



East Africa Humanitarian Private Sector Partnership Platform

ABOUT US:

The EA HPPP supports systematic long-term private sector, UN, NGO, Government and community partnerships to address the impacts of natural disasters, emergencies due to conflict and complex urban and out-of camp displacement situations.



A displaced woman in DRC, who is one of the beneficiaries of a local development project, holds her produce after successfully venturing into entrepreneurship to rebuild her life. Credit: UNDP

INTERESTING READS:

- CBI Partner Network Sri Lanka
- Three Takeaways from the Africa Business Technology Forum – GSMA
- Business in the Community: International Disaster relief – Business' Unique Contribution II

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES:

Register for AidEx Conference, Nairobi, 14-15 September

Register for UNISDR - Africa Conference on Economic Costs of Disasters: The Role of the Private Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction, ACECD, 23-25 Oct. 2017, Johannesburg.

HPPP MEMBERS ENGAGE IN KENYA ELECTIONS PREPAREDNESS

"Give Peace a Chance!" Slum Child Foundation Organizes a Successful Peace Caravan in Nairobi

On July 15, 2017, the Holy Trinity Catholic Church - Kariobangi in collaboration with the Slum Child Foundation, Peace Corps, Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (CJPC), Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA, Tangaza University College and the Peace Initiative amongst others held a Peace Caravan (Peace Walk) to advocate for peace and non-violence before, during and after the Kenya General Elections, 2017.



Members of the Peace Caravan

The Peace Caravan was kicked off at Mlango Kubwa in Mathare slums by Fr. Filipe of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Kariobangi, and went through Mathare, Huruma, Ngei, Kariobangi, Babadogo, Lucky Summer and Korogocho before heading back to the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Kariobangi for the closing ceremony.

The Caravan was made up of a group of people who wore white t-shirts printed, "Never Forget and Never Again", and held posters bearing peace messages and photos of the ugly aftermath of Kenya's 2007-2008 post-election violence, to remind people of the humanitarian toll linked to violence. This group preceded a roadshow truck which aired peace themed jokes, messages and music.

As the Peace Caravan made its way, they interacted and handed fliers to residents, including passersby, business people and travelers in matatus. There were stop-overs in Mathare, Huruma and

Ngei, where the area Chief addressed residents, urging them to shun violence and be ambassadors of peace. In Kariobangi, Babadogo, Lucky Summer and Korogocho areas, the Peace Caravan not only looped in area Chiefs but also members of the Kenya police force and the area Peace Committees.

Following the elections, feedback from community leaders indicated that the continuous engagement of Slum Child Foundation and other actors from public, civil society and private sector helped advocate for peace.



One of the stops over during the Peace Caravan

Aga Khan University Holds Media Training on Election Coverage



One of the media trainers conducting a session

The Aga Khan University Graduate School of Media and Communications (AKU-GSMC) recently held two media training programs for civil society organizations funded by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems.

The training was geared towards enhancing the media and communication skills of includes professional development, executive and civil society organizations, especially those involved in supporting communities during the election period.

The training was held at the AKU_GSMC facilities in Westlands, Nairobi and was led by Tom Lansner, Judie Kaberia and Noah Miller. The training is part of AKU-GSMC's offering in East Africa that Masters Programs. AKU-GSMC has also collaborated with The Harvard Kennedy School,

Executive Education and will be launching two leadership courses in November 2017 titled, 'Transforming Leadership for 21st Century Africa.

'For more information: contact Kenneth Macharia@aku.edu or visit: <http://akumedia.aku>



Participants during one of the sessions

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THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND RESPONSE TO DISPLACEMENT

HPPP Participation at High-Level Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees - 22-23



Panelists -including HPPP Chair Allan Waititu on the far-right -of the Private Sector discussing private sector opportunities for investment in refugee and refugee hosting communities in Uganda. Photo Credit: UNDP Uganda

The Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees took place on 22 to 23 June 2017 in Kampala, Uganda, to mobilize support for the refugee response in the country. The Summit was co-hosted by Uganda's president, H.E. Yoweri Museveni, and the UN Secretary-General (UNSG), Antonio Guterres, and was attended by various Heads of States and Government and other high-level dignitaries.

During the Summit, Heads of States and Government and other high-level dignitaries pledged political, technical and financial support and demonstrated solidarity with the people and Government of Uganda for its and progressive and open-door approach towards refugees.

