Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Danida Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative - NURI NURI Extension 2023



NORTHERN UGANDA RESILIENCE INITIATIVE – EXTENSION 2023

Progress Report - June 2023



Prepared by NURI Coordination Function

July 2023

Summary - NURI Extension to 2023 - DKK 26 M from CCE

Key results:

Results from the original NURI programme will be strengthened and expanded. Moreover, the following results will be achieved:

- More than 15,000 farmer households (750 groups) actively participate in tree growing for climate adaptation and resilience.
- More than 700 acres of tree growing projects will have resilience design and maintenance plans in place

Justification for support:

The DKK 26 M from the climate change envelope will be used to further green the NURI programme, ensure that its benefits streams will continue beyond the programme's duration, and inform the design of the planned follow-up programme. The proposed intervention will thus target refugees and host communities in Northern Uganda where the impact of climate change is exacerbated by the high level of poverty and the refugee influx. The proposed interventions will have the principal objective of increasing climate resilience specifically for vulnerable groups as required by the Danish climate envelope

Major risks and challenges:

Impact of weather, drought and floods on tree growing activities

Mitigation is resilience design structures and individual, institutional or community ownership and maintenance plans

01011 to 2020		7 112 110				
File No.	??????					
Country	Uganda					
Responsible Unit	2730 - Kamp	oala				
Sector	31120, Agric	ultural devel	opment			
Partner	NURI Coord	dination Fun	ction (NURI CF	·)		
DKK mill.	2022 2023 2024 Tot.					
Commitment	26.0	0.0	0.0	26		
Projected ann. disb.	1.5	23.5	1.0	26		
Duration	2022 - 2024					
Previous grants	DKK 325 m	illion				
Finance Act code	06.32.01.12 U	Uganda				
Head of unit	Nicolaj A. Hejberg Petersen					
Desk officer	Victor Azza Vuzzi					
Financial officer	Ager Graae					
Relevant SDGs /Max	rimum 5 – high	light with gre	·ν7			

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1 Heart ************************************	No Hunger	Good Health, Wellbeing	4 BOULT A BOUL	Gender Equality	Clean Water, Sanitation
Affordable Clean Energy	B GEOLAGE AND THE BERNING CHAPTER TO THE SHAPE AND THE SHA	Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure	Reduced Inequalities	Sustainable Cities, Communities	Responsible Consumption & Production
13 Part III	Life below Water	Life on Land	Peace & Justice,	Partnerships for Goals	

Strategic objectives:

Enhanced resilience to current and expected impact of climate change and variability and more equitable economic development in supported areas of Northern Uganda, including for refugees and host communities

Environment and climate targeting - Principal objective (100%); Significant objective (50%)

	Climate adaptation	Climate mitigation	Biodiversity	Other green /
				environment
Indicate 0, 50% or 100%	100	50	50	50
Total green budget (DKK)	DKK 26millions*			

^{*}See also green budget overview in section 8 of the project note.

Justification for choice of partner:

NURI CF has many years of experience from Northern Uganda. It is uniquely qualified to build on her achievements and share best practices and lessons. Implementing through NURI CF will reduce fiduciary risks and improve efficiency in project delivery building on the success of the current programme

Summary:

The DKK 26 million will make NURI greener. The documentation of NURI will be aligned with ongoing green activities to consolidate and sustain climate change work. Activities to further green NURI, both ongoing pilots and new green activities will be implemented and documented. Activities to strengthen operational sustainability of NURI will be included. The programme will adjust and downsize existing implementation arrangements to the requirements of the extension. Lessons learnt will be documented to inform a likely future programme.

Budget:

Output 1: Climate change adaptation measures adopted by participating farmers	21.0
Output 2: Climate resilient agriculturally-related rural infrastructure renovated and or constructed using labour intensive approach	1.0
Output 3: Agriculture-related physical & natural water infrastructure constructed and made more resilient to climate change	1.0
Coordination incl. TA and M&E	3.0
Total	26.0

Executive Summary

The NURI extension builds on the 4-year NURI programme, focusing on greening, sustaining and information activities. Implementation is well underway with activities carried forward from, or building on Outputs 2 - Rural Infrastructure and 3 - Water Resource Management almost complete at the end of the reporting period. Activities building on Output 1 - Climate Smart Agriculture, are for the most part into the monitoring and mentoring stage with the majority of training and physical implementation complete.

Activities on financial linkage, digitalization and business support are still in full implementation, as are a number of information activities.

Achievements to-date include the completion of 256 infrastructure projects, focusing on improving the resilience of roads constructed under the main NURI programme. In the effort to sustain extension activities, NURI is training and mentoring 1,305 volunteer community extensionist, and working with 69 NURI groups aiming to develop local seed businesses. Efforts to develop the Farmer Marketing School methodology is involving 181 NURI groups in bulking commodities and exploring markets. Work with permaculture is showing good results with 870 refugee and host groups, while tree growing is estimated to have reached over 35,000 households with fruit trees or cost-shared household tree-growing.

The NURI extension includes the closing down of activities and offices, following not only NURI, but previous Danida-funded programmes, as the planned URRI programme will follow a different implementation methodology. Therefore, NURI CF is engaged in substantial exit-activities, involving reporting, archiving and disposal of assets. These activities are ongoing, with a detailed plan currently being rolled out. Assets no longer in use are already handed-over to districts or partners, or disposed of through auction, or in the process of disposal.

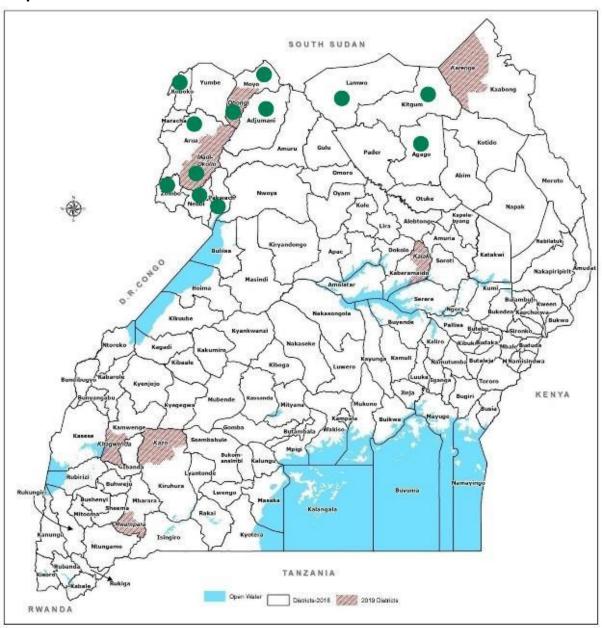
Budget utilization for the first half-year, excluding the DRC contract extension is at 73.4%. There have been a number of savings during implementation, including cost savings and the decision not to implement support to community initiatives on greening. This decision was based on the risk of non-completion of such activities within the time available. There have been cost-savings on information activities including the decision not to carry out an external assessment of the impact and success of resilience design, replacing the assessment with a Learning and Reflection workshop.

NURI extension is on track to complete activities on time, including exit-activities, with plans in place for key staff to continue into 2024 to complete financial and activity reporting, and audits.

