



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

E-NEWSLETTER
EDITION 1, 2018

THE NUSAF₃

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Editorial Note

Welcome to the first edition of the of the NUSAF3 E-Newsletter and to the brave new world of all things digital and electronic.

One of the central themes of The Third Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF3), is the concept of mindset change. There are many areas where we can all do with some mindset change. A major area of change in the world is the increased use of electronic means of communication and the abandoning of the traditional means of paper, ink and pen.

I would encourage all of us both in the Districts and in the Center to embrace this new digital and electronic era.

We hope this space will be a virtual one stop resource center for information and news on NUSAF3.

Simon Kisaka
Communications Specialist NUSAF3

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Project Overview

...the poor can transit to sustainable livelihoods through effective income support...

The Third Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF3) is a Social Protection Program for Northern Uganda implemented under the Office of the Prime Minister. It was made effective in March of 2016 with a 130 million dollar loan from the World Bank.

NUSAF3 in the last two years of implantation, has implemented and funded 4,457 sub-projects in 59 districts and eight regions of Northern Uganda (Acholi, Bukedi, Bunyoro, Lango, Karamoja, Mt Elgon, Teso, and West Nile). The total value of these sub-projects is over 131 billion shillings. Within the districts, 354 watersheds (W/S) are currently the selected geographical areas where NUSAF3 investments are concentrated in order to achieve a critical mass of economic transformation within the watershed communities.

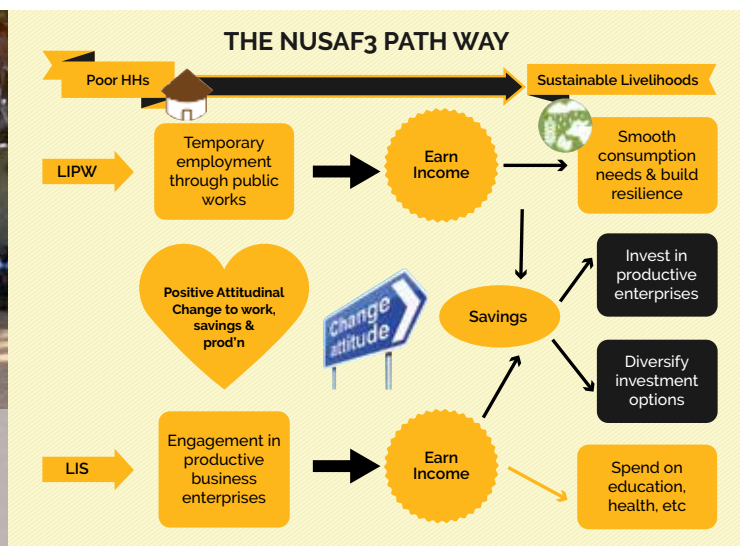
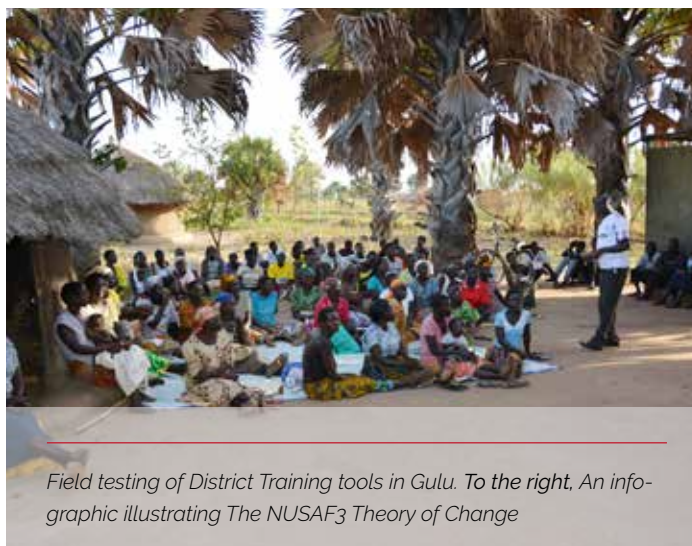
The Project Development Objective of NUSAF3 is to provide *effective income support to and building the resilience of poor and vulnerable households in Northern Uganda*. NUSAF3 provides a bag of opportunities and support for poor households to earn incomes towards the goal of increasing their income above the poverty line. NUSAF3 also provides an economic stimulus to communities at the micro-economic level.

NUSAF3 is designed to assist the targeted poor communities of Northern Uganda to transit to sustainable livelihoods and towards the Government's goal of a middle middle-class economy. NUSAF3 is doing this through a pathway of interventions that involve; *regular and short term deployment of labour in productive Labour Intensive Public* ►

- Works (LIPW), engagement in selective market driven enterprises (Livelihood Investment Support—LIS) and through positive attitudinal change to work, production and savings.

The NUSAF3 Theory of Change (TOC) asserts that the poor can transit to sustainable livelihoods through effective income support which will result in productive

enterprises, investments, resilience building and better standards of living as households can now spend more on household assets, health and education. 🌍



Management Corner



The Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF3) was declared effective exactly two years ago in March of 2016. I congratulate all our implementers at all levels and our partners for a largely smooth roll out and successful implementation of the Project so far. The development objective has caused us all to reach higher, to stretch ourselves and our thinking a lot more than ever before.

NUSAF3 came with a new approach to provide *effective income support to our people and to build resilience of the poor*. It was no longer about a minimalist thinking that thinly spreads resources everywhere but with no sustainable impact on the ground. Our communities and households should overcome hunger, drought, economic shocks and poverty by using their own resources and efforts. We are the catalysts for groups and communities to grow into micro-economic federations which can impact the sub-regional markets and economies.

The results will be seen through the transformation of the livelihoods, living standards and the physical environment of our households and communities. Communities and community facilitators now have a solid dream for the future; districts have resources and expertise and the market demand is huge. So let

us work tenaciously to bring good quality and competitive products to the market. We must work together to achieve all the above.

To date, NUSAF3 has approved and has provided funding for 4,457 sub-projects worth over 131 billion shillings which cover a wide range of interventions across various sectors. This is the time to accelerate project implementation towards the Mid-Term-Review (MTR). We must remain focused, listening to our people and noticing changes in a programming context so as to become effective in achieving lasting results for our people which is our mandate.

Let us also continue to capture the Project results, record and share them across the board in fora such as this first edition of The NUSAF3, E-Newsletter.

Thank you.

