



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

FARM INCOME ENHANCEMENT AND FORESTRY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

Promoting Irrigation for Enhanced Income & Agricultural Productivity

FIEFOC-2 FARM INCOME NEWSLETTER

BANK RATES FIEFOC 2 SATISFACTORILY

The African Development Bank has rated the mid-term performance of Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme – Project 2 (FIEFOC-2) satisfactorily.

The rating is contained in an *Aide Memoir* signed by the African Development Bank, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, and Ministry of Water and Environment mid July 2019.

This follows the Bank’s review and supervision mission conducted around four irrigation schemes, which the Ministry of Water and Environment is developing through FIEFOC 2. The schemes include Wadelai in Pakwach district, Tochi in Oyam district, Ngenge in Kween, and Doho II Butaleja district.

The review also focused on four key project components that include agricultural infrastructure development, agribusiness development, integrated natural resources management and project coordination.

“The overall impression of the mission is that FIEFOC-2 project



AfDB mission, project management team and contractors reviewing the construction map of Wadelai irrigation scheme

is performing satisfactorily,” the *Aide Memoir* reads in part. “The Government and the Bank have both expressed their desire to have the project completed without extension and both agree the activities can be completed before closure date.” The project started in July 2016 and will end in June 2021.

The objective of the mission was to supervise all project activities in collaboration with the project’s executing agency, discuss and resolve any implementation issues and agree on implementation action plan going forward. The

AfDB mission comprised Mr. Mekonnen Loulseged, Senior Water Resources Engineer as Team Leader; Mr. Asaph Nuwagira, Principal Agricultural and Rural Development Specialist; Mr. David Mutuku, Principal Financial Management Specialist; Mr. David Engwau, Senior Procurement Officer; and Mr. Gilbert Kagoro, Disbursement Assistant. Together with Mr. John Magezi, the National Project Coordinator and project management team, the AfDB mission conducted field inspection visits around the irrigation facilities

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INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

WADELAI IRRIGATION SCHEME PROGRESS IMPRESSIVE

Wadelai irrigation scheme is one of five irrigation schemes being developed by the Ministry of Water and Environment through FIEFOC 2.

Located in Wadelai sub-county, 46 kilometers from Pakwach district headquarters, the scheme covers an estimated area of 1,000 hectares, which is expected to benefit over 3,000 farmers after completion.

Unlike the other four irrigation schemes – Doho II in Butaleja district, Mubuku II in Kasese district, Tochi in Oyam district and Ngenge in Kween district, which started much earlier, the construction work of Wadelai irrigation scheme started much later in October 2018.

During project design, Wadelai irrigation scheme was under Nebbi district. But when Pakwach became a district, the scheme eventually became part of the new district.

Progress

To date, the scheme has registered an impressive progress. According to the Assistant Resident Engineer of



ADB mission inspecting one of the completed secondary canal at Wadelai irrigation scheme ■

BEC Engineers & HP DEVOC, Mr. Philip Moro, the physical progress of the scheme was at 26.5 per cent by June 2019.

“We have achieved 26.5 per cent physical progress in seven months of construction at Wadelai irrigation scheme,” Mr. Moro said. “The construction of the embankment is at 20 per cent, with diversion work completed – the river is now flowing on a new route. The embankment will help in retaining water.”

He added: “Twenty - kilometers of access roads within the scheme and three of the five secondary canals are 100 per cent completed.”

The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of Pakwach district, Mr. Muswa Charles said he was happy with the implementation of the project.

“Although we have not signed a memorandum of understanding

with the ministry of water and environment, I am happy with the implementation of the project,” he said. “At the initial stage of the project, we focused our effort on community mobilization. As a result, productivity has increased, road networks in the district and within the scheme have improved.”

“Community expectations were high,” he added. “But now they own the project because we are in constant touch with them, and the land question has been resolved.”

Benefits

According to the Project Support Officer of Pakwach district, Ms. Bernadette Awor, the project has started benefiting communities around the scheme, and contributing to their improved livelihoods.

