

Performance Evaluation Of The Misizi Marshlands Agricultural Project Among Refugees And Host Communities In Gisagara District, Rwanda

EVALUATION FINAL REPORT
SUBMITTED OCTOBER 11TH 2022

UNHCR Evaluation Service

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Table 1: Evaluation Information At A Glance

EVALUATION INFORMATION AT A GLANCE	
Title of the evaluation:	Performance Evaluation of the Misizi Marshland Agricultural Project Among Refugees and Host Communities In Gisagara District, Rwanda
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List of Abbreviations

AGD	Age, Gender and Diversity
AIF	Africa Improved Foods
COP	Chief of Party
COVID	Corona Virus COVID-19
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugees Response Plan
EO	Executive Officer
EQ	Evaluation Question
EQAS	WFP Evaluation Quality Assurance System
ET	Evaluation Team
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
FATE	FATE Consulting
FCS	Food Consumption Score
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GIZ	The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GRF	Global Refugee Forum
HDDS	Household Diet Diversity Score
HPG	Humanitarian Policy Group
IKEA F	IKEA Foundation
KEQ	Key Evaluation Question
KII	Key Informant Interview
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
MIDIMAR	(former) Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs
MINAGRI	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
MINEMA	Ministry of Emergency Management
NISR	National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda
ODK	Open Data Kit
OECD-DAC	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
PDM	Post Distribution Monitoring
POC	Person of Concern
PPS	Probability Proportional to the Size
QA	Quality Assurance
RAB	Rwanda Agricultural Board
RQ	Research Question
RWA	Rwanda
SACCO	Savings and Credit Co-operative
TOC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Programme

Executive Summary

Purpose and Objectives of this Evaluation

1. This performance evaluation covers the implementation period of the Misizi Marshland project from September 2018 – December 2021, focused on the project beneficiaries (refugees and the host community) residing in the Mugombwa refugee camp and surrounding host community area. This performance evaluation evaluates the performance of the proof-of-concept project and makes recommendations and generates lessons that can be used in similar projects and possible scale-up for a dual learning and accountability purpose. The evaluation is expected to be used to provide guidance on leading practice in design and implementation of agricultural livelihoods, self-reliance and resilience-focused programming for refugees and displaced populations.

Methodology

2. The overall methodological approach of this strategic evaluation is mixed method data collection, including secondary data review and remote key informant interviews as well as in-person household survey, focus group, and key informant interview data collection. Key informant interviews (KIIs) with high-level representatives from UNHCR, government and national-level partner staff were conducted remotely through online platforms. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with project participants, and KIIs with leaders and duty bearers from refugee and host communities and local project staff have been conducted for this evaluation. A total of 27 KIIs and 12 gender disaggregated FGDs (6 FGD sessions with females, 6 FGD sessions with males) have been completed for this evaluation. Primary quantitative data was collected via a beneficiary-based household sample survey. The survey utilized a quasi-experimental design without control group for pre- and post-test analysis. Out of the total sample size of 400 respondents, 354 surveys were completed for an overall non-response rate of 12.2%; within the expected range for statistical validity of results (95% confidence level). Analysis has been triangulated across data sources to address the evaluation questions.

Evaluation findings

3. The overall results of the proof of concept project are positive; livelihoods results are in line with expectations based on design and implementation parameters, and remaining challenges have been identified and are in process of being resolved. Results that stand out are the partnerships, specifically the support from MINEMA that enabled the free use of the Misizi marshland for cultivation by refugees and host community members, and the partnerships with WFP and FAO that provided high quality technical support to readying the marshland for agriculture. Secondly, the increased peaceful co-existence between refugee and host community members has been a foundation for the agricultural production, income, food access and resilience results achieved by project participants. This peaceful co-existence was directly facilitated through joint-farming activities and establishment of the joint-cooperative, which facilitated direct-interactions at a personal, individual, level.
4. The project strengthened resilience to shocks and stresses. Participants indicate the project activities helped them cope with the impacts of COVID-19. First and foremost, the increased production ensured they had food to feed their families, and secondly created an income source through sale of the remainder.
5. The positive results from the project are likely to be sustained after project closure. Misizi project participants report that they have the skills to continue their current agricultural production activities. However, evaluation findings show participants do not have the resources to continue to expand or increase their current production without additional support. For farmers to go beyond

maintenance of current production levels, access to affordable inputs, financial services, loans and irrigation options are needed.

Key Evaluation Question 1: Has the Misizi Marshlands' project managed to achieve its planned short-term and immediate objectives (outputs and outcomes)?

6. Yes, the project achieved its planned output results; income generation through crop sales has increased, formal access to markets has been facilitated, cooperative's self-sustainability has improved, peaceful co-existence has been improved, and crop yields have increased. The Misizi project design fostered direct relationships between individual refugee and host community members through joint-farming and joint-cooperative activities, which resulted in positive relationship building between the two groups, improving social cohesion and peaceful co-existence. Joint-farming activities also resulted in increased maize productivity and Misizi participants have successfully utilized their agricultural production for sale, as well as for home consumption. The Misizi project established market linkages to increase the amount of income participants are able to generate from maize production sales. As a result, participants were able to generate income from production sales as a new livelihood activity, however, during this period total household incomes decreased, largely due to the impacts of COVID-19. Particularly as the project had a relatively short implementation period, the observed uptake of improved agricultural practices, increased production, and successful maize market linkage is positive.

Key Evaluation Question 2: Was the project design and implementation consistent with beneficiary requirements, country needs and policies, and global priorities in terms of achieving refugee self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion?

7. The Misizi Project operated in direct alignment with national priorities and within the unique context of marshland development for agricultural use. The project design facilitated social cohesion between refugee and host community groups, resulting in economic and social inclusion of refugees in alignment with Rwandan national and UNHCR global priority goals. Interviews with project participants indicate that the project has met nearly all their needs, particularly access to land, access to infrastructure including drying and storage sheds, and knowledge about good agricultural practices and post-harvest handling techniques. Project participation has facilitated refugees access to agriculture as a livelihood option, socio-inclusion through joint-farming initiatives, and economic-inclusion through bulking for production sales to post-processing buyers, however, have not yet achieved full self-reliance without any external support.

Key Evaluation Question 3: Was the project design, implementation and monitoring consistent with expected results of the project?

8. The project design was consistent with the expected results of the Misizi project; each of the planned project activity components directly addressed each of the intended project outcomes. Implementation followed the original project design, and despite the onset of COVID-19 creating delays in activity implementation all activities were completed by the end of the one-year extension period.

Key Evaluation Question 4: How are the achieved results and gains of the project going to be sustained once the project ends?

9. Interviews with project participants report that the positive results of the project for their households will be sustained even after project closure, and that they have the skills and human

resources to do so. Participants are actively utilizing improved farming techniques promoted by the project and are motivated to continue investing in their agricultural production as a livelihood source. The current level of production can be sustained; however, continued improvement or growth will require additional support, specifically linkage to finance and market options. The improved relationship and social cohesion between refugee and host community members will be sustained because a genuine mindset shift has taken place; the two groups have gotten to know each other as individuals and see each other as friends who can rely on each other, facilitating a sustainable support network beyond project activities. This positive relationship building between the two groups will continue, through continued participation in the joint-cooperative. The self-sustainability of the joint-cooperative Icyerekezo Misizi has increased due to strengthened cooperative management and formal registration with the government. The project effectively established sustainable infrastructures including construction of four drying facilities, five poultry sheds, five pig pens, and two drying warehouses, which are owned and maintained by the cooperative. Interviews with project participants and cooperative leaders indicate that these infrastructures are a sustainable benefit and the cooperative is committed to maintaining them to ensure continued usage for cooperative members.

Key Evaluation Question 5: Was the project design, implementation, monitoring, objectives and results impacted by COVID-19 and to what extent?

10. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted participants households, as well as Misizi project implementation. The Rwandan Government enacted ongoing as well as intermittent restrictions on movement, gathering/meeting sizes, border closures, curfews, and shelter in place orders. These restrictions limited progress towards achievement of project outcomes one (improved household income) and two (improved access to formal markets), as market activities were severely limited during this time. Implementation of in-person activities and project monitoring was largely delayed until mid-2021. Due to a one year no-cost extension, all planned project activities were still able to be implemented before project closure.

Recommendations

11. Recommendations are based on evaluation findings and sensemaking workshops conducted with UNHCR Rwanda, Misizi project staff and partners and have been organized by operational versus strategic recommendations. Operational recommendations are for the Misizi project implementing team to ensure sustainability of project achievements is optimized. Strategic recommendations focus on the longer-term process of scaling up this proof-of-concept project based on lessons drawn from this evaluation.

Recommended actions	Responsible party	Anticipated timeframe
<p>Recommendation 1 – Operational: UNHCR in partnership with cooperatives should establish a process for regular (annual) participatory performance review of the Icyerekezo Misizi cooperative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the Misizi project applies evaluation findings to establish a process for regular (recommended annual) participatory performance review of the Icyerekezo Misizi cooperative that will improve transparency and cooperative management. This would provide evidence for specific next steps to improve cooperative governance, management, and operations. It is recommended that this participatory performance review is a system and process developed in collaboration between UNHCR Rwanda and the cooperative and identifies appropriate levels of support from UNHCR. Leading practice globally and in Rwanda typically uses the following 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, Misizi Project Staff, Icyerekezo Cooperative Management, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District</p>	<p>Medium-term (6 – 12 months)</p>

<p>domains for cooperative review: viability of business plan, communication strategies between cooperative leadership and members, cooperative management adjustments post-COVID-19 meeting restrictions, accounting and budget management processes, female participation in leadership roles within the cooperative, services provided to members, services the cooperative would like to provide to members but do not currently do so, and capacity of the cooperative to sustain maintenance on infrastructure established through this project.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 2 – Operational: UNHCR in partnership with cooperatives should increase diversification of market linkages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that as the cooperative is establishing a maize milling plant to sell processed maize flour, as the market options for milled maize are explored, alternative buyers for raw materials (corn on cob) at regional/local levels are also identified. It is recommended that project staff increase diversification of market linkages by identifying market options for post processing buyers for all value chains supported by the project moving forward (in this iteration this would include soybean and bean value chains). The successful linkage to AIF for maize sales could be utilized as an example to other companies of similar scale in the bean and soybean value chain. It is also recommended that the project explore options for redundancy in market linkages, through identification of additional post processing buyer options, as well as smaller scale regional/local buyer options. It is recommended that this process be undertaken in partnership with the cooperative as part of the recommended annual review process. Ultimately, cooperative management will be responsible for increased diversification of market linkages. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, Misizi Project Staff, Icyerekezo Cooperative Management</p>	<p>Longer-Term (12+ months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 3 - Operational: UNHCR Rwanda should organize a planning process with partners and beneficiaries to identify whether ongoing support is required to sustain project results, and – if so – what the appropriate arrangements are to provide this support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that project staff utilize current continuation planning efforts (noting a continuation planning meeting is already being organized) with implementing partners (WFP, FAO, MINEMA, GISAGARA District) to further unpack the implication of risks identified by the evaluation. It is recommended that this planning process includes identification of specific partner roles and resource needs for further action, where necessary. This process and its results should be clearly documented and shared to inform project scaling. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District</p>	<p>Short-Term (3-6 months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 4 - Operational: UNHCR Rwanda should share evaluation results with cooperative leadership, cooperative members, UN partners and other partners (AIF, KCB Bank, etc.), local government, MINEMA and Misizi participants to inform ongoing cooperative development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the lessons learned and results from this evaluation are shared to inform evidence-based cooperative decision making moving forward. It is recommended to include cooperative members, UN partners WFP, FAO, private partners, local government and Misizi participants in dissemination of results and lessons learned activities to encourage transparency of results and identified next steps. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District, Icyerekezo Cooperative leaders</p>	<p>Short-Term (3-6 months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 5 – Strategic: Draw on lessons from this proof-of-concept project to create an approach for scaling, including associated metrics and targets to measure the scaling progress and success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the project identify learning from this evaluation and its current practices in resolving remaining challenges around irrigation and strengthening market linkages. 	<p>UNHCR, with the support of the Regional Bureau Livelihoods, Monitoring</p>	<p>Design phase of scaling.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that metrics be standardized across scaled initiatives and cover both process and progress results and key performance indicators, to track the effectiveness of UNHCR scaling activities in addition to the operational results. Realistic targets should be set per-project, based on baseline data collection and feasible expectations of expected project achievement, keeping in mind the available resources, including staffing, time, and funding. It is recommended that this take place through a collaborative process between Misizi implementers, UNHCR Regional Bureau Monitoring Unit (in collaboration with the Livelihoods Unit) to identify which of the project components, based on lessons and results from this proof-of-concept project are appropriate for scaling, how scaling will take place, and which metrics for ongoing monitoring will be utilized across scaled initiatives. 	and Evaluation Units	
<p>Recommendation 6 – Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should continue utilizing the UN Joint Partnership Approach in scaling of Misizi project activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the partnership approach is continued and strengthened in all activities going forward to apply the agricultural production model including land preparation and market linkages towards strengthening social capital, income, and food access. It is recommended that the UN and Government partnership approach be continued and grown. UNHCR as the lead agency should continue to work closely with the Government of Rwanda. UNHCR has strong linkages with the national government and can mobilize refugee and host community members to work together. In addition, the success of agricultural livelihoods project was also made possible by the UN partnership approach with WFP and FAO. Going forward, this partnership can be reviewed on a regular basis, i.e., as part of annual UN planning processes, to take full advantage of the comparative strengths of UN partners in the Rwandan context. 	UNHCR, WFP, FAO	Design phase of scaling.
<p>Recommendation 7 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should consolidate project model to identify the preferred combination of value chains and support to agricultural seasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the project design consider consolidating the project model support to implement a feasible configuration of value chains and growing seasons. The evaluation finds that consistent implementation of two, rather than three planting seasons per year was an effective use of available resources due to complex climate, procurement, and implementation timeline efficiency related issues. It is recommended that two maximum farming seasons, or, depending on available funding, focus on maize production in Season A only, to ensure sowing and harvesting timing can be optimized in alignment with the agricultural production period, without causing delays or skipped implementation for following seasons. It is recommended that the optimal package of project support for agricultural production consider the following elements: market viability (based on market assessment data), farmer preferences for sale and home consumption, feasibility of supporting multiple (2 or more) agricultural seasons within one calendar year, capacity of farmers, implementers, and technical partners. This can be completed using evaluation findings, UNHCR Rwanda Misizi project staff experience and insight, and if needed to fill information gaps additional assessments. 	UNHCR Rwanda	Design phase of scaling.
<p>Recommendation 8 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should increase country-level investment in monitoring evaluation and learning (MEAL) systems and processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that UNHCR sufficiently resource its monitoring evaluation and learning systems to ensure projects have reliable baselines, complete monitoring systems, and sufficient staffing of dedicated MEAL personnel. Investment in methodologically sound 	UNHCR Rwanda	Capacity building and investment over next five years.

<p>evaluations, dedicated monitoring personnel, and trainings on monitoring practices for project staff are recommended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recommended that the regional bureau (Livelihoods, Monitoring Units) plays a larger and more meaningful role in the review and guidance on project monitoring plans and target setting. Direct linkages between existing regional and HQ support units, and project monitoring staff leads should be established to ensure ongoing technical support is available and utilized. • To enable all above recommendations, it is recommended that UNHCR shift to a multi-year funding strategy, with the country office working with regional and HQ colleagues to develop multi-year funding opportunities (internal and external to UNHCR) to enable MEAL systems and process to continue strengthening. 		
<p>Recommendation 9 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should increase program-level investment in technical capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifically, it is recommended that UNHCR increase investment in internal technical expertise of implementing staff to have an amplifier effect on results as livelihoods programs reach scale. Although the partnership model has proven effective, investments in internal technical capacity are needed to fulfill UNHCR’s role in such programs moving forward. For example, the expansion into the livestock component relied on technical expertise from service providers as no implementing staff or partners had technical expertise in livestock rearing and management practices and could not provide direct technical support to participants. • It is also recommended that UNHCR strengthen existing linkages with technical experts in FAO and WFP to ensure existing technical experts are fully integrated into activity design and implementation. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda</p>	<p>Capacity building and investment over next five years.</p>

Introduction

12. This performance evaluation covers the implementation period of the Misizi Marshland project from September 2018 – December 2021, focused on the project beneficiaries (refugees and the host community) residing in the Mugombwa refugee camp and surrounding host community area. This performance evaluation evaluates the performance of the project on refugee self-reliance and makes recommendations and generates lessons that can be used in similar projects and possible scale-up for a dual learning and accountability purpose.
13. There are four overarching objectives for this evaluation:
 - I. Evaluate the performance of the pilot project to support refugees achieve self-reliance and graduate out of humanitarian assistance, particularly focusing on the gains of the project on the beneficiaries.
 - II. Evaluate the sustainability and scalability of such agricultural projects to derive best practices and recommend required conditions in designing, implementing, replicating, and scaling up livelihoods' agricultural projects in refugee contexts in Rwanda or elsewhere.
 - III. Contribute to the global evidence base on how to optimize refugee and host community self-reliance through livelihoods, economic inclusion following a "Whole of Society Approach."
 - IV. Understand the effects of COVID-19 on the project performance and coping capacity of the beneficiaries.¹
14. The evaluation is expected to be used to provide guidance on best practices in refugee context design and implementation of agricultural livelihoods projects. The results of the evaluation will be made available by UNHCR Rwanda to all interested in refugee self-reliance through agriculture projects, contributing to the existing literature on refugee self-reliance. Furthermore, the Misizi project is a pilot, and this evaluation aims to generate lessons that can inform similar projects going forward, including lessons derived from COVID-19 related impacts on ways to support refugee livelihood resilience in the future.
15. The evaluation incorporates the views of, and aims to be useful to, a broad range of stakeholders, including implementing and operational partners involved in livelihoods programming, as well as wider stakeholders including UNHCR country level and regional livelihoods sector working group members, humanitarian-development partners, other UN agencies, private sector partners, bi-lateral development partner agencies and multi-lateral financial institutions. The primary target audience for this evaluation identified in the Terms of Reference (TOR) is the Government of Rwanda, represented by the Ministry of Emergency Management (MINEMA), and UNHCR Rwanda livelihoods programming unit, executive teams, and field offices. The secondary audience of this evaluation are the funding organizations and partners, including IKEA Foundation, World Food Programme (WFP) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), for accountability purposes and to demonstrate the results of their investment in this innovative pilot project.

Evaluation Methodology

16. The overall methodological approach of this strategic evaluation is mixed method data collection, including secondary data review and remote key informant interviews as well as in-person household survey, focus group, and key informant interview data collection. Analysis has been

¹ The purpose and objectives presented here are consistent with the Terms of Reference; no changes have been made.

triangulated across data sources to address the evaluation questions. For all types of data collection, the evaluation team (ET) has coordinated with UNHCR to ensure equitable participation of all evaluation stakeholders by ensuring the timing of the interviews, location interviews take place, and gender of the researcher/enumerator maximized participation for in-person data collection.

17. The evaluation follows the standards of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) technical and ethical guidelines and draw from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) evaluation criteria in alignment with the identified key research questions and in accordance with the TOR (see Annex 1).

Ethical Considerations

18. As part of UNHCR's normative framework, the evaluation followed the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) ethical guidelines, the Code of Conduct for Evaluations in the UN system: UNHCR Data Protection Policy,² UNHCR AGD (age, gender, and diversity) Policy,³ and UNHCR Disability Inclusion Strategy.⁴ Additional details on the ethical considerations and safeguards integrated into this evaluation are included in Annex 6.

19. As a single program performance evaluation that is not meant to contribute to generalizable data on a population and will not be published as formal publication literature, data will not be conducted with minors (under 18 years of age), it does not fit the definition of research with human subjects and ethical review board approval was not required. Approvals for conducting data collection in the designated sites, including refugee camp sites, were obtained prior to the start of data collection.

20. All individuals participating in any data collection method provided verbal informed consent prior to the start of any interview. The participant(s) were informed of the purpose of the evaluation and their interview, how that information would be used and how their anonymity would be ensured in the results/final deliverables so that specific information provided in an interview or survey cannot be traced to the individual source. All data generated through this evaluation remains internal to the evaluation and will not be shared without the express consent of participants and/or removal of all personally identifying information included in the data.

Data Collection Methods

21. The data collection methods utilized in this evaluation include secondary documentation review, remote key informant interviews, in-person focus groups, key informant interviews, and household survey. In-person data collection with beneficiaries was completed by local Rwandan researchers in partnership with TANGO International, to ensure COVID-19 related protocols were followed to minimize risk to the local populations.

22. **Document review.** This evaluation included an in-depth desk review of relevant UNHCR Misizi programming, monitoring, and reporting documents, as well as relevant external documents. The primary source of documentation is via a shared Dropbox folder, in which UNHCR focal points made relevant documents available to the evaluation team.

23. **Remote key informant interviews.** During the inception phase, key informant interviews and scoping discussions were held with Misizi project staff and evaluation managers. During the inception phase five KIIs were conducted prior to field work. Key informant interviews (KIIs) with

² UNHCR (2015). *Policy on the Protection of Personal data of Persons of Concern to UNHCR*

³ UNHCR (2018). *UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity*.

⁴ United Nations (2019). *United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy*.

high-level representatives from UNHCR, government and national-level partner staff were conducted remotely through online platforms during the evaluation phase. A total of 10 KIIs have been conducted remotely during the evaluation phase. The selection of stakeholders interviewed ensured the respective voices from each of the stakeholder categories were included in the data.

24. **In-person qualitative data collection.** Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with project participants, and KIIs with leaders and duty bearers from refugee and host communities and local project staff have been conducted for this evaluation. A total of 17 KIIs and 12 gender disaggregated FGDs (6 FGD sessions with females, 6 FGD sessions with males) have taken place.

25. **Quantitative survey.** Primary quantitative data has been collected via a beneficiary-based household sample survey, without control group. The quantitative survey design employed a sampling strategy that can detect expected changes over time (see Appendix 3 for detailed sampling strategy). Out of the total sample size of 400 respondents, 354 surveys were completed for an overall non-response rate of 12.2%,⁵ well within the expected range for statistical validity of results (95% level of confidence and at least 80% power⁶).⁷ The survey design included additional retrospective information to adjust for information that was not captured in baseline, to ensure information on change over time as a result of project activities could be captured.

Table 2: Quantitative Household Survey Sample Size

SUMMARY	SAMPLE TYPE		TOTAL
	Refugee	Host	
Total Sample	200	200	400
Household located	175	179	354
Number did not give consent	3	0	3
Total Non-responses	28	21	49
% Non-responses	14.0%	10.5%	12.2%

Analysis

26. **Semi-structured thematic analysis** was utilized for document review. Documents were reviewed against pre-identified markers associated with the evaluation questions, the evaluation objectives, and emerging hypotheses.

27. **Quantitative survey analysis.** Quantitative analysis for this performance evaluation includes descriptive analysis trend analysis and measuring change over time in the key program indicators for baseline to endline results. There is limited information in the baseline dataset. The changes from baseline to endline have been measured wherever possible. When needed, retrospective information has been used to gauge the proxy estimates of indicator achievements. Analysis has been disaggregated for refugee versus host community households, and significance tests⁸ for

⁵ Data collection team was not able to locate 46 sampled beneficiary households and 3 sampled households were located but did not give consent to be interviewed. Therefore, total non-response cases were 49.

⁶ The 95% confidence level (interval) is a range of values (lower and upper limit) from the sample data that confirm 95% confident level of the true mean of the population falls within this range. Statistical power confirms accurate conclusions about a population using sample data. The statistical power 80% means 20% probability of not being able to detect an actual difference for a given magnitude of interest.

⁷ The minimum required sample size for refugee was 142 HHs (163 including 15% non-responses) and 172 (197 including 15% non-responses) for host community (i.e., 314 households for overall sample size) to make conclusion of the results with 95% confidence and at least 80% statistical power. The interviewed sample sizes for refugee, host and overall (172 refugee, 179 host and 351 overall) for this analysis were larger than the minimum required sample sizes to make conclusion/ interpretation of results within the range of statistical validity.

⁸ Statistical significance for the differences from refugee to host community was tested and level of significance is denoted as: * p<0.10 for 90%; ** p<0.05 for 95%; and *** p<0.01 for 99%.

the difference between refugee and host community over time have been conducted. Descriptive analysis includes proportion, mean, median, composite index, and/or cross-tabulations with 95% confidence intervals of the estimates as appropriate. This does not include regression analysis or correlation analysis across indicators. The statistical software STATA 15.1 was utilized for analysis.

28. **Matrix-based approach to qualitative analysis.** Analysis of qualitative data utilized a matrix approach in which data has been reviewed, synthesized, and analyzed iteratively throughout the evaluation. The matrix in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets allowed narrative data to be condensed, filtered and/or aggregated to identify patterns, trends, and outliers with respect to the research questions and topical outlines. Data collected through KIIs and FGDs has been cross-checked to ensure the reliability of information and identify differences in perception between groups based on roles, functions, and activities the individuals or groups are involved in.
29. **Triangulation, sensemaking and validation of analysis results.** For every evaluation question, the evaluation drew upon findings across data sources: e.g., KIIs, FGDs, survey data and documents, describing where there is agreement in the data versus mixed results. All key findings and conclusions are based on triangulated results across data points. From the start of the data collection phase, weekly internal triangulation and sense-making meetings took place to review analytical progress and discuss highlights and emerging themes. A half-day validation workshop took place after data collection completed, in which the in-person field researchers and remote TANGO International staff discussed emerging themes and validated preliminary analysis results.
30. In addition to inclusion of Misizi project stakeholders in key informant interviews, to ensure evaluation findings and recommendations reflect program realities and are as useful as possible to the project staff and partners, the evaluations conducted three remote sensemaking and validation workshops with project staff and partners. The first sensemaking and validation workshop was focused on UNHCR and Misizi project staff, while the second and third workshops invited all relevant project stakeholders, including UNHCR, Misizi project implementers, representatives from local government, WFP, and FAO. Stakeholders involved in the evaluation will be included in the dissemination of final report deliverables, including a final results presentation which will be made widely available.

Limitations

Table 3: Evaluation Limitations and Mitigation Measures

Limitation	Discussion	Mitigation
Limited Baseline Data Available, Uncertain Credibility of Baseline Results	A baseline survey was not conducted before project activities began. A baseline survey was conducted in 2019. A 7-page baseline survey report includes general descriptions of the survey results from the 2019 baseline. The majority of the variables in the baseline data set are blank and, where values do exist, the credibility of the data based on the methodology is insufficient for use in evaluation analysis. This prevents the evaluation team from verifying the results written up in	The evaluation survey design includes additional retrospective survey questions to adjust for the information that was not captured in baseline. Analysis and presentation of results for this evaluation are focused on retrospective quantitative survey information triangulated against project documentation and qualitative data to describe changes that took place during the project implementation period. Internal monitoring results are utilized as a triangulation point, wherever possible. Potential issues of recall bias were mitigated by limiting recall to a

	the report or conducting comparative analysis from baseline to endline for key performance indicators or sub-indicators. Direct comparisons of change from baseline to endline are not possible for key performance indicators or sub-indicators.	two-year period, rather than attempting to have respondents recall to 2018 in attempts to replicate baseline conditions, which would not result in accurate data or respondent recall and thus not included in the methodology. The evaluation methodology, tool design, and enumerator training utilized leading international best practices to ensure high quality of data collection.
Inability to evaluate changes in production across agricultural seasons B and C.	Due the inconsistent implementation across agricultural seasons B and C over the project period (see Table 7 for explanations) it was not possible to collect data for or conduct analysis across multiple production cycles for seasons B or C.	Data was collected for all three of the project-supported crops, maize, beans and soybeans for the three most recent agricultural cycles supported by the Misizi project. Analysis was conducted across multiple production cycles for season A, which allows for evaluation of the change (if any) in production for maize in season A. Internal monitoring key performance indicator data for reported crop yields is referenced in the report to show change over time (if any) for beans and soybeans crops, where possible.
Use of secondary data made available	Although the Misizi project team ensuring existing secondary data was made available to the evaluation team, there is a limitation to the utility of the data provided. It is recognized by the evaluation team and project staff that the project monitoring data on the key performance indicators is unreliable. Monitoring data results are found to be too different from evaluation results to allow for any meaningful triangulation or direct comparison.	This was mitigated by utilizing evaluation data only in the presentation of results in the main body of the report. Evaluation data utilize international standards and best practices. In addition, additional triangulation using third party documentation, such as NISR survey and report results for crop yields, show evaluation results are aligned with national and district values.

