EASTERN ARCHDIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (EADEN)

ANNUAL REPORT 2023





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ACRONYMS

AGM	Annual General Meeting
BUFAMACOs	Budhaya Farmers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd.
BURMAFACOs	Buluguyi Rice and Maize Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.
BUTUFACO	Bukanga TukoleleWalala Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.
CMSS	Community Managed Seed Security
CUSP	Civil society in Uganda Support Program
DLGs	District Local Governments
EADEN	Eastern Archdiocesan Development Network
FCDE/CI	Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment/ Confluence Institute
FOAG	Farmers Overseas Action Group
FOs	Farmer Organizations
GALS	Gender Action Learning System
HHs	Households
KIFACOS	Khabutola Integrated Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.
LG	Local Government
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MUMUCOS	Mukuju Multipurpose Cooperative Society
NABIFACO	Namungalwe Bulumwaki Integrated Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.
NIDFACO	Nawaningi Integrated Development Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.
NIFACO	Nawandala Integrated Framers Cooperative Society Ltd.
SEFFA	Sustainable Energy for Smallholder Farmers
SICOFACOS	Sibanga Integrated Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd.



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

> ***It is because you entrust us with resources that we are able to engage our communities and transform their lives for the better.***

Dear partners, this is one of my greatest moments, as the Chairperson of the Board, when I get to share with you the results of the work of EADEN within our areas of operation, in this annual report. This report underpins our accountability efforts to openly and widely talk about our work and achievements in communities. The year 2023 was a period of much reflection on the past and focus to the future in line with our current Strategic Plan. I am, therefore, pleased to share with you, in this report, all the progress concerning the work of EADEN in 2023. The Board provided adequate oversight role to ensure management maintained high level of stewardship for all the resources entrusted to us by our beloved partners and ensure that tremendous work was implemented. I take the honor to thank my fellow members of EADEN Board for the great oversight function played in the year 2023. This report presents just a snapshot and fraction of what was achieved in the year. So much more can be written about our work and witnessed in the communities.

I wish to congratulate the staff and management of EADEN for the phenomenal achievements as elaborated in this report and we greatly treasure your technical expertise to steer the work at the frontline with the communities. I thank the Counsel of Bishops for Tororo Ecclesiastical Province, including the Bishops of Jinja, Tororo, Moroto, Kotido and Moroto Catholic Dioceses for continuously guiding and advising the Board on our work. I sincerely salute the efforts of our funding partners in availing us the financial and other resources to enable EADEN undertake this great work. Our funding partners from Caritas Denmark/DANIDA, GIZ, FOAG, FCDE/CI are greatly treasured. It is because you entrust us with resources that we are able to engage our communities and transform their lives for the better. As we all know, fundamental change takes quite some time to spread widely, especially with the current triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss, occurring at very unprecedented pace. It is our belief and trust that we shall maintain and strengthen our bond with you, our funding partners, to continue remodeling this world into a better place for everyone, especially the poor, vulnerable and excluded, to ensure that justice and fraternal love prevails allover, living no one behind. May the Love of God continue binding us together and blessing your efforts in support of this noble cause!

REV. FR. GODFREY KIBUMBA



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

> ***The year 2023 witnessed a substantial growth in the capabilities of the farmer cooperatives supported by EADEN***

To the esteemed stakeholders of EADEN, it is with profound gratitude that I present to you this report of major events and achievements at EADEN for the year 2023. We are honored, as an organization, to contribute to raising the hope of the vulnerable and excluded, faced with several injustices within the society and the economy, especially the smallholder farmers, facilitating their development and progression to dignifying and resilient livelihoods. Through our carefully prioritized programme areas of Climate Resilient and Sustainable Livelihoods, Governance and Human rights, Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response, Research and innovation and Institutional Development, EADEN was able to contribute to the development priorities as laid out in NDPIII and the SDGs.

The year 2023 witnessed a substantial growth in the capabilities of the farmer cooperatives supported by EADEN, increasing their capacity to demand for service delivery from the government and attaining some of their development milestones. For example, during the year, one of the Cooperatives, Nawandala Integrated Farmers' Cooperative Society (NIFACO), in Nawandala Sub County, Iganga district, received a government grant worth Ugx 1 billion to support their members in increasing agricultural productivity and postharvest handling. This is a phenomenal trust by the government to the farmers' organisations that EADEN has taken years endeavoring to build and strengthen their governance and managerial capacities. To date, EADEN has supported to organize and strengthen the capacity of nine cooperatives that continue to engage in produce bulking for enhanced access to competitive produce markets and prices. In 2023, a total of 529 tons of produce was bulked and sold by seven of the cooperatives, earning a profit of Ugx 78 million.

EADEN was delighted to intensify the efforts of enhancing climate resilience of smallholder farmers through engaging with various partners. One such intervention focused on solar-powered irrigation and solar-powered produce drying, with a successful demonstration established in Namungalwe Sub county, Iganga district. This intervention vividly confirmed to the farmers that it is possible to produce crops throughout the year and prevent postharvest losses in fresh produce, using less costly and environmentally friendly solar energy. Management of EADEN is grateful for support and input of each and every stakeholder that made it possible for the work highlighted in this report to be accomplished. Notably, great appreciation goes to our staff members, our Board members, our funding partners (Caritas Denmark/DANIDA, GIZ, Farmers Overseas Action Group and Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment/Confluence Institute (FDCE/CI), for without your individual and collective effort, not so much would have been achieved.



