

Multi-sectoral rapid needs assessment amongst newly arrived refugees

Southwest and West Nile, Uganda

October 2022

Objective of the assessment

To establish an evidence-base and increase partners understanding of

- push/pull factors and movement intentions of new arrivals between countries of origin and Uganda, and between holding/collection centres in Uganda and refugee settlements
- most urgent needs of newly arrived refugees in Nakivale and Rhino Camp (particularly WASH, food security and energy related needs)
- medium-long term livelihoods related needs of newly arrived refugees in Nakivale and Rhino Camp
- gaps in current service provision to new arrivals residing in holding/collection centres and Nakivale settlement and Rhino Camp

Methodology

Household survey

Simple random sampling in the Nakivale –Rhino Camp zones receiving new arrivals

95% confidence level and 10% margin of error

Only refugees settled in Nakivale and Rhino Camp since January 2022

Sample size:

Nakivale 107 households

Rhino 112 households

Key informant interviews (KIIs)

7 KIIs in each settlement (OPM, UNHCR, NGOs + community leaders)

3 KIIs in the holding/collection centre (Nyakabande and Keri): UNHCR, NGOs + community leaders

Focus group discussions (FGDs)

2 in each settlement disaggregated by gender (community members)

Data collection time

Data collected between 26 July and 14 of August 2022

Limitations

- Findings cannot be generalised to entire populations in assessed settlements nor to the entire group of new arrivals.
- Lower level of confidence and a wider margin of error for indicators calculated over a subset of the sample.
- KIs conducted remotely were challenged by poor connectivity, the lack of personal interaction, and by the risk to lose the respondent's attention.
- **Response bias:** certain indicators, may be under-reported or over-reported due to a social desirability bias (i.e., the tendency of people to provide what they perceive to be the "right" answers to certain questions).
- **Indicators** are based on individuals' experiences and perceptions, so might not directly reflect the realities of services but rather individuals' perceptions of them.
- The use of **translators** may cause the loss of parts of the information communicated by the respondent or the omission of nuances

Sectors/topics under scope

- Demographics
- Movement intentions
- Food security
- Livelihoods
- WASH
- Energy
- MHSPSS
- Shelter
- Peaceful coexistence
- Accountability to affected population

Key findings

Demographic

Majority of the respondents are female working age farmers with no or low level of education.

The average household' size is smaller in Nakivale (4 members) compared to Rhino Camp (7 members).

The average number of children per household is higher in Rhino Camp (5) than in Nakivale (2).

Push and Pull factors

Conflicts and instability are the most frequently reported factors driving displacement.

Improvement of the security situation is the most frequently reported factor that would enable return to home country.

Improvement of services and employment possibilities was most frequently reported by South Sudanese refugees.

South Sudanese refugees in reception centre willingly move to settlements looking for better resources/services, while Congolese refugees more frequently see it as a last resort.

Most urgent needs

Main gaps were identified by assessed households and participants in the Food Security and WASH sectors.

Distribution of water was often reported unstable and scarce in both settlements.

Some KIIs highlighted the **increase of malnutrition cases** in both settlements.

Food related needs are most urgent in Nyakabande Holding Centre while **WASH related needs** are prominent in Keri Collection Centre.

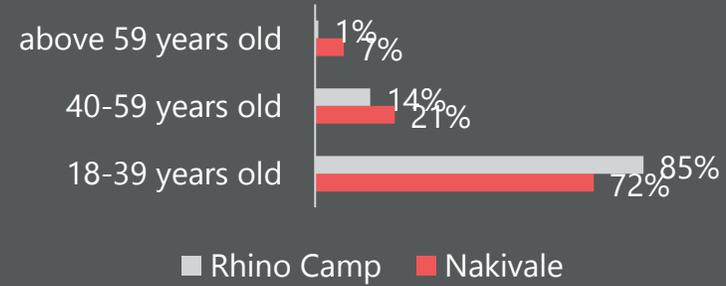
In both locations it was reported a **lack of drugs and medical supplies**.

KIIs in Nyakabande reported **NFI and shelter gaps**.

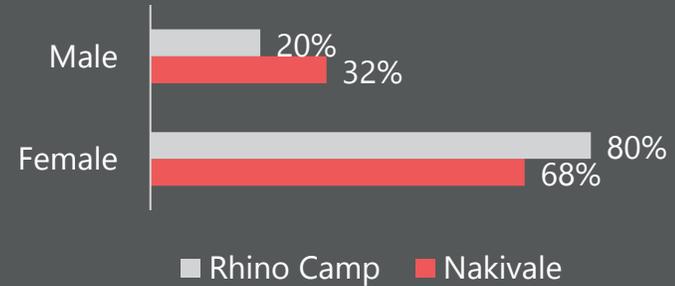
Most of the respondents are women aged between 18 and 39 and have a low or none level of education

Demographics

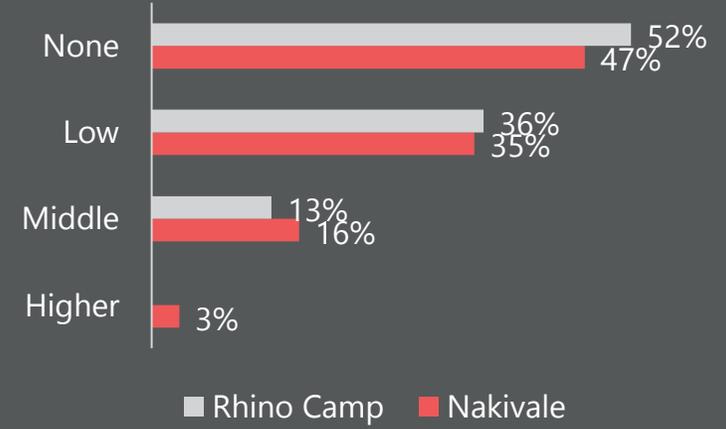
Respondent average age, by location



Respondent gender, by location



Respondent average education level*, by location



* Low education includes having either partial secondary, partial or complete primary, middle includes complete secondary or partial tertiary, higher includes complete tertiary or higher



Demographics

Households' average size and # of children are smaller in Nakivale compared to Rhino Camp

Average household size

Nakivale	3.9
Rhino Camp	7.4

Average # of children per household

Nakivale	2.3
Rhino Camp	4.9

% of households with at least a member with disabilities

Nakivale	34%
Rhino Camp	21%

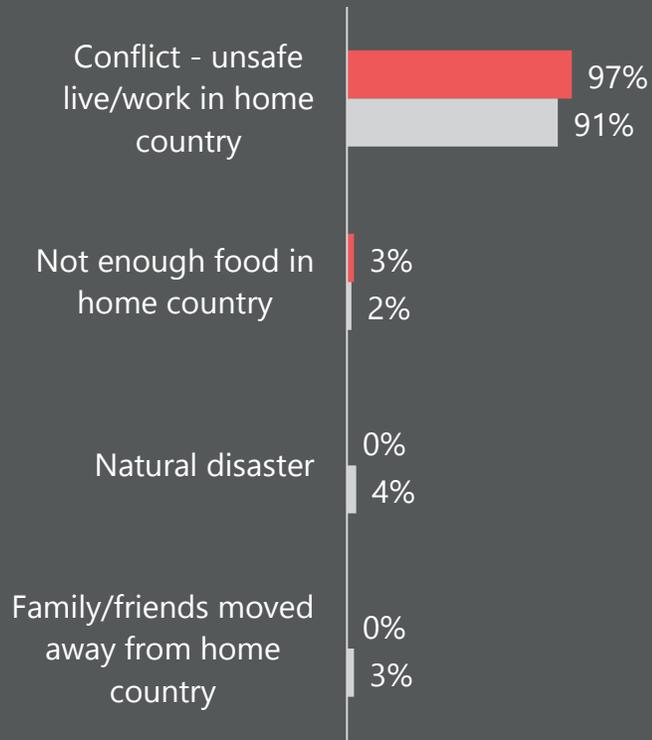
% of households with at least one 60+ years old member

Nakivale	11%
Rhino Camp	8%

Conflict is the main displacement driver. Different return enabling factors in SW and WN

