

FIEFOC 2 Greatly Improves Household Incomes

Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme 2 (FIEFOC 2) has greatly empowered the youths in its catchment with business skills.

This has been possible through FIEFOC project's four major components.

These include; Agricultural Infrastructure Development Component, Agribusiness Development Component, Integrated Natural Resources Management Component and Project Management.

Agricultural infrastructure development component is responsible for the development of the irrigation schemes and the establishment of farmer-based cooperatives for sustainable management of the irrigation schemes.

Under this component, the project is constructing five irrigation schemes namely: Wadelai covering 1000 hectares in Pakwach district and Tochi covering 500 hectares in Oyam district.

Others are Ngenge Irrigation Scheme, covering 880 hectares in Kween district; Doho II now covering 1,226 hectares in Butaleja district and Mubuku II

Irrigation Scheme, covering 480 hectares in Kasese district.

Physical progress indicates that by the end of June 2019, the overall construction progress for the five irrigation schemes stood at 52.3 per cent.

Currently, the physical progress at Tochi irrigation scheme stands at 72.3 per cent followed by Ngenge at 64.8 per cent, Doho II at 58.9 per cent, Mubuku II at 36.5 per cent and Wadelai at 29 per cent.

Olwenyi Irrigation Scheme which is wholly financed by the Government of Uganda is at 98 per cent, and it is now under defect liability period.

In Agoro, Doho I and Mubuku I Irrigation Schemes, Assessment for remedial works are ongoing while Preparations for designs of 96 small scale irrigation schemes are underway.

Agribusiness development component is aimed at increasing business outlook of the beneficiaries towards increasing household incomes.

It comprises two key sub components; Alternative Livelihoods Development and Business Skills



Farmers transplanting rice from the nursery to the main garden within the scheme

The project is supporting



75

farmer groups

and processors to access post-harvest handling and value addition techniques for fish, honey and rice, as well as skills in food safety, climate smart agriculture, agribusiness, financial accessibility and management.

Development, including the ENABLE Youth Uganda Program.

The youth program aims at creating employment opportunities for young innovative Ugandans between 18 and 35 years of age.

Under the same component, a total of 100 youth agripreneurs are targeted under the ENABLE Youth Program to upgrade their technical skills, adopt innovative agricultural business management practices and access investment capital for their businesses.

Successful agripreneurs under this program receive substantial financial support from Government.

Currently, a total of 20 youth agripreneurs from Kasese district and 42 from the Eastern districts of Butaleja and Kween have been selected for funding.

Other potential agripreneurs from Oyam, Pakwach and Nebbi districts are still undergoing training in soft business skills development.

In addition, the project is supporting 75 farmer groups and processors to access post-harvest handling and value addition techniques for fish, honey and rice, as well as skills in food safety, climate smart agriculture, agribusiness, financial accessibility and management.

Integrated natural resources management (INRM) component aims at establishing a viable basis for irrigated agriculture and natural resources management in the five irrigation schemes and their surrounding watersheds.

The INRM component has registered a number of achievements which include, development of five Catchment Management Plans (CMP) to guide investment options

in the catchment areas of five irrigation schemes.

This aims at reducing sediments entering the irrigation schemes and improving farming in water catchment areas.

A total of 2,389,372 assorted tree seedlings were distributed to farmers and 2,380 hectares of river banks were restored in four watershed areas of Ngenge, Manafwa, Tochi, Wadelai and Mubuku II.

A total of 7,000 hectares of forest cover restored on private and degraded lands through planting of trees.



Farmers planting rice in one of the fields in rehabilitated Olwenyi scheme in Lira district

Under the Project Coordination Component, project activities are coordinated, monitored, supervised and reported.

The key achievements include approval of four Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Reports by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) for Doho II, Ngenge, Tochi and Wadelai Irrigation Schemes.

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