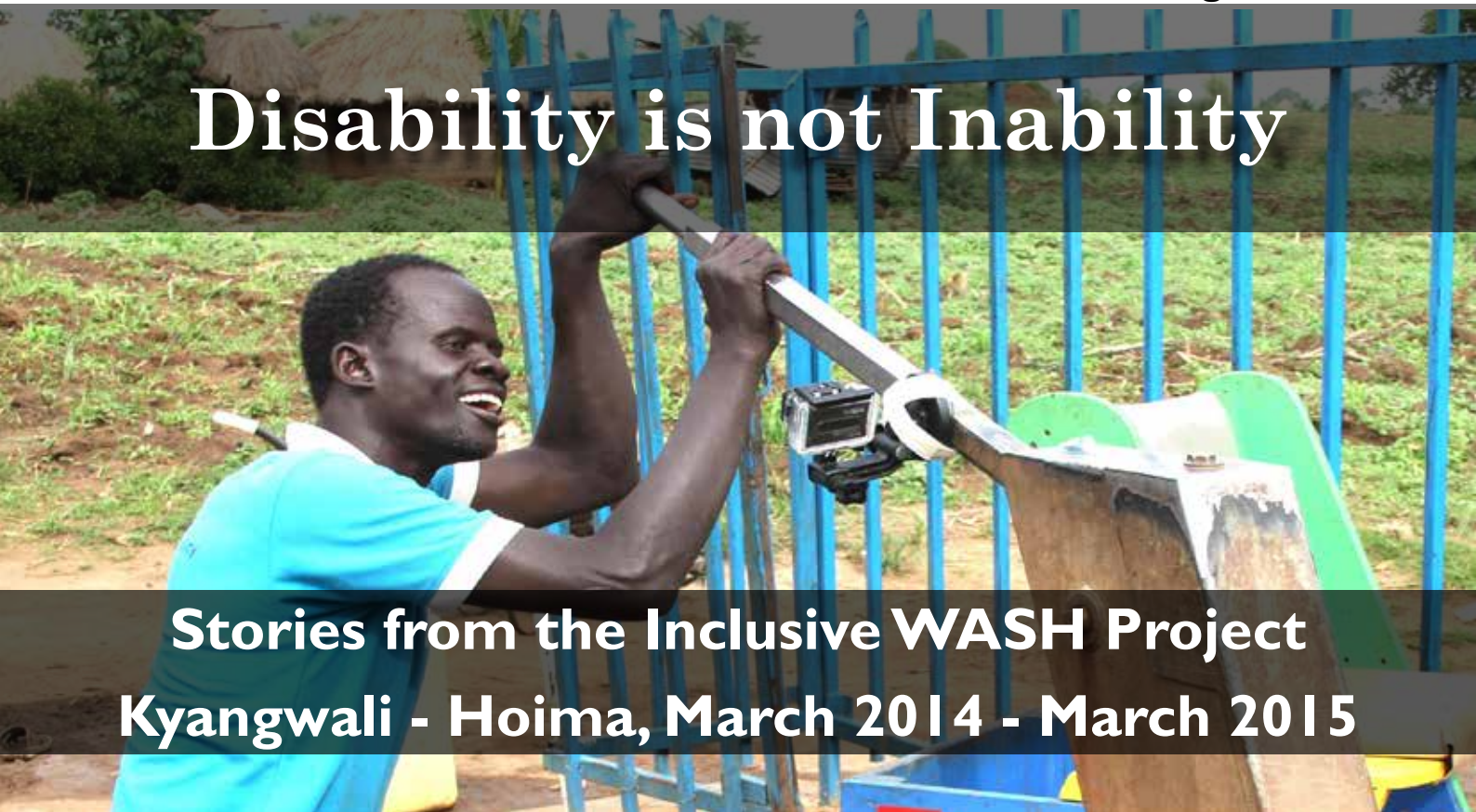


Disability is not Inability



Stories from the Inclusive WASH Project
Kyangwali - Hoima, March 2014 - March 2015



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Foreword from the National Director



It is with pleasure that I present you with stories from the Inclusive WASH project in Kyangwali which demonstrates that disability is not inability.