Recommendations

- Maintain focus on lesson learning and information sharing, also for URRI preparation
- Explore avenues for linkage of Local Seed Business groups to ensure sustained activities
- Maintain focus on BDS activities to ensure supported activities are viable and sustainable
- Aim to end field activities by end of November 2023

Map



MAP OF UGANDA, SHOWING NURI DISTRICTS



DRC improved road, Latebe P/S to Lugwar Central (3.7km and vented drift), Awic Microcatchment, Ogili S/C Lamwo. **Cover photo**: Interaction between farmers of Ebira A LSB group and teams from ISSD, NURI CF in Arivu S/C, Arua.

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1. NURI Extension – background

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs approved a NURI extension, including additional budgets, to run through 2023, keeping in line with the overall Denmark-Uganda country programme, a new period of which starts in 2024. The budget for the extension is a total of DKK 45m which includes DKK 26m from the climate change envelope, as well as DKK 19 million in reallocations from the Uganda country programme. The main NURI programme ran from 2018 to 2022, with almost all activities completed on time. Those activities not completed were finalized in the first quarter of 2023. This report does not cover activities of the main NURI programme, as these are integrated into the NURI Completion Report incorporating the 2022 annual report.

The NURI extension focuses on greening initiatives and activities that support the sustainability of successful activities carried out in the NURI programme. The extension also gives the opportunity to extract and share lessons from the main NURI programme and the various pilot activities.

A range of activities are under implemented in the NURI extension, all guided by the principles of greening and sustaining, and always in close collaboration with the District Local Governments, with whom MoUs have been signed for the extension period.

NURI extension activities relating to agriculture are implemented by the CSA partners and implementing units (RAUs) who implemented Output 1 of the NURI programme. All field activities are planned to complete by 30th November 2023, giving time for office closing and final assets disposal. Rural Infrastructure and Water Resource Management activities are implemented by DRC, as in the main NURI programme, based on a contract extension. The contract extension has been adjusted to the end of August 2023. All infrastructure field activities are complete at the time of reporting.

For CSA related pilots there has been massive training of NURI extension staff as well as community-based facilitators / farmer-to-farmer extensionists, in the first and to lesser extent, second quarter of 2023. All staff have been trained in targeted specialist skills as well as in tree-growing and business support. These skills will be an asset to the communities in Northern Uganda, as well as being useful to the extensionists well beyond the end of the NURI programme. Tree growing and business skills were particularly appreciated by NURI staff, as they plan for life after the end of the programme.

NURI continues to collaborate with UNFPA and CARE on the WAY programme, with CARE staff attending occasional meetings at the CSA Implementing Units to provide advise on SRHR, GBV and gender related issues, as well as to keep up-to-date on CSA activities. There has been continuation of some earlier trainings to NURI staff and targeted NURI groups.

NURI CF continues to lead and coordinate activities, with the National Programme Coordinator and the Regional Coordinators, VSLA Coordinator and Supervising Engineer leading on the various pilots, supported by staff from the units with specialist skills and knowledge. Oversight, information sharing and motivation of field teams involves regular monitoring and mentoring visits, as well as pilot-specific WhatsApp groups, where ideas and successes are shared.

NURI CF finance and administration team are occupied with programme financial management and reporting, audits, archiving and the disposal of a large number of assets, some from earlier Danida programmes in Northern Uganda. All assets have been verified and over 200 motorcycles and several cars, no longer in active service, have been disposed of, including dealing with issues of taxes and

duties. The team is also responsible for the few remaining procurements and training/education activities remaining from the NURI programme. NURI supported District Capacity Building (DCB) involving procurement of assets and training/education of staff, for NURI implementing Districts. Due to the COVID pandemic some activities were delayed and were allowed to be carried forward into the NURI extension. While all shorter trainings and courses are complete, there are 14 Masters students still being supported.

Information on the NURI programme 2018 to 2022, is available in the NURI Programme Completion Report, incorporating the annual report for 2022. The document can be found on www.nuri.ag or from NURI Coordination Function or the Danish Embassy in Kampala.



Photo: Members of Can pe bunyu women refugee group in zone 2 block 2 at Palabek settlement are excited with the improved vegetable yields planted on RD structures compared to their "business as usual" practice of planting on flat ground.



Ajuvule group, season A vegetables in Palorinja settlement, Obongi

2. NURI extension Pilots description and status

NURI Extension activities related to Greening

1. Permaculture

Objectives

- Mitigate risks of crop failure
- Improve nutrition, income and food security for the HH
- Provision of knowledge and skills to the participating HH for improved productivity and sustainability of resources, particularly soil health and water storage capacity

Description

Permaculture activities focus on refugee groups in the settlements as well as selected farmer groups in Koboko district. Due to continuous cropping soils are exhausted and the adoption of permaculture can improve soils and increase production, while enhancing soil biodiversity. Farmers are trained on sustainable production. Under PICOT 50 vegetable production groups are included to support own initiative of PICOT in this area, piloted in 2022. Permaculture training is delivered using Farmer-to-Farmer Extension (F2FE) approach that is an extension methodology piloted in the NURI extension. This activity targets 870 farmer groups: 820 refugee women and mixed groups receive vegetable seeds and root crops for two seasons as well as two types of fruit trees per HH, as per their choice.

Activities

- Refresher training of NURI staff on Permaculture and vegetable production.
- Selecting groups to participate.
- Procurement and delivery of seeds, tree seedlings and tools, establish demonstrations
- Training of NURI groups through F2FE, develop training materials for farmer trainers
- · Monitoring of progress, lessons learning and reporting

Status

Initial activities are completed and training of groups through F2FE method is ongoing, as are exchange visits and monitoring. First season harvesting has started, and second season inputs are delivered, with planting starting gradually, as second season rains begins. Permaculture involves resilience design including significant physical work in terms of digging beds and contours. A total of 76,900 tree seedlings (including passion vines and papaya) have been planted across 25,993 households, 20,799 of which are refugee households. Over 40,000 of the recorded plantings are passion vines and papaya, which are both fast-growing, short-lived plants, contributing more to household nutrition than to greening. Because they are fast growing, they are much favoured by refugee households.

Lessons learning

Lessons on permaculture will be picked up in a Learning and Reflection workshops on Development work in refugee hosting areas, another on extension methodologies and an experience note on Resilience Design and permaculture in CSA.

2. Household Tree Growing

Objectives

- Increased awareness, knowledge and skills of farmers on benefits of tree growing
- Increased tree cover
- Increased access of supported households to sustainable biomass energy

Description

Following a successful tree-growing pilot in Pakwach district in 2022, household tree-growing, with cost-sharing, is expanded to other NURI districts, targeting 440 NURI farmer groups. With an average of 25 members per group, this activity is expected to benefit approximately 11,000 households. The provision of tree seedlings is based on cost-sharing by the households as a way for households to show their commitment. The provision of training, extension support, and giving a choice of preferred seedlings, is in contrast to other programmes providing free seedlings. Extension support on tree growing is by NURI extension staff, supported by District Forestry officers, and additional forestry staff engaged on contract to support the activity.