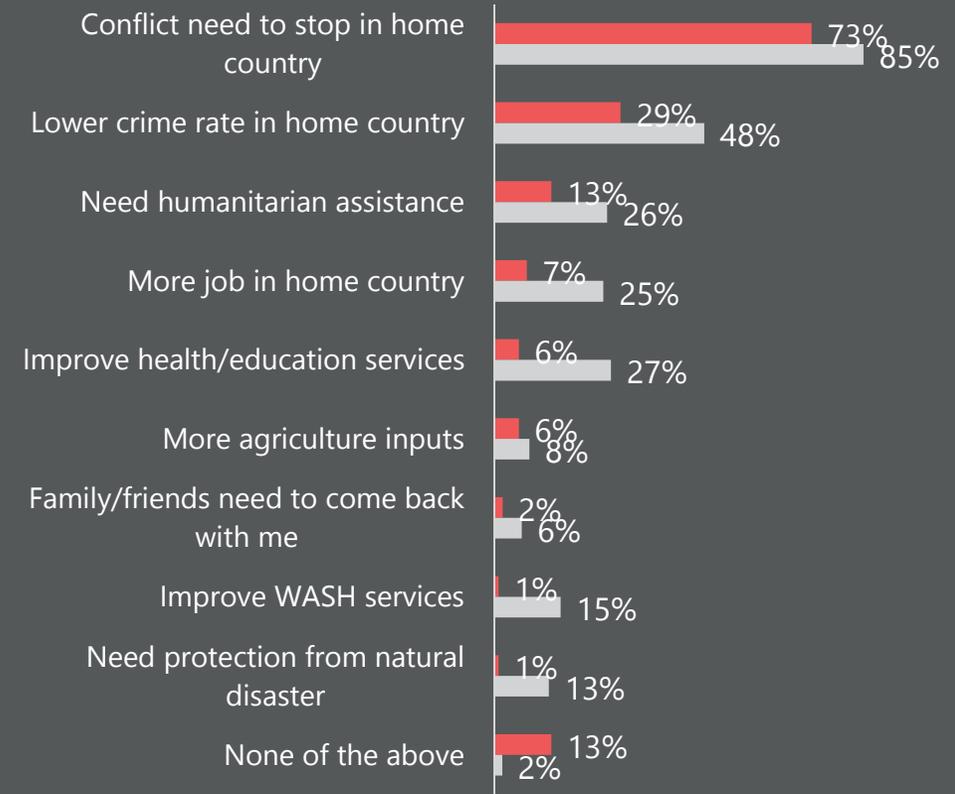
Movements indicators

% of households by main reason for leaving home country, by location*



■ Nakivale ■ Rhino Camp

% of households by changes that would enable return, by location**



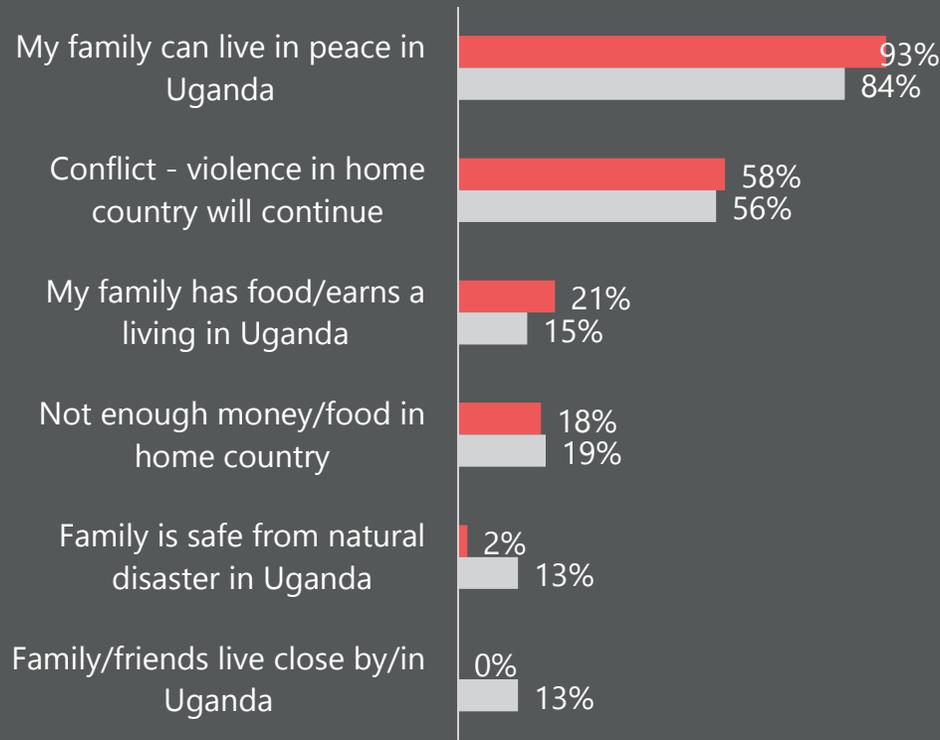
■ Nakivale ■ Rhino Camp

* Single choice ** Multiple choice

Safety is the main reason to settle in Uganda. Most of the households plan to stay long term

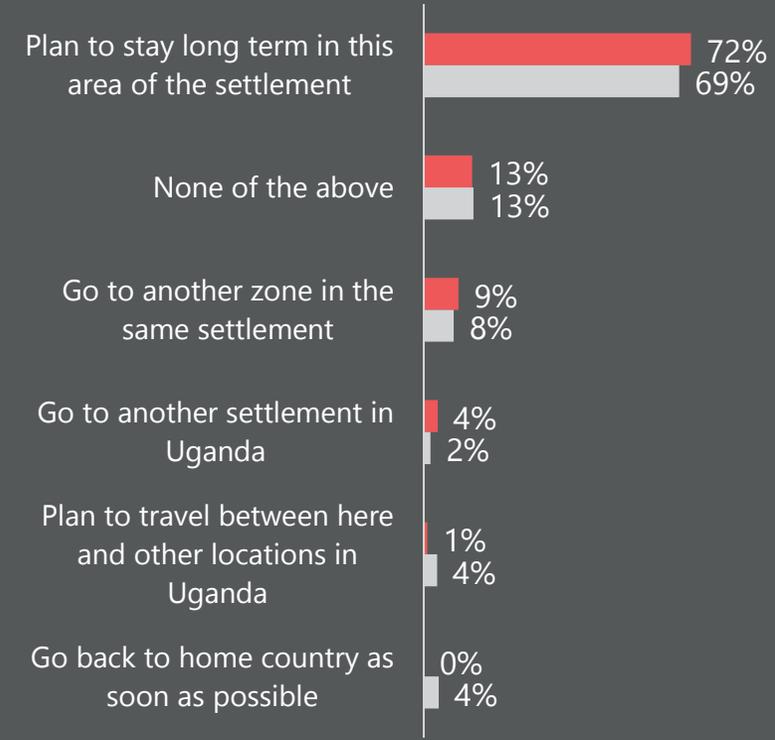
Movements indicators

% of households by reasons of movement from holding/collection centre to settlement, by location**



■ Nakivale ■ Rhino Camp

% of households by main intention to move from settlement, by location*



■ Nakivale ■ Rhino Camp

* Single choice ** Up to 3 choices

Different elements affecting decisions to move from the holding/collection centres to the settlements

Movements indicators

Southwest

Factors encouraging refugees to stay in the holding centre:

- KIIs in Nyakabande mentioned that remaining in the holding centre facilitates connection with home country (*to check the security situation or to take care of businesses left behind, to seek out for personal belonging or for family members*)
- KIIs reported that some refugees fear that the living conditions in the settlements could be worse than in Nyakabande

Factors encouraging refugees to move to the settlements:

- Willingness to live in peace and holding centre being too close to the conflict area
- Lost hope on the improvement of the security situation
- Chances to access better living conditions

West Nile

Factors encouraging refugees to stay in the collection centre:

- None was reported

Factors encouraging refugees to move to the settlements:

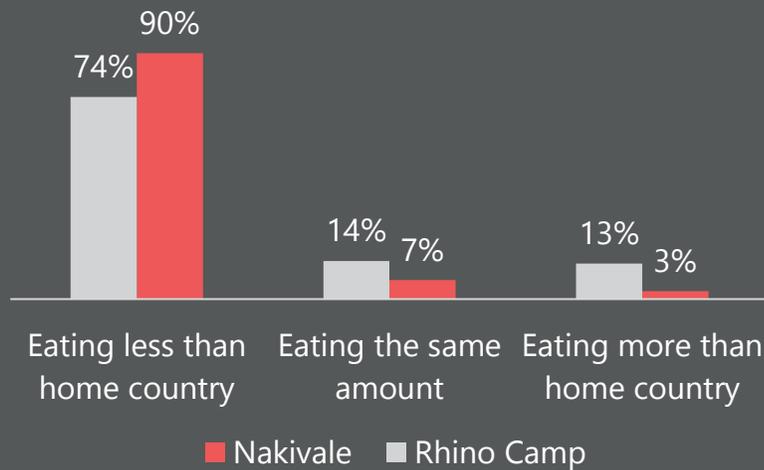
- KIIs mentioned that relocation is the only option offered to them
- Opportunities to find better living conditions



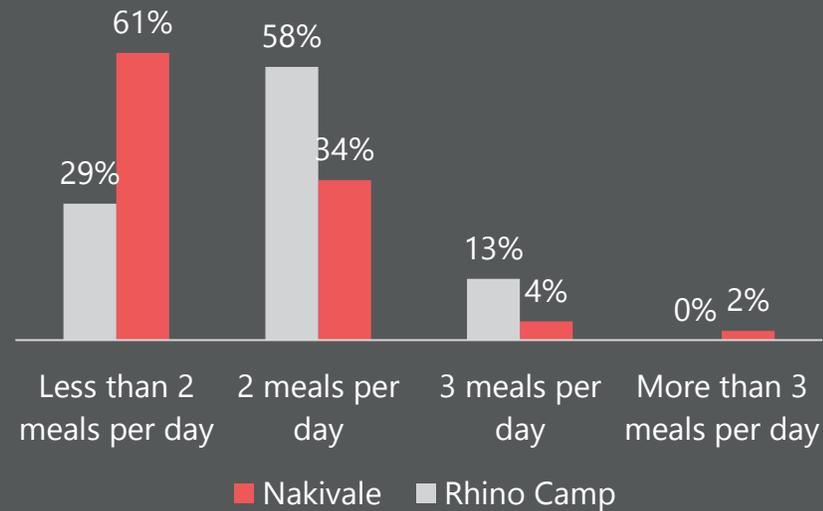
Food security

Majority of households in both settlements reported eating less than in home country

