



**1.1.0 World Action Fund (WAF)** is an indigenous, not-for-profit making, NGO operating in Arua district in West Nile region and coordination office Kampala that is committed to finding sustainable solutions to poverty and emergencies. WAF has niches operations in Yumbe, Maracha, Koboko and Wakiso districts in Uganda.

**1.1.1: Support to People with Disabilities**

We supported 290 adults and children mobility devices at Arua referral hospital ground from 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017, with support from Walk About Foundation UK.

WAF registered over 475 mostly adults and 700 children with special needs in schools, only 290 were served.

And our partner recipient Hope Action Health also received through us from our donor.

We appeal more support is given to these vulnerable people in various sector as the donor only gives wheel chairs and tricycles.



Executive Director WAF inspecting try circles



*Arrival of Maersk trailer with wheel chairs from Vietnam parked at Arua Referral hospital*



*Boxes of wheel chairs off loaded*



*Team of off loaders and staff helping*



*Donor teams doing reassessment during distribution*





A physiotherapist working on a PWD









*The Executive Director of WAF with a female recipient*



*Beneficiaries*

### **1.2.1 Environment and climatic conditions in Arua district**

***We are under taking Conservation campaign in Imvepi refugee settlement, with support from US embassy, Uganda***

WAF started an active environmental awareness program in Arua district in Terego county in March 2016. The adverse weather conditions in West Nile region and entire Northern Uganda in severe drought starved many families and this isn't only in these regions alone, but the entire country and East Africa at large.

We have 10 active field volunteers, with various experts, we were able to reach at least 1,300 communities in mobilisation.

The only available cash crop didn't do well due to constant hot weather, neither did any food crops resist the weather, most crops dried up, food prices soar up, consequently water levels reduced both the clean and running waters for domestic use affecting thousands of residents. Due to this climatic impact WAF has taken community awareness as the first priority to reduce man made disastrous climatic conditions, we have trained and empowered 300, volunteers and 150 households in Omugo and Odupi subcounties.



*A farmer cutting a tree for planting crops in Arua district, a traditional method of clearing forests in May 2016*

In 2016 Northern Uganda experienced what officially was termed “man-made” “exceptional drought” and delays of rains with extreme heat<sup>1</sup>. This is caused by the Indian Ocean El Niño-like dipole has increased with global warming increasingly often stopping moist air from the sea to move to land.<sup>2</sup> One million refugees have been well received in Northern Uganda fleeing war and drought (and now cholera). However, all fuel for boiling food and water is of wood. The depleted soils are very low in organic matter and in clay and are easily eroded and drying. Farmers in Northern Uganda is finding it increasingly hard to rely on seasonal short rooted crops as rains have become less reliable. Research surveys from Northern Uganda indicate farmers are very interested in learning more about trees and getting access planting materials

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<sup>1</sup> <http://theugandan.com.ug/ugandas-drought-hits-new-record-high/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://edition.cnn.com/2017/03/16/africa/east-africa-drough-el-nino/index.html>



*Training communities on best farming practices in Omugo Subcounty*

### **Tree cutting and its effects on the environment**

Tobacco and cotton were introduced by the British government in Uganda as cash crops before Uganda become an independent nation in 1962. Research indicates that tobacco and cotton were introduced as cash crops in the 1920s in predominantly poor communities living in Northern Uganda.

In West Nile region, predominately Terego county has been the leading producer in the region, due to limited awareness on environmental awareness and its impacts moreso limited knowledge of planting trees for wood fuel for tobacco industries, the farmers resorted to cutting the natural tree species, rendering the soils bear, leading to exposed tree roots, hence bear soil is openly seen and these soils have lost fertility and farmers lack or couldn't afford fertilisers, this is coupled with the limited incomes to purchase the farm inputs.



Charcoal industries for trade also greatly contributes to the loss of tree species in Arua district, though by laws have been enacted due to limited community awareness, this is slowing dying and we keep losing the endangered tree species seen in photo above is the Shear tree.

