



## **UGANDA CHANGE AGENT ASSOCIATION**

### **END OF YEAR ICCO ACTIVITY REPORT DEC 2013**

Prepared by UCAA

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**Country:** Uganda

**Type of Report:** Interim

#### **GRANT INFORMATION**

##### **Our Reference:**

**Subject:**End Year 2013 Report.

**Project ID Number:** 75-03-07-054

**Correspondence Number:** C001898

**Program Name:**CT&D Teso and Karamoja Cluster

**Program Officer:** Imuko Julius

**Total Amount Approved:** UGX 59,980,000= (This is for 2013)

- Date Received: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013
- Program Startup date: 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2013
- Completion date: 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2015

## PROGRAM GOALS:

### Progress Monitoring Protocol

In the Teso- Karamoja cluster arrangement UCAA was to contribute to the following Objectives:

Milestones	Target	Progress for UCAA 2013
i) Conduct dialogue forums in Katakwi and Napak Districts on Service delivery.	A total of 120 Change Agents are to be trained in Community based Monitoring and evaluation by December 2015.	40 Change Agents have been trained
ii) .VSLA Training will lead to personal and group development as it comes with both social and economic benefits for individuals and group members thus strengthening the social fabric and group cohesion. This would automatically lead to attainment of peaceful co-existence among the communities of Ngoloriet and Usuk Sub counties.	UCAA was also charged with a responsibility of training 60 Change agents into VSLA by December 2015	20 Change agents from 20 groups have been trained
iii) UCAA was through a small team of Change Agents trained in Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation (10 Change Agents) Collect data on Security issues, Land conflict, and Domestic Violence.	(10 Change Agents) trained to Collect data on Security issues, Land conflict, and Domestic Violence by 2015	10 Change Agents were trained as Data Collectors.
iv) UCAA was to Organize Dialogue Forums in Katakwi and Napakand issues expected	Issues raised	2 forums were conducted, one per district in

incorporated in the Subcounty plans.		<p>Katakwi (participants 106) and another in Napak district (participants 76).</p> <p>2 issues were raised and forwarded to policy makers for action. These issues were 1<sup>st</sup> inadequate health services in Usuksubcounty-Katakwi district and 2<sup>nd</sup> Poor roads in Ngoloriet SC-Napak district.</p>
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Reports received from the project beneficiaries trained shows that they have started utilizing the skills and knowledge acquired from the trainings and other activities conducted by UCAA well.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Introduction**

ICCO and Kirk in Actie are supporting UCAA, KOPEIN, UJCC and TEWPA under the Teso-Karamoja cluster to implement the “Uganda coalition for social transformation” strategy 2013-2015. ICCO is a long term funder of UCAA. Currently it is funding UCAA through the TESO-KARAMOJA Cluster for the purpose of implementing the Conflict Transformation and Democratization (CT&D) Strategy.

## **PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Activities assigned to UCAA in the Teso-Karamoja Cluster included, induction of Sub county duty bearers in Change Agent Skills in district of Katakwi (Usuk Sub county) and district of Napak (Ngoloriet SC), induction of Communities in Service delivery, Collecting data and Conducting dialogue forums in Napak and Katakwi Districts, trainings of change agents on group

formation and community based Monitoring and Evaluation, Trainings in Village Savings and Loans Associations.

## **STRATEGIES**

### **Mobilization / project visibility**

UCAA started with the Creation of awareness to Stakeholders in the target districts. In this connection, the Office of the LCV Napak was reached, The Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Napak and District Internal Security Officer as well were reached including Ngoloreit Sub county and District Community Development Officer. In Katakwi, Office of Chief Administrative Officer was to an extent that District Community Development Officer officiated at the workshop closure. The Katakwi RDC office was also reached.

The Orientation of Key District and Sub county officials did result into great support for UCAA project activities in the target area. This was evidenced by the district officials' attendance at organized meetings when invited.

