EASTERN ARCHDIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (EADEN)

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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ACRONYMS

AGM	Annual General Meeting
BFA	Biofertilizer Africa
BUFAMACOS	Budhaya Farmers and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd
BURMAFACOS	Buluguyi Rice and Maize Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd
BUTUFACO	Bukanga Tukolele Walala Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd
CMSS	Community Managed Seed Security
CUSP	Civil society in Uganda Support Program
DGBP	Danida Green Business Partnership
DLGs	District Local Governments
DMFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
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
SICOFACOS	Sibanga Integrated Coffee Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association





MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

This report marks the conclusion of EADEN's five-year Strategic Plan (2020–2025). On behalf the Board, it is an honor to present the achievements and milestones of the year 2024, with results made possible through the dedicated efforts of our staff, network members, Directors, funding partners, and other valued stakeholders. As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, we are deeply grateful to the Almighty for sustaining and guiding us through this journey.

In 2024, EADEN made significant progress in strengthening institutional regulatory compliance. Notably, we renewed our NGO operating permit with the National Bureau for NGOs, granting us nationwide coverage for the period of September 2024 to August 2028. This renewal reflects our ongoing commitment to comply with national regulations and to continue serving the people of Uganda with integrity and accountability.

We are also proud to have attained the NGO Quality Assurance Mechanism (QuAM) Advanced Certificate in 2024, following a thorough assessment of our organization. This certification is a strong testament to our institutional growth and adherence to the highest standards of governance and management as recommended for NGOs in Uganda. We remain fully committed to continuous improvement, good governance, and effective delivery of our mandate to the communities we serve.

On behalf of the Board, and in my personal capacity, I wish to sincerely acknowledge the invaluable support of all our funding partners throughout the year. Your steadfast partnership enabled us to achieve the results documented in this report and reach even further in our mission. Special appreciation goes to the Bishops of the Dioceses within the Ecclesiastical Province of Tororo for their unwavering guidance, support and encouragement to relentlessly focus reaching all the intended programme participants in the Province. I also extend heartfelt thanks to the management and staff at the EADEN Secretariat, as well as to our Caritas member organizations in Eastern Uganda, for their dedication and collective efforts in serving God's people.

REV. FR. GODFREY KIBUMBA
BOARD CHAIRPERSON



MESSAGE FROM THE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I take the honor to present this report of EADEN for the year ended 31st December, 2024 to our esteemed stakeholders. As highlighted in the Board Chairperson's message, 2024 marked the last year of our 2020-2024 Strategic Plan. As we all recall, 2020 was year of immense global disruption, as the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped every aspect of life. Starting a new strategic direction in such a turbulent environment, marked by illness, isolations, restricted movements, curfews, total lockdown and widespread uncertainty was a both a challenge and redefining moment for EADEN. As we bring this period to a close, we reflect with humility on the resilience and progress achieved in spite of those circumstances.

In 2024, EADEN remained steadfast in pursuing the key focus areas of our Strategic Plan; Climate Resilient and Sustainable Livelihoods, Governance and Human Rights, Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response, Research and Innovation and Institutional Development. This report presents a summary of the results and key achievements under each of these thematic areas.

More than ever before, work on climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods, using different working approaches, received substantial attention, given the exponential progression of climate change and its association effects on the vulnerable members of the community, especially those depending on farming for a livelihood. 2024 saw EADEN spanning operations to cover 15,807 programme participants, 60% of whom females, with services on climate resilient and sustainable livelihoods as well as other interventions. EADEN strengthened interventions in nature-based solutions to promote famers' productivity and resilience, amidst the reality of climate change. For example, planting of 53,700 trees was supported among vulnerable communities and fragile landscapes, with 80% survival rate. Other initiatives of organic fertilizer use, watershed management, renewable energy technologies, collective marketing, among others were implemented.

Further efforts were advanced in promoting land rights, reaching out to 4,123 households, with 127 land owners acquiring Freehold Land Titles. In addition, EADEN supported emergency food assistance in Kotido Diocese, reinforcing our commitment to humanitarian response in times of crisis. While the scale of these interventions remains modest compared to the broader need, they reflect a clear commitment and set a strong precedent for continued efforts by other stakeholders and communities.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the invaluable support of our funding partners like Caritas Denmark, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (DMFA) through the Danida Green Business Partnerships (DGBP), GIZ, the Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment, the Confluence Institute, and SPICMA. I also extend deepest gratitude to the Board, management, staff of EADEN, and our network members. Your tireless dedication made it possible for us to successfully navigate and conclude 2024.

