



Resiliency through Wealth, Agriculture, and Nutrition in Karamoja (RWANU)



QUARTERLY REPORT

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¹ Cover photo: Women Livestock group members in Nabilatuk sub county after receiving Galla goats. Photo taken by Lolem Daniel, Livestock officer, WHH/RWANU on December 12, 2013. Courtesy of Welthungerhilfe

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Acronyms

ANC/PNC	Antenatal care/Post natal care
CAG	Community Action Group
CAHW	Community Animal health Worker
CDO	Community Development Officer (field staff of Welt Hunger Hilfe WHH)
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
CSC	Community Score card
DHO	District health officer
DHT	District health team
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
FaaB	Farming and a business
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FDP	Food Distribution Point
FEW	Field Extension Worker
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
FTG	Farmer Training Groups
FY	Fiscal Year
GAM	Global acute malnutrition
GHG	Growth Health and Governance
GIZ	German Technical Cooperation
GMP	Growth Monitoring and Promotion
HC	Health Centre
HE	Health Educator
HF	Health facility
HH	Household
HHCG	Household Care Group
HICAP	Health Institution Capacity Assessment Process
HP	Health promoters
IY	Implementation Year
KAPB	Knowledge, attitude, practice and behavior
KARFA	Karita RWANU Farmers Association
kg	Kilogram
LC	Local Counsel
MCG	Mother Care groups
MCHN	Maternal child health and Nutrition
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Metric Ton
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory and Development Services
NabuZARDI	Nabuin Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute
NRM	Natural resource management
OPV	Open Pollinate Varieties
PHAST	Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
PHH	Post-harvest handling
PREP	Pipeline Resource Estimate Proposal
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition

ToR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of trainers
TSO	Technical Support officer
UGX	Uganda Shillings
UNADA	Uganda National Agro-Input Dealers Association
VHT	Village health team
WLG	Women Livestock Groups

RWANU Program Description

The Resiliency through Wealth, Agriculture, and Nutrition in Karamoja (RWANU) project (Cooperative Agreement #AID-FFP-A-12-00011), a five-year USAID Food for Peace Development Food Assistance Program (DFAP), was awarded to ACIDI/VOCA in August, 2012. The overall goal of the program is reduced food insecurity among vulnerable people in Southern Karamoja. The program has two strategic objectives (SO): 1) Improved access to food for men and women; and 2) Reduced malnutrition in pregnant and lactating mothers and children under five.

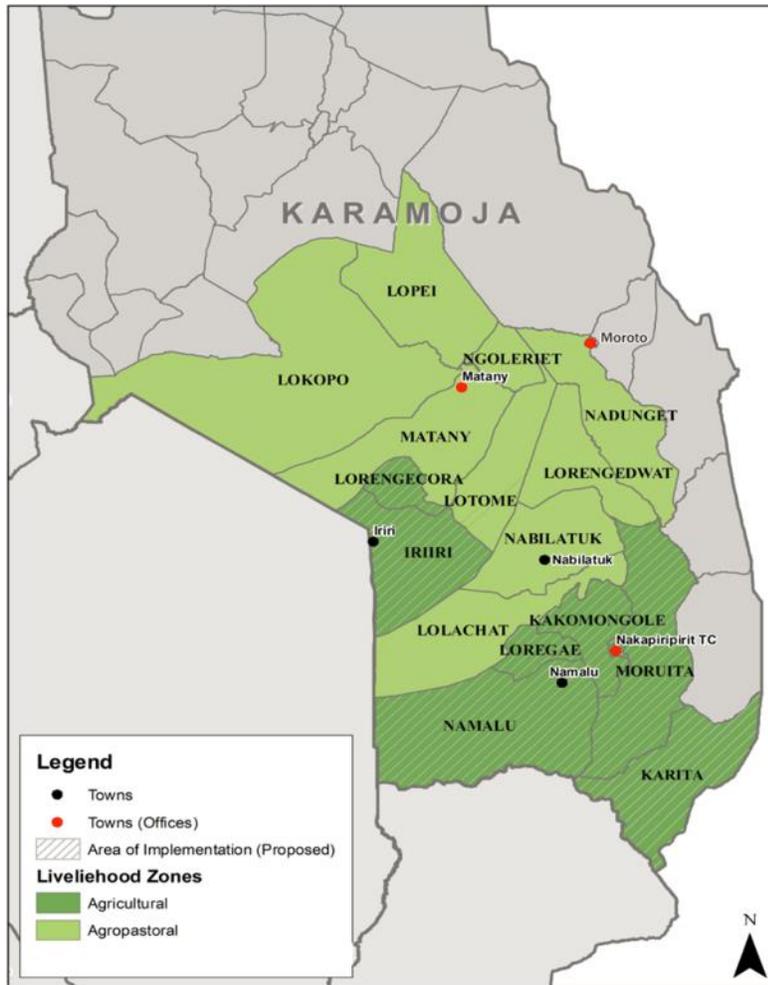


Figure 1: Districts and sub-counties served by RWANU

ACDI/VOCA is the prime, responsible for overall program management and leads implementation of most activities under SO1, and in particular activities related to crop production, alternative livelihoods, increasing resiliency through the promotion of group savings and improving market linkages. WeltHungerHilfe (WHH) carries out the technical training and input provision related to livestock. Concern Worldwide (Concern) has primary responsibility for the nutrition, health and hygiene activities covered under SO2, while ACIDI/VOCA manages the distribution of food rations. ACIDI/VOCA and partners work together to ensure integration across activities and promotion of gender equity and women's empowerment, environmental stewardship, and conflict mitigation.

This report highlights the implementation progress over the period January 1-March 31, 2014. The report presents progress in the implementation of planned activities related to specific program outcomes reflected under the intermediate results areas and outlines achievements, challenges, and planned activities for the following quarter – April-June, 2014.

1.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVED ACCESS TO FOOD FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Intermediate Result 1.1: Improved Smallholder Farm Management Practices Adopted

The main focus of the extension services during the reporting period was to build capacity of field based extension staff and acquire the seeds in preparation for the first rainy season. The team worked with farmers to prepare individual gardens and block farms ahead of the rainy season. Major accomplishments included training of Field Extension Workers (FEWS) and Technical Support Officers (TSOs) in agronomic practices, identification and preparation of demonstration gardens and identification of seed suppliers. By the end of March, an estimated 469.25² acres had been cleared and was ready for planting. Ploughing was on-going in the 220 identified demo gardens. Other activities implemented during the quarter included training of farmers in post-harvest handling (PHH) technologies. The introduction of these techniques and technologies are aimed at building the capacity of the smallholder farmers with whom RWANU is working to increase their food security and potential to produce surplus production for markets.

1.1-1 Provision of Hands-On Training in Improved Crop Production to Farmer Training Groups (FTG):

Technical Support Officers (4) and Field Extension Workers (29) from all 16 sub-counties in the program area were trained as trainers in horticulture and agronomic practices. The training was focused on practical aspects including nursery bed preparation, site selection, bed setting, how to dig good planting holes, and post-harvest handling. The FEWs, with technical guidance from the TSOs, then conducted training for 2,002 (798 males and 1,204 females) farmers continuing from the first year of the program, in agronomy, horticulture and post-harvest handling. The training covered crop seed/variety selection, land preparations, crop spacing, planting and crop management as they prepared to plant crops in their demo gardens.

220 new FTGs composed of 5,500 farmers (2,343 males and 3,157 females) were formed during the quarter and were trained on site selection, bush clearing and land preparation by the FEWs.

1.1.2. Demo Garden

Demo plots of 0.5 acres for each the 220 new FTGs were identified and ploughed by either hand hoe or oxen depending on the group's ability to access oxen. At the end of the quarter these demonstration plots were ready for planting. The FEWs, with the guidance of the TSOs, will ensure that learning on important agronomic practices take place in these demonstration plots with each group receiving and planting two different types of seed, a cereal and a legume seed. The cereal is either maize or sorghum depending on the agro-ecology and the legume is either beans or groundnuts again depending on agro-ecology and soil types.

The FTGs will have their members prepare and plant individual household gardens in addition to the demo plots. This is to provide an opportunity for individual farmers to utilize their knowledge and skills they acquired from the demos in their individual gardens.

² 459 acres cleared for Block Farm as reported by the FEWs and 10.25 acres prepared by the horticulture groups as reported by the FEWs. The FEWs compiled reports from the farmers' groups (self-reporting).

1.1.3. Horticulture Groups

Thirty horticulture production groups were selected from the 163 FTGs supported during the first year of implementation. These groups were selected based on the suitability of their location for irrigated horticulture and perceived potential market opportunity. They received training on vegetable nursery site selection, nursery bed preparation and management. Each group cleared a site to construct the nursery bed. The horticulture groups have in total prepared an estimated 10.25 acres³ ready for the first season planting. RWANU supports these groups of farmers to grow vegetables primarily as an income diversification opportunity. However, it is believed that participating farmers will also use part of their produce for household consumption, hence diversifying the household dietary intake. Nutrition messaging will be integrated in the training program for the groups. Plans to set up the small scale irrigation systems using surface water harvesting techniques and drip irrigation is underway and expected to be completed by June, 2014.

1.1.4 Block Farm Groups

In implementation year (IY) 2, RWANU has a plan to support 60 block farm⁴ groups (BFG). During this quarter 58 BFGs with a total of 1,447 farmers (590 M and 857 F) were formed and received technical support to identify their gardens for farming and received basic training on agronomic practices. To-date the groups have opened an estimated 459 acres out of the total 600 acres planned. RWANU planned to provide animal traction support through the provision of pairs of oxen and ox plows for preparing their garden for this planting season. However, the fact that the oxen have to be trained and the beneficiaries have to acquaint themselves with the plows, this option was not feasible for this season but will be pursued for the 2015 agriculture season. Instead in consultation with the BFGs, the RWANU team opted to use mechanized traction, provided that the groups were willing to share the cost of hiring tractor services. After a series of discussions the groups put forward up to 30% of the cost for hiring tractors and the team facilitated linkages between the groups and the service providers. The necessary administrative arrangements (fixed obligation grants) are being made by RWANU for matching the balance (70%) of the cost for the tractor hire. As communicated to the Agreement Officer Representative (AOR), the FOGs allow for a direct relationship to be established between the farmers and the service providers for the season. A total of 27 BFGs in Nakapiripirit (24) and Amudat (3) Districts, have mobilized co-funding amounting to Uganda Shillings (UGX) 4,294,000 (US\$1,717)⁵ towards tractor costs and 28 BFG in Napak (26) and Moroto (2) District contributed UGX 5,605,000 (US\$2,242). Two BFG in Lorengedwat and one group in Loregae in Nakapiripirit district have independently opened their block farms using their own funds to hire ox ploughs.

