60 __decibels

Mercy Corps Uganda Market Research









About This Report

This report was commissioned by Mercy Corps through the Transforming Humanitarian Energy Access (THEA) programme. It was funded with UK aid from the UK government via the Transforming Energy Access platform with co-funding from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (EKN).

The THEA programme aims to promote sustainable energy delivery models in humanitarian settings, thereby increasing access to clean energy solutions for displaced communities. It achieves this by combining research, evidence-building, data-driven advocacy, and the implementation of market-based energy interventions. By identifying sustainable, inclusive energy delivery models, THEA aims to facilitate their replication and scale-up, ultimately enhancing energy access in displacement settings.

This report aims to provide an in-depth understanding of energy access in the Bidibidi refugee settlement in the early stages of Mercy Corps' EKN-funded SUSTAINED programme to guide its implementation and create learnings for the THEA programme, which is funded with UK aid from the UK government.

The results are based on market research conducted with respondents from previous Mercy Corps energy and non-energy programmes in the Bidibidi refugee settlement and Yumbe district in Northern Uganda. The sample includes both individuals who have previously purchased energy products and those who have not. This study aims to examine the profiles of refugees and host communities (referred to as respondents in this report) as well as their usage, sources, and behaviours related to lighting, cooking, and irrigation.

Throughout the report, we have segmented the results by respondent type (refugee vs. host community) and status (household vs. business) to highlight significant differences. This segmentation is based on the full sample size, ensuring robust and comparable insights from all groups.

The insights are based on phone interviews with 275 refugee and host community members, conducted by 60 Decibels' trained researchers. We employed a random sampling method to select respondents. ensuring a representative sample. For more information on our methodology, please refer to the Appendix.

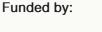
Thank you to Megan Taeuber, Tilen Ogola, Andrea Ranzanici, Purity Gituma, Ronald Otyang Aballa, and Peter Otala from Mercy Corps for their support throughout the project.

THEA partners:













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Contents

60 [Decib	els Perspective	04
(2)	01:	Respondent Profile	07
4	02:	Lighting Sources	12
	03:	Cooking Methods	15
	04:	Irrigation Behaviours	19
Арре	endix		24
Abou	ıt. 60	Decibels	27

60dB Perspective

Top Insights

1 Host community members have higher awareness and access to renewable energy solutions compared to refugees.

Awareness of the benefits of clean energy is higher among host community members (93%) than among refugees (57%). The primary benefits of clean energy solutions (clean cooking, solar home systems, solar lanterns, or solar water pump) cited by respondents include affordability, reduced fuel consumption, and the ability to save time. 76% of respondents are already using clean energy solutions with solar lanterns and clean cooking solutions such as fuel-efficient stoves being the most commonly used clean energy solutions. When comparing the two groups, we observe that host community members have higher access to clean energy products or solutions (88%) compared to refugees (72%).

19% of respondents who indicated that they have access to a clean energy product/service said they acquired them through a previous Mercy Corps programme; all of these respondents are refugees i.e., no host community members have accessed renewable energy solutions through any Mercy Corps programme. This highlights the opportunity to expand Mercy Corps programming for access to energy.

See pages: 9, 10

2 Refugees have limited access to affordable lighting sources.

Refugees rely on more expensive and less efficient alternatives than their host peers. The most commonly used lighting sources among refugees are torches or flashlights (41%), while host community members primarily use solar lanterns (58%). Refugees use their lighting sources for shorter durations (5 hours) but spend more (6,382 UGX per month) compared to host community members, who use their lighting for 10 hours at a lower cost (2,017 UGX per month). This highlights an opportunity to improve the availability of affordable and efficient solar options for refugees.

See page: 13

3 Respondents have limited access to efficient and clean cooking solutions, with refugees having even less access.

Overall, just 9% of respondents use branded stoves, which are considered fuel-efficient. Of this group, 11% are refugees, and 4% are from the host community. Wood is the primary fuel source for 89% of respondents, with artisanal woodstoves and traditional open-fire stoves being the most common used stoves.

Host community members are more likely to use artisanal stoves (61%) compared to refugees (44%). While artisanal stoves are more fuel-efficient than traditional open-fire stoves commonly used by refugees, they are still less efficient than other stoves available on the market.