“The project is employing a number of youths as technicians and workers,” she

“I am happy with the implementation of the project” - Mr. Muswa.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

CONSTRUCTION OF IRRIGATION SCHEMES ON COURSE

According to FIEFOC's Coordinator for Agricultural Infrastructure Development Component, Eng. Ronald Kasozi, the construction of irrigation schemes are on course.

“The overall physical progress of construction work at the irrigation schemes is at 72.3 per cent,” Eng. Kasozi said, during a recent visit of the African Development Bank's mission to irrigation facilities in the four districts of Pakwach, Oyam, Kween and Butaleja.

Eng. Kasozi explained that the overall progress of 72.3 per cent was against a planned output of 75 per cent—by the end of June 2019 for the construction of four irrigation schemes—Mubuku II in Kasese

“The project has opened the district and community to the entire country” - Ms. Awor

Physical progress of developing irrigation schemes as of June 2019

Name of Scheme	District	Size of Scheme (ha)	Cumulative Physical Progress			
			QTR 1: Jul-Sep 2018 (%)	QTR 2: Oct-Dec 2018 (%)	QTR 3: Jan-Mar 2019 (%)	QTR 4: Apr-Jun 2019 (%)
Mobuku II	Kasese	480	13%	21 %	22.5	36.5
Doho II	Butaleja	1,226	9 %	27%	48.6	58.9
Tochi	Oyam	500	20%	34%	57	72.3
Ngenge	Kween	880	24%	33%	54.1	64.8
Wadelai	Pakwach	1,000	0	0	18.2	29.3

district, Doho II in Butaleja district, Tochi in Oyam district and Ngenge in Kween district.

Meanwhile the physical progress at Wadelai irrigation scheme was at 29.3 per cent against a planned output of 40 per cent. The planned output for Wadelai was different from other schemes because of late start of the construction work.

When the schemes are fully operational, they will enable farmers to cultivate in two seasons and maximize their production■



Barrage under construction at Tochi irrigation scheme, Oyam district■



Storage facility under construction at Ngenge irrigation scheme, Kween district■

FROM PAGE 2: WADELAI IRRIGATION SCHEME

said. “And with sensitization of farmers, they have started growing rice.”

She added that other social amenities were coming up, including boreholes in Ayabu Sub

County.

“The project has opened the district and community to the entire country,” she explained.

“Before the project, Wadelai used to experience flooding, but with the construction of the reservoirs, the

flood is now tamed,” she said. “The farmers are getting interested in the scheme. We have already received 700 applications from farmers, who have expressed interest in farming within the scheme■”

AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

STAKEHOLDERS DISCUSS FINDINGS OF AGRIBUSINESS SURVEY

Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme (FIEFOC 2) held a planning meeting for key stakeholders in Oyam district at Pacific Grand Hotel in Lira district from 6 to 7 June 2019.

The two – day meeting aimed at sharing findings of agribusiness needs survey conducted by Klimo Trust Fund for FIEFOC-2 in 2018. It further aimed at developing agribusiness implementation plan for Tochi irrigation scheme in Oyam district.

“As the development of agricultural infrastructure progresses, there is need for the district leadership to develop a clear roadmap for the implementation of agribusiness activities and ensure ownership of the project for sustainability,” Mr. Muhoozi Emmanuel, the coordinator of agribusiness development component, said.

Tochi is one of five irrigation schemes being developed under the Ministry of Water and Environment through FIEFOC-2. Other schemes include Mubuku II in Kasese district, Wadelai in Pakwach district, Doho II in Butaleja district and Ngenge in Kween district.

The component aims at increasing business outlook of the project beneficiaries toward increasing household incomes. It also comprises alternative livelihoods development that support activities to promote aquaculture within irrigation schemes, apiculture within the watershed area, seed production and marketing, as well as support activities that address youth unemployment through innovative agribusiness.



A cross section of key stakeholders from Oyam district during agribusiness planning meeting in Lira district ■

Findings

The meeting focused on the findings of three agro- business potential that include rice, aquaculture and honey production in Wadelai and Tochi catchment areas.

