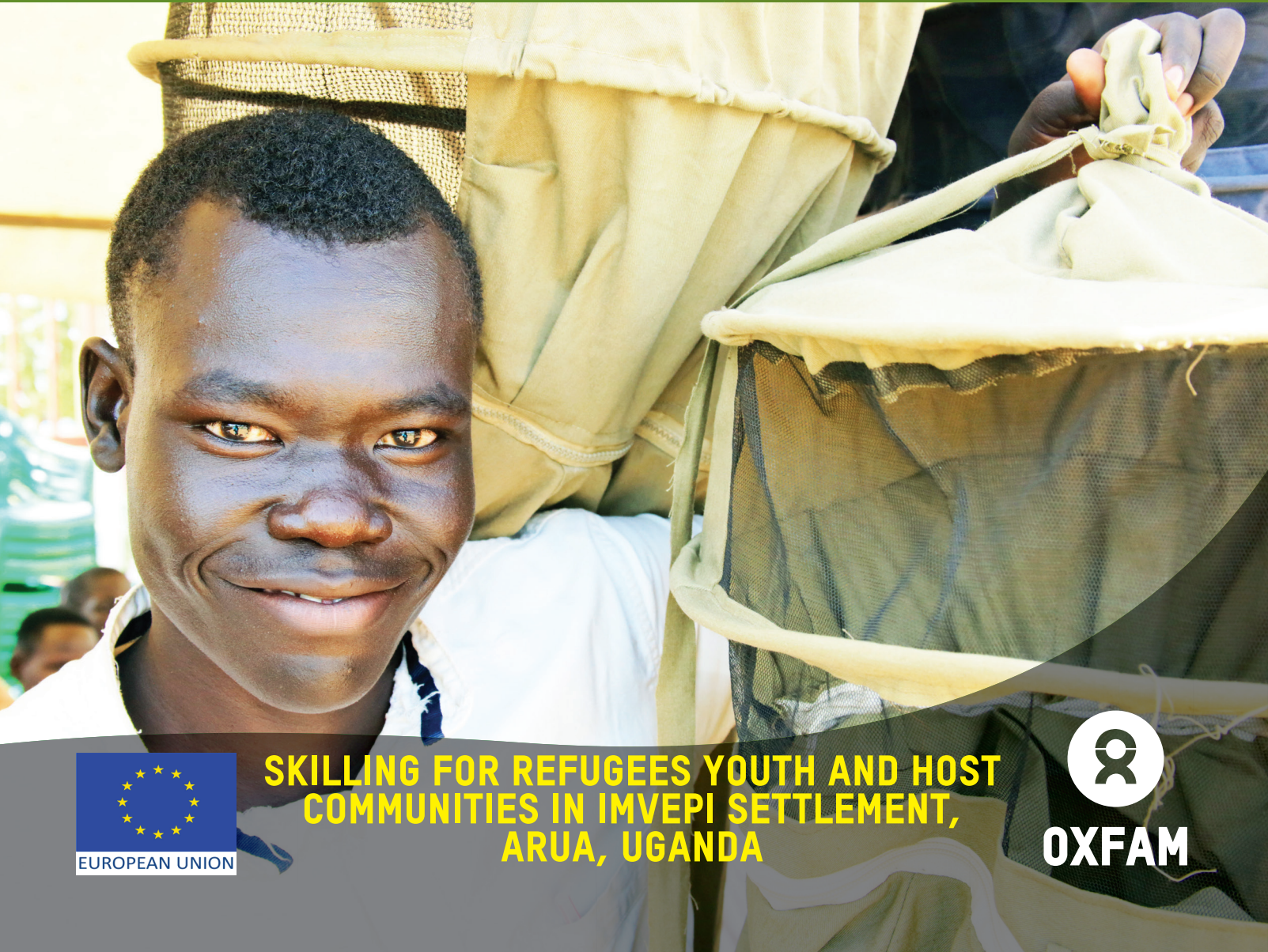


# APICULTURE VALUE CHAIN



**SKILLING FOR REFUGEES YOUTH AND HOST  
COMMUNITIES IN IMVEPI SETTLEMENT,  
ARUA, UGANDA**



**OXFAM**

# ABOUT OXFAM IN UGANDA

Oxfam is a worldwide organisation working together with partners and local communities in more than 90 countries focusing on the alleviation of global poverty. In Uganda, Oxfam started work in 1960s, partnering with local Organizations, volunteers and supporters as well as poor communities to bring about developmental change. We believe that fundamental change will happen in Uganda with a shift in policies and practices, and when citizens can exercise and claim their rights and responsibilities as enshrined in the Constitution.

Our program is hinged on three thematic goals which aim to promote women's rights, good governance and accountability, resilient livelihoods as well as enhance preparedness, reduce vulnerability to disaster and ensure an effective response to humanitarian crises.

Oxfam recognizes the challenge of youth unemployment across the country and works with partners and other stakeholders exploring different innovative models/ approaches both in rural and urban areas towards youth empowerment and employment.

The overall objective of our youth programming is to give support to the youth groups to harness their socio-economic potential and increase self-employment opportunities and sustainable income levels.

Oxfam believes that the issue of youth unemployment will be addressed once there is qualitative change in the vocational skills, education curriculum and an enabling environment that promotes economic empowerment and increases their participation in the development processes.



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All photos by Jimmy Adriko

# ABOUT THE PROJECT



## BACKGROUND

Oxfam's 2016 emergency food security and livelihood needs assessment for host community and South Sudanese refugee response in Arua and Yumbe districts highlighted poverty as key a challenge in refugee settlements: the community reported only a meal a day per household; there was no cash crop grown and programmes helping refugees to get out of poverty were insufficient. Similarly, the inter-agency report on Rapid Assessment for Markets in Bidibidi Refugee settlement (2016), highlighted that refugee youth are looking for opportunities to supplement income, help support