This difference in stove type may partially explain the disparity in satisfaction levels: 53% of host community members reported being 'very satisfied' with their cooking solutions, compared to only 30% of refugees.

None of the respondents reported using LPG or electric cooking solutions.

See pages: <u>16, 18</u>

4 Refugees experience lower farming yields and rely on rainfall to irrigate their crops.

Farming is a key livelihood activity for 90% of respondents. When asked about their earnings from the past season, farmers from host communities earned a higher median income than refugees. One factor that may be contributing to this disparity may be land access: refugees primarily lease land (88%), while host community members own and cultivate their land (86%).

The majority of respondents (90%) rely on rainfall as the primary water source for farming. Only 25% use any form of irrigation, and of those who do, the majority (21%) rely on labour-intensive manual irrigation methods.

See pages: 20, 21, 22

60dB Perspective

Recommendations

1 Improve clean energy access among refugee communities.

Refugees face significant barriers to adopting clean energy, including lower awareness, limited use of clean energy solutions, and reliance on costlier, less efficient lighting and cooking methods. To address these gaps, efforts should focus on targeted awareness campaigns, increasing access to affordable solar lighting and efficient cookstoves, and scaling clean energy programmes within refugee communities.

2 Address respondent energy pain-points: reliability, costs, and labor intensity.

There is an opportunity to provide renewable lighting solutions that address common sources of dissatisfaction, including insufficient lighting, reliability issues, and high maintenance costs. Additionally, 49% of respondents express dissatisfaction with their current irrigation systems, highlighting challenges such as energy-and labor-intensive processes, long distances to water sources, and unreliable water availability. Improving irrigation infrastructure could enhance crop yield stability and resilience.



Uganda Market Research: Key Indicators

Here are the Uganda market research key indicators at overall level and by gender.

Indicator	Respondents	Female	Male		
Profile & General Energy Access	Profile & General Energy Access				
% female respondents	49	100	-		
% aware of clean energy benefits	64	62	70		
Lighting Access					
% using solar lantern (anyone who mentioned)	43	42	44		
% 'very satisfied' with current lighting access	31	30	35		
Cooking Methods					
% using artisanal woodstove as the primary cooking stove	47	50	42		
% using wood as primary fuel source	89	89	88		
% 'very satisfied' with current primary cooking method	35	33	39		
Irrigation Behaviors					
% engaged in farming activities	90	90	96		
% using rainfall water source for farming, of those farming	90	88	94		
% using manual methods of irrigation, of those farming	21	23	16		
% irrigating their land but not with manual methods of irrigation, of those farming	5	6	5		
% not irrigating farming land, of those farming	75	72	80		
% 'very satisfied' with current irrigation method, of those farming	26	28	19		

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01: Profile

This section helps you understand demographic profile and general energy access of refugee and host community members.

The key indicators in this section are:

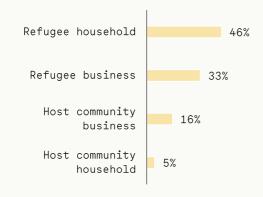
- Respondent Profile: What are the demographics of the refugees and host community members?
- General Energy Access: What proportion of your respondents are aware of clean energy and have access to clean energy products?



A typical respondent is a 39-year-old refugee, living in a household of 9, with farming as the main source of income.

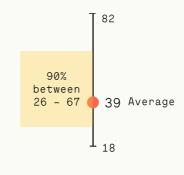
Respondent Type

Q: Which of the following best describes your current household/business status? (n = 275)



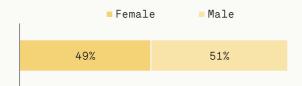
Age

Q: Would you mind sharing your age with me? (n = 273)



Gender

Q: What is your gender? (n = 275)



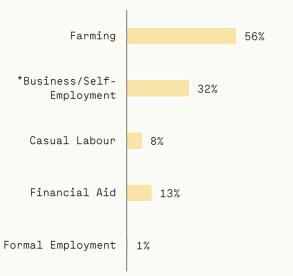
Household size

Q: Including yourself, how many people live in your home? (n = 274)



Main Source of Income

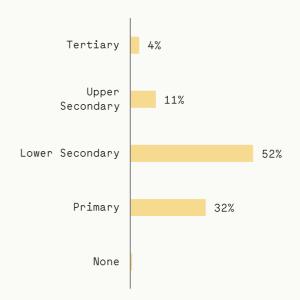
Q: What is your household main source of income? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 275).