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

EADEN started a new strategic direction in 2020 that ended in 2024. For that entire strategic period, EADEN focused on strengthening member effectiveness and consolidating farmer organizational development as a model for rural transformation in Uganda's agro-based economy. The guiding strategic focus for the year 2024 is summarized as follows:

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 2024 ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS

BENEFICIARIES/ PARTICIPANTS REACHED



15,807



9,484



330



742



2,450

COLLECTIVE BULKING BY COOPERATIVES

- **205,300 kgs** of Maize **198,500 Kgs** of Rice
- **12,200 kgs** of Cassava **56,500Kgs** of Beans





UGX 65,454,198 Net profits from collective bulking

DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

Established 32 Biofertilizer demonstration gardens across 4 districts.





COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (CMDRR)

63,000 meters of contour trenches across 220 acres dug and maintained

PROMOTION OF GREEN GROWTH

53,700 trees planted with **80%** survival rate

4,123 community members (2,345 F, 1,778 M) which included **25 PWDs** sensitized.

478 individuals initiated the process of registering their land.

127 acquired freehold land titles and **25 land titles co-owned with women**.

PROMOTION OF LAND AND BASIC RIGHTS

GROUP SAVINGS

UGX 459,800,000 Saved by **103 farmer** groups.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2024

This section highlights the significant results of 2024 under the various thematic priorities of EADEN.

CLIMATE RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Results under this thematic area are presented as follows:

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

1.1. Promoting adoption of Agroecological practices.

With funding support from GIZ and co-funding from the European Union, EADEN organized a three-day agroecology capacity-building training in Eneku Village, Soroti City, where 53 participants (37 male, 16 female) from Local Government Departments and Civil Society Organizations participated. The objective was to strengthen institutional capacity in promoting sustainable agriculture and natural resource management through agroecological approaches.

> *EADEN organized **a three-day agroecology capacity-building training** in Eneku Village, Soroti City, where **53 participants (37 male, 16 female)** from Local Government Departments and Civil Society Organizations participated.*

The training resulted in improved technical knowledge and practical skills among participants in key agroecological areas, including soil health, integrated pest and disease management, gender integration, and organic fertilizer preparation. Immediate outcomes included the development and implementation of district-level action plans integrating agroecology into departmental budgets and work plans, policy review to reduce harmful chemical use, and inclusion of agroecology in local development planning. Additionally, participants-initiated mapping of agroecology actors, data collection for planning, and established active multi-stakeholder platforms to sustain learning, advocacy, and uptake of agroecological practices.





Lead facilitator, Mr. Guloba Robert taking participants through agroecology principles and its elements; Participants taking part in a practical session on Bokash making at Eneku Village, Soroti City.

1.2. Harnessing Solar Energy to Transform Post-Harvest Practices

Two cooperatives of NIFACO and NABIFACO strengthened the use of solar-powered dryers they received in 2023 from Ministry of Agriculture and GIZ respectively, to dry chili, coffee, and cassava. This promoted more efficient and sustainable use of energy in postharvest handling, eased the burden on farmers, and reduced the drying time from 15 days to under 5 days. As a result, a total of 4,000 kgs of cassava and 1,200 kgs of coffee were dried from these facilities, earning the cooperatives a commission of UGX 3,500,000 (USD 955) from proving drying services to communities. The safe, controlled and quick drying ensure high nutrient retention in crops as well as avoidance of aflatoxin infestation in the food.



> *A total of **4,000 kgs of cassava and 1,200 kgs of coffee** were dried from the solar-powered dryers, earning the cooperatives a commission of **UGX 3,500,000 (USD 955)** from proving drying services to communities.*



Cooperative members from NABIFACO drying member's coffee in the solar drier

1.3. Promoting Green Energy Solutions

EADEN facilitated the capacity building of one community group, Bamasaba Stand Up, located in Industrial Division, Mbale City, through practical training and equipment for briquette production and energy-saving cookstove fabrication, with support from PELUM Uganda. As a result, the group produced 5,879 kilograms of briquettes, generating a net income of UGX 5,879,000 (USD 1,604) demonstrating improved livelihood opportunities through sustainable energy solutions. This directly positively impacted on environment my reducing tree cutting for fuel while avoiding carbon emissions.