Background and Context

31. Rwanda is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, the 1969 Organization African Unity Convention for Refugees, and has a National Asylum Law in compliance with international standards.^{9,10} As such, refugees in Rwanda have a legal right to work, freedom of movement, right to own land, and access to documentation. However, refugees typically have limited or no access to arable land, experience food insecurity

⁹ The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol are deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Article 39 (1) of the 1951 Convention and Article V of the 1967 Protocol). For the authoritative source of the current status of both treaties, please refer to the United National Treaty Collection website under status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General (MTDSG): <https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Treaties.aspx?id=5&subid=A&lang=en>.

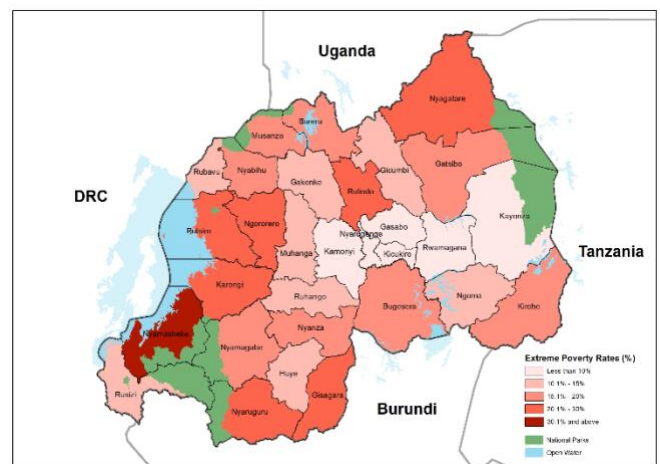
¹⁰ Organization African Unity Convention, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 10th September 1969, United Nations, Treaty Series No. 14691, accessed https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36400-treaty-36400-treaty-oau_convention_1963.pdf

and limited options to develop income generating livelihoods.¹¹ As a result, refugee livelihoods are highly dependent on government and humanitarian assistance.¹² In 2020, an estimated 92 percent of refugees in Rwanda reside in established camps, with limited opportunity for un-facilitated interaction between refugee and the host community, which limits refugee socio-economic inclusion and access to employment opportunities.¹³

32. In September 2016, the national Government of Rwanda (GoR) committed to the New York Declaration on refugees and migrants, to contribute to the development of durable solutions that mitigate pressures arising from their presence.¹⁴ To support those commitments, in 2016 the former Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), now the Ministry in charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) and UNHCR developed a joint strategy to enhance refugee self-reliance and economic inclusion for the period of 2016-2020. In 2018, the GoR committed to applying the Comprehensive Refugees Response Plan (CRRF), an international initiative to reduce dependency on external funding and improve refugees' lives via increased access to documentation, health insurance, education, and livelihoods options.^{15,16} Subsequently, in 2019 the GoR made a set of new commitments (nine pledges) at the first Global Refugee Forum (GRF) held, focused on education, livelihoods, protection, environment, energy and health.¹⁷ A follow-up joint Roadmap on GRF Pledge Implementation for the 4 year-period between 2021-2024 was developed by GoR and UNHCR, which includes developed action plans supported by technical committees to achieve the pledges.¹⁸ Currently, as of 2019, the MINEMA and UNHCR coordinate management of the refugee camps and provision of assistance to camp-based refugees, with the long-term vision of reducing their roles as refugee self-reliance increases.¹⁹

33. In the Gisagara District Mugombwa sector that hosts the project, the host community and the refugees in the Mugombwa camp share important common characteristics, i.e., a farming background with limited education and a high poverty rate.²⁰ The Gisagara District Development Strategy (2018-2024) outlines a medium-term development strategy organized around the following pillars: economic transformation, social transformation,

Figure 1 Extreme Poverty Map Rwanda (2016/2017)



11 UNHCR. 2021 Rwanda Country Refugee Response plan. Accessed

<https://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2021%20Rwanda%20Country%20Refugee%20Response%20Plan.pdf>

12 Ibid.

13 USAID. Food Assistance Fact Sheet – Rwanda. 24 February 2020. Accessed <https://www.usaid.gov/rwanda/food-assistance>

14 United Nations General Assembly. New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. 3 October 2016. Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016. A/RES/71/1. Accessed https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/1.

15 UNHCR. Accessed <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/comprehensive-refugee-response-framework-crrf.html>.

16 USAID. Food Assistance Fact Sheet – Rwanda. 24 February 2020. Accessed <https://www.usaid.gov/rwanda/food-assistance>

17 UNHCR. Accessed <https://www.unhcr.org/global-refugee-forum.html>; <https://www.unhcr.org/rw/15853-rwanda-1000-hills-and-a-big-heart.html>

18 UNHCR Regional Bureau for the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes. Update on GRF follow-up in the region: Tracking progress on pledge implementation. 8 December 2021. Accessed https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/EHAGL_GRF%20Uupdate%20Report%20on%20flagship%20pledges_2021.pdf

19 Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG). The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework Progress in Rwanda. September 2019. P. 3 Accessed <https://cdn.odi.org/media/documents/12936.pdf>

20 According to EICV5 (2016/17), Gisagara is with high level of poverty: 55.6% were under poverty line while extreme poverty stood at 25.6% against 38% and 16% at national level respectively

transformational governance.²¹ This strategy includes a long-term vision of modernizing and increasing agricultural productivity to transform the district into an agro-processing hub.²² As a district that is heavily affected by a higher than national average poverty rate (Gisagara District has the third highest proportion of extreme poverty of all districts nationally, with 25.6% of residents in extreme poverty, and 55.6% in poverty as of 2018, noting poverty data on refugees is not available from this data source), and limited available employment opportunities for the host communities, it is particularly difficult for refugees to meet their basic needs.²³

34. The estimated number of agricultural households in Rwanda is 2.3 million, equivalent to 80.1 percent of total country households.²⁴ In 2020, The World Bank estimated that agriculture accounts for 26.3% of the national GDP.²⁵ Agriculture is a key sector contributing to Rwanda’s economic growth. The national strategy for economic development and poverty reduction identifies increased agriculture productivity to be a national priority, with a focus on irrigation with proximity advisory services for crops and connecting farmers to agribusiness.²⁶ The strategic plan for the transformation of agriculture in Rwanda published in 2009 identifies marshland development as a key program area for intensification and development of sustainable production systems, explicitly identifying development of 8,000 hectares of marshlands with irrigation systems and drainage systems.²⁷

Misizi Marshlands Project Description

Table 4: Misizi Marshlands Project at a Glance²⁸

Project Location	Misizi Marshland (55 ha), Gisagara district covering Mugombwa refugee camp
Implementation Period	1 September 2018 – 31 August 2021, with a one year no-cost extension to 31 August 2022
Total Budget	\$985,433 funded jointly by IKEA Foundation/ UNHCR, WFP and FAO.
Direct Beneficiaries	1,427 households (300 Refugee, 1,127 Host community)
Indirect Beneficiaries	3,431 household members (1,703 Refugee, 2,196 Host Community)
Implementation Partners	MINEMA, UNHCR, WFP, Gisagara District, FAO
Objective	Enhance socio-economic inclusion of refugees in the hosting community while enhancing livelihoods and food security of both refugee and host communities.
Project Outcomes	Outcome 1: Improved household income among the beneficiaries (refugees and local farmers) Outcome 2: Improved access to formal markets for the beneficiaries (refugees and local farmers) Outcome 3: Increased agricultural productivity for the beneficiaries (refugees and local farmers) Outcome 4: Enhanced peaceful coexistence between refugees and local farmers

21 Republic of Rwanda Southern Province Gisagara District. Gisagara District Development Strategy (2018 – 2024). August 2018. Accessed https://gisagara.gov.rw/fileadmin/document/Gisagara_District_Development_Strategy_for_2018-2024.pdf

22 Ibid.

23 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR). Fifth Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey 2016/17. 6 December 2018. Accessed <https://www.statistics.gov.rw/datasource/integrated-household-living-conditions-survey-5-eicv-5>

24 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR). Agricultural Household Survey 2020. January 2022. Accessed. <https://www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/agricultural-household-survey-2020>

25 The World Bank. World Bank national accounts data, and OECD National Accounts data files. Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added (% of GDP) – Rwanda. Accessed <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS?end=2020&locations=RW&start=1965&view=chart>

26 Republic of Rwanda. Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy II 2013-2018 (EDPRS 2). May 2013.

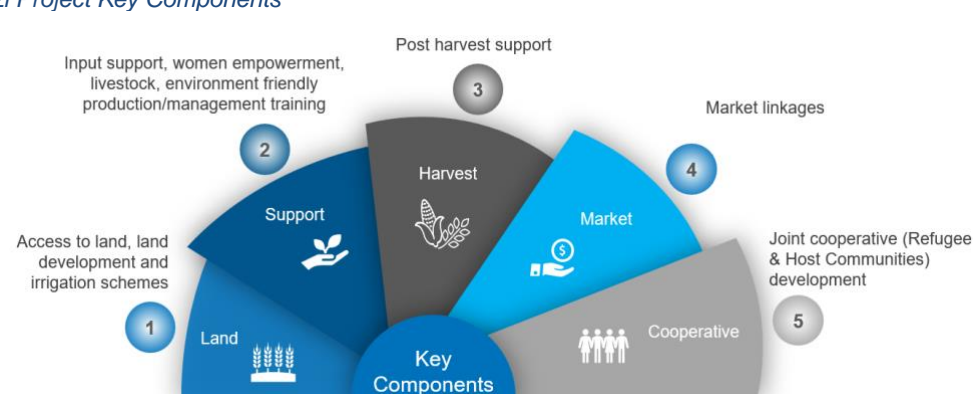
27 Republic of Rwanda Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resource. Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture in Rwanda – Phase II (PSTA II). February 2009. Accessed https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Rwanda_StrategicPlan.pdf.

28 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Misizi Marshland Project Proposal.

Project Activity Components	Component 1: Access to land, Land Development and Irrigation Scheme Component 2: Input support, training (production/management), livestock, women empowerment Component 3: Post-harvest support Component 4: Market Linkage Component 5: Joint cooperative development, management and sustainability
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35. In September 2018, UNHCR and the IKEA Foundation (IKEA F) entered a partnership agreement that led to IKEA F funding an agricultural livelihoods project in the Misizi Marshland located in Gisagara District, which hosts the Mugombwa refugee camp. Located in the Southern Province of Rwanda, the camp was established in early 2014, populated by Congolese refugees who fled during the 2012-2013 emergency. The camp is home to 10,951 refugees while the surrounding communities in Mugombwa Sector host approximate 22,700 local Rwandan population.²⁹
36. The project was designed in alignment with Government of Rwanda commitments to the GRF, CRRF, National Strategy for Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, and the UNHCR and MINEMA Joint Strategy on Economic Inclusion of Refugees and Host Communities in Rwanda. In alignment with these established national and global strategies, the Misizi project design process focused on development of an implementation plan for a self-reliance building project to create durable solutions for refugees in protracted situation by building off of refugees existing skills and knowledge base. In this case, the existing knowledge base for the majority of targeted refugees was agricultural production. Multiple partners were involved in the Misizi project design, including MINEMA, WFP, and Gisagara District, led by UNHCR.
37. The decision to implement the project in the Misizi Marshlands was due to the Gisagara District willingness and commitment to provide 55 ha of marshland to be used by project participants. Individual participants were selected by UNHCR to include host community members who were already cultivating in the marshland and refugee households that were most interested in taking part in the planned activities. The project benefits a joint farming cooperative consisting of 1,427 farmers (300 refugee households and 1,127 local host community households).

Figure 2: Misizi Project Key Components



38. Project implementation was designed to take place in two phases, with phase one consisting of the main project support planned in the first and second year to build their capacity to take over the project activities and phase two to be light touch technical guidance geared towards shifting activities to the cooperative and participants and phasing out project support. This process included five activity components, including access to land (land development and irrigation

29 UNHCR Rwanda. Mugombwa Refugee Camp Profile. 15 April 2021. Accessed file:///C:/Users/Ideer/Downloads/UNHCR%20Rwanda%20Mugombwa%20Camp%20Profile%20April%202021.pdf

scheme), input support, training (production/management), post-harvest support, market linkages, and joint-cooperative (including both refugee and host community members) development, management, and sustainability. These phases are illustrated in Figure 2. The original project design did not include the livestock and women's empowerment activities included under component two, however, these activities were added to the project in 2020.

Evaluation Respondent Demographics

39. Of the 354 sampled Misizi participants who responded to the evaluation survey, 175 respondents were refugees and 179 were host community members (see Table 18 in Appendix 4 for detailed respondent demographics). 85.7% of respondents indicated that their head of household are the primary participants in the Misizi project activities. 5.6% of refugee and 6.7% of host community respondents reported that more than one member of their household is a direct participant in the Misizi project.
40. Differences in the respondent demographics reflect the existing differences between refugee and host community groups more broadly beyond this evaluation. The average family size for evaluation respondent refugee households is 6.8, and 4.6 for host community households. A slight majority (53.5%) of respondents were female (46.2% of respondents were male). 71.2% of refugee participants reported their head of household is female, 41.7% of host community participants reported the same. The average age of the head of household is 49 years for refugee heads of household and 52.6 years for host community heads of household. 72.4% of heads of households are married. 90.2% of respondents reported that crop farming is their household's primary livelihood activity. 59.7% of refugee respondents indicated that their head of household does not have any schooling and cannot read or write, while only 25.4% of host community respondents reported the same. The majority of host community heads of household reportedly have some primary schooling (38.1%) or have completed primary schooling (18.3%). 81.3% of respondents indicated their head of household does not have any disability, however, refugee respondents indicated that 11.7% of household heads do have a physical disability and 6.8% have a chronic illness (see Table 18 in Appendix 4 for detailed respondent demographics).

Key Findings

41. The key findings of this evaluation are presented under the relevant Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) evaluation criteria (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability) corresponding to the key evaluation questions where appropriate (see Table 5 for alignment of the key evaluation research questions to relevant report section headings). Within each of the key findings sections all evaluation sub-questions are directly addressed. The evaluation matrix presented in Appendix 1 details how each of the evaluation key and sub-questions have been addressed through this evaluation as agreed in the finalized inception report. Where relevant, key findings reflect the project achievement against the four project key performance indicators, which measure household income changes, market access, cooperatives self-sustainability, and agricultural production.

Table 5: Organization of Key Findings

Criteria Heading	Key Evaluation Question
Relevance	KEQ 2: Was the project design, implementation, and monitoring consistent with beneficiary requirements, country needs and policies, and global priorities in terms of achieving refugee self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion?
Effectiveness	KEQ 1: Has the Misizi Marshlands' project managed to achieve its planned short-term and immediate objectives (outputs and outcomes)?
Efficiency	KEQ 3: Was the project design, implementation and monitoring consistent with expected results of the project?
Sustainability	KEQ 4: How are the achieved results and gains of the project going to be sustained once the project ends?
Impact of COVID-19	KEQ 5: Was the project design, implementation, monitoring, objectives and results impacted by COVID-19 and to what extent?

Relevance

42. Relevance of the project is evaluated based on the extent to which the Misizi Marshlands project design and implementation met beneficiaries needs. This section also evaluates the extent to which the project design was in alignment with the UNHCR AGD (Age, Gender, Diversity) policy and global priorities.

RQ 2.1 Has the Misizi project met the beneficiaries' needs (refugees and hosts)?
and RQ 2.2. To what extent were the project' objectives and achieved results
relevant for refugees and host communities' needs, separately taken?

43. The project objectives and achieved results were relevant to refugee and host community participants needs. Preliminary livelihoods and participatory assessments conducted by UNHCR in 2017 and 2018 in process identified priority problems faced by the refugees alongside their host community population including: 1) lack of employment opportunities, 2) lack of productive assets including agricultural land, and 3) lack of awareness by local actors (private sector, local authorities, host communities, etc.) regarding refugees' rights to access labor markets.³⁰ In response, the key livelihoods needs for the refugee and host community members targeted for participation in the Misizi project identified in the project design document include access to land, access to inputs, access to livelihood options and economic self-reliance.³¹ The project design did not differentiate between the specific needs of refugee or host community groups, separately taken, however, key informant and focus group interviews indicate the project activities were relevant for both groups. Interviews with refugee and host community participants indicate that the project has met nearly all their needs, specifically reporting that the Misizi project fulfilled the following:

- access to land for cultivation,
- access to maize market,
- increased knowledge about good agricultural practices,

³⁰ Source: Livelihood's assessment field surveys, June-July 2019

³¹ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Misizi Marshland Project Proposal.

- increased knowledge about post-harvest handling techniques,
- access to infrastructure such as drying and storage sheds,
- increased agricultural production (especially for maize) used for sale and food to feed families/increased food access,
- increased social and economic integration between host community and refugees.

44. However, some gaps remain. Interviews with participants indicate that access to inputs such as fertilizers and seeds, irrigation/water access for production, access to livestock, and access to financial services continue to be significant challenges. Access to inputs is particularly a challenge for refugee participants, who report they are unable to purchase government-subsidized inputs directly and have to rely on host community members to purchase subsidized inputs on their behalf. Although this is a positive example of direct relationships built between the two groups, direct access to inputs at reasonable cost is needed for refugee farmers. Even with subsidized input access, both host community and refugee participants report that the cost of inputs, particularly fertilizers, is high. Evaluation data show that 35.0% of participants report being impacted by a sharp increase in agriculture/livestock input costs in the last 12 months (see Table 30 in Appendix 4). 11.0% report the high cost of inputs and 11.4% of participants report their lack of financial capacity to purchase agricultural inputs and services as a reason why household incomes decreased (See Table 20 in Appendix 4). Interviews with participants report that access to finance and loans is needed in order to make larger investments in their agricultural practices and purchase inputs in bulk. Currently, participants report engagement in informal savings groups, but the amount these groups are able to save and disburse is not adequate to meet their needs.
45. Participants also report that access to irrigation remains a challenge, however, interviews with project staff indicate an improved irrigation system has been installed in July 2022 (after evaluation data was collected), which was designed to mitigate this challenge. The solar pumps originally provided by the project in year one were not sufficient to cover all plots. Participants report that season's B and C are too dry for rainfed only agriculture to be productive, and the increases in production are only in season A, limiting the extent their income can increase from crop sales year round.

RQ 2.3. Is the theory of change that drove the project design still valid at the end of the project?

46. The project theory of change presented in the project proposal was based on gaps identified during the project design phase that would need to be addressed to improve farmer's self-sustainability.³² The original theory of change is still valid and project implementation did generally follow the theory of change pathway as planned, however, the original theory of change does not fully capture all project outcomes or activities. The original theory of change presented in the project proposal (see Figure 3) includes references to outcomes that were explicitly intended to be impacted by the five project components/activity areas (see Table 4 for list of project components). For example, diversity of household foods and access to financial services were not areas that the Misizi project focused on or conducted activities to impact, but were included in the original theory of change. Interviews with project staff and participants show that the project

32 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021. P.3

did not implement activities to increase participant access to formal financial services beyond savings groups or diversity of food sources, nor was this included in the project proposal or planned activities. References to outcomes not impacted by project activities should be omitted from the project theory of change.

47. The original theory of change omits crucial linkages in the change pathway and left out project interventions that were conducted and included in the original project proposal design document narrative. A proposed updated Misizi project theory of change is presented in Figure 4. This update clarifies that marshland development was a critical first step in the change pathway, and includes additional critical outcomes, such as increased opportunities for direct interaction between host community and refugees as a factor for achievement of the enhanced peaceful coexistence outcome. Cooperatives linkage to post-processing buyer is added in the updated theory of change, as a crucial linkage to increased access to markets. Strengthened cooperative operations is also linked to improved post-harvest handling, as the cooperative manages the drying sheds and quality control in the bulking process. The proposed updated theory of change includes pathway milestones in alignment with all of the four planned project outcomes.

Figure 3: Original Misizi Project Theory of Change presented in Project Proposal³³

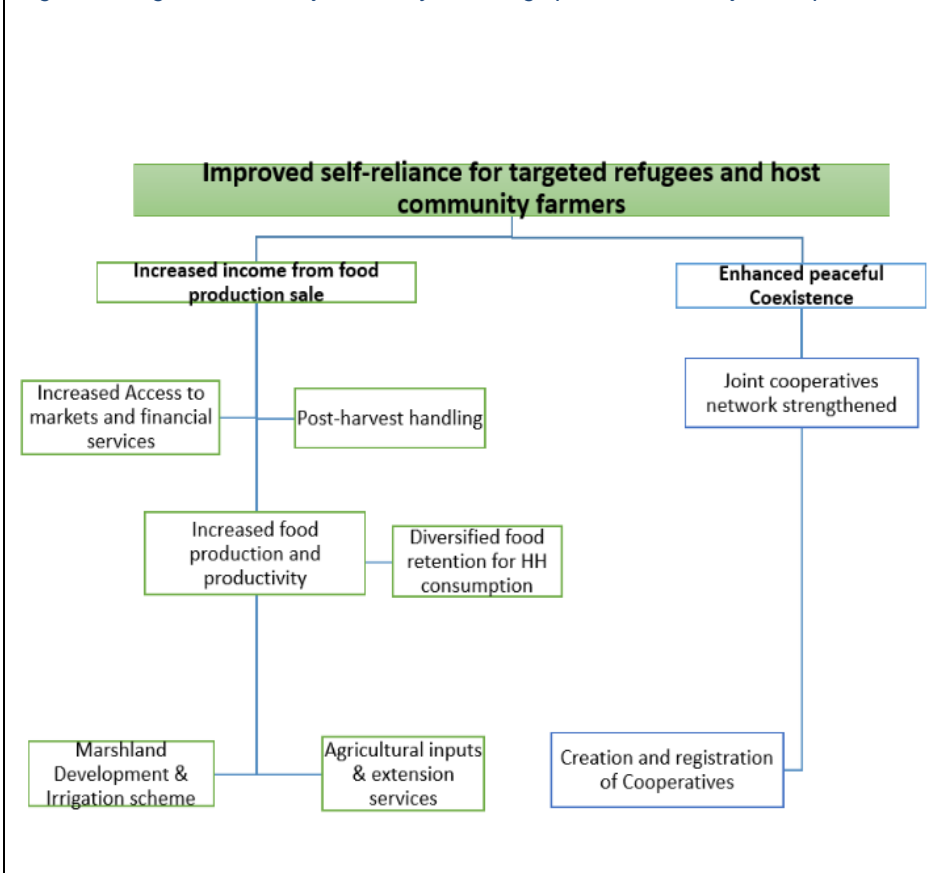
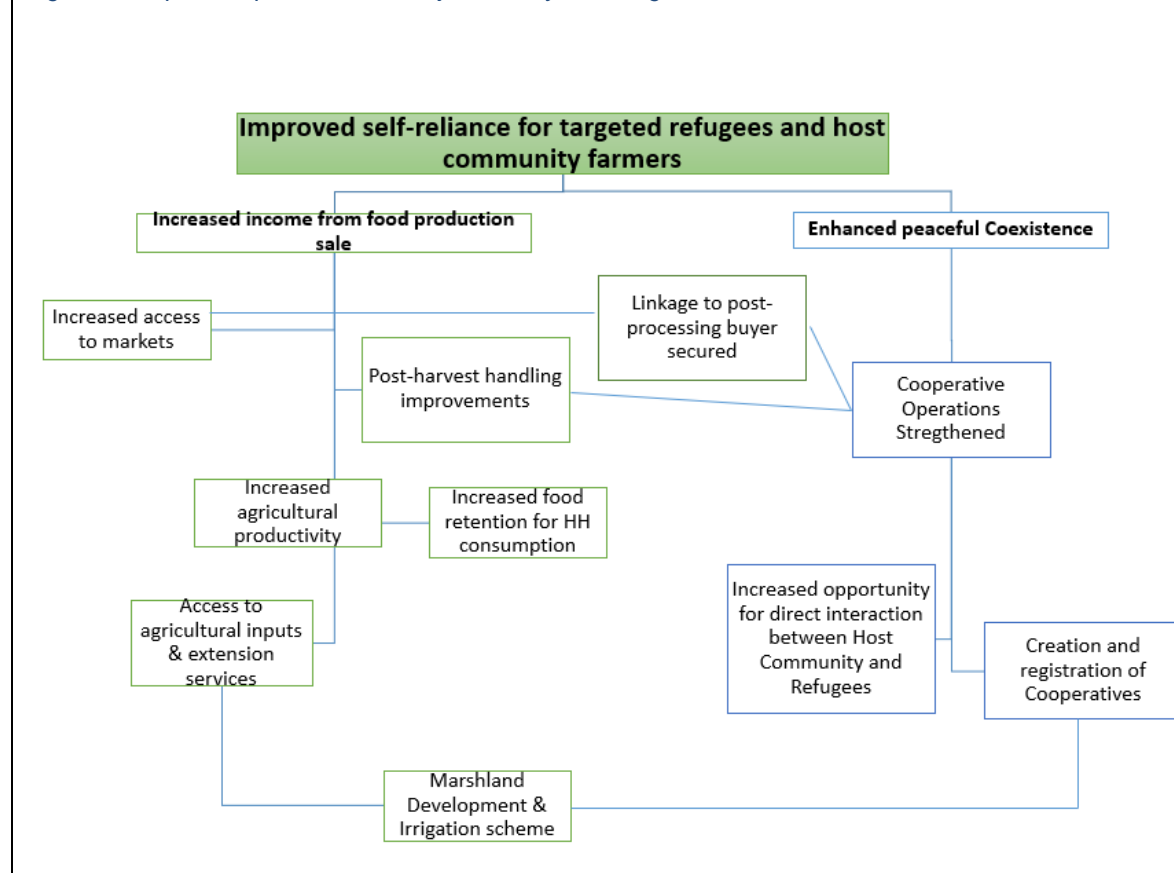


Figure 4: Proposed Updated Misizi Project Theory of Change



RQ 2.4. To what extent was the project design, implementation, and monitoring aligned with the AGD Policy (Age, Gender, Diversity) as it pertains to both refugees and host communities? and RQ 1.6: To what extent was the AGD policy reflected in results?

48. The UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) framework outlines ten obligatory core actions within six areas of engagement (see Figure 5) that must be applied in an age, gender, and diversity approach with the goal of achieving accountability to persons of concern.³⁴ This The Misizi project does align with core actions under engagement areas 2, 4, 5, and 6. The Misizi project aligns with engagement area 2, participation and inclusion, as the minimum requirement to employ participatory methodologies and incorporate the capacities and priorities of women, men, girls and boys of diverse backgrounds into protection, assistance and solutions programs is achieved by the project, through the Misizi project inclusion of refugees and female participants in activities. Participatory methodologies are utilized through the joint-farming and cooperative modalities. Interviews with project staff indicate that in the first year of the project a complaints desk was established to allow for participants to bring conflicts, complaints, and feedback to staff, which aligns with AGD engagement area 4, feedback and response. Interviews with staff indicate that complaints were resolved by the Misizi project, however, documentation of this process is not available. The project also aligns with engagement area 5, as the Misizi project meets the minimum requirement to adapt programs and strategies in response to input from persons of concern, as evidenced by the project creating an additional livestock component in response to participants input and specific requests for additional organic manure and requests for access to livestock.

Figure 5: UNHCR Age, Gender and Diversity Approach Core Actions³⁵



49. The Misizi project also meets minimum requirements under engagement area 6, gender equality and commitments to women and girls. The project planned capacity building activities through trainings targeted specifically at women (50 participants per session) on the following topics: leadership and women representation; introduction to gender equality related concepts; introduction to gender based violence and child protection; access to finance institutions and market; and women in agriculture projects.³⁶ Project documentation shows that activities were planned to develop and/or strengthen awareness and understanding of gender equality and women’s equality as a first step towards behavioral change. Focus group interviews with female participants reported that they did not have any specific barriers to participation based on their gender, and that women and men participated in the project activities equally. Interviews with

³⁴ For a detailed table listing all ten of the obligatory core actions organized by engagement area, please see Appendix 7

³⁵ UNHCR. UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity. March 2018. P.8 <https://www.unhcr.org/5aa13c0c7.pdf>

³⁶ UNHCR Rwanda. Concept Note: Trainings on Women Empowerment in Misizi Marshland. July 2020.

participants, staff, implementing partners and project documents all indicate that women were included in project activities.

