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1. Name: Development Assistance for Community Empowerment is also known as DACE.

- Acronym: DACE
- Establishment: 2013
- Legal status: Registered indigenous national NGO under Uganda National Registration Services Bureau
- **Registration No.:** INDR150133868NB
- **Certificate of Incorporation No.:** 80020002362295 (renewal in progress)
- **Adjumani District NGO Forum Registration No.:** AD/NGOF/20/2025
- **Office Location:** Minia West Village, Biyaya Parish, Adjumani Town Council, Uganda
- **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 205, Adjumani, West Nile, Northern Uganda, East Africa.
- **Email:** daceadj2013@gmail.com
- **Contact Person:** Anzoo Anne, Executive Director
- **Telephone:** +256 (0)775934475

2. Vision and mission

Vision

To empower communities for self-reliance through participatory approaches and sustainable development.

Mission

To provide community empowerment via socio-economic services, gender equality, diversity and social inclusion.

3. Governance structure

Our governance operates at two levels:

DACE's governance is structured at two main levels to ensure transparency, accountability, and participatory decision-making:

1. **Annual General Assembly (AGA):** The supreme decision-making body composed of all paid-up and registered members of the organization. The AGA convenes once a year to:
 - Review organizational performance and strategic direction.

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- Assess the performance of the Board of Directors.
- Elect new board members when necessary.
- Review and approve audited financial statements.
- Approve the appointment of the external audit firm for the next financial year. Currently, the organization has seven (7) registered members who constitute the General Assembly.

2. Board of Directors: The Board of Directors serves as the governing body responsible for policy oversight and strategic guidance. The current Board comprises five (5) members (two females and three males) elected by the General Assembly. The Board meets quarterly to review progress and financial reports submitted by the Secretariat and to make decisions on key organizational matters, including recruitment and performance oversight of staff.

3. Management and Administrative Framework: The day-to-day management of DACE is handled by a Secretariat led by the Executive Director, who provides overall leadership, coordination, and strategic direction for all programs and operations.

Due to funding constraints, DACE currently operates with three (3) technical staff volunteering in various roles. In addition, DACE has trained and deployed approximately 30 community volunteers drawn from both refugee and host communities in Adjumani District. These volunteers facilitate grassroots-level engagement and implementation of project activities.

4. The Secretariat

The Secretariat is organized into thematic sectors, each led by a Project Officer/Sector Head with expertise in their respective areas:

- Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence (GBV)
- Peacebuilding and Conflict Management
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
- Food Security and Livelihoods
- Natural Resource Management and Environment

Each Project Officer is responsible for planning, implementing, monitoring, and reporting on sector-specific activities. They supervise Project Assistants deployed at the sub-county and settlement levels who directly support field activities and capacity building of local structures such as Refugee Welfare Committees (RWCs), Local Councils (LC1), Child Protection Committees, SGBV Action Groups, Para-Counsellors, and Peacebuilding Committees.

The program team is supported by essential administrative staff, including an Administrative Assistant, Accounts Assistant, and Logistics and Procurement Officer, ensuring smooth operational and financial management.

5. Financial Management and Accountability: DACE maintains sound financial management systems guided by standard accounting procedures and policies. The organization's financial records

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are subject to annual external audits as per statutory and donor requirements. A copy of the most recent audited financial statement (**Due to funding constraints DACE was unable to conduct financial auditing.**).

6. Project management experience

Although, DACE is not yet well grounded to solicit grants from within itself, within the district, nationally and externally; the organization has experience as follows:

1. Livelihoods

2020 to date: Support supervision and monitoring of community village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) mainly women farmer groups, and psychosocial support through sports and cultural activities for youth groups at Boroli, Olua I and II, Mungula I, II & Maaji II refugee settlements.

Mobilized and trained 12 farmer groups in Adjumani district on VSLA methodologies in collaboration with RICE – West Nile. In 2019 mobilized and sensitized refugees and local



communities (nationals) on environmental protection including economic importance of bellanite trees and shea trees conservation. In partnership and with support from Danish Refugee Council (DRC), DACE planted belanite and shea nut trees at Pagirinya settlement, and promoted shea butter processing for enhanced indigenous trees conservation and oil seeds value chain among refugee and host communities.

DACE volunteers offloading bellanite and shea tree seedlings. **@Felix.**

In Partnership and Collaboration with Community Concern for Humanity and Development (COHAD), implemented project on Youth Capacity Development through job and employment creation with funding from Child Rights and Violence Prevention Fund (CRVPF); and supported eight youth groups in livelihood projects at Mungula I & II refugee Settlements and Itirikwa Sub County.

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DACE staff facilitating training for community groups consisting of mainly women at Mungula I refugee settlement. @Charles.

2. Energy and Environment

In Partnership and collaboration with Adjumani District Local Government, DACE Mobilized 30 farmer groups for the National Oil seed project headed by the District Production Officer and secured and operationalize shea and oil seed milling machine for enhanced oil seeds value chain production also mobilized and distributed shea tree seedlings for community groups at Pakele, Dzaipi, Itirikwa, Okusijoni Sub-counties and Adjumani Town Council, and in the settlements of Boroli, Pagirinya, Ayilo I & II Olua I&II and Mungula.

Distributed high energy saving stoves, solar home system to 12 community groups at Pakele, Dzaipi Sub Counties, Aliwara, Mungula I & II Settlements, and Adjumani town council sub counties, and shea-nut oil production with support from RICE – West Nile.

DACE staff and engineers during installation shea nut cold press milling machine at Dzaipi Community Center (below). @James.

Beside this DACE secured and operationalized shea nut and oil seed milling machine for enhanced oil seeds value chain production from Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Adjumani District Local Government (ADLG). This project enhanced indigenous oil trees species conservation and oil seeds value chain among refugee and host communities. This project also promoted oil seed marketing and employment for the farmer groups, youth, women and community who mobilize market for the shea nut

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seeds and shea butter both locally and at national levels.



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