



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

Household Mentoring

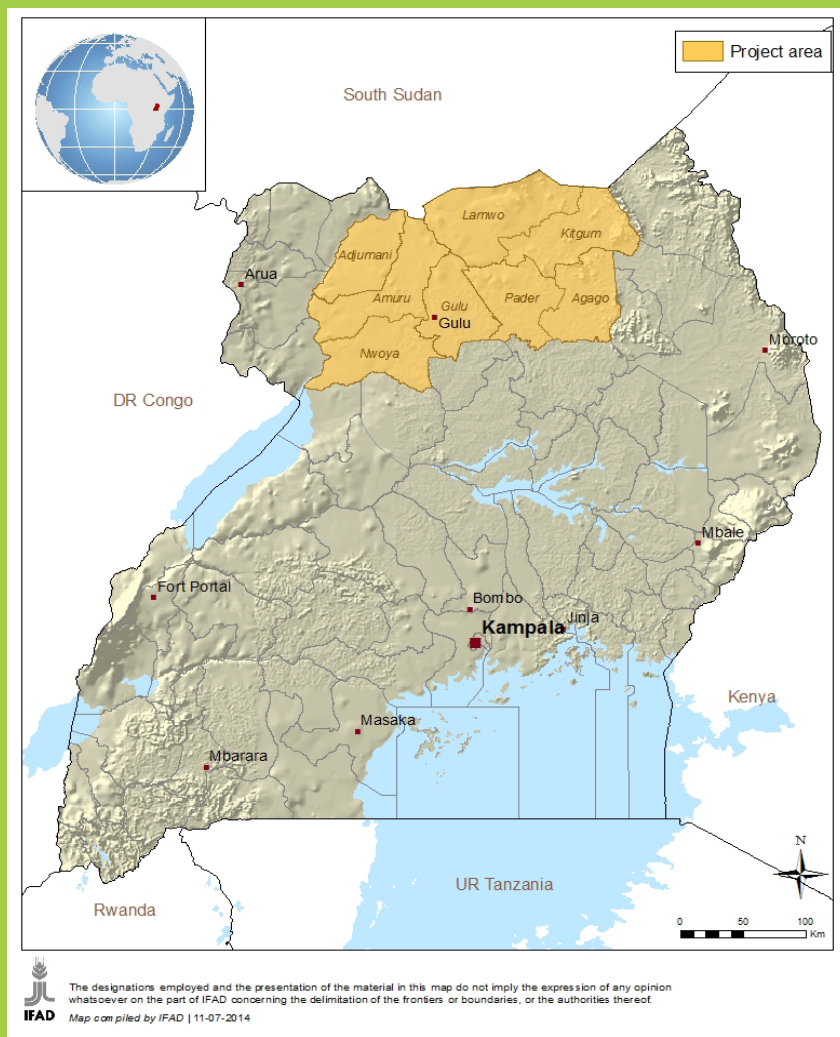


MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

PROGRESS BRIEF

MAY 2020

MAP OF UGANDA SHOWING THE NORTHERN UGANDA PROJECT DISTRICTS



Adaptation for
Smallholder
Agriculture
Programme

ASAP

IFAD
Investing in rural people

IFAD
Investing in Rural People

EDITORIAL

Our Dear Reader,

We are glad to bring to you this edition of 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' organizations 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

Household mentoring transforming lives

Household mentoring

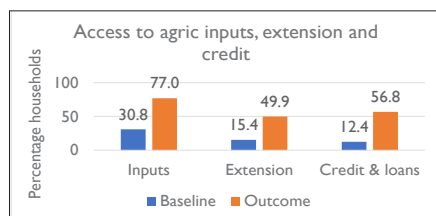
In an effort to lower the vulnerability status of poor rural households in the Northern Region, PRELNOR program is engaged in scaling up a mentoring approach successfully tested under the District Livelihoods Support program. The intervention targets vulnerable households who lack capacity and self-confidence to harness development opportunities from within and outside their households. The aim of household mentoring is to support the vulnerable households to have food security and self-reliance and to build their self-esteem to enable them to join groups and benefit from the different development initiatives.

The program started by identifying and training 300 Household Mentors (200 female and 100 male) who are community volunteers in all the PRELNOR parishes. Similarly, 50 Community Development Officers were trained to support the household mentoring process. So far, the project has supported 4,000 out of 10,000 vulnerable households.

