

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

DINU Newsletter



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



EUROPEAN UNION



Minister for General Duties Justine Kasule Lumumba, Minister of State for Northern Uganda Affairs Grace Freedom Kwiwucwiny, Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs Agnes Nandutu and Head of Sustainable Development at EUD Nadia Cannata in a group photo with DINU implementing partners shortly after the coordination meeting in Kampala on October 28, 2022. PHOTO BY ISIAH KITIMBO

NEWS INSIDE

- Minister applauds DINU interventions - [Pg.6](#)
- New police post to boost security in Abim - [Pg.7](#)
- Minister urges partners on impact - [Pg.8-9](#)
- IRAS helps Zombo to collect more local revenue - [Pg.11](#)
- Moyo farmers reap big from growing oil seeds - [Pg.14](#)

VALUE ADDITION

Beekeeping changing fortunes of Nebbi farmers



Apiary farmers in Nebbi are now selling honey and processing its by-products such as shoe polish and petroleum jelly before selling them to make profits. In the last three months, the group has made 1,000 pieces of propolis, 200 pieces of shoe cream and 1,400 pieces of petroleum jelly. [Story on Page.12](#)



TESTIMONY

One farmer's account of how DINU has changed her livelihood

DINU has really changed my life. I have enough food for my children. I've also opened a bank account where I save for my children's education. [Story on Page.13](#)

FROM THE EDITOR

DINU making tangible impact in Northern Uganda



ISAIAH KITIMBO
OPM DINU
Communication &
Visibility Officer

Welcome to our newsletter. This publication has been provided to update stakeholders on the implementation progress of the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) programme.

The newsletter explores efforts undertaken by the various implementing partners in the three programme sectors; (1) Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods (2) Infrastructure (transport, logistics, water, energy) and (3) Good Governance in 41 selected districts in the five sub-regions of Acholi, Karamoja, Lango, Teso and West Nile.

In here, you are treated to the most analytical and in-depth coverage of the impact of DINU programme in Northern Uganda.

You will read about two interesting stories of how farmers are adding value and earning

more from beekeeping in Nebbi, and farmers in Moyo who are earning more from growing oil seeds.

In addition, an investment hub has been established in Gulu to support farmers in Acholi and Lango sub-regions to access agricultural inputs and outputs.

Also, a storage facility has been established for a farmers' cooperative in Otuke District.

In Abim, a community police post with accommodation facilities has been commissioned to foster safety and security in the area. Still in Karamoja, OPM launched a handbook aimed at promoting service delivery at the local governments' level. Finally, find out how automation is spurring local revenue collection in Zombo District.

Nice reading!

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TOP EVENTS THIS QUARTER

OPM high-level missions to DINU projects in Acholi, Lango and Karamoja



The Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation, Hon. Grace Freedom Kwiwucwiny (left), observes as a staff of Sasakawa Africa Association, a NARO-led DINU consortium partner, demonstrates how a mobile maize sheller operates in Gulu on November 23, 2022. PHOTOS BY ISAIAH KITIMBO.



The Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs, Hon. Agnes Nandutu, launches a handbook aimed at promoting good governance and accountability for District Local Governments in Northern Uganda in Moroto on December 2, 2022.

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MESSAGE FROM NPC

Development Initiative for Northern Uganda; One big family



PAMELA KABAHEZI
OPM-DINU National
Programme
Coordinator

DINU has been described by many as a complex programme. In the last few years of implementation, we have, however, witnessed a change in description from “complex” to “interesting”. The programme has unified various stakeholders from the Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, (MDAs), District Local Governments (DLGs), private sector actors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Education institutions, media actors and many others in a bid to achieve one goal, “*Consolidate stability in Northern Uganda, eradicate poverty and under-nutrition and strengthen the foundations for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development.*” The stakeholders are all part of one large DINU family either as implementing partners or participants.

As the various actions come to an end, the importance of the following conversations has become increasingly evident;

- Consolidating the gains of all DINU partners.
- Joint communication and visibility as a programme.
- Sustainability, operation and maintenance of interventions.
- Ownership of interventions by the beneficiaries.

We are excited to witness these aspects getting incorporated in all partner actions through dialogue, lesson learning and encouraging synergies, not just among DINU partners but other partners implementing similar interventions.

