

## HAPPY NORDIC NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS 2018

International Aid Services (IAS) is an international Non – Governmental Organization (INGO) abiding by Christian values. Founded in 1989 with the purpose of assisting conflict affected populations in South Sudan we now run programs in over 10 countries in primarily the Horn of Africa/East Africa supported by 4 offices in Europe and the United States. The Alliance Head Office is located in Stockholm. Sweden.

In 2008, IAS Uganda started operations in Pader and Agago, and later expanded to Abim supporting the government efforts in the Recovery and then Development process of the former Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) of North and North Eastern Uganda through both direct implementation and partners in the districts. In addition to the on-going development intervention in Northern Uganda, in 2014 IAS Uganda embarked on a humanitarian intervention in response to the influx of South Sudanese Refugees in Rhino Camp, Arua district. The organisation has since expanded to Rhino camp extension in Omugo, Imvepi and recently to the Congolese refugee's influx in Kyangwali. Hoima district.

IAS implements an Integrated Community Development and Empowerment

program. This is in both the emergency and development work; seeking to build resilient communities. Empowering for mind-set transformation is at the centre of all the responses seeking to address problems right from the root causes. While IAS responds in both the development and humanitarian phases, the approach/philosophy is, the same-people should be empowered to be in of charge of their lives as a pre-condition for restoration of dignity. IAS' responses are categorised in different themes:

Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH), focusing on drilling boreholes and motorisation of deep wells, sensitization on proper hygiene and sanitation practices and Menstrual Hygiene Management.

Livelihood and environmental protection: formation of village savings and loan associations, distribution of cash start-up packages, distribution of farm inputs, making of energy making stoves and skills development. Under this, IAS also trains and sensitises communities on the dangers of Alcohol abuse and misuse.

Education: Inclusive education/Special Needs Education, training of teachers,

school management committees and Parents and Teachers' Associations, equipping schools with books and teaching materials for the Children with Learning Needs.

**Protection:** construction of houses and latrines for People with Special Needs, provision of psycho-social support, constructing and engaging community structures and churches.

Advocacy and governance: IAS trains and sensitises local leaders on rights and responsibilities of citizens and sensitises communities on budget monitoring.

As we mark the Nordic National day 2018, we would like to appreciate the Swedish and the Danish governments, the tax payers and the churches for making our response possible through various channels of funding. IAS continues to receive support from the Swedish Mission Council, Lakarmissionen and churches from Sweden in support of both the development and emergency initiatives while the Danish Mission Council Development Department (DMCDD) and Danish Emergency Relief Fund (DERF) fund the emergency response in Rhino Extension and Kyangwali.



Youths trained in soap making.



IAS teaching girls in Ocea Primary school how to make re-usable Sanitary towels



Village saving group in Ocea village-Rhino Camp receiving a cash saving box from IAS Project Coordinator (jacket) Oyugi Patrick