High-level Summit side event for Private Sector

One of the high-level side events which was held during the Summit was themed 'Enabling the Private Sector to Support Refugees and Refugee-Hosting Communities'. The event, which was organized by the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), gathered at least eighty-six (86) participants drawn from a wide array of the private sector. Mr. Allan Waititu, HPPP Chair, was one of the panelists for the side event, while other HPPP members engaged actively in a pre-side

event luncheon and post-panel discussions with the Head of UNDP Uganda, UNCDF, UNHCR, Equity Bank, MasterCard, PSFU, Afripads and World Vision. These discussions focused on opportunities to expand/build a cross-sectoral network addressing the gaps in current refugee response programming and exploring joint opportunities to work with host and refugee entrepreneurs.

The private sector was recognized as one of the key drivers of Uganda's growth and therefore as playing a key role in expanding economic opportunities for both refugees and host communities. It was acknowledged that whereas hosting refugees in Uganda had come at a high cost, it had also generated great opportunities for investment particularly in decreasing vulnerability through sustainable development.

During the side event, dialogue was initiated on how the private and public sectors can jointly design and implement innovative concepts and programmes that can contribute to the livelihoods of refugees. Potential areas of investment

by the private sector were identified and could occur through: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) investment and philanthropy; advocacy and public policy engagement; partnerships; and collective action to implement and sustain durable solutions for refugees. Successful models that support refugees and host communities include, among others: road and infrastructure development; telecommunications; financial services; and agriculture and livestock activities. Additionally, participants sought a framework for the creation of opportunities for the private sector to make soft pledges towards refugees and host community initiatives in Uganda.

Several successful investments have already been made as businesses have started capitalizing on the existing opportunities to work in tandem with UN agencies and local governments on developing projects in refugee-hosting areas. Some of the best practices include: encouraging financial inclusion; collaboration between different segments of the private sector on projects involving the refugees; and investment in production of agricultural products by host-communities. However, a couple of challenges were noted, including- refugees having limited access to financing, education and financial literacy. Lack of capital for refugees has hampered their production and contribution into Uganda's vast opportunities.

It was agreed that more needs to be done to enhance an enabling environment for investors in refugee and host community settings. These include: changing the media's negative perception and portrayal of refugees; and engaging political leaders openly on refugee issues. There is need for information sharing in the business community on business opportunities and investment areas (e.g. through investment profiles of refugee-hosting districts and identifying opportunities to link refugee and refugee-hosting community businesses into value chains and markets). It was also stressed that it is critical that capacity building for refugees should aim at developing their employable skills.

It is also important to leverage global programmes to create space for private sector engagement, such as the Connecting Business initiative (CBI) and its networks like the East Africa Humanitarian Private Sector Partnership Platform (EA HPPP) to learn from other examples and mobilize global and regional private sector support of refugees and refugee-hosting communities in Uganda.

Commitments

World Vision committed to enabling multi-stakeholder engagement

and partnerships and; the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU) established a desk to provide financial literacy to refugees and refugee-hosting communities. In addition, the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) undertook to ensure that the services needed in host communities could be sustained through agriculture, industry and services. One example was the recent joint field visit by Equity Bank Uganda to Maji refugee settlement exploring options of savings and loans training and service support to a refugee livelihoods support group for people living with disabilities, facilitated by World Vision Uganda's South Sudan's refugee response. Composed of 40 people, the group showed how they prepare the liquid soap that they sell to other refugees in the settlement. A bottle of the liquid soap is sold at UGX 1,000 (US\$ 0.28) and they can sell at least 12-20 bottles per day. Equity Bank Credit Officer Dennis Jurna Otyang said he was impressed by the passion and enthusiasm of the group. Otyang explained the savings and financial services that the refugees can benefit from the bank to further their business. More businesses are encouraged to join "go-and-see" visits and explore investment and partnership opportunities.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIVATE SECTOR IN REFUGEE RESPONSE

Investing In Frontier Markets of Fragile Contexts: A New Way of Working with SMES to Tackle the Refugee Crisis



Tabu, South Sudanese refugee in Uganda, collects her family's food allowance with her foster mother (centre) and twin sister (right). © UNHCR/Peter Caton

The world is currently facing a dire refugee situation with number of displaced people is at its highest in history. The situation is compounded by the fact that there's a consistent financing gap to sufficiently respond to all needs. For instance, in August 2017, a US\$ 1.4 billion appeal for South Sudanese refugees in 6 countries was only 28% funded.

With 21.3M out of the 65.3M refugees globally in protracted situations with persistent needs, there is a need for durable solutions. To adequately address this, the UN in 2016 developed the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) as a roadmap from short to long-term interventions. This will reduce the cost of response by building the capacities of refugees in terms of self-reliance, ensuring local inclusion and improving the socio-economic conditions in host communities, which often have low human development rankings, thus leading to a durable solution.