Dr. Robert Limlim
Director NUSAF3

Project Milestones in 2016 through 2017

- NUSAF3 was approved by the Cabinet on 5th August 2015 and approved by the Parliament of Uganda on 4th September 2015. The Project was then declared effective by the World Bank on March 14th 2016.
- **Recruitment** of core staff (NUSAF3 Technical Support Team - TST)
- **Determination of the IPFS:** Allocation of the project resources to the districts, per component.
- **Appointment of the NUSAF3 Desk Officers** – Focal persons were assigned at the district level by CAOs.
- Sensitization and training of district technical staff and political leaders.
- **Project Documents** Project materials were developed which include the Operations Manual, Component Handbooks, Working tools, Guidelines, etc.).
- **Watersheds identification** – Districts were guided to start the NUSAF3 project implementation in four (4) Watersheds per district for initial coverage in FY 2016/17.
- **Community Facilitators and community business agents** were recruited to support the EPRA processes in all Watersheds.
- **Operation funds** were disbursed to districts on a quarterly basis to support activities in the field.
- **Project facilitation and equipment** was provided to districts which include ICT equipment, vehicles and motorcycles.
- **MoUs** were signed between OPM and the respective PRDP districts implementing NUSAF3 project.
- **Bank accounts** were opened at Bank of Uganda and the districts have also opened 2 accounts with commercial Banks at their localities for Operation Funds and for Sub Project Funds.
- **Generation of Sub Projects** was undertaken and districts have made submissions to the Permanent Secretary/OPM with requests for grants to fund the community investments.
- **Opening of Community Accounts** and signing of financial agreements with the communities.
- **Disbursements of funds made to the Districts** (3 cycles of disbursements completed)
- **Training of the Community CPMC and CPC committees**
- **Signing of Financial Agreements** by Communities
- **Signing of MOUs** with Capacity Building Partners by end of 2017
- **Roll out of the Sustainable Livelihood Pilot Component** by end of 2017

MoUs were signed between OPM and the respective PRDP districts implementing NUSAF3 project.

Some Picture Highlights from the NUSAF3 Roll Out



01



03

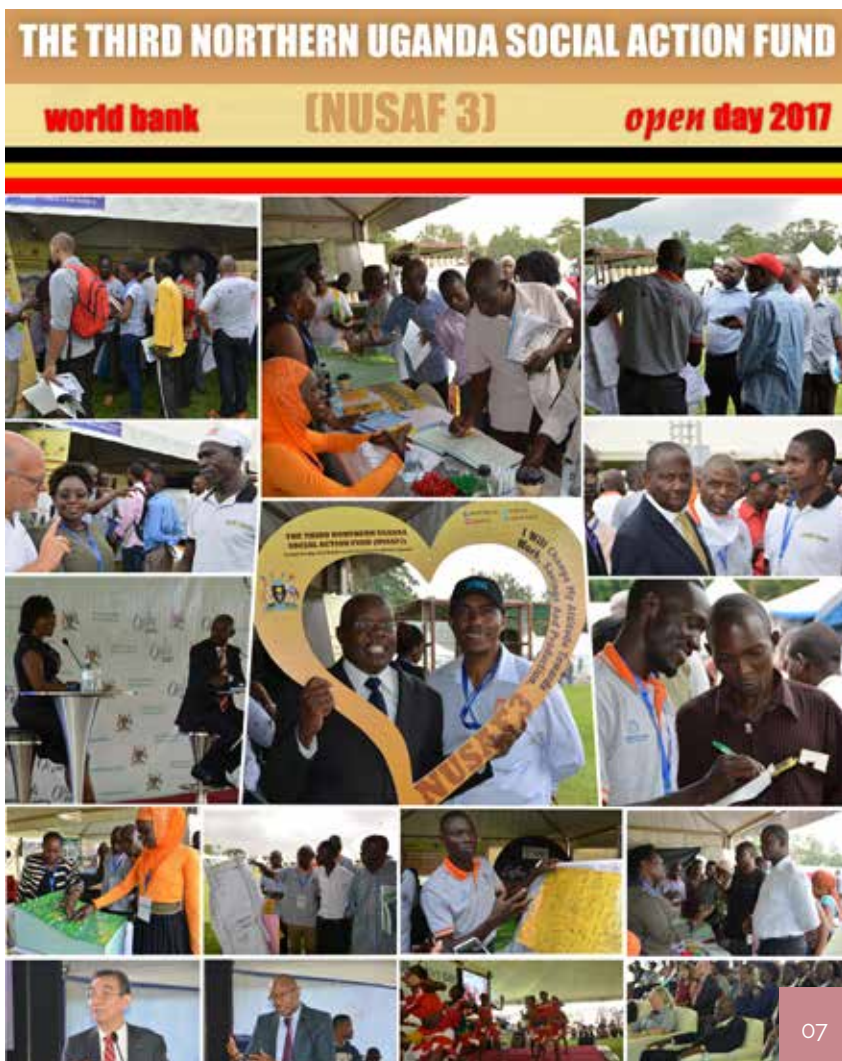


02



04

01. Orientation of District Teams in Arua, 02. Kotido District Community facilitators with NDO (middle), 03. Field Testing of Training Materials in Mbale, 04. Teams from several districts training on Terracing in Kabale, 05. Orientation of District Teams in Soroti, 06. Community Facilitators from Napak District 07. Collage of Pictures from World Bank Day in May 2017.



Project Component News

Project Components

1. **Labour intensive Public Works**
 - 1.1 Labor Intensive Public Works – LIPW
 - 1.2 Disaster Risk Financing (DRF)
2. **Livelihood Investment Support**
 - 2.1 Improved Household Income Support Programme

- 2.2 Sustainable Livelihoods Pilot
3. **Strengthening Transparency, Accountability & Anti-Corruption (STAAC)**
4. **Safety Net Mechanisms and Project Management**

ty based revolving capital, use of self-help groups to graduate out of poverty and strengthens already existing business groups including those that were established during NUSAF2.

Component 3 Strengthening Transparency, Accountability & Anti-Corruption (STAAC) (US\$ 5M)

This is designed to contribute to the government's commitment to increasing transparency and accountability in public service delivery and enhance the effectiveness of transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption processes in project areas. STAAC is implemented independently by the office of Inspectorate of Government.

Component 1

1. **Labour intensive Public Works**
 - To provide beneficiaries from poor & vulnerable households with a seasonal transfer in return for their participation in LIPW to enable them to sustain, increase their assets and smoothen their consumption during lean seasons.
 - This sub-component also results in the creation of physical assets of value for the local communities.

1.1 Labor Intensive Public Works – LIPW (US \$ 49 M)

LIPW is implemented using Watershed area development approach. The package of development options include the following: The package of development options include soil and water conservation, Agri-business, Agro-forestry, Community Access infrastructure to markets and institutional "Green Action."

