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## UGANDA REFUGEE RESILIENCE INITIATIVE - URRI

### Summary of Baseline Findings – July 2025

The Save the Children-led and the Danish Refugee Council-led consortia commissioned a baseline assessment in nine (9) refugee-hosting districts of West Nile, Northern, and Western Uganda. This assessment took place during the inception phase of the Uganda Refugee Resilience Initiative (URRI), a programme funded by the Royal Danish Embassy /DANIDA. The assessment established reference data on climate-smart agriculture, natural resource management, and gender inclusivity for the URRI implementation. **This snapshot presents key findings from data collected in May 2025.** Additional information can be found in the full baseline report and more information on URRI can be found in this factsheet.



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## URRI Objective

**To contribute to enhanced climate resilience of women, men, and youth in refugee and host communities and promote inclusive, cohesive, and environmentally sustainable development in refugee-affected areas in line with local priorities.**

## Key Baseline Findings

- 38% of targeted households are correctly practicing at least 4 CSA practices
- 60% of farmers produce less than 500kg of beans or maize/acre per household. Average yields are higher for groundnuts and simsim but all crops have a low average yield.
- 29% of (933) are engaged in off-farm nature-based and climate-adaptive enterprises and income-generating activities.
- 82% of households earned an annual income below UGX 200,000 from CSA-related and nature-based enterprises.
- 152 hectares of land under restoration.
- 41% of targeted farmers already practice sustainable land management practices.
- 57% of the women surveyed reported active participation in climate-related decision-making but less so in leadership roles

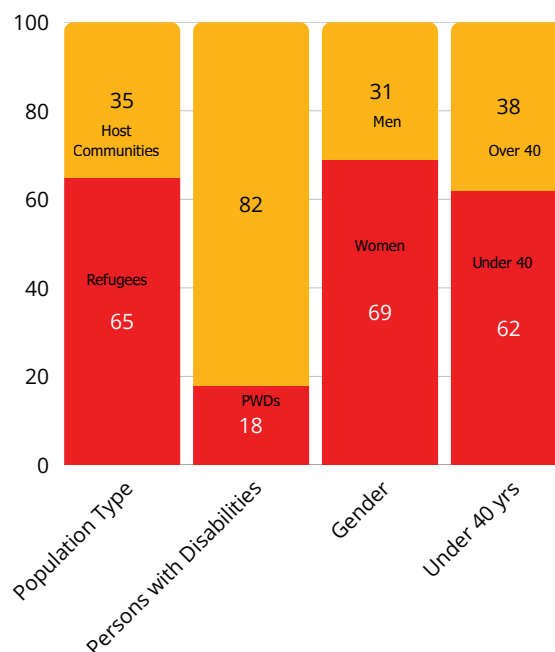


## Methodology and Respondents



# 3,211

**Data was collected from 3,211 farming household representatives** across the nine districts (Yumbe, Obongi, Moyo, Madi Okollo, Terego, Koboko, Lamwo, Adjumani, Kyegegwa)





## URRI Outcome 1: Climate-Smart Agriculture

Enhanced climate adaptation and resilience for women, men and youth in refugee and host communities through inclusive climate-smart agriculture

CSA adoption is still low generally among the surveyed farmers, with 38% of households correctly applying at least 4 regenerative CSA practices (such as crop residue mulching, composting, cover cropping, crop rotation, agroforestry, energy-efficient stoves, and zero tillage). Despite high participation in CSA training, youth and women need further support to drive adoption.

The geographic differences in adoption were attributed to the varying presence and active promotion of regenerative and climate-smart agriculture in some districts by local government extension staff, NGOs, and CBOs.

### Adoption of climate smart agriculture table

↓ Lower adoption of CSA	↑ Higher adoption of CSA
Refugees (29%)	Host nationals (46%)
Women (36%)* <sup>1</sup>	Men (40%)*
Other age groups (38%)	31-40 years (42%)
Similar rates of adoption among people with or without disability.	

### Early-warning information services (EWIS) on climate or environmental shocks

44% of respondents reported access to EWIS. Concerns were raised about the reliability, timing, and utility (clarity, local relevance) of the messages in the existing EWIS.



## URRI Outcome 2: Sustainable Management of the Environment

Sustainable management of the environment in refugee-affected areas through inclusive interventions leading to enhanced conservation of natural resources, biodiversity, ecosystem services, and productivity

### Sustainable Land Management (SLM)

**training & adoption:** 41% of targeted farmers reported applying at least four sustainable land management (SLM) practices, including mulching, crop rotation, agroforestry, and composting.

Despite having benefitted from less training, female respondents accounted for a greater share of those adopting regenerative livelihood practices. Most used practices differed by gender:



**Women (42% adoption):** intercropping, mulching, and water harvesting, reflecting their role in managing household food systems and conserving soil moisture.



**Men (36% adoption):** agroforestry, mulching, and tree planting, aligning with their involvement in activities requiring greater physical labour and land access.

**Differences between age groups or disability status are not significant.** The highest adoption rates were noted in Lamwo (67%), and the lowest rates in Obongi (26%) and Adjumani (29%).

Tree growing and land restoration: 30% reported receiving support in tree growing for woodlots or homesteads. 152 hectares of degraded land were already under restoration at the time of the baseline, a small proportion relative to the environmental degradation scale.





### URRI Outcome 3: Gender and Empowerment in Climate and Environment Management

Enhanced gender equality and women's empowerment and rights among refugees and host communities in relation to agriculture, climate change adaptation and sustainable management of the environment.

- Cultural norms restrict women's access to land, mobility, and participation in climate-related programmes. Refugee women face additional challenges due to their social marginalisation.
- 57% of women surveyed reported active participation in climate-related decision-making; the proportion was lower among refugees and among people with disabilities. However, the proportion of women holding decision-making roles is significantly lower and only 11% of women and adolescent girls reported a sense of collective agency in networks or groups.



## Recommendations

- 1 Secure land access through formalised agreements and community arrangements.
- 2 Strengthen market linkages and promote value addition, especially by supporting community groups and women's enterprises.
- 3 Ensure financial literacy integration within VSLA, youth groups, and farmer groups.
- 4 Support youth participation in regenerative livelihoods.
- 5 Promote energy-efficient technologies such as improved stoves and clean energy alternatives.
- 6 Expand restoration efforts on communal and public lands, integrating income-generating activities.
- 7 Strengthen inclusive local governance structures by revitalising inactive committees and fostering participation in enforcement of bylaws.
- 8 Advance leadership development for women, engagement of men, and promotion of joint household decision-making.

**The full list of recommendations is available in the full report.**



**Scan here for the full report.**