



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

National Agricultural Advisory Services/Operation Wealth Creation (OWC)



SPILOVER EFFECTS OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES THROUGH NAADS/OWC



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Celebrating 55th Independence Anniversary 2017

As Uganda celebrates 55 years of Independence, The Board, Management and staff of NAADS, would like to congratulate the President and People of Uganda on reaching this journey. NAADS is committed to serve you by transforming livelihood through farming

Transforming the 68% of Ugandans to the money economy through Agriculture is realNAADS/OWC

As you may be aware, since the commencement of the main implementation phase of the NAADS interventions under Operation Wealth Creation, FY 2014/15 to date, the major output areas include; management of agricultural input distribution chains; strategic interventions for priority commodities under the commodity approach, including multiplication of planting and stocking materials; agribusiness development and value chain development focusing on the upper end of the chain

Under this mandate, procurement of agricultural inputs is handled centrally at the NAADS Secretariat, whereby the Secretariat undertakes procurement of the various Agricultural inputs from contracted suppliers who deliver the inputs to the respective beneficiary District Local Governments (DLGs).

As for planting materials (seed & seedlings) and stocking/livestock materials in particular, the materials provided are based on both national priority commodities (as per the strategic direction of Government for the Agricultural sector) and zonal/district specific priority commodities for particular Agro-ecological zones and districts.

In the latter case, the NAADS Secretariat requests all the DLGs to submit their priorities before the beginning of each financial year to enable harmonization of the national priorities with the individual district priorities to the extent possible. The Secretariat endeavors to communicate in time the schedule of agricultural inputs due to each DLG in relation to the selected priorities. This provides the basis for the DLGs to select suitable farmer beneficiaries for each selected priority commodity.

In addition, the support also targets strategic interventions geared towards supporting the development of agriculture commodity value chains through provision of agribusiness, value addition, and marketing linkage services and facilitation of farmer groups/cooperatives to access appropriate agricultural financial services.

In line with the above, NAADS Secretariat has continued to procure and distribute various agricultural inputs, planting materials (seeds/seedlings) and stocking materials, for supporting food security and the key strategic commodities. Despite the gaps in input distribution processes, effects of climate change and inadequate budget among others, the beneficiary farmers who owned up and got committed to their projects, have already started realizing the benefits of Government support and hard work as reflected (below) in a few of the many success stories across the Country.

BUGWERI FARMERS REAPING FROM NAADS/OWC

Bugweri Commercial Farmers' Cooperative Society is one of the groups in the Eastern region that have benefited from the NAADS/OWC programme. **Hajji Hassan Menyha Dhakaba**, the chairman, spoke to Daily Monitor's Phillip Wafala.

What type of support were you given by NAADS/OWC?

We got 76 animals from NAADS/OWC and since then, they have multiplied to more than 120. We are privileged to be successful at the moment because most of our farmers still have their animals and out of those, we have lost only four. And incidentally, we have got a lot of calves some of them being males which are left to the farmers. The first female is brought back to the cooperative and passed on to another person. So, at the moment, we have passed on 24 female off springs to 24 member families and within a week or two, we are ready to pass on another 10 to 10 more families.

We are growing both in number and quality and also in terms of management because we receive lot of training from extension workers in the district, through the District Veterinary Officer. We have also got support from Uganda National Research Institute [UNRI] for training on value addition. Our members have also learnt how to make yogurt and cheese.

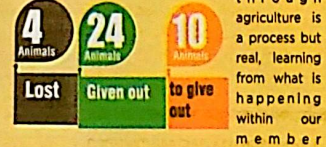
What have been the benefits so far?
This is what the Chairman had to say, "We have bought land worth two acres in Butende and have already acquired a title for it. We plan to set up



a demonstration farm for zero grazing for other members and the bigger community to learn from. Members are also able to get enough milk for both sale and consumption at home. For example, from the 1 heifer I got, I now have 2 offsprings. The mother milks about 13 litres of milk per day and a liter sells at Shs 1,400=.

From this money I have now expanded and bought 2 heifers; getting the manure into my banana, mango and orange fields whose performance have greatly improved. I am also employing 3 people at my farm.

The female offspring which is now 6 months is among the ten to be passed on in the next few days. So my fellow farmers out there, transformation through agriculture is a process but real, learning from what is happening within our member



families. However, you have to be well organized, committed, open to learning, high level of transparency, having ability to network, lobby and tap into available opportunities but also having a positive mindset, this is how we got recognized by NAADS/OWC, later by UIRI and District officials."

How are you using the benefits to improve your way of living?

Milk definitely for consumption. You know the role of milk in human health especially for the young; that one we are enjoying, then the profits from milk and other products are used to develop our families. For example, in paying school fees, looking after our families, clothing and the rest, we have got manure for our gardens.

How is the community benefiting from the project?

Before NAADS/OWC came, we were getting milk from what they called a 'Diary Shop' in Busesa because every day, vehicles were ferrying milk from Western Uganda to this end but this stopped because we also produce our own milk. Residents are given jobs on our farms, where they are paid and be able to look after their families.



Ms. Akuzuziwe Magoola Naalongo one of the beneficiaries with her 3 Animals (Mother and Two offsprings) in Buyanga Sub-County

What challenges do you face?

There are some challenges particularly during the dry spell; we are yet to learn how to manage our grass and sometime the pasture dries up. Then there is the problem of lack of vaccines. On many occasions, we don't vaccinate our cows hence exposing them to dangerous diseases such as foot and mouth disease. Artificial insemination is still expensive in this region.

What are your future plans?

We are looking forward to getting value addition facilities because we are collecting more than 700 liters per day but we don't have reservoirs, we don't have market for the milk produced.

Any proposals for improvement?