1.2 Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) (US \$ 12 M)

DRF is a 2 year pilot starting with trials on characteristic drought dis-

aster in Karamoja.

DRF involves the following: Remote sensing and secondary data to inform decision making, DRF is triggered when disaster occurs. LIPW interventions are scaled up to enable vulnerable poor households to earn incomes and smoothen consumption while increasing savings.

Component 2

2. Livelihood Investment Support (US \$ 43.5 M)

2.1 Improved Household Income Support Programme (US \$ 42.5 M) is designed to promote market driven enterprises. IHISP ensures participation of a critical mass of households in a watershed, enhances the capacity of communities in managing business enterprises and promotes the development of a savings and investment culture among the communities.

2.2 Sustainable Livelihoods Pilot (US \$ 1 M)

The pilot will be in one district per sub region on average and currently covers 9 districts. This component establishes communi-

Component 4 Safety Net Mechanisms and Project Management (US \$ 20.5 M)

Safety Net Mechanisms; aims to support the Government to lay the foundation for a sustainable social protection system that is envisioned in the Uganda Social Protection Policy.

Project management; supports and strengthens the planning and coordination of activities of the project, as well as the monitoring of their implementation. Project coordination and the accountability for project resources are the responsibility of the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, with the support of the established NUSAF3 technical support team (TST).

NUSAF3 SUBPROJECTS PER DISBURSEMENT CYCLE AS OF APRIL 2018

FY	Disbursement	Lots	Sub Projects	Amounts UGX
2016/2017	Disbursement 1	Lot 1	900	31,064,136,566
2017/2018	Disbursement 1	Lot 2	103	5,050,363,821
	Disbursement 2	Lot 1	1,254	32,729,289,348
		Lot 2	747	17,172,603,673
	Disbursement 3	Lot 1	1,413	38,141,242,983
		SLP	40	1,440,000,000
		Youth & Irrigation	90	6,084,272,450

NUSAF3 SUBPROJECTS PER SECTOR AS OF APRIL 2018

Sector	Sub Projects	%	Amount UGX
Agriculture	2661	37%	48,710,164,342
Apiculture	45	1%	785,120,000
Environment	73	3%	4,571,593,753
Fisheries	103	1%	1,870,424,655
Forestry	399	13%	16,491,120,628
Livestock	434	6%	7,499,116,400
Road	351	25%	32,607,879,204
Trade	230	3%	4,355,991,139
Value Addition	13	0%	223,488,000
Water	108	5%	7,042,738,270
Youth and Irrigation	[90]	5%	6,084,272,450
Revolving Fund (SLP)	40	1%	1,440,000,000
Grand Total	4457	100%	131,681,908,840

NUSAF3 SUBPROJECTS PER COMPONENT PER DISTRICT 2017 - 2018

DISTRICT	LIPW/DRF		LIS		TOTAL	AMOUNTS FUNDED
	LIPW	DRF	IHISP	SLP		SUB-PROJECTS
Agago	5		86		91	2,006,880,732
Amuru	7		79		86	2,394,215,561
Gulu	13		124		137	3,540,961,391
Kitgum	8		61		69	2,007,563,889
Lamwo	10		104		114	2,128,132,000
Nwoya	11		70		81	2,095,395,496
Omoro	37		65		102	2,289,763,400

DISTRICT	LIPW/DRF		LIS		TOTAL	AMOUNTS FUNDED
	LIPW	DRF	IHISP	SLP		SUB-PROJECTS
Pader	7		72		79	1,872,257,000
ACHOLI	98	-	661	-	759	18,335,169,469
Budaka	7		41		48	1,079,000,000
Busia	9		52		61	1,394,438,914
Butaleja	14		35	8	57	1,606,889,548
Kibuku	9		27		36	1,013,626,136
Pallisa	2		33		35	762,443,389
Tororo	10		88		98	2,471,277,068
BUKEDI	51	-	276	8	335	8,327,675,055
Bududa	15		27		42	795,535,405
Bukwo	7		19		26	624,607,300
Bulambuli	16		29		45	1,031,842,000
Kapchorwa	16		20	8	44	1,086,284,687
Kween	15		30		45	808,347,665
Manafwa	20		54		74	1,847,500,000
Mbale	18		63		81	2,730,365,300
Namisindwa			4		4	72,000,000
Sironko	9		41		50	1,070,300,400
ELGON	116	-	287	8	411	10,066,782,757
Abim	25	19	68		112	4,651,780,611
Amudat	14	30	53		97	4,143,768,652
Kaabong	26	73	147		246	9,934,261,877
Kotido	29	42	133	8	212	8,501,281,120
Moroto	4	35	55		94	4,202,024,342
Nakapiripirit	10	32	91		133	4,600,869,648
Napak	4	71	102		177	6,368,151,079
KARAMOJA	112	302	649	8	1,071	42,402,137,329
Alebtong	10		58		68	1,577,637,445
Amolatar	8		53		61	1,672,769,007
Apac	4		88		92	2,220,858,237
Dokolo	8		38		46	1,485,561,497
Kole	10		59		69	1,719,376,853
Lira	17		90	8	115	3,035,811,433
Otuke	8		16		24	824,100,475
Oyam	5		83		88	1,821,237,816
LANGO	70	-	485	8	563	14,357,352,763



DISTRICT	LIPW/DRF		LIS		TOTAL	AMOUNTS FUNDED
	LIPW	DRF	IHISP	SLP		SUB-PROJECTS
Buliisa	4		50		54	1,309,934,878
Kiryandongo	9		98		107	2,350,461,650
Masindi	1		116	8	125	2,574,985,840
BUNYORO	14	-	264	8	286	6,235,382,368
Amuria	11		59		70	2,252,240,391
Bukedea	4		44		48	1,337,718,240
Kaberaido	4		55		59	1,126,199,000
Katakwi	11		41		52	1,200,779,100
Kumi	3		52		55	1,095,279,390
Ngora	7		33		40	856,123,509
Serere	4		49		53	1,831,011,406
Soroti	20		64		84	2,203,842,831
TESO	64	-	397	-	461	11,903,193,867
Adjumani	25		58		83	2,080,567,000
Arua	7		116		123	2,687,784,300
Koboko	11		35		46	1,127,525,856
Maracha	4		45		49	1,050,810,875
Moyo	4		41		45	1,423,180,695
Nebbi	6		79		85	2,163,560,987
Yumbe	8		66		74	2,037,404,300
Zombo	2		64		66	1,399,108,770
WEST NILE	67	-	504	-	571	13,969,942,783
						6,084,272,450
	592	302	3,523	40	4,457	131,681,908,840



