JANGOKORO FOOD SECURITY PROJECT

BASELINE SURVEY REPORT

Conducted by:
Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), December 12, 2017

JANGOKORO FOOD SECURITY PROJECT

BASELINESURVEYREPORT

Conducted by:
Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), December 12, 2017

Acknowledgements

The Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD) secured a two-year contract with Manos Unidas for the implementation of Jangokoro Food Project in Zombo district, West Nile region, Uganda. This baseline survey was therefore conducted as part of the project start-up activities.

The completion of this study was through the invaluable efforts of many stakeholders particularly the Chairmen of all the beneficiary groups, the data collectors, and Jangokoro Sub county Agricultural Officer for supporting the data collection processes. Our thanks also go to the respondents for their shared information.

However, AFARD takes the full responsibility for the views and errors expressed herein.

<div align="right">

Dr. Alfred Lakwo
Study Team Leader

December 12, 2017

</div>

Acronyms

ABC	=	Abstinence, Be Faithful, and Use Condoms
AFARD	=	Agency For Accelerated Regional Development
AIDS	=	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ART	=	Anti Retro Viral Therapy
BCCE	=	Behaviour Change Communication and Education
BTVET	=	Business, Technical, Vocational, Technical Education and Training
CDD	=	Community Driven Development
CDO	=	Community Development Officer
DAO	=	District Agricultural Officer
DIT	=	Directorate of Industrial Training
DLG	=	District Local Government
GAP	=	Good Agricultural Practice
HIV	=	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGA	=	Income Generating Activity
LG	=	Local Government
LLG	=	(Lower) Local Government
M+E	=	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoFPED	=	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
NGO	=	Non Governmental Organization
PMCTC	=	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission
SACCO	=	Savings and Credit Cooperative
STI	=	Sexually Transmitted Infection
UBOS	=	Uganda Bureaus of Statistics
UGX	=	Uganda Shillings
VCT	=	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
VSLA	=	Village Savings and Loan Association

Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

The Agency For Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD) has been working with Manos Unidas support in Jangokoro Sub county, Zombo district, Uganda. Between 2009 – 2013, five Community Based Organizations (CBOs), namely; Adiober, Canmuwa, Can Bithum, Cana, and Nyagak with 230 members (and an indirect population of 1,150 people) were formed, registered with local governments, and supported with agro-inputs (hoes, local and Boer goats, cassava cuttings, bean seeds, soya bean seeds, tarpaulins, and digital weighing scales) and the requisite skills training. By the end of 2013, of the 230 beneficiary households: 89% ate three meals daily and 98% used pit latrines. Each group also had more than UGX 500,000 as revolving loan fund.

However, the beneficiary households had: (i) Inadequate income (averaging UGX 476,000 per year); (ii) High disease burden due to unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene practices and HIV/AIDS; (iii) Limited women's participation in group leadership; and (iv) Limited group engagements with local governments for service delivery. After a 3-year no-funding period, the CBO resilience and support needs was assessed. This 2-year Jangokoro Food Security Project therefore seeks to address the above noted challenges. Table 1 below presents a snapshot of the project that primarily seeks to support the targeted households to secure their livelihoods – food, income, health and voice.

Table 1: Summary original project profile

Goal: To contribute to inclusive and sustainable poverty reduction in Nebbi Catholic Diocese.

Specific objective:
To improve self-reliance and livelihood security of smallholder farmer households in Jangokoro sub county in a gender sensitive manner

Key outcomes:

- 25% of beneficiary households with financial net worth able to afford them life above the $1.90 international poverty line

- 85% of female beneficiaries reported increased empowerment (decision making, asset ownership rights, and exposure to violence)

Results	Indicators	Outputs
Results 1: 85% increase in agricultural productivity due to	R1.1. 50% of beneficiaries farming at least 1 acre of Irish potato per year	A1.1: Provide 575 bags of Irish potato seed; mancozeb and Malathion dust).

Irish potato farming	R1.2. 85% of beneficiaries using good agricultural practices R1.3. 50% of beneficiaries selling at least 6 bags of Irish potato per season	A1.2: Conduct 35 training sessions in GAP
Results 2: 75% reduction in days lost to preventable sicknesses (malaria, GII and HIV opportunistic infections)	R2.1. 57% households using safe water sources against baseline R2.2. 95% households using pit latrines with hand washing facilities R2.3. 90% of group members who tested and know their HIV/AIDS status	A2.1: Securing land for borehole drilling (02 boreholes in Cana and Nyagak) A2.2: Drill 2 boreholes A2.3: Train 25 Community Health Frontline Advisors in sanitation and HIV/AIDS. A2.4: Conduct 20 voluntary counseling and testing (Nyapea hospital) A2.5: Conduct 10 health education
Results 3: Project beneficiaries are active citizenship able to hold their leaders accountable	R3.1. 75% of group members who are able to read and write in the local Alur language R3.2. 90% of group members who are aware of their rights to decentralized development R3.3. 50% of group members who participate in local government planning processes R3.4: At least 2 of the 5 groups received budget support from their local government	A3.:1 Establish 05 Functional Adult Literacy classes A3.2: Conduct 10 human and women's rights awareness sessions A3.3: Train members of 3 groups in advocacy skills A3.4: Train members of 5 groups in LLG project monitoring A3.5: Conduct 5 petition and accountability Days
Management and coordination	A0.1: Conduct staff recruitment and induction A0.2: Conduct 01 stakeholders briefing meeting A0.3: Conduct 01 baseline study A0.4: Develop training manuals A0.5: conduct 60 management monitoring visits A0.6: conduct 40 beneficiary review and learning meetings A0.7: Conduct 02 annual financial audits A0.8: Conduct 01 terminal external evaluation	

