Sector39/ NRC project proposal outline version 1. 7th November 2018
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Permaculture Academy
Empowering refugee and host community

The project vision is for permaculture design to become the prevailing methodology for food and livelihood provision in the refugee and host community settlements in specifically Maaji and Bidibidi, in Western Nile region of Uganda. Furthermore the project will build a body of case study evidence that will ultimately shift development policy significantly in this direction.

Permaculture is typified by a harmonious and regenerative relationship with landscape, soil and resources, a focus on food security before financial income and optimal utilisation of local and natural resources.

The ultimate goal is community cohesion based on a shared vision, mutuality and a productive partnership and stewardship of the natural resource base of the community. Permaculture design provides an easily communicated conceptual language that embraces these objectives and empowers families and communities to collectively strive towards these mutually beneficial goals.

Project duration:
2 years, Jan 1st 2019 – Dec 31st 2020

Key outcomes:
- Creation of a co-operative stakeholder enterprise that is entirely refugee (and host community) owned and managed that is Maaji Permaculture Education Centre and African Village project.

  This enterprise will be convened as a cooperative and ownership and control will be transferred to its stakeholders within a 2 year period.

- Establishment of 'Permaculture Academy' actively facilitated peer to peer learning programme for continuing permaculture education as a community development tool. Overseen by Sector39 (UG) this will act as custodian of the academy function.

- Establishment of initially three satellite training hubs in Bidibidi Zones 3, 4 and 5, each acting as a node for on going training n those regions.

- Permaculture training programme will aim to teach NRC key staff initially to bring them into this project as early as possible and consequently allow them to inform and shape the

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project to ensure activities and timings are synergistic and compatible.

Management

The project will be led by Sector39 (UK registered training enterprise) in close partnership and with guidance from Norwegian Refugee Council. S39 intend to register a subsidiary enterprise in Uganda, with local stakeholders recruited from training staff and graduate body.

Cost and Reach

- Cost over two years $200,000 - $250,000
  (Detailed budget breakdown to follow)

- Estimated number of people reached by project: 100,000+ via peer to peer learning programmes.

- Indirect reach will be much wider. We will develop partnerships with community radio and other broadcast media to ensure maximum exposure of project content, ambitions and out comes. The core objective is to create easily replicable models, supported by case study, teaching resources, training and marketing support.

Implementation timeline

- Details to follow. Keen to begin on the ground Jan 2019 to complete hard landscaping, primarily access and water harvesting prior to March rains.
- Permaculture training for NRC staff Feb, 12 days (offered)
- Phased staff recruitment, site development and training, links to Bidibidi training nodes developed and reinforced by continuation of monthly action support visits, as in the initial project. April – September
- October to March, key development and training period led by Sector39 staff, Uganda baed for the period
- April – Sept On-going course provision, continued site development and action support visits between all 4 training sites
- October – December hand over period to stakeholder management, assessment, evaluation and feedback. We hope for sites to be 100% stake holder managed going forward from this point, whilst retaining links to Permaculture Academy to ensure consistent educational quality, access to resources and student and training networks.