This newsletter is a major step towards joining the various pieces of the puzzle that is the DINU programme and will contribute towards joint communication and visibility of the programme. The newsletter will contribute towards showcasing the achievements of all partners implementing various actions across Northern Uganda also known as “connecting the dots.”



Administration building of the Gulu Logistics Hub



LEFT: More than 14 mini-grids have been installed in Lamwo District



RIGHT: Construction works in progress at Atiak-Laropi road



DINU programme overview

- **EU Funding:** €132,800,000
- **Partner contributions:** €22,200,000
- **Signature date:** 3/01/2017
- **End date:** 12/01/2024
- **General Objective:** To consolidate stability, eradicate poverty and under-nutrition and strengthen the foundations for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development.
- **Under the general objective are three interlinked objectives:**
 - **Specific objective 1:** to increase food security, improve maternal and child nutrition, and enhance household incomes
 - **Specific objective 2:** to improve infrastructure.
 - **Specific objective 3:** to enhance good governance & improved service delivery by Local Governments.
 - **Design:** DINU is designed as a multi-sectoral integrated programme covering interventions in three inter-linked sectors: (1) Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods (2) Infrastructures (transport, logistics, water, energy) and (3) Good Governance.
 - **District coverage:** The programme is implemented in 41 districts of the five NU sub-regions of Acholi, Karamoja, Lango, Teso and West Nile.

IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

- **Delegation Agreements**
Four partners with delegated agreements signed with the EUD. These are United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), GIZ, TradeMark East Africa (TMEA).
- **Grant Contracts**
 1. Five partners with a goal of improving livelihoods through increased production of diversified food, enhanced market opportunities and better maternal and child nutrition. These are CARE, CARITAS, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO).
 2. Four partners with a goal of improving performing and accountability of Local Governments through strengthened participation of communities. These are ADOL Health Care Initiative, Centre for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) DIAKONIA and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS).
- Civil works for upgrading Atiak – Laropi Road (66KM) to pave standard.
- OPM Multi-Annual Programme Estimate (MAPE)

Compiled by Pamela Kabahezi

DINU PROGRAMME SET UP AND RESPONSIBILITIES

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

- Coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of government policies and programmes.
- Responsible for direct implementation with Government Agencies and Local Governments of the Multiannual Programme Estimates (MAPE). As the supervising authority of the DINU programme, OPM is also responsible for oversight and monitoring of the overall DINU implementation as well as coordination with implementation partners.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (MOFPED)

- Coordination of development planning, mobilization of public resources, and ensuring effective accountability.

THE EUROPEAN UNION

- The European Union is a political and economic union. Member states decided to link together their know-how resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

- Set up to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the programme. It is chaired by OPM and has members representing the beneficiary ministries. Membership of the PSC is from the EUD, MoFPED, OPM and representatives of line ministries.
- Reviews and validates work plans, budgets and performance of the programme in terms of the foreseen targets.
- Ensures overall coherence amongst the different components and implementing agencies.
- Informs the programme about relevant and complementary activities implemented in the framework of other donor-funded programmes or government initiatives.
- Acts as a conciliator in case of conflict between any parties, reconciles differences in opinion and approach.
- OPM programme management unit (PMU) is the secretariat of the PSC.



TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG)

- Set up under the PSC to provide technical review and operational follow up of DINU implementing partners and ensure that their operational activities and implementation are in line with the overall DINU programme objectives.
- The TWG reports directly to the PSC.
- The TWG is chaired by DINU National Programme Coordinator. Members are drawn from the technical staff of DINU and from the government Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

DINU PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)

- A Programme Management Unit (PMU) is hosted within OPM, which is the DINU supervising authority and is in charge of the overall coordination of the programme activities.
- PMU staff are based in the liaison office in Kampala and in the regional offices of Gulu and Moroto.
- The PMU is headed by the National Programme Coordinator assisted by the Regional Programme Coordinators heading the two regional offices.
- The PMU is assisted in the implementation of the programme by a technical assistance team headed by chief technical advisor

VALUE FOR MONEY

Minister Kwiycwiny applauds DINU interventions



Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Grace Freedom Kwiycwiny flanked by Ms. Betty Ochan, the Gulu City Woman MP, commissions the agro-investment hub in Gulu on November 23, 2022. PHOTOS BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

OTUKE. Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Grace Freedom Kwiycwiny has applauded the different interventions of Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) programme being implemented by various partners in Acholi and Lango sub-regions, saying they are timely and offer value for money.

