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MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

FARM INCOME ENHANCEMENT AND FORESTRY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

Promoting Irrigation for Enhanced Income & Agricultural Productivity

LET US WORK TOGETHER - PS MWE

The Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Water and Environment, Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi has called upon project teams to work together and provide solutions to challenges facing implementation of irrigation schemes.

"We are working for one government," he said. "Where there is a challenge, let us put our heads together and provide solution."

Mr. Okidi made the remarks during the 10th Project Steering Committee meeting for the Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation Programme- Project 2 (FIEFOC 2) held on November 1 at Chobe Safari Lodge in Nwoya district.

The Project Steering Committee is responsible for providing an oversight and guidance to the implementation of FIEFOC 2.

The Permanent Secretary expressed happiness with the district leadership of Pakwach that comprises the Chief Administrative Officer, Resident District Commissioner, Local Council 5 Chairman and District Technical Support Team for their effort toward implementation of Wadelai irrigation scheme.



The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment, Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi (l) jointly addressing the 10th Project Steering Committee meeting at Chobe Safari Lodge with the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Mr. Pius Wakabi

"Personally, I'm happy with the leadership of Pakwach," he said. "Although you started late, you have almost caught up with other irrigation schemes."

Mr. Okidi added: "FIEFOC 2 is one of the key government interventions that contribute to agricultural production and productivity, increased provision of water for production facilities and increased sustainable use of environment and natural resources."

The project seeks to improve household incomes, food security

and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development.

He therefore called upon project teams to ensure that project outputs are realized within planned timeframe.

PS-MAAIF

Meanwhile, the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Mr. Pius Wakabi, who co-chaired the meeting with the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and

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FIEFOC - 2 FARM INCOME NEWSLETTER

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SECRETARIAT

PSC approves FIEFOC 2 workplan & budget 2020/2021

The Project Steering Committee has approved a total budget of Ushs 119.3 billion for the implementation of Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme – Project 2 activities for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

The workplan and budget was approved during the 10th meeting of the Project Steering Committee, which took place on November 1 at Chobe Safari Lodge in Nwoya district.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment, Mr. Alfred Okoti and the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Mr. Pius Wakabi jointly chaired the meeting.

"There is need for tangible results in the remaining period because the project will not be extended," said Mr. Okidi.

A total budget of Ushs 119.3 billion was approved to cover four major project components, including agricultural infrastructure development, agribusiness development, integrated natural resources management and project coordination.

"There is need for tangible results in the remaining period because the project will not be extended."

Mr. Okidi



National Project Coordinator, FIEFOC 2, Mr. John Magezi, making a presentation on the status of project implementation to the project steering committee members at Chobe Safari Lodge, Nwoya district.

Eighty-one percent (Ushs 96.6 billion) of the budget was allocated for agricultural infrastructure development component, 12 percent (Ushs 14.3 billion) for integrated natural resources management, four percent (Ushs 4.8 billion) for agribusiness development component and three percent (Ushs 3.6 billion) for project management component.

The major financiers of the budget are the African Development Bank and Nordic Development Fund with a total of Ushs 92.1 billion and the Government of Uganda with Ushs 27.2 billion.

According to the National Project Coordinator, Mr. John Magezi Ndamira, the work plan will focus on activities that yield tangible results, including completion of five irrigation schemes, establishment of farmer – based institutions for sustainable

management of irrigation schemes, and capacity building of farmers in good agronomic practices, such as climate smart agriculture, value addition and post-harvest handling to ensure improved household incomes.

He further explained that the work plan and budget is aligned to Sustainable Development Goals and National Development Plan III, and lessons learnt from the implementation of NDP II, especially on activities that could not be implemented.

"Some of the activities were dropped during the mid-term review mission by the African Development Bank, while others were merged," he said.

The workplan and budget has been developed through a consultative process, involving project components, district technical support teams and other key stakeholders.

FROM PAGE 1: LET US WORK TOGETHER

Environment, thanked the organizers of the meeting, saying they should work as a team.

"I appeal to members to work as a team," he said. "As a Ministry of Agriculture, we are committed to transform the livelihoods of farmers from subsistence farming to modern commercial farming."

He called upon the leadership of Pakwach and the communities to take advantage of Wadelai irrigation

scheme to improve their livelihoods.

With the irrigation scheme, production will be throughout the year and farmers will be able to produce at least twice a year.

Mr. Wakabi cited an example of Kalangala district, which has been transformed because of Government's intervention in Palm Oil production.

"I'm happy to note that Pakwach district leadership is open-minded," he said. "This is a good indicator for growth and

development."

