHASE II | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | Not Applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not Applicable |

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| | 6. Advocacy for demobilisation and disarmament of UPDF's auxiliary forces and reestablishment of the civilian character of law and order enforcement (policing) | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | December 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | December 2008 |
| | | | |
| V. Support the Government of Uganda in providing Legal protection before the law | 7. Establishment of Legal Clinics (land issues + access to justice) and capacity building (1) | Amuru, | Not applicable |
| | | Gulu | Not applicable |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Not applicable |
| | | Lira | Not applicable |
| | | Oyam | Not applicable |
| | | Amuria | Not applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not applicable |
| | | | |
| | 8. Establishment of Legal Counselling mechanisms for victims of SGBV and capacity building (1) | Amuru, | Not applicable |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Not applicable |
| | | Lira | Not applicable |
| | | Oyam | Not applicable |
| | | Amuria | Not applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not applicable |
| | | | |

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| V. Support access to mechanism for property restitution or compensation | 9. Establishment of Legal Clinics and support to mediation activities and capacity building (1) PHASE II | Amuru, | Not Applicable |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Not Applicable |
| | | Lira | Not Applicable |
| | | Oyam | Not Applicable |
| | | Amuria | Not Applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not Applicable |
| Durable solutions | | | |
| VI.I Reintegration of IDPs into society | 10. Road clearing/rehabilitation of access roads in return areas through, inter alia, cash for work (2) PHASE II | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Lira | Not Applicable |
| | | Oyam | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Amuria | Not Applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not Applicable |
| | 11. Support return of PWSN (NFIs and shelter, including use of brick building machines) PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | June 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | June 2008 |

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| | 12.Support for local authorities (LC I&II, DHRPP, DDMC, OPM), including capacity building PHASE II | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | June 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | June 2008 |
| | 13. Rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructures at parish level (including use of brick building machines) PHASE II | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | December 2008 |
| | | Lira | December 2008 |
| | | Oyam | December 2008 |
| | | Amuria | Not applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not applicable |
| | 14. Development of a geographic information system and monitoring database PHASE I | Amuru, | Mid/end 2008 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Lira | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Oyam | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Amuria | Not applicable |
| | | Katakwi | Not applicable |

| Objective | Related activity | Geographical area/District | Tentative date for disengagement |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| VI.I Support Economic, Social and Cultural activities to transform camps into viable communities. | 15. Camp Closure/transformation of camps into viable communities & environmental rehabilitation PHASE I et PHASE II | Amuru, | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Gulu | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Pader | Mid/end 2009 |
| | | Apac | Mid/end 2008 |
| | | Lira | Mid/end 2008 |
| | | Oyam | Mid/end 2008 |
| | | Amuria | June 2008 |
| | | Katakwi | June 2008 |
| | | | 16. Camp Coordination and Camp Management PHASE I |
| Gulu | Mid/end 2009 | | |
| Kitgum | Mid/end 2009 | | |
| Pader | Mid/end 2009 | | |
| Apac | Mid/end 2008 | | |
| Lira | Mid/end 2008 | | |
| Oyam | Mid/end 2008 | | |
| Amuria | June 2008 | | |
| Katakwi | June 2008 | | |

Note: Activities such as food production, livestock, income generating should be developed by the Food Security & Livelihood Cluster, although “livelihoods” will be an outcome under road rehabilitation/clearing, shelter, rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructures and transformation of camps into viable communities. Development of community awareness and responsiveness to substance abuse should be under the Health Cluster, vocational training/skills training should be under the Education Cluster and establishment of community development plans should be under the Early Recovery Cluster.