Focus of The Study

2.1 Purpose of the study

The Jangokoro Food Security Project was developed after a 3-year no-funding phase. The project design process involved participatory methods that did not provide a strong baseline status of the various drivers and effects of livelihood insecurity. This baseline study was therefore conducted primarily to determine the baseline status for the project performance indicators.

2.2 Objectives of the study

In order to achieve the above aims, the study objectives were to assess the beneficiary households':
1) Engagement in income generating activities and their management practices;
2) Irish potato production practices and productivity status;
3) Participation in local government planning and budgeting processes;
4) Financial inclusion and financial management practices;
5) Community preventive health status;
6) [Asset] poverty status; and
7) Women's empowerment status.

2.3 Scope of the study

The internal terms of reference developed for this study team spelt out that the team will:
1) Develop a comprehensive project results chain;
2) Conduct the study in all the five project beneficiary group members; and
3) Develop, collect and analyse the data using standard tools aligned to the study objectives and the results chain.

2.4 The Project Results Chain

To ensure effective clarity on the project performance measurement, a **results chain** (figure 1 below) was adopted to provide clear pathways for performance indicator clustering, flow consistency, and the overall impact performance measurements. This figure presents a very simple description of the project. The systematic change path is based on the assertion that the project will support all the targeted groups and their members in three critical areas:
- First, <u>climate smart agriculture</u>: Beneficiary households will be provided with improved Irish potato seeds and skills training so that they can each produce half an acre of the commodity. Through this, the households will be able to adopt good agronomic practices, increase their acreage, yields, and sales volume.

- Second, <u>preventive community health</u>: Boreholes will be provided to selected groups while through trained trainers, sanitation and hygiene education, HIV testing and counselling will be conducted. As a result, there will be improved awareness of health risk factors, increased use of safe water, sanitation and hygiene practices, testing for HIV status and reduction of high risk behaviours. Together these changes will trigger reduction in preventable disease burdens (days lost to illnesses and health budget) as well as increasing family labour availability for farming (measured through increase in average acreage per households).

- Third and finally, <u>citizenship building</u>: The project will conduct literacy and numeracy classes together with rights awareness raising and advocacy skills training and platform support. These actions will trigger increased literacy and participation of women in group leadership structures, awareness of rights to local government development processes. Many more group members will then start attending local government planning and budgeting meetings wherein they will gain access to government financing towards their agro-enterprises and or public services.

Put together, these gains will increase the incomes in the targeted households. Finally, the increased incomes will enable the group members to increase their savings in financial institutions and accumulate more productive assets (so as to better their financial net worth and asset poverty status). In addition, similar gains will spur improved women's empowerment status. Consequently, these gains will ensure that the targeted project households have secure, sustainable livelihoods.

Figure 1: The Project Results Chain

Sustainable & Inclusive Poverty Reduction

| Increased financial net worth | Increased food security | Increased women empowerment |

Increased Household Incomes

Reduction in days lost to sickness	Increased yield/sales volume	Increased access to government resources
Increased uptake of safe water and sanitfation facilities & HIV testing	Increased use of good agricultural practices	Increased practipation in local governance
Increased awareness of health risk factors	Increased acreage	Increased awareness of rights

Preventive community health
- Drilling boreholes
- Train health frontline advisors
- Health education
- HIV testing/Counseling

Climate smart agriculture
- Provission of agro-in-puts
- Agronimy training
- Collective marketing

Citizenship building
- Litracy skilling
- Rights awarenes
- Advocacy skilling
- Dialogue with leaders

5 farmer groups with 230 members will be supported through....

Methodology

3.1 Units of analysis

The study purpose, objectives and scope, identified three levels of intervention. The baseline study therefore aggregated these levels into one unit of analysis as is shown in table 3 below by key areas of analysis.

Table 3: Unit and result areas of baseline analysis

Level of analysis	Key respondents	Focus of analysis
Individual level	Individual group members	• Agricultural practices; • Income generating activities; • Participation in local governance; • Health status; • Financial inclusion; • Asset poverty status; • Food security; and • Women's empowerment;

3.2 Study sites and population

The baseline study was conducted in all the five beneficiary groups (Adiober, Can Muwa, Cana, Can Bithum, and Nyagak) in Jangokoro sub county, Zombo district. These groups are located in Afuda, Congambe, and Payek parishes in the villages of Ambaki, Angoliero, Cana, Nyagak, and Paronya.

3.3 Study phases

To effectively cover all the groups and group members, the team adopted a census approach and used mixed methods of quantitative, qualitative and participatory data collection and analysis. This was conducted as below:

- **Phase 1 – Study inception and scoping**: This phase involved a critical review of the project document to: (i) position the project within (inter)national policy frameworks; and (ii) clarify indicators for the project result chain. As a result, clear boundaries to focus on were agreed upon and relevant study instruments were developed for the various respondents.

