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**Date of Submission to USAID Mission and FFP: November 02 2009**

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### List of Acronyms

DAP	Development Assistance Program
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
GMP	Growth monitoring and promotion
GMV	Growth monitoring volunteers
NCE	No Cost Extension
LRA	Lords Resistance Army
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
GoU	Government of Uganda
SO	Strategic Objective
IR	Intermediate Result
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
PESP	Progressive Seed Producers
NCG	Nutrition Care group
OVC	Orphans and vulnerable Children
VHT	Village Health Team
AIDS	Acquired Immune deficiency Syndrome.
VCT	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
CMAM	Community based Management of acute Malnutrition
ToT	Training of Trainers
LSP	Livelihood Security Project
LOA	Life of Activity
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding practices

**RESULTS REPORT:**

**A. Introduction**

The goal of the Title II DAP was to improve the livelihoods of over 25000 households across Northern Uganda within five years (October 2004-January 2009) through two strategic objectives; increased agricultural production and productivity and Improved health and nutritional status of children and other vulnerable groups such as groups living with HIV/AIDS, orphans and vulnerable children. All Program activities were designed to support achievement of these results through various sustainable strategies and models and innovations such as model farming and the nutrition care group model.

WVU Title II DAP was designed to operate in a more stable political environment, however it is important to note that the security situation worsened in the second and third year Program LOA. This could not allow a comprehensive achievement of the overall goal. It is estimated that by May 2006, 1.8 million people had been displaced in Northern Uganda (UN OCHA IDP Population in Northern Uganda, May 2006). The internal displacement resulted into acute inaccessibility to farmland, heightened food insecurity as well as malnutrition in the region. Massive economic and social loss was subsequently witnessed in the region. This state of affairs grossly affected DAP activity implementation. Despite the good strategies and technologies that characterized the project design, it was virtually impossible to implement most activities since the most insecure households that were targeted had limited access to land. Even Innovations like sack mounds and box gardens could not have as much impact as anticipated during program design.

Due to the then deteriorating security situation and travel restrictions USAID advised a reduction in the geographical coverage and range of activities in the 2004-2009 DAP. Consequently, by the time of baseline data collection early in 2004, the program had been significantly scaled down in response to a geographical area consisting of only 8 sub-counties in Gulu and Kitgum Districts, including Gulu Municipality and Kitgum, Town Council. The sub-counties of operation were: Bobi, Koro, Lamogi, Ongako, and Pabbo in Gulu<sup>1</sup> and Layamo, Akwang and Amida in Kitgum District. This was a significantly smaller area compared to the six districts originally envisaged. Although, World Vision continued with the implementation of key program activities amidst the mentioned circumstances, by the end of September 2008, the DAP had only reached approximately 70% of targeted households. In order to reach the remaining 30% of targeted households and ensure that the DAP objectives are fully, WV requested for a no cost extension (NCE)-October 2008 to January 2009, with an additional one month for closeout and final reporting.

The NCE was timely because by May 2008, 50% of the IDPs in Kitgum District had moved out of the main camps to transit camps or their original homesteads. The proportion was relatively lower (23%) in Gulu/Amuru (UNHCR camp movement report, May 08). It therefore became very critical to continue with DAP activities especially at a time when a large proportion of the former IDPs could now access farmland. Repositioning and,

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<sup>1</sup> At this time Amuru District had not yet been created. Lamogi and Pabbo are located in Amuru.

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restrategizing, appropriately were crucial ingredients to fit in the then prevailing context so as to work towards achieving the initial overall program goal.

This report highlights activity progress for the World Vision's USAID funded Title II Livelihood Security DAP NCE that was implemented in Gulu (and now also Amuru) and Kitgum districts of Northern Uganda between (Oct to Dec 2008). By the end of this reporting period, the Title II DAP had achieved on average 90% of the targets under the two strategic objectives (SOs).

### **The No cost Extension**

#### **B. Security situation**

During the NCE, (November 29/30<sup>th</sup> 2008), the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) leaders once again snubbed government of Uganda and mediators when he failed to turn up to sign the peace agreement. The GoU resumed hostilities, this time in joint military operation with South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Despite the clashes in the neighbouring countries, calm continued to prevail in northern Uganda. In DRC, however, the rebels continued to cause mayhem as they killed and abducted people around Christmas season.

