



BEARING THE BRUNT OF

Women's Exclusion in Agriculture



**ADDRESSING THE CRITICAL GAPS THAT INCREASE WOMEN'S
VULNERABILITY TO SHOCKS OF POVERTY, HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION.**

A case of Ngora and Amuria Districts in Uganda



Analytical Study

*Bearing the Brunt of Women's Exclusion in Agriculture: Addressing the
Critical Gaps that Increase Women's Vulnerability to Shocks of
Poverty, Hunger and Malnutrition.
A case of Ngora and Amuria Districts in Uganda.*

Executive Summary

**"Supported by
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List of Acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBS	Community Based Services
CCA	Climate Change Adaption
CDD	Community Driven Development
CDO	Community Development Officer
CG	Central Government
CIDI	Community Integrated Development Initiatives
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCDO	District Community Development Officer
DDP	District Development Plan
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EAC	East African Community
EMR	Ecosystem Management and Restoration
ESCR	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FOWODE	Forum for Women in Democracy
FRA	Food Rights Alliance
GoU	Government of Uganda
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights
IDP	Internally Displaced People
LC	Local Council
LG	Local Government
LLG	Lower Local Government

LGMSDP	Local Government Management and Service Delivery Programme
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NAP	National Agriculture Policy
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
NUSAF	Northern Uganda Social Action Fund
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PfR	Partners for Resilience
PHC	Primary Health Care
PRDP	Peace, Recovery and Development Plan
S/C	Sub County
SACCOs	Savings and Credit Cooperatives
SOCADIDO	Soroti Catholic Diocese Integrated Development Organization
TEDDO	Teso Dioceses Planning and Development Office
TERUDO	Teso Rural Development Organization
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UFNP	Uganda Food and Nutrition Policy
UHRC	Uganda Human Rights Commission
UNAP	Uganda Nutrition Action Plan
UPDF	Uganda People's Defence Forces
VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association
WEDA	Wera Development Agency
WOWNI	War on Want Northern Ireland

Executive Summary

In spite of the appreciation of the role that women play in economic growth and development process, their access to and benefit from production resources has been slow and limited. Women are among the primary victims of violations of the right to food but are also the key to its realisation. They work hard but are considered second rate in most Ugandan cultures because men have traditionally been the breadwinners.

Uganda has an elaborate legal, policy and institutional framework to protect and support women's rights, prohibit discrimination and address their exclusion from development interventions. Uganda has also ratified several international treaties to address the exclusion of women such as the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The development plans in the Amuria and Ngora districts recognize the challenges women face. However, the major challenge

that continues to burden women are the weaknesses in the implementation of these laws and policies as well as supporting agriculture and welfare institutions in line with up lifting women, with staff and funds to effectively perform their duties.

Amuria and Ngora districts are located in the Teso region of Eastern Uganda. This region exemplifies legacies of unacknowledged conflicts and human rights violations. Civil conflicts that arose in these areas have devastated the region economically and socially. In addition, the region is prone to adverse climate-related disasters which have resulted in strong seasonal and annual variations in production. Despite the large reduction in the share of people living in absolute poverty in Uganda, (24.5 in 2009/10 to 19.7 in 2012/13) the Eastern region has experienced the slowest progress in reducing income poverty (Uganda Poverty Status report, 2014). The poverty levels are still high in Eastern Uganda. Welfare indicators such as having an iron-roofed house, households with at least one means of transport, and affording to have

at least two meals a day are not impressive.

It's against this background that the study was commissioned by Food Rights Alliance (FRA) and War on Want Northern Ireland (WOWNI), supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung with funds from German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The study aims to establish facts about the effects of women's exposure to shocks of vulnerability, poverty and traumatic stressors of hunger and malnutrition, map out organizations that have played a role, and highlight the gaps that exist in addressing these challenges.

The study used both qualitative and quantitative research methods to establish facts about women's resilience to exclusion, poverty, hunger and malnutrition. The techniques used to obtain the necessary data and information included: literature review, semi-structured and one-on-one interviews, focus group discussions, and a household survey. A total of 312 respondents including local government officials, NGOs,

community members and individual households (women) were interviewed and contributed to the findings of this study.

The study found that women's exclusion, poverty and hunger are common in the two districts. The key drivers that foster and enhance these variables include:

Culture: A patriarchal system that exists in which: males hold primary power, are predominant in roles of political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property. Payment of bride price as part of culture in this region is misconceived to make women property of men. At the household level, the role of men as key decision makers and property owners is culturally preserved.

Economic: This study found that men emerge with a significant advantage in control and ownership of key productive assets such as land. This study found that only 6.8% and 6.6% of women in Amuria and Ngora respectively own land. Women are also confined to low value enterprises such as selling vegetables whereas men are

engaged in high yielding crop production – corn, for example.

Social: Boys are socialized into more productive tasks while girls are in charge of household chores. Thus, girls are unable to make substantive contributions to agricultural production.

Political: Despite affirmative action to increase women's participation in political decision making, women still face a number of challenges that hinder their role as respected decision makers. This study found that female politicians, especially councillors, rarely influence political processes and decisions partly due to low literacy levels, community perceptions that women cannot effectively participate in politics. Limited support from their husbands and increased commercialisation of political campaigns also hinder women's participation.

The exclusion of women, poverty and hunger has led to: food insecurity, domestic violence, poor health, child pregnancies and marriages, and high school drop-outs. In order to overcome stresses caused by exclusion,

poverty, and hunger, women in both districts have adopted various strategies including: looking for alternative sources of income, joining Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs), borrowing food from relatives and friends, working much harder to earn a living, consuming less food, encouraging child marriages, begging, gathering wild fruits, vegetables, and insects, and prostitution.

Local Governments in both districts are implementing a number of programmes that directly and indirectly address issues of women exclusion, poverty and hunger. Some of the major government programmes that are known by the community include: Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF), National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS), and Community Driven Development (CDD). However, few women participate in these programmes. This is partly due to favoritism in selection of beneficiaries, limited access to information about these programmes, and unfavorable conditions for women involvement such as cultural restraints, household chores, and financial challenges.

Currently, there are less than 10 NGOs that directly address women issues in these two districts. The study engaged a total of 8 NGOs supporting women in this area. These NGOs are implementing projects in areas of agriculture and food security, health, education, water and sanitation, governance, peace and conflict, disaster risk reduction, and human rights. Despite the fact that most of the projects do not explicitly focus on women exclusion, poverty and hunger, their interventions address gender and women issues.

Most of them ensure that their interventions target and support women. They combine service delivery, advocacy and lobbying to ensure that government policies and programmes address the needs of the poor – especially women. However, there is no umbrella body to provide a formal platform for these NGOs to address women's issues. This has resulted in uncoordinated interventions at local levels and unnecessary competition.

The two districts are unable to address challenges women face including strengthening

their resilience to exclusion and traumatic stressors. This challenge is due to inadequate funding and human resources, ineffective implementation of policies and programmes, lack of overall concern for the challenges women face. On the other hand, minimal funding and staffing is exacerbated by overreliance on conditional grants by the local government, which offers them minimal flexibility to address their specific needs.

It is against this analysis that the study makes recommendations that address the continued exclusion of women in accessing production resources and benefitting from their efforts. These recommendations are also aimed at tackling poverty, hunger and malnutrition at household and community levels. Additionally, these recommendations can be replicated at the country level to mitigate negative impacts that have been associated with the status quo of women.

Develop and enforce local ordinances:

In relation to the Ngora district local government, tremendous effort ought to go towards the

enactment and implementation of the Food Security and Nutrition Ordinance. Legislations of this nature should be inclusive and in context with local situations. Lower Local Governments should be encouraged to develop such legislations to address local contextual issues and align them with the district and sub county development plans. Beyond this, these ordinances will go a long way in informing planning and budgeting for actions aimed at addressing critical issues on food security, malnutrition and poverty.

Enforce legal rights of women, namely access to and ownership of land:

In both the central and local governments, there is an urgent need to increase sensitization on land ownership, and security of tenure that especially focuses on women. A provision of adequate funds to ensure effective operation of local level land administration is essential for the realisation of food and nutrition security and resilience to shocks. In addition, there is need for a secure model to address the social dynamics that surround women's access to

use of and ownership of land.

Put women's leadership at the center of local development:

There is need to create space to accommodate the active involvement of women in the design and implementation of local level projects, and to facilitate sharing of their experiences. There should be deliberate plans and strategies towards creating inclusive spaces to ensure that women's participation in political decision making goes beyond the affirmative action to encouraging their participation in general politics and policy making.

Invest in women capital:

There is need to improve women's capital (or capabilities). Such an increase can be achieved by promoting access to education and training, health care and nutrition through institutionalization of inclusive access. 'Active' labour market programmes can be used as an alternative to address social exclusion. An example of this alternative includes training and skills development that aim to enhance women's capacity to participate in the labour markets and productive activities.

Strengthen women's resilience to shocks and stresses:

Women often have limited savings or any other monetary safety net. Investment in productive capacity can help address the drivers of social exclusion conditioned by the limited asset base of many women. Livelihood support programmes such as National Agricultural And Advisory Services (NAADS) that transfer productive assets or offer agricultural inputs should ensure full participation of women in terms of enterprise selection vis- a- vis land holdings required, location of the project sites, labour intensity and marketing structures for such enterprises..

Increase funding towards agriculture, food security and women's empowerment:

In relation to financing toward resilient women in agriculture, efforts should be made to tremendously increase budget allocation to the agriculture sector activities and community development at Lower Local Government. Spending should focus on areas that contribute to increased productivity, disease and pest control, appropriate technologies for irrigation, farm input support, basic storage and post-harvest technologies, and the effective use and management of natural resources.

SECTION 1:

Introduction

1.1 Background

Rural women in Uganda have not been given due recognition in economic development, despite their enormous contribution to the agricultural sector, which is the backbone of Uganda's economy. In fact, four out of every five women in Uganda are employed in agriculture (Republic of Uganda, 2013). This means that women are major players in household food and nutrition security, as well as natural resource management. They also play a large role in dietary diversity and children's health. Furthermore, studies show that women are more likely to spend their incomes on food and children's needs than men are (Republic of Uganda, 2013). Yet despite these facts, women in Uganda produce food on land that they do not own. According to the *Uganda National household Survey (2012/13)*, only 23 percent of female headed households in rural areas own land. These and more factors have hindered women's resilience to different shocks of poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

Although there have been advancements in women's emancipation in recent years, there are still many gaps. For example, women continue to use labour-consuming and health risk technologies such as hand hoes and winnowing baskets. Women have also been discriminated against in terms of access to productive assets, such as land and farm inputs. Therefore, they toil under the hot sun day in and day out, yet they are rarely allowed to participate in marketing their produce. This makes them labourers rather than producers in the agriculture and food systems. Although many of these constraints are documented, practical solutions to put women in the driver's seat have not been identified.

On a global scale, the agricultural sectors in many developing countries are underperforming. This is partially because women almost everywhere face more severe constraints than men in access to productive resources (FAO, 2011). In fact, women

are among the first victims of violations of the right to food, yet they are also the key to its realisation¹. They work hard but are considered second rate in most Ugandan cultures because men have traditionally been the breadwinners². Moreover, knowledge about the right to food is still limited because many institutions have not yet embraced it.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study was to establish facts about the effects of women's exposure to shocks of vulnerability, poverty and traumatic stressors of hunger and malnutrition.

The specific objectives of this study were to:

- i. Generate empirical evidence on the social, political and economic situations in the Amuria and Ngora districts that affect women's resilience to shocks of exclusion, poverty and traumatic stressors of hunger and malnutrition.

- ii. Establish the relationship between high levels of poverty and limited access to productive

resources and food by women, and how shocks of exclusion of women impact on livelihoods and poverty levels in the area.

iii. Map out organizations and stakeholders that are addressing the problems as envisaged by the project.

iv. Take stock of existing gaps which other players can come in to address.

v. Conceptualize FRA's follow-up interventions.

1.3 Approach and Methodology

1.3.1 Approach

The study utilized both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Qualitative and quantitative information was integrated in an interactive manner to ensure that the analysis identified the why and how of the observed phenomenon. This thereby ensured that the findings are as relevant as possible in order to pinpoint and articulate appropriate recommendations.

The techniques used to obtain the necessary data include a literature review, semi-structured and one-on-one interviews, focus group discussions, and a household

¹ http://www.rural21.com/uploads/media/R21_Food_sovereignty_and_right_to_food_0308.pdf

² *ibid*

survey. Three study instruments – i.e. a structured key informant interview questionnaire, quantitative survey questionnaire and focus group discussion guide - were used to collect the relevant information. During interviews, questions were asked as neutrally as possible to avoid biasing and guiding interviewees towards a certain response.

1.3.2 Methods

The following methods were used in undertaking the study:

a) A Desk Review: This involved a comprehensive literature review to capture information on legal, policy, administrative and implementation frameworks at both national and local levels. Some of the documents reviewed included: the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the Constitution of Uganda; the Land Act; the Local Government Act; Local Ordinances; the National Gender Policy; the National Land Policy; the National Agriculture Policy; the Uganda Food and Nutrition Policy, and the District Development Plans. A review of other studies – including academic research, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and research organizations - was also done. The list of documents reviewed is reflected in the references.

b) Key Informant Interviews: Semi-structured questions were used to collect information from various stakeholders in the districts. Technical and political staff were interviewed at the district and sub county levels. In addition, information was also collected from NGOs working on issues that affect women in the two districts. The list of respondents interviewed in this category is attached in Annex 1.

c) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Three FGDs were organized in the two districts: one in Amuria and two in Ngora. The FGDs participants were selected by WOWNI and her partner organization (WEDA). The FGDs were largely attended by women. This provided a good opportunity for the women to voice their issues more freely. The list of FGD participants is attached in Annex 2.

d) Quantitative household surveys:

A quantitative household survey targeting women was conducted to collect information at household levels. Households were selected from three parishes³ in Wera Sub County in Amuria and fourteen parishes⁴ in Mukura Sub County in Ngora. Due to the absence of a complete listing of households, enumerators started at the sub county headquarters and moved counter-clockwise (this was arbitrary, but every enumerator followed the same method), skipping two households (skip interval of 2 households⁵) after each interview. This was done until the required number of households for that Sub County was reached. One adult person (a woman) per household was interviewed. Main characteristics of respondents are attached in Annex 3.