Additionally, 134 community members (79 women, 55 men) were trained in briquette production with funding support from the Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE)/Confluence Institute. As a result of the training, participants used the knowledge to produce briquettes that collectively earned them UGX 1,002,500 in







Top right: *briquettes made by Bamasaba Stand Up group displayed to dry in Nabitiri cell, Industrial Division, Mbale City.* ***Below:*** *Charcoal briquettes in use with an energy saving stove.*



A set of old cook stones and the newly constructed energy cookstove for Nabuzale Moreen in Bukimiswa village, Busiriwa subcounty, Bududa district

profit. Beyond income generation, the initiative contributed to environmental sustainability by promoting the use of recycled agricultural waste, reducing reliance on firewood, and lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

EADEN supported 82 community members (62 females, 20 males) in Manafwa to construct energy-efficient cookstoves. This initiative has led to improved cooking efficiency, reduced fuel consumption, and minimized indoor air pollution, enhancing overall health and reducing environmental impact.



1.4. Adoption of tree planting

EADEN supported tree planting initiatives in different parts of the region to enhance climate mitigation, access to wood for poles and fuel, provide food and fodder and protect watershed areas. With funding support from the Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE)/Confluence Institute and Local Government, communities were supported to plant 53,700 tree seedlings with 80% survival rate on hilly slopes to reduce the risk of environmental disasters such as landslides and soil erosion. Tree and shrub species included, Mvule, Avocado, Jackfruit, Bamboo, Calliandra, and other multi-purpose varieties suited to the local terrain and climate.



Fodder shrubs and mvule trees which were planted a year ago in Bushiyi sub county, Bududa District thriving.



1.5. Establishment of Biofertilizer demonstration gardens

In 2024, EADEN, in partnership with BFA and with funding support from DMFA/ Danida Green Business Partnership (DGBP), established 32 Farmer Demonstration Gardens with the biofertilizer across four targeted districts. These gardens served as practical learning hubs to promote sustainable agricultural practices, farmer-led innovation, and knowledge transfer of nature-based solutions within rural communities. Each site showcased climate-smart techniques, improved agronomic practices, and diversified livelihood strategies—including intercropping, organic soil fertility enhancement, and agroecological approaches.

As a result, over 960 smallholder farmers (with an average of 30 farmers per site) directly participated in hands-on training and peer learning. The demonstration gardens significantly increased the adoption of Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs), with farmers reporting noticeable improvements in crop yields, pest and disease control, soil health, and moisture retention on their farms. Additionally, the initiative promoted the use of biofertilizers as a sustainable alternative to synthetic inputs, reinforcing agroecological transformation.



Right: *Coffee plantation demostration demo treated biofetilizer, in Nambale Subcounty, Iganga District.*
Extreme right: *Banana plantation in Namungalwe subcounty, Iganga district, performing well after the application of Biofertilizer.*



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

SUCCESS STORY

SUCCESS STORY 1: Annette's Story - Improved Income and Nutrition through Vegetable Production

In 2023, Annette was one of the 45 female beneficiaries supported under the Inheritance Project funded by Caritas Denmark. One of the interventions of this project at EADEN aimed at empowering women through vegetable production. She received trainings on vegetable production and seeds of cabbage, tomato and kale, and fertilizer as start-up capital. This initiative was part of a broader effort that supported women across nine cooperatives, including five women from KIFACOS, where Annette is a member.

Annette diligently planted and tended to her vegetables, using the knowledge and resources received. By August 2023, her hard work bore fruit, and she was able to harvest a substantial quantity of vegetables. The benefits were significant. The vegetables Annette grew not only enhanced her household's nutrition but also provided a valuable source of income. By selling part of her harvest, she earned a net profit, UGX 976,200 (USD 271) such a significant financial impact in her household.



Annette, displaying her harvested Cabbages ready for sale to the members of the community



With the profits from her vegetable sales, Annette decided to reinvest in her garden in 2024. She expanded her plot from half an acre to 1.5 acres and replanted the respective crops, earned a net profit worth 2,350,000 (USD 653). This reinvestment not only promised future financial stability but also ensured a continuous supply of nutritious vegetables for her family.

Annette's journey is a testament to the transformative power of targeted agricultural support. The Inheritance Project not only improved her household's nutrition but also provided a sustainable source of income, empowering her to continue growing and thriving in her vegetable production endeavors.





***Top:** Annette's well managed tomato garden; **Left;** Annette's cabbage garden.*

2.1. Enhanced Household Food Security with Smart Storage Solutions

As a result of continuous linkage activities, EADEN, in partnership with Farmer's Overseas Action Group (FOAG), supported 43 farmers (21 Females, 22 Males) from three cooperatives (BURMAFACOS, NABIFACO and KIFACOS) with smart metallic silos for improved household food storage, on a co-funding basis. The co-funding approach not only highlights the shared financial burden but also ensured greater farmer commitment. The metallic silos have enabled farmers to store their produce effectively, protecting it from weevils, mold and other pests, thereby reducing post-harvest losses, ensuring food safety and improving food security among households.



Deborah Adong, one of the silo recipients in BURMAFACOS in Bugiri district, happily retrieving maize grain from her silo for food, after a long storage period.

2.2. Enhanced Nutrition and Income through Diversified Farming

Sixty farmers, including women and youth, involved in the Inheritance Project implemented in 2023 successfully raised 1,442 Kuroiler birds and sold 1,300 of them, generating a profit of UGX 39,050,100 (USD 10,659). With the proceeds, in 2024, 41 members restocked a total of 1,312 Kuroiler birds, while 10 members invested in nineteen female goats, and 6 others purchased 15 pigs. This initiative significantly enhanced household income, improved nutrition, and bolstered food security through breeding and egg production.



Kuroiler birds of Mr. Stephen Mugenyi, a youth from BUFAMACOS Cooperative, Budhaya subcounty, Bugiri district ready for sale.

2.3. Increased Collective bulking and marketing by farmer cooperatives

EADEN continued to support all nine cooperatives in bulking and marketing of members' produce through technical advisory and marketing linkages. As a result, the cooperatives bulked 198,500 kgs of Rice, 205,300 kgs of Maize, 12,250 kgs of Cassava, 56,500kgs of Beans and 2,323kgs of Maize Bran. The cooperatives earned a combined total of UGX 65,454,198 in net profits.

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.



NABIFACO cooperative leaders collectively marketing their produce.

Through EADEN's linkage support services, BURMAFACOS cooperative in Bugiri district was awarded a grant of UGX 7,000,000 (USD 1,945) 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 served as a crucial investment in the cooperative's capacity to aggregate and market agricultural products efficiently, thereby enhancing the economic prospects of its members.

2.4. Access to value addition services.

Using the milling machines provided to them by government, NIFACO and NIDFACO milled a total of 23,788 kgs of maize from 881 community members (511 females, 370 males) within the reporting period. NIDFACO further milled 4,524 kgs of cassava. The two cooperatives earned a total of UGX 3,65,2515 in net profits.

> *NIFACO and NIDFACO milled **a total of 23,788 kgs** of maize from **881 community members (511 females, 370 males)** within the reporting period.*





NIDFACO milling machine in operation, milling members' maize in Nawaningi Subcounty, Iganga District.

MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORY

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES - THE SUCCESS STORY OF NAWANDALA INTEGRATED FARMERS' COOPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD (NIFACO).

Located in Nawandala Sub-County, Iganga District, just 45 kilometers from Iganga Town, Nawandala Integrated Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd. has been a beacon of transformation and resilience for over 13 years. With steadfast support from EADEN, the cooperative has grown significantly, particularly in advocacy and lobbying.

Through their relentless lobbying efforts, the cooperative secured a bakery project worth UGX 1 billion (USD 273,224) generously provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF). This state-of-the-art bakery has become a cornerstone of the cooperative's efforts to improve community livelihoods.

Now in operation, the bakery produces high-quality bread and cakes, which are sold to the community at subsidized prices, ensuring affordability and accessibility. In the year 2024, the bakery earned a net profit worth UGX 25,000,000 (USD 6,824).

Moreover, the bakery has created meaningful employment opportunities for eight local youths, offering them not only a source of income but also a chance to develop valuable skills in the food production industry through the trainings received. This initiative is not just about business; it is about empowering the community, fostering self-reliance, and driving sustainable development.

The cooperative's success is a testament to the power of determination, strategic partnerships, and community-driven development. As the bakery grows, Nawandala Integrated Farmers' Cooperative Society Ltd. envisions expanding its operations, increasing production, and creating more jobs. Indeed, for this cooperative and the community it serves, the sky is truly the limit.





Bread produced by NIFACO ready for dispatch to the market, while on the extreme right, production process on-going

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

3.1. Strengthening Farmer Organizations' saving schemes.

In 2024, the support provided to farmer groups through the **Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) model** significantly improved access to working capital among cooperative members. Over the year, **103 farmer groups across nine cooperatives** collectively saved **UGX 459,800,000**, strengthening their financial resilience and capacity to invest in productive activities.

Additionally, the adoption of the **SACCO model** further enhanced financial inclusion. Seven cooperatives **NIFACO, NABIFACO, and NIDFACO (Iganga); MUMUCOS (Tororo); BUFAMACOS and BURMAFACOS (Bugiri); and KIFACOS (Manafwa)** together mobilized **UGX 45,300,100** in savings. These financial mobilization efforts contributed to increased liquidity, cooperative-led lending, and improved financial independence among rural smallholder farmers.

> Over the year, ***103 farmer groups across nine cooperatives*** collectively saved ***UGX 459,800,000,*** strengthening their financial resilience and capacity to invest in productive activities.

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

4.1. Improved access to farming equipment.

Using tractors received from government, NIFACO and KIFACOS cooperatives provided ploughing services to 555 farmers (236 females, 119 Males), covering a total of 1,160 acres of land. As a result, the cooperatives earned a net profit of UGX 29,000,000. This initiative not only boosted the cooperatives' financial stability but also enhanced household agricultural productivity, leading to increased crop production and improved food security for the farming families involved.

KIFACOS tractor ploughing Mr. Masolo Moses land located in Bukaboole Village (Khabutoola Subcounty, Manafwa District).



Joint Council meeting of 9 DLGs in Busoga Sub region at Iganga DLG Council Chambers.

GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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

As a result of EADEN's impactful work in Eastern Uganda, the Ugandan Government, through the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, PELUM Uganda, and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) entrusted and partnered with EADEN and Iganga District Local Government to host and coordinate the 8th Land Awareness Week in 2024. During the event, nine districts in the Busoga sub-region were mobilized and actively participated, engaging in a range of activities such as radio talk shows, legal aid clinics, and joint council meetings focused on addressing land-related issues within the communities. These initiatives physically reached over 4,123 individuals (2,345 females and 1,778 males), raising awareness on critical land rights and legal matters. As a result, over 4,123 people gained vital information about land rights, legal aid, and advocacy on land issues. Three members of NIDFACO were able to acquire land titles and 30 members across the 9 cooperatives commenced processing land titles in order to strengthen their land security and ownership rights. A Joint Local Council Meeting that was held by the Councilors from the 9 districts at the end of the Land Awareness Week facilitated documentation of a memorandum to the Ministry of lands on land administration issues. It enhanced the spirit of cooperation among stakeholders, including local governments, CSOs, and community members, in addressing land challenges in the Busoga sub-region.

6. Improved service delivery

EADEN provided technical support to all the cooperatives in pursuing their advocacy agenda for improved service delivery in their communities, through cooperative advocacy committees. The **advocacy committee of NABIFACO** successfully followed up on a key advocacy issue concerning the **poor learning conditions at Bulumwaki Primary School**, where pupils were studying under a tree due to a lack of adequate classroom infrastructure and reliance on a dilapidated pit latrine. Through a structured advocacy process including **stakeholder engagement meetings at both sub-county and district levels** the committee effectively brought attention of the duty bearers to the issue. As a result of their sustained efforts, the local government constructed a **two-classroom block and a new pit latrine**, significantly improving the **learning environment, safety, and sanitation** for the pupils and teachers.