Improved Household Income Support

THE STATUS OF IMPROVED HOUSEHOLD INCOME SUPPORT (IHISP) AS OF FEBRUARY 2018

Community Interest Group (CIG) Summary Data

	INDICATORS	STATUS
1	Total funds released to districts for IHISP sub-projects	40,060,323,660
2	Number of CIG funded	2,302
3	Number of CIGs not funded	60 (have been re-submitted for funding under 3rd disbursement)
4	Number of CIG beneficiaries (those funded)	29,643
5	Number and percentage of female beneficiaries	18,320 (62)
6	Number and percentage of youth beneficiaries	About 6,987 (24%)
7	Average CIG size	13
8	Average number of IHISP sub-projects funded per district	41
9	Average number of CIG beneficiaries per district	528
10	Total savings by all CIGs	UGX 2,754,000,000 (\$765,000)
11	Average savings per CIG	UGX 1,200,000 (\$ 333)
12	Percentage of Agriculture sub-projects	74% (1,702)
13	Percentage of livestock sub-projects	17% (379)
14	Percentage of Agro-Forestry sub-projects	4% (100)
15	Percentage of Fisheries sub-projects	3% (79)
16	Percentage of Apiculture sub-projects	0.7% (15)
17	Percentage of Trade sub-projects	1% (23)
18	Percentage of Value addition projects	0.3% (4)



Maize growing and Turkey rearing
CIG groups in Ngora District



IHISP FUNDED SUBPROJECTS BY INVESTMENT TYPE

SUB PROJECT CATEGORY	NUMBER OF SUB PROJECTS	AMOUNT	BENEFICIARIES		TOTAL
			MALE	FEMALE	
Crop Production	683	12,093,698,950	3,456	5,353	8,809
Agro-Forestry	31	550,020,000	155	234	389
Apiary	15	261,300,000	76	101	177
Fisheries	68	1,212,280,300	404	520	924
Livestock	292	5,087,324,500	1,334	2,366	3,700
Trade	14	229,005,000	35	133	168
Value Addition	4	65,594,000	19	32	51
Total	1,107	19,499,222,750	5,479	8,739	14,218

Funds for the 1,107 IHISP subprojects worth Ugx. 19,499,222,750/= was disbursed to the districts during the third quarter. Districts are now preparing communities for the first season planting. Part of the preparation is to ensure that they receive planting materials in time to plant during the first rains. Crop production enterprises take lead – investing in the production of different crops for the market. Livestock rearing enterprises focusing mainly on dairy cows to produce milk for the market.

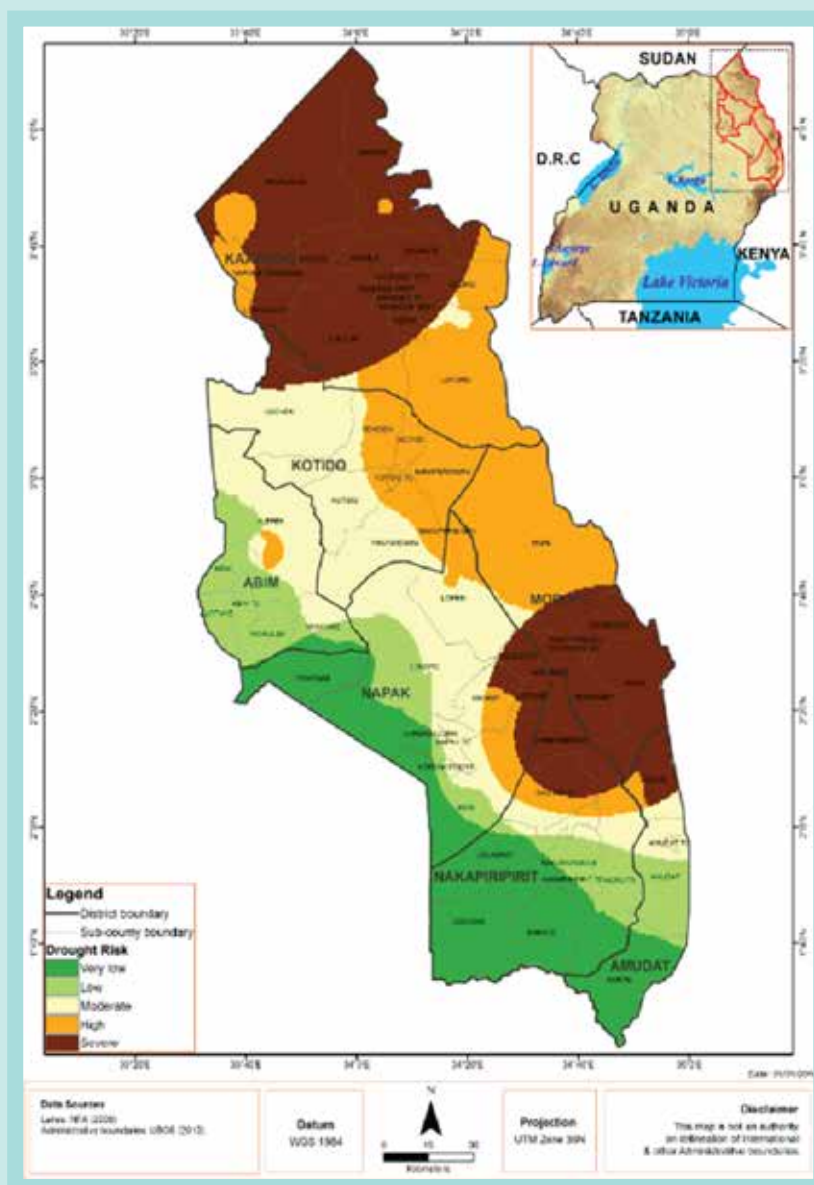
SUMMARY OF HARVESTS BY TYPE OF ENTERPRISE - INCOME EARNED AND INCOME SAVED

CROP	ACREAGE PLANTED	QUANTITY HARVESTED (KGS)	INCOME EARNED	SAVINGS
Soya bean	722	101,568	110,164,950	33,960,370
Rice	291	41,527	100,255,200	29,345,000
Sorghum	196	5,314	587,000	176,100
Maize	599	135,670	124,218,400	34,526,470
Sunflower	198	56,970	56,970,000	17,091,000
Total			392,195,550	115,098,940

Disaster Risk Financing

- Piloted in Karamoja sub-region that is severely affected by droughts and is food insecure
- Covers all 7 districts of Karamoja sub-region
- Uses the watershed approach
- Targets vulnerable households when a drought situation is anticipated
 - Remote sensed and secondary data
 - Trigger DRF
 - Scale up LIPW
- Funds released to the districts and paid out to vulnerable households undertaking Public Works.
 - Smooth consumption
 - Increase savings for consumption in lean periods





BENEFICIARY PERCEPTIONS AND VIEWS

- Beneficiaries acknowledged that they have realized positive outcomes from the DRF intervention
- Put the cash transfer to *use by buying food* during the lean season, *sending their children back to school, and meeting hospital expenses.*

An FGD participant in Moroto retorted:

".....we have been able to get some money from this work and many of us in my group have been able to buy food for our families, and some important items that will help us make more money in future. For example, when I received the money, I bought food, 3 chickens and managed to keep some money in savings, which I will be able to use in case my children fall sick or any other emergency happens".

