

# Research institute moved to Akokoro

APAC

By Jeff Andrew Lule

The country's National Livestock Research and Resource Institute (NaLIRRI) is to be relocated to Akokoro sub-county in Apac district, where it will be headquartered.

The institute's relocation followed President Yoweri Museveni's directive after its land was re-allocated to Guangzhou Dongsong Energy Group Ltd, a Chinese company carrying out phosphate mining in Tororo.

On Friday, the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) leadership, board members and district leaders went on a guided tour of the 7sq.miles of land, to which the institute is to be moved.

The land is part of the 64sq. miles of Maruzi Ranch in Apac district. The land is situated along the shores of River Nile.

The land is also shared by the National Animal Genetic Resources Centre (8sq.miles) and Hillside Agriculture Limited for palm growing (43sq.miles).

NaLIRRI is a semi-autonomous national agricultural institute responsible for research, promotion, dissemination and co-ordination of all related services in livestock nutrition, breeding, social economics, marketing and apiculture.

Addressing the district leaders at Akokoro sub-county headquarters, the NARO director general, Dr Ambrose Agona, said the relocation was to spur development and improve people's livelihoods at household level.

The facility is to cost sh50b which will be used to clear land,



Agona chatting with NARO's senior communications officer, Charlotte Kemigisha, at Akokoro sub-county headquarters on Friday. Photo by

## BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ The relocation of the National Livestock Research and Resource Institute to Apac district followed the President's directive after the land where the institute was situated was re-allocated to Guangzhou Dongsong Energy Group Ltd.

open roads and construct other structures, among others.

"This is only meant to carry out research in fisheries, livestock and even crops for the benefit of the people here. People of Lango are going to be the first beneficiaries. No more need for people to move to towns to look for jobs and development," Agona said.

He said there was still a big market for beef and milk in the country and the region, but the existing breeds could not meet the demand.

The director of corporate services at NARO, Prof. Justus Rutayisire, said the funds had already been approved and work to set up the facility would start next month.

The chairperson of the governing council of NARO, Yusuf Obua, said the relocation of NaLIRRI was going to develop the area through agriculture as people would be able to easily access improved breeds.

The director of research at NaLIRRI, Dr Swidiq Mugerwa, said the institute would carry out research on pastures and animal breeds to benefit the residents.

Lt. Freddie Ojuka, the District



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