Left: *Pupils of Bulumwaki Primary School in Namungalwe Town Council, Iganga district, studying under a tree.* ***Right:*** *A newly constructed two classroom block for the pupils.*

Further still, the **advocacy committee of NABIFACO** conducted sustained monitoring of local government service delivery. They successfully followed up on the **construction of a new pit latrine at Kawete Primary School** in Namungalwe Sub- County, Iganga District. Their persistent advocacy including active participation in the sub-county budget conference led to the allocation of resources for the facility. As a result, the school benefited from **improved sanitation and hygiene infrastructure**, addressing the health and sanitation problems caused by the previously full and dilapidated latrines, and enhanced the learning environment for both pupils and staff.

> *They successfully followed up on the* ***construction of a new pit latrine at Kawete Primary School*** *in Namungalwe Sub-County, Iganga District.*





Left: *Old toilet structure that the school was using* ***Right:*** *a newly constructed girls pit latrine at Bulumwaki primary school*





Left: *The old dilapidated latrine*
Right: *The newly constructed pit latrine at Kawete primary school*



In 2024, the **BUFAMACOS Advocacy Committee** conducted a monitoring visit to **Maziriga Health Centre II** in Budhaya Sub-County to assess improvements in health service delivery. As a result of previous advocacy efforts, the health facility, once in poor condition, was **renovated and fenced**, enhancing its functionality and security. The committee also monitored several additional infrastructure developments, including the **construction of a new toilet at Maziriga Primary School**, **ongoing construction of a bridge**, and **renovation works on the Mayuge–Namatu road**. Furthermore, the committee oversaw the **mapping of electricity pole installation sites** as part of the rural electrification initiative. These efforts demonstrate the committee's ongoing commitment to ensuring accountability and improved public service delivery within the community.



BUFAMACOS Advocacy committee monitoring Mayuge-Namatu road under construction

7. Joint stakeholder monitroing visit

In 2024, EADEN facilitated a joint monitoring visit to BURMAFACOS Cooperative, convening a multi-stakeholder delegation comprising 25 cooperative leaders and members, 5 Bugiri District local government officials, EADEN representatives, the Board Chairperson, and sub-county leadership including the Agricultural Extension Officer, Sub-county Chief, Chairperson LCIII, and Community Development Officer (CDO).

The monitoring visit provided evidence-based insights into the progress and challenges of ongoing interventions, enabling stakeholders to identify implementation gaps, recognize success stories, and align on key priorities for improved service delivery. The engagement resulted into concrete commitments from both the cooperative and district leadership particularly regarding infrastructure enhancement, agricultural extension support, and improved inter-agency coordination.

The exercise also documented farmer challenges and outlined targeted strategies for strengthening cooperative operations and program delivery. As a result, the monitoring visit reinforced local accountability mechanisms, enhanced stakeholder ownership, and produced a clear, actionable roadmap to guide future development efforts within BURMAFACOS and the wider Bugiri District.



Bugiri Resident District Commissioner addressing cooperative members during stakeholder monitoring visit at BURMAFACOS

COMMUNITY MANAGED DRR AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

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

Building on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) trainings conducted in previous years, community members in **KIFACOS Cooperative, Manafwa District** applied the practical knowledge gained by digging and maintaining **63,000 meters of contour trenches across 220 acres of farmland.** These soil and water conservation structures have significantly minimized flooding, slowed surface runoff, and reduced both soil erosion and crop loss contributing to improved farm productivity and resilience to climate-related risks.



Banana plantation with contour trenches dug for controlling runoff.

8.1. Emergency food Relief response in Kotido Diocese

In response to the persistent famine affecting the Karamoja subregion, EADEN, in partnership with the Diocese of Kotido and with funding support from SPICMA, implemented an emergency food relief intervention. The project was initiated following a humanitarian appeal by the Bishop of Kotido and aimed to address acute food shortages among the most vulnerable groups. A total of 1,080 individuals—including the elderly, people with disabilities, the chronically ill, and orphaned children—were reached through the distribution of 4,500kgs of maize and 1,450kgs of beans.