World Vision Uganda in partnership with World Vision Finland implemented an Inclusive WASH project funded by Government of Finland in Kyangwali refugee settlement in Hoima District, Uganda. The overall aim was improving access to safe and clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for People Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) as a means of improving dignity. The project reached 4,800 people (1,014 men, 1,098 women, 1,290 boys and 1,398 girls) that included 574 PWDs and elderly (80 being children) with various forms of disability ranging from physical, sensory, intellectual and mental

challenges.

The project was implemented using the social model of disability approach, which focused on removing environmental, attitudinal, and institutional barriers to WASH services faced by people living with disabilities. The approach does not deny the reality of impairment nor its impact on the individual, but challenges the physical, attitudinal, communication, and social environment to accommodate impairments as an expected incident of human diversity. Inclusive WASH interventions also targeted people with disabilities (PWDs) to identify and remove barriers that hinder their access to WASH services, particularly among vulnerable social groups, such as refugees.

We engaged partners such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Action Africa Help Uganda (AAHU), local refugee leadership, community and beneficiaries among others which ensured attainment of innumerable milestones and successes some of which are highlighted in this magazine.

Our strong engagements with beneficiaries and community leaders to develop sustainable solutions in areas of need, played a key role in an attempt to ensure ownership and project sustainability, this demonstrated that; “Nothing should be done for People With Disabili-

ties without them”.

On the other hand, sharing information and collaborating closely with Hoima District Local Government (HDLG), National Council for Disability (NCD), Ministry of Gender Social Labor and Development (MoGLSD), Disability People’s Organizations (DPO’s) created innovative ways of mobilizing local action towards sustainable and innovative WASH services, addressing the plight of PWDs and the elderly.

As we continue with our efforts to improve Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services especially for PWDs, it is important to note that there are still challenges to overcome, especially as regards social barriers and accessibility to services. World Vision Uganda is determined to promote appropriate approaches that ensure equity and inclusion in implementation of all its projects. The aim of this magazine is to stimulate awareness and harness momentum for uptake of disability inclusive approaches in community development programming. I urge all stakeholders to ensure that socio-economic and environmental factors that affect PWDs are addressed at all levels.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gilbert Kamanga'.

Gilbert Kamanga
National Director,
World Vision Uganda.

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Introduction

World Vision Uganda (WVU) in partnership with World Vision Finland has been implementing a 1 year Inclusive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Project in Kyangwali Refugee settlement-Hoima district, with funding from the Government of Finland. The project commenced in March 2014 and ended in March 2015.

The objective of the project was to improve access to safe and clean water, and hygiene for People With Disabilities (PWDs) as a means of improving their dignity. The project focused on PWDs and used the social model of disability approach that is all about fighting social barriers. PWDs were finding it hard to access the available WASH facilities as they were not accessible to them.

In homes people with disabilities used bushes to defecate and those that had pit latrines in their homesteads left them for the able bodied as they could not comfortably use them. Atanasi Serugendo one of the project beneficiaries testified to this after receiving a toilet with a raised seat since squatting over a pit latrine was difficult for him.

Through the Inclusive WASH Project, World Vision made it easy for PWDs to access and use facilities such as latrines, bore holes, and provided assistive devices like wheel chairs, knee pads and clutches.

WVU created awareness among all stakeholders on the need to mainstream issues of WASH for PWDs using drama groups which changed people's mind sets towards PWDs. Therefore this booklet is expressive of the successes registered in the 1 year of implementation of the project.



Able bodied people can also fetch water from boreholes constructed with facilities for PWDs.

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Highlights of Uganda

Uganda is a landlocked country, located in East Africa, along the equator. It is bordered by five countries as well as a sizeable area of Lake Victoria. In the East it is bordered by Kenya, North South Sudan, West, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and partly Rwanda while in the South lies Tanzania. The crested crane is the national bird.

Uganda is sub divided into more than 112 districts, spreading across four administrative regions: Northern, Eastern, Central and Western. Each district is divided into sub-counties, parishes and villages. Uganda is home to many different ethnic groups, and approximately forty different languages are regularly and currently in use in the country.