their families, start small businesses and income generating activities. The youth from both the refugees and host communities expressed limited entrepreneurial and vocational skills, community-connections as well as start-up capital. It was against this background that Oxfam and The National Bee keepers Development Organization proposed to skill refugees youth in Apiculture. The one-year 'Apiculture value chain project' was funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund through the Belgium Development Corporation – Enabel and the government of Uganda.

Oxfam chose Apiculture because it is adopted as a climate-change adaptation intervention that offers excellent alternative source of income and livelihood opportunities given its high absorption capacity for youth and women along the value-chain.

The overall objective of the project was to contribute to the improvement of economic opportunities and sustainable livelihoods of refugee youth and host communities in Arua district.

**The project targeted 350 youth 70% (245) and 30% (105) from refugee and host community respectively aged between 15-35 years (210 female and 140 male) in Rhino refugee settlements, Arua district.**

This booklet is therefore a collection of the results of the different skills acquired by members of the different groups.

## OVERALL IMPACT

► 350 refugee and host community youth in Arua and specifically Imvepi refugee settlement have been equipped with life, employable and entrepreneurship skills for sustained livelihood in apiculture.

► Refugees and Host Community Youth have been Certified by the Directorate of Industrial Training and have acquired certificates which will help them to engage in the apiculture value chain.

► Apiary youth innovation clubs have been established as Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises – 32 MSMEs have been fully registered with Odopi sub county as apiculture business entities.

► More than 100 refugee and host communities employed by the established MSMEs and are engaged in production bee products.



# EUROPEAN UNION EMERGENCY TRUST FUND (EU TF)

The European Union (EU) Commission established the Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and Addressing the Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa (EU-TF) on 20.10.2015 and signed the Constitutive Agreement on 12.11.2015, during the EU-Africa Summit in Valetta, Malta.

