

Self-Settled Refugees and the Impact on Service Delivery in Koboko Municipal Council

Empowering Refugee Hosting Districts in Uganda:
Making the Nexus Work



Foreword

This report 'Self-Settled Refugees and the Impact on Service Delivery in Koboko Municipal Council' comes in a time when local governments in Uganda are grappling with the effects of refugees who have moved and settled in urban areas. As a country we have been very welcoming to our brothers and sisters who have been seeking refuge and we are proud to say that we have been able to assist the ones in need. Nonetheless, we cannot deny that refugees have been moving out of the gazetted settlements and into the urban areas, which has translated into increasing demands on the limited social amenities and compromises the quality of life for both refugees and host communities, this whilst the number of self-settled refugees continues to grow.

This report aims to address the effects the presence self-settled refugees have on urban areas and the shortfalls local governments face in critical service delivery areas like education, health, water, livelihoods and the protection of self-settled refugees if not properly catered for. So far, it has been difficult for the local governments to substantiate such cases in the absence of reliable data. We are therefore very pleased to finally have a reference document, which addresses the unnoticed and yet enormous challenges faced by urban authorities hosting refugees, such as Koboko Municipal Council. This document provides us with more accurate and reliable data, which will better inform our planning, and enhances our capacity to deliver more inclusive services. Moreover, it presents credible evidence to lobby for increased budget support from central government and possible development partners.

As we share these findings, we would also like to call for a 'whole of government approach', which recognizes the particular needs of local governments, who are the first receivers of the refugees. As local governments, rural and urban alike, we feel it is our civic and political responsibility to keep up the high standard in providing a safe sanctuary for the ones in need, whilst ensuring the well-being of the host communities at the same time. It is therefore our appeal that as the Government of Uganda and development partners work towards implementing the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, resources are directed to support refugee hosting district local governments, including the urban authorities, to address the challenges of service delivery in a more consultative and coordinated manner.

Finally, we want to thank our partner, VNG International for making this survey possible through the Nexus Programme (Empowering Refugee Hosting Districts in Uganda) and for supporting us in this process by giving a voice to the challenges, we as refugee hosting local governments are faced with.



Koboko Municipal Council
Dr. Sanya F.K. Wilson
Mayor



Koboko District Local Government
Mr. Hassan Nginya
Local Council V Chairman

Preface

Though the strain on service delivery is strongly felt by urban authorities in Uganda, little is known about the presence of self-settled refugees, leaving the local councils without an official mandate to plan and deliver services to address the specific needs of these refugees. For this reason, the Programme 'Strengthening Refugee Hosting Districts in Uganda: Making the Nexus Work', conducted a household survey in Koboko Municipal Council, which provided credible evidence on the existence/ presence of self-settled refugees who have (temporarily) moved from the settlements (or came in directly) and prefer to reside in the urban settings to secure future prospects.

This report is a first attempt to shed light on the impact self-settled refugees have on social cohesion and the capacity of local governments to plan for effective and responsive services for both the host communities and the refugees. It intends to paint a picture of the local realities which are currently being experienced by Ugandan urban authorities. As VNG International (the international cooperation agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities) we are committed to building better futures by strengthening democratic local governments worldwide. It is therefore important for us to address the issue of self-settled refugees, as it inhibits refugee hosting local governments in being sufficiently responsive to the needs of some of the most vulnerable, specifically the women and children.

We therefore call upon all relevant partners to reflect upon the reasons of self-settling and the evolving push factors that have seen a large number of refugees move out of the settlements and opted to self-settle in the urban and peri-urban areas. This survey shows that more research is needed related to the plight and movement patterns of self-settled refugees, but also calls for the necessary support to the local governments in addressing the challenges faced and to contribute to the improvement of social service delivery to self-settled refugees and host communities alike.

To conclude, we would like to thank the Chairman of Koboko District Local Government and the Mayor of Koboko Municipal Council respectively, for their guidance and tenacity in pointing out their local realities, whilst dealing with the presence of self-settled refugees in their district. We appreciate the relentless input and engagement from the technical staff during the survey process in reviewing the tools, selecting the enumerators, mobilising the self-settled refugees and in conducting the household surveys. We are particularly grateful to the village health teams, the Local Council I executives, the elders and cultural leaders across the Municipal Council who were very committed to support this survey process from the beginning to the end.



VNG International

Mr. Peter Knip

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Abbreviations

CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
DLG	District Local Government
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ECOSAN	Ecological Sanitation
FGD	Focused Group Discussions
FY	Financial Year
HH	Household
IPFs	Indicative Planning Figures
KMC	Koboko Municipal Council
LC	Local Council
LG	Local Government
LGMSD	The Local Government Management and Service Delivery
MC	Municipal Council
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OAU	Organisation of African Union
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
SSWA	South Sudanese Women's Association
UAAF	Uganda Amateur Athletics Federation
UBoS	Uganda National Bureau of Statistics
ULGA	Uganda Local Government Association
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VNG International	International cooperation agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities

Executive Summary

The **survey on self-settled refugees** was conducted as part of the Programme '*Strengthening Refugee Hosting Districts in Uganda: Making the Nexus Work*', implemented by VNG International (the international cooperation agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities) and financed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The study was based on the fact that the increased number of self-settled refugees in the urban and peri-urban areas of Koboko, put a lot of strain on the already stressed service delivery and as such is **posing significant challenges to the local government**. Some of the notable challenges include child neglect and abuse, prostitution, conflicts with host communities over natural resources and access to service delivery, such as healthcare provision and congestion in schools and at water points.

From the survey findings, it is estimated that the **self-settled refugee population is about 26% of the total projected population in Koboko Municipal Council**. This population has been growing with the continued escalation of conflicts in Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan. The survey established that there are **2.896 self-settled refugee households in Koboko Municipal Council**. Based on these findings, it is **estimated that the population related to these households add up to 23.128 refugees**. The majority of the refugees who have self-settled in Koboko Municipal Council are of South Sudanese origin (88.8%).

From the survey findings it was found that **59% of the refugee households moved from the designated settlements to Koboko Municipal Council, 40% moved from their countries of origin** through the porous border points to the Municipality directly, either through relatives or friends. Only 1% found their way from the transit centres to the host communities. The **main reasons given for moving to the urban areas** relate to escaping tribal conflicts in the settlements, the need for access to better social services, seeking support from relatives and friends, limited land for grazing and cultivation, concerns over segregation and seeking avenues of earning and better livelihoods in the urban centres.

It is recommended that all partners (national, humanitarian & development partners) apply themselves to the reasons of self-settling and the evolving push factors that has seen a large number of refugees move out of the settlements and opt to self-settle in the urban and peri-urban areas. This survey shows that **more research is needed related to the plight and movement patterns of self-settled refugees**, but also **calls for the necessary support to the local governments** in addressing the challenges faced as to contribute to the improvement of social service delivery to self-settled refugees and host communities alike.



1 Introduction

As a relatively stable country in a volatile region, nearly 500.000 **South Sudanese refugees fled to Uganda** after the outbreak of violence in Juba in July 2016, and more than 86.000 Congolese refugees have arrived in the country since fighting escalated in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in December 2017.¹ These new waves of refugees contributed to Uganda becoming one of the countries hosting the most refugees in the world, currently estimated over 1.1 million.² The **responsibility for the refugee response in Uganda** lies with the **Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)** in collaboration with the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**. At district level, OPMs refugee desk oversees refugees in the district and works with District Local Governments (DLGs)³ to coordinate the response.

Uganda's refugee response, as is enshrined in Uganda's Refugee Act (2006) and the Refugee Regulations (2010), is lauded as **one of the most progressive in the world**; it has been opening its borders to refugees irrespective of nationality or ethnic affiliation and grants them amongst others access to public services including health and education, land to settle and cultivate, right to seek employment or to set up a business. With its policy, Uganda anticipates to empower refugees to become economically self-reliant, while granting them similar services as to what nationals enjoy. The policy, which allows for freedom of movement is a rurally orientated policy, **targeting refugees located in gazetted settlements**. Refugees located outside these settlements, are not formally recognized by the OPM and as such excluded from any official public or humanitarian refugee support. Though the strain on service delivery is strongly felt by Municipal Councils (MCs) and other urban authorities⁴, **little is known about the presence of self-settled refugees**, leaving MCs without a mandate to plan for and deliver services addressing the specific needs of these people.

This report therefore presents the findings of the **household survey on self-settled refugees and related challenges for local service delivery in Uganda**, with Koboko Municipal Council (KMC) functioning as a case. The survey was premised on the fact that in Koboko Municipal Council the presence of self-settled refugees puts a lot of strain on the already stressed service delivery and is posing significant challenges to the Local Government (LG). The survey was conducted as part of the Programme *'Strengthening Refugee Hosting Districts in Uganda: Making the Nexus Work'*, of which Koboko District Local Government is one of the beneficiaries.⁵ The programme is implemented by VNG International (the international cooperation agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities) and financed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

1 Joint Multi Sector Needs Assessment: Identifying humanitarian needs among refugee and host community populations in Uganda, UNHCR & EC, (August 2018).

2 Figures released on 31 October 2018, through the Uganda Refugee Verification Exercise 2018

3 Uganda has five tiers of local government, divided over rural and urban dynamics. See Annex A: Local Government Structure in Uganda

4 Idem

5 The programme is implemented in the following Districts: Adjumani District Local Government, Koboko District Local Government and Yumbe District Local Government

1.1 The objectives of the Survey

Whilst Koboko District Local Government and Municipal Council have had **no reliable data** on exactly how many refugee households reside within the district boundaries (outside gazetted settlements), it is noted that the **presence of self-settled refugees have placed an enormous strain** on the already stressed services provided by the local government. The MC is experiencing increased cases of conflicts with the law, rampant cases of child neglect and abuse, prostitution and sexual exploitation of children, theft, armed robberies, conflicts with the host communities over water points and sources of fuel. Other constraints experienced in Koboko as reported by the host communities include; increased cases of patients seeking healthcare services, congestion in the existing schools (especially primary schools), pressures at the existing water points, waste management and sanitation challenges, scarcity of housing and rising prices of goods and services.

This survey was therefore commissioned to contribute to the **following objectives**:

1. **Accurately highlight the existence and plight of self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipal Council**, in order to **assess and plan** for improved service delivery in the most constrained sectors.
2. **Equip the Municipal Council with accurate data to lobby and advocate** for better facilities and improved service delivery for both the self-settled refugees and host communities.
3. **Examine areas of weak inter- agency and inter- departmental coordination** and propose areas of policy recommendation in addressing challenges of self-settled refugees in Uganda.



2 Methodology of the Survey

2.1 Parameters and the collection of information

The self-settled refugee survey adopted a 100% population sample of the refugees (census method) as to reach out to the whole refugee population residing within Koboko Municipal Council. The Survey aimed to gain insights on the presence of self-settled refugees, based on the following parameters:

1. **Socio-economic and demographic information of the refugees:** the survey established the number of refugee households within the different divisions in the Municipality; their composition, the age and residential status of the refugee (registered or not), nationality, tribe, period of stay in Uganda; marital status, educational level and religion; occupation/economic activity engaged in and assets owned; and main sources of livelihood for household.
2. **Living conditions and waste management:** the survey established the type of occupancy and tenure in the dwelling, sources and type of energy used for lighting and cooking, main source of drinking water, type of toilet and bathing facility used, waste disposal practices and access to health care facilities.
3. **Social cohesion and legitimacy issues:** the survey further established the existing relationship within the area of settlement, relationships with members of the host community, social and community challenges experienced by refugees, main incidences of crime and sources of conflicts, activities of social cohesion that the refugees can engage in.

This information was collected through:

- a) **Collection and analysis** of household demographic data and details of the social and economic conditions of the refugee households within the Koboko Municipal Council through household surveys
- b) Collection and analysis of qualitative responses through **focus group discussions (FGDs)** with youth and women from the DRC and South Sudan.
- c) **Interviews** with religious and cultural leaders and government representatives on various aspects that affect the refugees and host communities in the process of self- settling
- d) **Service mapping** to establish the population pressure on available social amenities within communities within the Municipal Council in which the refugees have settled.

2.2 Structure and organisation of the Survey

The **survey team** was guided by a VNG International expert active in the Nexus programme, overseeing the design, structuring and implementation of the survey. This was done in collaboration with the Office of the Town Clerk, the community services department and the planning department of Koboko Municipal Council. In order to enhance the capacity of the local government structures to undertake similar studies, the political and technical structures of the Municipality were placed at the forefront of the survey design, methodology development, data collection, data analysis and review of the findings. Annex B & C provide an overview of the tools used.

The data was collected by trained enumerators composed of South Sudanese and Congolese graduates who have studied in different universities within Uganda. Emphasis was placed to engage enumerators, supervisors and data clerks who have some experience in data collection, data entry and survey supervision. The field teams were supported by the **Local Council I Executive Committee**, the village health teams (VHTs), **elders and community leaders** who were engaged in mobilization, **identification of households** and engagements in the event of resistance. Where available refugee cards were used to ascertain the status of the self-settled refugees.

2.3 Challenges faced and how they were addressed

During the survey, a number of challenges were encountered by the survey team. To be able to address them in the shortest possible time, the team consulted regularly on the issues that featured in the field and addressed them on an ongoing basis to ensure minimum disruption to the survey process. These challenges are highlighted in the table below:

Table 1: Challenges faced

Challenges faced	How the challenges were addressed and managed
1. Households refusal to participate in the Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged Local Council I and II Chairpersons, the Elders in the village and the South Sudan Refugees Association executive and neighbors to identify, engage and convince the household heads/their representatives to participate in the Survey.
2. Households not being present for the Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled the Surveys at a time when the household head or representative is available to provide responses for the Survey.
3. Disruptions by Local Council I elections and campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worked with the VHTs and the elders to reach the households that can be reached within the day. Revisited areas that were not adequately captured to ensure that all the households were reached.
4. Fears that the Survey information will be used by the government to force the refugees to go back to the designated settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carried out mass mobilization through local radio station, churches/ mosques and engaged the community mobilisers to sensitize refugee communities and households on the importance of the Survey. Held meetings with some of the refugees and refugee associations to ensure that fears are allayed through sharing information on the purpose and scope of the Survey.
5. Skipping some households as a result of congestion and the mix up with the host communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spot checks and verification of the surveyed households in every cell reached and covered at the end of the exercise. Review and comparison of the households surveyed within the cells with information available through the Local Councils, VHTs and existing households within cells.



3 Background to Koboko

3.1 Koboko District Local Government

Koboko is one of the Districts in the North-Western region of Uganda (otherwise called West Nile Region). The district is uniquely positioned at the meeting point of Uganda, DRC and South Sudan, with the central place called “**Salia Musala**”. It is bordered by South Sudan to the north, DRC to the west, Yumbe District to the east, and Maracha District to the south. The district has a total land area of 820.8 km². The district is made up out of 6 Sub-Counties and a Municipal Council as the urban local government unit. In 2014, the population in Koboko was estimated at 206,495 persons with 50.3% of these being women. The population of Koboko is projected to be 237,900⁶ persons in 2018, which does not include refugees from DRC and South Sudan.



3.2 Koboko Municipal Council

In the FY 2015/2016 Koboko Town Council was upgraded to a Municipal Council and became operational in the FY 2016/2017. Koboko town is positioned 574 km from Kampala, 3 km from the DRC border and 16 km from the South Sudan border. The Municipality has a cosmopolitan outlook with many tribes from South Sudan and DRC blending with the local tribes in Koboko. The people interact easily and communicate in the same languages across the region where the three countries Uganda, DRC and South Sudan meet. Koboko Municipal Council is made up of 3 divisions; North Division, South Division and West Division. The Municipality has a total of 10 wards and 36 cells.