The country possesses significant natural resources, which include fertile soils and untapped reserves of crude oil and natural gas. Agriculture accounts for most of Uganda's economy employing 82 percent of the workforce.

The country population has been growing at 3.3% annually since 2002 to date. The Uganda National and Housing Census provisional results (2014) estimate the population to be 35 million. The same projections put the population of people with disabilities close to 5 million.

People with disabilities in Uganda, as in most developing countries in the world, face extreme conditions of poverty, have limited opportunities for accessing education, health, suitable housing and employment opportunities. The Government of Uganda has adopted a number of laws and policies pertaining to people with disabilities, including their right to productive and decent work and basic services.

The 1995 constitution of Uganda, Article 21, prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities while the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2006, makes provisions for the elimination of all forms of discriminations against people with disabilities and towards equal opportunities. In the last few years, Uganda offered home to an influx of refugees mostly from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Southern Sudan.

To reduce the dependence on aid to refugee families, Government of Uganda allocated a piece of land (quarter of football pitch) per family for crop farming in the settlement. Among the beneficiaries are PWD families that at times find it hard to live independently. For this reason, WVU found it befitting to work with Government to enable PWDs have a productive life, realize their aspirations and boost their social and economic inclusion.



Children walking back from school in Kyangwali refugee settlement camp- Hoima.

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Kyangwali: Life and the people

Kyangwali is a sub county of 147 Square Km located in Hoima district about 350 Km from Kampala. It was opened in the 1960s to respond to the needs of Rwandan refugees fleeing conflict. Since then it has hosted refugees from conflict affected countries of Democratic Republic of Congo, Southern Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya and Somalia, the majority today being from the DRC.

The main language used for communication is Swahili.

According to the Office of The Prime Minister (OPM) by the end of October 2013, the population of Kyangwali was reported to be 33,150. The camp is divided into blocks in which there are 23-30 families. Over 98% of the population is dependent on crop farming from which both food and income are generated to supplement food rations provided by United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and prepare them for life after returning to their homes of origin.



A shared parental responsibility for a disabled girl child.



Members of the NGO's community participate in cleaning of the Kyangwali Trading Center.

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World Vision Uganda and the Inclusive WASH Project

World Vision Uganda (WVU) is a Christian relief development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision Uganda operates in more than 41 districts in Uganda in 51 Area Development Programmes.

In 2013 World Vision Uganda carried out an assessment on access to WASH facilities in Kyangwali settlement. According to the Kyangwali Assessment Report in response to the DRC refugee influx (2013) the results showed that the pupil stance ratio was at 1:93 children. In response to these gaps, WVU together with World Vision Finland designed an inclusive WASH project to improve access to safe and clean water, sanitation and hygiene for People Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) as a means of improving their dignity. This is referred to as the Kyangwali Inclusive WASH project.

Enid Kabasinguzi Ocaya, the Disaster Risk Reduction and Community Resilience Manager, WV Uganda says the project is the first “exclusively inclusive” project focusing on inclusion of People with Disabilities. “In the implementation of World Vision programmes one of our pillars is Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs, where we respond to emergencies in both our programme areas and non programme areas. But as we implement our programmes we are careful to focus on the most vulnerable and in this case they are the PWDs and elderly. We were lucky to have one of our support offices that had disability issues at heart (WV Finland) that approached us to pilot the

Inclusive WASH project, at that time, the statistics in Kyangwali Settelement showed an increase in numbers of PWDs. UNHCR and other implementing partners gave us a warm welcome. That’s how we started”, Enid recalls.

Since then the project has constructed at least 14 accessible latrine blocks of six stances each (including washrooms for girls and a special stance for children with disabilities) in seven schools which has improved the pupil, stance ratio from 1:93 to 1:43. The school latrines have provision for the PWDs, the ramp access, guide rails for the visually impaired, and raised latrine seats to support the physically disabled. In the communities 130 latrines were constructed for PWD families. At household level, PWDs were supported with assistive devices for latrine access, water storage (tipping devices) and transportation (extensions for tricycles) and protective knee pads.

