



UGANDA FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES

SIX YEARS OF GROWTH (2012-2017)



SUPPORTED BY





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CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT



Mr. Henry Nsereko
CEO, Volunteer
Efforts for Development
Concerns
(VEDCO)

Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) have an enormous task of facilitating the agricultural transformation process in Uganda. As a result of policy reforms over the past decade, agricultural extension services in the country have moved away from being solely publicly provided to pluralism characterised by increasing participation by the private sector, civil society, and farmers' organizations.

This major shift not only brought many innovations and accomplishments, but also needs and challenges. Unlike other professions, AEAS lacked a forum that facilitates networking, experience sharing, professional accountability and identification of common solutions to challenges faced.

The Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) was launched in May 2011. UFAAS brings together all the providers and actors not only to promote sound AEAS provision, but also to conduct lobbying, advocacy and marketing of the work that they do in the country.

I welcome you to explore the journey that UFAAS has taken since it was established. In 2012, UFAAS launched its first five-year strategic plan which was put together by the Interim Committee through wide consultations, under the leadership of Ass. Prof. Margaret Mangheni who also chaired the committee in the interim period.

During the past six years, funds were invested under the five thematic areas; Institutional Development; Networking and Information sharing; Capacity Development; Professionalizing AEAS in Uganda; and Lobbying and advocacy. I believe the ground covered over the years has laid a firm foundation for UFAAS to deliver on its mandate.

In the next five years (2018-2018) UFAAS will build on the past successes to strengthen UFAAS at the institutional level, with par-

ticular emphasis on deepening its presence at the regional and districts levels, membership growth, and sustainability; creating value for different stakeholder categories; creating more opportunities for sharing and networking; innovation and capacity building as well as supporting MAAIF in professionalization of AEAS; but also continue to pursue overall improvement of AEAS environment in the country.

I wish to acknowledge the support of our umbrella body, the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS) during the interim period and throughout the past six years; our line ministry and the Directorate of Agricultural Extension Services (DAES); the Development Partners; the UFAAS Board and Focal Desk and all UFAAS members and AEAS actors for the support rendered during the past six years.

As your counterpart in the struggle for socio-economic transformation and welfare of Ugandans through a thriving agricultural sector, I take this rare opportunity to invite you yet again to partner with us in creating the world of agricultural extension services that we want to see in our country.

Henry Nsereko
.....

CEO'S STATEMENT



Mrs. Beatrice Luzobe
CEO, UFAAS

Having a forum that brings together all Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) actors and stakeholders in Uganda is gradually becoming a reality. Unlike their counterparts in research and academia, and other professionals, AEAS actors lacked a single forum that could bring them together to share information and experiences, engage in capacity building and advocate for an enabling environment.

Consequently, the Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory services (UFAAS), conceptualized in 2011 to link AEAS actors at national, continental and international levels. At the national level, UFAAS works very closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), especially on issues related to operationalizing the pluralistic extension system in this country. This is to ensure quality of our extension system.

At the continental level, UFAAS is a country chapter of AFAAS which currently holds the mandate for overseeing AEAS, under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of the Africa Union (AU).

The membership of a country fora, like UFAAS, is composed of AEAS professionals from the different sectors of Agriculture, namely public, civil society organizations, private companies, professional associations, farmer's organizations, plus the media. This makes UFAAS a formidable force in the development of agriculture in this country.

It is my prayer that this organization in which I have served in different capacities (as a member of a Technical working Group (TWG), Secretary, Focal Point person and now Chief Executive officer (CEO), grows to be the legally recognized body for AEAS professionals in Uganda.

Beatrice Luzobe

THE STRATEGIC DIRECTION (2012-2017)

VISION

UFAAS vision is “Quality AEAS effectively contributing to agricultural development in Uganda”

MISSION

To promote an effective, efficient and innovative AEAS system through advocacy, capacity building, information sharing and increased professional development among AEAS actors in Uganda.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To establish and sustain an effective platform for Advisory Agricultural Services in Uganda;
2. To promote professional development, information sharing and networking among AEAS actors;
3. To build capacity of Agricultural Advisory Services systems in the provision of innovative and client-orientated services;
4. To promote professionalism and ethical conduct in AEAS systems in Uganda;
5. To advocate and lobby for an enabling environment for Agricultural Advisory and Extension Services in

CORE VALUES

- Integrity,
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Ethical conduct
- Professionalism
- Teamwork
- Gender sensitivity
- Farmer-Centred

THEMATIC AREAS

I. Institutional Strengthening of UFAAS

Setting up an institutional framework at national and regional levels in Uganda that will support all the other components.

II. Networking and Information Sharing

Promoting information exchange and shared learning by creating mechanisms that facilitate networking, information generation and sharing, and professional interaction among AAS providers and other actors in Uganda.

III. Capacity Development

Working with partners to ensure access by members to resources and opportunities for training, innovation and recognition.

IV. Professionalizing AEAS System in Uganda

Promotion and enforcement of professionalism and ethical conduct among members through standards, platforms for professional exchange and offering resources and opportunities towards this target.

V. Advocacy and Lobbying

Contributing to the creation of an enabling environment for efficient and effective provision of AEAS through promoting visibility of AEAS, influencing policy and value proposition in Uganda.