This intervention contributed to reducing hunger-related risks and stabilizing the immediate food needs of the target population. Beneficiaries reported a sense of renewed hope and emotional relief, having received food assistance at a time of great distress. The targeting approach, done in coordination with local diocesan structures, ensured effective identification and support to those in greatest need, demonstrating the importance of coordinated emergency response systems in humanitarian settings.

Despite the positive outcomes of this intervention, food insecurity in Karamoja remains a critical issue. The continued prevalence of hunger and malnutrition underscores the need for integrated, long-term strategies aimed at building community resilience. EADEN remains committed to working with stakeholders to design sustainable livelihood and food security initiatives that move beyond relief and contribute to lasting impact in the region.

> *A total of* ***1,080 individuals****—including the elderly, people with disabilities, the chronically ill, and orphaned children—were reached* ***through the distribution of 4,500kgs of maize and 1,450kgs of beans.***



Some of the elderly women leaving the venue after receiving food in Kaabong Parish, Kaabong District.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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

9.1. Board Functionality

9.1.1. Board Meetings.

In 2024, the EADEN Board held four quarterly meetings aimed at strengthening governance, providing strategic oversight to the Secretariat, and advancing the growth of the Provincial network of Caritas. These meetings provided timely guidance on organizational priorities, endorsed key programmatic directions, and enhanced collaboration among member organizations, contributing to improved coordination and visibility of EADEN's work across the province.

9.1.2. Board Composition and membership

In the year 2024, 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 2024.

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
Sr. Caroline Chemutai	Member	Kotido Diocese
Mr. Muhwezi Godfrey Bategeka	Board Secretary	Executive Director/Ex-officio

9.2. Attract and retain competent and well-motivated technical staff

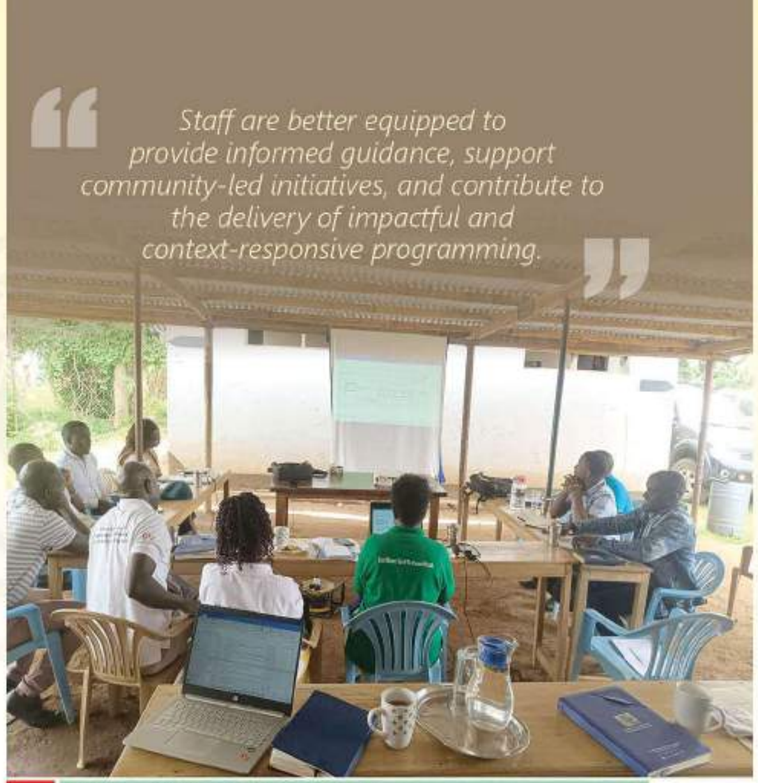
9.2.1. Secretariat Staffing.

In the year 2024, EADEN Secretariat operated with a committed team of 16 staff members. During the year, six new staff were recruited, strengthening programmatic and administrative capacity, while two staff members exited the organization. The Secretariat acknowledges the dedication and contributions of all staff whose efforts were instrumental in achieving the results outlined in this report. Their collective commitment significantly enhanced the delivery of EADEN's mission and objectives throughout the reporting period.