% of households by reported change in food intake, by location*



% of households by # of meals per day, by location*



Food security is a concern also in the holding/collection centre

*"The food there is so poor; even the posho was watery. So we feared to die from there and moved to the settlement."
(Female FGD participant in Nakivale)*

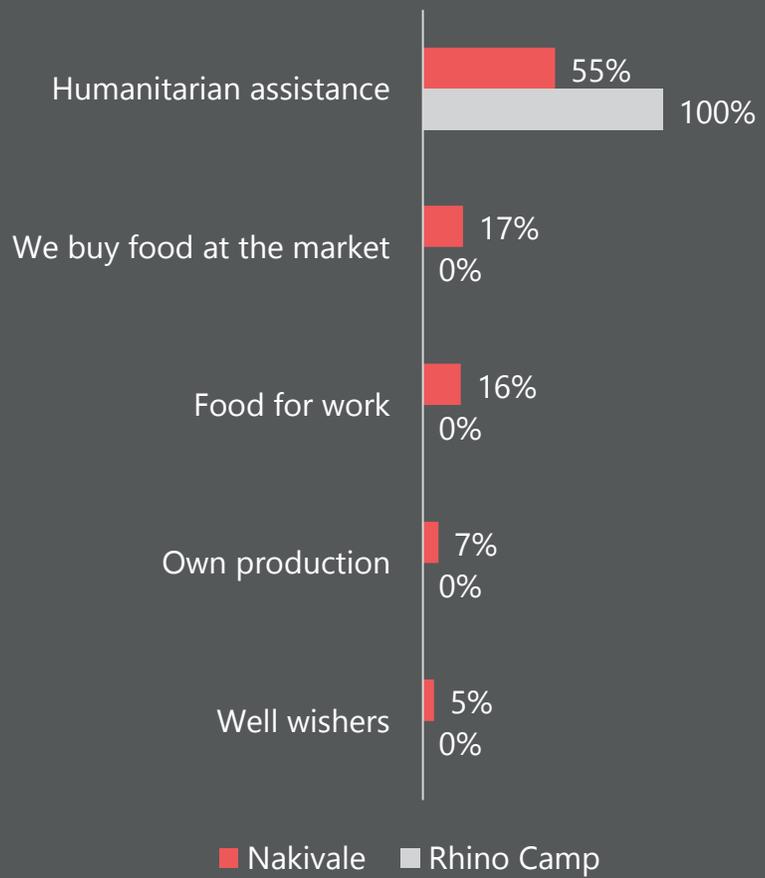
* Single choice



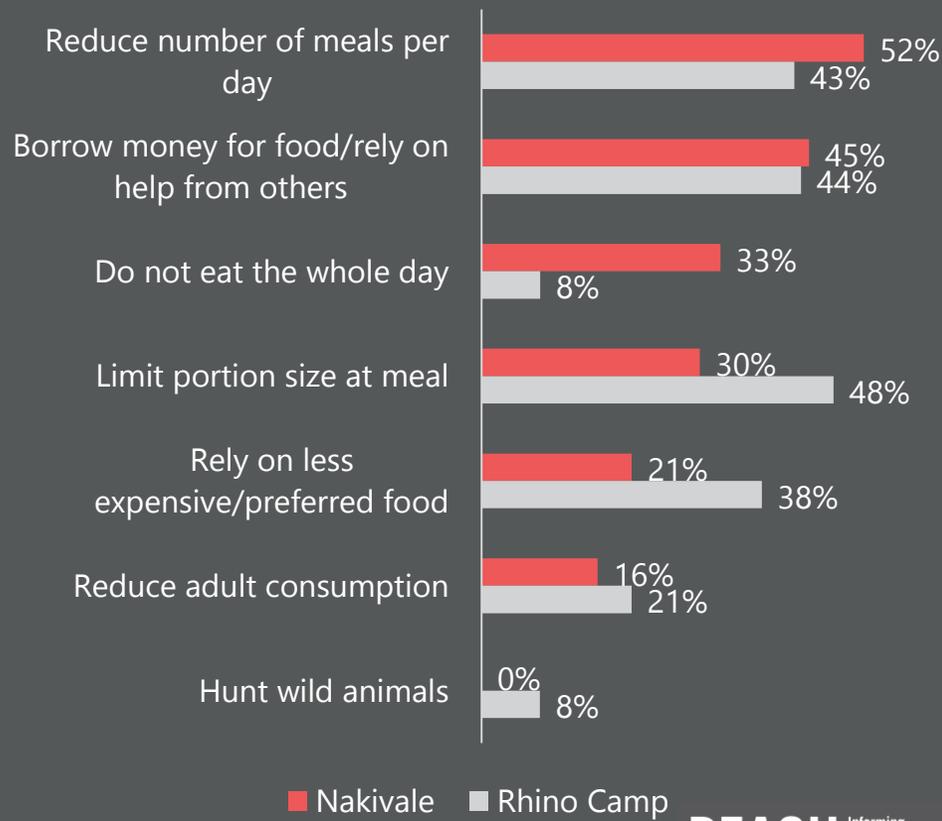
Food sources vary across locations. Main coping strategies lean toward reducing # of meals or meal portions, borrowing money

Food security

% of households by source of food, by location*



% of respondent by type of strategy adopted for coping with lack of food, by location**

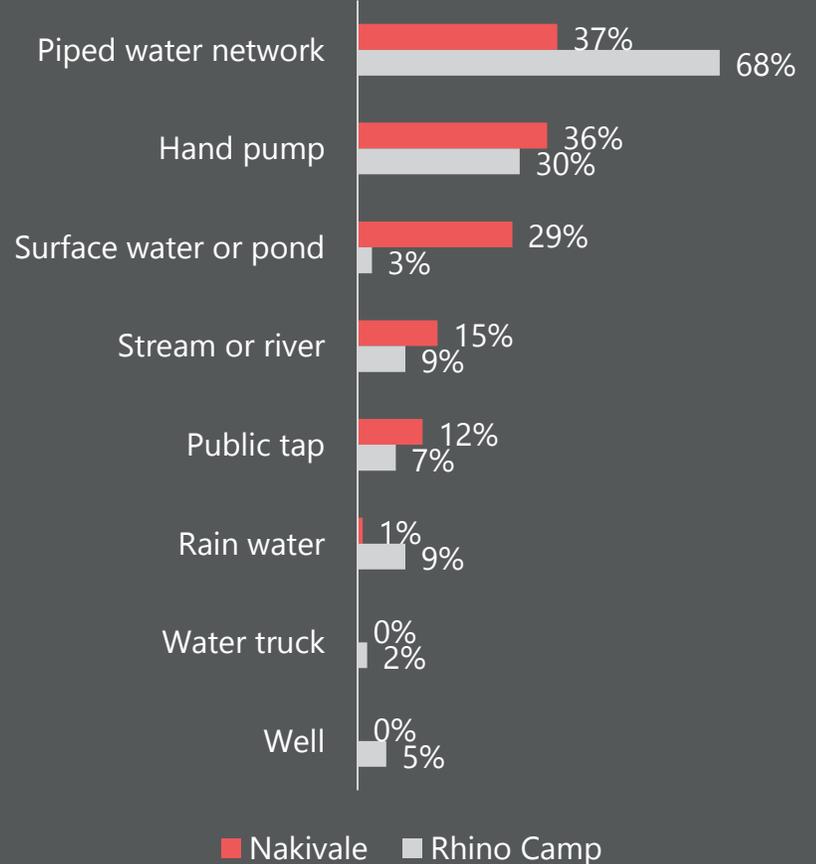


* Single choice ** Multiple choice

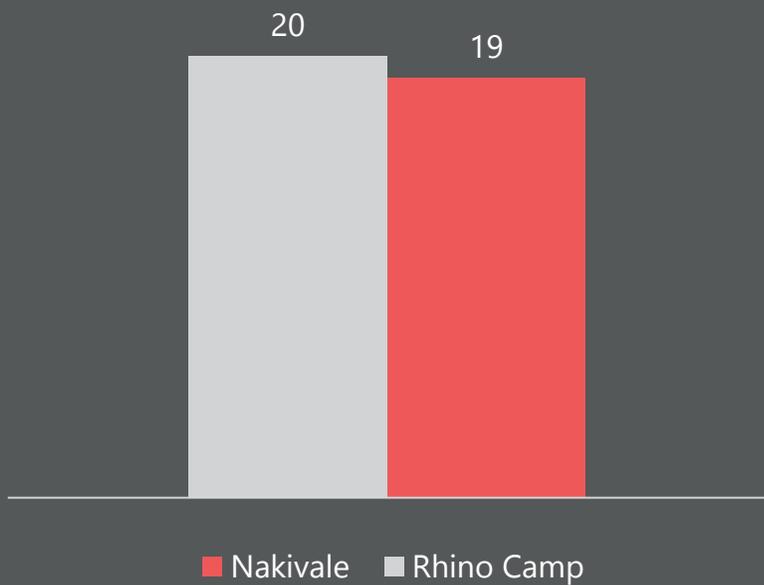


Water most urgent need in Keri CC and Rhino Camp; however, infrastructure in Nakivale seems lacking (source: UN-Habitat)

% of respondent by water source, by location*



Average amount of water collected per person in the last day water was collected, by location **