The meeting comprised representatives from the Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Chief Administrative Officers from six project implementing districts, including Pakwach, Kasese, Butaleja, Oyam, Kween and Nebbi districts, commissioners, project component coordinators, designated project staff and National Project Coordination Unit.

SECRETARIAT

Consultants urged to harmonise activities



Project consultants in a meeting to brief their client—ministry of water and environment on the status of key deliverables at FIEFOC 2 secretariat, Bugolobi in Kampala ■

A consultative meeting between Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme and project consultants held on October 8 at FIEFOC 2 secretariat, Bugolobi in Kampala ended with a call to jointly plan, work together and innovate ways to deliver outputs within agreed timeframe.

According to Mr. Emmanuel Muhoozi, the coordinator of agribusiness development component, who chaired the consultative meeting, the purpose of the meeting was to harmonize different assignments undertaken by the consultants on the project.

"This meeting is important for the consultants to interface, know each other and build synergies," Mr. Muhoozi said in his opening remarks.

There are ten consultants offering different services to the project. These include consultancies on post-

"Don't work alone. You are all change agents for the community beneficiaries"

Mr. Muhoozi

harvest handling, financial accessibility and management, climate smart agriculture, agronomy, institutional support, agroforestry conservation and income generating activities.

Some of the consultants that participated in the meeting included Klimo Trust, Finnoc Consortium, Chrisbert, AESA and Patricos.

The meeting noted that as much as the consultants target the same project beneficiaries, they did not know each other, and they were working independent of each other.

The consultants were therefore advised to work together – so as to leverage on each other's strength and reduce on duplication of work, as well as community fatigue.

"Don't work alone," Mr. Muhoozi said. "You are all change agents for the community beneficiaries. You can share your terms of reference with each other."

The implementation of FIEFOC 2 started in July 2016 and is expected to end in June 2021.

"Let us work together and deliver outputs as a team," Mr. Muhoozi emphasised. "Find innovate ways of delivering your assignment in time. This means joint planning is important

in reducing time lag."

They were also advised to share some of the challenges they were facing in the delivery of their outputs, and work closely with district subject specialists – so as to build their capacities where possible.

Ms. Imelda Kanzomba, the sub coordinator for agronomy also encouraged the consultants to use available structures such as the Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and Farmer Based Management Organization (FBMO) to mobilize farmers and build their capacities.

She said the ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries was handling issues at Mubuku II irrigation scheme internally such as mapping of plots, identification and selection of farmers as well as surveying of land.

The meeting finally agreed that harmonization meeting for consultancies be held on quarterly basis, a joint team be established for developing workplans, and documents be shared among consultants.

Dr. Cassius Aruho, a fisheries specialist on the project under agribusiness development component was nominated to coordinate the consultative meeting of the consultants ■

AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE

Resolve outstanding issues on irrigation schemes – Eng. Kasozi

The coordinator of agricultural infrastructure development component under Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme, Eng. Ronald Kasozi has urged team members to resolve any outstanding issue on the construction of irrigation schemes as it nears completion.

"Four of the irrigation schemes should by now reached completion stages," he said, while chairing a quarterly review and planning meeting for the agricultural infrastructure development component on October 7 at FIEFOC 2 secretariat at Bugolobi in Kampala

The five gravity feed irrigation schemes are at various level of completion. These include Tochi irrigation scheme in Oyam district, Ngenge irrigation

Physical progress of developing irrigation schemes as of September 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 (%) | QTR 1: Jul-Sep 2019 (%) |
| Mobuku II | Kasese | 480 | 13% | 21 % | 22.5 | 36.5 | 52.0 |
| Doho II | Butaleja | 1,226 | 9 % | 27% | 48.6 | 58.9 | 72.5 |
| Tochi | Oyam | 500 | 20% | 34% | 57 | 72.3 | 85.2 |
| Ngenge | Kween | 880 | 24% | 33% | 54.1 | 64.8 | 73.1 |
| Wadelai | Pakwach | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 18.2 | 29.3 | 37.0 |

scheme in Kween district, Doho II irrigation scheme in Butaleja district and Mubuku II irrigations scheme in Kasese district.

"It is incumbent upon us to resolve any outstanding issue with the beneficiary communities," Eng. Kasozi said. Once completed, the irrigation schemes will contribute to household incomes, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development, as well as

through an effective management model for the schemes.