50. The Misizi project does not align with core actions under engagement areas 1 and 3. The first core area, age-inclusive programming, requires that all data collected by UNHCR must be disaggregated by age and sex and by other diversity considerations. However, Misizi project internal reporting does not disaggregate. There is no evidence at endline that the Misizi project meets the minimum requirements for core area 3, communication and transparency, as there is no documentation of communication or feedback systems utilized during the project. Project staff involved in the design process report that in May-June 2018, refugee and host representatives were consulted by MIDIMAR (MINEMA), UNHCR and the District regarding their needs and interest in project participation to include beneficiaries in the project design process, however, this was not documented. Interviews with project participants find that the project implementation plan was not clearly communicated to all households/individuals who participated in Misizi project activities, which caused confusion for participants who were unaware direct support through provision of inputs would only take place in the first phase of the project. Interviews with participants indicate that they had expected to continue to receive inputs from the project for the duration of implementation. Interviews with project staff find that due to a short project start up period, there wasn't enough time allocated for in-depth sensitization of the project with participants. However, interviews with project staff report that the participants were aware the project would take place over 36 months and understood the two project phases with phase one consisting of the main project support planned in the first and second year to build their capacity to take over the project activities and phase two to be light touch technical guidance. However, interviews with participants indicate this was not clearly communicated and they were unaware of the two phases and expected continued direct support throughout the project period. There is no documented evidence of how introductory communication between the project and the participants was conducted.

Effectiveness

51. Effectiveness of the project is evaluated based on the extent to which the Misizi Marshlands project achieved expected results towards the project objective to enhance socio-economic inclusion of refugees in the hosting community while enhancing livelihoods and food security of both refugee and host communities. This section includes project results impacting beneficiaries' income, market access, agricultural and livestock productivity, peaceful co-existence between refugees and host community members, and food access.

RQ 1.7: To what extent the project contributed to peaceful co-existence of refugees and host communities?

52. The Misizi project design fostered direct relationships between individual refugee and host community members through joint-farming activities. This was facilitated by the Misizi project in three ways: (1) both refugee and host community members were provided with access to marshlands for cultivation, (2) participants were organized into joint farmer groups which included both refugee and host community participants and (3) participants were encouraged to become members of the project-supported joint-cooperative. These initiatives successfully created opportunities for direct interaction between refugee and host community members, encouraging

peaceful co-existence between the two groups. 95.8% of Misizi participants report that they think the Misizi project was able to create an enabling environment for peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities (see Table 6).

Table 6: Peaceful Coexistence Between Refugees and Host Communities

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% Of households think that the Misizi project was able to create enabling environment for peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities	91.2	97.2	*	95.8
Sample Size (n)	172	179		351

*p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and ***p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host

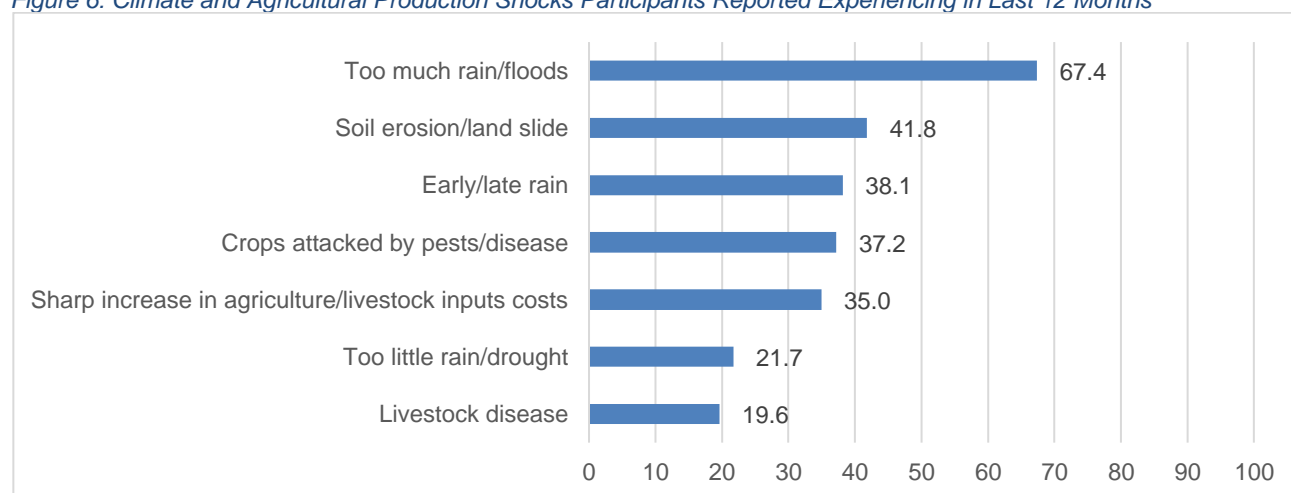
53. Interviews with project participants and staff show that when implementation first began, there were conflicts between the two groups; host community members felt the refugee participants were taking away some of the land they had previously been cultivating. Interviews with project implementers report that a complaints desk was established in the first year of the project, and in the first six months of implementation staff were working with participants through at least one disagreement a week. However, participants and project staff report that conflict largely ceased once participants began to see the benefits of the project and that their agricultural productivity was not negatively impacted by the land distribution. Interviews with project staff show that the participants understood the “win/win” nature of the project design, because both the host community and refugees were getting direct benefits from the project, as the marshland had been developed, and land and farming inputs were provided to participants in year one of implementation. Interviews with both refugee and host community members report that the relationship between the groups has significantly improved compared to how it was before the project began.
54. Project participants report in focus group discussions that by participating in joint-farming activities, working side by side, attending the same trainings, bulking production for sale, and implementing improved agriculture techniques together, fostered not only social cohesion between refugees and host communities, but friendships as well. Focus group discussions with host community members explain that before the Misizi project they felt refugees were dangerous, bad people, but now their mindsets have changed after getting to know refugees through the program. One focus group discussion with refugees explained that before the project, if they were in the same place or meeting as host community members the two groups would sit separately on different sides of the room, but now they have host community friends and they all sit together comfortably. Some participants even indicated that there are instances of inter-marriages between the two groups, which would reportedly not have taken place before the project began.
55. Interviews with participants and implementers find that coordination between the groups is sometimes necessary. Refugee farmers are unable to directly access inputs at prices that have been subsidized by the Rwandan National Government. Refugees report they will give their friends in the host community money to purchase subsidized inputs on their behalf, and the host community members will do so. In a few of the focus group interviews participants reported that sometimes the host community members will charge a small fee for this process, since purchasing and transporting the inputs can be time consuming, however, this was not widely reported as a standard practice. Refugee and host community members also continue to coordinate directly with each other through the established joint cooperative. Interviews with project staff indicate that cooperative leadership includes both refugee and host community representatives, and interviews

with cooperative members indicate that the cooperative will continue to include both groups beyond the project implementation period.

RQ 1.3: Has agriculture productivity increased during the project period, and to what extent?

56. Rwanda has three seasons within one agricultural cycle, which runs from October to August. Before implementation began the Misizi project selected three value chain crops selected based on weather and water-use and availability considerations: maize, soybean, and beans. Project staff report that maize was considered for season A because it requires more water to grow and the majority of rainfall takes place in season A. In season B and C, beans and soybeans were selected as they require less water to produce.

Figure 6: Climate and Agricultural Production Shocks Participants Reported Experiencing in Last 12 Months



57. Evaluation data show project participants were impacted by climatic shocks in addition to COVID-19 in the 12-month period preceding this evaluation (April 2021 – April 2022). During this period 67.4% of Misizi participants reported experiencing too much rain or floods, 41.8% reported experiencing soil erosion and/or landslides, 38.1% reported early or late rainfalls, 37.2% reported their crops had been attacked by pests/disease, 21.7% reported too little rain or drought and 19.6% reported experiencing livestock disease (see Figure 6). Exposure to these shocks in addition to COVID-19 related shocks impacted agricultural productivity and household income generated from agricultural sales. These shocks were accommodated by the Misizi project by staff making proactive decisions to skip project support to some seasons in order to ensure planting and harvesting timing could align with the optimal agricultural season for the supported project crops of maize, beans and soybeans. For example, sowing for Season B in 2020 was delayed by one month due to flooding that took place in April 2020. Misizi project staff decided to skip implementation for the following Season C in 2020 to ensure participants agricultural production could realign to the optimal production timing for Season A 2020/2021. This prevented cascading delays throughout all following seasons. Identification of which seasons were “missed” due to proactive decision making by project staff is presented in Table 7 below.

58. From 2018 to 2022 the Misizi project has successfully provided support to project participants over seven seasons, four maize, two beans, and one soya beans (see Table 7). In 2018 and 2019

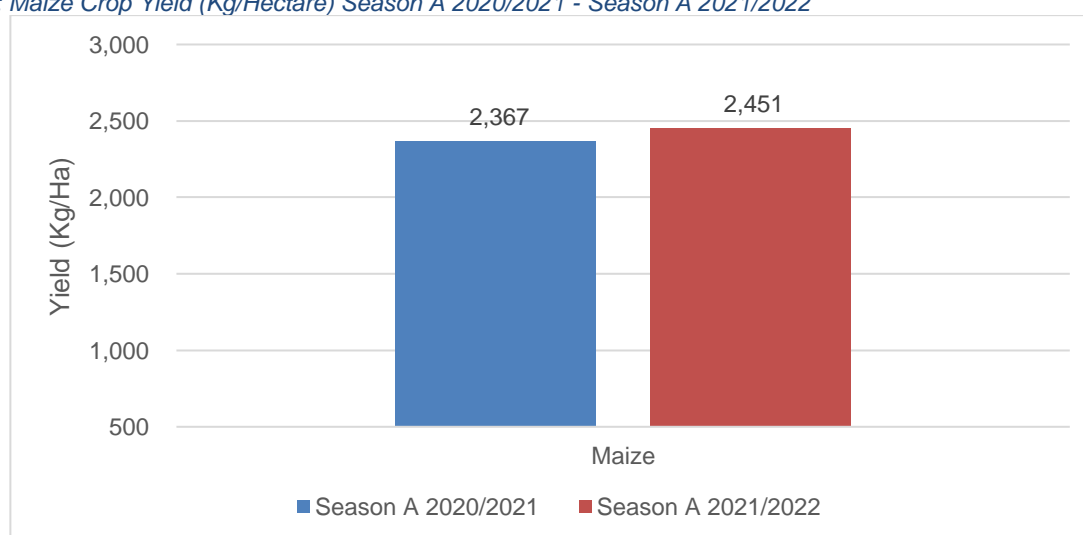
the Misizi project provided direct-support to participants through provision of inputs such as seeds and fertilizers, and from 2020 – 2022 the Misizi project provided indirect support through ongoing technical support to farmers and the joint-cooperative.

Table 7: Agricultural Production Cycle (run from October to August) of Misizi Project Implementation

Agricultural Cycle	Season A	Season B	Season C
2018-2019	Sowing= Nov. 2018 Harvest=April 2019 ³⁷	N/A	Sowing= Jun. 2019 Harvest= Aug. 2019
	Maize	Missed ³⁸	Beans
2019-2020	Sowing= Oct. 2019 Harvest=Mar. 2020	Sowing= May. 2020 ³⁹ Harvest= July. 2020	N/A
	Maize	Beans	Missed ⁴⁰
2020-2021	Sowing= Oct. 2020 Harvest=Mar. 2021	Sowing= April. 2021 Harvest= July. 2021	N/A
	Maize	Soya beans	Missed ⁴¹
2021-2022	Sowing= Oct. 2021 Harvest=Mar. 2022	N/A	N/A
	Maize	Not Yet	Not Yet

59. Agricultural productivity is measured for this evaluation through crop yields, calculated by dividing the reported crop production by the size of land used (see Table 24 in Appendix 4). This is in alignment with the project key performance indicator “land productivity (yield in kg/hectare) per self-employed PoC (last season)” (KPI 4). Refugee and host community participants reported that the average plot size of the land provided by the Misizi project is 4.6 ares or 0.05 hectares (see Table 22 in Appendix 4). Crop production data collected for this evaluation only included participants reported production on Misizi project marshland over the three most recent production seasons. Maize was the only crop produced and supported by the project in season A. Evaluation data show maize yield increased by 3.4% from the 2020/2021 to 2021/2022 season (see Figure 7).

Figure 7: Maize Crop Yield (Kg/Hectare) Season A 2020/2021 - Season A 2021/2022



³⁷ Sowing for season A in year one of the Misizi project was delayed due to delays in land development work. Planting started in November 2018 and harvest took place in April 2019, although the ideal period is from October to March.

³⁸ Missed due to delayed harvest of season A.

³⁹ Sowing delayed due to floods in April 2020.

⁴⁰ Missed due to delayed harvest of season B.

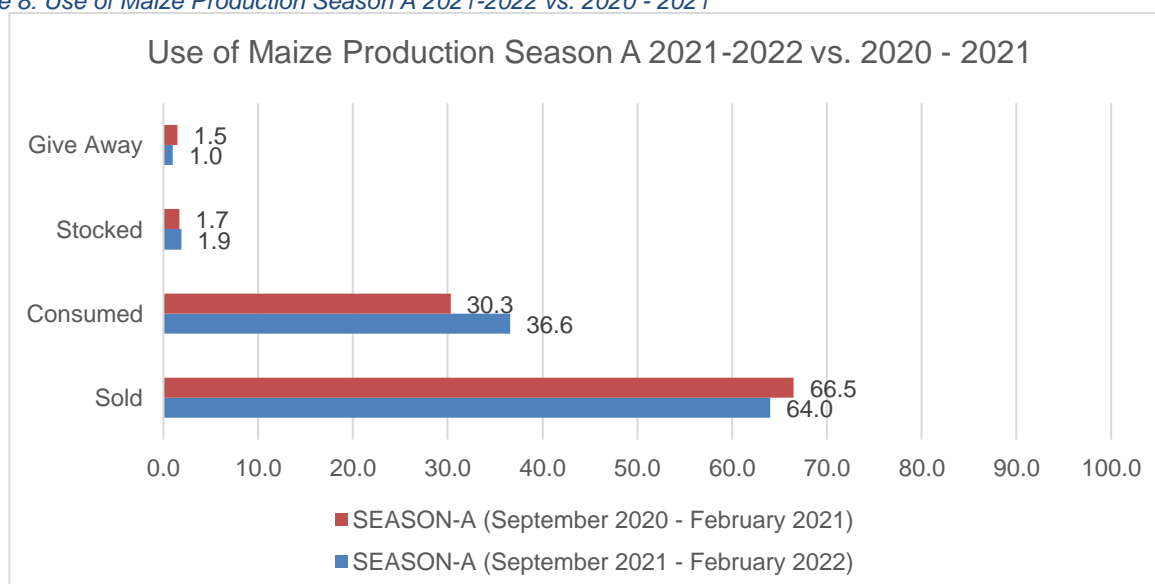
⁴¹ Missed due to delayed harvest season B.

Misizi participants maize crop yields were higher compared to average yields reported by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) for Gisagara district and nationally across Rwanda in the same seasons. In the most recent season A (2021/2022) Misizi participants reported an average maize yield of 2,451 Kg/Ha, 11.6% higher than the average for Gisagara District (2,167 Kg/Ha) (see Table 8). Table 8: NISR Season A Maize Average yield (Kg/Ha)^{42,43,44,45}

Average Maize Yields (Kg/Ha)			
	2020	2021	2022
National NISR Results	1,598	1,600	1,595
Gisagara District NISR Results	1,587	1,902	2,167
Misizi Project Evaluation Results	Not Collected	2,367	2,451

60. Evaluation data show the majority of maize produced in both of the previous seasons was sold (64.0% in most recent season A), with the remainder utilized for home consumption (36.6%) (see Figure 8). The proportion of maize yield utilized for home consumption increased from 30.3% in the 2020/2021 season to 36.6% in the most recent 2021/2022 season.

Figure 8: Use of Maize Production Season A 2021-2022 vs. 2020 - 2021



61. Evaluation data was also collected for Season B March – June 2021. During this period, the project supported soybean production. Sowing took place in April 2021 and harvesting in July 2021. Evaluation data show the average soybean yield for Season B 2021 was 255 kg/ha, which is lower than national and Gisagara District average yields for the same season. NISR reported the average soybean yield for season B in 2021 was 1,010 kg/ha nationally, and 418 kg/ha for the Gisagara district.⁴⁶ Interviews with project participants find that there is low investment in soybeans. Both refugee and host community members reported in focus group interviews that they don't prefer to consume and don't sell soybeans often or at all, so production focused on

42 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Seasonal Agricultural Survey (Season A, 2022). May 2022. <https://www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/1811>

43 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Seasonal Agricultural Survey (Season A, 2021). April 2021. <https://www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/seasonal-agricultural-survey-season-2021>

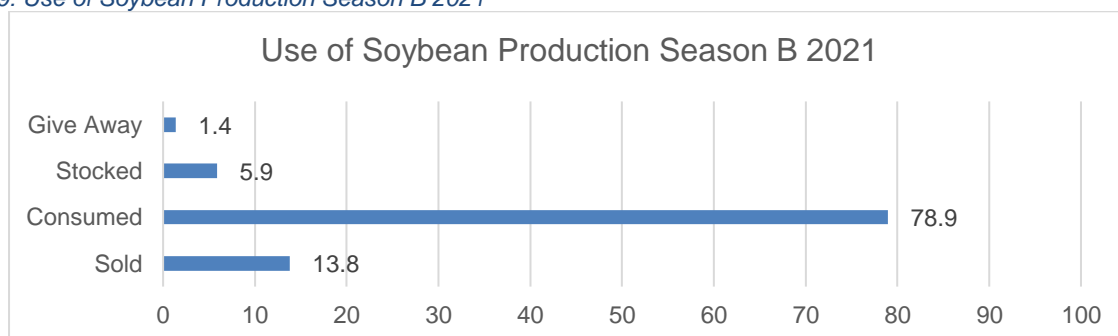
44 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), Seasonal Agricultural Survey (Season A, 2020). April 2020. <https://www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/seasonal-agricultural-survey-report-season-2020>

45 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR). Seasonal Agricultural Survey annual report, December 2021.

46 National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR). Seasonal Agricultural Survey annual report, December 2021.

maize and beans. Evaluation data support this, showing that most of the soybean production was consumed by Misizi participating households (78.9%) and 13.8% was sold (see Figure 9).

Figure 9: Use of Soybean Production Season B 2021



62. The Misizi project also supported beans for two seasons: Season C from June to August 2019 and Season B from May to July 2020. The evaluation did not collect data on beans production as they had not been produced during the 2020-2021 agricultural cycle, and data collection occurred before the 2021-2022 agricultural season for bean production began.

Livestock Productivity

63. The original Misizi project design did not include livestock production support activities. However, interviews with project staff and project monthly monitoring reports indicate that the addition of a livestock component was requested by Misizi project participants as a source of organic manure needed in the agriculture production activities and income diversification purposes. Misizi project documentation notes that the income-generating component of the project was not generating enough income for project durability and cooperative sustainability, and proposed that the addition of the livestock program activity to strengthen the livelihood component.⁴⁷ The Misizi project presented a proposal for the addition of a livestock component to the donor (IKEA Foundation), which was approved to start in 2020.⁴⁸ This new activity was designed to be implemented in collaboration between UNHCR, RAB and FAO to provide selected farmers with chickens and piggery, construct pens for housing the livestock, conduct trainings on livestock management, facilitate learning field visits, and provide veterinary services to participants.

64. Evaluation data show roughly 10.0% of Misizi participants reported engagement in the livestock activities in alignment with project targeting for this activity. Project staff and internal reports show that 150 individuals out of the 1,427 total Misizi participants were enrolled in the livestock component activities. Of those 150 individual participants, 75 were trained in poultry and 75 were trained in piggery farming. Evaluation data reflects this, showing that 8.3% of refugee and 10.8% of host community participants reported they have participated in Misizi project livestock start-up support, such as receipt of chickens, pigs, feed, and pens/shelter. 10.0% of refugee and 9.7% of host community participants report they have participated in Misizi trainings on livestock improved production practices and technologies (see Table 29 in Appendix 4). Interviews with participants indicate that the selection process for the livestock component was not clearly communicated to all project participants which caused frustration amongst participants, who perceived selection to be based on favoritism because other selection criteria were not clearly communicated to all Misizi

⁴⁷ UNHCR Rwanda. IKEA Foundation Interim Annual Report. Period Covered 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019. Submitted 31 January 2020. P.2.

⁴⁸ IKEA Foundation. Agreement Amendment G-1805-01097 "Misizi Marshlands Project". 8 April 2020.

participants. Interviews with project staff indicate that households that received livestock and livestock supports were self-selected, those who expressed interest in the activity were included, which explains why Misizi participants not included could be confused by the selection process. Project documentation reports “the 150 participating farmers were selected based on specific criteria including their willingness to do livestock rearing, commitment to work with other team members as well as capacity to contribute financially for land acquisition of value 3,280,000 RWF (each farmer contributed about 21,866 RWF). The livestock component also committed to include 50% women in the initiative, while keeping the proportion of 70% host community and 30% refugees”.⁴⁹ Interviews with staff and participants show that due to the onset of COVID-19 in 2020, the livestock component began in mid-2021.

65. Project documentation and interviews with project staff indicate that before the livestock could be procured, the cooperative was responsible for the land acquisition using contributions from participants for the livestock sheds. UNHCR constructed ten total livestock sheds, five for pigs and five for chickens, on the land procured by the cooperative. The land and the sheds are owned by the cooperative. Project documentation shows that 5 groups of farmers were selected for poultry farming and poultry sheds were constructed in June 2021.⁵⁰ By August 2021 the project procured 5,000 chickens, which were evenly distributed between the five groups and five sheds.⁵¹ By November 2021 chickens were producing eggs and farmers were successfully selling eggs through the cooperative; revenue from egg sales was deposited directly into the cooperative account.⁵² Project documentation indicates that in November 90,540 eggs were laid, 8,186 of which were sold, and in December the proportion of eggs sold increased as 72,699 eggs were produced and sold.^{53,54} Numbers of eggs produced and sold were not independently collected by this external evaluation. Reported numbers of eggs produced and sold are included in Misizi project monthly reports but are not verifiable by the evaluation. Interviews with project staff and participants indicate that the chicken’s component was added specifically to produce organic manure to be used on agriculture plots and eggs that could be used for household consumption or sale. For the participants who did participate in the chicken’s component, egg production and sales were taking place by the end of 2021.
66. Interviews with project staff indicate that the five pig pens were constructed in August 2021. In September 2021 the selection of pigs was conducted jointly by a team including the Gisagara Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UNHCR Agronomist Associate, RAB Veterinary research technician and HK WORKERS Ltd Managing Director.⁵⁵ 55 pigs were distributed in two disbursements in September 2021, and 11 pigs were allocated in each of the five pens.⁵⁶ Interviews with project staff and participants show that the pigs were impacted by disease in the following six months, with resulted in the death of 24 of the 55 pigs. Interviews with project staff indicate that the terms of the agreement with the pig supplier require them to replace the pigs that have died due to disease, so the 24 pigs should be replaced in the next few months, but this has not yet been completed at the time of this evaluation. Participants in the piggery activity report some frustration due to the death of half of the pigs they have received, as the small number that

49 UNHCR Rwanda. IKEA Foundation Interim Annual Report. 1 February 2021.

50 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District June 2021 Monthly Report.

51 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District August 2021 Monthly Report.

52 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District November 2021 Monthly Report.

53 Ibid.

54 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District December 2021 Monthly Report.

55 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District September 2021 Monthly Report.

56 Ibid.

have remained are not sufficient to produce enough organic manure to support their agricultural production at this stage.

RQ 1.2: Has beneficiaries' access to formal markets improved, and to what extent?

67. Interviews with project participants, implementing staff, and cooperative leaders indicate that access to formal markets has improved as a result of the Misizi project activities. Refugee and host community project participants reported in focus group discussion interviews that before the Misizi project they only sold their production in local markets, to middlemen, or kept the majority for household consumption. Now, participants and project staff report that in 2020 WFP created a direct linkage between Africa Improved Foods (AIF), a post-processing company, and the Misizi project supported cooperative. Project participants and cooperative leaders report that AIF is a reliable buyer and has been consistently purchasing nearly all of the maize produced and paying on time. This has resulted in consistent market access for maize.
68. In the last season AIF purchased maize on the cob for 285 RWF per kilogram. The majority of project participants reported this is a good price compared to other markets, while some reported this price is too low and they would prefer to sell maize grain rather than maize on the cob since maize grain can be sold for higher prices but requires processing. Participants reported that this was based on the price other buyers were paying for maize grain, which was above 300 RWF per kg. Interviews with Misizi project staff indicate that discussions are underway with GIZ to secure a maize miller for the cooperative, however this has not been finalized at the time of this evaluation.
69. Interviews with AIF representatives indicate that they have had a positive experience working directly with the cooperative and the cooperative consistently meets quality requirements and instances of rejection are very rare. As part of the project, Misizi constructed maize drying sheds and storage facilities that cooperative members utilize to bulk their maize production for sale. AIF has high quality standards and reportedly conducts regular site visits to the cooperative to conduct in-person quality assurance checks. During COVID-19 related lockdowns, the quality manager was unable to conduct these in-person site visits, which resulted in a delay of AIF purchase of maize in 2020 because the quality visit is required prior to purchase. Interviews with AIF representatives reported that the productivity of the cooperative has increased; at the start of the contract in 2020 the cooperative delivered 51,012kgs and in 2022 the cooperative delivered 60,477kgs of maize to AIF. Interviews with AIF, project staff, cooperative leaders, and project participants indicate that there are no barriers to accessing the maize market for cooperative members at this stage. However, formal market linkages for the other two project-supported value chains, soybeans and beans, have not yet been established.
70. 80.3% of all evaluation survey respondents reported they have sold their agricultural production to specialized post-processing companies. Evaluation survey data show the project has exceeded key performance indicator targets for the “[proportion] of cooperatives’ [members] agricultural production sold to specialized post-processing service companies” (KPI 2). As the only post-processing service company Misizi participants were linked to was AIF for maize, the data collected through this evaluation only includes data on members maize production sales to AIF. For Season A 2020/2021, refugee households reported they sold 56.1% of their maize production,

and host community households reported they sold 69.5% of their maize production. For Season A 2021/2022, refugee households reported they sold 49.2% of their maize production and host community household reported they sold 68.0% of their maize production. Refugee households reportedly keep more of their production for home consumption compared to host community households, which is why host community households sell a larger proportion of their production compared to refugee households. In the most recent agricultural season A 2021/2022, 47.3% of refugee and 33.7% of host community production was utilized for home consumption. Interviews with refugee participants indicate that changes to humanitarian cash and food basket support has increased their reliance on their agricultural production for food access. Across both groups, 64.0% of all maize production in Season A 2021/2022 was sold, exceeding the year three key performance indicator target of 50% (see Table 9) (see Appendix 2, KPI 2).

Table 9: Utilization of maize production Season A 2020/2021 and 2021/2022

	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
SEASON-A (September 2020 - February 2021)				
Use of the Maize production (%)				
Sold	56.1	69.5	***	66.5
Consumed	39.5	27.7	***	30.3
Stocked	1.4	1.8		1.7
Give away	3.0	1.0	**	1.5
Sample Size (n) ⁵⁷	147	160		307
SEASON-A (September 2021 - February 2022)				
Use of the Maize production (%)				
Sold	49.2	68.0	***	64.0
Consumed	47.3	33.7	**	36.6
Stocked	1.0	2.1		1.9
Give away	2.5	0.6	***	1.0
Sample Size (n) ⁵⁸	141	160		301

*p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and ***p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host

71. Evaluation data shows that the majority of refugee and host community participants report that accessing a main market in which they can buy and sell agricultural and livestock products is easy (55.3%) or very easy (9.5%) and they have access to a market within 5km of their home (84.9%) (see Table 10).