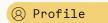


^{*}Business/Self-Employment refers to entrepreneurial activities, including operating a shop, selling products, or offering services. 60 — decibels

Education Level; Highest in Household

Q: What is the highest level of education anyone in your household has completed? (n = 275)

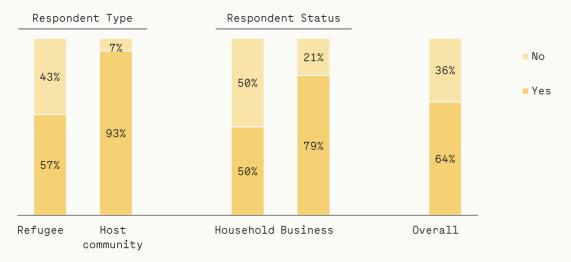




Nearly two-thirds of respondents are aware of the benefits of clean energy solutions. This is higher among host community members and businesses.

Awareness of Clean Energy Benefits

Q: Are you aware of the benefits of clean energy solutions (e.g., solar energy, clean cookstoves)? (n = 275 | Refugees = 218, Host community = 57 | Household = 139, Business = 136)



Segmentation of refugees and the host community is based on the full sample size. Similarly, household status (refugee and host) and business status (refugee and host) are also based on the full sample size.

Affordable energy and reduced fuel consumption are the topmentioned benefits of using clean energy solutions.

Benefits of Clean Energy Solutions

Q: What are the benefits of clean energy solutions (e.g., solar energy, clean cookstoves)? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 177)

48%

talk about affordable energy (31% of all respondents)

38%

mention reduced fuel consumption (24% of all respondents)

21%

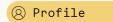
say ability to save time

(14% of all respondents)

66

The clean cookstove doesn't consume much fuel, and it cooks faster than a traditional open-fire. It doesn't pollute the kitchen area with smoke, which makes the cooking process comfortable.

Male Refugee, 43



76% of respondents are already using clean energy solutions, with solar lanterns and clean cookstoves being the most commonly accessed products.

Clean Energy Solutions Used Currently

Q: Which of the following renewable energy solutions are you currently using? (n = 275 | Refugees = 218, Host community = 57 | Household = 139, Business = 136). Multi-select

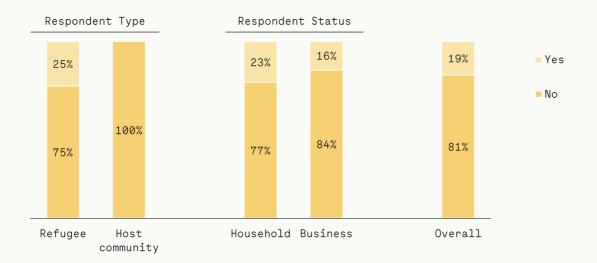
Lighting Sources	Refugee	Host community	Household	Business	Overall
Solar lantern	39%	56%	37%	47%	42%
*Clean cookstoves	31%	44%	18%	50%	34%
Solar home system	23%	33%	22%	29%	25%
Solar water pump	1%	2%	0%	2%	1%
None	28%	12%	34%	15%	24%

76% of respondents are currently using clean energy solutions.

19% of respondents purchased their current renewable energy solution(s) from a Mercy Corps programme, and all of them are refugees.

Energy Solutions Purchased from Mercy Corps

Q: Did you purchase [renewable energy solutions] from a Mercy Corps programme? (n = 206 | Refugees = 156, Host community = 50 | Household = 92, Business = 114)



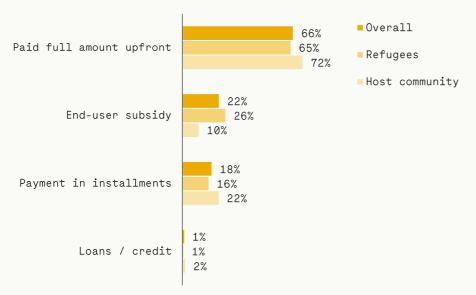
^{*}Clean stoves include cooking gas, electric stoves, and more efficient biomass stoves



2 in 3 respondents paid for their renewable energy solution in full up-front.

