

DATE PUSHED TO MAY 30, TO GIVE MORE TIME TO THE BENEFICIARIES

AMURU

By Jackson Kitara

The Government has extended the date for the disbursement of restocking money to respective beneficiaries up to May 30 to give more time to verify the names of beneficiaries.

The call was made by the Minister of State for Northern Uganda while speaking during a baraza at Labala Primary School in Labala parish, Pabbo sub-county, Amuru district.

The Government is implementing a sh80b cattle restocking programme for the Teso, Lango and Acholi sub-regions with about 16,000 families to benefit.

Verified families will each receive sh5m to purchase five head of cattle to restore livelihoods lost during past insurgencies.

Dr Kenneth Omona Olusegun, the Minister of State for Northern Uganda, said sending the money to the beneficiary's mobile phone should have started by May 7.

He said the process was delayed due to the slow

Govt extends payment of restocking fund

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process of identification and verification by the verification committees at the respective districts.

"The extension of the date will give enough time to the committees to verify names of beneficiaries because we acknowledged that there are forged names of beneficiaries, and people who have been

registering the beneficiaries included their children, relatives, and in-laws to benefit, leaving the rightful beneficiaries," he explained.

Omona said according to the

guidelines, they are supposed to start by paying vulnerable people like widows, elderly people, child-headed families, and persons with disabilities and HIV/AIDS, among others, in the first phase.

"We are working hard to ensure that there is transparency in the identification of beneficiaries. We are going to carry out baraza like this so that beneficiaries are openly identified to be verified.

Omona remarked.

He said next financial year they have budgeted for sh100b for restocking programmes instead of the sh700b that Parliament has agreed to allocate

every year.

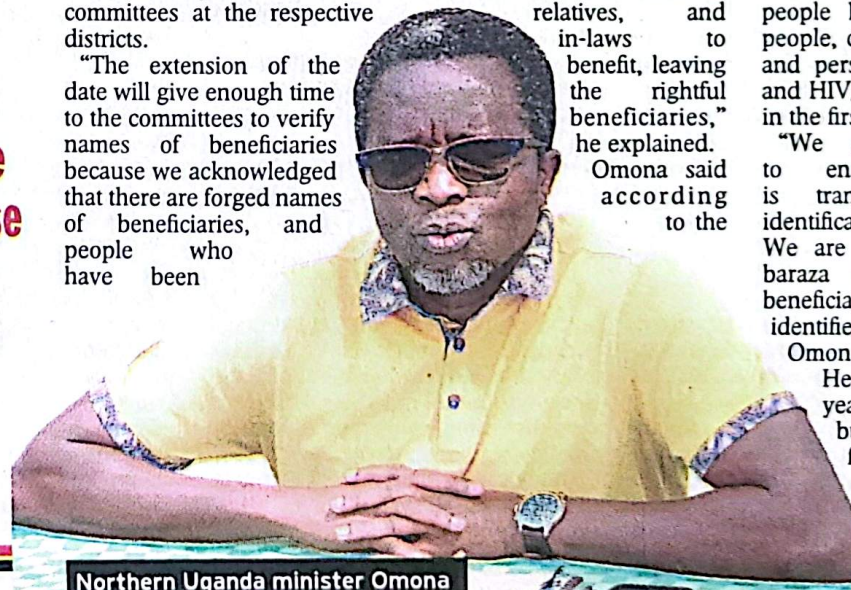
He requested that the beneficiaries who are going to receive the money use it to buy livestock to restock their communities.

Osborn Geoffrey Oceng, the Amuru resident district commissioner, said sh3b has been allocated for the beneficiaries in 58 parishes in the Amuru district. He said they started verification of the beneficiaries on May 8 and it is still ongoing in the respective parishes.

He said they received complaints from 23 parishes on issues of forged names, and they will hold a selection meeting of beneficiaries at a parish to choose the right beneficiaries.

John Alfred Labalpiny, the LC3 chairperson of Pabbo sub-county, said the selection of beneficiaries in his sub-county went smoothly in a transparent way, where people selected beneficiaries democratically.

He asked the Government to increase the number of beneficiaries to 50 per parish so that many people benefit because they have many people.



Northern Uganda minister Omona