1.1.5. Conservation Agriculture

RWANU will embark on conservation farming demonstrations with 30 of the 60 Block Farm Groups (BFGs) The groups have been informed on the practices and have agreed to plant up to an additional ½ acre using a conservation farming approach alongside their block farming activities. This will be used as a learning ground for the participants to compare the performance

³ Based on self-reports from the farmers' groups. Verification and measurement will follow before the groups receive the seeds and other support

⁴ The block farmers will be approximately 10 acres each and are oriented towards more commercial production and development of horizontal linkages.

⁵ UGX2500=UD\$1

of their plots under conservation farming practice with the conventional tillage methods widely practiced in the area. FEWs with help the TSOs conduct hands on trainings on the approach that will help farmers make decisions to possibly adopt these methods.

1.1-5 Post-Harvest Handling

As part of the plan for improving post-harvest handling and managing produce, during this quarter RWANU distributed 978 hand-held maize shellers, 6 shellers for each of the 163 FTGs from IY 1. The hand held maize shellers are kept with the chairpersons of the groups and are being used by members on a rotational basis as and when members need them.

Feedback from FEWs indicates that the groups have found these shellers quite helpful as it made shelling easy and fast for them as compared to hand shelling using fingers. Farmers have already showed interest in purchasing these items for their own household use.

RWANU procured 990 tarpaulins for FTGs to improve the quality of their harvest through proper cleaning and drying. Traditionally farmers are drying their produce on the bare ground. The groups will receive the tarpaulins at the time of harvest.

Planned Activities for Next Quarter

- Establish 220 demo plots of 0.5 acre each per group
- Demonstrate planting of crops to the 220 FTGs (lessons on crop rotation, spacing, contour lines, pre-planting seed preparation, soil cover)
- Establish 20 demos on integrated pest management with NabuZARDI (i.e., weeds, diseases, insects)
- Organize 2 farmer field days to share demo experiences and discuss solutions to their challenges
- Analyze demo results in relation to NabuZARDI on-farm trials in the region
- Distribute 47 MT start-up seeds and planting materials to 7,750 farmers including 5,500 in the Farmer Training Groups, 750 in Horticulture and 1,500 in Block Farm Groups
- Refinement and development of agronomy information, education and communication (IEC) materials
- Training of National Agricultural Advisory and Development Services (NAADS) & District Production staff on agronomy and post-harvest handling (timely harvesting, on-farm storage and group storage, drying) according to time of year
- Carry out training of 30 FEWs in conservation tillage
- Facilitate exchange visits for FEWs and selected farmer group leaders to learn from successful initiatives in South Karamoja
- Procurement of PHH equipment to farmer groups
- Support surface water harvesting and set up of small irrigation system for 30 horticulture groups

Intermediate Result 1.2. Improved Smallholder Livestock Management Practices

1.2-1 Support to New and Continuing Women Livestock Groups (WLG)

In the last implementation year (until August 2013), 40 women livestock groups with a membership of 519 women received 1,334 goats. This consisted of 1,199 local female goats, 45 male Toggenburg crosses and 12 Galla male goats and 78 Galla female goats. During the quarter 73 of the distributed goats died and 10 were reported stolen. Of those animals that died, 5 were 50% Toggenburg cross bucks. The loss of the Toggenburg breed is primarily attributed to the high level of management needed, which most of the beneficiaries are still learning. In addition, field team observations indicate the Toggenburg breed suffers from the harsh environmental condition in the drier pastoral areas. In spite of the poor survival rates of the 50% Toggenburg cross-bred bucks the project believes that the benefits this breed brings in terms of increased milk production, high growth rate and fetching good market price justifies the continued introduction of this breed in the green belt and agro-pastoral zones like Namalu, Loregae and Kakomongole sub-counties where climatic conditions are more tolerable by this breed.

For the pastoral zones where the high mortality of the Toggenburg-cross was experienced, the project imported pure-bred Galla goats, which is known as the milk queen of semi-arid and arid lands. Galla goats come from the drier areas of Kenya and in December 2013, 12 male and 78 female Galla goats were introduced. By the end of the quarter the survival rate of the Galla breed was 96% with only 3 males and 1 female lost. RWANU will continue to import male and female goats of this breed mainly for the pastoral zones of the project area since conditions are similar to its origin.

During the quarter, 21 new WLGs, with 210 women members, were formed and trained in basic goat management as well as group dynamics. RWANU had a plan to form all 80 WLGs for year 2 during this quarter. However, the extensive consultative process such as beneficiary pre-selection and verification, training, and promoting a savings culture to ensure funds for animal health care are available, took more time than anticipated. The group formation for the remaining 59 WLGs is underway and expected to be completed in the coming quarter. During the reporting period, the women had already begun saving. Each group was also linked to a community animal health worker (CAHW) to provide veterinary services on a cost recovery basis.

It had been proposed to distribute 4,000 goats during the quarter. However this activity was put on hold because the team was waiting for the approval of the veterinary drugs, while concurrently forming the WLGs and working on developing a sustainable mechanism for a drug supply system. With the approval for the purchase of the vet drugs, the procurement and distribution of the goats will effectively begin from the third week of April 2014.

1.2-2 Reproduction/Offspring

During the reporting period, 180 kids, of which 98 are female, were born. To-date since the first distribution of the goats a total of 209 kids have been born and survived. A significant number of the originally distributed goats (173) were lost due to disease and a few cases of theft. This

means that the project has already compensated for the loss of the animals reported above and by the end of the quarter there were 36 more animals in the field than distributed.

The project is issuing guidance about good animal health to try and reduce losses to disease.



Figure 2: **Toggenburg goat offspring**

1. Picture 1 March 27, 2014; Apeded village, Kokuwam parish Namalu sub-county; taken by CAHW Augustine LOPEYOK
2. Picture 2: March 27, 2014; Apeded village, Kokuwam parish Namalu sub-county; taken by Livestock Officer Daniel LOLEM.

1.2-3 Milk Production

Field monitoring revealed that on average surplus daily milk production per goat after the kids suckled of approximately one quarter of a liter (.250l) among distributed goats. Given the influence of the dry season on feed availability and the water stress, this quantity of surplus milk per goat is generally acceptable for the local breeds. However, with the introduction of the Toggenburg breed in the Green belt and the Galla goats in the drier zones, RWANU anticipates improvement in milk production once the off-springs are ready for reproduction. This is expected to happen beginning in the 2nd quarter of IY3.

1.2-4 Goat Shed Construction and Fodder Banks

The team supported 30 existing WLGs with construction of goat shelters by providing poles, nails and binding wire as well as technical expertise in carpentry. This support is given to demonstrate the importance of good shelter for the goats. In the future the beneficiaries will be expected to build and maintain their own goat shelters. The women provide the locally available materials which they can easily access including



Picture 3: March 26, 2014; Ajok- Lup village, Nakuri parish Lolachat sub-county; (Patricia AYADO – a RWANU Community Development officer)

roofing as their contribution. The work is under way for most of the existing groups while the new WLGs have been encouraged to ensure the shelters are ready before the animals are distributed to them.

1.2-5 Fodder Banks

Fodder sites for demonstration on 0.25 acre were designated near or within manyattas for 36 WLGs in Ngoleriet, Lorengedwat, Nabilatuk, Lolachat, Namalu and Kakomongole sub-counties where the project operates. Planting will commence with the start of the rainy season. The project will supply seedlings of leguminous forage species including *Calliandra*, *Sesbania Sesban*, *Leucaena leucocephala* and cuttings of Napier grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*). *Sesbania Sesban*, and *Leucaena leucocephala* which are believed to perform well in almost all agro-ecological zones, whereas *Calliandra* and the Napier grass are more suited to the green belt areas.

1.2-6 Goats' Procurement and Distribution

During the reporting period RWANU did not distribute goats. In March 2014, a request for proposals was sent to supply 1,200 local female goats. Orders for 20 Toggenburg cross-bred bucks and 100 Galla goats have been placed. We expect to complete the procurement of these goats in the first month of the third quarter. These animals are to be distributed to the 21 new WLGs formed during the second quarter and for the 40 existing WLGs, who received partial allocations of the total number of goats due to them. Preparation for another solicitation to supply 2,000 goats is underway.

1.2-7 Veterinary Health Care Service Provision Strengthening

During IY2, RWANU planned to recruit and support 12 CAHW associations to cover 12 sub-counties. During this reporting period 3 CAHWs' associations with a total of 78 CAHWs covering 6 sub-counties in Napak District were registered for support by RWANU. As the three CAHWs' associations have covered six sub-counties, the semi-annual target of reaching six sub-counties was achieved. Identifying associations for the 5 sub-counties in Nakapiripirit and 1 sub-county in Amudat is planned for the third quarter. RWANU is in the process of ensuring that these associations renew their operational licenses with the district governments using funds from membership subscriptions.

RWANU received approval for purchase of veterinary pharmaceuticals in mid-March 2014. This will allow the newly acquired animals to be vaccinated against Contagious Caprine Pleuro Pneumonia (CCPP) and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) which are endemic diseases of goats in the Karamoja Region. To date, 20 CAHWs have received refresher training by the project and can provide these vaccination services.