Activities

- District level consultative meetings
- Mapping of tree nurseries.
- Training of extension staff
- Mobilization of groups, including collection and management of cost-sharing contributions
- Farmer training
- Delivery of seedlings following confirmation of land preparation
- Post distribution monitoring and support

Status

All initial activities have been implemented, and trees planted at household level. All NURI extension staff have been given basic training on tree-growing. The requirement of cost-sharing means the exact number of households participating and tree seedlings distributed is difficult to predict, and the activity has been implemented in a flexible manner, to encourage maximum tree growing, with minimum wastage of seedlings. Currently gap-filling is ongoing, to be completed by the end of July 2023. Monitoring and follow-up will continue until the end of November, when field activities cease. Groups with interest in further tree growing are being linked to private nurseries and to various programmes providing seedlings. Household to household information sharing is being tested.

A total of 8,510 households have planted trees under this programme, by July 2023, with 55% of those registered being female, and 20% being youth. With only gap-filling remaining, this number is not expected to change.

Lesson learning

Lessons from household tree growing have already been collected from a Learning and Reflection Workshop held for the Pakwach pilot of 2022, with lessons incorporated into the 2023 implementation. A second Learning and Reflection Workshop is planned for the later in 2023.

3. Food Forests follow-up

Objectives

- Encourage sustainable management and utilization of food forests, protected springs and water ponds established under NURI outputs 2 and 3.
- Promote socio-economic and environmental benefits of the created assets
- To improve ownership and preservation of established food forests, protected springs and water ponds

Description

This necessity for this follow-up activity was exacerbated by the COVID epidemic which delayed and interfered with Food Forest establishment in NURI, as well as undermining institutions and community ownership of the projects. In the NURI extension the activity involves the handover of information and documentation of 796 food forests, 228 protected springs and 78 water ponds - across 13 districts, established by DRC under Outputs 2 and 3 of NURI. The information has been handed to NURI CSA implementing units, for follow-up during 2023. Handover included site visits and assessment of the projects, with decisions made by CSA units on where to focus to ensure maximum impact. some. The food forests are potentially a significant contribution to vegetation cover and an opportunity for communities, including school children to learn about the benefits of tree growing. By the end of 2022 many trees in the food forests were still vulnerable to water stress, destruction by stray animals, wildfires and pre-mature harvesting. The springs and water ponds are prone to erosion and consequent silting if not protected and continually maintained. The role of CSA partners and units is to encourage ownership and proper management through training and mentoring of beneficiaries.

Activities

- Handover process of Food Forests and other sites, by DRC to CSA units
- Mentorship of the beneficiaries for ownership of sites by NURI extension staff
- Technical support in development and implementation of management plans and by-laws

Status

Oversight of all sites have been handed over from DRC to CSA partners and units through a documented process. Not all sites were assessed to be relevant for follow-up. The team responsible for this activity have heavily engaged in household tree-growing, but now that tree planting is over, focus is shifting to follow-up activities. Forestry consultants are supporting the CSA teams on this activity. Development of management plans by the hosting institutions is on-going, with examples being shared, and good level of interest. Some institutions are using own resources to gap-fill and expand areas under trees, with NURI staff assisting with linkage.

Lesson learning

An experience note on the experiences and lessons under this activity will be developed by the NURI CF team.

NURI Extension Activities Related to Sustaining

1. Enhancing Rural Infrastructure and Water Resource Management projects

Objectives

- Enhancing resilience and sustainability of selected projects commissioned during "Phase 1" of the programme.
- Facilitation of learning and enhanced technical support to districts.

Descriptions

The activity implemented by DRC, in collaboration with the District Local Governments, consisted of improvements to on 265 projects (comprised of 153 projects situated in the West Nile South region, 55 projects in the West Nile North region, and 57 projects in the Acholi sub-region), where further investment strengthened projects' resilience to climate change, climate variability and extreme weather events and thus sustainability for the communities they serve. Of these, 264 comprise community access road projects within 73 distinct road links and enhanced resilience of Atego Sponge Village by constructing a catch drain, desilting the contour and valley dam, and planting teak trees. The improvement of roads was achieved through gravelling, opening mitre drains, placing new culverts, improving culvert tops and approaches, installing scour checks and river training on selected road links. A total of 264 CAR projects and one water pond project were selected and approved in the 11 districts.

Activities

- District Kick-off meetings
- Sensitization and Cash for work group formation
- Improvement of projects under NURI Extension
 - (a) Reshaping and gravelling of selected roads at locations prone to damage and requiring frequent and costly maintenance
 - (b) Installation of additional Mitre Drains
 - (c) Installation of culverts and improvement of culvert aprons and scour checks:
 - (d) River Training
- Final Inspection of Extension Projects

Status

All activities are completed, and handover to districts will be completed by the end of July 2023. DLGs have been highly supportive of this activity, which was much demanded by the districts. DLGs have in many cases provided equipment for the implemented works, with NURI only paying for fuel and operator costs. The end of Extension report from DRC is complete and available, and contains additional detail.

Lessons learning

A Learning and Reflection Workshop, involving representative of Districts, LLGs, DRC and NURI CF, was held in Arua in May 2023, and a document summarizing major lessons in Resilience Design is currently under development. A 2-pager on lessons relating to refugee-hosting areas has also been developed and shared.

2. Farmer Marketing Schools

Objectives

- To improve farmers ability to advantageously market their produce
- To train and mentor selected farmer groups on FMS methodology
- To monitor and document activities of farmer groups that have been trained in the FMS curriculum.

Description

Farmer Market School (FMS) approach, as developed by ADRA, adopted and adapted by NURI, aims to empower smallholder farmers, to independently, explore markets and learn how markets function while identifing opportunities. Farmers understanding of the market is widened through facilitation and discovery learning, motivating them to explore the market. Farmers learn how to work within value chains and to better understand the importance of quantity, timeliness and quality, through participatory training methods.

The pilot activity started in 2022, targeting 90 selected CSA farmer groups in the NURI districts and was extended in 2023 to an additional 92 groups demonstrating potential.

Activities

- Selection of CSA farmer groups in the NURI districts
- Development of training guide (Group Marketing Facilitators Guide)
- Training of NURI extension staff
- Training of Group Marketing facilitators
- Group training sessions
- Marketing trips by farmer groups
- Exchange visits for participating groups
- Review of FMS activities implemented in 2022
- Monitoring of progress, lessons learning and reporting

Status

All preparatory activities completed, lessons from 2022 incorporated into the 2023 pilot. Training of 2023 groups through 14 sessions is on-going, with some groups having completed the sessions. All groups should complete training by September. Market visits are ongoing for market research, as is monitoring, mentoring and support. Group marketing facilitators are participating in review meetings to exchange experience, and some groups are planning graduation events, using own resources.

Lessons learning

A learning and reflection workshop on extension methodologies, including FMS, is planned for later in the year. Lessons, as well as training materials will be shared with ADRA, who will also be invited to the Reflection Workshop, as the organisation that developed and promotes the FMS methodology. Lists of the NURI FMS groups will also be shared with ADRA for their potential follow up.

