



**THE KRC**

Annual Report

**2019**



**PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ACTION RESEARCH, ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION**



## People Empowerment through action research, advocacy and communication

People are empowered when they have the knowledge, resources, and agency to make decisions and take actions that can improve their lives and their communities.

KRC undertakes action research that generates evidence to promote informed decisions. We implement piloted and scaled interventions to help build communities that are progressive, resilient and prosperous.

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## List of Acronyms

**ACODE:** Advocates Coalition on Environment

**AMS:** Agriculture Market Support Program

**BD:** Broederlijk Delen

**CA:** Change Agent

**CPF:** Community Process Facilitator

**DGF:** Demoractic Governance Facility

**FAGRIB:** Food and Agribusiness Unit

**FOs:** Farmer Organisations

**GBV:** Gender Based Violence

**GPA:** Governance Policy and Advocacy Unit

**IRC:** Information Research and Communication Unit

**KRC:** Kabarole Research and Resource centre

**LCs:** Local Councils

**PTC:** Primary Teachers college

**RPOs:** Registered Producer Organisations

**UNRA:** Uganda National Roads Authority

**VSLA:** Village Savings and Lending Association

**WFP:** World Food Program

## Board Chairperson's Message



I was honored to assume the role of Chairperson Board of KRC in 2019. I want to thank my predecessor and the gallant board members for steering the organization this far. To make lasting impact, the work of Civil Society takes passion, perseverance and partners. We can never forget, lest we lose hope, that to serve and to make impact we need to stay in the game for long. KRC's protracted partnership with Hivos, Broederlijk Delen and DGF is very dear to us.

The work of KRC to steer farmer agency is a balanced development menu. Civic education, sustainable family farming, agro-ecology, agribusiness, peace building and conflict prevention are the right ingredients to improve the wellbeing of farming households, stimulate accountable leadership, build strong democratic institutions and mitigate climate change.

As you flip through the pages of this report, you will acquaint yourself with the achievements KRC has made. However, the other major impact of our work can be hard to measure—the touching of people's hearts and the opening of millions of minds of people who are inspired through our media work; our own KRC FM, other radio stations and our televised programs.

We are always impressed with the testimonies of people about how they have transformed their lives, built their businesses and farms and educated their children, and attributing this impact to the work of KRC. With you our gallant partners, KRC commits to continue this journey with you.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees, I want to thank our donors for making our work possible. Our funding partners, Hivos, Broederlijk Delen, Democratic Governance Facility, World Food Program, Care International, Save the Children, Bantwana, Danish Refugee Council, Oxfam GB, Minority Rights Group and ACODE; you played a crucial role in strengthening our capacity to take on new projects. As a board, we are indebted to our staff led by the Executive Director, Shariff Mohamed, and his Senior Management Team for a job well done with skill, determination and unfailing enthusiasm.

Let me take the opportunity to invite you to reflect-fully go through the pages of our 2019 annual report.



**Hon Beatrice Kiraso**, Board Chairperson



## Director's Message



### **Gallant partners, welcome to our 2019 Annual Report.**

KRC's purpose of existence is defined by its strategic research agenda which is geared towards creating knowledge that enables households in the Rwenzori Region to increase their income, food & nutrition security, civic competence for improved livelihoods-as has for the last 23 years been exhibited through various community centered transformative interventions involving leaders, small holder farmers, private sector, civil society and the academia.

KRC is proud of the progress we have made 2019, and we want to share that with you; none of this would be possible without the support of our donors, civil society peers and the community we serve. Thank you for your dedication and continued trust in the organization. We hope you will enjoy learning more about how your support significantly contributes to the impact of our service.

In this report, I am glad to share with you; KRC's activities, achievements, lessons and challenges

registered in 2019 across the programme scope implemented in the Rwenzori and Bunyoro Sub Regions.

During this reporting period, KRC maintained its 4 core programming areas in Conflict and Peace Building, Governance and Policy Advocacy, Food Security & Agribusiness and Information, Research & Communication. Through our Governance and Policy Advocacy interventions, we enhanced political and civil rights with the main purpose of empowering the citizenry to hold their leaders accountable for improved service delivery, cognizant of the ability of local governments to meet national service delivery needs is a source of credibility on their part. Conversely, local governments face a decisive test when they fail to meet peoples' expectations. With the 2021 general elections drawing nearer KRC put efforts in Civic Education with an aim of strengthening the ability of the citizens to engage their leaders more effectively. In this report, KRC shares with you the various interventions it has undertaken to facilitate



engagement between policy makers, service providers, and consumers of those services.

Suffice to add, as the Agricultural Sector continues to be the most important sector in Uganda, employing approximately 69% of the population and it accounted for about 19 percent of GDP in fiscal year 2018/2019. Eighty percent (80%) of Uganda's land is arable but only 35 percent is being utilized. In this report, KRC shares with you the interventions it has implemented to complement Government's work in the Agricultural sector, in the Rwenzori and Bunyoro Region, mainly in skills and knowledge enhancement among the smallholder farmers and refugees in the areas of food and nutrition security, climate smart agriculture.

To continually improve our institutional governance systems, 2019 witnessed another milestone when we got 2 new boards: the Board of Trustees and the New Board of Directors. These structures strengthen our capacity to achieve our vision to become a leading research, advocacy and community development organisation in Uganda. In this report we share with you highlights of the researches conducted in 2019 under the Information, Research & Communication Unit

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and how KRC facilitated policy discussions with key policy makers.

Lastly, I take the opportunity to thank all our funding partners more especially BD, DGF, WFP, Hivos, Bantwana, ACODE and our newest funding partner CARE International in Uganda. Your financial and technical support has made us achieve our 2019 milestones. I also thank the KRC Board of Trustees and Board of Directors for the oversight role, the KRC staff, CPFs, CAs and all the local partners who have made our work possible in the Rwenzori and Bunyoro Regions.

I welcome you to acquaint yourself with our work and your feedback is important to us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sharif Mohamed'.

