



**AGENCY FOR ACCELERATED
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Thriving and Resilient Families in Uganda

Foreword



**Rt. Rev. Dr. Ocan
Odoki Sabino**
Chairman, Board of
Directors



Dr. Alfred Lakwo
Executive Director

We are pleased to present the 2024 annual performance report, which provides an overview of our progress in implementing the AFARD 2020-2025 strategy, that seeks to equip vulnerable communities with the necessary knowledge and skills, technologies, and connections through our “Inspire - Empower - Account approach.” As we approach the end of our six-year strategic plan 2020–2025, we are pleased to report that AFARD has surpassed all of the goals outlined in our strategic plan: In the last five years, we have raised UGX 46 billion, which is 2 billion less than the UGX 48 billion overall target for the six years. With the projected UGX 40.8 billion budget for 2025, we expect to surpass this target by 47%. This will increase our 2020–2025 resource envelope to UGX 91.2 billion overall.

Although the International, Bilateral and Multi- Lateral agencies still remain our biggest funders, we are beginning to see results from our local fund-raising initiatives, which is in line with our sustainability plan.

In an attempt to become more effective while simultaneously reaching more people with fewer resources, we have doubled our efforts over the past two years to work through Peer Community Facilitators. We worked with 1,459 Peer Community Facilitators over the reporting period and reduced the number of our staff from 94 in 2023 to 58. Subsequently, we were able to directly improve the lives of 142,179 people (exceeding the overall 6-year project target of 138,500) in 16,434 households with 79% of these households now food secure, while 64% exited extreme poverty.

A total of 5,199 youth (68% female) received business development services to help them make the shift from micro to small businesses, which calls for improved networking and business management abilities in addition to a growth mindset. As a result, between 2023 and 2024, monthly business revenue increased by over 23%.

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UGX **46** billion

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overall target for the
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With the projected

UGX **40.8** billion

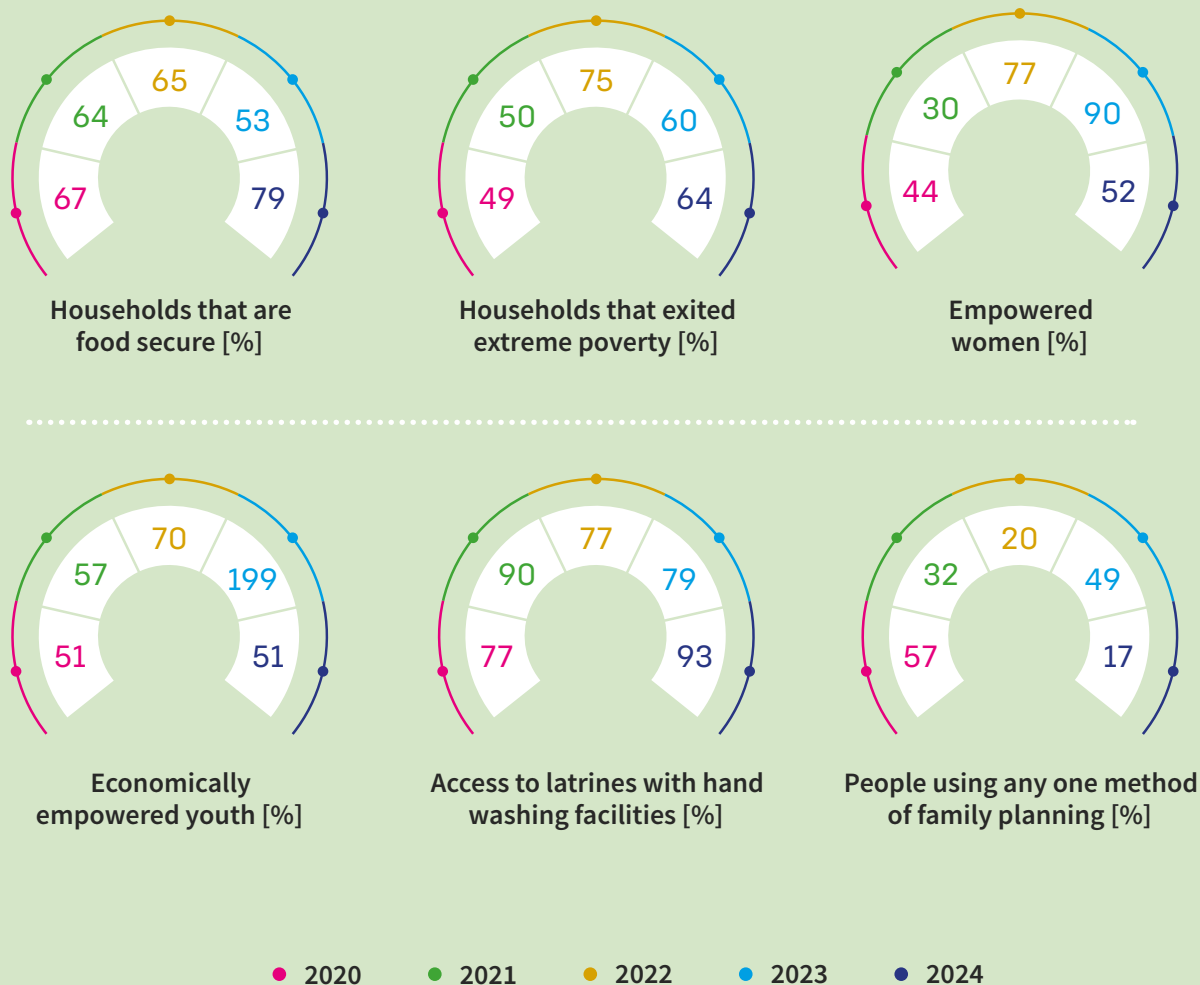
*budget for 2025, we
expect to surpass this
target by*

47%

*This will increase our
2020–2025 resource
overall envelope to*



Key Achievements



The year's biggest challenges were still weather variability and excessive rainfall, which resulted in significant losses to crops and cattle. In addition to depleting assets, the World Food Programs' reduction of food rations for refugees and the rapid inflation of food prices also decreased investment and household savings (in VSLAs). The UPDF's crackdown on illegal fishing gear on Lake Albert and the Albert Nile has also made it harder for fishing households to participate in the market.

Overall, AFARD is on course to achieving its 6-year goal of 'Thriving and resilient families' that are hunger and

extreme poverty free by the end of 2025. None of our accomplishments would have been possible without our partners trust, our team's commitment, and the unwavering support of the communities we work with. Together we have made significant strides and exceeded our 6-year goal of reducing hunger and extreme poverty in 20,000 households, directly benefiting 138,500 people, a year before the 2020 – 2025 strategic plan ends. We are very grateful for all your support and look forward to your continued strategic partnership in 2025, and beyond as we embark on developing a new strategic plan for 2026 - 2030.



Market price collection in progress



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Acronyms

ADA	Austrian Development Agency
AFARD	Agency For Accelerated Regional Development
BG	Business Groups
CAM	Climate Action Model
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CBMA	Community Based Market Assessment
CISU	Civil Society In Development
CLTS	community-led total sanitation
CREMOV	Climate Resilience Model Village Project
CSCGs	Climate Smart Champion groups
CVA	Cash and Voucher Assistance
DIT	Directorate of Industrial Training
FAARM	Finance Audit, Administration and Resource Mobilization
FAMIS	Farmer Managed Market Information System
FDP	Family Development Plan
FFS	Farmer Field School
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
GGE	Girls Get Equal
IEC	Information, education, and communication
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IGA-SPM	Income Generating Activity – Selection, Planning and Management
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRC	International Rescue Committee
LIFE	Level Income for Equity
NIDP	Nebbi Inclusive Development Project
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
SACCOs	Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies
SPM	Selection, Planning and Management
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
ToTs	Trainers of Trainees
UGX	Uganda shillings
UNHCR	United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees
VA	Voucher Assistance
VFGs	Vulnerable Family Groups
VHT	Village Health Team
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association

Who we are

Established in 2000, the Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD) is an indigenous non-governmental organization. In 2024, AFARD, which has its headquarters in Nebbi municipality,

operated in 16 districts across Uganda, including Adjumani, Nebbi, Pakwach, Yumbe, Zombo, Koboko, Gulu, Kitgum, Agago, Lira, Oyam, Dokolo, Amolatar, Pader, and Otuke.

“Reduce hunger and extreme poverty in 20,000 households, directly benefiting 138,500 people (70% nationals and 30% refugees; 60% females, 25% youth, and 15% men)” is the goal of AFARD’s six-year strategy (2020–2025).



AFARD’s interventions are anchored on 4 strategic pillars:

Nutrition-sensitive
agriculture for
increased production
and consumption of
diversified foods.



Inclusive market
participation in
decent employment in
strategic agribusiness
and vocational labour
markets for economic
security.



Voice and accountability
for responsive and people-
centered decentralized
local governance; and
Organizational development
to strengthen AFARD’s
operational capacity,
financial base, and visibility.



Mr. Peter from SwB advising farmers on crop agronomy and marketing

Our Projects



Agroecology champions sharing experience on perma garden establishment and management during an exchange visit to Lobule (Koboko)

Throughout 2024 AFARD implemented **16 projects** that directly impacted **145,503 individuals** in **634 beneficiary groups** across **16,723 households**. Although the political environment was peaceful, these initiatives were carried out in the face of difficulties that had an adverse effect on the development outcomes. These included:

- The year's weather was inconsistent, with severe rains that caused significant crop losses from July to November and relatively sporadic showers from March to May. The livestock population was also severely impacted by the outbreaks of new castle disease (poultry) and foot and mouth disease (cattle).
- Currency exchange rate swings, high transportation costs, and a lack of basic products and services have all contributed to Uganda's economy's continued instability. For example, the price of beans jumped from **UGX 2,500** to **4,000 per kilogram**, and the price of cassava chips, a staple food, increased from **UGX 400** to **1,200 per kilogram**. This significantly decreased investment and household savings (in VSLAs). Additionally, it led to a rise in the theft of food crops from the garden and livestock, particularly chickens and small ruminants.
- The UNHCR and World Food Programs reduced the food ratio for refugees by **80%**. Some refugees immediately returned to South Sudan as a result. Girls had to be pulled from school by those who were left. The expansion of refugee businesses was also impacted by the reduction in reinvestment. Land conflicts and demands by landlords that UNHCR/OPM pay for land rental, in contrast to when nationals granted refugees free land to farm, arose with the increasing number of refugees vying for land to produce their own food.
- The UPDF's crackdown on illicit fishing gear on Lake Albert and the Albert Nile made it harder for fishing households to participate in the market.

Table 1: AFARD outreach in 2024

Name of project	Donors	Partners	District(s)	No of groups	Households	Indirect population
Nebbi Inclusive Development Project (NIDP)	INclusion	-	Nebbi	0	78	395
Climate Action Model Village Project (CAM)	BMZ	AWO International	Nebbi Pakwach	15	375	60,000
Nature-Based Agribusiness For Degraded Land Restoration and Climate Resilience (NA4LRCR)	Sall Family Foundation	-	Nebbi	06	152	1,062
Advancing Access to Integrated Life-Saving Assistance and Protection Services To Promote Self-Reliance and Resilience For Refugees and Host Communities In Uganda. (PRM Project)	US Bureau of Population, refugees and Migration	IRC	Yumbe	33	1,000	6,000
Climate Resilient Model Villages (CREMOV)	CISU Denmark	Senior without Borders	Nebbi	3	75	1,050
Enhancing Smallholder Farmers' Resilience To Climate Change Effects (EFREC)	Ayuntamiento de Valencia and Diputación Foral de Bizkaia	Manos Unidas	Pakwach	8	200	4,200
Street-Children Prevention Through Sustainable Graduation from Poverty Project (PSGP II)	Caritas Switzerland	Caritas Switzerland	Yumbe	40	120	840
Resilient Livelihood's Project II (RELIP II)	BMZ	AWO International	Yumbe	10	317	6132
Farmer Managed Market Information System (FAMIS)	ADA	horizont3000	Nebbi, Pakwach, Yumbe	90	1,336	8,051

Girls Get Equal (GGE)	NORAD	Plan International Uganda	Nebbi, Pakwach, Zombo, Adjumani	332	9,404	27,000
Secure Livelihoods For Southern Sudan Refugees and Host Communities In West Nile, Uganda. (MIGRATION III)	ADA, DKA Austria	horizont3000	Yumbe	18	495	3,150
Building Peace through sustainable access to and management of natural resources in west Nile and central Equatoria (PAMANA)	ADA	Caritas Switzerland	Yumbe & Koboko	44	2,000	16,000
Small Holder Environmental and Climate Awareness Project (SECAP)	CISU Denmark	Senior without Borders	Nebbi	3	75	1,050
Youth Agri-Skilling For Descent Employment (YADE) Project	Medicor Foundation and DKA Austria	horizont3000	Pakwach	24	500	5,100
Sustainable and Resilient Small Holders Agriculture (SURE III)	Manos Unidas		Zombo	10	307	2,149
Promoting rural development in Northern Uganda II (PRUDEV II)	GIZ	GOPA AFC	Gulu, Kitgum, Agago, Lira, Oyam, Dokolo, Amolatar, Pader and Otuke	0	0	0
Total				636	16,434	142,179

NB: The following projects: YADE, SECAP, PAMANA, Migration III, FAMIS, and GGE closed in the year.



