THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme
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PROJECT FOR THE RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS IN THE NORTHERN REGION (PRELNOR)

RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PROGRESS BRIEF

MAY 2020

MAP OF UGANDA SHOWING THE NORTHERN UGANDA PROJECT DISTRICTS

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The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IFAD concerning the delimitation of the frontiers or boundaries, or the authorities thereof.

Map compiled by IFAD | 11-07-2014

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EDITORIAL

Our Dear Reader,

We are glad to bring to you our progress brief detailing the work that the project and the people of Northern Uganda have achieved since its inception.

The project for the Restoration of Livelihoods in the Northern Region (PRELNOR) is a seven-year project that became effective on 5th August, 2015, and it is expected to end by September 2022.

The project is being implemented in nine Districts of the Northern Region, which include Adjumani, Agago, Amuru, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Nwoya, Omoro and Pader.

The project is being financed by the Government of Uganda (GoU), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Adaptation for Smallholder Farmers Agricultural Programme (ASAP) grant and beneficiary contributions.

The overarching Goal of the project is increased income, food security and reduced vulnerability of poor rural households in the project area.

The Project Development Objective is increased sustainable production, productivity and climate resilience of small holder farmers with increased and profitable access to domestic and export markets.

The project is undertaking the following;

COMPONENT A-
Rural Livelihoods:

This component focuses on increasing agricultural production and productivity and climate resilience of major crops especially cassava, rice, maize and beans.

In this component, activities are aimed at enabling a higher proportion of farm households, who are not market oriented, to achieve high levels of production that enable them to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the second component.

COMPONENT B-
Market Linkages and Infrastructure:

The focus of this component is on supporting farmers' organizatiosn to engage in organized marketing and also improving access to the market through construction of Community Access Roads and Market places. In this component, farmers with surplus crop production will receive increased prices and will sell larger volumes of crop products more profitably through expanded access to Uganda and regional markets.

COMPONENT C-
Project Management and Coordination:

This Component ensures that the project is efficiently and effectively managed to achieve the expected results. A number of steps have been undertaken under this component including building the capacity of PRELNOR partners by providing both soft and hardware to facilitate their operations. Gender, youth, Climate Change, Environment, HIV/AIDS, Nutrition improvement, knowledge management and communication considerations are being mainstreamed as cross-cutting issues in all aspects of project activities.

Key Benefits expected

The overall expected benefits by the end of project (2022) are:

- 10,000 vulnerable households mentored
- 1,800 Farmer groups supported to improve their production and productivity levels, including building resilience to climate shocks
- 21 weather stations installed/rehabilitated
- 3 bulk and 8 satellite markets constructed
- An estimated 1,550 kilometres of Climate resilient Community Access Roads constructed/rehabilitated
- Estimated benefits from the investments will reach out to a total of 155,000 Households in the 9 districts.

We hope this overview is sufficient to heighten your interest into what has been achieved exactly to make you want to read more.
We wish you good reading.

Editorial Team

RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

In collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), PRELNOR is facilitating access (through dissemination of energy-saving technologies and capacity building) to modern and sustainable energy services.

The project assessed and identified institutions in the project sub-counties to benefit from the renewable energy technologies (RETs).

The assessment resulted into identification of suitable sites/ institutions to demonstrate modern renewable energy technologies in the project sub counties. In addition to institutions, 10,000 poor vulnerable households which are undergoing household mentoring are also targeted to benefit from the improved domestic cook stoves. Of the targeted 10,000 vulnerable households planned to benefit from the improved domestic cook stoves, the first two batches of 4000 mentored vulnerable households have already benefited.