“From what I have seen so far, there is value for money. As leaders, we need to mobilise the targeted farmers and communities to benefit from these projects so that their livelihoods can be improved,” the Minister told journalists during an interview at the end of her tour of DINU projects in Otukey on November 25, 2022

The minister toured various DINU projects in Gulu, Lira and Otukey districts from 23-25 November, 2022. In Gulu, she visited the Gulu Logistics Hub and also commissioned



The Otukey Business and Governance Centre has been established to boost local revenue.

a Shs493.7 million agro-investment hub, which aims to help farmers access inputs and outputs for agro-business in Acholi and Lango sub-regions.

The facility was established under Chase Hunger and Poverty, a project implemented by National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) in eight districts of Nwoya, Gulu, Kitgum, Pader, Lira, Alebtong, Kole and Oyam under DINU - a Government of Uganda programme supported by the European Union and supervised by Office of the Prime Minister.

In Otukey, the minister opened a Shs134 million storage facility with a capacity of 100 metric tonnes, which was established by the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture-led consortium under DINU for Olilim Acan Kwete Farmers' Cooperative.

The minister also toured DINU-led projects being implemented by NARO in Lira. These include rehabilitation of a seed testing laboratory, poultry hatchery, and health and nutrition-related activities being implemented in partnership with Lira University.

SECURITY AND SAFETY

OPM commissions community police post in Abim



COMMISSIONED: Morulem Community Police Post. PHOTOS BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

BY ELISEO OYOO

ABIM. The government has commissioned the Morulem Community Police Post and staff accommodation facilities in Abim District.

The newly established facility is one of the seven community police posts being constructed to boost security in seven districts in Karamoja under the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU), a government of Uganda programme supported by the European Union and supervised by Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).

Last year, OPM awarded contracts worth Shs4.8b to seven local firms to construct the police posts and accommodation facilities in Morulem in Abim District, Alakas (Amudat), Lokori (Karenga), Nakapelimoru (Kotido), Nakiloro (Moroto), Apeitolim (Napak)

and Namalu (Nakapiripirit). Each of the seven police posts would be equipped with furniture, solar power, two motorcycles to support officers' transport, water harvesting system and a borehole, bringing the total support to Uganda Police Force (UPF) to Shs5.4b.

At the occasion of commissioning the facility on November 29, 2022, the Minister for Karamoja Affairs, Dr. Mary Goretti Kitutu, said OPM has partnered with UPF under DINU to boost safety and promote economic development in Karamoja.

"Today, OPM hands over this investment and facility to UPF and the targeted communities for their benefit and use. As the government, we believe that this police post will contribute to increased presence and functionality of community policing, safety and

security, and promotion of human rights activities in Karamoja," she said in a speech read by Mr. Gonzaga Mayanja, the Commissioner Monitoring, and Evaluation, Local Governments at OPM.

Dr. Kitutu thanked the European Union for supporting Uganda in building UPF capacities in Karamoja, a sub-region that has been hitherto facing insecurity cases.

The Director of Research, Planning and Development at UPF, AIGP James Ocaya, said the police posts have been established to foster security and stability in locations that were previously regarded as blackspots for warriors and raiding activities.

"This intervention is very timely since it will contribute tremendously to reducing the incidents of insecurity in the sub-region," he said.



Mr. Gonzaga Mayanja, the Commissioner Monitoring and Evaluation, Local Governments at OPM, speaks at the event.



Commissioning of Morulem Community Police Post



The Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation, Hon. Grace Freedom Kwiycwiny, flanked by Ms. Betty Aol Ochan (left), the Gulu City Woman Member of Parliament, representatives from OPM, EUD, Ministry of Finance, Uganda Railways Cooperation and Gulu District leaders, tours the Gulu Logistics Hub on November 23, 2022. Construction works of the facility are complete. PHOTO BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

COORDINATION

Minister Kasule urges partners on DINU impact

BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

KAMPALA. The Minister for General Duties Justine Kasule Lumumba has asked implementing partners (IPs) of the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) programme to ensure that they implement projects that aim to improve lives of the people in the beneficiary districts in Northern Uganda.