3. Local Seed Business (LSB)

Objectives

- To initiate and support LSB as a business venture in well-functioning NURI groups
- To build the capacity of the selected farmer groups in LSB.
- To improve access to affordable quality declared seeds in NURI areas and beyond

Description

Piloting LSB among well established and interested NURI farmer groups offers potential in sustaining the groups, as well as addressing the challenge of access to quality seeds in Northern Uganda. Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD) Uganda, in collaboration with MAAIF and NARO have engaged in LSB over some years and are involved in the NURI pilot through training and monitoring, as well as supplying foundation seed. The NURI pilot builds on the experience of earlier projects and engages with the relevant stakeholders.

The LSB pilot is being rolled out in all NURI districts with 69 selected CSA farmer groups based on their interest and capacity.

Activities

- Fact finding and learning lessons from other partners
- Notifying DLGs on LSB pilot especially the Production departments
- Identifying and selecting suitable, interested NURI groups
- Training of NURI staff and community-based trainers on LSB
- Training of NURI groups by community-based trainers
- Adapt training materials
- Procurement of foundation seeds and establishment of seed multiplications fields
- Exchange visits and twining with successful groups for participating NURI groups
- Field inspections and certification of seeds
- Marketing of quality declared seed
- Monitoring of progress, lessons learning and reporting

Status

All initial and training activities are completed and field inspections by MAAIF and DLG Production departments are on-going, as is monitoring and mentoring, also by ISSD. A few groups, in areas where certain crops are planted late, are still establishing multiplication sites. A number of group members have mobilised own resources to procure and multiply foundation seed. Group registration with MAAIF is ongoing. A stakeholder meeting to discuss the issues around availability and quality of foundation seed is planned in August. Groups showing potential will be provided with PICs bags and tarpaulins remaining with NURI CF from early activities.

Lesson learning

NURI CF is working with a number of other stakeholders in a joint learning exercise as part of the implementation. LSB will be included in a learning and reflection workshop on extension methodologies towards the end of the year, however, NURI does not expect to have in-depth lessons on LSB, as it is a complex process and a single year is insufficient time to claim replicable lessons.

4. Farmer to Farmer Extension

Objectives

- Test F2FE extension approach in training various farmer group types
- To assess the operational set up and logistics required in F2FE approach
- To document lessons learnt from the pilot

Description

Under the F2FE approach, interested farmers are assessed and selected for training as community trainers. The CBFs are trained by NURI extension staff, on specific subject matter after which they cascade this training to their fellow group members. The F2FE approach shows potential in lowering cost of extension while reaching many farmers and building capacity within the community.

Farmer to Farmer Extension is being piloted along with Permaculture pilot activities in all refugee settlements where NURI is implemented, as well as Koboko district. The approach is targeting national groups, mixed groups and women refugee groups. In total 870 groups are benefiting from permaculture training by F2FE.

Activities

- Gathering facts on the approach from other partners
- Training of NURI staff on F2FE
- Selection and training of Community Based Facilitators (CBFs)
- Development of training materials for use by CBFs
- Training of NURI farmer groups through F2FE
- Monitoring and mentoring of community trainers

Status

NURI extension activities have developed, during implementation to integrate a wider range of farmer-to-farmer extension activities than initially planned. All pilot activities have been adjusted to integrate F2FE, while the initial plan focused on permaculture and FMS only.

In total there are 1,305 farmers trained and under on-going mentoring currently providing training and services to other farmers under NURI extension activities. These include Group Marketing Facilitators, Community-Based Trainers and Facilitators. Of the 1,305 farmer trainers, 684 (52%) are female and 621 (48%) are male. A total of 423 (32% of total) are youth, with 255 (60%) female youth, and 168 (40%) male youth.

Lesson learning

While NURI Extension has failed to produce purely commercial extension services, the F2FE approach is a step on the way, and some of the F2F extensionists – none of which are paid by the programme, are finding ways to earn income through parallel or bundled services. The F2FE approach is proving to be successful in the NURI extension. Lessons on F2FE will be a focus area in the Learning and Reflection Workshop on extension methodologies.

5. Business support and linkage

Objective

- To strengthen and build on NURI FG/VSLA achievements through mentoring and linking to business opportunities and services, based on group and individual farmer needs.
- To build the capacity of farmer/VSLA groups in business skills through support, training and/or linkage to service providers, based on their groups expressed demands.

Description

The NURI extension provides an opportunity to further strengthen farmer groups with potential for business activities, building on capacity acquired through CSA and VSLA training, by adding financial and business skills trainings and linkage to value chain actors and business development services. This support is in many cases additional to other pilot activities, for example groups engaged in FMS or LSB. Based on experience gained in supporting Old National Farmer Groups, NURI may support procurement of assets such as processing equipment, on a 70/30 cost-share basis, where groups can demonstrate clear and immediate need and realistic sustainability plans, as well as linkage to value chains and/or greening. This activity builds on NURI success in the so-called Production and Marketing Planning (PMP)/VSLA linkage, where household visions and plans explicitly link savings and production activities. All NURI staff are trained and

Activities

- Selection of groups to be supported based on developed criteria
- Based on assessment, identify required consultancy support
- Train NURI VSLA and extension staff on linkage and business support activities
- Sensitisation and mentoring of supported farmer groups
- VSLA staff identify needs of FG/VSLAs in terms of linkage including to financial services, providers
 of technical skills, marketing skills, etc.
- Consider identified needs for processing or other equipment, under cost-sharing model
- Cost-sharing mobilised based on approved concepts, items procured and handed over
- Monitoring, management and support

Status

All initial activities implemented, with proposals for cost-shared support under evaluation and linkage activities on-going. All NURI extension staff have been trained to be able to support groups in terms of linkage, as well as being trained and mentored in linking agricultural production activities with savings plans. VSLA teams in each unit provide specific technical support. CSA Unit management, a consultancy firm and NURI CF will all be involved in assessment of proposals for procurement of equipment. There is still substantial work to be done in this activity, and adjustments are being made as lessons are learnt.

Lessons learning

NURI CF will prepare an experience note on this activity, as the time is insufficient to claim replicable lessons.

6. Financial linkage and deepening

Objectives

- Link VSLA groups to financial institutions to secure their savings and access credit
- Pilot a digitalization model under development in Uganda
- Provide VSLA groups with smartphone technology to digitize their records.
- Enable proper and reliable group transactions to inform groups financial decisions

Description

Across all NURI districts VSLA staff are working with groups, training interested groups on the benefits and costs of linkage to financial institutions. Meanwhil in Moyo/Obongi, the RAU is leading on piloting digitalization of 100 VSLA in partnership with a Ugandan NGO, Ensibuuko. This involves group-level digitalization of interested VSLA groups participating in the program, using digital technology as a tool in addressing barriers and offering the opportunity to develop reliable records and savings history, making VSLAs more attractive to financial institution. Digital technology can also be used to provide other services to VSLA groups. Additionally, in a no-budget activity, in Lamwo Distict, in and around Palabek settlement, NURI is collaborating with Grameen Foundation — contracted by Save the Children, on VSLA digitalization.