1.3.3 Survey Organization

a) Survey instruments:

Three survey instruments – a structured key informant interview questionnaire, quantitative survey questionnaire and focus group discussions guider - were used to collect the relevant data. The draft tools were pre-tested before the actual full-scale data collection exercise. Afterwards the chronology and appropriateness of the questions on the first version of the tools was revised in order to collect the right information from the respondents.

b) Sample Size:

Interviews were conducted resulting in 312 respondents in the two districts. The results are shown in Table 1.1. The sample units were local government officials (sub county and district), NGOs working on women's issues, community members and individual households (women). The sample size was dictated by time and budget constraints which limited covering the entire population in the sub-counties of interest.

³htAten, Moru and Wera

⁴Aduul, Agogomit, Akeit, Akubui, Aler, Kaler, Kamodokima, Kobuir, Kokodu, Madoch, Morukakise, Mukura, Okunguro, and Olupe

⁵using a skip interval brings more variety into the cluster, while still keeping it reasonably compact.

Table 1.1: Sample size*Table 1.1: Sample size*

District	CBOs/ NGOs	Households	FGDs (# of people)		Local Gov't Officials		Total
			Male	Female	Male	Female	
Amuria		102	02	11	01	05	121
Ngora		120	02	38	15	06	181
Total	10	222	4	49	16	11	312

c) Data Collection:

Data was collected during the month of April, 2015. A research team composed of 10 people⁶ gathered data from the field through interviews, enumeration of households and FGDs. A desk review was done before the commencement of the field research.

d) Data Analysis:

The study involved a critical review of information gathered to identify answers to the study objectives. Content analysis involved the development of themes that were aligned with the specific objectives. The relevant information was then extracted and analysed. Next, the process involved the use of descriptive

statistics and capturing people's voices. Next, quantitative data analysis was carried out using STATA and Microsoft Excel. A data entry screen was developed and customised using EpiData software. Descriptive statistics, frequencies, percentages, and cross-tabulation are used in the report. The quantitative data is mainly presented in tabular and graphical formats. The qualitative data was analysed using a theme selection procedure. It is presented as text analyses and explanations of the responses. Data from document reviews is likewise presented as referenced texts. Where tables and graphs from any of the document reviews are presented in the report, the source is duly acknowledged.

1.4 Socio-economic status of Amuria and Ngora districts

Amuria and Ngora districts are located in the Teso region in Eastern Uganda. The Teso region is composed of eight districts: Katakwi, Ngora, Amuria, Soroti, Kumi, Kaberamaido, Bukedea and Serere. Teso region has an estimated population of 1,819,790 (UBOS, 2014a). Agriculture,

⁶Three Researchers and seven Research Assistants

especially crop production, is the main source of livelihood for people in Teso. Further more the practice of cattle keeping was a major source of livelihood in the past however it was abandoned partly due to civil conflicts and cattle rustling.

Like Northern Uganda, the Teso region has faced a number of civil conflicts. These included rebellions by the Uganda People's Army (UPA) from 1986 to the early 1990s, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in 2003, and on-going cattle raids by Karamojong. The Teso region exemplifies legacies of unacknowledged conflict and human rights violations, where civil conflicts have devastated the

region economically and socially (Sheff, A. 2008). In addition, the region -especially Amuria and Katakwi districts - is prone to adverse climate-related disasters. The most severe of these disasters happened in 2007, 2010 and 2011 . A special report released by the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)* in 2012 concluded that the "changing climate leads to changes in the frequency, intensity, spatial extent, duration, and timing of extreme weather...and can result in unprecedented extreme weather and climate events" (IPCC, 2012).

Amuria district was established in July 2005 having been carved out

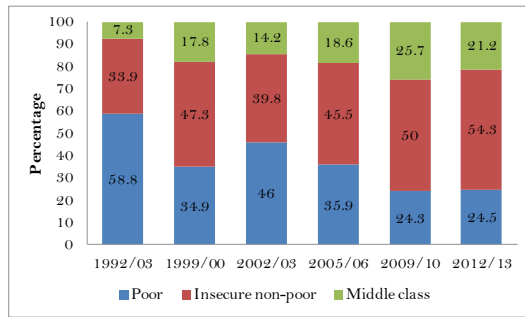
of Katakwi district. The district has a total land area of 2,613 Km². Within it there are 10 Sub-counties (including one town council), 94 parishes and wards, and 567 villages (LCIs). The population is estimated to be 270,601 people, of which 51.4% (139,068) are women (UBOS, 2014a). The main economy of Amuria district is subsistence agriculture in crops and livestock. Key socio-economic indicators for the region are presented in Annex 4.

Similarly, the Ngora district was established in July 2010 having been carved out of Kumi district. The district has 4 sub counties, one town council, 69 parishes and wards, and 139 villages (LCIs). The district population is estimated to be 142,487 people, of which 52.1% (74,270) are women (UBOS, 2014a).The main economy of Ngora district is subsistence agriculture in crops and livestock. Key socio-economic indicators are presented in Annex 4.

1.4.1 Poverty

Uganda has made significant progress in reducing the share of people in absolute poverty. The number of Ugandans in poverty reduced from 56.4% in 1992/93 to 19.7% in 20012/13 (MoFPED, 2014). Yet despite the large reduction in the share of Ugandans living in absolute poverty, 24.7% of the people in Eastern Uganda are poor. According to the *Poverty Status Report* (2014), poor and insecure non-poor in Eastern Uganda rose from 74.3 % in 2009/10 to 78.8 % in 2012/13 (see Figure 1.1).

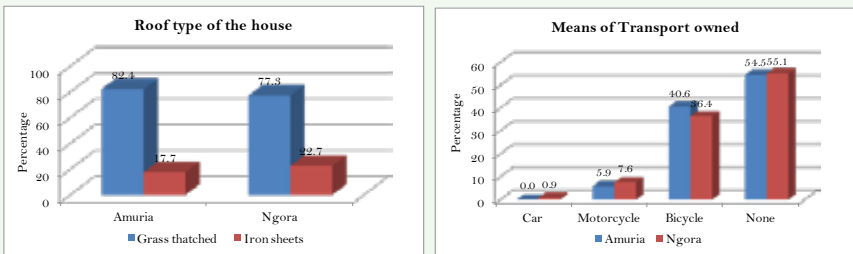
Figure 1.1: Poverty Trends in Eastern Uganda



Source: Uganda Poverty Status Report 2014

Other welfare indicators such as having an iron-roofed house, households with at least one means of transport, and households that have at least two meals a day are not impressive. This study found that only 20% of the household respondents had an iron-roofed house, more than half (55%) did not have any means of transport, and only 66% had two meals per day (see Figure 1.2).

Figure 1.2: Welfare Indicators



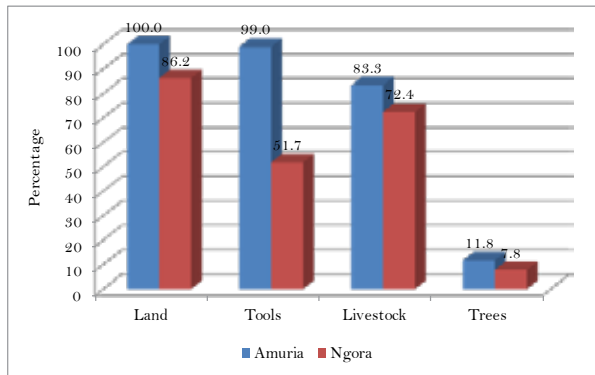
Source: Quantitative Household survey

⁸DesInventar: <http://www.desinventar.net/DesInventar/main.jsp?countrycode=uga> (accessed April 2015)

⁹people that are not living in absolute poverty but are poor relative to the middle class and they are vulnerable to falling back into poverty

Productive assets: The major productive assets in the two districts are land, livestock, birds and tools. As shown in figure 1.3, most households reported owning land (100% in Amuria and 86% in Ngora), farm tools & equipment (99% in Amuria and 52% in Ngora), and livestock (83 % in Amuria and 72% in Ngora). From these findings, it is evident that there are more households with productive assets in Amuria than Ngora.

Figure 1.3: Households with productive assets



Source: Quantitative Household survey

1.4.2 Food security

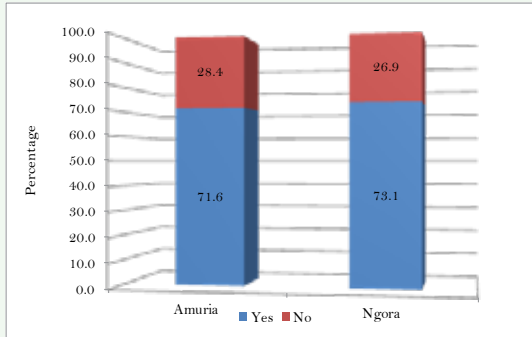
A household is said to be food secure if it can reliably gain access to food in sufficient quantity and quality for all its members in order for them to enjoy a healthy and active life. In other words, food security means that food is available, accessible, affordable, adequate, and utilized.

“...Because of poverty, temptation is very high to sell food especially by men...some even sell it from gardens...this puts women in a difficult situation since they have to feed the family.”- District Official, Ngora DLG

According to the *Uganda National Household Survey 2012/13*, the Eastern region is the second most food insecure region in Uganda. It also has the lowest levels of dietary energy consumption, at only 2111 kcal/person/day, with the poorest dietary diversity. This situation is likely related to the high presence of subsistence farmers who depend on their harvest and have little additional income to buy food (UBOS, 2014b). From the quantitative household surveys, it was found that

food security is a big challenge for most households in both districts. The majority of the households reported to having experienced food shortage during the last one year (see Figure 1.4).

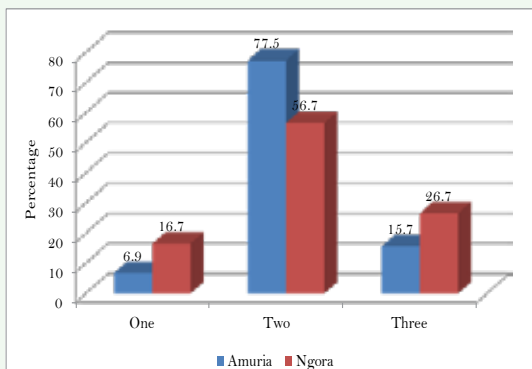
Figure 1.4: Experienced food shortage



Source: Quantitative Household survey

Due to shortages of food, households in Eastern Uganda are often forced to reduce the number of meals they consume per day. The study found that the majority of household respondents reported to having had two meals per day on average during the last 7 days prior to the survey (see Figure 1.5). In contrast, each member of a household at best should have at least three meals per day.

Figure 1.5: Number of Meals per day



Source: Quantitative Household survey

1.4.3 Malnutrition

Malnutrition is a condition that happens when a person's diet lacks the right amount of nutrients. The study entitled *The Cost of Hunger in Africa*, published in 2013, estimates that Uganda loses around \$899 million per year to malnutrition. This is approximately 5.6% of its gross domestic product. One of the reasons for this loss is because, workers get sick more often when they are malnourished, and therefore are less productive. In Uganda, the principal causes of malnutrition are household food insecurity, inadequate maternal and child care, and poor access to health care and a healthy environment (GoU, 2011). As in many parts of the developing world, in Uganda diseases and inadequate dietary intake are the immediate causes of malnutrition in children under five years. These factors contribute to approximately 60% of child mortality, making it the most critical factor in childhood mortality in the country (AED, 2010).

The situation of malnutrition in Uganda tends to be pronounced in regions that are prone to climate-related disasters. The Teso sub region where Amuria and Ngora are located for example is more prone to these disasters than other parts of Uganda. These include droughts, floods, rainstorms and landslides. A study done by *Caritas Uganda* in 2015 revealed that over 95% of the household respondents had lost their crops due to floods and drought during the last five years (Caritas Uganda, 2015).

Both climate change and climate variability have adverse impacts on livelihoods of people in Eastern

Uganda, especially women. The erratic onset and cessation of rains coupled with an increase in extreme events makes it difficult for farmers to plan when to plant crops. Low rainfall severely affects crop and livestock production, while excessive rain leads to water logging conditions that negatively affect crops and pastures. These conditions are also detrimental for post-harvest handling and storage (Mubiru, et al., 2009). The result of these factors is seasonal and annual variation in food production, leading to food insecurity. According to the *Poverty Status Report* (2014), the eastern region of Uganda has also recently been affected

by unusually high rainfalls and floods, which have reduced food crop production, increased post-harvest losses and prices. This has resulted in lower rural incomes and higher living costs.

1.5 Limitation of the study

One of the major limitations of the study was collecting disaggregated data on poverty, hunger, and malnutrition for the two districts. This is because most statistics in Uganda are disaggregated by regions but not by districts. Therefore, in these reports, statistics on poverty, hunger, and malnutrition are presented at a regional level.

SECTION 2:

Legal, Policy and Institutional frameworks that address Women's Exclusion, Poverty, and Hunger

This section reviews and analyses the legal, policy and institutional frameworks that surround women in Uganda. The section looks at both the international, national and local instruments. The analysis also looks at some of the strengths and weaknesses of the current legal, policy and institutional frameworks in addressing women's exclusion, poverty and hunger.

2.1 Legal Framework

2.1.1 International Instruments

Uganda is a signatory to several major international human rights conventions related to women's rights. However, in this study we focused on: the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

a) *Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa:* This protocol was adopted in 2003 and ratified by Uganda in 2010. Article 15 on the Right to Food Security specifies that parties to this protocol shall:

- Provide women with access to clean drinking water, sources of domestic fuel, land, and the means of producing nutritious food;
- Establish adequate systems of supply and storage to ensure food security.