“Of very key interest to OPM is that your implementation approaches and deliverables remain strong until the end of your implementation and that your activities and resources translate into changes in the lives of the target community and beneficiaries in Northern Uganda,” she said.

The Minister was on October 28, 2022 presiding over the DINU coordination meeting between Ministers from Office of the Prime Minister and the programme implementing partners (IPs) at Office of the President Conference Hall in Kampala.



Minister for General Duties Justine Kasule Lumumba

Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Grace Freedom Kwiycwiny, Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs Agnes Nandutu, Head of Cooperation at the European Union Delegation in Uganda Caroline Adriaensen, and representatives from Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development, and Local



Head of Cooperation at the European Union Delegation in Uganda Caroline Adriaensen, delivers her message

Government ministry attended the high-level meeting that attracted more than 50 participants who included DINU project coordinators and officers.

The meeting was organized by OPM Programme Management Unit under the theme: “Progress update on implementation of the DINU



Minister of State for Northern Uganda Rehabilitation Grace Freedom Kwiwucwiny and Mr. Gonzaga Mayanja, the Commissioner Monitoring, and Evaluation, Local Governments at OPM, record proceedings at the meeting.

programme.” The DINU IPs presented progress reports that showed that significant achievements have so far been made in the targeted districts in Northern Uganda and across the DINU objectives.

Minister Kasule thanked the European Union for the support and contribution to the DINU programme. She also commended OPM PMU for organizing the meeting, explaining that it provided a platform for exchange of information and status reporting on the DINU programme implementation.

Minister Kwiwucwiny, who chaired

the meeting, applauded the DINU IPs on the achievements made so far and challenged them to document impact of the programme intervention.

“From your presentations, it is very clear that a lot has been achieved and we need to acknowledge that fact. The next step now is for you to document results. Let our footmarks be visible through well documented results. The people of Northern Uganda now have hope to transit from war field to peace field,” she explained.

Minister Nandutu called upon DINU IPs to increase media presence for wider coverage of the various projects.

“I think you should increase media coverage of your respective activities so that more people get to know what you are doing,” she recommended.

Head of Cooperation of the European Union Delegation in Uganda Caroline Adriaensen urged the DINU IPs to ensure that the investments



Minister Grace Freedom Kwiwucwiny delivers her message

are implemented in a way that will promote sustainability of gains made even after projects have ended.

“Visibility of the DINU impact remains crucial and lessons by all IPs should be documented,” she said.

Mr Gonzaga Mayanja, the Commissioner Monitoring, and Evaluation – Local Governments at OPM, who represented the Permanent Secretary, asked partners to develop clear operation and maintenance plans before project closure and handover.

“Operation and maintenance of the infrastructure projects is very important. This meeting will provide us an opportunity to discuss the issue of sustainability of interventions established,” he said.

DINU ACTIVITIES

DINU, an affirmative action programme of the Government of Uganda supported by the European Union and supervised by Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), is implemented in 41 districts in the five sub-regions of Acholi, Lango, Karamoja, Teso and West Nile. The DINU overall goal is to: Consolidate stability in Northern Uganda, eradicate poverty and under-nutrition and strengthen the foundations for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development.



Minister Agnes Nandutu attends the meeting



The DINU National Programme Coordinator, Ms. Pamela Kabahezi, gives an overview of the DINU programme

GOOD GOVERNANCE

DINU handbook to promote accountability

BY FESTO LONGOLE

MOROTO. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) has launched a handbook aimed at promoting good governance and accountability at the district local governments (DLGs) level in Northern Uganda.

Titled, “Laws, Policies and Regulations on Accountability, Public Resource Management and Gender Inclusion at the Local Government Level in Uganda,” the handbook was launched by the State Minister for Karamoja Affairs, Hon. Agnes Nandutu, in Moroto on December 2, 2022.

It was produced by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and partners under “Strengthening Performance and Accountability through Community Engagement (SPACE), a DINU grant project.

The Minister hailed KAS and partners for building capacities of the DLGs and supporting on-going efforts to improve accountability and performance of the targeted districts.