**Sharif Mohamed**, Executive Director

## Ear to the ground: Understanding our operating environment

KRC employs a systems thinking approach that guides our operations. Our groundwork is not always a straight-forward effort and therefore we employ dynamism to adapt our interventions to the changing environment. This segment of our report highlights major events and public discourses that riposte to our mission and operations.

### Civil society space

In 2019, the Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA) launched investigation into bank records and financial transactions for 13 non-government organizations. FIA was established by the act of Parliament, to fight money laundering and terror financing.

In the same period, the Ministry for Internal Affairs announced that all civil society organizations must go through an onerous process to “validate” their registrations with the NGO bureau. The verification sought information about NGOs including sources of funding, banks details and sensitive information for staff employed by these organizations including their salaries and other personal information.

However, the concerns raised by NGOs during the validation exercise included, short notice information that was given and delimitations faced by some NGOs such as unreliable internet services since the exercise had to be done online.

A large section of civil society organizations viewed such acts mentioned above as infringement on civil liberties of citizens that NGOs attempt to protect. In their publication, “The Shrinking Civic Space in East Africa (March 2019)”, CIPESA notes that the East African region is experiencing a rise in restrictions on civic space, which have mainly manifested through enactment of retrogressive legislation targeting civic activism and civil society organizations, violent crackdown on

demonstrations and the arrest, threat of arrest and intimidation of journalists.

The online communication sphere has not been spared, with various countries in the region arresting and intimidating internet users, and making regulations that hamper internet access and affordability. Shrinking civic space mutes citizens’ voices and threatens civil society’s very existence, while also challenging citizens’ collective power for sustainable development as people to determine our own futures. Our work as KRC has always centered on amplifying citizens’ voices, demanding accountable leadership and stemming civic inertia among the populace.

## The launch of the National Seed Policy

In March 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries launched the National Seed Policy. The policy provides guidelines on how seeds should be handled from the research agencies, to the seed multipliers and to the farmers who eventually plant the seed. The Ministry said that lack of such a policy accelerated the problem of fake and substandard seeds on the market which critically affects agriculture, Uganda's economic mainstay. It is estimated that up to between 30 and 40 per cent of the seeds on the Ugandan market are counterfeit. Unscrupulous seed supply chains are selling counterfeit and falsely branded seeds as "high yielding" and trapping farmers in a cycle of poverty as crops fail.

KRC's involvement in the seed sub-sector has majorly centered on the protection and promotion of indigenous seed varieties. Indigenous varieties have often exhibited the highest germination potency and resilience in the face of climate change. In 2019, KRC worked

with the Kabarole District Local Government to establish a community seed bank in Rutete Sub County. KRC also continues to strengthen linkages for knowledge transfer to smallholder farmers through business meetings with major players in the seed sub-sector. This is meant to eliminate seed counterfeits and increase access to quality certified seeds. From a research and knowledge perspective, seed potency is vital for a sustainable food system.

## The Bourgeoning Congolese Refugee Crisis

By the end of 2019, there were over 900,000 Congolese refugees being hosted in various African countries, with over 40% currently in Uganda. The region of the DR Congo bordering Uganda is the place of origin for the vast majority of Congolese refugees. Of the 900,000 refugees, almost 3% were children traveling alone; almost 2% were women at risk; and 0.2% are fleeing sexual or gender-based violence. KRC has in the previous years extended humanitarian operations in refugee settlement of Kyaka II and Kyangwali.

In 2019, KRC in a consortium of 7 organizations, led by Care International in Uganda launched the ACCESS PROTECTION ACCOUNTABILITY EMPOWERMENT & LEADERSHIP (APEAL) project in Kyaka II and Kyangwali Refugee Settlements designed to deliver a comprehensive, evidence-based and people-centered Protection & Gender-Based Violence (GBV) sector response for recent and newly-arrived refugees from DRC settling in Western Uganda.

## Climate extremes: Dry spells in Ntoroko, Floods in Bundibugyo

The two neighboring Districts on the eastern Congo border faced opposite climatic extremes, a prolonged dry spell in Ntoroko cattle corridor and flash floods in Bundibugyo flood plains. The extremities claimed human life, livestock and other property, pushing hundreds of people into resettlement camps in dire need of food, clothing, medical care and shelter. The region's disaster risk reduction strategy is uncertain, giving way to fears of recurring events in the future.

In our radio operations at KRC FM, we worked to provide timely information and early warning on disasters and events that supported effective coordination of relief assistance. KRC also promoted agro-ecological farming to empower communities build resilience in the face of raging climate crises. Drawing from our institutional value system, of empathy, and love for humanity, KRC was able to mobilize relief assistance, clothing and funds which were delivered to the Local Government leadership in those areas to support the affected communities.






## Launch of the UN's Decade of Family Farming

Following the declaration of 2014 as the International Year of Family Farming, the launch of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming in 2019 revitalized the urgency with which development actors should invest in strengthening family farming as a resilient way of life to reduce rural poverty, achieve food security, improve livelihoods, manage natural resources and achieve sustainable development in rural areas.

The Decade of Family Farming aims to create a conducive environment that strengthens smallholders' position, and maximizes their contributions to global food security and nutrition, and a healthy, resilient and sustainable future. During its launch, FAO and IFAD noted that Family farms represent over 90 per cent of all farms globally, and produce 80 percent of the world's food in value terms. Family farms are key drivers of sustainable development, including ending hunger and all forms of mal nutrition. Since 2014, KRC has worked with Broederlijk Delen and Iles de Paix to promote family farming based on agro-ecological principle in the Rwenzori sub region.

## Our focus on the Sustainable Development Goals

It is important that we keep the Sustainable Development Goals in perspective or they will elude us into a state of inertia. Our programme menu is a deliberate mix of interventions designed to localize Sustainable Development Goals 2, 5, 13, 15 and 16. You will find in this report that our programmatic interventions attempt to contribute specifically to these goals.

