



“Recurrent dry spells, crop failures and animal disease outbreaks have brought widespread food insecurity”

Uganda

Background

The security situation continues to normalize across the north of the Republic of Uganda despite the uncertain fate of the peace process. Almost 80 percent of 1.8 million IDPs have been able to return home. However, progress in this area has been met with serious difficulties in others. Recurrent dry spells, crop failures and animal disease outbreaks have combined to batter livelihoods and bring widespread food insecurity.

Returnees face an uncertain situation, settling into areas where infrastructure and basic services are virtually absent, and food production is heavily constrained by a lack of agricultural inputs, extension services, manpower capacity and land disputes. An estimated 160 000 households in Karamoja subregion, 35 000 in Acholi, and 25 000 in Teso are especially vulnerable. As a result of the evolving situation, the Government of the Republic of Uganda and its development partners have gradually begun to change focus from purely emergency humanitarian action to an approach that includes recovery, rehabilitation and development as well.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Difficulties in Karamoja subregion are acute: more than 60 percent of the population is classified as food insecure, with a further 25 to 30 percent vulnerable according to the IPC. Failures of four consecutive harvests in the subregion have exhausted seed stocks and left many unable to sustain themselves through cultivation. High food prices and outbreaks of livestock disease have also sharply restricted households' purchasing power. Together, these factors have resulted in a near total reliance on external food aid for much of the population.

Animal disease outbreaks have spread from Karamoja to neighbouring Teso subregion, which has also been seriously affected by erratic rains during critical plant-development stages. In addition, Teso is still feeling the effects of flooding in 2007, cumulative poor agriculture seasons in 2008 and armed violence brought by Karimojong raids. The results have been poor harvests, reduced food stocks, a protracted hunger gap and even reports of starvation.

Food and income security has also been undermined by unpredictable weather patterns in Acholi. The subregion's difficulties have been compounded by a loss of farming skills among the population, lack of production assets and deteriorating infrastructure. A severe dry spell in



In Karamoja, FAO and its partners plan to assist 150 000 households with mass livestock vaccinations.

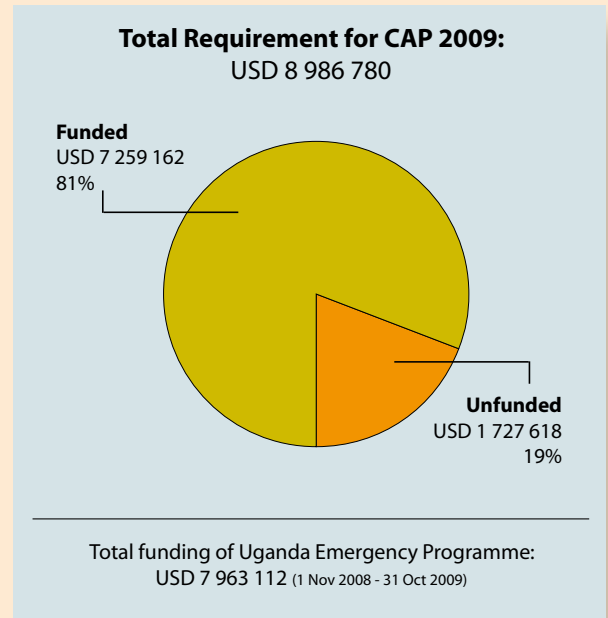
the preliminary agricultural season of 2009, which caused 40 to 60 percent of crops to fail, has contributed to Acholi receiving an IPC phase 3 classification (indicating an acute food and livelihood crisis). Should the situation continue to deteriorate, the subregion will be pushed into a humanitarian emergency or famine.

FAO response

Against a background of consecutive crop failures and disease outbreaks, FAO aims to put in place a series of emergency mitigation measures across northern Uganda. In Karamoja, FAO and its partners plan to assist 150 000 households with mass livestock vaccinations, the provision of drought-tolerant crop varieties, the improvement of food storage facilities, and sensitization on climate change adaptation measures. In Teso, FAO aims to assist 6 000 resettling farming households with vaccination campaigns, drought-tolerant and early maturing crop variety inputs, ox-ploughs to increase land opening, and support to improve household food storage facilities. In Acholi, FAO plans to provide 20 000 people with drought-tolerant and early maturing crop varieties, ox-ploughs, improved household food storage facilities and livestock vaccinations.

