



UFAAS QUARTERLY UPDATE

JANUARY-MARCH 2017



INTRODUCTION

Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) is a forum that brings together a wide range of actors involved in Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) in Uganda, which include; the Public, Academia, Private, Civil Society, Farmer Organizations, Donor Community and the Media. UFAAS was launched in May 2011 and officially registered in Uganda in 2013 as a Country Chapter of the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS), which is also the host institution of the forum in Uganda. AFAAS is the umbrella network organisation for AEAS in Africa, with the mandate for extension under the African Union. AFAAS itself is the Continental Forum for the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).

UFAAS has a strategic direction aimed at promoting an effective, efficient and innovative AEAS system through; advocacy, capacity development, information sharing and increased professional development among AEAS actors in Uganda. The details can be found at <http://www.ufaas-ugandacf.org/strategic-plan-final.pdf>. UFAAS is governed by a board of Directors, chaired by Mr Henry Nsereko, the Manager of VEDCO (a Civil Society Organization). UFAAS has a network of over 300 AEAS actors. To-date there are 63 paid-up organisations from all agricultural sectors (11 Academia, 11 civil Society, 8 Farmers Organizations, 2 Media, 7 Public sector and 20 private sector). These are represented by 63 (23 F, 40M) members on the General Assembly.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE QUARTER: JAN-MARCH 2017

- ◆ **Quarterly Board Meeting:** UFAAS held its 1st quarterly meeting of the year 2017 on 18th January, 2017. Among the key issues discussed were the: 2016 annual report and approval of the 2017 work plan; INGENAES project (Achievements and Challenges); partnership and work with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF).
- ◆ **MOU with MAAIF:** UFAAS signed an MoU with MAAIF and started the drafting of Extension Guidelines and Standards, Ethical Code of conduct and the procedures for registration and accreditation of AEAS providers in Uganda. The purpose is to establish systematic procedures for regulation of extension services provided by the range of service providers under the pluralistic extension system. The work is sponsored by USAID under the Feed the Future Project.



One of the citrus farming households in Soroti who is benefiting from the motorized pumps for disease control, that were donated under the EU-AFAAS sub-grant to TEFCU.

- ◆ **INGENAES activities :** INGENAES (Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Advisory Services) project continued. The main activities accomplished during the quarter were: Completing tuition payments for 4 fellows in Makerere University and planning with the INGENAES Team for follow-up on the trained Farmer-Based Organizations (FBO) leaders and Community of Practice Meeting. Due to delayed funding, most of the planned activities were not accomplished.
- ◆ **EU field visits:** UFAAS together with the EU team conducted field visits to evaluate the achievements of UFAAS and AFAAS in promoting agricultural development in Uganda. **(see overleaf)**
- ◆ **AFAAS regional work shop:** This brought together all AFAAS Country Fora (CFs) ahead of the extension week to be held in Durban (South Africa). The main objective of the workshop was to reflect and jointly devise strategies for accelerating program implementation. The key issues discussed were: programme implementation, the results Framework and the Annual Work plan 2017, new Strategy 2018-2027 , funding strategies; role of CFs in Extension Week; and innovative pathways for scaling up and out partnership projects'. UFAAS' strategic direction, achievements, key lessons learnt, challenges and way forward were presented.

Participation in Lake Victoria Basin Scientific Conference: Aggrey Siya (INGENAES Project Assistant) attended this Conference in Mwanza-Tanzania and presented a paper titled 'Commercialization of alternative live-stock feeds like cockroaches could save fish stocks. It the recommendations of this research are implemented they can have a direct contribution to gender and nutrition. **(See overleaf)**





Ms. UWAMWIZA Jacqueline (from EU-KAMPALA), in a backyard vegetable garden with one of the farmers visited

Aggrey Siya, the Project Assistant- INGENAES ,who carried out the research below (as part of his academic study)



CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH ON ALTERNATIVE LIVESTOCK FEEDS

A paper titled '*Commercialization of production of non-conventional livestock feeds like cockroaches could save fish stocks*' was presented by Aggrey Siya (UFAAS-NGENAES Project Assistant) during the Lake Victoria Basin Scientific Conference held at Mwanza-Tanzania from 15th-16th, February 2017. The paper advocates for establishment of an enabling environment for production of these feeds through; capacity building and enabling policies for their production.

- ◆ Cockroaches present an opportunity to be used as non-conventional livestock feeds. They have a crude protein concentration of 62% compared to 65% crude protein concentration in fish .and are more resilient to climate change impacts compared to fish.
- ◆ It could reduce exploitation of fish for both human and livestock feeds enabling production of fish for only human consumption which could have a positive impact on community nutrition.
- ◆ Women who are often engaged in disposal of household food wastes could sell the waste and gain household income for purchase of other household needs.

The recommendations of this research , if implemented, have a direct contribution to gender and nutrition through reduction of the competition for fish by livestock and the and increased opportunity for women's income.

European Union Visits UFAAS

European Union, as the major Funder of AFAAS visited some of the UFAAS partners and field locations that have benefited from the direct and indirect support through UFAAS/AFAAS. The four day field trip. The trip was undertaken by Ms. Uwamwiza Jacqueline (EU-KAMPALA), Mr. Max Olupot – AFAAS, Mrs. Beatrice Luzobe UFAAS and Ms. Faith Okiror UFAAS. The selected partners and field locations visited from 27th February to 3rd March, 2017 were:

1. Zirobwe Agaliawamu Agribusiness Training Association (ZAABTA) Farmers Association (under Sasakawa Global 2000) –on the impact of the FARA- IARD training on the One Stop Centre Innovation Platform. Their manager is a UFAAS Board member representing Farmers Associations at the local level.
2. Gayaza High School-The School Agricultural Innovation platform (SAIP)- on a grant that assisted the school to re-design and test agriculture initiatives.
3. e-Omulimisa (online platform that links farmers to extension) in Buikwe-a grant that was received through UFAAS.
4. Bugiri Agribusiness and Institutional Development Association (BAIDA) Farmers Association in Bugiri ((under Sasakawa Global 2000))- They also received a training on integration of Gender and Nutrition within extension by UFAAS.
5. The District Production Officer –Tororo District-a veteran member and Local Government representative on the UFAAS Board.
6. Tororo District Farmers Association (TODIFA) under the Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE) and a veteran member of UFAAS once represented on the board of UFAAS. Also beneficiary of Gender and Nutrition activities.
7. Teso Fruit Farmers' Cooperative Union (TEFCU) - on an EU-AFAAS grant that assisted the association with motorized spray pumps for disease control on Citrus (their main enterprise and enhance cohesion of primary societies.

The field trip provided a good experience on how UFAAS members are working very closely with farmers. Youth engagement was highlighted as key in driving agricultural growth and matching with AFAAS and UFAAS platforms and tools in use.

PLANS FOR 2ND QUARTER (APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2017)

- Continue with INGENAES activities of: Follow-up of FBOs (Farmer Based Organizations), CoP Meeting, Training, facilitating Fellows and Farmers' Materials Development.
- Training of trainers (ToT) and regional meetings on: Climate Change Agriculture, Gender and nutrition within agricultural extension, Youths participation in agriculture, ICT integration with AEAS.
- Regional and national meetings” Capturing issues on integrating Climate Change Agriculture, Gender and nutrition within agricultural extension, Youths participation in agriculture, ICT integration with AEAS.
- Finalizing the ethics and guidelines document for agricultural extension in Uganda.
- Write-shop: Gender and Nutrition Materials for Farmers.

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