### **Joint launch of project**

As agreed in the cluster proposal, there was supposed to be a Joint launch of the project in Teso- Karamoja Region as the first activity. To this effect, TEWPA (the lead organization for the cluster) organized a meeting to launch the Teso- Karamoja Project. This meeting was attended by participants from the cluster organizations, i.e. UCAA, UJCC, TEWPA and KOPEIN (two staff per organization). UCAA was represented by Dinah Akallo and Julius Imuko. The meeting took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2013 at TEDWILS bravo Guest House in Soroti.

This Launch was used to create awareness among the stakeholders about the project and indeed the stakeholders welcomed the project and pledged their support. The Launch further assisted the partners to come with joint implantation Plan which UCAA has been following.

### **VSLA training in Katakwi and Napak**

As agreed in the launch by all cluster members, trainings were supposed to be the first activities to be conducted by UCAA. UCAA organized trainings on VSLA in Katakwi and Napak. Participants had been carefully selected as per project requirements.

The training in Katakwi was conducted from 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> July 2013. A total of 11 (4 male and 6 female) including 5 Youth (3 female and 2 males) participants were trained and they were all drawn from Usuk Sub-county. (Usuk is the sub-county of project implementation in Katakwi district).

The training in Napak was conducted from 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> July 2013. A total of 10 (5 male and 5 female) participants were trained and they were all drawn from Ngolieriet Sub-county. (Ngolieriet is the sub-county of project implementation in Napak District).

The training built capacity in developing and managing Village Savings and Loan Associations among the leaders of the self-help groups and the members that they are working with. These skills will be transferred to group members in order to result into personal and group development.

A total of 20 (9 males and 11 females) out of the 60 targeted members to be trained on the project in 3 years have so far been trained in the 1<sup>st</sup> Year.

### **VSLA boxes and pass books**

Following the agreement and project budget, UCAA was to distribute 10 VSLA boxes and 300 passbooks to VSLA groups of trained participants in Katakwi and Napak districts. UCAA distributed 5 VSLA boxes and 211 passbooks to VSLA to the following groups in Katakwi district;

- 1) Usuk Joint Savings and credit group (1 VSLA Box and 20 Passbooks).
- 2) Etalakaros Women group (1VSLA Box and 23 Passbooks).
- 3) Asianut Farmers group (1 VSLA box and 25 passbooks)
- 4) OWID- Ongema Women development group (1 VSLA Box and 30 passbooks.
- 5) Ageun group (1 VSLA Box and 30 passbooks
- 6) Exodus savings group (28 pass books only)
- 7) Aitiji I can women's group (29 passbooks only)
- 8) Asianut Rural development Association (26 pass books only)

In Napak district also 5 VSLA boxes and 244 passbooks were distributed as follows;

- 1) Apule VSLA group ( 1 VSLA box and 26 Passbooks)
- 2) Pole pole group (1 VSLA box and 18 passbooks)
- 3) EteteUnos mixed group (1 VSLA box and 30 Passbooks)
- 4) Nasike tree planting group ( 1 VSLA box and 20 Passbooks)
- 5) Lokoret Mixed group ( 1 VLSA box and 28 passbooks)
- 6) Naligoi Mixed group (18 passbooks only)
- 7) Hand in hand group ( 30 passbooks only)

- 8) Kitanyunai youth group ( 24 Passbooks only)
- 9) Kithop mixed group ( 30 passbooks only)
- 10) Teten group (20 Passbooks only).



*A Sample of UCAA VSLA Boxes distributed to development groups in Katakwi and Napak*

However, the boxes were not sufficient for the Existing groups. Only 10 groups out of 20 groups for all Sub counties that were to benefit from the project, were able to get a VSLA box each.

### **Training on group formation in community based monitoring and evaluation in Katakwi and Napak**

The training in Katakwi was conducted between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> July. A total of 20 participants (5 male and 15 female) were trained and all were drawn from Usuk sub-county. The training in Napak took place between 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> July. A total of 20 participants all drawn from Ngoleriet Sub County were trained. Of these, 10 were female and also 10 were male.

A total of 40 (15 males and 25 females) out of the targeted 120 to be trained in three years have so far been trained. Total youth participants were 14 (6 males and 8 females).