Activities

- Developing training materials
- Assessment and selection of participating groups
- Training of groups through capacity building of Community Facilitators (DCEs)
- Provision of digital platform and digitalization of groups
- Capacity building NURI staff on reporting platform and supporting digitalization by Ensibuuko
- Provision of digital platform for trained community facilitators by Ensibuuko
- Explore credit provision through the digital platform
- Monitoring, mentoring and reporting

Status

While the target for training on digitalization was 176 groups, this has been expanded with 367 groups trained, as the demand for training has been high. So far 113 groups have been linked to financial institutions during the NURI extension. In the Ensibuuko digitalization pilot initial activities have been implemented, with all groups trained and data entry on-going. Monitoring and follow up are on-going. Credit provision is planned on a small scale as a trial. In Palabek settlement 76 VSLA groups earlier supported by NURI have been taken on by Grameen for digitalization. So far 35 have been digitalized for improved record keeping. Opportunities for cross learning between the various linkage and digitalization activities are being explored. NURI CF is closing an earlier unsuccessful pilot for animal traction loans, with difficulties rising from the partnership with Talanta Finance Ltd.

Lessons learning

NURI CF will prepare an experience note on this activity, as the time is insufficient to claim solid lessons that can be replicated. Collaboration with Ensibuuko and Grameen foundation ensures lessons and experience will be shared and made use of.

NURI Extension Activities relating to information activities

1. Learning and Reflection Activities

Objectives

- To capture and document lessons learnt during implementation of the NURI programme.
- To capture and document lessons and experiences from the pilot activities carried out under the NURI programme
- To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of learning and reflection workshops

Description

A range of activities, the most visible of which are learning and reflection workshops, aimed at capturing experiences and lessons from the NURI implementation and pilot activities, including the extension period. Thematic learning workshops may be for the whole programme, or regional/district specific, depending on the geography of the pilot activity. Regional workshop will be organised when the area of reflection cuts across all the implementation areas and or a large number of stakeholders are involved.

Activities

- Learning and Reflection workshops
- Preparation of information and lessons learnt notes of 2 to 4 pages, with input from a variety of sources.
- Experience notes by pilot leads
- Sharing of experience notes, including inclusion in NURI completion report, on websites, and contributing to URRI programme preparation

Status

The first Learning and Reflection workshops have been held. A cross-programme workshop on Resilience Design held in Arua, and a smaller workshop, in Pakwach district, on the first year of the pilot on Household Tree growing. A note on lessons from Resilience Design is under development.

Notes on lessons learned in the main NURI programme specifically relating to refugees have been developed and shared as part of the preparations for the Refugee Round Table.

Plans are in place for learning and reflection workshops on Working at the Nexus, Extension Methodologies and Tree Growing are planned in the third quarter of 2023.

Experience notes are planned on food forests, Business Development support, VSLA digitalization, Permaculture/Resilience design for CSA and local seed businesses. These will be prepared by the pilot leads.

Lessons learning

Lesson learning reports are developed based on the Learning and reflection workshops and included in the NURI completion report for easy access, as well as shared through a variety of fora, including the U-learn portal.

2. Information activities

Objectives

- To increase stakeholders' awareness of CC issues
- Share NURI lessons and achievements
- Share information on NURI pilot activity outcomes
- Enhance DLG/LLG information exchange on infrastructure maintenance activities

Description

Workshops were organised at parish level to provide up-to-date information to key stakeholders in DLGs and LLGs on the understanding of climate change issues, mitigation and adaptation, focusing on Northern Uganda, including examples from districts and sub counties.

Under the DRC contract extension activities on facilitation of learning and technical support were included, which are included under information activities. It was assessed that District and Lower Local Governments experience challenges in consistently providing necessary maintenance to NURI investments. It was therefore agreed to organize learning workshops and field visits to inspire and motivate novel and cost-effective ways for DLG and LLG to maintain infrastructure for their constituents. Participants were selected to share their experiences on community approaches to road maintenance to motivate others.

Activities

(a) Facilitation of learning and enhanced technical support to Districts (by DRC):

- Engagement of Parish Chiefs and CDOs supporting Project User Committees (PUCs)
- Peer-to-Peer Maintenance Workshops
- Application of Traditional Approaches to Maintenance of Created Assets
- Go-and-See Visits to Resilience Design

(b) Climate change workshops (by NURI CF)

• Climate change information workshops for DLGs and LLGs including Parish Chiefs

Status

A total of 31 Maintenance and Climate Change workshops were held across the 13 NURI districts, attended by 1,067 participants, of which 267 were female. The maintenance workshops, combining the first three of the DRC activities listed above, were further combined with climate change information sessions presented by NURI CF with support from CSA implementing units. Each workshop brought together participants from DLGs and LLGs of 3 to 4 sub-counties with participants made up of Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), Community Development Officers (CDOs), Parish Chiefs (PCs), Sub County Chiefs (SCs), District Water Officers (DWOs), District Engineers (DEs), Production Officers (POs) and District Forest Officers (DFOs). Presentations by NURI- CF and CSA aimed to encourage participants to understand and relate climate change issues like irregular seasonality, prolonged dry spells, floods, and rising temperature to their local context. DRC's presentation focused on triggering the participants to generate a debate on what they can and need to do to maintain assets created under the NURI program. This included topics such as: including NURI roads in Sub-County maintenance plans, allocating funds for maintenance, mobilizing communities for communal work e.g., desilting culverts, grubbing roads, opening mitre drains etc. Action plans for maintenance of assets were developed during the meetings. Further details are in the DRC Extension End of Programme report.

Go-and-see visits on Resilience Design were organized at 3 sites with participants from across the programme districts. The learning workshops and field visits were organised for sub-county officials as well as Community Development Officers (CDOs), LC III chairpersons and sub-county chiefs. The sub-county officials from West Nile South and Alur subregions visited projects in Nebbi, while West Nile North sub-county officials visited projects in Adjumani and sub-county officials from Acholi region visited projects in Lamwo. The visits took two days per location, including travel to host district project sites. The workshops included a presentation by DRC on the successes registered through resilience design. This was followed by field visits with practical explanation and demonstration of resilience design and engagement of PUC/WUC by the stakeholders. The activity ended with debriefing and discussions on what worked well and what didn't, what should be done differently, and how the ideas demonstrated can copy and adapt.



Photo: Sub counties officials from West Nile South during Go-and-See Visit at Jupazuba water pond

3. Status on Exit Activities

NURI CF is responsible for the orderly closing of the NURI programme including activity and financial reporting, as well as disposal of assets, exit of staff and finalization of any ongoing agreements and contracts. This chapter captures specific activities relating to finalizing the programme.

DRC

All DRC field activities and projects relating to the main NURI programme and the DRC contract 2019-2022 were completed by the end of the first quarter of 2023. Details on implementation and project numbers are in the main NURI completion report.

Activities relating to the NURI Extension 2023, and the addendum to the DRC contract, are covered elsewhere in this report. These activities were almost completed by the end of July 2023, with only closing and reporting activities on-going.

CSA Partners – AFARD, ARUDIFA and PICOT

All field activities are expected to be completed by the end of November 2023. MoUs and staff contracts come to an end at the end of December 2023.

Office assets have been handed over to the partners; vehicles and motorcycles for possible handover are being reviewed.

RAUs - Moyo/Obongi, Adjumani and Kitgum/Lamwo

All field activities are expected to be completed by the end of November 2023, with all but key management staff on leave in December as offices are to be refurbished and handed back to respective landlords. Fixed assets as at end of November 2023 will be disposed of in December 2023.