“I thank KAS and partners under this DINU grant for working closely with the DLGs to improve accountability and responsive service delivery. We



Moroto District leaders and OPM officials join the State Minister for Karamoja Affairs in a group photo after the launch. PHOTOS BY ISAIAH KITIMBO

WHAT THE MINISTER SAID

“I thank KAS and partners under the DINU grant for working closely with the DLGs to improve accountability and responsive service delivery”

see that the communities have been empowered to raise and seek solutions to their concerns,” she said.

The DINU National Programme Coordinator, Ms. Pamela Kabahesi, said KAS is one of the four partners implementing the good governance action under DINU.

“KAS is a key partner under good governance and I’m confident that the handbook produced by the SPACE project will serve our Local Governments very well,” she said.

The handbook was translated into five local languages of Acholi, Langi, Lugbara, Ateso, and Ngakarimojong. It documents the laws and policies governing the functioning of DLGs and community participation in the decision making processes. It is available both in hard copies while soft copies can be found at www.kas.de/uganda and www.dinuspace.org/publications.

The KAS team said: “It is our hope that, through this resource of legal references, we shall further strengthen and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the governance of local government councils at both the higher and lower levels.”



Minister autographs a dummy copy of the handbook shortly after the launch on December 2, 2022.



The new administration block of Zombo Town Council. PHOTOS BY ISIAH KITIMBO

AUTOMATION SUPPORT

Zombo surpasses local revenue collection targets

BY JOSEPH DRAMADRI

ZOMBO. Many districts in Northern Uganda have long struggled to generate local revenue depending mostly on the central government transfers, grants and donations from development partners.

Low staffing levels, inadequate resources and the manual process of collections are some of the challenges snowballing revenue leakages.

In 2020, Zombo was among many districts that collected a paltry 1.3% to finance their annual budgets. This was further dampened by the effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

To improve the situation, the United Nations Capital Development Fund under the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda

(DINU) programme, provided IT equipment worth €163,000 to 14 districts in Northern Uganda in 2021 to support the automation of local revenue administration through the Integrated Revenue Administration System (IRAS). The districts were Abim, Adjumani, Amolator, Amuria Kapelebyong, Kole, Lamwo, Moroto, Moyo, Omoro, Pader, Yumbe and Zombo.

Zombo District alone received €1.72 million overall support under DINU, a government programme supported by the European Union and supervised by Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), to enhance its local revenue collection and management.

As a result, the district, is making big strides having collected more than 100 per cent of the projected local

revenue, making it a model district in the sub-region.

The district barely collected Shs600 million as local revenue in the FY 2020/2021 from the projected Shs1.1billion. However, by June 2021/22 FY, the district had collected Shs1.169 billion up from the projected Shs1.12 billion thanks to IRAS that was introduced in all the 11 sub-counties and four town councils in the district.

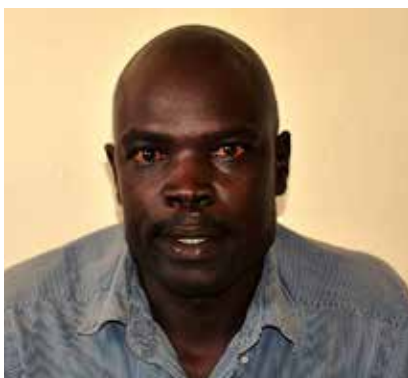
The Zombo District chairperson, Mr. James Oruna Oyullu, says IRAS is a magic-bullet to promotion of accountability in local revenue collection and management.

"I want to thank DINU for the support they offered for us by providing required machines and motorcycles to the sub-counties. We are looking forward to better performance this financial year," he says.

Zombo Town Council collected Shs44.2 million up from Shs31.8 million in FY 2020/2021.

Mr. Godwin Odubu, the town agent for Paleyo West Ward, Zombo Town Council, describes the new system as "successful and less hectic."

Paidha Town Council collected Shs521m in FY 2021/2022 up from Shs420m in the FY 2020/202, according to Mr. Esmond Odota, the town clerk Paidha Town Council.



Godwin Odubu, the town agent for Paleyo West ward, Zombo Town Council.



Esmond Odota, the town clerk Paidha Tow Council.