- **Phase 2 – Field data collection**: Data collection was conducted within the project beneficiary groups. The study team leader with the support of the Project Officer identified, trained and supervised the research assistants on the ethics and management of individual household survey tools.

- **Phase 3 – Study reporting**: The study team used a reflexive approach in this reporting phase. A data entrant was hired, trained and supervised on using the data mask.

- **Phase 3 – Study reporting**: The study team used a reflexive approach in this reporting phase. A data entrant was hired, trained and supervised on using the data mask. All data entries were revised, exported to SPSS V25, cleaned, and analysed for use in writing the draft report that was reviewed internally before this final report was accepted for production.

3.4 Data collection methods

To elicit comprehensive information from the group members, the study team used the following methods of data collection:

- **Document review**: Literature review was conducted of a number of documents, namely: The project proposal and logframe and the strategic plans and annual reports of AFARD in order to align the project tracking system to the organizational performance indicators.
- **Household survey:** A quantitative individual survey using structured questionnaire was conducted among the targeted group members to elicit the various required information. Daily, data collection questionnaires were reviewed and correctly filled questionnaires were collected and delivered for data entry.

3.5 Data analysis and Quality Control

A purely quantitative (descriptive) methods of data analysis using Excel (for data entry) and SPSS software (V25) for data analysis was used. To ensure high data quality control, the following were adhered to:

- The results chain guided the design of the household questionnaire as the project team had consensus on the baseline indicators to assess.
- Data collectors sought for consent from respondents to participate in the survey before data collection.
- Statement of confidentiality was provided to the respondents.

3.6 Limitation of the study

The baseline study had one main drawback. It was conducted in December (five months after the first season harvest). This could possibly affect some of the responses as recall methods on harvest and financial matters may be difficult for many old farmers.

3.7 Report structure

This report is divided into 13 parts as follows: Part 1 deals with the project profile. Parts 2- 4 explains the baseline study purpose, methodology, and beneficiary characteristics. Parts 5-9 presents the agricultural and enterprises management practices, financial inclusion, participation in local governance, and health status. Parts 10-12 analyses results of the project impacts covering asset poverty, food security and women's empowerment. Finally, Part 13 shows the revised M+E framework.

Beneficiary Characteristics

4.1 Distribution of respondents

The study respondents were drawn from all the five targeted groups that are located in different villages. Table 4 below shows that overall 21 members left the groups. This was attributed to death, marriage, and migration. Only Can Bithum group has retained all its group members since its formation.

Table 4: The study respondents

Names of groups	Name of villages	Number of members 2013	Number of members 2018	% of total 2018
Adiober	Ambaki	40	39	18.7
Can Muwa	Paronya	44	39	18.7
Cana	Cana	53	42	20.1
Can Bithum	Angoliero	45	45	21.5
Nyagak	Nyagak	48	44	21.1
Total		**230**	**209**	**100.0**

4.2 Population characteristics

As table 5 shows, the typical characteristic of the project beneficiaries is that although majority of the members are men (60%), most of them are in their early adult age group (under 45 years); married (81%); with a large household population (6 people) and some form of education (76%). These people depend on farming for their living (9 in every 10 persons). They rely on their foot to travel (70%). Eight in every 10 members live in temporary housing units made of grass thatched roofs and mud and wattle walls and floor. Their primary source of information is the local FM radio station (Radio Paidha and Radio Maria of Nebbi Catholic Diocese). The type of energy they use for lighting and cooking are both detrimental to their health and the environment. Paraffin lamps are a source of respiratory tract infections and the high wastage of firewood in the 3-stone cook stoves means more demand for wood fuel.

Table 5: Demographic characteristics of group members

Characteristics	Total
Respondents (Number)	209
Average household size (Number)	6.0
Average age of respondent (Number)	39.4
Sex (%)	
Male	59.8
Female	40.2
Marital status (%)	
Single	17.2
Married	80.9
Widow(er)	1.9
Education status (%)	
None	23.9
Primary	66.5
Functional Adult Literacy	1.9
Secondary	6.2
Tertiary	0.5
Vocational	1.0
Able to read and write in any language	76.5
Type of housing (%)	
Permanent	6.7
Semi-permanent	10.5
Temporary	82.8
Main means of transport (%)	
Foot	70.3
Bicycle	24.4
Motor cycle	5.3
Main source of livelihoods (%)	
Farming	95.6
Business	2.0
Employment income	0.5
Property income	1.0
Family support	0.5
Sales of labour	0.5
Main source of information (radio)	47.6
Main source of lighting (Paraffin lamp)	73.1
Main cooking technology (3-stone stove)	92.3

Agricultural Livelihoods

5.1 Subsistence farming

The study found that the major crops grown by majority of the households were cassava and beans (for food) and coffee and banana (for income). However, other than cassava, the yield gap remained very high for all the other crops – beans 72%, coffee, 83%, and bananas 95%. Put together, subsistence farming only generates 6% of the annual income required for a household to live above the US$ 1.90 poverty line.