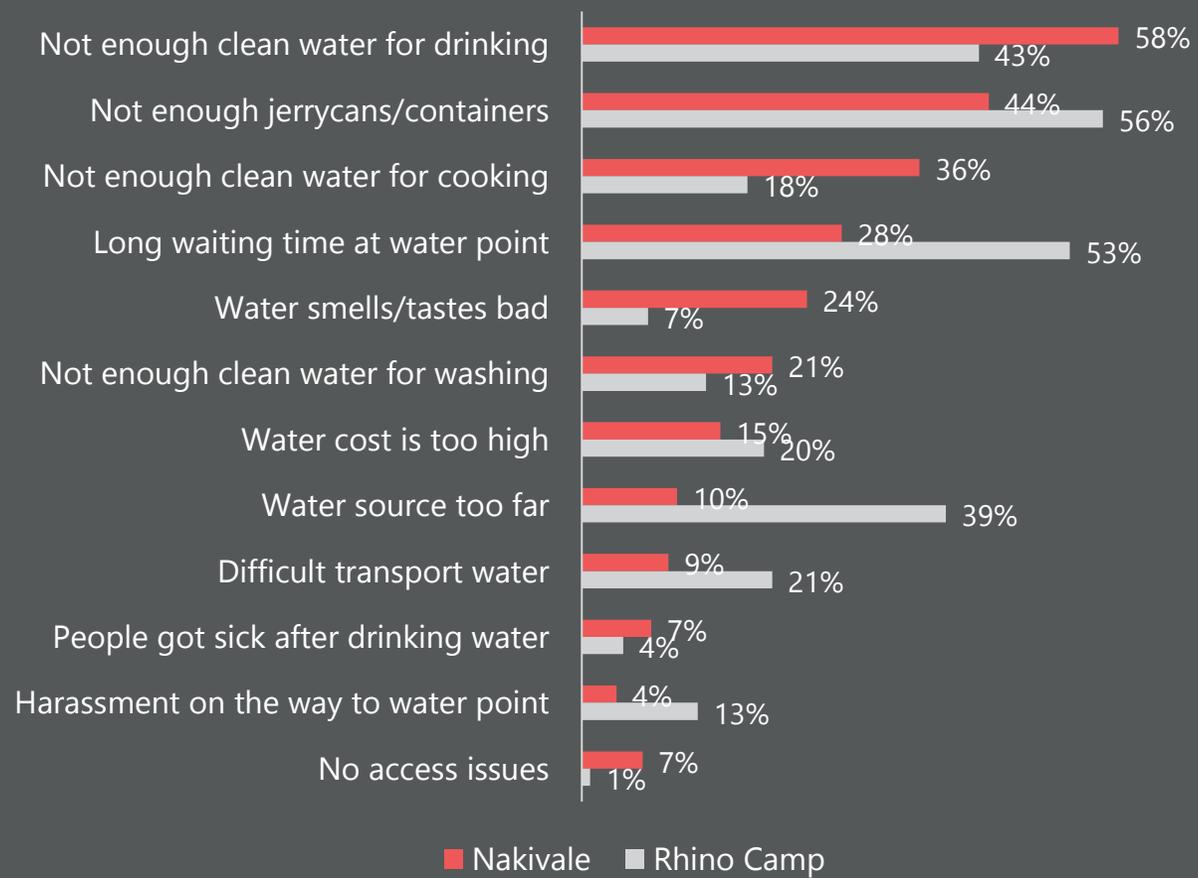


* Up to 3 choices ** Calculated indirectly: (# jerry cans' capacity * times filled per day) / hh size



Low quantity of water or lack of containers, main barriers in Nakivale. Distance to water sources or long queues mostly reported in Rhino Camp

% of households by barrier in accessing water, by location*



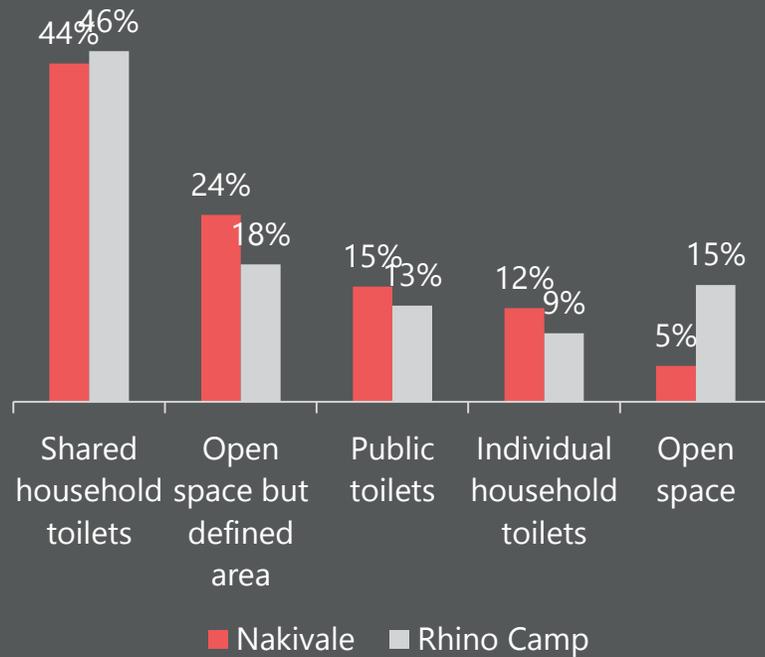
* Multiple choice



Shared toilets most commonly reported toilet type. Reportedly, # of facilities is limited, they are far away and with limited lighting (WN)

WASH

% of households by type of toilet accessed, by location*



% of households by barrier in accessing WASH facilities, by location**



*"There is only one toilet which is shared amongst many households. This is not healthy and so they should build more toilets for us."
(Female FGD participant – Nakivale)*

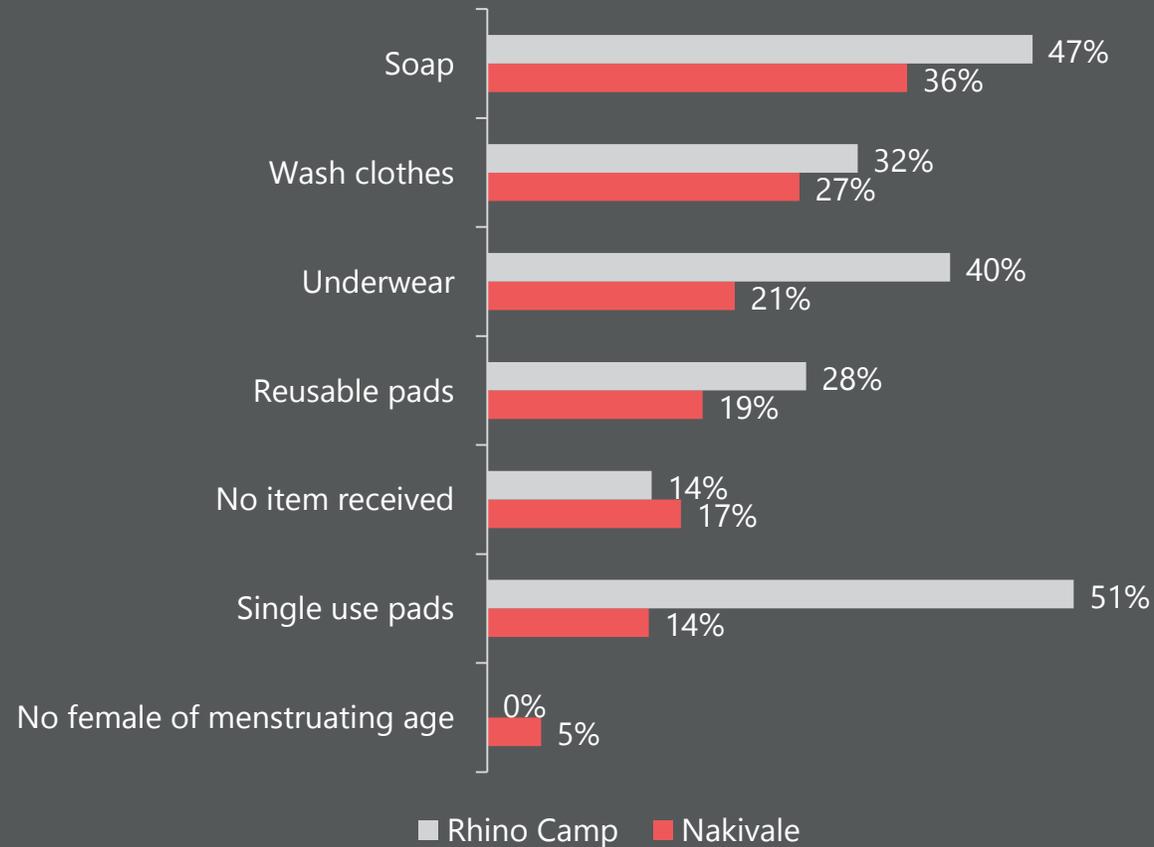
* Single choice ** Multiple choice



WASH menstrual kits

Assessed households in Rhino Camp more often reported to have received menstrual kits than those in Nakivale