While there is expected to be a gradual exit of staff in 2nd half 2023, there will be no further staff replacements from July 2023.

NURI CF

NURI CF Kampala offices will be maintained until June 2024 to cater for closing programme reporting and administrative activities (annual audit 2023, transfer of files to RDE etc.).

Since NURI RAU offices as well as Arua CF offices will be handed back to respective landlords as at end of December 2023, it is planned that NURI staff required for the final programme reporting, the annual audit etc. in 2024 will be relocated to NURI CF Kampala offices.

NURI staff to be retained in 2024 will be engaged on consultancy agreements, so there will be no need for a NURI payroll system in 2024.

It is also planned that NURI financial systems will be closed at end of December 2023 and only open for any final transactions subsequent to audit 2023. NURI expenditure in 2024 is planned to be paid directly by RDE based on requests from NURI CF and charged directly to the NURI grant in the RDE financial systems.

Assets

- · All asset registers have been updated and physically verified
- Parked motorcycles (204) and 2 vehicles have been disposed through auction.

- Disposal of DRC assets, mainly by auction, with handover of a few strategic items to districts (pedestrian rollers and solar units) is on-going.
- Disposal of NURI CF and RAU office assets no longer in use is ongoing, and will be auctioned together with DRC assets.
- NURI fixed assets currently in use will be disposed of in December 2023.

Audits

The NURI audit 2022 is currently on-going – pending the finalisation of the DRC audit 2022.

The NURI audit 2023 will be carried out in 2024. This is planned to be a centralised audit with NURI staff retained for the purpose located in NURI CF Kampala offices.

NURI transactions for staffing and other expenditure in 2024 will be paid by RDE and charged directly to the NURI grant in RDE systems.

Archives

All HR personnel files, including contracts from NURI RAUs, have been received by NURI CF for archiving.

The NURI CSA database including the MS SQL programme has been copied to a USB and is ready for handover to RDE.

Upon closing the NURI RAUs, accounts files will be transferred to NURI CF Kampala offices at the same time as the NURI RAU Accountants move to NURI CF offices in Kampala. NURI accounts files with the three CSA partners will be retained by the partners as per bilateral agreement.

4. Financial Status - NURI Extension

NURI CF is responsible for financial monitoring of Implementing Partners and Implementing Units. The CF Finance team worked in collaboration with the coordinators and accountants of each implementing partner and unit. During the reporting period, the activities accomplished are described below:

Budget Utilization

The Programme percentage of budget utilization for the period Jan to Jun is 74.8%:

S/n	Implementing entity (Total NURI budget)	Disbursement to date (UGX)	Expenditure to date (UGX)	% Absorption
(1)	NURI CF	3,401,369,069	1,801,652,251	53.0
(2)	Kitgum/Lamwo/Agago RAU	1,222,496,889	1,007,411,586	82.4
(3)	Arua DFA	1,164,479,629	970,578,625	83.3
(4)	AFARD	824,439,578	612,904,062	74.3
(5)	Moyo / Obongi RAU	901,976,359	803,432,196	89.1
(6)	Adjumani RAU	884,587,316	751,644,418	85.0
(7)	PICOT	461,829,831	367,565,802	79.6
	Total CSA Units	5,459,819,602	4,513,536,689	82.7
(8)	DRC	4,089,392,331	3,368,732,711	82.4
	Total NURI	12,950,581,002	9,683,921,651	74.8

A number of activities under NURI CF that were planned for the period have been deferred to the 2nd half of the FY, e.g., Learning and Reflection workshops and Farmer support on VSLA Financial Linkages and business support. Some CF activities have not taken off as planned, specifically some activities under Information & Communication and the Community Initiatives concept. A study on resilience design was replaced by a lower budget learning and reflection workshop.

Activities such as the pilot project for Permaculture will require an additional budget for 2023, especially for procurement of agricultural inputs with a decision to add orange-flesh sweet potato vines to the pilot project based on strong demand from the farmer groups.

Staff cost as well as cost of training and workshops will increase for 2023 due to the inflation adjustment of 8.161% to basic salaries as well as the adjustment to DSA rates from UGX 175,000 to UGX 280,000.

It is foreseen that out of the total grant of 45 million DKK, approx. 5 million DKK will not be utilized by NURI. This amount relates to reduced budgets for the pilot projects as well as the decision not to implement community initiatives, as the time was considered insufficient to implement and account for expenditure.

Financial support Activities

Financial Management support trips were carried out to the units to facilitate the reconciliations of payables and receivables between the Units and CF, in preparation for the 2022 annual audit. These trips also emphasized compliance to guideline by the units.

Audit

The Audit of the 2022 Financial Statements has been carried out and is being finalized. There has been a significant delay of nearly 3 months relating to the DRC audit 2022, particularly the verification of unreported DRC outstanding commitments as at end of 2022. Most audit reports for CSA implementation units have been signed by the units. The audit reports are yet to be presented by the auditors for final review.

Disposal of Fixed Assets

NURI fixed assets no longer in use are being disposed of on an on-going basis. Parked motorcycles and vehicles have been auctioned off through agent appointed for the assignment.

NURI fixed assets — apart from vehicles and motorcycles - having been used by the three CSA implementing partners have been donated to these partners.

In August/September, DRC vehicles, motorcycles as well as a large volume of office equipment will be auctioned off. DRC road equipment such as pedestrian rollers and laser levels will be donated to DLGs for use in the further maintenance of CARs. DRC office furniture and select office fixtures and fittings will be donated to DRC. Approx. 65 DRC motorcycles will be donated to DLGs as well providing each district with on average 5 motorcycles for the continued support of farmer groups.

5. Workplan for July to December 2023

NURI extension activities are generally proceeding as planned as can be seen in the status up-dates for individual pilots, and in the Gantt chart in Annex 2.

Pilot activities

While most agricultural and tree-growing pilot activities are well established with mainly monitoring, mentoring and some information collection on-going. Linking groups to input and output markets, seed and seedling suppliers is on-going as relevant.

Local seed business groups are progressing well, with linkage and technical support on-going. Because of the complex nature of LSB NURI CF is exploring avenues for linkage and partnership to provide support, especially technical, to these groups after the NURI engagement ends.

The activities relating to BDS still require attention with the main activities still to be implemented. The assessment of business proposals from groups has started and this assessment as well as the procurement of cost-shared equipment and implementation of business support will be a focus during the third quarter of the year.

Financial linkage and VSLA digitalization are ongoing. The plan for testing the method and technology of loans to digitalized groups may not be implemented as the digitalization process has been challenging and has faced delays.

Learning and reflection and experience notes

While two Learning and Reflection Workshops have been held, three more will be held in the coming months. At the same time, notes on experience and notes on lessons learnt, incorporating the outcome of the workshops will be developed.

Final reporting

Activity and financial reporting will be carried over into 2024, including audits. The completion report for the extension will be an up-date of the current progress report, capturing the final results in the Results Matrix. Details on information and data collected to date, and data still to be collected are in the next chapter, Chapter 5, on the Results Framework.