RWANU is exploring more sustainable options to veterinary health service provision. Exploration of an alternative facilitation model for veterinary services, especially in the support to veterinary pharmaceutical outlets, is underway. This is a model being developed by the Mercy Corps Growth Health and Governance (GHG) project in Northern Karamoja. RWANU is exploring the suitability of this model for South Karamoja.

Planned Activities Next Quarter

- Expand activities into Irriri, Lorengechora, Matany, Lokopo, Lopeei, Karita and Nadunget sub-counties
- Form and train 59 new women livestock groups consisting of 590 members
- Register CAHWs association into the RWANU programme in the sub-counties of Namalu, Kakomongole, Loregae, Lolachat, Moruita and Karita
- Conduct refresher training for at least 3 CAHWs' associations consisting of 30 CAHWs
- Support 36 women livestock groups to establish fodder banks
- Support 40 groups with goat shelter' construction
- Procure and distribute up to 3,200 goats to 40 old and 80 new women livestock groups reaching 1,319 women;
- Establish a model for procurement of veterinary pharmaceuticals that involves the private sector
- Conduct an exchange visit to GHG programme on its facilitation model of provision of veterinary services

Intermediate Result 1.3: Increased Linkages to Markets

1.3-1 Facilitating Linkages to Input Markets

Farmers in South Karamoja suffer from low agricultural productivity, limited availability to production inputs and weak linkages to markets. During FY13 land opening by RWANU FTGs was with hoes or by use of ox-ploughs purchased on an individual basis. Use of a hoe was slow and tedious while trained oxen were scarce resulting in delays and reduced acreage of opened land. During the reporting period, RWANU piloted a market linkage activity for tractor hire services for farmer groups in 2 sub-counties -- Karita and Moruita sub-county with the aim of easing ploughing and increasing area of land cultivated and thus crop yields. RWANU linked farmers to tractor hire services in the adjacent Suam district that opened an estimated 285 acres of land in Karita and 110 acres in Moruita sub-county. The cost of tractors was paid with the farmers' own savings.

RWANU is committed to creating a network of stakeholders for promotion of input and output markets for the South Karamoja region. The team held inception meeting with the seed companies NASECO, PEARL and VICTORIA to attract them in exploiting the available agro-input potential within Karamoja and set up demonstrations through agro-input dealers, to spur demand.

In addition to Karita and Moruita, farmers from Matany (in Napak District) were also linked to NASECO Seed Company in Mbale. In total, 302 farmers out of a total of 675 farmers within the 27 IY 1 FTGs in the three sub-counties of Karita, Matany and Moruita were linked to input markets. Using their own savings, they purchased 1.79MT of maize (LongeV) and 100kg of beans (Nabe 4) from NASECO seeds. They also purchased 10 planting ropes to assist with planting in lines and to obtain the correct inter-row spacing. The total amount of money spent by farmers to purchase seed and hire tractors using their own savings was UGX 6,130,000 (\$2,452) and UGX 35,550,000 (\$14,220) respectively. The demand for tractors and seed is high and ploughing is still on-going. Some non- RWANU farmers also hired tractor services. RWANU

target farmers have appreciated the value of using their savings for productive investment purpose – in this case to purchase seed and hire tractors. This pilot activity will be expanded to other sub-counties where RWANU is operating.



Figure 3: **On Left:** A FEW verifies the seeds the farmer purchased. **On the Right:** Members of Chelerekaun FTG in Karita sub-county with the seed they purchased from NASECO Both Pictures- Photographer: Lokeris Risante, Driver. Location: Chelerekaun village in Karita Sub county; February 2014



Figure 4: Farmers prepares to measure land area ploughed by tractor provider. Picture on the left- Photographer: Lokeris Risante, in Chelerekawun village, Karita sub county Picture on the right Photographer: Agnes, FEW of Karita- in Agulie village in Lokales parish , Karita (February 2014)

1.3-2 Facilitating Linkages to Output Markets

In order to address the constraint of weak linkages to markets, during the quarter, RWANU farmers were linked to output markets. RWANU staff collected information regarding output markets and passed this on to the farmers. Self reported data regarding sales volumes was collected from only two sub-counties (i.e., Karita and Moruita) as highlighted in the table below,

because these areas located in the green belt of South Karamoja had favorable yields in the second season of 2013. This work will expand with the harvest of 2014.

Sub-county	Farmer group	Crop sold	Quantity sold (Kgs)	Price per kg (UGX)	Value of sale (UGX)	Buyers/Markets
Moruita	Narionomor	Maize	8200	900	7,380,000	Kitale, Kenya
	Moru akimat	Maize	2500	900	2,250,000	Kitale, Kenya
	nyoryaogh	Maize	3100	900	2,790,000	Kitale Kenya
Karita	Naporokocho	Maize	7400	900	6,660,000	Kitale Kenya
Total			21200		19,080,000 (\$7632)	

1.3-3 Livestock Market Assessment

During the quarter, RWANU completed a livestock market assessment that was aimed at mapping out the value chain for livestock (goats) for South Karamoja and identifying key constraints, partners, potential buyers' expectation of future supply, demand, price and willingness to trade with producers. One of the key findings from the livestock assessment was that farmers interviewed were not very knowledgeable about the prices of livestock outside Karamoja. There is limited market intelligence on livestock market prices partly caused by the poor telecommunication network within the Karamoja region, the limited number of phones, the limited business networks outside Karamoja and, language barrier among other things. As a result, irregular and inconsistent market information characterizes the livestock supply chain in Karamoja. It is against this background that RWANU is planning to design appropriate training in marketing and information sharing systems for the women livestock groups supported by the project to help them make informed decisions for market offtake.

1.3-4 Training of RWANU Beneficiaries

During the quarter, RWANU trained 93 FTG leaders on business planning in Matany, Lorengechora and Lorengedwat sub-counties. The trainings covered topics such as business viability, business risks and sustainability. In addition, FEWS trained 184 farmers (102 Females and 82 males) in Farming as a Business (FaaB) and marketing. The training was aimed at providing farmers with business skills needed for participation in a market economy.

1.3-5 Formation of Farmer Associations for Accessing of Inputs

Farmer associations are important in mobilizing farmers to participate in the input market linkage activity (sourcing of seeds and tractors) and overseeing the performance of RWANU activities. RWANU supported seven FTGs (175 farmers in total) at a sub county level to form the Karita RWANU Farmers Association (KARFA) in Karita sub-county. The association is comprised of seven executive members, including the Chairperson, Vice chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Mobilizer and two (02) committee members.

1.3-6 Training of NAADS

RWANU has a plan to train NAADS in FaaB, marketing and saving and credit management. This activity has not been accomplished as the discussion regarding local partners' expectation of allowances and other payments when participating in project activities such as training has not

been concluded. RWANU will continue discussion with the district government to establish agreement regarding district staff participation in project activities.

1.3.7. Promoting Market Oriented Honey Production and Group Marketing

Honey has been a traditional source of livelihood for many households in the program area. RWANU will continue to promote honey production through provision of technical capacity building and provision of tools and equipment.

An assessment was conducted in twelve sub-counties⁶ to determine honey production potential. Following the assessment, 460 individuals (316 Males and 144 Females) were selected for technical support by RWANU and these were constituted into 23 honey producer groups. The criteria for selection of individuals for honey production included: existing youth groups, availability of forage plants for bee foraging, prior registration into program health and nutrition activities, accessibility of community / household, vicinity of water sources, personal interest and, past knowledge on beekeeping practices. Two of the 23 groups were composed of exclusively male youth. These are: Kilimanjaro bee-keeping group in Kakomongole sub-county and, Liyohuo bee-keeping group in Karita sub-county.

i. Training in Apiary Management Practices

Training farmers in apiary management practices provides them an opportunity to learn and master the skills required to maximize honey production. Fifteen out of 23 new apiary farmer groups were trained during the quarter. These trainings aimed at equipping farmers with skills in apiary hygiene and maintenance so as to increase knowledge of feeding bees, behavior and sociology of bees, importance of beekeeping, the bee calendar, ways of siting and stocking bees, apiary layout/design, bee products and their uses, types of bees and functions, bee pests/predators and prevention measures, bee equipment and, history of bees/honey. A total of 300 beneficiaries were trained on the above practices – (112 female and 188 male).

ii. Continuous Support Supervision to Apiary Farmer Group

Continuous supervision and on-the-job support visits were made to inspect bee hives. A total of 18 bee hive inspections were conducted in the sub-counties of Iriiri, Karita, Moruita, Namalu, and Lotome, Lopeei and Karita. Results showed that honey hadn't yet ripened as was anticipated in quarter 1 FY14. This is mainly a result of the dry season (Oct 2013-Feb 2014) that reduced the amount of forage and water for bees and thus slowed down the process of honey production. This situation is envisaged to change with the onset of rains.

Twenty bee hives in Lopeei and in Moruita sub-counties were re-sited to a safer location because of vandalism of hives and destruction of colonies through honey theft as well as pest attacks by the wax moth of the family Pyralidae or snout moths in Moruita.

iii. Sensitization Meetings on Apiary Protection

Due to reported theft and vandalism of hives by some community members (especially in Lopeei and Moruita sub-counties), all 10 apiary groups of IY 1 were sensitized by a team from RWANU

⁶ Karita, Moruita, Namalu, Kakomongole, Loregae, Lolachat, Lorengedwat, Ngoleriet, Lorengechora, Lokopo, Nadunget and Nabilatuk.

(including the RWANU Conflict Mitigation Officer) and the respective sub-county leadership. The aim was to caution farmers on the need to manage their apiaries well. Following this, sub-county leaders promised to support RWANU Field Extension Workers in enforcing the resolutions passed during these meetings. Resolutions included: relocation of affected apiaries, fencing of selected apiary sites, identification of new members to replace culprits, formulation of mini-apiary groups to monitor bee-keeping activities, establishment of stores at the sub-county for apiary equipment, provision of record books to farmers and, weekly meetings for group chairpersons.



