



WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUTH INITIATIVE (WCYI)

QUARTER TWO PROGRAMME REPORT – 2026

1. Organization Background

Women, Children and Youth Initiative (WCYI) is committed to improving the wellbeing, protection, empowerment, and resilience of women, children, youth, and vulnerable populations through community-based interventions, capacity strengthening, partnerships, and advocacy.

During Quarter Two of 2026, WCYI implemented activities focused on organizational capacity strengthening, protection support, livelihood enhancement, community engagement, and strengthening partnerships within Palorinya Refugee Settlement and host communities.

2. Executive Summary

During Quarter Two, WCYI achieved significant progress through collaboration with humanitarian and development partners, including RELON Uganda, URRI Uganda, Palm Corps, and Footstep International.

Key achievements included:

- Participation in feminist movement strengthening and organizational capacity-building training.
- Strengthening capacity of refugee-led organizations (RLOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), and community groups.
- Training and supporting Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups.
- Providing material support to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs).
- Supporting vulnerable community members through food assistance.
- Participating in farmer group engagement and livelihood discussions.
- Strengthening networking, partnerships, and resource mobilization capacity.

However, the quarter also experienced increased protection concerns, including theft, insecurity, and challenges affecting community participation.

3. Key Achievements, Outputs, Outcomes and Indicators

Activity	Indicators	Outputs Achieved	Outcomes/Impact
Feminist Movement and Organizational Capacity Strengthening Training organized by RELON Uganda	Number of staff/representatives trained; number of organizations represented	18–20 participants from NGOs, CBOs, and RLOs participated in a three-day training supported by War Child Canada, Oxfam, and RELON Uganda. Organizations represented included ADRA, CECI, CEFOD, WCYI, CPSO, CEFTRA, RED-NET, and YEFORS.	Improved knowledge among local actors on feminist engagement, communication, visibility, networking, partnerships, and resource mobilization.
VSLA Capacity Strengthening in	Number of VSLA groups trained; number of members reached	One VSLA group was trained in collaboration with URRI Uganda on VSLA	Improved financial literacy, savings culture, accountability, and group

Palorinya Refugee Settlement		management and strengthening.	management capacity among members.
Support to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)	Number and categories of vulnerable persons supported	Material support was provided to PSNs including persons with mental disabilities, older persons at risk, women at risk, and children at risk.	Improved hygiene, dignity, and wellbeing of vulnerable community members.
Food Support Intervention	Number of beneficiaries supported; quantity of food items distributed	In collaboration with Footstep International, WCAYI supported church members with maize and beans. Community members received 6kg maize and 2kg beans, while pastors received 7kg maize and 2kg beans.	Improved food access and temporary relief for vulnerable households and church members.
Farmer Group Engagement Meeting	Number of farmer groups engaged; number of participants	Participated in a farmer engagement meeting organized by Palm Corps in partnership with URRI Uganda at Zone 2 Morobi Community Centre. More than 15 farmer groups participated with two representatives each.	Improved coordination between farmers, landlords, and supporting organizations while identifying livelihood challenges and opportunities.
CBO and RLO Capacity Building ("Geared for Success")	Number of organizations trained; duration of training	Participated in a three-day capacity-building training for CBOs and RLOs in Yumbe.	Strengthened organizational leadership, coordination, sustainability, and service delivery capacity among local actors.

4. Programme Outcomes

Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity of local organizations

WCAYI's organizational capacity was strengthened through a targeted capacity-building initiative conducted by RELON Uganda. The training contributed to enhancing the capacity of WCAYI, CBOs, RLOs, and community groups through practical learning sessions and knowledge-sharing platforms. Participants gained improved skills in organizational management, networking, communication and visibility, partnership development, and resource mobilization.

The strengthened capacities will enable WCAYI and other local actors to improve coordination, develop stronger partnerships, enhance programme visibility, and mobilize resources more effectively to support community-driven interventions.