% of households by type of NFIs received, by location*

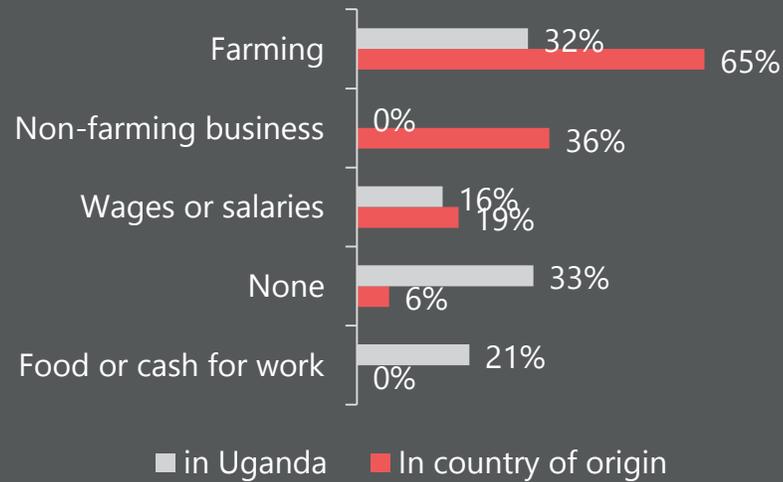


* Multiple choice

The households' income situation has changed importantly after the displacement

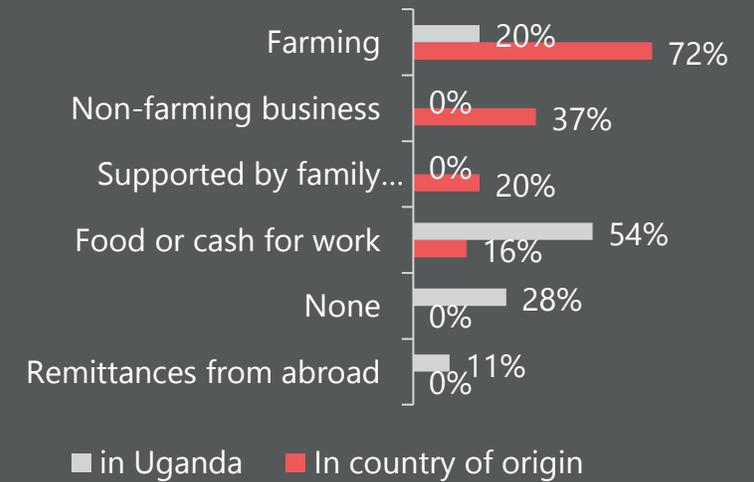
Nakivale

% of household by reported main sources of income, by location*



Rhino Camp

% of household by reported main sources of income, by location*



Livelihoods

The large majority of assessed households was able to provide for themselves in their country of origin through farming activities or businesses such as food store, clothing store and market stands.

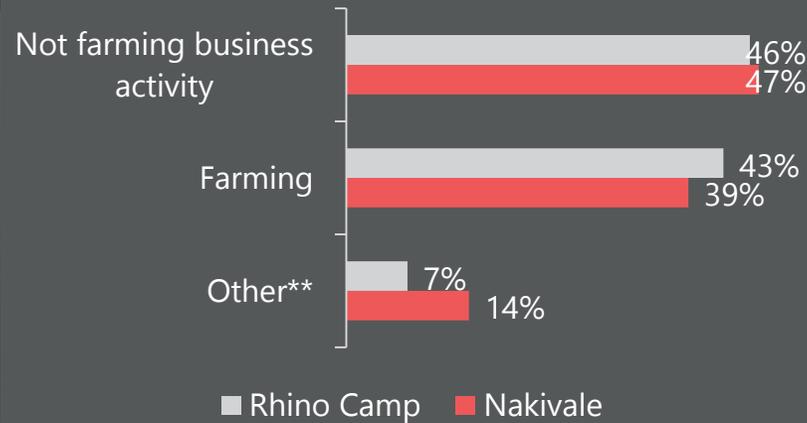
Skills: in both settlements FGDs participants reported being skilled in farming or cattle raising, driving, hairdressing, constructions and mechanics

* Multiple choice

A lack of financial capital is the main reported barrier preventing households to start not-farming income generating activities

Livelihoods

% of household by reported desired economic activity, by location



% of households reporting a lack of financial capital to start a business (not farming)*

Nakivale	80%
Rhino Camp	91%

Participant 2: "If given money, I can start a general merchandising." Participant 7: "I will put up a boutique like I had in [South] Sudan." (female FGD participant in Rhino Camp)

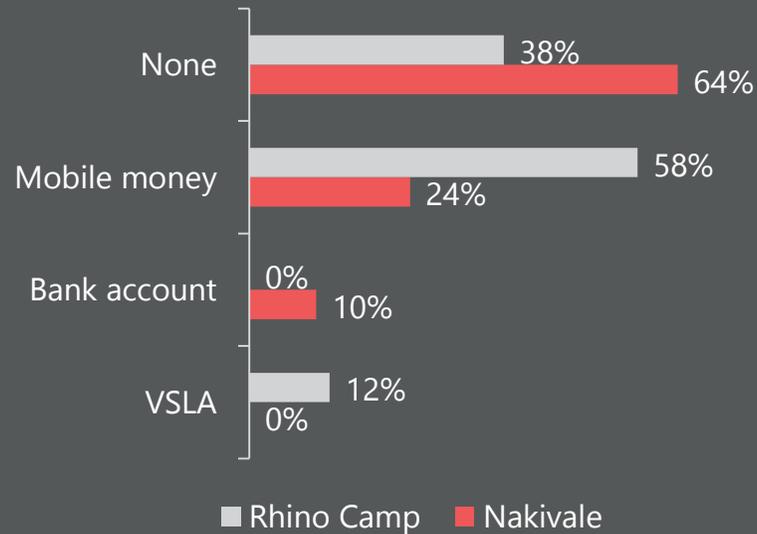
* Question asked only to those wishing to start an activity different from farming

** Others include fishing, wage/salary work, food/cash for work

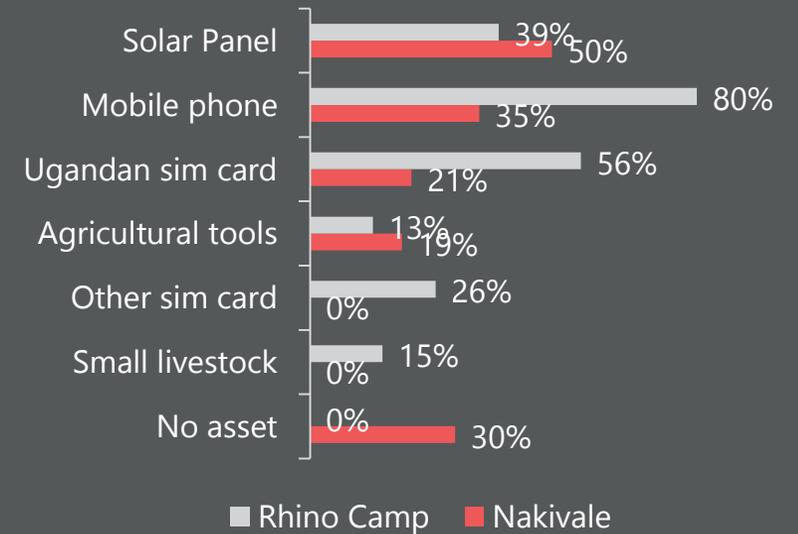
Assessed households in Nakivale reportedly have less access to financial and other assets than those in Rhino Camp

Livelihoods

% of household by reported savings account assets owned, by location*



% of household by reported not savings assets owned, by location**



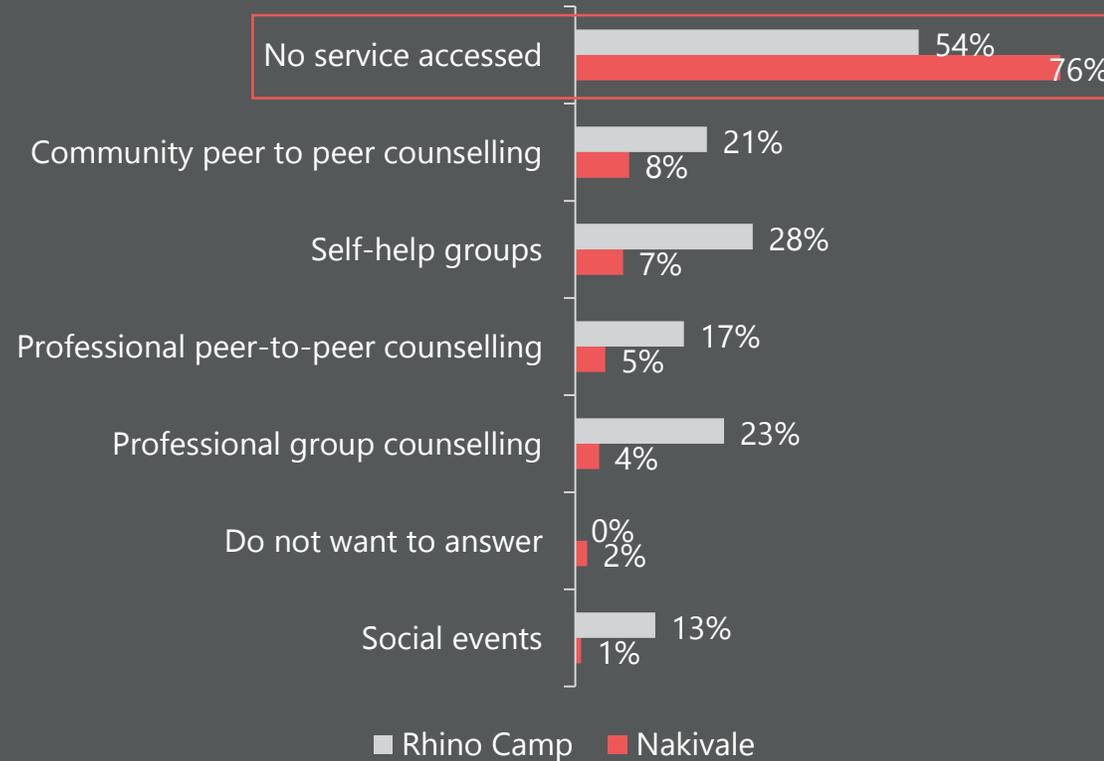
* Multiple choice, only top 4 reported

** Multiple choice

Majority of households in both locations reported not having received MHSSP support

Health and MHSSP

% of households by type of MHSSP services accessed in the past 3 months, by location*



Other gaps in the health sector

Gaps in health were reported by KIs and FGDs participants. Especially in temporary centers, **a lack of drugs** and medical supplies was highlighted.

