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USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve
Climate Change Adaptation Activity
FY2014 First Quarterly Report
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USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation

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Acronyms	
AOR	Agreement Officer’s Representative
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Plan
CAES	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
CAEC	Continuing Agriculture Education Center
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCU	Climate Change Unit/MWE
CHAI	Climate Change Adaptation & ICTs
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CLA	Collaboration, Learning, Adapting
COP	Chief of Party
DSIP	Agricultural Sector Development Strategy & Investment Plan
EAC	East African Community
GOU	Government of Uganda
ICPAC	International Climate Predictions and Application Center
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
ICT	Information Communication Technology
LI	Location Intelligence
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MOOC	Massive, Open, Online Course
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MU	Makerere University
MUCCRI	Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
SCALE	System-wide Collaborative Action for Livelihoods and the Environment
STTA	Short-term Technical Assistance
ToT	Training-of-Trainers
UNAP	Uganda Nutrition Action Plan
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USG	U.S. Government
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WSR	Whole-System-in-the-Room

I. INTRODUCTION

Through this document, FHI 360 formally presents to USAID/Uganda the first quarterly report of FY14. The primary activities and accomplishments conducted during the reporting period from program inception on November 1 through December 2013 are listed below.

A. *Executive Summary*

Highlights of activities and achievements during the quarter include the following:

- Exciting new start of the program. FHI 360 principle field staff hired and Chief of Party arrives in country.
- The team diligently executed start-up activities: planning sessions with FHI 360 partners, collaborating institutions, and USAID. Activities included initial meetings to develop the Annual Work Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan.
- In sum, the groundwork for activities is almost set and in the second quarter we plan on engaging academic, communities, and donors, among others in initial activities such as program assessments and kick-off events.

B. *About the Program*

The overall goal of the **USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation** activity is to help establish the Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovation (**MUCCRI**) as a recognized national and regional hub of academic, professional development and research excellence in climate science, research, climate adaptation, and related disciplines.

More specifically, the program will mobilize leading academics, scientists, and researchers to work side-by-side and in partnership with Ugandan colleagues to build upon the foundational efforts made by CAES and others to date. In so doing, MUCCRI will become a fully functional and operational center within CAES that possesses the requisite staff, knowhow, capacity and resources to fulfill the following objectives:

- Support the establishment of a suite of formal academic offerings for undergraduate through post-graduate students that include: two basic courses: one on climate science, weather and meteorology, and one on the economics of climate change. Both courses have been approved but currently lack content or materials; specialized graduate-level trainings based on the latest research findings and innovations gleaned from around the world but adapted to the Ugandan context; collaborative teaching and learning arrangements with other parts of the university, notably with the School of Women and Gender Studies, Department of Journalism, School of Education, and School of Social Sciences, among others; and non-degree related activities such as the establishment of an e-learning platform and networking hub, and an informal lecture series to introduce climate change issues to

the broader university.

- Along with a variety of key stakeholders and partners create an array of short-term training options and vehicles for key stakeholder groups external to but linked to the university, including select public sector institutions, civil society groups, and NGOs. Through established MOUs, trainings will be jointly designed and led by program and CAES staff and partners in conjunction with faculty and students from other MU Schools and Departments as a way to create a “climate smart” institution. Training types could include: in-service training modules, webinars, policy briefs, informational packets and presentations for GoU decision makers.
- Strengthen the relationship between CAES and NARO to conduct joint research and field trials that reflect actual demands and needs of Ugandan smallholder farmers with the support of a location intelligence platform. The program will play a facilitative role fostering collaboration with NAADS and others to convert the research findings to simple, understandable, cost-effective and accurate guidance for farmers that they can use at the appropriate time in the agricultural calendar, and disseminate it through the most appropriate channels. This will include through NAADS system of extension officers at the sub-district level, trusted and popular radio programs listened to by farmers, use and application of ICTs, and regular editorials and articles on adaptation and resilience issues in key Ugandan newspapers and other media outlets.