FAO and its partners further aim to provide training to 15 000 households in Karamoja in integrated water harvest management and livestock and crop production. FAO also aims to kick-start food production and assist households to reduce their dependency on food assistance, through the provision of training to 12 000 households in Acholi and through 200 farmer field school groups in Teso.

In its capacity as a co-lead agency for the Food Security and Agricultural Livelihoods Cluster, FAO has helped to formulate a comprehensive humanitarian action plan in Uganda. FAO aims to provide cluster members with good, timely information to improve the quality, efficiency, targeting and impact of recovery and development projects.



PROPOSALS: FAO EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE

Total funding requested: USD 10 206 000

Stimulation of agropastoralist livelihoods in Karamoja subregion	
Objectives:	To ensure food security, with combined support to crop and livestock production, water harvest management and skill development through agropastoralist field schools (APFS).
Activities:	Establish 500 APFSs and integrate water harvest management and livestock and crop production to assist beneficiaries break the dependency syndrome cycle; promote village saving and loan associations to enhance a savings culture; and develop capacity for disaster risk reduction.
Beneficiaries:	15 000 households in 500 APFS groups.
Implementing Partners:	All Food Security and Agricultural Livelihoods Cluster members (NGOs, UN agencies and the Government).
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 2 000 000.

Urgent response action to food insecurity in Karamoja subregion	
Objectives:	To protect beneficiary livelihood assets and improve food production.
Activities:	Control animal disease outbreaks through mass vaccination campaigns against PPR, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) and FMD; promote and provide drought-tolerant and early maturing crop varieties; provide sensitization on climate change effect and adaptation measures; promote animal traction as a means to improve agricultural capacity; provide support to the improvement of household food storage facilities; and provide supportive therapy using antibiotics, dewormers, acaricides and multivitamins.
Beneficiaries:	150 000 households.
Implementing Partners:	All Food Security and Agricultural Livelihoods Cluster members (NGOs, UN agencies and the Government).
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 2 500 000.

Stimulating food production and basic livelihood opportunities in resettlement areas of Acholi subregion

Objectives:	Stimulate agricultural livelihoods and household income by promoting the farmer field school approach.
Activities:	Ensure that 400 farmer field school groups are able to strengthen beneficiaries' agricultural and livestock production skills; enable the provision of agricultural and livestock inputs; enable the support of basic rural infrastructure rehabilitation through cash transfer activities; promote socio-economic safety nets and a savings culture, as part of the farmer field school curriculum, through village and saving and loan association schemes.
Beneficiaries:	12 000 resettled households.
Implementing partners:	Food Security and Agricultural Livelihoods Cluster stakeholders (20 NGOs and the Government of Uganda).
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 2 000 000.

Emergency response contingency for farming communities in Acholi subregion

Objectives:	To protect and improve food production and livelihood assets.
Activities:	Control animal disease outbreaks through vaccination campaigns against PPR, CBPP and FMD; provide agricultural inputs, with special focus on drought-tolerant and early maturing crop varieties (millet, sorghum, green gram and cowpea); provide ox-ploughs to increase land opening and limit food security shocks; and support the improvement of household food storage facilities.
Beneficiaries:	20 000 farming households.
Implementing partners:	Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries, UN agencies, NGOs and local governments.
Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds requested:	USD 500 000.