However, women in Uganda still experience serious challenges with access and ownership of land and other means of production. Government has not tackled the challenges of food supply and

storage to ensure food security. According to estimates provided by the *African Postharvest Losses Information System (APHLIS)*, in 2012, an estimated 18.3% (or 0.62 million of 3.4 million tonnes) of cereal production was lost in postproduction activities⁹.

b) *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)*

Uganda ratified the ICESCR and it entered into force on the 21st April 1987. Article 11(2) of the ICESCR recognizes the need for more immediate and urgent steps to ensure the fundamental right to freedom from hunger and malnutrition. Therefore, the Government of Uganda is obligated to take all necessary measures to progressively fulfil the right to food for everyone.

Article 16 and 17 of the ICESCR states that all signatory states must submit periodic State Party Reports, the Government of Uganda has not submitted these Reports to the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR). This constitutes a violation by omission of all ESCR including the right to adequate

food recognised (Rukundo, Kikafunda and Oshaug, 2011). Uganda is yet to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol on ESCR. Therefore, the right to food cannot be legally enforced in Uganda. In fact, the study by Rukundo, Kikafunda and Oshaug (2011) showed that 72% of the duty bearers reported that the State of Uganda lacked the capacity to realize the right to adequate food for all its citizens.

There are many violations of the right to food in Uganda. These include failure to stock food reserves, absence of sufficient cash, disruption in the food systems, lack of access to land and unemployment, especially of women, youth and persons with disability (UHRC, 2004). Consequently, the percentage of households that are food secure has dropped from 83% in 1992 to 66% in 2005 (UBOS, 2006).

Although there is enough food in Uganda as a whole, several parts of the country are still struggling with hunger and malnutrition. *The Cost of Hunger in Africa Report* (2014) states that nearly one out of every seven reported child deaths (under five) is

⁹<http://www.erails.net/UG/aphlis/aphlis-uganda/Home/> (accessed April 2015)

associated with malnutrition. It adds that 54% of the working age population in Uganda is currently stunted.

2.1.2 National instruments

The national instruments that were examined included the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, the Land Act and Local government ordinances.

a) The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda

The constitution of the Republic of Uganda upholds food security through the National Objective and Directive Principle No. XVII. It states that “The State shall, (a) take appropriate steps

to encourage people to grow and store adequate food; (b) establish national food reserves; and (c) encourage and promote proper nutrition through mass education and other appropriate means in order to build a healthy State”. The Constitution mandates the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries to set minimum standards to ensure quality. These institutions are required to develop relevant policies in the area of food and nutrition. However, they have not established national food reserves or created mass campaigns to educate the public on proper nutrition.

Article 33(1) of the constitution of the republic of Uganda recognizes that women shall be accorded full and equal dignity of the person with men. Article 33(6) states that “laws, cultures, customs or traditions which are against the dignity, welfare or interest of women or which undermine their status, are prohibited by this Constitution”. This is a reflection of the state recognizing the rights of women in Uganda.

Whereas women’s rights are well spelt out in the constitution, many strongly entrenched cultures, customs and traditions which undermine women’s status continue to be practiced. At the national level, government has not set up any interventions to address these negative practices that continue to oppress women. At the local levels, in Amuria and Ngora where a lot of service provision takes place, there are no interventions to tackle this challenge.

Objective XIV (b): General social and economic objectives provides that the State shall endeavour to fulfil the fundamental rights of all Ugandans to social justice and economic development and shall, in particular, ensure that—all Ugandans enjoy rights and opportunities and access to education, health services, clean and safe water, work, decent shelter, adequate clothing, food security and pension and retirement benefits. Food security remains an important challenge. Protection to guarantee food security is not evident at local levels including Amuria and Ngora where no structures exist to actualize it. Several households are food insecure and do not know about these instruments or how to demand that responsible institutions play their part to ensure food security.

b) The Land Act (1998, as amended in 2010)

The land Act provides for the tenure, ownership and management of land. It amends and consolidates the law relating to tenure, ownership and management of land in Uganda. The 1998 Land Act recognises the right of women to ownership of land in Uganda. The land Act includes provisions to support the ownership of land by women:

- Section 40 requires the prior written consent of both spouses in transactions involving family holdings, defined as land on which the family ordinarily resides and from which they derive sustenance and;
- Section 28 prohibits decisions affecting customary land that deny women access to ownership, occupation or use of any land, as well as decisions that impose conditions violating constitutional provisions protecting women.

The Land Act requires land management bodies and institutions to have a female representative. The Uganda Land Commission must include at least one female among its five members, one-third of the membership of the District Land Boards must be female, and land committees at the parish level must have at least one female among their four members.

The Land Act (Cap 227) caters for the consent of a spouse to some extent but it does not address the land rights of widows, divorcees, women

in co-habitation, and children. In most communities in Uganda including Amuria and Ngora, co-habitation is prevalent and most of the marriages are not formally registered with the state. Co-habitation and lack of registration of marriages leaves women vulnerable to lose any land in their possession after their partners die.

The current system of land ownership in the two districts discriminates against women and therefore excludes them, predisposing them to poverty, hunger and malnutrition. Women are discriminated against because most of the land is communally owned and dominated by men, who do not effectively utilise it for food production. Culturally, men inherit land from their fathers and pass it on to their sons. Women acquire land through marriage to a man. Therefore, those who do not get married find it difficult to acquire land for cultivation. Most of the women who own land either purchased it on their own or it was bequeathed to them by someone.

2.1.3 Local instruments

Local Government Ordinances

Article 38 of the *Local Government Act (1997)* empowers the district council to pass local ordinances. Using this provision, Ngora district is in the process of passing an ordinance on food security and nutrition. “The food security and nutrition ordinance (2015)” addresses land preparation, soil and water conservation, livestock management, food and livestock types and management, wellbeing of livestock, records of food production, crop harvesting and processing, food storage, milking, marketing of crop produce, and adulteration of milk and crop produce. Even before its enactment, the ordinance has demonstrated a strong bearing on local people since most of them perceive it as a law. Consequently, most of the community members are already abiding by the provisions of the ordinance – especially in ensuring their homes have adequate food.

Box 2.1: Ngora: the Food Security and Nutrition Ordinance (2015)-Draft

Strengths

- It clearly specifies that 1 acre of land should be committed to crop production and this potentially can prevent men from hiring out their land and therefore denying women a chance to cultivate for their families.

- It is mandatory to grow vegetables and keep livestock. Because they are predominantly done by women, this is a strategy to strengthen their financial position.

- Political leaders who tend to wield more power and influence over their communities are involved in its implementation from the district to the lowest levels with their roles spelt out.

- By selling farm produce after

a consulting their households, the powers that men have had without involving others in the family is reduced.

- The ordinance regulates the use of money from the sale of produce by stating that proceeds shall be invested in the common good for the benefit of all household members.

Weaknesses

- Part II number 12 expects all households to keep farmer production and income records. This may not be possible because of illiteracy that is higher among women.

- It is not clear how the consolidation of farmer production records and income from the lowest levels will be linked to planning for the production directorate at the

district level.

- Production and health staff are responsible for supervision of compliance to ordinance provisions and bring offenders to justice. Conversely there few staff members in these sectors which creates a situation where staff is often short handed. It is therefore a larger task to expect the few production staff to visit every household to monitor compliance to the provisions of this ordinance and arrest offenders.

- It is difficult to plan and carry out food security and nutrition programmes without funds. In its current state, ordinance makes no reference to implementation funds.

The effective implementation of this ordinance in Ngora will be effective if both the local government officials and community members embrace the ordinance and support its implementation. Amuria and other districts can learn from Ngora and develop their own ordinances of food security and nutrition. However, it's important to ensure that the process of developing the ordinance is participatory and involves community members at all stages.

2.2 Policy framework

Although some may argue that policies are required to be purposeful or goal-oriented, some policies may be implicit or result from a set of actions that are not directly related to one another (Dye, T. R., 1998). There are a number of policies in Uganda that address issues of women exclusion, poverty and hunger. However, in this study, we examined the following policies: a) East African Community (EAC) Strategic Plan for Gender; EAC Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy; National Land Policy (NLP); the National Agriculture Policy (NAP); Uganda Food and nutrition policy (UFNP);

and the District Development Plans (DDPs).

a) *East African Community (EAC) strategic plan for gender, youth, children, persons with disability, social protection and community development (2012-2016)*

Articles 5, 3 (e); 6 (d); 121 and 122 of the treaty for the establishment of the East African Community highlight gender mainstreaming and respect for women's rights as one of the fundamental principles that will govern the EAC integration process. The treaty also emphasizes the role of women in socio-economic development and in business as a core issue to the effective cooperation and development of the partner states. The strategy acknowledges that women in the region are increasingly becoming the main income earners in agriculture due to their key role in food production activities in addition to their traditional domestic chores. However, various cultural traits and taboos have continued to underpin the marginalization of women in the development process.

Whereas these articles are well intentioned to address the plight of women, the EAC has done little in Uganda to address the cultural challenges that limit women's involvement in agriculture and development in general.

Socio-cultural issues are not at the forefront of the EAC. The governments of the EAC are preoccupied with the consolidation of the customs union, common market, the establishment of a monetary union, laying the foundation for a political federation, and the promotion of economic infrastructure that would support and spur economic growth in the partner states. Notwithstanding their importance, these areas of action have overshadowed other important areas like the gender debate. The gender debate is important because gender is directly tied to all of the issue areas discussed above. A certain lack of 'gender-mainstream-approach' in all these priority areas at EAC level has been observed.

b) EAC Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy

The EAC Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy

(2005-2030) note that 60% of agricultural production is performed by women. Thus, increasing access to more resources and mainstreaming gender considerations will enhance agricultural productivity and production. The Strategy advocates for partner states to sensitize communities on cultural practices that negatively impact agricultural production and rural development. At the moment, there is little being done by the Government of Uganda to sensitize communities on negative cultural practices that continue to affect agriculture.

c) National Land Policy (NLP) 2013

The National Land Policy (NLP) is a framework that clearly states the role of land in national development. Land ownership, distribution and utilization, alienability, management and control of land are all examples of issues associated with land in Uganda. In Chapter 4, the NLP makes reference to the land rights of women and children, customary tenure and strategies to address the challenges relating to land. It also focuses on the harmonization

of the National Land Policy with the Land Act and addresses specific weaknesses arising from customary ownership of land. Further, it addresses challenges in the land Act and the 1995 Constitution relating to land. These challenges and more are spelt out below.

The NLP addresses the gender disparities in customary land tenure and recommends that customary land tenure should be reshaped to promote gender equality and equity. It will be aligned to the Land Act which states that customary land transactions that are against the rights of women are illegal. In order to strengthen customary tenure, the NLP suggests strengthening customary institutions for land management to stipulate their legal standing as a mechanism to deal with land rights, land use and resolve disputes.

However, the provisions of the land policy are not fully operationalized in Amuria and Ngora districts for the following reasons:

Customary tenure lacks information in written records which leads to a large amount of land conflicts. Land conflicts were more prevalent in Amuria than Ngora. According to the OPM report (2014) on '*Amuria District Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment*', the land conflict risk is very high because of population pressure, the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), a lack of permanent boundary landmarks, inadequate arbitration of land issues by local land courts and an inadequate land registration system.

Attempts to outlaw discriminatory cultures, customs and practices in land ownership have been ineffective due to lack of implementation and enforcement on a national scale. The district and sub county leadership find it difficult to reconcile formal land laws against cultural practices of owning and managing land. They are constrained financially and cannot conduct programmes to address the challenges in land ownership. The lack of funds means that transport costs to verify land challenges cannot be met, and sensitization meetings in villages cannot be conducted. Further still, land related programmes cannot be effectively implemented

in these two districts because of human resource constraints and poor facilitation.

d) The National Agriculture Policy (NAP) (2013)

The objective of the National Agricultural Policy (NAP) is to promote food and nutrition security and to improve household incomes through

“According to the land law, land boards should sit every 2 months, but cannot due to limited funds and can therefore not address most of the issues itemized to be addressed.” - District Official, Ngora DLG.

coordinated interventions. These interventions will enhance sustainable agricultural productivity and value addition, provide employment opportunities, and promote agribusinesses, and enhance investments in trade (MAAIF, 2013). The Policy recognises women as a vulnerable group that is less productive and is more likely to suffer from food insecurity. The agricultural policy is couched within the framework of a private sector-led market economy. The private sector model, however, has failed the agricultural sector in Uganda.

The Agriculture Sector has not been able to attract private commercial capital in a significant way. In addition, the Policy has not been well matched with adequate public and private financing. For instance, the annual basis for the budget allocations to the agricultural sector averaged less than 4% in the current budget for the financial year 2015/16 in Uganda. . The dismal public spending on agriculture has negatively impacted the growth of agricultural sector, which is dominated by small holder farmers – the majority of which are women.

e) Uganda Food and Nutrition Policy (UFNP) (2003)

The Uganda Food and Nutrition Policy (UFNP) aimed to promote the nutritional status of all Ugandans through multi-sectorial and co-coordinated interventions that focus on food security, improved nutrition and increased incomes. The UFNP recognised that women produce most of the food but they have no control over food resources. At the same time, women are expected to ensure their own nutritional wellbeing as well as that of the family.

However, the policy remained unimplemented until 2011. Some attempts were made to implement the policy in 2012 when government developed the Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP) 2011-2016. The plan aimed at reducing levels of malnutrition among women of reproductive age, infants, and young children through ensuring that all Ugandans are properly nourished; this would, in turn, enable Ugandans to live healthy and productive lives. The responsibility of ensuring the effective implementation of UNAP rests with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM). However, the UNAP has not been effectively

disseminated and thus, UNAP is not being implemented in both Amuria and Ngora districts.

In addition, there is no law on food and nutrition which would act as a framework through which minimum standards, strategies and guidelines can be implemented by the relevant ministries. Furthermore, the National Food and Nutrition Council has yet to be established to carry out its mandate and coordinate government departments working on the right to food in Uganda.

f) *District Development Plans (DDPs)*

The five-year District Development Plans (DDPs) are a legal requirement for governments in Uganda at all levels. They form a baseline tool for tracking the implementation of government programmes and they are the basis for controlling the pace and direction of development investment. According to the *Harmonised Participatory Guidelines for Local Governments*, local governments are required to prepare their development plans in consultation with all stakeholders, including community based organisations and citizens (MoLG, 2003). Consequently, citizens' views including those of women should be reflected in the development plans and district budgets.