GODFREY BATEGEKA MUHWEZI

BACKGROUND
OF EADEN

Eastern Archdiocesan Development Network (EADEN) is a network that brings together five (5) Diocesan Caritas organizations of the five dioceses in Tororo Ecclesiastical Province i.e., Caritas Jinja diocese, Caritas Kotido diocese, Caritas Moroto diocese, Caritas Soroti diocese and Caritas Tororo Archdiocese. In terms of geographical scope, Caritas Tororo Archdiocese covers the entire Bukedi, Bugisu and Sebei sub regions with 15 districts; Caritas Soroti diocese covers the entire Teso sub region with 9 districts; Caritas Moroto and Caritas Kotido cover the entire Karamoja sub region with 10 districts; while Caritas Jinja covers the entire Busoga sub region with 12 districts. In total, the network covers 46 districts in eastern Uganda. Caritas is the social services and development department of the Catholic Church, reaching out to the poor, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion, to build a world based on justice and fraternal love.

EADEN coordinates and is part of these five strong Diocesan Caritas and social services development departments that form EADEN network in Eastern Uganda, with the Secretariat at the headquarters of the Catholic Archdiocese of Tororo in Tororo Municipality. EADEN is a legally registered entity permitted to work in Uganda by the National Bureau for NGOs, under the NGO Act (2016).

Institutional objectives

Incorporated in 2009, EADEN is anchored on the following long-term institutional objectives to build a network of Caritas in eastern Uganda under Tororo Ecclesiastical Province;

- To act as a local facilitating, coordinating and linking agency for network members to regional, national and international development initiatives.
- To promote integral development including human rights of members of households, communities, groups and organizations within Tororo Ecclesiastical Province.
- To conduct research and training with a view of bringing about change in the socio-economic conditions of low-income people.
- To facilitate and coordinate capacity building of network members and other stakeholders for better service delivery at all levels.
- To promote and coordinate lobbying and advocacy at various levels of society to bring about development across the network.
- To promote sustainable exploitation and development of the natural physical environment to meet the basic needs of human, animal and plant life.
- To organize and coordinate mobilization of resources to implement programmes that contribute to national development priorities.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Under the current Strategic Plan (2020-2024), EADEN focuses on strengthening member servicing and consolidating farmer organizational development as a model for rural transformation in Uganda's agro-based economy, as summarized in the following strategic statements:

Our Vision:

A Peaceful and Prosperous Community of Eastern Uganda.

Our Mission

To enhance the effectiveness of Caritas Organizations in Eastern Uganda in promoting social and economic development amongst communities through capacity building, coordination, climate action, research and advocacy.

Our Core values

- EADEN's core values include:
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Professionalism
- Equity
- Stewardship

Thematic areas

The five key thematic areas guiding EADEN's actions in the current strategy (2020-2024) include the following:

1. Climate Resilient and Sustainable Livelihoods
2. Governance and Human Rights
3. Research and Innovation
4. Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) and Humanitarian Response
5. Institutional development

Strategic Motto

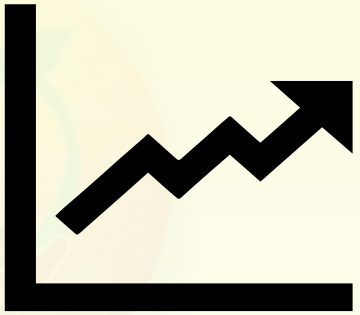
In truth, we serve God and all Creation (Genesis 2.15). This wonderful theme forms the basis for the entire strategic focus of EADEN and is underpinned by Pope Francis' encyclical, **Laudato Si'**. Pope Francis, in Laudato Si', reminds humanity that mother earth is crying for our help and he makes an urgent call to tackle the current ecological crisis by making a paradigm shift that will allow all human beings to live sustainably in dignity.

SUMMARY OF 2023 **ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS**

COLLECTIVE BULKING BY COOPERATIVES

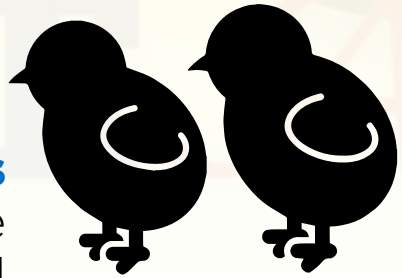


252,902 kgs of Maize
206,589 Kgs of Rice
13,224 kgs of soya
56,500Kgs of Beans



UGX
78,304,198
Net profits from collective bulking

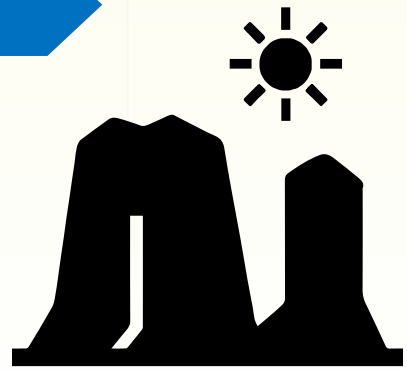
ACCESS TO QUALITY CHICKS



2,481 chicks hatched using the solar-powered incubator

Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR)

83,888 meters of contour trenches across **100 acres** dug and maintained



PROMOTION OF GREEN GROWTH



36,750 trees planted with
85% survival rate

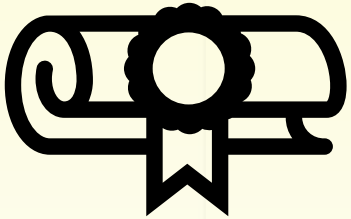
PROMOTION OF LAND AND BASIC RIGHTS



2,058 community members (**1,234F, 824M**) which included **20 PWDs** sensitized.