BENEFICIARY PERCEPTIONS AND VIEWS

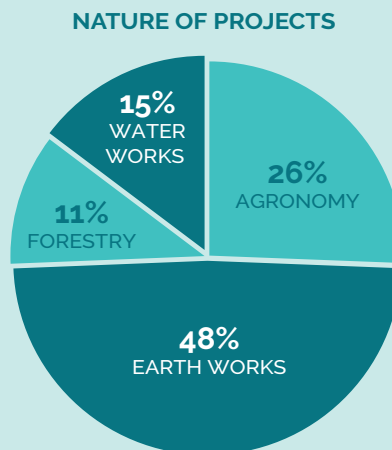
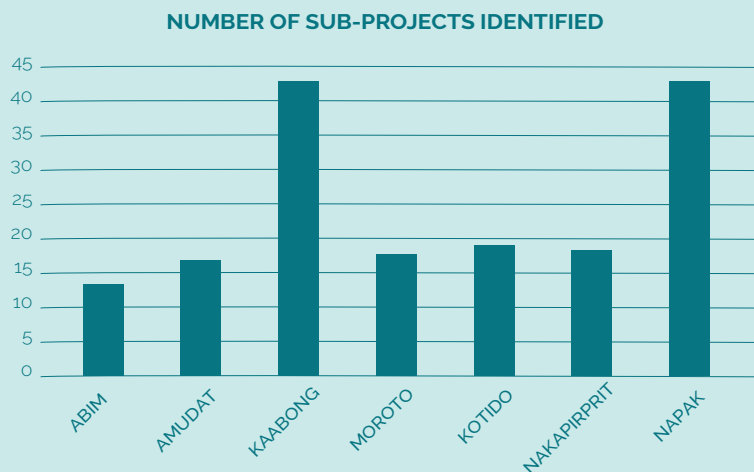
- DRF works left behind significant physical community assets such as community access roads, valley dams, block farms, and tree gardens among others.
- Improved food security-block gardens and the harvests that have been realized
- Through these works, community cohesion and some social capital has been realized
- It has provided employment during the lean season
- Savings have been realized and beneficiaries will be able to access these especially during the lean period

DRF ACHIEVEMENTS

- "DRF led to reduction in relief food sent to Karamoja in 2017 compared to other years" Commission
- Every year government estimates about 19 BN shillings is required for feeding at least no less than 20% of the Karamoja population
- In 2017, 9.3 BN went into feeding (household consumption & savings using DRF funds)
- A saving of 9.6 BN was realized by the Government of Uganda in 2017
- GoU plans to review DRF mechanism under NUSAF during mid-term review of project. Will consider expansion to additional regions & perils

SUB-PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

179 DRF projects costing 4.1M USD (earthworks & dry season activities) for Karamoja



DRF IMPLEMENTATION

- DRF reached out to 31,386 beneficiaries.
- 13,018 males (40%) and 18,368 (60%) females
- 91% subscription to the program
- 6.5 Bn Shs. given to smoothen consumption and 2.8 Bn Shs. in savings



▲ Beneficiaries of LIPW-DRF sub-projects in Karamoja, receiving their earnings



The Sustainable Livelihood Pilot News

Nine (9) districts were selected to implement the Sustainable Livelihood Pilot (SLP) namely – Soroti, Masindi, Kapchorwa, Gulu, Butaleja, Nebbi, Kitgum, Kotido and Lira.

The SLP is being implemented in conjunction with the Japanese Social Development Grant Project. The sub-component was rolled out starting with a

training for technical officers in May 2017 and CBAs in June 2017.

The Community Business Agents (CBAs) with support from designated Community Facilitators sensitized targeted cluster villages and identified eligible savings groups as follows:

SUMMARY OF TARGETED SLP CLUSTERS, VILLAGES & SAVINGS GROUPS

#	District	No. of Clusters	No. of Villages	No. of Savings Groups	No. of Females	No. of Males	Total
1	Gulu	4	32	158	3,665	897	4562
2	Soroti	4	32	148	2527	854	3381
3	Kitgum	4	32	118	2288	752	3040
4	Pakwach/Nebbi	4	32	102	2068	971	3039
5	Lira	1	8	24	471	196	667
6	Masindi	1	8	24	510	214	724
7	Butaleja	1	8	30	500	204	704
8	Kapchorwa	1	8	19	316	103	419
9	Kotido	1	8	18	439	46	485
TOTAL		21	168	641	12,784	4,237	17,021

Strategic Building Partners News

Six capacity building partners have been engaged to provide specialized services to NUSAF3 communities. These are:

#	Capacity Building Partners	Area of Focus
1	Gulu University	Aquaculture development
2	Victoria Seeds Limited (VSL)	Supply of Certified high value seeds
3	Enterprise Uganda	Entrepreneurship and business skill development and mentorship
4	Agromax Uganda Limited	Establishment of Commercial Community Nurseries and support to horticulture sub-projects
5	Inspire Africa- Coffee	Promotion of production and consumption of domestic coffee
6	Teso PEDO	Implementation support to Communities of 8 Teso Districts

Skilling and Capacity Building of NUSAF3 beneficiaries

The Capacity Building Partners are active in the NUSAF3 communities; Gulu University has supported the generation of 62 new fish farming sub-projects under the second disbursement besides the 9 approved in first disbursement cycle: VSL has bulked seeds for supply to communities through LPOs upon approval of sub-projects; Enterprise Uganda starting 11th September 2017

started business training of IHISP CIGS funded under first disbursement cycle, while Inspire Africa has begun training camps to train urban youth and farmers in Coffee production and coffee consumption. Agromax has also begun providing irrigation, community nurseries and horticulture support to selected districts. 🌍



▲ Preparations for fish stocking in Packwach, Panyimor and Moyo on course—Gulu University Aquaculture Dev't



◀ Inspire Africa Boot Camps in Mbale and Gulu—Skilling Urban Youth in Coffee Commercial Production and Consumption. The closing day in Gulu was attended by the Minister of State for Northern Uganda, Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Uganda's Ambassador to China



▲ Enterprise Uganda Business Training and Capacity Building Workshop in Lira District





Agromax Institute engaged in the training of eight districts in agronomy, nursery management and soil conservation. In first picture (L) is the Director of NUSAF3, Dr. Robert Limlim with Agromax team.