*Participants of Communitybased monitoring training with The RDC Katakwi Mr. Joe Arwata in Suit and MsDamaliAsekenye( DCDO Katakwi) extreme left officiated at the closure of the training in Community based Monitoring and Evaluation training in Katakwi.*

### **The objective of the training on Group formation in Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation**

- To organize the people at the grass roots to learn and understand the budget process at local, District and National level
- Make available skills of the people at the grassroots in data collection, carryout monitoring exercise and present reports of findings in sub-county dialogue meetings
- Through dialogue meetings at various levels, seek actions to remedy the situation obtained
- Develop a monitoring structure of budget monitoring committees at the grass roots for the continuous monitoring of utilization of budget resources
- Assist the Budget monitoring committee develop follow up activity plan

### **Data collection in Katakwi and Napak**

Data collection was carried out by a team of 10 data collectors who were drawn from the participants of training in group formation and community based monitoring. Each district had 5 members. The team included 5 males and 5 females. UCAA prepared the data tool, pre-tested and inducted the data collectors into the tool. The designed questionnaires were tailored to the issues that were identified in the respective districts during the trainings on Community based monitoring and Evaluation, for example in Katakwi, the questions were on Health, while in Napak, the questions were on roads.

### **Change agent skills**

Induction in Change Agent Skills was conducted to some community members of Usuk Sub County in Katakwi and Ngoleriet Sub County in Napak. Attendance was 30 community members of Usuk and 28 of Ngoleriet Sub County in Napak. Participants were taken through the SRPD methodology; evidence based testimonies which helped them to realize the development potentials around them. Change Agent skills were meant to help community members be able to relate own issues with Service delivery in their respective sub counties.



*Lucy Akello Executive director Standing as she gave a brief on Change Agent Skills during a training on Change Agent Skills Katakwi.*

### **Service delivery**

Induction on Service delivery were to help community members be able to understand what it means by Service delivery and bring to their realization the various services that has been and not been available to their communities. The facilitators of these trainings were sourced for offices of the District Community Development Office of each district.

The Participants role in Service delivery was highlighted especially that of whistle-blowing in situations of corruption and misappropriation of public Assets. The trainings attended by a total 64(32 female and 32 males) for both districts was key contributing factor to the transformation of perceived conflict between government leaders and their communities. For example, Priority Setting was realized to be the role of the community members which all of them consented they were not doing. It was found still necessary that communities still need more help in this area of Priority setting. The induction in Service delivery enabled the community members to realize how best they can participate and benefit from government programmes such as NAADS, NUSAF, PRDP and so many others. The induction further made them realize their core responsibility of monitoring government programmes.



*The Health Assistant Usuk Sub county Making a presentation on*

*Service delivery.*

## **DIALOGUE MEETING**

Dialogue Meetings assisted in bringing harmonized positions on key issues which would otherwise result into conflict. UCAA realizes that conflict starts on small issues which eventually may expand to affect many. It is such issues in the community that UCAA sorted out by way of Questionnaires to capture data on those issues.

This data was organized and analyzed by UCAA in order to gather issues of concern from the community. Dialogues were organized in which the issues were discussed in each district. Dialogues in Katakwi were held at the Sub county headquarters of Usuk while those for Napak were held at Kangole Boys in Ngoloriet Sub County.

## **DIALOGUES IN KATAKWI**

Attendance at the dialogue in Katakwi attracted 106 (53 males and 53 Female) Participants. Key officials in the District who attended were The RDC, the secretary for health, the Secretary Health in the Local council V, the Assistant Community Development Officer for Usuk Subcounty, The Local council 111 Chairperson of Usuk Sub-county, the Community Development Officer Of Usuk Sub-county, the Sub-county chief, and the women councilor Usuk sub-county. Cluster members from TEWPA also attended, and the community members of the Sub county and other neighboring subcounties attended the dialogue.

## **OUTCOMES**



- The dialogue brought a realization of the community members that all health staff in Katakwigoes through the normal recruitment and the public service has never recruited unqualified staff. This cleared the fact that some health staff in the Usuk sub county may not be well qualified.