Financing Options Used to Purchase Renewable Energy Solutions

Q: Which of the following financing options did you use to purchase? (n = 208) . Multi-select



^{*}Demand side subsidy for the end user includes financial assistance from the government, NGO, or other organisations



66

The clean energy solutions are easy to acquire because some companies pay part of the purchase cost, and the balance can be paid in installments.

Male Host community member, 61

^{*}In reality, it is not that companies pay part of the purchase cost, but that they receive subsidies to lower the cost for end-users.

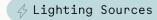


02: Lighting Sources

This section explores what sources of lighting and energy refugees and host community members are using, along with their satisfaction levels and factors influencing their satisfaction.

The key indicators in this section are:

- Type of Lighting Sources: What lighting sources are refugees and host community members using?
- Availability of Lighting: How long do refugees and host community members use lighting and/or energy each day?
- Monthly Expenditure: How much are they spending on lighting and/or energy?
- Satisfaction: How satisfied are they with their current lighting sources, and what are the drivers of satisfaction?



The most common lighting source among refugees are torches or flashlights, while host community members and businesses mainly use solar lanterns.

Lighting Sources Used Currently

Q: What are you currently using for lighting and/or energy? (n = 275). Multi-select

Lighting Solutions	Refugees	Host community	Household	Business	Overall
Solar lantern	39%	58%	42%	50%	43%
Torch or flashlight	41%	7%	45%	26%	33%
Solar home system	25%	32%	25%	32%	27%
Candle	4%	-	4%	3%	3%
Kerosene lamp	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%

Segmentation of refugees and the host community is based on the full sample size. Similarly, household status (refugee and host) and business status (refugee and host) are also based on the full sample size.

On average, respondents use their energy solutions for 6 hours per day with an average spend of ~5,450 UGX per month.

Average Daily Hours of Lighting

Q: On average, how many hours a day do you use the lighting and/or energy? (n = 275).

Average Monthly Spending on Lighting

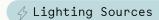
Q: On average, how much do you spend per month on lighting and/or energy? (n = 275).

	Average Hours Daily
Refugees	5
Host community	10
Household	5
Business	7
Overall	6

	Average Spending Monthly
Refugees	6,383 UGX (~\$1.70 USD)
Host community	2,017 UGX (~\$0.55 USD)
Household	5,905 UGX (~\$1.57 USD)
Business	4,977 UGX (~\$1.33 USD)
Overall	5,446 UGX (~\$1.48 USD)

Insight

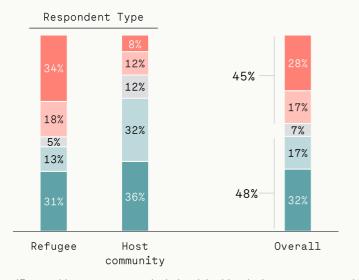
Host community members use lighting for longer durations daily (10 hours) compared to refugees (5 hours), yet their average monthly spending on lighting is lower (2,017 UGX) compared to refugees (6,382 UGX). This disparity is likely due to host community members having better access to more affordable lighting options, such as solar solutions (90% vs. 64%), which allow them to use lighting for longer periods at a lower cost. In contrast, refugees often rely on more expensive or less efficient alternatives, such as torches or flashlights, which are used by 47% of refugees compared to just 7% of host community members.



Nearly half of respondents are satisfied with their current lighting sources.

Level of Satisfaction with Current Lighting/Energy Solutions

Q: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your lighting and/or energy? (n = 275 | Refugees = 216, Host community members= 59)



[■] Very dissatisfied

- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neither
- Somewhat satisfied
- Very satisfied

Trends by lighting sources

Respondents using renewable* sources for lighting are more likely to report that they are 'very satisfied' with their current lighting/energy solutions (45%) compared to respondents using non-renewable sources** (8%).

Here are the top three self-reported outcomes for respondents who are satisfied and dissatisfied with their current lighting sources.