To ensure the success of the CRRF, there is need for new investment schemes and enabling legal and policy frameworks which will facilitate movement and enable refugees to engage in

business activities such as in the case of Uganda. World governments have to ensure the requisite legal and policy frameworks are put in place while the business sector will have to integrate refugees. In the business sector, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) are better placed to ensure the success of the CRRF, since they make up to 90% of companies, offer over 50% of global employment opportunities and have a deepened understanding of local business thus; SMEs are well-placed to offer capacity building opportunities. Therefore, companies have to develop and implement a plan on how to cater for the emerging commercial activity between refugees and host communities.

This will not only improve resilience and lead to social inclusion, but also make significant contributions to Africa's growth. Recent data suggests that innovative financial delivery models including commercial investments built on strengthened SME as well as other financial inclusion tools for vulnerable host community and refugees; represent a new opportunity as part of "frontier investment."

It is also critical to support startups by youth and female entrepreneurs among refugee and host communities through adequate trainings and access to financial assets. Jackson, an 18-year-old South Sudanese refugee in Uganda became his family's breadwinner after saving to put up a shop in a refugee settlement.

This is a redacted version. To access the full article, paste on your browser the following link: <http://community.businessfightspoverty.org/profiles/blogs/investing-in-frontier-markets-of-fragile-contexts-a-new-way-of>

FEATURED STUDY

Ending Protracted Internal Displacement: The Role of the Private Sector

Each year, millions of people are forced to flee their homes because of conflict, violence, and disasters. The vast majorities remain in their own country as “internally displaced persons” (IDPs). Most remain displaced, and often dependent on humanitarian assistance, for years or even decades. Protracted internal displacement not only impacts IDPs; the resulting social and economic strain can also undermine host communities’ own resilience and frustrate the overall development and even political stability of the country.

A new study: *Breaking the Impasse: Reducing Internal Displacement*, commissioned by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) shines a spotlight on this global crisis and issues an urgent call for collective action to find lasting solutions to protracted internal displacement and to prevent new displacements from becoming long-term.



An internally displaced person works the fields near Kalunga IDP site in South Kivu, DRC. Credit: OCHA/Ivo Brandau.

The study features five country case studies: Somalia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Philippines, Colombia and Ukraine, as the lens to examine the causes, impacts and challenges of protracted internal displacement, and the potential contributions to solutions by different stakeholders including the private sector, before making recommendations.

The study recognizes the critically important role of the private sector in advancing durable solutions to protracted displacement and recommends that:

The private sector should cooperate with States, humanitarian and development partners, donors and the civil society to:

- Analyze the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of IDPs and their hosts
- Identify the reasons why displacement is protracted; and
- Agree on and implement strategic, clear, quantifiable, measurable and achievable results (collective outcomes).

The full report plus a summary of its seven key messages is available at: <http://www.unocha.org/idp>. A launch of the study was held in Nairobi on 31 August 2017.

HPPP members mark World Humanitarian Day 2017 at the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON).

The event in Nairobi was hosted by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA) and included remarks from key speakers: Gemma Connell - OCHA Head of Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa; Dr. Abbas Gullet - Secretary-General of the Kenya Red Cross Society; Valerie Guarnieri - World Food Program's Regional Director for East and Central Africa and David Wright - Save the Children's Regional Director for East and Southern Africa.

This year's WHD was marked by reaffirming that civilians caught in conflict are #NotATarget, and demanding that global leaders act to protect them.



A section of HPPP partners during the World Humanitarian Day commemoration event on August 18, 2017 at UNON. Photo: OCHA

In East Africa alone, 46 aid workers have been killed, 45 injured and 30 others abducted in various incidences within the last twelve (12) months. Globally, there were 288 aid worker victims of violence in 2016. These figures represent atrocities directed at aid workers who bravely keep going despite challenges to deliver humanitarian assistance to people in need and are a breach of the laws which regulate the conduct of war. A section of HPPP partners ((Dan IT Office, MasterCard, OCHA, World Vision, Slum Child Foundation, Equity Bank) graced the

occasion, and added their voice to the global #NotATarget campaign, in solidarity with people trapped in conflict and advocated for the protection of civilians, including aid and health workers.

The UNSG Antonio Guterres urged people around the world to lend their voices to this year's #NotATarget campaign, stressing that, "everyone can make a difference in ending the violence and upholding the values we share and hold dearly." To add your voice to the campaign: read and sign the petition at worldhumanitarianaday.org and call global leaders to action.

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Should you wish to submit articles for the next HPPP newsletter please send to: James Wallunya; wallunya@un.org