Our Donors and Partners in 2024



A woman with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a sleeveless top with a brown and white floral pattern and a long, flowing skirt with a vibrant blue, red, and yellow geometric pattern, is reaching up with her right hand towards a tree. The tree has green, feathery leaves and clusters of small, reddish-pink flowers. The background is a vast, open field of tall grass under a clear sky. A dark blue circular graphic with a yellow border is overlaid on the lower left, containing the text.

AFARD in
Numbers 2024

**Total revenue (UGX in billion)**

2020	10
2021	12
2022	9
2023	9
2024	6

**Number of projects**

2020	10
2021	13
2022	14
2023	17
2024	16

**No. of full-time staff**

2020	99
2021	111
2022	87
2023	94
2024	58

**Number of peer/ community facilitators**

2020	568	2023	2,693
2021	1,907	2024	1,459
2022	1,775		

**No. of groups supported**

2020	1,002	2023	1,259
2021	1,158	2024	636
2022	1,251		

**No. of households reached
(% females)**

2020	29,194	(64%)
2021	30,298	(65%)
2022	29,341	(65%)
2023	29,783	(67%)
2024	16,434	(67%)

**No. of people impacted
(% females, % refugees)**

2020	152,350	(62%,15%)
2021	187,905	(64%,17%)
2022	177,072	(65%,12%)
2023	180,088	(67%,21%)
2024	142,179	(67%,20%)

**No. of youth graduated in vocational skills
(% females)**

2020	100	(61%)
2021	1,441	(64%)
2022	1,423	(65%)
2023	9,954	(73%)
2024	5,199	(68%)

**VSLA total savings (UGX)**

2020	2,443,031,450
2021	3,918,728,300
2022	5,605,195,860
2023	5,313,748,883
2024	1,422,855,887

**Total number of trees planted**

2020	168,929	2023	339,744
2021	26,450	2024	44,142
2022	138,650		

**Number of Producer
Cooperatives established**

2020	6	2023	12
2021	11	2024	12
2022	11		

**2024 Project
Performance**

OUR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS DRIVERS



1 End poverty
in all its forms
everywhere



2 No hunger



3 Good health
and well being



4 Quality Education
(Youth skilling)



5 Gender equality



8 Decent work
for all



13 Climate action



15 Rural livelihoods

Field Monitoring in okubani socail structure in Lobule, Koboko

Sustainable and Resilient Smallholders Agriculture (SURE III) Project



Duration:
9-months (2024)



Donor:
Manos Unidas



Target Group:
Jangokoro United Farmers' Cooperative



Goal:
To build a strong/resilient Jangokoro United Farmers' Cooperative Society.



Location:
Zombo district

Approach:
Sustainable agricultural intensification, cooperative development, financial access, community-led advocacy

Programme endline evaluation found that:



Both the cooperative members and local government officials were happy with the affairs of cooperative: assets, new business streams, and expansion plan with transparency.



The **UGX 15m** interest free loan to the cooperative earned a net revenue of
UGX 13.6 million



The cooperative explored new businesses and added 4 new revenue streams – hire of assets, sale of beans, sale of banana, sale of Irish potato seed.



The production of Irish potato in members households increased from **18 to 28 bags.**



The cooperative has a well-furnished store and office -with solar electricity, rainwater tanks, desks, file cabinets and relevant books of accounts - making the operation and management of the cooperative easy.



The above improved social cohesion: families emulated each other in diversifying their income sources; access to local government funding; and ready produce market without waiting for middlemen.

The cooperative members have used the following strategies to address gender equity: **encouraging more women to join the cooperative; making sure women are in leadership roles; ensuring that men and women participate equally, actively, and meaningfully in all cooperative activities by scheduling activities with consideration for women's time; and promoting and diversifying into businesses that are culturally acceptable to women.**

For details see: <https://afard.net/publications/evaluation-and-research/294-sure-iii-evaluation-report-2025/file>

A Path to Household Transformation and Economic Empowerment

Anyolitho Antonio's case

By Nimungu Godfred



Anyolitho Antonio, a 48-year-old farmer from Angoliero in Afuda Parish, Jangokoro Subcounty, is a dedicated member of Canbithum Farmers Group. He is married to Pifua Dorothy and is the father of six children. Since joining the Sustainable Resilient Smallholders Farmer (SURE) Project in 2021, Antonio's household has seen remarkable improvements. Through his active participation in the SURE Project, Antonio and his group have benefited from various training programs and received vital agricultural inputs. With the support and guidance offered, they have been able to create and implement structured family development plans that have significantly contributed to their economic growth over the last four years. A major factor in their success has been their participation in Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), which has allowed them to save, invest, and make more informed financial decisions.

Antonio reflects on the remarkable economic transformation his household has experienced. Through farming Irish potatoes, maize, and vegetables, his family earned UGX 2.5 million in the last production season. This income was carefully allocated to pay for his children's school fees, renovate their family house, and expand their farming activities. In addition to farming, Antonio made the most of his VSLA savings, accumulating UGX 1.56 million in his latest savings cycle. With

this, he started a brick-making venture, aiming to produce 15,000 bricks for sale. He anticipates earning UGX 1.8 million, which he plans to use to enroll his daughter in secondary school—a significant milestone for his family.

Beyond the financial gains, Antonio points out that the project has allowed his family to consistently afford nutritious meals, maintain good health through improved nutrition and financial stability, and enjoy a reliable source of income to meet their household needs.

Looking to the future, Antonio is committed to expanding his Irish potato production with high-quality seeds from the cooperative. He also hopes to complete his family house, further improving their living standards.

Antonio is deeply grateful to AFARD and its donors for their decade-long efforts in Jangokoro. The impact of the SURE Project has been life-changing—not only for his family but for the entire community. The support provided has fostered socio-economic growth, enhanced livelihoods, and financial independence for many households like his.

Antonio's story stands as a powerful example of how strategic support, financial inclusion, and agricultural training can empower rural families, helping them achieve economic resilience and a brighter future.

Secure Livelihoods/Migration III Project



*Magara a member of Gboro poses with his vision road journey.
Photo by Gatruide.*



Duration:
2 years (2023 – 2024)



Donor:
Austrian Development Cooperation, Bruder und Schwester in Not Innsbruck (BSI) and Caritas Kärnten through Horizont3000



Target Group:
Youth and adult refugees and host communities



Goal:
Support refugees and host communities improve their livelihoods and contribute to sustainable development



Location:
Yumbe district

Approach:

Enterprise development, peaceful co-existence, and capacity building.

Programme endline evaluation found that:



87%
achieved

Households developed their family development plans that included buying livestock, means of transport, household furniture, and saving money for school fees and starting businesses, among other things.



406 acres of cassava, 238 acres of sorghum, and 235 acres of simsim were grown by households for both food and income.

The Para-vets kept up their regular poultry vaccinations. Between 2023 and 2024, the average number of birds per household rose from **12 to 20**. Beneficiaries sold 2,474 birds worth

UGX 49,480,000



Every home had an energy-efficient stove, and **95%** of them had year-round kitchen gardens.

Farmers secured ready market at Romogi Cooperative. They bulked and collectively sold 10,300 Kgs of cassava chips, earning gross revenue of

UGX 10,300,000

VSLA savings to

UGX 25,773,000

A total of 194 people (161 women) took out loans to launch and expand their enterprises.



74 of the 85 young people who are currently within reach have jobs. Better business management methods were adopted by at least **56%** of the young people.



Refugees obtained **206 acres of land** through dialogues on land access.

Agro-Input Savings: Empowering Farmers

The case of Lomiriji Lower Youth Group

by Gatrude Ocokoru

Lomiriji Lower Youth Group, located in Lomiriji Village, Lomiriji Ward, Barakala Town Council, Yumbe District, is a Farmer Field School established by a group of youth primarily focused on horticultural crops. The group began its savings journey in 2015 through a traditional Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA), where they only engaged in basic savings and social funds. Alongside savings, they also practiced subsistence farming, growing crops such as maize, beans, and cassava. However, they had little understanding of how the VSLA could become a key tool in diversifying their income-generating activities (IGAs) and transforming their farming practices into a business.

In 2017, AFARD partnered with the group under the Migration Project, introducing a VSLA model that emphasized saving with a purpose, particularly for agro-inputs. This approach encouraged members to save with the intent of purchasing seeds and other agricultural inputs, empowering them to use their savings more effectively.

At first, transitioning to the agro-input savings model in 2018 was challenging for the group, as it marked a departure from their traditional VSLA practices. By 2021, the group had saved only UGX 400,000 over three years, prompting the project team to conduct an informal market assessment. The assessment revealed several business opportunities, including agricultural production, which underscored the importance of the agro-input fund. Project staff shared these findings with the group, emphasizing the potential benefits of using the agro-input savings, and gradually, the members' attitudes began to shift.

By 2022, the group's basic savings had reached UGX 2,353,000, with an agro-input fund of UGX 1,684,400.

In 2023, the basic savings totaled UGX 2,309,000, and the agro-input fund had grown to UGX 3,553,300. This growth not only made the group a leader in agro-input savings within the Migration Project, but also enabled them to make meaningful use of their savings. For example, 15 out of 25 members used the agro-input fund to hire labour, 5 members purchased goats, and several others bought assorted vegetable seeds for their kitchen gardens.

As of 2024, the group's basic savings amounted to UGX 2,156,000, and their agro-input savings stood at UGX 1,287,500. Though the savings are slightly lower due to it being mid-year, the group remains optimistic that the agro-input fund will increase by December 2024. According to Ms. Ayikoru Shamira, the group's Farmer Field School facilitator, "The agro-input fund has truly opened the eyes of my group members to invest in labor for their farmlands. Out of the 25 members, only 9 cultivated less than an acre of cassava, while the rest worked on one acre or more. In 2024, the group collectively planted 23.25 acres of cassava."

Mr. Awadi Amin, a group member, shared, "We no longer take our agro-input savings for granted because we have come to understand the value it brings to our lives. The best thing about this fund is that there is no limit to how much one can save each week, and we can withdraw the money as needed." He also expressed gratitude to AFARD for introducing the savings model, which has made a significant impact on their farming activities.

Given the positive outcomes from their agro-input savings, the group plans to continue their activities at the household level, as savings are made individually. They also plan to increase production in the coming years.

By 2022, the group's basic savings had reached UGX **2,353,000**, with an agro-input fund of UGX **1,684,400**.

In 2023, the basic savings totaled UGX **2,309,000**, and the agro-input fund had grown to UGX **3,553,300**.

Strengthening Resilient Livelihood (RELIP II) Project



Magara of Romogi Cooperative with his wife, inspecting their rice yield



Duration:
3 years (2023-2025)



Donor:
BMZ through AWO International



Target Group:
Youth and adult refugees and host communities



Goal:
South Sudanese refugees and host communities in Yumbe district have improved incomes, are food secure and peacefully co-exist



Location:
Yumbe district

Approach:

Sustainable and climate smart agriculture and agribusiness, capacity building of Romogi Kiri cooperative and other social structures, VSLA Plus methodology, and peaceful building

Annual performance assessment found that:



Participants planted **436** acres of cassava, **389** acres of rice, **268** acres of sorghum, and **85** acres of beans.



81% of members had kitchen gardens; all continued preserving vegetables for after season consumption, and **85%** are using energy cook stoves



Family development plans is a norm and households acquired **64 cows**, **519 goats**, **320 chicken** and **450 iron sheets**.



Romogi Sub-County leadership adopted a user-fee approach to reduce stray animals.

57%
↓↑
29%

With introduction of natural family planning, especially with the use of the moon bead, use of family planning increased



More women (**98%**) reported being involved in decision making than **85%** before.