"We need to quickly sort out the management model of the schemes," he said. "The agronomy sub group should step up its activities." He reiterated that in the next four months farmers should be ready to take up the irrigation schemes, and also be prepared to go through practical agronomic training to start farming in the schemes■

"It is incumbent upon us to resolve any outstanding issue with the beneficiary communities"
 Eng. Kasozi



One of the secondary canals completed at Wadelai irrigation scheme, Pakwach district ■

AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Sagula: Doho's institutional memory

If you have not met Mr. Sagula Wilberforce, the Assistant Agricultural Officer and in charge of Doho irrigation scheme making a presentation, then you are yet to learn about the history of Doho irrigation scheme and the farmers' cooperative movement.

At six feet tall and now with sprinkle of grey hair covering his head, Mr. Sagula exudes confidence of a leader, who has seen it all through the years of long service to the country.

He comes across as a defacto institutional memory of Doho irrigation scheme and farmers' cooperative society.

He has worked at the scheme for the last thirty-one years. Of the six people, who were recruited and posted to the scheme as agricultural extension workers by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries in the mid-1980's, he is the only remaining officer today.

He looks back with nostalgic memory and narrates the story of the irrigation scheme and farmers' cooperative movement like it was yesterday.

"By the time I joined, people had not known about the irrigation," he told a visiting delegation from Oyam district, who had come to learn about rice growing under irrigation scheme. "But now farmers are knowledgeable about the operations and management of irrigation schemes." He said the target of the scheme is to promote water for production and improve household incomes.

The vision of Doho Irrigation and Farmers Cooperative Society, which is visibly inscribed inside the meeting hall, is to be "A strong and sustainable cooperative with united, socially and economically empowered farmers." and the mission is to "Foster modern rice farming practices and sustainable natural resources management to increase members productivity and income through agro-input access, produce bulking, processing, collective marketing and access to agricultural finance."



Mr. Sagula Wilberforce (2nd right) pointing at the expanse of Doho irrigation scheme (Insert) during exposure visit of Oyam district leadership ■

"To ensure a successful irrigation management, there is need for a stringent bylaws"

Mr. Sagula

According to Mr. Sagula, Doho irrigation scheme started in 1976 and farmers produce rice under two seasons with water from River Manafwa, which is being managed by farmers' cooperative.

"To ensure a successful irrigation management, there is need for a stringent bylaws," he advised Oyam district leaders. "Farmers are very difficult people to deal with."

He explained that it is not sometimes easy to obtain contribution from farmers towards operation and maintenance of the irrigation scheme.

"Ever since the farmers' cooperative started, we have not achieved 100 per cent of farmers' contribution towards management fee," he said ■

CLIMATE CHANGE

FIEFOC's strategic response to impact of climate change

Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation Programme – Project 2 is by design part of a strategic response of the Ministry of Water and Environment to the impact of climate change as evidenced by environmental degradation, dry spells and floods in the vulnerable districts of Uganda.

This response is guided by the project's objective to improve farm incomes, rural livelihoods, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development.

In doing so, the project is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Water and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries through four major components: agricultural infrastructure development, agribusiness development, integrated natural resources management and project coordination, which have great bearings on climate change and mitigation measures.

Under the agriculture infrastructure development component, planned interventions are designed to reduce impacts of extreme weather events through the development of irrigation schemes.

The schemes are designed to be climate resilient in order to prolong the life span of the infrastructure.



A woodlot of teak trees planted during FIEFOC 1 in Pakwach district.

Five gravity fed irrigation schemes are currently being developed at Mubuku II in Kasese district, Doho II in Butaleja district, Tochi in Oyam district, Ngenge in Kween district and Wadelai in Pakwach district.

According to Eng. Ronald Kasozi, coordinator infrastructure development component, the physical progress of the schemes are at 80 per cent, which means they are near completion.

"The schemes are designed to be climate resilient in order to prolong the life span of the infrastructures," he said.

The project's environmental social management plan further focuses on the challenges posed by the climate risks on the project outcomes as well as proposed adaptation and mitigation measures.

Under the agribusiness development component, FIEFOC-2 promotes alternative livelihoods that help to smoothen cyclical impacts of droughts and ensure all year income generating activities for the communities living around the schemes. Farmers are encouraged to engage in climate smart livelihoods aquaculture (fisheries), apiculture (honey production), seedling production and rice production. The youth are also supported through a special program known as the ENABLE Youth, which allows them to contribute to adverse effects of climate change through innovative agricultural enterprises.

According to Mr. Emmanuel Muhoozi, coordinator of agribusiness development component, a total of 100 potential youth agripreneurs, comprising both male and female have been selected for financial support—based on their innovate agribusiness cases. Activities under integrated natural resources management component are equally designed to facilitate reduction of land degradation and related flood impacts, and thus increasing the resilience of the communities around the schemes.