Goal	Description	Symbol
Goal 2:	Zero hunger. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.	2 ZERO HUNGER 
Goal 5:	Gender equality. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.	5 GENDER EQUALITY 
Goal 13:	Climate action. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 
Goal 15	Life on land. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 
Goal 16	Peace, justice and strong institutions. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.	15 LIFE ON LAND 



## Our history

In 1996 a team of 5 young graduates from Makerere University founded Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC) with an aim of searching for lasting solutions to the drivers of poverty in the Rwenzori Region. KRC started as a small NGO operating in Kabarole District has over the last 20 years grown to become a vibrant Research, Advocacy and Community Development organization and has expanded its operations to serve in the Rwenzori, Tooro and Bunyoro Sub Regions in Western Uganda and parts of

Mubende in Central Uganda. Our work and experience working with local communities in generating knowledge has grown to influence the development discourse at national level and global scale.

Our engagement at national level has been channeled through the Regional Parliamentary Forum and Line Ministries. At global level, we partner with organizations like Hivos and IIED to contribute to the global discourse on Sustainable Diets for All.







### **VISION:**

A leading research, advocacy and community development organization in Uganda.

### **MISSION:**

To Build a dynamically strong research, advocacy and community development organization that enables policy makers, academia, CSOs, private sector and rural communities to respond to development needs for a peaceful, equitable and economically sustainable development. To generate and share evidence based information that contribute to sustainable, pluralistic, accountable and equitable socio-economic development.

### **OUR CORE VALUES:**

#### **Empathy**

We feel for others but also go an extra mile to find solutions to address the concern/problem at hand.

#### **Tolerance**

We are patient with shortcomings of others-and easily compromise to overcome a given challenge at hand.

#### **Love for humanity**

We believe in people, and we fight injustices against people.

#### **Service above self**

We are dedicated and committed to serve humanity to better their livelihoods.

#### **Respect for self and others**

We uphold High moral values, standards, and respect for peers and people from various walks of life.

## Our Programmes at a glance

KRC strategically invests in research, advocacy and innovative community development solutions that can be scaled for impact; raise citizen voice, supports leaders in government and civil society; and ensure that the organization (KRC) will play a pivotal role in expanding spaces for multi-stakeholder engagement.

In 2019, KRC embraced a 3 pronged thematic program menu to deliver on the above. Namely:



- Civic Education (Democratic Governance Facility)
- Networks for peace: Preventing and resolving conflicts through early warning mechanisms in Africa (Minority Rights Group)
- Amplifying Voices of women and youth for effective delivery of quality health and education services among pastoral communities of Batuku and Basongora (Oxfam)



- The family farming development program (Broederlijk Delen)
- The Fort Portal Food Change Lab: Sustainable Diets for All (Hivos)
- Access Protection Empowerment Accountability & Learning (Appeal) (CARE International)
- Agriculture Market Support (World Food Program)
- Environment and Energy (Danish Refugee Council)
- Village Savings & Credit Association (VSLA) Plus (Bantwana)



- KRC FM 102, the Farmers' Voice (Broederlijk Delen)
- KRC FM, the farmers' voice is a project of a life time, since its inception in 2014, the radio continues diligently to serve the farming community in the region.



# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



# 01

## ENHANCING CIVIC COMPETENCE THROUGH RESEARCH, POLICY AND ADVOCACY

In 2019, KRC continued to strengthen synergies among stakeholders to enhance civic competence among the communities in the Rwenzori Region. This is intended to build a critical mass among the populace to be able to demand for adequate and appropriate service delivery for improved livelihoods. Key interventions accomplished during the year include; 456 community civic awareness meetings organized by CPFs that reached 13,829 citizens; 36,014 citizens reached in learning and religious institutions through 3,456 community civic awareness meetings conducted by civic educators, 16,943 citizens provided with space to engage leaders through 50 face the citizens rallies, 1,816 citizens were reached through 8 topical public debates, 8000 copies of IEC materials produced and distributed while 149 radio talk shows were conducted with over 1,500 callers participating in the radio talk shows. These

interventions were among the key activities that equipped citizens with information on civil and political rights, governance, leadership, service delivery, access to justice, land rights. 535 LLG leaders equipped with knowledge and skills in planning and budgeting, LG standard council rules and procedures.

The above outputs contributed to improved citizens' engagement on government accountability improved in the 43 sub-counties as well as increased Government responsiveness to citizens' demands.

As part of citizens' engagement with leaders, 90 issue papers and 30 petitions on service delivery were developed and presented to the leaders and technocrats at the sub county and district levels. Over 1,000 questions were asked by citizens during rallies, radio talk shows and debates and there are over 37 cases where leaders responded or addressed

issues raised by the citizens. Some of the key cases in the different sectors where leaders addressed citizens.

### Strides in the Health sector

As part of the bolstered efforts in improving the Health Sector in the Rwenzori Region, KRC engaged government through Citizens –led advocacy. From the various interventions, the following results have been recorded.

1. Health facilities were coded and recognized by national medical stores and upgraded by ministry of health from HCII to HCIII as a result of citizens' demands and engagement of local leaders over citizens' concerns on drug stock outs, limited staffing and limited funding through petitions, issues papers, radio talk shows, MPs breakfast meetings and face the citizens rallies. Some of the upgraded facilities include; Kigoro HC II,

Hamukungu HC II and Nyakatonzi HC II in Kasese District; Bupomboli HC II in Bundibugyo District.

2. Pit latrines were constructed at Nyamwamba Division HC III, Buhaghura HC III, Hamukungu HC II in Kasese District; Kakabara HC III in Kyegegwa District; Kayenje HC II in Bundibugyo District; and incinerators were built at Nyakatonzi HC III and Kakabara HC III as a result of citizens engagement of local leaders.
3. UNHCR allocated funds for Rwamwanja HCIV which was overwhelmed by refugees and host communities after complaints and petitions from local citizens, civic educators and change agents to the local leaders over poor health service delivery, discrimination of host community members from accessing health services at the Rwamwanja HCIV.
4. Kakabara HCIII was allocated more health workers and a staff house for accommodation constructed after citizens raised and presented their concerns through face the citizens' rallies and radio talk shows.