Many refugees (**98%**) reported peaceful cooperation with host communities than before (**38%**).

Performance indicators	Baseline 2022	Actual 2024	Target 2025
% of targeted households eat at least 3 meals a day	59	98	97
Increased value of average annual income	601,355	1,552.857	1,500,000
% of targeted refugee households report increased cooperation with host community members	57	90	90
% of households apply safe nutrition practices	62	100	85
% of households apply at least 5 climate smart agricultural practices	38	98	80
% targeted households owned alternative IGAs	34	55	65
% targeted households reporting use of at least one method of family planning	29	57	50
% of targeted women reporting joint decision making in their households	85	98	60

Goal Setting: A Key to Changing Lives, Even for the Elderly

The Story of Oduru Zaida

By Moses Eyotre

Oduru Zaida with her daughter in front of their house.

Photo by Moses



Oduru Zaida, a 60-year-old widow and mother of six, resides in Kikpe Village, Locomgbo Parish, Romogi Sub-County, Yumbe District. She is an active member of the Kikpe Farmers' Group. After losing her husband in 2017, Zaida felt lost and without direction. Her husband had been the primary breadwinner, and his death left the family facing severe challenges, including food shortages, deteriorating housing, and a lack of money for school fees and supplies. With so many demands, she and her children were focused solely on survival, working just to get by.

In January 2019, AFARD, through its RELIP project, organized community meetings in Romogi Sub-County, including Kikpe Village, to discuss its interventions. This was when Zaida learned about AFARD's commitment to supporting farmers through organized groups. As a result, she joined the Kikpe Farmers' Group.

Zaida's perspective began to shift after attending a training on Gender Action Learning (GAL) methodology organized by AFARD in 2022. The training focused on setting family development goals and joint planning with family members. Zaida shared that it was a turning point for her: *"After the training, I had a meaningful conversation with my children, and together, we set a two-year family development goal. We decided that our main priority would be to build an iron-roofed house."*

By March 2022, Zaida and her children agreed on their two-year plan:

Year 1: Lay 7,000 bricks and construct the walls.

Year 2: Split timbers, buy roofing materials, and complete the house.

Zaida emphasized that setting this goal motivated them to work hard and prioritize their family expenses: *"The goal made us more focused, and we worked tirelessly to achieve it."*

In 2022, they planted 0.75 acres of beans, which earned them UGX 500,000. This money was used to buy the 7,000 bricks needed for the wall construction. The following year, in 2023, they planted one acre of cassava, which earned them UGX 1,500,000. They used this income to purchase roofing materials, cement for plastering, and to pay for labor. Today, Zaida lives in a two-room, iron-roofed house with her younger children.

Reflecting on her journey, Zaida said, *"Our family would have been in a much better situation if I had known about goal setting earlier. Now, my children and I are focused on our family goals, and we're hopeful for a brighter future."*

Zaida also shared that the overall welfare of her household has significantly improved since they began working together to meet their family's needs, which has fostered greater happiness in their home. She expressed her gratitude to AFARD for the training and mentioned that they plan to continue setting family development goals to improve their livelihood.

Agribusiness for Degraded Land Restoration and Climate Resilience (NA4LRCR or Nature-based) Project



MP.O. Collins advises a beneficiary Mr. Binenga Wilfred on proper safeguarding of planted tree seedlings from animal Destruction.



Duration:
4 years (2023 - 2026)



Donor:
Sall Family Foundation



Target Group:
Peri urban degenerated landscape community



Goal:
Communities in Nebbi district are resilient to climate change shocks



Location:
Nebbi district

Approach:
Landscape regeneration, apiary agribusiness, and livelihoods

The annual assessment found that:

58 acres of land



At Got Ayei that were planted was integrated into farmer-managed natural resource regeneration under a cash-for-work arrangement with the local communities. The average tree density significantly increased from **51 trees per unit area at baseline to 168 trees per unit area.**

UGX 29 million

was saved in VSLA while share out of cycle 1 of UGX 26,484,000 was done and the money enabled families achieve their Family Development Plan (FDP) goals e.g., assets acquired included: **66 goats/sheep, 16 Pigs, 01 small milling machine (Atoti), 525 chicken, 68 solar lights, 01 motorcycle, 06 bicycles, 03 mobile phones, 23 radios, 112 plastic chairs, 2 sets of Jonny set chairs, 18 mattresses, 144 pieces of iron sheets, 01 roofed house, and 02 semi-permanent houses constructed at wall levels.**



A honey processing house was constructed and from **18,188 Kgs of crude honey** procured, and a total of 10,380 Kgs of high-quality honeys processed. In addition, 500 KTB hives were procured and 300 were installed on the farm



Access to alternative income-generating activities (IGAs) that do not involve bush burning, stone quarrying, or charcoal burning, increased

The change we want in targeted households are increased:		Baseline Jan 2023	Actual Dec 2023	Actual Dec 2024
1	Average annual income (UGX)	357,253	561,558	1,988,645
2	Use of energy saving stoves (%)	17	47	65
3	Consumption of vegetables (has kitchen garden - %)	15	100	100
4	Consumption of poultry products (rears poultry - %)	9	100	100
5	Adoption of safe sanitation and hygiene practices (own pit latrine with HWF - %)	76	71	74
6	Access to alternative economic opportunities (has alternative IGA, no engagement in bush burning, stone quarrying, and charcoal burning - %)	27	95	98
7	Access to alternative economic opportunities (has access to VSLA loans - %)	0	100	100
8	Elimination of violence against women (No exposure to abuse -%)	16	21	94
9	Uptake of new opportunities in nature-based livelihoods that conserves the environment (has apiary unit & sells collectively - %)	0	0	12
10	Tree density (average number of trees planted - Number)	51	71	168

It's Never Too Late to Plan: A 69-Year-Old Proves It's Possible

The case of Monokuma Venterina

Monokuma Venterina, a 69-year-old widow from Nebbi Municipality, had resigned herself to living in poor conditions, unable to afford a semi-permanent house. However, her life took a positive turn in 2023 when she was selected to be part of the Nature-based Project, which aims to empower members of her community. Through this project, Monokuma received valuable resources, including vegetable seeds, poultry, a watering can, and training in areas such as sanitation, financial literacy, gardening, and tree management. A key lesson she learned was the importance of Family Development Planning, which helped her break down larger goals into smaller, more achievable steps.

Inspired by this new approach, Monokuma created a three-year plan to build a two-room house. She

diligently managed her limited income, saving from her gardening work and contributions from her Village Savings and Loan Association. Over the past 1.5 years, she successfully purchased 5,000 bricks and six iron sheets. She continues to save and hopes to acquire more materials by December 2024.

Reflecting on her progress, Monokuma expressed deep gratitude for the support from AFARD and the Sall Family Foundation. She now feels empowered and hopeful about achieving her dream of building a safe, semi-permanent home. Monokuma's journey serves as a powerful testament to resilience, determination, and the power of effective planning in achieving personal goals, no matter one's age.

Through the Nature-based Project Monokuma received valuable resources, including vegetable seeds, poultry, a watering can and training in areas such as sanitation, financial literacy, gardening, and tree management.

Girls Get Equal: Ending Early and Forced Child Marriage Project



Duration:
5 years (2020-2024)



Donor:
NORAD through Plan International Uganda



Target Group:
Vulnerable girls, boys and families



Goal:
Outcome Area 3: Education to increase girls' economic empowerment that focuses on increasing economic empowerment of girls and families at high risk of the vice that targets adolescent girls and boys 14 to 24 years old; as well as vulnerable families that are likely to marry off their young daughters.



Location:
Pakwach, Nebbi, Zombo and Adjumani districts

Approach:
Youth skilling, financial inclusion, and business development services

End of project assessment found out that:

The project created savings and loan groups for 79 disadvantaged family groups (2,254 members) and 253 youth groups (7,137 members).

Together, they saved UGX 2.7 billion

UGX 351,448,950 for the social fund, and **UGX 216,321,700** for the agro-input fund.

Additionally, **135 youth** received DIT-certified training, and they went on to train **3,608 more juveniles**. Equipped with startup kits, **1,631 females** and **3,743 youths** participated in Farming as a Business (Faab).

UGX 2.7 billion | UGX 120 million booster fund

Booster fund (**85% recovery rate**) sparked a number of economic initiatives that allowed them to avoid their children getting married young for financial reasons. Youth also obtained productive assets, including two pairs of oxen, nine cows, 417 chickens, 264 pigs, and 342 goats. Many groups bought land to sustain their farming enterprises.

The monthly average income of the youths trained in various enterprises are: **boda boda (UGX 450,000)**, **tailoring (UGX 275,000)**, **masonry (UGX 325,000)**, **horticulture (UGX 310,000)**, **salon (UGX 200,000)**, and **general merchandize shops (UGX 265,000)**.

*Laktar Edison, a building graduate of Pacer Polytechnical, expressed his gratitude for Plan International and AFARD's help. I can now make between **UGX 300,000** and **UGX 450,000** a month, something I was not able to do previously. My family is really proud of me because I can now provide for their basic requirements thanks to this.*

*Afoyurwoth Daisy, a Mak Cinga Youth Group tailoring student in Erussi, began instructing young females in her neighborhood. One of her trainees paid her **UGX 250,000** for a two-month training session during the assessment. "This is my first student," Daisy added. I hope to have more trainees and add more sewing machines to be able to provide life skills training to the girls and boys."*

Nebbi Inclusive Development Programme (NIDP)



Duration:
7 years (2020- 2027)



Donor:
INclusion



Target Group:
Vulnerable people



Goal:
A dignified and income secure life for all people, free from the injustice of poverty and exclusion.



Location:
Nebbi district

Approach:
Unconditional cash grant

From the annual performance assessment and board and local government visits:



93% of beneficiary households are food secure



61% of beneficiary households exited extreme poverty



67% of women reported being empowered in decision-making, owning productive assets and living free from gender-based violence.



12% of beneficiary households live in (semi) permanent houses, 68% are using solar lights.



The community continued to enforce its set byelaw against child marriage.



85% of school-age children are in primary and **3%** in secondary schools. **LIFE** covers their fees, uniforms, and supplies.



Local trading activities is flourishing as new businesses are being established including shops (4), boda-boda services (6), video hall (01), and market stalls.



LIFE is being used to rent and buy land outside the village for farming



68% have pit latrine with handwashing facilities. To reduce health hazards (e.g., cholera outbreak) given the heavy rains in the second season, residents and the sub-county health assistant jointly demolished filled/overflowing latrines and enforced the construction of new ones. Local government conducted community sensitization and technical guidance for constructing durable latrines in rocky areas.



99% are using safe water sources. The second borehole increased access to clean water source for those who were residing far from the first borehole. It also reduced the time women and girl spent to fetch safe water and improved personal hygiene and supported kitchen gardening.

Okello Quintino's story of resilience and growth

By Ibrahim Bashir

Okello at his goat's kraal after work from the apiary farm



Okello Quintino, a 65-year-old resident of Welle village, Atego Sub-county, has been a beneficiary of the Nebbi Inclusive Development Project (NIDP) since its inception in 2020. As an elder in his community, he has witnessed transformative changes in his livelihood, largely due to the monthly LIFE cash transfers provided by the project.

Utilizing LIFE Payments for Economic Growth:

With a vision for a brighter future, Okello strategically invested his monthly LIFE payments into ventures that have significantly boosted his household income and overall well-being. One of his key investments was expanding his small apiary into a thriving business. He purchased an additional 30 beehives and equipment for honey production. His commitment to quality honey has attracted buyers from neighboring villages and local markets, generating an annual income of UGX 2,000,000 from honey sales, making it his primary source of income.

Recognizing the value of livestock as a long-term investment, Okello also bought seven goats. These goats not only provide meat for his family but also offer income through breeding and sales. They act as a financial buffer, as they can be sold in times of emergency. From goat sales, Okello earns UGX 800,000 annually. In addition, he allocated part of his funds to cultivating cassava, a staple crop in the region. With the improved farming techniques he learned through community training sessions, his cassava yield has significantly increased, ensuring

food security for his household and a surplus for sale. From cassava sales, Okello earns UGX 750,000 annually.

Impact of His Investments:

The income generated from honey, goat farming, and cassava cultivation has enabled Okello to meet his family's basic needs, including food, clothing, and healthcare, without needing external assistance. With his newfound financial stability, Okello was able to upgrade his home to a semi-permanent structure, reflecting his aspirations for a higher quality of life. His success has inspired other villagers to pursue similar opportunities, making him a role model for the effective use of LIFE payments.