Amuria District Development Plan (2010-2013)

The DDP appreciates that gender issues are not adequately addressed. The plan notes food security and nutrition as one of the key challenges

the district faces. It declares that majority of the people in the district are unable to acquire and effectively utilize the food they need for healthy life at all times. The plan states that most interventions emphasize food security while ignoring nutrition. Because of low food availability and acute poverty, the district is undernourished, especially among children under five year's old and lactating mothers. The plan recognizes that women's activities offer them less time for rest which causes poor health. Further, women can only give limited input in the planning processes and their participation is at times restricted by men.

The plan acknowledges the challenges faced by women and has specific interventions to address women's exclusion in agriculture. The plan allocated UGX 1.5 million for training staff in gender mainstreaming in FY 2011/12. The lack of robust funding for the DDP indicates that issues of women's exclusion are not understood or appreciated by many of the technical committees that plan and implement interventions.

Ngora District Development Plan (2015/16 - 2019/20)

The DDP states that women play a primary role in activities associated with productive labour. These activities include, but are not limited to: agriculture, household chores, bearing children and nursing children. In agriculture, women plant, weed, harvest and store crops. Conversely, they do not take part in making decisions regarding marketing and incomes from the food they produce. Multiple roles like those above and more tend to leave women with less time to attend planning meetings or input into the development processes at the different levels.

Further still, the DDP acknowledges limited adoption of modern technologies by the women due to their low education levels and cultural factors that limits women access and involvement in programmes like NAADS. The DDP also highlights the fact that women are more illiterate than men. Further more, the plan highlights the socioeconomic challenges faced by women which include: limited managerial capacity, limited leadership and development skills, high illiteracy, low incomes /capital base, poverty,

poor access to information and improved technologies, poor community mobilization and sensitization, limited access, control and ownership of productive resources (including land), gender imbalance, discrimination, social exclusions, exploitation, and negative cultural attitudes.

To address some of the challenges identified, the DDP proposes that: there should be deliberate effort to involve women in all processes aimed at modernizing agriculture; women must have more capacity to control decisions; women's access to and control productive resources needs to be enhanced and all sectors should place an emphasis on gender mainstreaming.

The Ngora DDP addresses some of the issues it identifies. The Plan currently has a gender mainstreaming strategy developed by the Community Based Services department. This strategy aims to guide the district's actions towards achieving and promoting gender sensitive, inclusive development. The study did not come across any interventions to actualize this strategy. There are also no specific interventions to address women's exclusion and enhance their resilience to poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

2.3 Institutional framework

There are a number of institutions in Uganda that address issues of women's exclusion, poverty and hunger. However, in this study we mainly focused on institutions that foster agriculture and food security at both national and local government levels. These institutions included the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and Local Governments (LG).

a) *The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and*

***Fisheries* (MAAIF)**

The MAAIF is the lead agency for agricultural development in Uganda. It consists of NARO, NAADS, the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA), the Cotton Development Organisation (CDO), the Dairy Development Authority (DDA), the National Genetic Resource Information Centre and Data Bank (NAGRIC&DB), and the Coordinating Office for the Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda (COCTU). The

headquarters of the MAAIF is responsible for agricultural policy formulation, support and supervision (especially of local governments), sector planning, regulation, standard setting, quality assurance, and sector monitoring and guidance.

The MAAIF is responsible for supporting local governments to undertake agricultural planning and budgeting. The MAAIF supports and builds the capacity of district authorities for better delivery of regulatory and quality assurance services. The production and marketing departments based at the district headquarters receive funding to: strengthen local governments' capacity to deliver services

relating to regulation, quality assurance, agriculture statistics and information, and build capacity for local governments. Further, the district headquarters seek to, strengthen disease, pest and vector control and ensure the delivery of quality services. However, there is a weak connection between MAAIF headquarters and the Local Governments. The major link with the districts has been through NAADS. The current restructuring of NAADS has played a role in creating the weak linkage described above. The district officials interviewed in both Amuria and Ngora Districts were not aware of the current state of affairs in regards to agricultural development in Uganda.

b) Local Governments (LGs) Agricultural Development

Under the Development Strategy and Investment Plan (DSIP), the Local Governments (LG) Councils and Committees are responsible for the implementation and monitoring of agricultural activities at district and sub county levels. Implementation of the bulk of agricultural activities is expected to take place at the district level under the responsibility of LGs. LGs are supposed to establish the necessary coordination institutions and linkages with other stakeholder organisations. Some of these organizations include: sub counties, CSOs, private sector players and farmers. However, LGs are constrained by funding when it comes to agricultural development.

¹⁰Comprise the sub sectors of entomology, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, livestock and trade

Consequently, apart from NAADS which is funded by the central government and some donor projects, Local Governments are not implementing any agricultural and food security programmes.

Gender and women issues

The Community Based Services (CBS) department headed by the District Community Development Officer (DCDO) is mandated to handle women's rights issues. The DCDO has a Gender Officer that specifically deals with women's rights. All CDOs at lower LGs liaise with the police, district officials and local CSOs to address concerns associated with women's rights. However, the effectiveness of these structures is lacking due to underfunding. In addition, the Gender Officers are poorly supported in terms of transport and funding. Thus, the Officers are unable to effectively respond to the magnitude of cases.

LGs largely depend on grants from the Central Government (CG) and development partners to finance their budgets. The CG transfers are conditional in nature and do not provide flexibility for the LGs to tailor their budgets towards agricultural, food security and

gender programmes.

*"..we depend on central government grants to fund our budget to a tune of over 98%, so, we can't fund activities that are not agreed on with the central government"-
District Official, Ngora DLG*

Due to limited funding, LGs cannot adequately staff and facilitate the activities of the District Production and Community Based Services (CBS) departments which handle issues related to agriculture, food security and gender. For instance, the Ngora's CBS department has only two staff out of the required six, and has no specific funding for women's activities.

Conclusion

As discussed above, Uganda has an elaborate legal, policy and institutional framework to protect and support women's rights, prohibit discrimination and address women's exclusion from development interventions. However, the major challenges that continue to face women are the weaknesses in the implementation of laws and policies that place emphasis on women's needs. More, institutions lack the resources to support their staff and effectively perform their duties.

SECTION 3:

State of Women's Exclusion, Poverty and Hunger in Amuria and Ngora districts

This section will discuss farming systems in the Amuria and Ngora districts, and the impact they have on women. It will also examine the causes of women's exclusion, poverty and hunger, and how women are coping with these stressors.

3.1 Farming systems in the two districts

The farming systems in Uganda are largely determined by rainfall patterns, which is why farming takes place during the rainy season. Farming systems in Uganda cover a wide range of activities including the production of cash and food crops, and keeping livestock (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry). Traditionally, levels of production were set to meet household requirements. However, with the introduction of the market oriented economy, farmers are now being encouraged to produce for the market. This means that they are now producing first to sell, with household consumption as a secondary priority.

Farming systems in Amuria and Ngora are dominated by smallholder farmers. These farmers occupy the majority of the land and produce most of the crops and livestock products. The key long-standing challenge for these smallholder farmers is that they have low productivity capacity. This stems from a lack of access to markets, credit, and technology. In recent years this has been compounded by volatile food and energy prices (AfDB, 2010).

The average household land ownership in both Amuria and Ngora is about 2 hectares, but it is reducing due to high population growth.

On average, smallholder farmers cultivate less than one hectare of land. In sparsely populated areas, this may increase to 10 hectares or more. Cultivation by some households is combined with livestock production of up to 10 animals, on the same size land. For most smallholder farmers, the family is at the centre of planning, decision-making and implementation, operating within a network of relations at the community level (ibid). Over time, the areas allocated for farming have been affected by increased population, as previously cultivated land has been sub divided as it is passed down from fathers to their children.

Although the two districts being studied have generally faced similar farming challenges, Amuria has experienced more hardships. These include cattle rustling by the Karamojong, the incursion by rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) that forced a large number of people to leave their land and settle in IDP camps, and climate related disasters such as floods and droughts. According to the *DesInventar Database (2014)*¹¹, Amuria district has experienced 48 episodes of climate-related disasters since 2007, with a high of 29 disasters in 2007. Such disasters have caused the destruction of infrastructure (roads, schools, health centres), the destruction of crops and livestock, displacement of people, death of people (due to drowning, hunger, fires), the destruction of people's dwellings and property, and the disruption of economic activities (Caritas Uganda, 2015).

3.2 Causes of women's exclusion, poverty and hunger

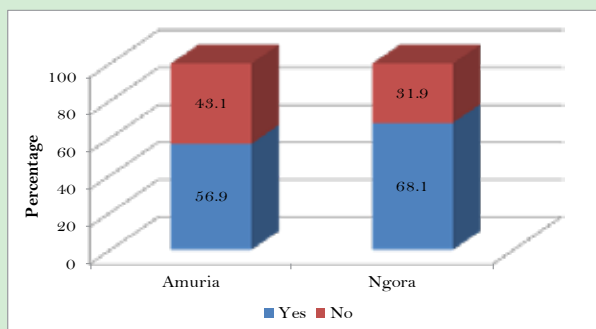
Social exclusion is a dynamic process that “precludes full participation in the normatively prescribed activities of a given society and denies access to information, resources, sociability, recognition, and identity, eroding self-respect and reducing capabilities to achieve personal goals” (Babajanian B., and Hagen-Zanker J., 2012). Although there has been much progress to date, women have historically been excluded from social, economic and political spheres of society. Women in Uganda are often excluded from employment, productive resources and economic

¹¹<http://www.desinventar.net/DesInventar/> (accessed on 16th March, 2015, at 17:51 pm)

opportunities, access to social services, social and cultural participation, security, political rights, voice and representation. The extent of exclusion often depends on individual and social characteristics, such as affluence, social status and religion, as well as political views, occupation, and place of residence. This section presents these issues with specific findings from the two districts.

The study found that there is significant exclusion of women and exposure of women to traumatic stressors of hunger and malnutrition in the two districts. For instance, the majority of the household respondents reported that they are excluded or marginalised in the development programmes in their communities (see Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Women who reported to be excluded



Source: Quantitative Household survey

Women’s exclusion in the two districts is entrenched in the political, economic, cultural, social and institutional contexts. The different dimensions often are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. The key drivers that foster and enhance these variables include:

a) Cultural factors

Uganda has a firmly rooted patriarchal system. Within this cultural system, males hold primary power, predominately through political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property.

Furthermore, they to hold power in the family domain, as fathers or father-figures that have authority over women and children. Many patriarchal societies are also patrilineal, meaning that property and land titles are inherited by the male lineage (as is the case in Uganda). Men may use their position of dominance in society to expropriate women's rights to land. These women - whose rights to farm a plot of land were guaranteed by marital or kinship status -lose these rights. They therefore face a diminished access to land, which underlies and reinforces economic and social insecurity (Gray & Kevane, 2008). Through customary laws that are well known and practiced in the villages, women's right to land are limited to cultivation, rather than ownership. Under customary laws, access is usually granted through a male relative. Such a system drastically limits women's power. There is little or no land on which to plant crops, yet women are the primary providers of food in their families. Culturally, men are supposed to pay a bride price to the woman's

parents before marriage. While paying this bride price is not bad per se, some men take it to mean they are buying the woman. Thus, the woman becomes merely a piece of property to the man, and he has control over her.

As one political leader noted during the field interview:

"When a man pays bride price, he has bought her and thus she is under him." Because of this mentality, men often ban their wives from participating in development activities.

During the FGDs, it was noted that there is a cultural preference for educating boys over girls. This is because boys will be put in charge of their father's inheritance, while girls are supposed to be married off to other families. This preference for educating boys is contributing to higher dropout rates for girls, leading to higher illiteracy rates among women. According to the *Uganda National Household Survey 2012/13*, in the Eastern region of the country 45% of female adults were literate. This is compared to the 68% of male adults who were literate.

In Uganda, many women do not have control over the number of children that they give birth to. Lack of control over their own fertility is key to the high fertility rate in Uganda which stood at 6% in 2012¹². The large families make it difficult for women to appropriately plan and cater for food, health and educational needs of their children. In both Amuria and Ngora, the large families keep the women occupied with looking for food and after the children; they are unable to participate in development activities.

b) Economic factors

In Uganda the majority of resources and tools - such as oxen and bicycles - are owned by men. Men are socialized to look after cattle, since these will be used to pay the bride price before marriage. Meanwhile, women are trained in house related tasks, and are responsible for small animals such as birds and goats. In this situation, the assets men own have more financial value than the women's property. For example, when a man sells a cow, he earns more than what a woman gets from selling a

goat. Therefore, women are at a financial disadvantage, which curtails their independence.

In many cases, women are not involved in the sale of farm produce and the enjoyment of the benefits. Usually it is men who take the produce to the market and determine the amount that should be left for household consumption. Sometimes men use the money from selling agricultural produce to marry other women or consume alcohol. If the man's wife shows resentment over this, it sometimes leads to domestic violence and the divorce or separation of couples.

“After harvesting, men sell the food and when you hesitate, they send you away.” – Woman FGD participant, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

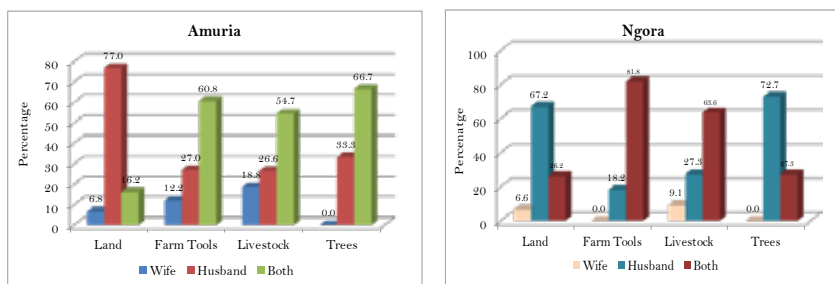
The high levels of illiteracy among women also make it difficult for them to take advantage of economic opportunities that exist. This means that most women engage in low value enterprises such as selling vegetables, rather than operating retail shops.