The European Union Trust Fund (EUTF) 3-year project aimed to foster stability in the region and to contribute to better migration management. More specifically, it aimed to address the root causes of instability, forced displacement and irregular migration, by promoting equal economic equal opportunities, security and development. In Uganda, the EUTF-funded initiative, 'Support Programme for Refugee Settlements and Host Communities in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU)' implemented in the districts of Adjumani, Yumbe, Arua and Kiryandongo is implemented through three separate partner contracts as follows:- a) Austrian Development Agency (ADA) implementing the water and sanitation; b) Belgian Development Agency (Enabel) implementing skills development & entrepreneurship training; c) Danish Refugee Council (DRC) leading the NGO-consortium and implementing livelihoods, conflict resolution & prevention and education and knowledge component.

## Enabel

(THE BELGIUM DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)

Youth unemployment is a growing problem in Uganda, with most of its population below 18 years. Providing youth with the right skills and matching them to jobs contributes to their social and economic integration. However, Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTNET) in Uganda suffers from a chronic underfinancing and reputation issues in terms of quality and relevance. The "Skilling Uganda" 10 years' strategic plan (2012-2021) meant to transform BTNET into a system of skills development for employment, enhanced productivity and growth. Enabel therefore supports Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) in implementing this strategic plan through the Support to Skilling Uganda (SSU) programme

EUTF-funded initiative, 'Support Programme for Refugee Settlements and Host Communities in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU)' is being implemented to support this process of BTNET reform agenda following skilling Uganda approach by adapting skills development to specific needs of the Sudanese refugee communities.

The intervention contributes to improved skills development opportunities for refugees and their host communities through short- and medium-term Vocational Training and Entrepreneurship Support, start-up kits and gender sensitive skills development trainings worth 2.6million Euros. The Skill Development Component of EUTF is executed through a Skills Development Fund (SDF) as part of the strategic framework of "Skilling Uganda", the main BTNET financing instrument, currently operationalized for the skilling Uganda intervention by Enabel in Uganda.

Through Enabel, Oxfam benefitted from EUTF grants through competitive calls for proposal.

## TUNADO (THE UGANDA NATIONAL APICULTURE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION)

Working with Oxfam, TUNADO implemented the technical apiculture value chain activities as well as provided market linkages. From the technical support, 245 trainees registered for DIT assessment and 200 were assessed in various trades along the apiculture value chain and all 200 passed the practical assessment. With the certificates which prove that the bearer is competent to perform the task they are certified in to market standards, the youth can now; confidently open and run businesses and use their certificates as supporting documentation when they are bidding for work either to train or to supply. Additionally, they can use the acquired certificates when applying for jobs in their line of certification globally because certification of informally acquired skills originated from Germany and is recognized in Europe and America.

# SHOE POLISH MAKING

TOGETHER IS  
OURS GROUP



“

WE NOW HAVE  
EXTRA INCOME  
WHICH WE  
DID NOT HAVE  
BEFORE THE  
PROJECT.

”







"My name is Joel Rufas Aloro, I am the chairperson of Together is Ours. It consists of 17 members, 7 are female. We chose this product because there was ready market of shoe polish in our community. There is even a big market potential across Arua and generally Uganda since shoe polish is needed by many, especially school going children."

With financial support from the European Union emergency trust fund through Enabel, the Belgium development agency, Oxfam partnered with TUNADO and trained this group in business Skills with a focus on shoe polish which they make from bee wax, olive oil, coloring powder etc. The group was trained in February 2019 and started making shoe polish in March.

"I was the first to be recruited by TUNADO. They wanted at least 10 members to form a group. Many youths were reluctant, but I convinced some youths who, just like me had nothing to do besides sitting around shops in the settlements. We now want to

raise the number to 25 so that we can have enough manpower to produce a lot and take advantage of the available market. We have the skills and can produce as many as the order is available. We sell the shoe polish at Ugx2,000 each.

My group represented by me was taken to Kampala to exhibit our product, I got so many orders for our product which encouraged us. We are now looking at getting small containers so we can also sell small quantities at Ugx500 Uganda Shillings so that our product gets affordable at all levels especially in our community.

Our plan now is to use the money from sales to increase our raw material quantities as well labels.

To increase our market here, we are doing a lot of face to face marketing within the communities.