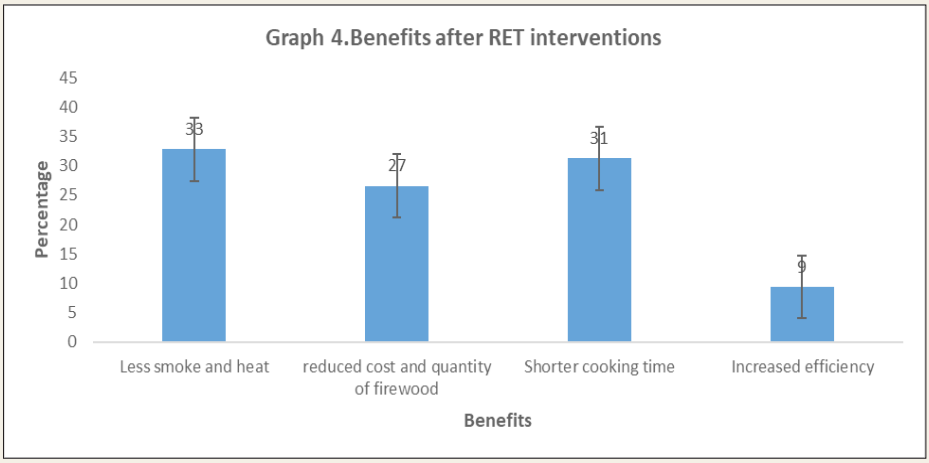
Intermediate outcomes/ Benefits:

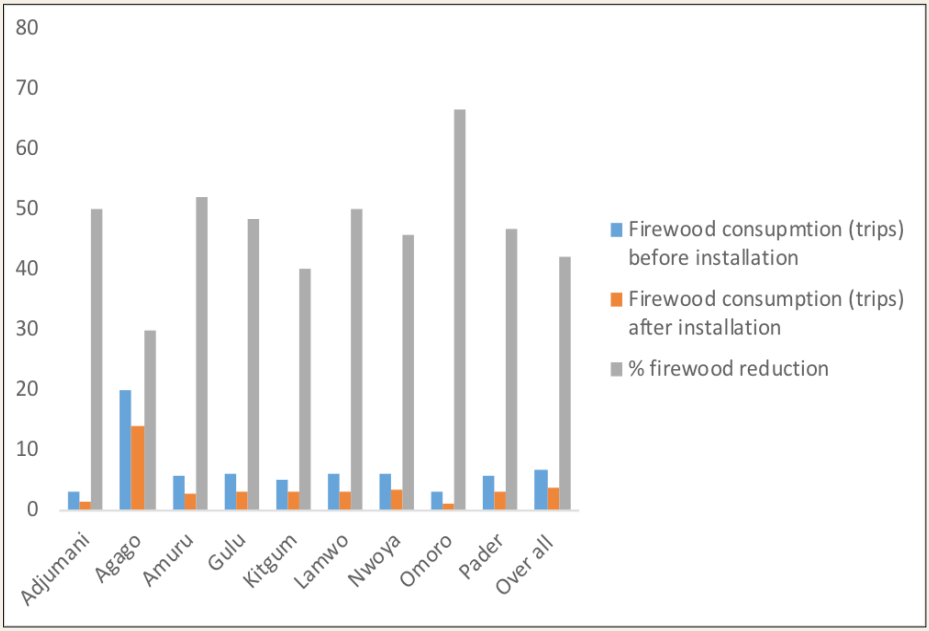
The installed RETs are already bearing fruit, with some beneficiary institutions reporting savings of over 65% in firewood used for cooking, compared to when these technologies were not yet installed. This has significantly reduced beneficiary institutions' expenses on firewood (of up to 67% in some institutions), and most importantly, reducing pressure on the alarmingly dwindling tree cover in the project area.

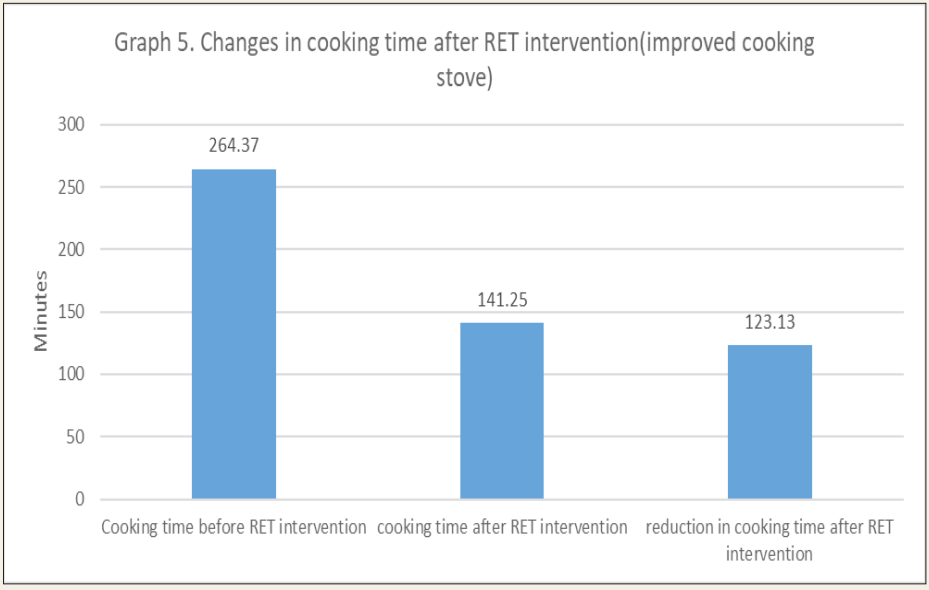
Other benefits reported by both the mentored households and beneficiary institutions are:

(1) Little smoke produced;
(2) Better kitchens with clean cooking environment;
(3) Less inconvenient heat to users;
(4) Reduced cooking time; and
(5) Keeps food warm for cooking stoves.

Beneficiaries of solar systems reported improved class /school attendance by pupils, and improvement in delivery of health services, especially in the maternity facilities for women during child birth.




80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
Adjumani
Agago
Amuru
Gulu
Kitgum
Lamwo
Nwoya
Omoro
Pader
Over all
Firewood consupmtion (trips) before installation
Firewood consumption (trips) after installation
% firewood reduction


Graph 5. Changes in cooking time after RET intervention(improved cooking stove)
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Minutes
264.37
141.25
123.13
Cooking time before RET intervention
cooking time after RET intervention
reduction in cooking time after RET intervention

Energy saving cook stove operational in Dzaipi SS, Adjumani District

Energy saving cook stove operational in Kalidima Prison, Amuru District

Promotion of clean energy.

Solar system at Pangira P7 School in Lamwo District after the interventions.

Bio gas unit installed at Logore Prison farm in Gulu District.

Case Study of Alero Secondary School in Nwoya District

Alero Secondary School reduces firewood consumption by half, prepares quality meals.

Situation Before:

- Alero Senior Secondary School used the traditional three-stone hearths for cooking meals. The kitchen was always full of smoke and dirty due to the ash. There was always too much heat, always an unpleasant experience for the cooks and whoever entered the kitchen.

- Meals were always late. Beans, the common sauce in many boarding schools, would take 4-5 hours to be prepared. “During the rainy season we experience challenges with meal preparation for our students,” says Ms. Hilda Rose Lakor, the head teacher. She added that when the firewood got wet, it would always delay the learners’ meal time. “It affected our afternoon lessons since they would never be conducted on time,” she stressed.

- The cost of fuel was high. “As a school we always used 6 trips of firewood per term – that is at least 2 trips per month,” says the head teacher. The cost of firewood was about 160,000 per trip. This meant about 960,000/= would be spent on firewood alone per term.

The traditional three-stone cook stove that was being used before the intervention.