Members of the current board and focal desk staff

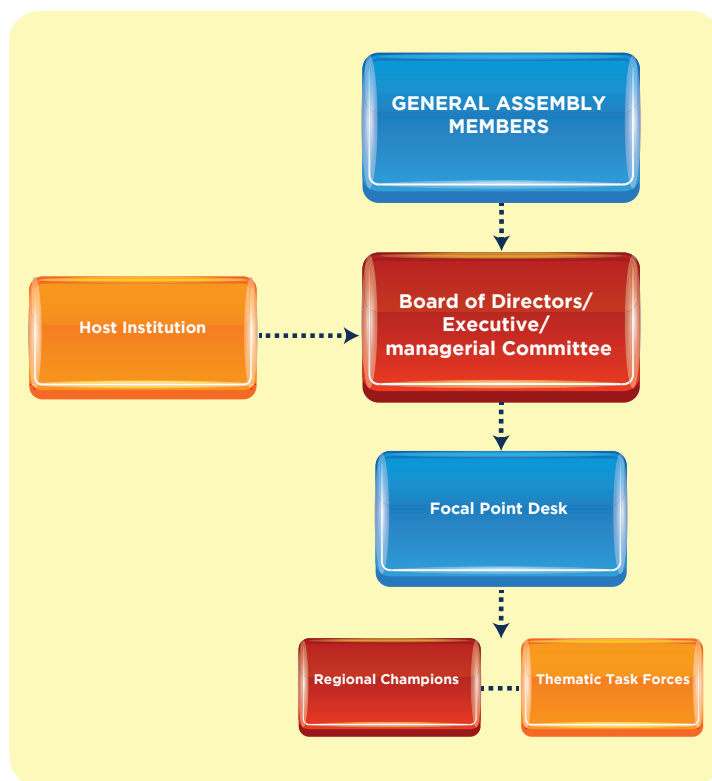
GOVERNANCE

Interim Board Committee (2011-2015)

Ass. Prof. Mangheni Margaret (PhD), Chairperson (Academia)|Mr. Mwendya Augustine, Vice Chairperson (Farmer Organization Rep)|Mr. Galiwango Samuel, Member (Academia)|Ms. Beatrice Luzobe, Secretary (Private Sector)|Dr. Sentubwe Juliet, Treasurer (Public sector)|Mr. Alaco Francis, Local Government Rep.| Dr. Ojok Rita, Civil Society Rep.|Mr. Ajungo Peter, Local G Rep.|Mr. Aben Charles, NAADS Rep.|Dr. Mugisha Anthony (PhD), Academia|Ms. Babirye. Grace, Civil Society Rep.|Dr. Weisheit Anke (PhD), Private Sector Rep.|Mr. Obenen Moses, Farmer Organization Rep.

Current Board of Directors (2016 to date)

Mr. Henry Nsereko, Chairperson (Civil Society)|Ass. Prof. Mangheni Margaret (PhD), Vice Chairperson (Academia)|Mr. Galiwango Samuel, Secretary General (Academia)|Titus Kisauzi, Vice Secretary (Private sector)|Ms. Beatrice Luzobe, (CEO) (Private Sector)|Ms. Roselyne Nyamutale, Treasurer (Civil Society)|Dr. Patience Rwigisa (PhD), MAAIF Rep. |Dr. Richard Miiro (PhD), Academia Rep.|Mr. Grace Musimami, Media Rep.|Steve Hodges, Private sector Rep.|Godfrey Mayambala, Farmer Organisation Rep.|Olive Nabiryo, Youth Rep(Civil Society)|Mr. Perez Kawumi, Farmer Organization Rep.|Ms. Babirye. Grace, Civil Society Rep.



UFAAS governance structure



The Interim committee that led to the establishment of UFAAS as we know it today.

THE HISTORY OF UFAAS

The Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) was launched in May 2011 as the official country chapter of the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS). As the umbrella network organisation for AEAS in Africa, AFAAS has the mandate to implement the AEAS aspects of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). CAADP is an Africa owned and led initiative working to boost agricultural productivity in Africa under the New Partnership for Africa's Development programme (NEPAD).

UFAAS was born out of an AFAAS initiated process of engaging with AAS stakeholders in Uganda in a bid to facilitate emergence of Country Forums (CFs) across the continent. During the process, the organizational and institutional status of AAS stakeholders was assessed in terms of various aspects including affiliation to relevant professional platforms. The assessment found out that while there were several professional networks related to Agriculture and Veterinary, none was embracing all the AAS actors in Uganda. Consequently this led to the birth of the Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) to provide a platform for bringing together a wide range of actors (both institutions and individuals) involved in Agricultural Advisory Services (AAS) in Uganda. These include: i) public and local government extension system at the different administrative levels, ii) Academic institutions involved in training Agricultural Advisory Service providers iii) the private sector organizations involved

in AAS, iv) agricultural media promoting AAS and v) farmers' organizations.

Prior to the launch of the forum in May 2011, sensitisation and awareness raising among all the categories of stakeholders was done and an interim committee was put in place by the AAS stakeholders who participated. The committee was charged with ensuring that the forum is registered as a legal entity in Uganda.

The strategic planning and constitution making processes were initiated in June 2011. As part of the strategic planning process, the stakeholders frequently met to discuss and formulate the first strategic plan of the newly formed Forum. In January 2013 UFAAS attained legal status as a non-for-profit organization.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements at a glance

- Legal entity registered in 2013 with a governance structure, constitution and representative board
- A vibrant Focal Desk housed at the AFAAS Secretariat in Uganda
- Over 200 AEAS actors at national and regional levels successfully mobilized and sensitized members.
- Over 70 fully paid up members by end of 2017
- Engaged over 500 actors within and outside the country via different networking and information sharing forums
- Contributed to enhancing the capacity of Extension workers, university students and farmer organization leaders
- Offered technical support in the drafting of Guidelines and Standards, Ethical Code of Conduct and the Procedures for Registration and Accreditation of AEAS providers in the country
- Engaged relevant stakeholders at policy level and provided leadership in the planning and formulation of the National Agricultural Extension Policy (NAEP) and other documents
- Engaged actors in actors in a dialogue on emerging AEAS issues
- Published position papers and declarations in the media and various platforms.

