

PYGMY CONTINGENCY REPORT – MAY 2022

(Way Alege)

It is not an easy thing for Pygmies getting out of their natural environment and adjusting to the new setting,



First, it means walking a long distance without water and food under the hot sun. As a result, we have started burying the weak ones who have died. Once settled, there is no access to firewood to warm themselves in the cold nights, no green leaves to be collected in the wilderness, no hunting nor fishing, impossibility to collect wild fruits, etc.

We praise God that some NGOs are able to distribute high energy biscuits after one week of poor feeding. We have tried to help, but our resources are limited as more Pygmies are being evacuated from rebel prone areas to Komanda. However, most of the distributed food does not meet the feeding requirements of the Pygmies.



Since Sunday evening, our Brethren mission station of **Lolwa** located approximately 110km from Bunia was attacked by the rebels, leading to another massive displacement to Komanda. Since yesterday evening more Pygmies have been evacuated by the military trucks, making the logistics difficult to handle.

In addition, as we mentioned previously, the Pygmies from Ataloholu and Kangakolo are still refusing to mix with those from other places on the basis that their morals cannot match with others.

According to the new estimations, the number of Pygmies varies between 500 and 600. Shalom is still working on a systematic census as there are always new cases coming out of their hidings.



We thank you for your support and continuous prayers. Your support makes a difference when the international NGO assist with imported food items such as biscuits, rice, cooking oil, etc. Once in a while we are able to provide the Pygmies with local food such as plantain banana, rice, cassava leaves and palm oil.

PRAISES:

- We praise God that Non Government Organizations (NGOs) have started intervening
- We praise God for the safety that He has provided for the Pygmies. Despite the fact that they are vulnerable and targeted by the “combined Islamic rebel group” in Uganda and DR of Congo (ADF), God is bringing them safely to **Komanda** despite the few cases of death.
- Some local friends who have donated 250kg of rice yesterday. There are more people who are willing to collect more food for the Pygmies.

PRAY:

- That God may touch more hearts to provide at this particular time
- For teachers who are willing to join Shalom in Komanda to continue ministering to the Pygmies
- Pray for safety around Komanda for there is no other safer place.