Table 10: Market Access

INDICATORS		PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
		Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% Of households reported the distance of the closest market within 5 kilometers		97.0	81.3	***	84.9
Sample Size (n)		172	179		351
% Of households with the status of accessing to the main market to buy and sell agricultural/livestock products	Very difficult	5.1	9.4		8.4
	Somewhat difficult	16.5	29.8	*	26.8
	Easy	50.5	56.7		55.3
	Very easy	27.9	4.0	***	9.5
	Sample Size (n)	172	179		351

*p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and ***p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host

57 Data collected only with respondents who indicated they produced Maize for Season A 2020 - 2021

58 Data collected only with respondents who indicated they produced Maize for Season A 2021 - 2022

RQ 1.1: Has beneficiaries' income increased and to what extent?

72. Interviews with project participants conducted for this evaluation show that participants have a positive outlook on the project results, reporting in focus group interviews that household income from crop sales have increased because participants had access to land, technical support, and buyer linkages through the cooperative that they did not have before the project began, so particularly for refugee households that had little or no access to agricultural production at all before the project, crop production is a new income-generating livelihood option. However, interviewees report this new revenue generated from their agricultural production does not necessarily reflect an increase in household spending power because the cost of production (input costs, specifically fertilizers and seeds) is high, resulting in little surplus revenue towards household income at this stage. This is reflected in survey data which show that 41.2% of refugee and 52.8% of host community respondents report they have utilized revenue from selling crops in the 2020 to 2022 seasons to reinvest for agriculture/livestock activities, including buying inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings, etc. (see Table 21 in Appendix 4). Furthermore, due to COVID-19 national lockdown, restricted gathering and mobility, market closures, and changes in cash assistance provided to refugees, evaluation data shows that project beneficiaries self-report their overall household income has decreased from before the onset of COVID-19/March 2020 to now (April 2022). This was an expected result, as field assessments conducted by UNHCR-WFP and UN Rwanda in 2020 indicated that the COVID-19 pandemic has severely and negatively impacted refugees' livelihoods.⁵⁹
73. The Misizi project key performance indicator (KPI) used to measure changes in income is defined as “% of targeted PoC who self-report (increased) income compared to previous season”, which is further defined as “[h]ere, we aim to capture the extent to which PoC self-report an increase in their purchasing power that they attribute to income generated in the course of the project” (see Appendix 2, KPI 1). This evaluation finds that over 11.6% of refugee and 33.8% of host community respondents report their income has increased compared to the previous harvest season (see Table 11).

Table 11: Percentage of households reporting changes to their current household income (as of April 2022)

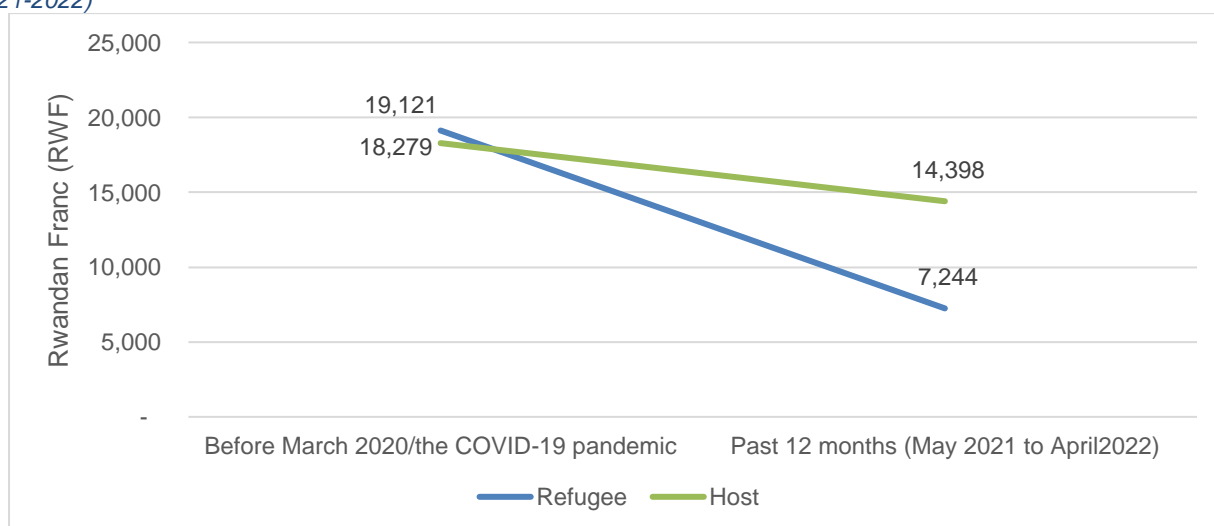
% Of households reported change compared to current household income (April 2022)		Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
		Over the last three years	Increased	1.6	13.8
	Decreased	77.1	58.4	***	62.6
	Remain same	21.3	27.8		26.3
Compared to previous harvesting season	Increased	11.6	33.8	***	28.7
	Decreased	74.2	51.3	***	56.5
	Remain same	14.2	14.9		14.8
Compared to before COVID-19	Increased	3.3	22.6	***	18.2
	Decreased	83.8	60.8	***	66.1
	Remain same	12.9	16.6		15.8
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		172	179		351

*p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and ***p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host

59 United Nations Rwanda. The Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Rwanda. June 2020. <https://www.undp.org/content/dam/rba/docs/COVID-19-CO-Response/UNDP-rba-COVID-assessment-Rwanda.pdf>

74. Evaluation survey data show that the majority of respondents report their household income has decreased compared to three years ago and compared to the previous season (see Table 11). Over the past three years 77.1% of refugee and 58.4% of host community respondents report their income has decreased. The main reasons respondents reported caused the decrease in household income over the last three years are less mobility/access due to COVID-19 (45.6% of respondents), bad harvest (44.5%), small land size for cultivation (19.1%), lack of financial capacity to purchase agricultural inputs/services (11.4%), high cost for agriculture/livestock inputs and services (11.0%) and job loss/lack of wage labor or job opportunities (8.4%) (See Table 20 in Appendix 4).
75. These results are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; the majority of respondents (83.8% refugee, 60.8% host community) indicate their current household income is lower now (April 2022) than it was before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 and cite less mobility/accessibility due to COVID-19 as a primary reason their household income decreased (45.6% of respondents) (See Table 20 in Appendix 4). Interviews with program participants show that COVID-19 related restrictions negatively impacted their ability to access markets to purchase inputs and sell their produce, resulting in decreased production and sales. Interviews with participants indicate that they saved more of their production for home consumption as a coping response to COVID-19. Participants reported in focus group interviews that this was a positive benefit of participation in the project, because it ensured their households had enough to eat throughout this period, even if that resulted in less sales. The average monthly income for refugee households decreased from 19,121 RWF (\$19 USD) before March 2020, to 7,244 RWF (\$7 USD) in the last year (see Figure 10). These are validated by joint-PDM results from September 2021 which show similar results, reporting the average refugee household monthly income in Mugombwa camp is 7,643 RWF (\$7.60 USD).⁶⁰ The average monthly income for host community households decreased from 18,279 RWF (\$18 USD) before March 2020, to 14,398 RWF (\$14 USD) in the last year (see Figure 10).

Figure 10: Misizi Participant Average Monthly Household Income (RWF) Before COVID-19 (March 2020) vs. Last Year (2021-2022)

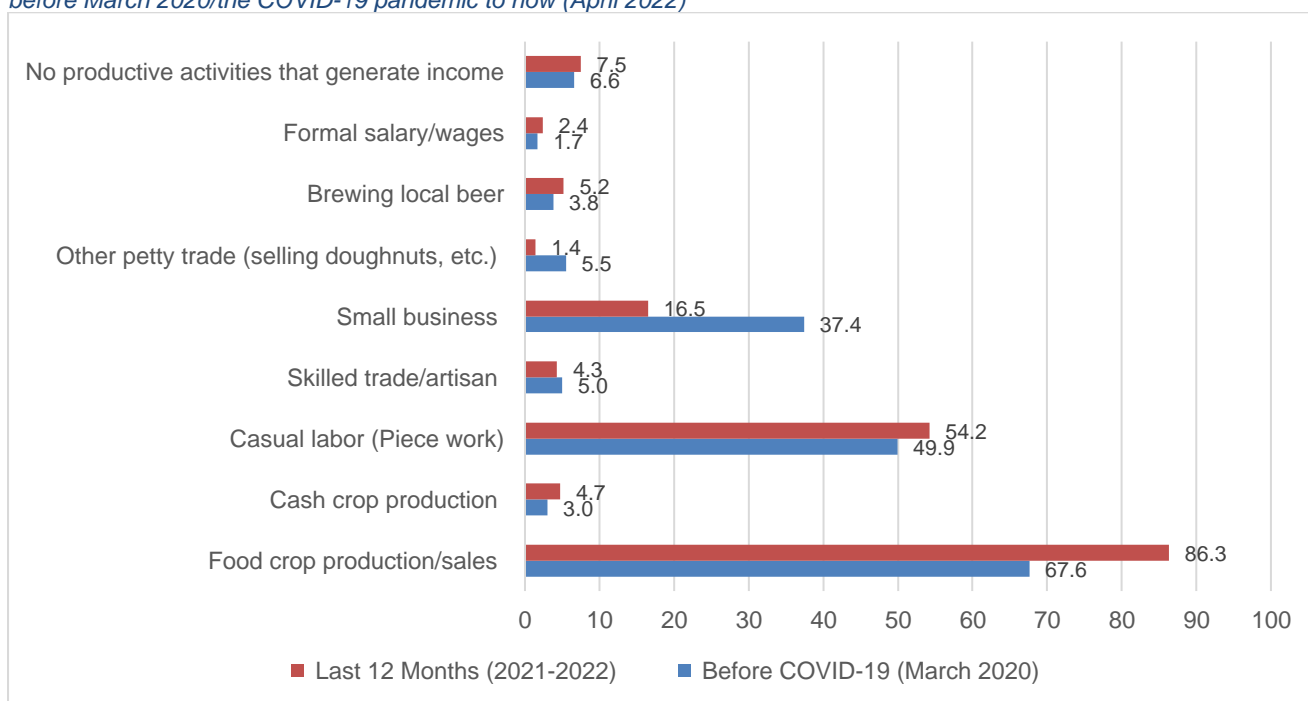


76. Interviews with refugee project participants indicate that refugee household incomes were particularly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is why refugee household incomes decreased more compared to host community household incomes. 21.0% of refugee households

60 UNHCR and World Food Programme. Rwanda Joint UNHCR/WFP Post Distribution Monitoring. September 2021. P.49. https://wfp-unhcr-hub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/JPDM-September-2021_R7.pdf

reported having no productive activities that generate income in the last 12 months (see Table 23 in Appendix 4). Interviews with refugee participants and Misizi project staff indicated that the camp was fully closed down for several months in 2020 and periodically through 2021, which severely limited refugees' movement and ability to engage in project and livelihood activities outside of the camp. 48.3% of refugee respondents reported cash support from UNHCR is an income generating source for their household in the last 12 months, 44.0% of refugee respondents reported the same for cash assistance from WFP, and 4.0% reported cash assistance from others (not UNHCR or WFP) as an income source. UNHCR and WFP's joint post distribution monitoring report and interviews with refugee project participants indicated that after 2020 the amount of the cash transfer received WFP decreased.⁶¹ Refugee participants reported that before COVID-19 each individual refugee received 7,600 RWF per month, but after COVID-19 refugees were categorized based on need; those in category one received 7,000 RWF per month, category two received 3,500 RWF per month and category three received no cash transfer. Focus group discussions with refugee participants reported poverty increased in the camps as a result of COVID-19, which is reflected in evaluation results.

Figure 11: Change in main sources of livelihoods/productive activities which generated household income compared to before March 2020/the COVID-19 pandemic to now (April 2022)



77. COVID-19 also caused a shift in the main livelihood sources/activities of Misizi project households (see Figure 11). The proportion of households whose main livelihood was food crop production/sales, cash crop production, and casual labor (piece work) increased from before March 2020/the onset of COVID-19 compared to the last 12 months (2021 – 2022). The proportion of households that reported small businesses as a main livelihood decreased from before the onset of COVID-19 compared to the last 12 months. Interviews with participants indicate that due to government restrictions throughout 2020 in response to COVID-19, it was more difficult to conduct other livelihood or income generating activities, however, throughout this period it was

61 UNHCR and World Food Programme. Rwanda Joint UNHCR/WFP Post Distribution Monitoring. September 2021. P.17. https://wfp-unhcr-hub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/JPDM-September-2021_R7.pdf

still possible to work on their own fields, resulting in an increased reliance on agricultural production for household income and food consumption.

Food Access

78. Interviews with project participants report that household food access has improved as a result of Misizi project activities, which have facilitated an increase in production to be utilized for home consumption. Evaluation data shows roughly half of maize (47.3%) and the majority of bean (97.8%) and soybean (64.5%) production in the last season is being used for household consumption (see Table 24 in Appendix 4). Interviews with participants show that maize is a significant portion of their household diet, as porridge for breakfast and maize meal for lunch and dinner. Participants report that some of the revenue from the additional sales of production are used to purchase other foods that the households don't produce, such as Irish potatoes and rice. 81.5% of refugee and 70.8% of host community participants report that they utilize household income generated from crop sales to purchase household consumption items, including food (See Table 28 in Appendix 4).
79. This evaluation utilized standard food security measurements including the Household Food Consumption Score (FCS)⁶² and Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) (see Table 12).⁶³ The use of proxy measures of household food access and dietary diversity provides a comprehensive depiction of food insecurity at the household level at endline, however, these measures can not be compared to baseline as the baseline evaluation did not include FCS or HDDS. FCS is an index that aggregates household data on the diversity and frequency of food groups consumed over the previous seven days and weighted based on the relative nutritional value of each group and is a proxy indicator of household caloric availability.⁶⁴ Based on this score, a household's food consumption can be further classified into one of three categories: poor, borderline, or acceptable. The majority of refugee and host community participants have borderline or adequate FCS. Host community members have better FCS compared to refugee households, with 56.4% of host community households have acceptable FCS, compared to 35.4% of refugee households.

Table 12: Food Consumption Score and Household Diet Diversity Score

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
Average Food Consumption Score (FCS)	30.6	38.0	***	36.3
Percentage of households with FCS categories				
Poor (FCS 0-21)	21.0	9.2	***	11.9
Borderline (FCS 21.5 to 35)	43.5	34.4		36.5
Acceptable (FCS >35)	35.4	56.4	***	51.6
Average Household Diet Diversity Score	2.7	4.7	***	4.3
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	172	179		351

p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and *p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host*

62 Coates, Jennifer, Anne Swindale and Paula Bilinsky. 2007. Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS) for Measurement of Household Food Access: Indicator Guide (v. 3). Washington, D.C.: FHI 360/FANTA.

63 Swindale, Anne, and Paula Bilinsky. 2006. Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) for Measurement of Household Food Access: Indicator Guide (v.2). Washington, D.C.: FHI 360/FANTA.

64 Wiesmann, D., Bassett, L. and Benson, T. Validation of the world food programme's food consumption score and alternative indicators of household food security. 2015. <https://www.ifpri.org/publication/validation-world-food-programmes-food-consumption-score-and-alternative-indicators>

80. HDDS measures the food consumption/access of the household to a variety of foods within the past 24 hours. HDDS is used to assess household's economic condition via the household's ability to obtain a diversity of different foods but does not assess the diet quality or caloric intake. Host community households have more dietary diversity compared to refugee households; the average HDDS score is 2.7 for refugee and 4.7 for host community Misizi participants. This is also reflected in joint post distribution monitoring findings, which report that the average diet is unbalanced, with a disproportionate amount of refugee's diets consisting of starchy food items (such as maize porridge and maize meal).⁶⁵ The HDDS score is out of 12 possible dietary categories, indicating that dietary diversity for Misizi participants is limited for both groups.

Efficiency

81. Efficiency of the project is examined through the total planned budget against the percent of the budget that was spent across budget categories.

RQ 3.1. To what extent was the project efficient, specifically looking at the processes in design, implementation and monitoring?

82. The Misizi project design process was efficient. The design process included all partners who would be implementing project activities, which ensured implementing partners were already aware of implementation plans and complimentary partner strengths could be integrated into the design. For example, the project ensured the Gisagara District was committed to the provision of the Marshland in the design phase, which was crucial for all project activities. Existing assessments were utilized as sources for the project design, which increased efficiency by utilizing existing assessment data rather than conducting a unique one-project assessment before the design phase could begin.

83. There were some inefficiencies in project implementation. The land development work to prepare the marshland for agricultural production was delayed, which caused a delay in sowing for the first agricultural production season the project supported (Season A 2018/2019). Planting for this season was delayed to November 2018 and harvest took place in April 2019, although the ideal period is from October to March. This resulted in low production for that season. In response, Misizi staff decided to skip direct support for the following season B to ensure that all subsequent seasons could be implemented in alignment with optimal timing rather than continue cascading delays.

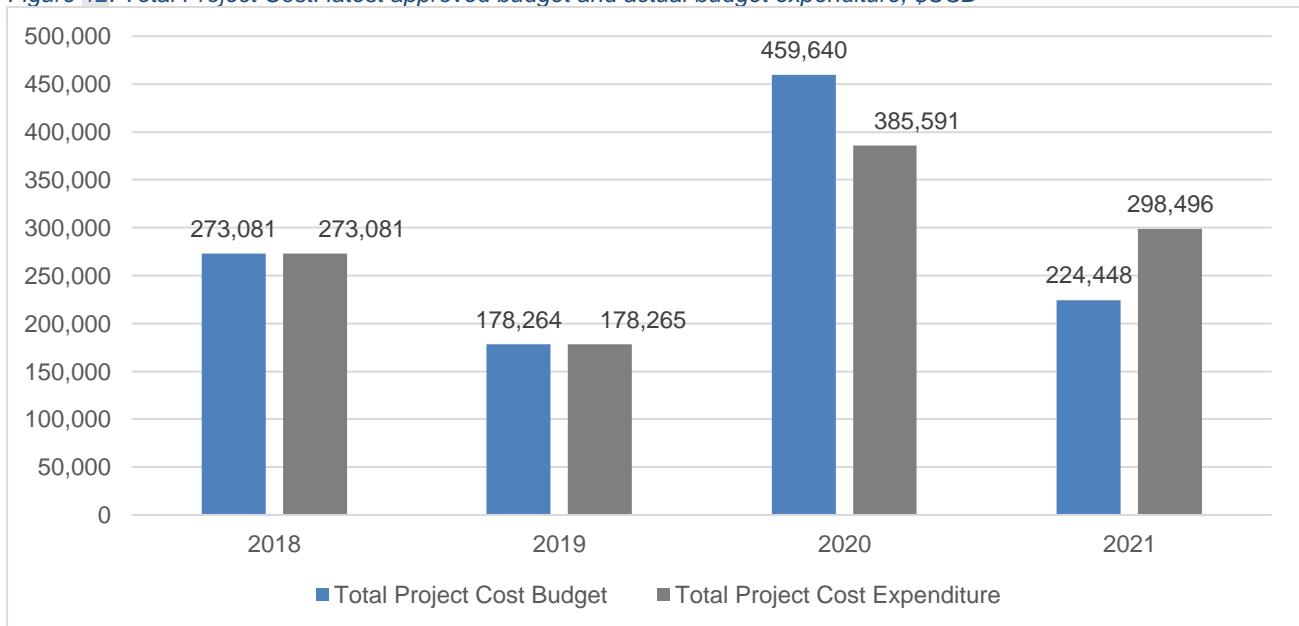
RQ 3.2. Were the allocated funds sufficient to achieve the immediate outcomes of the project?

84. Overall, for the four-year project the total budget was \$1,135,433 USD. \$972,433 USD was funded by IKEA Foundation, and \$163,000 USD funded by WFP. The actual expenditure while varying

⁶⁵ UNHCR and World Food Programme. Rwanda Joint UNHCR/WFP Post Distribution Monitoring. September 2021. P.44. https://wfp-unhcr-hub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/JPDM-September-2021_R7.pdf

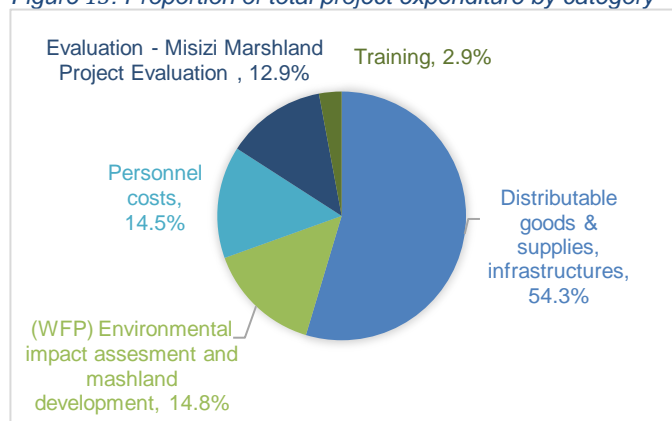
slightly from the budget year-to-year, is also 1.135 million. The total project expenditure compared to the budget per year is illustrated in Figure 12. KIIs with project staff indicate that the 2020 unspent budget was carried over to 2021, which is why expenditures exceeded the budget in 2021, however, there was no overspending due to the carryover from 2020. Underspending in 2020 was due to national restrictions preventing training meetings or workshops from taking place due to COVID-19 prevention measures. Even so, largest project expenditures took place in 2020 as planned (compared to other years) due to a nearly 3x higher expenditure compared to other years on distributable goods, which comprises the largest proportion of project costs across all four years.

Figure 12. Total Project Cost: latest approved budget and actual budget expenditure, \$USD



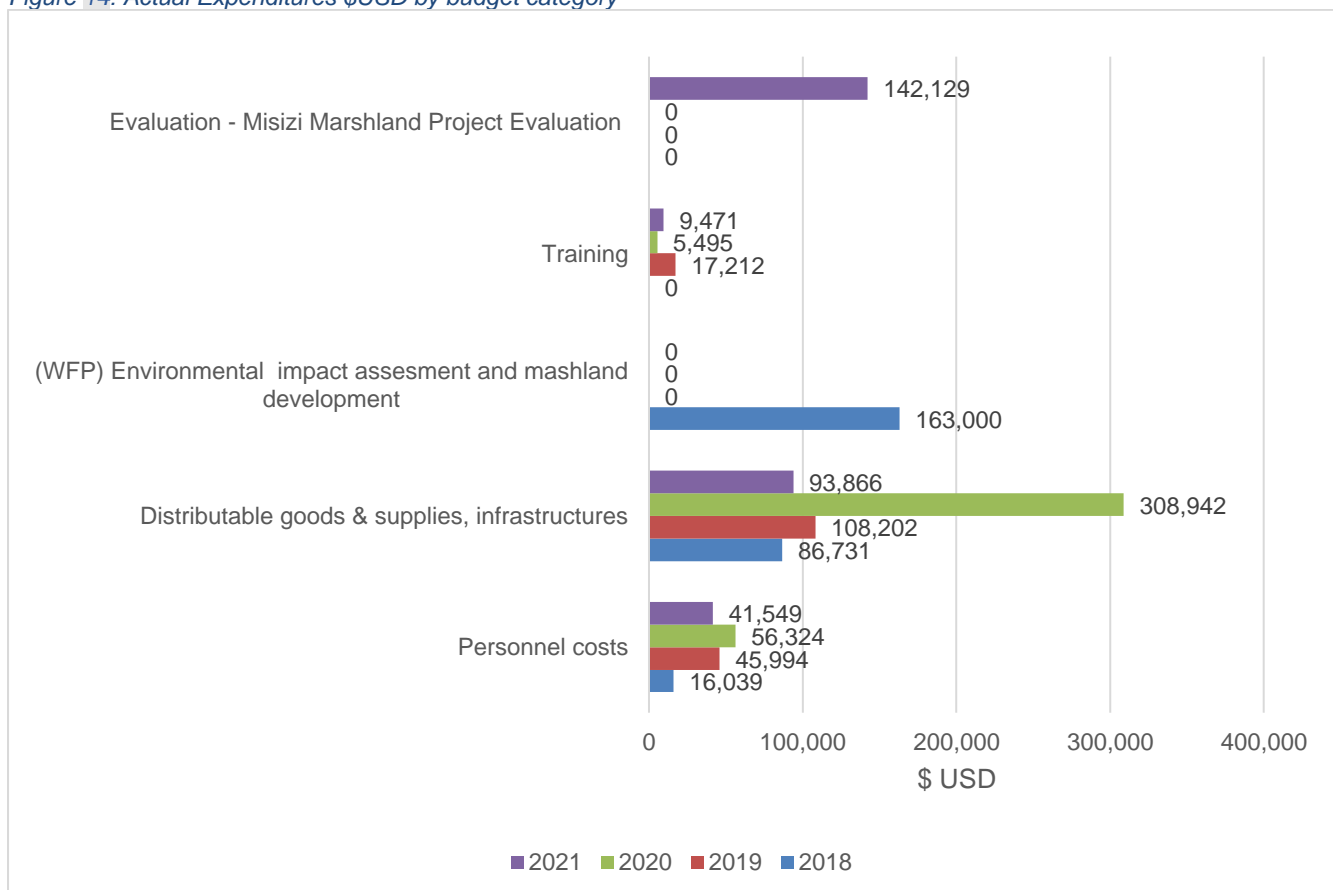
85. Across the four years of implementation from 2018 to 2021, 55% of the total budget was spent on distributable goods, 15% on the environmental impact assessment and marshland development conducted by WFP, 14% on personnel costs, 13% on the performance evaluation, and 3% on trainings. Training expenses listed in the project budget line items included engagement with district cooperatives as focal points, establishment of market linkages, study visits for cooperative members, farm management trainings, capacity building for women, and training on utilization of solar batteries for water pump panels. Training costs are relatively low compared to other expenditure categories; however, trainings are relatively low-cost interventions. Thus, the proportion of expenditure does not reflect the importance of this component. Interviews with project participants show that the trainings provided by the Misizi project were fundamental to their improved agricultural production practices and improved cooperative management.

Figure 13: Proportion of total project expenditure by category



86. The distributable goods, supplies and infrastructures budget category includes small scale irrigation system, hoes, labor incentives, grains, pesticides, drying/storage grounds, product storage construction, livestock, and veterinary services. The largest expenditure within this category took place in year 3 (2020), with \$238,553 USD spent on livestock for self-reliance.

Figure 14: Actual Expenditures \$USD by budget category



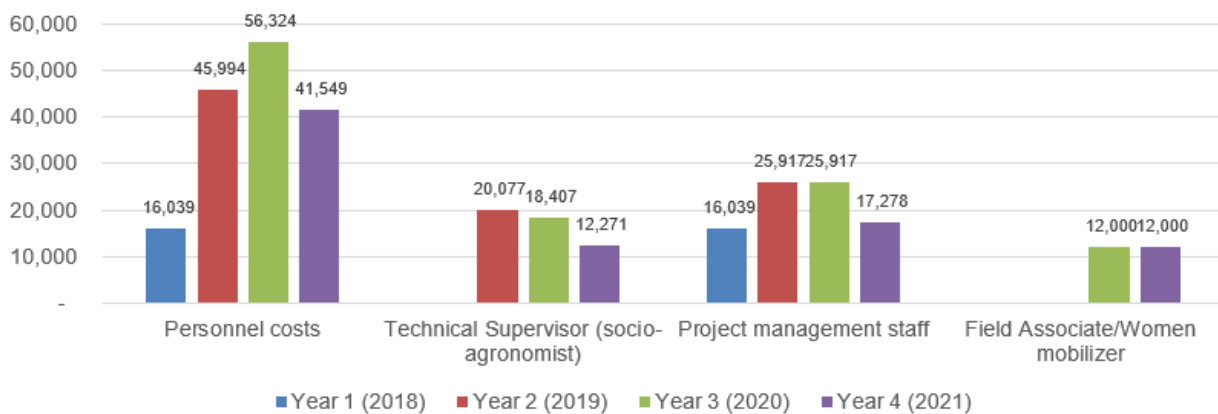
RQ 3.3. Were the allocated human resources sufficient and skilled to achieve the planned outputs and outcomes of the project?