Despite his success, Okello faced challenges, including fluctuating market prices for honey and livestock diseases. However, his proactive approach—seeking veterinary advice and diversifying his income sources has helped him navigate these obstacles.

Okello Quintino's story demonstrates how strategic investments, and sound financial management can transform lives. With annual earnings of UGX 3,550,000, he has achieved financial independence, improved his family's living standards, and contributed to the development of Welle village. Okello's journey exemplifies the positive impact of the NIDP LIFE program and serves as an inspiring example of community-driven economic empowerment.

Youth Agri-skilling for Decent Employment (YADE) Project



Selected youth undergoing catering training at Providence Vocational Institute

Programme endline evaluation found that:



605 targeted and non-targeted youth are employed



Hours worked increased from **3.8 - 6.5/day**



Adoption of climate smart agriculture increased from **8% - 94%**



Adoption of good financial management practices from **65% - 80%**



Saving €5 monthly: **1 - 95%**



Duration:
3 years (2021-2024)



Donor:
Medicor Foundation and DKA Austria through HORIZONT3000



Target Group:
Vulnerable youth



Goal:
Increasing access to gainful agricultural employment opportunities for 500 youths



Location:
Pakwach district

Approach:

Agri-vocational skills, entrepreneurship, Business Development Services (BDS), and Tree growing



Monthly income: **UGX 567,353 - 990,364**

Agribusiness value increased from

UGX1.7 Million → **UGX3.3 Million**

“Heap high the golden corn”

The Story of Sadam Hussein and How Farming Transformed His Life

Sadam harvesting cabbages from his field for the market



Sadam Hussein, a 33-year-old father of four from Powidi Village, Ongwelle Parish, Wadelai Sub-County, is a rehabilitated former criminal. In 2021, after being released from prison, he returned to his home village with little more than his four children, who had been abandoned by their mother. Reflecting on that time, he recalls, “It was an incredibly difficult moment in my life. I had to start from scratch despite everything I had previously worked for.”

Determined to turn his life around, Sadam joined the Riemcan youth group, one of the horticulture groups supported by the YADE project. Through the group, he received training on climate-smart agriculture, Village Savings and Loan Associations

(VSLA), income-generating activities (IGA), strategic planning, and entrepreneurship.

“I’ve learned so much from the group’s peer trainers and the project, which has empowered me to dive into horticulture production. I earned UGX 2,800,000 in the first season of 2023 alone,” Sadam shares. This success was a major turning point for him, a “heap high the golden corn” moment that gave him the confidence to continue and expand his farming efforts.

Looking ahead, Sadam plans to acquire more land for cultivation, build a decent home, establish a tree nursery, and send his children back to school. His journey is a testament to resilience, hard work, and the power of farming in transforming lives.

“I’ve learned so much from the group’s peer trainers and the project, which has empowered me to dive into horticulture production. I earned UGX 2,800,000 in the first season of 2023 alone,” **Sadam shares.** This success was a major turning point for him, a “heap high the golden corn” moment that gave him the confidence to continue and expand his farming efforts.

Street Children Prevention through Sustainable Graduation from Poverty Project (PSPG II)



Adiru Kalsum selling her vegetables at Lomunga market

The midline survey conducted at the end of the year revealed that:



96 of the 120 beneficiary households reported NO child going to bed hungry.



96 of the 120 beneficiaries reported eating at least **2 meals per day**.



91 of the 120 beneficiary households reported having access to more than one **source of income**.



All 120 beneficiary households are members of a VSLA group and are savings.



Duration:
3 years (2021-2024)



Donor:
Caritas Switzerland



Target Group:
120 extremely poor refugee and host community households in Kululu Sub-County



Goal:
Extremely poor refugee and host community households in West Nile, Uganda, have built resilience and reduced risks of children living and working in the streets.



Location:
Yumbe district

Approach: Graduation approach



95 of 120 households reported all their school-age children attending primary school.

Adiru Kalsum and her family's life is transformed by her Small Business

By Adaku Robinson

Adiru Kalsum Sukutu, a 43-year-old mother of seven, lives in Obomiri Village, Lomunga Parish, Bijo Sub-county, Yumbe District. Life had been a constant struggle for Kalsum, especially without the support of her ailing husband. With no reliable source of income, providing for her large family was a daily challenge. "Most days, we only had one meal, and sometimes we went to bed hungry because we couldn't afford enough food," Kalsum recalls.

A turning point came when Kalsum was selected as a beneficiary in the second phase of the PSGP project. She had seen the positive changes in the lives of those in her village who benefited from the first phase of the project, and their transformation inspired her. Eager to change her own circumstances, Kalsum received comprehensive training in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, group dynamics, and community-based market assessment. These skills helped her identify viable business opportunities, and she decided to start selling vegetables and livestock.

With UGX 340,000 as seed capital, Kalsum purchased three goats to sell. She also received UGX 400,000 as consumption support, which she wisely used to buy food, construct a pit latrine and bathing shelter, and purchase necessary school materials for her children. To further ensure food security, Kalsum ploughed an acre of land, planting cassava intercropped with maize.

Kalsum is an active member of the Alionzi VSLA, where she has saved UGX 315,000 to protect her family from financial shocks. She took out a loan from the VSLA to boost her vegetable business. Thanks to the project's support, Kalsum now feels empowered. Her family enjoys at least two balanced meals a day, and she has multiple sources of income, making her more resilient to financial challenges. *"My children are now happily attending school because I can support their educational needs, and we never go to bed hungry. I'm deeply grateful to AFARD for the support they've given my family. I want to help my children achieve professional success,"* Kalsum shares.

Over the past year, Kalsum's business has grown significantly, with her initial investment of UGX 340,000 increasing to UGX 1,475,000. After assessing the demand and supply dynamics in the Lomunga market where she sells, she plans to expand her business by venturing into fish selling.

“

My children are now happily attending school because I can support their educational needs, and we never go to bed hungry. I'm deeply grateful to AFARD for the support they've given my family. I want to help my children achieve professional success," Kalsum shares.

Building Peace Through Sustainable Access to and Management of Natural Resources in West Nile and Central Equatoria (PAMANA) Project



MP.O. Collins advises a beneficiary Mr. Binega Wilfred on proper safeguarding of planted tree seedlings from animal Destruction.

The endline evaluation found that the project achieved the following:



Improved the capacities of the key implementing partners on humanitarian issues, conflict sensitivity, gender mainstreaming and Outcome Harvesting.



Improved food security, income generation and soil fertility through intensifying farming systems and through promoting market gardening of high value crops, agroforestry, and poultry production.



Improved behavior changes in relation to farming practices PSEA, GBV and NRM conflict resolution with more participation of women in natural resource management (NRM) decision-making.



Cash grant for vulnerable households gave them the opportunity to diversify and increase household income



21% of households reported their income had increased.



98% of respondents agreed that the PAMANA project had changed the way conflicts over land, trees, forest and water are being addressed in communities.



96% of respondents agreed that the PAMANA project changed the way host, refugees, and IDPs (in South Sudan) live together.



The key aspects of the interventions that are likely to continue are: kitchen gardening (**64%**), agroforestry (**36%**), coppicing trees for use as fuelwood, forage and mulching, poultry production (**42%**), soil fertility improvement (**33%**), Peace building groups to resolve NRM conflicts and behavioral change relating to



Gender equality, PSEA and GBV, and coordination and collaboration between the Implementing Partners (IPs) and relevant Local Government Departments



Duration:
3 years (2022-2024)



Donor:
Austrian Development Agency (ADA)



Target Group:
Vulnerable groups in host and refugee communities



Goal:
To significantly reduce conflict over and pressure on natural resources in West Nile (WN) and Central Equatoria (CES)



Location:
Yumbe and Koboko districts

Partners:

CDC, OFAO, BOMA and Swiss Peace

Approach:

Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus approach

Yumbe Nyori Multipurpose Cooperative: Transforming Agriculture and Nutrition through Parmagardens

Members of the Yumbe Nyori Multipurpose Cooperative in Lodonga Sub-County, Yumbe District, have embraced the establishment and management of Parmagardens at their households. This initiative has empowered them to grow a variety of vegetables year-round, greatly improving both their nutrition and income. The cooperative members have successfully cultivated green vegetables such as tomatoes, okra, cowpeas, amaranths, spider plants, and sukumawiki. They have also adopted several agroecological practices, including:

- **Mulching:** Helps retain soil moisture and reduces weed growth.
- **Compost Manure Application:** Improves soil fertility and promotes healthy plant growth.
- **Integrated Pest and Disease Management:** Minimizes crop losses and reduces the use of chemical pesticides.
- **Irrigation:** Ensures a consistent water supply, boosting yields.

These practices have not only enhanced the productivity of their gardens but also provided a steady supply of fresh vegetables, leading to better nutrition. The adoption of these farming techniques has had a profound impact on both food security and household income. Families who once relied on rain-fed agriculture now benefit from year-round vegetable production, allowing for more diverse and nutritious diets. As a result, families now enjoy three meals a day, up from just one meal a

day previously, significantly reducing instances of malnutrition. Additionally, by selling part of their harvests, cooperative members have generated extra income, improving their financial stability.

Adrole Habib, the Publicity Secretary, shared, “With this new farming practice, we will have enough fresh and dried vegetables in our meals during both the on and off-seasons, ensuring sufficient food and income for our households.”

The increased food and income security have also led to notable social benefits. Habib further stated, “The improved food and income security has brought peace to our households, with a noticeable reduction in conflicts within the community.” This peace and stability are crucial for fostering a supportive and thriving community environment.

The adoption of Parmagardens and agroecological practices by the members of the Yumbe Nyori Multipurpose Cooperative has greatly improved food security, nutrition, and household income. These advancements have not only provided tangible health and economic benefits but have also contributed to greater social harmony within the community. The success of this initiative highlights the transformative power of sustainable agricultural practices in rural communities.

“Habib further stated, “*The improved food and income security has brought peace to our households, with a noticeable reduction in conflicts within the community.*”

Climate Action Model Village Project (CAM)



Oscar of Omvoro village working in her banana garden

State the outcomes achieved in the year



61% of target households are food secure.



71% of target households are income secure.



66% are planning their family sizes.



94% use improved energy saving stoves.



60% drop in members reporting that they never felt sick of infectious and vector borne diseases



Duration:
3.5 years (2022 - 2026)



Donor:
BMZ through AWO International



Target Group:
Vulnerable communities.
Goal: Communities in Nebbi and Pakwach Districts are resilient to climate change, health and economic shocks.



Location:
Nebbi and Pakwach districts

Approach:

Sustainable agricultural intensification and value addition, livelihood diversification, public health and environment and biodiversity conservation.



69% have increased ownership of income generating activities.

Poultry Management: A Pathway to Livelihood Income.

By Dhanombe Johna.

“I built a small poultry house to provide proper shelter and ensured my chickens received routine vaccinations from the poultry Paravet in our village,”
Roseline explains.”

Ayerango Roseline, a resilient 71-year-old from Warathum Village in Mbaro East Parish, Nyaravur Sub County, Nebbi District, is a testament to the transformative impact of community-driven agricultural initiatives. Although she lives alone, with her two grown children now married and living in other communities, Roseline has found a renewed sense of purpose and livelihood through poultry management.

At first, Roseline faced significant setbacks in her poultry farming journey. Frequent outbreaks of diseases like Newcastle and Fowl Pox wiped out her flocks, leaving her feeling discouraged. However, her determination never faltered. Inspired by her neighbors beneficiaries of the CAM project, Roseline reignited her passion for poultry farming. With support from the Ryekolonyo CSCG poultry Paravet, she resumed her poultry management, starting modestly with three chickens: two hens and one cock.

“I built a small poultry house to provide proper shelter and ensured my chickens received routine vaccinations from the poultry Paravet in our village,” Roseline explains. Thanks to her commitment to preventative measures, she has seen remarkable results; it’s been over a year since any disease outbreaks have affected her flock.

Roseline’s persistence has paid off. Her flock has grown to 40 chickens, from which she sold eight, earning UGX 245,000. She reinvested these earnings into her farming activities, planting and weeding an acre of cassava. Additionally, her nutritional intake has improved, with over 30 eggs and six chickens harvested from her flock.

Despite her age, Roseline remains optimistic about the future. She plans to raise 100 chickens by the end of the year, hoping the sale of her poultry will further support her farming ventures.