260 individuals initiated the process of registering their land.



31 acquired **freehold** land titles and **13** land titles **co-owned with women.**

PROMOTION OF LAND AND BASIC RIGHTS



UGX
478,000,000
Saved by **105 farmer groups.**

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2023

The significant accomplishments and outcomes of 2023 are showcased in alignment with the current EADEN thematic priorities outlined in the EADEN Strategic Plan 2022-2024.

CLIMATE RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Under this thematic area, EADEN contributed to the development of communities and the country in the following ways;

1. Support smallholder farmer/rural farmer organizations and network member organizations to implement climate change adaptation and mitigation approaches.

1.1 Promotion of Irrigation Utilizing Solar-Powered Equipment.

In the reporting period, members of Namungalwe Bulumwaki Integrated Farmers' Cooperative (NABIFACO) benefitted from a solar-powered drip irrigation system through the partnership between EADEN and GIZ-EnDev. This support enabled the cooperative to establish a half-acre demonstration garden for tomatoes, showcasing the viability of solar-powered irrigation systems and good agronomic practices for horticultural production throughout the year. Consequently, the cooperative successfully harvested 33 boxes of tomatoes from the half-acre plot, yielding a net profit of UGX 3,925,000. Moreover, out of the 30 participating cooperative members, 16 farmers embraced tomato and chili cultivation, indicating the positive impact and adoption of the demonstrated techniques.



Tomatoes from the demonstration garden ripening and ready for harvesting and sale.



Top: Solar irrigation system at the demonstration site.

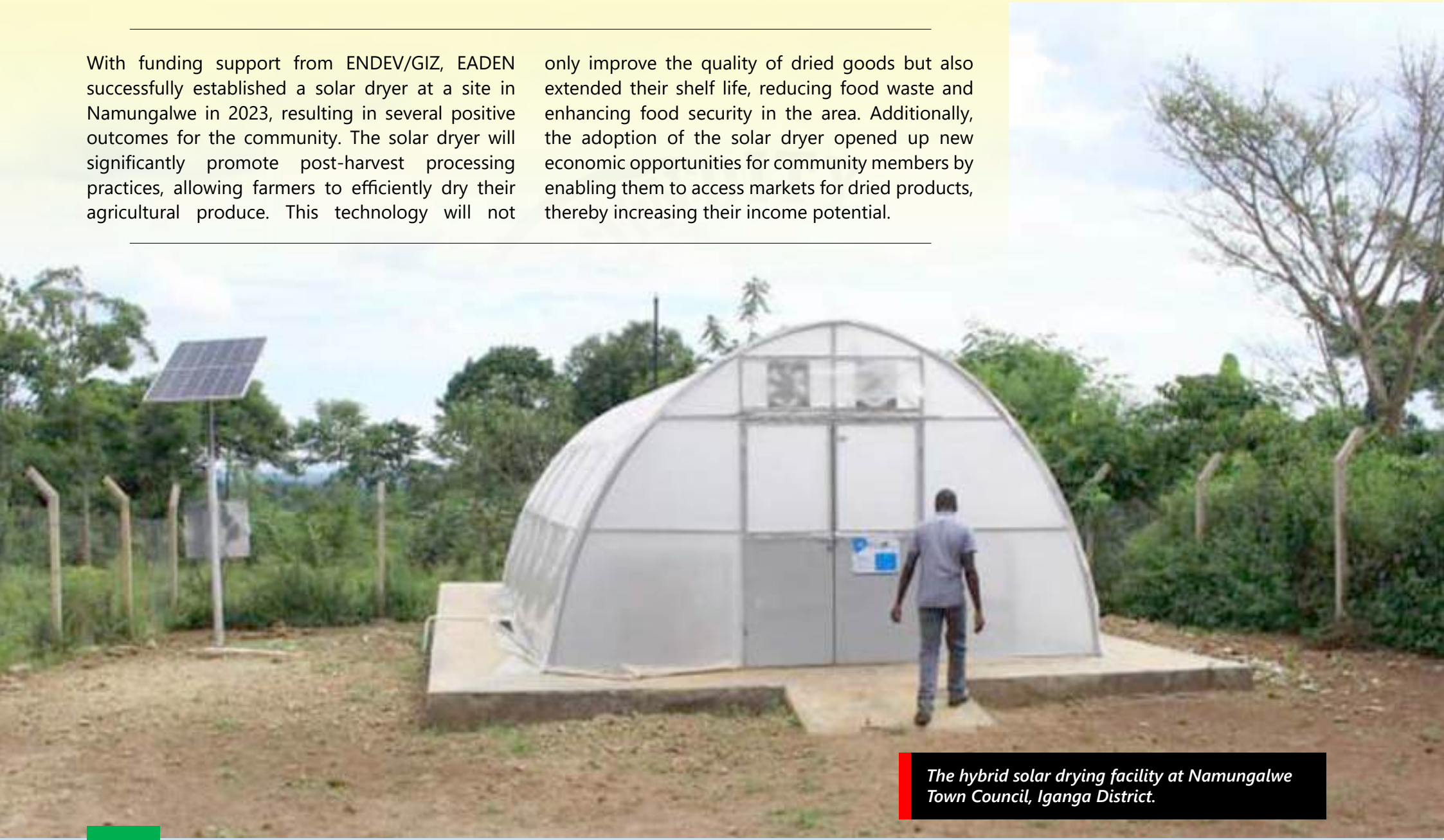
Right: Demonstration site with driplines arranged and tomatoes transplanted in Namungalwe Subcounty.