The program will strategically deploy human, financial and technology resources with the target continually focused on building Ugandan capacity and proficiency to address climate adaptation and related issues. Further, the program will seek, among other items, to develop and launch two undergraduate-level climate-related courses, seminars, visiting lecture series, and e-learning opportunities for graduate students; an *Adapt2CC e-Learning Platform and Networking Hub* for Ugandan universities and other stakeholders; a women and climate change mentoring series; and graduate-level research linked to GOU agricultural and climate priorities. In addition, a cloud-based **Location Intelligence Platform** will be used to provide actionable information and weather data to support agricultural and climate research, as well as serve as an instructional and learning tool for students.

II. QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES PROGRESS (Q1 FY14)

Below is a summary of activity progress for Q1 of Fiscal Year 2014, starting with program inception on November 1 through December 31. The activities described below summarized start-up activities during this period. Future reports will be organized by program component.

A. *Program Start-up*

The bulk of the activities during this reporting period were focused on program team organization and set-up. As such, this “Program Start-up” section covers many important work planning & administrative elements established for program management. After the first two quarters, this section will no longer be included.

- **November/December Administrative and Management Kick-off:** The program was awarded effective November 1, 2013. The FHI 360 team quickly moved into program start-up mode. The on-boarding process of the program COP and local FHI 360 personnel was initiated and three team members began work with the program on December 1, 2013. After starting with the program on December 1, program's COP, Dr. Lynne Carter spent one week in orientation at FHI 360's Washington, DC headquarters. Dr. Carter arrived in Uganda on December 7.
- **USAID Introduction** - Following, Dr. Carter's arrival in-country an initial set of meetings were held between the FHI 360 Uganda Country office and the program team as well as the USAID Activity Manager and with the Agreement Officer's Representative, among others. On Dec 13th the FHI360 team was introduced to the EEA project and received an informative overview of that project's activities and briefly described the FHI 360 project to two members of the EEA team – Anthony Kagoro and Dr. Rita Laker-Ojok.
- **MUCCRI Introduction** - Following USAID's leadership and respecting the bilateral nature of in-country relationships, USAID set-up an introductory meeting with Makerere University Center for Climate Change Research and Innovation (MUCCRI) Dr. Carter, Dr. Mfitumukiza, and Mr. Joseph Kabaga were introduced. At this initial meeting USAID and FHI 360 provided an overview of the program. The program was received and agreement was reached to share the program SOW as well as MUCCRI's expectations and to explore coordination and implementation of program activities. A meeting was set for December 20th for further discussions between the program, MUCCRI, and USAID.
- **Post-Award Orientation Meeting** – On December 16th, 2013, USAID and FHI 360 met for the Post-award Orientation Meeting to discuss award requirements, financial requirements, branding plan, and other key issues.
- **USAID Program Coordination Meeting** – Following the post-award debrief, FHI 360 and USAID set up a series of program strategy and coordination meetings for the week of December 16-20. These meetings provided an opportunity for the COP and key USAID staff to discuss the program strategy, particularly the roll out of the program, and to begin discussions of the PMP now the M&E plan. In addition, the meetings examined MUCCRI's expectations, as they were expressed to USAID, and an approach to addressing these while also reviewing the program's concerns over possible mission creep based on these expectations.
- **MUCCRI Coordination Meeting** – On December 20, FHI 360, USAID, and MUCCRI met for a strategy and discussion session to review FHI 360's SOW and MUCCRI's expectations of program support. FHI 360 presented the program's SOW to its colleagues from MUCCRI and highlighted all the places where that scope overlapped with MUCCRI desires. The presentation focused on areas of particular interest to MUCCRI and how the program would support the goal of the Center to become a center for excellence in climate change adaptation for not just Uganda, but more broadly East Africa. The USAID team, represented by the USAID Activity Monitor and the Contract Officer, discussed USAID's role on the program and some of the limits to support that the program could provide.

MUCCRI also presented on their expectations for the program. The meeting set the foundation for long-term success for the program as the parties agreed on the path forward. The session was pivotal in establishing a program vision, areas of overlap and collaboration, lines of communication, and a path forward.

