

Uganda

Project Spotlight

Project: Improving Food Security and Incomes and Reducing Chronic Malnutrition in Rhino Refugee Settlement and Host Communities in West Nile, Uganda

Funding partner: Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND)

Uganda hosts 1.5 million refugees, the majority of whom are women and children. While those in Rhino Camp refugee settlement in northwestern Uganda have access to small plots of land for agricultural use, most residents of the settlement lack the skills and knowledge to be successful farmers.

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| Bangladesh | Cambodia | Ghana | India | Indonesia |
| Myanmar | Nigeria | Philippines | Tanzania | Uganda |

This one-year project focused on increasing the availability of nutritious vegetables in the area, with the aim to enhance food security, improve household income, and reduce malnutrition in the refugee settlement and host communities. A dual approach of establishing both farm demonstration plots and kitchen gardens accelerated the dissemination of vegetable production knowledge. In an area with few economic opportunities, vegetable farming can offer a sustainable livelihood while boosting community nutrition.



Better Nutrition, Better Business

Farmer Story



Grace Anite, now 37, fled war-torn South Sudan with her children in 2017, finding refuge in Rhino Camp refugee settlement in northern Uganda.

Back home, Grace was a businesswoman and a shopkeeper, not a farmer. But as support from the World Food Programme decreased, she set her hopes on growing extra food to ensure a more balanced diet for her children. She planted some seeds, but with scarce water and poor soil, little grew.

Grace's circumstances changed in late 2022 with the Improving Food Security project.

"The project's approach—offering training right away in my own garden plot—offered a solution to the challenges I was facing."

With the practical training she received, the small plot of land allocated to her in the refugee settlement flourished, allowing her to serve nutrient-rich vegetables with every meal. Grace also now sells a portion of her produce at a market stall in the settlement, earning income to pay for other household needs.

With her background as a businesswoman and her newfound knowledge of farming methods, Grace is poised to reach a new goal. "Even though I am getting enough vegetables for my household, I have not yet achieved my personal target as a trained farmer," she said. "I am planning to hire land from the host community during the rainy season to realize more profits, because there is a ready market for vegetables here in the settlement."

UGANDA RESULTS 2023

12,530
Farmers trained

54% Women **46%** Men

63%
Youth (< age 35)

Demo Plot Results

\$233 average net income per crop cycle (500 sq. m.)

\$322
Tomato

Crop with highest average net profit (500 sq. m.)

341
Demo plots established

2,300
Training events

353
Key farmers trained

43% Women **57%** Men

52%
Youth (< age 35)

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