

Cabinet approves funding for 4 large scale irrigation schemes

Cabinet has approved to fund the construction of four (04) large scale irrigation schemes under the Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme-Project 2 (FIEFOC 2).

This was after a prepared proposal for construction of these schemes was presented before it.

The schemes are located at Namatala, Unyama, Namalu and Siipi.

FIEFOC 2 is a five-year public-sector investment (2016-2021), designed within the context of the Government of Uganda's Second National Development Plan (NDP II) and the long-term development strategy, the Vision 2040 both of which promote agricultural infrastructure and income enhancement.

The project is also designed on successful implementation of FIEFOC 1, which ended in December 2012.

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The Project coordinator asserts that the target beneficiaries of the project are farmers with specific enterprises that are mainly of high value.



A team from the Ministry of Water and Environment inspecting the rehabilitation of Olwenyi rice scheme channel in Lira



One of the biggest dams constructed at Agoro gravity flow scheme in Lamwo district to promote irrigation



Some of the workers carrying out rehabilitation works at one of the canals of Olwenyi irrigation scheme in Lira district

According to the National Project Coordinator, Mr. John Magezi Ndamira, the contribution of FIEFOC 2 towards sector performance is hinged on section 6.4.3 under performance indicator 7 of 2018, which focuses on proportion of irrigation potential developed.

The overall objective of FIEFOC 2 is to improve farm incomes, rural livelihoods, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development.

The key financiers of the project are the African Development Bank (AfDB), Nordic Development Bank (NDF) and the Government of Uganda to a tune of US\$ 91.43 million.

The project is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF).

Project location and beneficiaries

The project is located in 40 districts under five catchments. These include; Wadelai Catchment comprising five districts of Arua, Nebbi, Pakwach, Zombo and Maracha districts, Tochi Catchment consisting of 12 districts; namely Amuria, Adjumani, Apac, Kole, Gulu, Lira, Aleptong, Amuru, Nwoya, Oyam, Masindi and Kiryandongo.

Others are Manafwa Catchment comprising twelve (12) districts of Namayingo, Bugiri, Busia, Mbale, Pallisa, Kibuku, Tororo, Budaka, Buduuda, Butaleja, Manafwa and Namutumba.

This is in addition to Ngenge Catchment consisting of Eight (8) districts of Kween, Kapchorwa, Sironko,



A team from the Ministry of Water and Environment inspecting the rehabilitation of Olwenyi rice scheme in Lira district

Bulambuli, Bukedea, Bukwo, Nakapiripirit and Amudat and

Mubuku Catchment comprising of three districts namely Ntoroko, Kabalore and Kasese.

Under the same project, five districts; Kasese, Butaleja, Kween, Oyam and Pakwach have got irrigation schemes.

Based on the 2014 census, the total population of the five districts covered under the project is about 1,816,756, of whom 51.7 per cent are women, which corresponds to about 386,543.8 households.

The Project coordinator asserts that the target beneficiaries of the project are farmers with specific enterprises that are mainly of high value.

These include rice, horticulture, fruits, vegetables, species and coffee all aimed at boosting exports based on agricultural commodity zones in the country.

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