87. Interviews with project staff and partners indicate that there were a sufficient number of staff available to implement the Misizi project activities as planned, however, there was not a sufficient number of technical experts or staff to adequately monitor the project or conduct internal evaluations. Evaluations were not included at all in the project budget until an addition was made in year 4 for the performance evaluation. There is also no budget allocated for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) staff in the budgeted personnel costs. Monitoring activities throughout the project were conducted by livelihoods field staff who were also responsible for implementing project activities and did not receive any monitoring training. Interviews with project staff indicate that there was no field structure or dedicated unit in place to conduct project monitoring in coordination with ongoing implementation. Furthermore, due to COVID-19 related restrictions, field visits for accounting and monitoring exercises were very limited from 2020 onwards. This resulted in weak monitoring data collection and unreliable performance indicator results over the project period. Interviews with project staff indicate this challenge was not unique to the Misizi

project and was identified as a limitation by UNHCR Rwanda at country level. A M&E consultant was hired in January 2020 to support the entire country unit, however, M&E support for the Misizi project was not included in the consultant’s scope of work. However, in 2021 this consultant was given the additional task (outside of the original scope of work) to conduct the key performance indicator (KPI) data collection for the KPI year 2020. This data was collected by the consultant between March and May 2021, the results of which are included in the finalized project KPI matrix included in Appendix 2.

88. Figure 15 illustrates the actual expenditures on personnel costs by budget category, which shows that technical supervisors were specifically socio-agronomists, and field associates/women mobilizers were only hired starting in 2020. Interviews with project staff and participants in the livestock component indicate that additional internal technical supervisors with technical expertise in poultry and piggery production would have further benefitted the results of the livestock component. Interviews with project staff indicate that technical support for the livestock component was reliant on external contracts with piggery and poultry providers, and no livestock specialist was hired by the project directly.

Figure 15: Human resources actual expenditures



RQ 3.4 How and to what extent UNHCR-MINEMA joint programming supported the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project? Was it sufficient to achieve the expected project’ results?

89. Project design documentation and interviews with project staff and partners indicate MINEMA’s role in the design phase of the project was to advocate and provide direct engagement with the Gisagara District to secure the land for this project. In Rwanda there is limited availability of government owned land that the government is willing to provide, particularly for a livelihoods project designed to benefit both host community and refugee households. This was mitigated by MINEMA’s commitment to the project and willingness to conduct strong advocacy for the Gisagara district to make the land available for the project. MINEMA was successful in ensuring 55ha of land would be available for project use, at no cost to the project, which is a positive and unique component of the Misizi project.

90. In the implementation phase, UNHCR and MINEMA led a steering committee comprised of relevant project partners and stakeholders tasked to oversee monitoring activities in conjunction with the field office and activity implementers. Interviews with steering committee members

indicate that these meetings ceased due to mobility and meeting restrictions enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Interviews with UNHCR staff indicate that MINEMA did not directly conduct any monitoring activities but provided continued support throughout implementation through continued advocacy and facilitating direct linkages between the project and District officials.

Sustainability

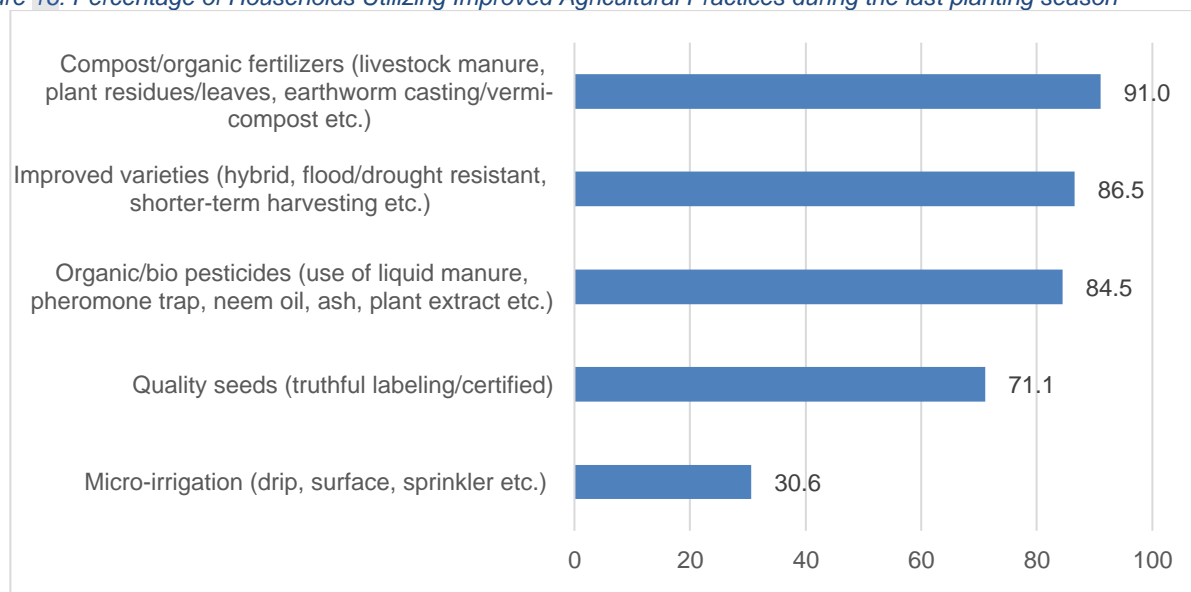
91. Sustainability of the project is evaluated based on the feasibility that the project participants and cooperative will be able to continue activities that have resulted in achievement of the project outcomes, without project support. The Misizi project does not have a clear definition of sustainability, however, project key performance indicator definitions explain that “by measuring the percentage of cooperatives able to generate plowback capital i.e., how many are able to reinvest into their agricultural production, we will be able to gauge the degree to which their activities are self-sustainable” (See Appendix 2). Based on this, the evaluation considers reinvestment into the following agricultural production season as a signal of sustainability of results.

RQ 4.3 Are the beneficiaries of the project able to sustain the outcomes (the KPIs) of the project once it ends? and RQ 4.4 Are the beneficiaries of the project equipped (skills, finance, human resources) to sustain the project results and gains, and to what extent?

92. Interviews with project participants report that the positive project achievements against the four project key performance indicators, which measure household income changes, market access, agricultural production, cooperatives self-sustainability and peaceful co-existence between refugee and host community participants will be sustained even after project closure, and they have the skills and human resources to do so.
93. Household income generated from agricultural production will continue. Participants are dedicated to continuing agricultural production livelihood activities, particularly for maize because the cooperative has the sustainable relationship with Africa Improved Foods, which ensures access to this market for maize sales. Interviews with AIF representatives indicate this market linkage will sustain past program closure, and that AIF intends to continue to renew the contract with the cooperative for the foreseeable future. Participants report that despite the challenges of COVID-19, they foresee revenue generated from agricultural production sales to continue to increase as their production quantities and quality continue to improve. There is already evidence that Misizi participants are successfully able to reinvest revenue generated from production sales back into their production to sustain this process; survey data show that 41.2% of refugee and 52.8% of host community respondents report they have utilized revenue from selling crops in the 2020 to 2022 seasons to reinvest for agriculture/livestock activities, including buying inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings, etc. (see Table 23 in Appendix 4).
94. Project participants have the skills needed to maintain agricultural production results. In focus group discussions, participants indicated that crop productivity has improved due to the utilization of improved agricultural practices that they have learned through the Misizi project activities and trainings. Evaluation data show that 97.1% of Misizi participants are utilizing at least one improved

agricultural practice, and 84.9% are utilizing three or more improved practices (see Table 25 in Appendix 4). 91.0% of participants report utilizing compost or organic fertilizers, 86.5% utilizing improved seed varieties, 84.5% utilizing organic or bio-pesticides and 71.1% are utilizing quality seeds (see Figure 16). In focus group interviews, Misizi participants report that they will continue to utilize these practices even after the Misizi project ends, explaining that this is a sustainable change because the knowledge they have gained will continue to be used whether or not project implementation is ongoing. Participants also report that they are motivated to continue these practices because they have seen the benefits to their production quantity and quality.

Figure 16: Percentage of Households Utilizing Improved Agricultural Practices during the last planting season



95. Interviews with project implementers, camp leaders, and both refugee and host community participants report that the improved relationship and social cohesion between the groups will be sustained, because a genuine mindset shift has taken place; the two groups have gotten to know each other as individuals and see each other as friends who can rely on each other. One focus group interview indicated that inter-marriages between the two groups have even begun to take place, indicating long-term sustainability of this improved relationship. This will be sustained through continued participation in joint-farming and joint-cooperative activities. Evaluation of the sustainability of the joint-cooperative is discussed under RQ 1.4.

96. Interviews indicate that there are some risks to the sustainability of results. There are not defined market linkages for soybean and bean production. Participants report they are unlikely to continue producing these crops and may shift to other types of crops that their households prefer to consume or that can be more easily sold in local markets. Inadequate access to irrigation is cited as a risk to sustainability for production in the Marshlands in seasons B and C, which are typically dry and rainfed agricultural is not productive enough for participants to be encouraged to continue investing in planting and harvesting in these seasons. However, KIs with project staff indicate that this challenge has already been mitigated, after the evaluation data collection took place; an improved irrigation system was installed in July 2022 to provide irrigation water for the Misizi marshland agricultural production. The newly implemented system was designed to mitigate irrigation challenges previously experienced by participants.

97. Additional access to finance and lending options, beyond what is available through savings groups, is needed for participants to have enough capital to invest in costly inputs and continue to increase their productivity. Project documentation indicates that through the cooperative, 35

savings and lending groups have been established, which included all cooperative members.⁶⁶ Interviews with participants show that they have received some training on financial literacy through the savings groups, but this was limited to what was necessary to ensure the savings groups could complete the required basic functions and record keeping. Evaluation data show that 30.2% of refugee and 87.5% of host community households report they currently have household savings (see Table 26 in Appendix 4). Of those households with savings, 62.1% of refugee and 85.0% of host community households report they hold their savings in community banking mechanisms, such as savings groups. Only 4.7% of refugee and 17.7% of host community households report they currently have a loan, and of these households with a loan, 60.6% report this loan has been provided by their savings group/community banking mechanism (see Table 27 in Appendix 4). Only 21.0% of host community households and 0% of refugee households report the loan is provided through a formal bank (see Table 27 in Appendix 4). Interviews with participants report that they utilize these savings groups, however, they are unable to save and lend out enough funds to cover all of their needs. Even so, interviews with participants report that access to finance is limited, and they are not linked directly to formal banking or microfinance institutions in order to get access to loans or credit. The majority of households indicate the purpose of the household savings is to use to cover emergency household needs (such as food, medical treatment costs, house repairs, shock response, etc.) (56.7%) or to reinvest in agricultural production activities (50.9%) (see Table 26 in Appendix 4). Interviews with participants indicate that they would like to have more access to finance in order to increase their investment in their agricultural activities.

RQ 4.5 Has the approach of joint farming between refugees and host communities under the marshland project contributed to sustainability of results and to what extent?

98. The joint farming approach contributes to sustainability of project results, particularly for refugee households. Participation in the project gave refugee households access to land for cultivation and cooperative membership, which were not previously possible. Because of the positive relationship fostered through joint farming activities, refugee households do not risk losing access to this land and cooperative membership by being forced out by host community members. In fact, both groups report that joint-farming activities will continue, as they have observed the benefits of working together to maximize the benefits for the production yields.

RQ 1.4: Has the cooperative' self-sustainability been maintained or increased, and to what extent (focusing on institutional and financial sustainability)?

99. The Misizi project has been providing direct support to the Icyerekezo Misizi joint-cooperative, which was formally registered with the Rwandan Government and District of Gisagara in November 2019, an important step in the capacity building of the cooperative.^{67,68} Cooperative

66 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021.

67 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021.

68 Icyerekezo Misizi formal government registration document, provided by the Misizi project. Dated 26/11/2019.

documentation shows there were 76 founding members, all of whom contributed 10,000 FRw (~\$9.70 USD) as a membership fee “share issued”.⁶⁹ Interviews with refugee participants indicate that they were able to become cooperative members for the first time through the established joint-cooperative and joint-farming method. Interviews with cooperative leaders, participants, and project staff indicate that the cooperative management has improved compared to before the project began. The Misizi project included trainings specifically designed to increase the cooperative management capacity, and to equip cooperative leaders with business development skills. However, project documentation of this training indicates that only the cooperative board of directors (8 individuals) and group leaders (105 individuals) and implementing partner representatives (from UNHCR, FAO, MINEMA, WFP, Mugombwa and Muganza Sector) would participate in the trainings.⁷⁰ Interviews with cooperative leaders indicate that these trainings were beneficial for strengthening the cooperative management capacity, and through the trainings the cooperative developed a three-year business plan. However, interviews with implementing partners indicate that the cooperative management is still in early stages of development and are not yet able to fully adhere to the business plan and is in need of a dedicated cooperative manager and accountant, which are not currently in place.

100. Interviews with project participants indicate that communication between cooperative leaders and members is limited, largely due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions stopping cooperative meetings in 2020, which have not resumed since. Interviews with participants report that they pay member fees the cooperative but there is a lack of transparency about how the cooperative spends the member fees, how the cooperative budget is allocated and how those decisions are being made. KIIs with project staff indicate that before the onset of COVID-19, the cooperative was designed to have two general assemblies per year, one in March and one in October, in addition to monthly cooperative representative meetings. The monthly representative meetings were used to ensure all project participants could get information on cooperative decision making and how funds are being spent, including report outs on the amount of revenue the cooperative received from member fees, how much was spent, and how much remained in the cooperative budget. However, KIIs with project staff support cooperative member interview results showing that these meetings ceased in 2020 and have not resumed, which has limited direct contact and information sharing between cooperative leaders and members. KIIs with project staff indicate that there have been efforts for the farmer group leaders to continue communication with their group members through online messages (WhatsApp, text messages), to get some cooperative information shared at the grassroots level.

101. Interviews with participants show that cooperative members value the access to infrastructure and bulk maize sales through the cooperative, however, the cooperative is not yet providing additional services such as access to loans or inputs for members. Interviews with cooperative leaders indicate that the cooperative is exploring establishing an agro-dealer business, in which the cooperative could purchase inputs in bulk and sell them to their members, which would increase direct input access for members at fair prices and be an income generating activity for the cooperative. KIIs also indicate that the cooperative is in the process of establishing maize milling infrastructure to diversify into selling milled maize rather than only raw material (maize on cob). However, cooperative leaders and participants indicate this has not yet been established.

69 Icyerekezo Misizi Cooperative Founding Membership List, document provided by the Misizi project.

70 UNHCR Rwanda. Cooperative Training Concept Note. 2019.

RQ 4.2 Has the cooperative attained self-sustainability once the project ends, and to what extent?

102. Cooperative sustainability is measured through the project key performance indicator (KPI) three, the “[percentage] of cooperatives [cooperative members] able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for the following seasons production” (see Appendix 2, KPI 3). The KPI matrix indicates that this measure will be used to gauge the degree to which cooperative activities are self-sustainable. Evaluation data show that the majority of Misizi participants are already reinvesting their income generated from agricultural (50.2%) sales after the 2020/2021 seasons back into their agricultural production (see Table 13). The evaluation survey defined reinvestment in agricultural/livelihood activities as including investment in buying inputs: seeds, fertilizer, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings etc.

Table 13: Misizi Participant Household Reinvestment of Income from Crop and Livestock Sales for Agriculture/Livelihood Production Activities

Households reporting reinvestment in agriculture/livelihood production activities ⁷¹	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
Using income from agricultural production	41.2	52.8		50.2
<i>Sample Size (n)⁷²</i>	152	167		319

*p<0.10 (90% CL), **p<0.05 (95% CL) and ***p<0.01 (99% CL); Statistically significant from Refugee to Host

RQ 4.1 What are the sustainability mechanisms in place to ensure the cooperatives’ institutional and financial sustainability, and to what extent are they effectively implemented?

103. The cooperative has established sustainable market, financial, and technical support linkages through the Misizi project. Through implementing partner WFP, the cooperative was formally linked to Africa Improved Foods (AIF), a post-processing maize buyer in 2019.⁷³ Interviews with AIF, cooperative leaders and participants indicate that AIF has consistently been purchasing maize from the cooperative over the last three seasons. Interviews with AIF representatives indicated that they have had a positive experience working with the cooperative and intend to continue this arrangement moving forward. Interviews with AIF and cooperative leaders show that AIF encouraged the cooperative to open a formal bank account with Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), which has successfully facilitated direct transfers of payment from AIF to the cooperative. Now, cooperative leaders report that they are able to receive payment more quickly, and these transactions are more transparent and easily tracked than before. Participants and cooperative leaders indicate the next step would be ideally to have cooperative members open bank accounts with KCB in order to facilitate direct transfers to cooperative members, however, this has not yet

71 The evaluation survey defined reinvestment in agricultural/livelihood activities as including investment in buying inputs: seeds, fertilizer, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings etc.

72 Sample includes respondents who indicated they had engaged in the previous season and sold some of their agricultural production

73 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2019 – 1 December 2019. March 2020. P.5

been achieved. The Misizi project has linked the cooperative directly to sector agronomist and veterinarians who have complimented Misizi-project trainings on agricultural and livestock practices and will continue to be available to provide technical guidance and support to the cooperative even after the project ends.

104. Cooperative capacity has been strengthened through the provision of needed infrastructure. The Misizi project has successfully facilitated the construction of four drying facilities, five poultry sheds, five pig pens, and two drying warehouses. Although construction of these infrastructures was originally planned for 2020, COVID-19 caused delays resulted in construction being completed in 2021. The two drying facilities were constructed in July 2021 by the Gisagara district on land purchased by cooperative members.⁷⁴ Five pig pens were constructed in August 2021 and five poultry sheds were constructed in June 2021, also on land purchased through the cooperative.⁷⁵ A drying warehouse was constructed in Mugombwa camp on land provided by the District of Gisagara (UNHCR and World Vision international supported the construction).⁷⁶ Warehouse construction concluded and was handed over for cooperative and community usage in June 2021.⁷⁷ Interviews with Misizi participants and cooperative leaders indicate that this infrastructure is a sustainable benefit, and the cooperative is committed to maintaining these infrastructures to ensure continued usage is possible for cooperative members.

Impact of COVID-19

105. This section evaluates the extent to which COVID-19 impacted targeted project areas.

RQ 5.1. Has the project helped beneficiaries to cope up with the COVID-19 shocks on livelihoods and to what extent?

106. Interviews with project participants indicate that the onset of COVID-19 in March 2020 and resulting national restrictions had a severe impact on their household ability to pursue livelihood activities other than agriculture, limited access to markets, and increased their reliance on agricultural production for both household income and food consumption. Interviews with project staff and participants indicate that project participants were able to continue agricultural activities in the Marshlands throughout this period, but without consistent direct support from the project.
107. Evaluation data show that 98.7% of participants report their household has been exposed to at least one shock in the last 12 months, and 82.9% report their household has been exposed to COVID-19 related shocks (see Figure 17, Table 30 in Appendix 4). COVID-19 related shocks included market disruptions, movement and meeting size restrictions, and in some cases infection of Misizi project participants and household members. 59.7% of participants reported being impacted by sharp food price increases in the 12-month period preceding this evaluation (April 2021 – April 2022), 35.0% reported sharp increase in agricultural/livestock inputs costs, 22.6% reported theft of household valuables or cash, 19.9% reported a sharp drop in agriculture/livestock product prices, and 8.9% reported death or illness of a household main income earner (see Figure 17, Table 30 in Appendix 4).

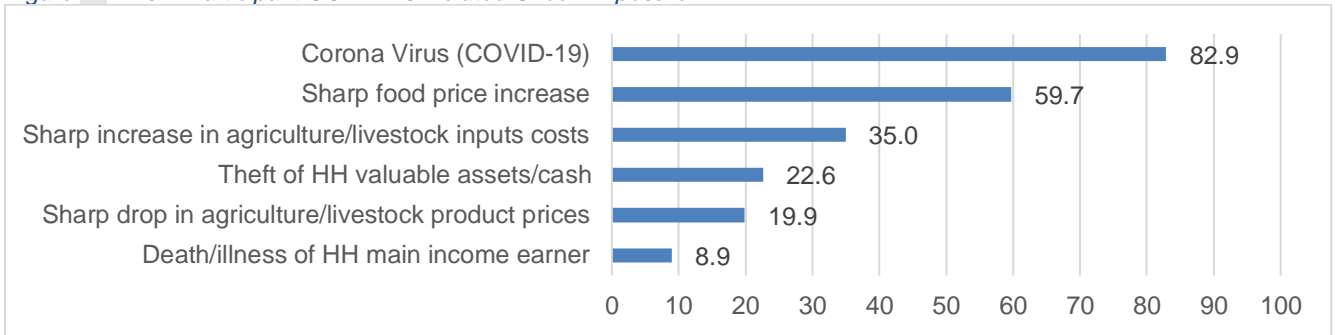
74 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021.. P.2

75 UNHCR. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District June 2021 Monthly Report.

76 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District January 2021 Monthly Report.

77 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshlands Project Gisagara District May 2021 Monthly Report.

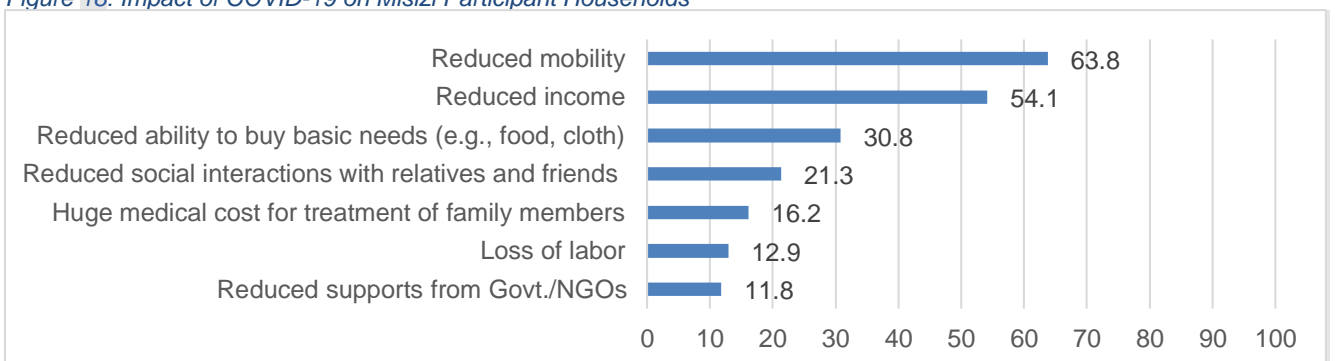
Figure 17: Misizi Participant COVID-19 Related Shock Exposure



108. Project activities that increased crop production helped beneficiaries cope with the impact of COVID-19 on food access. Interviews with project staff indicate that food prices rose for both refugee and host community households. The majority of project participants (59.7%) report their household was impacted by sharp food price increases in the last 12 months (see Figure 17), and 37.9% report coping by reducing household food consumption (see Table 31 in Appendix 4). However, interviews with participants indicate that because they had already been able to increase their production, they were able to save more for home consumption as a coping response to COVID-19, which participants assert was a positive benefit of participation in the project because it ensured their households had enough to eat throughout this period, even if that resulted in less sales. Evaluation data show the proportion of maize yield utilized for home consumption increased from 30.3% in the 2020/2021 season to 36.6% in the most recent 2021/2022 season (see Table 22 in Appendix 4).

109. Focus group discussions with project participants reported that COVID-19 affected their market access. 63.8% of participants reported reduced mobility due to COVID-19, which focus group discussions indicated particularly reduced mobility to local markets and reduced access for buyers to enter local markets or the cooperative (see Figure 18). Interviews with cooperative leaders and Africa Improved Foods representatives explain that in 2020, the required quality assurance manager from AIF was unable to travel to the cooperative to conduct the required in-person quality assurance due to national restrictions on movement and restricted access to the Marshland. As a result, AIF purchase was delayed, and some production was lost and cooperative members generated less income (and received payment later) than expected. Some participants (19.9%) reported that prices for agricultural and livestock products decreased during this period, however, interviews with cooperative leaders found that prices paid from the cooperative for members production remained the same, despite changes in the market. 54.1% of participants reported reduced income as a direct impact of COVID-19, and 30.8% reported reduced ability to buy basic household needs such as food and clothing (see Figure 18).

Figure 18: Impact of COVID-19 on Misizi Participant Households



110. Interviews with participants indicate that COVID-19 also impacted their ability to continue joint-farming activities. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, participants report they were unable to conduct group meetings or gatherings or work together on their fields. 21.3% of participants report that COVID-19 caused reduced social interactions with their relatives and friends (see Figure 18). Interviews with participants show that both refugee and host community members felt this slowed down their production, since they had previously been able to work together and get more work done with more people. Because project staff and implementers were unable to enter the Marshlands or camp, participants report that they were unable to learn new practices or obtain resources (trainings, inputs) as expected, but did their best to continue farming on their own.
111. The impacts of COVID-19 on Misizi participants are ongoing. Evaluation data show the majority of participants report they have only partially recovered (77.5%) the quality of life they had before the start of the pandemic, and 21.1% report they have not yet recovered at all. Of those households who have not yet fully recovered, 73.4% report they feel they will eventually be able to recover fully, however, the majority (56.8%) report they expect a full recovery will take more than a year (see Table 31 in Appendix 4).

RQ 5.2. What were the mechanisms set in place by UNHCR and MINEMA to support beneficiaries to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic and safeguard the benefits of the project?

112. Project documents and interviews with project staff, partners and participants indicate that no direct support was provided to project beneficiaries or partners in response to COVID-19. However, UNHCR in coordination with MINEMA advocated for special permissions for Misizi participants to have continued access to markets to sell their produce and purchase necessary agricultural inputs through the project-supported cooperative. This did allow for project participants to continue agricultural production activities throughout COVID-19.

Learning and Factors Affecting Results

113. This section identifies challenges that affected observed results as opportunities for learning that can be taken into consideration for future programming, including if there had been any negative effects of the project and/or unforeseen achievements.
114. The factors that positively affected observed results include the Government support through the UNHCR-MINEMA joint-programming approach, UN Partnership, and the joint-farming between refugees and host community member's approach. Factors that posed challenges to the project results include inefficient solar irrigation system, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and UNHCR MEL systems and processes.
115. **Joint-partnership approach.** By utilizing the CRRF whole-of-society approach the project includes engagement of a wide range of stakeholders, including but not limited to national and local authorities, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, civil society, private sector, and refugee and host communities themselves. The key partners involved in the project include the World Food Program (WFP) as well as Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), both contributed financially and technically to project implementation; the district of Gisagara that availed land for the project and took the lead at the local level working

jointly with the UNHCR Field Office to support the project from planning to implementation; and MINEMA, which played a crucial role in facilitating the planning process. Each of the implementing partners were responsible for specific program activity components, as illustrated in the Misizi Marshlands Project Organogram, included in Appendix 6. The principal implementing agency for component one was WFP though completion of the environmental assessment and marshland development to prepare the land for agricultural productivity. UNHCR, in collaboration with FAO, Gisagara District and Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB) were principal implementing agencies for component two, to provide inputs, trainings on improved agricultural practices and farm management, women's empowerment, provision of livestock and trainings on livestock management. UNHCR and the Gisagara district were principal implementing agencies in collaboration with the Icyerekezo project-supported cooperative to provide post-harvesting support to participants and cooperative members under component 3 and capacity building support to the cooperative under component 5. UNHCR worked with WFP as the primary implementing agencies to facilitate market linkages under component 4 (see Appendix 6).