Reasons for Satisfaction

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 133)

Reasons for Dissatisfaction

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 124)

are Satisfied

Renewable Non-renewable

Because of:

- 1. Good lighting (58% of satisfied / 27% all respondents)
- Reduced energy expenses

(28% of satisfied / 13% all respondents)

Affordable lighting/energy solutions (28% of satisfied / 12% all respondents)

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- 1. Good lighting (88% of satisfied / 5% all respondents)
- 2. Affordable lighting/energy solutions (13% of satisfied / 1% all respondents)
- 3. Reduced energy expenses

(6% of satisfied / 1% all respondents)

45%

are Dissatisfied

Renewable

Because of:

- 1. Insufficient lighting (54% of dissatisfied / 8% all respondents)
- 2. Reliability issues (46% of dissatisfied / 7% all
- 3. High weather dependency

respondents)

(10% of dissatisfied / 2% all respondents)

Non-renewable

1. Insufficient lighting

(63% of dissatisfied / 22% all respondents)

- 2. High maintenance costs
- (40% of dissatisfied / 14% all respondents)
- 3. Reliability issues

(26% of dissatisfied / 9% all respondents)

^{*}Renewable energy sources include mini-grid, solar home systems, and solar lanterns **Non-renewable sources include torch or flashlight, candles, and kerosene lamps



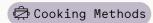
03:

Cooking Methods

This section looks at what refugees and host communities are using for cooking, along with their satisfaction of these sources, and factors influencing their satisfaction.

The key indicators in this section are:

- Cooking Methods Used: What types of cooking stoves and fuel sources are they currently using?
- Time Use: How long do refugees and host community members use cooking solutions per day?
- Monthly Expenditure: How much are they spending on cooking?
- Satisfaction: How satisfied are they with their current cooking methods, and what are the drivers of satisfaction?



Artisanal woodstoves and traditional open-fire stoves are the most used cooking stoves among respondents.

Types of Cooking Stoves Used

Q: Which of the following cooking stoves do you use? (n = 275 | Refugees = 218, Host community = 57 | Household = 139, Business = 136). Multi-select

	Refugees	Host community	Household	Business	Overall
Artisanal woodstove	49%	69%	53%	54%	53%
Traditional open-fire stove	45%	44%	48%	42%	45%
Artisanal charcoal stove	32%	25%	25%	38%	31%
Branded charcoal stove	6%	2%	2%	8%	5%
Branded woodstove	5%	2%	4%	4%	4%

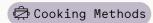
Artisanal woodstove and traditional open-fire stove, which use wood as the fuel source, are the most commonly used cooking stoves.

Primary Cooking Stove

Q: What is your primary cooking stove? (n = 275 | Refugees = 218, Host community = 57 | Household = 139, Business = 136). Single select

	Refugees	Host community	Household	Business	Overall
Artisanal woodstove	44%	61%	49%	46%	47%
Traditional open-fire stove	40%	27%	43%	31%	31%
Artisanal charcoal stove	9%	10%	4%	14%	9%
Branded woodstove	4%	2%	3%	4%	4%
Branded charcoal stove	3%	-	-	4%	2%

89% of respondents rely on wood as their primary fuel source, while 11% use charcoal.



Artisanal stoves are the most expensive, while traditional open-fire stoves remain the most affordable option.

Average Cost of Primary Cooking Stove

Q: Roughly how much did the [the primary cooking stove] cost? (n = 269).

	Primary Cooking Stove Cost
Artisanal charcoal stove	19,857 UGX (~\$5.41 USD)
Artisanal woodstove	16,059 UGX (~\$4.37 USD)
Branded charcoal stove	16,000 UGX (~\$4.36 USD)
Branded woodstove	15,400 UGX (~\$4.91 USD)
Traditional open-fire stove	9,182 UGX (~\$2.50 USD)

On average, respondents spend 5 hours a week procuring fuel and spend an average of 5 hours cooking daily.

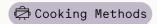
Q: On average, how much time do you spend on procuring or gathering fuel per week? (n = 275).

Q: On average, how many hours do you spend per day cooking? (n = 275) .

