

Local Government Capacity Programme | LGCP

LGCP | Country programme 2012-2016

> Uganda



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| <u>OBJECTIVE</u> | <u>Increased food security for the Ugandan population</u> |
| <u>TARGET GROUP</u> | <u>8 local governments, 2 national local government associations (UAAU and ULGA)</u> |
| <u>INTENDED RESULT</u> | <u>Local governments are able to contribute to the security of food supply</u> |
| <u>ACTIVITIES</u> | <u>Technical assistance, benchmarking, network meetings and study visits</u> |

Uganda has a large agricultural sector, but has not succeeded in sufficiently feeding its own population. One in every five Ugandans suffer from malnourishment. Food security is one of the biggest challenges facing the country.

Various ministries and government institutions are engaged in food security. Local governments also play an important role. It is their task to create an enabling environment for food production in their region. However, many local administrators and local council staff lack the necessary knowledge and skills.

PARTICIPATION

The LGCP programme in Uganda is working on reinforcing the capacity of 8 local governments and their national organisations. The aim is to enable them to improve the local security of food supplies. Experience with the programme at a local level is spread nationally via the associations.

With this approach, the participation of all relevant parties – such as farmer cooperatives, NGOs and local council staff – is key. If producers and citizens can join the discussion on the plans and actions, this increases not only the effectiveness, but also the legitimacy of the administrators.

- The LGCP Uganda programme aligns with the long-term development plans and the annual action plans of the participating local governments, and is complementary to one of the focal points, food security, of the Dutch development cooperation with Uganda. •



Uganda

• **'Local governments must make the translation from national policy to local priority. The participation of relevant groups – like farmers, cooperatives and women – in the development, implementation and monitoring of priorities is essential for increasing food security.'**
 Anne-Marie Tosserams, Country Programme Manager of LGCP Uganda •

Background

Agriculture is one of the fastest growing sectors in Uganda. Small scale farmers in particular are responsible for the agricultural production. The potential of agriculture is enormous. There are estimates that the country can feed up to seven times as many people as live there now. In practice, however, feeding the current population of 32 million is already an immense challenge.

The responsibility for food security lies with a number of ministries and other government institutions. Since the decentralisation of the policy, local governments also play an important role. Local governments are responsible for creating an enabling environment for the various public and private parties which are active in the area of food production. But many local governments are not succeeding in doing so.

Aim

The LGCP Uganda programme wants to contribute to local governments being better able to create the conditions for increased food security. This concerns the capacity to:

- analyse the local food situation and include the security of food supplies in local development plans;
- set priorities for food security, tackle the situation and monitor the progress;
- establish effective cooperation with the relevant government institutions, local population, farmers and businesses;
- enhance the public accountability of local governments for the services that concern the security of food supplies.

What is primarily important for the Urban Authorities Association of Uganda (UAAU) and the Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA) is that they are better able to support the members, and represent their interests on a national level with regard to improving local food security situations.

Activities

Local governments must establish a more complete picture of the food security situation in their region. Better data on the current situation (harvest and consumption) are necessary, as is a good knowledge of the local players and their priorities. Participative methods are used to find out where the most important obstacles are, and how to tackle them. Development and enforcement of local legislation and regulations which promote food security receive specific attention.

Concrete activities are, inter alia, composting of household waste for horticulture, the development of an information and communication strategy, management of markets (including accessibility and hygiene) and information on food quality.

→ What do we want to achieve?

- **8 local governments can identify and integrate the priorities for food security in their development plans.**
- **These local governments possess the necessary capacity to effectively tackle those priorities.**
- **The local governments and their national associations know the various stakeholders in the field of food security and involve them in the preparation and implementation of the development plans.**



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