Closing offices, contracts agreements

A detailed exit plan for contracts and agreements, office closing, staff contracts etc is in place and is being followed closely. The large amount of assets owned by NURI, including assets from previous programmes, means that asset disposal is a major on-going activity and resources are being brought in to support on this work. Details are in Chapter 3, on exit activities.

6. Results Framework - NURI Extension

Status as at 30th June2023

While full results are not available at the time of reporting, partial and indicative results are described below.

Engagemen	t	Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative (NURI)			
Outcome		Enhanced resilience to current and expected impact of climate change and variability and promote equitable economic development in supported areas of Northern Uganda, including for refugees and host communities			
Outcome indicator			Greening $-\%$ of participating farmers contributing to greening (through e.g., tree growing / resilience design, maintaining food forests)		
			aining - % of participating farmers diversifying income sources to include less climate litive activities e.g., through learning business skills and expanded value-chain role		
Target Year 202		2023	1. 75% (of all targeted household tree growing and permaculture groups - 32,750)		
			2. 75% (of 22,000 households – LSB, FMS and Permaculture group members)		

1. Greening - Estimate for farmer groups engaged in tree planting/ growing includes:

- 440 groups engaged in household tree-growing 11,000 households (Actual to date 8,537 households being on average 19.5 households per group)
- 870 refugee, mixed and national groups engaged in permaculture, including resilience design and fruit tree planting 21,770 (Actual to date 25,993 households being on average 30 members per group)
- Institutions and households engaged in management and maintenance of 796 food forests.

Thus 8,598 households in household tree-growing, 27,335 in permaculture, plus households involved with Food Forests – an estimated total of **over 35,872 households**. Final numbers are in process of collection.

2. Sustaining – Estimate for groups includes:

- 69 LSB groups engaged in seed production and sale,
- 181 FMS groups engaged in bulk marketing of production and market engagement
- 870 refugee, mixed and national groups involved in vegetable production where a significant proportion of production is being sold in local markets.
- In addition, groups engaged in business linkage for specific businesses including acquisition of processing equipment this is an ongoing and competitive process, and numbers are not yet available.

An estimate of 22,000 households, with business linkages and equipment still to be added.

Output 1		Increased agricultural output and diversification for resilience to climate change and				
		climate variability				
Output indicators 1.1 % of participating farmers that have either planted trees, fruit trees		% of participating farmers that have either planted trees, fruit trees and or				
agroforestry species in their households and/or farms			agroforestry species in their households and/or farms			
1.2 Number of extension service providers providing commercial services		Number of extension service providers providing commercial services				
Annual	Year 5	2023 1.1. 75% (32,750 household target)				
target 1.2. 300		1.2. 300				

1.1 Tree growing – This includes:

- 440 groups engaged in Household tree-growing with cost-sharing actual households to date
 8,537
- 870 refugee, mixed and national groups engaged in permaculture, including resilience design and planting of fruit trees actual to date 25,993 households

An estimated 35,872 households.

1.2 Community extensionists – although the community extensionists trained and mentored in the various pilot activities of the NURI extension are not fully commercial, they have the potential to become so. The community extensionists are not paid by the NURI programme and a number have demonstrated the potential to move in the direction of commercialization:

A total of 1,305 community extension agents are operating under the various NURI extension pilots.

Output 2		Climate resilient agriculturally-related rural infrastructure renovated and or constructed using labour intensive approach			
Output indicator		2.1	% of participating households / institutions maintaining trees planted under RI		
Annual target	Year 5	2023	2.1 90%		

2.1 Final figures are not available for the maintanence of trees planted in Food Forests and at Springs, however, with follow-up by CSA units after the hand-over of all projects from DRC, the indications are that, even where survival rates are low, there is follow-up by institutions and communities with few exceptions, for example where trees have been destroyed by fire.

Of the institutional Food Forests, only 12 out of 422 food forests fall in the category of not being maintained. It is estimates that 96% of food forest are under maintenance.

The figure for maintenance of springs, including the trees planted to protect the sites, is 97%, with 5 of 214 springs not in use due to drying up. An additional 9 springs have not yet been monitored and will be added to the final figure.

Output 3		Agriculturally-related physical and natural water infrastructure projects constructed and made more resilient to climate change				
Output indicator		3.1. %	of participating households / institutions maintaining trees planted under WRM			
Annual	Year 5	2023	3.1 90%			
target						

3.1 Under WRM some food forests established belonged to individuals based on environmental hotspots selected for conservation. There has been less follow-up of these food-forests, the focus having been more on institution. Thus only 116 of the 280 food forests have so far been monitored. Indications are that individual food forests are less likely to be maintained then those placed with institutions — this appears to be related to beneficiaries having underestimated the costs of maintaining food forests in the years after establishment. Trees planted for river bank restoration have fared especially poorly, with ownership being a challenge.

Follow-up of water ponds, including the tree planting at these sites is on-going but with considerable gaps, with only 38 of 61 sites monitored by the responsible CSA Units in the first half of the year. With tree planting activities now complete, extension staff will focus on follow-up of food forests, including assessment of community maintenance, engagement and ownership.



Photos: Follow up on Food Forest management at Owaffa primary school, Terego district.

Annex 1: Status Report 30 June 2023

NURI Monthly Status Report, 30 June, 2023

Prepared by NURI CF

A. NURI staffing levels as of 30th June 2023

S/n	Implementing entity	Number of districts	Number of personnel	Comments
(1)	NURI CF	13	14	Includes 2 advisers
(2)	RAU Kitgum/Lamwo, Agago	3	33	
(3)	Arua DFA: Arua, Madi-Okollo, Terego	3	28	
(4)	AFARD: Pakwach, Nebbi, Zombo	3	25	
(5)	RAU Moyo/Obongi	2	22	
(6)	RAU Adjumani	1	21	
(7)	PICOT: Koboko	1	13	
	Total CSA	13	142	
(8)	DRC	11	50	
	Total NURI	13	206	

B. NURI Expenditure Performance by Implementing Entity as of 30 June 2023

S/n	Implementing entity (Total NURI budget)	Disbursement to date (UGX)	Expenditure to date (UGX)	% Absorption
(1)	NURI CF	3,401,369,069	1,801,652,251	53.0
(2)	Kitgum/Lamwo/Agago RAU	1,222,496,889	1,007,411,586	82.4
(3)	Arua DFA	1,164,479,629	970,578,625	83.3
(4)	AFARD	824,439,578	612,904,062	74.3
(5)	Moyo / Obongi RAU	901,976,359	803,432,196	89.1
(6)	Adjumani RAU	884,587,316	751,644,418	85.0
(7)	PICOT	461,829,831	367,565,802	79.6
	Total CSA Units	5,459,819,602	4,513,536,689	82.7
(8)	DRC	4,089,392,331	3,368,732,711	82.4
	Total NURI	12,950,581,002	9,683,921,651	74.8

^{1.} Report excludes payments made by RDE on behalf of NURI CF

^{2.} Retained earnings from 2022 considered income for the extension period.

C. NURI Physical Progress for Roll-over RI/WRM Projects as of 30 June 2023

Commissioning of NURI projects: All but five unviable projects commissioned.