3.3 Koboko District as a point of entry for refugees

The conflicts in South Sudan (as of July 2016 onwards) saw a stark increase of South Sudanese crossing into Uganda. Between 1 July and 31 October 2016, a total of 40,503 refugees in 14,063 families from South Sudan were received in Rhino Camp, Arua District. Of these received, 61% were facilitated from **Kuluba Collection Point** and Oraba border point in Koboko District.⁷ Oraba border point, an official crossing into Uganda closed when fighting intensified, leaving refugees to find other ways entering Uganda and into the communities of Koboko. A number of refugees reached Uganda through DRC; **Salia Musala border point**, others through the porous border points especially in the Sub-Counties of Ludara and Kuluba.

3.4 The Kakwa

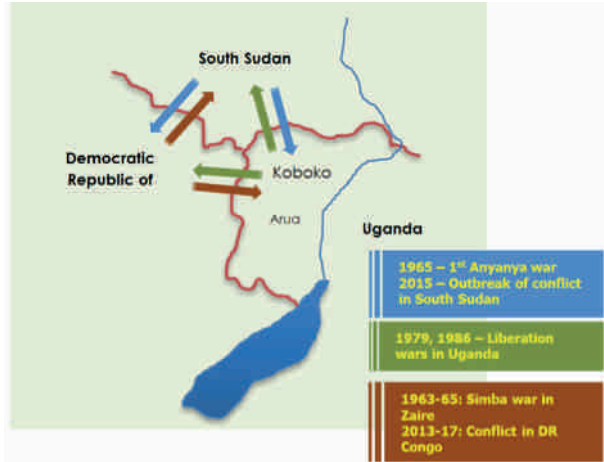
Koboko district is uniquely positioned because of the number of tribes that share **common heritage and ancestry across the borders of Uganda, South Sudan and DRC**. Most of the South Sudanese from the counties of Yei, Morobo, Kajo keji in the Western Equatorial Region and the Congolese from North Eastern part of Ituri Province (Imgbokolo and Aba) not only share the same languages, but also have relatives across the border with Uganda. Therefore, in situations of conflict as witnessed in South Sudan and the DRC these tribes quickly identify with each other and provide easy access. This is commonly seen among the Kakwa tribe who are predominant in Koboko District.

⁶ UBoS, population projections October 2017

⁷ UNHCR- <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/uga>

The Kakwa people are a small minority, but are part of the larger Karo people, an intermarried group that also includes the Bari, Pojulu, Mundari, Kuku and Nyangwara. Their language, Kutuk na Kakwa is an eastern nilotic language. The Kakwa people sometimes refer to themselves as 'Kakwa Saliya Musala' translated directly as 'kakwa three stones' a phrase they commonly use **to denote their 'oneness' in spite of being politically dispersed among three countries.**

Figure 1: Movement of the Kakwa across the 3 countries



“... The movement of the Kakwa across Uganda, South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo can be traced to the different conflicts across the region way back in 1960s during the first ‘Anyanya’ and the ‘Simba’ wars that saw the Kakwa fleeing from the Sudan and Zaire to Uganda and eventually back during the liberation wars in Uganda during the 1970s...” Mzee Wayi Adio Aneza- A Kakwa elder in DRC, but grew up in Uganda

3.5 Koboko Local Government as a refugee hosting district

Koboko District has been hosting refugees since 1983, although most of them were repatriated back to their home countries. In 2014, Koboko received refugees of Congolese origin and settled them in the refugee hosting villages of Waju I, II, III, Adranga, Adologo, Lukujo, Ponyura and Kuku, collectively referred to as **Lobule refugee settlement**. According to recent statistics the population totals just over 4,600, though the DLG and host communities no longer consider them as refugees but as part of the community. Over the last years, the poor security situations in Uganda’s two neighbouring countries, has led to a lot of movement of South Sudanese and Congolese into the district. The district believes that given the **limited district capacities, inadequate infrastructure** which is attributed to the various wars throughout the 80’s and 90’s and **its inability to access more land**, the district has largely **remained a reception centre**, where refugees are received and transferred to other districts such as Yumbe, Moyo and Adjumani. Koboko attributes the increase in the number of self- settled refugees amongst others to the fact that the District does not have gazetted settlement areas for refugees.

3.6 The presence of Self-Settled refugees in Koboko Municipality

As indicated earlier, UNHCR reports the presence of 4,6238 refugees in Koboko district, all of whom have settled in Lobule settlement. This figure does however not reflect the **various categories of refugees who have chosen to self-settle within Koboko Municipal Council**, amongst others being:

- a) Families that have their children attaining primary and secondary schools within Koboko MC
- b) Refugees who have moved out of the settlement with their animals, as a result of limited land availability in the refugee camps
- c) Unaccompanied children in the Municipality and the surrounding Sub-Counties
- d) Families who have opted to stay in urban settings because they can afford to pay up rent and access better facilities

8 <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/uga>

A snapshot survey, conducted in the beginning of the refugee influx (October/ November 2017) by the UNHCR focal point person assigned to Koboko DLG indicated that although some refugees registered in the settlement, a number of these moved their families to the urban centers, **as to access better services and facilities that they could not access in the settlements**. The snapshot survey was randomly carried out for 2 days within Koboko Municipal Council and established the presence of 540 registered refugees, with their full registration details and attached to the designated settlements of Imvepi, Bidibidi, Palorinya and Rhino Camp. In this survey no specific attention was given to the factors pushing the refugees out of the settlements and drawing them towards settling in Koboko MC.

3.7 Why the term 'Self-Settled' Refugees?

The term **'self-settled refugees'** was adopted in this survey, as a result of the interviewed refugees who self-identified themselves as **urban refugees, asylum seekers or migrants**. This is at the backdrop of the fact that most of the self-settled refugees do not meet the criteria set within the refugee act 2006 to be termed as such. Whereas some of them are legally recognized as refugees in as far as registration particulars are concerned, others have never been registered as refugees and as such are not linked to designated settlements. The self-settled refugees have some **common attributes** which informed the focus of this survey:

- 1) They moved to Uganda, fleeing the hostilities in their countries of origin but ended up settling down in Koboko Municipal Council, an urban, non- gazetted area.
- 2) They have moved to their current location due to the hardships, challenges, conditions and restrictions associated with living in refugee settlements?
- 3) The need to access better social services and livelihood opportunities such as education, health care, access to water, recreational activities, housing and social networks drove them away from the settlements

There is a considerable **ambiguity surrounding the status of self-settled refugees**, which presents a direct contradiction to both the 1951 Convention and the 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention. The latter clearly states, anyone who enters another African country fleeing 'external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order' is a refugee (1969 OAU Convention Article 1(2)). Whereas the **self-settled refugees without doubt fall under the above legal definition of a refugee, they do not qualify for assistance from OPM and UNHCR**, as the very notion of a **'self-settled refugee' is in contradiction to a 'refugee'** being defined as someone **receiving assistance and living in a camp**.

Such a definition, however, makes little sense in a context in which thousands of refugees have opted out of the settlement structure and have sought to make a living on their own. If successful, self-settled refugees still put a strain on basic service delivery by the local government. Unfortunately **self-settled refugees** often represent a considerable number of **vulnerable people, without official status, possible language barriers (DRC), difficulties in earning decent livelihoods, and exclusion and access to services**. Thereby, while the problems associated with refugee settlements are well documented, less is known about the considerable numbers who have chosen to self-settle within the host population, leading to **numbers often being underestimated, discouragements of being counted and governments failing to recognize, support urban refugees**. Also self-settled refugees remain relatively under-researched, whilst the trend toward **growing numbers of refugees living in urban areas** is likely to continue meaning that policies and programming should be better prepared to manage this situation well in the future.

9 https://www.researchgate.net/publication/31464206_Selfsettled_Refugees_in_Uganda_An_Alternative_Approach_to_Displacement

4 Findings of the Survey on Self-Settled Refugees

Within the Nexus Programme specific attention is given to social cohesion between host communities and refugees, legitimacy of local governments, enhanced service delivery through planning and investments and improved living conditions and waste management practices. On this basis the parameters for the household survey were set and are structured into 3 sections:

- 1) **Socio-economic and demographic information:** Covers aspects such as household size, age variations of the household members, occupation and livelihood options available for the household members, nationality of origin, number of years residing in Uganda and within Koboko MC and aims to establish whether the self-settled refugees are registered or not.
- 2) **Living conditions:** This covers the type of dwelling unit and the occupancy tenure of the households, the source of energy used by the households for both cooking and lighting, access to water and sanitation facilities, access to health facilities and support received from relatives and friends.
- 3) **Social Cohesion and Legitimacy:** This section covers the willingness of the refugees to co-exist with the host communities, areas of possible joint activities, social support and collaborations for mutual benefit. It also addresses issues of compliance to observe law and order, assessment of common social and community challenges faced and possible intervention areas.

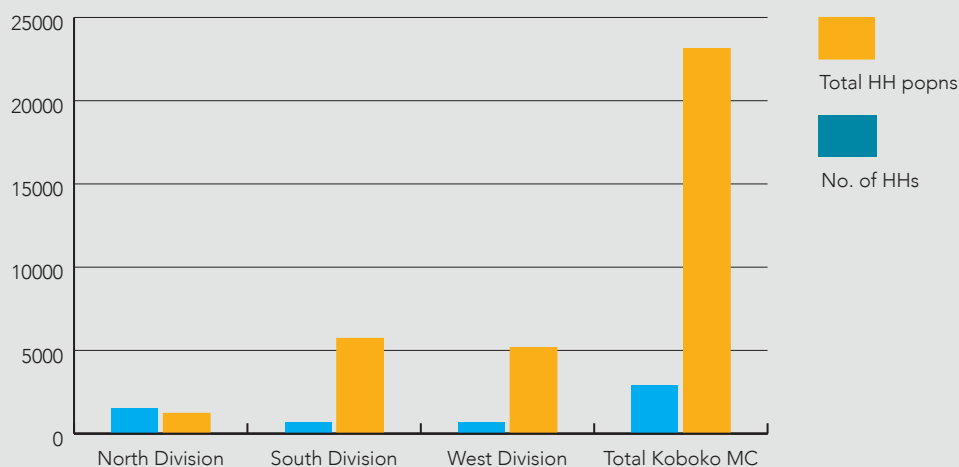
4.1 Social Economic and Demographic information

4.1.1 Number of Households and Household populations

The survey managed to reach **2.896 self-settled refugee households in Koboko MC**. Based on the findings it is **estimated** that the **population related to these households adds up to 23.128 refugees**.

52% of these self-settled refugee households (1.511 of 2.896) are in North Division, while South and West Division share 702 and 683 households respectively. North Division also has the highest estimated household population with 53% (12.230 of 23.128) of the total surveyed refugees.

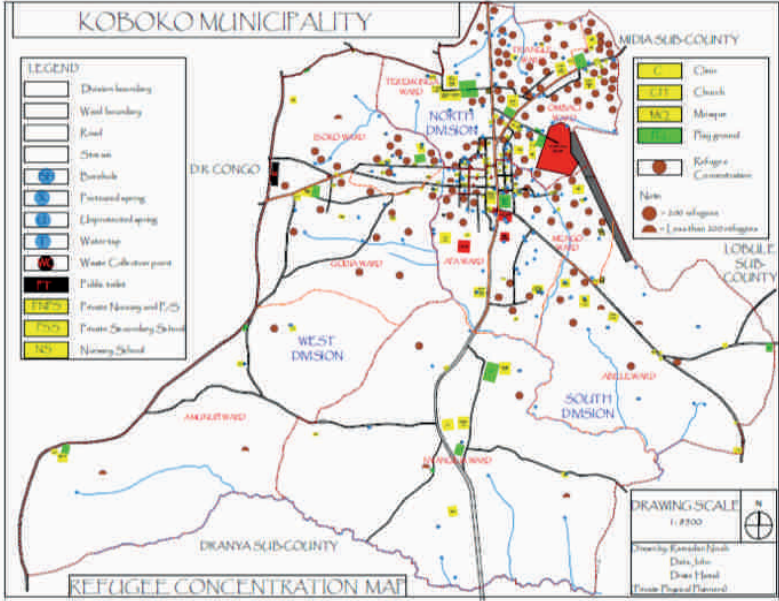
Figure 2: Number of Households and Household populations



Within the wards, Ombaci Ward in North division has the highest number of households, 720 (24.9%) and the highest household population of 5.798 (25.1%). Nyangilia Ward in South Division and Amunupi Ward in West Division have the least number of self-settled refugee households 40 (1.4%) and 39 (1.3%) and the least number of household populations 294 (1.3%) and 238 (1.0%) respectively.

Based on the findings of the survey, Koboko District Local Government in collaboration with the physical planning unit of Koboko Municipal Council drew up a map to highlight the refugee concentration in Koboko MC, as can be seen below.

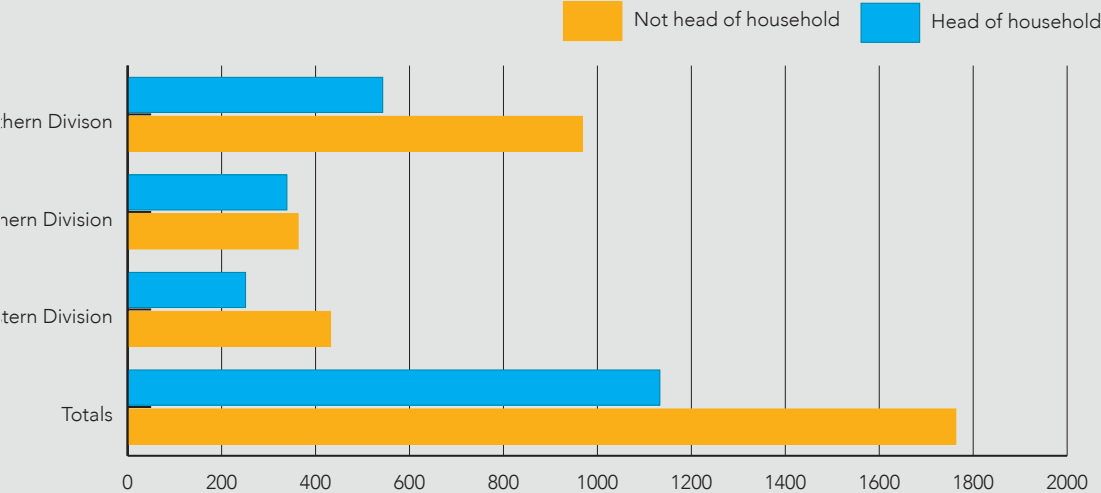
Map 1: Refugee concentration in Koboko MC



4.1.2 Household Heads reached

From the survey findings, only 1.133 (39.1%) were heads of the households surveyed, while 1.763 (60.9%) were not. Most respondents were very close relatives to the household heads surveyed and were considered responsible and informed enough to give adequate information on the parameters under consideration. Of the respondents who were not the household head, the relation to the Head was the following: 1.263 (71.6%) were spouses; 237 (13.4%) were either a son or daughter, 8 (0.5%) a parent, 248 (14.1%) other relatives or in-laws to the household head while 7 (0.4%) were younger siblings to the household head.

Figure 3: Total Household heads reached



The survey established that most of the respondents who were regarded as the caretaker within the household was below 40 years. The majority of the respondents 1,070 (36.9%) were aged between 20- 29 years. 198 (6.8%) of the respondents were between 10- 19 years, 885 (30.6%) were aged between 30- 39 years. Of those above 40 years, 371 (12.8%) were aged 40- 49 years while 181 (6.2%) were in between 50- 59 years. Among the elderly, 139 (4.8%) and 52 (1.8%) were above 70 years.

From the above responses, it is evident that the self-settled refugee households were mainly in the hands of women and caregivers related to the household heads. Some of these caregivers as seen in the age variations were children (below 18 years), young adults or elderly persons who are not adequately equipped to take care of families within the urban settings without any viable livelihood support.

