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News Editors,

Red Cross constructs 106 flood resistant huts and 1, 193 wood saving stoves

Katakwi/Amuria: The Uganda Red Cross Society over the weekend handed over a disaster risk reduction project to the communities of Wera Sub County in Amuria and Kapujan Sub County in Katakwi.

The project has enhanced sustainable climate change adaptation in shelter and fuel usage. Benefiting 24, 000 people, the project has improved access to safe water through rehabilitation of 10 boreholes and 12 water accountability boards in addition to addressing flood and drought risks.

The 18 months project was funded by American Red Cross.

Handing over the project to the district authorities, Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) Secretary General Michael Richard Nataka said 1, 193 wood fuel saving stoves have been constructed and distributed to communities to ensure that communities use less wood to cook large amounts of food. Nataka said the communities were incorporated in the planning and implementation of all project activities.

As part of efforts to address floods, URCS has constructed 106 floods resistant huts. Nataka said 6, 040 fruit and wood trees have been planted to reduce deforestation. 2, 382 people (397 households) were sensitised on proper sanitation and hygiene.

Working with the communities, 126 community based disaster risk reduction groups were formed and trained in conducting community risk assessments, project planning and management and community action planning.

14 community based volunteers were trained in conducting vulnerability capacity assessments/community risk assessments.

State Minister for Disaster Preparedness Mr. Musa Ecweru launched the project on April 9, 2010. URCS interventions in Amuria and Katakwi are based on the fact that the districts have experienced a number of disasters resulting from climatic changes.

For details and clarifications, please contact:

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