This tree takes over 200 years to die when old, but we spend few minutes to cut it down, its nuts are nutritious and for cosmetic use.



*Charcoal wood fuel from natural forest trees*



*A farmer in Arua harvesting tobacco after clearing the trees*

Despite growing this cash crops for many years, farmers still remain poor, as growing this is labour intensive, farmers abandon growing other food crops. The farmers have an established stores or purchasing centers and are been abandoned.



Most farmers we interfaced with couldn't afford to construct permant house but only pay school fees and food

**1.3.1 Community Training Workshops**

WAF team carried out training sessions for Burundian refugees in Kampala in arts and craftsthat was attended by women, youth, and local communities in Nsambya, all of whom pledged to train their respective communities on livelihoods and responsibilities.

In Arua district, we have started youths' skilling program by 2017, it will be in full operation.

With partner Teach A man To Fish , UK, we organised teachers workshop on school enterprise challenge to improve on the skills of teachers and students in businesses.

30 schools have benefited from these trainings, and they have managed to empower of 2000 students in business skills.

**1.2.2 Community Health Promotion**

During the year, with the support from Vitamin Angles, USA we received donated vitamin nutrients and deworming tablets for Arua for 1,500 children, with the view of expansion to other areas in the region. Due to logistical challenges, we are yet to distribute the goods to the communities in Terego county in Arua district, we hoped to expand to other regions in Uganda.

WAF currently through partners eg UNHCR is lobbying to improvement of the health facilities of Omugo Health Centre IV, that is in sorry state



*The pit latrine is filled up no new one this can bring cholera during rain season, staff also use the same pit latrine*

*An open bathe room for maternity patients used by all patients admitted here for bathing with drainage channel and soak pit*





*Small fridge with expired vaccines and reagents awaiting disposal of the drugs the fridge has no power, the centre takes vaccines and reagents to Otumbari Mission Health centre*

Our exposure and desperate need for the Health centre has led to more aid organisation to come and give support, this has led to more in patients' admission, which means the communities are picking interest to regularly come for treatment.

### 1.2.3 Improvement of the standard tools for monitoring and evaluation

The standard training evaluation tool that is used to evaluate the ToT for arts and crafts sessions in Nsambya for Burundian refugees was improved by simplifying the questions and adding in other easier ones.

### 1.2.4 Opening of Kampala Office

In order to strengthen community outreach work in Uganda and further collaboration and partnership within the region and other development partners there, WAF opened a coordination office in central Uganda (Kampala) and obtained permit for operations under NGO board. This was aimed at taking outreach services closer to the communities, and to enable easier monitoring and evaluation of their activities.

### 1.2.5 Arua regional office:

WAF has presence in Arua to set up a vocational centre in town, it's in initial stages of taking off due to limited funding to facilitate the trainers, it has taken off slowly and we have merged with local CBO called YECIA, to train the youths on various vocational skills. We are looking partners to implement this project together, We received some tools and equipment from TWAM UK.



### 1.2.6 Refugee support and Assessment

A baseline survey was conducted in Bidi Bidi refugee settlement and refugees were interviewed to determine their level of rights and responsibilities, including their safety. The assessment was found that most refugees at the settlement lacked adequate food ratio for the normal person, this report was among the OPM and UNHCR and other development partners.



*inadequate food at the refugee settlement, each refugee is given 5kg by this date of assessment in November 2016, the same food ration was reduced to half <https://goo.gl/Dt5CpK> and <https://goo.gl/i5XxDv> this may cause stunted growth and other sicknesses as a result of poor nutrition among the children among the refugee populations and poor sanitation and hygiene, health at the settlement is a key challenge that needs to be helped.*



### 1.2.7 Burundian refugees

WAF has engaged in skilling Burundian refugee communities leaving in Uganda with art and craft training, this will make them earn after selling these products to the market. The Volunteer project *Mrs. Suavis Cetegetse* is a Burundian refugee, who manages the project, we train the trainers to train the refugee communities and local communities in Kampala, the service will be extended to Nakivali settlements, to support the Burundian leaving conditions <https://goo.gl/fcv66k>. WAF has placed emphasis in improving the conditions refugees in these settlements by settling an enterprise and access to local and global markets.