## Strides in the Education Sector

Funds were allocated in the budget for the construction of classroom to address the problems of congestion and pupils studying under the tree. Some of the schools that were allocated funds in the budget include; St Paul seed secondary school in Kasenda sub county Kabarole District; Mikore Primary school in Nkoma sub count Kamwenge District; Nyakatonzi Seed SSS in Kasese District, Bubukwanga Seed Secondary school in Bundibugyo District.

Latrines were constructed in Kigoro P/S, Nyakasanga P/S, Kahendero P/S in Kasese District; Barahija P/S in Kyejonjo District.

## Milestones in the Roads/ Infrastructure sector

- 1 Several roads in rural communities that were impassable were constructed easing movement of people and goods. Some of the roads that were constructed out of the pressure and demands from the citizens include; Muhokya-Kyameza road in Muhokya sub county; Kako-



Bujuburi road and Kakabara – Bufunjo road in Kyegegwa District and Buraro-Kyakaterabwira road

- 2 Several bridges linking different areas were constructed as a result of citizens' demands. Some of the bridges include; foot bridge constructed at Mpanga market in Fort Portal, a Bridge in Rukoki SC was constructed which connected the Muhokya irrigation scheme which is a food basket for the area

### Milestones in the Water Sector

- 1 Citizens influenced construction of water line by National water and Sewerage Corporation Citizens used to fetch dirty water from man-made open dam which was at the same time used by animals. Through petitions, issues papers and media campaign, local leaders including area Member of Parliament influenced the extension of water through installation of 10 public water tap stands in the area and other households were able to connect water to their homes in Nkoma Sub County.

- 2 Other areas where citizens influenced connection of water include; Nyakatonzi Sub County which was connected with 15 public tap stands and the work is still on-going; Rukoki Sub County which was installed with 7 public water taps to schools such Buhaghura P/S, Kigoro P/S and Buhaghura HC III.



### Milestones in the Agriculture Sector

- 1 Civic educators and change agents mobilized community income generating groups such as the youth groups, women groups and savings groups so that they can tap into existing government programs like Youth Livelihood Program (YLP), Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program.
- 2 Youth in Kyegegwa Sub County received Funding from YLP and invested in a boda boda enterprise; Two Civic Educators Groups led by a CPF received 2 cows through OWC funds in Ntoroko while two women groups received funds for bull fattening projects in Nyakatonzi Sub County.
- 3 Community change agents have integrated essential livelihood skills into civic education through revolving funds and craft making for income generation in Nyabani sub county-Kamwenge District and Harugali sub county-Bundibugyo District.



## ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY, AGRI-BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND HOUSEHOLDS INCOMES

Agriculture is the back-bone of the country and employs over 80% of Uganda's population. However mere farming is not enough to get the farming communities from poverty. There is need to support them to transform their farming from subsistence to commercial. KRC has since inception supported over 100,000 farmers in the Rwenzori Region to engage in commercial farming to increase their household incomes.

### The family farming development program

The Family Farming Program is a Broederlijk Delen (BD) supported five year (2017-2021) program in the Rwenzori region targeting 47,380 small holder farmers to increase household income and influence wider agricultural sector transformation through collective action of family farmers.

In 2019, the project aimed at increasing production and farm resilience through agro-ecological agriculture and climate change adaptation. The project raised awareness

about healthy food, a balanced diet and food stock management. It also worked on strengthening cooperatives and marketing associations, aiming at improved joint commercialization of agricultural products of family farmers. The project envisaged processing of products as a major contributor to family farmers getting more control over the value chain and a better share of the benefit. We aim to improve gender equality by farmers in a rights based approach on gender and using GALS, as well as local change makers who work with the target groups.

Youth is a special target group in the program. In order to develop a strong agriculture sector in a sustainable way, it is crucial to involve and motivate youth. There are opportunities for youth to earn their income in value chains, and at the same time they can offer an added value when leading improvements and innovation in those value chains. In 2019, the program therefore supported youth to increase their incomes through value addition in the value chain and training them in vocational skills.

### The Fort Portal Food Change Lab

The Food Change Lab implemented by KRC in partnership with Hivos and IIED creates space for mainstream actors and front-runners to meet and shape the green and fair food systems of tomorrow. The overall goal of the Fort Portal Food Change Lab is to contribute to a more conducive policy environment and laws that make the region's food system



more inclusive, sustainable, diverse, healthy, acceptable, green and affordable foods available to all. The Tooro sub-region in which Kabarole District is located faces challenges of malnutrition despite the food diversity that the region exhibits. According to the Uganda Demographic Health survey (2016), Tooro region is ranking number one in Uganda with the highest percentage of stunting for children under five years. The results revealed that stunting stands at 40.6% which is above the national statistics on stunting. This means 4 in 10 children under five children are stunted. These children lack micro nutrients responsible for their intellectual and body growth. Ironically, Kabarole is a leading producer of food and supplies the greater Tooro region and East Africa yet children remain hungry. Evidence generated from the KRC's household food dairies research (2018) in Kabarole District indicate that the dietary consumption of rural communities is characterized with low dietary diversity as compared to the urban residents. This means households consume less than 5 food groups including spices and condiments. According to a survey conducted by KRC

in 2016, the rural households sell off their food to the urban leading to the low dietary diversity. Evidence further revealed that street food vending employs a considerable number of women and youth who operate on the streets of Fort Portal. Notably, street food is dependable and various urban dwellers rely on this food to meet their daily dietary intake; that is to say, 3% of the households are still obtaining their food from street vendors.

Phase III of the Fort Portal Food Change Lab is focused on utilizing the results of the food dairies research to influence plans, budgets, practices, and procedures of actors in the food system. The present Food Change Lab has been designed to achieve the following specific objectives;

- 1 To influence local government planning, budgeting and policy implementation for dietary diversity in Kabarole District and Fort portal municipality using the evidence gathered.
- 2 To influence public food discussions and practices through improved participation of farmers, consumers and front-runners

in advocating and lobbying for sustainable local food policies, plans and programmes.