◄ Left Picture: From Left to Right, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Oryem Okello, Minister of State for Northern Uganda, Hon. Grace Freedom Kwiycwinny and Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Vincent Ssempija. At the Inspire Africa boot camp training of the youth in coffee production and consumption in Gulu, February 15th 2018

Breaking News Corner

Joint NUSAF3-OPM and World Bank, Project Review Mission, March 19th -29th 2018



NUSAF 3



Inspire Africa

Office of the Prime Minister, NUSAF 3, in Partnership with Inspire Africa
Boosting quality Coffee production and domestic coffee consumption

TRAINING AND SKILLING BOOTCAMPS

Eastern, Northern and North Eastern Region of Uganda

28th January to May 25th 2018

PRODUCTION AND INCOME GENERATION



01



02



03



04

01. Inputs, 02. Business Skilling, 03. Outputs, 04. Market Linkages

Embracing the Culture of Savings

KAREU FARMERS TREE NURSERY,
KATAKWI

Stories from the Districts

Kareu Farmers Tree Nursery Group is located in Magoro sub county which is one of the poorest sub counties in Katakwi district and therefore was targeted for NUSAF3 intervention. Before NUSAF3 came on the scene, Kareu group had raised 300 orange tree seedlings. Some members also operated retail stalls but without extra work they were unable to cover living costs and take care of their families.

When NUSAF3 started sensitization meetings in the sub-county, the group members attended the meetings where the NUSAF3 guiding principles (participatory approach, community contribution, regular meeting, saving, lending, record keeping etc) and criteria for eligibil-

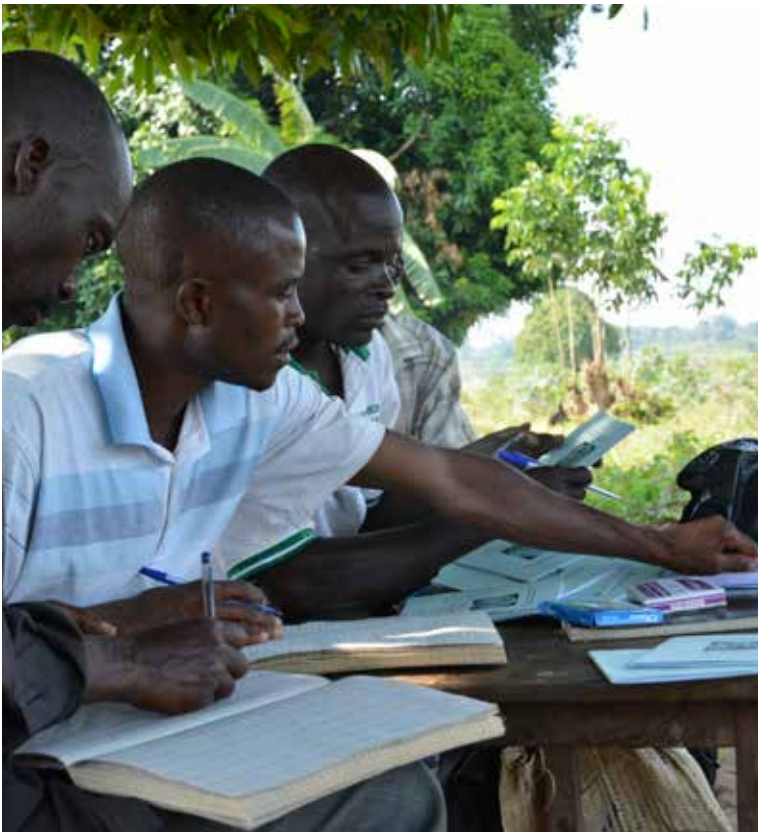
ity were explained. The group was subsequently selected by their own community as beneficiaries eligible for NUSAF3 support.

The group members were then trained on group management that focused on group dynamics, the five core principles of NUSAF3 (regular meetings, regular savings, regular inter loaning, regular loan repayment and record keeping), basic life skills trainings, visioning, goal setting and leadership. Through this training, Kareu Farmers Investment Group members were able to build their confidence, and acquire the knowledge and skills needed to expand their enterprises. They also began to save regularly and borrow from the group funds. 🌱

The group members were then trained on group management that focused on group dynamics



Mr. Olinga a member of the group states; "I was initially afraid to take out a loan because of the fear associated with it - because taking credit and not being able to pay it back had its consequences. I finally gained the knowledge and courage to do so after the group management training and I have taken out two loans, which have helped in the expansion of my retail shop business. Customers now have a variety of goods to choose from and they no longer bounce. And I have become financially stable and able to take care of my family."



NUSAF3 Community Interest Groups in Ngora District, during their weekly meetings where they collectively practice putting together their savings, which is one of NUSAF3 core group principles.



DRF in Abim District

On the Path to House Hold Resilience

In Loyorait Watershed, Olem North Village, people were supported to work on a block farm under DRF.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS, THIS IS WHAT THE BENEFICIARIES SAID:

We were 212 people who worked on the Central East block farm. We cleared 100 acres of land to grow cassava but eventually planted cassava on 50 acres in July 2017. We were paid UGX5,500 per day, and each one of us went home with about 216,000 at the end of the working season. Each member saved UGX81,000 which we have been getting in bits to buy food items for our households. We have been able have enough meals and even acquire several assets as a result of the money we were paid. We have been able to buy mattresses, pigs, goats, household items such as sugar, salt, soap and paraffin among others.

This term we managed to pay school fees quite smoothly despite the drought that we faced. We are very happy about NUSAF3 because it created work for us which is not available in our village during the dry season. Our credit rating has also improved in this village – shop keepers now beg us to take credit

because they know they are going to be paid. Consumption has improved. We used to have one meal a day but now we eat twice. We have lunch and supper. "I used to see neighbors take tea and wonder what was there in the tea – but now I can afford to have my own tea with sugar", echoed an elderly female beneficiary.