The project fabricated prototype assistive devices that were used for consultations with beneficiaries to ensure all different disabilities were catered for. As a result over 300 assistive devices were fabricated for PWDs. The devices included; crutches, walking sticks and wheel chairs, tricycles, latrine access devices, transportation and water storage devices. Most of these were fabricated locally.

Drama groups and PWD associations were formed to assist in mobilization, advocacy and PWD data management, for example UMOJA Drama Group. These groups helped World Vision to get the right data on PWDs and demystified disability as a whole.

According to WV's WASH Engineer for Western Region, Peter Nzabanita, the approach used was a social model of disability approach aimed at fighting social barriers in society such as attitudes and cultural norms.

The inclusive project provided inclusive designs for water and sanitation facilities for easier access by PWDs and school retention. "Whatever is comfortable for a PWD is also comfortable for the able bodied ones like you and me" said Peter. World Vision has worked with and engaged disabled people organisations, districts and relevant government departments, PWDs in positions of influence in leadership, local PWD artists, to bring more hope and recognition for the disabled as part of society with roles to play. They are gifted with different abilities. I derived my motivation from the smiling faces every time I engaged with them. It was hard to imagine how creative PWDs are, especially in drama. At the start, PWDs seemed few but the more time we spent, the more numbers we realized", remarked Peter Nzabanita, at the end of the project.

He vividly recalls that at the start of the project whenever a meeting of PWDs was called, twenty five to thirty of them would attend. Some of them were probably indifferent but after one year the numbers attending such meetings, celebrations and gatherings were over-whelming.



A PWD from the UMOJA drama group entertaining school children at a function in Kyangwali Refugee Settlement. Although disabled he is known as "Magulu Kumi", a local name for a heavy truck, in reference to his stamina.

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Synopsis of WASH Project Interventions

Outcomes

In the last one year, the dignity of PWDs has been realized. They now have an association which looks into their social needs. They feel much more appreciated, have a voice, and are part and parcel of society with increased self-esteem and reduced dependence on other people for WASH needs. They are able to fully participate in community and social activities as a result of improved mobility.

The project has increased the numbers of people accessing WASH facilities, with the construction of all inclusive new facilities like latrines and bore holes and provision of assistive devices that have eased PWDs movements. Also water borne diseases have reduced, as the number of sanitation facilities improved and became more comfortable.

The need for dependence has reduced now that WV has translated disability into ability with the provision of assistive devices. It is now common to hear a PWD saying "I can now fetch water on my own."

The project promoted socialization through music, dance and drama groups. Both the able bodied and the PWDs are now working together to sensitise the public on disability issues and this has created awareness on the issues of PWDs among the communities.

According to the activity report,

- 14 accessible latrine blocks of six stances each (including wash-rooms for girls and a special stance for PWD's) in six schools have been built.
- In the communities 130 latrines were constructed for PWD families.
- At household level most of the PWD's received assistive devices for latrine access (including 130 new beneficiaries), water storage (tipping devices) and transportation (extensions for tricycles) and protective knee pads. At least over 300 assistive devices were fabricated.

Challenges

- The project could not meet the high expectations on the side of the beneficiaries, for example some PWDs needed treatment and this was not catered for in the project.
- One year was not enough to handle all the needs of PWDs. The area is big and the PWDs are not near each other or nearer to service delivery points.
- There was a challenge of able bodied people coming to demand for services that were initially not planned for.



A community facilitator demonstrating to a PWD on the use of a tipping device at a function in Kyangwali.

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Experiences and Success Stories

A New Latrine for Serugendo

The huge and seemingly strong Atanasi Serugendo lives in Muziza zone B, Kyangwali settlement in Hoima district. Life for him has been a combination of many ups and downs for six years. He has always been confined to the compound, where he can only gather some leafy vegetables, fruits and tubers for a meal. Life has not been easy for him.

