

## IRNA mission to Kajo Keiji 2- 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016: FSC input

**Context & drivers:** (Day 1 KI interviews, mapping & market assessment in KK)

- Cattle raiding from the Dinka cattle herds in Jonglei who moved south in 2014 and remained – recent events occurred around June – August 2016
- Events in Yei County resulting in IDP movements into Kajo Keiji County
- ‘Fear & rumour’ of revenge attacks coming from IDPs fleeing Yei County – late November & early December resulted in large scale displacement to the three Uganda refugee camps
- A smaller movement of returnees from Uganda refugee camps after attacks & atrocities from the host population

Population	Comment
Pre-crisis population in KK 281,000	% piling exercise suggests up to 50% of the county have moved south to three refugee camps in Uganda
Ajio approx. 3,668 IDP <sup>1</sup> s	Mainly from Lainya, Yei & Morobo (Yei State)
Kerewa approx. 10,187 IDPs	As above and also from Kansuk & Juba
Logo approx. 16,759 IDPs	As above plus returnees from Uganda
Kansuk approx. 130 IDPs	From Kala
Returnees from Uganda refugee camp	Exact numbers difficult to calculate but are included in some of the IDP figures given above.

Other agriculture & food security factors in a former ‘bread basket’ county:

- **Erratic rainfall:** impact on maize & groundnuts; cassava & sorghum ‘normal’
- Disruption to farming activities due to **displacement** – creating a further labour constraint factor (un-harvested fields; lack of casual farm work for the extreme poor etc.)
- Context of chronic underdevelopment: high % of subsistence farming (1 – 4 fedans) especially in Nyepo and Liwalo: lack investment, capital, improved management & inputs (poverty & public resource allocation constrained)
- Loss of NGO support from Lire & Kangpo payams (NPA, Farm Project, DRC & scale down of Mott McDonald) and collapse of agricultural extension;
- Labour is a chronic constraint at critical times for subsistence (75%) and progressive (20 – 50 fedans) farmers (25%) and exacerbated by recent events: slow down on progressive farms, loss of farm labour;
- Movement of KK cattle towards the Uganda border for safety & protection of their assets (this is an abnormal livestock movement in this county due to insecurity);
- Existing wealth inequalities: approx.. only 80% of the population with livestock (cattle); extreme poor households seasonally food insecure etc. (more in depth assessment required on extreme poverty)
- 2016 **economic crisis:** cost of inputs from Uganda; lack of domestic purchasing power especially from the subsistence sector;
- **KK Market:** reduction in number of traders; reduced number of customers; increased prices; trader low turnover, reduced stock, (questionable ability to scale up for any cash based interventions – REACH survey); small number of consumers buying more food items due to food shortages;

<sup>1</sup> Source of IDP numbers: Community leaders at the temporary camps as of December 22nd;

**Specific needs** (Day 2: FGDs with women & children in the three IDP sites visited in Ajo, Kerewa & Logo)

Chose to remain in safe, secure sites where hosts welcoming; children & elderly could go no further; did not want to proceed to Uganda (past bad experiences with LRA attacks and more recent host attacks in 2016). Lost all possessions and assets including livestock (for those who had) – arrived only with what they could carry: most internally displaced (79%); 10% continued to Uganda; and 11% abducted (% piling exercise from Kerewa)

- Serious decline in food consumption: wild foods, sourced from host community (cassava, sweet potatoes) and occasional 'gift' of sauce, tomatoes or groundnuts;
- Especially acute for children, pregnant and lactating mothers;
- Lacking cash/ saving (livestock left in home site or raided) and without access to home area harvest or income generating opportunities in their current locations
- Access to land from host community but no seeds & tool inputs: priority Sorghum, cow pea, maize & groundnuts; cassava and vegetables: tomatoes, okra etc.
- **Labour shortage** is major constraint: (1) even in normal days; (2) large number of male/ youth missing or abducted; especially from Logo FGDs (Exercise: generated 85% not present: made up of 64% abducted in raids and 21% missing, whereabouts unknown);
- No livelihood options: though people do have skills: tailoring, pot moulding, farm labour, petty trading, making mats & brooms, knitting etc. and no ability currently to engage with markets (no means)

**Recommendations for response**

Focus support to conflict affected payams where condition of the host community is least favourable (95% subsistence farmers): Liwalo where we have the three main IDP sites: Ajo, Kerewa and Logo; and Nyepo: Kansuk IDPs and communities badly affected by cattle raiding;

**Support to IDPs – in the next week**

- Immediate food assistance targeting the IDPs up until the end of the 2017 harvest; questionable whether market based options (vouchers and cash) will be effective given the depressed nature of the local economy & the reduced number of traders;

**Support to IDPs – in the next 2 – 3 months:**

- Seed and tools targeting IDPs required for the forthcoming planting season
- Social safety net cash transfers to women headed HH IDPs (majority) as absence of male/ youth labour is going to be a major constraint to building homes and in the next farming season – for purpose of hiring labour;

**Support to IDP host communities – next 2 – 3 months:** (these target groups were not assessed during the IRNA) but with greatly reduced populations in the past 3 weeks to support a high case load of IDPs:

- Especially targeting HH with children under 5, pregnant and lactating mothers and extreme poor HHs (assessment required to determine the numbers in the host community): food assistance and seeds and tools to compensate for past support and future 'good will' towards the IDPs;

**Recovery & resilience building – post 2017 harvest IF security and access permits:**

- Re-activate government extension and support of NGOs (NPA, Farm Project, DRC and Mott McDonald's 'farming for business');
- Extend support to Nyepo & Liwolo including ox ploughing as practiced in Lire and Kangapo as these payams had been neglected in the past by NGOs;
- Programmes to include: capacity building; access to capital via RUFU (MFI); FFS (management) and inputs (seeds & tools) for extreme poor' HHs; initiatives around wider

livelihoods: vegetable production (water, intensive labour and capital requirements + training), vocational training targeting women and youths etc. e.g. carpentry, building, business management, community animal health worker (refresher);

- With FAO support to vaccination & treatment campaigns for livestock;
- Other cross cutting issues around: environment (making and using fuel efficient stoves a high priority in the IDP sites); support to elderly (social safety nets especially from extreme poor HHs); work on gender relations (engaging men & boys and reducing GBV/ IPV); promoting accountability and establishing complaint response mechanism (AAP) etc. within FSL interventions.

Alistair Short  
22/12/2016