Figure 5: RWANU Honey Officer and honey producers carrying out hive inspection in Lomaratoit, Iriiri sub-county Both pictures Photographer: Atie, -driver, (January 2014)

iv. Distribution of Honey Starter Kits

Bee farmers enrolled in the program did not have the essential gear and equipment recommended by the apiary industry. A past program assessment showed that these farmers used locally improvised gear and equipment which often expose them to bee attacks and damage the bee hives. RWANU procured and distributed honey starter kits to continuing apiary farmer groups. The starter kit is composed of bee suits, smokers, gloves and gumboots. With the exception of 3 apiary groups that received a full kit, a partial set of the kit was distributed to the rest of the groups because their honey had not yet ripened. This was to avoid abuse and misuse of the processing equipment for activities such as brewing. The hives in the three groups were nearly ready for harvest and the honey production team decided to make the full kit available for them.

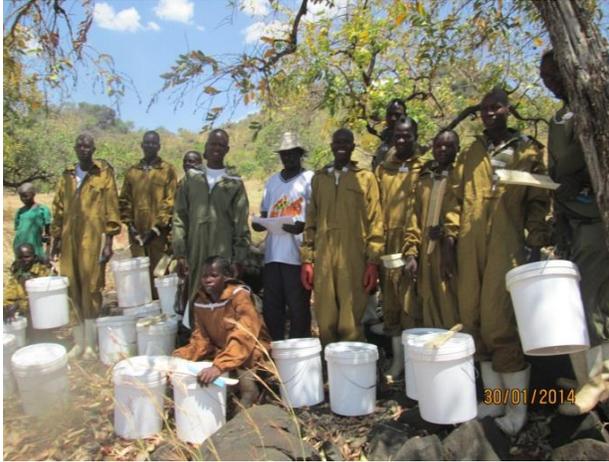


Figure 6: Apiary farmers that received bee keeping equipment in Iriiri and Lotome sub-counties
 1st Picture Photographer: Suzanne Akol, Honey production officer Distribution of Kits to Mibikan apiary group, Nabwa village, Irrirri sub county Lotome, Lomuno parish, Lorita group January 2014; 2nd picture Photographer: Dinnah- Honey production officer Distribution of kits to Lorita apiary group, Lomung parish, Lotome subcounty February 2014

The program agreed together with the respective sub-county leadership that the remaining starter kits shall be distributed when honey harvesting commences. Procurement for additional honey starter kits is underway. Two private firms were selected; Bee-house Ltd and Golden Bees Ltd based on best value determination criteria. Procurement will thus be completed in quarter 3 FY14.

v. Engagement with honey private sector honey buyer

The private sector provides a vital role in buying and marketing of the honey, provision of inputs and extension services to farmers. During this quarter, RWANU and Golden Bee completed a MOU and drafted an Annual Program Statement for engagement for marketing honey though. Golden Bees is yet to sign.

Planned Activities for Next Quarter

- Continue with business plan development for 12 farmer groups in the four districts with the aim of expanding and giving more business options
- Map out and profiling 10 potential agro input dealers in the green belts of southern Karamoja and subsequently in collaboration with Uganda National Agro-Input Dealers Association (UNADA); train them in safe handling of agricultural inputs and chemicals
- Facilitate 1 round table business talk between potential buyers and livestock producer groups
- Facilitate 1 round table business talk between buyers and honey producer groups
- Follow up with 30 FTGs to discuss the impact of the on-going FaaB/marketing activities in RWANU districts
- Establish two bulking centres in Namalu and Karita sub-counties

- Train 10 RWANU staff (new FEWs and Community Development Officers (CDOs) on FaaB and marketing
 - Procurement and distribution of IY2 honey starter kits
 - Facilitate an exposure visit for 33 RWANU honey producers within Karamoja region
 - Training of 30 FEWs and 4 TSOs on bee-keeping
 - Training of 23 IY 2 bee-keeping groups

Intermediate Result 1.4: Access to Credit Increased

1.4-1 Group Savings and Credit

During the reporting period, the program continued to promote the concept of group based mobilization of savings and credit as a means to withstand economic shocks and also as a means to promote investment in economic activities. Accessibility to formal credit institutions is still low and there is evidence that people are willing to pool together savings amongst groups of peers. The RWANU team supported the formation of 152 new savings and credit groups in all districts of program operation. The roll out is however still ongoing in the sub-county of Lokopo in the parish of Apeitolim. Farmers were mentored in concepts such as group dynamics, developing a savings culture, and how to mobilize savings and access to credit.

RWANU distributed 15 savings kits and trained 16 women livestock groups in Nakapiripirit District on savings and credit management to support them, secure funds for veterinary care and health management of their goats. The training covered the following topics: introduction to saving mobilization, best practices of savings groups, group governance, loan management, record keeping, procedures of savings and loaning in groups. A total of 228 beneficiaries (217 females and 11 males) were trained.



Figure 7 Lopirir Women's Livestock Group (WLG) Kakomongole Parish, Akuyam village, Nakapiripirit during savings and credit training Photographer: Godfrey, Savings and Credit officer

In the long term, RWANU anticipates linking farmers involved in saving and credit to formal financial institutions. During the quarter, the team facilitated meetings between Centenary Bank and representatives of supported Savings and Credit groups in the sub-counties of Nadunget, Lotome, Iri, Loregechora, Matany, Lorengedwat, Ngoleriet and Lokopo. The linkage was aimed at providing affordable, well adapted and safe financial services to RWANU informal groups in order to enable them to secure their savings while tapping into larger credit

provided by banks. Centenary Bank also expressed willingness to support training of RWANU savings and credit groups in business skills and financial management. During the meetings, group members expressed willingness to open accounts in Centenary Bank whose interest rates

are lower than at the VSLA's. A MOU will be considered with Centenary Bank should they be willing to consider the available collateral of the farmers.

1.4-2 Status of Group Saving and Credit Deposits

Routine savings and credit group performance data collected from 158 FTGs and apiary groups showed that there are marginal increments in the savings deposits each month. The table below summarizes the saving and credit status as at end of the second quarter FY14:

Table 1: Table Showing Savings Deposits by Members per District

District	Male	Female	Total	Current savings (UGX)	Cumulative savings (UGX)	Cash in box (UGX)
Amudat	45	78	123	52,500	3,471,000	3,176,000
Nakapiripirit	359	457	816	1,990,000	28,374,500	7,338,300
Napak	473	669	1142	1,144,000	28,280,200	10,508,500
Moroto	25	93	118	173,000	2,192,000	1,140,000
Totals UGX	877	1204	2,081	3,186,500	60,125,700	21,022,800
Total US\$				\$1,275	\$24,050	\$8,409

Table 2: Table Showing Credit Performance by District

District	Male	Female	Cumulative value of loans	Value of loans outstanding	Value of loans paid
Amudat	5	3	295,000	250,000	45,000
Napak	120	240	15,410,500	12,262,000	2,901,100
Nakapiripirit	226	343	60,140,500	47,567,000	10,761,500
Moroto	13	15	1,445,000	1,135,000	310000
Total	364	601	77,291,000	61,214,000	14,017,600
Total US\$			\$30,916	\$24,485	\$5,607

1.4.3 Exchange/Learning Visits

Following a review of the Oct-Dec 2013 quarterly savings data, RWANU established that some RWANU sub-counties, in spite of continuous training/mentoring in savings and credit management, were not regularly saving and/ or loaning money to members. Group leaders from groups that are actively saving were taken for the exchange/learning visits aimed at sharing experiences and building new inspirations for savings. Thirty saving and credit group leaders were involved in the exchange/learning visits. Twelve (12) group leaders from Lorengedwat visited Lotome while 18 group leaders from Matany sub-county visited Ngoleriet sub-county.

Planned activities for the next quarter

- Training of 30 staff (new FEWS and refresher training for the old FEWS) on savings and credit.
- Training of 1,712 farmers (FTGs, apiary producer groups and women livestock groups) on basic savings and credit mobilization.

- Training of 160 leaders of the newly established savings groups.
- Procurement and distribution of 177 saving kits to trained implementation IY 2 FTGs and WLGs
- Two exchange visits amongst different savings and credit groups for 60 group leaders
- Monitoring and mentoring of 64 savings and livestock groups.

2.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: REDUCED MALNUTRITION IN PREGNANT AND LACTATING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS

Intermediate Result 2.1 Improved health and nutrition practices at household level

2.1-1 Mother Care Groups (MCGs):

During the reporting quarter, the training package for Module 1- Infant and Young Child Feeding began to be rolled out. The Training of Trainers started with the Concern HQ-based Nutrition Advisor training 9 facilitators from RWANU's Health and Nutrition team. This was followed by training 33 Health Promoters (HPs) and Health Educators (HEs) on two introductory lessons: Part1: *Communication and facilitation skills*; Part 2: *Care Group Introduction*; and Lesson 1 of Module 1: *Early Initiation of Breast feeding and Positioning and Attachment* using the Module 1 Curriculum and Counseling Cards. In 2 districts of Nakapiripirit and Amudat, the HPs trained their MCGs. Two HPs and 5 HEs covering Nadunget Sub-county in Moroto and Napak received training on parts 1 and 2 and lesson-1 of Module 1. HPs meeting with their corresponding MCGs will commence beginning of April 2014 after the finalization of formation of the MCGs. In Napak district MCGs are still run by Samaritan's Purse (SP).

During this quarter, 169 MCGs actively met once every month under the supervision of 24 HPs. During the MCG meetings, 1,487 Lead Mothers (LM) received messages on Part 1 and 2 and Module 1, Lesson 1 on breastfeeding. LMs in turn disseminated messages to 16,329 Household Caregivers in their respective communities.

Cases of non-attendance of LMs and Household Caregiver Group (HHCG) members at their meetings were attributed to: (1) mobility of the families; (2) preference to go for land preparation before rainy season; (3) ceasing to attend MCG meetings since they didn't benefit from food rations due to different criteria for MCGs and food distribution.

Following the completion of the census in Nadunget Sub-county in Moroto District a total number of 336 HHCGs were formed, each having one LM that was selected by the group as of the end of March 2014. The identified LMs will be grouped to form 31 MCGs starting early April 2014 after which MCG meetings will commence on Part 1.