The findings indicated that rice production was increasing at 7.3 per cent per annum; 248 fish farmers were found in Tochi catchment area, catfish was the most appreciated in the region, and fish was consumed fresh, smoked, dried and deep fried.

As far as honey production was concerned, the findings indicated that farmers use both traditional and modern beehives for honey production; there were few bee keepers in Oyam district and the major honey products included bee wax, royal jelly, propolis and bee venom

The Chief Administrative Officer of

Oyam district, Ms. Dorothy Ajwang noted that FIEFOC-2 provides an enormous opportunity for the farmers and rural communities to improve their livelihoods.

“There are massive opportunities within the project, but they are not for the blind,” she said. “You can retire as a fisheries officer, but with no fish pond.”

She urged participants that comprised Oyam district technical officers, representative of farmer associations, non-governmental organizations, and technical staff from the Ministry of Water and Environment, as well as the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries to take up opportunities ■

AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

POTENTIAL FOR RICE PRODUCTION IN WADELAI AND TOCHI CATCHMENTS

Rice is increasingly becoming Uganda's staple food and major cash crop. Increase in rice demand is largely attributed to population growth, which stands at a rate of 3.2 per cent per annum; increase in urbanization; and change in eating habits.

According to the needs assessment survey 2018, commissioned by the Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme – Project 2; over the last decade, rice production has increased at an annual rate of 7.3 per cent.

The survey, which aimed at establishing agribusiness business potential in the watershed areas of Wadelai and Tochi irrigation schemes respectively, indicates that rice is grown approximately by 96,000 smallholder farmers in Uganda, and the major rice growing areas include Gulu, Lira, Amuria, Nwoya and Kitgum.

The average land size for a smallholder farmer ranges from two to three acres in Tochi catchment and from one to two acres in Wadelai catchment.

The survey further indicates that the national average yield of rice production is two metric tons per hectare, while the average yield for the watersheds under study ranges



Rice production under irrigation scheme ■

between one and half and three metric tons per hectare. To meet the increasing demand, Uganda imports agricultural quantities of rice products estimated at 97,826 metric tons annually, valued at USD 35.1 million (Ushs 130 billion), and by 2016 it had reached 140,000 metric

tons.

However the major challenges facing rice subsector include limited access to land especially wetlands, inadequate capital for women and youth, limited technical and entrepreneurial knowledge and skills■

Over the last decade, rice production has increased at an annual rate of 7.3 per cent.



A newly installed rice milling machine at Manafwa Basin Rice Farmers' Cooperative Society Limited, Dobo Irrigation Scheme in Butaleja district. It mills 30 tons of rice per day■

AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

OYAM DISTRICT LEADERS EXPOSED TO RICE PRODUCTION

Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme through Agribusiness Development Component has organized an exposure visit for Oyam district leaders to Doho irrigation scheme in Butaleja district and Kibimba Rice Scheme in Bugiri district respectively from 5 – 6 August 2019.

The visit aimed at exposing 40 district leaders from Oyam to rice production system under irrigation scheme.

“We want to learn,” the Resident District Commissioner of Oyam district, Ms. Akulu Julian said, during a courtesy call on the Chief Administrative Officer of Butaleja district. “The delegation here is a foot soldier. We pledge to share our experience with the farmers.”

The Ministry of Water and Environment through FIEFOC 2 is currently developing a 500 hectare, rain fed gravity irrigation scheme at Tochi in Oyam district, which is expected to benefit over 1000 farmers.

“Investment in irrigation scheme is a clear testimony of Government’s commitment to improve the well-being of the people,”
Mr. Ebil



Oyam district leaders on exposure visit to Kibimba Rice Scheme, Bugiri district ■

Once completed, it will be handed over to the district for operations and management. The district delegation that comprised councilors, technical staff and farmer representatives visited Butaleja District Local Government, Doho Irrigation Farmers Cooperative Society and Kibimba Rice Scheme in Bugiri district.