Cluster Leadership

OBJECTIVE

I. Ensure effective and efficient cluster leadership

Related activity

1. Coordination of CCCM and Protection Clusters at national and district levels

- Ensure coordination with all humanitarian partners through maintenance of appropriate coordination mechanism (National and district CCCM and Protection Cluster working groups) including Child Protection, GBV and Human Rights / Rule of Law Sub Clusters;
- Ensure inclusion of key humanitarian partners for the clusters, respecting their respective mandate and programme priorities;
- Ensure the complementarity of the different actions of the cluster's members and of those of different humanitarian actors;
- Secure commitments from humanitarian partners in responding to needs and filling gaps and ensuring an appropriate distribution of responsibilities within the cluster;
- Ensure effective links with other clusters/sector groups;
- Ensure that cluster coordination mechanisms are adapted over time to reflect the capacities of local actors and the engagement of development partners;
- Represent the interest of the Clusters in the discussion with the Humanitarian Coordinator and other stakeholders on prioritisation, resources mobilisation and advocacy;
- Ensure utilisation of participatory approach in cluster need assessment, analysis, planning and responses;
- Developing/updating agreed strategies and action plans for the cluster and ensuring that these are adequately reflected in overall country strategies, such as the Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP);
- Ensure that cluster members are aware of relevant policy guidelines and technical standards;
- Identify core advocacy concerns, including resource requirements and contribute to key messages to broader advocacy initiative.
- Advocate for donors to fund the members of the clusters to carry out priority activities.

Indicators

- a) CCCM and Protection monthly cluster meetings are regularly held
- b) Is a Policy/Strategy for effective coordination of IDP camps / camp-like situations in place?
- c) Is a protection Strategy in place?
- d) Have key partners be identified and included in the Protection and CCCM Cluster?

Benchmark for disengagement

1. Deactivation of the cluster approach in Uganda.

The cluster will be deactivated when the displacement caused by LRA ends. The eight conditions contained in the **Framework for Durable Solutions** of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons will be used to establish whether the displacement has ended.

The Protection Cluster agreed that, due to diverse situation in the different sub regions, the IDPs may achieve a durable solution in different moments. This would imply a phased disengagement of the CCCM and Protection Clusters by Sub Region.

The Conditioned mentioned above are:

1. Formerly displaced persons do not suffer attacks, harassment, intimidation, persecution or any other form of punitive action upon return to their home communities or resettlement in other locations.
2. Formerly displaced persons are not subject to discrimination for reasons related to their displacement
3. Formerly displaced persons have full and non-discriminatory access to national and sub-national protection mechanisms, including police and courts.
4. Formerly displaced persons have access to personal documentation, which typically is needed to access public services, to vote and for administrative purposes
5. Formerly displaced persons have access to mechanisms for property restitution or compensation regardless of whether they return or settle in the area where they found refuge or a new location.
6. Formerly displaced persons enjoy without discrimination an adequate standard of living, including shelter, health care, food, water and other means of survival.
7. Formerly displaced persons have been able to reunite with family members if they choose to do so.
8. Formerly displaced persons are able to exercise the right to participate fully and equally in public affairs

OBJECTIVE

II. IDPs enjoy the right to freedom of movement and are able to make a free and informed decision

Related activities

2. Return monitoring and reporting in camps and in return areas, including continued advocacy for freedom of movement;

Description of activities

The return monitoring collect data on: freedom of movement, population movement, intention to return, access to land, reasons for movement, Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), security and infrastructures in return areas. The data collected are not limited to the above and their sum should give indication on the status of the IDPs' reintegration into society (i.e., if they are able to exercise their social, economic, civil, political and cultural rights), on the reestablishment of an effective and durable state-citizen relationship and on the full restoration of national protection. The return and protection monitoring seek to ensure that IDPs are not targeted for harassment, intimidation, punishment, violence or denial of fair access to public institution or services or discriminated again in the enjoyment of their basic rights. Eventually the return monitoring should give **indications on the achievement of durable solutions** i.e. when IDPs no longer have needs specifically related to their displacement. This does not mean that they may not continue to have a need for protection and assistance, but their needs would be no different from other similarly situated citizens. In order to be considered durable, the durable solutions must be based on three elements, long-term safety and security, restitution of or compensation for lost property and an environment that sustains the life of the former IDPs under normal economic and social conditions. The data gathered with return monitoring should inform all the programmatic decisions and activities (e.g. the data collected should be used during the mass information campaign). The partners implementing return monitoring should compile a standard monthly

report and send it to the field office which will write a two pager compilation of the major findings and then send to branch Office. The partner doing return monitoring should also make use of the information collected. The data collected should be entered into a database for easier management and channelled to the competent district authorities (e. g. District Planning Officer etc.) The database should be rolled out to partners during the course of 2008. More details on the return monitoring methodology are specified in the 2008 Data Management Strategy.

The return monitoring is associated with the continue advocacy for freedom of movement. Despite the fact that in 2007 IDPs enjoyed greater Freedom of Movement, limitations to it are still registered in 10 sub counties in Kitgum. Advocacy will continue at district level with local authorities and the armed forces as well as at national level with the government. Freedom of movement means also being able to decide whether or not to move out of camps. In this regard, UNHCR and its partners will play a major role in discussing with local authorities and the population to prevent unlawfully evictions which in 2008/9 will be more and more frequent as the owners of the land where IDPs were forced to settle are increasingly claiming their properties back.

Indicators

- a) Do IDPs enjoy liberty of movement and freedom to choose their place of residence? (No/Yes some/Yes all)
- b) Can IDPs move freely in and out of camps/settlements?(No/Yes some/Yes all) Can IDPs move freely in and out of camps/settlements?(No/Yes some/Yes all)
- c) Are IDPs affected by armed conflict or presence of armed groups at their present location? (No/Yes some/Yes all) (DP)\
- d) Do IDPs face particular restrictions with access to justice which are different from other citizens of the country?(No/Yes some/Yes all)

- e) Are IDPs able to exercise on an equal basis with other citizens of the country their right to own, use and enjoy their property and possessions?(No/Yes some/Yes all)

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. Signing of the peace agreement or long-term safety and security,
- II. Freedom of movement established throughout the country;
- III. Police and judiciary deployed in accordance with national/district standards;
- IV. IDPs access, their land
- V. IDPs cultivate and harvest their land and/or they can sustain their life under normal economic and social conditions.

Mass information campaign

Description of activities

According to the RSG Framework for durable solutions, it is key that IDPs **are able to make an informed decision as to whether to return to their home communities, remain where they are, or settle elsewhere in the country.** The information needed to make an informed decision has to be in a language understood by the IDPs and, at a minimum, includes:

- General situation in the community of origin or settlement, including freedom of movement, the status of the Juba peace talks, safety and security, amnesties, human rights situation, legal and other mechanisms to protect the rights of women, children, youth, minorities, older people, type and duration of assistance available to them (i.e. shelter and NFI for PSNs), etc.
- The procedures for returning, integrating locally or settling elsewhere, including what arrangements if any have been made for those with special needs, what if any reintegration package will be provided, etc.
- The conditions on return, local integration or settlement in another part of the country, including access to land, livelihoods, information on mine risks, availability of public services (healthcare, education, etc.); conditions of buildings and infrastructure for schools, health clinics and sanitation systems; and assistance available from national, international and private agencies.

The information campaign should use all the information gathered through return monitoring and the other activities of the office such as the participation in the meetings of the DDMC, DHRPP etc. The information campaign should use the following means of communication: radio broadcasts, leaflets and facilitation of meeting between the IDPs and the authorities including security. Radio broadcast: the radio broadcasts should host IDPs, National and Local authorities and security authorities including the armed forces. During the broadcasts IDPs should be encouraged to ask questions to the authorities but also to report their own experiences with regard to the return or relocation in another part of the country. All IDPs in camps and return areas listening to the broadcast should be encouraged to ask questions by phone through a line which is free of charge. Distribution of leaflets leaflet on the general situation in the community of origin or settlement should be produced in close collaboration with the authorities (as it has already been done in Pader). They should be translated in local language and distributed in camps and return areas targeting the social infrastructures (i.e. schools, health centre etc.). Facilitation of meetings between IDPs and Authorities in camps or return areas. IDPs should be encouraged to ask questions to the authorities including about security and the political situation.

Indicators

- a) Do IDPs have access to information about conditions in their place of origin which allows them to make a free and well informed choice about whether to return or not? (No/Yes)

Benchmark for disengagement

I. All IDPs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution and 8 conditions contained in the Framework for Durable Solutions of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons are met

OBJECTIVE

III. Monitor that no coercion has been used to induce or to prevent return or resettlement

Related activities

4. Protection monitoring

Description of activities

The use of coercive measures to prevent or induce return, settlement, or local integration undermines the principle of voluntariness, which is essential to ensure the protection of the rights of IDPs. Internally displaced persons have the rights to be protected against forcible return or resettlement in any place where their life, safety, liberty, and/or health would be at risk. Protection from forced returns is essential for protecting internally displaced persons.



The protection monitoring is meant to ensure that no coercion has been used to induce or to prevent return or resettlement and to gather data on the violations of human rights including abuses and violations of the rights of the IDPs. Due to the fact that there aren't enough resources available to implement a proper response, the **protection monitoring is not associated with a referral mechanism** and or a comprehensive case management. The data collected will be mainly used to establish trends and devise *ad hoc* advocacy campaign (e.g. lowering the age of consensus to avoid boys being sent to justice after consensual sexual relations) as well as preventive actions (e.g. information campaigns, training etc.). Only particularly serious incidents will be responded to. While implementing protection monitoring UNHCR and its partners will use the enclosed form (Annex III). The data collected will tentatively be consolidated in an Excel database (to be developed in consultation with Data Operation Manager in Kampala and HQ). More details on the protection monitoring methodology are specified in the 2008 Data Management Strategy.

Indicators

- Are IDPs forcibly returned to or forced to settle in places where their life, safety and/or health would be at risk?(No/Yes some/Yes all)
- # of protection incidents reported including forced evictions;
- % of partners reporting monthly;

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. Freedom of movement established throughout the country
- II. Presence of functional Uganda Human Rights Commission in all the districts.
- III. Freedom of movement established throughout the country
- IV. Police and judiciary deployed in accordance with national/district standards;
- V. Social infrastructures are established at parish level in accordance with national/district standards;

OBJECTIVE

IV. Support the Government of Uganda in providing physical safety and security

Related activities

5. Support to police

Description of the activity

According to the RSG's Framework for durable solutions, IDPs should return voluntary, in safety and dignity. The safety is one of the three main elements characterising the return. In addition, in order to achieve a durable solution IDPs should have **full and non-discriminatory access to national and sub-national protection mechanisms, including police.**



Although law enforcement and judicial systems in rural areas of Uganda is not sufficiently developed, it is important that IDPs have access on a par with other residents to national protection mechanisms and progress be made towards establishing effective courts and police in areas of return, settlement, or local integration. The reestablishment of civilian enforcement of Law and order, as opposed to the law and order function carried out by the armed forces and their auxiliaries (LDU, Arrow Boys etc.) is essential to provide physical safety and security.

The primary responsibility for ensuring that IDPs do not face dangers to their physical safety and security rests with national authorities. At the moment the total police strength in the North comprises 1,722 regular police personnel and 2001 local police personnel. The current police to population ratio is 1:2298. According to the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan, the target is to have a total strength of 4,223 over the next three years i.e. to attain a police to population ratio of 1:1069

The Government of Uganda may not have the means to support the above. UNHCR will support the police through:

- Training (on freedom of movement, the return process etc.),
- Provision of bicycles and motor bicycles to support the patrolling in broader areas, tents, communication means (VHF) and computers.

This activity will be coordinated with the deputy inspector General of Police, the ACP Research and Planning and the Chair of the Donor Group to the Police.

Indicator

- a) Are IDPs able to access the Police on equal basis with other citizens in the country?

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. Police deployed in the northern areas according to PRDP target (1:1000)

6. Advocacy for disarmament of UPDF's auxiliary forces and reestablishment of the civilian character of law and order enforcement (policing)

Description of activities

The reestablishment of the civilian character of law and order and full and non discriminatory access to national and sub national protection mechanisms, including Police are essential for the achievement of durable solutions.

The displacement, which has affected the civilian population, has also affected the police leading to the withdrawal of most of its personnel. The enforcement of law and order was therefore largely taken over by the military and the Local Defence Units (LDUs) with no training and appropriate competences. This has caused many problems in terms of human rights abuses and discriminatory access to national and sub-national protection mechanisms.

The Government infrastructure in support of national security includes the Army (Uganda People Defence Force -UPDF). In addition, the policy framework endorsed by Parliament to reinforce the UPDF calls for recruitment of **local Auxiliary Forces** (AFs) to support UPDF operations by providing armed protection of civilian populations. The AFs are local community based forces. They are recruited from amongst former government solders, ex-security personnel, local groups and other persons who volunteer from the communities. There are four categories of auxiliary forces:

- Local Defence Units (LDUs): LDUs are present in West Nile, Acholi sub-region and non-LRA affected districts of the Teso and Elgon areas. Administratively, LDUs are under the Uganda Police Force but operationally, they are under the UPDF . The total strength of LDUs is 11,704 in the Acholi sub-region
- Amuka (Lango): The Amuka boys in Lango sub-region total 10,288 in number.
- The Arrow Brigade: The 'Arrow Brigade' was formed through voluntary recruitment in the Teso sub-region to supplement the work of the UPDF in repulsing and fighting the LRA as well as the cattle rustlers when they attacked the Teso subregion. By the end of 2005, there were 6,812 Arrow boys in the Teso sub-regions.
- Anti-stock Theft Unit (ASTU): The Anti-stock Theft Unit was created to curtail and contain the cattle rustling in the Karamoja region.

In the framework of the PRDP and its governing mechanisms at both national and district level (i.e. the National Committee on Northern Uganda, OPM PRD Coordination Unit, District CAO and Management Team), UNHCR will advocate with the Government for the disarmament of the UPDF auxiliary forces and their systematic replacement regular police.

Indicator

- a) # of Auxiliary forces disarmed
- b) # of Police deployed by district

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. Police deployed in the northern areas according to national target (1:1000)

OBJECTIVE

V. Support the Government of Uganda in providing Legal protection before the law

Related activities

7. Establishment of Legal Clinics (land issues, mediation, access to justice) and capacity building

Description of activities

To achieve a durable solution, IDPs and formerly displaced persons must have access to national and sub-national protection mechanisms, including courts as well as to mechanisms for property restitution or compensation regardless of whether they return or settle in the area where they found refuge or a new location.

Restitution of housing, land and property rights has become an issue of concern in LRA affected areas with a significant number of persons now able to access and utilise their land for purposes of agriculture. The approach of the authorities has so far focused on settling disputes through the existing mediation and adjudication mechanisms.

In Uganda there are 8 Chief Magistrates against a required number of 33. There are only 21 Grade I magistrates as opposed to the 33 that are required in the North. Courts are inadequate, vandalised and in some places non-existent. As an alternative to the formal court system the parliament enacted the Local council courts Act 2006 which provides for the establishment and composition of the local council courts. The structures of these courts are pegged on the decentralized structures under the local governance. The Courts are established at village (LCI), parish (LCII) and sub county (LCIII) level. In Northern Uganda there are about 950 Local Council III Courts, 5,250 Courts at parish level and 44,500 Courts at village level². However, the members of the local council courts are not trained or provided with adequate support. Therefore efforts must be made to capacity build their functions and those of the traditional leaders.

- The lawyers and advisors of the legal clinics will provide advice, and legal assistance to solve conflicts that arise when people return to their villages of origin giving priority to repossession of housing, land and property that frequently have been occupied or used by others during their displacement. The legal clinics will also provide mediation services meant to find extrajudicial agreement between the parties to settle the disputes. In addition, the legal clinics will improve access to justice through training and support to LC courts and traditional leaders

Indicator

- a) Do IDPs face particular restrictions with access to justice which are different from other citizens of the country? (No/Yes some/Yes all)

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. All IDPs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution;

² Source, PRDP

8. Establishment of Legal Counselling mechanisms for victims of SGBV and capacity building

Description of the activity

The effect of the 20-year conflict in northern Uganda has been the erosion of the respect for, and enforcement of, the rule of law in the region. Exacerbating the situation, northern Uganda lacks sufficient legal structures and personnel capable of providing legal assistance, representation and sensitization on SGBV. There is a marked lack of awareness and understanding of SGBV by the actors within the legal system, including lawyers, the judiciary, local council courts, police, welfare and probation, and the army.

With respect to protecting the rights of women and children from SGBV, these actors lack knowledge and understanding of their legal roles and responsibilities under Ugandan law. This has been compounded by the limited resources currently available for justice agencies to train relevant staff and/or build national capacity. Furthermore, the scarcity of lawyers in the north and the complex and cumbersome legal procedures for dealing with cases of SGBV prohibits and discourages many victims from reporting cases of SGBV. The cumulative effect of these factors is that the rights of SGBV victims are inadequately promoted or protected in the justice system of northern Uganda.

To exacerbate the situation further, there is a serious lack of awareness among community members, including men, women and children on what constitutes SGBV and the legal ramifications of being charged with a SGBV offence. Thus, it is crucial that every SGBV awareness campaign disseminates information on these issues.

An SGBV desk will be established within the existing Child/Youth Desk of the Legal Aid Project in northern Uganda. It will consist of an expert team of lawyers and paralegals working at:

- Providing direct Legal Aid to Victims of SGBV
- Training Actors in the Justice, Law and Order Sectors on SGBV.
- Radio Sensitization targeting Communities, Women and Children.

Indicators

- a) Are there protection mechanisms in place for victims of domestic violence and rape?(No/Yes)
- b) If there are protection mechanisms in place for victims of domestic violence and rape, are IDP women and children able to access on equal basis with other citizens of the country? (No/Yes)
- c) Are IDP women able to access those protection mechanisms, where available, on equal basis with other citizens of the country?(No/Yes some/Yes all/NA if such mechanisms do not exist)

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. Presence of functional Uganda Human Rights Commission in all the districts.
- II. Judiciary deployed in accordance with targets set in the PRDP;
- III. Police deployed in the northern areas according to PRDP target (1:1000)

Durable Solutions

OBJECTIVE

III. IDPs are reintegrated into society, i.e., they are able to exercise their social, economic, civil, political and cultural rights, and on that basis they enjoy peaceful, productive and dignified lives

Related activities

9. Road clearing/rehabilitation of access roads in return areas through, inter alia, cash for work;

Description of activities

One of the conditions to achieve a durable solution is that formerly displaced persons enjoy without discrimination an adequate standard of living, including shelter, health care, food, water and other means of survival including basic public services (education, health services etc.). Access roads are essential to reach IDPs' villages of origin and from there to schools and health centers. In addition they are an important protection mechanisms as they for instance reduce the risk of SGBV (e.g. it is safer for women and children to fetch water passing through a road than through the bush) and allow police patrolling.

In this framework the following activities will be undertaken:

- Assessment for selection of community roads to be rehabilitated
- Mobilization and selection of Project Management Committees
- Mobilization and selection of beneficiaries with a special focus on supporting families with vulnerable individuals in the households
- Ensure the identified roads and areas around social infrastructures are cleared by the manual labour in a timely manner

Indicators

- a) Km of access road rehabilitated

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. All IDPs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution;



10. Support return of PWSN (NFIs and shelter, including use of brick building machines)

Description of activities

Voluntary return will increase during 2008 if the improvement of the security situation continues. As already seen in Lango, Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) will remain in camps after that the rest of the population has returned as they do not have resources to build a shelter in the place where they intend to achieve a durable solution, be it in their village of origin, in the former camp or elsewhere in the country. The situation is worsened by the fact that often the PSNs have settled in camps on private land and land owners are now claiming their property back.

The overall objective of this activity is to empower vulnerable groups (PSN) and to provide them with protection through provision of shelter/housing and NFIs in the place where they want to achieve a durable solution.