D. Targeted Extension Period RI and WRM Projects for improvement:

S/n	District	No of Road-links	Revised targets March 2023	Number ongoing	% Progress
1	Agago	6	12	0	100
2	Kitgum	28	29	0	100
3	Lamwo	31	16	0	95
4	Adjumani	51	34	0	100
5	Moyo	29	21	0	100
6	Koboko	17	18	1	99
7	Arua	0	1	0	100
8	Madi-Okollo	4	4	0	100
9	Terego	48	75	0	100
10	Nebbi	22	25	0	100
11	Pakwach	15	15	0	100
12	Zombo	14	15	0	100
	Total	265	265	1	99

- Final inspection of projects in Lamwo District, deferred to 11th and 12th July.
- In Koboko one road delayed due to the commitment of the DLG equipment and wet weather.

F. NURI Extension CSA Status of Pilot Activities as of 30 June 2023

			TARC	GETS		Total	Number	Number			
S/n	District	LSB	FMS	Tree	Perma	FG* Target	Completed	Ongoing	% Complet		
1	Agago	ago 8 12		-	-	20	0	20	0.0		
2	Kitgum 5 27		50	-	82	15	67	18.3			
3	Lamwo	ua, M-O, rego 8 20		50	180	266	18	248	6.8		
4	Arua, M-O, Terego			75	240	343	10	333	2.9		
5	Pakwach			20	ı	35	4 5	31	11.4 7.6		
6	Nebbi 6 10		10	55	-	66		61			
7	Zombo	10	10	70	ı	95	5	90	5.3 4.3		
8	Moyo/Obongi	6	19	40	200	265	10	225			
9	9 Adjumani		24	50	200	280	12	268	4.3		
10	Koboko	8	20	30	50	108	10	98	9.3		
Total		69	181	440	870	1,560	89	1,441	5.7		

Some farmer groups are in more than one pilot activity. FMS includes 2022 pilots, reflected as completed with follow-up continuing. AFARD adjusted target between districts in May, based on demand.

NURI extension activities integrate a range of farmer-to-farmer extension activities.

In total there are 1,305 farmers trained and under on-going mentoring currently providing training and services to other farmers under NURI extension activities. These include Group Marketing Facilitators, Community-Based Trainers and Facilitators. Of the 1,305 farmer trainers, 684 (52%) are female and 621 (48%) are male. A total of 423 (32% of total) are youth, with 255 (60%) female youth, and 168 (40%) male youth.

G. NURI CSA Farmer Groups BDS and Linkage support, 30 June 2023

S/n	District	BDS target	No of BDS gps training	No of BDS gps equipt	FL target	No of FL gps trained	No of FL gps linked
(1)	Agago	30	30	0	12	29	5
(2)	Kitgum	40	38	0	16	33	2
(3)	Lamwo	40	23	0	16	20	3
(4)	Arua	47	47	0	19	47	16
(5)	Madi Okollo	17	17	0	7	17	4
(6)	Terego	26	26	0	10	26	11
(7)	Pakwach	20	9	0	8	20	3
(8)	Nebbi	20	13	0	8	19	6
(9)	Zombo	20	14	0	8	17	5
(10)	Moyo	30	30	0	12	30	10
(11)	Obongi	30	30	0	12	30	15
(12)	Adjumani	90	85	0	36	55	22
(13)	Koboko	30	30	0	12	24	11
	Total	440	392	0	176	367	113

BDS – Business Development Service. FL – Financial Linkage

Distribution of target across districts has changed as targeting of refugees is strengthened. Additional groups trained in FL based on demand. Not all will qualify for linkage.

H. NURI CF support to District Capacity building and NURI assets disposal, 30 June 2023

S/n	District	Targer Number	Number Ongoing	Number Complete	% Completed / ongoing
(1)	Masters	19	14	6	32% complete, 68% ongoing
(2)	Post Grad Diploma	20	0	20	100% complete
(3)	Higher diploma	4	0	4	100% complete
(4)	Assets Disposal				Disposed by auction: 204 M/C and 2 vehicles. 11 M/C transfers ongoing.



Photo: Sub counties officials from West Nile North during Go and See Visit at Ozugo Food Forest

Annex 2: NURI Extension Gantt Chart

			Gar	ntt C	hart	fo	r NU	RI E	exte	nsior	า 2023									
										Year 2023										
					Jan		Feb	Mar		April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept		Oct	Nov	Dec	Remarks
	Task name	Duration	Start	End	1 2 3	4 1	2 3 4	1 2 3	4 1	2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3	4 1 2	2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	
	Formalize Transition on FF follow-ups by CSA partners - Dec. 2022																			Done, reports with CF
	Redeployment of staff after annual performance appraisal	1 week	Jan.	Jan																Done,
	Meeting with the unit/IP heads on Extension activities (CF+)	1 week	Jan	Jan																Done
4	Learning and Reflection workshop - Tree Growing pilot Pakwach	1 Day	March	March																Done on 1st of June
	Review of JDs	2 weeks	Feb	Feb																Done
	Trainings - LSB Jan, F2FE Jan, Permaculture Feb, Tree Growing Feb	1 month	Feb	March																Done between March - Jun
	Training staff on Digital reporting by Ensibuuko - 1st week of Feb	1 week	Feb	Feb																Done in May - June
	Training staff on Financial Linkages - 4th week of Feb	1 week	Feb	Feb																Done
	Training staff on Business skills - 2nd week of March	1 week	March	March																Done
	Selection of farmer Groups for LSB, TG, Permaculture, FMS - March	2 weeks	March	March																Done
	Train Farmer groups - LSB, Permaculture, Tree Growing	Continuos	March	Dec.																Ongoing
12	Quantification of inputs: 3rd and 4th week of March	2 weeks	March	March																Done for both seasons A &
		1 Month	March	Aug.																Ongoing for season B
	Deliver inputs to IPs/Units/AEOs/ FGs. Season 'A' - May & Season 'B'	2 Months	July	Aug.																Ongoing for season B
	DLG sensitization - Feb	2 weeks	Feb	Feb																Done
16	Identify, Prepare & Plant demo plots/Seed multiplication plots	10 months	Jan	Oct.																Ongoing
	Train GMFs	4 months	April	July																Ongoing
18	Learning and Reflection W/shop - RD in RI/WRM	1 Day	May	May																Done
19	Learning and Reflection W/shop - Development work at the Nexus	1 Day	Aug.	Sept.																
	Learning and Reflection W/shop - Extension Methodologies	1 Day	Sept.	Oct.																
	Learning and reflection W/shop - Tree Growing pilots + FF Follow ups	1 Day	Sept.	Oct.																
22	BDS Experience note - VSLA C	1 Month	Oct.	Oct.																
23	VSLA Digitalization Experience note - VSLA C	1 Month	Oct.	Oct.																
24	Resilience Design in CSA Experience note - NPC/SE	1 Month	Oct.	Oct.																
	LSB Experience note - RC A	1 month	Oct.	Oct.																
	Annual performance appraisal - Units & CF	2 months	Oct.	Nov.																
	NURI Program Closing Events - Acholi region, NWN & SWN	1 week	Nov.	Nov																
28	Team Building - CF	1 week	July	July																1