1.2 Promotion of improved solar drying technology



Tikyamulala Jesca from Naguwa Village, Bulumwaki II parish, Namunagalwe Town council, Iganga district using the solar dryer technology to dry her coffee.

With funding support from ENDEV/GIZ, EADEN successfully established a solar dryer at a site in Namungalwe in 2023, resulting in several positive outcomes for the community. The solar dryer will significantly promote post-harvest processing practices, allowing farmers to efficiently dry their agricultural produce. This technology will not only improve the quality of dried goods but also extended their shelf life, reducing food waste and enhancing food security in the area. Additionally, the adoption of the solar dryer opened up new economic opportunities for community members by enabling them to access markets for dried products, thereby increasing their income potential.



The hybrid solar drying facility at Namungalwe Town Council, Iganga District.

SUCCESS STORY

Renewed Hope: Nyaketcho Margaret's Journey with Solvatten solar water heater equipment

In the rural village of Kayoro A, Akadot Sub County, Tororo District, resides Nyaketcho Margaret, a member of Mukuju Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd (MUMUCOS) and an extraordinary woman facing numerous challenges with unwavering strength. At 57 years old, Margaret is the grandmother of a resilient household consisting of her two biological children and her grandchildren. Despite grappling with chronic illness and physical weakness, Margaret cares for her family, sustaining them through subsistence agriculture on their modest plot of land. Financial constraints have forced her son to drop out of school after Senior 4 and her daughter after Primary 6. Nevertheless, Margaret's resourcefulness ensures the family's basic needs are met, and the children remain healthy. The family's daily life revolves around tilling the poor soil, sourcing water from a distant borehole, and purchasing firewood.





Top: *Nyaketcho with her children enjoying tea from the SOLVATTEN equipment*

Left: *Nyaketcho's daughter filling the Jerrican with boiled water for drinking and other use.*

Margaret's inability to afford firewood leaves her gathering scarce dry cassava stems and maize stalks from her garden for cooking.

In May 2023, Margaret's life changed when she received Solvatten, a solar water purification device, from EADEN in partnership with PELUM. Through the provision of the equipment, sensitization on its use, and periodic monitoring to ensure proper utilization, Margaret's life changed for the better. Solvatten provides clean water effortlessly, eliminating the need for manual boiling and alleviating the burden on Margaret. With Solvatten, she ensures cleanliness, hygiene, and safe drinking water for her family. The device also reduces pressure on firewood use, allowing her to prioritize her health by ensuring timely medication intake and warm baths.

Margaret's story showcases the transformative impact of Solvatten, not only improving health outcomes but also fostering a sense of hope and purpose. With access to clean water, the family's overall well-being improved, demonstrating the power of embracing change in the face of adversity. Moving forward, Margaret plans to further enhance her household's sustainability by improving her cook-stove, planting fast-maturing trees for firewood, and optimizing the placement of her solar heater. Her journey exemplifies resilience, adaptability, and the profound impact of innovative solutions in rural communities.

Right and Middle pictures: *showing difficulties the household goes through to access firewood and cook*

Extreme Right: *Margaret's daughter using the SOLVATTEN equipment to boil water for tea.*







Right: *Nyaketcho Margret waiting for tea from SOLVATTEN in Kayoro A Village.*

Middle: *Nyaketcho's daughter removing the water after it has boiled*

Extreme Right: *Margret being served tea from the SOLVATTEN water heater.*







1.3 Communities Adopting tree planting.

As a result of EADEN's efforts to raise awareness among the cooperatives about the importance of tree planting, a total of 36,750 tree were planted by the cooperative members of KIFACOS in Khabutoola Sub Country, Manafwa district, NIFACO in Nawandala Sub County, Iganga district; BURMAFACOS in Buluguyi Sub county, Bugiri district, and MUMUCOS in Akadot Sub county, Tororo district. The tree species planted included Musizi, Moringa and Mangoes, with survival rate of 85%, contributing to environmental conservation and sustainable livelihoods. Additionally, Community-Based Trainers (CBTs) supported a total of 94 community members in constructing Lorena fuel-saving Cookstoves in Mbale City and Bududa district, aimed at reducing the demand for fuel wood. This initiative not only promotes environmental sustainability but also enhances household economic resilience. As a result, the CBTs collectively earned a total of UGX 1,222,000 from supporting households in establishing these cookstoves, demonstrating the dual benefits of environmental stewardship and income generation.





Lorena energy cookstoves constructed by households in Bududa district

MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORY

TREE PLANTING TRANSFORMS KABIRO PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS"

Eight years ago, in 2015, EADEN embarked on a transformative journey at Kabiro Primary School, Akadot subcounty, Tororo district, leaving a lasting impact that has now materialized into a significant change. Today, the pupils of Kabiro primary school find comfort under the shade of almost mature trees that were planted with care and prudence. These trees, once mere seedlings, have flourished into a canopy of green, providing not just shelter but embodying a symbol of growth, resilience, and the nurturing power of sustainable initiatives.

As the pupils enjoy the cool relief under the trees, it is a testament to the foresighted vision of EADEN and the community's dedication to nurturing the environment. The once-barren landscape has been transformed into a vibrant and thriving ecosystem. Beyond the immediate relief from the sun, these trees represent a broader narrative of environmental stewardship and community involvement. The shade they cast today is a tangible representation of the lasting positive impact that thoughtful and sustainable initiatives can have on the lives of individuals and the community as a whole. Through the simple act of planting trees, EADEN has not only provided shade for the present but has sowed the seeds for a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for the pupils of Kabiro Primary School and the generations to come.





