## Integral Responds to the South Sudan Refugee Crisis in Northern Uganda



7<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Integral Alliance has launched a Disaster Response for the worsening refugee crisis in northern Uganda. Ten Integral Members have opted into this joint response<sup>1</sup>, with a further eight considering how they can be involved.

Increasing numbers of South Sudanese are fleeing to northern Uganda to escape escalating violent conflict in their country. A total of 24,277 South Sudanese refugees were received in Uganda between the 25th and 31st January 2017 alone. The Human Rights Commission have condemned violations in South Sudan, calling for swift action to avert genocide.

The total number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda is now approaching 700,000 people – UNICEF estimate that 64% are children. [2] Malnutrition is rising both among the refugees and their host communities. The advent of the rainy season in early March is likely to bring with it significant increases in mortality due to malaria.

Prior to the launch of this disaster alert, Integral hosted a pre-alert teleconference in December 2016. This call mapped where Members are working and established what resources were available. Staff on the ground have also met together in Uganda to strengthen their relationships with one another and identify where they can collaborate.

Jackie Koster, World Renew's Disaster Response Manager for East and Southern Africa, says: "The level of general collaboration in this response has been remarkable to witness. The Office of the Prime Minister has shown real leadership and organisations are sharing information and material freely, all aiming to avert a major humanitarian catastrophe."

"Being able to come together as Integral Members in Kampala only furthers that spirit of collaboration, as we work to link the efforts of those on the ground with the efforts of those raising the profile of this major humanitarian emergency. This cooperation is very important because this is a chronically under-profiled disaster situation considering the scale of the needs."

The decision to make this an Integral response was made on a teleconference with 16 Members present on 7th February. Responding Members committed to maximising their direct disaster response now, as well as considering their longer term approach, especially in the area of livelihoods.

Integral Members Food for the Hungry (USA), World Renew (USA and Canada) and ZOA (The Netherlands) are each carrying out livelihood programming across different camps. Medical Teams International is working with UNHCR and the World Food Programme on health and nutrition in reception centres in the same

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Food for the Hungry, Medical Teams International, Tear Australia, Tear NL, Tearfund Belgium, Tearfund New Zealand, Tearfund Switzerland, Tearfund UK, World Renew, ZOA  $^{[2]}$  Source here and here

camps and other locations. Other Integral Members are supporting local partners and preparing fundraising campaigns to support the operational work of their fellow Integral Members.

Integral Members will continue to use the Integral online platform to share photos and stories, information and plans with each other.

Integral's website: www.integralalliance.org

//ends//

<u>Contact:</u> Sarah Larkin, Communication and Marketing Coordinator: <u>s.larkin@integralalliance.org</u>

Extra information on page 2

## On Integral Collaboration:

Integral's goal is for all its Members to become more effective and efficient in their work and to see greater impact and reach as a result of working collaboratively.

Integral Members have a collaborative strategy for responding to disasters, with the **Integral Disaster Response Process** coordinating the emergency activities of its Members. The aim of the Integral DR process is to combine resources to ensure that as many people as possible are reached with the assistance they need. The Integral Secretariat plays a co-ordinating role to facilitate better communication between all Members in disaster situations with the aim of increasing support and avoiding duplication.

Integral has 23 Members with headquarters in 14 countries.

Integral Members work in 88 countries, across 40 sectors, and have a network of over 700 local partners.

To watch a short film about Integral Disaster Relief Process click <u>here.</u>

All Members sign up to the <u>Red Cross Code of Conduct</u> and <u>Sphere Standards</u>, and have an agreed <u>Quality Standards Statement</u>.

## Integral Members are:

**CEDAR Fund - Hong Kong** 

Food for the Hungry - USA

Integra - Slovakia

<u>International Health Partners</u> - **UK** 

MAP International - USA

Medical Teams International - USA

**Medair** - **Switzerland** 

Missions Alliance - Norway

Mission East - Denmark

**SEL France - France** 

<u>TEAR Australia</u> – **Australia** 

**Tear- Netherlands** 

<u>Tearfund</u> – **Belgium** 

<u>Tearfund</u> - **Ireland** 

TEAR Fund - New Zealand

**Tear Fund - Switzerland** 

Tearfund - UK

<u>Transform Aid International</u> - **Australia** 

World Concern - USA

World Relief Canada - Canada

World Relief - USA

World Renew - Canada & USA

**ZOA** - The Netherlands