Skills for Refugees and Host Communities in Northern Uganda

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Context

In 2012, Uganda launched the vocational training reform: “Skilling Uganda”

Team Belgium (Enabel) supports “Skilling Uganda” in three different geographical areas:

1. Northern Uganda
2. Karamoja
3. Albertine Rwenzori
Northern Uganda

- 65% of refugees from South Sudan
- Hosting districts: underdeveloped economy

European Union Emergency Trust Fund

→ Support Programme for Refugees Settlement in Northern Uganda (SPRS-NU)

- Refugees and host communities
- 7,500 people (2016-2021)
- 4.9 million € (EUTF)
- 2.6 million (GIZ)
Objective

Skill refugees (70%)
and host communities (30%)
for jobs and improved livelihoods

→ 50 % - 50 %

Key components

Based on paradigm shift of “Skilling Uganda”

• Labour market relevant skills
• Flexible skills development for better accessibility & higher quality
• Public-Private partnership & strong private sector involvement
  o Skills Development Fund
  o Skills development platforms in the districts
  o TVET Council
What’s new?
SPRS-NU is where humanitarian aid and structural development meet.

“THE NEXUS”
How do we do it?

Skills Development Fund (SDF)
- Training provider / NGO and company jointly apply
- Promoting transferable technical skills, green skills, entrepreneurship, gender equality, equitable access...
- Apprenticeships
- Increase local training capacity

Standardisation
- Formalised training packages
- Certification of skills

Skills Development Platforms at district level
- Labour market information system
- Stimulate information exchange and dialogue

Instant Training
- Adapted format for refugees + economic context
- Integrated in overall support by livelihood actor

Sustainability
- SDF selection committee mirroring TVET council
- Tracing tools for feedback
- Policy feedback
- Guarantee value for money

Visibility
Challenges

Mobility of refugees
- Cross-border
- Job opportunities in main cities

Private sector buy-in into the fund

Fragile economy
- Local context = limited formal employment
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Links

• Support Programme for Refugee Settlements in Northern Uganda – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drl4mA2omkY&t=195s