We are very happy that we now have extra income which we did not have before the project. "



**Joel Rufas Aloro,**  
27 years old is South  
Sudanese refugee.



**“ WE USED TO SIT  
AROUND THE  
SHOPS AND DO  
NOTHING BUT  
NOW WE CAN  
MEET OUR DAILY  
DEMANDS. ”**



# PROTECTIVE GEAR

PEACE PROTECTIVE  
GEAR GROUP







TITUS MABE, is a 20-year-old South Sudanese refugee. He is also the Chairperson of 10-member group.

“  
**OUR TARGET NOW IS TO  
GET GOOD MARKET IN  
OTHER PARTS OF ARUA  
AND UGANDA**  
”

In less than a week after training, Peace protective gear group had made 14 protective gears on their own. If well finished, each gear could go for Ugx150,000. This is another group trained in making honey harvesting protective gears by TUNADO, an Oxfam partner with the financial support from the European Union emergency trust fund through Enabel.

“We have 10 members. Four are men and six females. We operate from Zone 2 of the settlement. There are other members also on a similar project in Zone 1 and 3. We were given two weeks training by a tailoring tutor then we were sent to the trading centre to start work. In less than a week we had made 14 protective gears on our own, and we sold three of these each at Ugx70,000. The actual price is supposed to be Ugx150,000 each but we are selling cheaply because we have not achieved the level of excellence to make the best quality.

We used the money we got from the sales to buy more materials. With the tailoring skills, we have also started making school uniforms which are on demand in the settlements to keep our members in business as we are currently getting fewer orders in protective gear.

Given our experience of sitting around doing nothing before this project, we are exploring ways to bring on board more young people to join us so that they have something meaningful to do.

Our main challenge is that the market for protective gear is outside the settlements. The communities here do not buy this product besides the uniforms because they are not involved in bee keeping. Our target now is to get good market in other parts of Arua and Uganda so that we can sustain ourselves. We already have the skills.

We also look forward to interacting with other host community youths who TUNADO trained in Apiary as they could be our market. We could sell our products to them, but we are told they are still setting up stages, so they have not reached the stage of requiring our products.

As a group, the other thing we do is come together and meet once a month to discuss how we can improve our business, maintenance of sewing machines and other issues. We want to take this business to another level. We want each member of our group to get a sewing machine to increase productivity. We are also hope to brand our protective gears.”

# SOAP MAKING

LOKETA GROUP

“

BEFORE THIS  
PROJECT, I WAS  
IDLE AT HOME.  
I WOULD WAIT  
FOR RATION TO  
LOOK AFTER MY  
CHILDREN.

”

FARIDA HAYATI, a refugee  
from South Sudan, 28  
years old and a mother of 4







**WE PLAN  
TO GET BIGGER.  
WE HAVE READY  
MARKET IN  
KAMPALA**

“Before this project, I was idle at home. I would rely for food ration to look after my children

When I heard of the project, I joined immediately because I saw this as an opportunity for making money. We trained for 4 days in business management skills and then 5 days in soap making.”

With the financial support of European Union emergency trust fund through Enabel, the Belgium development agency, Oxfam through TUNADO provided this group with the trainings and the gave them oils, chemicals, wax and 3 molds to kickstart their business.

“We chose bathing soap because there is demand. In one production process, we make 18 pieces of soap. We sell the small pieces at Ugx1,500 and bigger one at Ugx 2,500.

This is good especially for someone like me that did not have any source of income before. The challenge with this business is that we must wait for many days so that the soap hardens in the molds. If we had many molds, we could make many pieces continuously. We also face the challenge of getting chemicals (caustic soda) that is not readily available in nearby towns.

In order to increase our sales, our plan is to set up our own outlet in the trading center so that we display and sell our products there. Now all our materials and finished products are kept the home of our group leader.

Oxfam got for us market in Kampala as well. Our plan is to get bigger and bigger because there is demand for our products here in the settlement and other places like Arua and Kampala.”