The situation after the installation of Energy Improved Cook stove

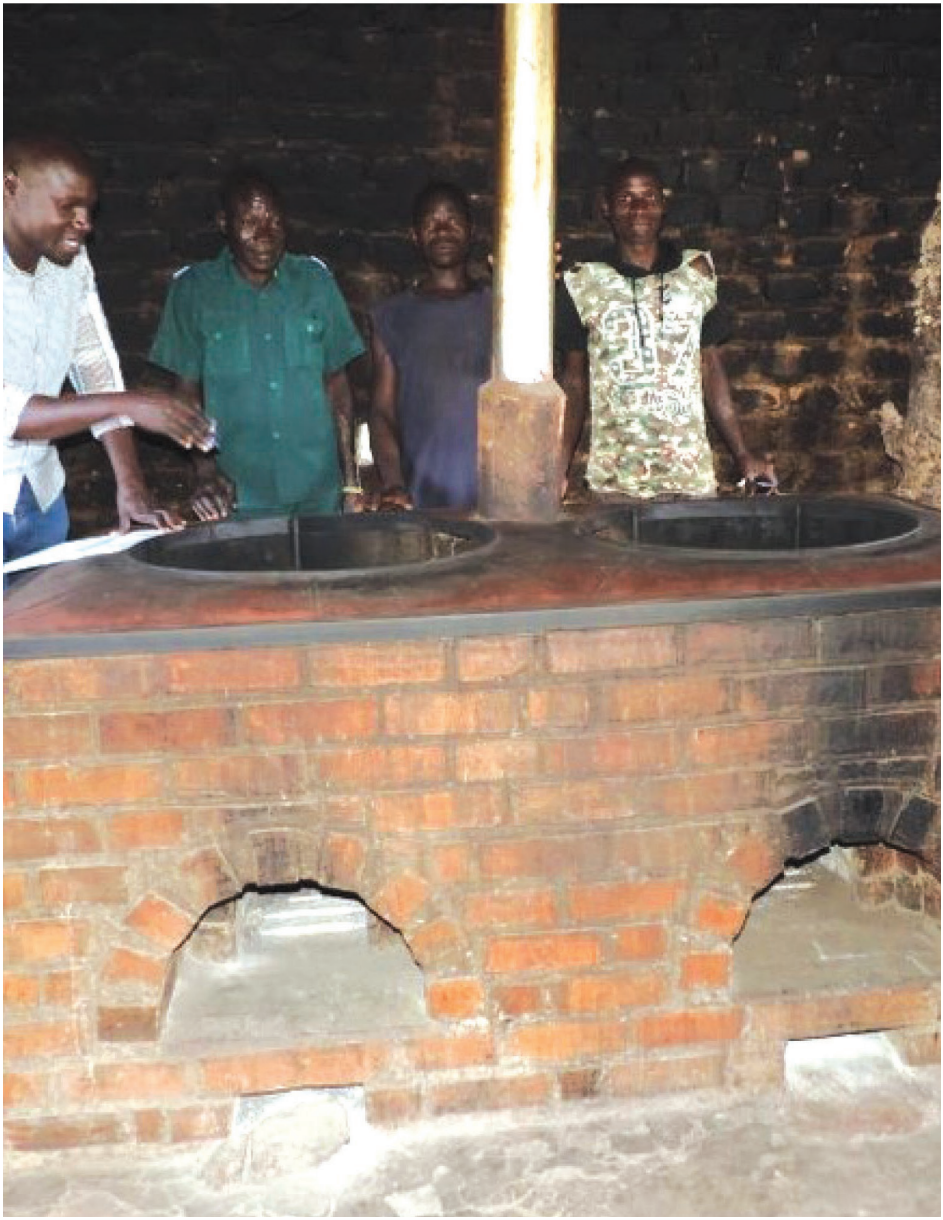
- In 2018 the school acquired a twin energy improved cooking stove. PRELNOR provided the initial installation and training for the kitchen staff. With a beaming smile, Mr. Walter Ocen, a cook at the school for the last two years says the kitchen has now changed for the better. “There is no smoke, the chimney takes away the smoke. We no longer suffer from a lot of heat,” says Ocen. He adds that the kitchen is also cleaner since there is less ash.

- Another noticeable change is that the food gets ready faster. “In two hours, the beans are ready,” says, Mr. Walter Ocen. He adds that lunch is ready by 12 noon and served as soon as the students are out of their lessons at lunch break. The students are then able to enjoy a well-prepared meal since the beans are well cooked.

- The school now spends less on fuel. “We use 1 trip per month and there is always a balance of firewood to start the next month” said Ms. Hilda Rose Lakor the Headteacher. She adds that less than 3 trips are used per term. This has reduced the cost of firewood by almost half per term. Because they are using less firewood, they are now saving more energy thus reducing on the pressure for trees that are cut from the neighbouring villages to provide firewood at the school. The school now hires less labour in the kitchen. At first, they had 6 kitchen staff. After introducing the improved energy cooking stoves, the kitchen staff reduced to three; one female and two males are able to operate the kitchen. This means that the school saved money for hiring 3 extra cooks.

- The improved energy cooking stoves have significantly changed the kitchen experience at Alero SSS. The head teacher is delighted that finally the school administration can sigh with relief since the cost of firewood has reduced significantly.

- The head teacher noted that students have stopped complaining about the quality of the food. They have well prepared meals that have no scent of smoke in them. Mr. Walter Ocen agrees with the head teacher and also adds, “We use the same saucepan to prepare posho and porridge”. As soon as the porridge is ready they easily transfer to the next meal preparation with ease. The food also keeps warm enough to be served since the improved energy cooking stoves preserve heat. This has ensured that students have a warm meal every day. Rarely do they have a cold meal.



The twin kitchen improved energy cooking stove constructed at Alero SSS with the help of PRELNOR

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

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