



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 14 June 2022
(OR. en)

9936/22

COHAFA 54
DEVGEN 111
GENDER 108
COAFR 129
RELEX 749
INTER-REP 73

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 2 June 2022
To: Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)
Subject: Localisation and gender-based approach
- presentation by CARE International

Following the COHAFA meeting of 2 June, delegations will find in Annex presentation made by CARE International (CI)⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾.

¹ CI's identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 90237823189-97.

² This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.



Intervention of Esther Omiat Ilenyo,

Women Lead in Emergencies Coordinator in Uganda

Case study: the APEAL project in Uganda



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid

Context: refugee crisis with movements from DRC to Uganda.

Example of the Kyangwali & Kyaka II refugee settlements:

- Conducted a Rapid Gender Analysis
- Provision of support to gender-based violence survivors and emergency sexual and reproductive health services – with a WLiE focus



2

The Women Lead in Emergencies approach

Objective: Make women's voices count in humanitarian planning by putting **women rights' and women-led groups, both formal and informal, at the centre of the project.**

- Women are most often excluded from humanitarian formal decision-making even if they are at the frontlines of the crisis – they do not have a say in identifying their needs and deciding how best to meet them.
- Embedded in a Do No Harm approach.
- WLiE combines a **locally-led response and a strong gender equality approach.**



3

In Uganda: working with 6 women's groups to build their leadership in the settlement, create and scale up business to boost household income, improve their negotiation and communication skills, and speak out for their rights.

→ Co-creation methods are used at the different stages before, during and after the project.



The Women Lead in Emergencies in practice

Constraints we face with the approach

- Structural barriers to women's leadership and representation
- Power relations (interpersonal/group level)
- Key dimensions of agency that undermine women's leadership and representation at an individual level
- Inadequate financial support

Strategies to address them: building individual and collective agency → facilitate equitable relations and collective actions → working to transform unequal structures



Beneficiaries of CARE, KRC, DFG and WoMena during ECHO mission in Kyangwali

4



What do we ask decision makers to do?

As part of the localisation agenda, EU humanitarian actors must acknowledge women's and their organisations' roles as agents of change by:

- Integrating women's voices and leadership in humanitarian decision-making - supporting women's rights and women-led organisations
- Increasing the amount and quality of humanitarian funding to these organisations (flexible, multi-year funding)
- Holding other humanitarian actors accountable for the quality and inclusivity of partnerships with these organisations



Janet Katumbusa, starter of a women savings group that joined CARE's "Women Lead in Emergencies" programme

5



Thank you!



6





THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