The exposure visit provided the district leaders with an opportunity to learn about the operations and management of irrigation schemes; management of rice farmers under cooperative societies; and management of a private rice scheme.

Commitment

According to the Resident District Commissioner, Butaleja district, Mr. Ebil Jimmy, Doho II irrigation scheme is anchored on the success of Doho I, and the Government has invested Ushs 28 billion at Tochi in Oyam district and Ushs 26 billion at Doho in Butaleja district respectively for developing irrigation schemes,

which is a clear commitment of the Government.

“This is a clear testimony of Government’s commitment to improve the well-being of the people,” he said.

Mr. Ebil observed that Lango is a hub for grain production therefore rice fits in Oyam’s experience of grain production – as such they should be able to do well.

“I know Tochi irrigation scheme will do well because of the leadership,” he said. “I beseech you to look at this project as an opportunity.”

He urged the district leaders to mobilize farmers for increased production.

“Our ability to mobilize farmers in groups is a key factor for success,” he noted.

The delegates expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Water and Environment for organizing the exposure visit, and requested similar exposure visits should be arranged for other district leaders and farmer groups ■

INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

FIEFOC RESTORES AYAGO HILL IN TORORO

Ayago hill, located in Tororo district, was one of the project sites identified under the first phase of Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme for agroforestry conservation.

Through the watershed approach, the hill was planted with trees – majority of which were planted on –farm because of small size land holdings in the area.

According to a report prepared by Irene Nanyondo, Regional Forest Officer – Western for the Integrated Natural Resources Management Component for FIEFOC 2, the hill was identified because of the high rate of degradation it had experienced.

The hill borders River Kanginima that drains into River Manafwa, which directly feeds into Doho II Irrigation Scheme in Butaleja district—which FIEFOC-2 supports.

Seven years down the road, the once degraded hill is now restored and the entire landscape forested with scattered trees on farm and woodlots. “Fruit tree orchards were established specifically with mangoes, a private



A team of AfDB mission touring one of the tree planning sites on Ayago hills ■

natural forest was enriched using *Maesopsis eminii*, and a management plan drawn and massive tree planting was done on farm using *grevillea robusta*, *pinus caribaea* and small woodlots of Eucalyptus plantations established,” Ms. Nanyondo reported.

Mr. Anguti Silas, the District Forestry Officer of Tororo district further explained that the watershed of Ayago hill was restored using a group approach.

“Four groups were formed,” he said. “Ngio Ber Farmer’s Group consisting

of 80 members, four females and 56 males; Makirok A – Adong Mixed Group comprising 88 members, 43 females and 45 males; Peta United Forest Farmer’s Group, consisting of 89 members, 26 females and 63 males, and Ayago Development Association, composed of 89 members, 31 females and 58 males.”

The farmers were able to plant 413 hectares with a supply of 792,950 seedlings ■

The once degraded hill is now restored and the entire landscape forested with scattered trees on farm and woodlots.



A team of AfDB mission on a visit to private natural forest owner ■

MWE-FIEFOC PICTORIAL



AfDB mission and project management team preparing for field inspection at Tochi irrigation scheme, Oyam district ■



Night storage facility under construction at Ngenge irrigation scheme, Kween district ■



Eng. Kasozi (Centre) explaining to the AfDB mission developments at Wadelai irrigation scheme ■



A section of secondary canal with concrete casting at Dobo II irrigation scheme, Butaleja district ■



Excavation of main canal underway at Mubuku II irrigation scheme, Kasese district ■