TOP-RIGHT: *Pupils of Kabiro Primary School planting trees at the school compound,* **RIGHT:** *Some of the almost mature trees planted by pupils 8 years ago at Kabiro P/S being used as shade.*

1.4 Enhanced Farmers' Access and Adoption of Indigenous Seed Varieties via Community Seed Multiplication Approach.

1.4.1 Preservation of indigenous seeds.



Various varieties of indigenous seed stocked at NIFACO communtiy seed bank.

The Farmers' cooperatives diligently upheld the operation of the six established community indigenous seed banks on their premises. These community seed banks have served as invaluable repositories, allowing members to gather and safeguard diverse indigenous seed varieties of crops, such as beans (Masavu yellow, small red Bush beans, buyoka, Naro bean II, among other varieties). As a result, there has been a notable progression towards increased availability of, and accessibility to, high-quality indigenous seeds within the community. This initiative has significantly facilitated swift and convenient access to superior indigenous seeds during planting seasons, contributing to enhanced crop diversity, agricultural productivity and food security.

2. Promote sustainable livelihoods for improved food and nutrition security, diversified livelihoods and increased domestic incomes.

2.1 Improved access to quality chick-stock from the solar-powered incubator



Chicks from the solar incubator at brooding stage at Muwereza Thomas'home in Namungalwe Town Council, Iganga District.

As a result of the support provided to NABIFACO cooperative in Namungalwe Sub county, Iganda district for Kuroiler production and management during the reporting period, the cooperative successfully hatched 2,481 chicks with a hatching rate of 77%, utilizing the solar-powered incubator. The cooperative locally sources for eggs from a member in one of the neighboring cooperatives, NIFACO, who received support from EADEN to rear parent stock for egg production. Out of the total chicks hatched, 2,401 one-day-old chicks were sold to 29 cooperative members. This transaction generated a commission of UGX 496,200 for the cooperative, indicating both the effectiveness of the hatching process and the cooperative's ability to generate income through sales to its members. The availability of the solar-powered incubator has empowered local farmers with a reliable means to hatch chicks, enhanced both food security and livelihoods. Additionally, the adoption of renewable energy technology demonstrates a commitment to sustainability, setting a positive example for eco-friendly agricultural practices. The incubator represents a comprehensive solution that fosters agricultural development, environmental responsibility, economic empowerment, and social cohesion within the community.

2.2 Increased Collective bulking and marketing by farmer cooperatives

During the reporting period, support was provided to nine (9) cooperatives for the bulking and marketing of their members' produce. The cooperatives collectively bulked the following quantities: 252,902 kgs of maize, 206,589kgs of rice, 13,224kgs of soya and 56,500kgs of beans. As a result, the cooperatives generated a total net profit of UGX 78,304,198 from these activities.



Tonnes of maize bulked by KIFACOS cooperative members, in Manafwa district

Bulking enabled farmers to access better prices for their crops, reduced transaction costs associated with individual sales and led to enhanced economic stability and food security of communities. Additionally, it fostered social cohesion and collaboration among community members, as they work together towards common goals, which has not only improved farmers' livelihoods but also contributed to the resilience and sustainability of rural communities.

To further strengthen bulking efforts, BURMAFACOS cooperative in Bugiri district was awarded a grant of 7,000,000 from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF) under the Agriculture Cluster Development Programme (ACDP) to facilitate the bulking of members' produce. This grant serves as a crucial investment in the cooperative's capacity to aggregate and market agricultural products efficiently, thereby enhancing the economic prospects of its members.

2.3 Access to value addition services.



NIFACO milling machine in operation, milling members' maize (Nawandala Subcounty, Iganga District).

Within the reporting period, NIFACO milled a total of 35,884 kgs of maize sourced from 1,230 community members, comprised of 738 females and 492 males. Additionally, the cooperative sold 15,945 kgs of maize bran and maize flour, resulting in a net profit of UGX 8,652,300. This has contributed to the cooperative's financial sustainability, supported local farmers by providing a market for their produce and created economic opportunities within the community.

MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORY

FROM SCARCITY TO SOLIDARITY: BUFAMACOS' FLOURISHING IMPACT IN BUDHAYA"

In the subcounty of Budhaya, Bugiri district, BUFAMACOS, a local cooperative, emerged as an inspiration of hope during times of food scarcity. Recognizing the challenges posed by prolonged dry spells in the area, the cooperative shifted its focus from commercial gain to community support. Instead of solely catering to bulk off-takers, BUFAMACOS prioritized the needs of the vulnerable within their community. This was made possible with funding from FOAG and Caritas Denmark through EADEN, that supported the cooperative with seed capital, which enabled the cooperative to bulk, do postharvest handling, flourish and offer support to the communities. They subsidized the prices of maize and cassava, offering essential sustenance at discounted rates to those most in need, with less concern to economic benefit but social welfare.

This shift in approach had a profound impact on the Budhaya community. 110 vulnerable individuals benefited from BUFAMACOS'





Left: *A young girl and Right: a nursing mother buying grain from BUFAMACOS store at a subsidized price during the food scarcity period in Budhaya subcounty.*

initiative, accessing staple foods at subsidized prices during times of scarcity. The cooperative's commitment to social responsibility and solidarity resonated deeply, providing not just nutrition, but also a sense of dignity and empowerment to those facing hunger and uncertainty. Through their actions, BUFAMACOS reaffirmed the values of compassion and community support, fostering a spirit of belonging and resilience among the most marginalized.