Institutional Development

As a legal entity, UFAAS has made effort to put in place requisite structures and systems to enable it run in accordance with the law, as well as manage its business effectively and efficiently.

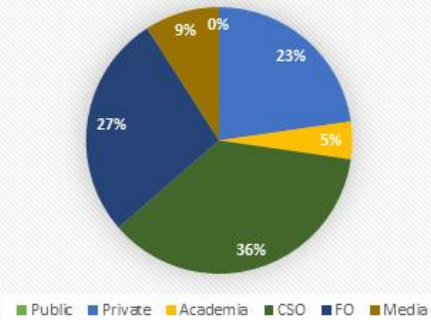
The UFAAS Board meets regularly to oversee and direct the business of the forum and Annual General Meetings (AGM) have been consistently held for purposes of transparency and accountability.

In order to build credibility among partners, UFAAS has established a robust financial management and accounting system and is compliant with the National Taxation Policy.

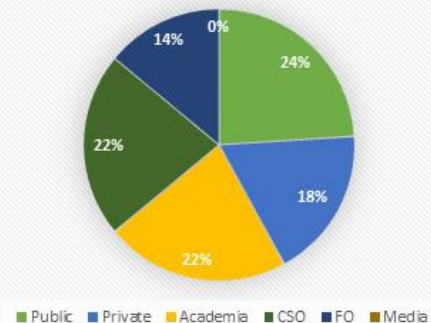
UFAAS is blessed with a vibrant Focal Desk hosted at the AFAAS Secretariat in Kampala and has successfully mobilized and sensitized AEAS actors at national and regional levels. At the close of 2017 UFAAS had registered 72 fully paid up members.

UFAAS has also deliberately reached out to key AEAS stakeholders to leverage synergies in areas of common interest. The signing of an MOU with the Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) to support the ministry in implementing a number of activities affirmed UFAAS' position as a relevant entity to the AEAS fraternity in the country.

Institutional Membership



Individual Membership



Participants of the last UFAAS Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 23rd November 2017 at Mosa Courts apartment, Kampala



Mr Nantatya Bazalaki, DAO Iganga district and the UFAAS CEO sharing over a radio talk show hosted by a radio station in Iganga district

Professional Networking and Sharing

The absence of a common platform for AEAS professionals in the country to exchange information and engage in shared learning was a key driver in the establishment of UFAAS. To this end, UFAAS has been instrumental in organizing activities to engage actors in networking, information generation and sharing through both virtual and physical platforms. Through virtual platforms including UFAAS website (www.ufaas-ugandacf.org), the AFAAS platform, WhatsApp, and Facebook platforms, stakeholders are kept up-to-date with upcoming events, news and available opportunities such as employment opportunities from affiliate organisations and members have been able to keep in touch with each other for ideas.

Through the different channels, over 500 actors within and outside the country have been engaged. Through a workshop organized in collaboration with the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS), UFAAS started a process of documenting home-grown innovative AEAS approaches with the aim of popularizing the approaches and scaling their adoption. During the process 14 innovative approaches were documented.

In order to create greater awareness of UFAAS and her mandate among AEAS actors and the general public, UFAAS has worked hand in hand with the media at national and regional levels to share critical issues related to AEAS. Several articles were printed in various newspapers such as the Farmers' Media and regional radio-talk shows held on radio stations including Endigito Radio in

Mbarara and Lango Radio in Lira. During the talk shows stakeholders were sensitized on about the forum and its engagements including professionalism and the INGEN-AES project.

In addition, UFAAS on several occasions had the opportunity of showcasing her activities at both National and international levels. At the national Level, UFAAS and member organisations participated in the Annual National Agricultural shows and World Food day. At the continental Level UFAAS participated in the 3rd Symposium in Ghana and in the annual Africa Extension Week events that were hosted in Botswana, Ethiopia and South Africa. Various MAAIF officials and other UFAAS members were sponsored to the last AFAAS Extension Week that took place in Durban.

The Durban Declaration and previous declarations from similar events have been instrumental in informing the national extension discourse. In particular, the Durban Declaration was locally adapted, multiplied and widely shared among AEAS stakeholders. At the international level UFAAS was also represented in various events organised by the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) in Nairobi, Philippines and Cameroon; as well as in a recent workshop on Revitalizing Extension which took place in December 2017.



Members who participated in the MEAS Write shop for creating extension training for university courses and in-service training



AEAS stakeholders at the launch of the professionalisation documents.

Capacity Development

At the outset UFAAS committed to identifying the capacity needs of her members and to link them to various capacity development opportunities to keep them up-to-date with the emerging demands and trends in the sector. Over the years, UFAAS in collaboration with partners was able to leverage support for capacity development of stakeholders at secretariat level, national and local levels.

The UFAAS Focal Desk obtained insights from the 7th GFRAS Annual Meeting in Limbe Cameroon on new concepts including Agripreneurship from RAS point of view; the FAO Gender and Rural Advisory Services Tool (GRAST); the Organizational Capacity assessment (skills and template) and the New Extensionist Learning Tool to guide UFAAS interventions.

