



# Post emergency Health Services for Refugee and Host Populations in UGANDA

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# Background

- ◆ Today Uganda hosts 216, 520 refugees (UNHCR 2002)
- ◆ The vast majority 188,200 (86.9%) come from southern Sudan; most fled in the early 1990s
- ◆ Most refugees in Uganda 142,000 (65.6%) live in the West Nile region
- ◆ The majority, live in settlements, interspersed within host communities and access land for cultivation.

# Map of Uganda



# Background

- ◆ In Uganda, health services organisation for refugees run parallel to host in most refugee affected districts
- ◆ In 1999, the Government of Uganda and UNHCR developed a self reliance strategy (SRS) towards integration of services
- ◆ Pilot integration of services commenced in one district-Arua in 2000.

# Background

- ◆ In situations of conflict and displacement, women are especially vulnerable (physiological & gender roles, socio-economic factors... etc).
- ◆ Reproductive health (RH) interventions - cost effective (World Bank, 1993)
- ◆ RH indicators - e.g maternal mortality ratio - considered an indicator of disadvantage (Graham et al.1989).

# Background

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Two baseline RH studies undertaken

Study 1: Unmet obstetric needs (UON) of refugee and host populations (rates of MOI for AMI)

Study 2: Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) estimation



# Research Question

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To what extent are obstetric needs of refugee and host populations addressed by existent health services in the West Nile refugee affected districts?



# Objectives

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## Objective 1:

To measure and compare unmet obstetric needs (rates of MOI for AMI) for refugee and host populations in the three West Nile refugee affected districts

## Objective 2:

To estimate and compare MMR in refugee and host population in Adjumani district

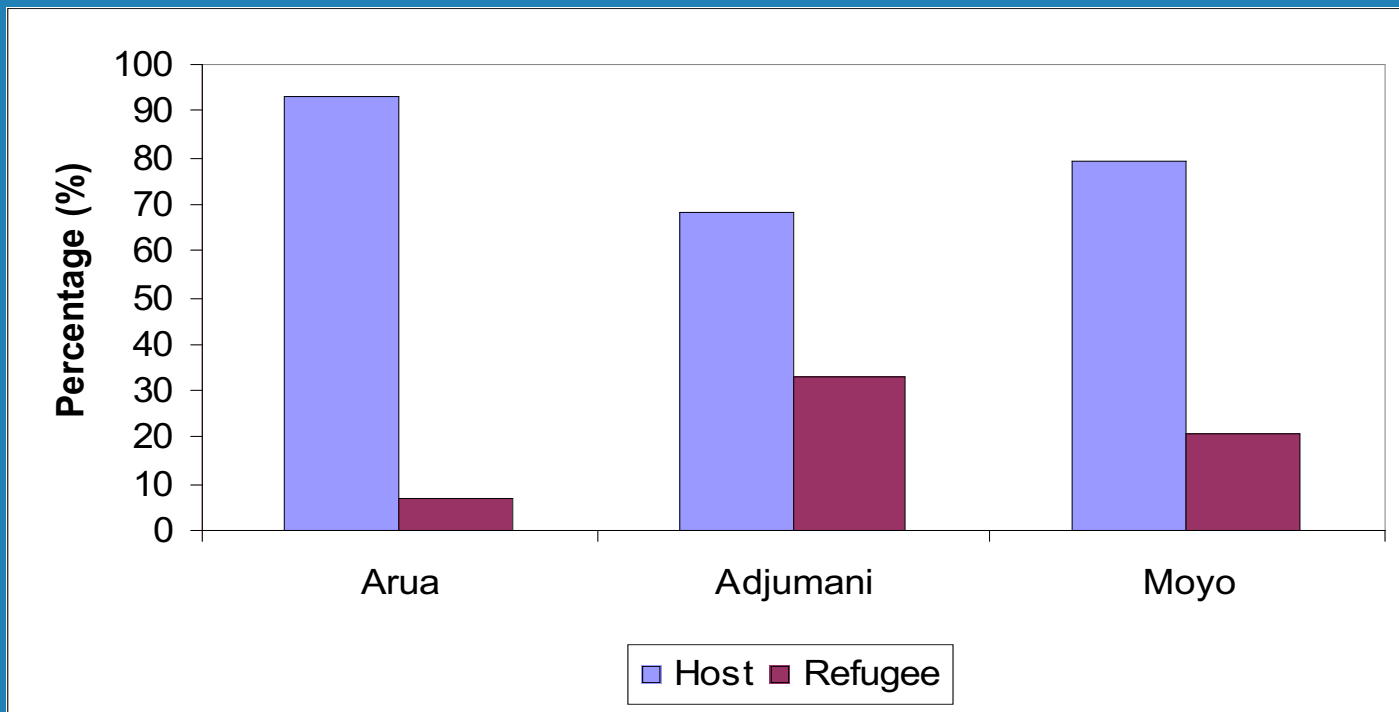
# Methods

## Background to Study Sites

- 3 study districts i.e Arua, Adjumani and Moyo.
- 38 refugee settlements in the region, 34 in Adjumani, 2 in Arua and 2 in Moyo districts respectively.
- 27% of the health facilities in the region are refugee based
- 1 in 10 (13.5%) of the region's population are refugees

# Methods Contd:

## Background Population Refugee and Host, West Nile Region





## Method Contd:

### MOI for AMI Data Collection Procedures

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#### Study designs

- **Retrospective study**
  - Sources: Maternity ward & Operating theatre
  - Data collection: 2 years, 1999 and 2000
- **Prospective study**
  - Source: Maternity ward
  - Data collection: one year, 2001