- 3 To facilitate street food vendors transform into foodpreneurs through improved recipes and menus that integrate indigenous food varieties and nutrient dense recipes.
- 4 To influence the local media (both print and broadcast) on increasing coverage on indigenous food varieties and recipes to influence sustainable diets.

### Community seed bank launched

As part of the efforts to increase food security and preservation of the indigenous food varieties, KRC worked with the Kabarole District Local Government to establish a community Seed Bank in Rutete sub-county Kabarole District. The seed Bank was launched by the LCV Chairperson Kabarole together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries. Alongside the seed bank, a seed multiplication garden was established and also commissioned to multiply the seeds.



The seed bank is expected to enhance access to indigenous seeds by farmers to improve agricultural production, food security and nutrition in Rutete Sub-County. The seed bank comes at a time when indigenous food production is being promoted in the framework of sustainable diets. The choice of the seed bank was informed by the results of the 2017 food dairies research where Rutete sub-county emerged with the lowest dietary diversity. The community seed bank is the first of its kind in the Rwenzori region and is currently stocking 27 indigenous seed varieties secured for multiplication.

### Orugali concept adopted by restaurants in Fort Portal

Orugali is KRC's flagship campaign on nutrition that promotes nutrient rich traditional diets. Increased appreciation of this campaign and its nutrition message signified increased knowledge and improvement in nutrition practices.. Four groups (Kanyatete women's group, Bugunda community SACCO, Bakyara Tweyemukye Women's group and



Kibimba Moslem Association) incorporated the Orugali approach in their programs. The groups prepare orugali food whenever they hold meetings, fundraising events and catering services. The concept has also been adopted by other food restaurants like such as Travellers Inn, Fruit of love restaurant, street food vendors and smaller food joints in town have incorporated the orugali foods on their menu. Travellers Inn one of the tourism places in Fort portal adopted the Orugali menu and exhibition of Tooro culture that sustains a conversation and learning space for other food entrepreneurs on indigenous foods. Every Wednesday, Travellers Inn prepares orugali food for lunch.

The adoption of orugali concept by restaurants will ensure posterity of the intervention beyond food lab programme life cycle thus contributing to improved demand and consumption of indigenous food varieties' and nutrient dense recipes. The orugali adoption is important as it propels the indigenous food production and consumption agenda.



## Annual Food and Seed Fair adopted by partners and farmers

The annual indigenous food and seed fair organized KRC alongside Pelum Uganda and Mountains of the Moon University in Fort Portal. To localize this innovation further, farmers together with Kabarole District organized a mini indigenous food and seed fair was organised in Kichwamba Sub – County to spread this message in the communities.

The adoption of the Food and Seed fair by other partners and farmers groups in the Region gives hope of sustainability of the food festival and seed fair beyond the food lab project life cycle.

KRC started Rwenzori annual food festival and seed fair during the commemoration of the World food Day on 16th October 2017. In 2018, other Regional partners and PELUM Uganda joined and since then the Annual Food and Seed fair has been adopted as a Regional event in commemoration of the World Food Day.

Co-authorship of the Orugali cook book with The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF).



After KRC's presentation of the Orugali Cook Book to MAAIF at their Ministry Headquarters in Entebbe, its food and nutrition department picked interest in co-authoring to produce a better-quality book which is more recognized. The Assistant Commissioner committed to spearhead the review process of the cook book so that it embodies the standards for publication. With MAAIF co-authoring and having ownership of the book will make the cook book more recognized and will interest more readers thereby promoting indigenous food production and consumption.

### **Saving bag for children's food (Omwana atarara enjara) launched in Rutete Sub County**

KRC launched a saving bag for Rurama Parents and Care-takers Savings and Credit Association. The saving bag was named "Omwana atarara enjara" literally meaning "a child should not sleep hungry" and was officiated by the Kabarole District Chairperson Hon Richard Rwabuhinga. The initiative is to encourage mothers and care takers to have some money saved purposely for the children's food. This comes at a time when Rutete is facing challenges of malnutrition.

Omwana atarara enjara initiative is geared towards fighting malnutrition and hunger in Rutete subcounty. KRC selected Rurama savings group as a model and pioneer for this initiative. It is expected that the model will be spread to other saving groups in the District and will contribute reduced stunting levels amongst children under five.

### **Coalition of the willing (C.o.W) influencing diets**

The CoW participated in the nutrition radio programmes to influence behaviour change and practices of the consumers in Fort-portal Municipality. CoW also organized Food talks in Rutete and Kichwamba Sub Counties. The talks informed their plans of starting food conversations for the children, this includes orugali rwa abaato (indigenous food talks for children) that will be conducted in holidays. The initiative is aimed at changing the behavior and mindset of young people towards consumption of indigenous healthy diets. Thus contributing to local media coverage on local food issues in collaboration with the CoW and Orugali households.

## Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

Since August 2018, KRC implemented the Agriculture and Market Support (AMS) Programme for 15 months in Kyaka II and Rwamwanja refugee settlements and their host communities in Kyegegwa and Kamwenge Districts with funding from the UN World Food Programme. The AMS programme aimed at strengthening the capacities of 4,500 smallholder farmers to transform their subsistence agriculture into commercial production, building institutional capacities of 163 RPOs and 7 FOs to increase collective marketing and enhance their access to government programmes and private sector services. To achieve this, a 3 structural level implementation strategy was employed that included; the Rural Producer Organisations (RPOs), Savings and Loans Associations (SLAs) and the Farmer Organisations (FOs) that reinforced each other for sustainable service delivery to the small holder farmers in the refugee settlements and host communities. By the end of 15 months, 7 FOs, 177 RPOs and 4,503 farmers were reached and as result, the following outcomes realized (right column)

### Farming as a business (FaaB):

Notable progresses towards diversification of enterprises at household level and use of improved seed was registered as a result of improved knowledge and skills gained by farmers from the FaaB trainings and linkages with seed/ Agro-input companies. A total of 1,163 farmers planted improved vegetable seed while 3.2 metric tons of hybrid and Open Pollinated Varieties (OPVs) of maize were procured by refugees and host community farmers that improved production and productivity.