*Burundian refugee art and craft exhibition in Kampala  
a refugee woman inset laying brick*

*Our Volunteer Mrs.Suavis in middle build a house for*

### 1.2.8 School performance

The overall performance in schools in Arua district has not improved much in public schools except in private schools, there is need for urgent training for teachers, and WAF is in partnership with Teach A man to Fish and Gwanga Parents Uganda to share the role model used in other regions and at international levels.



### 1.2.9 Networking

WAF Executive Director participated in the UNCTA 14 in Nairobi from 17-22 July 2016, conference on Trade and development, take attacks CSO all over the works. This was an opportunity for learning, sharing and being exposed to a wide range of CSOs and government entities issues across the globe especially the common issues and solutions that exit amongst developing countries. Contacts were got, a lot of documentation on different issues were also received. All these were passed on to the WAF staff and members. They help to strengthen the advocacy that WAF is carrying out on access to essential services for the poor.



The coalition believes in effective mobilisation, creation of cohesion through building strong membership and networking so as to have a strong coalition. This was an on-going exercise, done through face to face discussions, e-mail; telephone; letters, personal contacts; meetings and workshops. The coalition mailing and whatsapp list is continuously being updated as well as the physical telephone and email contacts. The Coalition has made a tremendous achievement in attracting competent volunteers and more members. More effort is now being made to make partner organisations to commit specific personnel to attend meetings and input into the advocacy as part of their routine work. This was recommended at the last strategic and planning meeting.

**1.3.0 UNICEF, approved WAF to engage in vaccination campaign in Arua,** this was a voluntary exercise and WAF was invited for Central Planning meeting with other stake holders at Ministry Health Board room, Kampala, this exercise was conducted from **April to May 2016** Video clip <https://youtu.be/Yo8HdLT-mMY>



*Administering polio vaccine by a village Health Worker in Arua Hills division*



*WAF at Resident District Commissioner office for the launch of vaccination campaign in Arua April 2016*

### **1.3.1 New Board Members-Volunteers**

World Action Fund received new board members in August 2016 from Italy and Germany, Maria Cristina Pilati and Wolfgang Enderle who are helping us in programing, networking and fundraising for the organisation, this is to boost our volunteer charity program and enterprise development, the board has now six members, upon satisfying government's rules and procedures of Uganda for work permit

### **1.3.2 Promoting Good Hygiene Measures**

#### Menstrual hygiene management

Menstruation is still a taboo in Uganda and its common for people across society to feel uncomfortable about the subject. There is lack of information of the process of menstruation and proper requirements for managing it. The taboos surrounding this issue in the society prevents girls and women from articulating their needs and the problems associated with poor menstrual hygiene management have largely been ignored or misunderstood.

Mrs. Amaguru Doreen our Hygiene promotor and specialist emphasized that menstrual management is a social issue that cannot be addressed by working in schools alone, in order to ensure that adolescent girls and women have the necessary support and facilities, it's important that wider society, communities and families must challenge the status quo and break the silence around menstruation. Girls drop out of school and get married because they have experienced adulthood, which is a wrong perception.

School-led Total Sanitation (SLTS) is a widely-used approach for the promotion of sanitation intended to eradicate open defecation and transform a school's health and wellbeing for the better. As well as being an insult to human dignity, open defecation is the root cause of faecal-oral transmission of disease and as a result poses an enormous threat to health. This was conducted in Arua district.

To meet Target 6 of the sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation needs to be halved. For Africa to achieve this ambitious goal, Uganda's role – as a populous nation – is vital to take action.