The reasons given for the absence of the household head include;

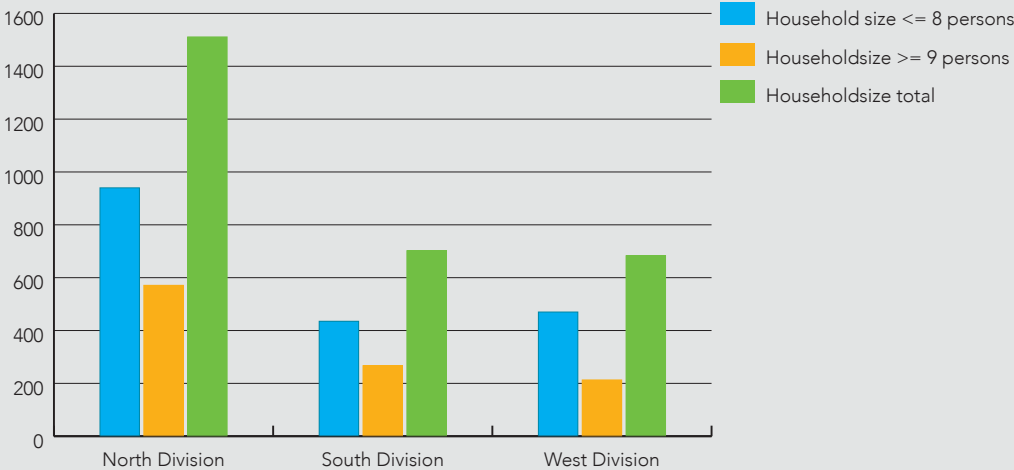
- The household head moved to the settlement camp to get the family food rations or access support through some activities organized by development partners within the camps.
- The family head passed away during the war or escaped through a different route and has never been re-united with the family.
- Family head is engaged in business that takes him away very early in the morning and he comes back late in the night.
- The family head has gone back to South Sudan/DRC to cultivate and find alternative avenues for feeding the family.

The households with younger caregivers is a reflection of the gaps in adult care witnessed in the Municipality and is raised as a concern by the local government. The increased number of cases, **whereby households have left children to take care for themselves has led to risky behaviours and activities, leaving them vulnerable.** Reports of the authorities show a rise of street children, rampant cases of child neglect and abuse and prostitution.

4.1.3 Household size

The households size of the households surveyed varied from 1 to 70 persons. The average size of a self- settled refugee household in Koboko MC was 8. The survey further established that 1,847 (63.7%) households had less than or a maximum of 8 persons per household, while 1,051 (36.3%) households had 9 or more individuals being part. The largest families were located in the North Division.

Figure 4: Household Size



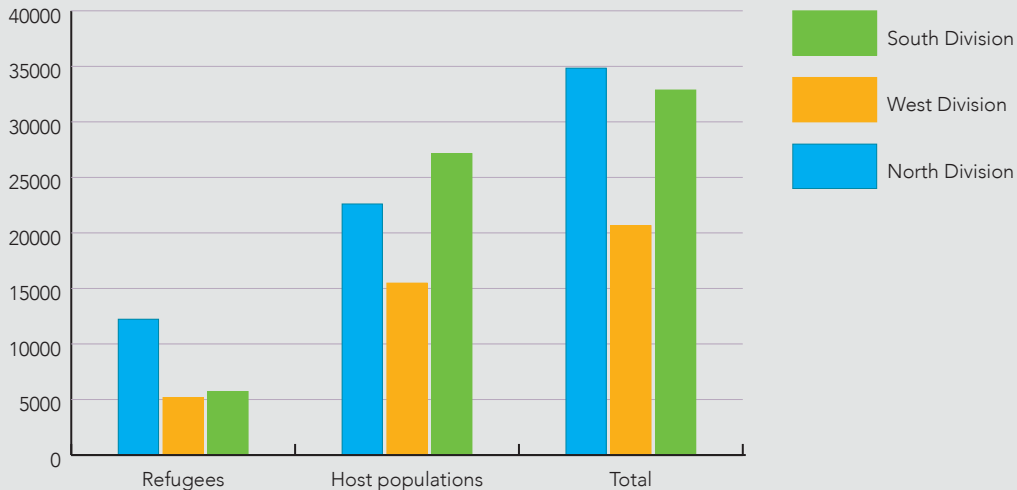
Family size presents one of the biggest challenges for the self-settled refugees, as many of them depend on familial and social networks to survive the challenges of economic hardships and limited opportunities within the urban settings.

“Some of our family sizes are too big to manage because when relatives get to know that you stay in town, everyone wants to stay with you... in the end you have so many children and family members to take care of, yet without any means of livelihood to sustain them”
 Focus Group Discussion with Congolese women, 7/07/2018.

4.1.4 Proportion of Self-Settled Refugees and host population within Koboko MC

The survey established that the number of the **self-settled refugee population is about 26% of the total population in Koboko Municipal Council**. This population has been growing with continued escalation of conflicts in DRC and South Sudan. In Ombaci and Triangle Wards in North division the proportion of self-settled refugees versus the host communities is higher. self-settled refugees in Mengo ward in South Division make out the smallest proportion.

Figure 5: Proportion of Refugee and Host population



4.1.5 Nationality of Self-Settled Refugees

The survey established that 2,572 refugee households (88.8%) who have self-settled in Koboko Municipal Council are of South Sudanese origin. 297 (10.3%) are from the Democratic Republic of Congo, 15 (0.5%) are from Somalia, 9 (0.3%) are from the Sudan, 2 (0.1%) are from Eritrea and 1 (0%) from Burundi. A bigger proportion of the South Sudanese are concentrated in the North Division with 1,387 (47.9%) households recorded.

4.1.6 Period of continuous stay in Uganda and Koboko Municipality

943 (32.6%) of the self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipal Council have lived in Uganda for more than 5 years, while 1793 (62%) have lived there for a maximum of 3 years or less. From the total, about 844 (29.1%) of the self-settled refugees have continuously lived in Koboko Municipal Council for the last 1 to 2 years, 628 (21.7%) for 2 to 3 years, 256 (8.8%) for 4 to 5 years. A total of 757 households (26.1%) have lived there continuously for over 5 years. Only 411 (14.2%) have settled there for less than 1 year.

A bigger proportion of the self-settled refugees who have lived in the Municipality for more than 5 years could partly explain why 668 (23.1%) of households invested in land and housing within the Municipality and have full ownership of the houses they occupy. Important to note as well, is the proportion of those who have lived continuously over the last 3 years reflect the number of those who were fleeing the recent conflicts in DRC and South Sudan and self-settled in the Municipality as refugees.

4.1.7 How the Self-Settled Refugees ended up where they live

The Survey sought to establish the motivation of the refugees to settle in particular locations across the Municipality following the pattern of settlement along tribal, familial and relational networks. 1,448 (50.0%) of the surveyed households indicated that they settled in the specific location on their own, 450 (15.5%) of the households were linked through a friend within the areas they moved into, 813 (28.1%) moved through a relative from their country of origin and 185 (6.4%) moved to the areas they have settled in through prior relationships and social networks in Koboko District.

Figure 6: Nationalities of origin

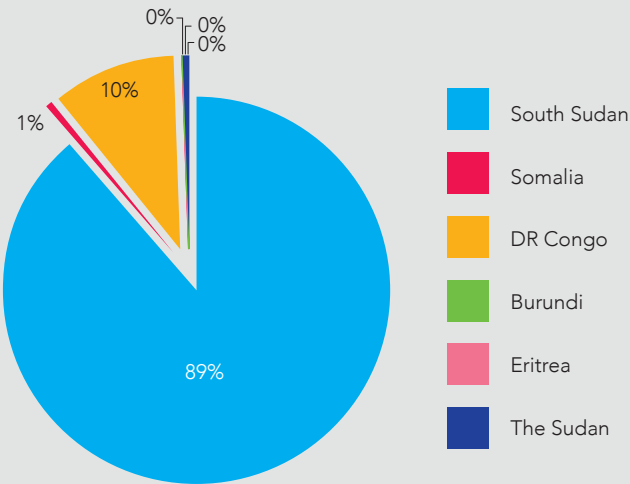


Figure 7: How the refugee ended up where they are live

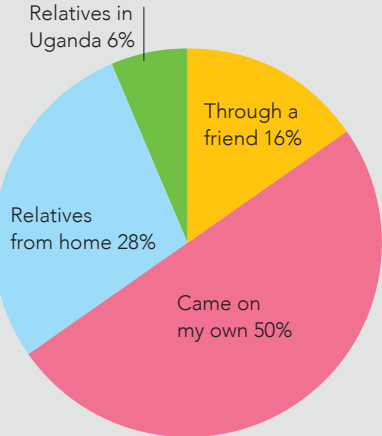
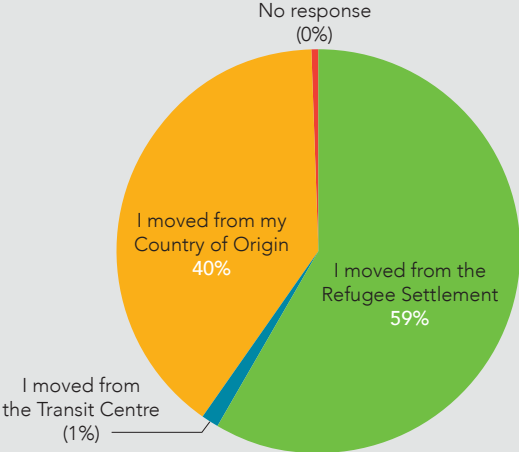


Figure 8: Where the refugee moved from



4.1.8 Where the household moved from

There are 3 'categories' of refugees who have settled in the Municipality. From the survey findings, it was found that 59% (1.697) of the refugee households moved from the designated settlements to Koboko Municipal Council, 40% (1.155) moved from their countries of origin to the Municipality directly either through relatives or friends using the different porous border points and only 1% (34) found their way from the transit centres to the host communities.

The following reasons were given by the self-settled refugees for moving to their current settlement with the urban area of Koboko:

- 1. Escaping tribal conflicts in the camps:** Concerns were expressed by some of the respondents that tribal conflicts between some ethnic tribes such as the Nuer and the Dinka, and the Dinka and Equatorians have extended into the settlements - this especially holds where there is dominance of a particular tribe. These attacks have caused some of the refugees who were originally in the camps to relocate to Koboko where they feel safer and more protected.
- 2. Access to better social Services:** The other reasons given for self-settling in the Municipality is the need to access better social services— such as education, health, markets, water and other amenities. Quite a number of refugee families have placed their children in the schools located in Koboko Municipality because they feel their children will have better education in these schools as compared to the schools in the settlement camps.

“I am tired of staying in the camps, because whenever my children get sick I go to the health facility, I am told drugs are out of stock, and I am supposed to travel to Arua to buy medicine... I do not have money to transport myself, let alone for buying the medicine... so why should I wait there and see my children die? I came here so that I can find an alternative, instead of waiting for these people to provide help that I cannot see...”

Mary- South Sudanese Refugee in North Division

- 3. Support from relatives and friends:** A number of refugees have relocated to the towns as a result of the need for proximity to their network of friends and relatives. Through such networks, the refugees feel they are able to access social support in the event the households livelihoods are constrained.
- 4. Limited land for grazing and cultivation:** This is a major concern for a number of household heads for whom agriculture was one of their main sources of livelihood. A number of refugees indicated that they came with their animals but due to the restrictions, they had to keep the animals elsewhere, in areas where they can access land for grazing and cultivation and have their families stay in the town.

“in the camps, the land is not enough and yet the help we get is not adequate to take care of our needs. Sometimes the food rations get finished before the end of the month, making it difficult to feed the family. Being a farmer, I opted to come here so that I can access some land in the communities to grow some crops, if possible sell produce to others and support my family while I wait for the situation back home to normalise...”

Jane- South Sudanese Refugee in North Division

5. Concerns over segregation: Some Congolese refugees expressed concerns over the lack of support and segregation by the registration desk of OPM who refused to register them because they are from the DRC. Having nowhere else to go they self- settled in Koboko Municipality.

“...The officers at OPM refused to register me because I was carrying a refugee registration from South Sudan, having moved there from Democratic Republic of Congo with my husband before the conflict broke out. It is the only document I have had all this time, but they insisted unless I present the identification documents of my husband, I will not be registered.. so, I moved to stay in the Municipality..”
 Esther- South Sudanese Refugee in South Division

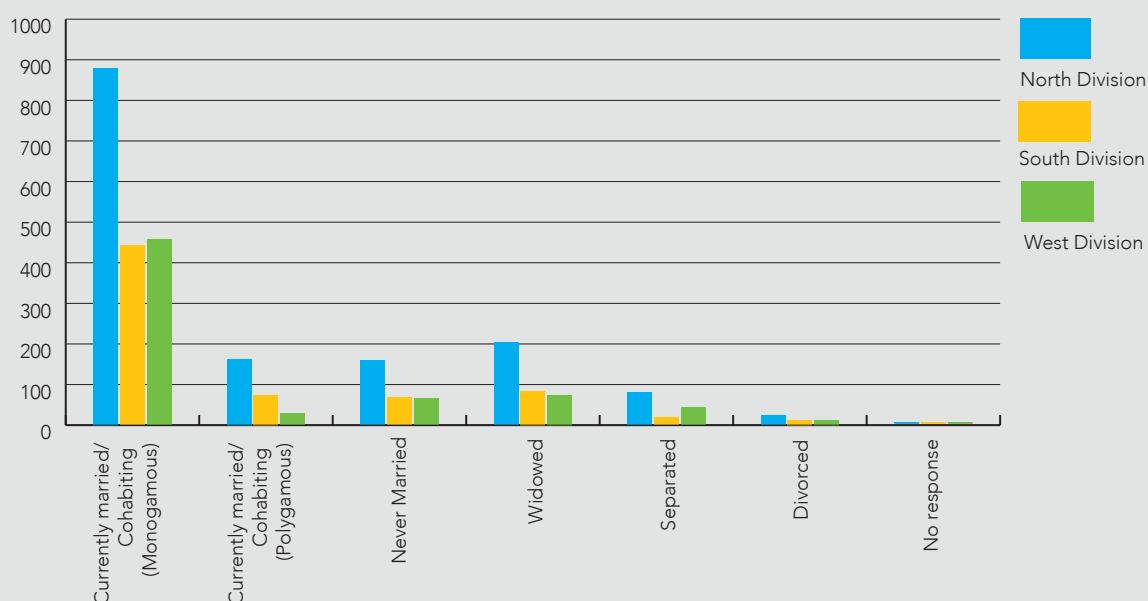
6. Seeking avenues of earning and livelihood: A number of able bodied refugees who were working in their countries of origin have self- settled within the urban areas to find employment opportunities rather than stay in the camps and entirely depend on supplies from implementing agencies and aid support.

“... I was working in South Sudan as a mechanic with a NGO but ran away because of the conflicts. I cannot stay in the camp because there are no job opportunities there, so I moved here to find a job to be able to support my children. My husband stayed in South Sudan to take care of family assets, and this makes it difficult for me to only depend on food rations...”
 Rashad- South Sudanese Refugee in West Division

4.1.9. Marital Status

From the survey findings, 1,781 (61.5%) of the respondents are currently married or cohabiting in a monogamous family while 265 (9.2%) are married but in a polygamous family. 293 (10.1%) never married, while 74 (2.6%) are widowed, 143 (4.9%) are separated and 50 (1.7%) are divorced. 3 (.1%) did not respond on their marital status.