**Agri finance:** SLA component strengthened amongst 177 RPOs and total cumulative savings of 372,761,800 UGX made by 120 SLAs from which data was collected. About 40% of farmers that accessed loans from SLAs invested the money in other agricultural enterprises and 60% into micro business as results of knowledge gained from the agri-finance and FaaB. SLA credit investment in micro business proved viable alternative for refugees amidst the reducing plots of land. In addition, 7SLAs were linked to Katalyeba SACCO in Rwamwanja and linkages with Post Bank were created with prospects of opening bank accounts for SLAs. This will need follow up by WFP or the next AMS cooperating partner (CP). Post-harvest and collective marketing; There was improved uptake of post-harvest practices and collective marketing initiatives amongst the FOs and RPOs. A total of 169,809,600 UGX was earned from 186.213 metric tons of maize and 936 Kgs of Iron rich beans bulked by 5 FOs and 1 RPO



### Linkage of AMS with the WFP cash intervention: 3,099,500

UGX earned by 23 women in two days of selling vegetables, fruits, mushrooms, cassava flour, maize flour, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes at Cash Distribution points. These women if well mentored by WFP or the next CP will continue to sell their produce at Cash Distribution Points beyond the AMS programme life cycle.

### Linkage to Government and private sector strengthened: 4

improved cassava multiplications sites established by 4 RPOs as a result of linkage to the Operational Wealth Creation (OWC) and Sub-county that provided the planting materials and an MOU between an FO and the National Insurance company and Ensubuku signed as result of the linkages created.



## AMS project objectives and targets introduced to stakeholders

In 2019, the Meet the Buyer Events organized by KRC brought together a total of 662 (354M, 308F) refugee and host community farmers and 9 trading companies to increase small holder farmers' access to private sector players services specifically agro input dealers, commodity buyers, financial and insurance services. The contacts established and lessons learnt enhanced farmers' linkages with the above mentioned sector players for mutual benefit. The event involved a 'win-win' farmers' negotiation with reputable grain and pulse buyers for better terms and conditions of business. 'Meet the Buyer' events were a multi-stakeholder platform for multiple engagements.

## Conducted radio talk shows for awareness rising on farming as business, agri-finance, post-harvest handling and market information

KRC conducted 19 radio talk shows on (Farming as a Business (FaaB), PHH, Agri-finance and marketing that reached over 50,000 radio listeners. The radio programmes were broadcast on Britpop FM in Kyegegwa District and Voice of Kamwenge in Kamwenge district and a number of issues were raised from the community that included community appreciation of the project, scarcity of PHH equipment, need for farmers to collectively bulk and market



their agricultural produce. During the radio talk shows, different stakeholders like Agricultural extension officers, Representatives of Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), OPM, Commercial officers, Community Based Facilitators (CBFs) and farmers were invited to participate in the talk shows. This enhanced dissemination of hands-on information and on spot responses to critical issues raised by callers built confidence in the AMS programme from the community.

### **Enhanced knowledge in Cost Benefit Analysis and Enterprise Selection**

KRC trained 3308 farmers (982M, 2326) from 177 RPOs in Farming as a Business module in the Districts of Kamwenge and Kyegegwa. 3308 farmers completed the module. The delay in allocation of areas of implementation in Kyaka II and profiling of beneficiaries affected the completion rate. Trainings covered the identification of various enterprises, profitability analysis, simple

business plan development and enterprise selection that was based on enterprise profitability and affordability to smallholder households.

### **KRC Teams Up with Care to Promote Access Protection Empowerment Accountability & Learning**

The Year 2019 was also another landmark in terms of promoting local savings among the farmers. KRC in partnership with CARE International with funding from ECHO under the APEAL consortium implemented the Youth and Village Savings and Loans Associations (Y/VSLAs) as a safety and protection net for refugee's project in Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements. In 2019 KRC supported 100 VSLA groups, as well as 8 Youth Savings and Loan Associations (YSLAs) (4 Kyaka II and 4 in Kyangwali refugee settlement) for the adolescent girls who graduated from the Girl Shine model implemented by CARE International and IRC in Kyangwali and Kyaka

II refugee settlements respectively. To better manage this initiative, KRC has field offices in Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements implementing livelihood, GBV, Nutrition and Environment and Energy interventions. The offices have personnel allocated for the different projects with vast experiences in livelihoods, GBV, Nutrition and Environment and Energy.

The VSLAs and YSLAs were designed based on the existing literature and practices in Africa (Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, and Ghana) that provided new evidence that young people's engagement with savings groups in Africa is deeply embedded in networks of family and social relations. Savings group members rely on money that is given to them by family members, friends and partners to make savings.

Working with evidence is the cornerstone of KRC's work.

### Evidence Building and Research products



### Online information sharing and feedback

Our online information portals registered increasing traffic in viewership and listenership.

FACEBOOK



11,693

WEBSITE



1,986

TWITTER



6,008

BLOG



19,974

## Monitoring and result tracking

- The year also saw continued improved tracking of M&E data as well as developing more M&E tracking tools to help KRC monitor better its activities.
- KRC conducted an Annual Review of the Civic Education project, which was done among 239 citizens, and 90 leaders. A report to this effect was produced after analysis of data and has been shared with partners and stakeholders.
- The institution also conducted 2 follow up surveys for the KRC-BD outcome measurement and AMS FO & RPO annual surveys.
- Due to the risks associated with adolescent girls' participation in YSLAs, KRC commissioned a rapid risk assessment to identify possible

risks that are faced by adolescent girls, impact of the YSLA groups on the girls and identify recommendations to mitigate the risks. In order to gather the evidence, KRC conducted focused group discussions with YSLA group members and their parents/caretakers. Key informant interviews with the Refugee Welfare Council (RWC) were conducted to identify the risks associated with YSLA groups.

## Feedback pathways

Feedback mechanisms create an effective infrastructure of development communication.