9.2.2. Staff Training

As a learning organization, EADEN continuously assesses and addresses staff capacity needs to enhance effective program implementation. In 2024, a total of 16 staff from the EADEN Secretariat and Network member organizations were trained in key thematic areas including agroecology, public finance management, relevant policies and frameworks, report writing, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), and Gender Action Learning System (GALS). These trainings were strategically prioritized to strengthen staff capacity in program design, implementation, community outreach, and service delivery particularly in areas that increasingly influence development outcomes. As a result, staff are better equipped to provide informed guidance, support community-led initiatives, and contribute to the delivery of impactful and context-responsive programming.

Staff are better equipped to provide informed guidance, support community-led initiatives, and contribute to the delivery of impactful and context-responsive programming.



EADEN staff during a training at the secretariate.

9.3. Maintain compliance with statutory requirements and membership in relevant networks

In the year 2024, EADEN was pleased to renew her operating permit with the National Bureau for NGOs in the Ministry of Internal Affairs for national-wide coverage, for the period September 2024 to August 2028. This was possible out of strengthened and continued compliance with the various NGO operating requirements in Uganda.

Further stringent compliance was maintained with the Uganda Registration Services Bureau, Uganda Revenue Authority, National Social Security Fund, Personal Data Protection Office, Financial Intelligence Authority, among others, through filing of relevant returns and remitting associated payments.

EADEN underwent a rigorous assessment of Quality Assurance Mechanism (QuAM) and was pleased to attain an Advanced QuAM Certificate for five years, from April 2024 to April 2029 from the National NGO Certification Council. This certification was a result of continuous hard work of putting in place and complying with appropriate management and governance policies and systems. EADEN is committed to continue these good practices as they enhance her capacity to offer the much-desired services to the target population as well as strengthen partners' trust and confidence.

EADEN maintain active membership and participation in relevant networks through which tremendous contribution was made to various national issues as well as capacity building attained. Among these include Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM), Uganda Farmers Common Voice Platform (UFCVP), Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) Network, among others.



Copy of EADEN's Advanced QuAM Certificate

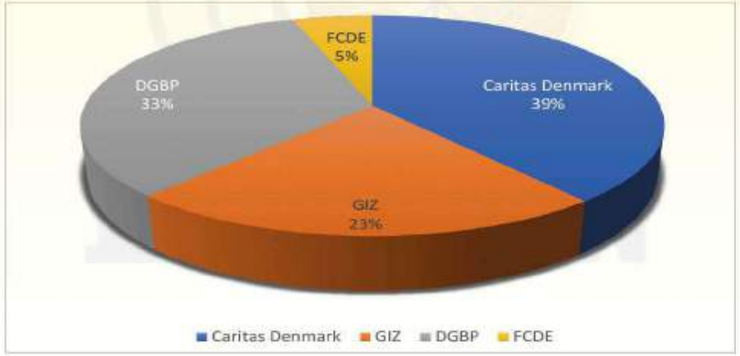
9.4. Establish a robust funding pipeline with a diversified funding source.

In 2024, EADEN successfully mobilized **UGX 1,382,273,476** to support the implementation of its programs and strategic objectives. EADEN extends sincere appreciation to **Caritas Denmark (C-DK)**, with funding from **DANIDA and other non-DANIDA sources**, whose continued partnership enabled EADEN to reach thousands of smallholder farmers and strengthen farmer organizations across diverse communities in Uganda.

We also acknowledge the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark**, through the **Danida Green Business Partnership (DGBP)**, for their targeted funding of the **"Waste Management for a Safe Environment and Climate Resilient Livelihoods"** project, which supports improved environmental health and climate change adaptation in Eastern Uganda.

In partnership with **GIZ under the CUSP II program**, EADEN implemented activities aimed at **enhancing collaboration between Local Governments (LGs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)** to promote the **adoption of climate-resilient agroecological practices and sustainable energy technologies**.

Additionally, support from the **Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE)/Confluence Institute** was instrumental in advancing **climate resilience and rural livelihoods** among smallholder farmers, contributing to long-term, sustainable development outcomes across the region.



EADEN's funding partners' contribution in 2024.

OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

Caritas Danmark

FCDE
FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & EMPOWERMENT

german cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Co-funded by the European Union

Implemented by
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK

DGBP DANIDA GREEN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

SECRETARIAT STAFF 2024


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Resource & Mobilization Coordinator


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EADEN

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