Radio Talk Show on Youth Engagement and Behaviour Change

WCAYI participated in a Radio Pacis talk show on youth engagement and behaviour change during the school holidays. The discussion highlighted the opportunities and risks associated with the holiday period and emphasized the importance of engaging children and youth in positive activities such as life skills training, sports, mentorship, vocational skills, and community dialogues to reduce exposure to risky behaviours. WCAYI also called upon parents, caregivers, schools, faith leaders, and community members to provide guidance, supervision, and safe spaces for young people during the holidays. The radio programme served as an advocacy platform to promote youth empowerment,

positive behaviour change, and child protection through increased community awareness and collaboration.

Capacity Building on Advocacy and Refugee Protection

WCAYI participated in a three-day Capacity Building Training organized by RELON Uganda in May 2026 in Arua City. The training brought together **45 leaders from Refugee-Led Organizations (RLOs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)** across the West Nile region to strengthen advocacy and refugee protection efforts. Key training areas included international and national refugee legal frameworks, refugee protection mechanisms, advocacy strategies, accountability, monitoring, and the use of digital advocacy tools. WCAYI was represented by its Field Focal Person, **Amos Yoke**, who successfully completed the training and received a Certificate of Participation. The training enhanced WCAYI's capacity in advocacy, protection, and organizational leadership, further strengthening its commitment to promoting the rights and wellbeing of refugees and host communities.

Participated and Completed the Legal Gender Justice Leadership Programme(June-August)

Women, Children and Youth Initiative (WCAYI) successfully completed a **three-month Leadership Programme on Legal Gender Justice**, which strengthened the organization's capacity to advance gender equality, women's rights, and access to justice within refugee and host communities.

The programme equipped participants with practical knowledge and skills on advancing justice by combining the power of law with community action. Key learning areas included the Legal Empowerment Cycle, pathways to justice (formal, informal, and hybrid), barriers women face in accessing justice, gender-transformative dispute resolution, land and family dispute mediation, recognition of power imbalances, survivor-centred approaches to gender-based violence (GBV), the role of community paralegals, collaborative safety planning, and leadership for collective action and advocacy.

Through this programme, WCAYI strengthened its capacity to promote legal empowerment, support survivors through appropriate referrals, advocate for gender justice, and build collaborative networks that advance the rights of women, children, and vulnerable populations.

WCAYI extends its sincere appreciation to the programme organizers for the opportunity to participate in this enriching leadership programme. The successful completion of the programme marks an important milestone in the organization's commitment to advancing legal empowerment, gender justice, and community-led advocacy.

Successful Completion of the Interpeace Peace Responsiveness Programme

Women, Children and Youth Initiative (WCAYI) successfully completed a **three-month Peace Responsiveness Programme** facilitated by **Interpeace**. The programme strengthened the organization's capacity to integrate peacebuilding and conflict-sensitive approaches into humanitarian and development programming. Through the training, WCAYI enhanced its understanding of conflict prevention and transformation, conflict analysis, community engagement, resilience building, and the importance of addressing the root causes of violence. The programme also emphasized integrating peacebuilding across sectors including humanitarian, development, climate, and economic interventions through conflict-sensitive programming, strategic partnerships, and inclusive community participation.

The knowledge and skills acquired will enable WCAYI to design and implement programmes that promote peaceful coexistence, strengthen social cohesion, and contribute to preventing and transforming violent conflict within refugee and host communities. Successful completion of the programme represents an important milestone in WCAYI's commitment to advancing sustainable peace, community resilience, and inclusive development.

Outcome 2: Improved wellbeing of vulnerable community members

Through the provision of material support, WCAYI contributed to improving the dignity, hygiene, and overall wellbeing of vulnerable community members, including persons with disabilities, older persons at risk, women at risk, and children at risk.

A total of **20 Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) (10 males and 10 females)** were identified through household visits conducted in **Zone 1 of Palorinya Refugee Settlement** and supported with essential non-food items, including clothing, beddings, and shoes.

The intervention addressed immediate protection and basic needs concerns among vulnerable individuals by improving their living conditions, personal hygiene, and dignity. The home visit approach also enabled WCAYI to identify individuals requiring further protection support and referral services.

Outcome 3: Enhanced community resilience through livelihood strengthening

The VSLA training and farmer group engagement activities contributed to improving community members' knowledge and practices in financial management, savings, and livelihood coordination. WCAYI conducted VSLA capacity-building sessions targeting community members to strengthen their understanding of savings methodologies, group governance, record keeping, loan management, and sustainable financial practices.

