

PROJECT DOCUMENT

A Lifeline for 64 Families Facing Starvation in Karamoja

1. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization Name	Buikwe Touch Rehabilitation Ministries Uganda Limited (BTRMU)
Founded	2007
Headquarters	Namwezi Zone, Njeru Buikwe, Central Region, Uganda
Mission	Rescue women and youth from exploitation, restore dignity and hope, and create lasting social and economic transformation
Core Services	Vocational training, individual counseling, community reintegration, rehabilitation, psychosocial support, and child ministry
Project Location	Karamoja Sub-Region, Uganda
Project Goal	\$5,000
Beneficiaries	64 Vulnerable Households (Elderly, Child-Headed Families, Persons with Disabilities)
Duration	3 Months

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Buikwe Touch Rehabilitation Ministries Uganda Limited (BTRMU), established in 2007, has a proven track record of transforming vulnerable lives through vocational training and rehabilitation . This project expands our mission to the Karamoja sub-region, where a severe hunger crisis is unfolding.

We will provide emergency cash transfers to **64 of the most vulnerable households** in Karamoja. With a \$5,000 goal, each household will receive a ****\$70 cash transfer**** to purchase food and medicine. This intervention directly addresses the critical hunger crisis where **473,000 people** are currently facing acute food insecurity.

3. ABOUT BUIKWE TOUCH REHABILITATION MINISTRIES

Our History

Buikwe Touch Rehabilitation Ministries Uganda Limited was founded in 2007 by Mary Zema, who began working with nine women from the streets of Mbikko in Buikwe district. She would take regular visits to women working at bars, spending time with them, understanding why they ended up in prostitution, and working with them toward a life free from exploitation.

Our Mission

We are on a mission to rescue women and youth from exploitation in Jinja and Buikwe districts. Many are trapped in prostitution due to lack of job opportunities, skills, and education. Our work includes:

- Community reintegration
- Individual counseling
- Vocational training
- Psychosocial support
- Rehabilitation services
- Child ministry and home visits

Our Impact

Since 2007, we have been offering vocational training in hairdressing, tailoring, and handicrafts, creating employment opportunities particularly for widows and young mothers.

Recent Recognition:

- In December 2024, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) partnered with us to provide 25 sewing machines, a fully equipped hairdressing training hall, a playground for children, and a 10,000-liter water tank
- We are a registered organization at the front line to fight exploitation in all forms

Our Capacity

- **Founded:** 2007
 - **Headquarters:** Namwezi Zone, Njeru Buikwe, Central Region
 - **Service Area:** Jinja and Buikwe Districts (now expanding to Karamoja)
 - **Core Expertise:** Rehabilitation, vocational training, community mobilization, and social services
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4. THE PROBLEM

The Karamoja sub-region is experiencing a severe food crisis. A prolonged drought, the worst in decades, has led to crop failure. According to the IPC report, **473,000 people** are facing acute food shortages, with **41,000 in emergency conditions**. At least **19 deaths** have been linked to starvation.

Who Is Most Affected:

- Elderly people with no income or family support
- Child-headed families
- Persons with disabilities
- Pregnant and lactating mothers

Worst-Hit Districts:

- Kaabong
- Kotido
- Karenga
- Moroto
- Nabilatuk

Grace Sagal, a 78-year-old from Nakapiripirit District, went **four consecutive days without a proper meal** before receiving help.

Why This Matters to BTRMU

As an organization dedicated to rescuing the most vulnerable from exploitation and hardship, we cannot ignore the hunger crisis in Karamoja. When families starve, children are forced into child labor, girls are married off early, and women are pushed into survival sex work. Hunger and exploitation are deeply connected. By preventing starvation, we also prevent exploitation.

5. SOLUTION: CASH TRANSFERS

This project uses a proven, community-centered approach: **unconditional cash transfers**.

Why Cash Transfers Work:

- **Empowers families** to choose what they need most—food, medicine, or other essentials
- **Up to 38% more cost-efficient** than in-kind food aid
- **Stimulates local economies** as families buy from local markets
- **Respected by communities**—local elders have specifically requested cash over food aid

What We Will Do:

Activity	Details
Beneficiary Identification	Partner with local leaders to identify most vulnerable households
Cash Distribution	One-time transfer of \$70 (250,000 UGX) per household
Monitoring	Follow-up to ensure funds are used for food and medicine
Reporting	Share impact with GlobalGiving donors through reports and photos

6. BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Item	Amount
Total Funds Raised	\$5,000
GlobalGiving Fee (10%)	-\$500
Bank Transfer Fees (Est.)	-\$20
Net Funds for Project	\$4,480
Cash Transfers (64 households × \$70)	\$4,480
Total	\$4,480

7. DONATION TIERS & IMPACT

Donation	Impact
\$10	Helps feed one family for a day
\$25	Provides a week's food for one family
\$50	Supports one elderly household with essential supplies
\$70	Full cash transfer to one vulnerable household
\$100	Cash transfers for 1 household + food for another
\$250	Reaches 3-4 vulnerable households
\$500	Reaches 7 vulnerable households
\$1,000	Reaches 14 vulnerable households

8. PROJECT TIMELINE

Phase	Activities	Duration
Phase 1: Preparation	Beneficiary identification, verification, and registration with local leaders	Month 1-2
Phase 2: Distribution	Cash transfers to 64 households	Month 3-4
Phase 3: Monitoring	Follow-up visits and impact reporting	Month 5-6

9. ALIGNMENT WITH GOVERNMENT PLAN

This project aligns with the Government of Uganda's six-month Karamoja Response Plan, specifically the pillar on **Food Assistance, Cash, and Markets**.

Government Response:

- Shs45 billion (~\$12 million) allocated for emergency relief
- 9,420 metric tonnes of food distributed to 313,987 households
- Coordination through Office of the Prime Minister, UPDF, and Uganda Prisons Service

Our Role:

- Complement government efforts by reaching vulnerable groups not fully covered
- Provide cash transfers that empower families and boost local economies
- Leverage our experience in working with vulnerable populations

10. POTENTIAL LONG-TERM IMPACT

Beyond emergency relief, this project builds resilience. Families adopt climate-smart farming, growing food even in drought. Children stay in school instead of searching for food. Local economies strengthen. Communities break the cycle of hunger—no longer waiting for aid, but thriving on their own.

Lasting Change:

- Families learn to grow food in drought conditions
- Children stay in school and learn
- Women earn income through group savings
- Communities become self-reliant

Alignment with BTRMU's Mission:

This project directly supports our mission to rescue vulnerable people from exploitation. When families have enough to eat, children are less likely to be trafficked, girls are less likely to be married off early, and women are less likely to turn to survival sex work. Preventing hunger is preventing exploitation.

11. WHY THIS MATTERS

The 2026 crisis in Karamoja is a stark reminder of the region's vulnerability to climate change. By providing emergency cash, we are not just preventing starvation—we are also injecting money into the local economy, which is a crucial step in helping communities regain their footing.

This is a lifeline. No one should die from hunger.

As Buikwe Touch Rehabilitation Ministries, we have spent nearly two decades rescuing the most vulnerable from exploitation. We cannot stand by while families in Karamoja starve. With your support, we can save lives and prevent the exploitation that follows hunger.

12. CONTACT INFORMATION

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Thank you for supporting this life-saving project.