His distinctive feature is elephantiasis of the limbs which, going by his failing memory, first struck when he was already an adult. He can neither remember the date nor the day. And to him the cause for such a condition remains a mystery. Serugendo had till then lived a normal life in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo(DRC). In 2007, war broke out in the DRC and many of his village mates like him fled in disarray. For long the war persisted and with it came hostility and displacement. Finding himself a loner separated from family and relatives, his only recourse was to run for his life.

Serugendo crossed the Ugandan border with thousands of other refugees in similar conditions and was taken in at Kyangwali Kyangwali Settlement by OPM and UNHCR. When World Vision Uganda introduced the inclusive Water and Sanitation Hygiene campaign (WASH), Serugendo became one of the pioneers in getting assistance. He became a recipient of a water storage facility (jerry can and a tipping facility) that would aid his day to day household tasks and help him realize a new life. A new latrine was constructed in his backyard with a hand washing facility. The new latrine with a seat catered for his incapacity and was a risk free area for him to use.

"I have always squatted waiting for that awful moment when my back would break. I am weak and aging so the latrine seat provides some relief. I can now sit comfortably" Serugendo discloses when thanking World Vision for the items. "It was very different

when I first came. It was about going to the gardens to ease myself." Serugendo narrated as he showed us around his newly acquired latrine that has re-lieved him of open defecation, where he would only find it convenient under darkness.



Elephantiasis is the root cause of Serugendo's disability.



Serugendo in front of his newly constructed pit latrine.

A water storage facility for Janet

Elderly Janet Kakindi simply recollects following the crowd when people started fleeing the war in the DRC, she was then 74 years old. This was quite a hard experience for an elderly person. She however moved along for what seemed like unending days and nights, before crossing into Uganda where she settled as a refugee.

The skirmishes they were escaping from, in the eastern DRC continued for long and didn't spare any of the nearby communities. Once inside Uganda she like many others, found her way into Kyangwali area where she obtained a plot of land to live on.

Six years later, she is a frail and aging woman. She is hard of hearing and walks with a faltering gait though she can only tread her compound.

A new latrine was built and she was also provided with a water storage and a tipping device. In addition she got a walking stick to support her movement.

Although she cannot fetch the water herself, the devices are convenient in reducing the burden of lifting the jerry can to tip the water. She depends on helpful neighbours who fetch her water but will use the storage devices around the home. Janet recalls that often times before this support she would at times go without meals because of lack of water for cooking despite having rations from UNHCR.

"I am grateful to World Vision Uganda for these items, I need the stick to walk around and the Jerrycan is useful for storing my water", Janet says.



Janet Kakindu, supported by a walking stick, uses a tipping device provided by the Inclusive WASH Project.

The little girl called Angela

Furaha Tumumpende, 30 years old, is a resident of Rwenyawa village since 2013. Her time is mostly spent in her compound providing care to her child Angela. Angela was born with both limbs crippled.

At 4 years, little Angela will not join others to play around the compound, neither will she follow as they go to the borehole to fetch water. She mainly looks on in the morning when others leave for school and when they come back in the evenings. Clinging to her mother's arms, Angela yells occasionally when she sees strangers in the vicinity.

“She was born like that and we have to take it the way it is. When her siblings play around she sits and watches, it is painful but we live with it,” says Furaha in a sad tone.

Furaha, a wife and mother to three children crossed the border to Uganda together her husband and the two children in 2012. The skirmishes in her native village in Eastern DR Congo were unbearable and they decided to flee.

Little Angela was born months after. With hind sight, the couple that lives together in Uganda could have carried the unborn baby across the border as they fled. Locals believe that instability combined with absence of consistent antenatal services are major causes of some abnormal conditions like this one among many children.

In the case of little Angela it could have triggered poliomyelitis the common illness that attacks the young who will not have accessed immunization services.

Angela's family under the inclusive project was among the 130

that got a toilet. It was built to ease the burden of excreting in the nearby bushes but more importantly aiding Angela as she grows.

Such facilities assure the communities of sanitized environments with clean and protected water for home use, clean home utensils, and hygienic people around the home which reduces the likelihood of water borne diseases. Given the good environment Furaha can now join her husband where she contributes towards food production. This helps to supplement the food rations provided monthly by UNHCR.