# SMOKER MAKING

NEW BUSINESS  
GROUP CENTRE

“ WE CHOSE TO MAKE  
SMOKERS TO SAVE BEES.  
THEY ARE GOOD FOR OUR  
ENVIROMENT PROTECTION

”





**GEORGE NOEL ABUI**  
is the chairperson of  
the group. He is 24  
years old and a South  
Sudan refugee



“

**WE CAN MAKE 5  
SMOKERS A DAY  
AND SELL EACH  
AT UGX50,000**

”

Our group was formed in 2018. We are only five in our group. One is a female and is our Vice Chairperson. We were all living as individuals without income generating skills. After the training we are now organized, we work as a group. Our product smoker is to save bees from being killed during the harvest of honey. We got a 4-day training organized by Oxfam and TUNADO at Imvepi Secondary School. After the training, we were given materials to start practicing. We use timber, metal sheets, nails, hammers among other materials. After the training, we were supposed to go on full production for the market. However, we do not have enough capital. If we get capital, we can make 5 smokers in a day and sell each at Ugx50,000. I am happy, because with capital, the skill I got can make me make money for the rest of my life. GEORGE NOEL ABUI- 24 years old, Chairperson of the group.

Training this group and availing them startup materials was possible with the support of the European Union emergency trust fund through Enabel, the Belgium development agency.







Ms Joseline Lydia Ajdiru (right) an Assessor of Directorate of Industrial Training, Ministry of Education and Sports, assessing the workmanship of the South Sudanese refugees Smoker Making group in Imvepi Settlement on 12.06.2019. The assesment is for issuing certificate of competence that the youth are qualified enough to make the products.



# PROPOLIS TINCTURE

ASANTI GROUP

We would like to thank Oxfam and TUNADO for giving us chance to make a product that directly addresses the health needs of our people in the settlement and beyond. We chose Propolis Tincture as our product because of its medicinal values. Our product treats many diseases like, Ulcers, cough, wounds, skin disorder and so on.

“

**I HAVE LEARNT NEW SKILLS  
OUT OF THIS PROJECT, GIVEN  
CHANCE, I CAN TRAIN OTHER  
PEOPLE ON HOW TO MAKE  
THIS PRODUCT AND THEY  
MAKE MONEY** ”

Before the training we would sit around the trading centre after going to dig in our small gardens. The training changed my life. I only knew bees as insects that produce honey after collecting nectar from flowers. I did not know that there are many products that can come out of the activities of bees. We now have a product that people can buy in small quantity. At cost of Ugx5,000 the whole family uses it to prevent and treat diseases. We have problems of getting raw materials (ethanol and propolis) What we are using now was supplied as startup kit.



JAMES  
TOWONGO,  
27 years old  
father of 3



# BAKING COOKIES

## TOKETA GROUP



**HARRIET AKANDRU,**  
30 years old mother of 6.  
She is originally from South  
Sudan



“

BEFORE THIS  
TRAINING, I COULD  
NOT MAKE MONEY  
TO LOOK AFTER MY  
CHILDREN. NOW I  
MAKE MONEY OUT  
OF THIS PRODUCT  
AND FEED MY  
CHILDREN, THEY  
ARE HEALTHY.

”

I am a member of Toketa group consisting of 8 females. We have no males in our group. We have tried to get the men on board, but they are all reluctant. We got three days training in baking. The training has brought us to work as a group and plan together for our families. Our raw materials are Honey, baking flour, cooking oil; eggs, soya flour and baking facility. Some of us used to sit home and occasionally plait our friends' hair at a small fee. Since we formed the group and got training, we now earn money. The group makes 2 packets of cookies every day. One packet sells at Ugx6,000 in the markets here in

the settlements. People like our cookies. They place orders in advance. The challenge is we currently have limited raw material to meet the demand.

We use the money we get for adding on more materials like cooking oil and honey that run out faster than the rest of the items. We plan to share some of the money at the end of the month, to meet our family needs. With this skill, I can now support my husband in meeting our family needs. The other women in the settlement look at us as being superior. I can train them in the same business if am given the chance and materials.