Roseline’s story exemplifies the ripple effect of the CAM project, showing how indirect beneficiaries can achieve success by adopting best practices learned from direct beneficiaries. Her journey highlights the project’s role in fostering self-reliance and economic stability within the community.

Inspired by her neighbors beneficiaries of the CAM project, Roseline reignited her passion for poultry farming. With support from the Ryekolonyo CSCG poultry Paravet, she resumed her poultry management.

Advancing access to integrated life-saving assistance and protection services to promote self-reliance and resilience for refugees and host communities in Uganda (PRM)



A member of Asianzu farmer group on her farmland.



Refugees accessed from local landlords 446 acres of land and **324 acres** was used as block farms.

Provided together with technical trainings various agro-inputs: 550 ordinary hoes, 150 forked hoes, 254 watering cans, 40 knap sack sprayers, 526 tarpaulins, 446 pangas, 239 tins of 250grams onions, 14 sachets of 100gs of eggplants, 50g of tomato seeds, 116 kgs of sorghum seeds, 1,644 bags of cassava cuttings, and 3,500 tree seedlings. 8 groups harvested 10,203kgs of onions and sold 3,044kgs worth

UGX 9,192,000



The number of poultry increased from **2,800 to 3,104**.



Duration:

2 year (September 2023 - August 2025)



Donor:

United States Department of Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM)



Target Group:

Direct: Refugees: 79,113,
Host population: 33,906,
Indirect: 339,057



Goal:

“Advancing the safety, wellbeing, self-reliance and resiliency of refugees and host communities in Uganda through integrated and client-centered protection, health and livelihood services.”



Location:

Bidibidi settlement, Yumbe District; Palabek settlement, Lamwo District

Approach:

Sustainable agriculture, inclusive market participation.

Members saved

UGX 35,636,750

in their VSLAs and 356 members took loans worth UGX 14 million. This loan was used **73%** to start or grow a business, **21%** for farming, and **6%** for paying children's school fees.



3,500 fruit tree seedlings were planted with about 70% survival rate.

How a South Sudanese Refugee is tackling climate change through Permaculture

By Limio Rose

John Garang weeding his garden. Photo by Limio Rose



Garang Denis, a 29-year-old South Sudanese refugee, is a member of the Salam Farmer Group and lives in Village 5, Zone 3 of the Bidibidi Refugee Settlement. He is married and has three children. His story highlights how adopting agroecological practices, particularly establishing a Perma Garden, has significantly improved his kitchen gardening and overall food production.

Before becoming a beneficiary of AFARD under the BPRM program, Garang had limited knowledge of agroecology. He struggled with low yields and couldn't sustain a consistent kitchen garden for growing vegetables. Additionally, he wasn't properly nurturing the natural resources around him.

In 2024, after joining the AFARD program, Garang was trained in agroecology and resilience design, which equipped him with the skills to establish stable food production systems.

The training was followed by an exchange visit to AFARD projects in Lodonga and Lobule refugee settlements in Koboko. During this visit, Garang had the opportunity to learn from other farmers and share experiences about the importance of Perma

Gardens. Despite being a refugee with limited land access, Garang was inspired by what he saw.

One story, in particular, had a profound impact on him. An agroecology champion from one of AFARD's sister projects shared how he earned over UGX 2,000,000 from vegetables grown in a small 10x6 square meter Perma Garden. He also mentioned that his projected income from the same garden would be UGX 400,000. This success story motivated Garang to take action.

Upon returning to his settlement, Garang began by raising onion and eggplant seedlings in a nursery bed, which he later transplanted into his newly established Perma Garden. He also planted cowpeas. After just three months, Garang expects to earn at least UGX 500,000 from the sale of his vegetables, in addition to having a year-round supply for household consumption.

Garang expressed his gratitude to the BPRM project for the support that enabled him to improve his farming practices and build resilience against the challenges posed by climate change.

Farmer Managed Marketing Information System (FAMIS) Project



Duration:
2 years (2023-2024)



Donor:
horizont3000

Project outcomes



An open online FAMIS application was developed and launched ([see https://afard.net/commodities/public/](https://afard.net/commodities/public/)). 90 farmer groups in 7 districts (Nebbi, Pakwach, Yumbe, Koboko, Zombo, Madi Okolo and Arua) are engaged on the platform.



100 android phones and mini solar were provided to targeted farmer groups while a sister project - Climate Action Model Village (CAM) project also distributed **15 android phones**.



130 marketing committee members were (re)trained on digital market data collection, weather forecast and VSLA data collection and routine technical backstopping was provided to enhance digital skills.



19 commodity market prices from 29 different markets were posted onto the system and 40 hot offers were created with immediate buyers calls and purchase of commodities.



Target Group:

Smallholder farmers, produce buyers, market vendors, and cooperatives.



Goal:

Smallholder farmers in West Nile, Uganda have access to real time market information to facilitate their farming as a business initiative.



Location:

Nebbi, Pakwach, and Yumbe districts

Approach:

Online FAMIS application

Overall, the application has improved collective marketing in producer groups and cooperatives. Farmers now fear to sell their commodities individually. They sell to buyers who offer better prices.

The Power of a Phone and Market Information in Transforming Lives

Drabe Harriet, a member of the Fur Ber Farmers' Cooperative in Padolo Parish, Erussi Sub-County, Nebbi District, is a married woman with four children—one boy and three girls—all of whom are school-aged. The family resides in Juputhwol Village. Harriet serves on the cooperative's marketing committee, a role that involves collecting and updating market data to guide decision-making.

When Harriet first received an android phone to assist in her new responsibilities, she was overwhelmed. *"I trembled when I first got the phone because I didn't know how to use it well,"* Harriet admits. However, with continuous learning and support from the officers, she soon mastered the phone's functions. *"Now, I can collect and update marketing information on my own, without any help,"* she proudly shares.

Throughout the year, Harriet gathered vital market data, which was used by farmers within and outside the group. This information enabled them to connect with buyers, leading to successful sales of their goods. The cooperative primarily marketed

beans and potatoes. From these sales, they earned UGX 850,000 from potatoes, UGX 980,000 from beans, and UGX 380,000 from soybeans. Harriet notes that the lower sales were partly due to unfavorable weather conditions during the first season. However, individual sales also contributed to significant earnings, with members collectively making up to UGX 17,020,000 from beans and potatoes.

For her household, Harriet earned UGX 1,200,000 from beans and UGX 520,000 from potatoes. *"This was very surprising for just one season of farming a real miracle! I got more than I expected,"* she says, beaming with excitement. She appreciates how the phone opened up new opportunities, enabling her to access markets that were previously thought to be exclusive to urban areas. *"We thought good commodity markets could only be found in the cities, but FAMIS, with the help of a smartphone, has brought that opportunity right to us,"* says one of the group members.

Harriet used the money she earned to pay for her children's school fees, ensuring they could continue their education. Looking ahead, she plans to continue her production activities while keeping up with market price updates, confident that the knowledge and tools she now has will continue to transform her family's future.

“For her household, Harriet earned UGX 1,200,000 from beans and UGX 520,000 from potatoes. *"This was very surprising for just one season of farming a real miracle! I got more than I expected,"* she says, beaming with excitement

Smallholder Environmental and Climate Awareness Project (SECAP) and Climate Resilient Model Village (CREMOV) Project



Duration:
30 months (Oct 2024-April 2027)



Donor:
Civil Society in Development (CISU) through Seniors Without Borders (SwB)



Target Group:
Vulnerable groups and civil society.



Goal:
To improve the livelihood adaptive capacity of rural poor smallholder farmers in the two villages Jafurnga and Ngali in Nebbi district to cope with climate risks.



Location:
Nebbi district

Approach:

Advocacy, livelihood diversification

Field monitoring reveals that:



The local climate study and baseline survey are informing project design



Community members are aware of climate change and how their risky actions is a key driver



Community awareness has led to community-led actions e.g., the formulation of Village Climate Adaptation Action Plans (VCAAP) that are being implemented in the three project villages. Violators of community set byelaws are being reprimanded



There is improved sanitation and hygiene practices e.g., households have safe pit latrines



Kitchen gardens have been adopted to ensure steady access to micronutrients

Greening the Villages

Through continuous awareness campaigns on climate change and environmental degradation, beneficiaries have begun to recognize their own role in contributing to environmental issues. They are now actively seeking ways to mitigate the negative effects. Charcoal burning, which has been a common practice, has led to significant tree destruction, and until recently, there was little focus on afforestation or reforestation. However, farmers are now being educated about the importance of trees, and they are starting to understand and value their role in environmental preservation. This shift in mindset is clearly visible, especially with the successful planting of recently distributed tree seedlings, a clear sign of progress. We believe that SECAP has laid a solid foundation for CREMOV to thrive and succeed in its environmental efforts.

A woman and a man, both wearing AFARD vests, are standing in a grassy field. The woman on the left is holding a small white object, and the man on the right is gesturing with his hand. A young tree is in the foreground between them. The background shows green foliage and trees.

Summary of **AFARD's** Strategy

2020-25 Pillar
Performance

AFARD seeks to deepen its impact in the region by reducing hunger and extreme poverty by 2025. This will be achieved through the following 4-pillars.



Eliminating Food & Nutrition Insecurity

Objective: Increase production and consumption of diversified foods in hygienic homes

Approach: AFARD uses climate smart and nutrition-sensitive agricultural practices and community-led total sanitation (CLTS) approach to ensure food and nutrition security. Targeted families are empowered to ably: plan what nutritious foods to produce; diversify food intake to include staple foods with animal protein, fruits and vegetables; adopt safe sanitation and hygiene practices; and promote green villages through tree planting and use of energy saving technologies.

The following main outputs were delivered during the year.

Inputs and training

- Inputs distributed include: 3,250 chickens, 2,300 hoes, 529 watering cans, 315 spray pumps, 446 pangas, 2,538 bags of cassava cuttings, 116 Kgs of sorghum seeds, 15 gum boots, and assorted vegetable seeds. Champions also received 40 bicycles.
- Trained 62 paravets on poultry management using programmed hatching technology and equipped them with vaccine carriers (Cooler box) and 04 solar fridges were installed. Together with the old paravets, they cascaded trainings, vaccination, and mentorship to farmer group members.
- Accessed and utilised 1,643 acres of land for block farming for refugees in Bidibidi refugee settlement.
- Trained 75 oxen handlers on business skills in animal traction
- Trained 46 farmer leaders on how to use smartphones to access daily and weekly digital weather information for timely farm planning.
- Trained 208 new agroecology champions on Agronomy of different crops, Agroecological principles and practices. Together with the old champions, they cascaded climate smart agricultural practices, agroecological and resilience design trainings and mentorship to farmer group members.

Health, Nutrition and sanitation and hygiene

- 2,118 new households were trained on kitchen gardening while old ones received routine mentorship including on the production of traditional vegetables. In addition, 81 food demonstrations, and 12 cooking galas were conducted.
- 01 new borehole was constructed by the Welle community.
- 55 health outreaches were conducted in collaboration with local government health facilities for 5,233 people.
- 298 new farmer groups were trained on safe sanitation practices.
- 321 pupils in 5 schools were trained on making re-usable sanitary pads.

Environment conservation

- 157 Local Environment committees (LECs) were trained on the formulation of Village Climate Action Adaptation Plans (VCCAPs).
- 44,142 tree seedlings of different species were distributed and planted with over 87% survival rate
- Trained 96 farmer groups on good silvicultural practices, 290 households on farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR), and supported 235 Energy Stove Champions to enhance energy saving stove construction.
- Conducted a local climate change adaptation study in Nebbi
- Held 149 environment conservation and climate change awareness events for 8,940
- Monitored the 20 food forests planted in schools and the communities.

