The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) will from 2018 be supporting sustainable marked development and entrepreneurship in and around refugee camps in Northern Uganda. The five-year project is administrated by DanChurchAid and established in partnership with the business partners Nordic Fruit, UniCool, and Biofresh to create more than 2000 jobs, boost local marked development and thereby provide substantial contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Inclusive growth improves livelihoods of the poorest
The Fresh Fruit Nexus project aims to improve livelihoods in one of Uganda’s poorest areas, the West Nile region in Northern Uganda. The objective is to support the development of decent employment opportunities for refugees and host communities by training smallholder farmers to grow certified organic fruit for export through an effective cold chain. The partners involved in the project connect the entire supply chain from community mobilisation, organic production, fresh handling, cooling, and import to Danish supermarkets.

Refugees in Uganda
Uganda is host to nearly 1.4 million refugees, a unique to the Ugandan refugee situations is that the government allows refugees to legitimate access land. Boosting local market development and youth entrepreneurship in the areas around refugee camps is a huge potential to be explored for sustainable local market development, by seeking to build on the vast resources which exist among host communities and refugees. This project will build linkages with the host communities by creating a local production and support livelihood activities. The aim of the project is to be replicated and taken to scale both in Uganda and other countries affected by refugee influx.
The project specifically aims for following four outcomes:

1. Increased certified organic production and income for refugee and host community farmers.

2. 2150 employment opportunities created, especially for women and youth, along the organic fresh fruit value chain, including on farms in post-harvest handling and transportation.

3. Improved efficiency of fresh fruit supply and exports boosted/increased through an effective cold chain

4. Several business partners and stakeholders in the food and agricultural sector integrate and apply international standards on responsible business conduct in practice

Consortium Partners

The Fresh Fruit Nexus project is based on an inclusive business model, which combines development and commercial objectives, though an unique partnership between following partners from civil society, private and public sector:

- DanChurchAid (admin lead)
- Nordic Fruit (key business partner)
- UniCool (commercial partner)
- Biofresh (local business partner)
- Danida (public funding partner)
The Sustainable Development Goals

The Fresh Fruit nexus project and the stakeholders involved are highly dedicated to the SDG agenda in all likely aspects of the project. With the interconnectedness of the SDGs uninterruptedly in mind, the main focus goals of the project are:

Other important SDGs targeted by this project:
SDG1 (Poverty eradication & access to land), SDG5 (gender equality), SDG13 (climate action) and SDG16 (accountable institutions).

About DanChurchAid
DCA is a Danish international NGO with a mission "to help and be advocates of oppressed, neglected and marginalised groups in poor countries and to strengthen their possibilities of a life in dignity." DCA provides emergency relief in disaster-stricken areas and long-term development assistance in poor regions – to create a more equitable and sustainable world.

Uganda has been a focus country for DanChurchAid (DCA) since 1979. It continues to be a focus country in DCA’s new strategic partnership agreements with Danida. DCA has built a pool of technically skilled staff at national and field level in the fields of agriculture/livelihoods, market and business development, as well as human rights, gender, good governance (transparency and accountability), and humanitarian response.

The project builds on DCA’s years of experience working with farmer groups, using the farmer field school (FFS) approach, which has proven successful in the sub-regions of Teso, Karamoja and Bidibidi refugee settlement with similar interventions as proposed in this project.

*The project is planned to start in late 2018 and last for five years.*