- KRC Toll Free Hotline
- SMS
- Online Early Warning System
- Joint monitoring visits
- Stakeholders feedback meeting
- Radio talk shows

## Customized research communication and information packaging

KRC packaged information in more articulate forms to communicate research. The Tinfayo civic education story and the Cooking Pot continued to drive our civic agency agenda. The use of illustrated posters in the local dialects, translated videos, radio magazines, policy briefs and technical research reports are all consumer-targeted information products.



## 04

## CASE STORIES

### Story 1: From a refugee medic to an entrepreneur

My name is Kwezera Jean aged 37 years a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo living in Kaborogota village Kyaka II refugee settlement. I am married with 2 children all girls; one is six years old and the other is one and a half years old.

I arrived in Uganda as a refugee from the Democratic the republic of Congo in 2015. When I arrived here, I didn't know anyone except my wife and didn't have anything. I only depended on the food ration provided by World Food Programme which at times would not be enough. Life as a refugee was not easy for me. In December 2018, I shared my life challenges privately with Mubarak of KRC after a training on Farming as a Business (FaaB) in my group Tusaidiane. He advised me to borrow some little money from our



*Kwezira giving a testimony during the Joint monitoring. He hosted the team at his house which he constructed from the money he earned from his drug shop.*

saving group and start a small drug shop after realizing that I was a doctor back home in DRC.

I borrowed Shs 300,000 (Three hundred shillings) from the group but I still didn't know where to buy the drugs from. I requested Mubarak to buy for me drugs. I gave him a shopping list and the next day he brought me some pain killers according to my shopping list and a receipt equivalent to the money from one pharmacy in Fort-Portal. I immediately displayed the drugs on the table at my veranda. Within one week, I had already earned Shs. 320,000 (Three hundred twenty thousand shillings only). I then moved to Mubende with a friend and showed me a pharmacy from where I bought more drugs. As we talk now my drug shop has a capital of 5 million and even this house where we are sited is mine.

Thanks to Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC) and WFP for the AMS Programme. I have gained a lot from KRC's advice.

## Story 2: Maize growing has enabled me earn a living

**Meet Mr. Maniragaba Innocent a 32 years married youth, father of four and resident of Nyamasherwa II village in Kabambiro Sub County.**

For long quantity and quality standards for grain as prerequisite for attracting better buyer had been challenging. I am a member of Kagorogoro Grain Producers one of the RPOs supported by KRC. I have been participating in trainings related to farming as a business (FAAB), post-harvest handling (PHH), saving and Loans Association (SLA) then bulking and collective marketing. Through the RPO I got the opportunity to access to knowledge, information and skills from NGOs like KRC. Indeed I have adopted some best practices such as row planting and planting certified seeds, correct spacing among others as trained by KRC.

Previously I had planted one acre of maize that was threatened by corn fall army worm. KRC had trained my group on use of various pesticides and how to apply them as well as



following the right Agronomic Practices. I was able to repel the loss to harvest 2080kgs (2.08tons) of maize and have since sold the maize at 870/= a kilogram through the SCP fetching a total of 1,809,600/=.

“All along my challenge has been transport. I have used part of the money to buy a second hand motorcycle, I can now ride myself, go wherever I feel and do whatever I want. Boda boda transport has costed me a lot and hindering my movements but now transport is no longer an Issue”. “I have used part of the money to acquire another small piece of land, my plan is to expand my farming business next season”.

I also received mentor-ship in leadership skills and this year in an election presided over by KRC, I was elected Vice chairperson of Kabambiro Farmers Organisation.

KRC emphasizes bulking and collective marketing at both RPO and SCP levels as one of the core aspects in the implementation of the Agriculture and market support programme. This season the same was embraced by members at both levels by bulking their maize at the SCP. “Through Good Agronomic Practices, bulking and collective marketing, saving and Loans Association, I am progressing”. Says Innocent.

### Story 3: Kyegegwa Citizens Compel District to put up Seed School

Ever since Kyegegwa District was carved out of Kyenjojo District in July 2009, the Sub County had had no secondary school despite the provisions in Uganda's Universal Secondary Education Policy that every sub county should have one secondary school aided by government. Kyegegwa Sub County is one of the oldest sub counties in the district. This issue has been critical for many years –during the various KRC interventions in the area.

During the planning and follow up meeting with Community Change Agents, working with KRC, it was identified that there was lack of a seed secondary school as a critical community issue affecting children who complete primary education, more especially girls and children from poor and vulnerable families. An issues Paper was developed, highlighting the issue and they presented it to leaders at a KRC organized face the citizen rally. At the rally, the LCV and area councilor made commitments to support and expedite the process of having a seed school in the sub county.



The district has since informed the sub county leadership and community stakeholders that government was going to take up the costs and financing of the school starting with 2020 calendar year. Children who completed their primary seven in the sub county will be pleased to join a school within their reach.



#### Story 4: Maddox–Galihuma, Ruhoko–Mukunyu and Busanza Roads in Butiti Sub County in Kyenjojo District have been in poor state for the last 1 year

The roads were full of pot-holes and the gangs were not doing any work on them due to lack of funds and sometimes lack of priority by the sub county leadership of Butiti. This was extremely impassable making it difficult for the children to access schools whenever it rained. This continued for many years despite the roads being used by students of Maddox secondary school, one of the biggest and oldest secondary schools in the sub county.

The issue was presented to the leaders during the face the citizens rally roads were presented to leaders of Butiti sub county and Kyenjojo District Local Government in 2 respective face the citizens rallies In Mukunyu and Kaihura. The same roads were raised in 2 face the citizens rallies organized by KRC In Kaihura and Mukunyu Trading centre respectively where citizens presented the issues paper to both technical and political leaders of Butiti and Kyenjojo district leadership for activities

The roads were pushed through the district planning cycle, accorded budget allocation –and then up-graded to first class murrum. The roads are now very passable.

Civic Educators Engage Leaders, Kyenjojo Primary School Gets New Latrine Block

Kajuma Primary School is one of the government aided Primary School in Kigoyera Sub County in Kyenjojo District with a population of over 800 pupils. For the past 3 years the school was served by one stance latrine for both teachers and pupils which was full, thus causing health threat to both teachers and pupils.