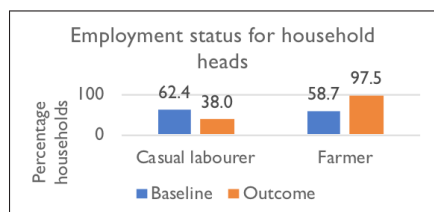
Intermediate outcomes being realized

Out of the 4,000 mentored households, 61 % are female-headed and 21 % are youth-headed. The emerging intermediate outcomes of the mentoring process for Batch 2 are as follows:

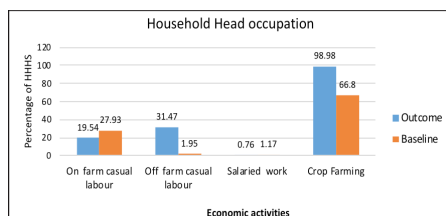
1. Access to agricultural inputs, extension and credit (outcome)



2. Employment status of vulnerable household heads presently and at baseline



3. General improvement in household hygiene and sanitation
 - ☐ 74.7% to 90.1% for latrine coverage,
 - ☐ 74.9% to 90.4% for bath shelter,
 - ☐ 63.7% to 83.7% for drying rack,
4. Households engagement in Economic Activities has improved
 - ☐ Animal production increased from 15.2% to 46.4%;
 - ☐ Trade and Commerce from 2.5% to 9%)
5. Households joining groups increased (those joining savings groups from 79.8% to 90%)
6. Households having two meals per day increased from 38.1% to 58.7%
7. Over 90% of the vulnerable households are involved in crop farming



8. Households are reporting reduced hunger months¹ (reduced from 4 to 2), an indication of food security.
9. Evidence of asset accumulation. Mentored households have acquired domestic livestock such as oxen (cattle), goats and chicken after the first 12 months of mentoring.

A. Case study of Coster Ayaa of Bungatira sub county, Gulu District

Situation before



- ☐ Coster Ayaa from Bungatira sub-county in Gulu district is a mother of three and one grandchild they all live with her.
- ☐ She is a widow who has gone through desperate times trying to care for her family
- ☐ She was identified at a community meeting as vulnerable household and became a beneficiary of a household mentoring intervention under PRELNOR
- ☐ Together with her household mentor, they analyzed her situation and developed an action plan with a vision of her enjoying a better life with enough food and income in a good house.
- ☐ She was supported with a grant of 440,000 UGX project to achieve her action plan.

¹ Report on the intermediate outcomes of the first cohort of vulnerable households

Household Mentoring (Continued)

Situation after

- ☐ From the grant, she acquired two goats which have now multiplied to 6 goats and other farming inputs
- ☐ She started crop production and also joined Village Savings and Loans Association (VLSA) group and out of her savings and profits from the sales of her produce, Coster acquired land and started constructing a permanent house.
- ☐ She is able to pay her children's school fees and she now lives a happy life.

Before Intervention	After Intervention
	
Coster's grass thatch house:	Her permanent house being constructed



B. Case study of Mr Abwola Benson of Pabit in Nwoya District

Situation before:

- ☐ At the time of selection, Benson was a desperate man who was staying at his brother's place, he owned nothing and had lost hope.

Situation after:

- ☐ Last season of 2018, he planted one acre of maize and another of cassava with a grant from PRELNOR.
- ☐ After, the sale of the season's harvest, he acquired 2 goats and 15 local chicken
- ☐ He is now able to provide for his household with food, upkeep and emergency.
- ☐ Mr Abwola has also joined a Village Savings and Loans Association group.
- ☐ The household has good sanitation and hygiene, (latrine, rubbish pit, hand washing facility), and the household members are working together,

Before Intervention	After intervention
	
Mr. Abwola's family used to visit the bush for nature's call before mentoring.	Mr. Abwola's tippy tap handwashing facility at the newly-built latrine.

Improving Rural Livelihoods in Northern Uganda



Mrs. Abwola with two (2) goats acquired after mentoring. The goats have multiplied to 8.

What Household Mentoring entails

Household mentoring is a developmental partnership through which one person (a mentor) shares knowledge, skills, information, and perspective to foster the personal, social and economic growth of household members (mentees). The Implementation of household mentoring involves a series of visits by mentors to the mentored households over a period of 1-2 years. The visits involve the wife, husband and adult children as well as other adult household members.

The mentoring process has five phases, starting with visioning of the household's current situation, and a vision of its expected situation at the end of the mentoring process and the road journey moving toward the desired future situation.

After making a simple pictorial action plan, household members begin to implement the action plan.

After 5-9 months of successfully implementing some elements of its action plan, the household is encouraged to join a farmer group.

At the start of the planting season, the HH receives a small food security grant to assist in boosting household food production and / or providing opportunities to generate some cash income.

The end of the process involves achievement of goals, weaning and graduation, subject to monitoring by the HH mentors.

Graduation implies that the household has achieved most of the goals in its action plan, such as household food security, putting children back in school, improved living conditions, hygiene and sanitation, increased savings capacity, higher income, greater self-confidence and higher participation in community groups.



Farming as a business "Way to go!!"

PROJECT FOR THE RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS IN
THE NORTHERN REGION

PRELNOR



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

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE:

Bank of Uganda Gulu, Regional Branch Building Gulu Airfield Road, Ground Floor, Gulu Municipality – Uganda

LIAISON OFFICE:

Ministry of Local Government, Liaison office 4th Floor, Workers House, P.O. Box 7037, Kampala – Uganda.
Phone: +256 041 4347133 Email: info@prelnor.molg.go.ug



@prelnorug