Three of our colleagues (also present in the meeting) started their own business enterprises [shops] with money earned from the DRF work – they are all now well-respected women in the village. We believe the project is addressing the effects of drought in our area. The leaves of cassava serve as sauce; we sell the stems to buyers (from other regions) looking for good breeds; and we eat the tubers as well as sell some. We are looking forward to the day our cassava will mature. Possibly all of us here will wind up with our own cassava gardens because quality stems will be available. The idea of paying us for work done, and encouraging us to save some of this money is excellent. 🇺🇬

▼ Below: Some of the members of Loyorait Watershed in Abim District



How the NUSAF3 Co-Responsibility Requirements Changed Our Lives

FROM A BENEFICIARY NAMED ISINGE OF KATAKWI DISTRICT, TESTIFYING ABOUT HOW THE NUSAF3 CO-RESPONSIBILITY TRAINING CHANGED HER HOME:

"Before, animal litter was all over the compound causing much inconvenience, plates were scattered all over the compound and we used to suffer a lot from diarrhea, disease and jiggers (chigüe fleas)," stated, Insinge.

"Through NUSAF3 and the help of community Facilitator we were taught the importance of hygiene & sanitation. I used the knowledge got to dig a pit latrine, dig a rubbish pit, constructed a simple animal shelter and erected the drying rack so now our cups and plates stay

clean and our goats & sheep sleep in their house and we are free from fleas. The regular visits from the CF and the sub county team gave me the energy to keep going. Now my home looks beautiful and now our health is much better as we no longer suffer from jiggers and we have the convenience of using a pit latrine any time and it gives us privacy" 🌍



Beneficiary, Insinge, in front of the pit latrine that her family put in place and in front of the animal shelter she built. Stories by Dennis Adungo, CF in Katakwi District.



Story from Keto Lubanga Mia Miyo Soya Bean Group in Omoro District

As told by the Chairman of the group of 12 members — Opio Christopher Lamaka.

"With the help of the funds we got from NUSAF3, we got the 12 Oxen, ploughed 24 acres and planted Soya Beans with seeds supplied by Victoria Seeds. We expected to harvest more than 70 bags but some seeds were of a different variety than what we expected. However, we were able to get exactly 70 bags of soya in our first harvest. The market price at the time was low at 1,250/= per kilo. We harvested 8,261 kilograms of soya and received **10,362,250 in earnings**. We also hired out the oxen and earned an extra 348,000/=. We saved 6,426,250/= (83 percent) and each member received 300,000/= in cash. The

members spent the cash they received on medication, clothing and education. In total together with our weekly group savings, **we have saved 8,326,250/-**. (1.9 million shillings from their group savings and 6.4 million from the sell of Soya).

I personally want to testify that I borrowed 500,000/- from the group and with my added personal savings, I was able to **purchase a motorbike!** The motorbike is now helping the group to transport their produce to the market which was one of our biggest challenges as a group. All we ask is the government to assist us in finding buyers in the market and stabilize the market prices, otherwise we are very grateful for NUSAF3." 🌍



▲ Above: Members of Keto Lubanga Mia Miyo Soya Ban Group in Omoro District and some of their oxen. Story by Simon Kisaka, Communications Specialist—NUSAF3.



Kal Watemu Gum Cassava growing in Nwoya District

Kal Watemu Gum Cassava Growing is located in; Kal sub-ward, Ceke Ward, Ceke Watershed, Anaka Town Council, Nwoya District.

The group comprises of 15 beneficiaries; seven males, eight females, two youth and two elders.

82% of the beneficiaries completed primary school level and 63% are engaged in small scale businesses e.g. market vending etc.

The major source of income for most of the group members is agriculture and the major expenditure areas of the group members are; education, food, medication.

The group by 30th of January, 2018 had a savings of Ug Shs. 1,668,000 and loan out of Ug Shs. 1,188,000 which is still being paid back by some group members.

The group is adhering to the five core principles very well. This is because the group always has their meetings on Tuesdays of every week and it is in these meetings that the group members make their weekly savings and also where other members can access loans to help them with their various challenges. These weekly meetings help the group to work on their accountabilities and records for the group. These meetings are also

How NUSAF3 and Cassava are beating poverty in Nwoya District



the basis where the Community Facilitator meets with the CIG group to strengthen and regularly monitor the project which the group is undertaking.

Much as there could sometimes be a delay in repayment of loan from other members, the group has not yet experienced any other challenge in loan repayment or collection from members who borrow from the group. The loan that the group members access, helps to maximize the group's income because the loan has interest of 10% attached to them.

The group chose to undertake cassava growing as their enterprise. They chose this because cassava is drought resistant, highly profitable and compared to other crops, cassava has minimal cost of production.

Also, a new sugar and distilleries factory is being built in the district. Therefore, the group saw this as a potential market for their product since the factory is bound to use cassava as its raw material for the distillery of spirit. (According to a discussion with the proprietor of Bukona Agro Processors Ltd)

Another reason for the group's selection of cassava production as a more viable enterprise is due to the experience they have on the crop since they have been growing it for a number of years though on a small scale and cassava provides food security more than any other crop.

The group received a grant of Ug Shs. 17,068,500 and planted 20 acres of garden with NASSE 14 cassava variety. The cassava is growing



◀ Left: Members of Kal Watemu Gum Cassava Growing Group in Nwoya District, Ceke Watershed and also picture of their 20 acre cassava garden

The tree seedlings are surviving even though few of them dried up or others were destroyed by animals

gender based violence and when they open up to other members, colleagues have always moved in to help such people in need. This practice has helped scale down violence in the households.

Though with few challenges from some members, the members have easily met with the necessary needs and co-responsibilities for each household as far as education, health, sanitation, housing, etc. this is because of regular home visits that the group has put in place. Each household is visited and members checked on the availability of the co-responsibility requirements in education, health and sanitation.

The group always has an open hand for visitors and stakeholders in and out of the district. The regular visits and monitoring by World Bank mission, Office of the Prime Minister, IGG, District Technocrats and politicians and Town Council Officials have greatly and positively impacted on the life of group members and the activities of the group. It is through these visits that the group understands their mistakes, correct where necessary and put into practice the recommendations from the different stakeholders.

On environmental issues, the group purchased 50 tree seedlings for each member which have been planted around their homesteads. The tree seedlings are surviving even though few of them dried up while others were destroyed by animals. 🌳

(Story By Okello Richard Oloya, Community Facilitator, Ceke Watershed, Anaka Town Council, Nwoya District)

well, not been attacked by any pest or diseases and shall be ready for sale by April, 2018.

The group received Ug Shs. 1,050,000 from the sale of beans which they had inter-cropped in the cassava gardens. The group planted six acres of garden with beans using their savings and plan to scale up cassava production by planting 50 acres of cassava this coming next season after the sale of their produce.

Members of the group say they shall follow the NUSAF3 guidelines, save 30% of their total income and have agreed to re-invest all the 70% to help maximize their production in the next season.

The group also plans to merge with the sister group to purchase a

tractor to help in the diversification of their production. The money to be contributed towards the purchase of the tractor shall be part of the 70% for re-investment.