¹²<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN>

“...We are not learned and many don’t know English, so, it is hard for us to participate in development activities.”- Woman FGD Participant, Wera S/C, Amuria district.

Women have minimal access, control and ownership of productive assets (such as land, farm tools, and livestock). This study found that men emerge with a significant advantage in control and ownership of key productive assets (see Figure 3.2). Therefore, most women often have limited assets or productive capabilities and find it difficult to integrate into society or to take advantage of the economic opportunities.

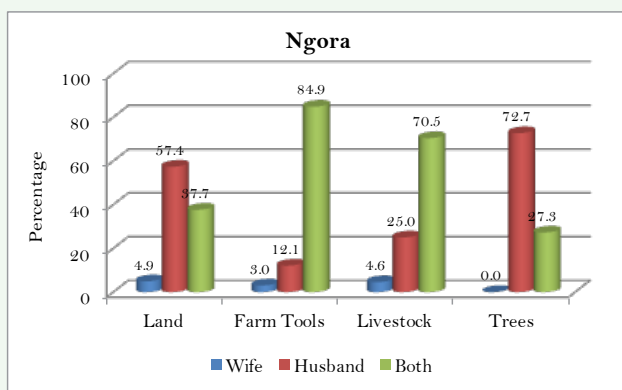
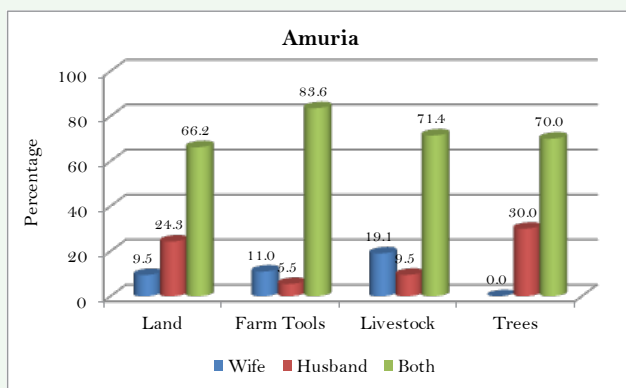
Figure 3.2: Ownership of productive assets



Source: Quantitative Household survey

In addition to women having minimal rights to cultivate land as well as minimal rights to control income from the resulting crop production, women rarely have rights to allocate or alienate land. Furthermore, women’s rights to use land are associated with their position toward men-as mothers, wives, sisters and daughters. More importantly, when land becomes scarce or rises in value, or when rights are formalized through titles or registration, women’s rights to use land become secondary and tenuous (Gray & Kevane, 2008).

Figure 3.3: Control of productive assets



Source: Quantitative Household survey

Due to lack of ownership of productive assets, such as land, women have limited access to credit. This limits their involvement in economic activities. In addition, the cost of high yielding agricultural inputs (such as seeds) limits the ability of most women to increase agricultural production.

Through policies and programmes, the Ugandan government has decreased men's obligations to pay direct taxes. This has been done through the Universal Primary Education (UPE), the Primary Health Care (PHC), and the abolition of graduated tax. Unfortunately, women have not benefited from the same treatment. For example, women's roles

such as feeding the family have not been lessened. Therefore, while men have time to relax by gambling and drinking, women are at home working the whole day. This unequal treatment contributes to women's exclusion.

"...Due to lack of direct taxation, minimal health and education spending, some men especially Youth are not working hard any more, they spend their time drinking and gambling." – District Official, Ngora DLG

c) Social factors

In Uganda, boys are socialized with tasks that require a lot of energy, such as driving oxen and milking cows. Society has determined that these tasks are suitable for men rather than women. Meanwhile, girls and women are usually socialized with tasks that require little energy. However, these tasks are time consuming. These tasks may include roles like cooking, fetching water and firewood, planting and weeding, harvesting, and post-harvest handling. Such tasks make women less productive and they are therefore unable to make substantive contribution to agricultural production.

"...It is men who own ploughs because they have the money and energy. We (women) just have the hoes." – FGD participant, Mukura S/C Ngora district

Access to information is key in decision-making processes. Because most women spend extensive amounts of time in their gardens and looking after children, they have limited time to attend meetings. Further, the most common source of information - the radio - is controlled by men, who give women little opportunity to use them and therefore access information. Due to the high cost of batteries/dry cells, some men limit the hours of radio use, and therefore often the radio is only listened to when the man is around the home.

"...Men determine a lot of things including what radio station to listen to." – District Official, Amuria DLG.

d) Political factors

Despite the affirmative action of increasing women's participation in political decision making such as women's representation in all local government councils, there are still challenges in ensuring that they influence decisions. This study for instance found that female politicians rarely influence political processes and decisions; they tend to leave men to determine most of the decisions. Consequently, key issues affecting and excluding women do not find their way into development programmes and plans.

"Women's participation in councils is still low because culturally, women were not supposed to speak when men were present and did not argue with a man. Therefore, they may not take some hard decisions." – District Official, Ngora DLG

The above situation is partially due to low literacy levels among women compared to men. Furthermore, women have been socialized to have limited confidence in their abilities, and the community perception is that women are supposed to be submissive to men; Therefore, there is a failure by women to unite with a common voice for a common cause.

"...Despite their large numbers, women have failed to unite and support their fellow women...in some cases, they (women) support men to bring down their fellow women." – District Official, Amuria DLG.

The research conducted in this study found that there is a perception that women should

only contest for political positions under affirmative action. The majority of respondents think women are only entitled to positions reserved for women's representation, and therefore should not contest for other positions. Because of this perception, most women who contest for political positions against men are not supported. This keeps women out of key decision-making positions, which can have an impact on the design and implementation of policies to address the exclusion of women and other challenges they face.

Moreover, participation of women in politics in the two districts was found to be influenced by the women's husbands (if they are married). In other words, for a woman to succeed in politics she needs to be backed by her husband. It was reported that the voters determine the suitability of a woman for elective office basing on the character of her husband, including how sociable he is to other community members. In some cases, a woman even needs permission from her husband before she can contest for political office.

"...Sometimes, women need to get permission from their husbands, before participating in politics." – District Official, Ngora DLG

Furthermore, some men do not trust their wives when they engage in politics and groups, because they think their wives will be taken by other men. Therefore, in some instances they stop their wives from participating in some meetings, or else they strictly monitor them (especially councillors) or represent their wives in meetings. For example, in one FGD conducted in Ngora where respondents were supposed to be women only, some men came to represent their wives.

"When council meetings are on, some men who are husbands to councillors come around the district headquarters waiting for the sessions to end and go back with their wives." – District Official, Amuria DLG

The minimal participation of women in politics is also due to increasing commercialisation of politics. For example, now any person vying for political office has to provide financial incentives to the voters. This poses a

problem for women who want to run for office, because most women do not have the finances to fund their political campaigns.

"... If you want to stand for elective political office the community asks you to buy something for them such as alcohol, but some of us do not have the funds." - Woman FGD participant, Wera S/C Amuria DLG

Although women have access to land, they usually lack ownership

over it. Men own the land and produce cash crops, and as a result they can obtain credit and other facilities. In contrast, women rarely own land and are often confined to the production of subsistence foods¹³. Lack of ownership of land by women counteracts development and contributes to poverty (Asiimwe, 2005).

“Women take the lead in planting, weeding and harvesting of food. When the food is harvested and brought home, the men say it is their food because it was grown on their land.” – District Official, Ngora DLG.

This exclusion of women in ownership and utilisation of land worsens when a married woman loses her husband. This is because when a husband dies the widow or widows lose any say they had over the land. Therefore the land is usually re-possessed by the man’s relatives. To make matters worse, the majority of the women (especially widows) do not know how to claim ownership of land through processing letters of administration. Moreover, the processing of letters of administration is often too costly for the majority of women to afford.

“... When your husband dies, his relatives may re-possess the land and oxen, so you are left with no means of producing food for the family.” - FGD participants, Wera S/C, Amuria district

3.3 Impact of women exclusion, poverty and hunger

a) Food insecurity

Most women are unable to produce enough food to sustain their families. This is because women lack control over most of the productive assets, such land, and they are marginalized in decision-making processes at the household level. During the FGDs, the majority of women noted that most men have abandoned their responsibilities of looking after their families. Instead they are engaged in gambling and alcoholism. Therefore

¹³<http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Thematic-Priorities/gender/Pages/Access-to-productive-assets.aspx>

the responsibility of producing food is left to the women. However, due to use of rudimentary tools, such as hoes, they cannot produce enough. To make matters worse, the little that is produced is controlled by the men, on the pretext that it was grown on their land. In most cases, the men sell the majority of the food. This situation is therefore leading to food shortages at household levels, which exacerbates women's stress. In fact, the household surveys showed that at least 72% and 73% of respondents in Amuria and Ngora respectively had experienced food shortage during the last year.

"...Our husbands sell a lot of our food, we are left with small quantities that cannot adequately feed the family." - FGD participant, Wera S/C, Amuria district

b) Domestic Violence

The lack of food in the household, coupled with stresses due to poverty, means that domestic violence is on the rise in Amuria and Ngora. One factor is that some men expect food to be served to them regardless of its availability. When food is not prepared and served, some men take offence and resort to violent actions such as beating up their wives.

"...When a woman asks her husband to buy food, and if he does not have money, they start quarrelling and sometimes end up fighting." - FGD participant, Mukura S/C Ngora district

Box 3.1: Domestic violence due to food

"I know of a case, where a couple cultivated sorghum together, however, the husband sold the sorghum from the garden without telling the wife. The woman was surprised at the stage of harvesting when another person (the one who bought the sorghum) started harvesting it. The wife so bitter and opposed to the harvest confronted the husband, instead of remorse, he beat-up his wife badly. The matter was reported to police. However, I did not follow-up on what happened after."

-District Official, Ngora DLG

“...Sometimes women are very quarrelsome, which is partly due to the stress they have due to lack of food to feed the family...” – District Official, Amuria DLG

It was noted during the interviews that after harvest some men take control of the produce, therefore determining how much should be sold and how the money should be used. During an FGD in Wera in Amuria district, a lady noted, *“When we produce the food, it is the men that control the money from the food, so we just put our energy into other things.”* Unfortunately, some men sell the produce without the consent of their wives, and they sometimes use the money to elope with other women or consume alcohol. This leaves little or no money behind for the household, leading to domestic quarrels and fights. In fact, the household survey showed that at least 25% and 18% of respondents in Amuria and Ngora respectively had an augment, quarrel, or fight due to food shortage during the last year. Consequently, some women abandon their families or return to their parents’ homes. This instability affects children, especially when they do not have their mothers at home to provide food and support them to go to school.

“...After harvesting, some men want to sell the produce and if you resist they may send you away from the home.” - FGD participant, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

c) Poor / ill-health

Ill-health was reported by some women - 43% and 28% of the respondents in Ngora and Amuria respectively - as a major challenge women face in looking after their families. Evidence from household surveys indicates that the high cost of health care, including private payments, is the main reason why individuals do not seek, or choose to delay medical treatments (Babajanian B., and Hagen-Zanker J., 2012). Due to poor access to health care, most women are perennially sick and are unable to take care of their families. To make matters worse, some men abandon the responsibility of looking after their families. Due to a lack of money, most women are unable to access quality health care, especially when

they are required to pay for medical supplies.

This situation of course affects their children. In Ngora and Amuria, most women and children depend on the unreliable government health services, unqualified health workers, and or traditional healers. This has led to high cases of child and maternal mortality in both districts.

“...When we fail to feed our children well, they get sick, we have to spend money to treat them, but we sometimes don't have the money and our husbands are not helping....we end up dying of stress.” – Woman FGD participant, Wera S/C Amuria district

Malnourishment often leads to the death of many women and children. In the most recent Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS), which was carried out in 2011, it was revealed that in Eastern Uganda 21.8% of children under five were stunted, 4.4% wasted, and 15.4% underweight (UBOS and MEASURE DHS, 2012). Moreover, in Uganda malnutrition is the underlying cause of death in nearly 60% of infant and 25%

of maternal deaths respectively (Government Uganda 2011). In fact, infant and Maternal Mortality in Uganda stands at 54 per 1,000 live births and 438 per 100,000 live births (UBOS, 2014c). In cases where malnutrition does not lead to death, women suffer from traumatic stresses due to absence of food to feed their children and themselves. The stresses women suffer increase with the large families, which are common with most households in the two districts.

d) High school drop-out rates of children

Poverty can prevent households from investing in the education of children (Babajanian B., and Hagen-Zanker J., 2012). The stresses of finding food are a catalyst in dropout rates, since women enlist their children to help them in the gardens and earn a living for their families. In addition, parents are forced to withdraw their children from schools when they cannot afford to buy school requirements such as uniforms, exercise books and pencils. This situation contributes to the high number of children who drop out of school before

completing primary seven. In most cases, it is the girl children who drop out most, which contributes to high illiteracy rates among women (as mentioned above).

“...Less than 50% of the girls who enrol in primary one make it to primary seven; most end up dropping out largely due to child pregnancy and early marriages.” – District Official, Amuria DLG

e) Child pregnancies and marriages

In a bid to reduce the burden of looking after children, especially amidst poverty and lack of food, some parents marry off their girl children below the age of consent in order to obtain the bride price. Further, some girls are enticed by men who can provide money and food, and end-up with early pregnancies. Early marriages are not only contributing to high school drop-outs, but also to high population growth, domestic violence and problematic health conditions, such as obstetric fistula. According to the Uganda National Household Survey 2012/13, over 51.7% of girls drop-out of school due to marriages and pregnancy.