However, StAnne, a private health Unit in the Sub County was to be looked into by the secretary health present at the dialogue who promised to take it up in order to correct any anomaly which could be in the staffing of the health centre.

- The dialogue recognized malaria as the leading killer disease in the area but also reiterated the fact that health experts always try to disseminate information on precautionary measures like sleeping under mosquito nets, slashing bushy compounds etc. through the dialogue the communities were urged to take up this as their own responsibility.
- During the dialogue communities were urged to ensure they attend community meetings in large numbers in order to be informed on issues that concern them
- The Community realized that sometimes drugs are few compared to the local population. The Local leadership would lobby for increased location of drugs to the district.
- The LC111 Chairperson brought to the knowledge of members that it is in the government design that every parish has to have a Health Center (HC) 11 and every Sub-county, a HC 111 but now government has stopped the construction of HC11s. The RDC in-fact explained that government has now decided to use money for HC11s to strengthen HC111s to full capacity so that they can handle most of the health complications within there.
- As for the issue of few health workers, the Secretary health said that the district cannot recruit more health workers because of the wage bill. That there is a ceiling on salaries that limits them. The RDC also highlighted another limiting factor to this issue, that Katakwi does not attract workers because it is a 'hard to live and hard to reach' district. Community Members were urged to be friendly and welcoming so as to attract many people of different skills and Qualifications to accept to stay in Katakwi despite its location.

- The secretary Health admitted the issue of patients walking long distances in search of health services. He attributed it to the ban on creation of HC11s earlier mentioned. He said most HC11s are now affiliated to HC111s but also each village has about five Village Health Teams (VHTs) that community should use because they are the first medical contact. He also promised to take this issue to council.



Organized by UCAA.

*Ndungu Arwata RDC Katakwi district standing at the Dialogue*



*council five standing giving a speech in on the the UCAA dialogues in Katakwi.*

*Secretary for Social Services Local*

- The Resident District Commissioner of Katakwi Mr. Joe Arwata, was very appreciative of the work done by the cluster. Thanking UCAA on behalf of the Teso-Karamoja Cluster, Mr. Arwata Said UCAA was in line with Government Policy of Public Private Partnership. He quoted “don’t walk behind or in front” but walk side by side in development and this is what UCAA was doing to walk side by side with the government. The RDC asked the Usuk Community to embrace Democracy and Peace so as to enjoy everlasting development. A development where democracy must be a reality, with people having full voice and mandate in a decentralized system. Information flowing from Parish, Sub county, District and National and vice versa.

## **DIALOGUES IN NAPAK**

The Dialogues in Napak district attracted 76 (44 males and 32 Female) Participants. The Officials who turned up were the Assistant District Engineer, the Secretary Works at Local

council V, the Sub-county chief, probation and welfare officer representing the District Community Development Officer and the women councilor at sub-county level, secretary works Ngoleriet sub-county, The Assistant Community Development Officer Ngoleriet representing the Community Development Officer and the LC111 Chairperson Ngoleriet sub-county. Members of Uganda Debt Network and TEWPA also attended. The rest were Ngoloriet Community members.

## **OUT COMES.**

**The Dialogues in Napak enabled the community and district local administration to the following common understanding.**

- Some roads in the district are maintained by the central government, others by the district Local government and others were community roads. Those mostly appalling condition were the community roads. The affected community roads were Lokutuk-Narengo 4km, Kaluthum-Kangole 900m but the Samaritan Purse had earlier on worked on Kangole –Kautakou
- The following was a presentation of the Napak district engineer on the Status of community roads in the district and this was availed to the Participants.