Table 10: Main enterprises undertaken (%)

	Cassava	Beans	Coffee	Bananas
Grew the commodity (%)	100	100	82.3	97.1
Used local varieties (%)	71.8	82.8	95.2	99.0
Average land size (acres)	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.6
Average yield	36,200 Kgs	3.8 basins	141 Kgs	10.9 bunches
Average income (UGX)	288,229	113,264	403,302	96,075
Yield Gap	10%	72%	83%	95%

5.2 Irish potato farming

Table 6:Experience with Irish potato

Characteristics	Status
Grew the commodity (%)	7.2
Grows improved varieties (%)	45.5
Average land size (acres)	0.8
Average yield (bags)	13.2
Average yield used for food (bags)	2.6
Average yield used for seeds (bags)	3.5
Average yield given to others (bags: corrected)	0.8
Average yield sold (bags)	6.3
Average income (UGX: corrected)	1,701,000
Average UGX return per 0.1 acre of land	21,263
Use of good agricultural practices (%)	
Early land opening	24.9
Correct spacing	26.3
Soil and water conservation	5.7
Integrated pest and disease control	7.7

Improved postharvest handling	6.2
Records keeping	3.8
Intercropping	5.3
Crop rotation	7.7
Tillage method	0.5
Erosion control	8.6
Mulching	7.2
Manure application	3.3
Contour digging	2.9
Marketing practices (%)	
Sells alone	100.0
Sells in bulk	2.9
Sells at harvest	94.3
Sells to middlemen	92.8

The project seeks to use Irish potato as a key driver of increasing household income through prudent agribusiness practices. It is evident from table 6 above that Irish potato will be a new commodity to the project area given that very few households farm it (7%). More so, those growing the crop are using mainly local varieties, without good agricultural and environmental conservation practices. It is therefore not surprising that the yield gap is 66%. Equally, the marketing practices are individualized and unable to attract better prices for the farmers.

5.3 Main production and marketing challenges

Asked about the challenges they were facing in Irish potato production, it emerged that production is curtailed by use of local technology while the rudimentary marketing practices undoubtedly attracted low prices as middlemen exploit the farmers.

Table 7: Top 5 production and marketing challenges

Production		Marketing	
Inadequate extension services	31.6%	Low prices	72.7%
Low yields	21.5%	Untimely market information	9.1%
Use of local inputs	16.7%	Poor weighing system	8.1%
High labour cost	10.6%	Unclear quality issues	6.2%
Pest and diseases	6.7%	High marketing cost	2.9%

Income Generating Activities

6.1 Nature of enterprises

To build safety valve around agriculture, diversification in non-farm income generating activities (IGAs) is important. Asked about the households engaged in IGAs, table 8 below shows that at least 7 in 10 households have some form of IGA. However, most of these IGAs (88%) are in agriculture and are motivated not for wealth creation but to meet basic family needs (97%).

## 6.2 Economic returns from the enterprises

A deeper analysis of these IGAs shows that they are largely informal businesses managed without good practices and they generate dismal income (only 1.8% of the households' annual financial needs required to live above the US$ 1.90 poverty line i.e., UGX 14,979,600). Given the average number of days invested in operating these enterprises (thus competing for on-farm activities), the enterprises provide minimal room for increasing household incomes.

Table 8: Enterprise status and management practices

Characteristics	Status
Has income generating activity (%)	77.0
• In agriculture (%)	87.6
• In trade/services (%)	12.4
• To meet family needs	97.1
Average enterprise start-up capital (UGX)	102,897
Average current stock value (UGX)	728,316
Average monthly income (UGX)	77,270
Average monthly savings (UGX)	22,935
Average monthly employee wages (UGX)	12,250
Average number of non-family members employed	1.8
Average hours worked daily	4.9
Average days worked weekly	4.7
Business management practices (%)	
• Has a legally registered business	1.0
• Has a written business plan	5.3
• Conducts sales promotion	6.7
• Separates business and family finances	13.9
• Has a bank account	6.2
• Keeps business records	10.5

Participation in Local Governance

Figure 2: Participation in local governance
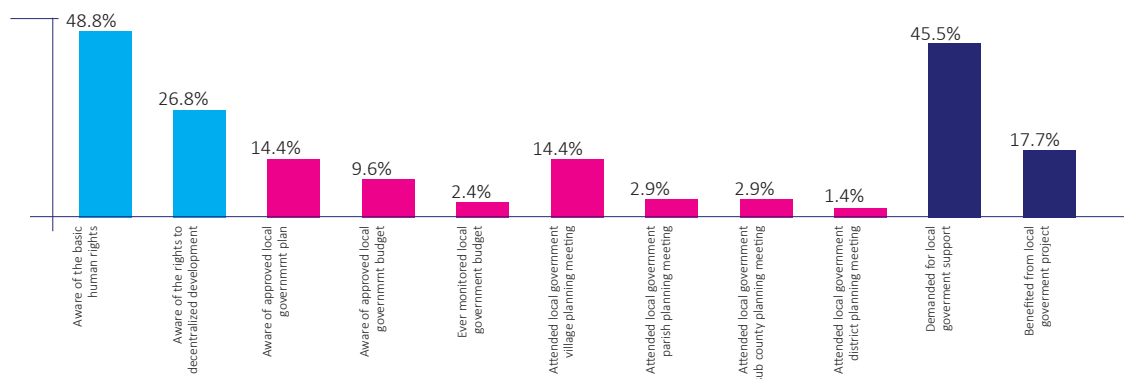
Uganda has adopted a decentralized system of governance. In part, this is meant to ensure that the local population participate in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of their area development projects. Elected representatives are therefore expected to provide leadership and respect the rights of their constituency. Inherent in this policy is that electorates know their rights, claim them during planning meetings, and benefit from government resources allocations. Below under 7.1-7.3 we present the response from the group members when asked about their active citizenship.