3.4 Resilience of women to exclusion, poverty and hunger

Resilience is defined as the ability of a person to recover readily from illness, depression, defeat, or other kinds of adversity. Both women and men need resilience in order to deal with difficulties in life. But women often need more resilience than men in order to overcome stresses due to exclusion, poverty, hunger and malnutrition. Being resilient has helped many women to cope with insurmountable stress. For example, to overcome or cope with the stresses caused by exclusion, poverty, and hunger, women in Amuria and Ngora districts have adopted various strategies, which are discussed below:

a) Looking for alternative sources of income

Faced with challenges of looking after their families after their husbands

have abandoned their roles and responsibilities, some women engage in small scale businesses or enterprises. These include selling agricultural produce in markets and roads sides, or brewing and selling alcohol. Some look for casual employment within or outside of their villages in order to earn incomes.

“... When we have no food and my husband does not have money to buy, I have to get food by all means; I usually go and work in exchange for food.” - FGD participant, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

b) Joining Village, Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs)

With support from NGOs and other organizations, many women have started and joined VSLA groups. These VSLAs are voluntary saving associations that help women to save money, which they can lend to members with interest. At the end of the year the group decides what to do with the funds saved and interest earned. Women are actively involved in these organizations and some are even treasurers and chairpersons. The VSLAs are considered safe for

women’s savings since men do not have access and control of the funds generated.

“... Where women are chairpersons, the VSLAs tend to perform better.” - TEDDO

c) Borrowing from relatives/friends

In times of adversity, especially when women need to buy food for their family but have no money, some resort to borrowing from relatives and friends. They sometimes borrow cash, or physical food. This approach works very well in most communities because of the strong social ties that most households have. However, the insurgency, cattle rustling and climatic disasters in Amuria have over time displaced communities, many of them settling in IDP camps. This has weakened the social ties, which in turn has made women even more vulnerable.

“... When you don’t have food, what do you do as a woman you have to go to the neighbours and ask them for food or help.” - FGD participant, Wera S/C, Amuria district

d) Working much harder to earn a living

During the FGDs, some women noted that they have had to double their efforts to produce enough food for the family, as well as having some extra which they can sell to earn some income.

e) Consuming less food

When they face acute food shortages, most women reduce the amount of food they feed their families, as well as the number of meals per day. However, this has adverse impacts on some family members such as children, since as a result they suffer from acute malnutrition.

*“... We have to please our men we give them enough food and we surrender the rest for the children and if food remains we eat last.” -
FGD participant, Wera S/C Amuria district*

f) Migrating to relatives/friends

In some cases, especially in instances of domestic violence, some women migrate to their relative's and friend's houses. Further, many women temporarily return to their parents' homes when they suffer stresses of hunger and poverty.

“... We just go to our parents homes to rest a bit and return because there is no one looking after our children.” - Woman FGD participant, Ngora district

Box 3.2: Resilience to stresses due to poverty

“It has been 3 years since Florence's husband left her at age 34 with 7 children. Her eldest child is 17 years old while the youngest is 3 years. Florence has limited land to provide food for the family. The husband left her with 1 acre of land on which she planted sweet potatoes, groundnuts, sorghum, beans and maize. In the last season, due to drought, the family did not harvest maize and sweet potatoes. Therefore, the family faced a food shortage for 2 months. In this period, Florence noted that she had to stay hungry so as the children would eat.

“I stay hungry and allow to share the little food we had, the children usually eat first and I eat last “ she noted. “At times children stay without food so I have to look for food from the neighbours” she noted.

In the recent two months, Florence had to offer casual labour to neighbours in exchange for food. She noted that for cultivating an acre of land, she was paid two basins of fresh cassava. She used the cassava for food, paying for children’s scholastic needs and house repair. ‘For paying my children’s school fees I dig close to 8 acres of land. When I don’t do that, children won’t go to school’ - she added.”

Source: Acan Florence, a farmer in Olagar Village, Wera S/C, Amuria district

g) Encouraging child or early marriages

Encouraging child or early marriages is common, because it allows the parents to collect the bride price. This occurs when parents are unable to provide basic needs, such as food, for their children. Therefore, marrying them off provides an opportunity to receive some assets such as cows, as well as reducing the burden of looking after them.

“...young girls are forced to marry so as parents can receive some bride price which provide some income for the family”- Woman FGD participant, Ngora district.

Other coping strategies women employ include: begging; gathering wild fruits, vegetables (such as ecomai), and insects (such as termites); prostitution; eloping with other men for financial and emotional benefits.

“...Some women engage in extra marital affairs to seek comfort, money and food.”- District Official, Amuria DLG.

SECTION 4:

Government Programs, NGO Programmes and Projects that address Women’s Exclusion, Poverty and Hunger

Both government and various NGOs are implementing programmes and projects that directly and indirectly address issues of women’s exclusion, poverty and hunger in Amuria and Ngora districts. In this section, we examine some of these programmes and projects. We also look at the approaches being used and how these approaches can address women’s issues. Finally, we outline how FRA and Her partners build on existing undertakings.

4.1 Government

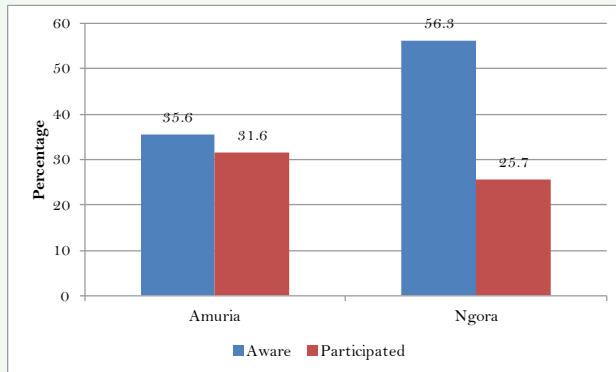
Local Governments are implementing a number of programmes that directly and indirectly address issues of women’s exclusion, poverty and hunger in the Amuria and Ngora districts. Some of the major programmes include: Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda (PRDP), Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF), Local Government Management and Service Delivery Programme (LGMSDP), National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS), Community Driven Development (CDD), The Northern Uganda Agricultural Livelihoods Recovery programme (ALREP), and Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP). Though these programmes do not mainly focus on women, their support for women is especially critical in areas of food production and livelihoods.

“...there has been some improvement in food security in the district since 2011, due to government programmes (i.e. NUSAF)” – District Official, Amuria DLG

However, the quantitative survey revealed that only 36% and 56% of respondents in Amuria and Ngora respectively were aware of government programmes that support women. Respondents were

aware of CDD, NAADS and NUSAF. Interestingly, only 32% in Amuria and 26% in Ngora had participated in these programmes (see Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1: Awareness and participation in government programmes



Source: Quantitative Household survey

Respondents reported that the major reasons for not participating in these programmes included: favoritism in selection of beneficiaries, limited access to information about these programmes, unfavorable conditions for women’s involvement (especially CDD), and corruption.

“...we never get information in time about the different programmes/ projects so we stay in our homes” – FGD participant, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

In the following paragraphs, we review the three programmes and the extent to which they target or involve women.

a) Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF) II

The objective of NUSAF II is to improve access of beneficiary households in Northern Uganda to income-earning opportunities and improve basic socio-economic services. Specifically, the project: (a) supports initiatives that increase the income earning opportunities of poor households;

(b) provides support to improve public infrastructure; and (c) increases access and utilization of basic services in underserved communities (OPM, 2010).

NUSAF II is implemented under the PRDP framework which primarily focuses on strategic objective II: rebuilding and empowering communities. The Project was implemented over a period of five years (2009-2014) in the forty PRDP Districts (ibid, 2010).

The Project has three components:

- Livelihood Investment Support (LIS): seeks to improve access to income earning opportunities among the target households. The component has two sub-components: (a) Household Income Support Program (HISP); and (b) Public Works Program (PWP).
- Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation (CIR): seeks to improve access to basic socio-economic services in the targeted areas. This will be achieved through rehabilitation and facilitate functional improvement of existing community infrastructure.
- Institutional Development (ID): seeks to improve the technical, administrative and managerial capacity of the key project implementers.

b) Community Driven Development (CDD)

The CDD is a sub-component of the Local Government Management and Service Delivery Programme (LGMSDP). The main objective of the CDD approach is to strengthen the linkage between communities and local governments. Under the CDD approach, linkages are strengthened by empowering communities to champion their locality development and demand for accountability in decentralized local service delivery (MoLG, 2009).

Each community is entitled to a one-time allocation of maximum US\$ 2,500 for the duration of the project. A minimum of two community projects are financed throughout the project time span per Parish. However, a community can undertake a project (or projects) worth more than Shs 6 million as long as community members are able to mobilize

additional resources. The community's capacity to operate and maintain the CDD investments after completion remains a key factor for approval of the project.

Although the CDD funds are not meant only for agriculture, most of the community projects are largely agricultural in nature. Nonetheless, the CDD funding is not sufficient to meet the needs of entire communities.

The CDD presents a good community empowerment model of funding because it gives communities the opportunity to select, plan and manage their projects. However, the stringent conditions attached to it, make it very difficult for the intended beneficiaries, especially women, to fully realize these benefits. In addition, the CDD is largely funded by the World Bank and there are doubts on its sustainability when donor funds end.

c) *National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)*

The primary mandate of NAADS is to provide advisory services that enable farmers increase their total productivity. Phase II of the NAADS supported activities increase farmers' access to productivity-enhancing agricultural technologies, knowledge and technical advice for increased productivity and profitability. NAADS activities also include value addition and the enhancement of market linkages. The latter fast tracks the commercialization of agriculture (NAADS, 2013¹⁴).

At the community level, the NAADS programme is one of the most visible government programmes. By and large, farmers' needs are reflected in the NAADS programme. For instance, farmers participate in village farmers' fora, elect beneficiaries, and identify the enterprise's needs. Farmers also participate in the procurement of inputs through the Parish and S/C procurement committees. The programme ultimately provides opportunities for small holder farmers to access agricultural inputs.

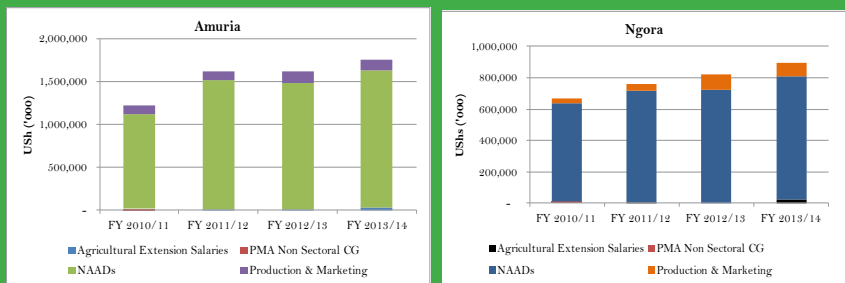
The selection of enterprises follows the agricultural zoning strategy developed by the NAADS Secretariat. However, the zoning method makes it hard for farmers to choose the enterprises they can easily manage. The

¹⁴<http://www.naads.or.ug/about-naads/naads-phase-ii/partnerships/> (accessed March 2015)

‘one size fits all’ enterprise selection does not address gender-specific needs and preferences. Further, the zoning strategy has perpetuated gender-insensitive implementation of NAADS activities.

NAADS appears to be seen by policy makers as a ‘silver bullet’ for addressing agricultural constraints faced by farmers. As shown in Figure 4.2, over 90% of central government expenditure for the Production & Marketing sector is NAADS funds. Over the last five years, the share of NAADS funds in the entire central government expenditures for agriculture to local government has increased tremendously. A study by *FOWODE* in 2013 notes that most local governments allocate less of their own funds to agriculture; the Ugandan Government believes that agriculture is sufficiently funded under NAADS, and that there is no need for additional funds to the sector.

Figure 4.2: Trends in Central Government Releases (Agriculture)



Source: Author’s calculations based on MoFPED data (releases to LGs)

The NAADS Programme’s ability to efficiently implement its undertakings has been hindered by an impromptu intervention and suspension of the Programme by the President. In the 2014/15 Financial Year (FY) budget (MoFPED, 2013), Government decided to restructure agricultural extension through implementing a unified, single spine, agricultural extension system (SSES). The government went on to transfer the extension function back to MAAIF from the NAADS Secretariat. Before the policy makers finalized the mechanisms for the implementation of the single spine extension system, the President directed that the NAADS

programme be implemented by the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF).

Currently, the distribution of inputs is being administered by the UPDF under "Operation Wealth Creation". The Single-spine extension system (SSES) cannot be fully implemented due to inadequate funds. According to *MAAIF (2015)*, at the local government level alone there is a funding gap of US\$ 82 billion. The funding gap has hindered local governments' ability to fully staff and pay salaries to extension staff. In both Amuria and Ngora, there are currently no staff or funds available for carrying out agricultural extension services.

NAADS's new approach of distributing inputs to farmers does not give special consideration to women. "Operation Wealth Creation", sees that inputs are distributed through a central location at the sub county headquarters where interested farmers collect inputs distributed by UPDF officials. A critical challenge is that there are no prior mechanisms to identify specific needs of women. In addition, beneficiaries are given

inputs with minimal or no other support in form of extension services, which ultimately affects their productivity. Furthermore, the new approach ignores the participation of groups and focuses on individual farmers. By doing so, the new approach excludes women who tend to be mobilized with greater effectiveness in groups.

4.2 Non Government Organizations

There are number of NGOs that implement projects which directly and indirectly address gender issues related to agriculture in the Amuria and Ngora districts. The research team was able to interact with eight NGOs, which included:

a) Build Africa

Build Africa combines education and livelihoods projects which provide children and their families with the opportunities to live fulfilled lives. They also support schools and communities to generate sustainable development. In Ngora, Build Africa focuses on Education and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

Under Education, Build Africa focuses on hardware interventions and software activities that build the capacity of teachers and School Management Committees. They promote girl child education, which addresses negative attitudes towards education. Build Africa has also retrained mathematics and English teachers in examinations item writing, promoted school gardens to enhance food availability in schools, promoted low cost and reusable sanitary

towels, and engaged in dialogues with education stakeholders.