VALUE ADDITION

Beekeeping changing fortunes of Nebbi farmers

BY ISIAH KITIMBO

NEBBI. Ms. Maureen Anirwoth, 38, a resident of Oboko Village in Atego Sub-county in Nebbi District, suffered poverty for decades because she and hundreds of area residents lacked knowledge and skills of earning suitably from agricultural products despite practicing subsistence farming. She was unable to pay school fees for her children and meet other family expenses. She even suffered from skin diseases for several years largely due to poor nutrition.

In 2020, Ms. Anirwoth together with 24 other farmers, formed a group - Dikiri Ber to fight household poverty through value addition.

The members' fortunes have since changed following trainings in beekeeping by Agency for Accelerated Rural Development (AFARD), a Caritas Switzerland-led consortium partner implementing the Action for Livelihood Enhancement in Northern Uganda (ALENU) project under the Development Initiative for Northern Uganda programme with the financial support of the European Union.

They are now selling honey and processing its by-products such as shoe polish and petroleum jelly before selling them to make profits.

Ms. Anirwoth's life has since improved after applying the petroleum jelly they make.

"My face and my body is now shining because I use the petroleum jelly that we make. The product from honey has worked wonders on me," she said in an interview recently.

Ms. Margaret Ajolorwoth, 50, who has been faced with poverty most of her life, said beekeeping has really improved her livelihood.

"I grew up as a poor and illiterate woman. But now, I am self-reliant because of the money that I earn from making these by-products," she said



Mr Jerry Obedirwoth, a VSLA mentor explains the various products that the group makes. Right is the OPM DINU Programme Officer Agribusiness, Mr. Joseph Dramadri. PHOTOS BY ISIAH KITIMBO



The group has been supported with bee suits and other accessories for harvesting honey.

with a smile on her face.

According to Mr. Jerry Obedirwoth, another member, the group has so far made Shs3 million in the sale of honey by-products.

"The group members have been

empowered economically. Before, some of them were unable to send their children to school, feed well on diet, or buy proper clothes," he said.

The Executive Director for AFARD, Dr. Alfred Lakwo, said: "Involvement of women is important because once there is money in their hands, they can ably plan for the families. We want to move these households out of poverty through agriculture."

In the last three months, the group has so far made 1,000 pieces of propolis, about 200 pieces of shoe cream, 400 pieces of 100-gram petroleum jelly, 600 pieces of 50-gram of petroleum jelly and 400 pieces of 250-gram of petroleum jelly. These are sold locally and at trade exhibitions in Gulu and in Kampala.



Maureen Anirwoth demonstrates how to sun-dry cassava chips. The group has been trained to grow foodcrops besides beekeeping

VALUE ADDITION

Namadek to DINU: Because of you, my life is better

BY NORAH NAMONO &
CARE CONSORTIUM

MOROTO. When you are living on a dollar or less a day, one intervention or even two simply aren't enough to make a lasting impact. To escape chronic poverty, you need to be able to change your life in many ways that build on each other over time. Take, for instance, Ms. Angelina Namadek, a 40-year-old mother of five from Nadiket Village in Katirekile Sub-county, Moroto District.

"Before DINU, my life was miserable. I lost my mother when I was eight years old then my brother who was taking care of me passed away six years later," she shares.



Ms. Angelina Namadek credits her success to DINU. From being a casual labourer to employer on her farm, she says DINU has greatly helped increase her harvests and household incomes.

MS. NAMADEK'S TESTIMONY

"Before DINU, my life was miserable. I lost my mother when I was eight years old then my brother who was taking care of me passed away six years later."

She could not study since she lacked school fees and she was forced to care for her brother's two children in addition to her own child. She resorted to casual labour where she was weeding in other people's fields. However, that could not make ends meet for her family that had grown to five children.

In August 2020, Ms. Namadek attended a community meeting where she learned about the various DINU activities such as improved farming techniques and the Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA).

"I was interested in VSLA because everyone needs money," she explains

with a smile. She was equally trained in row cropping.

"My life started to change, and my worries began to decrease," she says. "I stopped broadcasting, and planted the soybeans issued to me by CARE under DINU in a row. This allowed me to easily weed my garden, and get high yields. Because of the high yields, I was

able to sell and save some money in our VSLA, pay for my children's school fees and manage family expenses," she explains.

