

## Are Agricultural programmes well distributed in Uganda?

### Overview

Overview Article X11 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 guarantees balanced and equitable development of the different areas of Uganda and between rural and urban areas. Consequently, the first objective of the National Development Plan (2010/11-2014/15) is “Increasing household incomes and promoting equity”.

Among the key indicators to measure this objective is changes in agricultural production and productivity arising from equitable utilization of national resources and development projects. Using evidence from monitoring surveys by the Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit (BMAU), this policy brief examines the manner of distribution of agricultural programmes in Uganda using 2 key proxy indicators: Geographical and poverty targeting of development projects in the agricultural sector. The assessment covered the period FY 2008/09 to FY 2012/13.

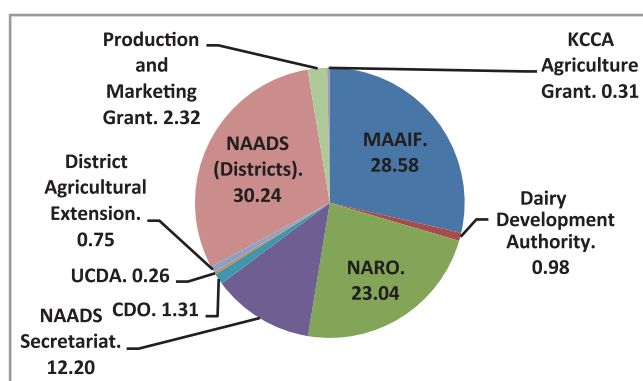
### Key Issues

- Specialized projects, that are not national, are not well distributed between regions and districts. The northern region and new districts have been least served.
- The eastern region with the second highest prevalence of poverty had a lower per capita programme expenditure than the west that is less poor.

### Public Spending in the Agriculture Sector

Over the past five years, public spending in the sector has gradually increased from US\$ 223.24 billion in FY 2008/09 to US\$ 305.04 billion in FY 2012/13, representing a 36.6% growth in absolute terms. The distribution of funds within the sector is shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: % spending in agriculture in FY 2011/12**



**Source: MFPE Approved Estimates of Revenue and expenditure FY 2012/2013**

### Geographical distribution of agricultural programmes

Spending in the agricultural sector is channelled through Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) departments as mainstream funding or special development projects. Over the past 5 years, MAAIF has been operating about 40 development projects/programmes in any given year, many of which are donor funded. About 10 of them (25%) focus on the core mandate of MAAIF of policy and institutional development. This category was excluded from the analysis.

The assessment focused on MAAIF development projects and the programmes handled by the semi-autonomous agencies (Table 1). All districts in Uganda have benefitted from the 8 Government programmes that are operated countrywide, especially NAADS and those under NARO, UCDA and the Dairy Development Agency. Beyond the national programmes, however, some regions and districts have not benefitted fully from the

additional sector interventions, particularly the donor funded projects. *Access to additional projects by districts ranges from a minimum of one to seven specialised interventions.*

Northern Uganda has benefitted least from additional programmes/projects (Figure 2). Only 13% of the districts in Northern Uganda had additional projects beyond the national programmes. The Western region is the second most disadvantaged region in terms of access to additional agricultural programmes. Beyond the national programmes, only 31% of the districts in Western Uganda had three additional agricultural projects compared to 58% in the central region and 47% in the eastern region.

**Table 1: Geographical location of major public investments in the agricultural sector – 2008 -2013**

PROJECT	Location <sup>1</sup>				
	CENTRAL	EASTERN	WESTERN	NORTHERN	COUNTRYWIDE <sup>3</sup>
Agricultural Credit Facility (ACF)					√
Agriculture/Improved Rice Production				Amolator, Amuru, Apac, Dokolo, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Lira, Oyam, Pader	
Agriculture & Marketing Support project		Amuria, Katakwi, Soroti		Arua, Koboko, Yumbe	
Avian and Human Influenza Preparedness and Response Project					√
Creation of Tsetse & Trypanosomiasis Free Areas	Kalangala, Kampala, Kayunga, Lyantonde, Masaka, Mpigi, Mukono, Rakai, Sembabule, Wakiso	Bugiri, Butaleja, Iganga, Jinja, Kaliro, Mayuge, Pallisa, Tororo			
Crop Disease & Pest Control	Wakiso				√
Dairy Development Authority (DDA)	Kiboga, Masaka, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Rakai, Sembabule	Bududa, Mbale, Ngora, Soroti	Bushenyi, Isingiro, Kamwenge, Kiruhura, Mbarara, Ntungamo	Gulu, Lira	√
Export Goat Breeding & Production	Sembabule				
Farm Income Enhancement Project	Kiboga, Luwero, Masaka, Nakasongola, Rakai, Sembabule, Wakiso	Bududa, Bugiri, Butaleja, Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, Kumi, Manafwa, Mbale, Pallisa, Sironko, Soroti, Tororo	Bushenyi, Hoima, Kabale, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kasese, Kisoro, Kyenjojo, Masindi, Mbarara, Ntungamo, Rukungiri	Adjumani, Arua, Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Lira, Moroto, Nakapiripirit, Nebbi	
Farming in Tsetse Controlled Areas	Kayunga	Budaka, Bugiri, Busia, Iganga, Jinja, Kaliro, Kamuli, Manafwa, Mayuge, Mbale, Pallisa, Soroti, Tororo			
Fisheries Development Project	Kajjansi, Kalangala, Kampala, Luwero, Masaka, Mityana, Mukono, Nakasongola	Bugiri, Busia, Jinja, Iganga, Kamuli, Mayuge, Mbale, Soroti, Tororo	Bullisa, Bushenyi, Kabale, Kanungu, Kasese, Kibaale, Masindi, Mbarara	Amolator, Apac, Gulu, Lira, Nebbi	