Furaha Tumumpende with daughter Angela on the way to her garden.

The WASH project will improve academic performance

The inclusive WASH project constructed V.I.P latrines for pupils and teachers in 7 schools; each school having 2 latrine blocks 1 for female and the other for male pupils. The female section also provided a bathing room. This provision is important for retaining maturing girls in school as they are useful in ensuring good sanitation especially during menstruation time. All latrines constructed have rain water harvesting tanks for good hygiene purposes.

Children with disabilities, found it difficult to use an ordinary latrine, and a separate room was specially designed and constructed for their disability needs, with a seating facility, ramp, and rails. Those with wheel chairs can comfortably go in as the latrines are wide enough to allow wheel chair manoeuvres. This has saved the children with disabilities from the burden of crawling in their urine as they attempt to ease themselves.

Schools that received these latrines also got cleaning materials for proper hygiene. Pupils now enjoy cleaning the facilities hence improving on the hygiene.

“It is just a few months since the school started using the facility. We no longer witness long lines at the facilities especially at break time when the pupils want to ease themselves. We only had two latrines for boys and girls each with two stances and this could not accommodate the numbers. This facility is therefore timely and we hope it will help retain pupils in school”, said Margret Kabasomi the head teacher of Kira Keita-ka primary school. This school is among the 7 beneficiary schools.

She is optimistic of improved academic performance as both the pupils and teachers are going to be focused. She said pupils have been sensitized on how to improve their hygiene and have an anthem for it which has indirectly changed their mind set. “I hope this will not only

help them at school but also in their homes. For the girl child, this is the first time we are witnessing a special consideration for them. They can privately handle their hygiene needs using the menstrual hygiene management rooms attached,” Margret added.

However Margret’s concern is about how to maintain the facility during the dry season given that the school does not have a nearby water source apart from the water tank that has been provided by the project. “The school is tens of kilometers inside the settlement area. So in times when there is no rain, the school dries out and yet the latrines cannot run without water. We pray to the government to provide us with water so we do not put this good facility to waste”, Margret said.



Margret Kabasomi - Head Teacher, Kira Keitaka Primary School, Kyangwali.



A school latrine built under the project with a ramp for the disabled and a rain water storage facility for washing hands and maintaining hygiene of the the latrine. This is one among the many latrines provided under the project in schools that has reduced the pupil stance ratio from 1:93 to 1:43.

Desire is thankful for the support

Desire Kiroha a Congolese refugee came to Uganda in 1999. She earns her livelihood through farming in the settlement. She has a young disabled boy crippled by poliomyelitis and spends most of her time taking care of his needs.

With the coming in of the Inclusive WASH project, she, as a caregiver got assistance in form of a latrine with a seating facility for the disabled child. The family also got a water storage facility and was sensitized on good sanitation practices. This is a gift to the crippled boy whose movement is dependent on care takers and has to be carried to any place inside or outside the house when he needs to defecate.

“The latrine is useful because issues of sanitation for the family were terribly bad as we did not have a functional latrine. When the boy has nobody to lift him he eases himself where he sleeps”, says Desire .

She adds that the facility has made life convenient for the boy as a disabled child, and the care takers. For instance it is now easier to leave the boy under the care of neighbors who can carry him to the latrine, when I go to the garden.

Nevertheless there is a challenge. A child with this type of disability makes it necessary that the mother or any other care giver must be around the boy all day long. She passionately appeals to World Vision to assist them with a wheel chair to solve mobility related problems since she cannot carry him for long distances.

In spite of such hardship, Desire looks forward with a lot of hope. “I am here with no work, no income and with a disabled child. If World Vision could possibly be able to provide something that can give us some income for this family, then it will improve our condition and make our lives better as we raise such a child”.