	Average Time Spent Procuring Fuels per Week (Hours)		Average Time Spent Cooking Per Day (Hours)
Refugees	5	Refugees	5
Host community	3	Host community	4
Household	6	Household	4
Business	4	Business	4
Overall	5	Overall	5

Insight

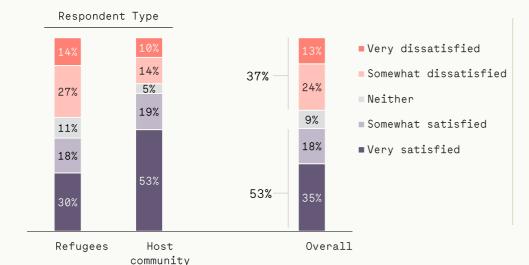
On average, refugees spend more time purchasing and collecting fuel for cooking, as well as cooking itself, compared to their host community peers. This is likely due to their greater reliance on less modern, less fuel-efficient cooking methods.



Half of respondents are satisfied with their current cooking solutions.

Level of Satisfaction with Current Cooking Solutions

Q: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your primary cooking stove and the fuel you use for cooking? (n = 275 | Refugees = 216, Host community = 59)



Trends by primary cooking stove

Respondents using improved cook stoves* are more likely to report being 'very satisfied' with their current cooking method (63%) compared to respondents using traditional stoves** (33%).

Here are the top three self-reported outcomes for respondents who are satisfied and dissatisfied with their current cooking solutions.

Reasons for Satisfaction*

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 133)

53%

are Satisfied

Reasons for Dissatisfaction*

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 103)

37%

are Dissatisfied

Improved cook stoves

Because of:

1. Low fuel consumption (62% of satisfied / 27% all respondents)

2. Ability to save time (47% of satisfied / 20% all respondents)

3. Reduced cooking expenses

(15% of satisfied / 6% all respondents)

Traditional stoves

1. Low fuel consumption (54% of satisfied / 8% all respondents)

2. Ability to save time (42% of satisfied / 6% all respondents)

3. Reduced cooking expenses (24% of satisfied / 4% all

respondents)

Because of:

1. Scarcity of fuel

Improved cook stoves

(57% of dissatisfied / 11% all

respondents)

2. Health concerns from smoke emissions (29% of dissatisfied / 6% all

respondents)

3. High fuel consumption (24% of dissatisfied / 4% all respondents)

Traditional stoves

1. Scarcity of fuel

(64% of dissatisfied / 15% all respondents)

2. Health concerns from smoke emissions (29% of dissatisfied / 7% all

(29% of dissatisfied / 7% all respondents)

3. High fuel consumption

(23% of dissatisfied / 5% all respondents)

^{*}Improved cook stoves include branded charcoal stove and woodstove

^{**}Traditional stoves include artisanal charcoal stove, artisanal woodstove, and traditional open-fire stove

^{*}The similarities in the reasons respondents like and dislike both improved and traditional stoves are likely due to the fact that both types are biomass stoves.



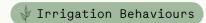
04: Irrigation Behaviours

This section unpacks how refugees and host communities are farming - types of farming system, irrigation system used, earnings from farming and satisfaction with current irrigation system(s).

The key indicators in this section are:

- Farming Engagement: Are refugees and host community members engaged in farming?
- Farming Practices: What types of land ownership and irrigation methods are they using? What type of crops are they growing?
- Farming Income: How much do they earn from farming?
- Irrigation Satisfaction: For those who irrigate, how satisfied are they with their current method—and why?

19



9 in 10 households engage in farming. The most common 5 crops grown are cassava, sorghum, maize, groundnuts, and 'simsim'.

Engagement in Farming Activities

Q: Does anyone in your household engage in farming or agricultural activities? (n = 275 | Refugees = 216, Host community members = 59)

Refugees Host Community Refugees Host Community Refugees Overall

Top Five Crops Grown Last 12 Months

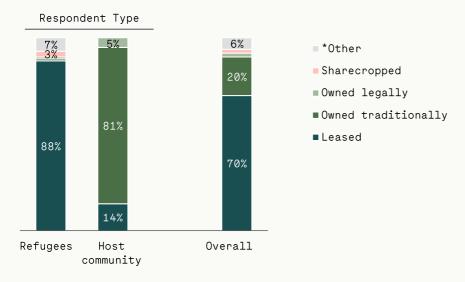
Of those that farm, Q: What are the top five crops you grew in the last 12 months? (Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB) (n = 247)

Most Common Five Crops Grown		
Cassava	88%	
Sorghum	67%	
Maize	64%	
Groundnuts	48%	
Sesame (Simsim)	47%	

9 in 10 refugees lease farmland, while most host community members cultivate land they traditionally own.

