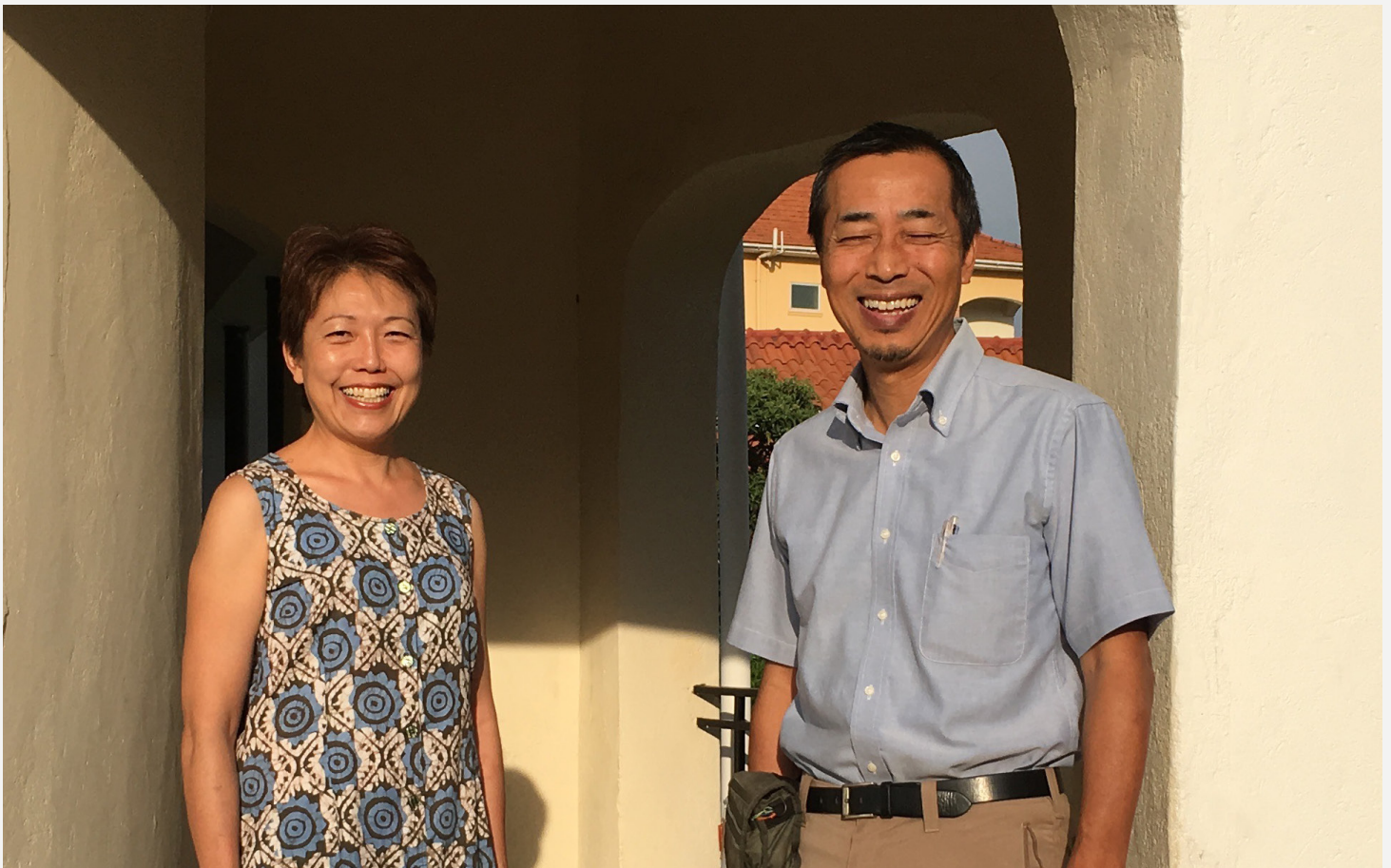


JICA's support to the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees in Uganda

Facilitating greater leadership by local authorities
in the refugee response

Example of bilateral development cooperation in refugee settings,
based on a field visit to Northern Uganda in December 2018



In response to the refugee influx, a senior advisor from Tokyo, Dr. Hanatani, works since July 2017 in a JICA sub-office in Arua, while a Japanese district planner expert, Satomi Kamei, is embedded in the Arua local district government office

Kampala, April 2014. Dr. Hanatani, at the time Chief Representative of JICA South Sudan, finds himself in “exile” in Uganda. Evacuated from South Sudan due to the eruption of violent conflict in December 2013.

In South Sudan, Dr. Hanatani did not work on a program related to refugees. In addition to managing all JICA programmes in the country, he was spearheading collaborative programmes with the Japanese Engineering Contingent of the Japanese Self Defence Force (JSDF) operating as part of the political mission UNMISS. Yet, after witnessing the refugee influx from South Sudan to Uganda, he decided to go on a field visit to refugee hosting districts in Northern Uganda. He understood the needs but also the enormous skills set and entrepreneurial potential of the refugees. He consequently managed to secure additional JICA resources necessary to include refugees in JICA’s skills training programmes on rice cultivation and to kick-start a JICA support program for refugees and hosts in Northern Uganda. This program, now in its second

upscale phase, became [a successful flagship](#).

This was just the beginning of what was to become a prime example of bilateral cooperation in applying the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) as envisioned by the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants (September 2016).