"DINU has really changed my life. I have enough food for my children. I've also opened a bank account where I save for my children's education," says Ms. Namadek.



Ms. Namadek tends her garden. She says her yields have increased thanks to DINU trainings. PHOTOS BY CARE CONSORTIUM



Mr Hassan Okiring, the project manager. PHOTOS BY LEWA CONSORTIUM

FOOD SECURITY

Farmers reaping big from growing oil seeds in Moyo

BY LILIAN NAMAGEMBE
& LEWA TEAM

MOYO. In 2017, at least 70 farmers in Edele Village in Moyo District formed a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA). Under their group name, For Life, the farmers are involved in oil seeds crop production - growing sunflower, sim-sim and soybeans.

With support from Lutheran World Federation under the Livelihoods Enhancement for West Nile and Acholi (LEWA), a DINU grant project, the group has been able to realise an increment in sunflower production. Last year, the group harvested 8.9 tonnes of the oil seeds, which earned them Shs11 million in sales.

The group saved part of the money in their VSLA, used Shs5 million to buy a piece of land where they plan to build a store, and the balance was shared equally among members.

This year, LEWA supported the group to open up to 20 acres of cultivatable land where they planted sim-sim on four acres, soybeans (two acres) and sunflower (14 acres).



Stephen Nyonyi at the group's store in Moyo District recently.

"As I talk now, we are harvesting the sunflower. The sim-sim and soybean will soon be ready for harvest. This year, we expect to harvest more than 20 tonnes of oil seeds. We are grateful to the DINU intervention," says Mr. Stephen Nyoyonyi, the group secretary.

LEWA has trained farmers in better farming methods, including large-scale farming, postharvest handling, marketing and financial literacy where farmers have been trained to establish and manage VSLAs.

Other farmers' groups in the area have also joined oil seeds crop

production and some of them have already started harvesting. For instance, Orokodo group harvested 1,100kg of sunflower, Aziruku Edele group (900kg of sunflower), and Kotura group (1,200 bags of sunflower).

LEWA, a DINU grant project, is implemented by the Lutheran World Federation-led consortium comprising such organisations as Dunchurch Aid, Uganda Pentecostal Medical Bureau, and Mukwano Group of Industries in the nine districts of Adjumani, Arua, Lamwo, Koboko, Madi-Okollo, Maracha, Moyo, Obongi, and Yumbe in West Nile and Acholi sub-regions.

FOOD SECURITY

Lango, Teso farmers get better storage facilities



The Minister of State for Teso Affairs, Hon. Dr. Clement Kenneth Ongalo Obote, commissions a storage facility for Acowa Sub-county Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd in Kapelebyong District. He urged farmers to use the facility to store agricultural produce to enable them to sell when prices are better. PHOTO BY MOUREEN AWORI

**BY PEREZI MUCUNGUZI,
MOUREEN AWORI & GRACE AKUMU**

KAPELEBYONG. The agricultural sector in Uganda employs about 70 per cent of the labour force. However, farmers engaged in primary production lose up to 40 per cent of the produce during postharvest handling, majorly due to poor storage. According to reports, many farmers in Northern Uganda have poor storage, a practice that has continuously affected the quality and safety of produce, increased postharvest losses, lowered the incentive to collectively market and pushed them to sell at harvest/bumper times when prices are low.

It's against this backdrop that the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and partner Kilimo Trust under the DINU grant project; Building Resilience to Enhance Food and Nutrition Security Income and Health in Northern Uganda (BRENU), has rehabilitated five storage facilities, constructed three new ones and equipped 14 with the necessary equipment such as digital scales and moisture meters in Lango and Teso sub-regions with a total investment of more than Shs600 million.

The stores have been handed over to the cooperatives and are benefitting more than 3,874 smallholder farmers from the eight cooperatives of Gene ber Abarler Farmers' Cooperative Society in Amolatar, Acowa sub-county Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd and Okoboi Farmers' Marketing Association in Kapelebyong, Gwokere Nambieso Growers Cooperatives Society Ltd in Kwania, Chegere ACE, and Alworoceng Producers' Cooperative Society in Apac District, Orungo Multipurpose Farmers' Cooperative in Amuria, and Olilim Acan Kwete Farmers' cooperative society Ltd in Otuke.