Type of Land Ownership

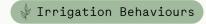
Of those that farm, Q: Which of the following best describes the land you farm? (n = 247 | Refugees = 189, Host community members = 58)



*Other includes land provided by a company/organization

Trends by respondent type

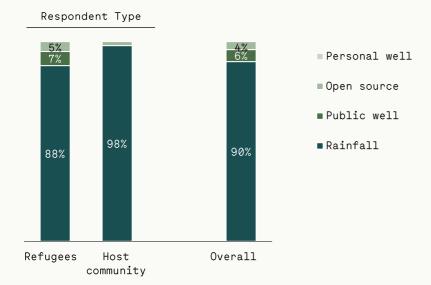
Expectedly, there are notable variations in land ownership across respondents. Host community members mostly have traditional land tenure (81%), while refugees mainly lease their farmland (88%). This is likely because host community members have established land rights (traditional or legal), while refugees are not from the area and lack secure ownership.



9 in 10 respondents rely on rainfall as their primary source of water for farming.

Water Source for Farming

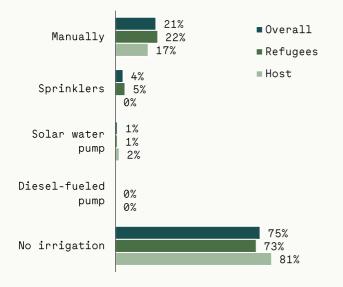
Q: What is your main source of water for your farming? (n = 247 | Refugees = 189, Host community members = 58)

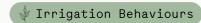


3 in 4 respondents do not irrigate their land. Among those who do, most irrigate manually.

Current Irrigation Methods

Q: How do you irrigate your farming land? (n = 247) . Multi-select

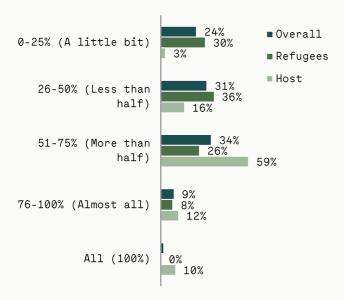




81% of host community members earn over half their household income from crops compared to 34% of refugees.

Farming Income Proportion

Of those that farm: In the last 12 months, what proportion (%) of your household's total income came from crops farmed? (n = 247 | Refugees = 189, Host community members = 58)



Farmers from host communities earned a higher median income than refugees in the last season.

Median Earnings from Farming in the Last Season

Q: Of those that farm: Approximately how much did you earn from farming during the last season? (n = 240)

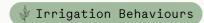
	Median Earnings
Refugees	108,000 UGX (~\$29 USD)
Host community members	800, 000 UGX (~ \$217USD)
Overall	200,000 UGX (~\$54 USD)

66

The water doesn't reach the plants sufficiently, and they end up not doing very well.

Female Refugee, 35

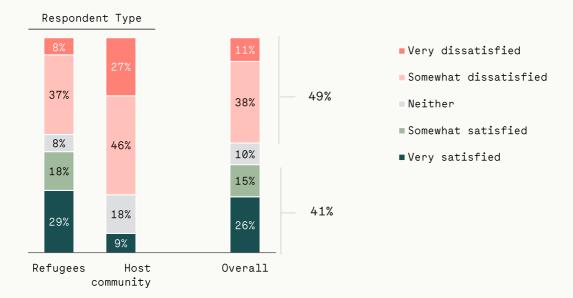
Refugees report lower median earnings compared to host community members, which may be attributed to limited access to land, inadequate funds for purchasing farming inputs, and a lack of farming experience. Additionally, some refugees may underreport their earnings to avoid jeopardizing their eligibility for aid, or they might be consuming a larger portion of their crops rather than selling them.