Despite selling their produce at prices below the market rate, BUFAMACOS remained financially sustainable, generating profits worth Ugx 300,000. This harmonious blend of compassion and commerce exemplifies the cooperative's commitment to responsible business practices and ethical stewardship. The success story of BUFAMACOS serves as a testament to the transformative power of collective action and empathy, offering a guiding light towards a brighter, more inclusive future for the Budhaya community and beyond.

3. Promote approaches for strengthening financial inclusion empowerment for improved access to affordable credit and savings services in rural communities.

3.1 Strengthening Farmer Organizations' saving scheme.

As a result of the support extended to farmer groups through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA), there was a noticeable increase in access to working capital among cooperative members. Throughout the year, a total of UGX 478,000,000 was saved by 105 farmer groups from nine cooperatives. Additionally, by adopting the SACCO approach, seven cooperatives (NIFACO, NABIFACO and NIDFACO in Iganga; MUMUCOS in Tororo; BUFAMACOS and BURMAFACOS in Bugiri and KIFACOS in Manafwa) collectively saved UGX 27,500,100.

> ***A total of UGX 478M was saved by 105 farmer groups from nine cooperatives.***

4. Support the formation and development of sustainable farmers' organizations and structures aimed at strengthening market access for farmers' products.

4.1 Improved Farmer Organizations' Access to government services and in-kind support

Due to EADEN's support to cooperatives in proposal writing and resource mobilization, KIFACOS cooperative in Manafwa district developed and submitted a business proposal to TechnoServe, which was approved. The cooperative received UGX 57,000,000 for the purchase of a truck on co-fund basis. This will ease transportation of horticultural crops and members' produce to the market. This opportunity not only highlights the success of the cooperative's resource mobilization efforts but also presents a fundamental ground for further growth and sustainability.

In addition, NIFACO cooperative in Iganga district UGX 1 billion from one of the government projects; Uganda Multisectoral Food Security and Nutrition project (UMFSNP), for the construction of sweet potato processing plant. Additionally, the cooperative received in kind support which included construction of solar dryer, 5 tarpaulins, 10 pieces of pallets, 200 PICS bags and shelves for the expansion of





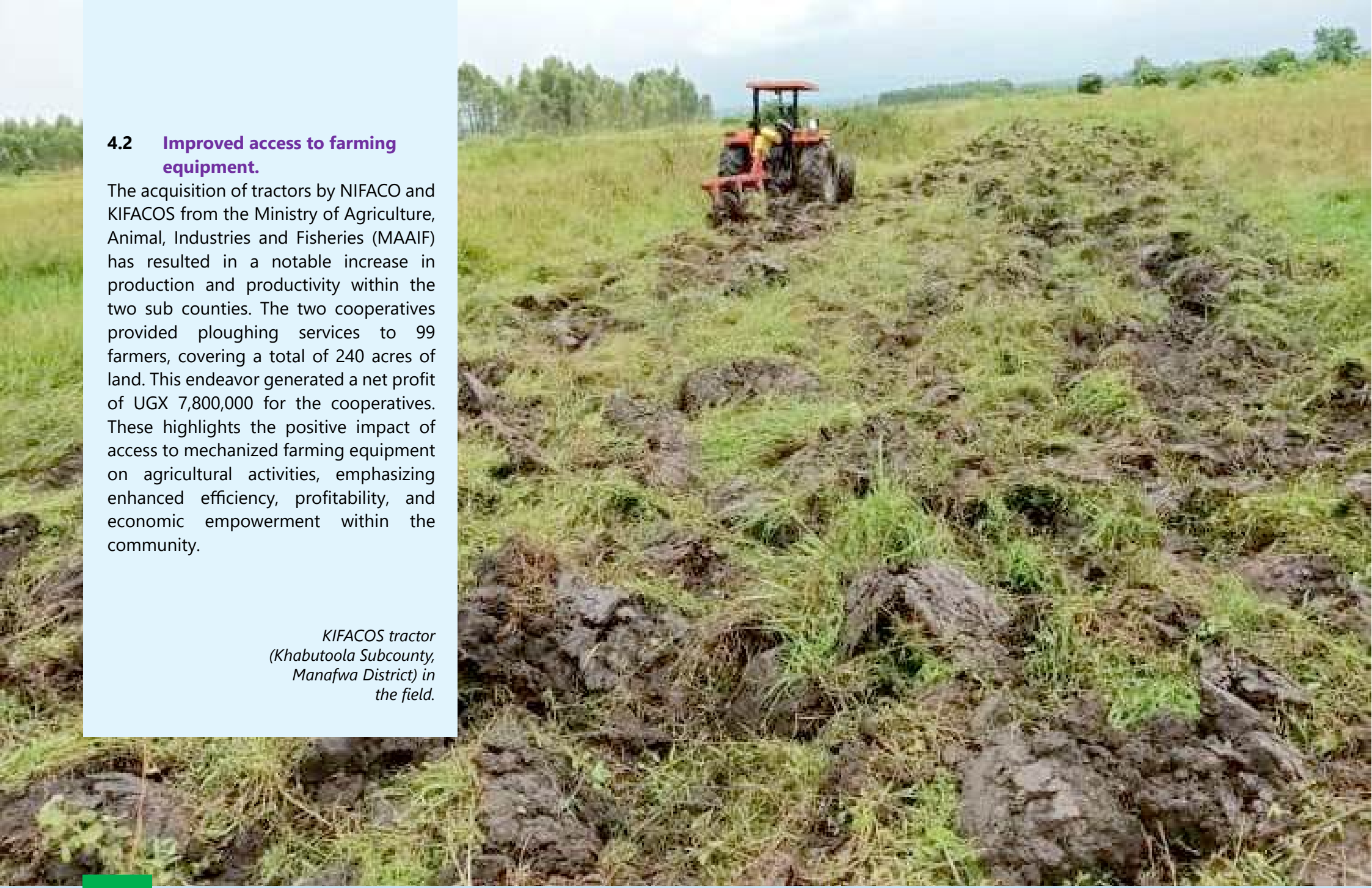
Left: *Solar dryer at NIFACO cooperative premises; Right: Samples of Indigenous seeds displayed at NIFACO seed bank.*

the seedbank which was established by EADEN to promote preservation of indigenous seeds in the community.