PROJECT	Location <sup>1</sup>				
	CENTRAL	EASTERN	WESTERN	NORTHERN	COUNTRYWIDE <sup>3</sup>
Integrated Production and Pest Management	Buikwe, Mukono, Kiboga	Iganga, Kamuli	Mbarara, Isingiro, Kiruhura		
Kabale Tea Factory Project			Kabale		
National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)					√
National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO)					√
National Animal Genetic Resources Centre & Data Bank (NAGRIC&DB)	Buikwe, Entebbe	Bulambuli, Kamuli	Kiruhura, Kabarole	Apac	
National Livestock Productivity Improvement Project (NLPPI)	Kayunga, Kiboga, Luwero, Lyantonde, Mpigi, Mubende, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Rakai, Sembabule	Amuria, Budaka, Bukedea, Kaberamaido, Kaliro, Kamuli, Katakwi, Kumi, Pallisa, Sironko	Bushenyi, Ibanda, Isingiro, Kamwenge, Kiruhura, Kyenjojo, Masindi, Mbarara, Ntungamo	Apac, Kaabong, Kitgum, Lira, Moroto, Nakapiripirit	
Support for Tea Cocoa Seedlings	Kampala, Luwero, Mpigi, Mukono	Jinja, Mayuge	Bundibugyo, Kibaale		√
Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA)					√
Uganda Cotton Development Organisation					Cotton areas
Uganda Meat Export Development Project	Kiboga, Lyantonde, Luwero, Masaka, Mpigi, Mubende, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Rakai, Sembabule,		Isingiro, Kiruhura, Masindi, Mbarara, Ntungamo	Gulu	
Vegetable Oil Development Project	Buvuma, Kalangala	Kaberamaido, Kapchorwa, Katakwi, Kumi, Mbale, Pallisa, Soroti, Tororo	Masindi	Apac, Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Pader, West Nile	

**Notes:**

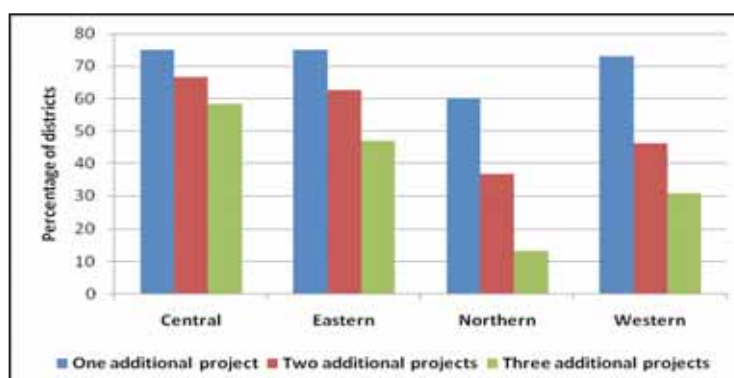
<sup>1</sup>Some of the districts have been sub-divided such that the project covers a larger area.

<sup>2</sup>These are projects that are mainly operated at MAAIF Headquarters with limited work at the local government level.

<sup>3</sup>Includes projects that cover all or more than 50% of the districts in Uganda. Although some projects operate or are intended to operate countrywide, they have pockets of concentrated public investments in some districts which are indicated.

**Caveat:** The projects that operate at MAAIF for policy and institutional development were not included; Not all projects were included due to data limitations.

**Figure 2: Proportion of districts in region with additional agricultural projects**



Source: Author's analysis

## Poverty targeting

Poverty is most prevalent in the Northern region followed by the Eastern, Western and Central regions (Table 2). However, the North has attracted the least number of additional projects, beyond the national programmes and these are largely concentrated in 4 districts (Gulu, Apac, Lira, Kitgum) out of 30 districts in the region.

**Table 2: Per capita expenditure and poverty targeting in the agricultural sector in FY 2011/2012**

Region	Population 2012 - million	Poverty (%)	Per capita expenditure on national programmes (Ushs)
Northern	7.97	46.2	4,573
Eastern	8.96	24.3	4,111
Western	8.49	21.8	4,119
Central	8.71	10.7	3,014

**Source: UNHS 2009/10; UBOS Statistical Abstract 2012**

Poorer regions should have higher per capita programme expenditures. An analysis of per capita expenditures on programmes that are implemented in all districts in Uganda shows equitable distribution of resources, except for the Western region where it was higher than the poorer east (Table 2).

## Conclusions

The Government is implementing 8 agricultural programmes that are geographically well distributed in all districts of Uganda.

However, additional<sup>1</sup> projects beyond the national programmes are not well distributed. Only 13% of districts in Northern Uganda had at least 3 additional projects compared to 31% for Western, 47% for Eastern and 58% in the Central region.

Per capita expenditure on national programmes is fairly balanced between regions except for the Eastern region that should be the second highest.

<sup>1</sup> Data was not readily available on how much funding had been channeled through these additional projects to the beneficiary districts.

## Recommendations

1. For specialized projects, MAAIF should improve their geographical distribution so that all districts benefit, in line with their localized needs. Special attention should be given to Northern Uganda and newly created districts.
2. The poorer regions of the north and east should have the highest per capita programme expenditures respectively.

## References:

- GoU, 2010: The National Development Plan 2010/11 – 2014/15; GoU, 1995: Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995.
- MoFPED Approved Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure (various years);
- MoFPED Quarterly and Annual Budget Monitoring Reports FY 2008/09 – FY 2012/13;
- MFPED, 2010: National Budget Framework Paper FY 2010/11 – FY 2014/15.

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