Food Security and Agricultural Livelihood Cluster coordination	
Objectives:	To strengthen Food Security and Agriculture Livelihoods Cluster stakeholder coordination for humanitarian interventions and disaster risk reduction; to link emergency with recovery interventions.
Activities:	Continue to organize monthly cluster coordination meetings at Kampala and district levels; enhance the monitoring and evaluation system to capitalize on lessons learned/best practices; provide regular consultative updates on the Food Security and Agriculture Livelihoods Cluster plan of action, linking humanitarian to recovery interventions; provide seasonal mapping and dissemination of geographic coverage of cluster interventions; facilitate development of innovative projects for disaster risk reduction/management, water harvest and conservation, and food and seed security; coordinate interactions between cluster members and Government/development partner programmes; promote food security IPC; develop technical notes and video documentaries to illustrate and disseminate best practices; and conduct regular joint assessments to determine progress made towards achievement of cluster exit standards.
Beneficiaries:	Food Security and Agriculture Livelihoods Cluster stakeholders and beneficiary communities.
Implementing Partners:	All Food Security and Agriculture Livelihoods Cluster stakeholders (30 NGOs, 2 UN agencies and the Government).
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 350 000.

Strengthening the emergency response capacity and stimulating food production and basic livelihood opportunities in resettlement areas of Teso subregion

Objectives:	To protect livelihood assets, improve food production and increase the resilience capacity of resettling households.
Activities:	Strengthen Teso subregion's urgent response capacity through: animal disease outbreak control (through vaccination campaigns against PPR, CBPP and FMD), agricultural input provision (with special focus on drought tolerant and early maturing crop varieties), distribution of ox-ploughs to increase land opening and limit food security shocks, and support provision for improved household food storage facilities; establish FFS for 200 resettling farmer groups; and strengthen socio-economic safety nets through the promotion of a savings culture through village saving and loan association schemes.
Beneficiaries:	6000 resettling farming households, as well as 200 FFS groups.
Implementing Partners:	FSAL cluster stakeholders (NGOs and the Government).
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 2 000 000.

Responding to gender-based violence in Teso subregion (joint project with United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA])

Objectives:	To increase access to emergency life-saving medical care for rape survivors; and reduce the vulnerability of women and young girls to gender-based violence (GBV) through livelihood support.
Activities:	Procure post-rape treatment kits, including post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kits; strengthen access to life-saving post-rape medical care for all survivors of rape; provide training on post-rape care for health centres without trained staff; and support basic livelihood activities for identified vulnerable individuals to enhance their economic and food security.
Beneficiaries:	2 000 women and 1 000 children directly affected by rape and sexual assault, as well as women and children who provide support and care for rape survivors in their communities; 300 000 families of vulnerable women, who will receive basic livelihood support.
Implementing Partners:	TPO, ASB and the Church of Uganda.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 214 000.

Responding to GBV in Karamoja subregion (joint project with UNFPA)

Objectives:	To provide emergency life-saving medical care to rape survivors; and reduce the vulnerability of women and girls to GBV by supporting their livelihoods.
Activities:	Procure post-rape treatment kits, including PEP kits; raise awareness of post-rape services for survivors to utilize and, in so doing, break the culture of silence; and support basic livelihood activities for identified vulnerable individuals to enhance their economic and food security.
Beneficiaries:	4 000 women and 1 000 children directly affected by rape and sexual assault, as well as women and children who provide support and care for rape survivors in their communities; 50 000 families of vulnerable women, who will receive basic livelihood support.
Implementing Partners:	ASB, ALERIMOK, Samaritan's Purse and IRC.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 321 000.

Responding to GBV in Acholi subregion (joint project with UNFPA)

Objectives:	To increase access to emergency life-saving medical care for rape survivors; and to reduce the vulnerability of extremely vulnerable women and girls to GBV by supporting their livelihoods.
Activities:	Procure post-rape treatment kits, including PEP kits; strengthen access to lifesaving post-rape medical care for rape survivors; provide training for post-rape medical care providers; and support basic livelihood activities for identified vulnerable women, children and households to enhance their economic and food security.
Beneficiaries:	4 000 women and 1 000 children directly affected by rape and sexual assault, as well as women and children who provide support and care for rape survivors in their communities; 50 000 families of vulnerable women, who will receive basic livelihood support.
Implementing Partners:	ARC, CARE, ASB and RHU.
Project Duration:	January – December 2010.
Funds Requested:	USD 321 000.