NABIFACO Cooperative in Iganga District lobbied through the district and received in-kind support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). The support, included a solar drying system worth UGX 15,000,000 to reduce post-harvest losses and improve the quality and hygiene of drying cereals and other crops, 1 metallic silo of 500L capacity, 2 shelves, 5 tarpaulins, 10 pieces of pallets, 10 PICS bags, and plastic seed packages for the expansion of the seed bank.

4.2 Improved access to farming equipment.

The acquisition of tractors by NIFACO and KIFACOS from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal, Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF) has resulted in a notable increase in production and productivity within the two sub counties. The two cooperatives provided ploughing services to 99 farmers, covering a total of 240 acres of land. This endeavor generated a net profit of UGX 7,800,000 for the cooperatives. These highlights the positive impact of access to mechanized farming equipment on agricultural activities, emphasizing enhanced efficiency, profitability, and economic empowerment within the community.



KIFACOS tractor (Khabutoola Subcounty, Manafwa District) in the field.

GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

5. Promotion of human Rights (basic and land rights).

As a result of the land rights legal clinic and technical support provided to Land Rights Paralegals trained by EADEN, 2,058 community members (1,234 females, 824 males), with 20 persons with different abilities were sensitized on land and basic rights issues. Among those sensitized, 260 individuals initiated the process of registering their land, leading to 31 land surveys and subsequent acquisition of freehold land titles with 13 land titles co-owned by women.

6. Improved service delivery

In 2023, BURMAFACOS farmers undertook significant engagements that yielded tangible improvements in community infrastructure and service delivery. As a result of their efforts and subsequent follow-ups during the reporting period, three feeder roads were successfully opened, including the Gawunire-Bugayi road spanning 24 kilometers, Nasibimbi-Bufunda covering 3.6 kilometers, and Bugayi-Budunyi extending 3.4 kilometers. Furthermore, three non-functioning boreholes in Bulesi, Namuwobi, and Buyindi villages were repaired, which has ensured reliable access to clean water for local residents. To ensure sustained functionality, user committees were selected to oversee the operation and maintenance of these boreholes. Additionally, through cooperative monitoring of local government service delivery, it was identified that the Bumwangu-Maziriga-Namatu road, spanning 10 kilometers, required attention. The advocacy committee forwarded this issue to the Resident District Commissioner through the sub-county chairperson LCIII, resulting in the road being reworked on, enhancing accessibility and infrastructure within the community.



A lawyer sensitizes community members of Khabutoola Subcounty, Manafwa District on land and basic rights.



A community member from Akadoit Subcounty, Tororo District reacts to land rights issues during a sensitization session.

Top: *The Bumwangu-Maziriga-Namatu Bridge being worked on after the advocacy committee presented the issue to the duty bearers.*

Right: *Bumwangu-Maziriga-Namatu Road with marram piles ready for spreading.*
Extreme right: *A member of the BUFAMACOS advocacy committee inspecting Bumwangu-Maziriga-Namatu road work.*





COMMUNITY MANAGED DRR AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

7. Strengthened capacity of Farmer Organizations to respond to humanitarian crises in communities.



As a result of the Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) trainings conducted both last year and this year, community members have successfully dug and maintained 83,888 meters of contour trenches across 100 acres of land managed by KIFACOS. These trenches serve a crucial role in minimizing flooding and runoff within farmers' gardens, consequently reducing crop loss. By effectively managing water flow, the trenches mitigate the adverse effects of extreme weather events, ensuring the resilience of agricultural livelihoods in the community.





Banana plantation of Simwende Jimmy in Bumurumu II Village, Nangalwe Subcounty, Manafwa District, with contour trenches dug for controlling runoff.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

8. Support and coordinate building of strong competencies among the network members, Board members, management team.

8.1 Board Functionality

8.1.1 Board Meetings.

Throughout 2023, the EADEN Board convened quarterly meetings to provide vital support to the EADEN Secretariat and facilitate the expansion of the provincial network. These meetings were strategically rotated across various locations within the province, including Jinja Diocese, Soroti Diocese, Tororo Archdiocese, and online platforms.

8.1.2 Board Composition and membership

In the year 2023, the Board of EADEN was comprised of the following members appointed by the Council of Bishops since 2021.