Summary of Outcomes

- 18 community-led Village Climate Action Adaptation plan (VCCAPs) were formulated and are under implementation for environment and biodiversity conservation.
- There are positive behavior changes towards safe nutrition, sanitation and hygiene, teenage pregnancy, and family planning.
- Drastic reduction in chicken mortality rate with an average increase in the number of poultry from 4 -8 per household and more inclusion of eggs in the diet.
- The use of ox-cart services has reduced labour burden on women.
- Improved food security for both the host communities and refugees.
- Increased use of efficient energy cookstoves with reduction in gender-based violence due to fetching of firewood on individual lands.
- Increasing greening of the communities

Case study: Kitchen Gardening - A source of livelihood

A case of Mr. Denis Ocakacon

By Monica Akello – CHGO

Mr. Denis Ocakacon, 47 years old is married to Anirwoth Sophie and they have 4 children. They live in Omvoro village, Mbaro East Parish, Nyaravur Sub County in Nebbi district. He is a member of Mungutimu CSCG and is a Community Health Champion. Mr. Denis said, “before the project, I never valued having a backyard garden. I only had on my compound pumpkin even when we spent money to buy vegetables. Our children had to move far distances in the bush, wasting time, to look for vegetables. My children would also regularly fall sick, and I believe it was attributed to not having

enough vegetables in our diet.” However, ‘Fortune got me when I was selected to benefit from the CAM project as well as a Health Champion where I was trained on the various health components.’ He says he picked interested himself as a trainer on the kitchen gardening concept and its benefits. Currently, Ocakacon narrates that he is often visited by his neighbors who either come to get knowledge on how they can raise their own gardens or to get some vegetables for their home consumption. “Because of the knowledge gained, I now help other people to set up their own vegetable gardens

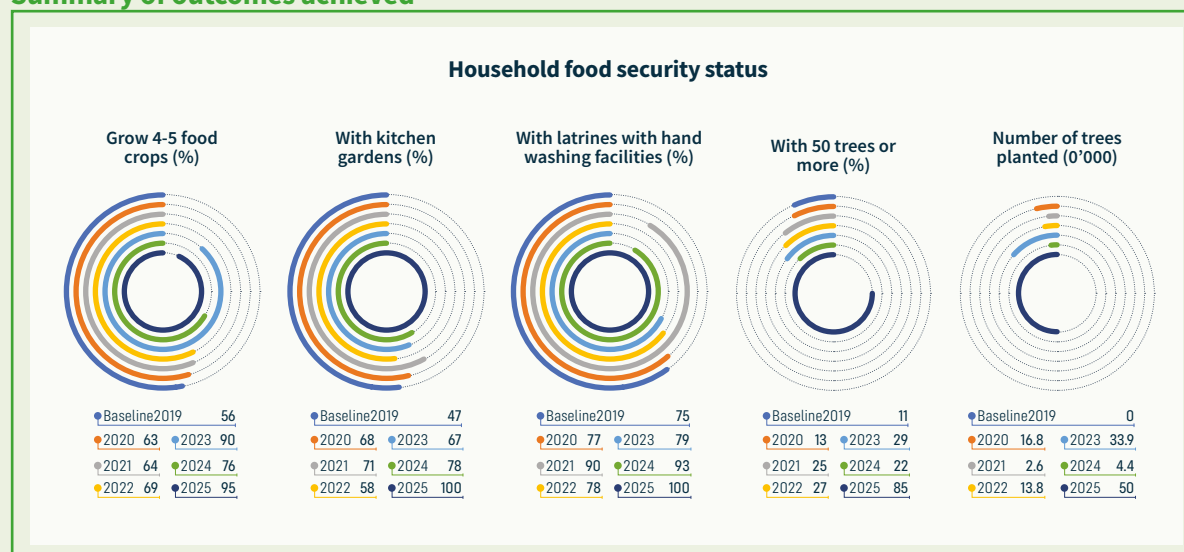
within my village (at least more than 15 individuals) and others in the neighboring village (at least 8 individuals)”. He adds that he has so far earned UGX 25,000 from establishing Kitchen gardens for his community members.

‘My wife and children do not have to go far away to look for vegetables. Cooking time has reduced, and our relationship has greatly improved due to the reduced budget. I have planted more vegetables that helps us get at least more than UGX 10,000 each time we sell on a weekly basis.’

He says as a Health Champion, he feels he has given back to the community on the importance of good nutrition and improved health. He plans to sensitize more of his community members about kitchen gardening so that their health is improved through good nutrition using available vegetables in their backyard garden. Thanks to CAM project and AFARD for this wonderful initiative.



Summary of outcomes achieved





Ending Extreme Poverty

Objective: Increase income from decent employment opportunities in diversified on-farm and non-farm labour markets

Approach: Promoting market-led income diversification through climate smart agribusiness and youth skilling to support families increase their income and net worth. AFARD reached 15,020 households through the 12 cooperatives, village saving loan associations (VSLA), youth skilling and business management support.

Strategic Enterprises:

Cassava, rice, poultry, onions, Irish potatoes, orange flesh sweet potato, bananas, coffee, cabbages, groundnuts, animal traction, apiary, and agroforestry.

Inputs

- Inputs distributed included: 500 beehives; 841 tarpaulins; 3,250 chickens; 9,000 Kgs of rice seeds; 1,920 Kgs of Irish potato seeds, 15 ox carts, and a tricycle for the cooperative were provided. Nebbi Sub County gave Dikiri Ber farmers' group 30 spray pumps
- 02 cooperative offices with stores were constructed and equipped (Jangokoro and Alwi Coops)

Extension

- Supported 5,021 new households to develop family development plans, 101 youth individual business plans, and 3,796 53 households, production and marketing plans.
- Supported 375 agroecology champions to conduct CSA technical trainings. Plant clinics were conducted by district extension staffs for lead farmers, staff, and community members.
- Routine mentorship was provided to households and businesses on better business management practices.
- 86 cooperative leaders were trained on cooperative governance and management, and 04 learning exchange visits were conducted for Coop leaders.
- 02 Business Development Support Officers were hired to strengthen Coop business growth.
- Developed linkages between youth, farmer groups, and Coops with Centenary, Equity and Post Banks and SACCOs where they opened bank accounts and accessed credit facilities.
- 1,638 farmers households were trained in value addition to ensure they shift from selling raw agro-products into selling processed products (especially rice, cassava, and Irish potato).

Marketing

- Initiated mainstreaming of digital marketing approach. 115 smart phones with solar chargers were provided; 216 Marketing Committee members trained on access to digital market information and 90 farmer groups, and 45 produce buyers were onboarded on the FAMIS marketing APP.
- Cooperative strengthening was the key focus for collective marketing. Alwi cooperative leaders participated in the Northern Uganda Agriculture Show in Gulu. Cooperative leaders were supported to conduct market surveys. Farmer groups were linked to Cooperatives.

VSLA

- VSLA is the basic channel for community collective action, access to capital, and innovations.
- 192 new VSLA mentors were trained as trainers on VSLA PLUS methodology and all old mentors were provided mentorship support to cascaded reach to group members on VSLA methodology, financial literacy and saving for investment
- VSLA performance was as below. Overall, savings declined from an average of UGX 160,000 in 2023 to UGX 134,000 in 2024.

Years	No. of projects	No. of groups	No. of members	% females	Amount saved (UGX)	Amount loaned (UGX)	Social fund (UGX)	Agro-input fund (UGX)	Fines (UGX)
2020	6	389	10,298	64%	2,443,031,450	1,027,066,855	161,777,000	69,222,545	8,625,135
2021	10	876	30,128	66%	3,918,728,300	2,604,959,700	394,204,000	81,380,000	13,587,200
2022	11	1,198	32,891	67%	5,605,195,860	2,933,444,400	1,041,145,130	81,236,900	16,362,900
2023	13	1,056	28,915	65%	4,629,131,431	5,298,041,412	365,374,852	319,242,600	1,225,000
2024	11	378	10,570	65%	1,422,855,887	556,791,750	84,724,100	62,372,500	5,266,600

Youth skilling

- 5,199 youth in business were provided business management skills training.
- Youth were included in VSLA Plus methodology and business development support services (business mentorship and coaching, collective marketing, and linkage banking).

Cash grant

- 120 basic future mobile phones with MTN MOMO cards were distributed to enable cash transfers and communication
- UGX 577,969,055 was given to 1,367 households as cash grant for consumption support and business start-up and jump grants.
- A UGX 135 million pilot booster fund was disbursed to 23 VSLA groups as a revolving loan basis with 85% recovery rate.

Summary of Outcomes

- Individuals, farmer groups, and Coops opened bank accounts, saved and accessed loans
- 03 Coops (Alwi, Jangokoro, and Romogi) conducted audits, AGM and had positive revenues.
- Local poultry gained prominence as an agribusiness commodity and outpaced household income share of several traditional agricultural commodities e.g. beans, simsim, soybeans.
- Improved adoption of collective marketing by farmer groups.
- With family development plans, households acquired several assets such as livestock, roofing iron sheets, bicycles, motorcycles, sewing machines, mattresses, among others.
- Decent employment opportunities for targeted youths and those who work for them. Youth still prefer to employ fellow youth.
- Increased household income diversification into non-farm income generating activities.
- Improved household well-being (food, clothing, education, health, housing, means of transport).

Empowered Through Savings – Agness Pacual’s Path to a Better Life



Agness Pacual, a 49-year-old mother of nine from Gabi Village in Ayila Parish, Pakwach District, has seen a remarkable transformation since becoming a part of the CAM project. Before joining the project, she saved through the Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) in her community, but without a clear purpose. After receiving training in financial literacy, VSLA methodology, and family development planning, Agness was able to set clear financial goals that set her on a new path.

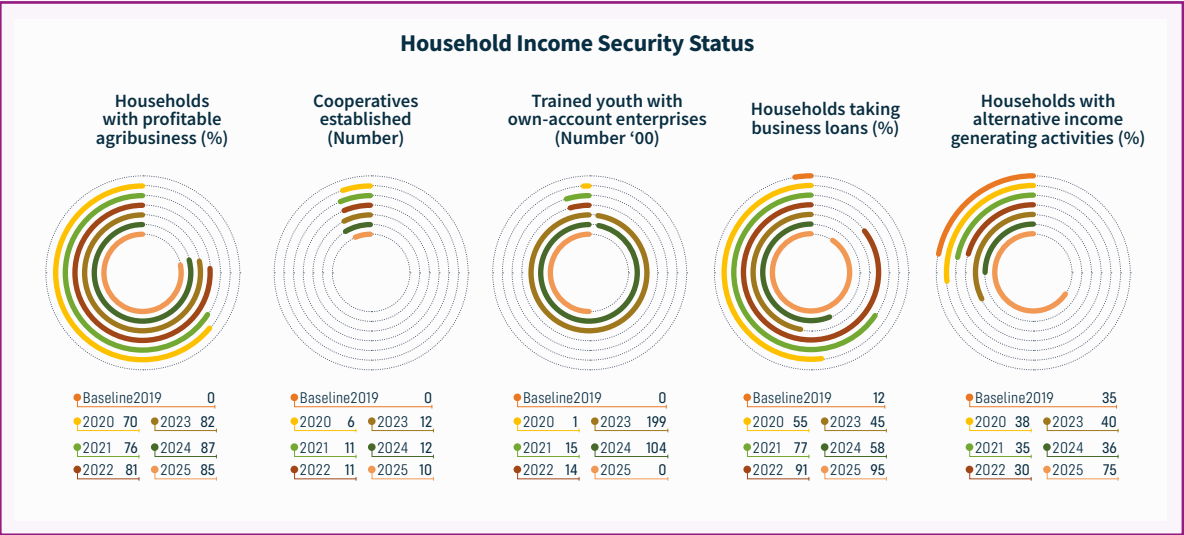
By joining two VSLA groups-Mungutimo CSCG, supported by the project, and a community-based group—Agness started saving with intention. Her goals became focused: she aimed to buy a heifer, invest in her children’s education, and improve her farming practices to boost production. Thanks to her savings and the project’s support, she earned UGX 1,050,000 from the two groups, which she reinvested wisely.

Agness spent UGX 550,000 to purchase a heifer, which is now grazing, and UGX 125,000 was allocated to buy scholastic materials and pay development fees for her children at Payungu Primary School. Additionally, she invested UGX 375,000 into her cassava farm, improving the land opening and weeding, which increased her farm’s productivity.

Looking to the future, Agness plans to save UGX 1,500,000 to purchase two bulls, which she intends to fatten and sell at a higher price by the end of 2025. The profits from this venture will be used to build a residential house, taking her another step closer to financial independence and better living conditions for her family.

With the support of the CAM project, Agness is securing not only a brighter future for herself but also ensuring her children have access to education and opportunities for a successful life.

Summary of outcomes achieved





Voice & Accountability

Objective: Improve responsiveness and accountability of local governments and peaceful co-existence for refugees and host communities.

Approach: Promoting community connections with local governments through capacity building, multi-stakeholder engagements, advocating for mainstreaming food security, land, gender, child rights, environment, and youth employment in local government development programs.

During the year, AFARD contributed to youth and women participation in their development through provision of information, engagement platforms and capacity building of the beneficiaries to enable them to engage with their leaders for planning and accountability. There was also mainstreaming of gender, conflict management as well as child and women rights. The following outputs were realized.