MCG Material Development (Modules Training Curriculum and Counseling Cards):

- Module 1 (Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices): 2,209 counseling cards (CC) were distributed to HPs, HEs and LMs in both languages of Ng’Karamojong and Pokot (there is also English on the cards).
- Module 2 (Maternal Health and Nutrition): Module 2 Curriculum and HP and LM Counseling Cards have been developed, pretested and approved. Procurement is in process, with expected delivery date of end of July 2014.
- Module 3 (Integrated Agriculture/Nutrition) development is in process. This will be in consultation with the project’s Agriculture and Nutrition Working Group.
- The Recipe Book on promoting nutritious recipes, using locally available food is under development as is the seeds list for the kitchen garden activity. This activity will occur with LMs based on Cost of Diet Formative research.

2.1-2 Social Behaviour Change Communication

During the reporting quarter, some adjustments to Social Behaviour Change (SBC) communication methods were done based on evidence from the Radio Listening Choices and Habits Survey conducted in March. Results showed that in Namalu, Nabilatuk and Nadunget Sub-counties, using radio as a communication channel proved not to be feasible due to low coverage and access of radio broadcast (16% access by targeted communities). It was recommended to focus on other communication options such as drama and posters that are suited for illiterate audiences. Seven drama groups were identified to portray the drama kits that are being developed. The program team has developed 2 drama skits on Module 1 IYCF. To improve visibility during major events, RWANU will substitute posters/leaflets development for key messages with banners with illustrations/images.

Male Change Agents (MCA): Being positive deviant individuals in their communities (who practice behaviours that the RWANU project promotes), the selected men will disseminate key messages to other men and opinion leaders on the importance of practicing good health seeking behaviours and decreasing the gap of gender inequalities within communities. Twenty-four potential MCAs were identified in Namalu and Nabilatuk Sub-counties (SCs) for the piloting process. A MCA Strategy and Curriculum were drafted. Nine HEs received the orientation training on the Strategy.

2.1-3 Improved Hygiene and Sanitation

During the reporting period, recruitment of the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) was completed. He held Training of Trainers (TOT) of 24 government Health Assistants, Health Educators and Community Development Officers (CDOs) on Participatory Hygiene & Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) tools in Napak and Moroto Districts. In response to the Hepatitis E outbreak reported in Napak district, 24 Health supervisors and HPs and 5 Supervisors of

Samaritan Purse were trained on hand washing and tippy tap construction. The trained Health Supervisors and Health Promoters subsequently trained 2,130 of Samaritan Purse Lead Mothers and supplied them with 3.5 litre containers and soap for demonstrations.

The results of mapping local government officials previously trained by other NGOs or the government on Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)/PHAST in the 4 districts (16 SC) showed that only 30 out of 33 were trained on CLTS and 14 out of 33 were trained on PHAST. Accordingly, a full initial training will take place for those who have not undergone any training in CLTS/PHAST and refresher training will be conducted for who have been trained before.

A Knowledge, Attitude, Practice and Behaviour (KAPB) survey on WASH behaviours will be conducted next quarter. The protocol methodology and the data collection tools were drafted.

2.1-4 General Challenges

- Attendance of LMs and Household Caregiver Group (HHCG) members at their meetings ranged between 80-82%. As stated earlier, reasons of nonattendance were attributed to mobility of the communities, preoccupation with land preparation before rainy season, and the misconception of relating MCG and HHCG meetings attendance with eligibility for food ration distribution. These challenges were addressed during the HP trainings. HPs were given instructions to emphasize the concept of MCGs as a group meeting for learning about health and nutritious behaviours that benefit member families. As for preoccupation with other tasks, HPs were asked to mobilize the LMs for the importance of attendance and to commit to the assigned meeting time (1-2 hours) in order not to exhaust mothers' time. Moreover, HPs were asked to agree with the LMs on the best meeting times during the rainy season to avoid absenteeism. This has been closely followed up by field coordinators and the nutritionist.

- Piloting conditionality for food distribution eligibility: There are 4 approved conditions and all of these occur at different time intervals: HHCG attendance takes place on monthly basis, Vitamin A takes place once in 6 months, measles vaccination takes place once a child reaches 9 months of age and 3 visits for ANC occur during pregnancy. With such varying time spacing between the 4 conditions, data collection and matching eligibility for ration distribution is challenging. A pilot is currently being conducted in Morita Sub-county in Nakapiripirit District to test the methodology without withholding food from beneficiaries and ensuring documentation of the process.

2.2. Improved Service Delivery – Maternal and Child Illness

2.2.1. Conduct Health Institution Capacity Assessment Process (HICAP)

The Health Institution Capacity Assessment Process (HICAP) is a process which enables clinical staff of health facilities to self-assess, evaluate performance and identify areas for improvement. It was planned in the DIP that RWANU will adapt this tool for use at the health facility and district level, based on Concern's successful implementation in Bangladesh.

However, following a change in approach to conduct the Community Score Card (CSC) prior to the HICAP, the findings and the implementation experience of the CSC in the sub-counties of Nadunget -Moroto District and two sub-counties of Lotome, Ngoleriet in Napak District, showed that the CSC already addressed issues pertaining to health workers. For example, the CSC already created awareness on the citizens' opinions regarding the quality of health service delivery that they offer. This was expressed in terms of satisfaction or dissatisfaction evidenced by the communities' rating of services. In respect to this, health workers developed a deeper understanding of their duties for improving health services to the community. Therefore the HICAP tool will no longer be used as the information was already captured in the CSC process (see below).

2.2.2. Implement Community Score Card

CSC is a social tool that engages health providers of services (duty bearers/health workers) and service users (right holders/health consumers/users) separately on various aspects of service delivery. The objective is to generate a consensus on key service delivery issues and develop appropriate action plans to improve healthcare service delivery.

During the reporting period, the program successfully implemented the CSC in the three Sub-counties of Nadunget in Moroto District, and Lotome, Ngoleriet in Napak District. The 33 duty bearers (mainly constituted of local government and political leaders) were oriented on the CSC concept and methodology. This was followed by training of 17 trainers who later trained 34 Community Monitors (CMs) and 22 members of Health Unit Management Committees (HUMC). The implementation of CSC was done with technical assistance from the Uganda National Health Consumers Organisation (UNHCO).

Following CSC training, the Community Monitors and Health Workers were able to appreciate CSC as valuable tool for identifying issues affecting their health and nutrition service delivery and how these issues could be possibly addressed in their communities. The general community on the other hand appreciated the fact that CSC will make their voices heard, and empower them to demand quality health services for which they are entitled. From the health facility staff perspective, the CSC has started promoting linkages and communication between the community structure and health providers and community health workers. The process has also helped them understand their roles in relation to the Health Unit Management Committee (HUMC) and the community.

2.2.3. Provide Non-Recurring Health Supplies and Logistical Support

RWANU continued to support the outreach post activities of the District Health Teams (DHT) in 4 districts in providing supervision, facilitating the movement of the outreach vehicle and health

providers. Out of the 399 planned outreach posts for this quarter, only 176 posts were covered by the DHT. The shortcoming was a result of breakdowns in outreach vehicles, which were provided through the NGO CUAMM/Doctors of Africa and the District Health Offices. A new arrangement has been discussed to facilitate the reliable transport for the outreach team. CUAMM will take and support more outreach posts on board from RWANU, which in turn will take up the cost of routine repair and maintenance for the district vehicles allocated for outreach.

Through the outreach posts maternal child health and nutrition (MCHN) delivering services, a total of 4,159 children were vaccinated against tuberculosis, whooping cough, measles and 2,123 children screened for acute malnutrition. Of those screened 2% had a MUAC below 11.5 cm and 24% had MUAC below 12.5 cm and all were referred to health centres. Antenatal services were provided to 299 pregnant women that were seen by the outreach health workers.

Distribution of equipment to Lemusui health clinic (HC) was delayed from December 2013 to February 2014. The delay was due to the closure of the health center as result of internal conflicts within the community and the health workers (HWs). After the issue was resolved with the involvement of RWANU, the facility was re-opened in February 2014 and the equipment was handed over to the health center. Following the distribution of MCH equipment last year in December 2013, the majority of HWs showed motivation to carry out their work.

2.2.4. Conducted Joint Monitoring Visits with DHT to Assess Health Facilities Delivering Services at Health Centers

The purpose of the visit was to assess health facilities' functionality and performance in comparison to expected MoH performance level. Findings from monitoring visits showed an overall improvement in delivery of basic health services though there are still issues that need to be addressed. These include inadequate staffing, health facilities registers not being properly filled out, distributed RWANU equipment not used by some health centers because of limited space on ward or out-patient department, absence of new-born corners in most HCs, constant break down of outreach vehicles, and Primary Health Care fund by the district was not sufficient for vehicle maintenance.

2.2.5. Conduct Training of Trainers for Health Center Staff on Growth Monitoring and Promotion by Regional Nutritionist

Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) is currently not being implemented in health facilities as per MOH guidelines due to lack of clear knowledge and skills, high staff workload and low capacity. In response to this gap, RWANU organized a refresher training of key health providers involved in GMP. Nineteen health workers were trained as trainers on GMP by the MOH Regional Nutritionist. Subsequently the trained health workers provided trainings in their

respective health centers. Ninety-five health workers were trained in 3 HCs in Nadunget Sub-county in Moroto District and all the 12 health centers of Napak District.

Currently RWANU is monitoring on a pilot scheme the implementation of GMP in 5 health centres of Moroto and Napak Districts. Based on pilot results, RWANU will support the roll out of the GMP by the District Health Team in all 4 RWANU supported districts. One of the challenges facing the GMP pilot has been the staff attitude toward GMP. The staff lack motivation to conduct GMP and views it as an addition to their heavy work load. Another challenge has been poor mother turn out at the antenatal and postnatal care services for GMP as they do not see the relevance in it despite the targeted health facility health education. This will be addressed with the District Health Offices of Moroto and Napak and through the Mother Care Group intervention.