With over 30% of the households in Uganda lacking access to safe sanitation facilities, hence practicing Open Defecation (OD), a considerable section of the population, especially children – is still at risk of the adverse effects of poor sanitation, specifically Open Defecation (OD) that include sanitation related morbidity and infant mortality.

To tackle the sanitation challenge, new innovative approaches are required to accelerate access and sustained use of latrines coupled with good hygiene practices such as effective hand washing. Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)/School Led Total Sanitation (SLTS) is one of such approaches that is low cost, high impact and sustainable.

The approach recognizes that merely providing latrines neither guarantees nor results in improved sanitation and hygiene. It therefore focuses on igniting and facilitating the process which enables the community realize that they are ingesting each other's faeces. This elicits disgust and eventually breaks the cycle of faecal-oral contamination.

Seeing how SLTS is changing lives, WAF introduced the approach in Arua district in 2016. Over time it became clear that the practice would need to be adapted to be effective in the district with its own challenges. Drawing on the findings from evaluations and research on CLTS in the country, WAF has progressively revitalized the SLTS process.

It is now working well in a number of schools. We hope to be able to present these success stories as 'learning communities', examples of good sanitation practice that can be promoted in district.

The training therefore outlined the three key elements of SLTS namely:

1. Shame- Shame comes from being taught that we are worthless or bad or something similar. Shame comes from being humiliated for our behavior
2. Disgust-This is to excite nausea or loathing in; sicken. To offend the taste or moral sense of; repel leading to profound aversion or repugnance excited by something offensive
3. Fear-A feeling of agitation and anxiety caused by the presence or imminence of danger and hence the unpleasant emotional state consisting of psychological and psycho physiological responses to a real external threat or danger, including agitation, alertness, tension, and

mobilization of the alarm reaction. In total, the category and number of participants trained is as per table below:

S.N	Category	Male	Female	Total
01	Teachers	113	81	194
02	School Management committees and Parent teacher association members	115	42	157
03	Overall total	228	123	351

This report is a practical case study to implementing the revitalized SLTS approach in and is intended to bring about inclusive, equitable and effective results.

It covers the main barriers and triggers to progress likely to be encountered along the way, provides technical advice on dealing with geophysical environments that make latrine construction difficult, and makes recommendations for monitoring and documenting the process to ensure long-term behavior change for the different school engaged audience, pupils, school teachers, parents and school management committees.



80 women and girls were trained in Omugo subcounty, Terego county Arua district





**FUNDING**

WAF has been relying on membership contribution, individuals, and partnership support in bridging project gaps.

**Local and International Partners**

[www.unicef.org/uganda](http://www.unicef.org/uganda)

[www.cesvi.org/uganda](http://www.cesvi.org/uganda)



[www.opm.go.ug](http://www.opm.go.ug)

**Office Of the Prime Minister Refugee Desk**

[www.ECHOcommunity.org](http://www.ECHOcommunity.org)

[www.vitaminangels.org](http://www.vitaminangels.org)



[www.teachamantofish.org.uk](http://www.teachamantofish.org.uk)



[www.fenu.or.ug](http://www.fenu.or.ug)



[www.anikefoundation.org](http://www.anikefoundation.org)



[www.acordinternational.org](http://www.acordinternational.org)



[www.twam.uk](http://www.twam.uk)

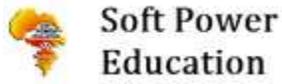
[www.soleterre.org](http://www.soleterre.org)



[www.leavenogirlbehind.org](http://www.leavenogirlbehind.org)



[www.girlsnotbrides.org](http://www.girlsnotbrides.org)



[www.softpowereducation.com](http://www.softpowereducation.com)

[www.realrelief.com](http://www.realrelief.com)

[www.brac.net](http://www.brac.net)



[www.aramaicrelief.com](http://www.aramaicrelief.com)



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