Identification of PSNs will be done on the basis of the standard criteria approved by the protection cluster and through protection monitoring/ participatory assessment.

This activity will support the capacity of the community to reintegrate PSNs. The program will train and empower able youth and Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) in blocks making with the use of Hydro Form Machines. The graduate trainees will, amongst other things, use the machines for the construction of shelters for PSNs

Indicators

- a) # of Shelters built
- b) #of NFI distributed
- c) # of PSNs identified.

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. All PSNs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution and the 8 conditions contained in the Framework for Durable Solutions of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons are met



11. Support for local authorities (LC I&II, DHRPP, DDMC, OPM), including capacity building

Description of activities

The state is the main responsible for the provision of assistance and protection to its citizens. During the process leading to the achievement of durable solutions national authorities should take appropriate measures to establish conditions, as well as provide the means, to enable IDPs to return voluntarily, in safety and dignity, or to resettle voluntarily in another part of the country and to facilitate the (re)integration of returned or resettled IDPs.

During the years of displacement, the constitutional government system (the Local Council system) was suspended and a military like structure based on “camp commandants” was established. As the return process to the villages of origin is keeping on increasing the central government wants to reestablish its constitutional government system. UNHCR will facilitate the process by supporting the local authorities to fulfill their obligations vis a vis the laws of Uganda.

The first intervention will address the registration system of the civilians. Registration is key to ensuring protection of the population as recognized, *inter alia*, by the Excom in several conclusions including conclusion n. 91. UNHCR will build the capacity of the LC I & II, the local authorities mandated to register the population through provision of:

- I. Training
- II. Registration material
- III. Stationery.
- IV. Bikes to LCII to facilitate their movement between villages to check implementation of proper population registration.

The program will ensure that LCs are followed and assisted during the registration process so as to ensure the quality of data as well as the correct implementation of the registration procedures.

In addition, all the data gathered through return and camp monitoring will be channeled through the relevant district structures and offices (e.g. District Planning, Education, Health, Water etc.) and to the governing bodies of the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan so as to ensure that they are fully aware of the structural and infrastructural needs in return areas. This will enhance the process of rehabilitation necessary to facilitate the reintegration of returned and resettled IDPs.

In a second phase UNHCR will evaluate whether to support national authorities with other equipment such as computers to district offices or to the chairpersons of the bodies set to implement the National IDP Policy.

Indicators

- a) Data received for Monthly statistics
- b) # of training organized and material distributed
- c) # Bicycles distributed to LCII

Benchmark for disengagement

I. All IDPs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution and the eight conditions contained in the Framework for Durable Solutions of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons are met

12. Rehabilitation/construction of community infrastructures at parish level through use of brick building machines

Description of activities

To ensure the reintegration of IDPs into society so that they are able to exercise their social, economic, civil, political and cultural rights, due consideration must be given to re-establishment of basic services in the areas where the IDPs intend to achieve a durable solution, be it in return areas, in the areas in which IDPs took refuge or elsewhere in the country.

Within the framework of the Parish Approach adopted by the Government of Uganda, in the context of the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP)/District Development Plans and in strict coordination with the relevant clusters, the program will train and empower able youth and Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) in blocks making with the use of Hydro Form Machines. The graduate trainees will use the machines for rehabilitation of Parish community infrastructures including schools, health centres and LCII offices. The community will identify trainees and infrastructure in need of rehabilitation through participatory assessment on the basis of Age Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming principles.

Indicators

- a) # of parish community infrastructures rehabilitated/constructed
- b) #of persons identified and trained

Benchmark for disengagement

I. All IDPs are voluntary settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution and eight conditions contained in the Framework for Durable Solutions of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons are met

13. Development of a geographic information system and monitoring database

Description of activities

Effective data management and information-sharing amongst the different sectoral groups and clusters is paramount to facilitate the achievement of durable solutions, avoid unnecessary duplication/overlap and ensure that the information collected through return and protection monitoring is integrated into a coherent overall response. Through this activity UNHCR will provide the State institutions, local authorities, local civil society, international/national NGOs and other relevant actors with the necessary common services and tools for an effective cross-sector/cluster collaboration thus facilitating the process toward the achievement of durable solutions.

The following will be pursued:

1. Finalisation of a database to manage information gathered through return/protection monitoring;
2. Consolidation into a database of all the information collected;
3. Analysis of the information;
4. Production and distribution of thematic maps highlighting the gaps identified in the provision of essential services (e.g. schools, Police etc.)
5. Production of specific queries upon request of relevant stakeholders.
6. Production of population movement update.

Indicators

- a) Monthly population movement update produced
- b) # of thematic maps produced and distributed monthly to all UNHCR offices
- c) # of relevant stakeholders receiving thematic maps

Benchmark for disengagement

I. All IDPs are voluntarily settled in the location where they are trying to achieve a durable solution and eight conditions contained in the Framework for Durable Solutions of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons are met

14. Camp Closure/phase out, transformation of camps into viable communities & environmental rehabilitation

Description of activities

Camp closure is the **initial phase** of a process oriented toward the achievement of durable solution be it voluntary return, settlement in the former camp or relocation in another part of the country.

Since the government has lifted restriction to the freedom of movement, the IDPs population has started the return process. As of November 2007 more than 50% of the original IDP population had left the camps. As a result of this movement many abandoned huts and latrines have been left in camps and transit sites increasingly becoming a danger. Empty huts are used, *inter alia*, by perpetrators of sexual violence, by children as latrines thus increasing the risks of epidemics and by thieves and criminals as a perfect hideout. Empty latrines are dangerous as children and person with specific needs and animals may fall down.

To facilitate the achievement of durable solutions and considering the dangers represented by degraded semi abandoned camps, it is urgent to close/phase them when a consistent part of the population has left.

Based on participatory approach, the process of camp closure/phase out is articulated in four phases:

- a) **Identification**
- b) **Consultation, preparation and planning**
- c) **Basic Rehabilitation:** including demolition of huts /UPDF detachments, filling in latrine and garbage pit, property hand over, relocation of cemeteries etc. Levelling of the land may be selected depending on the request of the community
- d) **Transformation into Viable Community/villagisation:** land rehabilitation, environmental education and support for re-establishing the former camp as trading center/viable community (i.e. set proper lay out tree planting, , repairing of boreholes, re-establishing market facilities, engage in livelihood, road rehabilitation etc). During this phase, emphasis should be placed on the choices of the community

in conjunction with development priorities in government plans (PRDP, District Development Plans).

The transformation of camps into viable communities and the process of villagisation will naturally raise the issue of land to be made available for residential purposes. It is the responsibility of the Government to put in place appropriate solutions for the disputes over land tenure that the process will inevitably generate

Indicators

- a) # of camps closed/phased out
- b) #of former camps transformed into viable communities/villagised

Benchmark for disengagement

- I. All IDPs camps and transit sites are closed/phased down.
- II. All camps formerly created around Sub county Head Quarters and trading centers are transformed into viable communities/villages.



15. Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Description of activities

In the framework of the CAP most likely scenario, with IDPs enjoining the right to move freely and access their land, with the peace talks slowly advancing towards the signing of the final agreement, all the Camp Coordination and Camp management activities should be oriented towards facilitating the process to achieve a durable solution, be it voluntary return, local integration the place of former displacement or relocation in another part of the country.

In this framework the activities to be carried out are the following:

- Identification of Persons with Specific Needs and provision of assistance including to achieve a durable solution
- Mass information through continuous dialogue with the camp population on the basis of AGDM principles
- Participatory talks with the population with a view to understand their intention to return and plan the camp closure/transformation of camps in viable communities/villages
- Environmental education

Indicators

- a) # of PSN Identified and assisted
- b) Information available for all camps with regard to the intention to return of the population
- c) # of dialogue meeting organized and implemented in each camp

Benchmark for disengagement

- III. All IDPs camps and transit sites are closed/phased down.