#### **C. Weather**

The rainy season ended rather earlier than expected around mid November 2008 (almost a month earlier than usual). Consequently most of northern Uganda received below Long Term Average (LTM) of 46% for Gulu and 50% for Kitgum (source: department of Meteorology, Kampala). The phenomenon led to poor second season harvests because of moisture stress. The dry and windy weather conditions are expected to persist until mid March to early April.

#### **D. Food Situation**

Information gathered from local markets in both Gulu and Kitgum indicates that most food commodities registered a slight drop in prices. The trend could be attributed the harvest season that increased availability of foodstuffs. This trend is however expected to change in less than a month due persistent dry weather conditions that will increase scarcity of commodities and the increased trade between Uganda (particularly northern Uganda) and southern Sudan.

Meanwhile the World Food Program (WFP) phased out General Food Distribution (GFD) by end of November 2008, in favour of targeted food distributions.

### **Strategic Objective 1: Increased agricultural production & productivity at household level**

#### **E. IR 1.1: Increased access to improved agricultural technology and inputs.**

During the NCE period, the DAP focused on activities that that promoted sustainability and ownership of the five year technologies that were promoted in the communities. There was need to not only to reach over 7500 new households with interventions but also to promote ownership and continuity among the old farmers in the program. In this regard, a number of trainings, and study tours were arranged in such a way that the new farmers were supported by old farmers. Adoption farmers, NCG AND TPG group members were some of the

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primary targets. The NCE period was also punctuated with a host of meetings conducted with District authorities, community leaders, DAP committees and Sub county committees to share the DAP phase out plan and ensure smooth hand over of activities.

### **Activity 1.1.1: Strengthening research-extension-farmer linkages in order to improve farmers' access and adoption of better farming technologies and other inputs.**

#### **F. Study tours**

In an effort to further improve the dissemination of research findings and latest technologies on the market and create linkage between the farmers and the researchers the DAP facilitated a total of 100 (41female and 59 male) farmers to visit the Northern Uganda Regional Agricultural Development Institute where researchers conducted the farmers through a number of new technologies that are available at the institute and how they can be accessed by the farmers. Among the participants selected were government extension staff and community leaders to ensure continuity after DAP termination. Additionally, the DAP coordinated intra and inter district exchange visits of multiple farmer groups for the purpose of peer education through farmer-to-farmer information sharing.

#### **G. Trainings**

##### ***a) Progressive Seed Producers (PSPs).***

A total of 221 (x females) seed producers participated in 7 trainings on agronomic practices for key crops (cassava, groundnuts, rice and Soya beans) promoted by the DAP. The seed multiplication initiative benefited many of the PSPs over the past year in both improved food security and income generation.

Meanwhile 15 sessions targeting a total of 361 (102 females) PSPs participated in agronomic practices Topics handled include; enterprise selection, land preparation, timely planting, crop spacing, record keeping, pests and diseases control. The trainings focused on principles of production planning, marketing as well as post harvest handling and storage Facilitators included DAP staff and the district agricultural officers.

##### ***b) Farmer Training***

DAP staff in conjunction with district extension officers conducted agriculture training for both old and newly identified farmer groups. All together, the training attracted 853 (472 female) farmers in 11 separate sessions. The emphasis of the trainings was on both agronomy and post harvest handling and storage.

##### ***c) NCG training in agriculture***

To achieve synergy and sustainability of project achievements, DAP staff continue to empower nutrition care group members with production knowledge and skills so as to ensure food security at household level. To this end DAP staff together with the sub county extension staff organized training for a total of 544 (513f)members. Topics covered included agronomy; post harvest handling of key crops such soybeans, groundnuts, and simsim. Also discussed were enterprise selection, resource mobilization, group formation and development and marketing.

**d) OVC training**

Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) were trained in agronomy and post harvest handling techniques in both districts; 420 (159f) participants attended. The one-day trainings aimed at equipping them with skills and knowledge on available agriculture technologies and vegetable growing. They will later receive improved seeds to be planted during the coming season.

**IR 1.2: Strengthened environmental conservation systems.**

**H. Activity 1.2.1: Enhancement of environmental protection initiatives through training of farmers in environmentally sound practices and promotion of tree planting and organic farming.**

**Environmental trainings**

A total of 406 (184f) parish and district environment committee members were trained in 7 sessions during the NCE in environmental conservation and management. Topics related to tree survival, integrated pest management, and agro forestry were presented. World Vision trained farmers in tree nursery and woodlot management. The training sessions emphasized the following: importance of woodlots, agro forestry practices, and how to establish a woodlot. Other discussions focused on seed collection, site selection, seedbed preparation, nursery layout, grafting process, and record keeping among others.