JICA has been present in Northern Uganda since 2009. Acholi district in particular was affected by the Lord Resistance Army conflict which destabilized the region for over twenty years. JICA engaged in resurrecting infrastructure, recapacitating the local government, and supporting the resettlement of former IDPs. From 2009-2016, the program helped redeveloping essential government functions necessary to deliver basic services to the community.

The presence of JICA in Northern Uganda represented a determining factor maintaining solid support to local government, refugees and host communities when the

Training Manual

HOW TO USE THE PLANNING TOOLS

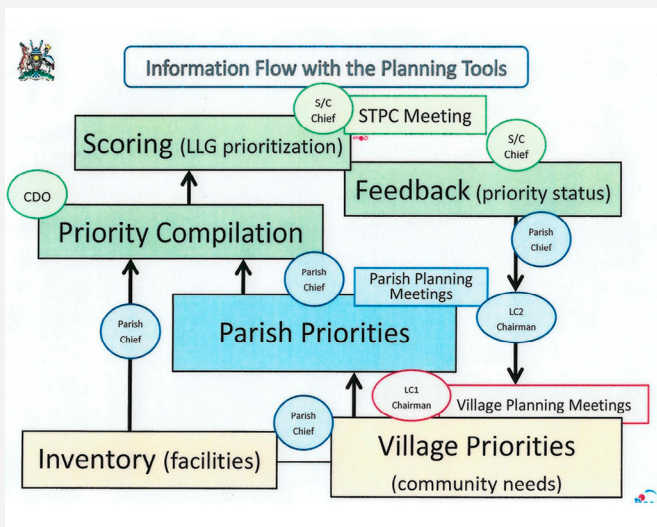
February 2017

The Project for Capacity Development of Local Governments for Strengthening Community Resilience in Acholi and West Nile Sub-Regions (WA-CAP)

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second influx from South Sudan hit Northern Uganda in 2016. Indeed, JICA was one of the very few bilaterals to decide to open an office in Arua, Northern Uganda, especially at such an early stage of the crisis. Dispatched back from Tokyo where he was heading the Peace Building and Reconstruction Office, Dr. Hanatani was chosen to lead the new Arua office.

Those who have been to Arua know that it is located a long way from the amenities expats usually enjoy. The JICA office, sitting on a small dusty bumpy road, takes eight hours to reach from the capital Kampala. Since 2017, these are the settings where Dr. Hanatani and his team (which includes another expert dispatched from Tokyo) work tirelessly with the local authorities the most affected by the toll of the sudden population increase. JICA is resolved to address the resource and capacity gap that fails to cater for increased development and



PRESENTATION OF BUDGET CONFERENCE FY 2019/2020 OF ANAKA SUB COUNTY AT NWOYA DISTRICT HEADQUARTER

Utilization of UCG NWR

IPF FY 2019/20: UGX: 12,800,000

Department	Associated LG Mandate	LG Selected Mandate for Expenditure FY 2019/20	Allocation (Budget) FY 2019/20 in UGX
Sub-county Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of LG activities, monitoring, organisation Records management, public relations 	Stationary Record management and coordination of sub-county activities	1,000,000 2,000,000 1,000,000
Financial Management & Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue mobilisation, budgeting, financial management and accountability 	Revenue mobilisation Budgeting Financial management and Accountability	1,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000
Local Statutory Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council, SEC, standing committees: policy formulation and direction, approval of plans and budgets, monitoring of administration Land Board: processing land rights / land administration issues 	Council and standing committee, approval of plan and budget	2,000,000
Local Government Planning Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of planning function, data management (MIS, surveys etc.), reporting, M&E. 	Coordination of planning function Data Management M&E	2,200,000 6,000,000 1,000,000
Internal Audit (Town Council Specific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversight of PFM / management of internal controls, reporting and recommendations to Council 		
Total			12,800,000

service delivery needs at the local level. In fact, the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) foresees support by the international community as a whole to “strengthen institutional capacities, infrastructure and accommodation at local level, including through funding and capacity development”.

JICA advocates for a strong(er) role of local government to ensure greater sustainability. JICA thereby significantly contributes to redirecting attention to the important role of local government. Only an empowered and capacitated local government can ensure inclusive local planning and service delivery.

Participatory planning (district, sub-county, parish, village levels) has been reinvigorated by JICA. Planning tools were introduced, to foster evidence-based prioritization of resource allocations with relevant training delivered in 17 districts (planners, parish chiefs, community development officers).

The results of this bottom-up, systematic and long term engagement are already tangible. The local government officials of the three districts (Arua, Yumbe, Koboko) met during a field visit in December 2018, now own and use

the tools. As a district planner admitted: “We now have clear and credible prioritization criteria”. 76% of sub-counties in West Nile have made use of the tools during the 2018-2019 planning cycle.

As for the funds channeled through the Ministry of Finance to local governments, for the first time this year, many of the lower local governments have opened their own budget lines for planning functions.

Today Dr. Hanatani focuses on discussions at central level, pushing for institutionalization of the planning tools, and budget attributions from central to local levels in line with local government district needs. Satomi Kamei, a senior Japanese expert, remains in the planning unit of the local district to pursue the sustained support of local district government.

JICA’s contribution to GCR roll-out and further good practices can be found here:

http://www.globalcrf.org/crf_good_practices/