Nearly half of respondents are dissatisfied with their current irrigation solutions, while 41% are satisfied.

Level of Satisfaction with Current Irrigation Solutions

Q: Of those that irrigate: How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your irrigation? (n = 62 | Refugees = 51, Host community members = 11)



Here are the top three self-reported outcomes for respondents who are satisfied and dissatisfied with their current irrigation solutions.

Reasons for Satisfaction

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 25)

41% are Satisfied

Because of:

- 1. Low maintenance cost for irrigation (52% of satisfied / 13 respondents)
- 2. **Improved crop yield and resilience** (36% of satisfied / 9 respondents)
- 3. Reliable sources of water (12% of satisfied / 3 respondents)

Reasons for Dissatisfaction

Q: Can you explain your answer? Open-ended question, responses coded by 60dB (n = 31)

49%

are Dissatisfied

Because of:

- 1. Energy and labour-intensive irrigation solutions (58% of dissatisfied / 18 respondents)
- 2. Long distance to water source (32% of dissatisfied / 10 respondents)
- 3. Unreliable sources of water during the dry season (26% of dissatisfied / 8 respondents)



Appendix

Methodology

About the 60 Decibels Methodology

Between February and March 2024, 60 Decibels trained researchers conducted 275 phone interviews with refugee and host community members in Bidibidi refugee settlement and Yumbe district in Northern Uganda.

The respondents were randomly selected from contacts provided by Mercy Corps, which included both the general refugee settlement communities and respondents of previous non-energy programmes. Out of 275 completed interviews, 216 were conducted with refugees and 59 with host communities.

Here is the breakdown of how we collected this data:

Uganda
1,764
275
47%
Arabic, Aringa, English, Kakwa, Lugbara, Madi
18 mins
90%
5%

Guidelines for research standards suggest 50-60% response rate is acceptable and often used in social research, but monitoring for bias is advised.

A lower response rate may introduce non-response bias — meaning our sample might not be representative of the population.

Metric

Currency conversion rate

Calculation

During data collection, all monetary values were provided in Ugandan Shillings (UGX). Results reported in both UGX and United States Dollars (USD) where relevant to support global comparability used the exchange rate of 1 USD = 3,672 UGX at the time of writing from www.xe.com.



We do not have proper lighting at home. We use a torch and sometimes phone light which does not allow the kids to study at night.

Male Refugee, 33

Ideas for How to Use these Results

Here are ideas for ways to engage your team and use these results to fuel discussion and inform decisions.

Review Your Results	Review your results and qualitative respondent responses. There's a lot of interesting feedback in there!
Engage Your Team	 Send the report to your team & invite feedback, questions and ideas. Sometimes the best ideas come from unexpected places! Set up a team meeting & discuss what's most important, celebrate the positives, and identify next steps.
Spread The Word	Reach a wider audience on social media & show you're invested in your respondents.
Close The Loop	 We recommend posting on social media/website/blasting an SMS saying a 'thank you to everyone who took part in the recent survey with our research partner 60 Decibels, your feedback is valued, and as a result, we'll be working on XYZ' After reading this report, don't forget to let us know what you thought: [Click Here]!
Take Action!	 Collate ideas from team into an action plan including responsibilities. Keep us updated, we'd love to know what changes you make based on these insights. Set up the next Lean Data project – we recommend checking in again in 6 to 12 months.

About 60 Decibels

60 Decibels is the world's leading customer insights company for social impact. We bring speed and repeatability to social measurement, making it easy to listen directly to the people who matter most. Our network of 1,600+ researchers in 95+ countries gives you global reach. Couple this with standardized questions across thousands of projects and you get the largest data set of social performance benchmarks worldwide — with a focus on Financial Inclusion, Off-Grid Energy, and Agriculture value chains. These data help investors, funders, Fortune 500 companies, and NGOs understand their impact performance relative to their peers. Get in touch to find out more about our award-winning approach to impact measurement.

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Thank You For Working With Us!

Let's do it again sometime.

We'd love to hear your feedback on working with 60dB; take 5 minutes to fill out our feedback survey here!

Stay In Touch

Please sign up for <u>The Volume</u>, our monthly collection of things worth reading.