

PROJECT FOR THE RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS IN THE NORTHERN REGION (PRELNOR)



John Genda Walala;
Ag. Permanent Secretary /MoLG



Ebong Ivan
PC/PRELNOR

Why PRELNOR?

Northern Uganda has excellent potential for agricultural development but the region still accounts for approximately 38% of the poor in the country. Most farmers rely on the natural fertility of the soils, and with the increasing climate variability, smallholder farmers' production and productivity remain low. Exacerbated by the over 20 year's internal conflict, the region remains prone to food insecurity and other livelihoods shocks.

The Project for the Restoration of Livelihoods in the Northern Region (PRELNOR) is designed based on an integrated development approach to support the re-establishment of the region as a major agricultural production area.

What is the project goal?

Increased income, food security and reduced vulnerability of poor rural households in the project area.

What is the Development Objective?

Increased sustainable production, productivity and climate resilience of small holder farmers with increased and profitable access to domestic and export markets.

What are the project components?

A: Rural livelihoods, focusing on improving agricultural production and productivity, especially of selected crop enterprises (Cassava, Rice, Maize and Beans) and climate resilience.

B:Market linkages and infrastructure development, focusing on supporting Farmers' Organisations to engage in organised marketing and also improving on market infrastructure (Community Access Roads and Market places).

C: Project Management and Coordination to ensure that the project is efficiently and effectively managed to achieve the expected results.

Who is funding the project?

The USD 70.9 million project, that effective began in August 2015, to be implemented over 7 years, is being financed by the Government of Uganda, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (Loan), the

Adaptation for Smallholder Agricultural Programme (Grant) and the beneficiaries. The lead implementing Agency is the Ministry of Local Government that is collaborating with relevant sector ministries and Agencies such as MAAIF, MWE, MoWT, MGLSD, MTIC, MEMD, UNMA, NARO institutes, the District Local Governments, District Farmer's Associations & Traders Associations, and other specialized institutions in the implementation process.

Who are the project targets and beneficiaries?

The project is being implemented in the districts of Adjumani, Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Omoro, and Pader; in 25 sub-counties, 100 parishes and up to 600 villages that have already been selected participatorily in all the 9 districts. The project is also targeting 1,800 farmer groups and up to 64,000 rural households and the overall benefits are expected to reach out to at least 140,000 rural households (40% of the rural households in the region. An estimated 1,550Km of community access roads and 10 market sites to improve on and increase the volumes of quality agricultural produce traded and to facilitate fair market prices, will be constructed.

How is PRELNOR responding to Climate Change issues?

PRELNOR plans to work with households to build crop production systems that are climate resilient to intensify productivity while conserving the natural resource base (soil health and water conservation).

The activities will include:

1. Training farmer groups in sustainable climate smart practices and other agronomic practices to produce and access quality seed materials and pilot mechanization e.g. two wheel tractors.
2. Supporting farmers and the wider communities to develop and implement complementary community Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) initiatives such as small scale water harvesting facilities, energy efficient stoves, and biogas technology and soil conservation structures among others.
3. Support to reliable and timely agro metrological information dissemination through installation of 25 Automatic weather stations in the selected sub counties.
4. Investment in sub-regional spatial monitoring systems to assess trends in land degradation and ecosystem health through combining remote sensing with biophysical from field sampling to inform planning, decision-making and natural resources management.



Sensitisation of district leaders on the project

What have been the key achievements during the start up?

The key achievements during the startup period include the sensitization and training of District leaders (technical and political) at all levels and the communities on the project concept/design and their roles in the implementation process; the signing of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with all the participating districts and 2 District Farmers Associations (Gulu & Adjumani); the handing over of 8 vehicles to the participating districts to facilitate project implementation; the selection of all the project implementation sites (sub-counties, parishes and villages) participatorily by the districts; disbursement of funds to the districts to support implementation processes; the participatory identification and selection of Community Access Roads to be constructed; the prequalification of consultants for the design of community access roads and field extension.



Extension workers during PRA training organized by PRELNOR for the district Local Governments and District Farmers Associations



MoU signing between the MoLG and the participating District Local Governments and District Farmers Associations



Hon. Jennifer Namiyangu (Minister of State for Local Government) handing over Project vehicles to the District Local Governments in Gulu.