116. The partnership between the Misizi project and the district (Gisagara District) and national government (MINEMA) is a factor that positively affected project results. Throughout the implementation period the district of Gisagara worked jointly with the UNHCR field office to support implementation. MINEMA was successful in ensuring 55ha of land would be available for project use, which was a crucial precondition to the success of the project. The approach of joint partnership between UN agencies similarly enabled the observed positive results of the Misizi project. WFP conducted the environmental assessment and development of the marshland to prepare the land for agricultural productivity, a crucial precondition to activity implementation. WFP also facilitated the linkage of Africa Improved Foods to the cooperative, utilizing its own network to create direct-market linkages for Misizi project maize producers. FAO provided seeds and fertilizer inputs to participants in year one, as well as provided technical support to trainings on improved agricultural practices and management. The UN partnership approach effectively leveraged the relative strengths and areas of expertise of each UN agency to achieve project outcomes. This partnership approach is particularly crucial as UNHCR is in early stages of engaging with longer-term development and livelihood building initiatives, such as the Misizi project.

117. **Joint farming between refugees and host community member's approach.** The project approach of joint farming between refugees and host communities is a factor that positively affected project results and contributed to sustainability of results. Achievement of outcome four, enhanced peaceful coexistence between refugees and local farmers, is due to joint farming activities which provided refugee and host community households opportunities for direct interaction. Participants from both groups report that before the project there were not opportunities to directly interact with each other, so their biases were never challenged. After having opportunities to know each other as individuals and work together on shared projects, both groups attest to a sustainable mindset shift and increased cohesion between the two groups.

RQ 3.5. What were the challenges faced by UNHCR programming team in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project? How were the challenges solved? And how effective and efficient were the solutions?

118. The Misizi project team faced challenges of inefficient solar irrigation system, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and UNHCR MEL systems and processes.
119. **Inefficient Solar Irrigation System.** One challenge to agricultural production is water availability. The Marshlands have limited rainfall in seasons B and C, and the majority of Misizi participants are reliant on rainfed agriculture. In year one of implementation, the Misizi project provided solar pumps and WFP established irrigation trenches. Interviews with project staff, participants, implementing partners and cooperative leaders indicate that the solar irrigation machines the Misizi project provided were not powerful enough to pump irrigation water to all plots, resulting in only some participants having access to irrigation water. Interviews with project participants identify water access as a major challenge to their production, and report that the solar pumps provided by the project have broken and are not functional at this stage. Interviews with cooperative leadership indicate they are aware the cooperative is responsible for the maintenance of the pumps, however, because the pumps were inadequate even when functional allocation of funds to fix the pumps has not been prioritized. Project staff indicate that they are aware the solar irrigation system is inefficient and not achieving maximum water demand. To mitigate this, Misizi staff worked in consultation with the Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB) irrigation experts to identify alternative irrigation techniques. KIs with project staff indicate that an improved solar powered irrigation system was installed outside of the Misizi project implementation period, on July 5th – 7th 2022, which was designed to mitigate this challenge.
120. Misizi project staff indicate that there was limited agricultural irrigation technical expertise across staff and partners directly involved in implementation, which required identification of external partnerships to identify cost-efficient and effective solutions to provide adequate irrigation to the marshlands. Although there were individuals with technical expertise in irrigation systems involved in the design phase of the project, staff report that they were not available to follow-up on the reality of implementation as it progressed, based on their recommendations made during the design phase. Misizi staff indicate the high cost of hiring irrigation experts in the sector could not be accommodated within the existing project budget, which prevented timely mitigation of this challenge within the implementation period.
121. **Impact of COVID-19 on Implementation.** The COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted participants households, as well as Misizi project implementation in Rwanda, as the government enacted ongoing as well as intermittent restrictions on movement, numbers of individuals gathering, border closures, curfews and shelter in place orders. This limited the extent to which Misizi project implementers were able to directly conduct in-person activities for participants and complete project monitoring.
122. Interviews with project staff, implementers, and camp leaders show that field teams were restricted to enter the marshlands to provide ongoing direct support to project participants as planned. UNHCR contractors were unable to access the site for service provision, and special authorizations were required to access the camps and were only permitted to conduct activities allowed by the camp and government authorities.⁷⁸ Interviews with camp authorities indicate that these permissions were typically only granted for humanitarian organizations for life-saving purposes, and project documents indicate only two to four staff were permitted to enter at one time.⁷⁹ This resulted in delayed implementation, as planned trainings, provision of inputs and disbursement of livestock could not take place for the last half of 2020 and start of 2021. To

78 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021. P.2

79 UNHCR Rwanda. Misizi Marshland project Interim Annual Report. Period Covered: 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. February 2021. P.2

mitigate this and ensure all activities could be completed, interviews with project staff indicate that UNHCR received a no-cost extension to accommodate COVID delays and implementation of the new activities up to December 2021. Project documents indicate these delays particularly delayed progress for the newly developed livestock component of the project.⁸⁰

123. The COVID-19 mobility restrictions resulted in delayed monitoring of project results. Interviews with project staff indicate that all planned regular face-to-face monitoring activities were paused due to COVID-19. However, project documents indicate that the Misizi project made efforts to mitigate this through conducting remote follow-up with individual participants. Project reports indicate the livelihoods team and socio-agronomist in charge of implementation made individual phone calls to randomly selected farmers to collect information on their progress and challenges during the COVID-19 restrictions.⁸¹ Although field staff attempted to collect data to inform results of the key performance indicators (KPIs) in 2020 using the baseline survey template, the results were found to be inconclusive due to a lack of training on monitoring data collection and COVID-19 restrictions preventing extensive data collection including at the cooperative level. To mitigate this, UNHCR and MINEMA teams made a joint-decision to conduct post-monitoring data collection for 2020 KPIs, which took place in March-May 2021, with the support of a dedicated M&E consultant hired by UNHCR Rwanda⁸²

124. **UNHCR MEL Systems and Processes.** Project monitoring was not adequately resourced which resulted in multiple challenges to project implementation and monitoring of results. UNHCR and MINEMA led a steering committee comprised of relevant project partners and stakeholders tasked to complete monitoring activities in conjunction with the field office and activity implementers. However, UNHCR was responsible for conducting annual monitoring exercises for the project, in alignment with all UNHCR-funded projects. However, the Misizi project did not include any budget for M&E staff, resulting in no dedicated monitoring personnel for the unit or Misizi project. Monitoring activities throughout the project were conducted by livelihoods staff who were also responsible for implementing project activities and did not receive any monitoring training in order to have adequate capacity to complete ongoing monitoring. The monthly project reports and annual reports developed for IKEA F provide logs of activities completed and implementation progress updates, however, do not include any data that could be used to measure project impact or change over time.

125. Measurement of the impact of the Misizi project is further limited by the lack of reliable baseline data. Interviews with project staff indicate that because there was no budget for M&E staff to oversee or quality assure the study, the baseline was not properly designed, resulting in incorrect results for baseline indicators. The lack of adequate baseline data has resulted in extremely limited analysis of project outcomes from baseline to endline, and impact analysis is not possible. The baseline survey was not conducted until April 2019, one year into project implementation, and did not collect reliable data for the key performance indicators. Project staff report that the 2019 baseline survey designed by an external firm, Cartong, lacked necessary customization for good quality data collection and reporting. Cartong was also hired to collect key performance indicator data in 2020, however, UNHCR staff report that these results were not conclusive due to COVID-19 restrictions preventing data collection at the cooperative level and quality control issues. UNHCR in coordination with the IKEA Foundation decided to retrospectively collect 2020

80 Ibid.

81 Ibid.

82 UNHCR Rwanda. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) year 2020 end-line monitoring report for the Misizi Marshlands project. August 2021.

KPI data again in 2021 to generate more accurate results, however these results are also found to be unreliable.

126. Interviews with project staff indicate that there were challenges in the target setting approach, which resulted in unreasonable target setting for a 36-month implementation period. Details on target setting calculations are unavailable, and current staff were not involved in the target setting process to provide insight as to the rationale behind set targets. As KPI data was not reliably collected until 2021 (2020 data was collected retrospectively in 2021 by UNHCR), this challenge was not fully realized until year three of implementation, at which point project staff reported that set targets (particularly for agricultural production yields) were set too high, far beyond the national and regional average. This was documented in the completed KPI matrix submitted with the interim annual report in February 2021. However, the project did not re-set targets or take measures to adjust ongoing monitoring in response. Rather, a budget amendment was made in year four to include a provision for a final project performance evaluation. This evaluation was designed to collect and report key performance indicator data for the period from January 2021 - December 2021 (as indicated in the finalized KPI matrix included in Appendix 2), to avoid duplication of resources, the project did not internally collect KPI data for 2021. Overall, the lack of resourcing and support for MEL systems and processes created limitations for the projects ability to do performance-based management and limits measurement of the full impact of the Misizi project.

RQ 1.5: To what extent have there been any negative effects of the project and/or unforeseen achievements and how were these addressed by UNHCR?

127. As the livestock component was not originally included in the project design, the positive results of that component are an unexpected achievement of the Misizi project. The livestock component of the project was an unexpected benefit for the proportion of Misizi participants who participated in this additional add-on activity. Interviews with participants who have received livestock indicate this has benefited their household, however, the full benefits have yet to be realized since it has been less than six months since they have received the pigs/chickens at this time of this evaluation. Interviews with Misizi participants indicate there is more interest in participating in livestock activities, particularly for refugee households which come from cultural backgrounds that focus more so on livestock keeping than agricultural production.
128. There have not been any negative effects, unintended or unexpected results as a result of project activities identified through this evaluation.

Conclusions

129. Conclusions are organized by the evaluations five key research questions.

Key Evaluation Question 1: Has the Misizi Marshlands' project managed to achieve its planned short-term and immediate objectives (outputs and outcomes)?

130. The Misizi project achieved its planned output results; income generated from crop sales has increased, formal access to markets has been facilitated, cooperative's self-sustainability has improved, peaceful co-existence has been improved, and crop yields have increased.
131. The Misizi project design fostered direct relationships between individual refugee and host community members through joint-farming activities. Project participants report that through working side by side, attending the same trainings, bulking production for sale, and implementing improved agriculture techniques together, fostered not only social cohesion between refugees and host communities, but genuine friendships, citing examples of inter-marriages and joint investment in farming inputs. Misizi participants report that they think the Misizi project was able to create an enabling environment for peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities, indicating the project has achieved outcome four: enhanced peaceful coexistence between refugees and local farmers.
132. Joint-farming activities also resulted in increased maize productivity. Maize productivity has increased for Misizi participants, particularly for refugee participants who largely did not have access to agricultural land before the marshland was developed and the project allocated plots amongst project participants. Maize yield in season A increased by 3.4% from the 2020/2021 to 2021/2022 season (KPI 4), indicating the project has achieved outcome three: increased agricultural productivity for the beneficiaries (refugees and local farmers). Participants indicate that they are utilizing improved agricultural practices learned in project trainings, and they will continue to utilize these techniques as they are already observing the benefits of doing so.
133. Misizi participants have successfully utilized some of their agricultural production for sale, as well as for home consumption. Misizi participants do have improved access to formal markets for maize as a result of project activities linking farmers to the cooperative, formalizing the cooperative, and linking the cooperative directly to a post-processing company, Africa Improved Foods. 80.3% of evaluation survey respondents reported they have sold their agricultural production to specialized post-processing companies (KPI 2), indicating the project has achieved outcome two: improved access to formal markets for the beneficiaries (refugees and local farmers). Cooperative members have a direct market linkage to sell their on-cob maize, however, market linkages for beans and soybeans have not yet been established. These crops are utilized for home consumption or sold in local markets.
134. As a result of the established maize market linkages, the Misizi project has facilitated participants ability to generate income from agricultural production sales. This is a positive outcome, as before the project participants, and particularly refugees, did not have access to agricultural production as a livelihood income source. However, evaluation data show the majority of project participants (83.8% refugee, 60.8% host community) self-report their total household income has decreased from before the onset of COVID-19/March 2020 to now (April 2022) (KPI 1). Although it is not possible to determine the extent of the impact of COVID-19 on household income, interviews with project staff, implementers and stakeholders indicate that total household incomes decreasing during this period is not unexpected due to the context of COVID-19 mitigation measures that were put in place in Rwanda, including national lockdowns, restricted gathering and mobility, and market closures. For refugees specifically, households' incomes decreased due to changes in household classifications for cash assistance provided during this period, which decreased the amount of cash assistance received.
135. Project key performance indicator documentation asserts that increased agricultural production, combined with access to markets, is a good proxy indicator to capture the viability/sustainability of the agricultural project as a driver of self-reliance. Particularly as the

project had a relatively short implementation period, the observed uptake of improved agricultural practices, increased production, and successful maize market linkage is positive. Participants report they will continue to improve and invest in their agricultural production, indicating these benefits are likely to sustain and continue to increase. There is already evidence that participants can sustain agricultural activities, as 50.2% of Misizi participants have already been reinvesting their income generated from agricultural sales after the 2020/2021 seasons back into their agricultural production (KPI 3).

Key Evaluation Question 2: Was the project design and implementation consistent with beneficiary requirements, country needs and policies, and global priorities in terms of achieving refugee self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion?

136. The Misizi Project is operating in direct alignment with national priorities and within the unique context of marshland development for agricultural use. The joint-strategy developed by the Republic of Rwanda and UNHCR on economic inclusion of refugees and host communities in Rwanda explicitly identifies cultivation in the marshlands to be an avenue for refugees and host communities to invest in agricultural livelihoods.⁸³
137. Beneficiaries needs identified in the project design document include access to land, access to inputs, access to livelihood options and economic self-reliance. Interviews with project participants indicate that the project has met nearly all their needs, particularly access to land, access to infrastructure inputs including drying and storage sheds, and access to agricultural livelihoods through increased agricultural production and knowledge about good agricultural practices and post-harvest handling techniques. The project design facilitated social cohesion between refugee and host community groups, resulting in economic and social inclusion of refugees in alignment with Rwandan national and UNHCR global priority goals. However, interviews with participants indicate that access to inputs such as fertilizers and seeds, irrigation/water access for production, and access to financial services continue to be challenges to self-reliance.

Key Evaluation Question 3: Was the project design, implementation and monitoring consistent with expected results of the project?

138. The project design was consistent with the expected results of the Misizi project; each of the planned project activities directly addressed each of the intended project outcomes. The original project theory of change did not adequately capture all planned activities included in the project design document, which is detailed under research question 2.3. Implementation followed the original project design, and despite the onset of COVID-19 creating delays in activity implementation all activities were completed by the end of the one-year extension

83 Republic of Rwanda and UNHCR. The Ministry in Charge of Emergency Management (MINEMA) And the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Joint Strategy on Economic Inclusion of Refugees And Host Communities In Rwanda 2021-2024. May 2021. Accessed https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/RWA--MINEMA-UNHCR_Joint_Strategy_of_economic_inclusion_of_refugees_and_host_communities_2021-2024.pdf

period. This was particularly due to project implementation approaches that positively affected observed results, specifically government support through the UNHCR-MINEMA joint-programming, UN partnership, and joint-farming. The UNHCR-MINEMA joint-programming approach facilitated the 55ha of marshland being made available for the project. The Misizi project specifically is cited as a primary example of how the Government of Rwanda support, by allocating marshland for project use, has increased land access for agricultural use. The UN partnership approach effectively leveraged the relative strengths and areas of expertise of each UN agency to achieve project outcomes. This partnership approach is particularly crucial as UNHCR is in early stages of engaging with longer-term development and livelihood building initiatives, such as the Misizi project. Achievement of project outcome four, enhanced peaceful coexistence between refugees and local farmers, is due to joint farming activities which provided refugee and host community households opportunities for direct interaction.

139. The UNHCR Misizi project team did face some challenges in the implementation and monitoring of the project, specifically, inefficient solar irrigation system, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and UNHCR MEL systems and processes. The majority of Misizi participants are reliant on rainfed agriculture, and water availability is an ongoing challenge to agricultural production. The solar irrigation machines the Misizi project originally provided in year one of the project were not powerful enough to pump irrigation water to all plots even when fully functional, and participants report the machines were broken and are currently unusable. To mitigate this Misizi staff worked in consultation with the Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB) irrigation experts to identify alternative irrigation techniques, which resulted in an improved solar powered irrigation system installed outside of the Misizi project implementation period, on July 5th – 7th 2022, which was designed to mitigate this challenge.
140. Monitoring of project results was limited due to COVID-19 delaying monitoring data collection for 2020 until 2021, and the lack of resources for monitoring and evaluation staff allocated in the project budget. Monitoring activities throughout the project were conducted by livelihoods staff who were also responsible for implementing project activities and did not receive any monitoring training in order to have adequate capacity to complete ongoing monitoring. The 2019 baseline survey conducted one year into implementation and produced unreliable results. The lack of resourcing and support for MEL systems and processes created limitations for the project to do performance-based management or assess the full impact of the Misizi project.

Key Evaluation Question 4: How are the achieved results and gains of the project going to be sustained once the project ends?

141. Interviews with project participants report that the positive results of the project for their households will be sustained even after project closure, and that they have the skills and human resources (due to trainings on improved agricultural practices and joint-farming activities) to maintain current production levels. Improvements in agricultural productivity will be sustained due to continued utilization of improved agricultural practices that participants learned through Misizi project trainings, and are already being implemented. The improved relationship and social cohesion between refugee and host community members will be sustained because a genuine mindset shift has taken place; the two groups have gotten to know each other as individuals and see each other as friends who can rely on each other.

142. However, there are some risks to the sustainability of results, specifically that there are not established market linkages for all project-supported crops, and access to formal finance options is still limited. At this stage there are no defined market linkages for soybean and bean production. Participants report they are unlikely to continue producing these crops and may shift to other types of crops that their households prefer to consume or that can be more easily sold in local markets. Additional access to finance and lending options, beyond what is available through savings groups, is needed for participants to have enough capital to invest in continuing to improve and increase their current agricultural production.
143. The self-sustainability of the joint-cooperative Icyerekezo has increased due to strengthened cooperative management and formal registration with the government, although the cooperative is still in early stages of development and will require additional external support to ensure effective management, transparency and communication practices are in place. Market linkages for maize sales will be sustained through the established relationship between the cooperative and the post-processing maize buyer, Africa Improved Foods, which reports the contract with the cooperative will be renewed for the foreseeable future, ensuring this market linkage will continue. The project effectively established sustainable infrastructures owned by the cooperative, including construction of two drying facilities, five poultry sheds, five pig pens, and a drying warehouse. Interviews with Misizi participants and cooperative leaders indicate that this infrastructure is a sustainable benefit, and the cooperative is committed to maintaining these infrastructures to ensure continued usage is possible for cooperative members.

[Key Evaluation Question 5: Was the project design, implementation, monitoring, objectives and results impacted by COVID-19 and to what extent?](#)

144. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted participants households, as well as Misizi project implementation. The Rwandan Government enacted ongoing as well as intermittent restrictions on movement, numbers of individuals gathering, border closures, curfews, and shelter in place orders. This limited the extent to which Misizi project implementers were able to conduct in-person activities for participants or complete project monitoring. Implementation of in-person activities and project monitoring was largely delayed until mid-2021. Due to a one year no-cost extension, all planned project activities were still able to be implemented before project closure.
145. The impacts of COVID-19 on Misizi participants are ongoing. Evaluation data show the majority of participants report they have only partially recovered (77.5%) the quality of life they had before the start of the pandemic, and 21.1% report they have not yet recovered at all. The national mobility restrictions limited progress towards achievement of project outcomes one (improved household income) and two (improved access to formal markets). UNHCR in coordination with MINEMA advocated for special permissions for Misizi participants to have continued access to markets to sell their produce and purchase necessary agricultural inputs through the project-supported cooperative, which allowed project participants to independently continue agricultural production activities throughout COVID-19.
146. Participants indicate the project activities helped them cope with the impacts of COVID-19, because they were able to utilize their increased agricultural production for home consumption which ensured they had enough food to feed their families and had additional production left to sell through the cooperative. The project had successfully linked the cooperative to a consistent

maize buyer (Africa Improved Foods), which ensured participants were still able to sell some of their maize production after the 2020 season. However, because of purchase delays due to COVID-19 and households retaining more of the production for home consumption, household incomes were impacted, and most household self-reported decreased incomes during this period.

Recommendations

147. The following recommendations are based on evaluation findings and sensemaking workshops conducted with UNHCR Rwanda Misizi staff and partners. In addition to identifying the responsible party for and anticipated timeframe for implementing each recommendation, recommendations have also been organized by operational versus strategic recommendations. Operational recommendations are for the Misizi project implementing team to ensure sustainability of project achievements is optimized. Strategic recommendations focus on the longer-term process of scaling up this proof-of-concept project, based on lessons drawn from this evaluation.

Table 14: Recommendations

Recommended actions	Responsible party	Anticipated timeframe
<p>Recommendation 1 – Operational: UNHCR in partnership with cooperatives should establish a process for regular (annual) participatory performance review of the Icyerekezo Misizi cooperative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the Misizi project applies evaluation findings to establish a process for regular (recommended annual) participatory performance review of the Icyerekezo Misizi cooperative that will improve transparency and cooperative management. This would provide evidence for specific next steps to improve cooperative governance, management, and operations. It is recommended that this participatory performance review is a system and process developed in collaboration between UNHCR Rwanda and the cooperative and identifies appropriate levels of support from UNHCR. Leading practice globally and in Rwanda typically uses the following domains for cooperative review: viability of business plan, communication strategies between cooperative leadership and members, cooperative management adjustments post-COVID-19 meeting restrictions, accounting and budget management processes, female participation in leadership roles within the cooperative, services provided to members, services the cooperative would like to provide to members but do not currently do so, and capacity of the cooperative to sustain maintenance on infrastructure established through this project. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, Misizi Project Staff, Icyerekezo Cooperative Management, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District</p>	<p>Medium-term (6 – 12 months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 2 – Operational: UNHCR in partnership with cooperatives should increase diversification of market linkages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that as the cooperative is establishing a maize milling plant to sell processed maize flour, as the market options for milled maize are explored, alternative buyers for raw materials (corn on cob) at regional/local levels are also identified. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, Misizi Project Staff, Icyerekezo Cooperative Management</p>	<p>Longer-Term (12+ months)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that project staff increase diversification of market linkages by identifying market options for post processing buyers for all value chains supported by the project moving forward (in this iteration this would include soybean and bean value chains). The successful linkage to AIF for maize sales could be utilized as an example to other companies of similar scale in the bean and soybean value chain. It is also recommended that the project explore options for redundancy in market linkages, through identification of additional post processing buyer options, as well as smaller scale regional/local buyer options. It is recommended that this process be undertaken in partnership with the cooperative as part of the recommended annual review process. Ultimately, cooperative management will be responsible for increased diversification of market linkages. 		
<p>Recommendation 3 - Operational: UNHCR Rwanda should organize a planning process with partners and beneficiaries to identify whether ongoing support is required to sustain project results, and – if so – what the appropriate arrangements are to provide this support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that project staff utilize current continuation planning efforts (noting a continuation planning meeting is already being organized) with implementing partners (WFP, FAO, MINEMA, GISAGARA District) to further unpack the implication of risks identified by the evaluation. It is recommended that this planning process includes identification of specific partner roles and resource needs for further action, where necessary. This process and its results should be clearly documented and shared to inform project scaling. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District</p>	<p>Short-Term (3-6 months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 4 - Operational: UNHCR Rwanda should share evaluation results with cooperative leadership, cooperative members, UN partners and other partners (AIF, KCB Bank, etc.), local government, MINEMA and Misizi participants to inform ongoing cooperative development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the lessons learned and results from this evaluation are shared to inform evidence-based cooperative decision making moving forward. It is recommended to include cooperative members, UN partners WFP, FAO, private partners, local government and Misizi participants in dissemination of results and lessons learned activities to encourage transparency of results and identified next steps. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda, with the support of MINEMA and local authorities of Gisagara District, Icyerekezo Cooperative leaders</p>	<p>Short-Term (3-6 months)</p>
<p>Recommendation 5 – Strategic: Draw on lessons from this proof-of-concept project to create an approach for scaling, including associated metrics and targets to measure the scaling progress and success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the project identify learning from this evaluation and its current practices in resolving remaining challenges around irrigation and strengthening market linkages. It is recommended that metrics be standardized across scaled initiatives and cover both process and progress results and key performance indicators, to track the effectiveness of UNHCR 	<p>UNHCR, with the support of the Regional Bureau Livelihoods, Monitoring and Evaluation Units</p>	<p>Design phase of scaling.</p>

<p>scaling activities in addition to the operational results. Realistic targets should be set per-project, based on baseline data collection and feasible expectations of expected project achievement, keeping in mind the available resources, including staffing, time, and funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that this take place through a collaborative process between Misizi implementers, UNHCR Regional Bureau Monitoring Unit (in collaboration with the Livelihoods Unit) to identify which of the project components, based on lessons and results from this proof-of-concept project are appropriate for scaling, how scaling will take place, and which metrics for ongoing monitoring will be utilized across scaled initiatives. 		
<p>Recommendation 6 – Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should continue utilizing the UN Joint Partnership Approach in scaling of Misizi project activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the partnership approach is continued and strengthened in all activities going forward to apply the agricultural production model including land preparation and market linkages towards strengthening social capital, income, and food access. It is recommended that the UN and Government partnership approach be continued and grown. UNHCR as the lead agency should continue to work closely with the Government of Rwanda. UNHCR has strong linkages with the national government and can mobilize refugee and host community members to work together. In addition, the success of agricultural livelihoods project was also made possible by the UN partnership approach with WFP and FAO. Going forward, this partnership can be reviewed on a regular basis, i.e., as part of annual UN planning processes, to take full advantage of the comparative strengths of UN partners in the Rwandan context. 	UNHCR, WFP, FAO	Design phase of scaling.
<p>Recommendation 7 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should consolidate project model to identify the preferred combination of value chains and support to agricultural seasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that the project design consider consolidating the project model support to implement a feasible configuration of value chains and growing seasons. The evaluation finds that consistent implementation of two, rather than three planting seasons per year was an effective use of available resources due to complex climate, procurement, and implementation timeline efficiency related issues. It is recommended that two maximum farming seasons, or, depending on available funding, focus on maize production in Season A only, to ensure sowing and harvesting timing can be optimized in alignment with the agricultural production period, without causing delays or skipped implementation for following seasons. It is recommended that the optimal package of project support for agricultural production consider the following elements: market viability (based on market assessment data), farmer preferences for sale and home consumption, feasibility of supporting multiple (2 or more) agricultural seasons within one calendar year, capacity of farmers, implementers, and technical partners. This 	UNHCR Rwanda	Design phase of scaling.