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Subcounty</b>	<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Road Length</b>	<b>Road Condition</b>	<b>Estimated Traffic</b>
12675	Matany	Lokali-Nakicument	12Km	Good	5 vehicles per day (vpd)
12676	Matany	Loodoi-Lokupoi	5Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12677	Matany	Lokali-Matany	6 Km	Poor	Less than 5 vehicles per day (vpd)
12678	Matany	Locholi-Kokorio	6 Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12679	Matany	Nakadongot-Kokorio	3 Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12680	Ngoleriet	Lokodiokodio-Longariama	5Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12681	Ngoleriet	Loputuk-Arengereng	4 Km	Good	10-20 vpd

12682	Ngoleriet	Nasike-Nariamaregae	10 Km	Good	Less than 5vpd
12683	Ngoleriet	Naguleangole-Naitakwae	10Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12684	Ngoleriet	Kangole-Kautakou	6 Km	Fair	Less than 5vpd
12685	Ngoleriet	Kalotom-Kangole Bridge	8 Km	Poor	Less than 5vpd
12686	Ngoleriet	Lomerimong-Kotido Rd	8 Km	Good	Less than 5vpd
<b>Total Length</b>			<b>287.5 Km</b>		

Other roads being maintained by the central government were;

<b>S/N</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Road Lenth in km</b>	<b>Road Condition</b>	<b>Estimated traffic</b>
1451	Napak	Kokeris-Lopei	19	Good	10-50vpd
1452	Napak	Kangole-Lotome	13	Good	10-50vpd
1453	Napak	Iriiri-Napak	30	Fair	Less than 10vpd
1454	Napak	Lokopo-Turtuko-Apeitolim	60	Fair	Less than 10 vpd
1455	Napak	Matany-Lokopo	16	Good	10-50 vpd
1456	Napak	Kangole-Matany	8	Poor	Less than 10 vpd
1457	Napak	Iriiri-Apeitolim	50	Fair	10-50 vpd
1458	Napak	Kalotom-Natapari	7	Good	Less than 10 vpd
1459	Napak	Lopei-Turtuko	30	Fair	Less than 10

					vpd
1460	Napak	Kalotom-Kangole chin	1	Good	Less than 10 vpd
1461	Napak	Lorengecora-Tirikol	28	Fair	Less than 10 vpd
<b>Total</b>			<b>262</b>		

- Ownership of roads was seen as key and both the road committees and Change agents are continuously sensitizing the communities to own their roads. Sensitization on this was agreed upon to be carried at all levels.
- To safe- guard community roads from being vandalized by bad people, especially those who block them, create potholes, Ngoleriet Sub county was to come up with by-laws the use, maintenance and supervision of community roads.
- The communities were encouraged to also utilize the Community Driven Development (CDD) funds. The CDO was to continue availing information to the communities on how CDD funds could be accessed.
- The forum was also a platform for the District Local government Leaders to be able to meet community and pass important communications such as encouraging the communities to be united, cooperate with Government, ensure that democracy was implemented correctly by voting wisely and not voting for sugar, Soap etc.

## **INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY**

The International Peace Celebrations took place in Moroto on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2013. UCAA staff and Change agents participated in the function. The Peace day was a climax of several Peace activities which the Consortium had organized under the CT&D strategy of ICCO. The international Peace day brought many from within and outside Karamoja region it was a key contributing factor to the project Objectives.

## **Social responsibility**

UCAA each year has students from institution of higher learning who come for field work practice. 3 students from Uganda Christian University who had been attached to UCAA were properly helped to go through their field practicals on the project in Katakwi and Napak districts.

## **Administration component**

The Administration component of the project assisted UCAA to meet Staff costs. As a result of this, staff remained loyal and committed during the period. The office rent was also paid and this

enabled the Organization not to have any interruptions by Landlords. The Vehicle too remained functional to do project work.

The Board of Directors were also informed about the Project and they had to Provide legal mandate and guidance to project implementation team.

#### **CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED.**

- Late receipt of funds. The activity work plan which UCAA had drawn in respect to the project was revised in order to accommodate the implementation of project activities within a short period.
- VSLA boxes were few, only 10 boxes had been planned, yet VSLA participants were 20 and drawn from different groups. The few boxes were given to the most active groups.
- Staff remuneration was planned for few months, yet staff had to work full time on the project for 12 months in the year. Staff was requested to accept the Volunteer pay rates.

The Report was prepared by UCAA