Figure 9: Marital Status of the Household Heads



4.1.10 Level of education completed

The majority of the self-settled refugees 1,324 (45.7%) have no formal education. 837 (28.9%) have attained primary level education, 519 (17.9%) have completed O level or its equivalent. 65 (2.2%) have completed A level or its equivalent, 18 (.6%) have completed vocational skills training and 133 (4.6%) have completed tertiary education or university.

Table 2: Level of education completed

Division	No formal education	Primary level	Ordinary Level	Advanced Level	Vocational College	Tertiary/ University	Total
North Division	617	466	307	38	15	68	1,511
South Division	325	202	129	13	3	30	702
West Division	382	169	83	14	0	35	683
Total	1,324	837	51	65	18	133	2,896

4.1.11 Religious Affiliation

With regards to religious affiliation, the survey found that 1,758 (60.7%) are affiliated to the Anglican faith; 661 (22.8%) are Catholics, while 208 (7.2%) are Moslems. 46 (1.6%) of the households profess the Seventh Day Adventist faith while 203 (7.0%) are either Pentecostals, Born Again or Evangelicals. Other religions (Orthodox, Bahai, Baptist, Jehovas Witness, Salvation Army) cover 31 (0.7%) of the households Surveyed.

4.1.12 Tribe/Ethnicity

The majority of the households of the self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipality, about 1,564 (54.0%) are of the Kakwa tribe or origin. The dominance of the Kakwa in Koboko could be explained by the fact that the Kakwa are spread across Uganda, South Sudan and the DRC and as such see each other as relatives and kins across the different borders. Self-settling in Koboko is seen as living within an environment of shared cultures, language and relationships.

The Dinka make up 396 (13.7%) of the households surveyed while the Pojulu are 307 (10.6%). The other tribes are the Kuku 151 (5.2%), the Keliko 59 (2.0%), the Bari 49 (1.7%), the Azande 34 (1.2%), the Nuer 23 (.8%) only constitute a small number of self-settled refugee households. The other smaller tribes that have self-settled in the Municipality include; the Madi, the Arabs, the Luba, the Mongo, the Kongo, the Anywak, the Muru, the Mundari, the Nyangwara, the Acholi, the Latuko, the Mundu and the Makaraka.

Table 3: Tribal and ethnic composition

Tribe	Number	Proportion of total %
Nuer	23	0.8
Dinka	396	13.7
Madi	17	0.6
Kakwa	1564	54
Azande	34	1.2
Kuku	151	5.2

Tribe	Number	Proportion of total %
Bari	49	1.7
Arab	9	0.3
Luba	2	0.1
Mongo	6	0.2
Kongo	1	0.0
Anywak	4	0.1
Pojulu	307	10.6
Muru	31	1.1
Keliko	59	2.0
Mundari	9	0.3
Nyangwara	6	0.2
Acholi	13	0.4
Latuko	3	0.1
Mundu	13	0.4
Makaraka	1	0
Other tribes	198	6.8

4.1.13 Occupation of Household head

1,216 (42.0%) of the household heads/respondents surveyed are housewives and are not engaged in any economic activity; 796 (27.5%) are engaged in trade and commerce- especially selling food and non- food items received from the camps, petty business in the town centre and the sub urban areas, or carrying out businesses such as boda boda riding, saloons among others. 481 (16.6%) are engaged in housekeeping for relatives and family members who are not within the Municipality, 161 (5.6%) are off farmer workers and are engaged in casual jobs within the urban centres, 158 (5.5%) are engaged in crop farming on the small land available to them or hire land for farming in areas where land is available, 18 (.6%) are farm workers or labourers and 18 (.6%) are engaged in livestock farming.

4.1.14 Household's major economic activity/ Source of livelihood

1,758 (60.7%) of the households depend on the food rations they receive from the settlement camps for their livelihood. 734 (25.3%) of the households are engaged in business and trade as their main source of livelihood while 151 (5.2%) of the households depend on farming, livestock rearing as their main economic activity. Only 97 (3.3%) of the households have formal employments with organisations, agencies and companies operating within the Municipality.

Whether households keep domestic animals and birds

Apart from the main economic activities households are engaged in above, 507(17.5%) were found to keep domestic animals and birds. Most of these domestic animals and birds are not kept within the municipality due to land limitations; as such, the self- settled refugees keep most of their animals in the peri- urban Sub-Counties.

Animals kept per household

Out of the households that keep animals, 40 households keep cattle with 37 of them having 1 to 10 cattle and only 3 having more than 10; 136 keep goats with 133 households having 1 to 10 goats and only 3 having more than 10 goats. 35 households have between 1 to 10 sheep 5 households having pigs and 18 having rabbits.



"...I came with my cows and goats from South Sudan but due to the restrictions of moving with animals, I could not come with all of them here. I left some of them with some family members who are living in Midia Sub-County..."

Isaac- South Sudanese refugee in North Division

Birds kept per household

The survey established that 613 households of the self-settled refugees keep different domestic birds. Of the households that keep domestic birds, 309 households keep chicken, 190 keep ducks, 11 households keep turkeys and 103 households keep pigeons/doves. Out of these, Only 3 households keep more than 21 chickens, 4 households keep more than 21 ducks and 5 keep more than 21 pigeons and doves.

Table 4: Comparison of animals kept by Households

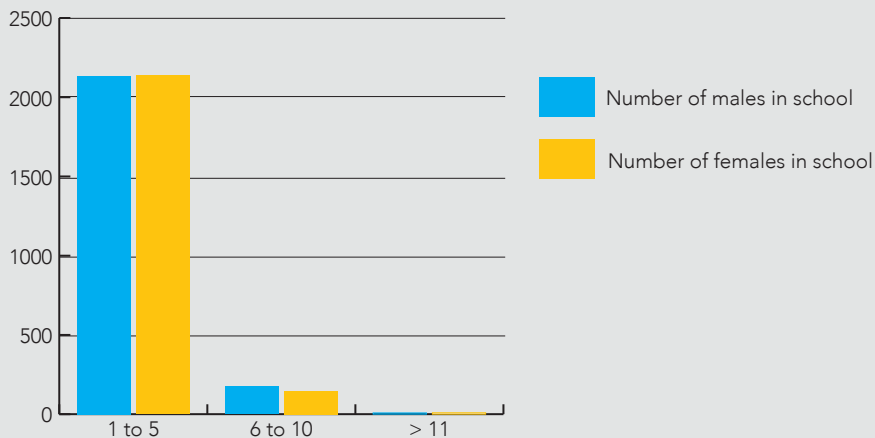
Types of	Chicken			Ducks			Turkey	Doves/Pigeons			Total
	1 - 10	11	21++	1 - 10	11	21++	1 - 10	1	11	21++	
North Division	104	10	0	72	18	3	5	29	9	1	251
South Division	90	9	2	52	10	0	1	31	8	2	205
West Division	85	8	1	31	3	1	5	19	2	2	157
Total	279	27	3	155	31	4	11	79	19	5	613

4.2 School going children

From the survey findings, the number of households with male and female children in school is comparatively even with 2.318 having males in school as compared to 2.292 having females. Majority of the households have less than 5 children in school.

The total number of school going male children is 6.325 as compared to 6.049 school going female children giving an average of 1.77 male children per household in school as compared to 1.72 female children per household in school. The fact that most of the children within the households surveyed are going to school underscores the motivation of some of the refugees to relocate to the urban settings, as to access better education for their children. As established in the survey emphasis is placed in keeping both boys and girls in school.

Figure 10: Comparison of Households with males and females in school



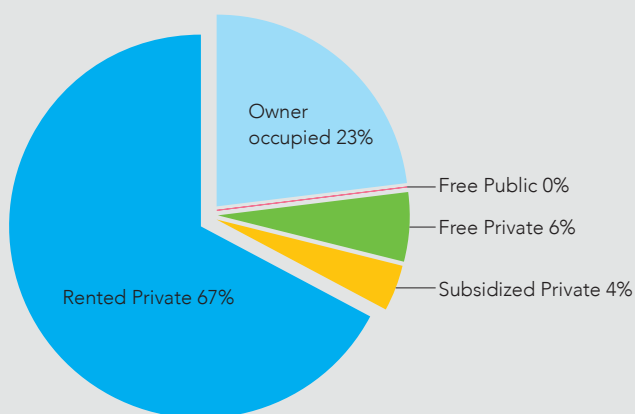
4.3 Living Conditions

The survey sought to establish more information about the living conditions of the self-settled refugees within Koboko Municipal Council by looking at a number of factors defining their current situation, in terms of type of dwelling, access to services etc.

4.3.1 Occupancy tenure of dwelling unit

From the findings, 1,942 (67.1%) of the households live in rented private dwelling units while 668 (23.1%) of the households have the full ownership of the occupancy tenure. 115 (4.0%) are living in subsidised private dwellings as a result of personal and family relationships within the areas they are residing. This implies that; despite the fact that a number of refugees are renting their current dwellings, there are also a number of refugees who have the capacity to invest in land and housing within these locations while others have access to friends and relatives to provide them with subsidised dwellings.

Figure 11: Occupancy tenure of dwelling for Households



4.3.2 Type of dwelling unit occupied by households

The most common type of dwelling unit identified among the self-settled refugees is the grass-thatched houses built with burnt or unburnt bricks or with mud and wattle. These dwellings are occupied by more than half- 1,492 (51.5%) of the households surveyed. 435 (15.0%) of the households live in detached houses, 398 (13.7%) live in rooms within a main house, 249 (8.6%) live in semi-detached houses while 202 (7.0%) live within Tenements (Muzigo).



"... most of the refugees are renting houses from the nationals who have surrendered their house so as to earn some money from the monthly rent paid. They charge a minimum of 20,000/= per month depending on the size and quality of the house..."

LC I Chairperson – Triangle Cell

4.3.3 Source of energy for lighting and cooking

The main source of energy used by the majority of the refugee households (1777- 61.4%) for lighting is solar lanterns or panels. 827 (28.6%) of the households use torches or a battery powered source, 83 (2.9%) use candles, 81 (2.8%) use electricity from the national provider (Wenreco), 51 (1.8%) use paraffin for lighting. Others use gas, grass/reeds or cow dung for lighting. The solar lamps used by majority of the refugee households are provided by UNHCR as indicated in the labels.

The survey established that 2,424 (83.7%) of the refugee households use charcoal as their main source of energy for cooking, while 436 (15.1%) of the households use firewood. 17 (.6%) of the households use electricity from the national grid. A substantially smaller number of households use gas, paraffin or stove, cow dung, grass and reeds.



"... I got the solar lamp from the refugee settlement in Bidibidi and its helping me with lighting in my home..."

Amina- Congolese refugee in KMC

4.3.4 Main source of water for drinking

The main source for drinking water for households across all the divisions is a public borehole. This is mostly used by 1,010 (34.9%) of the surveyed households. 702 (24.2%) of the households use protected wells or streams, 324 (11.2%) use unprotected wells or streams, 520 (18.0%) use piped water points in public places, while 144 (5.0%) use piped water points around their dwellings. 55 (1.9%) households have access to piped water into their dwellings, while others use water vendors and rain water.

4.3.5 Types of toilet and bathroom facility used

The most common type of toilet facility used by the households surveyed is covered pit latrine without a slab and is used by 1,212 (41.9%) of the households surveyed. Covered pit latrines with a slab are used by 871 (30.1%) of the households, while VIP latrines are used by 352 (12.2%) of the households. Only 41 (1.4%) of the households surveyed use flush toilets, 352 (12.2%) use VIP latrines and only 14 (0.5%) use ECOSAN composite toilets. 19 (0.7%) of the households still have no proper toilet facilities and therefore dispose faeces using polythene bags or go to the bushes or use buckets.

Figure 12: Main source of drinking water

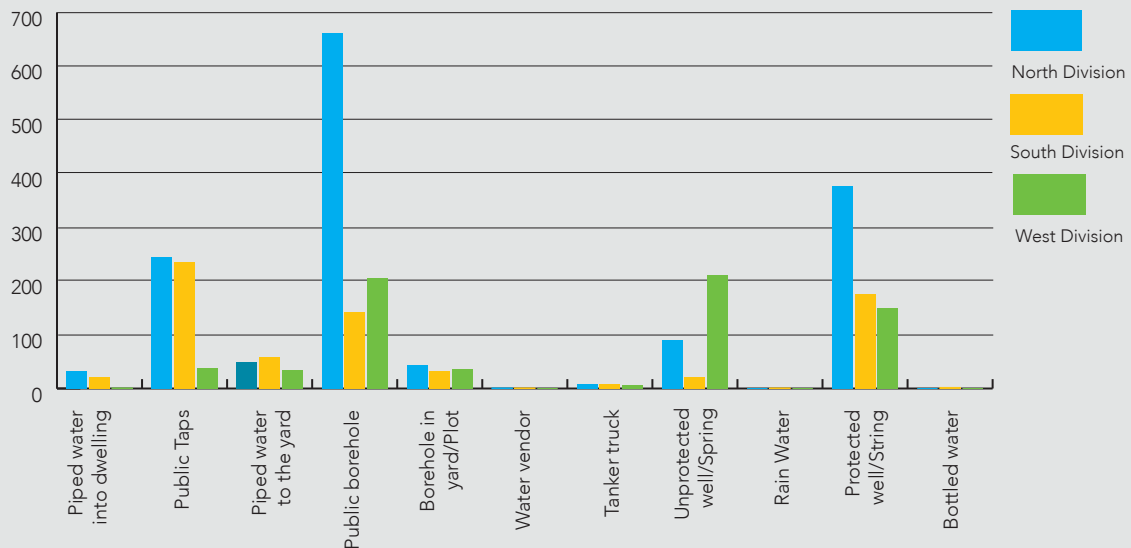
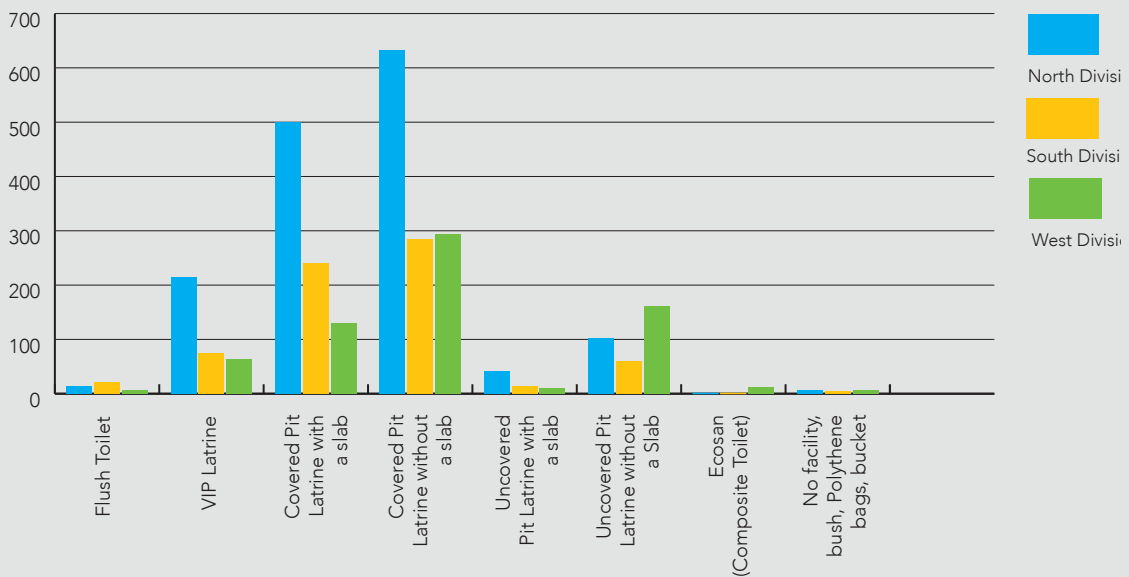


Figure 13: Toilet facilities and coverage





“ ...We share the bathrooms with 5 other households and most times its difficult to maintain hygiene since its used by different people for showering and as urinals...”
Kiden- South Sudanese refugee in North Division

The majority of the households 2.023 (69.9%) share toilet facilities with those within their reach; indicating a low toilet coverage. 849 (29.3%) of the households do not share toilet facilities. The rest of the households either use polythene bags or practice open defecating – which poses a risk for the community with potential for outbreak of diseases such as cholera and dysentery.