Others reported **inappropriate treatment** or **long distance** to the nearest health facility among the barriers to accessing healthcare

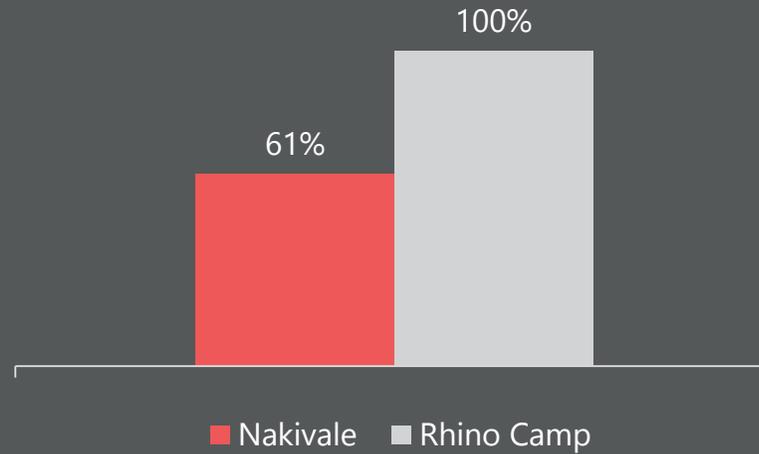
* Multiple choice



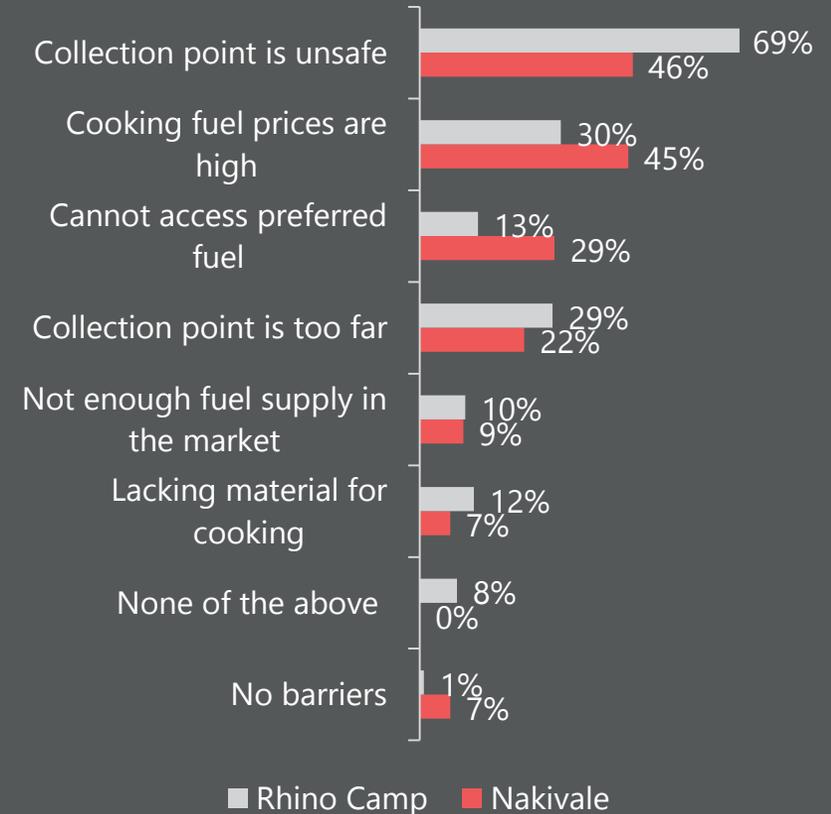
Energy

Firewood is the main reported source of cooking fuel; main barriers vary from collection point safety concerns and high costs

% of households accessing cooking fuel, by location



% of households by barrier in accessing cooking fuel, by location**



% of households by cooking fuel used*

	Charcoal	Firewood	Other
Nakivale	11%	83%	6%
Rhino Camp	10%	90%	0%

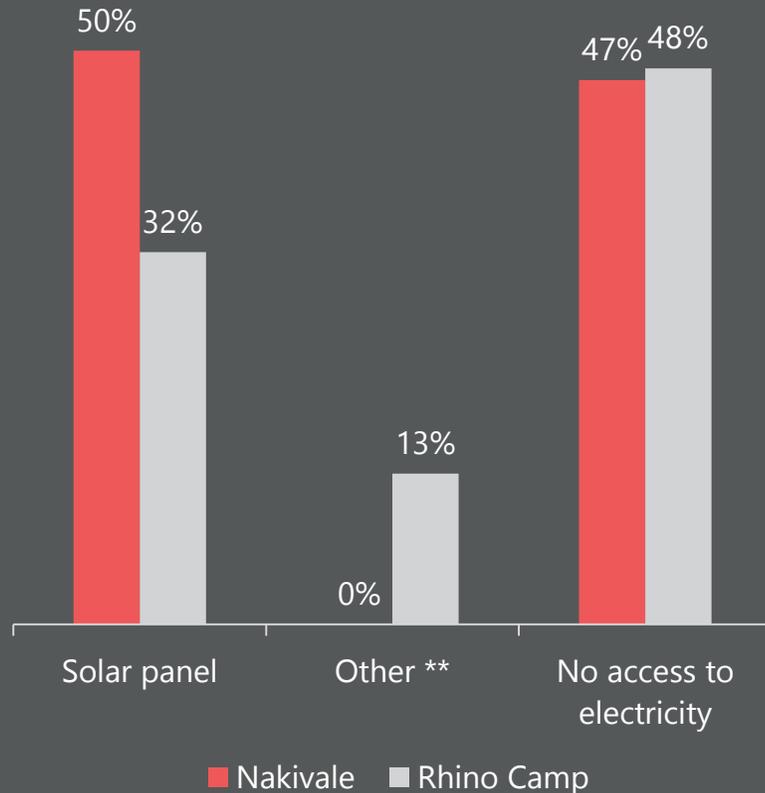
* Question asked only to those accessing cooking fuel, other includes mix of energy sources and crops residual; ** Multiple choice



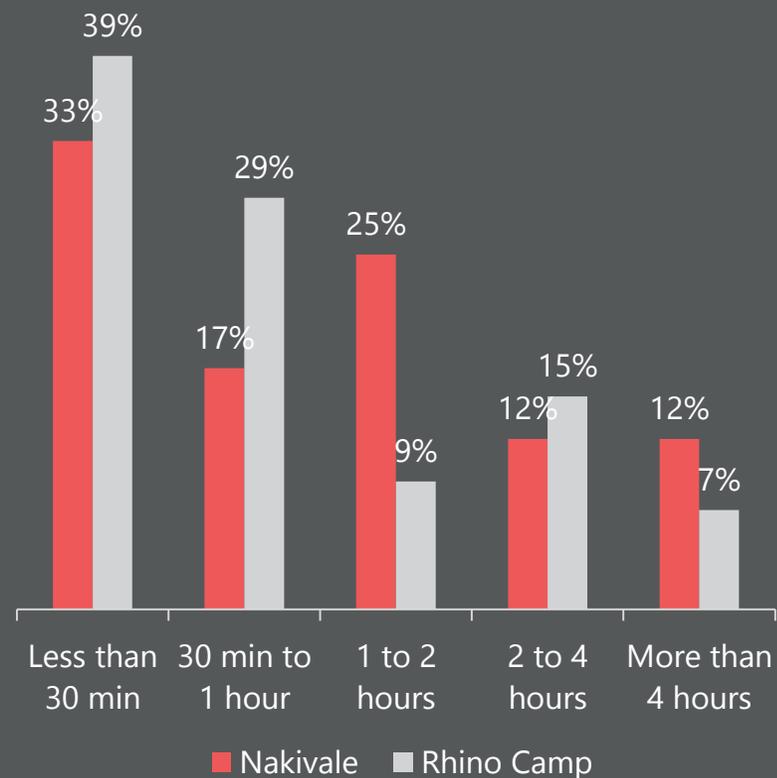
Almost half of the assessed households do not have access to electricity