Nine (9) trainings on tree nursery operations and management were also conducted for a total of 305(f) tree planting group (TPG) members. The participants were drawn from all TPGs from Gulu Kitgum and Amuru. It is hoped that knowledge and skills imparted to participants will impact their capacity for tree seedlings production.

**Organic farming**

The DAP conducted six (6) training sessions on organic farming for 238(51f) organic adoption farmers. The organic farming technologies emphasized were geared towards improving soil fertility and pest management using organic materials. Demonstration sites were established to facilitate further learning. The organic farming technologies emphasized were: composting, fertility trenches, how to make liquid fertilizer, and organic pesticides. The uptake of this technology has been low, probably because it is labor intensive and there was poor access to land and hence raw materials. Hopefully the knowledge will be applied after the resettlement process as people have access to more land.

**SO 2: Improved health and nutrition for women, children and vulnerable groups.**

**I. IR 2.1: Improved nutritional status of targeted vulnerable groups.**

**Provision of nutrition education targeting mothers and childcare givers**

In February 2005, the Nutrition Care Group (NCG) strategy was adopted by the DAP as a way of reinforcing appropriate nutrition & feeding practices, in so doing establishing a more

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sustainable community structure in Gulu & Kitgum. NCG strategy is a Hearth model approach that focuses on building teams of volunteer women (Lead Mothers) to represent, serve and educate blocks of households. Mothers/caregivers were organized into groups of 10 members according to their residences in the clusters. The training of lead mothers is a continuous process and at least 30 new members are trained every month as lead mothers. The selected Lead Mothers were trained on the concept of Nutrition Care Groups and introduced to the agricultural activities through kitchen gardening for household food security. Provision of seeds, tree planting, growing of orange-yellow fleshed potatoes among others is used as a strategy for motivating group members and keeping them more cohesive. During the NCE period, the trainings continued for old and new members; a total of nineteen (19) 2-day training sessions were done in both Kitgum and Gulu and 1235(1149f) caregivers attended the trainings. 8 radio programs were also conducted in Kitgum to promote infant and young child feeding practices

To promote peer learning and information sharing, DAP organised intra and inter district nutrition exchange visits where 45 (24f) growth monitoring volunteers (GMVs) and nutrition care group (NCG) leaders participated. The group visited Kitgum NCGs including: Lamola Konya wek akonyi, Lapur pe tur, Alango Pit odong ki mon women's group, and Ocettoke ryemo neto ber mothers group. NCG leaders from Kitgum made a similar visit to Gulu. Mothers shared experiences ranging from improved nutrition, group formation, and food production. The learning was facilitated through speeches, songs and question and answer sessions. The visiting team was impressed by the group work exhibited by their counterparts in Kitgum and pledged to form groups upon return.

### **Growth monitoring, and promotion**

Growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) is the process by which physical growth and development of children is regularly measured and appropriate steps taken to promote normal child growth and development. During the NCE WV handed over the activity to the District Health Department. Prior to the hand over process, training was organized and facilitated by the District VHT focal point person for the growth monitoring volunteers to become members of the VHT. This was done in a bid to promote sustainability and promote ownership of the program. Two training for GMVs were conducted in the two districts and a total of 25(12f) GMVs attended. The number of children monitored through GMP sessions however dropped significantly after this hand over process. 576 (307f) children attended GMP sessions during the four months of NCE because the districts were yet coping with the new workload.

### **Parish child days**

These are days of accelerated action geared towards child health and nutrition improvement campaigns couples with immunization, health education, food demonstration and drama shows to promote behavioral change and adoption of appropriate IYCF practices among caregivers. The day is organized in partnership with health centers and the community educators and members. During the NCE, 14 parish child days were organized and a total of 965 (508female) children attended the child days in the two districts.