2.2.6. Conduct Joint Assessment with DHT and Partners to Determine Provision of Health Services to New Settlement

The District Health Officer of Napak District alerted RWANU on the new settlements that were not benefiting from outreach MCHN services.⁷ An assessment was initiated and led by the District Health Officer, with participation and support by partners including RWANU and CUUAM. As a result of the assessment, 10 new settlements in Lorengechora and Iri Sub-counties will be added in the outreach activities by their respective health centers.

2.2.7. Integration of Outreach Services (Maternal Child Health and Nutrition/ Family Planning) at Food Distribution Points (FDP)

To mitigate against women deliberately getting pregnant, to qualify for RWANU program inputs, family planning services are now being provided by Marie Stopes International at each health facility every month. These services have been integrated into the district outreach clinics with RWANU's support. These outreach clinics are organised close to the food distribution points to make them more accessible to the beneficiaries of food distribution. As a result, 47 women received modern methods of contraception during these outreach clinics in the reporting period.

The integration of outreach MCHN services, including family planning at the FDP sites started this quarter. It is time saving having to access two vital services in one place as expressed by local government official and reduce village health work load.

2.2.8. General Challenges

⁷ The settlements are newly established manyattas resulting from pastoral manyatta movements or movement due sometimes if the previous village was destroyed by bush fires.

- Implementation of GMP is quite a challenge because HWs view taking child weight for age as an additional work load. RWANU is working with the District Health Officer on how best he can address this issue.

2.2.9. Technical Support from Concern Headquarters

There were two technical visits made during this quarter in support of the SO2 component. One from Jan 14-Feb 9, 2014 by the Nutrition Advisor from Concern US in New York, [REDACTED], for the purpose of assisting with activities and deliverables in DIP Y2 with specific emphasis on Care Group (CG) Module development and Male Change Agent (MCA) Strategy and training materials, as well as to provide technical oversight on other activities including Pipeline and Resource Estimate Proposal (PREP) 3 and food conditionality issues. While on the ground, the Advisor also facilitated the training of Concern RWANU staff and Health Promoters and Health Educators on modules and curriculum. The second technical visit was March 31-April 4, 2014 from Franck Flachenberg, the Environmental Health Technical Advisor from Concern Worldwide, UK office and Colm Cahill, Engineering Advisor from Concern Worldwide Dublin office.⁸ The purpose of the visit was to review hygiene and sanitation strategy of RWANU, provide guidance to the SO2 team on drafting the WASH module messages and meet with WASH partners operating in the districts to identify gaps in water intervention for project proposal development to donors with potential linkages to RWANU.

Planned Activities for Third Quarter FY 2014:

- MCGs: Conduct three trainings for HPs and HEs on Module 1, Lessons 2,3,4 and 5 (exclusive breastfeeding, breastfeeding on demand, complementary feeding 6-8 months, and continued breastfeeding, respectively), whom in turn will educate on these topics to their corresponding MCGs and in turn to HHCGs in Nakapiripirit and Amudat Districts.
- Form and activate MCGs and HHCGs in Nadunget Sub-county in Moroto district. Train HPs and HEs on part 1, 2 and Module 1, Lessons 1 and 2 and roll out the mentioned lessons to MCGs and HHCGs.
- Material Development: (1) Modules: procure Module 2; develop and procure Module 3; (2) create materials for SBC (Nutrition Recipe Book, pull-up posters)
- Joint work planning and coordination between Agriculture SO1 and Nutrition SO2 on the following topics: development of Module 3 (Linkages between Nutrition and Agriculture) with the Agriculture-Nutrition Working Group, promoting kitchen gardens, mainstreaming nutrition messages during goat and seed distributions, health education by HE in food distribution points
- Closely work with Integration Taskforce to monitor the integrated activities agreed on between SO1 and SO2

- Social Behaviour Change: Train MCAs on the MCA Strategy; validate, train and activate drama groups in 3 districts (Nakapiripirit, Amudat and Moroto); implement strategy for community opinion and religious leaders
- Improve hygiene and sanitation: Finalize the KAPB methodology and conduct KAPB; train district officials & health team staff on KAPB survey methodology and select survey area
- Train VHT supervisors and Water Committees on CLTS and PHAST tools to support communities in development of community sanitation and hygiene plans with target manyattas
- Training of Trainers and roll out of Community Score Cards process in the 5 remaining Sub-counties of Napak district
- Outreach support to Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition services delivered at outreach posts, integrating Family Planning services at Food Distribution Points
- Joint monitoring visits with MOH and other partners (CUAMM and UNICEF)
- Refresher training for VHTs on ANC/PNC
- TOTs of Health Assistants/In charges and VHTs on maternal nutrition using materials previously approved

2.3 Commodity Operations

During the early start of the quarter, the commodity team together with the health and nutrition team participated in a two day nutrition learning review in Kampala. The meeting was organized by USAID/Uganda to provide a platform for all stakeholders engaged in health and nutrition activities in Karamoja to come together and learn from each other in order to further strategic collaboration in addressing the nutritional challenges in Karamoja. The meeting acted as a pace setter for a 5 day Karamoja nutrition learning tour which included visits to two of RWANU's food distribution sites at Napayan in Nabilatuk sub-county and at Lokadwaran in Kakomongole sub-county.

As part of the tour recommendations from USAID/Uganda, the RWANU program has been able to successfully integrate with health facilities to have their monthly outreach activities to be conducted at the same location and date with the food distribution. This integration of activities is expected to improve both program monitoring with the GoU Health Management Information System (HMIS) and increase assess of health services in the program areas.

During the quarter, with the approval of USAID/FFP, ACDI/VOCA donated 52MT of corn soya blend with a best use by date of April, 2014 to WFP in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Commodity distribution activities were rolled out in the following sub-counties; Loregae and Mourita in Nakapiripit district and Iriiri in Napak district. By the end of the quarter the project was conducting food distribution activities in seven sub counties of the RWANU project area.

A second commodity distribution team for the districts of Napak and Moroto and a second commodity distribution team for the districts of Nakapiripirit and Amudat were recruited. This has brought the total number of commodity distribution teams to four.

On two separate occasions ACDI/VOCA was involved in emergency food interventions in Napak and Nakapiripit district primarily to support the affected beneficiaries to get back on their feet when their manyattas were burnt down by wildfires. Two commodity distribution activities were conducted in Lobur-Apaethe village in Napak district and Naweet village in Loregendwat district where the program distributed 2.284MT of commodities to 135 households.

ACDI/VOCA awarded the FY14 inland freight contract to Spedag Interfreight Limited for the movement of direct distribution commodities from Dar-el-Salaam in Tanzania to ACDIVOCA warehouses in Soroto, Moroto and Tokora. A separate award for the independent discharge survey contract was also awarded to SGS Kenya Limited.



ACDI/VOCA collaborated with Mercy Corps and issued a joint competitive inland freight tender with the intent of getting competitive freight rates and better service delivery in the market.

The commodity team conducted a two day refresher training for its field staff to improve their knowledge in the handling and management of USAID Title commodities.

Table 3: Direct distribution commodities in stock in all warehouses as of March 30, 2014.

	Corn soya blend (MT)	Vegetable oil (MT)	Green split peas (MT)	Corn meal (MT)	Total (MT)
Opening balance for quarter II	127.529	33.733	110.589	224.418	496.269
Closing balance for quarter II	30.884	12.745	40.039	39.01	122.678

Table 4: Program beneficiaries reached and commodities distributed to date

Period	Pregnant and lactating women	Children under 2 years	Corn soya blend (MT)	Vegetable oil (MT)	Split green peas (MT)	Cornmeal (MT)
Jan – March 2014	1,605	2,753	46.156	21.564	71.946	187.635
To date (Aug 2013 to March 2014)	2,726	4,439	67.925	27.914	90.189	227.643

Table 5: Emergency commodity distributed during the quarter (Naweet and Narengemoru villages).

Period	Corn soya blend (MT)	Vegetable oil (MT)	Split green peas (MT)	Cornmeal (MT)
Jan – March 2014	0	0.124	0.54	1.62

Table 6: Commodity donation to WFP - DRC during the quarter

Period	Corn soya blend (MT)	Vegetable oil (MT)	Split green peas (MT)	Cornmeal (MT)
Jan – March 2014	52	0	0	0

Planned activities for next quarter

1. Roll out of commodity distribution activities in the following sub-counties: Karita in Amudat district. Matany, Ngoloriet, Lotome, Lopei, Lokopo, Lorengechora and Nadunget in Napak district
2. Distribution of commodities to 12,292 women and children
3. Arrangement for the receipt of 1,340MT of direct distribution commodities in Moroto, Soroti and Tokora
4. Award of the internal transport contract for the movement of direct distribution commodities from the satellite warehouses to the final distribution points
5. Continue to implement recommendations from the USAID/Uganda Karamoja nutrition learning tour.

3.0 Cross-Cutting Themes

3.1 Gender

3.1-1 Gender Integration into Program Activities

Through the guidance of the gender specialist, field extension staff continued to integrate gender training into farmer training group activities in the four districts of south Karamoja. Topics included gender basic concepts, gender and crop management, and gender and division of labor.

Integration of gender was conducted in three women livestock groups in Lotome, Moruita and Kakomongole sub counties. The purpose of the training was to raise women and their spouses' awareness on gender and livestock management and to create an understanding of gender discriminatory practices in livestock ownership and management in communities as well as how both men and women can be owners and managers of livestock. The total number of participants was 83 (45 females and 38 males).

In addition to the above, gender was also integrated into the VSLA trainings in Kakomongole and Loregae sub counties attended by 48 participants (46 females and 2 males); key issues shared with the groups were gender dynamics and challenges in village savings and loans as well as proper usage of savings to raise women's asset ownership.

3.1-2 Integration within Livelihood Activities

Together with the mainstreaming coordinator of Concern, the gender specialist supported the development of the male change agent curricula (to be finalized in Q3 FY14). This document will act as a training guide for the male change agents who will be engaging other men to support the health and nutrition of their families as well as encouraging active involvement of both men and women in RWANU program activities. The mainstreaming coordinator together with the gender specialist will conduct several trainings for health promoters and health educators on the use of the manual.