<p>can be completed using evaluation findings, UNHCR Rwanda Misizi project staff experience and insight, and if needed to fill information gaps additional assessments.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 8 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should increase country-level investment in monitoring evaluation and learning (MEAL) systems and processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that UNHCR sufficiently resource its monitoring evaluation and learning systems to ensure projects have reliable baselines, complete monitoring systems, and sufficient staffing of dedicated MEAL personnel. Investment in methodologically sound evaluations, dedicated monitoring personnel, and trainings on monitoring practices for project staff are recommended. It is recommended that the regional bureau (Livelihoods, Monitoring Units) plays a larger and more meaningful role in the review and guidance on project monitoring plans and target setting. Direct linkages between existing regional and HQ support units, and project monitoring staff leads should be established to ensure ongoing technical support is available and utilized. To enable all above recommendations, it is recommended that UNHCR shift to a multi-year funding strategy, with the country office working with regional and HQ colleagues to develop multi-year funding opportunities (internal and external to UNHCR) to enable MEAL systems and process to continue strengthening. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda</p>	<p>Capacity building and investment over next five years.</p>
<p>Recommendation 9 - Strategic: UNHCR Rwanda should increase program-level investment in technical capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifically, it is recommended that UNHCR increase investment in internal technical expertise of implementing staff to have an amplifier effect on results as livelihoods programs reach scale. Although the partnership model has proven effective, investments in internal technical capacity are needed to fulfill UNHCR’s role in such programs moving forward. For example, the expansion into the livestock component relied on technical expertise from service providers as no implementing staff or partners had technical expertise in livestock rearing and management practices and could not provide direct technical support to participants. It is also recommended that UNHCR strengthen existing linkages with technical experts in FAO and WFP to ensure existing technical experts are fully integrated into activity design and implementation. 	<p>UNHCR Rwanda</p>	<p>Capacity building and investment over next five years.</p>

Appendix

Appendix 1 : Evaluation Matrix

Table 15. Evaluation Matrix

Lines of Inquiry	OECD-DAC Criteria	Indicators / Data Points	Data Sources	Data Collection Techniques
Key Evaluation Question 1: Effectiveness: Has the Misizi Marshlands' project managed to achieve its planned short-term and immediate objectives (outputs and outcomes)?				
1.1. Has beneficiaries' income increased and to what extent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: % of targeted PoC who self-report (increased) income compared to previous season Endline survey Module C Proportion of refugee and host community households whose income has increased compared to baseline values. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline Dataset, which includes data collected on % of targeted PoC who self-report (increased) income compared to previous season. KPI Matrix, which includes baseline value and targets for % of targeted PoC who self-report (increased) income compared to previous season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs
1.2. Has beneficiaries' access to formal markets improved, and to what extent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: % of cooperatives' agricultural production sold to specialised post-processing service companies Endline survey Module E Is it easier for refugee and host community households to access markets where they buy and sell agricultural products now as compared to baseline? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KPI Matrix, which includes baseline value and targets for % of cooperatives' agricultural production sold to specialised post-processing service companies Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 Baseline data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDs and KIIs with participants, market actors, and partners working on market-linkages
1.3. Has agriculture productivity increased during the project period, and to what extent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Land productivity (yield in kg/hectare) per self-employed PoC (last season) Endline survey Module D Amount refugee and host community households have produced in the last agricultural harvest, compared to baseline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline data Livelihoods KPI Survey Data KPI Matrix includes target for year one, but does not include baseline data or targets for years two or three for Land productivity (yield in kg/hectare) per self-employed PoC (last season) Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs
1.4. Has the cooperatives' self-sustainability been maintained or increased, and to what extent (focusing on institutional and financial sustainability)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This RQ will be addressed in coordination with 4.1 and 4.2 Indicator: % of cooperative members able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production Has the proportion of group associations in the cooperative that are able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihood Assessment includes data collection on % of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production KPI Matrix includes targets for years 1 -3, but no baseline value for % of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs

		<p>following season's production increased since baseline?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the cooperative sustainably producing a high quantity and quality to continue to have income to reinvest into future cooperative/production activities? (Note this will be addressed with qualitative data only). Has cooperative management improved since baseline? (Note this will be addressed with qualitative data only). Are beneficiary households accessing support from their cooperative? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative trainings and study tours concept note and implementation guidance documents. 	
1.5. To what extent have there been any negative effects of the project and/or unforeseen achievements and how were these addressed by UNHCR?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factors Affecting Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have there been any instances of negative impacts due to project activities? Have there been any instances of positive impacts due to project activities outside of planned objectives outlined in the program design? What did UNHCR do in response to these instances? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misizi project reports, and particularly the yearly narrative report is available for 2018, 2019 and 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative KIIs with project staff, field implementers, and partners.
1.6. To what extent was the AGD policy reflected in results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be addressed in alignment to RQ 2.4, as the topics overlap This RQ refers to the UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity published in 2018. How was the AGD policy used to develop the project design? Did programming follow the age, gender, and diversity (AGD) approach? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative KIIs with key UNHCR staff knowledgeable about AGD policy and project results.
1.7 To what extent the project contributed to peaceful co-existence of refugees and host communities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endline survey Module H includes social cohesion analysis Is the relationship between refugee and host community households in the project area peaceful at endline? Has this improved or changed since baseline? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihood KPI survey 2020-2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs
Key Evaluation Question 2: Relevance: Was the project design, implementation, and monitoring consistent with beneficiary requirements, country needs and policies, and global priorities in terms of achieving refugee self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion?				
2.1 Has the Misizi project met the beneficiaries' needs (refugees and hosts)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 and 2.2 will be evaluated together, as the two sub-questions overlap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project proposal, which includes project design Theory of Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative KIIs with project staff, field implementers, partners

<p>2.2. To what extent were the project objectives and achieved results relevant for refugees and host communities' needs, separately taken?</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the Misizi project identified beneficiaries' needs? • What was the criteria utilized by the Misizi project to target beneficiary households? • How did the project design utilize existing assessments, or conducted assessments, to identify refugee and host communities needs and incorporate this information into development of the project objectives? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPI Matrix results framework targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FGDs with refugee and host community beneficiaries
<p>2.3. Is the theory of change that drove the project design still valid at the end of the project?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the theory of change as presented in the project proposal remained accurate/relevant to project outcomes? • Did implementation follow the theory of change pathway as described in the design? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Change • Project Proposal • Implementation Guidance Documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative KIIs with project staff, field implementers, and partners
<p>2.4. To what extent was the project design, implementation, and monitoring aligned with the AGD Policy (Age, Gender, Diversity) as it pertains to both refugees and host communities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be addressed in alignment to RQ 1.6, as the topics overlap • This RQ refers to the UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity published in 2018. • How was the AGD policy used to develop the project design? • Did programming follow the age, gender, and diversity (AGD) approach? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Change • Project Proposal • Implementation Guidance Documents • UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity 2018 • Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative KIIs with key UNHCR staff knowledgeable about AGD policy and project design and implementation.
<p>Key Evaluation Question 3: Efficiency: Was the project design, implementation and monitoring consistent with expected results of the project?</p>				
<p>3.1. To what extent was the project efficient, specifically looking at the processes in design, implementation and monitoring?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time spent vs. value add created • Level of transaction costs • Did time and resource investments lead to expected results? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project proposal, which includes project design and monitoring plan • Misizi marshland development design & environmental impact assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative key informant interviews with UNHCR/Misizi project implementing staff and those involved in design process
<p>3.2. Were the allocated funds sufficient to achieve the immediate outcomes of the project?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burn rates: over and under expenditure • Analysis of budget spent vs output and outcome results achieved • Engagement of finance with program functions • Quality of budget management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgets for reporting period 2018, 2019 and 2020 • Documentation of requested operating level budget increase in January 2021 and August 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative key informant interviews with UNHCR/Misizi project accountant and implementing staff
<p>3.3. Were the allocated human resources sufficient and skilled to achieve the planned outputs and outcomes of the project?</p>	<p>Efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff turnover • Hiring processes • Duration of vacancy of key positions • Staff capacity • Engagement of HR with programme functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed list of project implementing partners and their roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative key informant interviews with UNHCR operations staff and implementing partners

<p>3.4 How and to what extent UNHCR-MINEMA joint programming supported the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project? Was it sufficient to achieve the expected project' results?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was joint programming between UNHCR and MINEMA organized, did implementation follow the project design? • How did the coordination between UNHCR and MINEMA help/hinder results? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed list of project implementing partners and their roles • Project proposal • Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative key informant interviews with UNHCR and MINEMA staff
<p>3.5. What were the challenges faced by UNHCR programming team in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project? How were the challenges solved? And how effective and efficient were the solutions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors Affecting Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What challenges arose? • UNHCR response to challenges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative key informant interviews with UNHCR programming team
<p>Key Evaluation Question 4: Sustainability: How are the achieved results and gains of the project going to be sustained once the project ends?</p>				
<p>4.1 What are the sustainability mechanisms in place to ensure the cooperatives' institutional and financial sustainability, and to what extent are they effectively implemented?</p>	<p>Sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RQs 4.1 and 4.2 will be address via the same analysis, in coordination with RQ 1.4 • Has the project established sustainability mechanisms with cooperatives? If so, what are these mechanisms? • What are the expectations for "self-sustainability" from the program and from cooperatives? • Indicator: % of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production • Has the proportion of cooperatives that are able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for the following season's production increased since baseline? • Are cooperatives sustainably producing a high quantity and quality to continue to have income to reinvest into future cooperative/production activities? • Has cooperative management improved since baseline? • Are beneficiary households accessing support from their cooperative? (Endline survey question D109, D110, D112, E102, G103) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Change • Project Proposal • Implementation Guidance Documents • Baseline Data • Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 • Livelihood Assessment includes data collection on % of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production • KPI Matrix includes targets for years 1 -3, but no baseline value for % of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production • Cooperative trainings and study tours concept note and implementation guidance documents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household Survey • FGDS • KIIs
<p>4.2 Have the cooperatives attained self-sustainability once the project ends, and to what extent?</p>				

4.3 Are the beneficiaries of the project able to sustain the outcomes (the KPIs) of the project once it ends?	Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.3 and 4.4 will be evaluated together, as the two sub-questions overlap Endline survey Module D, E, F, G, H Have household beneficiaries exceeded KPI target outcomes? Have beneficiary households participated in project activities that increased access to finance, agricultural production knowledge that they will continue after project closure? Identification of which skills the project aimed for beneficiaries to obtain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline data Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 KPI Matrix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs
4.4 Are the beneficiaries of the project equipped (skills, finance, human resources) to sustain the project results and gains, and to what extent?				
4.5 Has the approach of joint farming between refugees and host communities under the marshland project contributed to sustainability of results and to what extent?	Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the project established/strengthened cooperatives which include both refugee and host community members? How has the project enabled joint-farming activities? Do staff and participants perceive this to have increased sustainability of results? Are joint farming activities likely to continue after program closure? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation Guidance Documents Field Monitoring Monthly Reports, 2019, 2020, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FGDS KIIs
Key Evaluation Question 5: Shocks and Resilience: Was the project design, implementation, monitoring, objectives and results impacted by COVID-19 and to what extent?				
5.1. Has the project helped beneficiaries to cope up with the COVID-19 shocks on livelihoods and to what extent?	Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endline Survey Module I What was the impact(s) of COVID-19 on refugees and host community beneficiary households? Were beneficiary households able to avoid negative coping strategies in response? Have there been any additional major shocks (besides COVID-19) that have impacted beneficiary households? Which/how so? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim Annual Report covering period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 Theory of Change (identifies reduced coping strategies) PDM survey, joint survey completed in partnership with WFP in 2020 (includes FCS, HDDS, reduced coping strategies index data) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs
5.2. What were the mechanisms set in place by UNHCR and MINEMA to support beneficiaries to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic and safeguard the benefits of the project?	Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endline survey Module I How did UNHCR and MINEMA respond to COVID? What new mechanisms were developed in response to COVID-19? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interim Annual Report covering period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 PDM survey, joint survey completed in partnership with WFP in 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household Survey FGDS KIIs

Appendix 2: UNHCR Rwanda Misizi Project Final KPI Matrix

148. The Misizi Project KPI matrix presented below was created and filled in by Misizi project staff. The results presented in this matrix are internal monitoring project results and have not been validated by this external evaluation.. KPI results presented in this matrix are not directly comparable to evaluation results. This is also noted in the limitations section of the report.

Table 16: Misizi Project Key Performance Indicator Matrix

Misizi Project Implementation Period: 1 September 2018 – 31 August 2022										
					September 2018 - December 2019		January 2020 - December 2020		January 2021 - December 2021	
					IMPLEMENTATION YEAR 1		IMPLEMENTATION YEAR 2		IMPLEMENTATION YEAR 3	
Outcome		Key Performance Indicator	Definition/Description	Baseline	Target Year1	Year 1 Actual Result	Target Year 2	Year 2 Actual Result	Target Year 3	Year 3 Actual Result
Income generation has increased for targeted population	KPI 1	% of targeted PoC who self-report (increased) income compared to previous season <i>(narrative will specify the extent of the increase based on what PoCs self-report)</i>	Here, we aim to capture the extent to which PoC self-report an increase in their purchasing power that they attribute to income generated in the course of the project.	N/A	100	100%	100	95%	100	Reliant on Evaluation Data
Formal access to markets is improved	KPI 2	% of cooperatives' agricultural production sold to specialised post-processing service companies	There are companies in Rwanda (to which farmers can supply their harvest) that are specialized in the post processing services. Usually, a middle man facilitates the sale between the farmers in the company. We aim to measure how much of the cooperatives' yields are sold via these formal channels (as opposed to what is reserved for personal consumption or the informal market); we want to see a yearly increase in yield sold through formal channels.	N/A	40	37% (maize); 0% (beans)	45	48% (maize); 38% (beans)	50	Reliant on Evaluation Data

Cooperatives' self-sustainability maintained or increased; peaceful coexistence is enhanced	KPI 3	% of cooperatives able to reinvest income into agricultural activities for following season's production	By measuring the percentage of cooperatives able to generate plowback capital of the i.e., how many are able to reinvest into their agricultural production, we will be able to gauge the degree to which their activities are self-sustainable. The continued participation of PoC alongside Rwandan nationals in these cooperatives will be an indication of peaceful coexistence, a central concern of UNHCR's CRRF	N/A	100	100%	100	100%	100	Reliant on Evaluation Data
Agricultural production increased (taking the host community's existing exploitation of the marshlands as the baseline)	KPI 4	Land productivity (yield in kg/hectare) per self-employed PoC (last season)	This measures the agricultural production achieved by PoC which, combined with access to markets, is a good proxy indicator to capture the viability/sustainability of the agricultural project as driver of self-reliance.	N/A	6,000 kg maize / ha	1,848 kg maize / ha	N/A	2,505 kg maize / ha	N/A	3,483 kg maize / ha
					1,500 kg beans / ha	1,110 kg beans / ha		549 kg beans / ha		N/A
					2,500 kg soybeans / ha	N/A		N/A		876 kg soybeans / ha

Appendix 3: Detailed Evaluation Sampling Strategy Methodology

149. **Quantitative Survey Sampling Design.** The beneficiary-based sample survey was designed to apply a quasi-experimental design without a control or counterfactual group for pre- and post-test. The survey sample size and sampling strategy was designed to detect 20% changes of the outcome level indicators from baseline to endline.⁸⁴ A two-stage cluster sampling design will be applied to select clusters (clusters will consist of blocks for refugee and villages for host community). The clusters were selected using the Probability Proportional to the Size (PPS) statistical procedure.⁸⁵ It will not be possible to measure the changes of the indicators from baseline to endline due to the lack of baseline information. Therefore, the survey design includes additional retrospective survey questions to adjust for the information that was not captured in baseline. The quantitative survey tool with additional questions is included in Annex 7. The comparability of key indicators from baseline to endline is addressed in the evaluability assessment presented in Annex 3.
150. The Misizi Marshland project provided support to 300 refugee households and 1,127 host-community households. The sample size was estimated considering a general proportion 50%⁸⁶ ($p=0.50$) for baseline to detect 20% changes from baseline to endline at 95% confidence level (two-tailed test). The initial estimated sample size was adjusted with the finite population correction factor for fixed number of beneficiary population (300 refugee beneficiaries and 1,127 host community beneficiaries) and 15%⁸⁷ non-responses. The sample size was also adjusted with the design effect (DEF 2.0)⁸⁸ for applying the two-stage cluster sampling method. The minimum required sample sizes were estimated to include 163 households for refugee and 197 households for the host community. The sample sizes were rounded to 200 households for each stratum to maintain the same level of precision and confidence for the comparison of these two groups. The sample size for the refugee beneficiary households would be smaller than the number of sampled host community beneficiary households if a proportionate distribution⁸⁹ was utilized. However, the sample size for this performance evaluation had been set as the minimum required sample size per comparison group (stratum) irrespective of the population size.
151. The sampling frames are the list of all beneficiaries ($N=300$ refugees and $N=1,127$ host communities), where the refugee sampling frame has been arranged by blocks and host community sampling frame by sector and villages. There are 20 blocks in the refugee sampling frame and the block beneficiary population size ranges from 13 to 16 households. Whereas 71 villages have been listed for the host community sampling frame with inconsistent village population size that ranges from 1 to 159 beneficiary households. Of the 71 villages, 22 villages were found with a population size of 10 or more households. The total beneficiary population of these 22 villages (1,008 beneficiaries) covers 89.4% of the total host community beneficiary

⁸⁴ The 20% change from BL to EL is based on log frame indicator targets (log frame indicator targets show expected change will be 0-100%, 0-50%). This methodology considered the lowest possible expected change we can detect, which is 20%. If the percent change is found to be below 20% the result will still be valid, but the confidence level will be slightly lower than 95%.

⁸⁵ In larger clusters the chance that any single household will be selected is smaller, but this is offset by the fact that larger clusters have a greater chance of being selected in the PPS procedure.

⁸⁶ p attains maximum sample size when it is 0.50

⁸⁷ Non-response rate is expected to be higher due to selecting sample beneficiary households randomly from the list of project participants

⁸⁸ Loss of effectiveness using cluster sampling, instead of simple random sampling, is the **design effect**. The design effect is basically the ratio of the actual variance under the sampling method used to the variance computed under the assumption of simple random sampling, usually twice for a two-stage cluster sampling procedure.

⁸⁹ Smaller sample size ($n=64$ refugee and $n=239$ host-community) was allocated for the refugee sampling frame due to the proportionate distribution of the total sample size 303 in 2019 baseline.

population (1,127 households). Therefore, 22 host community villages with at least 10 beneficiary households have been included in the PPS cluster sampling procedure for the host community sampling frame. The cluster sample size has been set at 10 households, which were selected randomly from each of the 20 PPS selected clusters per stratum. Table 17 shows the list of PPS selected blocks and villages with number of clusters and cluster sample sizes.

Table 17 Probability Proportional to the Size, Quantitative Survey Sample

REFUGEE				HOST COMMUNITY					
Sample Blocks ¹	Total Beneficiary (N)	# Of Clusters ¹	Sample size (n)	Sector	Sample villages ¹	Total Beneficiary (N)	#Of Clusters ¹	Sample Size (n)	
Block-A	15	1	10	Muganza	Buhiza	22	1	10	
Block-B	16	1	10		Impinga	30	1	10	
Block-C	13	1	10		Kamabango	80	2	20	
Block-D	16	1	10		Kanto2	19	1	10	
Block-E	15	1	10		Musatsi	56	1	10	
Block-F	15	1	10		Nyamiheto1	45	1	10	
Block-G	16	1	10		Nyamiheto2	98	2	20	
Block-H	15	1	10		Rwimisambi	34	1	10	
Block-I	14	1	10		Mugombwa	Agasharu	45	1	10
Block-J	16	1	10			Akagarama	159	4	40
Block-K	15	1	10	Akarambo		118	2	20	
Block-L	16	1	10	Bishya		86	2	20	
Block-M	15	1	10	Impinga		37	1	10	
Block-N	14	1	10						
Block-O	16	1	10						
Block-P	16	1	10						
Block-Q	15	1	10						
Block-R	13	1	10						
Block-S	14	1	10						
Block-T	15	1	10						
TOTAL SAMPLE	300	20	200	TOTAL SAMPLE		829	20	200	
POPULATION	300			POPULATION	22 (Out of 71)	1,008 (89% of 1,127)			

¹Selected applying the PPS sampling procedure

152. **Qualitative Sample. Remote key informant interviews.** Key informant interviews (KIIs) with high-level representatives from UNHCR, government and national-level partner staff were conducted remotely through online platforms (e.g., Zoom, Skype, WhatsApp, Google Meet) by TANGO International staff. Remote KIIs were selected from the list of potential KIIs provided by UNHCR.
153. **In-person qualitative data collection.** Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with project participants, and KIIs with leaders and duty bearers from refugee and host communities and local project staff were conducted in-person by two TANGO national consultants (one female, and one male). Each FGD session included 8-10 project participants. Two FGD sessions (one male, one female) took place at each selected site, in addition to 1-2 KIIs. A total of six sites were selected for qualitative data collection: three sites targeting primarily refugee participants in Mugombwa camp, and three sites in host community participant villages. Sites were selected from the list of those sampled for the quantitative survey, based on logistic feasibility of safe travel to the sites in the context of COVID-19. Efforts were made in coordination with UNHCR to incorporate youth and persons with disabilities into the qualitative data collection (via KIIs or as participants in FGDs) to ensure age and diversity considerations are included in the qualitative sample.

Appendix 4: Additional Tables

Table 18: Evaluation Survey Respondents Demographics

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
TARGET SAMPLE SIZE AND NON-RESPONSES				
Sample size and non-responses				
Household located and someone is at home	175	179		354
Household located and no person(s) are home after two attempts	11	5		16
Could not locate household	14	16		30
Number of cases did not provide consent	3	0		3
Percentage of non-responses	14.0	10.5		12.3
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	200	200		400
Number of cases interviewed	172	179		351
HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS				
Average family size	6.8	4.6	0.000	5.1
Age distribution of the family members				
0-4	8.8	10.0		9.6
5-9	12.7	11.2		11.7
10-14	17.4	13.7		14.8
15-19	18.8	16.3		17.0
20-24	11.6	8.6		9.5
25-29	5.9	5.6		5.7
30-34	2.3	4.1		3.5
35-39	2.6	4.5		3.9
40-44	4.8	5.8		5.5
45-49	3.7	4.5		4.2
50-54	3.2	3.5		3.4
55-59	3.2	3.9		3.7
60-64	2.6	2.4		2.5
65-69	1.4	2.9		2.4
70-74	0.4	2.3		1.7
75-79	0.6	0.4		0.4
80-84	0.1	0.2		0.2
85+	-	0.4		0.2

% of HH members:					
	Male	44.9	46.8	0.392	46.2
	Female	55.1	52.8	0.311	53.5
	Others	-	0.3	0.082	0.2
Sex-ratio		0.82	0.89		0.85
% of households with more than one household members are project beneficiaries		5.6	6.7	0.575	6.4
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>351</i>
HOUSEHOLD HEAD					
% of households were female headed		71.2	41.7	0.000	48.4
Average age of the HH Head		49.0	52.6	0.035	51.7
	Male	53.6	48.7	0.059	49.3
	Female	47.1	58.0	0.000	54.3
Age distribution of HH head					
	<i>10-14 years</i>	-	-		
	<i>15-49 years</i>	53.6	41.8	0.083	44.5
	<i>50-64 years</i>	35.9	35.8	0.989	35.9
	<i>65+ years</i>	10.5	22.3	0.010	19.6
Education of HH head					
	<i>No Schooling/education (Can't read/write)</i>	59.7	25.4	0.000	33.3
	<i>No Schooling (Can read/write)</i>	2.2	4.6	0.282	4.1
	<i>Some Primary Schooling</i>	19.3	38.1	0.000	33.8
	<i>Completed Primary Schooling</i>	5.2	18.3	0.000	15.3
	<i>Some Secondary Schooling</i>	10.9	8.9	0.502	9.4
	<i>Completed Secondary Schooling</i>	1.7	2.4	0.706	2.2
	<i>Vocational training</i>	-	0.6	0.344	0.4
	<i>Post-Secondary Schooling</i>	0.5	-	0.325	0.1
	<i>Adult Education</i>	-	1.1	0.087	0.9
	<i>Other</i>	-	-		-
	<i>Don't know</i>	0.5	0.5	1.000	0.5
Marital Status of HH head					
	<i>Married</i>	75.3	71.6	0.368	72.4
	<i>Divorced</i>	9.6	4.3	0.008	5.5
	<i>Widowed</i>	12.2	21.9	0.019	19.6
	<i>Never married/ Single</i>	3.0	2.2	0.685	2.4
Primary Occupation of HH head					
	<i>Crop farming</i>	78.0	93.8	0.001	90.2
	<i>Livestock farming</i>	-	0.6	0.344	0.5
	<i>Daily work</i>	1.2	-	0.157	0.3

<i>Skilled work</i>	-	0.5	0.344	0.4
<i>Salaried employment/job</i>	2.3	1.3	0.529	1.5
<i>Business</i>	3.5	-	0.009	0.8
<i>Remittance</i>	0.6	-	0.325	0.1
<i>Others</i>	14.4	3.8	0.001	6.3
Disability of HH head				
<i>A.None</i>	80.4	81.5	0.805	81.3
<i>B.Sensory disability</i>	-	-		-
<i>C.Physical disability</i>	11.7	7.6	0.223	8.5
<i>D.Mental disability</i>	1.2	2.4	0.406	2.1
<i>E.Chronic illness</i>	6.8	9.1	0.387	8.6
<i>F.Don't know</i>	-	-		-
<i>G.Refused</i>	-	-		-
% of household heads are project participants	83.6	86.3	0.537	85.7
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>351</i>

Table 19: Household Income Sources

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (Weighted)
Household income sources in the past 12 months (%)				
A.Food crop production/sales	55.3	89.2	0.000	81.4
B.Cash crop production	5.7	6.8	0.753	6.5
C.Casual labor (Piece work)	25.7	60.5	0.000	52.5
D.Livestock production/sales	-	11.2	0.006	8.6
E.Skilled trade/artisan	-	3.1	0.077	2.4
F.Small business	6.7	16.4	0.002	14.2
G.Charcoal selling	-	0.6	0.319	0.4
H.Firewood selling	-	1.1	0.087	0.9
I.Other petty trade (selling doughnuts, etc.)	0.5	0.6	0.880	0.6
J.Brewing local beer	-	7.3	0.000	5.6
K.Formal salary/wages	1.7	3.9	0.278	3.4
L.Waiving production	-	-		-
M.Tailoring	0.6	0.6	0.934	0.6
N.Others (Specify)	2.4	1.1	0.319	1.4
O.No productive activities that generate income	30.2	1.6	0.000	8.1
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>351</i>

Table 20: Reasons of household income decreased/stayed same over the past three years

INDICATORS				
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% Reasons of household income decreased/stayed same over the past three years				
A.Bad harvest	31.7	48.8	0.028	44.5
B.Skipped some seasons for planting	0.6	6.2	0.012	4.8
C.High cost for agriculture/livestock inputs and services	7.5	12.1	0.265	11.0
D.Agricultural/farm plots were wetland	1.6	8.5	0.138	6.8
E.Lack of financial capacity agricultural inputs/services	13.0	10.8	0.61	11.4
F.Delayed planting	1.1	5.0	0.063	4.0
G.Less production due to the inappropriate seed varieties for this region	4.9	1.3	0.068	2.2
H.Crop pests or diseases attack (e.g., Fall Army worm)	2.3	5.8	0.147	4.9
I.Small frame land for cultivation	13.0	21.2	0.235	19.1
J.Crop land flooded during planting/harvesting time	1.1	3.0	0.255	2.5
K.Crop damaged/less production due to bad weather condition	2.3	8.2	0.033	6.7
L.Low price of the agriculture/livestock produces	2.4	3.2	0.758	3.0
M.Less accessibility to the market	0.8	2.0	0.453	1.7
N.Job loss/lack of wage labor or job opportunity	7.1	8.9	0.57	8.4
O.Less mobility/accessibility due to COVID-19	42.8	46.6	0.573	45.6
P.Could not go out for work due to long duration of heavy rain/drought	-	4.5	0.005	3.4
Q.Others (Reduced/stopped project/donors supports (31%), No casual work/lost job (7%), No change in income activities (10%), Physical disability/sickness (7%), Others (45%))	34.8	24.9	0.102	27.4
R.Don't know/No reason	9.5	2.6	0.017	4.4
Sample Size (n)	169	155		324

Table 21: % of households reporting utilization of revenue from selling crops/ vegetables during the harvesting seasons 2020/2022

% HHs REPORTED USE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION SALE REVENUE	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
A.Reinvestment for agriculture/livestock/fish production activities (buying inputs: seeds, fertilizer, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings etc.)	41.2	52.8	0.114	50.2
B.For household consumption (food, clothing, energy etc.)	81.5	70.8	0.083	73.2

C.Paid children's school fees/education expenses	6.9	29.9	0.000	24.8
D.Paid for health insurance premium	3.2	40.7	0.000	32.5
E.Used to start new business	1	4	0.079	4
F.Used for household emergency need	14.2	29.9	0.005	26.4
G.Expanding/renovating houses, replacing sheets, repairing house etc.	0.7	4.3	0.269	3.5
H.Others (specify)	13.7	11.4	0.607	11.9
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>167</i>		<i>319</i>

Table 22: Agricultural Land Size, Land Access for Production

		PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
		Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
Land provided by Misizi	Ares	4.9	4.5	0.570	4.6
Own/leased/borrowed/gift land (excluding Misizi)	Ares	0.5	19.0	0.000	14.9
Total	Ares	5.4	23.5	0.000	19.4
Land provided by Misizi	Hectares	0.05	0.04	0.570	0.05
Own/leased/borrowed/gift land (excluding Misizi)	Hectares	0.00	0.19	0.000	0.15
Total	Hectares	0.05	0.23	0.000	0.19
% of households with sources of supports to access land for crop production					
A.Own household land		0.6	67.1	0.000	52.2
B.Government allocation		-	1.5	0.319	1.2
C.Jointly by UNHCR/Misizi and local authority		100.0	96.3	0.001	97.1
D.Other NGOs/projects		-	1.1	0.162	0.8
E.Borrowed		1.2	10.5	0.001	8.4
F.Lesed		1.6	16.0	0.001	12.8
G.Given by a friend/relative		-	8.9	0.000	6.9
H.Given by host-community		-	0.5	0.344	0.4
I.Others (specify)		-	6.5	0.053	5.0
J.Don't know		-	-		-
K.Refused		-	-		-
% of households who have access to land currently growing crops/vegetables		94.9	98.9	0.072	98.0
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>167</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>346</i>