- **Initial Assessment Meetings:** December 23rd the FHI360 COP and Adaptation Specialist met with the official liaison to the project from MUCCRI to see the facilities where two of the FHI360 team will be sitting at the MUCCRI office on the campus of MU. They also began discussions on the baseline assessment activity, who should be invited to participate, that there should be a specific team leader responsible for developing the assessment document for each of the four component areas, and who the team leaders might be. The meeting with all 16 assessment team members was scheduled for Jan 3.

III. Cost Share Report

Given the limited in-field activities and short-term agreements with sub-recipients, no cost-share was recorded this quarter.

V. Planned Activities for Next Quarter

The second quarter of FY 2014 is expected to be very busy as the program will be operating in high gear kicking off assessment and implementation activities. Below is a brief summary.

A. *Upcoming Activities*

- **Initial Program Assessments** – The initial program assessments or Baseline studies will be undertaken by 4 teams of 4 participants with one of the 4 being the team leader with specific reporting and documenting responsibility. We are looking to provide 4 small consultancies for the team leaders and small honoraria for the team members as the work we are seeking from them is beyond their normal activities and will involve research to gather the required information, documentation of the findings, analysis of the information gathered, synthesis of the information and recommendations for moving forward in each of the four component categories: Tailored Capacity Building, Enhanced Academic Offerings, Collaborative Adaptation Research and Field Trials, Targeted Adaptation Information Dissemination and Outreach. The assessment teams are set-up and agreed to participate as soon as we give them the go-ahead. The assessment recommendations will contribute to changes in the workplan and will help us to focus on issues of need and want by MUCCRI.
- **Whole-System-in-the-Room (WSR)** – The program began planning for the delivery of the WSR in December 2013 and will hold the event on February 12 -13, 2014. The event will bring together ten key stakeholder groups, approximately 100 individuals, to a WSR to explore, examine, and identify potential areas of coordination, collaboration, and cooperation in the field of climate change adaptation, with a focus on the agricultural sector. This event will set the stage for further engagement with these stakeholders during the course of program implementation and is the first step in a focus on long-term sustainability for MUCCRI.
- **Revision of Workplan** - Following an exchange of workplans with the IITA and NARO, and the outcomes of the Baseline Assessment process and the Whole System in the Room workshop, there will be a series of meetings with combinations of the following: the MUCCRI advisory group, IITA, NARO, and FHI 360, to revise the year one work plan for better coordination among these groups particularly around student research projects.
- **Possible Revisions to M&E plan** – There have been discussions with the M&E and Learning team at USAID about possible working with the USAID M&E supported team to hone or revise the M&E draft plan for this project. We are waiting to hear from USAID if this/these sessions will be possible.
- **Develop CLA plan** – We have started the discussions with Community Connector project to make time to review their CLA efforts and plans and to help us to create/develop a CLA plan for this project.

B. Table of Events

Below are events that might be of interest for USAID mission observation and/or participation:

DATE	EVENT	PURPOSE	PARTICIPANTS
During the month of February	Conduct Four Program Assessments	Baseline studies to assess progress and focus actions	FHI 360, MUCCRI
2/12-13	Whole-System-in-the-Room	Stakeholder Engagement	FHI 360, MUCCRI, USAID, Academics, Media, Agricultural Community, Donors
Feb-March	A variety of meetings among various groups	Workplan revisions	MUUCRI Advisory group, NARO, IITA, and FHI360
Feb-March	Meetings on M&E	Work on any revisions for M&E plan	MUCCRI advisory group and USAID M&E group
Feb-March	Meetings	Explore and develop CLA plan	Community Connector

VI. Additional Observation/Issues

No additional observations or issues in this report.

VII. Conclusion

Overall, the program is laying the foundation for a solid program of building climate change adaptation capacity, with a focus in the agriculture sector in Uganda. The initial investment in establishing strong working and coordination relationships with key actors during the start-up phase will pay dividends as we embark on the 4-year program. We look forward to engaging in a very productive subsequent quarter.

_____ End of Quarterly Report _____