Capacity building

- 246 new groups developed their by-laws, group vision journey and completed registration with the respective LLGs.
- Cooperatives were supported through the District Commercial Offices to renew their registration with the Ministry of Trade, Industries and Cooperative.
- Community peer trainers were skilled: 60 on GALS methodology and 50 on community paralegals services. Staff attended these trainings too.

Awareness and advocacy

- 109 community awareness sessions were conducted for 6,540 people on peaceful coexistence of host communities and refugees, environmental protection and climate change, land access for refugees, and management of stray animals.
- 174 community dialogues/barazas with 10,440 people were held on children's rights, and protection, gender equality, sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR), teenage pregnancies.
- 29 (females 18) referrals were made to Plan International, Windle International, IRC, and World Vision International.
- An exchange visit was organized for Romogi Sub-County officials to learn from Odravu Sub-County on how to implement innovative bye law against stray animals.

Family planning

- 80 awareness raising were conducted for on family planning for 4,800 couples and adolescent boys and girls.
- 2,561 pupils (females 1,281) were provided SRHR awareness and personal hygiene.
- 256 community health outreaches were conducted besides moon bead distribution and education.

Summary of Outcomes

- Landlords offered 1,643 acres of land to refugees for farming.
- Peace and unity were reported at family and community levels. Refugees and host communities co-exists peacefully. Gender-based violence and forced/child marriage reduced. Awareness of child protection and children and women's rights improved.
- Increased male support to and uptake of family planning by women
- Increased participation of women in decision making and asset ownership
- Increased girls' attendance of classes due to easy access to re-usable sanitary pads
- 20 group members benefitted from government programmes (UGX 88 million).

Case study: What I heard bad about family planning were just myths

By Enyaru Juliet



Kiden Evelyn explaining the use of cycle beads.

Kiden Evelyn 36, is a South Sudanese refugee settled in Bidibidi settlement, zone 1, village 3 with a family of 5 including with 3 children. She's a member of Amazo farmers group under AFARD's RELIP project. According to Evelyn, she received much training through the project but what impacted her life most amongst the trainings is the family planning training she received in 2021.

AFARD through the "Strengthening Resilient Livelihoods Project" introduced to the community the artificial methods of family planning but the community members were so resistant. Some of them even cried, stating that they lost their people to the war in South Sudan, yet AFARD is stopping them to produce more children. They also complained of the side effects of the artificial methods of family planning which they heard from different people. This prompted AFARD to introduce the natural family planning method which has no health effects and Evelyn is the first person who embraced and used the natural family planning method as she narrates.

"I have three children with my husband. Two of whom (1st and 2nd born) were separated by only

few months. This affected my routine activities since both children required close care and attention. The first born was prematurely weaned; this affected her health, fell sick severally and became malnourished. I could sometimes shed tears at night when the two children start crying for breast milk. Unfortunately, due to improper feeding, my breast milk wasn't sufficient for both. I had initially thought of employing family planning methods but some people in the community discouraged me, saying I might not produce again. Later, I got trained on the importance of family planning and some of the myths people have about family planning by AFARD. I learnt about the natural method of family planning (using cycle beads) and made use of it. It has helped me to space my second and the third born for three years. Now am free to do many other activities to support my family. Am really very grateful to AFARD for the training," said Evelyn.

Her husband supported her in the use of the cycle beads to effectively plan pregnancy, and the couple is now a model couple to the community of village 3, zone 1. Evelyn has become a mentor to her peers and five women have so far adopted the same

family planning method. She said more women have shown interest in learning about the natural family planning method having experienced the challenges of a large number of children.

Due to her exemplary behaviour and willingness to provide guidance to women about the natural family planning method, she was identified by BRAC Uganda to provide training to women and adolescent girls on how to use the cycle beads to plan pregnancy, its advantage and the importance of family planning using herself as an example to the rest of the women. She was paid Ugx. 300,000 by BRAC for conducting the training which became a source of earning to her and improved her standard of living. Other partners have also earmarked Evelyn as a trainer for different women groups and adolescent girls.

“I got trained on the importance of family planning and some of the myths people have about family planning by AFARD. I learnt about the natural method of family planning (using cycle beads) and made use of it.” said Evelyn.

Summary of outcomes achieved





Strengthen AFARD's Capacity

Objective 4: Improved capacity of AFARD to partner, manage, account and learn.

Approach: Strengthening the Board's oversight function, build technical competency of the staff, and capital investments (logistics, software, office space, etc.) for the effective operation of the organization.

To ensure that AFARD is organizationally fit for purpose, emphasis was placed on strengthening the Board's oversight function, building technical competency of the staff, and capital investments (logistics, software, office space, etc.). Below are the key activities carried out during the year:

Governance

- Board and Board Committees' (Programmes and FAARM) meetings were held.
- Key policies were revised – Finance, Human resource, Safeguarding, and Data Protection
- Board project monitoring visits were conducted

Human Resources Development

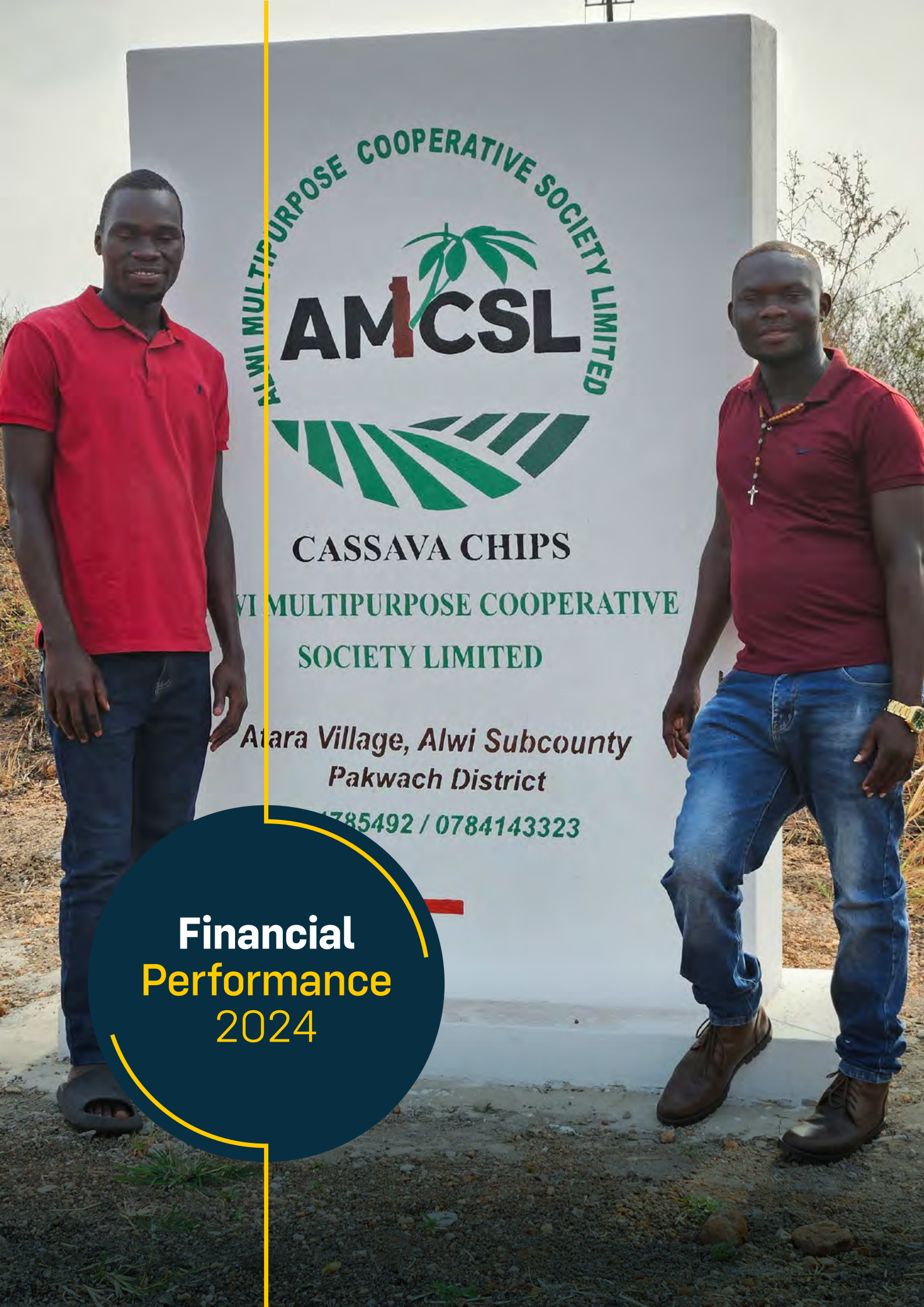
- Staffs were provided with (refresher) trainings on the Graduation Approach, First Aid and Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA), social media use, digital produce marketing using FAMIS APP, outcome harvesting, Advocacy, protection mainstreaming, and formulating village climate adaptation action plans (VCAAPs).
- Recruited a new Director Programs, Mr. Hudson Ogwali who replaced Mr. Robert Bakyalire. Mrs. Akello Monica was also recruited as a Community Health and Gender Officer.
- Current staffing stands at 58 (16 Female).
- 6 interns from different institutions were given placement opportunities

Visibility

- Distributed annual reports, project briefs, T-shirts, tear drops, and IEC materials.
- Equipped and trained staff in photography and social media marketing.
- Participated in World Food Day, Day of the African Child, Livelihood/cash sector working group meetings with government, UNHCR, INGO, and donor representatives.
- Engraved the office equipment.
- Two video documentaries were developed to highlight success stories and promote knowledge-sharing among stakeholders.

Organizational Development

- AFARD retained membership and participation in district and national networks such as: Uganda National NGO Forum and District NGO Forum in Nebbi, Yumbe, Pakwach, and Zombo; PELUM-Uganda Chapter; and Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET)
- Effective collaboration was maintained with the various local government structures through joint monitoring and sharing of work plans and reports.
- Periodic staff and management planning, coordination and review meetings were held in-house and with stakeholders (UNHCR, OPM, Sector working groups, local governments, etc.).
- All critical assets were comprehensively insured and provided medical and group workmanship cover for all staff.



ALWI MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

AMICSL



CASSAVA CHIPS

ALWI MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE
SOCIETY LIMITED

Atara Village, Alwi Subcounty
Pakwach District

0785492 / 0784143323

**Financial
Performance
2024**

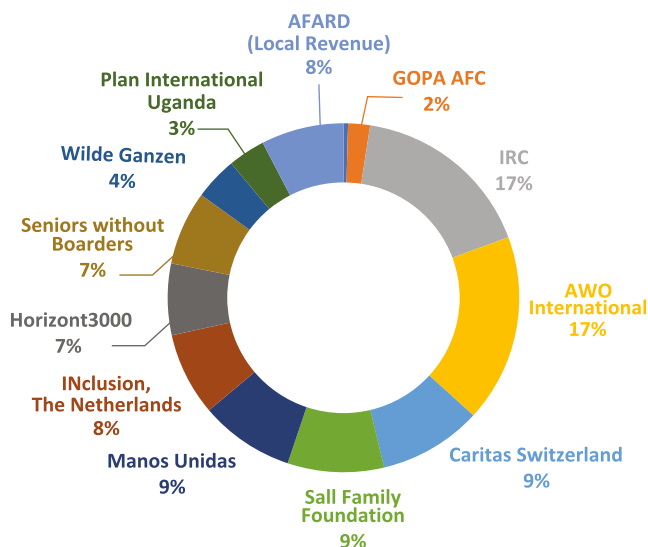
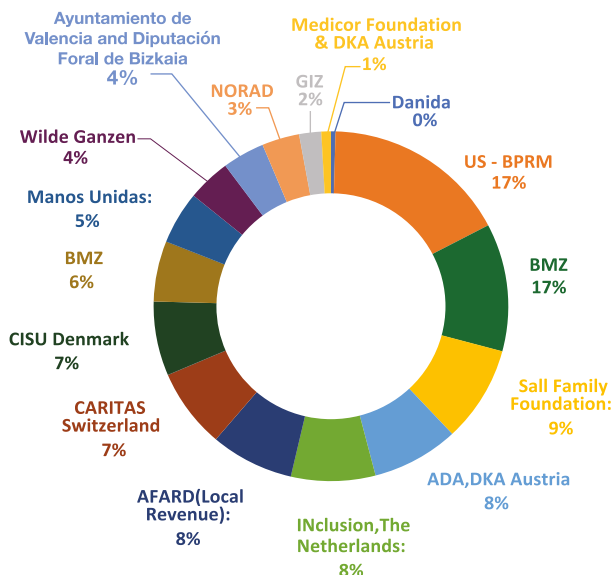
5.1 Revenue Performance

AFARD's annual budget for 2024 was projected at 6.6Bn. The main revenue sources projected were Grants (88%) and members' contribution (12%). The income realized during the reporting period was Ugx 5.9Bn registering a drop of 38% from Ugx 9.6 realized in 2023. Grants received accounted for 92% and local revenue was 8% of the total incomes received during the year.