A total of **30 individuals (10 males and 20 females)** were reached through the VSLA training. The intervention enhanced participants' capacity to manage community savings groups effectively, promote financial accountability, and utilize collective savings approaches to improve household resilience and economic empowerment.

The training also strengthened community structures by promoting collaboration, peer learning, and increased participation of women in household and community-level financial decision-making.

Outcome 4: Improved collaboration and partnership among humanitarian actors

WCAYI strengthened collaboration and coordination with humanitarian and development partners through active participation in joint trainings, coordination meetings, and community-based interventions. The organization engaged with partners, including URRI Uganda and other stakeholders, in activities aimed at enhancing community resilience, improving service delivery, and promoting knowledge sharing.

WCAYI's participation in partner-led initiatives provided opportunities for joint learning, experience exchange, improved coordination, and strengthened linkages among local actors working to support vulnerable populations.

These partnerships contributed to increased collaboration, reduced duplication of efforts, and improved alignment of interventions with community needs and humanitarian priorities.

Protection and Emerging Community Concerns

During the reporting period, WCAYI observed increasing protection concerns affecting community safety and wellbeing.

Reported incidents included:

Increased theft cases

- ✓ Two female goats belonging to a community member were stolen from inside a house.
- ✓ A similar livestock theft incident occurred among neighbours the following week.

Theft at FDP Facility

- ✓ The FDP carpet was cut and approximately 70 gallons of oil were stolen.
- ✓ Two night guards were detained at Palorinya Prison following the incident.

Theft at Itula Secondary School

- ✓ Computer equipment was stolen.
- ✓ The guard was also detained.

Protection Impact:

The increasing insecurity has affected community confidence, safety, participation, and access to services.

Challenges

Challenge	Impact
Increasing theft and insecurity incidents	Reduced community safety and increased vulnerability among households.
Limited resources to respond to growing protection needs	Some vulnerable groups continue requiring additional support.
Increased number of persons requiring protection assistance	Increased pressure on available humanitarian resources.
Difficulties in community leadership processes	Reduced participation and delayed community engagement activities.
Limited funding availability	Affected expansion and continuity of some interventions.

Lessons Learned

- Partnerships increase programme effectiveness**
Collaboration with humanitarian and development actors improves resource sharing, coordination, and community impact.
- Capacity strengthening promotes sustainability**
Investing in CBOs, RLOs, and community groups enables communities to take ownership of interventions.
- Community-led approaches improve relevance**
Engaging local structures ensures activities respond to actual community needs.
- Protection monitoring must remain a priority**
The increase in insecurity demonstrates the need for continuous community engagement, reporting systems, and coordination with protection actors.
- Integrated support improves resilience**
Combining protection, livelihood, capacity-building, and social support interventions addresses multiple vulnerabilities.

Recommendations and Way Forward

Recommendation	Responsible Actors
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Strengthen community-based security awareness and reporting mechanisms to address increasing theft cases.	WCAYI, OPM, UNHCR, Protection Partners
Increase support and referral pathways for Persons with Specific Needs.	WCAYI and humanitarian partners
Continue capacity-building initiatives for CBOs and RLOs to improve sustainability.	WCAYI, RELON Uganda, Partners
Expand VSLA and livelihood strengthening initiatives among vulnerable households.	WCAYI, URRI Uganda, Livelihood Partners
Strengthen coordination among humanitarian actors, local leaders, and community structures.	All stakeholders
Advocate for increased resources to respond to growing protection and humanitarian needs.	WCAYI and Partners

Conclusion

Quarter Two of 2026 recorded important achievements in strengthening community capacity, supporting vulnerable populations, and promoting partnerships within Palorinya Refugee Settlement and surrounding communities.

Despite progress made, increasing insecurity and protection challenges remain a concern. WCAYI will continue working with partners and community structures to strengthen resilience, improve protection mechanisms, and promote sustainable solutions for women, children, youth, and vulnerable populations.

Annex:





2: Participants during the Geared for Success Project advocacy and capacity-building training organized by RELON Uganda.



Figure 1: A woman leader presenting during a Community Voices Initiative session in which WCAYI participated, contributing to community dialogue, stakeholder engagement, and the promotion of inclusive participation in decision-making processes.