Table 1: *Showing the composition of EADEN Board members, 2023*

Name	Position	Diocese/ Organization
Rev. Fr. Godfrey Kibumba	Board Chairperson	Jinja Diocese
Mr. Apalia Joseph	Vice Board Chairperson	Moroto Diocese
Mr. Oketcho Athanasius	Staff representative	EADEN Secretariat
Rev. Fr. Sylvester Okoth	Caritas Directors' rep.	Tororo Diocese
Ms. Omeke Justine Didi	Member	Soroti Diocese
Mrs. Oketcho Irene	Member	Tororo Diocese
Mr. Muhwezi Godfrey Bategeka	Board Secretary	Executive Director

8.1.3 Strengthening compliance to Caritas Internationalis Management Standards (CIMS)

In partnership with Caritas Uganda, trainings and external assessment sessions on Caritas Internationalis Management Standards (CIMS) were conducted both at EADEN Secretariat and within selected EADEN Network members (Caritas Soroti and Caritas Moroto). The sessions, attended by 69 staff (23 female, 46 males), helped to strengthen the principle of safeguarding for the women, girls, children and other vulnerable adults, plus promoting adherence to all the CIMS standards. During the assessments, several institutional documents were reviewed for purposes of providing evidence of adherence to CIMS and areas for improvement under the standards of Laws and ethical codes; governance and organization; programme and financial accountability, stakeholder involvement and safeguarding. Each assessed entity developed 3-year improvement Plans to guide capacity building.



Staff members of Caritas Soroti (SOCADIDO) undergoing training and assessment on CIMS facilitated by CIMS Assessor from Caritas Uganda

8.2 Attract and retain competent and well-motivated technical staff

8.2.1 Secretariat Staffing.

In 2023, EADEN Secretariat benefited from the dedicated service of a team comprising thirteen members of staff. Three new staff joined the organization during the year, two in programmes and one in Finance, while two long serving members from the programmes department left. EADEN expresses deep appreciation for the invaluable contributions of all staff who served at the Secretariat throughout the year, for without them, the results in this reported wouldn't have been realized.

8.2.2 Staff Training

Being a learning organization, EADEN continuously identifies staff capacity needs and support the capacity development process in order to fully to implement the programme. In 2023, 18 staff of EADEN and Network members from Caritas Tororo, Caritas Jinja, Caritas Soroti and Caritas Moroto were trained on gender, being an area that is lately hampering development and requires frontline staff to be able to provide appropriate guidance and referral in the course of their work. These skills helped to enhance the capacity of staff in programme design, implementation, outreach and service delivery with a gender lens.



Facilitator conducting a session with EADEN and Network member staff during gender training at Benedictine retreat centre



Participants during group session on gender power walk.

8.3 Establish a robust funding pipeline with a diversified funding source.

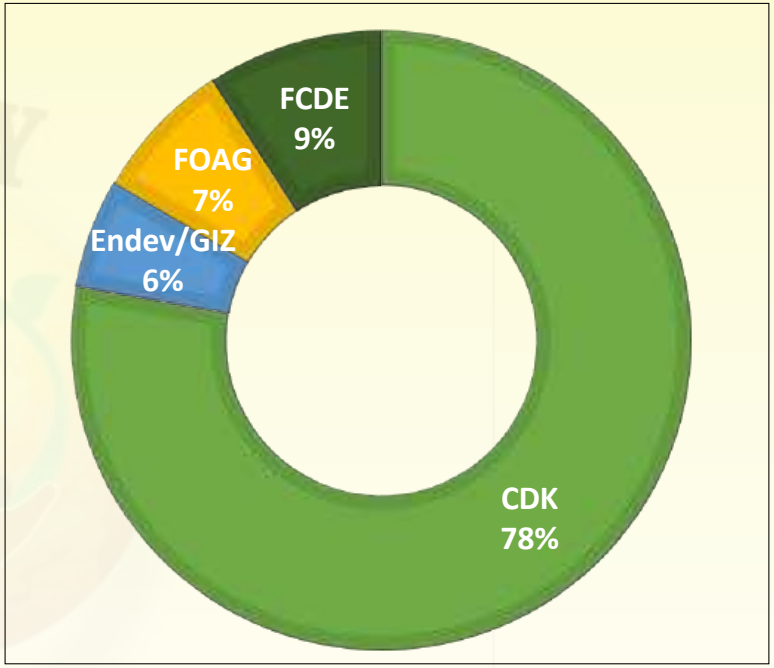
In 2023, EADEN successfully secured a total funding of UGX 706,092,294. We express sincere gratitude to Caritas Denmark (C-DK) for their generous financial support, sourced from DANIDA and other Non-DANIDA channels. Their trust in our organization has empowered us to extend assistance to thousands of smallholder farmers across diverse communities in Uganda, fostering the development of robust farmers' organizations.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Farmers Overseas Action Group (FOAG) for their financial backing, which enabled us to implement interventions aimed at enhancing post-harvest handling, improving food security, and advancing agro-marketing practices among rural farmers.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the invaluable partnership with Endev/GIZ, through the EnDev programme, in promoting Productive Use of Energy, as well as with the Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE), in efforts to bolster climate resilience and Rural Livelihood among smallholder farmers.

The graph below illustrates EADEN's funding levels and sources throughout the year 2023.

Figure 1: *showing respective EADEN's donor contribution for 2023*



OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

SECRETARIAT STAFF
EXCITING STAFF 2023


GODFFREY BATEGEKA MUWHEZI,
Executive Director


GORETTI ALANYO,
Resource & Mobilization Coordinator


JACKIE ATIM LETICIA,
Finance & Administration Manager


STELLA AGAGI,
Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator


ATHANASIUS OKETCHO,
Program Manager


EZAMUKAMA STEPHEN
Project Officer


OKELLO CHARLES,
Project Officer


KENNEDY MANUKU. O,
Project Officer


ABERI WINNIFRED,
Accounts Assistant


JOHN CHABARIA,
Security Assistant


CHRISTOPHER EMEU,
Driver


ROBINA KWAGA,
Welfare Assistant


HAMPHRENCE WANGIRA,
Driver

EASTERN ARCHDIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

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