7.1 Awareness of right

Figure 11 shows, less than half of the project group members were aware of their basic human rights to life and decent livelihoods. More so, only 2 in every 10 members know that they can achieve those rights through decentralized development process.

7.2 Participation in local governance

Figure 11 further shows that there is a very low level of participation of the project beneficiaries in local government planning and budgeting processes. Group members are hardly aware of annual approved plans and budgets just as they hardly attend planning meetings that start from the village and end at the district levels.

7.3 Benefiting from Local Government resources

Figure 11 also shows that although 4 in 10 people reported that they have ever asked their elected leaders for financial support in the last 2 years, only 1 in 10 people have ever benefited from such supports. This means that to a large extent the population are left to fend for themselves.

Preventive Health Status

The project also seeks to improve the health welfare of the population through home-based prevention mechanisms. Below we present the current knowledge and practices beneficiary households have and are engaged in.

8.1 Safe water, sanitation and hygiene

It is evident from the table below that 07 in 10 households use unsafe water sources for drinking. Equally, although many households have safe sanitation facilities, first, it is not comprehensive. Second, the lead disease vector point – safe pit latrine – is greatly lacking. Compounded by unsafe sanitation practices, the population is highly susceptible to water borne diseases.

Table 9: Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and practices

| Indicators	%
Main source of drinking water	
• Borehole/protected springs	27.3
• Rain harvesting facility	0.5
• Streams, rivers, lakes	72.2
Has safe sanitation facilities	
• Has kitchen	79.9
• Has bath shelter	89.0
• Has drying rack	84.7
• Has cloth line	78.0
• Has soak pit	52.6
• Has rubbish pit	76.1
• Has animal house	33.0
• Has pit latrine	51.2
• Has pit latrine without shelter	18.2
• Has pit latrine with temporary shelter	27.8
• Has pit latrine with complete privacy and hand washing facility	5.2
Safe hygiene practices	
• Has a separate sleeping house	86.6
• Covers water storage facilities	77.5
• Covers pit latrine manholes	62.7
• Sleeps on a raised bed (Kitanda)	77.5
• Sleeps under a mosquito net	90.9
• Does not share sleeping house with animals	83.7
• Washes hands with soap/detergent after visiting toilet	73.2
• Washes hand with soap before touching food	68.9
• Baths at least once a day	98.1

8.2 HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation

Asked about their comprehensive knowledge on and risk reduction practices against HIV /AIDS, table 10 shows that 09 in 10 people (average 93%) were aware of the basic facts about HIV/AIDS transmission, symptoms, prevention, essential services that people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) should access and living positively.However, the challenge remains with translating knowledge into practice. Only 06 in 10 people have tested and knew their HIV status contrary to the government policy of comprehensive testing. In addition, unsafe sexual practices continue to linger in the community more so with very low condom use. This will call for targeting the Behaviour Change Communication and Education (BCCE) strategy to the critical knowledge and practice gaps.
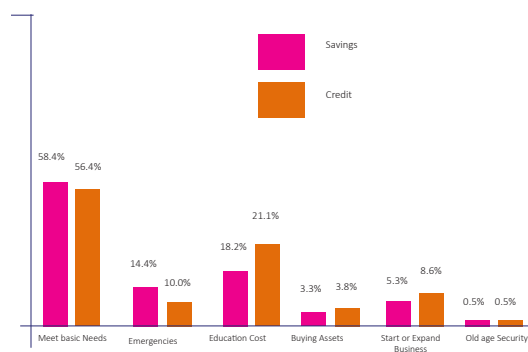
Table 10: HIV/AIDS related knowledge and practices

Comprehensive knowledge (%(	93.7
• Heard of AIDS	93.3
• Know that HIV exists	91.9
• Know at least 3 ways of HIV transmission	98.1
• Know at least 3 symptoms	90.9
• Know at least 3 ways of HIV prevention	98.6
• Know at least 3 essential services for prevention/mitigation	91.4
• Know at least 3 ways of positive living	91.9
Safe practices	
• Ever tested and knows HIV status	63.6
• Did not engage in high risk sexual act	84.2
• Used a condom for high risk sex	15.8

