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SUCCESS STORIES

MIGRATION PROJECT

BIDIBIDI REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

Preface

Bidibidi refugee settlement is the second-largest refugee settlement in the world. It is a home to more than 250,000 refugees, most of whom have fled the violence and upheaval in South Sudan.

Since 2017, Horizont3000, in partnership with the Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), with funding from the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), Brothers and Sisters in Need (BSIN) and Caritas have been dedicated to transforming the lives of South Sudanese refugees and host Communities in Uganda's West Nile region. Through the "Secure Livelihoods for South Sudanese Refugees and Host Communities" project, they are writing a narrative of inclusive development and sustainable futures in one of the world's most vulnerable settings.

Now, as we reach the final consolidation phase of this remarkable journey, we reflect on the achievements, challenges, and lasting impact of our efforts in Yumbe district. This series of success stories highlights the resilience of the communities, the dedication of our partners, and the sustainable solutions that will continue to shape livelihoods long after the project's conclusion.

Join us as we celebrate the individuals and organizations who have turned opportunities into lasting change, proving that with the right support, communities can thrive beyond crisis.





Abile Zubaire Magara and wife Raima Otua, farmers : A Story of Growth, Unity, and Generosity



Abile Zubaire Magara, a farmer in Jemo village, Yumbe district, transformed his livelihood through AFARD's support. Initially struggling with financial instability and post-harvest losses, he gained skills in modern farming, financial management, and collective savings through a Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA). As part of the Romogi Kiri Multipurpose Cooperative Society, he now benefits from bulk selling and better market prices. Beyond personal success, **Abile** fosters coexistence by donating ten acres of land to refugee families for farming. He has also diversified his income with poultry and kitchen gardening, ensuring financial security for his family. His journey exemplifies how knowledge, collaboration, and generosity can uplift entire communities.



Mohamadi Dramani and wife Fikira Nasiri once struggling farmers with poverty.



Mohamadi Dramani, once struggling with poverty, found hope through AFARD's fruit and vegetable growing program. After training and receiving startup seeds, his first harvest in 2020 earned 6 million shillings. He reinvested in farming, growing passion fruit, watermelon, and pawpaw, which now provide a steady income. His success stabilized his home, allowing him to expand into cassava, maize, and poultry.

With earnings from vegetables alone, he makes 20,000–30,000 shillings daily. **Dramani** also advocates against gender-based violence, believing financial stability fosters family harmony. His journey from hardship to prosperity demonstrates that farming can secure a stable future.





Regina Aluku: Stitching Her Way to Success



Fleeing war in South Sudan, **Regina Aluku** arrived at Bidibidi Refugee Settlement in 2018, alone and struggling. AFARD's tailoring program changed her life, equipping her with skills and a sewing machine. She started from home, saved diligently, and eventually opened a shop, combining tailoring with a grocery business.

Through the VSLA, she expanded her stock and bought a motorcycle for supplies. No longer reliant on aid, she supports her children and aims to expand into sweater weaving and farming. Her success has even inspired others to start businesses, proving that resilience and hard work lead to independence.



Patricia Anzoa: Turning a Small Plot into a Prosperous Future.



Arriving at Bidibidi Refugee Settlement in 2017, **Patricia Anzoa** relied on UNHCR food rations until AFARD introduced her to kitchen gardening. Growing vegetables, she joined a savings group, eventually renting land for cassava farming. Profits enabled her to start poultry farming, later expanding to piggery.

With her success, she bought a grinding machine and a motorcycle, relocating the machine to a high-demand area. Now food secure, her family thrives, and neighbors marvel at her achievements. Anzoa credits AFARD's training for her transformation, proving that with knowledge and determination, even refugees can build prosperous futures.





Nicholas Sabiti and wife Mikala Awate: From Survival to Self-Sufficiency



Fleeing war in South Sudan, **Nicholas Sabiti** arrived at Bidibidi Refugee Settlement with nothing. Struggling to survive on food aid, he joined AFARD's training in 2017, learning vegetable growing and livestock rearing. With initial supplies, he harvested enough to expand into cassava farming, goat rearing, and poultry keeping.

His earnings funded his children's education and enabled him to rent land. Today, he owns a motorcycle for transporting produce and has a thriving herd of goats. His success has inspired community cooperation, with landowners now offering land to refugees for free. Sabiti's journey shows that, with opportunity, refugees can achieve self-reliance.



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