From the survey findings, 1839 (63.5%) of the households bath outside with drainage provided and 484 (16.7%) of the households bath outside but with no drainage provided. 241 (8.3%) of the households use make shift bathrooms covered with grass, reeds, papyrus mats, tarpaulin or cloth. 195 (6.7%) of the households have their bathrooms inside with drainage provided, while 101(3.5%) have their bathrooms inside without drainage provided. Only 36 (1.2%) of the households have none of the above.

4.3.6 Methods of solid waste disposal

The survey established that majority of the households- 1678 (58.4%) regularly burn the solid waste collected, 1,608 (55.9%) of the households dump the solid waste collected in locally dug pits which are buried when full. 1.156 (40.2%) of the occupants dispose solid waste in the local dump sites that are not supervised by urban authorities. 170 (5.9%) of the households dispose of solid waste in the garden and do not burn or bury them as compared to 471 (16.4%) of the households that dispose solid waste in a local dump supervised by urban authorities. Only 171 (5.9%) of the households have their solid waste collected by a waste vendor, especially within the central business area and 128 (4.5%) dispose their solid waste into the nearby streams, roadside and public yards.



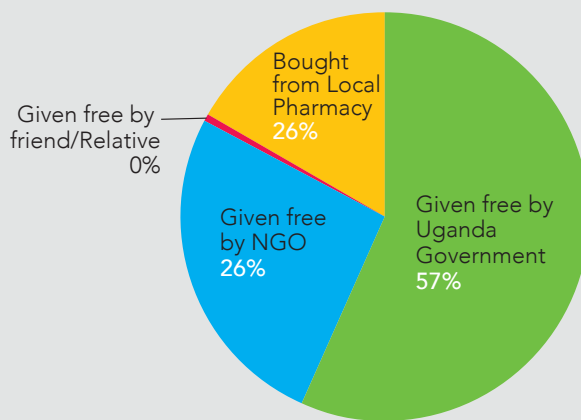
“... for purposes of keeping the cells clean, we encourage the households to dig pits for waste disposal and ensure that the solid waste is either buried or burnt regularly. This is working in some areas but still a challenge in others...”
Village Health Team – Teremunga Cell

4.3.7 Access to health services and facilities

The survey established that the self-settled refugee household receive health services and facilities from the village health teams or government health facilities with the nationals. 2,300 (79.4%) of the households surveyed have mosquito nets and access health services from VHTs or the local health facility. Only 596 (20.6%) of these households have never received such support from the VHTs of health facilities.

1,647 (57%) of the households indicated that they received mosquito nets, immunisation services and other health services for free through government facilities. 755 (26%) indicate that they are provided these services freely by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), 479 (17%) indicate that they purchase them from a local pharmacy. Only 15 households (1%) depend on support from friends and relatives.

Figure 14: Access to health services



4.3.8 Source of support for livelihood

The survey sought to establish if households received money or any physical items from any relatives/family members/friends or NGOs during the last 6 months to enhance their livelihoods. More than half of the households (1,527- 52.7%) did not receive any money or physical items from any other source, 665 (23.0%) households received food items, clothes and other physical necessities, 454 (15.7%) received cash support from relatives and friends. Only 183 (6.3%) received cash support and physical items from some NGOs, while 67 (2.3%) received cash support from relatives abroad.

Besides the support received, the survey established that the average number of meals consumed per day by children aged 5 years and above is significantly inadequate. Only 648 (22%) of the households are able to always provide 3 meals per day for children aged 5 and above, 920 (32%) are able to provide sometimes. 678 (23%) of the households are able to always provide 2 meals per day, while 424 (15%) are able to provide sometimes. 109 (4%) are able to always provide one meal per day for the children, while 117 (4%) are able to provide one meal sometimes.

The survey findings reflect food consumption gaps for the children of 5 and above and yet in most cases they are of school going age. There is a lack of food for a number of the households surveyed.

Table 5: Frequency of consumption of meals

Frequency of providing meals	Number	% Response
Sometimes one meal per day	117	4%
Always one meal per day	109	4%
Sometimes two meals per day	424	15%
Always two meals per day	678	23%
Sometimes three meals per day	920	32%
Always three meals per day	648	22%
Total	2,896	100%



“... as a mother of 11, I face a lot of challenges to support the livelihood of my children. Most times I send them to pump water for labour so that they can get some money to feed them, otherwise, I depend on the food rations from Bidibidi settlement that is never enough, because I have to sell some to take care of other needs as well. I used to get support from my brother who is in the United States, but that stopped because he is very sick and unable to support us ...”

Aler- South Sudanese refugee in North Division

“... I came to the municipality because in the camp, I could not adequately feed all the 8 children I am taking care of. Right now, I can only afford 2 meals per day for them. I still go back to the camp for food rations to supplement what I get through the petty jobs I do in town..”

Tokosa- Congolese refugee in KMC



4.4 Social cohesion and legitimacy issues

In this section, the survey sought to establish more insight in the co-existence and relationships between refugees and host communities.

4.4.1 Whether the refugees face challenges within the host communities

Overall, the majority of the households indicate that they feel more at home within the areas they have self-settled in than in the refugee settlements they previously stayed in. 1,957 (67.6%) of the households surveyed indicate that they do not face any challenges within the host community, 147 (5%) of the households indicate they always have issues with the host communities, while 792 (27.3%) indicate they sometimes face challenges.

The relative peaceful co-existence between the refugees and host communities could be attributed to the fact that 1,564 (54.0%) of the households are of the Kakwa tribe or origin – thus co-exist because of the shared culture, language and ancestry.

The main areas of conflict between the refugees and host communities centres around access to basic social amenities such as water points, sanitation facilities, health care, schools, market places and other recreational facilities. These conflicts arise due to the already existing pressure on access to and utilisation of these facilities.

“... the women struggle with water in this place so much, partly because some of the water lines by National water are not operational; there are few boreholes and yet one has to pay 200UGX per jerry can to get water. So we end up fetching dirty water from the streams because we cannot afford to pay for water for the whole family...”

LC I Chairman- Yibongo Cell,
North Division

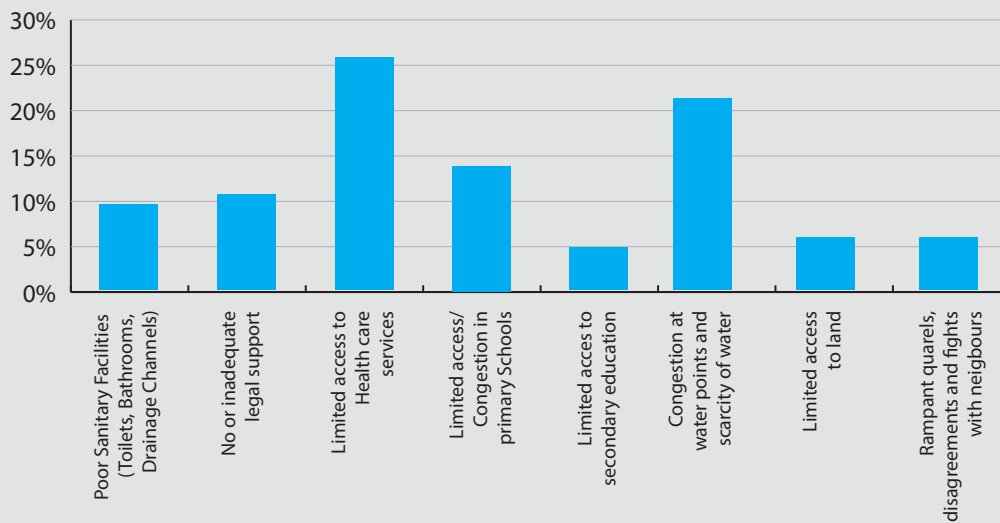


“... Our biggest challenge with host communities is the congestions and conflicts over some of the basic services such as water, disagreements over access to and utilization of natural resources. Sometimes, the issues arise when children clash at school or women pick quarrels in the market place...”

Chairperson- South Sudanese
Women's Association (SSAWA)



Figure 15: Challenges faced by Self Settled refugees



The main concerns of the households surveyed are limited access to health facilities (2.286- 26%), congestion at water points and scarcity of water (1.971, 22%), limited access and congestion in primary schools (1.261- 14%), inadequate or no access to legal support (992- 11%), poor sanitary facilities (toilets, bathrooms, drainage channels) (833- 9%), rampant quarrels and disagreements with neighbours over social amenities (490- 5.6%), limited access to land for grazing and cultivation (525- 6%) and challenges accessing secondary education due to costs and admission criteria (460- 5%).

Even with the limited functional national water lines in the different cells, the limited number of boreholes, most of the families resort to using the streams or the shallow wells for clean water as the pressure on water sources is both a challenge and a potential source of conflict. Respondents indicate that this gets worse during dry season when the shallow wells dry up and the volume of water in the rivers and the streams reduces. Often times, they have to spend between 3.000 to 5.000 UGX on water in the face of biting poverty and hunger.

4.4.2 Incidences of crime and violence experienced in areas of refugee settlement

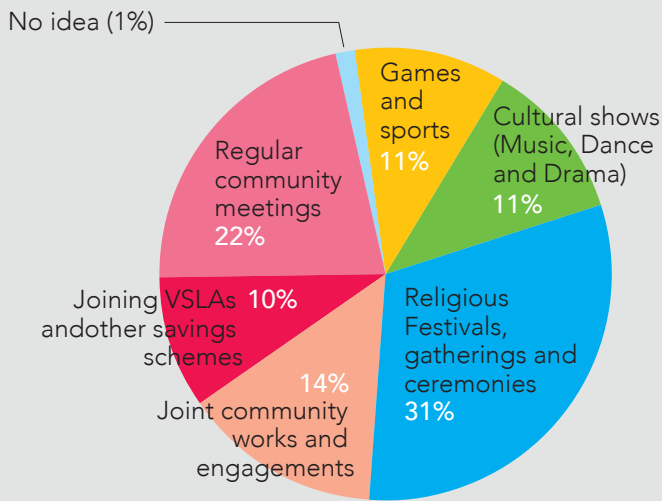
The local law enforcement authorities have reported incidences of increased violence and high crime rate in the different parts of Koboko Municipality. Some of these have been attributed to the influx of refugees. The main incidences of crime and violence reported by households are theft and robberies (2.219- 80.9%), idleness (1.997- 72.8%), alcoholism and substance abuse (1.880- 68.6%) and verbal abuse, assaults and fighting (1.494- 54.5%).
Figure 16: Incidences of crime and violence

4.4.3 Potential to improve the relationship between refugees and host communities

Despite the differences that exist, a number of refugee households have indicated that there is a lot of room to improve the relationship between the refugees and host communities. From the survey findings, 1.712 (59.1%) households believe these relationships can improve; although 959 (33.1%) are only hopeful it might improve - this could be attributed to the hope that areas of conflict such as access to social amenities may improve with time. Only 47 (1.6%) of the respondents do not think these relationships can improve, while 178 (6.1%) indicated they do not know.

While many households surveyed were positive of the relationship between host communities and refugees, the survey findings indicate that there needs to be **more focus on regular engagements and participation as a means to promote social cohesion and harmony**. 2.313 (80.1%) of the households believe that encouraging joint religious festivals, gatherings and ceremonies will promote better cohesion, while 1.593 (55.2%) think having more regular community meetings will do. Other activities identified include; games and sports (11%), cultural galas (music, dance and drama – 11%), joint village savings and lending associations (10%).

Figure 16: Proposed activities of Social Cohesion



As part of the Nexus Programme, over 650 runners participated in the first Koboko health run and sports games, initiated by Koboko Municipal Council. There was active participation by both host and refugee community members, soldiers, police, civil servants, politicians and others. Special care was given to the disabled community members and young girls, which resulted in a harmonious social and healthy get together, building trust amongst those present and supporting an enabling environment for participation in public decision-making and social cohesion. The event will now become an annual event and will be co-sponsored by the Uganda Amateur Athletics Federation (UAAF) and other stakeholders on board, ensuring a sustainable future.

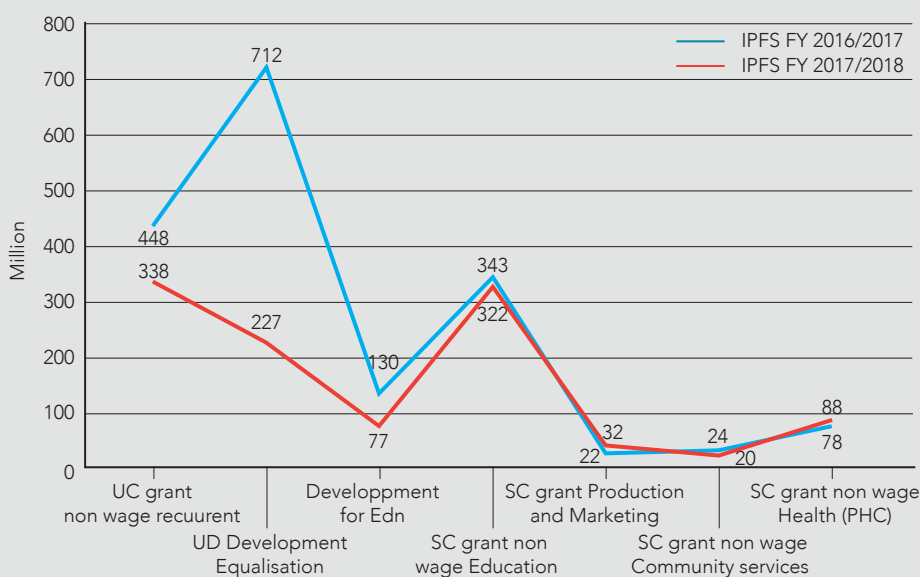
5 The challenges posed by Self-Settled Refugees

The previous chapter **provides credible evidence on the presence of self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipality** and the Sub-Counties of Kuluba and Ludara. Their presence has created challenges and put a lot of strain on the already **stretched service delivery by the local governments**. The challenges range from conflicts with the law, rampant cases of child neglect and abuse, prostitution, theft and armed robberies, conflicts with the host communities over natural resources and food scarcity. These are also experienced by the host communities through the strain on healthcare provision, congestion in the schools, congestion at water points, waste management and sanitation challenges, scarcity of housing and rising prices of goods and services.

5.1 Refugee Influx not catered for in the Municipal budgets

The presence of self-settled refugees in Koboko has not been provided for in the district and municipal budgeting process and therefore no additional funding is guaranteed by the government and development partners. Planning figures are based on the latest census data 2014. As seen in figure 3 below, the indicative planning figures (IPFs) for the financial year 2017/2018 show a significant decline in funding for Koboko Municipality yet there is increased presence of self-settled refugees, as compared to 2016/2017. This funding gap reflects an **overall decline of 37% budget with the 68% deficit in financing for urban discretionary development equalization**, 25% deficit in unconditional grant for recurrent non-wage and **41% deficit on development for education**. The Municipality is unable to expand service delivery to address the increasing demands in the communities.

Figure 17: Budget deficits¹⁰



10

Ministry of Finance IPFs 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 for Koboko Municipal Council

5.2 Strained Service Delivery

Despite the existence of designated refugee settlements, the situation in Koboko depicts a different pattern based on the number of **refugees accessing basic services** such as education and health. It can be seen from the settlements that a number of refugees who can economically sustain themselves have opted to access better facilities such as education and health for their families in town rather than in the settlements as provided for. This is evidently seen in the number of refugee children attending schools in the Municipality and number of outpatients and inpatients in hospitals.