Figure 3: Where members mainly save and take credit (%)
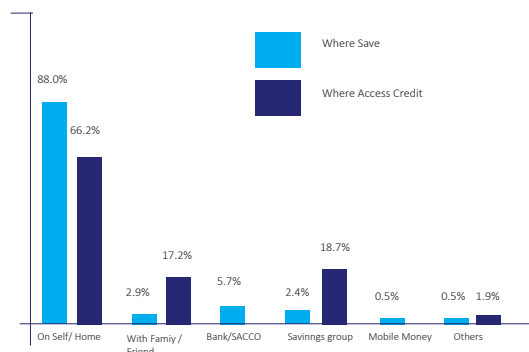
Figure 4: Primary resons for savings and taking debts (%)

8.3 Disease burden

Asked about selected causes of illnesses, it was reported that in the last month preceding the study, 162%, 4.7%, and 1.7% of the total household population suffered from malaria, gastro intestinal infections (GIIs), and respiratory tract infections (RTIs) respectively. On average, a household lost 5.5 days in the month (21.1%) and UGX 37,075 (average of UGX 6,741 per day) to sicknesses. This would translate into 66 days and UGX 444,900 loss per year. Financially, a household will lose 3% of its annual income to otherwise preventable diseases.

Table 11: Preventable disease burden last month

Average number of people who fell sick from malaria	1.9
Average number of people who fell sick from GIIs	1.3
Average number of people who fell sick from RTI	1.4
Average number of days lost to sicknesses	5.5
Average amount spent on medical treatment (UGX)	37,075

Financial Inclusion

9.1 Financial inclusion

The project beneficiaries were asked about their access to financial services. Overall, 41% reported being members of a saving group (VSLA). On average they had been in savings groups for 3 years and their weekly savings values increased by 52% (see table 12). Yet as figure 3 shows, 88% of the members primarily save on themselves or at their homes implying that the VSLAs are secondary channels of saving. Equally, majority of the group members are engaged in self-lending (from one activity into another; and such monies are difficult to recover due to the limited ability to separate business and personal finance). In addition, as figure 4 presents, the primary reasons for savings and taking debts are meeting basic needs, paying education cost, and dealing with emergencies.

Table 12: Financial management practices

Financial management practices:	
Are you a member of a savings group (%)	41.1
Average numbers of years been in a saving group (years)	3.1
Average weekly amount saved at start (UGX)	6,735
Average weekly amount saved now (UGX)	10,221
Average last share out value (UGX)	405,027

Asset Poverty Status

10.1 Asset poverty explained

The ultimate project goal is to contribute to sustainable poverty reduction. Thus, to assess beneficiary poverty status AFARD uses the asset poverty measurement approach as proposed by Haveman and Wolff (2004).[1] This is because asset poverty measures the economic ability, using productive assets, a household has to sustain a basic needs level of consumption during temporary hard times for a period of 3 months. Leonard and Di (2012: 1-4) stretched this period to 9 months because asset accumulation at levels equal to nine-months' worth of income at the international income poverty level or greater ably improves a family's odd of permanently escaping poverty.[2] By use of this method, a household is asset poor if its financial net worth is unable to meet its consumption needs over a 3-month period. It is considered non-poor if its net worth is able to meet its 9-month consumption needs.

To compute a household's net worth first, all productive assets are valued at current market prices. Second, the asset value is added to current cash savings (i.e., cash at hand, bank, and debt lent to others). Third, current value of debts taken from other sources is deducted from the asset and cash savings value to get a financial net worth. Finally, the financial net worth is subjected to the required household consumption at the international poverty line of US$ 1.90 (at US$ 1 = UGX 3,600) per person per day. While a single person household would need UGX 2,496,600 per annum to live above the poverty line, this value would increase by the number of people a household supports. A household with many people under its care would therefore require more financial net worth to sustain its livelihoods.

10.2 Ownership of productive assets

Figure 5: Proportion of households who own productive assets

The asset poverty measure shows that assets are central for exiting extreme poverty. Productive assets that act as a form of savings, wealth creation (through business financing and business insurance), and acquisition of social status is therefore critical in determining how households exit poverty. The study respondents were asked about their ownership of productive assets. Figure XX above shows that the most common form of productive assets that they had were land, poultry, shoat, and mattresses. Expensive assets like cattle and motor cycles are not owned by many households.