3.1-3 Participation in the International Women's Day Celebration

To promote women's rights and raise the profile of women's rights, gender issues and women's empowerment, RWANU joined participants in the different districts of south Karamoja to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, 2014. The international theme for this year's celebration was "Inspiring Change". The theme encouraged advocacy for advancement of women in all spheres of life. It called for women's vigilance in inspiring positive change in research, development campaigns, and corporate responsibility initiatives and to act as a role for both men and women in advocating for change in women's lives. In line with the above theme, Uganda localized the theme to match its current context: The country's theme was "*In Partnership with Men and Boys for Empowerment of Women and Girls in Uganda*."

RWANU supported the celebrations of International Women's Day in the four districts of Nakapiripirit, Amudat, Moroto and Napak by providing refreshments and facilitating the farmer training groups and mother care groups to participate in the celebrations. RWANU's contributions and presentations of role plays, dramas, dances and songs were much appreciated by the districts because the groups presented moving and touching dramas depicting gender inequality that prevents women from having similar opportunities with men.



Figure 8: Farmer training group of Loregea Sub County performing during International Women's Day celebrations, Jennifer Lorika March 2014

.3.1-4 Networking with Other Partners in South Karamoja

To build gender mainstreaming activities upon the experiences of others working in the region, the gender specialist continued to participate in gender level working group meetings attended by representatives of international and national agencies working in South Karamoja.

Planned Activities for Next Quarter

- Participatory gender equity training for technical staff, field based staff, and health promoters
- Continued integration of gender awareness into all trainings for groups including task analysis
- Finalization of the gender check list
- Training of male change agents in gender dynamics to promote women empowerment
- Gender integration meetings
- Gender working groups at district level

3.2 Conflict Mitigation

3.2-1 Integration of Conflict Sensitive Messages into Trainings

Conflict sensitive messages were integrated into the training of three women livestock groups including their spouses⁹ and local leaders in Lotome sub county Napak district. A total of 77 people (40 males and 37 females) attended the training at Lotome boys primary school. Key messages included: triggers of conflicts and their effects on group activities. The group leaders appreciated the discussion and agreed to guard against any potential causes of conflicts.

The conflict mitigation officer participated in the training on the community score card (CSC) in Napak and Moroto. In Ngoleriet and Nadunget 6 females and 13 males attended and in Ngoleriet 10 females and 11 males attended. Topics included health rights and responsibilities, public health care services, understanding the community advocacy process, community dialogue, feedback mechanisms, and community score card methodology and application. During the implementation of the CSC in Loputuk Health Center where 40 people attended, the monitors were cautioned to be sensitive to conflicts and ensure they perform their responsibilities with diligence and respect while demanding their health rights. The FEWs also reached 12 groups with conflict sensitive messages during their sensitization of FTGs on demo plot identification, clearing and preparation.

3.2-2 Resolving Issues with the Beneficiaries

One meeting with the Umoja women's livestock group in Lemusi, Moruita Sub County was held to resolve the issue of the alleged sale of 2 goats by one participant. The goats were recovered and returned. Together with other staff, two conflicts were resolved with beneficiaries over stolen money of savings and credit groups. Three conflicts between apiary groups comprising 47 members (29 males and 18 females) were held to consider mechanisms to manage and avert theft and apiary mismanagement and its implication to the groups. The three groups moved forward to allocate teams of five to monitor the apiaries on a weekly basis and give apiary status reports.

3.2-3 Meetings with Project Beneficiaries

A meeting with the FTGs in Naporokocho Karita Sub County was conducted regarding the work of Community Action Groups (CAGs) in the area. Moving forward, there will be a meeting to train and support the CAGs together with the Local Counsels (LC) and leaders of the area so that they can work in collaboration and mitigate potential conflicts. Meetings with 17 CAG community local leaders (LC 1s) in Lokopo, Matany and Nadunget were held to share their terms of reference (ToRs) including their roles and responsibilities. During the meetings, the secretaries of each group received books and pens for minute taking and record keeping. The CAGs and the LCs were happy and appreciated the work of the CAGs.

⁹ Men and local leaders were involved because RWANU wanted to be sensitive to conflicts over ownership of goats by women since RWANU program is targeting women rather than men whom in Karamoja context are the primary owners of livestock.

3.2-4 Formation of CAGS

Seven new CAGs, each with six members, were formed by RWANU in the sub counties of Matany, Lokopo and Nadunget. Members were 50% male/50% female.

Planned activities for next quarter

1. Training of partner staff on practical tools to promote conflict mitigation in their work, emphasizing the need to involve men/women and traditional leaders; engagement in community dialogue to address issues including theft and alcohol use, and targeting of beneficiaries from different ethnic groups
2. Integration of conflict mitigation into all training aspects of the program at mother care group level, FTGs, apiary groups, savings and credit groups and during the training with field staff
3. Mentoring and coaching of the FEWs and CAGs.

3.3 Disaster Risk Reduction/Natural Resource Management

3.3-1 Early Warning Information Systems

RWANU, in close collaboration with FEWSNET, ACTED and the National Center of Meteorology, collected, analyzed and disseminated early warning information for Karamoja to FTGs in all sub-counties. The key early warning information provided the regional weather forecast for February and March 2014 and the regional food security outlook for February to June 2014. The key early warning messages included:

- drought risk expectation from January to mid-March 2014
- peak of the lean season expected in May/June 2014
- likelihood of increases in prices of food items in the region
- rainfall projection for late March and April
- Risk of fires expected in dry spells between February and Mid-March 2014

One follow up early warning information dissemination to 54 FTGs was made during the quarter.

Following the dissemination, farmers appreciated the information and expressed demand for seeds for quick maturing crops. In Karita, Namalu and Iriiri sub county, the farmers started buying farm inputs like seeds and preparing land for cultivation.

Actual rainfall data was collected from both Nakapiripirit and Moroto. Additional rain gauges will be sourced in the next quarter for six additional locations in the project area.

3.3-2 Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration

RWANU promotes farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) practices, and builds the capacities of farmers to practice FMNR and integrate the practice of farming, livestock and crop

production systems. During the quarter 400 (177 males and 223 females) members of farmer training groups in Matany, Lotome, Iriiri, Lorengechora and Nadunget sub counties were trained.

The core topics included understanding FMNR, practical processes and steps of undertaking FMNR, the multiple environmental, economic, social and cultural benefits of FMNR, the relationship of FMNR to food security, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and natural resources management, integration of FMNR into the crop and livestock production system, and challenges expected while undertaking FMNR and possible solutions.

3.3-3 Environmental Awareness Campaigns

Environmental awareness campaigns were conducted for 389 farmers from 19 FTGs to raise their understanding on environmental conservation and protection. The sensitization covered topics such as the importance of controlled bush burning, massive destruction of natural vegetation, good practices in environmental hygiene, and proper management of water resources.

3.3-4 Agro Forestry and Farm Site Selection

Twenty-seven field extension staff and two technical officers were trained on agro forestry and proper farm citing and selection in Nakapiripirit district. The topics included sharing the multiple environmental, social, economic, and protective functions and benefits of agro forestry, systems and approaches of agro forestry and community involvement in agro forestry, farm site selection processes and procedures, factors to consider when selecting farm sites, factors to consider in crop selection and the role of the community in farm site selection.

3.3-5 Emergency Response to Households Affected by Fire

As a result of dry weather and rampant community bush burning practices, numerous fire outbreaks and disasters were reported during the quarter. RWANU, in collaboration with the district and sub county officials of Napak and Nakapiripirit districts, responded to the fire disasters that gutted two manyattas and displaced 135 HHs. RWANU provided food ration assistance. Fire alerts were raised to 4 apiary groups in Napak district that were threatened. They were supported in establishing fire prevention around bee hives and were discouraged from premature honey harvesting.

Planned Activities for Next Quarter

- Development of early warning response plans with farmer groups at sub county levels and guidance to farmers on how to respond and utilize the early warning information
- Support to farmers in adopting sustainable natural resource management (NRM) practices including FMNR
- Refresher training for FEWs on NRM, DRR and FMNR
- Coordination with ACTED Uganda to build the capacity of field extension staff on early warning systems and how to monitor regional early warning indicators.
- Solicitation and dissemination of early warning information to farmers through FEWs
- Incorporation of agro forestry in the block farms supported by RWANU

- Continuation of farmer field based trainings on principles and practices of FMNR

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

4.1 Annual Survey

The program awarded a contract for the annual survey to a local consultancy firm, Services for Generations International (SFG). Preparatory activities for the survey such as the review of the data collection tools, sampling methodologies, and enumerator training guides were developed and discussed. The sample of 1,046 beneficiaries was drawn from the list of project beneficiaries in horticulture, crop farming, livestock keeping, beekeeping, MCH and community advocacy group members. Enumerators were recruited from the program areas with the ability to speak the local language. Institutional ethical review approval was sought and obtained from the Uganda Research Council. In February the annual survey was commissioned and the survey was conducted between February and March 2014. By the end of the quarter field data collection was completed. Data cleaning analysis is still in progress. A final report is expected early in May 2014.

4.2 Database Development and Implementation

Database design: By the end of the period, the design phase of the RWANU database had almost reached its completion. By the end of the period all modules for inputting data were live and functional. Users have been and are able to input program monitoring data in the system related to farming practices, beneficiary trainings, and savings data. Data collected from the census was uploaded and forms the master list which is the backbone of the database. The master (census) list has 255,532 individual records and 45,627 households.

Resilience through Wealth, Agriculture and Nutrition in Karamoja (RWANU)

Data Entry Module Data Analysis Module Help

Data View Module Document Repository

Reports Module

RWANU Project:

On August 17, 2012, USAID awarded ACDI/VOCA a five-year, \$50 million Development Food Assistance Program called Resiliency through Wealth, Agriculture, and Nutrition in Karamoja (RWANU). The project goal is reduced food insecurity among vulnerable people in South Karamoja.