A happy Desire Kiroha carrying her disabled child with husband in background

World Vision has made me a leader

Peter Dolo is a man of numerous abilities despite the visible disability that has crippled him. The 43 year old is full of smiles and speaks lightly when he mentions his disability related distress. Fifteen years ago, he fled from his native country, Sudan, and found a home in Uganda. He is a refugee, a status that he has lived for this long. His evidently newly constructed one roomed hut adds on to another older one in the small compound that has been his home since he arrived here.

Peter Dolo, who was recently elected Secretary General of a local association of People with Disabilities in Kyangwali resettlement area, derives his survival from farming like any other person. It is about working in the fields, joining colleagues at the nearby trading centre in the evening for a chat but of late he is moving towards self reliance after he acquired a tricycle for his mobility, a latrine and a water storage facility. This was so much of a relief to him and also a means to advancing his abilities.

“These devices help me in movement. Before I got this tricycle I used to depend on others to do my domestic chores and at times would be forced to hire someone to wash for me for instance. With this tricycle I can now independently do my work at home and even save the little I was giving laborers, to improve on my life”, says Peter as he happily hangs his clothes on the hedge.

When asked about his new assignment entrusted to him by as the secretary for their association, Peter said that he scored highly in the elections because he was able to mobilize the population using the tricycle. “It was easy for me to move from house to house as I solicited for votes. Even in the evenings I find it convenient to join other able bodied members of the community in the trading centre to discuss issues affecting our society”.

Peter also singles out the latrine as a great relief to him. “The latrine seat holds me steadily.

Everyone knows the importance of a latrine. It is now easy for me to use it without fear of contracting diseases associated with poor hygiene.”

Like any other refugee in Kyangwali settlement, Peter was given a piece of land where to grow food to supplement the rations. He found it hard to put to use and was often giving it out to other able bodied people who would utilize it and give him part of the harvest.

All this has now changed. “Though I don’t dig myself I can have laborers dig for me on a little pay as I supervise them. I am now assured of a good diet and as you can see in a period of one year I am healthier”.



Peter Dolo can now afford to do his domestic chores.

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What other partners say about the project

A partner to rely on - Beatrice Kaggya (MoGLSD)



Government finds in WVU a reliable partner. When you partner with organizations like this in reaching out to PWDs you are sure of representation on the ground.

One of the observable benefits the project has brought is improvement of access to water, sanitation and hygiene. Provision of assistive devices to enable independence of PWDs to access public places and the ability to fend for themselves has been realised. This has boosted their dignity.

I believe as government we will continue supporting WVU to address the rights of PWDs. We shall ensure sustainability of the project through the Office of the Prime Minister and the Local Government of Hoima. The project has good practices which we can all learn from.

My heart is for the girl child - Sabrina (UNHCR)



Talking about people living with disabilities and with reduced mobility means one is looking at people who cannot have access to the available public facilities like latrines, water points, schools, health centres among others.

In my view, the partnership between UNHCR and World Vision has eased the suffering encountered by refugees. Inclusiveness is meant to make sure all refugees have fair and equal access to all the services provided in the settlement. What World Vision has done for this category of people is to adopt specific structures to allow them live with the dignity that human beings deserve.

Today's policies in different countries have included prioritizing means of how to give all citizens access to public building structures like, health facilities, schools and even roads. We need to think of this category that has limited access due to some challenges in their mobility. If you want any policy to be inclusive you need to think about how you give access to everybody. It is a social imbalance when latrines are built for children in schools and yet a section of children don't have access. In this regard World Vision has given us a new challenge. How can we consider ourselves to have respected the disabled girl child for instance and provided equal access and proper care free of any discrimination, when we do not take effort to build appropriate structures for this child.

NCD applauds World Vision Uganda - Azuma Ark Groffin



At the National Council for Disabilities (NCD), we applaud World Vision Uganda (WVU) for realizing the plight of PWDs and abiding by both the National and International legislation when implementing the Inclusive WASH project in Kyangwali Settlement.

This makes water, hygiene and sanitation facilities accessible to refugees with disabilities. PWDs face immense challenges in communities out there and one would expect their conditions to be worse in such a refugee settlement.