---

1 Haveman, R., and Wolff, E.N. (2004) "The Concept and Measurement of Asset Poverty: Levels, Trends, and Composition for the US, 1983-2001." Journal of Economic Inequality, 2(2) 145-169. See also Haveman, R., and Wolff, E.N. (2005) Who are the Asset Poor? Levels, Trends, and Composition, 1983-1998. Discussion Paper No. 1227-01. Institute for Research on Poverty.
2 Leonard, T., and Di, W. (2012) Reentering Asset Poverty After an Exit: Evidence from the PSID. Research Department Working Paper 1204. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.
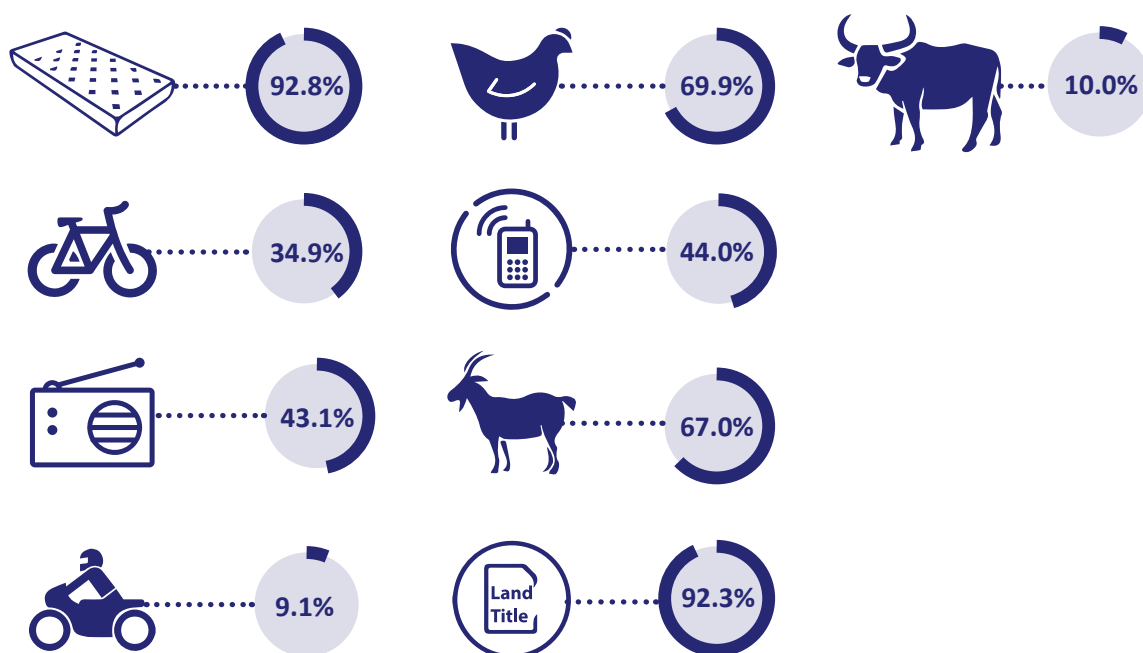
10.3 Asset accumulation status

Table 13 below shows the asset ownership and values the project targeted households own. It is evident that the financial assets are very low arguably from the dismal returns from both farming and income generating activities. The households hold much of their assets in productive assets. But on the whole, the financial net worth is marginally higher than the sum value needed to sustain only a one-person household above the extreme poverty line.

Table 13: Household asset wealth

Key assets	All respondents	
	Has asset (%)	Average value (UGX)
Liquid assets	67.8	68,430
Productive assets	96.2	3,243,818
Financial net worth	98.6	3,317,146

10.4 Asset poverty status

Table 14 presents the asset poverty status of the project population and areas. It is evident that 7 in 10 households are extremely poor. Male beneficiaries are poorer (47%) than their female counterparts (30%). In terms of location, Can bithum group has many extremely poor people as compared to Can Muwa group.

**Table 14: Poverty distribution by gender and location**

	(%)
Poor (Unable to meet 3-months consumption)	76.9
Poverty status by sex:	
Males	47.1
Females	29.8
Poverty status by groups:	
Adiober	13.5
Can Muwa	10.6
Cana	13,9
Can Bithum	21.2
Nyagak	17.8

Food Security Status

11.1 Food security

Improved agricultural production complemented with increased income positively impact on food security. In the project food security is seen to accrue when all household members, at all times, have access to adequate nutritious foods that are socially acceptable. Critical is the access to three decent meals especially of vitamin A and livestock products by all family members throughout the year. To assess this indicator, respondents were asked questions related to feeding practices and dietary diversity. Figure XX below shows that 66.2% of the respondents were food secure. Although only 48% had food all year round, 65% and 91% ate three meals daily and as a family respectively. The uptake of Vitamin A rich foods was also high (84%) as compared to the low consumption of livestock-related products (43%).

Figure 6: Food security status
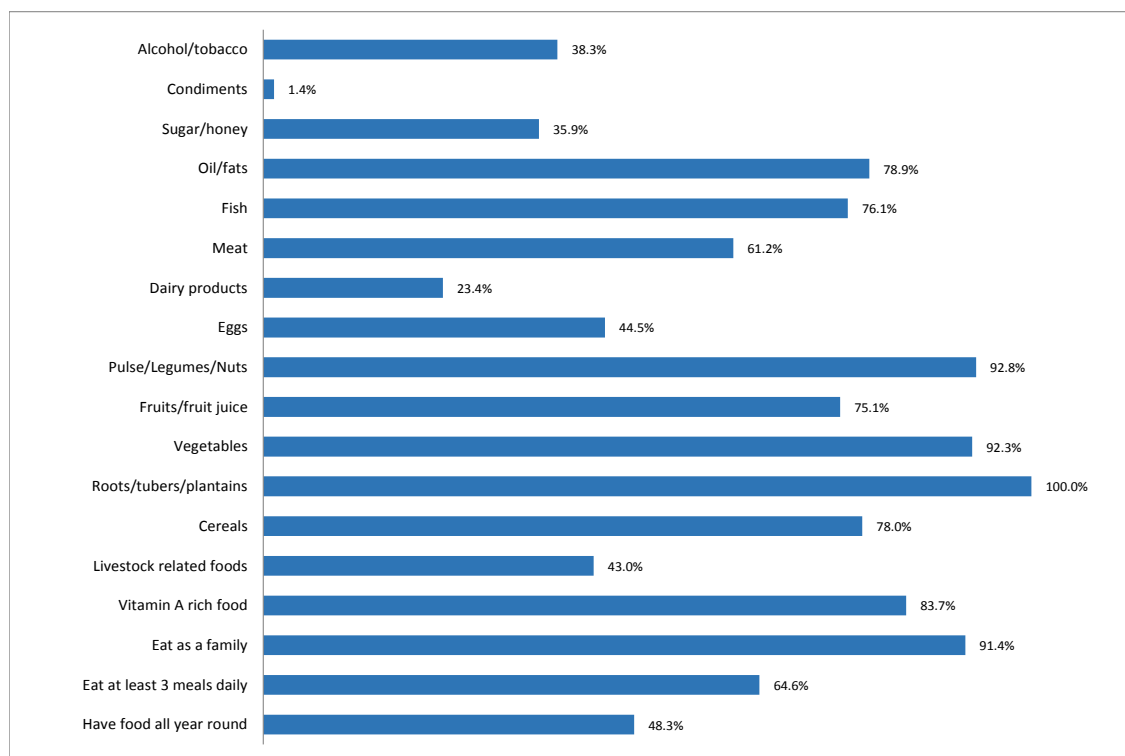
Women Empowerment