ACDI/VOCA is the prime recipient and is responsible for overall program management, commodity management, and activities under Strategic Objective (SO) 1, improved access to food for men and women, which address agricultural production, marketing, and savings and credit. Sub-recipient Welthungerhilfe (WHH) contributes to the same objective with their activities improving smallholder livestock management.

Updating of beneficiary data: The data entry team is continuously updating beneficiary demographic status; this is done through the data entry module of the database. These updates include adding new households and pregnancy status, newborn information, and membership in producer groups. The commodity distribution module is used to identify individuals eligible for food rations, track commodities distributed, as well as generate caseloads and distribution registers, commodity ration cards and store loading orders. The module is automated to the ration food distribution processes.

The report module is still being developed, but will have the capacity to produce a report against each indicator in the indicator performance tracking table (IPTT). The functional part of the module is ready to generate user defined reports using the query analyzer.

Mobile application for data collection: Program monitoring data captured in the field is added to the database through the data entry module. The database is being optimized for mobile devices. A user app that runs on the Android Operating System is currently under development and testing. This application gives access to the Health Promoters and Field Extension Workers to collect and report data on caregivers and farmers' garden practices. The app will be rolled out on mini laptops and mobile phones over the next quarter.

4.3 Data Quality Assessment

USAID conducted a data quality assessment from March 24-26 that reviewed 7 indicators. The DQA involved both review of the systems for data collection, the tools and processes used for reporting and the critical analysis of source documents. The team included four senior program management specialists and two mission M&E Specialists. The team also visited program beneficiaries to ground truth the perspective.

A draft report by the USAID DQA team has been circulated.

4.4 Programmatic Assessments

During the quarter, two qualitative assessments were done. The team assessed utilization of food in the households and beneficiary perception of the food distribution processes in January 2014. This included food packaging, quantities provided, safe keeping of ration cards, and general organization at the FDP. Respondents are happy with the packaging that facilitates transporting of food to their homes. However storage in the household makes food vulnerable to rats and pests. Beneficiaries reported sharing food with other HH members including children, men and visitors. This is regardless of the intended beneficiaries (children or mothers) implying that the intended beneficiary receives lower calories than expected. Because food is shared with other family members, food lasts between 2 to 3 weeks depending on the number of members in a HH, instead of a complete month.

An assessment of the farming systems was conducted in February 2014. This assessment reviewed the design and function of the field extension services, the farmers' trainings and the reporting systems in place. Results showed that farmers applied the improved farming practices,

most notably: crop spacing, row planting, thinning, pests and disease management and control, soil conservation, and site selection. Farmers reported that they did not realize the benefit of improved farm yields because of the flooding and the long dry spell during the 2013 cropping season.

Going forward, the M&E team will establish a learning forum and routinely run learning seminars to share knowledge, success stories and best practices.

4.5 Collaborating and Learning

During the quarter, RWANU staff visited the GHG program of Mercy Corps in Kotido district to share experiences on how best to establish networks of stakeholders for the promotion of agro-input and output markets for South Karamoja producers. They (GHG) highlighted some key threats which RWANU needs to minimize and/or turn into opportunities, before setting up input dealer networks. These include: seasonal demand for inputs, limited working capital among potential stockists, shortage of appropriate buildings for rent, and free hand outs of seeds from other NGOs. RWANU will map out and profile potential agro input dealers in the green belts of South Karamoja and in collaboration with Uganda National Agro-input Dealer Association (UNADA), train dealers in safe handling of agricultural inputs and product knowledge.

4.6 Capacity Building

Data collection and reporting: To strengthen the quality of data collection and reporting, the M&E team continuously provides training for field based data collectors. During the quarter, FEWS were oriented on data collection tools related to farming practices. Through a participatory approach the team identified common mistakes in data collected and reviewed the sources of errors. The team discussed and agreed on the schedule for reporting farming practices in relation to the crop calendar. Based on the schedule, the FEWs started reporting data for garden preparation practices.

Geographic Information System (GIS): In February, 2014 USAID oriented program staff in the basics of GIS application. The topics included: exploring GIS maps, defining features, layers, and data frames; exploring map scale; understanding the relationship between features and attributes, exploring a GIS database, exploring attribute tables, creating map layouts, understanding data view and layout view, understanding location, defining coordinate systems and map projections, understanding raster and vector data, acquiring geographic data, data formats, querying data, understanding and performing attribute queries, analyzing spatial relationships and solving problems with GIS. The consensus from the staff was that the time allocated was insufficient for staff without previous GIS training to learn all these concepts in the time allocated.

Value Chain: The livelihood team attended a value chain development and market facilitation discussion facilitated by ACDI/VOCA's Value Chain Expert [REDACTED] on March 26th. The key elements of the value chain approach presented included: the market system perspective,

looking to the end market to define opportunities, addressing underlying constraints, facilitating on-going improvements among value chain actors without becoming part of the chain and upgrading-increasing competitiveness at the farm level through product development and improvements in production and marketing techniques or processes.

Entrepreneurship Training: Business service development staff attended the Entrepreneurship Training Workshop facilitated by Enterprise *Uganda* in March 2014. The training content focused on means to detect market opportunities, strategic planning, business planning, feasibility analysis and risk hedging in business.

Knowledge-Sharing: A workshop facilitated by Village Enterprises in February discussed experiences and strategies for small-scale farm holder farm planning and decision making, taking into account input use, land management techniques and risks involved in starting an enterprise. Model lessons were drawn from the *'Five Acres'* agricultural model for Small-Scale Farmers in East Africa organized by Village Enterprise.

Drought Cycle Management: Six RWANU staff participated in a Drought Cycle Management (DCM) training organized by TOPs in January 2014 and hosted by Mercy Corps (GHG) in Kotido District for projects in Karamoja implementing USAID Title II projects. The main objective of the training was to share and build the capacity of staff to understand the regional drought cycle phases and use the DCM and early warning information for seasonal farming. Learning visits to different groups in Kotido were made to understand the coping mechanism of farmers to drought trends in Karamoja from the 1980s.

5.0 ADMINISTRATION

5.1 RWANU Management Changes

ACDI/VOCA recruited [REDACTED] as the Chief of Party (COP). The COP reported on duty on February 26th in Washington and March 5th in Uganda. The acting Chief of Party who was in place from the start of the quarter departed on March 9th 2014. Other staff arrivals are shown below.

5.2 Staff arrivals

Ronnie Ssali	Driver	1-Jan-14
Rosette Akello	Human Resources Manager	2-Jan-14
Jimmy Logwee	Field Extension Worker	15-Jan-14
Moses Hannies Ofwono	Driver	1-Feb-14
Collins Kertho	Senior Driver	1-Feb-14
Selestine Alega	Driver	1-Feb-14
Alakas Joseph	Data Entry Assistant	12-Feb-14
Emmanuel Risa Bole	Commodity Distribution Officer	17-Feb-14
Ilukol Henry	Field Extension Worker	17-Feb-14
Tim Joel	M & E Specialist-Nutrition	17-Feb-14

Godfrey Okengo	Field Extension Worker	17-Feb-14
Joshua Onyang	Commodity Distribution Assistant	17-Feb-14
Koriang Emmanuel	Commodity Distribution Assistant	17-Feb-14
Achia Junior	Commodity Distribution Assistant	24-Feb-14
Margaret Amua	Field Extension Worker	3-Mar-14
Susan Atayi	Admin Assistant	3-Mar-14
George Odeke	Warehouse Cleaner	3-Mar-14
Alfred Angella	Gardener	3-Mar-14
Andrew Katarihwa	Assistant Accountant	18-Mar-14
Joseph Odumna	Small Micro Enterprise Granting Officer	19-Mar-14

Paul Ejem who was a warehouse officer left the project on January 15, 2014.

5.3 Support Visits ACDI/VOCA Headquarters and Other

The January - March period had the following technical assistance visits from headquarters:

Name	Position	Dates	Activity
██████████	ACDI/VOCA Regional Compliance Specialist	Jan 27- Feb 7	Compliance review
██████████	Concern Nutrition Advisor	Jan. 14- Feb 9	Finalise the development of the training packages
Franck Flachenberg	Concern Environmental Health Technical Advisor	March 31- April 4	training of RWANU staff and Health Promoters and Health Educators on modules and curriculum (Paid by Concern)
Colm Cahill	Concern Engineering Advisor	April 1 st – April 4th	Review of hygiene and sanitation strategy (Paid by Concern)
██████████	ACDI/VOCA Senior Technical Director	March 17- 26	Build capacity in value chain programing with in the livelihood team
██████████ ██████████	ACDI/VOCA Managing Director	March 17- 29	Provide technical guidance to the team through the PREP preparation processes.
██████████ ██████████	ACDI/VOCA Senior Director for Monitoring and Evaluation –	March 22- April 2	Participate in the USAID Data quality assessment; provide support in M&E staffing, annual survey and other M&E functions
██████████ ██████████	ACDI/VOCA Director , Grants & Contracts	Jan 18-23	Procurement training for RWANU staff
██████████	ACDI/VOCA Senior Director, Information Systems	Feb 17-28	Supporting the installation and use of sharepoint at project offices

The following Consultants worked with the RWANU project during the quarter (though please note this does not necessarily reflect time in the previous quarter.

Diana Kamezire	Human Resource Assistant	2 nd to 31 st January
Maria Joao Nazareth	Monitoring and Evaluation specialist	2 nd to 21 st January
Daniel Kibuuka	SFG consultant conducting the annual survey	2 nd to 18 th March
Robert Nangai	SFG Consultant conducting the annual survey	2 nd to 18 th March

5.3 Challenges Encountered/Actions Taken

- The current location of the ACDI/VOCA office in Bugolobi, Kampala is considered a high risk location in view of the previous office breaks in; an alternative office location was identified closer to the city center. Shifting is planned to take place in August 2014 for the duration of the RWANU Project.
- Procurements of goods and services has taken considerable time. Efforts to address this include procurement training in the field, working with USAID on restricted good approval, and efforts to improve the overall process. ACDI/VOCA will specifically address restricted goods in its next Pipeline Resource Estimate Proposal submission for approval through the agreement modification process.