5.2.1 Increased solid waste disposal

The influx of refugees in the settlements and the number of self-settled refugees has led to a rise in refuse and solid waste within the Municipality. The volume of solid and refuse waste the Municipality has been handling has been overstretched leading to poor waste disposal and rampant cases of dumping in the river shores, gullies and drainage channels as opposed to the designated collection places. From the records at the environment department, the Municipality was initially handling 5,000 tons of waste per annum, translating into 720 trips using the existing waste disposal trucks. With the influx of refugees, this has grown to more than 7,000 tons of waste per annum, translating into about 800 trips using the same equipment. Besides poor waste management practices among the refugees, the Municipality is grappling with the increase in volume of waste as a result of collection and waste transportation challenges and yet having no budget provisions to deal with the challenges posed.

Besides the above challenges faced, most of the refugee communities are living in very congested settings and face the risks related to proximity to latrines and rubbish pits. Assessments by the health inspector show that most houses in the communities where the refugees reside are in most cases 2 - 3 meters away from latrines and rubbish pits. Besides, the latrines are poorly constructed with local materials with no fixed doors or proper ventilations. These conditions have raised concerns of foul smell, contamination of river that is used downstream for various domestic purposes and potential risks for disease outbreak among the refugee and host communities living in these areas.

The hygiene and sanitation situation in the communities is further worsened because of the temporary structures being constructed by the locals to accommodate the refugees who need houses. This not only causes congestion in the Municipality but comes with challenges of sharing sanitary facilities like toilets and bathrooms with limited water available.

“...the dumpsites are located too close to the houses of the community members and this has led to rampant cases of sicknesses like malaria, diarrhea cholera, irritation of the skin, nose and eyes.... the children living near to the dumpsite indicate poor health as seen in their body size and physical appearance...”

Municipal Health Inspector-
KMC, 2018



5.2.2 Congestion in schools and pressure on existing facilities

A comparison of enrolment figures in the 5 prominent primary schools in Koboko Municipality i.e Teremunga, Nyarilo, Ombachi self-help primary, Abele primary and Apa primary within the Municipality have more than doubled in the 2017/2018 school year as compared to the previous enrolments. This is attributed to the fact that many refugees have moved their families to Koboko Municipality to access education for their children, while the parents stay in the camps to collect food rations to feed their families.

This has put so much strain on the learning spaces offered within the schools, with most schools having desks for pupils, forcing most of the pupils to sit on the floor; inadequate teaching and learning aids and limited scholastic materials has increased teaching load for the teachers. The sanitation situation in these schools has equally worsened, putting the children at risk of infections and potential for disease outbreak. Most girls find it difficult to use the sanitary facilities within the schools due to congestion and poor hygiene in these facilities. Figures from the municipal education department indicate that, in Abele Primary school, the current enrolment (as at March 2018) is 2.973 pupils. Out of these, 42% (1.242 pupils– 291 boys and 320 girls) are refugees either from DRC or from South Sudan, while 58% (1.731 pupils– 730 boys and 951 girls) are Ugandan nationals.

“The presence of refugees in the Municipality and enrolment of the refugee children in the existing primary schools has put so much pressure on the school infrastructure. The classrooms are not enough and hence congestion in the classes, the sanitary facilities are overused and in dire condition, the instructional materials are inadequate to provide quality education and the teacher pupil ratio is so poor that the teachers feel overloaded and unable to effectively teach”

The Municipal Education Officer– KMC, 2018



Figure 18: Comparison of refugees and nationals in Abele PS11



Compromised standards in the delivery of quality education

The current enrollment figures and challenges faced in the district and the Municipality has greatly compromised the education quality and standards. The Local Government Management and Service Delivery (LGMSD) programme operational manual prescribes minimum standards of primary education service delivery package. School inspection records indicate disturbing variations between the current trends in the schools affected in contrast to the minimum accepted standards. This evidently has placed a lot of pressure the existing school facilities and infrastructure contrary to the acceptable minimum national standards of service delivery under the primary education service delivery. The table below illustrates the current gaps in the school as a result of pressure on existing school infrastructure and facilities in Abele Primary School.

Table 6: Existing school facilities against minimum educational standards in Abele PS

SN	School infrastructure and facilities	Method of measure	Standard Gov't ratio	Current ratio	Existing gap
01	10 Classrooms	Class Pupil ratio	1: 55	1: 204	27
02	27 Teachers	Teacher Pupil ratio	1: 55	1: 76	10
03	295 Desks	Desk Pupil ratio	1: 3	1: 6	385
04	10 Latrine stance	Latrine Stance Pupil ratio	1: 40	1: 204	41
05	Books	Book Pupil ratio	1: 3	1: 6	313
06	4 Teachers Houses	Teacher House ratio	1: 1 or 1:2	1:2	23

5.2.3 Constrained healthcare service delivery

Koboko Municipal Council only has one public health facility, previously a health center IV, which was upgraded to a district hospital. The hospital serves as a referral for other lower health centers in the District and the population of the municipality. At the moment, there are no other lower health units within the municipality as required by policy due to lack of development funding (see the figure above) to establish and operationalize health center III.

The influx of refugees in the district and the rise in number of self-settled refugees has put a lot of pressure on the only health facility in the Municipality. Hospital records¹² indicate a sharp rise in the number of out-patients and deliveries from 2016/2017, as compared to 2017/ 2018. **The number of out patient's attendance rose from 1,467 per quarter in 2016 to 6,253 per quarter in 2017. This number has continued to rise in 2018. The number of deliveries from maternity also shows a sharp rise from 358 per quarter in 2016 to 676 per quarter in 2017.**

Despite the fact that the number out patients and deliveries has more than doubled as a result of the influx of refugees, **this has not translated into increase in staffing, drug stock and operational costs to the District hospital** over the last 2 financial years. Planning figures from the district indicate that the hospital has been receiving 100M¹³ as operational cost per annum over the last 2 financial years despite the existing pressures faced. This has seen increased concerns of workloads from the hospital staff, constant drug stock out for the essential drugs for malaria, respiratory and diarrheal diseases.

5.2.4 Congestions at water points

The other issues that the communities experience due to the influx is the pressure on existing water points: These water points are shared by the communities and surrounding schools. With the current influx, the increase in enrollment and the challenges of functionality of these boreholes, dumping at the streams, communities have challenges accessing clean drinking water, especially during dry season when the streams dry up. The struggle to access the clean drinking water has led to conflicts between the communities and the refugees.

"During rainy season, about 150 families fetch water from Gbukenga stream on a daily basis, with an average of 4 to 5 jerrycans per family for drinking and domestic use. However, during the dry season, the situation is worse, with an average of 300 families struggling to fetch about 5 to 7 jerry cans on a daily basis because of the water scarcity"

LC I Chairperson Ombachi Cell/Caretaker of the stream

The existing piped water points only serve a small population because its coverage is limited and the volume of water produced is low. Most areas are not served with the clean piped water and where water system exists there are long queues. Water is only served for short period of time, which is about 3 hours a day and the rest of the day the communities supplement water needs with other sources, like locally dug wells that are in most cases contaminated. The supply has become inadequate leading to rationing of water to the different areas of the Municipality. Within other sources of water like boreholes in communities there are rampant conflicts between nationals and non- nationals who want to be served first due to the long queues at the water points. Generally all services have become stretched to serve the whole population; this tends to increase vulnerability and poverty among the communities.

¹² Koboko District hospital MIS, 2017/2018

¹³ Koboko District Indicative Planning Figures, 2017/2018

“... We have received an infrastructure project from the Ministry of Water to improve access to piped water within the Municipality. This project is slated to commence at the end of July, 2018...”

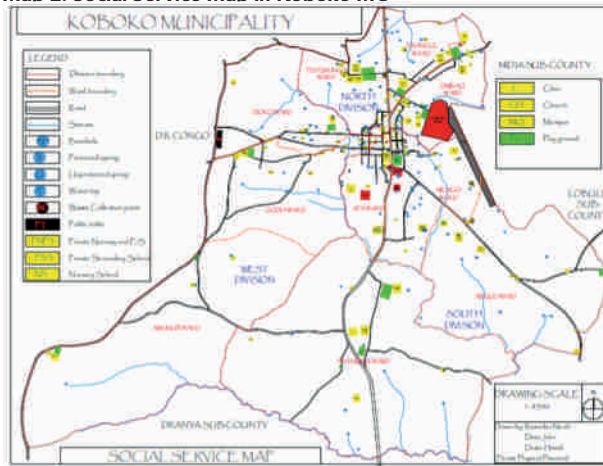
Mayor Koboko Municipal Council.

The current phase of the above mentioned project is intended to only cover extraction and supply to the existing water reservoir to distribute within the existing piped water network. There is still need to expand the network to cover the wider area of the Municipality.

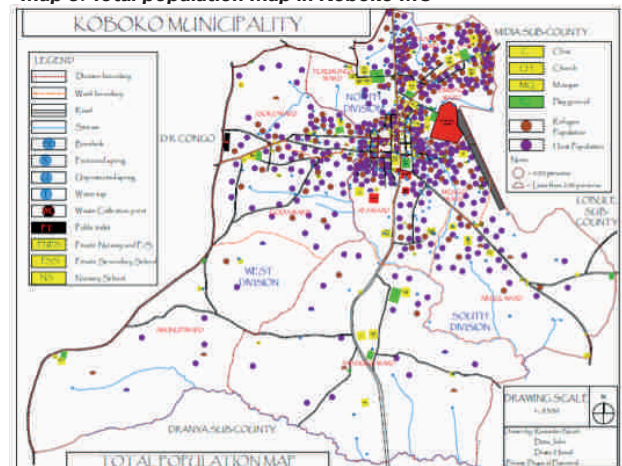
5.3 Population and service map

The survey of the self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipality, among others sought to ascertain the pressure on social services as a result of the influx of refugee. This was established through a population and service map that made comparison of access to basic social services available within the reach of the communities in question.

Map 2: Social Service Map in Koboko MC



Map 3: Total population Map in Koboko MC



The development of the social service map was carried out through onsite mapping of service points in each village across the Municipality to compare access to water points (boreholes, streams, wells, tap water and others), health facilities (hospitals, clinics and drug shops), pre-primary, primary, secondary schools (private and public), vocational training institutes, waste management practices, access to private and public toilet and bathroom facilities, religious institutions and recreational facilities across all the cells and wards in Koboko Municipality.

These services were then plotted against the population residing in the area, both refugees and host communities. Both maps were drawn up by Koboko District in collaboration with the Municipal Council.

From the table below, it is evident that there is a challenge in the distribution of essential social amenities across the Municipality. The most affected areas of evident pressure are; water points, health facilities, waste management, schools, toilets and bathrooms. The ratio of number of users per service point clearly indicates the challenges faced by the communities as a result of the refugee influx. The table below presents a comparison of number of users per service point at current population taking into account refugees and host communities and host population only. Within these challenges, the mapping also highlights some of the notable challenges witnessed and shared during the study.

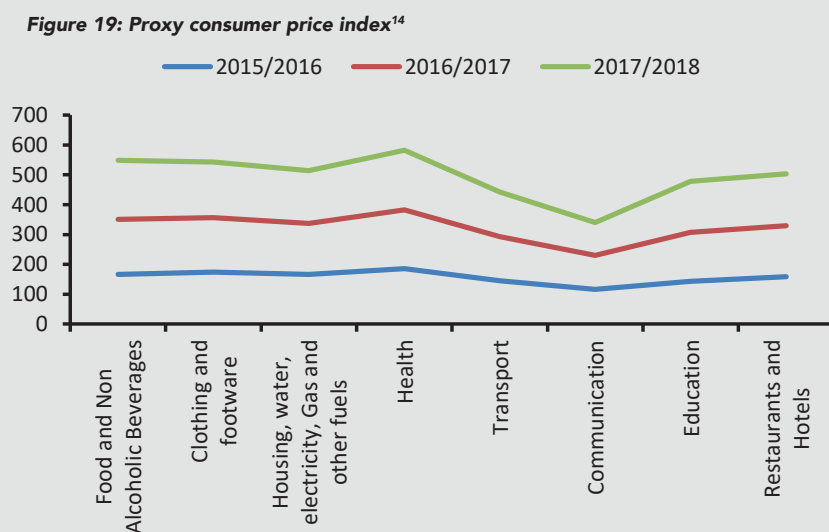
Service Points	Number of users per service point		Notable challenges
	Host + Refugees	Host only	
<p>Water points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boreholes • Wells • Streams and Rivers • Piped water points • Others 	271.9	200.7	<p>a) Congestion at existing water points</p> <p>b) Seasonal streams that dry up during dry season</p> <p>c) Contamination as a result of upstream pollution</p> <p>d) Broken down boreholes and non-functional wells.</p>
<p>Health facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government facilities • Private clinics 	1178.2	869.8	<p>a) Cost of medication and affordability.</p> <p>b) Drug stock outs</p> <p>c) Referral challenges and access</p>
<p>Secondary schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government aided schools • Private schools 	4650.8	3433.5	<p>a) Cost of education</p> <p>b) Poor sanitation facilities</p>
<p>Primary schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government aided schools • Private schools 	1280.6	945.5	<p>a) Cost of education</p> <p>b) Limited facilities as a result of congestion</p> <p>c) Poor sanitation facilities</p>
<p>Waste management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skits • Dump sites 	2850.5	2104.4	<p>a) Dump sites not supervised</p> <p>b) Uncollected waste in the communities</p> <p>c) Dumping in the rivers, streams, road sides and public yards.</p>
<p>Toilets and bathrooms</p> <p>Public facilities</p> <p>Private facilities</p>	3534.6	2609.5	<p>a) Inadequate number of public toilets and bathrooms in public places</p> <p>b) Poor drainage systems</p> <p>c) Large numbers of families sharing bathrooms and toilets</p> <p>d) Open defecation as a result of poor latrine coverage</p>

5.4 Self-Settled refugees unable to sustain themselves

The Ugandan system is built on the notion that self-settled/ urban refugees are able to sustain themselves and thus do not need any additional support from OPM/ UNHCR. For Koboko municipality, many registered refugees designated to the known refugee settlements have found their way to town and the surrounding communities. Whereas some of the self-settled refugees can **sustain themselves** as seen in the better neighbourhoods they rent in, **a vast majority of the self-settled refugees cannot. There are visible cases of refugees settling their children in the urban centers**, whilst the parents are based in the settlement camps to get food rations and other non-food items. During periods of food distribution, there is a notable **movement of refugees from the settlements to the town to sell the food and non-food items to pay rent and support the upkeep of their children in town**. Given the volume of foods distributed and the demands coming from the families, it is evident that this approach is unsustainable; as such children are left alone and in other cases families abandoned. This has seen an unprecedented scale of social challenges and an increase of children in conflict with the law and high crime rates within the Municipality and the surrounding communities.

5.4.1 Increase in prices of goods and services

There is no data available that can be directly attributed to the changes in the prices of goods and services in Koboko district. However, the existing consumer price indices compiled by the national statistics agency (UBoS) indicates an upward trend of prices of essential goods and services in Arua district- a proxy reference for price indication in the West Nile region. The most affected variations in consumer price index covered food and non-alcoholic beverages, clothing and footwear, housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, restaurants and hotels. health, transport, communication and education.