12.1 Women empowerment explained

The different positions of male and female beneficiaries require that project impacts are assessed against how much women benefited. To do so, AFARD uses a simplified empowerment index built around three core areas that matter most to the project area women, namely:

- Ownership over major productive assets such as land, cattle, cash savings, bicycles and radio/phones that are considered critical drivers of production, consumption and communication;
- Decision-making power of land, family planning, fees for children, sales of farm harvest, and major use of family income that to women either makes one to live in peace or hell; and
- Exposure to gender based violence which is not only an abuse to women's rights but a great demeanour to women's social status.

As table 15 shows, overall the women have an average empowerment status (57%). Much of the achievement is in the limited exposure to gender based violence as compared to asset ownership rights and participation in family decision making.

Table 15: Women empowerment status

Owns (alone/jointly):	32.1%
Land	40.5%
Cash savings	46.4%
Cattle	13.1%
Bicycles	21.4%
Radio, phones	39.3%
Participates in decision-making (alone/jointly) on:	39.8%
Land	50.0%
Family planning	32.1%
Fees for the children	54.8%
Sale of farm harvest	39.3%
Major use of family income	22.6%
No exposure to gender based violence	97.8%
Fighting/physical abuse	96.4%
Quarrelling/verbal abuse	94.0%
Sexual abuse	100.0%
Negligence	100.0%
Denial of access to resources or community group	98.8%
Total index	56.6%

Reconstructed Project Logical Framework

Below is the reconstructed logframe for the project. It includes the key indicators derived from the project result chain (Figure 1).

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Description	Unit of measure	Baseline	End target	Frequency	Data source	Responsible for data collection
Specific objectives: To improve self-reliance and livelihood security of smallholder farmer households in Jangokoro sub county in a gender sensitive manner	*OO Indicator 1:* 25% reduction in extreme poverty	% of beneficiaries who live in extreme poverty	Per cent	76.9	57.7	Annually	Survey	Programmes Manager
	OO Indicator 2: 85% of female beneficiaries reported increased empowerment	% of female members who own assets, makes decision and are not exposed to gender based violence	Index	57	85	Annually	Survey	Programmes Manager
	OO Indicator 3: 25% increase in food security	% of beneficiaries reporting eating 3 meals of balance diet daily	Index	66.2	82.8	Annually	Survey	Programmes Manager
Results 1: 85% increase in agricultural productivity due to Irish potato farming	R1.1. 50% of beneficiaries farming at least 0.5 acre of Irish potato per season	% of beneficiaries cultivating on average 0.5 acres or more per season	Per cent	6.7	50	Seasonally	Survey	Project Officer

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Description	Unit of measure	Baseline	End target	Frequency	Data source	Responsible for data collection
	R1.2. 85% of beneficiaries using good agricultural practices	% of beneficiaries using selected recommended practices	Per cent	8.5	85	Seasonally	Survey	Project Officer
	R1.3. 50% of beneficiaries producing at least 12 bags of Irish potato per season	% of beneficiaries harvesting 12 or more bags of Irish potato per season	Per cent	12	50	Seasonally	Survey	Project Officer
	R1.4. 50% increase in sales volume of Irish potato per season	% rise in seasonal sales volume of Irish potato	Bags	6.3	9.5	Seasonally	Survey	Project Officer
	R1.5. 50% increase in income from sales of Irish potato every season	% rise in seasonal sales income of Irish potato	UGX'000	1,701	2,551,5	Seasonally	Survey	Project Officer
Results 2: 75% reduction in days lost to preventable sicknesses (malaria, GII and HIV opportunistic infections)	R2.1. 57% households use safe water sources	% of group members households using safe water sources for drinking	Per cent	27.8	57	Annually	Survey	Project Officer
	R2.2. 95% households use pit latrines with hand washing facilities	% of group member households with complete latrines with privacy and hand washing facilities	Per cent	5.2	95	Annually	Survey	Project Officer