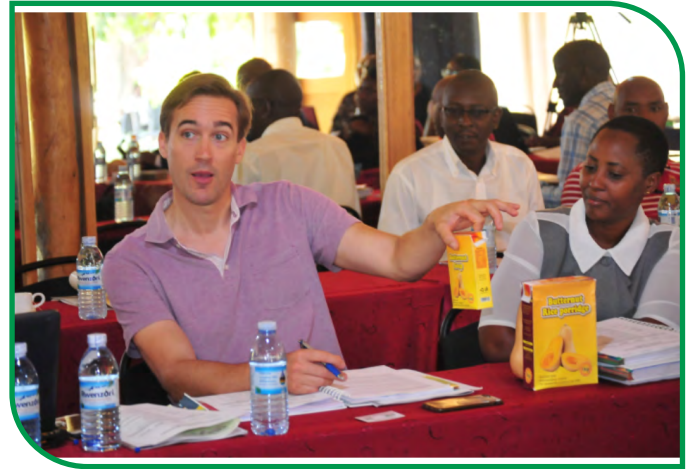


Kabajiria headworks under construction at Ngenge irrigation scheme, Kween district ■

MWE-FIEFOC PICTORIAL



A group of 40 youth agripreneurs selected from Butaleja and Kween to benefit under EBABLE youth program having a photo session moment■



A representative of Nordic Development Fund, Mr. Charles Wetherill at the selection of youth agripreneurs from Butaleja and Kween districts at Mbale Resort Hotel■



A team of AfDB mission and project implementation engaging communities from Wadelai in Pakwach district on development of irrigation scheme in the area■



A delegation from Oyam district, comprising district leaders and farmers during an exposure visit on rice production at Dobo Irrigation Farmers Cooperative Society Headquarters in Butaleja district■



Rice field under irrigation at Dobo irrigation scheme, Butaleja district■



Oyam district leaders during a photo session at Kibimba rice scheme in Bugiri district■

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IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- Ministry of Water and Environment,
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries,
- 40 District Local Governments that manage integrated natural resources in catchment areas of five irrigation schemes.
- 5 District Local Governments that implement irrigation schemes

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT
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ABOUT FIEFOC 2

Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme– Project 2 (FIEFOC 2) is a five year project (2016-2021), designed within the context of the Government of Uganda's National Development Plan (NDP) and the long term development strategy, the Vision 2040 both of which promote agricultural infrastructure and income enhancement. The project is further designed to assist the Government increase land area under irrigated agriculture from the current 14,418 hectares to about 420,000 hectares by 2035. And it further seeks to consolidate and expand notable achievements registered under FIEFOC 1, which ended in December 2012.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction and economic growth in Uganda through enhanced productivity and commercialization of agriculture. Specifically, the project aims at improving household incomes, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development.

The project has four components, including Agricultural Infrastructure Development, Agribusiness Development, Integrated Natural Resources Management and Project Coordination. The primary project beneficiaries, estimated at 1,816,756 are found in the districts of Pakwach, Oyam, Butaleja, Kween, and Kasese, where five irrigation schemes are being constructed. These include Mubuku II irrigation scheme in Kasese district, Dobo II irrigation scheme in Butaleja district, Tochi irrigation scheme in Oyam district, Ngenge irrigation scheme in Kween district and Wadelai irrigation scheme in Pakwach district.

The Ministry of Water and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries jointly implement the project. Water ministry is the executing agency, responsible for implementation of irrigation infrastructure and related activities under project component one and the natural resources management activities under component three. While the agriculture ministry is a key implementing partner, responsible for implementation of agronomy and extension related activities and the agri-business development■

FACTS & FIGURES

Project Objective: To improve household incomes, rural livelihoods, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development.

Key Financiers: African Development Bank (AfDB), Nordic Development Fund (NDF) and Government of Uganda

**US\$
91.43
million**

(UgX 327.6 billion)
Total Project Cost.

40

Number of Project Locations (districts).

5

Number of Catchments.
Number of Irrigation Schemes.
Number of Districts Implementing Irrigation Schemes.

1,816,756

Total Population of Districts Implementing Schemes.

100

Number of Youths Targeted under ENABLE Youth Program.

62

Number of Youths Selected for Funding Support.

15,000

Number of Farmers Targeted for Capacity Building under Climate Smart Agriculture.

2,389,372

Number of Assorted Tree Seedlings distributed to farmers.

**2,380
hectares**

Acreage of River Banks Restored.

**7,000
hectares**

Acreage of forest cover restored■