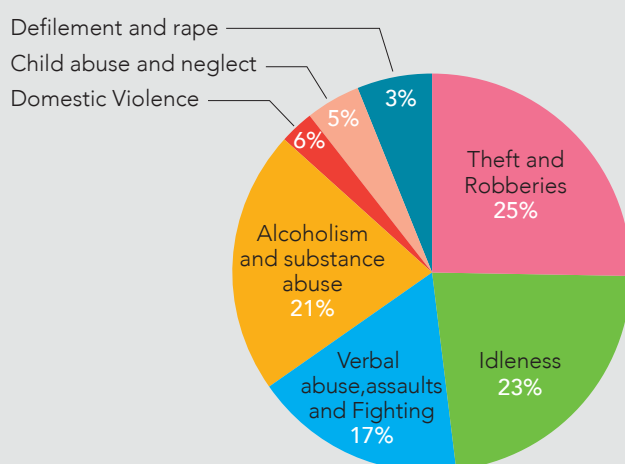


5.4.2 Increased crime rate and children in conflict with the law

Records at the central police station of Koboko indicate a reported increase in crimes associated to non-nationals of South Sudan origin within the Municipality. As indicated in the figure below, the most common crimes committed are defilement (25%) and theft (25%). Others relate to assault, child abuse, robberies, drug and substance abuse.

¹⁴ Uganda Consumer price index - Uganda Bureau of Statistic, March 2018

Figure 20: Crimes involving refugees in the Municipality¹⁵



Although the records are not readily available, a number of incidences reported indicate that crimes such as drug abuse, theft and defilement involve juveniles living within the Municipality. These by existing accounts are unaccompanied children who stay in urban centres while their parents go to the settlement to get food rations and other supplies. In the absence of their parents, these children stay hungry for days as they wait for their parents to bring food rations. Some of them have witnessed conflict and grown up in harsh environment and therefore consider such activities such as theft, defilement and assault as normal.

“... there are so many teenagers from refugee families who move around in groups and engage in acts of theft, assault and drug abuse. These teenagers are a source of insecurity in the Municipality and are posing a big challenge to the local communities. Some of the things they are engaged in are unheard of in these communities - they come with different cultures, upbringing and ways of life which the local communities are not accustomed to...”

Officer in Charge, Criminal Investigations Department- Koboko Central Police Station

5.4.3 Absence of spaces for burial for refugees who die on transit

A number of refugees who transit through Koboko come with different health and medical conditions. Some of them have bullet wounds while others have different ailments as a result of the distances covered, poor feeding and the conditions of travel. The district has recorded a number of incidences where the refugees have died at the transit centre or within the communities where they are settled. The district and the municipality face challenges of organizing decent burials for them in the event of such demise but yet have to address the different demands arising from the pressures of their influx.

¹⁵ Annual crime rate report, Uganda Police post – Koboko CPS, 2017/2018

5.4.4 Increased cases of unaccompanied children

The increased cases of unaccompanied children, neglected children and child abuse is raising a lot of child protection concerns in the district. As a result of the rampant cases of children without adult care and child headed households as witnessed in most of the households of the self-settled refugees , the authorities in Koboko Municipality are witnessing an increase in the number of children on the streets, cases of child abuse and neglect, cases of sexual manipulation of minors and engaging in sex for survival among the refugee girls.

“... We have received concerns of so many children being abused, neglected and abandoned by the parents without adequate care among the Self-Settled Refugees . At the moment we cannot establish the scale of these concerns, but we receive daily reports of similar incidences in different wards across the Municipality and yet are not well facilitated to address them...”

Senior Probation and Social Welfare Officer– Koboko District Local Government



6 Conclusion and Key Recommendations

This survey has provided credible evidence on the presence of self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipal Council that have (temporarily) moved from the settlements or came in directly and prefer to reside in the urban settings. It is evident that a number of refugees have self-settled in Koboko Municipal Council for longer periods than the most recent conflicts that have displaced people from South Sudan and DRC. Some of these refugees have lived in Koboko Municipal Council long enough to build relationships, own property and even place their children in public or private schools. Nonetheless, it is also apparent that a number of refugees who initially moved to the settlements have relocated to the Municipal Council. In both cases, the local governments face enormous challenges in dealing with the pressure the self-settled refugees place on the meagre social amenities and stretch on service delivery by Koboko Municipal Council.

Whilst the push factors for self-settled refugees; being urban refugees, asylum seekers or migrants, might be diverse, there is a misconception that these refugees are self-sustaining and thus do not need any support. Unfortunately self-settled refugees are often considered to be some of the most vulnerable. Whether they are fully self-sustaining or not, the rise in population numbers still stretches the service delivery of local governments, if not properly provided for. Moreover the strain and pressure deprives the members of the host community- especially women and children access to social services that they are entitled to, through their elected representatives. The scarcities witnessed have created social tensions and bred conflicts between the self-settled refugees and host communities, despite the fact that some of the self-settled refugees such as the Kakwa speaking have familial, cultural and ancestral relationships.

From the survey findings, it is recommended that focus be placed on addressing the plight of the self-settled refugees vis-a-vis improving service delivery by the local governments. The following issues are highlighted for the attention of all stakeholders, including but not limited to; the central government- especially the OPM, the local governments, refugee agencies and development partners:



1 Address the issues around self-settled refugees; government and all refugee actors should apply themselves to the reasons of self-settling and the evolving push factors that has seen a large number of refugees move out of the settlements and opt to self-settle in the urban and peri-urban areas. This may call for a three prong approach:

- a. **Adopt a more coordinated and integrated response** in refugee issues with the District Local Governments and the Sub-County structures in tracing refugees, monitoring their movements and settlement patterns, especially in border districts and areas of high refugee concentration.
- b. **Further ascertain** the number of self-settled refugees in Koboko District to establish the patterns of their movement, activities, motivations, challenges and inform the district planning, lobby and advocacy efforts.
- c. **Localise the support** to refugee communities using structures and institutions accessible to the refugees and involving their representatives so as to ensure that the required services reach the intended beneficiaries without the hurdles of institutional red tape and bureaucracies.

2

The activities of self-settled refugees between the municipality and the peri-urban areas in Koboko makes it difficult to establish exactly how many refugees have settled within the Municipal Council considering that their movements are so fluid.¹ From the survey, it is therefore critical to establish the actual number of self-settled refugees across the district and verify their activities in order to adequately plan for their support.

3

Inclusion of refugees in local government planning and budgeting; during the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees (June 2017), the government of Uganda highlighted the fact that "...Uganda is among the nations which has pioneered an out of camp policy in the East African region; where refugees reside in rural/urban settlements alongside Ugandan citizens...", otherwise the "Non-encampment policy" by the government. However from the experience in Koboko Municipal Council, this policy is not being implemented in tandem with the socio-economic needs of the refugees, where they settle. In order to be comprehensive and adequately provide for both the refugees and host communities, government should deliberately adapt the out of camp policy and supplement it with structural and institutional capacity and allocation of resources to local governments, in order to ensure access to public health services, access to universal primary and lower secondary education, and to engage in economic activities.

4

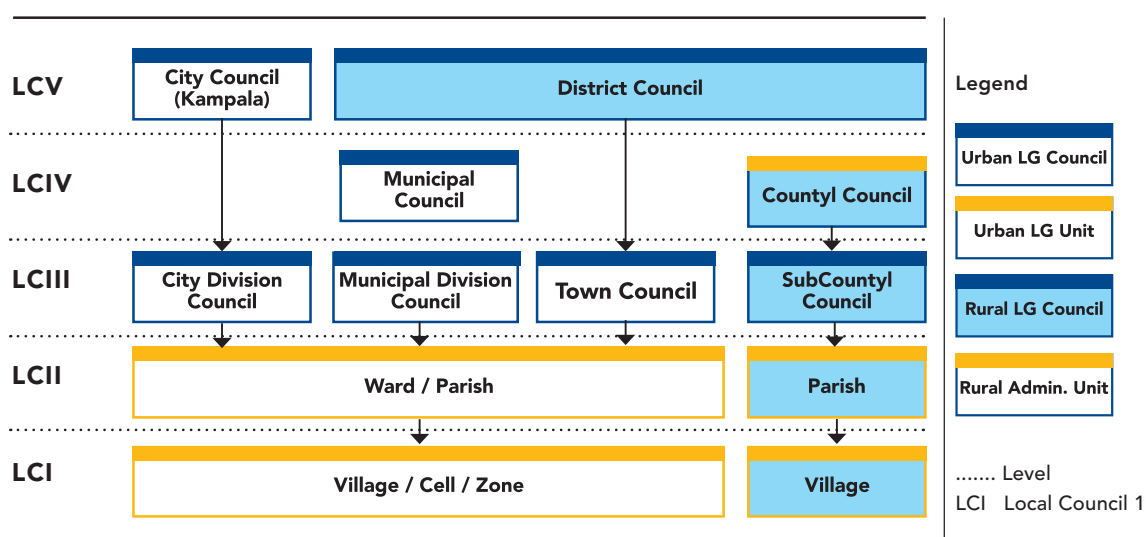
The 'Open-door asylum policy' not adequately translating into progressive development; Uganda is being globally praised for the 'Open-door asylum policy' by global refugee agencies and institutions. The multiple access points at the Uganda-South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo borders exposes the host community to vulnerabilities that comes with poor governance, social cultural challenges, weak social services and breakdown of the rule of law in the neighbouring countries. These conditions make it impractical to sustain Uganda's open-door asylum policy and progressive development-oriented model without requisite international support and deliberate responses across the board.

- a. The policy should be shaped around improving resource mobilisation and allocation to support social service delivery in order to address the refugee influx and settlement patterns of the refugees and more specifically around the border districts.
- b. Even though the refugees who have self-settled in urban centres are perceived to be self-sustaining, the realities established by the survey indicates that their vulnerabilities are compounded by the pressure for the limited social amenities, potential for conflicts and the underlying poverty in which both refugees and host communities live.

Annexes

Annex A: Local government structure in Uganda

The 1995 Ugandan Constitution and the 1997 Local Government Act identify five tiers of local government, as can be seen in the figure below.¹ The city council of Kampala and the district councils are the highest levels of local government. Below these, there are different types of *lower local governments* and *administrative units*. The difference between local government councils and administrative units is that the former are corporate bodies, they can sue and be sued and its chairpersons are chosen directly in open elections, whereas the chairpersons of administrative units are either appointed, in the case of village councils, or elected by electoral colleges or councils, in the case of parishes and wards. Local government councils have planning, legislative and executive powers and are responsible for the provision of services, such as healthcare, agriculture, planning, infrastructure, local justice administration and water and sanitation management.² Councils of administrative units are mainly charged with monitoring the provision of services and assist in enforcing regulations.³



As stated above, local government councils are responsible for the planning and budgeting of the five-year local development plans. District councils are mandated to prepare a comprehensive and integrated district development plan incorporating plans of LCIV and LCIII councils, before submission to the National Planning Authority. In their turn, LCIV and LCIII councils are responsible for the preparation of five-year local development plans, incorporating the plans of LCII and LCI in their respective area of jurisdiction. In order to develop these plans at the lower local government levels, communities ought to be mobilised and sensitised on planning and budgeting processes by the community development officers and the district planners. In practice however, the community involvement in planning and budgeting process needs to improve. Based on the five-year local development plans, annual action plans and corresponding budgets are produced. The annual action plans indicate the actions which must be tackled across different sectors. If a sector is not included in the local development plan, no activities can be executed. It should be noted that whereas local governments do develop these plans and stipulate, in broad terms, what actions they will implement, actual implementation of the proposed activities is often rather limited.

¹ Mugabi, E. *Uganda's Decentralisation Policy, Legal Framework, Local Government Structure and Service Delivery* (2004).

² P. Tidemand, 'Local Level Service Delivery, Decentralisation and Governance: A Comparative Study of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania', *Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance* (2009)147-149.

³ Ibidem.

All local governments and administrative units are categorized as either urban or rural. This division between urban and rural local governments is the guiding principle in their representation by Uganda's two local government associations, the Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA) and the Urban Authorities Association of Uganda (UAAU). The former generally covers the rural municipalities and the latter the urban ones.⁴ ULGA and UAAU are responsible for providing their members with a platform for exchange of experiences, ideas and best practices, and articulating their collective interests and making these heard by national government, civil society and development partners, through lobbying and advocacy.⁵ Especially when it comes to addressing the need for better coordination between the various levels of government and sector agencies, the associations have a natural role to play. Likewise, the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), which is charged with coordinating, supporting and representing the local government sector, is also a relevant stakeholder in the programme.⁶

4 USAID, *Comparative Assessment of Decentralisation in Africa: Uganda Desk Study* (2011). http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/democracy_and_governance/publications/pdfs/uganda_in_country_assessment.pdf, (consulted April, 26 2012).

5 L. Romero, *The Role of Local Government Associations in Promoting Developmental Local Governments* (2010) ICLD, Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy.

6 Ministry of Local Government, Ministry Mission, <http://www.molg.go.ug/index.php/about-the-ministry/ministry-mission> (consulted January 10, 2012).

Annex B: Survey Questionnaire

SELF SETTLED REFUGEES, A CHALLENGE FOR THE SERVICE DELIVERY OF DISTRICT/ URBAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS– KOBOKO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AS A CASE.

Dear Respondent,

The undersigned is conducting a survey on the **SELF SETTLED REFUGEES, A CHALLENGE FOR DISTRICT/ URBAN LOCAL COUNCIL SERVICE DELIVERY – KOBOKO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AS A CASE**

The findings and recommendations of this study are intended to support policy review, planning and management of service delivery by the Local Governments within refugee hosting districts in Uganda. You have been randomly selected to be part of this survey, we kindly ask you to accurately and candidly respond to the questions within this survey to facilitate the process. All your responses will be kept confidential and used in combination with the responses from others for the purpose of this survey. Should you have concerns responding to a particular question raised, feel free to decline the response.

About VNG International

VNG International is the **International Cooperation Agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities**. VNG International supports decentralisation processes and facilitates decentralised cooperation in different countries across the globe. The organization strengthens local governments, their associations, training institutes and decentralisation task forces both in developing countries and in countries in transition. VNG International uses multiple approaches such as benchmarking, capacity building, evidence based decision making to develop high quality services for local governments around the world. At the moment, VNG International is implementing the **“Making the Nexus Work”** project – Giving support to the refugee hosting districts in Uganda covering Koboko district and Municipal Council, Yumbe District and Adjumani District.

We sincerely thank you for your participation.