Table 23: Change in main sources of livelihoods/productive activities which generated household income compared to before March 2020/the COVID-19 pandemic to now (April 2022)

Livelihoods/Income Sources	Refugee		Host		All (weighted)	
	Before	Last 12m	Before	Last 12m	Before	Last 12m
Food crop production/sales	35.1	59.1	75.1	92.6	67.6	86.3
Cash crop production	1.8	4.1	3.3	4.8	3.0	4.7
Casual labor (Piece work)	41.0	42.6	52.0	56.9	49.9	54.2
Skilled trade/artisan	6.5	-	4.7	5.3	5.0	4.3
Small business	30.3	14.0	39.0	17.1	37.4	16.5
Other petty trade (selling doughnuts, etc.)	1.8	-	6.4	1.7	5.5	1.4
Brewing local beer	-	-	4.6	6.4	3.8	5.2
Formal salary/wages	2.3	-	1.6	3.0	1.7	2.4
No productive activities that generate income	13.1	21.0	5.1	4.4	6.6	7.5
Sample Size (n)	48	48	64	64	112	112

Table 24: Detailed Agricultural Productivity by Crop and Season

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022				
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)	
CROP PRODUCTION BY SEASONS (Only for the households who have access to Msizi/Marshland supported land an currently growing crop/vegetables)					
SEASON-A (September 2020 - February 2021)					
% of households with produced crops in Season-A (2020/2021)					
Maize	93.2	93.0	0.950	93.0	
Beans	1.2	7.8	0.080	6.3	
Soybeans	3.2	3.5	0.885	3.4	
Sample Size (n)	158	172		330	
A. MAIZE					
Average land used	Ares	4.9	3.8	0.000	4.1
	Hectares	0.05	0.04	0.000	0.04
Average produced	Kilogram	103.1	91.9	0.379	94.4
Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	2,163	2,426	0.366	2,367
Use of the Maize production (%)					
Sold		56.1	69.5	0.001	66.5

	Consumed		39.5	27.7	0.001	30.3
	Stocked		1.4	1.8	0.662	1.7
	Give away		3.0	1.0	0.045	1.5
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		147	160		307
B. BEANS						
	Average land used	Ares	5.0	8.2		8.0
		Hectares	0.05	0.08		0.08
	Average produced	Kilogram	27.5	90.9		88.2
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	550	1,233		1,204
Use of the Bean production (%)						
	Sold		-	21.5		20.6
	Consumed		100.0	56.9		58.7
	Stocked		-	17.8		17.1
	Give away		-	3.8		3.6
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		2	13		15
C. SOYBEANS						
	Average land used	Ares	5.0	3.3	0.003	3.7
		Hectares	0.05	0.03	0.003	0.04
	Average produced	Kilogram	7.4	8.5	0.663	8.3
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	148	270	0.184	245
Use of the Soybean production (%)						
	Sold		-	15.4	0.091	12.3
	Consumed		100.0	73.8	0.027	79.2
	Stocked		-	10.8	0.155	8.6
	Give away		-	-		
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		5	6		11
SEASON-B (March – June 2021)						
% of households with produced crops in Season-B (2021)						
	Maize		2.5	8.8	0.136	7.4
	Beans		47.2	25.2	0.001	30.0
	Soybeans		48.6	69.8	0.001	65.1
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		158	172		330
A. MAIZE						
	Average land used	Ares	5.0	4.6	0.482	4.6

		Hectares	0.050	0.046	0.482	0.046
	Average produced	Kilogram	63.6	61.2	0.918	61.4
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	1,271	1,565	0.666	1,543
	Use of the Maize production (%)					
	Sold		57.6	58.6	0.934	58.5
	Consumed		42.4	41.4	0.934	41.5
	Stocked		-	-		-
	Give away		-	-		-
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>4</i>	<i>15</i>		<i>19</i>
	B. BEANS					
	Average land used	Ares	4.7	4.9	0.786	4.8
		Hectares	0.047	0.049	0.786	0.048
	Average produced	Kilogram	22.9	39.5	0.160	34.6
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	466	779	0.059	686
	Use of the Bean production (%)					
	Sold		5.0	11.9	0.243	9.9
	Consumed		79.3	74.5	0.534	75.9
	Stocked		10.7	13.6	0.645	12.7
	Give away		4.9	-	0.036	1.5
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>73</i>	<i>43</i>		<i>116</i>
	C. SOYBEANS					
	Average land used	Ares	4.8	3.7	0.000	3.9
		Hectares	0.048	0.037	0.000	0.039
	Average produced	Kilogram	10.4	9.2	0.384	9.3
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	237	258	0.584	255
	Use of the Soybean production (%)					
	Sold		3.3	15.7	0.006	13.8
	Consumed		95.6	75.9	0.001	78.9
	Stocked		0.6	6.8	0.005	5.9
	Give away		0.6	1.5	0.395	1.4
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>78</i>	<i>120</i>		<i>198</i>
	SEASON-A (September 2021 - February 2022)					
	% of households with produced crops in Season-A (2021/2022)					
	Maize		89.1	93.1	0.164	92.2

	Beans		1.9	6.0	0.160	5.1
	Soybeans		7.8	2.9	0.075	4.0
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>158</i>	<i>172</i>		<i>330</i>
A. MAIZE						
	Average land used	Ares	4.9	5.0	0.926	5.0
		Hectares	0.05	0.05	0.926	0.05
	Average produced	Kilogram	75.9	103.0	0.001	97.3
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	1,684	2,658	0.000	2,451
Use of the Maize production (%)						
	Sold		49.2	68.0	0.000	64.0
	Consumed		47.3	33.7	0.042	36.6
	Stocked		1.0	2.1	0.306	1.9
	Give away		2.5	0.6	0.001	1.0
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>141</i>	<i>160</i>		<i>301</i>
B. BEANS						
	Average land used	Ares	5.0	8.2	0.378	8.0
		Hectares	0.050	0.082	0.378	0.08
	Average produced	Kilogram	23.4	96.3	0.189	90.3
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	469	1,344	0.133	1,273
Use of the Bean production (%)						
	Sold		-	23.2	0.100	21.3
	Consumed		97.8	54.9	0.046	58.4
	Stocked		2.2	6.7	0.351	6.3
	Give away		-	5.9	0.027	5.4
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>		<i>3</i>	<i>10</i>		<i>13</i>
C. SOYBEANS						
	Average land used	Ares	4.8	3.4	0.169	4.0
		Hectares	0.05	0.03	0.169	0.04
	Average produced	Kilogram	8.6	10.0	0.550	9.3
	Yield/Productivity	Kilogram/Hectare	171	329	0.159	256
Use of the Soybean production (%)						
	Sold		3.5	25.0	0.083	15.1
	Consumed		64.5	51.1	0.564	57.2
	Stocked		32.0	23.9	0.69	27.6

Give away	-	-	-
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	12	5	17

Table 25: Percentage of households reporting utilization of improved agricultural practices during last planting season

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
USE OF IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION PRACTICES				
% of households reporting utilization of improved agricultural practices during last planting season				
A. Quality seeds (truthful labeling/certified)	49.2	77.1	0.000	71.1
B. Improved varieties (hybrid, flood/drought resistant, shorter-term harvesting etc.)	63.6	92.8	0.000	86.5
C. Organic/bio pesticides (use of liquid manure, pheromone trap, neem oil, ash, plant extract etc.)	66.4	89.5	0.000	84.5
D. Compost/organic fertilizers (manure, plant residues/leaves, earthworm/vermi-compost etc.)	83.8	93.0	0.014	91.0
E. Micro-irrigation (drip, surface, sprinkler etc.)	18.3	34.0	0.006	30.6
F. None	7.0	1.7	0.018	2.9
% of household with at least <u>one</u> improved practices	93.0	98.3	0.018	97.1
% of household with at least <u>three</u> improved practices	57.5	92.5	0.000	84.9
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	158	177		335

Table 26: Access and Use of Household Savings

ACCESS TO SAVINGS INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% households with family members currently have cash savings	30.2	87.5	0.000	74.4
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	172	179		351
% of households currently have cash savings by gender				
Male	11.4	14.3	0.564	14.1
Female	79.2	55.2	0.001	57.4

	Both male and female	9.4	30.5	0.002	28.5
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>156</i>		<i>208</i>
% of households with place of savings					
	A. At home (either cash or in the form of assets)	9.5	4.9	0.294	5.3
	B. In a formal bank	2.1	16.5	0.004	15.2
	C. In a microfinance institution (MFI)/Cooperatives/ Credit Unions	34.1	39.7	0.588	39.1
	D. In a community banking mechanism (Savings group, tontine, ROSCA, VSLA, etc.)	62.1	85.0	0.006	82.9
	E. To mobile banking	3.9	5.1	0.705	5.0
	F. Others	3.7	-	0.150	0.3
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>156</i>		<i>208</i>
% of households with the purposes of savings					
	A. To reinvest in agricultural production activities	62.3	49.7	0.173	50.9
	B. To reinvest for livestock production activities	5.8	21.2	0.006	19.8
	C. To reinvest fish farming activities	-	-		-
	D. To reinvest agricultural/livestock business	1.7	1.3	0.861	1.4
	E. To reinvest non-agricultural/livestock business	-	2.8	0.011	2.5
	F. To start a new business	7.9	4.4	0.387	4.7
	G. To meet educational expenses	5.6	27.1	0.000	25.1
	H. To use for health insurance	-	54.1	0.000	49.1
	I. To use for household emergency needs (food, treatment cost, shocks, house repair, etc.)	46.5	57.7	0.295	56.7
	J. To use for loan repayment	1.8	8.5	0.056	7.9
	K. To use for social events (wedding, funeral etc.)	9.5	3.2	0.177	3.8
	L. Others	19.1	9.6	0.220	10.5
	M. Don't know	1.8	0.6	0.524	0.7
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>156</i>		<i>208</i>

Table 27: Household Access to Loans, Finance, and Credit

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022				
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)	
ACCESS TO LOANS, FINANCE, CREDITS					
% households with family members currently have loans	4.7	17.7	0.002	14.7	
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>351</i>	
% of households currently have loans by gender					
	Male	10.6	29.2	0.199	27.8
	Female	64.2	53.9	0.579	54.6

	Both male and female	13.3	16.9	0.801	16.7
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>31</i>		<i>39</i>
% of households with place of loans					
	A. Formal bank	-	21.0	0.040	19.5
	B. Microfinance institution (MFI)/Cooperatives/ Credit Unions	10.6	28.2	0.187	27.0
	C. Community banking mechanism (Savings group, tontine, ROSCA, VSLA, etc.)	60.9	60.5	0.986	60.6
	D. Mobile banking	-	-		-
	E. An individual/store	-	-		-
	F. Pawn shop/local money lender	28.5	-	0.146	2.1
	G. Friends/relatives	13.3	-	0.340	1.0
	H. Others	-	6.3	0.171	5.8
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>31</i>		<i>39</i>
% of households with the purposes of loans					
	A.Purchasing agricultural inputs and supplies	10.6	39.4		37.3
	B.Purchasing livestock inputs and supplies	-	6.6		6.1
	C.Starting new agricultural/livestock business	-	3.5		3.3
	D.Starting a new non-agriculture/non-livestock business	-	9.7		9.0
	E.Purchasing food for the household consumption	61.6	31.1		33.3
	F.Other loan repayment	-	13.7		12.7
	G.Payment for educational expenses	11.8	20.6		19.9
	H.Payment for health expenses	-	28.3		26.3
	I.Use for household emergency needs	25.1	27.2		27.1
	J.Use for social events (wedding, funeral etc.)	-	6.2		5.8
	K.Others	13.3	9.4		9.7
	L.Don't know	-	-		-
	<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>31</i>		<i>39</i>

Table 28: Utilization of Income Generated from Agricultural Production Sales

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
USE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION REVENUE				
% of households with the use of income from selling crops/ vegetables during the harvesting seasons 2020/2022				
A.Reinvestment for agriculture/livestock/fish production activities (buying inputs: seeds, fertilizer, tools, labor, start-up livestock, fingerlings etc.)	41.2	52.8	0.114	50.2
B.For household consumption (food, clothing, energy etc.)	81.5	70.8	0.083	73.2
C.Paid children's school fees/education expenses	6.9	29.9	0.000	24.8
D.Paid for health insurance premium	3.2	40.7	0.000	32.5
E.Used to start new business	1	4	0.079	4
F.Used for household emergency need	14.2	29.9	0.005	26.4
G.Expanding/renovating houses, replacing sheets, repairing house etc.	0.7	4.3	0.269	3.5
H.Others (specify)	13.7	11.4	0.607	11.9
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>167</i>		<i>319</i>

Table 29: Participation in Misizi Project Activities

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% of households participate at least one project promoted activities	99.5	98.4	0.380	98.7
A.Access to land (received ready to use land from Misizi)	98.9	97.4	0.331	97.7
B. Agriculture production training (technics and management)	52.9	57.3	0.460	56.3
C. Livestock production (poultry/piggery) training on improved livestock practices and technologies	10.0	9.7	0.931	9.8
D.Livestock production (poultry/piggery) support- start-up (inputs, such as, chicks, pigs, feedings, shelter)	8.3	10.8	0.472	10.2
E. Agriculture Inputs distribution (seeds, seedlings, fertilizer, tools (hoes) etc.)	60.0	70.8	0.086	68.3
F.Post-harvest support (warehouse, drying shed, milling support etc.)	46.1	63.1	0.012	59.2
G. Markets linkages (linking with buyers, market information etc.)	40.5	68.2	0.001	61.8
H. Joint cooperative membership and management (cooperative formation training, membership to cooperatives, cooperative management training etc.)	41.2	70.3	0.000	63.7
I. Women empowerment training to enhance agriculture production	4.6	13.9	0.003	11.8
J.None	0.5	1.6	0.380	1.3
Participation in average number of activities	3.6	4.6	0.002	4.4
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>351</i>

Table 30: Shock Exposure of Misizi Participants

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
Loss of work/labor	4.1	2.1	0.280	2.6
Conflict (including cattle, land raid)	1.1	8.1	0.005	6.5
Earthquake	13.6	7.6	0.154	8.9
Death/illness of HH main income earner	6.6	9.6	0.263	8.9
Fire/strong winds	6.2	20.6	0.008	17.3
Livestock disease	2.8	24.6	0.000	19.6
Sharp drop in agriculture/livestock product prices	2.8	25.0	0.004	19.9
Too little rain/drought	5.0	26.7	0.001	21.7
Theft of HH valuable assets/cash	11.9	25.8	0.007	22.6
Sharp increase in agriculture/livestock inputs costs	16.5	40.5	0.003	35.0
Crops attacked by pests/disease	15.4	43.7	0.000	37.2
Early/late rain	7.1	47.4	0.000	38.1
Soil erosion/land slide	31.5	44.9	0.066	41.8
Sharp food price increase	54.5	61.3	0.396	59.7
Too much rain/floods	54.6	71.2	0.045	67.4
Corona Virus (COVID-19)	86.9	81.7	0.361	82.9
% of HHs with exposed to shocks in the past 12 months (at least one shocks)	94.2	100.0	0.016	98.7
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>179</i>		<i>351</i>

Table 31: Impact of COVID-19 on Misizi Participant Households

INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2022			
	Refugee	Host	Sig.	All (weighted)
% of HHs with impacts of COVID-19 in the past 12 months				
A.Loss of life	2.3	4.8	0.312	4.2
B.Loss of labor	8.8	14.3	0.296	12.9
C.Reduced income	58.4	52.7	0.459	54.1
D.Reduced supports from Govt./NGOs	16.5	10.2	0.149	11.8
E.Reduced mobility	57.4	65.9	0.245	63.8
F.Loss of livestock	0.9	5.2	0.058	4.1

G.Reduced social interactions with relatives and friends	11.7	24.6	0.023	21.3
H.Loss of HH assets (including distress sales)	0.7	11.5	0.062	8.7
I.Household member migrated	0.7	3.0	0.156	2.4
J.Household was displaced	-	-	-	-
K.Reduced ability to buy basic needs (e.g., food, cloth)	31.6	30.5	0.863	30.8
L.Huge medical cost for treatment of family members	7.2	19.2	0.052	16.2
M.Others	16.3	6.3	0.055	8.8
N.Don't know	2.5	-	0.075	0.6
O.Refused	-	-	-	-
% of HHs with impacts of COVID-19 on household income				
Remained the same	11.2	27.0	0.016	23.0
Slight decrease	19.2	19.0	0.967	19.1
Severe decrease	69.6	47.9	0.032	53.4
Increased	-	6.1	0.021	4.5
% of HHs with impacts of COVID-19 on household food consumption				
Remained the same	8.8	30.1	0.001	24.7
Slight decrease	20.1	18.6	0.749	19.0
Severe decrease	67.5	46.8	0.046	52.0
Increased	3.6	4.5	0.801	4.3
% of HHs with coping strategies for the impacts of COVID-19				
A.Selling livestock	0.8	18.7	0.004	14.2
B.Selling agriculture food/seed stock	13.9	28.3	0.009	24.6
C.Slaughter livestock	-	1.5	0.328	1.2
D.Temporary Migration (only some family members)	1.5	-	0.324	0.4
E.Temporary Migrate (the whole family)	-	-	-	-
F.Permanent migration of some family member(s)	-	-	-	-
G.Send boys to stay with relatives or other HH	1.6	1.1	0.749	1.2
H.Send girls to stay with relatives or other HH	-	-	-	-
I.Take children out of school	0.8	1.7	0.485	1.5
J.Reduce food consumption	25.4	42.1	0.031	37.9
K.Take up new wage labor	-	8.1	0.037	6.1
L.Sell household items (e.g., radio, bed)	0.7	1.8	0.361	1.5
M.Sell productive assets (e.g., plough, water pump)	-	1.8	0.090	1.3
N.Take out a loan from a money lender	4.0	9.8	0.152	8.3

O.Take out a loan from friends or relatives	7.5	5.9	0.599	6.3
P.Send children to work for money (e.g., domestic service)	0.8	-	0.324	0.2
Q.Receive money or food from relatives within community	3.1	5.6	0.320	5.0
R.Receive money from a relative from outside (remittance)	0.8	7.0	0.021	5.5
S.Receive food aid or assistance from the government (including food/cash-for-work)	5.7	10.1	0.462	9.0
T.Receive food aid or assistance from an NGO (including food/cash-for-work)	6.0	11.5	0.238	10.1
U.Use money from savings	0.8	22.0	0.000	16.7
V.Receive help from local organizations/companies	1.4	8.1	0.026	6.5
W.Other (specify)	5.4	14.5	0.128	12.2
X.No coping strategies	48.9	14.0	0.000	22.8
Y.Don't Know	5.4	0.8	0.061	2.0
Z.Refused	-	-	-	-
% of HHs with the quality of life now after impacted by COVID-19				
Fully recovered and better than before the COVID-19	-	0.9	0.314	0.6
Fully recovered, same as before the COVID-19	0.8	0.8	0.989	0.8
Partially recovered	61.0	83.1	0.001	77.5
Have not recovered at all	38.2	15.3	0.001	21.1
Don't know	-	-	-	-
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>115</i>		<i>240</i>
% of households who were partially recovered or not recovered with the perception that they would be able to recover				
	50.9	81.1	0.000	73.4
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>113</i>		<i>237</i>
% of households who reported that they will be able to recover with the duration of recovery				
Six months	11.1	1.1	0.042	2.8
One year	18.1	23.1	0.512	22.2
More than one year	39.3	60.6	0.032	56.8
Don't know	31.5	15.2	0.035	18.1
Refused	-	-	-	-
<i>Sample Size (n)</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>91</i>		<i>155</i>

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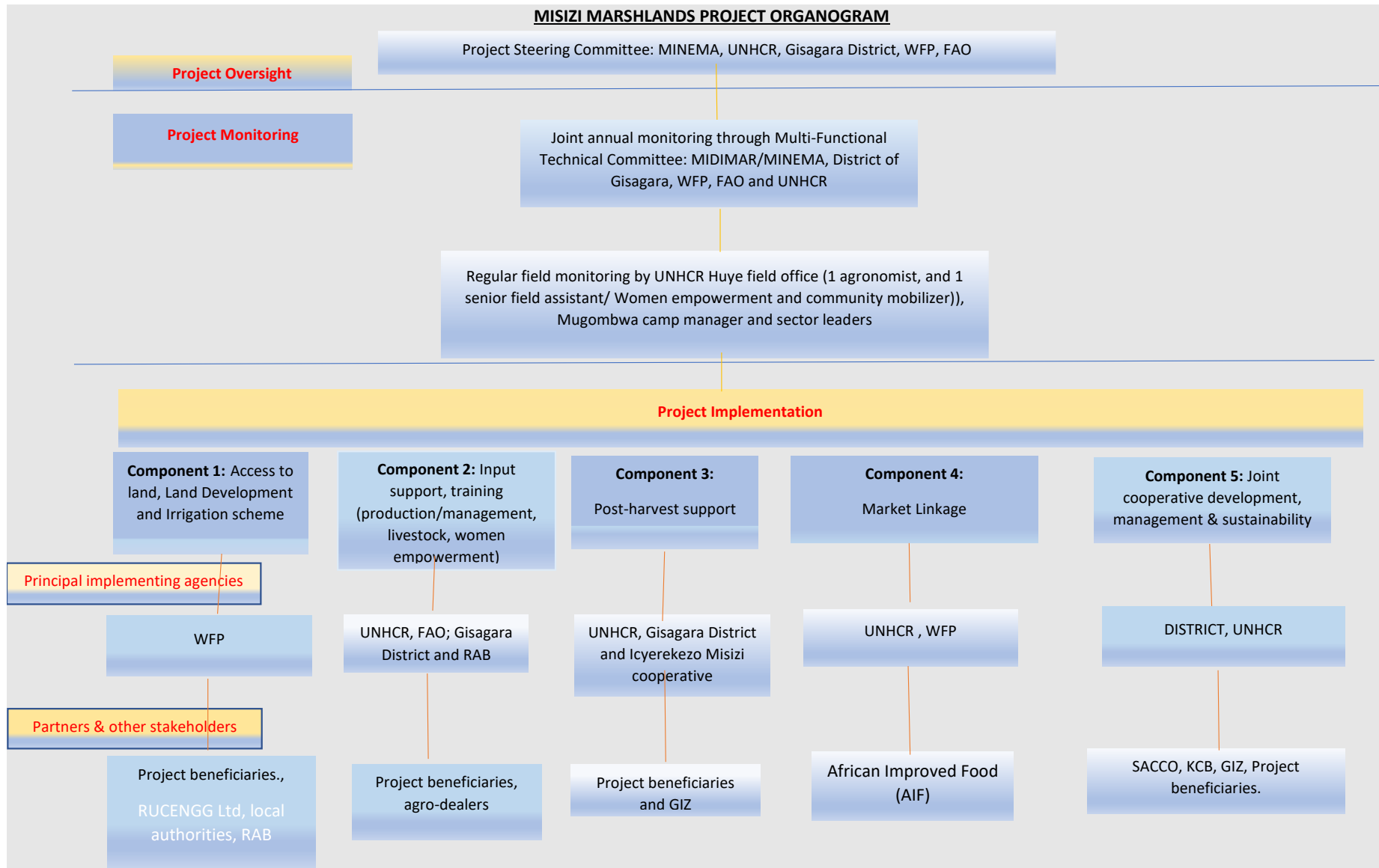
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Appendix 6: Misizi Marshlands Project Organogram



Appendix 7: Obligatory Core Actions of the UNHCR Policy on Age, Gender and Diversity⁹⁰

While there is significant guidance available to operations to implement an AGD framework in each of these areas, a set of 10 obligatory core actions that need to be taken at a minimum are set out in the table below:

1. AGD-INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING	At a minimum, all data collected by UNHCR will be disaggregated by age and sex and by other diversity considerations, as contextually appropriate and possible, for purposes of analysis and programming.
2. PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION	At a minimum, country operations will employ participatory methodologies at each stage of the operations management cycle, to incorporate the capacities and priorities of women, men, girls, and boys of diverse backgrounds into protection, assistance, and solutions programmes.
3. COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPARENCY	At a minimum, all country-level protection and solutions strategies will detail the operation's approach to communicating with women, men, girls, and boys of diverse backgrounds, through means that are appropriate and accessible to all groups in a community.
4. FEEDBACK AND RESPONSE	At a minimum, all UNHCR operations will establish and promote feedback and response systems, including for confidential complaints.
5. ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING AND ADAPTATION	At a minimum, UNHCR operations will adapt programmes and strategies in response to input from persons of concern, and document this in Country Operations Plans and Annual Reporting.
6. ADVANCING GENDER EQUALITY	<p>A Women and girls participate equally and meaningfully in all decision-making, community management and leadership structures, and committees of persons of concern. At a minimum, UNHCR operations will ensure 50 per cent female participants in management and leadership structures under UNHCR's authority, and will advocate the same with partners, including Governments.</p> <p>B Women and girls are provided with individual registration and documentation, directly or through support provided by UNHCR. At a minimum, UNHCR will provide women and girls of concern with protection documentation on an individual basis, and will advocate the same with partners, including Governments.</p> <p>C Women and girls have equal access to and control over management and provision of food, core-relief items, and cash-based interventions. Depending on the context, UNHCR operations will increase the percentage of women as the primary recipients of assistance within households receiving material and/or cash-based assistance.</p> <p>D Women and girls have equal access to economic opportunities, including decent work and quality education and health services. At a minimum, UNHCR will ensure women and girls have equal access to livelihood, education, and health programmes it delivers, and will advocate with partners, including Governments, for their equal access to public services.</p> <p>E Women and girls have access to comprehensive SGBV prevention and response services. At a minimum, UNHCR operations will adopt and implement SGBV standard operating procedures, operationalizing the four main referral pathways for all survivors (safety/security, legal, medical, and psychosocial), and will promote the same with partners, including Governments.</p>

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Appendix 8: UNHCR Misizi Agricultural Production Cycle and Internal Monitoring Reported Yields

Year	2018-2019 agricultural production cycle (run from October 2018 to Aug 2019)			2019-2020 agricultural production cycle (run from October 2019 to Aug 2020)			2020-2021 agricultural production cycle (run from October 2020 to Aug 2021)		
Seasons	Season A	Season B	Season C	Season A	Season B	Season C	Season A	Season B	Season C
	Sowing= Oct. 2018 Harvest=March. 2019	Sowing= Mar. 2019 Harvest= Jun. 2019	Sowing= Jun. 2019 Harvest= Aug. 2019	Sowing= Oct. 2019 Harvest=Mar r 2020	Sowing= May. 2020 Harvest= July. 2020	Sowing= Jun. 2020 Harvest= Aug 2020	Sowing= Oct. 2020 Harvest=Mar . 2021	Sowing= April. 2021 Harvest= July. 2021	Sowing= Jun. 2021 Harvest= Aug 2021
Crops	Maize	missed	beans	Maize	beans	missed	Maize	Soybeans	Missed
Quantities produced kg /55ha	101,637		61,050	137,773	30,195		191,584	48,169	
Quantities produced kg/ha	1,848		1,110	2,505	549		3,483	876	
NISR Average Yield Publications/ Average for Gisagara district (kg/ha)	2073		695	1587	555		1902	418	
NISR Average Yield Publications/Average National level (kg/ha)	1647		831	1598	740		1600	1010	

Annexes

Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Annex 2: List of evaluation respondents at HQs

Annex 3: Final Qualitative Tools

Annex 4: Final Quantitative Household Survey Tool

Annex 5: Misizi Final Evaluation analysis files

Annex 6: Misizi Evaluation Inception Report