The more elaborate capacity development engagements for UFAAS members at the national and local levels were leveraged through the AFAAS-European Union (EU) Innovation Grant and the Integrating Gender & Nutrition in Agricultural Extension Services (INGENAES) project implemented in partnership with University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) in United States and funded by USAID. Other capacity building engagements included a capacity needs assessment for AEAS actors; trainings, sensitization meetings and talks on selected topical issues including the CAADP Science Agenda, the GMO debate, Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), innovation platforms, the “New Extensionist”, and FID.

Professionalization of AEAS

UFAAS is committed to promoting professionalism, ethical conduct and adherence to standard practice among AEAS providers in the country in order to improve the quality of the service and to boost its public image.

With resources from USAID’s Feed the Future Enabling

Environment for Agriculture Activity under the UFAAS-MAAIF MOU, UFAAS supported the ministry in the drafting of three key national documents which was a critical step towards achieving professionalization of AEAS in the country. The documents included 1) Guidelines and Standards for the AEAS system in Uganda; 2) Ethical Code of Conduct for AEAS providers and 3) Procedures for Registration and Accreditation of AEAS providers. The documents were officially launched by the Ministry in September 2017.

An important next step is to sensitize AEAS actors and stakeholders, including the general public, on the content of the documents and to put in place the necessary mechanisms and instruments to enforce the ethics, standards and registration and accreditation procedures.

Lobbying and Advocacy

UFAAS has a noble responsibility of contributing towards the long term improvement of the policy environment and overall working conditions of AEAS providers in the country to give the service the respect and treatment it deserves. In pursuit of this, UFAAS has proactively established strategic partnerships to facilitate engagement with government and other actors. This was achieved through public dialogues and influencing policy by developing and publishing evidence-based position papers on trending AEAS issues in media.

During the agricultural extension reform process which finally led to the formulation of the current National Agricultural Extension Policy (NAEP) and the National Agricultural Extension Strategy (NAES), UFAAS was part of the Technical Working Group (TWG) which provided leadership for the process and participated in the stakeholders’ consultations and NAEP validation meetings.

Further lobbying and advocacy will be needed to ensure that the legal framework for implementing the standards, ethics and registration and accreditation procedures for AEAS providers in the country are in place and in operation, in addition to making significant progress in other long standing issues affecting the service.

CASE STORIES OF PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

The AFAAS-EU innovation grant

Through UFAAS, seven (7) member organisations were awarded sub-grants worth \$10,000 after assessment of their capacity to implement the proposed projects. The sub-grants were aimed at addressing key issues in agriculture by identifying, strengthening and/or scaling out of feasible innovations. The key issues included the low involvement of youth in agriculture, negative impact of climate change on agriculture, scaling the use of ICTs in extension, enhancing food security and nutrition in farming households, and high Post-Harvest losses.

Engaging youth in agriculture

Putting schools at the centre of promoting youth engagement in agriculture: *The case of Gayaza High School.*

Pioneered by Mr. Ronald Ddungu, a teacher in Gayaza High School (GHS), the School Agricultural Innovation Platform (SAIP) is an arrangement where students are imparted with basic practical agricultural skills and interact with other identified relevant actors to passionately share their experiences with the communities around the school, in their respective home areas and beyond. These skills are also integrated into other subjects (including sciences, mathematics, ICT and humanities) in a practical way, to enhance problem-based learning.

The sub-grant facilitated Gayaza High School to re-design, test and document the model for scaling up and out. Through Annual School Camps organized by the school with the support of FAO and other partners, the model is progressively being scaled to other schools

By 2017, 15 secondary schools had already adopted the model. In addition, the Ministry of Education and Sports was lobbied and discussions are underway to roll out the idea to Primary, Secondary and Parent Teachers Colleges (PTCs). The model is also being benchmarked with similar ones identified in other countries

The steps for establishing a SAIP:

1. Inception stage
2. Formation of the school farmers' club
3. Stakeholder engagement by the school farmers' club
4. Teaching and skilling of the members
5. Community outreach
6. Market development

The issue

Youth are not usually attracted to agriculture as a primary income generating activity for a number of reasons including: limited access to and control of resources and benefits thereof; limited knowledge and skills in production, business and marketing, in addition to the drudgery and uncertainties associated with the trade. Attracting youth to sectors therefore requires the deliberate effort of actors.



Students of Gayaza high school excited about their harvest. They sell the harvest to the school, their parents and surrounding community.

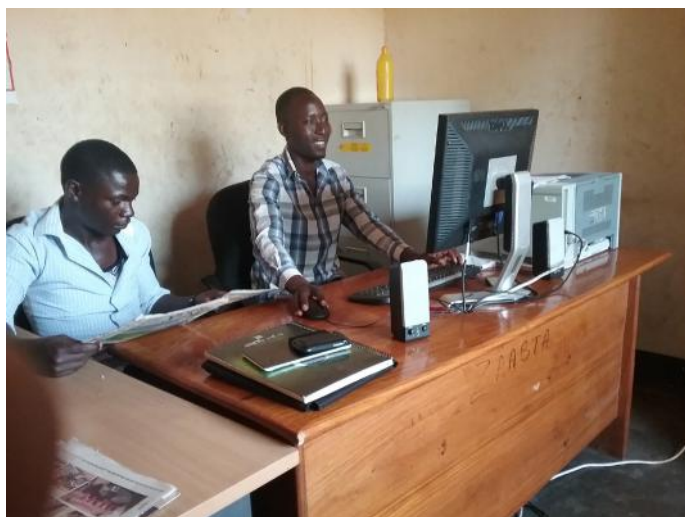
Engaging youth in agriculture through paid production support services and profitable farming ventures: *The case of the Nokia Farming Agricultural Innovation Platform (NOFAIP)*