The issue was identified by civic educators of Kigoyera Sub County and it has been raised in the citizens issues paper during face the citizens rally organized by KRC where citizens interface with leaders and present the issues on poor service delivery. The KRC team visited Kajuma Primary School located in Kigoyera

Sub County in Kyenjojo District in a bid to follow up on the issues of service delivery that has been raised by citizens about the school.

During our visit to the school, the headmaster welcomed us with a smile and he informed us that Kyenjojo District Local Government has finished the construction of the latrine with 4 stances which was handed over to the school administration and most importantly was the section for pupil with disability with a ramp to the latrine which has eased access by people with disability.

The head teacher of the school is grateful to KRC for continuous support in the creation of platforms where citizens interface with their leaders. The results are great as compared to the past where we lived in silence and nothing much was done.

Thanks to KRC for creating platforms, at least now our voices can be heard and be responded to.

The author is a Civic Educator in Kigoyera Sub County

## Story 5: Empowered Sub County Speaker narrates her road to understanding her role and mandate after KRC Induction. She narrates her story



It's over 4 years since I was elected to the position of Speaker, Kakabara Sub County, Kyegegwa District. In all this period I was only trained once (and just the basics) on the council rules of procedures – and I was the lone beneficiary. The other members of the council didn't attend the training and therefore, were not oriented on these procedures. For this entire period, we have been using the little that I really understood. This has in most instances created unnecessary tension, misunderstanding and long council sessions.

Even when I would rule a member out of order, they would even remain standing or submitting.

Suffice to add, very few members in this council knew when and who to second a motion, that if a motion was tabled before the council it would take a minimum of 10 minutes for a member to second it, even when I asked the mover of the motion or a members from the executive to make a further clarification on the intended motion they would still not say anything.

There was also an issue of handling the Executive members, who would move and second their own motions! Thanks to the KRC Induction, the councilors have now understood their roles and how to proceed in bringing business to the council. Now they know, I was right whenever I ruled them out of procedure.

There were also instances when the executive members would debate and contradict themselves on a motion that had come from them, in contradiction of council rules of procedure – and whenever I ruled them out of order, they would instead insult and create unnecessary tension in the council.

Fortunately with the coming in of the KRC Civic Education training on the council rules of procedure, budgeting, planning and roles of leaders at different levels I feel I am now empowered – and so is every member of my council. As the Speaker, I feel this training has been elaborative and clear enough and thus the next council sitting, I expect members to be more active, debate on motions appropriately, and guide one another, accordingly.

## Financial Statement

Project	Opening Balance	Actual Income	Total Income	Actual Expenditure	Variance
DGF CIVIC	306,947,326	1,520,165,874	1,827,113,200	1,547,156,838	279,956,362
DRC	-	136,121,943	136,121,943	145,377,969	(9,256,027)
CARE APEAL	-	410,889,234	410,889,234	400,212,682	10,676,552
Oxfam GB	93,719,740	50,294,492	144,014,232	143,734,909	279,323
World Food Program	15,717,781	613,797,432	629,515,213	801,246,941	(171,731,728)
Broederlijk Delen	23,819,353	308,198,841	332,018,194	314,218,348	17,799,846
HIVOS	108,722,798	163,575,573	272,298,371	182,799,475	89,498,896
MRG	-	36,788,300	36,788,300	29,324,611	7,463,689
CS-LEARN	-	12,100,234	12,100,234	12,013,800	86,434
BANTWANA	-	84,153,300	84,153,300	83,410,520	742,780
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>548,926,998</b>	<b>3,336,085,222</b>	<b>3,885,012,220</b>	<b>3,659,496,094</b>	<b>225,516,125</b>

## KRC Staff as per December 31st, 2019

No.	Names	Title
1	Mwanga Julius	Executive Director
2	Shariff Muhammed	Deputy Executive Director/M&E Advisor
3	Kabahuma B Lillian	Finance and Administration Manager
4	Bihunirwa Medius	Head FEDU
5	Muzinduki Patrick	Head Governance and Policy Advocacy
6	Kanyiginya Violet	Climate change & Food Security Advocacy Officer
7	Kakande Godfrey	Accountant
8	Murungi John	Communications and Advocacy Officer-KRC
9	Kahunde C Vicky	Accounts Assistant
10	Kaliisa Maureen	Administrative Assistant
11	Baluku Yosia	IT Officer
12	Mugarra David	Prog. Officer-Governance
13	Mwirumubi Robert	Driver
14	Kwezi Richard	Driver
15	Basaija Joseph	Receptionist





No.	Names	Title
16	Kezaabu Margaret	Cleaner
17	Kayiwa John	Prog. Officer- FAGRIB
18	Niyigaba Habiyakare Ezra	Prog Officer-Civic Education
19	Katya Rabson	Statician
20	Kabajogya Alice	Prog Officer-Civic Education
21	Masika Margaret	GBV-Cordinator
22	Tusiime Richard	Prog Officer-Civic/M& E Assistant
24	Mugisa Jared	FTO-AMS
25	Musana Stephen	FTO-AMS
26	Nyakaana Charles	FTO-AMS
27	Aheebwa Mubarak	FTO-AMS
28	Ngarunsa Lootguard	FTO-AMS
29	Nakayaga Resty	FTO-AMS
30	Rwamudanga Abdou Rahaman	FTO-AMS
31	Najjuko Sumaya	Admin Asst-AMS
32	Katwere Florence	Project Officer -FAGRIB
33	Kyosimire Pelan	FTO-AMS
34	Kakyo Banedatta	Accounts Clerk



## KRC Board Members as per December 31st, 2019

No.	Names	Title
1	Beatrice Birungi Kiraso	Board Chair
2	Thomas Kalyegira Rubaale	Vice Chairperson Board
3	Msgr Isiah N Mayombo	Board Member
4	Kazigati Grace	Board Member
5	Martha Muhumuza Sabiiti	Board Member
6	Mujungu Mestel	Board Member
7	Muhindo Christine	Board Member




### **Contact**


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 <https://youtube.com/krcuganda1>