**Table 4: Immunization records for NCE**

<b>Doze</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
BCG	8
Polio	86
DPT-HEB+hib	82
TT to mothers	90
Vitamin A	456
De-worming	664
Measles	57

**J. IR 2.2: Reduce risk and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS**

*Disseminate behavioural change messages*

The drama performance is normally conducted on the same day of the child day exercise in order to pass on HIV/AIDS awareness messages to those attending child days. Community based theater groups of Kitgum and Gulu districts staged fifteen drama shows. The project facilitated Opit Kic NCG of Amida, Kuc ber of Layamo and Akwang Kati woko of Akwang sub-county local drama groups to perform for child day participants. A total of 974(780female) attended the sensitization program. In all the three performances the main messages passed across to the masses was on creating awareness on HIV/AIDS transmission, faithfulness, positive living, behavioural change, abstinence from sex, stigma reduction as well voluntary counseling and testing (VCT).

**Radio programs**

In Kitgum, the DAP continued to facilitate various community and district technical persons to sensitise people in areas of agriculture and nutrition during the NCE.

**K. Monitoring and Evaluation process**

The Title II monitoring and evaluation plan did not change during the NCE, a range of data collection methods were utilized to ensure adequacy of information for management purposes, performance monitoring and measurement of program impacts. Quantitative data were collected routinely for performance monitoring of selected indicators. A detailed monitoring and evaluation plan for WV's northern Uganda DAP included information on indicator definitions, data sources, data collection methodology, frequency of data collection and the responsible person for data collection. The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist was responsible for developing and managing the plan.

**L. Project committee planning and review meetings**

A total of 221 (75 females) project committee members participated in project monthly planning and review meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to review progress on activities and plan for the subsequent month. Among the key issues discussed were:

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sensitizing the community against bush burning, follow up on beneficiaries of farmer field schools, and sensitization about the Hepatitis E threat. Other issues included timely feedback on activity implementation and challenges if any.

### **Staff quarterly review and planning meeting**

Two staff meetings were organised: one at the end of October to operationalise the no cost extension budget and plans. The other held during December was convened to review progress on activities and financial status but also to discuss project closure.

### **Support visits**

The program manager and M&E specialist paid several field visits to the district teams to give technical support in the following areas: close out plan, systematic hand over of activities to relevant district line departments, asset inventory tracking, as well as to document project success stories and lessons learned.

### **Networking and collaboration**

Like all other WV programs, the Title II DAP LSP Program was majorly community based and only maintained a skeleton team of staff including the program manager and specialists at headquarters in Kampala for coordination and management purposes. Community structures such as nutrition care groups, tree planting groups and progressive seed producers were used as TOTs for others members of the community. The DAP was implemented in partnership with a number of institutions including: Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries, National Agricultural Advisory Services, Local District Administration and Line Departments of Agriculture & Health, National Agricultural Research Organization, National Forestry Authority, International Potato Center, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Food and Agricultural Organization, World Food Program, World Health Organization, and the United Nations International Children's Education Fund.

The Government ministries and district line departments provided technical support in the areas of training of beneficiaries and provision of training resources as well as updating DAP staff about up coming policies. The role of the Research Institutes was to provide planting materials that had been researched and found suitable for the area, as well as training guidelines. Finally the International Organizations provided fora for coordination and sharing of experiences among the actors and for development of national guidelines.

Partnership was one major strategy adopted by the program at all levels. At district level,

### **M. Sustainability plan**

The Title II exit plan was inherent in the design of the program; the activities promoted capacity enhancement and empowerment of local communities, government departments and other agencies operational in the program area. Ultimately, capacities of local government agencies, community groups and committees and individuals were significantly enhanced for continuity of interventions. During the NCE period, emphasis was put mainly on hand over of the ongoing activities to the respective district departments and area development programs. During most of the trainings, facilitation was done by district officials while the DAP staff provided support when called upon. Farmers group and others were linked to other institutions, such as NARO and private service providers-seed

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companies and input dealers. It is anticipated that the various community structures and individuals will act as agents of change even long after the DAP Title II program is closed

### **N. Audits**

An OMB Circular A-133 Audit was carried out for World Vision and there are questions outstanding for Uganda DAP II.

### **O. Disposal of non-expendable property/equipment procured through section 202(e), monetization or other USAID-provided funds**

Although no property or capital equipment purchases were made with recent USAID funding for DAP II a disposition plan for vehicle purchased with funds from previous DAPs was submitted for approval by the Donor.

### **P.**

#### **Outstanding claims:**

By the end of the NCE, World Vision did not have/anticipate outstanding claims resulting from damage, loss or improper distribution of commodities pending for its Northern Uganda Title II DAP.