The Nokia Farming Agricultural Innovation Platform (NOFAIP) is an affiliate of the Zirowe Agaliawamu Agribusiness Training Association (ZAABTA), a Farmers Organization established with the support of Sasakawa Global 2000. The youth on the platform are equipped with various production skills and prepared to offer quality agricultural production support services to farmers at a cost. NOFAIP's services are already proving to be useful to farm owners by minimizing losses and unnecessary farm expenses.

In order to strengthen the initiative, the sub-grant obtained by NOFAIP was used to procure a motorcycle to ease transportation of the youth and their equipment to the different farm locations; and a computer to facilitate their record keeping.

Beatrice Namusoke, a professional agriculturist in Mukono District had been practicing commercial farming of maize, beans, groundnuts and tree planting since 2010. However, lack of trustworthy and reliable labour had constantly frustrated her efforts due to losses from theft and poor agronomic practices. Her frustration ceased the moment she came into contact with NOFAIP as witnessed by the immediate increase in her groundnut yields. Unlike previously when she experienced work delays and low yields of 9 - 10 bags of un-shelled groundnuts from 2 acres, after contracting NOFAIP's services, she was able to plant 2½ acres in a record 2 days and harvest a record 25bags of unshelled groundnuts. She has never looked back.

since previously they were using bodaboda. The computer has helped the group better organize their records and helped boost the computer skills of the group members and to improve communication and access to information using the internet.



Nokia youth operating the new computer procured using funds from the grant.

With the skills acquired, some of the youths on the platform have gone ahead to establish their own commercial farms and are earning decent incomes from the ventures.

Thirty five year old Nehemiah Bbuule, a NOFAIP youth hailing from a progressive farming family in Luweero District in Uganda had vowed never to return to the farm after graduating from university. This was because during holidays he was made to work very hard on the farm, from morning to evening, in order to earn his school fees. Bbuule fulfilled his wish when after university he got a salaried job which earned him UGX 400,000 (\$ 112) a month. Unfortunately for him, this was just enough for his monthly upkeep, leaving him barely any savings.

On realizing that his monthly salary was only a quarter of what his father was earning from his farming business, he reconsidered his earlier decision and went back home to concentrate on farming. He has since established a passion fruit orchard, a maize garden, and a banana plantation intercropped with cherry tomatoes. He was reportedly earning about UGX 7,000,000 (\$1950) a month, and believed that he could do even much better than his father since he had access to internet and other platforms to further enhance his knowledge and skills.



Beatrice posing in one of her plantations worked by the Nokia Youth

The motorcycle has enabled the NOFAIP youth to become even more efficient in their work by responding faster to the needs of their clients and making savings on transport

Household food, nutrition and income security

Multiple benefits of kitchen gardens inspire farming communities

In the past, vegetable kitchen gardens have been commonly promoted among women more as a way of improving household nutrition than of generating household income. This paradigm was challenged by farmers of Tororo District Farmers' Association (TODIFA) in Rubongi and Osukuru Sub-counties.

With funds from the AFAAS-EU grant, three farmers groups (Teete group, Sanyuka women's group and Michiberi group) received training in improved agricultural practices and nutrition; and demo-garden kits including: one bag of Orange Fleshed Sweet potato (OFSP) vines; 3kg of iron-rich bean seeds and a tin of sukuma wiki seeds each.

The harvest from sukuma wiki and sweet potato boosted household sauce and food, relieving the pressure of household demands by reducing daily expenses, in addition to generating some income. Some of the groups had saved up to UGX 50,000/= from the sale of sukuma to neighbors. Part of the money collected was used by the group to hire a spray pump and some money was set aside to buy seedlings for the following season; and at household level proceeds were used for buying other food stuffs such as cooking oil.

For many this was new because previously they used to depend on neighbors for vegetables but were now producing their own and instead could afford to help others in need. Some of the children who had obtained kitchen gardening skills had set up their own gardens to generate their side incomes.



The host farmer Sanyuka farmers' group proudly shows off a mulched pumpkin irrigated with mineral water bottles in her kitchen garden

The issue

Food, nutrition and income security at household level are normally hindered by pest and disease damage; lack of proper nutrition knowledge coupled with poor food distribution; and post-harvest losses due to lack of appropriate storage facilities. This often forces households to sell most of their produce at poor prices, leaving for themselves little and often poor quality food.

With the knowledge on nutrition, the members have since appreciated the new variety of sweet potato for its nutritional value and the need to include various food stuffs in a meal so as to have balanced diets for all household members.

This new perspective to kitchen gardening is helping farmers appreciate the multiple benefits of the gardens. Using the knowledge and skills obtained, several households were already adopting the practice of planting a variety of crops of different food value, going beyond what the project had provided them to include fruits and other types of vegetables to their gardens. The assortment of crops include sukuma, jobyo, egg plants, pineapples, cassava, dodo, pumpkins, beans and fruits.