Build Africa engages in livelihood interventions that build the capacity of parents to engage in income generating activities. They are implementing the Teso Citrus Multiplication Project, which aims at boosting the production citrus in Teso region. Under the citrus project, 150 VSLA groups (of which 70% are women) have been empowered to take up commercial citrus production.

b) Community Integrated Development Initiatives (CIDI)

CIDI focuses on actions that directly improve on the lives of the poor in vulnerable and marginalized communities. CIDI works in Amuria and specifically in the sub counties of Obalanga, Kapelebyong, Wera, and Acowa. Although they don't explicitly target women, they are currently implementing integrated livelihood projects which address livelihoods issues in the area of agriculture, climate change, water and sanitation and income generation. It is in these areas where women are most affected.

In agriculture CIDI promotes bulk production, value addition, and collective marketing. Further CIDI facilitates farmers to form VSLAs as a means of increasing savings and engagement in income generating activities.

c) Heifer International

Heifer International seeks to enhance the capacity of vulnerable small scale farmers, especially women. Its programmes in Amuria involve skills training on crops, livestock and small businesses. Heifer also helps women set up groups; and links women to other organisations. Women

are trained in business skills which enables them acquire additional income.

d) *Soroti Catholic Diocese Integrated Development Organization (SOCADIDO)*

SOCADIDO is a development arm of the Soroti Catholic Diocese. SOCADIDO operates in Soroti, Kumi, Katakwi, Kaberamaido, Amuria, Bukedea, Serere and Ngora districts. The organization seeks to ensure widespread access to social and economic services by the communities in the Teso region. In Amuria, SOCADIDO operates in Acowa Sub County on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures; In Abarilela, the organization focuses on sustainable livelihoods, food security and VSLAs. In Ngora, the organization works in 4 sub counties (Kapir, Kobwin, Mukura and Ngora) on expanding financial inclusion through promoting dairy farming and apiary.

e) *Teso Dioceses Planning and Development Office (TEDDO)*

TEDDO is the planning and development arm of the dioceses of Soroti and Kumi in the Teso sub region. TEDDO empowers communities in Teso to undertake disaster relief preparedness programs, natural resource endowments, governance, peace and conflict transformation, and sustainable development.

In Amuria, TEDDO operates in Orungo, Acowa, and Morungatuny sub counties. It is implementing a livelihoods programme to strengthen the capacities of communities by integrating disaster risk reduction interventions. Activities involve tree planting, improving agricultural production, supporting VLSAs, helping farmers embrace commercial agriculture, supporting farmers' associations in collective marketing and value addition, integrating aspects of nutrition, and hygiene and sanitation. TEDDO recently completed programmes in Ngora that focused on tree planting, enhancing food security and nutrition.

f) *Vision TERUDO*

TERUDO focuses on four issues: agriculture, health, education and human rights. Though the organization does not focus on women per

see, it addresses issues that affect women in a number of ways. These issues include: orphans and vulnerable children, provision of agricultural inputs to households, the rights of vulnerable people. Vision TERUDO implements a number of integrated projects to address these issues. They are currently using the VLSA approach to spur income generating activities for women in Abarilela Sub County in Amuria district

g) *Wera Development Agency (WEDA).*

WEDA operates in Amuria. It focuses on issues of community health, livelihoods and education and is currently implementing a sustainable community rural development project. This project builds the capacity of women in agriculture through promotion of local food crops -cassava and ground nuts, for example. WEDA are also using the VSLA approach to support women.

4.2.1 Focus and Approaches used by NGOs

The focus of NGO interventions

Though most of the NGOs do not explicitly focus on women's exclusion, poverty and hunger, their interventions do address gender and women issues to a certain extent. Most of the NGOs are implementing projects in areas of agriculture and food security, health, education, water and sanitation, community empowerment, governance, peace and conflict, disaster risk reduction, and human rights. They ensure the interventions they undertake have indirect and to an extent direct benefits to women.

Most NGOs combine service delivery, such as building water sources (i.e. CIDI) and constructing schools (i.e. Build Africa), advocacy and lobbying. NGOs especially ensure that government policies and programmes address the needs of the poor. For instance, Heifer International supports the development of the ordinance on food security and nutrition in Ngora district.

Approaches used by NGOs

- *Income Generating Activities*

Some NGOs support women in communities to engage in income generating activities. For instance, Build Africa is implementing a project

on citrus growing where they are helping communities produce quality and disease free citrus seedlings. CIDI is supporting communities in collective marketing of their agricultural produce. Most NGOs support communities through self-help groups, whose membership is largely women.

- *Promoting savings and access to micro-credit*

NGOs empower communities to form Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLAs), whose members are largely women. Through these VSLAs, NGOs build community capacity in financial literacy, business skills, and women's rights. Some organisations (e.g. TEDDO) help VSLAs gain access to formal financial institutions such as MFIs and Banks. The VSLAs have proved to be very effective in mobilising and enabling women to improve their livelihoods through saving.

“...VSLAs are doing better than SACCOs because of increased accountability and ownership” – District Official, Amuria district

The VSLA model provides opportunities to enhance synergy and learning among women. This model also promotes a culture of saving which enhances women's ability to accumulate wealth notwithstanding their husbands. Besides being able to meet regularly to discuss money issues, women also take time to address other issues that affect the lives of them and their families.

VSLAs help women save money and regularly access micro-credit loans at modest interest rates. This, in turn, helps strengthen women's resilience to shocks of poverty, hunger and malnutrition. For instance, according to Build Africa, the VSLA scheme's popularity with women has led to more investment in children's education, health, access to food and nutrition. More micro-credit loans have improved women's involvement in decision making at the household level.

Though the VSLA model is working well, sustainability, lack of regulation, and limited linkage with formal financial systems might negatively affect the operations of some the VSLAs (See Box 4.1).

Box 4.1: Challenges of VSLAs

- *Sustainability: Some VSLAs do not save with a definite purpose. Group members often share all the accumulated funds at the end of the year and start afresh the following year without investing in productive ventures. In addition, some of the VSLAs are formed with external assistance. Some groups collapse when external support ends.*
- *Lack of regulation: Due to lack of regulation, some women might lose their money to unscrupulous people.*
- *There are no linkages with formal financial system partly due to high bank charges and long distances to banks. As a result, VSLA participants keep their money in their homes, which increases the risks of misuse and theft.*
- *The growth of VSLAs is constrained by the fact that some women need permission from their husbands to join and participate.*

- **Involving men**

Previous experiences have shown that targeting women alone is not sustainable; therefore, most NGOs target both men and women in their interventions. Projects become more sustainable when both men and women are addressed. By doing so, interventions holistically address some of the socio-cultural challenges that both women and men face.

- **Collaboration with Government Authorities and other organisations**

Involvement of LG officials in projects has enhanced ownership and sustainability of some projects. NGOs implement their projects through collaboration with the district local governments. Such collaboration is achieved by NGOs' use of government structures and staff. Most organizations, such as CIDI, involve LG officials in monitoring and

evaluation activities and also share reports with Sub County and district LGs on a monthly basis. Collaboration additionally occurs during local government planning sessions when government and LG agencies come together to prioritise their activities. Such meetings are important because they ensure that activities are not duplicated at various levels of government.

- **Rights based programming and advocacy**

Some of the NGOs implement activities that aim at strengthening the capacity of duty bearers and empower rights holders. These activities sensitize and build the capacity of LG officials to simultaneously uphold the rights of people and empower communities to hold their respective leaders accountable. For instance, SOCADIDO supports advocacy committees at community and parish levels. Advocacy at these levels have taken place in the food security policy arena. Some NGOs use local community health workers and extension workers to enhance the implementation of some project activities, such as community sensitization and trainings.

4.2.2 Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

Minimal collaboration among the NGOs: While the concept of networking is well-founded, there seems to be minimal collaboration among the NGOs in project implementation. There is currently no platform that enables NGOs work together to address women's issues. Rather, each seems to work independently. Lack of collaboration has resulted in uncoordinated interventions at local levels. These interventions are riddled by conflict and compete for survival. Conflict and competition result in inefficient implementation of projects.

Weak participation in LG planning and budgeting: Despite engaging LG officials in project activities, the participation of these NGOs in LG government budgeting and planning processes is weak. Thus, LGs are not effectively addressing women's issues in their development plans and budgets.

Short term projects: The majority of projects implemented by NGOs are short-term (less than 3 years). Short-term projects inhibit NGOs' ability to make meaningful impacts at the community level.

Limited participation of women: Traditional practices and attitudes that prevent women from participating in meetings and development projects still persist in the two districts. Traditionally, women are not allowed to attend meetings and are blocked from taking up leadership positions by men. This is made worse by the high levels of self-pity, high levels of illiteracy, lack of information, and dominance of men.

Opportunities

Existing NGOs: Although not all NGOs explicitly work on women's issues, many are implementing activities that indirectly support women's inclusion and resilience to shocks of poverty and hunger. Such support provides a good opportunity to NGOs for building synergies towards building women's resilience to shocks of poverty and hunger.

VSLA model: Most of the organizations are working with women through groups which are based on the VSLA model. The VSLA model provides a good opportunity for enhancing synergy and learning. In both districts communities, especially women have embraced the VSLA model. Such embrace will ultimately enhance savings and micro-credits.

Involvement of Local Governments: Collaboration with local government officials in project activities is critical for project sustainability. In both districts, LG authorities are open to collaborate with NGOs to support activities that enhance women's resilience to exclusion, poverty and hunger.

Local ordinances: Ngora DLG has already developed an ordinance on food security and nutrition through a participatory manner with support from NGOs. This serves as a basis for Amuria to also develop an ordinance on food security and nutrition.

Community Awareness: NGO activities have allowed most community members in the two districts to gain awareness about the stress women face

in supporting their families. Therefore, most community members, especially men, are beginning to accept and support women's inclusion in development activities and decision making.

Supporting laws and policies: By and large, laws and policies that support the inclusion of women in development activities and decision making are in place. What is missing is effective implementation, which can be achieved by empowering women to demand for their rights.

SECTION 5:

Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Conclusion

The study found that despite Uganda's elaborate legal, policy and institutional framework to protect and support women's rights while prohibiting discrimination and addressing exclusion, implementation is weak. Consequently, women continue to suffer from exclusion in most development processes. For example, this study found that a significant proportion of women in Amuria and Ngora feel excluded or marginalised in the development programmes in their community.

Furthermore, women's exclusion, poverty and hunger are multidimensional issues. They are caused by various interrelated cultural, social, economic, and political factors. However, both the Amuria and Ngora districts are unable to address the challenges women face by strengthening their resilience to exclusion and traumatic stressors.

5.2 Policy Recommendations

In view of the analysis and evidence presented above, this study recommends the following:

5.2.1 General Recommendations

a) *Developing and enforcing local ordinances*

Ngora district's local government ought to expeditiously pass and implement the food security and nutrition ordinance. This ordinance will go a long way to address critical issues of food insecurity in the area. At the local levels, an ordinance is a powerful expression that is perceived as a law. Knowing that it exists will motivate and force many people to adhere to it even before its adoption. Therefore, it is critical that the ordinance is extensively disseminated to communities to enable them to understand and thus implement the ordinance. This can be done

through local radios and other means of communication.

Amuria district's local government must draft and pass a food security and nutrition ordinance developed to fit its situation and capacity. As discussed above, ordinances are closer to the people and may tackle the challenges they face in a better way than a lofty law. The experiences from drafting the ordinance in Ngora would be valuable in Amuria. However, Amuria needs to craft the ordinance to suit its context and requirements. In addition, the development of the ordinance has to be participatory, with special emphasis on women.

Moreover, both districts need to pass ordinances that cater to men specifically. These should focus on forcing men to take an active role in providing for their families, as well as limiting their consumption of alcohol and gambling. By abolishing graduated tax and introducing Universal Primary Education (UPE), men's obligations in the family were reduced. As a result, in the two districts the consumption of alcohol and participation in gambling rose. Men often misuse their time and family earnings from the sales of household produce in gambling and alcohol consumption. Consequently, money that was needed to support the family is lost. Women also complained about violence that arises when men consume alcohol. The district authorities need to address these issues as soon as possible.

b) Enforcing legal rights over land and food

Both the central and local governments need to increase sensitization on land ownership and management. There should be a special focus on women and how they can register their land formally and secure ownership, even after their husbands pass away. Such sensitization may require a separate programme dedicated to addressing challenges faced by women in this area. Furthermore, efforts should go toward providing adequate funds to ensure effective operation of district land boards. In addition, women ought to make use of area land committees to solve some of the challenges they face in accessing and utilising land.