Through the group's regular meetings, relationships among the group members and of the community surrounding them have greatly improved. This is because members get opportunities to discuss issues that affect them. Their meetings have become avenue for solving issues that affect them as a community. It is easier to discuss and solve issues among them because the group comprises of almost all categories of people; the sick, the elderly, the youth, women and men, the HIV/AIDS positive people, etc.

Most times when members face challenges in their households say

Nuggets of Wisdom

From the Daily Monitor, 8-12-2017, by Jonathan Adengo

In his keynote speech at the 2017 NTV Economic Summit at the Kampala Serena Hotel on Wednesday, Mr Juan Estrada-Valle, a trade economist and Chief of Party of the USAID East Africa Trade and Investment Hub, said Uganda needs to promote its economy.

"We need a countrywide commitment to our goals. Every person in every village must be aware of the direction the country is taking and more importantly, their role in its development," he said.

Mr Estrada said achieving the goals of the 2040 Vision requires greater focus on the necessary actions today. He added that there is need to engage Ugandans and initiate an economic revolution.

Mr Elly Karuhanga, the chairman of the Uganda Chamber of mines and Petroleum, said there is need to skill Ugandans to make sure that they can easily take part in the infrastructure projects in the country.

He said Uganda is blessed with a young population which is very creative, urging government to tap into this group and skill it because they know what they want and will create their own jobs.

He said government should also localise product and infrastructure production so that Ugandans can ably participate in these projects and also reduce on the capital flight.

Industrialize agriculture

The economists argued that there is need to modernise and commercialise agriculture for economies such as Uganda where about 70 per cent of the population earn their livelihoods from farming.

"The consumption multipliers from growth in agriculture are higher than

from other sectors. Therefore linking agriculture to industry and achieving the proper balance between agriculture and industry offers the best mechanism through which the country can transform the economy as well as deliver inclusive growth," said Mr Estrada.

He added: "Agro-industrialisation is feasible to spur inclusive social economic growth and development."

To realise this, Mr Estrada said government will need to develop enablers such as power, infrastructure and the transport network.

From the Uganda Investment Authority

<http://www.ugandainvest.go.ug/priority-sectors/agriculture-agribusiness/>

The Agricultural Sector continues to be the most important sector in Uganda; it employs approximately 69% of the population and contributed about 26% to the GDP in 2015/16. The Government has increased the allocation to the agricultural sector in the 2016/17 budget to UGX 832.42 billion which represents a 65% increase.

The main agricultural crops include grains, sugarcane, cotton, tea and Coffee which accounts for 20% of total export earnings and a third of foreign exchange earnings. Under the National Development Plan 2, there is an emphasis on the importance of agroprocessing and Value addition of Uganda's traditional cash crops mainly in cotton ginning, teaprocessing, coffee hauling, tobacco handling.

Agro processing and Value addition in agricultural production can take different forms and levels ranging

from the basic to more sophisticated level e.g. packaging, processing, cooling, drying, extracting or any other type of processes that differentiates the product from the original raw commodity. Investment opportunities in agriculture and agro-processing are vast, ranging from cut flower production for exports, oil seed production and processing, cotton production, ginning, spinning and weaving, the production and processing of livestock products.

Opportunities for investment exist in:

1. Commercial farming in both crops and animal industries, as well as aquaculture;
2. Value addition (Agro-industries - Agro-food industries;
3. Manufacturing of inputs (fertilizers, pesticides etc);
4. Cold storage facilities and logistics;
5. Farm Machinery manufacturing and assembly;
6. Packaging;
7. Irrigation Schemes.

Other opportunities include wheat products and the fast growing milk production and processing sector, fruit processing, fruit drying, grain milling, meat processing, leather tanning and fish processing. Uganda is among the leading producers of coffee, bananas and oil seed crops (sesame (simsim), soybean, sunflower, etc). It is also a major producer of other crops like tea, cotton organic cotton, tobacco, cereals, fresh fruit & vegetables and nuts, essential oils, flowers, poultry, fresh water fish. The country has been zoned into specific production areas and in order to ease logistics and supply of Agricultural products/source of raw materials, all these areas are well linked to a good national road grid network.🌐



What's Next for NUSAF3 in 2018?

- Increased investments on the ground for districts that have not exhausted their funds FY 2017 - 2018 and increased consolidation of results and impacts within the watershed communities and at the household level
- More focus on the capturing of impacts and results among NUSAF3 beneficiaries
- Strengthening of Mind-Set Change among the Project beneficiaries towards sustainability of the gains and investments of the communities.
- Commissioning of the Coffee Investment Groups through Inspire Africa (June to August 2018)
- The growth of earnings, savings and business enterprises among NUSAF3 beneficiaries
- Increased revitalisation and transformation of the environment within the NUSAF3 watersheds
- Preparations for Joint Government of Uganda and World Bank Project Mid-Term Review to be held in first quarter of 2019

Puzzlers

THE HUNGRY BUSINESS MAN

Melvin had been briefing the boss at a staff meeting since he arrived at the office, too busy, in fact, even for a cup of coffee. Worse than that, he was hungry. He had skipped breakfast that morning because he got up late, got dressed in a hurry and sped off to the office in his Pajero.

When he finally finished his meeting, he glanced at his brand-new digital wristwatch, which he got for Christmas. "It's 12:01," he thought. "Lunch time!" Melvin hurriedly

donned his coat, hat and gloves and raced out the rear entrance of the building heading for the lunch counter across the street. He dodged between traffic and parked cars and almost fell into the doorway of the lunch counter. The door was locked. A sign on the door read, "CLOSED. We Open at 11:00 A.M." He rechecked his watch, which was working just fine, and realized why the lunch counter was closed. What did Melvin discover?

(Submit your answers—the Answer will be in the next edition)

THE DARK AND STORMY NIGHT

It was a dark and stormy night. The dozen (12) inhabitants of a small three-story apartment building began to worry. The rain got heavier and soon the roof began to leak.

The people living in the top floor apartment sought refuge in the apartment one floor below, i.e., the second floor. When they did, the second floor people said, "We can't admit all of you, we can just accept the same number of people that we already have living here." So some people moved from the top floor to the middle floor and the rest stayed behind.

Soon the rain got heavier. Those on the second floor began to get wet and sought refuge on the first floor. They were told the same thing: "We can only accept the same number of people that we have already." And so some moved, and some stayed behind.

The next morning, when the rescue workers arrived, an equal number of people emerged from each of the three apartments. The question is: **How many people started out on each floor (or how many people were on each floor originally)?**

(Send in your answers; winners to be announced in next edition and answers given)



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