World Vision Uganda has eased their movements, they can now participate fully in all community activities as a result of this Inclusive WASH project. The PWD's have started feeling the impact of the one year (March 2014-March 2015) project as they are now recognized, respected as full and equal members in society, with increased self-esteem and reduced dependence on other people.

However we appreciate that the time given to the project was short. More PWDs are still emerging in the camp as a result of the mobilization created by the drama groups only to be told the project was coming to an end. It is our appeal to WVU to negotiate for an extension to cater for these people and to consolidate the gains so far scored for a better transition.

Disability has been mainstreamed - Sarah Naluyinda (OPM)



The relationship with WV and Office of the Prime Minister is a partnership. We have worked together with the NGO from planning, implementing and evaluating the project.

Most refugees come with disabilities and the nature of the problem indicates they are related to instability. Because many are constantly on the run from war torn territories, they get injuries some of them crippling in nature. When the inclusive WASH project started it brought disability issues into the mainstream.

Under the project, all services are available to everybody. This is the inclusive element about it, if it is a water tap, or a bore hole, all people will access it. So by saying the facilities are all inclusive, they accommodate every person, the disabled inclusive.

Monitoring needed to address gaps - Dennis Nsimenta (Mulago Hospital)



At the start of the Inclusive WASH project, WVU emphasized the need to involve health professionals. The aim was to involve the Ministry of Health in verifying whether the devices given are appropriate since inappropriate devices are feared to lead to secondary disability. It was deemed necessary that the project addresses the inclusiveness that it required from the start. It is inclusive in the sense that when you go to a school, even the wheel chair user can conveniently access the toilet.

Along the implementation of the project we realised that there was an overwhelming number of people who were in need of wheel chairs, those that needed knee dresses and all these could not be covered under the project. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Health will make sure that together with other government departments, the project is sustained since children will outgrow some of the devices and will need new ones, yet World Vision is closing the project

Odede appeals for water committees - LC Chairman



The support extended to PWDs and the elderly by WVU has been a remarkable achievement as they can access public facilities with ease.

Though the programme is for PWDs, it is credited for having benefited the entire community at large. Even these disabled people feel recognized when they are considered and given assistance.

I appeal to the authorities to provide training for the beneficiaries and equip them with skills on how to manage the devices and the established facilities.

The population needs to be sensitized on how to manage and protect these water points. This may be through establishing water source committees that include the PWDs.

Learning from our Partners - Jackie Kitenterah(AAHU)



Action Africa Help Uganda has been in Kyangwali implementing multi sector programmes for the last 15 years. When WVU got involved in the settlement, it found a partner in AAH from the inception/planning process, throughout the implementation and evaluation, simply because AAH was already involved in the WASH programme for the entire community. We assisted the project implementers with guidelines and data to make sure there was no duplication of work and to ensure sustainability when the project comes to an end.

With WVU, we are witnessing a shift in a way we construct these public facilities. Their involvement has for instance enabled a practical reduction of pupil latrine stance ratio in schools. This component has proved the saying that disability is not inability. For example, people whose movement was

dependent on others are now independent after receiving assistive devices. Sometimes the disability syndrome is in the mind so the more we bring them on board the more the level of dependence will reduce, which to me is a good way forward.

World Vision has empowered local artisans - Isaac Sibomana (Carpenter)



In November 2014 I was contracted by World Vision Uganda and commenced on a project to fabricate and make various assistive devices to suit the unique needs of People with Disabilities in Kyangwali settlement. For me, this was as big a task as much as a pleasant moment because this is a profession which I like and would keep me busy. All the devices that included, toilet seats, water transportation devices, protective knee pads among others were fabricated here in the settlement. This gave employment to local artisans.

When we started fabrication the number of people in need was overwhelming. I appreciate the project which took into account the special needs of the different people with disabilities though it was short lived.

With World Vision closing the project, I feel the challenge is in meeting the needs of those that were not served. We still have work to do to address other needs or even complete the provisions that were being provided. For instance the devices will wear out and the PWDs will not afford new ones.





Local artisans producing different assistive devices that benefitted PWD's in Kyangwali resettlement camp.

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Kyangwali - Hoima, March 2014 - March 2015**