Finally, to the central government, energies ought to go towards

expediting the enactment of the Food and Nutrition Law, as well as establishing the food and nutrition council to coordinate government departments working on the right to food. The law should be the starting point for developing and implementing food and nutrition interventions by government. The presence of the food and nutrition council will enhance the implementation of the food and nutrition law.

c) *Supporting women in financial services and business development*

Without savings and credit, women often struggle to pay health care bills and provide for their children's education. For women to become more financially secure, they need to be able to save money, and to have access to it in times of need. Therefore, there is need to improve the income generating abilities of women through better access to financial services and improved business skills. This can be made possible by providing women with the opportunity to save and access credit through savings and loans groups (VSLAs). Furthermore, by giving them the skills and knowledge in financial and entrepreneurial capacities, a culture of saving with a purpose of investing in productive ventures will begin to develop. Finally, the VSLAs need to be transformed into formal rural producer organisations that can explore opportunities for collective production and marketing of their produce.

d) *Boosting harvests and increasing access to markets.*

Since women are engaged in subsistence farming, they often struggle to produce a surplus to sell, or even to produce enough food to feed their families. Some even sell their produce to middlemen at very low prices because of the low quantity and quality of their produce. A lack of market information and opportunities puts women in a weak position, and prevents them from securing a fair price. Therefore support should go toward women in the regard so as to increase the returns achieved on their agricultural enterprises, resulting in improved incomes and food security. Women need help to identify new ways to increase the value of their produce. By training them in ways of improving productivity, and by exploring opportunities for access to wider markets with better prices, women will be able to accomplish this. In addition, the government

should provide market information on agricultural produce and prices through establishing market information centers.

e) *Putting women's leadership at the center of local development*

Experience shows that facilitating women's leadership in development initiatives builds a sense of self-confidence and empowerment. This can help transform power relations in societies where women have traditionally been excluded from decision-making processes. However, achieving gender-equitable development requires a multi-layered approach. Space must be created to accommodate the active involvement of women in the design and implementation of local level projects, and to facilitate sharing of their experience. In addition, resources must be focused on building the capacity of women and on providing support for women-led initiatives. Furthermore, ensuring that women's participation in political decision making should go beyond affirmative action. This participation should be in the context of them taking part in general politics and policy making.

f) *Investments in women's capital*

There is need to improve women's capabilities. This can be done through improving their skills, their knowledge and their health by promoting access to education and training, health care and nutrition through institutionalization of inclusive access. The ability of individuals to develop and expand their capabilities is, in itself, a basic human freedom (Sen, 1990). The government and local government leadership ought to use 'active' labour market programmes to address social exclusion, such as training and skill development that aims to enhance women's capacity to participate in the labour markets.

g) *Strengthening women's resilience to shocks and stresses*

Women often have limited savings and access to any other safety nets. Therefore, events outside their control - such as climate change, drought or price fluctuations - can have devastating consequences. In light of this, the government and other stakeholders should help women to prepare for and withstand shocks and stresses. Women should be supported to strengthen their productive assets and investments in agriculture. This

can, in turn, enhance and increase their incomes to address long-term income exclusion. Investment in women's productive capacity can help address the drivers of social exclusion conditioned by the limited asset base of many women. Livelihood support programmes such as NAADS that transfer productive assets or offer agricultural inputs should ensure full participation of women.

h) Empowering Women with Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)

Generally, access to ICTs for women in rural areas can certainly contribute to the process of expanding their socio-economic, political and mental spaces. When women access ICTs, they become more confident, better informed, and conscious about their rights and surroundings. This helps them to expand their socioeconomic, physical and political spaces, realize their potential, and ultimately become more resilient.

i) Supporting inclusive policies and institutional arrangements

To increase inclusive access to health and healthcare, the government should develop legal social health protection coverage. This can be done in form of a national health insurance scheme that offers free health insurance coverage for hospital treatments to all people living below the Basic Poverty Line. Social health protection must go hand-in-hand with efforts to reduce corruption and informal fees, and should be complemented with reforms to improve accountability and responsiveness within public institutions. In addition, government and all development partners should scale-up interventions that reduce the burden women face in providing for their families such as provision of safe and clean water, proper sanitation, energy (improved technologies), and post-harvest handling.

j) Increase funding towards agriculture, food security and women empowerment

Government should tremendously increase budget allocation to the agriculture sector beyond just the 3 percent of the total national budget. At the moment, government spending is on distributing seeds without attention to other important areas such as irrigation, pest and

disease control and post-harvest facilities. However, spending should focus on areas that contribute to increased productivity, including disease and pest control, irrigation, farm input support, basic storage and post-harvest technologies, and the effective use and management of natural resources.

In addition, government should increase funding to LGs especially for community development activities, to enable LGs perform their duties effectively. Although the DDPs acknowledge many challenges that women face, there is no commitment in form of funding to address them. Therefore, LGs should increase budget allocation and staffing to the Community Based Departments in order to enable them effectively perform their expected roles. Because of limited funding, the department is understaffed meaning that most of the activities in the department are not implemented.

5.2.2 FRA and Partners

Despite the fact that NGOs in the two districts are doing a commendable job and making great strides to address issues that affect women, there are some gaps which the need to be addressed by FRA and her partners, which include:

Civic education and empowerment of women: In order to strengthen their position in demanding for the rights, women need skills and knowledge on how to organise and lobby for their own interests. Therefore, FRA should strengthen the sensitization and building the capacity of women to understand and demand for their rights. In addition, women should be

supported to form a common voice when advancing their issues.

Enhancing women access and ownership of land: Access and ownership of land by women is still a big challenge in two districts. Therefore, FRA should work with other partners to lobby government to ensure that women rights to access and ownership of land is upheld as stipulated in the land act and policy.

Support the development, passing and implementation of local ordinances: Borrowing from the experiences in Ngora, FRA should support Amuria district local government develop and pass a food security and nutrition

ordinance. As mentioned above, local ordinances are effective in changing community perceptions and practices since they are developed by the local leaders and implemented within the community.

Strengthening the VSLAs model: Many VSLAs have been supported by various NGOs as means of increasing savings and access to micro-credit. However, they are largely informal. Therefore, there is need to work with other NGOs to transform VSLAs into formal rural produce organisations that can explore opportunities of collective production and marketing of their produce. Currently, most VSLAs are unable to invest in productive ventures which can generate income for the group. Therefore, there is need to inculcate a culture of saving with a purpose and investing in productive ventures. In addition, there is need to support the VSLAs, to build their capacity in financial and entrepreneurial decision making, and link them to formal financial institutions.

Establish and support grassroots structures: Currently the civil society structures at local levels

are weak and unable to hold their leaders accountable especially when it comes to issues of right to food. This is partly due to lack of information, high levels of illiteracy and apathy by most communities. Therefore, FRA should establish and support grassroots structures to monitor the right to food and hold the duty bearers accountable.

Build the capacities of women in participate in decision making: Despite the affirmative action on involvement of women in politics, the involvement of women in other spheres is weak. There are numerous factors that hinder women's involvement such as lack of confidence, self-pity, cultural stereotypes, which need to be addressed. FRA should sensitize and empower women to occupy and influence decision making in all spheres and all levels.

Platform for collaboration among the NGOs: Currently, there is minimal collaboration among the NGOs on addressing women issues. Therefore, FRA should work to create a platform through which NGOs can work to address women issues to minimize uncoordinated interventions.

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Annexes

Annex 1: Key Informant Respondents

Political officials

	Name	Gender	Position	District
1.	Aguti Hellen Oumo	F	Secretary for Production and Women	Ngora
2.	Bernard Eumu	M	District Chairman	Ngora
3.	Ocen Samuel Patrick	M	LC3 Chairman Wera S/C	Ngora
4.	Aanyu Janet Ailak	F	Secretary Production, Mukura S/C	Ngora
5.	Egau Martin	M	LC 3 Chairman Mukura S/C	Ngora

Technical staff

	Name	Gender	Position	District
1.	Oloit Michael	M	DCDO	Amuria
2.	Paul Edotu	M	Assistant CAO	Amuria
3.	Epui James Collin	M	District Production Officer	Amuria
4.	Eyatu Jude	M	Biostatistician	Amuria
5.	Akellem Emmanuel	M	District Health Officer	Amuria
6.	Akiror Stella	F	District Health Educator	Amuria
7.	Francis Egunyu	M	DCDO	Ngora
8.	Oonyu Charles	M	District Health Educator	Ngora
9.	Arimi Winifred	F	Senior Nursing Officer	Ngora
10.	Andrew Oboi	M	District Agriculture Officer	Ngora
11.	Oteko Alfred	M	Clinical Officer	Ngora
12.	Amodoi Charles	M	District Lands Officer	Ngora
13.	Okello Simon	M	Senior Assistant Secretary	Ngora
14.	Aditu Abibu	M	District Internal Security Officer	Ngora
15.	Otwao Solomon	M	Assistant Town Clerk	Ngora
16.	Alungat Celline Mercy	F	Acting SAS	Ngora
17.	Apio Deborah Florence	F	Acting CDO	Ngora
18.	Otienya James	M	Assistant Agricultural Officer	Ngora
19.	Osujo David	M	Gombolola Intelligence Officer	Ngora
20.	Acom Jesca	F	Sub Accountant	Ngora
21.	Omasuge David	M	Parish Chief	Ngora
22.	Andrew Oboi	M	District Agricultural Officer	Ngora

NGO/CBO staff

	Name	Gender	Position	Organization
1.	Vincent Ewatu	M	Regional Coordinator	Heifer International
2.	Caroline Atango	F	Finance and Administration Officer	xxx
3.	Asio Martha	F	Field Officer	WEDA
4.	Herbert Opus	M	Program Officer, Livelihoods	TEDDO
5.	Moses Egayu	M	Executive Director	TEDDO
6.	Fr. Silver Opio	M	Development Coordinator	SOCADIDO
7.	Jessica Omodo	F	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	CIDI
8.	Paul xxx	M	Field Officer	CIDI
9.	Patrick Okello	M	Executive Director	Vision TERUDO
10.	Abraham Obwankore	M	Program Officer, Livelihoods	Build Africa

Annex 2: FGD Participants

Olagar Village, Aten Parish, Wera S/C, Amuria district

	Name	Gender
1	Mulekwa Tom	M
2	Elanyu Simon	M
3	Akamo Norah	F
4	Akello Rebecca	F
5	Agaro Stella	F
6	Ajuro Victor	F
7	Kamia John	F
8	Acan Florence	F
9	Abelo Grace	F
10	Akwii Stella	F
11	Aisu Anna	F
12	Akello Teresa	F
13	Agado Naomi	F

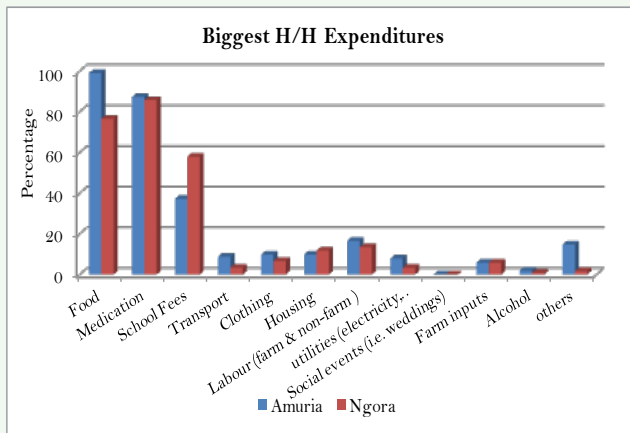
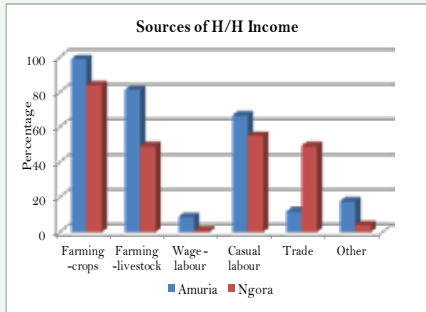
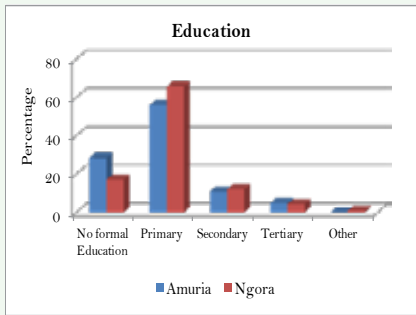
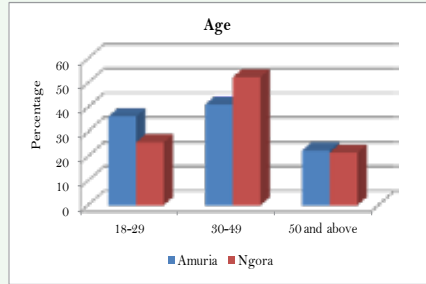
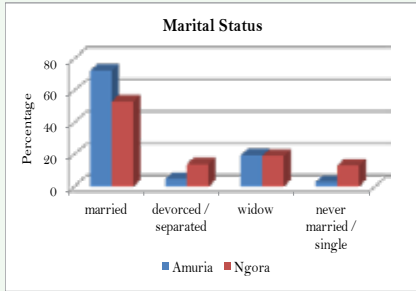
Oluroi Village, Mukura Parish, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

	Name	Gender
1	Asio Mary Goretty	F
2	Atim Hallan	F
3	Tino Margaret	F
4	Asio JF	F
5	Atiigo Florance	F
6	Ataa Magrate	F
7	Abiong Magrate	F
8	Akiror Mary	F
9	Asio Lucy	F
10	Akurut Ledia	F
11	Acam Janet Rose	F
12	Acom Florence	F
13	Aujo Anna	F
14	Anuso Sofia	F
15	Asio Mary Goretty	F
16	Atim Hallan	F
17	Tino Margaret	F
18	Asio JF	F
19	Atiigo Florance	F

Akeit Village, Akeit Parish, Mukura S/C, Ngora district

	Name	Gender
1	Akwii Anna Loyce	F
2	Adipo Betty	F
3	Emuron James	M
4	Asekenye Margret	F
5	Apolot Sarah	F
6	Adong Martha	F
7	Ajibo Florence	F
8	Eloitai J.	F
9	Abeja Hellen	F
10	Amulen Janet	F
11	Aminutu Gabdesia	F
12	Apolot Hellen	F
13	Aanyu Goreteti	F
14	Amiti Jesca	F
15	Amagoro Margret	F
16	Ikilai Hellen	F
17	Arengo Jenifer	F
18	Alajo Florence	F
19	Akello Florence	F
20	Tino Angella	F
21	Aseu Steven	M

Annex 3: Characteristics of Respondents (Quantitative survey)



Annex 4: Key Socio-economic Indicators (2010)

Sector	Indicator	Amuria	Ngora	
Primary Education	Net Enrolment Rate	74	114	
	Pupil-Teacher ratio	63	61	
	Pupil Classroom ratio	75	82	
Secondary Education	Net intake rate	10	26	
	Student-Teacher ratio	23	22	
	Student Classroom ratio	48	61	
Agriculture	Total Production of major crops- UCA 2008/09 (Metric Tons)	Plantain Bananas	143	
		Finger Millet	1,897	
		Maize	1,353	
		Sorghum	6,963	
		Rice	6,963	
		Sweet potatoes	7,400	
		Irish Potatoes		
		Cassava	10,870	
		Beans	9,528	
	G.Nuts	2,475		
	Number of Livestock -2008 Livestock Census	Cattle	171,375	
		Goats	113,110	
		Sheep	35,942	
		Pigs	41,318	
		Chicken	545,388	
		Ducks	5,703	
		Turkey	4,670	
	Proportion of Households Owning Livestock	Cattle		55.8%
		Goats		56.4%
		Pigs		42.9%
		Chicken		63.1%

Source: UBOS 2013, Statistical Abstract



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Facebook: Food Rights Alliance-FRA



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