Yours truly,

VNG INTERNATIONAL

Survey Number: _____

Household Number: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of the Enumerator		Signature	
Name of the Supervisor		Signature	
District/MC		Sub-county/Division	
Parish/ward		Village/Cell	
Date of Survey (dd/mm/yy)		Time of survey:	
		Start time:	End time:

SECTION 1: SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Q #	Question	Answers	
1.1	Name of respondent (Optional)		
1.1.1	Is respondent head of the household? (Circle appropriate)	1. Yes	2. No
1.1.2	If not head of household, what is the relation to the head of household (Circle applicable)	1. Spouse 2. Son/Daughter 3. Parent 4. Brother/Sister/Father/Mother/other relative In-law 5. Sibling 6. Others (specify) _____	
1.1.3	Tel: Contact (optional)	Contact 1:	Contact 2:
1.1.4	Respondent's gender (Tick)	Male	Female
1.2	Age of respondent/Date of Birth	Age:	Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yy)

Q #	Question	Answers
1.3.1	Nationality/Country of origin (Circle appropriate)	1. South Sudan 2. Somalia 3. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) 4. Burundi 5. Eritrea 6. Ethiopia 7. Rwanda 8. Sudan 9. Others _____
1.3.2	Residential/Refugee status (Circle appropriate)	1. Self-settled refugee (Either registered or not registered) 2. Registered Refugee/Asylum seeker
1.3.3	Refugee Number <u>if</u> Registered Refugee/Asylum seeker (Record settlement camp and number)	1. Registration Number: _____ 2. Designated Settlement: _____
1.4.1	Period (years) of continuous stay in Uganda (Circle appropriate)	1. Less than 1 years 2. 1 to 2 years 3. 2 to 3 years 4. 4 to 5 years 5. Less than 5 years
1.4.2	Period (years) stayed in the District/Sub County or Municipality (Circle appropriate)	1. Less than 1 years 2. 1 to 2 years 3. 2 to 3 years 4. 4 to 5 years 5. Less than 5 years
1.5	Marital status (Circle appropriate)	1. Currently married/Cohabiting (Monogamous) 2. Currently married/Cohabiting (Polygamous) 3. Never married 4. Widowed 5. Separated 6. Divorced 7. No response
1.6	Educational level completed (Circle appropriate)	1. No formal education 2. Primary 3. Ordinary level 4. Advanced level 5. Vocational college 6. Tertiary/University 7. Others (specify) _____

Q #	Question	Answers			
1.7	Religion (Circle appropriate)	1. Anglican 2. Catholic 3. Muslim 4. Seventh-Day Adventist 5. Orthodox 6. Baha'i 7. Baptist 8. Jews	9. Presbyterian 10. Mammon Hindus 11. Buddhist 12. Jehovah's Witness 13. Salvation Army 14. Pentecostal/ Born Again/ Evangelical 15. Traditional 16. Others: _____		
1.8	Respondent's Tribe/ Ethnicity (Circle appropriate)	1. Nuer 2. Dinka 3. Madi 4. Kakwa 5. Azande 6. Kuku 7. Shuluk 8. Bari 9. Arab 10. Luba 11. Mongo 12. Kongo	13. Anywak 14. Pojulu 15. Muru 16. Keliko 17. Mundari 18. Nyangwara 19. Acholi 20. Latuko 21. Mundu 22. Makaraka 23. Others (specify) _____		
1.9	Occupation/ Economic activity engaged in (Circle applicable)	1. Crop farming 2. Trade/Commerce 3. Formal employment 4. Livestock farming 5. Fishing	6. Farm worker 7. Off-farm worker (casual) 8. Housekeeping, 9. Other (Specify) _____		
1.10	Does the HH keep any domestic animals or birds	1. Yes, we have some 2. No, we don't have any at the moment			
1.11	How many domestic animals and birds does the HH own?	Cows	Goats	Sheep	Pigs
		Rabbits	Chicken	Ducks	Turkey
		Doves/ Pigeons			
1.12	Household Size (Total no. plus those away over the last 2 weeks)				

Q #	Question	Answers	
1.13	Household Size by age (Total no. plus those away over the last 2 weeks)	1. 0- 5 yrs _____ 2. 6- 10 yrs _____ 3. 11- 19 yrs _____ 4. 20- 30 yrs _____	5. 31- 39 yrs _____ 6. 40- 59 yrs _____ 7. Above 60 yrs _____
1.14	Household size by gender (Total #, + those away over the last 2 weeks)	1. Males	2. Females
1.15	Number of children in school (Total #, + those away over the last 2 weeks)	1. Males	2. Females
1.16	Occupation of household head (Circle applicable)	1. Crop farmer 2. Trading/Business 3. NGO employee 4. Livestock 5. Fishing	6. Farm worker 7. Off-farm worker 8. Housekeeping 9. Other (Specify)_____
1.17	Generally, what is your household major economic activity/ source of livelihood? (Circle appropriate)	1. Crop farming 2. Trading/Business 3. NGO employee 4. Livestock 5. Fishing 6. Farm worker	7. Off-farm worker 8. Housekeeping 9. Ration from the settlement camp 10. Other (Specify) _____

SECTION 2: LIVING CONDITIONS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Q #	Question	Answers	
2.1	What is the occupancy tenure of the dwelling unit? (Circle applicable)	1. Owner occupied 2. Free Public 3. Free private 4. Subsidized public	5. Subsidized private 6. Rented Public 7. Rented private 8. Other (Specify) _____
2.2	What type of dwelling unit does this house hold occupy? (Circle applicable)	1. Detached house (single or storey) 2. Servants quarters 3. Tenement (Muzigo) 4. Garage 5. Room or rooms of main house	6. Store 7. Flat block of flats 8. Go down/Basement 9. Semi-detached house 10. Grass thatched (mud and wattle) 11. Other (Specify)_____

Q #	Question	Answers																
2.3	What source of energy does this household mainly use for lighting ? (<i>Circle applicable</i>)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Electricity-National grid (WENRECO)</td> <td>7. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Electricity-Solar</td> <td>8. Candles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Electricity-Personal generator</td> <td>9. Paraffin-Lantern</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Gas</td> <td>10. Firewood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Electricity-Community/thermal plant</td> <td>11. Paraffin-Todooba</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Biogas</td> <td>12. Cow dung</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13. Grass/reeds</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14. Other (Specify) _____</td> </tr> </table>	1. Electricity-National grid (WENRECO)	7. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	2. Electricity-Solar	8. Candles	3. Electricity-Personal generator	9. Paraffin-Lantern	4. Gas	10. Firewood	5. Electricity-Community/thermal plant	11. Paraffin-Todooba	6. Biogas	12. Cow dung		13. Grass/reeds		14. Other (Specify) _____
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2.4	What source of energy does this household mainly use for cooking ? (<i>Circle applicable</i>)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Electricity-National grid (WENRECO)</td> <td>7. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Electricity-Solar</td> <td>8. Charcoal/Briquettes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Electricity-Personal generator</td> <td>9. Paraffin-Stove</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Gas</td> <td>10. Firewood</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Electricity-Community/thermal plant</td> <td>11. Cow dung</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Biogas</td> <td>12. Grass/reeds</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13. Other (Specify) _____</td> </tr> </table>	1. Electricity-National grid (WENRECO)	7. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	2. Electricity-Solar	8. Charcoal/Briquettes	3. Electricity-Personal generator	9. Paraffin-Stove	4. Gas	10. Firewood	5. Electricity-Community/thermal plant	11. Cow dung	6. Biogas	12. Grass/reeds		13. Other (Specify) _____		
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	13. Other (Specify) _____																	
2.5	What is the household's main source of water for drinking ? (<i>Circle applicable</i>)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Piped water into dwelling</td> <td>8. Tanker truck</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Public taps</td> <td>9. Unprotected well/ spring</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Piped water to the yard</td> <td>10. Rain water</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Public borehole</td> <td>11. Protected well/spring</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Borehole in yard/plot</td> <td>12. Bottled water</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Water vendor</td> <td>13. Gravity Flow Scheme</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. River/Stream/Lake</td> <td>14. Other (Specify) _____</td> </tr> </table>	1. Piped water into dwelling	8. Tanker truck	2. Public taps	9. Unprotected well/ spring	3. Piped water to the yard	10. Rain water	4. Public borehole	11. Protected well/spring	5. Borehole in yard/plot	12. Bottled water	6. Water vendor	13. Gravity Flow Scheme	7. River/Stream/Lake	14. Other (Specify) _____		
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2.6	What type of toilet facility does this household mainly use? (<i>Circle applicable</i>)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Flush toilet</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. VIP Latrine</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Covered Pit Latrine <u>with a slab</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Covered Pit Latrine <u>without a slab</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Uncovered Pit Latrine <u>with a slab</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Uncovered Pit Latrine <u>without a slab</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Ecosan (compost toilet)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. No facility, bush, polythene bags, bucket etc</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Other (Specify) _____</td> </tr> </table>	1. Flush toilet	2. VIP Latrine	3. Covered Pit Latrine <u>with a slab</u>	4. Covered Pit Latrine <u>without a slab</u>	5. Uncovered Pit Latrine <u>with a slab</u>	6. Uncovered Pit Latrine <u>without a slab</u>	7. Ecosan (compost toilet)	8. No facility, bush, polythene bags, bucket etc	9. Other (Specify) _____							
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2.7	Does the household share this toilet facility with other households?	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. N/A (For 'No facility, bush, polythene bags, bucket etc')</td> </tr> </table>	1. Yes	2. No	3. N/A (For 'No facility, bush, polythene bags, bucket etc')													
1. Yes																		
2. No																		
3. N/A (For 'No facility, bush, polythene bags, bucket etc')																		

Q #	Question	Answers
2.8	What is the most commonly used method of solid waste disposal from the house hold? (Circle max 3 applicable)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Occupants dispose solid waste in the garden and DO NOT burn or bury it. 2. Occupants burn solid waste 3. Occupants bury solid waste 4. Occupants dispose solid waste in a local dump supervised by urban authorities 5. Occupants dispose solid waste in a local dump NOT supervised by urban authorities 6. Solid waste collected by waste vendor 7. Occupants dispose solid waste into river/stream/pond 8. Other arrangements (Specify) _____
2.9	What type of bathroom does this household mainly use? (Circle applicable)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inside with drainage provided 2. Inside with no drainage provided 3. Outside built with drainage provided 4. Outside built with no drainage provided 5. Make shift (with grass, reeds, papyrus, tarpaulin, cloth etc) 6. None 7. Other (specify) _____
2.10	Does this household own mosquito nets or received health services from village health teams/local health facility; e.g deworming, immunisation etc? (Circle appropriate)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No
2.11	If YES IN 2.10 , were the health services (mosquito nets or vaccines etc) given for free or were they bought ? (Circle appropriate)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given free by Uganda government 2. Given free by NGO 3. Given free by friend/relative 4. Bought from local pharmacy
2.12	Did the household receive any money or physical items from any relative/family member/ friend abroad/NGO during the last 6 months ? (Circle appropriate)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes, received goods and money from abroad 2. Yes, received goods and money from NGO 3. Yes, received money only 4. Yes, received goods only 5. Received nothing
2.13	How many meals do household members aged 5 years and above usually eat on average per day? (Record number of meals)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sometimes one meal per day 2. Always one meal per day 3. Sometimes 2 meals per day 4. Always 2 meals per day 5. Sometimes 3 meals per day 6. Always 3 meals per day

SECTION 3: SOCIAL COHESION AND LEGITIMACY ISSUES

Q #	Question	Answers
3.1	If self-settled, did you move here from the refugee camp, from the transit centre or direct from your country of origin?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I moved from the refugee settlement 2. I moved from the transit centre 3. I moved from my country of origin 4. No response
3.2	How did you end up in this particular place?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was linked through a friend 2. Came on my own and settled 3. Moved through a relative (South Sudanese, Congolese or other) 4. Moved through a relative (Ugandan).
3.3	Do you experience challenges related with members of the host community in this area?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Yes, always 6. Yes, sometimes 7. Not at all
3.4	What are the major social problems affecting you/ household members/ tribe-mates in your area of residence? (Select 4 most pressing response)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor sanitary facilities (Toilets, bathrooms, drainage channels) 2. No or inadequate legal support 3. Limited access to healthcare services 4. Limited access/congestion in primary schools 5. Limited access to secondary education 6. Congestion at water points and scarcity of water 7. Limited access to land 8. Rampant quarrels, disagreements and fights with neighbours 9. Other (Specify) _____
3.5	What are the main incidences of crime and violence experienced within your community? (Select 5 most common)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theft and robberies 2. Idleness 3. Verbal abuse, assaults and fighting 4. Alcoholism and substance abuse 5. Defilement and rape 6. Child abuse and neglect 7. Domestic Violence
3.6	Do you think your relationship with the host community can be improved through activities of social cohesion (Select appropriate)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes, it can improve 2. Yes, it might improve 3. It cannot improve 4. I do not know

Q #	Question	Answers
3.7	What possible activities can you engage in to promote Social cohesion and harmony with the host community? (Select 3 most appropriate)	1. Games and sports 2. Cultural shows (Music, Dance and Drama) 3. Religious festivals, gatherings and ceremonies 4. Joint community work and engagements 5. Joining VSLAs and other savings schemes 6. Regular community meetings 7.No idea 8. Other (specify) _____

Annex C: Qualitative Survey tools

SELF SETTLED REFUGEES, A CHALLENGE FOR THE SERVICE DELIVERY OF DISTRICT/ URBAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS– KOBOKO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AS A CASE.

QUALITATIVE DATA COLLECTION GUIDELINES

These guidelines are intended for collecting views and opinions of self-settled refugees in Koboko Municipal Council as part of the survey. These questions will be administered to individuals and groups of persons selected according to the framework provided below:

SN	Category	Method of data collection
1	Leaders and representatives of refugees/ Elders/ Former civil servants Representatives of Churches South Sudan Refugee Association South Sudan Women's Association	Key Informant Interviews
2	Department heads, division chairpersons Education department Community Services department Planning department Waste Management department Environmental and sanitation department	
3	Groups of youth and women South Sudanese youth groups in each division South Sudanese women groups in each division	Focus Group Discussions

Introduction

You have been randomly selected to be part of this discussion/ interview as part of the data collection process for the survey on Self Settled Refugees, a challenge for districts and urban councils service deliver – Koboko, a case. This survey is being conducted by VNG International as part of the process to support the District and Municipality authorities to establish actual numbers of self-settled refugees in order to adequately plan for improved service delivery. We shall not record your identity in this interview/Discussions and would not require any personal information about you, but rather general responses to the issues raised. If there is a question you would rather not respond to, feel free to say so.

Thank you for your participation

VNG International

Motivation of refugees to settle in urban settings

- Why do you think refugees are more comfortable settling within the urban centres than in the designated settlements?
- What pressing issues do you think urban refugees in urban areas such as Koboko Municipal Council?

Pressing issues affecting self-settled refugees

- Among the pressing issues, what do you think the government and development partners should urgently consider to improve the livelihoods of the self-settled refugees in the urban settings?
- What kind of activities do urban refugees (Youth, women, persons with disability and the older persons) commonly engage in to support themselves and their families within the urban settings?
- What challenges do they face in carrying out these activities?
- Within their areas of settlement, what arrangements/provisions have been put in place to make their lives more comfortable and adaptable?
- How can the urban refugees effectively contribute to improving their well-being within the urban areas?

Working with local authorities and host communities

- Do the refugees participate in community meetings to raise issues that affect them and their families?
- What structures are available for the refugees to channel the challenges they experience within the urban settings?
- What challenges do the refugees experience in using these channels and structures?
- How can the issues affecting refugees be better raised and channelled to the relevant authorities in this location?
- In what ways can you support local authorities to improve your living conditions within the urban settings?

Challenges of service delivery for self-settled refugees

- Has the local government authorities tried to respond to the influx of the refugees within the urban centres?
- How has the Local Government structures tried to incorporate the self-settled refugees within the planning and service delivery?
- How has the influx of refugees within the urban settings affected local government service delivery?
- In what ways has the urban authorities tried to respond to these challenges and how are they being addressed?
- What areas should the government and development partners address themselves in order to support service delivery for the urban authorities hosting refugees

Colophon

Kampala, November 2018

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Colsen Ontwerp

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Special thanks to:

Koboko District Local Government

Koboko Municipal Council

and all survey respondents

Acknowledgements:

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The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of VNG International and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Building better futures

by strengthening local governments

VNG International is an expert in strengthening local government in developing and transitional countries. Local governments play a key role in the provision of basic services such as water, waste management, health care and housing. They have profound impact on areas like safety, food security, rule of law, and women's rights. Therefore our projects contribute in a sustainable way to better futures for people, communities and countries.

In over sixty projects worldwide, VNG International strengthens local governments, associations of municipalities, and local trainings institutes. VNG International was founded in 1993 by the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (Vereniging Nederlandse Gemeenten, VNG), the world's oldest association of municipalities. VNG International is housed within the association's offices in The Hague, allowing it to easily access the know-how of the Dutch local government sector. VNG International is embedded in the Dutch local government sector, while it also disposes of an international network of experts in the fields of decentralisation and local administration. Besides its offices in the Netherlands, VNG International is represented globally through daughter companies in Tunisia, the Czech Republic and South Africa, as well as over 15 local project offices. VNG International's projects are funded by various donors including the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and the World Bank.

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