

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY TWDA IN THE YEAR 2016

1. CBT review and feedback meetings

Two CBT review and feedback meetings were held in the year one in March 2016 at TWDA offices which was used to introduce CBTs to target setting using PAG. Furthermore, CBTs presented their reports and work plans for the next period. Another CBT review meeting was conducted to disseminate field findings regarding CBT performance following monitoring visits by project staff. Additionally, one sensitization meeting that was attended by 59 members was organised for KASE Board and other cooperative members on the guidelines for utilization of the capitalization funds.



The CAPCA marketing officer assessing suitability of KASE Multipurpose cooperative society to receive and efficiently utilize the capitalization fund

2. Project Monitoring by project staff in advocacy, marketing and CBT activities.

15 technical support/monitoring visits were made to the three supported farmer cooperatives that include KASE, Wakiso and Namayumba and their member groups all under TWDA. The activities included; holding meetings with co-operative leaders in the 3 cooperatives of Wakiso, Kakiri and Namayumba. The meetings zeroed on acquisition and sustenance of Co-operative offices, management of cooperatives Bank accounts, Co-operative records keeping (share holdings, membership, etc.) and planning for their 1st general meetings after registration for the three cooperatives as required by law.



On the left, a meeting with the executive members of KASE attended by a consultant from Akeezimbira SACCO who is in a black coat seated at the extreme left and on the right is a meeting with some of the leaders of Wakiso Cooperative society.

In addition to that, 34 technical support visits were made to 22 farmer groups under the three cooperatives. The visits focused on tracking progress made by groups in areas of savings and credit (SILC), governance, lobbying and advocacy (CDD and Luwero Rwenzori), member recruitment into cooperatives, individual group membership, collective marketing, payment of CBT allowances, group IGAs, record keeping and reporting, adoption of Bio-intensive Agricultural practices among households in some of the targeted groups and improvements in the livelihoods of individual member households.



The marketing officer for Tulina Essubi mixed group Kona tending to the group's Sukuma Wiki garden serving as the group IGA found in Kona Village, Wakiso Sub County.

Staff further conducted 3 mobilization and sensitization meetings at group level to mobilise supported farmers join formed cooperatives.

Furthermore 6 cooperative meetings were conducted and refreshed participants who included executive members and subcommittee members of the three farmer cooperatives on roles and responsibilities of different organs of the cooperative. The different organs targeted included; the general assembly, BOARD, SUPCO, management and sub committees such as one for marketing. The TWDA team further supported the CAPCA Liaison office team in conducting a one day assessment of the suitability and capacity of KASE multi-purpose cooperative society to receive and effectively utilize the capitalization fund. The organisation further hosted interns from several institutions of higher learning under its internship programme. the students spent 30 working days with farmers while learning from them as well as training them in aspects of; cooperative formation and management, collective marketing, vegetable production, coffee agronomic practices, banana agronomic practices, bio-intensive agricultural practices, preparation of organic manures, production of organic pesticides, bio gas as an

alternative source of energy, savings and credit, introduction to project monitoring and use of project log frames and M&E frame works as monitoring tools.



One of the interns training farmers under MUKABU farmers group in Wakiso town council in sterilization of nursery beds for vegetable seedlings.

The TWDA team further conducted 6 process monitoring visits of Akeezimbira SACCO during execution of its assignment to ensure quality services were being rendered to members of KASE cooperative. Two monitoring visits were conducted during the organisation capacity assessment of KASE conducted by Akeezimbira as well as trainings of BOD members.



Training for KASE board and other members conducted by Akeezimbira SACCO (the cooperative outsourced to nurture KASE) and officials from Centenary bank

The team further conducted a one day follow up meeting with Wakiso district officials on the formal channel for farmer complaints.

3. Marketers review & feedback meetings

3 review and feedback meetings conducted for group marketers. The meetings were organised purposely to remind group marketers about their role in promoting collective marketing among group members as well as sensitizing them on the need for marketing plans for their respective groups and cooperatives. In addition to that the meetings were used to sensitize the group marketers in preparation of marketing plans following observed capacity gaps.



The American Peace Corps Volunteer and the TWDA field officer training marketers in market planning

4. CAPCA's Contribution to professionalize cooperative management.

KASE multipurpose cooperative society Ltd was supported to hire a full time manager for one year. This was in form of salary contribution for the manager for the year 2016.