Energy

% of households by type of source of electricity, by location*



% of households by distance to closest energy source, by location*

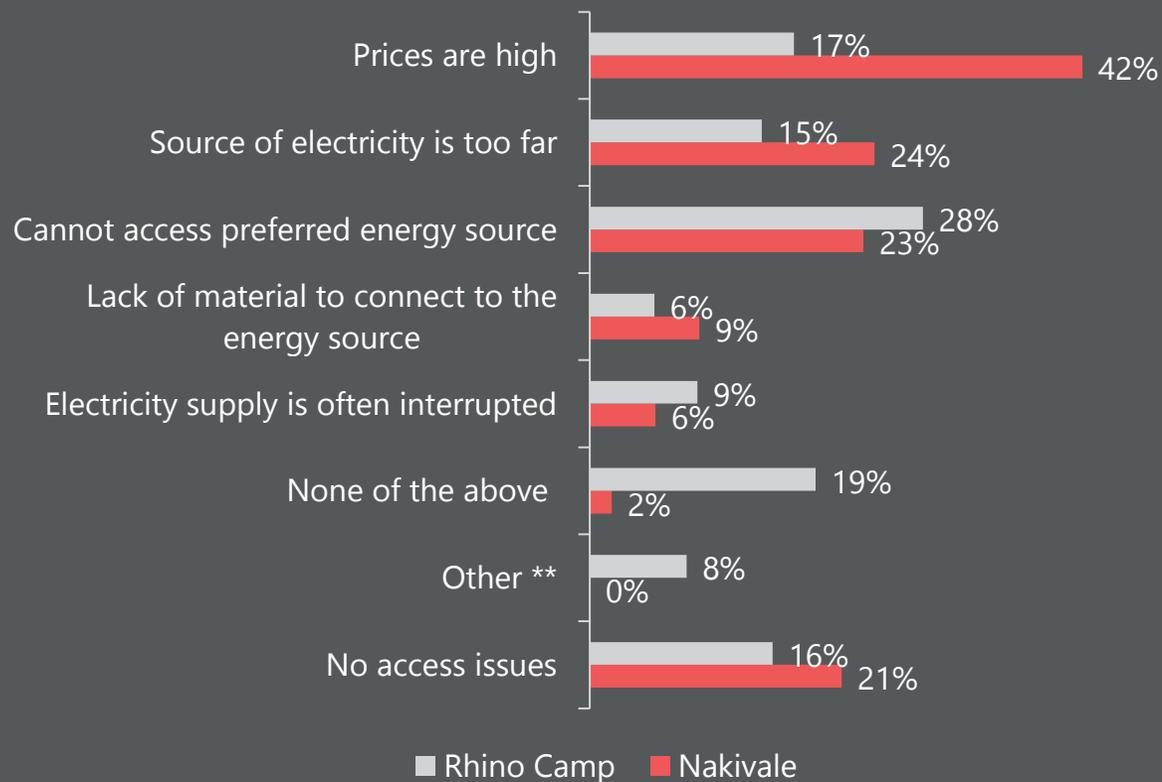


* Single choice
 ** Includes solar lamp, dry cell



Barriers in accessing electricity differ across locations. High costs are mostly relevant for Nakivale, while Rhino Camp's households reported a range of barriers

% of households by barrier in accessing electricity, by location*



* Multiple choice

** Other includes no access at all

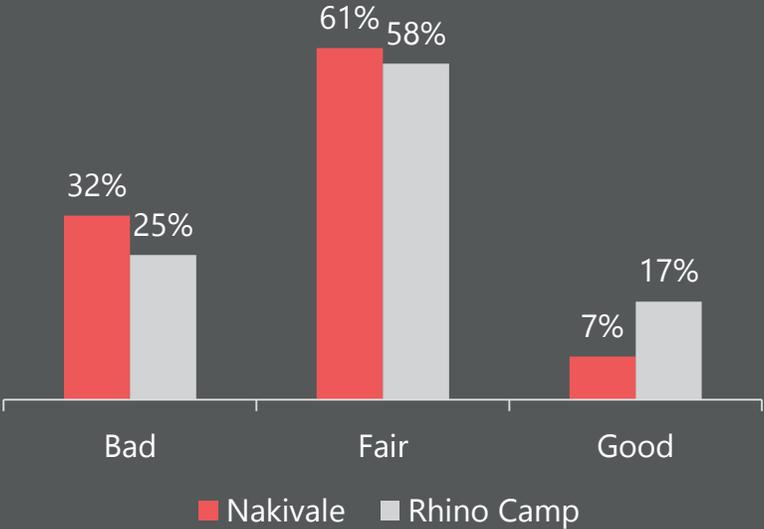
■ Rhino Camp ■ Nakivale



Shelter and NFI

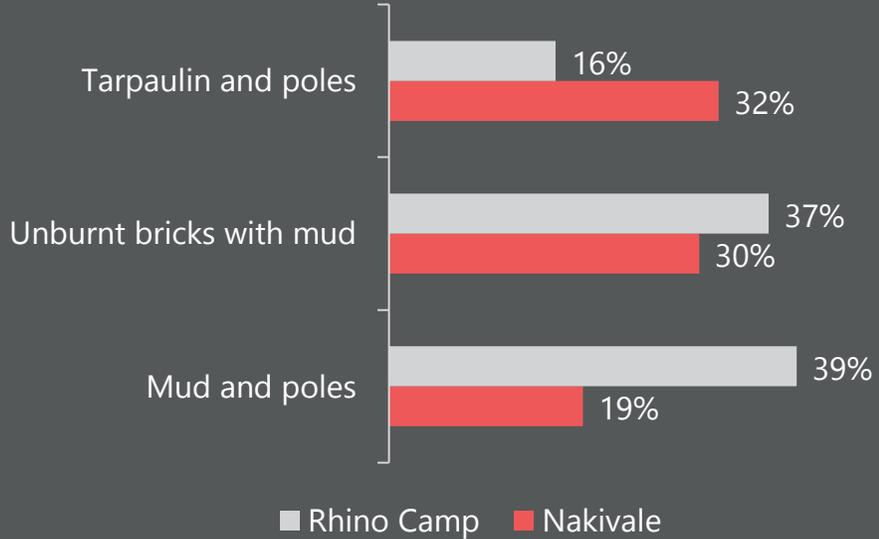
Only few assessed households' shelters were evaluated as good. In both locations, majority of the shelters were evaluated as fair

% of households by shelter conditions, by location*



"The other thing is about the basic household items like kitchen utensils, blankets, and mats. Mats were given to those who arrived first but the rest didn't get them."
(KI from Nyakabande HC)

% of households by main shelter material*



"I got the building materials but some of us are not able to build the houses ourselves (referring to an elderly participant)."
(Female FGD in Rhino Camp)

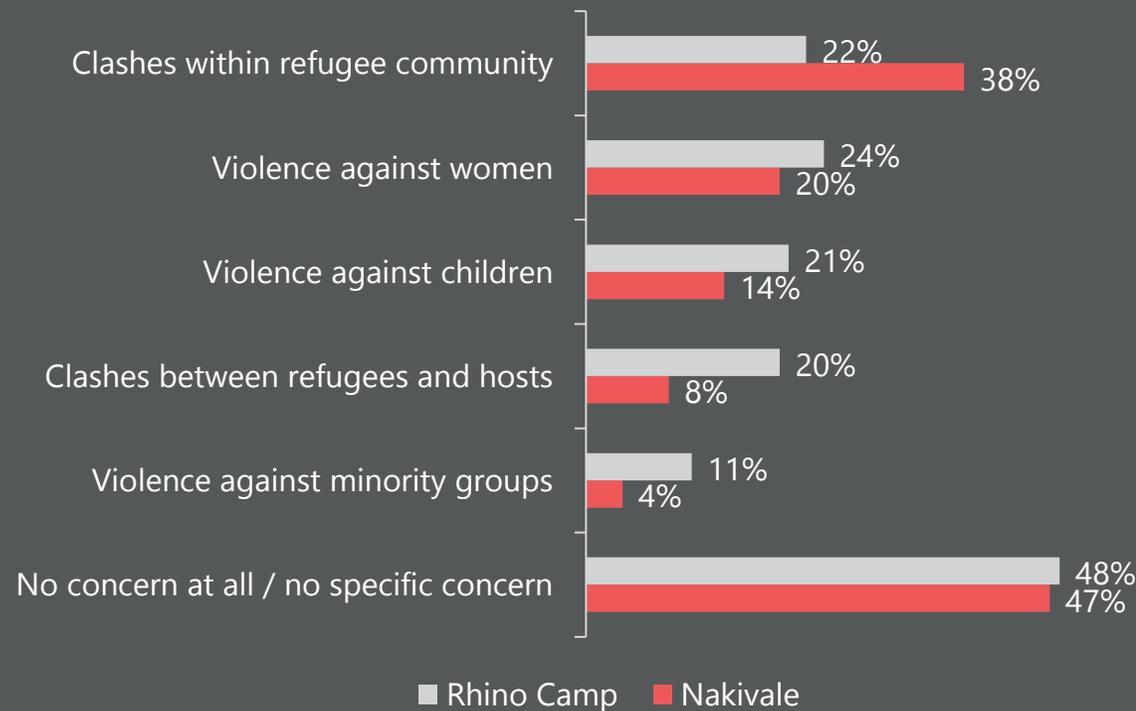
* Observation of enumerators



Protection

Almost half of the assessed households did not report security concerns. However, clashes within the refugee communities were reported by 38% of Nakivale respondents

% of households by type of security concern, by location*



Other protection concerns:

- Female FGDs participants rated bad / very bad the security situation in Rhino Camp/Nakivale

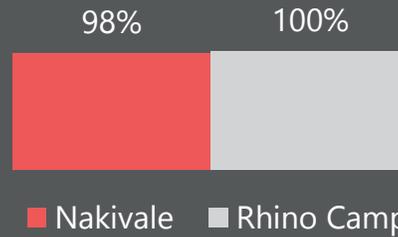
“They stole everything that we were given because the place is not safe.”
 (Female FGD participant in Nakivale)

* Multiple choice

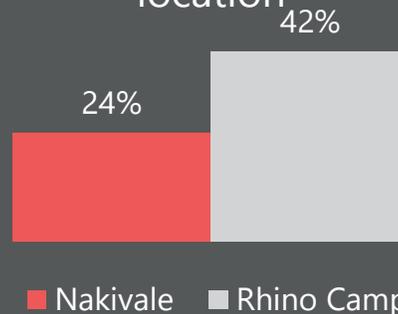
While almost most all assessed households reported receiving humanitarian assistance, some reported issues while accessing it.

Humanitarian assistance

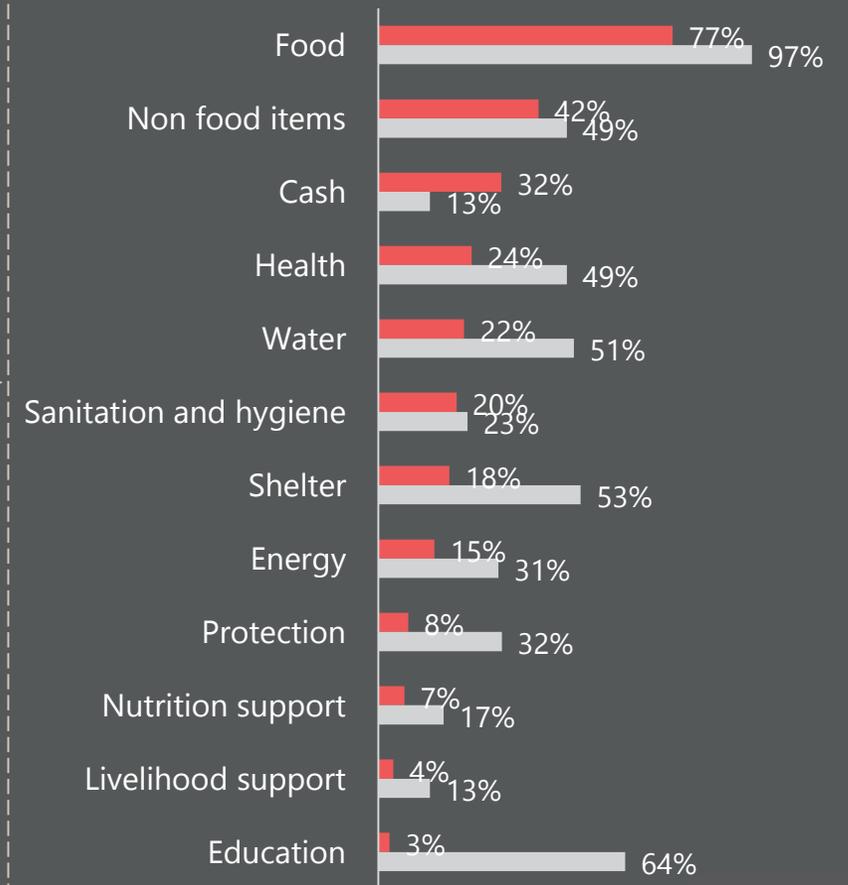
% of households accessing humanitarian assistance, by location



% of households experiencing assistance access issues, by location



% of households by type of assistance received, by location*



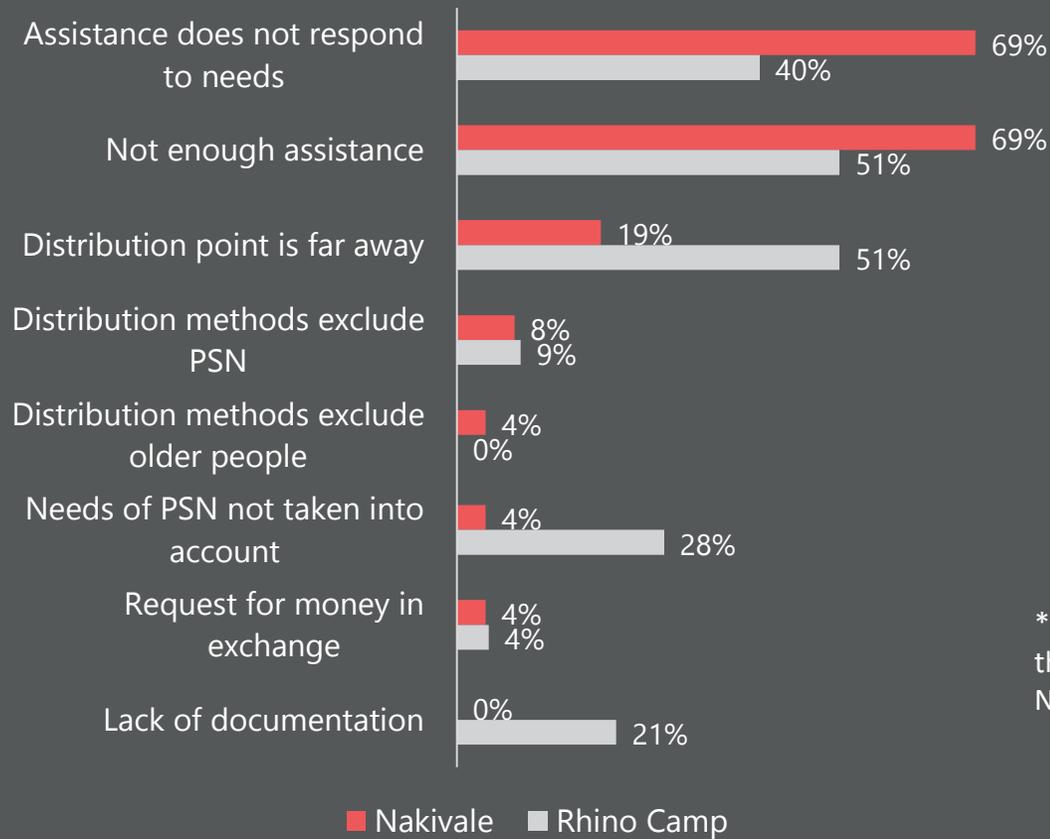
* Multiple choice



Humanitarian assistance

The main issues reported refer to mismatch between assistance and needs, the level of assistance received and long distance

% of households by issue reported in accessing assistance, by location*, **



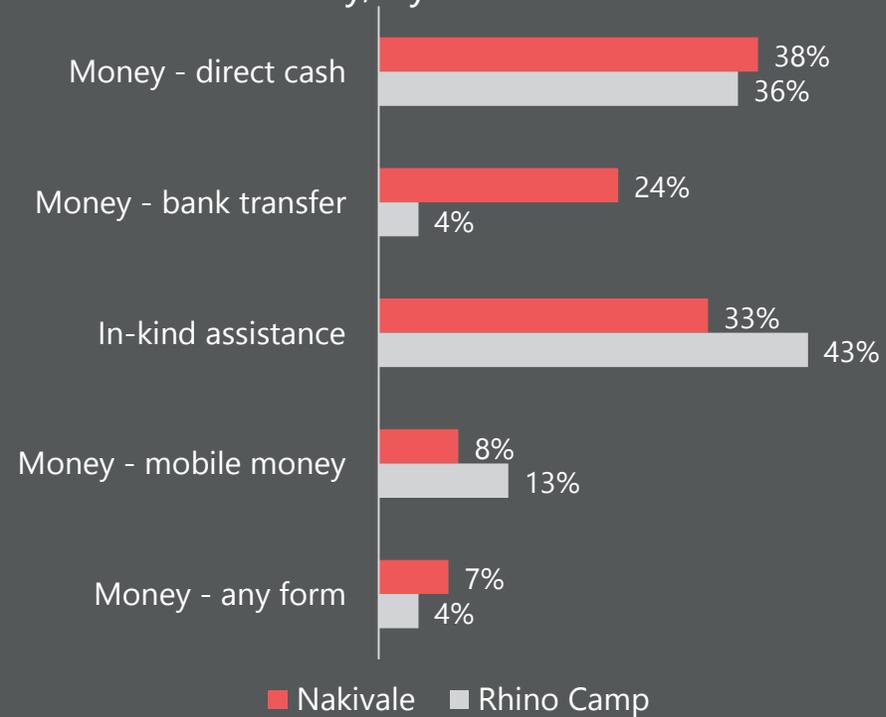
* Multiple choice, ** small sample size, asked only to those reporting issues in accessing assistance (24% Nakivale, 42% Rhino Camp) – **indicative findings only**



Humanitarian assistance

Assessed households in Nakivale prefer receiving assistance in the form of direct cash, while in Rhino Camp they prefer in-kind aid

% of households by preferred assistance modality, by location*



*Single choice



Conclusion

- Although almost the entire assessed population had reportedly accessed humanitarian assistance at the time of the assessment, **deep gaps were reported** in both localities.
- Findings show that **a complete fulfillment of all refugees' needs is far from being achieved**.
- **Underfunding** was reported by KIs as the main factor limiting an adequate humanitarian response.
- **Access to food** is the main need that refugees reportedly struggle to meet in both localities, although the situation appeared comparatively more serious in the southwest.
- **Water** was instead reported to be the most urgent unmet need for the new arrivals interviewed in West Nile.
- Challenges in accessing **health assistance** and **meeting the needs of people with specific vulnerabilities** (i.e., people with disabilities, pregnant women, and children) were often reported during qualitative interviews.
- The **scarcity of livelihoods programmes** and difficulties in accessing land and agricultural inputs reportedly decrease chances of becoming independent from humanitarian assistance.
- The activation of training programmes and interventions favouring no-farming economic activities could be encouraged in order to diversify the self-sufficiency options to refugees.



Q&A

Questions and discussion





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