“

I used to get vegetables from other homes but now i have my own eggplants, dodo and can afford to help others with some vegetables unlike before
Justine Wadunde

Local stockists ease smallholder farmers' access to Post Harvest Management (PHM) innovations in Apac district

As a follow-up of training on improved post-harvest handling (PHH) techniques, Volunteer Efforts for Development Concern (VEDCO), secured the AFAAS-EU sub-grant to support farmers in Apac to access improved PHM innovations. One of the beneficiaries Purenkwon Farmers Group in Apac sub-county received a demo-kit of the PHH technologies including tarpaulins and PICS bags. These were made available through a local stockist at subsidized prices of UGX 8,000 and 40,000, respectively. Silos for higher storage capacity were also provided for demonstration purposes. The initiative was intended to encourage members to buy the technologies which would ensure sustainability and scalability of the technologies as opposed to being given freely.

Previously, members used local methods such as drying of produce on an open ground smeared with cow dung, and storage of maize on the floor which often led to high food contamination and loss. After the exposure, over 100 members had bought tarpaulins and PICS bags.



Farmers of Sanyuka farmers group displaying the traditional dung-smeared floor method formally used for drying grain in northern Uganda

However, members requested the PICS bags to be further subsidized to UGX 5000/= and complained that the silo (500kg) price of UGX 230,000 was too high. There were prospects of the district and VEDCO officials to identify and work with a local artisan to fabricate the silos in a bid to bring the price down.

“

I used to dry my maize on the dung-smeared ground and store it on the bare floor which led contamination of the food which can cause infections. The evidence from the Lab tests convinced me turn from using the traditional methods, so that i could have safe food.



The VEDCO field coordinator and the host farmer of sanyuka farmers group explaining to visitors how the PICS bag works



Display of maize being dried off the ground using a tarpauline as an improved PHM practice by members of the Sanyuka farmers group.

“

Using the tarpaulin to dry grain is easy and convenient because when the rain is coming all I need to do is to cover the grain quickly unlike before when I had to collect it and carry it away which was labor intensive and at times the grain would get significantly wet” Sarah Omara

Adapting to climate change

Empowering youth through climate-smart fruit farming and effective pest & disease control

Teso Tropical Fruit Co-operative Union LTD (TEFCU)

Many farmers in the Teso region in Eastern Uganda grow oranges as a commercial venture and the plants have numerous pests and diseases that attack them and tremendously reduce their yield.

Originally, farmers under the Teso Fruit Farmers' Co-operative Union (TEFCU) were using the ordinary hand pumps to spray the trees. These were tedious because for tall trees a farmer would only spray around 20 trees, but not very efficiently. Secondly the raising of seedlings in the adverse weather of Teso region was a big challenge.

Since 2016, TEFCU has received two sub-grants worth \$20,000, from the European Union sub-Grant through AFAAS and UFAAS, which assisted in the acquisition of 20 motorized pumps for members in Soroti District and establishment of tree-nurseries for 2 Youths groups in Serere and districts.

The pumps have greatly improved field operations of the beneficiary farmers in the pilot sub county because one motorized pump is capable of spraying the whole tree in a short time. A farmer can spray about 100 trees in a day. Due to effective and efficient pest and disease control, the yields jumped from half a bag (before the intervention) to 3 bags (after), per tree per season. For food security, the farmers are encouraged to interplant the orange plantations with food crops and buy other food items they can't grow.

The 2 nurseries that were established on the principle of youth agri-preneurship were sited at locations near water to address the losses incurred during the prolonged droughts of the Teso region. Out of the \$10,000 assessed for the project, TEFCU facilitated the youth groups with about \$2,399 for purchase and raising of seedlings of Eucalyptus, Terminalia, Pine, Gravelia, Sesbania, Calliandra, Teak and Citrus for sale. The table below shows a simple cost-benefit analysis of this investment. If the youths owning the nurseries re-invest at least half of the money from the sales they will be able to expand, attract serious customers and realize more income.



One of TEFCU members posing near a commercial fruit tree nursery.

Description	Nursery Location		Total
	Serere	Kaberaido	
District	Serere	Kaberaido	
Estimated money invested (US\$)	1,225	1,174	2,399
Number of seedlings transplanted	26,500	32,500	59,000
Average seedlings Surviving	21,385	29,180	50,565
Average Sale cost/ seedling (US\$)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Estimated sale amount (US\$)	4,307	5,877	10,183
Average return on investment	2	3	2.5

Scaling up the use of ICTs in extension

The case of m-Omulimisa



Godfrey Serwadda a beneficiary of m-Omulimisa displaying a pesticide sample and the phone he uses to access the m-Omulimisa service.

The number of extension workers in many rural areas in the country is quite limited. This is not different for Ngogwe sub-county, Buikwe district in Central Uganda. However, this story is changing with the introduction of m-Omulimisa, an agricultural Application that links farmers to agricultural information.

The sub-grant received was used to upscale the application to serve new communities. Through a World Vision, Uganda workshop conducted at Kikwayi Primary School, m-Omulimisa was introduced to the Ngogwe community. Godfrey Sserwadda is a beneficiary of the application. He no longer has to wait for an extension worker on the ground to get answers to some of his farming challenges. With this option, all he does now is to send his question to 8228 and wait for a response.

For instance, when his sugarcane garden was infested with Sugarcane stalk borer, he was advised to apply the right pesticide after cutting down the canes so that they could sprout afresh or uproot and burn the canes if it persisted. He also applied advice from m-Omulimisa to curb the Fall Army Worm (FAW) which had attached his maize.