As a result of this intervention, there has been increased commercialization at farmer level, access to structured markets and growth of producer groups and cooperatives, which has resulted in increased trade and incomes of farmers.

For instance, Alworoceng Producers' Cooperative Society in Apac District, has since registered a 194% increase in traded volumes of produce since project inception to 183.6 metric tonnes up from 62.4 metric tonnes in 2019 after being linked to large processors and off-takers.

DINU key implementing partners

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	DISTRICTS COVERED
SECTOR 1: FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOODS	
OPM-PMU	All 41 DINU beneficiary districts
United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)	All 41 DINU beneficiary districts. Land specifically, three districts of Apac, Agago and Maracha
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	15 districts: Abim, Adjumani, Amudat, Kaabong, Kole, Moroto, Moyo, Napak, Koboko, Nebbi, Otuke, Omoro, Pader, Yumbe and Zombo
CARE-Denmark	10 districts: Abim, Amudat, Karenga, Katakwi, Kaabong, Kotido, Moroto, Nabilatuk, Nakapiripirit and Napak
CARITAS Switzerland	Six districts: Agago, Amuru, Nebbi, Omoro, Pakwach and Zombo
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (ITTA)	Seven districts: Amolatar, Amuria, Apac, Dokolo, Kapelebyong, Kwanja and Otuke
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Nine districts: Adjumani, Arua, Lamwo, Koboko, Madi-Okollo, Maracha, Moyo, Obongi and Yumbe
National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO)	Eight districts: Alebtong, Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Kole, Nwoya, Pader and Oyam
SECTOR 2: INFRASTRUCTURE	
Transport	Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA)
	Four districts: Adjumani, Amuru, Gulu and Moyo
	UNCDF
	Four districts: Amudat, Adjumani, Abim and Moyo
Logistics	DFID/ Trademark East Africa
	Gulu (All DINU beneficiary districts)
Water	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
	Five districts: Amudat, Kaabong, Karenga, Kotido and Moroto
Energy	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
	One: Lamwo District
SECTOR 3: GOOD GOVERNANCE	
OMP-Baraza	Five districts: Amuria, Moroto, Pader, Oyam and Zombo
Uganda Police Force (UPF)	Nine districts: Abim, Amudat, Kaabong, Karenga, Kotido, Moroto, Nabilatuk, Nakapiripirit and Napak
UNCDF	18 districts: Abim, Adjumani, Agago, Amudat, Amolatar, Amuria, Kapelebyong, Kole, Lamwo, Moroto, Moyo, Napak, Obongi, Omoro, Otuke, Pader, Yumbe and Zombo
ADOL Health Care Initiative	Two districts: Abim and Nakapiripirit
Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)	Two districts: Koboko and Maracha
DIAKONIA- Sweden	Two districts: Alebtong and Amolatar
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)	Two districts: Amuria, Arua, Gulu, Lira, Moroto and Napak

Compiled by Isaiah Kitimbo

BRIEF FACTS ABOUT MAPE

- Action Name:** Multi Annual Programme Expenditure, implemented by OPM
- DINU Specific Objective:** SO1- Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods & SO3 - Good Governance/Service Delivery
- Total Grant Budget:** UGX 25.6 Billion
- EU Commitment amount:** UGX 25.5 Billion
- Partners contribution/co-financing:** UGX 50 Million
- Disbursement rate by September 2022:** 71%
- Start and End Date:** 16th August 2018 to 31st December 2023
- Number and names of districts/sub-region(s) covered:** 41 districts - All 38 districts in West Nile, Acholi, Lango and Karamoja. Three districts in Teso namely Amuria, Katakwi and Kapelebyong
- Partner MDAs/other implementing partners:** OPM, Uganda Police Force (UPF), Makerere University and MAAIF, and eight Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) institutions in Northern Uganda: Adraa Agriculture College, Amelo Technical Institute, Amugo Agro Technical Institute, Lokopio Hills Technical Institute, Northern Uganda Youth Development Centre, Kotido Technical Institute, Ave Maria Technical Institute, and Nakapiripirit Technical Institute.

Compiled by Pamela Kabahesi



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