# BODY JELLY MAKING

GOD KNOWS GROUP





Our group chose Body Jelly making because we knew our communities here use a lot of it. Mothers use it on themselves, on their babies, girls and boys all use it so we have ready market.

We trained for one week and we were given Wax, Oil, and perfume during training as a startup kit. This is what we are still using in our group. When it runs out, we shall use our money to buy more materials.

We can make up to 50 containers in a day. We work in groups, when other people are busy, the less busy ones make the body jelly then we alternate. When

we started making body jelly, people were excited and started buying from us. Our biggest challenge now is branding. We don't have labels so that people recognize our product. We have agreed to get our product a name, then we shall request Oxfam to help us in printing our labels that we can brand our containers with. Later when we are making enough money, we can pay and have these printed. Our group plans to train more people so that they join us to increase our production level.

We are 10 in our group 9 female and one male.

“OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGE NOW IS BRANDING. WE DON'T HAVE LABELS THAT PEOPLE CAN KNOW OUR PRODUCT”

**AGNES NIGHT,**  
is 18 years old. She dropped out of school after fleeing South Sudan. She got training and now earns money for her needs



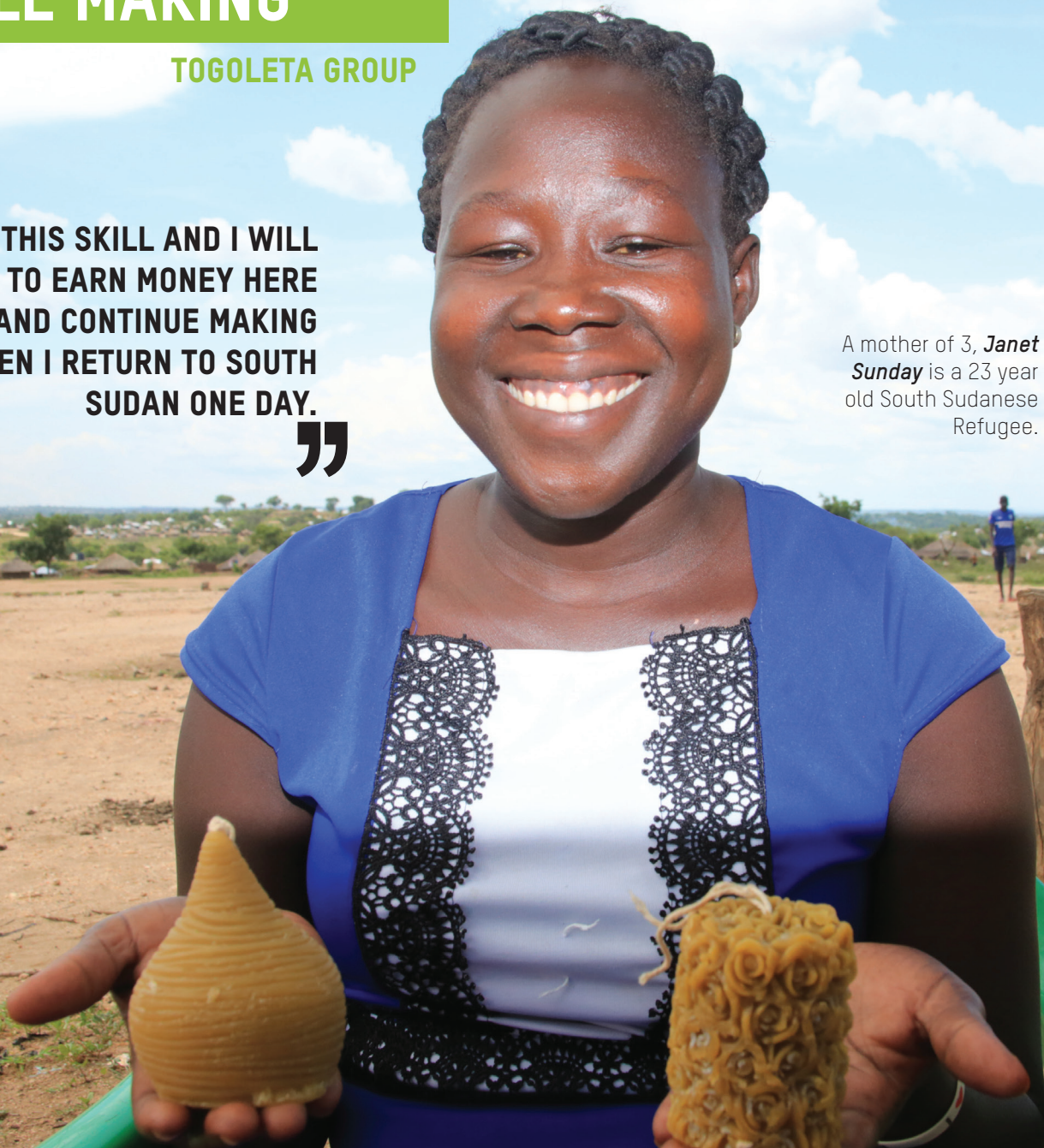


# CANDLE MAKING

TOGOLETA GROUP

“ I GOT THIS SKILL AND I WILL  
USE IT TO EARN MONEY HERE  
IN UGANDA AND CONTINUE MAKING  
MONEY WHEN I RETURN TO SOUTH  
SUDAN ONE DAY.”

A mother of 3, **Janet Sunday** is a 23 year old South Sudanese Refugee.





"Each candle we make is sold at Ugx5,000. We started with 8 members, now we have 12, three of whom are males. We were trained for one day. After the training, we recruited 4 more. Three males and one female. Our first products were taken by TUNADO and sold in super markets around Arua town. The other buyers now take them to Kampala. Our challenge has been of molds, this is where the candles are made, we have only two molds and need more to produce more.

We are keeping our money as a group. We now have hope of raising money to meet our family needs. This skill we have learnt will stay with us even when we go back to South Sudan. I can train other people in candle making if I am given the opportunity. I am happy that we now make money. We will be happy if Oxfam and TUNADO continue finding for us more market."