“

M-Omulimisa has helped me a lot. When my maize was still very young before it even flowered, it was attacked by the Fall Army Worm but I sprayed with a chemical I got to know through m-omulimisa and you can see it is healthy and has put on good cobs”.

Godfrey Sserwadda

The Integrating Gender & Nutrition in Agricultural Extension Services (INGENAES) project

Through an MOU, UFAAS in partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) set out in September 2016 to implement the two-year INGENAES project with a grant worth of \$154,762, funded by the USAID-led Presidential Feed the Future initiative. The project aimed to 1) enhance gender and nutrition (G&N) awareness within the communities through action oriented learning and capacity development; 2) support public sector extension strategy in integrating nutrition and gender; 3) create a robust G&N community of practice; and 4) provide training and mentoring opportunities for young professionals. The four main components of the project were: Farmer Based Organisations (FBOs); Extension officers, INGENAES Fellows and the Community of Practice (CoP).

Summary of outputs:

- ▲ 31 FBOs trained in the integration of G&N
- ▲ Simple ToT farmer training materials developed
- ▲ 85 (33 women and 52 men) Extension Workers trained
- ▲ G&N CoP created
- ▲ 2 PhD and 9 MSc. Fellows supported

Farmer Based Organizations

James Muhangi, Business Manager at Rubanga Cooperative Society in Mitooma District, Western Region is a beneficiary of INGENAES training. James attended a core training session that covered concepts of nutrition, gender and agri-business tools (including how to conduct a Rapid Market Assessment – RMA -- for nutrition-sensitive crops and activities) and was inspired by the business value of adding a high nutrition value crop to Rubanga's existing enterprise mix.

Post training, James mobilized a team to conduct an RMA to identify high value crops that are also have a high nutritional content. His team conducted market surveys through focus groups with farmers and weighed options that would support systematic marketing gains. Based on the results of the RMA, the Rubanga group added dry beans into their existing enterprise mixture of coffee and maize. James' involvement with INGENAES has since increased since the RMA. He was a participant of the write shop to develop training material for the FBOs on gender and nutrition.

Okony Joseph, chairperson of Yelekeni Rural Producer Cooperative in Kiryandongo district and a beneficiary of the gender and nutrition trainings was inspired to revise the cooperative's business plan to include gender and nutrition. Because of the need to improve household nutrition among different members of the group, they were able to present a business plan for soya bean and poultry production to International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and Child Fund.

Consequently, IITA supported them with seeds of soya beans while Child Fund supported them with 120 chickens which will be distributed for multiplication at household level. Using the knowledge obtained, Okony had also started influencing household dynamics, with cases of increasing household joint planning between husbands and wives, increased agricultural production, reduced family conflicts, and increased participation of women in marketing.

Public extension workers

An active participant during the INGENAES project trainings, Bazalaki Nantatya, the District Agricultural Officer of Iganga district has since leveraged the skills obtained from the trainings in the coordination of the Uganda Multi-Sectoral Food Security and Nutrition Project being implemented in the district with World Bank funds.

He has thus resorted to training on the value of women empowerment throughout the agricultural value chain instead of just including women in groups. "Our primary entry point for the project is schools where we demonstrate to students how to set up kitchen gardens and we hope this will be transferred to their respective homes," he asserts.

“

Most women in Iganga are marginalized throughout the agricultural value chain and our original solution was just to implement affirmative action but I realised that people's mind-sets were not changing

Bazalaki Nantatya, DAO Iganga District

INGENAES Fellows



Since her training with the INGENAES project, Dorcus Alowo, one of the INGENAES Fellows and a now a graduate student of Gulu University has developed the ability to analyse community situations through a gender lens. As a an assistant lecturer at Gulu University she is meticulous in helping her students to correctly apply gender tools in identifying issues related to food security and other aspects in communities. She partly attributes a fellowship she recently won to the gender knowledge and awareness she acquired during the INGENAES trainings.

“

I was fortunate to be selected for a one-month fellowship, which was probably due to my strength in the gender and nutrition components as I which I ably articulated in the application letter

Dorcus Alowo, INGENAES fellow.

The Community of Practice (CoP)



Having participated in most of the gender and nutrition trainings, Dr. Saverino Nuwasii-ima the District Veterinary officer of Mitooma District also became an active participant of the Community of Practice (CoP). He has since let go of his earlier perception that agricultural extension was only about training on crop and animal husbandry to embrace the reality that gender and nutrition are among the key issues that affect the effectiveness of agricultural extension. He has also attained skills and knowledge on ICT use in agriculture, climate change and how these affect gender and nutrition.

“

I have been able to learn from my peers in the gender and nutrition trainings and also through the CoP online platform (Whatsapp).”

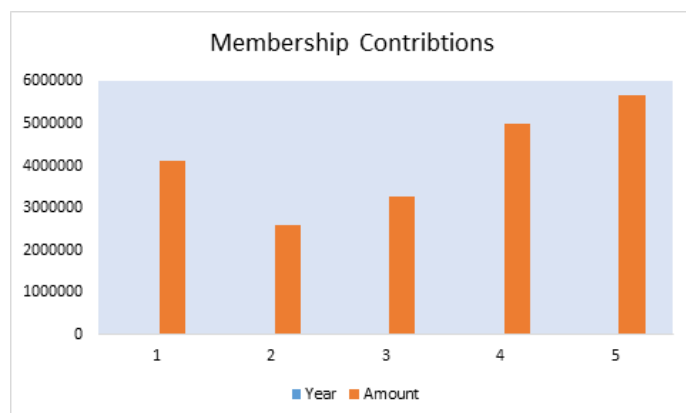
Dr. Saverino Nuwasii-ima, DVO Mitooma district

FINANCIAL SUPPORT 2013-2017

The financial support includes UFAAS internally mobilized funds from members and those obtained from Donors and partners for implementation of particular projects.