A catchment management plan has been developed to guide investment options in the catchment areas of five irrigation schemes to reduce sediments entering the irrigation schemes and improve farming in the watershed areas.

According to Ms. Margaret Adata, commissioner of forest sector support department and coordinator of integrated national resources management component under FIEFOC 2 to mitigate the impact of climate change, a total of 4.3 million assorted tree seedlings have been distributed to farmers and 120 kilometres of river banks have been restored in the watershed areas of Ngenge, Manafwa, Tochi and Mubuku II. "Because of these interventions, a total of 7,000 hectares of forest cover have been restored on private and degraded lands through tree planting," she said.

ENABLE YOUTH

Implementation of Enable Youth Program on track



Youth agripreneurs from Butaleja and Kween districts in a photo session displaying their certificates after presenting business cases for funding ■

A total of 158 young people, comprising male and female have gained skills and technical training in enterprise development under ENABLE Youth Program Uganda, a status report for 2019 submitted by Impact Booster Consortium to Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation Programme—Project 2 reveals.

The training was undertaken against a set target of 100 youths trained by the consultant. This means 158 per cent success rate has been registered in the training of the youths in agribusiness enterprise development.

ENABLE Youth is a pilot project that aims at creating opportunities for young entrepreneurs in agricultural sector in order to upgrade their technical skills, adopt innovative agricultural management practices and access capital for agribusiness expansion.

Meanwhile Impact Booster Consortium is a consultant that implements ENABLE Youth Program on behalf of the Ministry of Water and Environment under FIEFOC 2.

“This means 158 percent success rate has been registered in the training of the youths.”

According to the report over 4,000 applications were received from the youths in the five catchment areas of Tochi, Wadelai, Ngenge, Mubuku and Manafwa, but only 100 youths were considered for financial support.

The report further indicates that 107 businesses were created under the program and are operational.

The major spectrum of the business enterprises include: ICT in agriculture, poultry, tuberos roots, oil seed, livestock, horticulture, grains and pulses, coffee, clean energy, apiculture and agroforestry.

However, the report was cautious about the sustainability of the program, saying that the impact of the program will be measured after five years. It also identified language barrier as one of the challenges that faced the applicants. Although some youths had good business ideas, they could not express themselves properly. As a result, it cost them dearly. It was also a challenge dealing with large number of submissions for consideration ■

MWE-FIEFOC PICTORIAL



Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi, PS—MWE (c) and his counterpart, Mr. Pius Wakabi, PS— MAAIF (r) listening to Pakwach district presentation on the implementation of Wadelai irrigation scheme at the district headquarters late October 2019■



Mr. Pius Wakabi, PS –MAAIF and Mr. Alfred Okidi, PS – MWE preparing for field inspection at Wadelai irrigation scheme, Pakwach district ■



Project Steering Committee members led by Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi, PS—MWE (l) listening to a presentation by a contractor on implementation of Wadelai irrigation scheme■



Project Steering Committee members inspecting scheme facilities, including storage facilities and offices at Wadelai irrigation scheme , Pakwach district■



L-R: Mr. Emmanuel Muboozi, Coordinator Agribusiness Development Component, Eng. Gilbert Kimanzi, Commissioner, Water for Production and Mr. John Magezi, National Project Coordinator FIEFOC 2 listening to presentations during the 10th Project Steering Committee meeting at Chobe Safari Lodge■



A cross-section of FIEFOC 2 Project Steering Committee members listening to various presentations at Chobe Safari Lodge late October 2019■

MWE-FIEFOC PICTORIAL



One of five secondary canals under construction at Wadelai irrigation scheme in Pakwach district ■



Members of FIEFOC 2 Project Steering Committee inspecting ongoing construction work of canals using advance machines at Wadelai irrigation scheme, Pakwach district ■



Distribution of bamboo under integrated natural resources management to farmers for restoration of river banks in Eastern Uganda ■



Young farmers display onions harvested under irrigated fields under water for production department in Eastern Uganda ■



River bank stabilization using bamboo along river Manafwa in Butaleja district ■



Tree seedling distribution in Sironko district for Manafwa catchment restoration ■

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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
BANK GROUP



Nordic
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Fund

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, Doho 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.

**91.43
million**

Total Project Cost in millions of dollars.

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 for financial support

158

Number of Youths so far trained under ENABLE Youth Program.

15,000

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

4,300,000

Number of Assorted Tree Seedlings distributed to farmers.

120

Length of River Banks Restored in kilometers.

7,000

Acreage of forest cover restored in hectares.