The training and start up kit that comprised of wax, strings and liquid soap were provided by TUNADO with the support from the European Union emergency trust fund through Enabel.





# HOST COMMUNITY

## OTUMBARI YOUTH BEEKEEPERS GROUP



Wilfred Atayo (right) and members of his Otumbari Youth Bee Keepers group walking back after inspecting their apiary site in Ibia village. on 12.06.2018. The inspection was to check the number of colonised hives and also clear the areas around the hives so that other insects dont find their way onto the hives.





24 year old Dennis Drapari, a member of Otumbari Youth Bee Keepers group, cleans grass around their hives at the apiary site in Ibia Village on 12.06.2019.

Located in Ibia village, Arua district, the group is in one of the 6 host community areas surrounding Imvepi refugee Settlement. Just like the rest of the groups, they were supported by Oxfam through TUNADO with funding from the European Union emergency trust fund managed by Enabel.

“Our group started in September 2018 when Oxfam sent us messages about formation of village groups for apiary projects. 15 people were selected from our parish for the training” said Atayo. He added that they were trained in business management. Packaging and marketing. “We were also trained on how to manage family issues and

managing of opportunities and challenges. Finally, we then got the training in setting up apiary sites and we were given materials for setting up our apiary. We took 3 days to set up our site with 5 hives from Oxfam and TUNADO. Before the project, each one of us was doing their own thing, digging and sometimes sitting idle and redundant. With the equipment given to our group, we can now collect honey from other bee keepers in the parish and process it for better market.

There is a big change in the homes of each member of our group. This is both in terms of income and behavior. We are admired by those who missed the opportunity.”





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**THIS PUBLICATION WAS PRODUCED BY OXFAM WITH THE FUNDING FROM EUROPEAN UNION EMERGENCY TRUST FUND THROUGH Enabel. THE CONTENT IS SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OXFAM. OXFAM RECEIVED CONSENT FROM ALL THE PEOPLE FEATURED IN THIS PUBLICATION.**