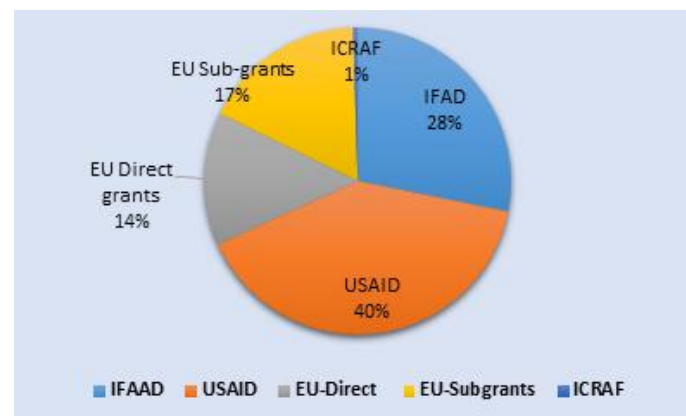
Internal funds

From 2013 to 2017, UFAAS had collected membership and subscription fees to a tune of UGX 20,676,000 (about USD 5,743 by end of 2017). This is still kept on the Uganda Shillings Account No. 01063501318146, DFCU Bank.



External support

UFAAS was able to access a total of USD 399,767 from Donors and partners that have enabled the CF to implement most of the activities in this report



Donor	Amount (USD)
IFAD	112,685
USAID	160,082
EU-Direct grant	56,000
EU-Sub-grants	69,000
ICRAF	2,000
Total	399,767

NEXT STEPS: THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN 2018/22

VISION

“Professional AEAS effectively driving the agricultural revolution in Uganda”

MISSION

“To promote strategic partnerships, advocacy, capacity building, information sharing and interaction among AEAS actors in Uganda”

OBJECTIVES:

1. To enhance professionalism and ethical conduct in AEAS systems in Uganda.
2. To support information sharing and networking among AEAS actors
3. To sustain an effective platform for pluralistic agricultural Advisory Agricultural Services in Uganda
4. To build capacity of Agricultural Advisory Services systems to provide innovative and business orientated services along the agricultural value chains.
5. To catalyze strategic engagements and partnerships aimed at fostering a conducive environment for business oriented inclusive AEAS in Uganda.

CORE VALUES

- Professionalism
- Integrity & Transparency
- Accountability ½
- Equity & inclusiveness
- Partnerships & Engagements

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Environmental sustainability
- Resilient agriculture
- Agro-biodiversity
- Gender responsiveness ½
- Business orientation and economic feasibility
- Nutrition sensitivity
- Farmer-centeredness

THEMATIC AREAS

I. Institutional Strengthening of UFAAS

Continue to deepen implementation of the institutional framework at national and regional levels to strengthen the forum and ensure its corporate identity, governance and self- sustainability.

II. Communication, Information and Knowledge Management

Promote information exchange and shared learning by creating mechanisms that facilitate networking, information generation and sharing, and professional interaction among AEAS providers, actors and the general public of Uganda.

III. Capacity Development

Undertake a needs assessment of AEAS providers and stakeholders to tailor-make interventions and linkage to available opportunities through a number of platforms. UFAAS will continue to facilitate training of AEAS actors in selected areas e.g. Media engagement and ICTs; Market-oriented AEAS; G&N; develop job-related mentorship & coaching programs; and promote innovation through competitive (matching) grants.

IV. Professionalizing AEAS in Uganda

Sensitize members and end-users on AEAS standards, ethics and accreditation procedures/other relevant information as well as facilitate access to such materials; promote ethical practice, professionalism and excellence through organizing competitions, regular evaluations of AEAS practice, and awarding/recognizing outstanding individuals/organizations; and support MAAIF in the implementation and enforcement of AEAS regulation measures

V. Advocacy and Lobbying

Proactively engage key actors to promote the recognition and visibility of AEAS as a critical driver for agricultural development; and influence policy and practice in AEAS through generating evidence on emerging and long standing AEAS issues for awareness creation among concerned AEAS stakeholders.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY



MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility: Membership is open to Individuals and Organizations linked to AEAS.

Becoming a Member: Expression of Interest/registration, which can be done via the online membership page (www.ufaas-ugandacf.org) or at the focal desk.

Prescribed membership fees:

FEES PAYMENT

Category	Membership (Ugx)	Annual Sub- scription (Ugx)	Total Pay (1st Year)
Individual (general)	100,000	20,000	120,000
Institution	200,000	100,000	300,000
Undergrad students	20,000	20,000	40,000
MSc. Students	50,000	20,000	70,000
PhD Students	70,000	20,000	90,000

The fees can be paid:

Directly to the UFAAS Focal Desk at the AFAAS Secretariat (Plot 22A Nakasero Road) OR

Deposited in the names of: Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services

Bank: DFCU

Account Numbers:

01063501318146 (Ugx); or 02063501318164 (USD).

Scan the pay slip and e-mail to UFAAS. For upcountry members, a scanned copy of the receipt will be sent after confirming payment

For more information

UFAAS Focal Desk

C/O AFAAS Secretariat, Plot 22B, Nakasero Rd
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Email: ufaas2013@gmail.com

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