## Method Contd:

- ◆ Major Obstetrical Interventions (MOI)  
E.g - C/S, hysterectomy, craniotomy etc
- ◆ Absolute Maternal Indication (AMI)  
E.g - Uterine rupture, CPD, APH, PPH  
etc



## Methods: MMR Data Collection Procedures

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### ◆ Sisterhood Methodology

#### ◆ Host Community Survey

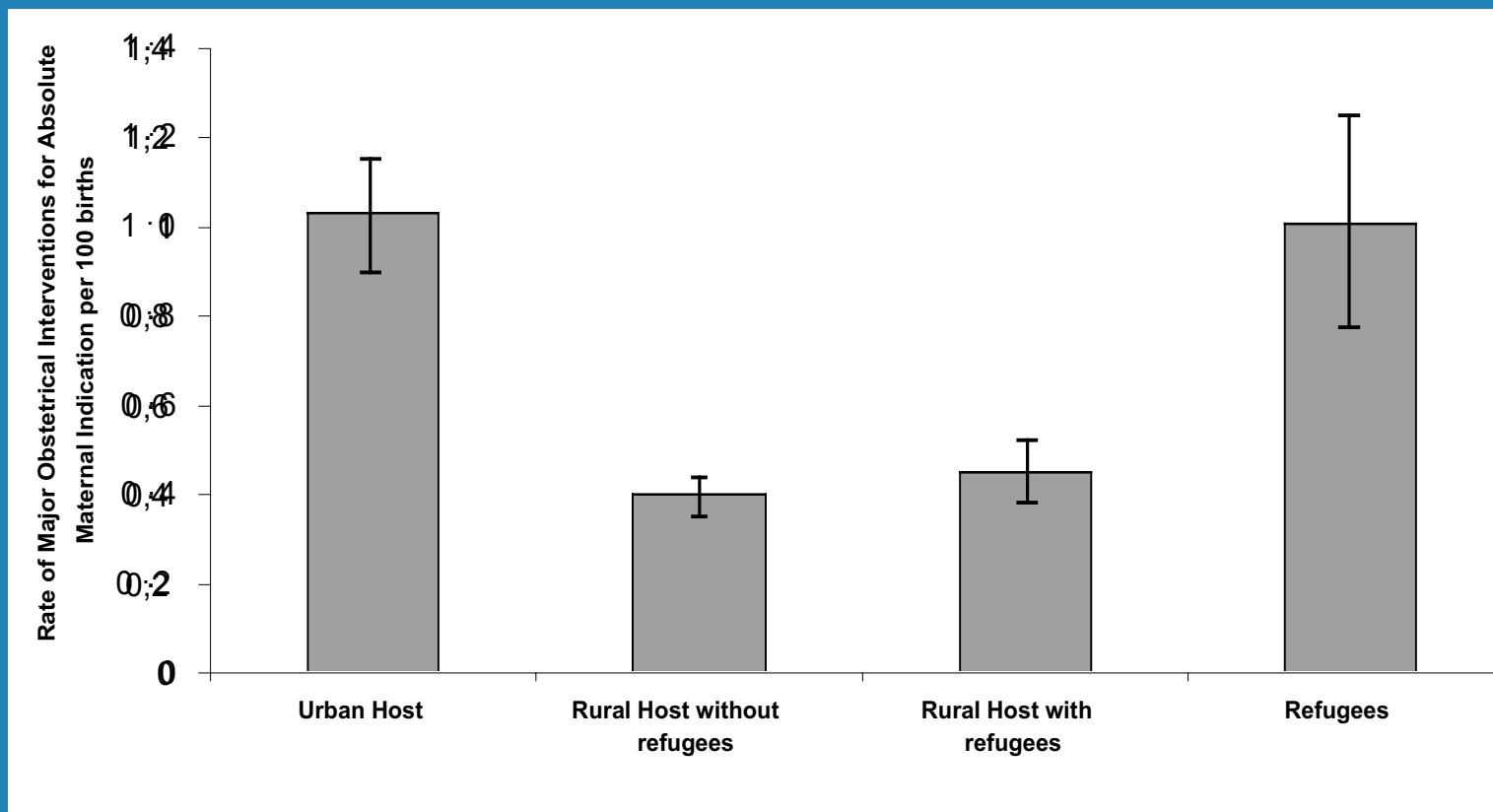
- 20 Randomly selected **parishes**-clusters
- 150 Adults, 15yrs and above, per cluster
- 3,089 Respondents

#### ◆ Refugee Community Survey

- 20 Randomly selected **settlements**-clusters
- 150 Adults interviewed per cluster
- 3,027 Respondents

# Result 1:

## Rates of MOI for AMI for Refugee and Hosts, West Nile Region, 1999-2001



## Result 2:

Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in Adjumani District, 2002

<u>Pop Category</u>	<u>MMR</u>	<u>[95% CI]</u>
Host	322	[247-396]
Refugee	130	[81-179]



# Interpretation

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- ◆ Access to comprehensive essential obstetric care is better for refugees than for the rural host population.
- ◆ Disparity exists in access to health care between refugee and the rural host populations in the region.



# Issues for Consideration

- 1) How do we organise health services to equitably address the health needs refugee and host populations?
  
- 2) Integration of Services
  - 2.1 Will it improve host health services?
  
  - 2.2 How will it affect the quality of refugee health service?