Revenue Sources	Projects	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Danida:	NURI	24,893,850	1,416,732,294	1,513,480,343	2,692,154,885	3,402,716,836
EU through CARITAS Switzerland:	ALENU		261,671,952	993,976,748	2,495,618,570	2,238,032,010
Agriculture & Finance Consultants:	PRUDEV 10	120,048,445	1,000,204,000	1,338,029,258	1,244,418,577	782,065,245
AWO International:	RELIP II	333,604,000	343,633,104	260,752,094	572,290,760	686,422,094
Austrian Development Agency/ HORIZONT3000:	Migration III	297,177,000	356,734,146	249,937,904	360,027,085	677,659,910
Kinder not Hilfe (KNH):	PCP & ACREP	-	218,611,188	493,063,255	636,310,087	566,465,296
Plan International Uganda-Funded:	GGE	203,884,000	520,256,051	509,127,338	844,375,460	505,298,004
Sall Family Foundation:	NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS	527,936,000	714,108,000	343,941,268	399,885,273	382,373,246
Inclusion,The Netherlands:	NIDP	458,441,585	301,096,660	290,000,840	334,190,040	119,545,855
AWO International:	SSF					26,618,256
University of Northumbria:	Skill Acquisition Project			-	13,754,940	19,265,259
Private Sector Foundation Uganda:	Poultry Management and Post Harvest					11,980,580
European Union:	YEEP					1,105,755
Manos Unidas:	SURE				519,980,171	
Manos Unidas:	JFSP					231,724
CARITAS Switzerland:	PSGP	437,029,000	499,288,934	453,049,309	801,548,930	
Austrian Development Agency/ HORIZONT3000:	YADE	51,608,000	128,817,122	356,687,436	579,194,336	
Awo International:	ADH				49,850	
ADA through CARITAS Switzerland:	PAMANA	129,767,755	607,936,000	883,147,298		
BMZ through AWO International:	CAM	703,900,503	1,639,043,748	718,370,349		
Manos Unidas:	SURE	289,838,000	428,838,034			
Horizont3000:	FAMIS	45,880,000	169,897,775			
BPRM:	IRC	1,008,756,000	190,065,165			
Manos Unidas:	EFREC	229,256,000				
CISU through Seniors without Borders:	SECAP	169,063,987				
CISU through Seniors without Borders:	CREMOV	239,691,330				
Wilde Ganzen	TRALIDE	235,842,000				
Exchange Gain:		24,948,000	96,425,744			
AFARD (Local Revenue):		427,574,338	717,648,083	608,906,897	1,059,747,501	753,952,568
TOTAL REVENUE		5,959,139,793	9,611,008,000	9,012,470,337	12,553,546,465	10,173,732,638

5.2 Partnership Performance

The main donors who funded AFARD in 2024 were US-BPRM (17%) and BMZ (17%). This was followed by the Sall Family Foundation (9%) and at 8% each ADA, DKA, INclusion, and local revenue. Together these amounted to 67% of the total revenue for 2024.

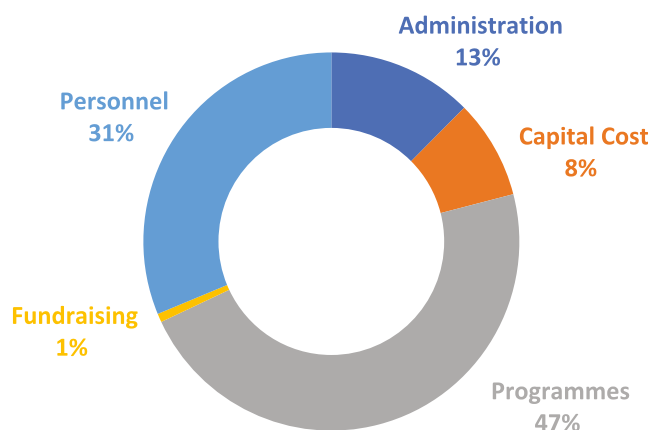


By partners, much of the total revenues generated during the period came from the collaboration with IRC (17%), AWO International (17%), Caritas Switzerland (10%) and Sall Family Foundation and Manos Unidas contributed 9% each. Added to local contributions of 8% together these generated 70% of the revenue in the year. AFARD implemented two projects each with partners like AWO International, Caritas Switzerland, and Manos Unidas (a great sign of trusts and commitment to impact and capacity development).

5.3 Expenditure Performance

During the reporting period, AFARD generated Ugx 5,959,139,793. Of this revenue, Ugx 5,936,271,369 (99.6%) was expensed leaving a bank balance of Ugx 22,868,425 (0.40%). This indicated a 37% decline in AFARD's expenditures from UGX.9.4 billion in 2023 to UGX. 5.9 billion in 2024.

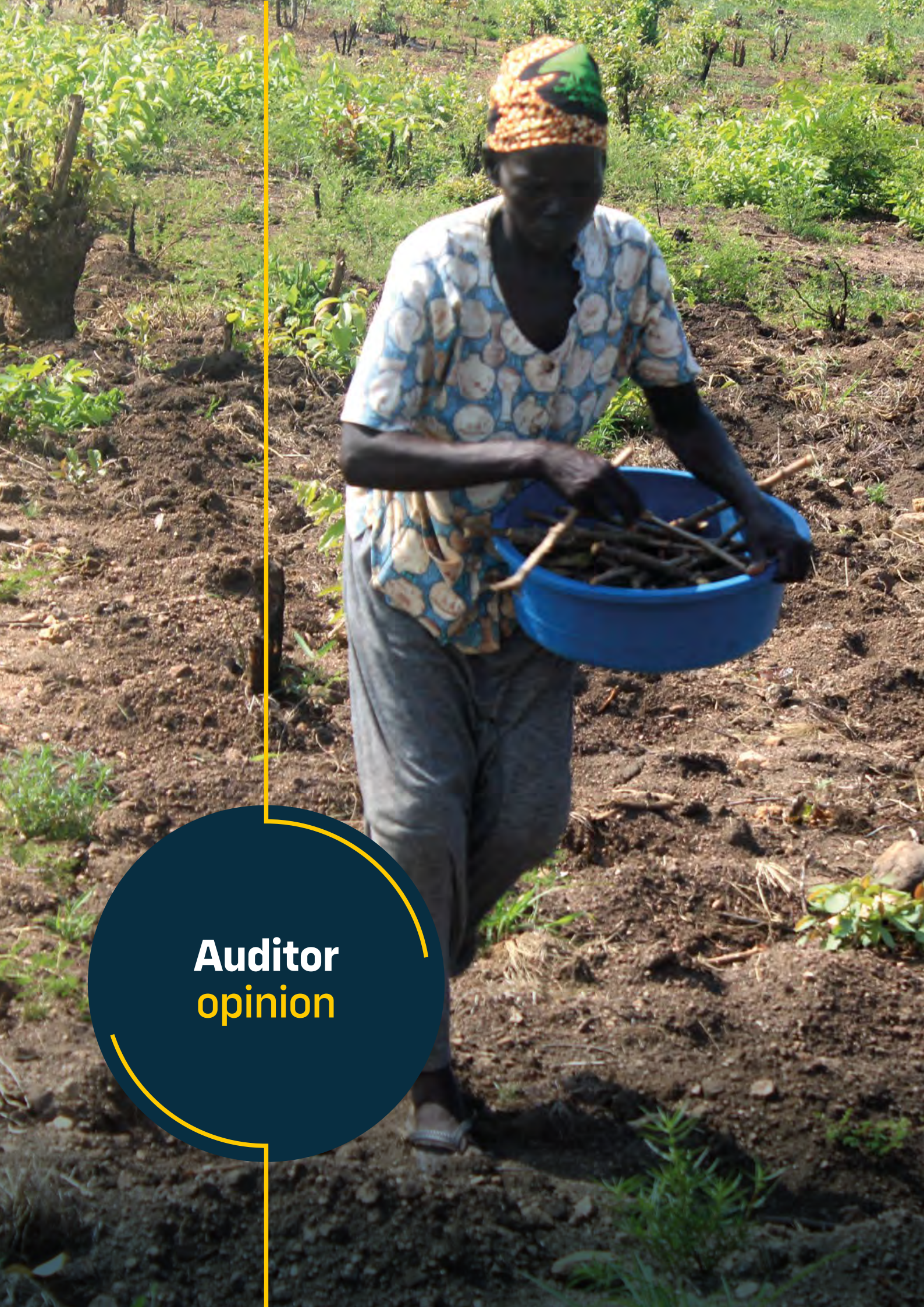
In line with Board chart of accounts, the expenditure comprised of project costs (47%), personnel costs (31%), operations (13%), capital costs (8%), and 1% in fund-raising.



5.4 Audit Performance

During the reporting period, AFARD had both institutional and six other project-specific financial audits as detailed on the table below. Uganda Revenue Authority also conducted the WHT audit which all had unqualified opinions.

TMK & CO, Certified Public Accountants	AFARD institutional audit
BIZ and Co. Certified Public Accountants	RELIP II
Price & King Certified Public Accountants	PSGP II
PKF	PAMANA, Migration, & FAMIS
Kisaka & Company	Girls Get Equal Project
MAMM & Associates	SECAP
URA	AFARD WHT audit 2021 - 2023



**Auditor
opinion**



TMK & CO.

Certified Public Accountants

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AFARD

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of AFARD, set out on pages 22 to 25. These statements comprise of the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of financial position, statement of changes in accumulated reserves as at 31 December 2024, statement of cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of AFARD as at 31 December 2024, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with AFARD's accounting policies and procedures set out on pages 26 to 33.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the International Federation of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IFAC Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits in Uganda. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IFAC Code, and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in Uganda. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matter

Key audit matters are those matters that, in the auditor's professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the period 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. These matters were addressed in the context of the audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming the auditor's opinion thereon, and the auditor does not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

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Partners: Tom Mpagi Mariam Namuyige

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**AGENCY FOR ACCELERATED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AFARD)
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31
DECEMBER 2024**

ML Ref. No.	Key audit matter	How the matter was resolved during the audit
1.2	<u>Inadequate disclosure of a Related party Transactions</u> During the review of the bank statements and reconciliations, we noted that Ugx. 547m was transferred to West Nile Holdings a registered agribusiness firm owned by AFARD. The funds relate to the Nature Based Agri Business for Degraded Land Restoration and Climate Resilience (NA4LRCD) project. However, there was no disclosure of a related party transaction in the financial statements.	We reviewed the grant agreement between Sall Family Foundation and AFARD and the grant proposal that included funds that were disbursed to West Nile Holding Limited. We recommended including adequate disclosure in the financial statements of the related party relationship between AFARD and West Nile Holdings Limited. In addition, include in the disclosures the arm's length nature of the transactions between the two parties.

**AGENCY FOR ACCELERATED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AFARD)
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31
DECEMBER 2024**

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises information contained in the report of management. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Management for the Financial Statements

The management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with AFARD's accounting policies and procedures, and for such internal control as the management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either intend to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of

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not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to enable us assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the entity's internal control system.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by AFARD.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the Financial Statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

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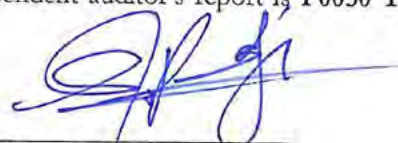
Restriction on distribution and use of this report

This is a special purpose and confidential report for use by AFARD. The financial statements have been prepared to provide information to AFARD on the use of donor funds disbursed by donors to AFARD. As a result, the special purpose financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is **P0050 Tom Mpagi**.



TMK & CO. Certified Public
Accountants 6th Floor, Workers
House, Plot 1 Pilkington Road,
Kampala, Uganda.



Tom Mpagi - Audit Partner

Ref: TMK/AFARD/007/25

Date: 13th May 2025



**AGENCY FOR ACCELERATED REGIONAL
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