

Project Profile

Sector	Agriculture
Sub Sector	Crops
Code:	0089
Title:	Support for Irrigation
Implementing agency:	MAAIF
Location:	Lira, Kasese and Tororo districts
Total Plan Exp	US \$ 1.829 million
Funds Secured	US \$ 1.829 million
Funding gap	Nil
Start Date:	1987
Completion Date:	2006

Background:

Currently, agricultural production is predominantly rain-fed and this is considered a big disadvantage in ensuring sustainable agricultural productivity. Although Uganda is well endowed with water resources - both surface and underground in form of lakes, rivers, swamps, streams and wetlands, which can be tapped for production, rain-fed agriculture predominates. Production is therefore highly seasonal and is characterized by shortfalls especially during dry spells resulting from rainwater runoff and high evaporation rates. This curtails sustained production and thus fails to meet domestic, regional and international demands. Water for livestock is limited, with an adverse effect of increased disease spread, strife and stress. The country's surface area of about 241,039 sq km has 15% open water, 3% permanent wetlands and 9.4% seasonal wetlands.

Of the estimated 6,000,000 hectares of cropped land in Uganda, only 54,000 ha are currently being irrigated. Of these, only 2,500 ha are under formally designed irrigation schemes. The formal irrigated area represents only 0.04% of the cropped land.

The proposed activities are based on the rehabilitation requirements for Mubuku, Doho and Olweny irrigation schemes in Kasese, Tororo and Lira districts respectively. These irrigation schemes are currently being operated and managed by farmers. The proposal also includes requirements for the deployment of water harvesting technologies to support the programme for providing production packages to farmers under the strategy.

Rehabilitation of irrigation schemes

With regard to rehabilitation of irrigation schemes, issues considered include:
 Current status of the scheme
 Cost of rehabilitation: irrigation infrastructure, machinery, services and associated buildings and roads
 Enterprises earnings arising from the investment and numbers of beneficiaries.

Project Objectives

- To increase food production and, in particular, achieve self-sufficiency in rice by minimizing its importation
 - To increase rural employment and income.
- To effect inter and intra-regional income distribution.

Expected outputs**Schemes rehabilitated**

Enterprises earnings increased and an increase in the numbers of beneficiaries.

Performance Indicators

No. of schemes rehabilitated
 Topographic and soil survey report
 A report on planning and design of irrigation systems

Number of claimants paid
Afforestation coverage
Mobilization of farmers
Achievements

Mobilized 200 farmers back to farms and allocated all plots (50 ha New Farmers; 550 ha Itek-Okile).

160 farmers have so far benefited from study tour to other rice growing areas like Eastern Uganda, Kenya Tanzania.

One staff attended a course in Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training College, Tanzania.

Financing

The project is financed by GOU. The GOU funding amounts to US \$ 1.069 million for FY 2005/06 (including arrears).

Plan of Operation

Rehabilitation of schemes
Topographic and soil survey
Planning and design of irrigation systems
Afforestation of water catchment areas
Payment of domestic arrears