5. Apprenticeship training for key management farmers in well-established cooperatives

TWDA conducted a 3 days apprenticeship training for key leaders of KASE cooperative society which was facilitated by Akeezimbira SACCO. The training focused on cooperative governance, cooperative management and marketing.

6. Cooperative lobby activities

A programme was drawn to support cooperatives in undertaking their lobby activities during 2016. Several round table meetings were held with key duty bearers at Mende, Kakiri and Namayumba sub counties who included; CDO Mende sub county, Chairman LC III Mende Sub County, the sub county chief Mende Sub County, CDO Namayumba Sub County, CDO Namayumba Town council, Speaker Namayumba Sub County, Councilor Lutiici ward, Chairman LC III Namayumba Sub County, District Woman councilor Namayumba Sub County, Coordinator Operation wealth creation Busiro North and CDO Kakiri Sub County. Some of the farmer leaders that participated in these lobby meetings included; Chairperson KASE Multipurpose cooperative society LTD, the secretary KASE, advocacy committee chairperson KASE, marketer Namayumba Cooperative Society, Chairperson Namayumba Cooperative Society Ltd, chairperson Advocacy and lobbying committee Namayumba Cooperative Society LTD and Chairperson Wakiso Cooperative Society Ltd.

Two engagement meetings were held between Namayumba and KASE cooperative leaders with the Coordinators of OWC in Busiro counties on farmers' access to agricultural inputs. Furthermore, one engagement meeting was held between Wakiso Cooperative leaders and the CDO Mende Sub County on accessing CDD funds. In addition to that, TWDA organised a networking meeting between farmers of Namayumba Cooperative and the newly elected LCIII chairman for Namayumba S/C who pledged total support to the cooperative during his term of office. TWDA further held a meeting with members of Kyakalu Namayumba Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd and the main objectives of the meeting were; to institute the executive members of the cooperative and to forge a way forward for the cooperative.

Relatedly, 3 farmer leaders meetings were organised to equip them with skills in documenting and presenting their issues during the CAPCA farmers' forum concerning distribution of agricultural inputs under the OWC programme.

7. Agency lobby meetings/activities.

TWDA is increasingly embracing lobbying and advocacy as an avenue to ensure its efforts in communities continue to exist long after the CAPCA project activities have come to an end. To realize this, the organisation is focusing on improving the enabling environment for supported farmer entities by conducting round table meetings at any given opportunity with key duty bearers to inform them about project activities and supported groups. It is anticipated that this will lead to supported farmers and their communities benefiting more from government programmes.

In pursuit of the above agenda, 11 agency lobby meetings were conducted in 2016. These included one round table meeting that was held with the chairman of Namayumba Sub County. The meeting aimed at lobbying the newly elected chairman to work with Namayumba Cooperative and support activities undertaken by TWDA in his sub county. Another meeting was held with Umeme Engineer in-charge Naluvule area on acquisition of a cheaper transformer for operationalization of the maize mill. One office meeting was held with coordinator OWC Busiro north to get updates on the OWC programme in the district. 2 follow up meetings were further organised with the coordinator of OWC in Namayumba and Wakiso to document supported farmers that have benefited from the programme. TWDA additionally organised four engagement meetings with Umeme management and other Wakiso district local government leaders including the chairman LCV, CAO, Kakiri LC III chairman and Wakiso RDC on assisting farmers to have their maize mill connected to the national grid.

The TWDA team additionally conducted 2 round table meetings with Wakiso District officials on establishment of a formal channel for delivery of farmer complaints.



A meeting with Wakiso district officials including the DPO, DAO, DVO, OWC Coordinator, ACAO Production and DCDO on the formal channel for farmer complaints

And in a bid to network with other actors and increase TWDA's positioning as a voice for farmers, TWDA staff attended a 2 days supervisors and counterparts workshop held from 10th to 11th august by the American peace corps. Additionally, TWDA team attended a one day regional joint agricultural sector annual review workshop for 2016 that was organised by the monitoring and planning unit at MAAIF in pursuit of its efforts to increase farmers benefit from government programmes particularly OWC.

The organisation further inputted in the consultative meeting of the drafting of the national strategic programme on climate resilience that was organised by PELUM in partnership with the climate change department at Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment.