

**-WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
ADVISORY SERVICES IN UGANDA: A CASE STUDY OF  
VURRA SUB-COUNTY, ARUA DISRICT, 2001—2007.**

**BY**

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**DECLARATION**

I declare that the content of this thesis is from my own work and has never been submitted for an award or any other university. Statements from other people’s work have duly been acknowledged.

Signature.....

Date.....

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**APPROVAL**

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as a university supervisor.

Signature.....

Date.....

Associate Professor Peter Baguma.

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this book to my mother, brothers and sisters, nieces who have all worked tirelessly in this academic achievement. All my friends and relatives who have helped me in my academic struggle.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>NAADS</b>	National Agricultural Advisory Services
<b>GOU</b>	Government of Uganda
<b>PMA</b>	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
<b>MAAIF</b>	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agricultural Organization
<b>MFPEd</b>	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
<b>MGLSD</b>	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
<b>UNHS</b>	Uganda National Housing Survey
<b>UPPAP</b>	Uganda Participatory Poverty Assessment Process
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>ECOSOC</b>	Economic and Social Council
<b>PPA</b>	Participatory Poverty Assessment
<b>RDC</b>	Resident District Commissioner
<b>CAO</b>	Chief Administrative Officer

## **ABSTRACT**

This study was done to examine women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Service (NAADS) programme in Vurra sub-county, Arua District Uganda for a period of 2001/2007. Data collected included; women participation in decision-making process of NAADS, implementation of decisions of NAADS programme, women access and factors that determine their participation, and benefits of women participation in NAADS. The study used a case study design. A total of 54 respondents were interviewed. Six 6 parishes were randomly selected from which six farmer groups (3 mixed and 3 women) were selected using stratified random sampling. The study used interview guides, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), documentary analysis and observation to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive methods.

The findings indicate that decisions on enterprise selection at the sub-county were in most cases carried out hurriedly and without regard to farmers' preferences. Which means at sub-county level, farmers had not been given the chance to decide on what best suits their needs. Women expressed disappointment on lack of access to critical resources like land, inadequate information, non payment of attention to women preferred enterprises as being a grate problem on their side which led to their limited participation in their own fields. The study also found that women did not take part in decision-making process of NAADS programme activities since most key positions are taken by men. However, it was found out that NAADS had registered some achievements. Women acquired skills through training which has empowered them to translate NAADS knowledge on their own. And working in groups has strengthened their relationships and sharing of ideas. These are some of the areas where the benefits of NAADS were realized.

Special consideration of women in all aspects needs to be taken care of. Service providers need to promote women participation in identifying their own needs and implementing their own solution, women should be allowed to make decisions on which enterprises to select, there should be functional adult literacy to enable women read and write basic records on their farm activities, In addition, women should be given responsibility at all levels say farmer fora, parish and group levels. Unless women are considered important contributors 'on ground' in NAADS programme implementation, their position will never change.

## **CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 Background to the study**

It is worth-noting that women contribute 70-80% of the total agricultural labour force, providing 60-80% of food for domestic consumption and surplus for sale to both local and export markets. Besides the women market 64% of this food and do in this way contribute significantly to the cash economy Throughout the world, women are engaged in a range of productive activities essential to household welfare, agricultural productivity, and economic growth (Olawoye, Samanta, and Jiggins 1994). Women play important roles in rural economies throughout Latin America, the Carribean and the world over. Research indicates that women are also most active in the small-farm sector and on high technology export oriented farms. Women also comprise a large proportion of the labour employed in non-traditional agriculture exports than men (Kleysen and Truitt, 1996). In Central America, women comprise of at least more than 50% of the workforce in the agricultural sector and spend average of four hours a day on agricultural activities (Chiriboga 1995). Unfortunately, however, the situation seems to be that women farmers neither receive social support they needed to perform these critical roles nor receive due rewards from their contributions. They have been conveniently side-stepped by most capacity building programmes, including the agricultural advisory service delivery (GOU 1993, FAO 1992).

Studies being carried in other parts of the world reveal that, although women grow half of the world's food, 95% agricultural extension services worldwide are directed at men (Dunn 1995 and FAO 1989 reports). The survey found out that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, an average of only 5% of extension services are directed to programmes for women farmers (FAO, 1993 and UNDP, 1991).

The history of extension approach in Uganda has been six phases. Extension service through the chiefs (1920-1956); the progressive farmer period(1957-1963); the extension education phase (1964-1971); the non-directional phase (1972-1979); the recovery phase (1980-1991); the unified service and Training and Visiting (1991-2000), which emphasized regular scheduled farmer training and visits to ascertain the contact farmers adopt package disseminated (AHI 1997, Semana 1998 and Friis-Hansen 2002). The various enumerated agricultural extension service failed to effectively to deliver the necessary agricultural services to the poor farmers thus, the introduction of NAADS in 2001 to date.

In the 1990s several reforms were introduced including liberalization, privatization and decentralization of the economy. In 1997, the Government of Uganda designed poverty reduction policies in the framework of liberalization, and developed the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), (1997). This has been described as a holistic framework for eradication of poverty in the country. Consequently, the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) (2000), which aims at transforming subsistence agriculture to commercialized agriculture was developed and is being implemented. The PMA is directly designed to transform agriculture from the predominantly subsistence to commercial farming. The PMA also aims at overcoming the key factors undermining agricultural productivity, namely: poor animal husbandry, low use of improved inputs, communication and marketing infrastructure, and precarious land tenure rights. Based on these needs, five programmes were identified for development and implementation under the PMA, principal amongst which is the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) programme.

National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) is a new programme under Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries created under Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) as one of the governments efforts to reduce poverty and food insecurity. NAADS was created by an Act of Parliament (NAADS Act 2001) and is considered to be part of the Agricultural Sector Reforms (NAADS, 2000a) The Act establishes and regulates the operations of NAADS as an institution. NAADS being one of the five core programmes under PMA is charged with the task of commercializing the agricultural sector. The PMA envisions that NAADS will be “ a decentralized, farmer owned and private sector service extension system” (NAADS, 2000). The rationale for NAADS is the failure of the traditional extension approaches to bring about greater productivity and expansion of agricultural services to farmers, despite costly government interventions. The fundamental aim of the NAADS programme is to develop demand- driven, client oriented and farmer-led agricultural service delivery system particular targeting the poor subsistence farmers but with emphasis on women, youth and Persons With Disabilities (PWD) (MAAIF 2000a; 2000b).

The implementation of NAADS programme begun in 2001 and is in the seventh (7) year of its operation. In its first year, NAADS programme started in six ‘trial blazing’ districts of Arua, Kabale, Mukono, Soroti, Kibale and Tororo in four sub-counties each. In July 2002, additional five sub-counties were taken on board in each of these districts along with 76 sub-counties in 10 new districts Bushenyi, Busia, Iganga, Kabarole, Kapchorwa, Kitgum, Luwero, Mbarara, Wakiso and Lino (NAADS, 2003).

Currently the programme covers 64 districts (71% of the districts including new ones) and 532 sub-counties (NAADS, 20007). (New vision, September 8, 2007)

In Arua district NAADS started in four sub-counties namely: Lobule, Manibe, Kijomoro and Offaka. Currently NAADS is being implemented in 17 sub-counties, Oleba, Olivu, Ayivu, Omogo, Tara, Odupi, Uleppi, Pajulu, Adumi, Oluko, Arivu, Rigbo, Ogoko, Logiri, Vurra, Bileafe, Kijomoro, Manibe, Offaka.

Currently there are 38 NAADS farmer group in Vurra sub-county out of which 6 are women farmer groups.

Several researches have been done on gender and NAADS have been conducted in Mukono district (PMA Gender and Poverty Subcommittee, October 2004). However, such studies did not examine the various areas of women participation (implementation and decision-making) in NAADS activities in Arua Vurra in particular, the challenges women face in participating in NAADS, the benefits of women participation in NAADS, and the benefits of their participation in NAADS hence the need to have such a study in Arua and Vurra sub-county in particular.

### **1.1 Problem statement**

It is said that women constitute the biggest number in agriculture. This information is too general in that, it only talks about participation without considering whether women are engaged in various activities like, planning, implementation, decision-making and management of NAADS. Although participation in general terms was known, but the challenges facing women in Vurra Sub-county were not known and without them being known, interventions to reduce them can not be designed scientifically. The focus of this study was to assess the participation level in various activities, assess the challenges and benefits to their participation in NAADS programme.

## **1.2 Objectives of the study**

### **1.2.1 General objective**

To examine women participation in NAADS programme in Vurra sub-county Arua district.

### **1.2.2 Specific objectives**

1. To understand women participation in decision-making process of NAADS, the type of decisions women make and whether their ideas are taken into consideration in the planning process.
2. To explore women participation in the implementation of decisions of NAADS programme.
3. To examine women participation in agricultural advisory services and the factors that determine their access to agricultural services in Vurra.
4. To discover whether women have benefited from the activities of NAADS.

## **1.3 Scope of the study**

The study was only limited to Vurra sub-county Arua district from the period of 2001-2007.

Why i chose Vurra was because it was one of the areas where NAADS activities was doing well.

The scope of the study is only limited to participation of women in NAADS programme, women access and factors that determine participating in agricultural services, women participation in decision-making and implementation process in NAADS, the benefits they get from participating in NAADS .

The study was only limited to Vurra sub-county Arua district. Respondents in the study were women farmers and some few men peasant farmers who are in NAADS groups, district and sub-county NAADS coordinators, and service providers

#### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The study may provide information to Arua district on how NAADS as a government initiative to improve agricultural production has changed the lives of women. The rural people may understand their position, rights, expectations and benefits in the implementation and management of NAADS programme.

The study will help NAADS to design gender responsive programmes like, programme for agricultural education, marketing and processing.

Other researchers and academicians may add on knowledge about women participation in NAADS and try to understand the gaps that exist between policy, research and practice.

#### **1.5 Definition of key concepts**

**Advisory services:** The provision of guidance for farmer groups with regard to the operation and management of their farming enterprises.

**Traditional extension:** also called conventional extension service means services funded by the government, delivered by government employees.

**Farmer group:** a group of individual farmers or an association with a common farming interest.

**Participation:** taking part in any activity of farmer groups. Extent of participation refers to the range of activities an individual participates in. Nature of participation refers to typology of participation and roles played.

**Advisory service provider:** a person or body contracted to provide advisory services.

**Implementation:** In the context of this research is actual participation in the activities of NAADS programme.

**Market oriented :** Production that is guided by market demands.

**Farming as a business :** Approaching farming as business and not just as a way of life.

## **CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.0 Introduction**

The literature reviewed below briefly gave information on the various areas of women participation like decision-making and implementation process in NAADS activities, access and factors that determined their participating in agricultural services and benefits of their participation in NAADS programme under their different themes.

### **2.1 Women participation in decision-making process of NAADS.**

Decision-making in this study refers to the authority women have to decide on the type of enterprise, service provided, market, farm operations and the use of resources. Participation in decision-making as a major goal in community development strategy has proved to be the most difficult goal to attain. Participation by women has rarely been accomplished in the implementation of community project. It is important to note that decision-making also affect the benefit and participation in agricultural advisory services. The main issue here will be to investigate whether women farmers' make decisions on land use and the enterprises they want to engage in.

Women often operate within a cultural context that under values women's opinions and contributions to public discussions. Participation in bureaucratic structures by women unless it addresses these, rather than intractable and often unrecognized assumptions can do little to alter the gendered context in which participation occurs (Mayoux, 1995). Poor people are left out of discussions and women with their lack of skills are left outside the loop. Therefore, there is need to investigate whether women actually participate in decision- making and whether their decisions are considered in the planning process of NAADS.

The challenge is to think in new ways about participation for women and use theoretical tools to help design new methods and techniques that will enhance both women's ability to fully participate in development and their capacity to transform cultural and material practices that contribute to gender inequalities (Parpat, 1990).

The increased presence of women in decision-making has shaped policy. According to Tanzarn (2003) cited in the World Bank (2004), as a result of participation in decision –making , a gender

sensitive constitution (1995) was formulated, a relatively progressive Land Act (2001) was enacted, and gender is recognized as significant to poverty eradication WB (2004). The increasing focus on women in the 2003/2004 PEAP revision on the associated policy analytical work according to Mukasa *et al.* (2004) enabled important progress to be registered. This has brought the voices of the poor women into formulation of policies for poverty eradication in decision-making say at implementation and administrative positions, enterprise selection and even in making. Does increased presence of women mean actual participation? And in any case this is a contradiction to the above literature which says that management position is still a male domain. Therefore, there is need for finding out the truth.

For Brush, Merrill-Sands *et al.*, (1995), despite the high proportion of women scientists in the Philippines, they are severely under-represented in the senior scientific and management positions, which remains the men's domain and is an indication that decision-making process is also entirely for men. This has a critical effect, since agricultural research in the Philippines, and throughout the world for that matter has a very top-down hierarchy (Brush, Merrill-Sands *et al* 1995). And if the top-down male dominated research paradigm is not addressed, then women senior scientists or management position will still have the restrictions. Therefore, despite the number, Filipino women scientists have limited influence on research agenda.. However, this study was done in Philippines and little is yet known about Ugandan context, therefore this study will be done to assess the situation of Ugandan women.

It was further noted by World Bank (2004) that the dynamics in decision-making and their impact on outcomes are complex in Uganda, and this requires further analysis. This study, will therefore analyze women participation on decision-making in advisory services.

## **2.2 Women participation in implementation of decision of NAADS.**

Studies done in Nigeria by Ejairu, (1998) indicate that, women participation during project initiation is very low. That the initiative to embark on any project is generally only taken by a few people. Besides, at this stage, most project participants might not have made their minds and people can be skeptical and refuse to take risks in an unknown venture. However, it is possible to increase participation at this level by exposing the philosophy and benefits of projects to

participants (Ejairu, 1998). This was a study done in Nigeria and what is in Uganda and Vurra in particular might be different, this study will therefore, find out what is on ground.

Ejairu, (1998), in his study indicates that during planning and implementation stages, women participation in self-help project is very high. It is assumed that at this stage, participants would have adequately assessed the project in question and the possible benefits derived from it, hence the observed high level of participation. Yet in a related study done by Kebirungi, (2004), it was said that women participation in planning is very low. Therefore this study will be done to bridge the gap between these two divergent views.

Women must be integrated in development projects and plans and have a say in policy design and implementation (Parpart, 2000). Unless women are involved in project planning and designs, development policies will continue to undermine women's status in the third world.

Taking women into consideration when initiating and planning empowerment programmes is a crucial issue if it is taken into account that women are closer to the environment than men. Sustainability of development depends on the sustainable use of the environment; hence women's role remains important in development. Women are involved in various ways within natural resources and agriculture. Therefore, women's role will remain important in development strategies unless their needs and demands are met.

Having realized that implementation of most projects is now based on the self reliance approach especially at the local community levels, with the prospective beneficiaries becoming more involved in planning, operation and maintenance of new facilities, are women actually participating in the implementation of NAADS enterprises decided? This is what the study will explore. Women participation should be emphasized in order to ensure acceptance and sustainability of the system because they are the target. Women's active participation should rather be searched for because as domestic managers, they are said to have the knowledge and skills which they can use. For these reason their expertise and experience can effectively be used in the implementation and planning of projects.

According to Valentine (1995), in Africa, large numbers of women are involved in agriculture. Estimated range from 70%-80% of the total population of African women being involved in one

form or another in agriculture. Valentine (1995) goes a head to say that though the field work is escalating, the number of women involved in management and administrative capacities related to agriculture has not yet increased in similar proportions. Does high involvement of women in agriculture mean actual implementation of decisions made by them? There is need to find out what is on ground.

## **2.3 Women participation in agricultural advisory services and the factors that determine their access.**

### **2.3.1 Access to information**

In Latin America, Information and knowledge are essential components for improving access to agricultural advisory services and productivity to farmers (World Bank 1992). In most cases female rural producers are usually in great need of information, knowledge and skills to improve decision-making, increase productivity and to survive under new market condition which comes as a result of market-orientation. Appropriate technology and information in agricultural program however is not accessible to female farmers because of inappropriate delivery of services. Less than 10% of women have access to advisory services, improved seedlings, fertilizers, and training (FAO 1996). This was a study done on Latin America but the situation in Uganda may not be far from reality. There is need to find out how women in Uganda obtain information on NAADS.

NAADS has employed radios as one of the key channels for communicating NAADS message. Based on an annual assessment by an independent media communication company in Uganda (Steady mans Marketing and Media Research Group), NAADS has identified 15fm radio to work across the country. There were radios chosen to the basis of regional distribution, listener ship by NAADS target audience, cost, use of local languages and capacity to run an agricultural education programme. The 15 radios represent about 85% of the total listener ship in the country while the rest of the FM radios 92% under audience Oryokot, (2003). Much as this channel for

communication was in place, it did not consider the fact that women and men have different preferences. More so, most women in the rural areas do not own radios and in a situation where they own or had access to radios, it was controlled by men and men determine what women could or could not listen to on the radio and some times even moved with the radio away from home.

The use of mass media (radio, television) in dissemination of agricultural information may not be effective in increasing the general awareness and intervention in new ideas about agricultural technology. According to Oryokot, (2003), the media is increasingly becoming a source of advisory information for farmers in many LDCs. Although well designed advisory service message on radio can be transmitted at low cost, the effectiveness of radio programmes may be limited due to low coverage in many third world countries. In Cameroon Manyeh (1991) found that women farmers in Cameroon appreciated agricultural message aired over the radio. On the contrary in Saito (1990), in China, women questioned agricultural information discussed over the radio. Although this was experience from other countries not Uganda, this is an indication that radios are not potential avenues for getting agricultural advisory services. The study sought to find out what was actually on ground.

The above discussion suggests that media can not play a key role in communicating critical agricultural advisory service information. That gender differences particularly at household levels need to be addressed. However, in Uganda, there is generally insufficient information on how mass media sources of agricultural information have been utilized in particular from a gender perspective. This study, therefore, explored the challenges women face in accessing information pertaining NAADS programme.

Gittinger (1990) observed that agricultural advisory services in many African countries still design their programmes as if all farmers were only males for example in Zambia. This is because of the

eroded belief that men are the main decision makers in agricultural production, as evidenced by the fact that advisory services are overwhelmingly staffed by men. As a result, male agricultural extensionists tend to provide productive information to male farmers because of society's attitude and gender biases. What is not clear is whether men pass on agricultural information to their wives whenever they need it hence the need for this study.

Women in Uganda have less contact with advisory services information than men (AUPWAE, 2000). When one reflects on delivery of services since the middle of 20<sup>th</sup> century (Semana et al., 1997), there is no targeting of women at all. In addition to women not being adequately targeted, the advisory messages also tend not to address the unique workload, responsibilities and constraints of women farmers (AEP, 1992,; MAAIF, 1997). Therefore there was need to find out whether women's time fit well with NAADS programme activities because they are the first target.

Further more, Balit (1996) added on that communication can be used to increase participation, provide information for change and innovation and help in sharing of knowledge and skills. However, there has been little research done on women's information needs and access to appropriate information in agriculture Huyer (1970). This is because 'information high way' is still predominantly male-oriented, and often a forum for gender discrimination, intimidation and even harassment.

### **2.3.2 Access to land**

In Uganda, land is the most important physical asset for the poor. Most land is acquired through inheritance rather than purchase (Kwesiga, 1998). Land titles and tenure tend to be vested to men either by legal conditions or by social cultural norms (World Bank, 1993). Women are less likely to hold title, secure tenure or dispose off land. In Uganda, women headed households have less access to land (Appleton 1996) cited in Tripp A.m and Kwesiga, J (2002 ) and about 8% women in Uganda have lease hold and 7% own land (MGLSD 1999). This literature did not tell us whether it was the ability to control land that determined women participation. The study set out to find what was on ground.

In most African countries the legal system and traditional practices give ownership and control of land to men. Women's access to land is mostly through their husbands, sons, or male relatives. This concurs with Dodge (1990) view that property, particularly land is passed through male line and, in most cases land has never been owned by women. Concurring with his view, it was noted that usually land use rights were passed on from father to son (ILO, 1984), women did not have the right to own or inherit land. Both households and governments give priority to cash crops. The best land is used to produce these crops, leaving only the poorest land to women for subsistence food crops. Thus mechanization and cash crop production have increasingly marginalized food crop and in turn, the status of women (Saito et al, .1990). Does access to land affect the choice of enterprises made by women?

Lack of security of tenure and their low levels of participation and control over economic activities mean that choices about the crops to grow and how to use any income from their sale remain the

preserve of men. Together with low levels of agricultural advisory training for women farmers, this issue is central to Uganda Strategic Export Initiative (GOU, 2003b).

The above literature does not give information on whether women get other alternatives like hiring or borrowing land for producing what they want and in any case if they borrow is it sustainable.

Baxter (1986) found out that in Zimbabwe, the ownership structures and social relations or production, limited women farmers' access to resources and this affected the extent to which they adopted agricultural advisory messages. Similarly, Heyzer (1981) pointed out that ownership of self-controlled plots for women resulted in higher incentives to produce for the market. In her analysis of the effect of individualized land tenure system on the women's position in the Luo community, Okeyo in Stamp (1990) indicates that the resulting uncertainty and insecurity on women's insufficient rights to land may lead women to reject advisory information. Leach et al. (1995) also indicates that access to and control of land has implication for land management initiative.

On the other hand, Lasteria (1988) concluded that women farm as successful as men, even with less access to productive resources. Lasteria's study seems to contradict the view that differential access to resources affects men and women farmers' participation in agricultural advisory services. Nevertheless there was need for specific, relevant and updated studies to be conducted in order to have an understanding of the different views stated above.

Further more, as Leckie (1991) indicates, women are diverse group. Evans (1989) also points out that men and women's access to resources is dependant on their relative position within the

household, among other factors. Hence, this study did not treat women as a homogeneous group even, if gender, they constitute a special category with respect to access to resources, land in particular. This study will endeavor to establish how access to land is affecting the various agricultural activities of women.

Where land registration had taken place, women were not commonly registered as owners, and their rights were not noted on the title. This was in agreement with the findings of District Land Management Offices in 2000, where only about 6 percent(%) applications were from women (Government of Uganda 2003a). Under the Systematic Demarcation Project (a pilot for first-time registration of customary land at the at the parish level), more than 95 percent of registration were registered in the name of men.

### **2.3.3 Access to education**

Two thirds of the 880 million people in the world are women and girls. Approximately 62% of women are illiterate. Female literacy rates are substantially lower in rural areas than urban areas. Many world's illiterate women live in the rural areas of developing countries particularly in Africa, the Arab states and East and South Asia where illiteracy rate for women is 60%. More than 110 million children, almost two-thirds of the girls in developing countries have no access to primary education. Yet education is the key to empowerment (Kebirungi, 2005).

As in other parts of Africa, Asia and Middle East, women in Uganda are also at a disadvantaged position in education. In Uganda women lag behind men in terms of education and income (MAAIF, 2000b). Approximately 43% of rural women are functionally illiterate compared to men (World Bank, 1993). The major barriers to women participation in development issues is due to

low levels of education (World Bank,1995).Women's education hampers their access and ability to understand technical information or even recognize and make use of the available opportunity. The literature does not tell us how women cope up with NAADS programme since they are illiterate and have the biggest number in agricultural production.

Various studies have indicated that level of education is a key factor in farmers access to agricultural information. Ti Chener *et al.*, (1980) found that level of education influences flow of information in a social system. Khalil (1994) observed that education influenced women farmers' role in farm decision making and that those women with little education registered relatively low decision-making and participation in agricultural programme. Khalil (1994), concluded that illiteracy poses a big constraint to women participation in rural development programme.

Saito *et al.*, (1990), states that entry into activities that provide higher return depend on dissemination of information about such opportunities and on well-functioning labour and capital – markets. One of the main source of information is formal education. There is evidence that better educated farmers are more likely to enter into export agriculture because education appears to increase the ability and willingness to reallocate resource efficiently when or technology change. In rural Africa, because women have significantly less education than men and contribute the majority of agricultural labour, this education inhibits the pace of development and needs to be addressed.

It appears that limited access to agricultural advisory services by farmers of low education seem to be reinforced when the farmer is a woman. On the basis of the above findings, the question that

may arise here is, what dynamics are at play when the farmer with low education is a woman? This is an important issue taking into consideration that in Uganda the majority of women are illiterate. The knowledge from such a study, besides complementing other findings would provide appropriate tool for interventions on the issue of gender inequalities in accessing agricultural advisory service information in Uganda.

#### **2.4.0 Benefits of women participation in NAADS programme**

##### **2.4.1 Enterprise selection**

According to conclusions made by Berhane-Selassie (1991), Snyder (2000), Dicks and Bogale (1995) women involvement in enterprise selection has raised household economy as well as the economies of countries like Uganda who have earned foreign exchange. Gary and Anderson supplement, new enterprises can help diversify the agricultural sector by encouraging new types of business, introducing new commodities, or increasing competition and can enhance an enterprise culture. Does it mean if women are involved in enterprise selection, household economies will automatically rise? There was need to know whether women had control over the cash realized from the enterprise.

In her interviews, Kenaherwe-Obbo (2002) found out that women's enterprises were rewarding since they sold off their produce and acquired high incomes, this acted as a motivating factor to start other enterprises. She also noted that the availability of community –based groups particularly for women played key roles in teaching women for example to grow vegetables have led to the success of women enterprises.

Did it therefore imply that if women formed their own groups outside the advisory service programme then enterprise development for women would be a success?

Sahley, (1995) and NAADS (2003) points that enterprise development is driven by the presence and demand of a market. Obbo-Kinaheirwe's (2002) research findings states that most families in Sheema County started up enterprises mainly for home consumption and only surplus was sold off. Therefore are the differences among their findings only geographical or do they pertain to the reasons as to why the enterprises were selected in the first place.

Sengooba, (1996), says this alone is not enough; promoting gender equality in enterprise development needs to start up with gender sensitive team of planners who will prioritize enterprises bearing all people's needs in mind. Pichard (1995) concurs with her view and states that development specialists need to listen to women farmers not in response to a proposed project but a vision of empowered leaders and equal partners with men engaged in the process of economic and social development. How does NAADS aim to achieve this sort of equity among those engaged in enterprise development.

According to Gary and Anderson in [http:// Inweb18.worldbank.org](http://Inweb18.worldbank.org) and Nabuguzi (1990), agribusiness development projects aim to promote sustainable, profitable enterprises, engaged in agricultural input supply, production services, marketing and process of agricultural products. Success of the above entail support for each individual enterprise.

Despite the successful nature of women's enterprises, men market and control cash. This was a contradiction to Buvinic, and Mehra (1995); observation that women's enterprise have not been successful due to the fact that they have less access to modern agricultural inputs. NGOs have gone a head to advise women to start new enterprises like horticulture, which they can market directly

and control cash as noted by Ssemogerere Germina (1996). Does NAADS offer advice to women to select enterprises that will not be of interest to men so that they are capable of controlling the enterprise from implementation stage?

Mayoux (1995) states that micro-enterprise development for women as well as for men is generally premised on the assumption that the small- scale sector is both viable and desirable. Despite different emphasis in the two approaches, in practice the predominant strategies are essentially micro-level and “incremental” aiming to increase the number of enterprises and profits rather than directly addressing issues of inequality in access to resources. Any micro- enterprise development for poor women is therefore likely inevitably to be constrained by wider class and gender inequalities.

#### **2.4.2 Acquisition of skills**

Training in knowledge and skills vital for the day-day management of the group and its project activities has been attained. More so, it has provided training in group dynamics, leadership skills, project proposal writing, community projects management, group fund mobilization, savings and record keeping Ilukor, V (2003) cited in Agriculture Sector Programme Support bulletin June (2003). This literature does not reveal to us whether those who receive the training can manage their own projects without advice from service providers.

While women play an important and ever increasing role in rural economies throughout Latin America and Caribbean, most agricultural extension services are directed at programmes for men (Truitt 1996).Agricultural extension strategies traditionally have focused on increasing production of cash crops by men with training, information, and access to inputs and advisory services. The male bias in farmer training centers has been established to provide residential training on technical subjects. Most of the training does not provide separate washing and sleeping accommodation for men and women. Women are not even provided with facilities for the care of babies or young children, factors that may prevent women from attending trainings. In addition, women’s reproductive roles do not usually allow them to be absent from home for residential

training, even attending short courses may cause inseparable problems in arranging substitute care for children or home. In a situation where attendance of women is quite high, as a proportion of the total, women are given instructions mainly in home economics and craft subjects, not technical agriculture ( Staudt 1973). This was in contradiction with what was earlier said by (Hukor, 2003) which the study set out to investigate.

The introduction of training and visit system emphasized the selection of contact farmers as a mechanism for passing on information to the other farmers in their area. The recommended selection criteria, such as title to land, literacy as well as male extension staff's assumption about women's role in farming, have largely excluded women's involvement (Kebirungi, 2005).

## **2.5 Theoretical Framework**

There are several theories that are used in Public Administration and Management. They attempt to explain issues involved in management, policies and practices of organizations. In this study, I gave one theory (Liberal feminism) by stating the assumptions and gave what is actually on ground in my own view.

Liberal feminism is rooted in the tradition of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century liberal philosophy, which focused on the ideas of equality and liberty Wollstonecraft, (1792). Western feminist theorist, Mary Wollstonecraft argued, that women's capacity to reason was equal to that of men and that biological sex differences were irrelevant in granting any rights (Wollstonecraft 1792). She argued that the reason women appeared to be intellectually inferior was due to their inferior education and therefore, was a result of inequality, rather than justification for it.

Liberal feminist see women subordination as resulting from gendered norms, rather than biological sex, and aim to change these norms. Liberal feminists focus on equal opportunity for men and women in education and all sphere of life. That the same education as provided to a man will allow a woman to assume responsibility for her own development and growth. But unless society provides equal education with the same civil liberties and economic opportunities a man has, she will exercise her hard won autonomy only within the private, or domestic realm.

These feminists are also concerned with ensuring that laws and policies do not discriminate against women. Liberal feminists are looking forward to removal of barriers that prevent women operating effectively in public spheres on equal terms with men. Despite the fact that several policies on affirmative action are in place, women are still lagging behind in all aspects. In NAADS though women are the target, they do not own land on which production takes place, do not control cash realized from their labour and very few women are in management position .

## **2.6 Conclusion from literature review**

According to the review above, there seem to be contradictions, agreements, arguments and disagreements in regard to women participation in NAADS.

It can also be said that women participation is central in agricultural advisory services. It also indicates that agricultural farmers and agricultural settings are diverse. It can be said that even if other factors like land, education, information among others are important in determining farmers participation in NAADS, women participation is a very important factor. Though there are common patterns that are usually to the disadvantage of women, research had to be carried out to assess and examine women participation in NAADS programme. The research had to assess whether women had taken part in the implementation, decision making in NAADS programme activities. The study also examined women access and factors that determine their participating and the benefits of their participation in NAADS programme.

## **CHAPTER THREE METHODOLOGY**

### **3.0 Introduction**

The study presents the methodology in terms of research design, study area, study population, sample size, sampling procedure, data collection and data analysis. The following instruments were used; interviews, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and observation.

### **3.1 Research design**

The study employed a case-study research design as a qualitative analysis that involved careful and in-depth investigation of a particular unit or event under study for purposes of generalization. This design was chosen in order to provide information on this particular study and also have in-depth study in the area under investigation (Vurra sub-county). The design was appropriate for qualitative studies of this nature which sought to investigate deeply into the phenomenon under study. This design was used to establish the areas of women participation, their access and factors that determine access and benefits they got in participating in NAADS.

### **3.2 Area of study**

The research was done in Vurra-sub-county Arua district and it was purposively selected because it was one of the first seven trial blazing districts in 2002 for NAADS program (NAADS 2002/2003). Vurra sub-county is located 10km south from Arua town towards the border of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). With a population of 31,872 of which 14, 934 were males and 16,938 were females (UBOS Census Report 2002). In vurra, 54% of the females were illiterate while males are 23%. Of which 46% literate female, 9% obtain 'O' level, 2% higher education and 0.5% post secondary education while of the male 77%, 19% attain 'O' level, 4% higher education and 1% post secondary education (ASEC, 2000). Women from age 20-75 were selected.

At sub-counties there were sub-county NAADS coordinators who were responsible for the implementation of NAADS program, sub-county farmer foras and farmer groups at grass routes.

Farmer fora are the main institutional structure for increasing participation at individual and household level in NAADS process (NAADS Act 2001).

### **3.3 Study population**

The following categories of people were interviewed. The district and sub-county NAADS coordinators, service providers, women farmer groups and mixed (men and women) groups who are the beneficiaries of NAADS programme for 2001-2007 in Vurra sub-county. The mixed farmer groups were selected through stratified random sampling. There were about 38 farmer groups of which 6 groups were purely for women.

### **3.4 Sample size**

There were 54 respondents, 4 key informants, 30 females and 20 males were interviewed, 6 (3 mixed groups and 3 female group) focused group discussions were held. The 50 respondents were selected through stratified random sampling.

### **3.5 Sample selection**

Purposive sampling was used to select the key informants. These included the district NAADS coordinator, sub-county NAADS coordinator, service providers. This was because of the nature of the research. The research sought to interview people who had knowledge about the issue under study, thus the use of purposive sampling. Two service providers were purposively selected from the list of those that had at least implemented one technical agricultural advisory service contract under NAADS system at the time of selection. To get farmer groups, a list of parishes were provided by the NAADS Coordinator from the Sub-county and six parishes were randomly selected from it. The parishes were selected because they had dominated in production of enterprises like groundnuts, apiary, piggery and vegetables, which were the priority enterprises of NAADS, Stratified random sampling was used to select the farmer groups. The selection process for farmer groups considered group membership (with respect to sex and age )to select the most differing groups in the Sub-county. Three women farmer groups and three mixed farmer groups

were selected. However, utmost care was taken to ensure that those who were selected in the sample both resided in Vurra and were beneficiaries of NAADS in the same area. The number was largely dictated by the available resources but was considered adequate to capture the existing group variability. To get respondents for Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), the researcher used interval sampling where by during individual interviews the researcher skipped two respondents and informed the third respondent to convene for a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in a particular place later.

### **3.6 Data collection instruments**

The research used qualitative methods of data collection. Qualitative in a way that it gave respondents the opportunity to give information on women participation in NAADS. The following techniques were used; interviews, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), documentary analysis and observation as the main methods for data collection. The selection of these methods has been guided by the nature of research and data needed. Triangulation helped to reduce errors which could be made when a single method was used Reinharz (1992).

#### **3.6.1 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)**

Data from farmer groups was collected through focus group discussions. During the discussions, the researcher was the moderator. In the discussions the dominating members were regulated while the shy ones were encouraged to put across their views. Focus group discussions with the farmer groups was conducted in the local language (lugbara). During the focus group discussions, the researcher wrote key words in a note book for use in writing detailed notes after the discussions. To ensure that the information from FGDs was not forgotten or distorted, the researcher used to hold one FGD per day and the immediately there after wrote down the detailed notes. Narration of personal experiences were recorded verbatim. The instrument was considered favorable for the study because it enabled the researcher to reach a large number of respondents within the shortest

time possible and at a low cost. A total of 6 focus group discussions were conducted (3 mixed and 3 female).

### **3.6.2 Interviews**

Interview guides were used to obtain information from key informants and farmers. Face-to-face discussions were conducted in English with the district, sub-county NAADS coordinators and service providers. This allowed for flexibility in asking some of the questions Bailey (1994). The discussion with the district coordinator was to get general information about NAADS in the district. Those with the sub-county coordinator aimed at following some of the issues that were arising from the FGDs with the farmer groups. These key informants were selected because they were implementers of NAADS programme and are believed to possess some information on women participation in NAADS programme activities. Interview guides were also used for farmers to obtain information on their access and factors that determine participating in NAADS programme.

### **3.6.3 Observation**

Observation guide was used for assessing women participation in expression of their views in the presence of men, all observable aspects like the benefits, farming activities (type of enterprises) relevant to the study. The method approached reality in its natural setting.

### **3.6.4 Documentary sources**

Documentary review used for content analysis. Some data was collected using secondary sources like NAADS workshop reports, NAADS Policy documents, Unpublished and published books, NAADS guidelines brochures, and other relevant literature to the topic under investigation..

### **3.7 Procedure**

In the process of carrying out research, an introductory letter was obtained from department of Political Science and Public Administration. It was important to notify the district authorities in the study area about the objectives of the study in order to secure clearance from them .The authorities included the District NAADS coordinator, sub-county NAADS coordinator, sub-county chief, parish chiefs and LC leaders and the targeted respondents. This was certainly geared at getting consent to access important documents and reports as well as letting their personnel have interviews with the researcher. With the help of the sub-county NAADS coordinator, the researcher proceeded to the parishes and villages which were selected. Then the researcher identified the groups with the help of LC I and farmer group chairperson. A list of farmer groups and farmers in each parish were produced together with the enterprises they under took. For Focus Group Discussions, six (6) farmer groups were selected using stratified random sampling. Selection of members for Focus Group Discussions considered membership with respect to sex, age .To get farmers for the interview, a list of farmer group members was obtained from the chairpersons and individual respondents were then selected. During the interview face-face discussions were done by the researcher. The researcher made observations on how women express themselves in the presence of men, the enterprises they participated in. The documentary review helped to compare what was read earlier and what was actually on ground. The selection process for farmers considered group membership (with respect to sex), and age for the six widely differing groups in the sub-county.

### **3.8 Data analysis**

Both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection were used. However, their was minimal use of quantitative method only limited to categorized variables.

Qualitative method of data analysis was majorly used. Editing, coding, descriptions were used where necessary and narration of personal experiences were recorded verbatim while the rest of the information was reduced, clustered and defining words were used thematically from which conclusions were drawn. This technique allowed the researcher to categorize data according to the study objectives and research questions.

### **3.9 Limitations of the study**

The study carried out in a short time to generate conclusions based on the whole NAADS programme implementation in one sub-county.

The researcher made several visits to the district NAADS coordinator to get permission because she was too busy. Nevertheless the study was finally done though the researcher was delayed.

Many respondents asked the researcher for logistics because to them anything associated with research had to do with money and government.

Nevertheless, the limitations mentioned above did not render the study worthless. The respondents were convinced that the study was purely academic but not associated with money. Attempts were made to get data from many respondents as possible, written sources, documentary reviews and observations. Findings were worthwhile due to the use of qualitative instrument to carry out the study, and the advantage of different data sources, data collection methods, and the trust in the sources.

## **CHAPTER FOUR PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

### **4.0 Introduction**

The main aim of this study was to assess women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) In Vurra sub-county, Arua district, Uganda. The results of the study are presented and discussed in away that separates information about males and females (gender disaggregated). The findings indicate that farmer groups participated in enterprises like; groundnuts, chicken, apiary, cassava, goats, maize, vegetables in parishes of Pokea, Yivu, Alivu, Etori, Urugbo and Driwala of Vurra sub-county, Arua district.

### **4.1.0 Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents**

The socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents analyzed here included age, education, marital status, occupation and gender in brief. This was intended to know how the above characteristics affected women participation in NAADS programme activities as discussed below.

### **4.2.0 Female and male FGD participants**

**Picture 1 and 2 shows female and mixed FGD participants in Urugbo and Etori parishes**

**Picture 1: Urugbo parish**



**Mixed (10) FGD participants**

**Picture 2: Etori Parish**



**Female (5) FGD participants**

**4.2.0 Marital status of respondents**

**Table1: Marital status of the respondents**

Marital status	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Married	15	75	20	67
Single	4	20	4	13
Windowed	1	5	6	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

The researcher was interested in studying the marital status of respondents in the area of study. The researcher found out that majority of the participants in NAADS farmer groups were married farmers. This could be because NAADS approach encouraged mixed farmer groups of men and women though of late there are farmer groups which are purely women. Interestingly, the study found out that some women preferred to stay in separate farmer groups with their spouses. The women from female headed households and widows had access to resources like land which was contrary to what the earlier literature had said. These categories were able to translate NAADS into tangible benefits as will be discussed later. In addition, very few youths most of whom were single preferred to engage in activities that had immediate benefits and as such they were unable to

translate NAADS into tangible benefits because they had no access to critical resources in society like land.

#### 4.2.1 Age of respondents

**Table 2: Shows the age of the respondents**

Age	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
50+	3	15	2	7
40-49	4	20	4	13
30-39	6	30	10	33
20-29	5	25	11	37
Below 20	2	10	3	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

Most of the respondents interviewed in the farmer groups were between the age of (20-40) with high involvement of men in mixed groups compared to women and few youths. In this study, majority of respondents were women because the study was intended to assess their participation in NAADS programme activities on ground. More so, women constitute a larger population of labour employed in non-traditional agricultural export than men (Truitt 1996). There were more females in age group (30-50) compared to males. Although there were more males compared to females above the age of (50).

#### 4.2.2 Gender

Farmer groups in NAADS appeared to be dominated by women. Although there were many women participating in NAADS activities in mixed groups, the overall impression was that men were more active in group activities.

### 4.2.3 Occupation of respondents

**Table 3: Main occupation of respondents**

Main occupation	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Rural farmer	13	65	27	90
Self employed	5	25	2	7
Civil servant	2	10	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

The study revealed that the sample population was predominantly engaged in rural farming. Most women compared to men were rural farmers. The study findings were similar to those of Truitt, (1996) who indicated that women play important roles in rural economies in Latin America and Caribbean and the world over. In addition, women constitute a bigger number of the labour employed in non-traditional agricultural export compared to men Samanta (1994). Approximately, 80% of agricultural work in Africa is performed by women as indicated by Tadaro (1995). There were 5 males compared to 2 females engaged in self employment. In trade there were more males. Many of the farmers interviewed were happy that farming had turned into a business.

### 4.2.4 Education level of respondents

**Table 4 : Shows level of education attained by respondents**

Level of education	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Never gone to school	3	15	7	23
Primary	5	25	12	40
Ordinary	8	40	4	13
Tertiary	3	15	6	20
University	1	5	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

Most of the respondents both males and females had at least attained primary level education. This could have been partly due to the introduction of Universal Primary Education (UPE) in 1997. Surprisingly, the number of female (6) who attained tertiary level education was more than those of males (3). The few number of males in tertiary could be attributed to low turn up by males in the interviews. More so, 4 females and 8 males had attained ordinary level education. There were more females who had never gone to school at all compared to males. It could be partly attributed to cultural factors where girls were groomed only for marriage and boys sent to school because they are the future of their families. Out of the respondents interviewed, it was only the key informants who possessed university education.

#### **4.3 Women participation in decision-making process of NAADS, the type and whether their ideas are taken into consideration in planning.**

The process of decision-making according to NAADS in this study meant including farmers from group level, parish and sub-county levels for all NAADS activities from enterprise selection, choice of service provision among others as required by NAADS institutional arrangement. For instance for enterprise selection, every group selects its priorities and then forwards it to the parish for discussions. The parish meeting involves all the groups in one parish and after the parish meetings, enterprises are selected for Sub-county approval bearing in mind that farmers interests are taken into consideration. The study findings were a bit contrary to what has actually been in the policy setting and guidelines as discussed below.

**Table 5: Multiple response showing participation in type of decision-making and implementation**

	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Participation				
Selection of enterprise	15	75	6	20
Choice of service provision	3	15	2	7
Choice of group	20	100	30	100
Market for products	7	35	2	7

This was a multiple response where individuals had to give their view that was why the choice of a group to belong to was mentioned by all members as opposed to other responses. Six (6) females compared to 15 males said they had benefited from enterprise selection and 3 males compared to 2 females benefited from the choice of service provision while 2 females and 7 males benefited from getting a market for their produce.

In this study, the type of decisions in the context of this study under NAADS among others included, women involvement in decision- making regarding the choice of enterprises promoted by NAADS, choice of service provision and the choice of group to belong to.

#### **4.3.1 Decisions on enterprise selection**

It was noted that executive members were responsible for decision- making on enterprise selection but not women who are the target of the programme. Farmer fora at sub-county level was the decision- making body for activities undertaken under NAADS. However, it is the procurement/contract committee, which is responsible for final decision-making regarding the contracting process for all advisory services. Its membership is seven people, and is composed of

the sub-county forum chairperson as the chairperson, and composed of four farmer representatives. The NAADS sub-county coordinator and the sub-county chief are ex-officio members to this committee. Out of these seven committee members, there was no specific provision for women only. There is need for NAADS to revise its policies to suite the needs of its targeted population if its programme is to have impact in the lives of the vulnerable groups.

*Decisions on enterprise selection at the sub-county was in most cases carried out hurriedly and without regard to farmers preferences The sub-county farmer forum takes decisions on behalf of sub-county farmers.*  
*(A male respondent in Yivu parish ).*

The study revealed that the choice of group to belong to was determined by individuals but decision-making at enterprise selection was mostly done by men especially in mixed groups. It was believed that whatever enterprises men selected, women were automatically to support them without questioning the expected input or output. Although enterprise selection were done at farmer group levels by farmer group members, such enterprises were approved at the sub-county by farmer for a executives. There were 5 people in the executive out of which 1 was women whose decision alone can not represent the entire views of farmers. According to Mukasa (2004), increased presence of women in decision-making has enabled important progress to be registered. This was a contradiction to what NAADS programme had on ground. There is need to have more women in decision-making process of NAADS from planning up to implementation.

#### **4.3.2. Decisions on the choice of service provision**

It was further noted that women farmers were not empowered to make decisions on the selection of advisory and technology development needs of their choice. This was contrary to the NAADS

principle of empowerment, which states “voices of the majority of the farmers should be heard in decision-making and accountability at local and central government levels”. There is need for NAADS to reconsider its structures and implementation processes towards this move if women are to participate in its programme.

More so it was said that accessing service depended on demand for them backed by ability to pay. Most of the respondents reported that service providers for particular crops were unavailable and inaccessible whenever they were needed this made it hard for them to make decisions. Some reported that service providers that were very scarce were those particularly trained in livestock (veterinary officers and this made it hard for them to participate in livestock production. It was said that they were not readily available and are very expensive. Improved boar goats given to farmers have been attacked by fever and veterinary doctors have failed to diagnose and treat it, as a result, many of them have died said one of the respondents. In relation to this, Bryceson (1995) noted that Africa’s agricultural and rural development problems are related to misguided policies, weak institutions and lack of well-trained human resource. It was found that Vurra has only one veterinary officer who was to serve the whole sub-county this in turn affected the choice of enterprises selected by farmers in the areas.

In case you have a sick animal, to be able to have a veterinary officer, you must have not less than 25,000/= for home visit only without the cost of drugs. This amount is not easy to get by some of us farmers. This was a verbatim narration of one farmer in Alio village in Pokea parish. It was reported that income levels determine the type of service demanded and accessibility to these services. This was because demand driven services must be backed by the ability to pay. Women

and low income households expressed their disappointment about the choice of service and service providers.

#### **4.3.3. Decisions on the choice of market for products**

As regards decisions on the choice of markets by women, this was the most challenging component facing NAADS programme. Market linkages remained poor and smallholders especially women continued by production oriented but not market oriented. There has been lack of partnering between farmers, private sector and NAADS. Although it has been claimed that there has been some private sector/ NAADS partnerships, the scale of this was very negligible compared to NAADS coverage and the those that exist exploit farmers. More so it was revealed that that there was lack of market oriented services. Farmers were not producing for market and the general advisory services could not lead to commercialization. Advisory services must target women and must be oriented to the requirements of the market if NAADS is to succeed in its implementation.

We do not have market for what we produce. Our cabbages got spoiled in the garden. Other crops like groundnuts are taken to the central market in Arua town but again the tax is too much. At every stage you find revenue collectors. This worsens the situation because it is as if we work for those tax collectors. One is taxed several times on the way to the market.

Further more, it was found that NAADS provided information regarding high value crops and animals but then women never took part in some of them and for those who participated the, volume of the produce was still low to attract potential buyers. Quantity and quality of produce required for entering the foreign market was not yet realized. Production was low and of poor quality. For example a piglet costs 5000= Uganda shillings only where as pork has high demand in

Arua and surrounding towns. Market for food surpluses could generate cash savings for future protection against sudden reversals. As a result farmers reported spending too much on inputs but having low prices or no market for their produce simply because NAADS does not provide market for their produce.

#### **4.3.4 Whether women ideas are taken into consideration in planning process**

It was further noted that women's ideas were not considered in the planning process because they had been constrained by lack of skills in negotiation, decision-making and of getting their voices heard in the utilization and implementation of NAADS programme. It was revealed that women had been socialized to keep silent on matters regarding themselves and as wives, as far as resource utilization in NAADS farmer groups and in their own household are concerned. In addition, it was said that women lacked skills with regard to enterprise selection criteria set by NAADS secretariat. Skills particularly in the areas of marketability and profitability. As such they were not allowed to make decision. If they made, there decisions were not considered for implementation. Some farmers complained that they were coerced to take up enterprises without relating to its marketability/ or considering its capital outlay in relation to poverty levels of the constituents of the farmer groups. A farmer had this to say;

It was also reported that among the Lugbara, culture affected the decision making process of the majority female farmers. Culturally women were not expected to talk much or express their opinions especially in the presence of their husbands or in-laws. This denied young and newly married women farmer group members to fully participate in NAADS programme development activities. In addition, there was a misconception by men, that when women are empowered to participate in development activities, they would become unruly and unmanageable. Married

women were not allowed to decide on land use. This markedly limited women involvement in decision-making capacity. NAADS has to critically look into this issue if its programme is to benefit women.

*“Our sub-county farmer chairperson advised us to form groups and later on told us to pick a piglet from the sub-county. Our enterprise choice would otherwise have been groundnuts”. “Some of the enterprises are expensive to maintain and we can not afford. More so, some of the animals brought are not used to the environment and they end up dying it takes us time to give treatment for those improved breeds. This was not implemented by poor women due to lack of money”.*

*( A respondent , Etori parish)*

Findings indicate that increased presence of women in NAADS does not mean actual participation in decision-making and planning in NAADS programme. Decision-making and management are highly centralized and formalized. Yet advisory service and field work on the other hand, demands location specific, and often quick decision and action. Managing the “invisible” man or woman (Chambers, 1974) must be highly ineffective as long as he or she is expected to receive orders. If NAADS is to be effective, women should be allowed to participate in decision making at all levels.

Women often operate within a cultural context that under values women’s opinions and contributions to public discussions. This makes it difficult to take there ideas for planning process.

Participation in bureaucratic structures by women unless it addresses these, rather than intractable and often unrecognized assumptions can do little to alter the gendered context in which participation occurs (Mayoux, 1995). Poor people are left out of discussions and women with their lack of skills are left outside the loop. Therefore, there is need to investigate whether women actually participate in decision- making and whether their decisions are considered in the planning process of NAADS.

Many technical planning committees (District Development Programme/ LGDP) at village, parish and sub-county levels are mostly constituted by male folk. Where as there is need to demonstrate gender balance in staffing, all the agricultural staff in Vurra sub-county are male. Technology needs of rural women such as those that are related to clearing bush, tilting or processing are not yet affirmatively addressed because most of the staff in planning are males NAADS (2005). The researcher observed that in all NAADS programme activities in the sub-county, there was no involvement of a broad range of stakeholders in planning. Farmer's participation and gender mainstreaming were not yet common features in planning. Current approaches are therefore not yet NAADS compliant. It was stated that;

*“Farmers lack the ability /capacity to effectively plan,  
identify and prioritize agricultural development needs”  
(Key informant at the sub-county).*

This was in contradiction to Ejairu, (1998)s, study that indicated that during planning and implementation stages, women participation in self-help project is very high.

The challenge is to think in new ways about participation for women and use theoretical tools to help design new methods and techniques that will enhance both women's ability to fully participate in development and their capacity to transform cultural and material practices that contribute to gender inequalities (Parpat, 1990).

Below was the evidence to show unequal representation of women in NAADS programme activities.

**Table 6: Shows unequal representation of women in NAADS**

Representation in NAADS	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Sub-county coordinators	12	40	2	20
Sub-county farmer forum committee	2	7	1	10
Procurement committee	2	7	1	10
Service providers	10	33	4	40
Farmer groups	4	13	2	20

#### **4.3.4.1 District level**

At the district level, District Farmer Forum composed of chairpersons, Sub-county farmer forum, secretary for production LCV, District NAADS coordinators make decisions on all NAADS matters in the district. It was unfortunate that this committee was not gender sensitive since most sub-county farmer forum chairpersons were mostly men. The researcher found out that in Arua district, there were only 2 female sub-county NAADS coordinators compared to 12 males who held the positions at the sub-counties as coordinators in the sub-counties where NAADS had been implemented. The district NAADS coordinator was a woman and the sub-county coordinator where the research was carried was a man. It was revealed the unequal representation was because female coordinators did not want to leave far away from their spouses. In a situation where the offer was given, it was turned down. More so, women who were appointed did not know how to ride motorcycles. This meant that when meetings were called at the district level for final selection of enterprises, women were always under represented and in most cases those who endeavoured to

attend were not taking active part in discussions as was revealed. This showed that their views were less likely to be considered in the planning process.

The above findings are in line with Gittinger (1990)s observation that agricultural advisory services in many African countries still design their programmes as if all farmers were only males for example in Zambia. This is because of the eroded belief that men are the main decision makers in agricultural production, as evidenced by the fact that advisory services are overwhelmingly staffed by men. As a result, male agricultural extensionists tend to provide productive information to male farmers because of society's attitude and gender biases. The study findings and Gittinger's observation are an evidence that, in NAADS programme, women are under represented in the decision making process as can be seen by their number above. This was an evidence that the views of the those few could not be so much considered in the planning of NAADS activities though they are said to constitute a bigger number on papers.

The dominance of men at higher levels of farmers' organizations, whose participation was less pronounced, implied that real production problems may not be discussed to the satisfaction of the producers NAADS (2005).

#### **4.3.4.2 Farmer for a (sub-county)**

Farmer Forum Executives as stipulated by NAADS Act 2001, has been gender biased in a way that in the whole farmer forum executive committee, there are only 3 committees of which 1 was a female and 2 are males. In the procurement committee, there were 5 persons of which 3 were farmers and out of the 3 farmers, there was only 1 female and 2 males. This was evidence that most positions are taken by males in the leadership position in NAADS programme. This had an effect on planning and decision-making yet in actual sense women should have been the majority because they are the target.

Although there was an existence of male and female farmer for a that was established following the NAADS Poverty and Gender Strategy, women were not taking leadership positions to the detriment of all the traditionally excluded and powerless (women, the youth and people with disabilities). Men dominated the executive positions even where the majority of the farm group members were women. This was evident in one of the farmer groups where membership was 100% female but the vice chairperson was a man who was a husband to one of the prominent members of the group. This could have been the stereotypical assumption that men were supposed to be heads of households. Such an assumption was produced into farmer groups of NAADS programme.

#### **4.3.4.3 Farmer groups**

At this level, all group members are supposed to engage in participatory planning of selection of group enterprises for inclusion in the parish priority list but the findings indicated. Men were the sole decision-makers since they held positions of chairpersons and females took positions of vice in mixed groups. It was revealed that when such decisions were brought at sub-county levels, it was considered for planning. The male dominance led to enterprises approved for implementation in most cases benefited males own concerns. Because women were unable to participate in enterprise selection and other decision-making processes in some mixed groups, they missed out to engage in enterprises they were able to sustain and benefit from. This showed that although women dominate NAADS programme, they do not have a voice when it comes to decision-making even where there is gender balance at the farmer forum and at farmer group level.

#### **4.3.4.4 Service provision**

In the whole of Vurra sub-county, there were 14 service providers. 6 were in agricultural advisory service provision all of whom were men and 8 in farmers' institutional development. Out of 8 service providers in this category, there were only 4 women. This is a challenge to NAADS Policy makers.

#### **4.4. Women participation in the implementation of decisions of NAADS programme**

In Focus Group Discussions held, it was revealed that sound policies were formulated but failed at implementation. Problems like choice of inappropriate enterprises, lack of continuity in commitment of service providers, land shortage, non inclusion of women (target group) in planning and determination of enterprises, policies were revealed to have contributed to failure or low participation in implementation of projects. More so, lack of market oriented advisory services was reported. Many farmers were not yet producing for market which meant general advisory services could not lead to commercialization.

The researcher found out that women participation in project implementation was very low and limited to women who had access to land. Most women participated in group enterprises as opposed to individual due to lack of land. It was revealed that the initiative to embark on any new project was generally only taken by a few people. Besides, at this stage, most project or enterprises that were implemented were decided upon by farmer for a representatives, the sub-county and district coordinators regardless of the needs of individual farmers especially women. This was in agreement with studies done in Nigeria by (Ejairu, 1998). However, it was possible to increase participation at this level by exposing the philosophy and benefits of projects to participants especially women.

The Gender National Policy in line with the ECSCO, 1997/2002 is an integral part of the National development process. The policy defines structures and key target areas by ensuring that women concerns are routinely addressed in all planning activities as well as implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programme activities. The policy emphasizes the cross cutting nature of gender and seeks to integrate them in development efforts at national, district and local levels (MGLSD, 1997). In this study, it was found that NAADS programme had farmer groups where both males and females existed. Surprisingly, this policy was poorly adopted by NAADS programme. The study revealed that NAADS did not borrow a leaf from International, National and Action Plan on women Policies. Yet such policies set out the ultimate goal to achieve equal opportunities for women by empowering them to participate in, and benefit from the social, economic and political development in Uganda and beyond.

It was further noted that, although it was evident that women dominated NAADS programme farmer groups in Vurra sub-county, this did not necessarily mean equity had been achieved in areas of planning and implementation. The study revealed that, women lacked confidence to articulate their opinions or issues as stated:

*Even if the number of women in NAADS programme is overwhelming,  
it is actual participation in the direction of receiving of agricultural advisory  
service is more desirable.*

*(Key informant, at the sub-county).*

This in effect revealed that women's high representation has not translated into actual women's control over NAADS programme.

In some cases, although project design may have been gender sensitive and activities specifically aimed at addressing women constraints were included, they were not sufficiently stressed during project implementation. A common concern expressed by NGOs, based on their past experience is that fora members should be active participants in initiation of projects.

Some farmers had expected free agricultural inputs and when these were not forthcoming most of them abandoned farmer groups. This partly explained why the most farmer groups in the sub-county where the research was carried out were dominated by women who implemented the enterprises selected in groups. More so, co-financing requirements reduced the number of farmers participating in farmer groups. The farmers who were unable to pay co-funding were not allowed to participate in NAADS programme.

Although participatory planning has been spearheaded by in the district by some NGOs, and there are pilot projects, there is need to strengthen sub-county level resource planning. Incorporating women in planning will help them identify and prioritize agricultural development needs and achieve implementation of these plans.

#### **4.5. Women participation in advisory services and factors that determine their access to agricultural advisory service programme.**

##### **4.5.1 Access to information**

**Table 7: Shows ways through which women access advisory information**

Programme	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Radio announcements	5	25	2	7
Telephones	1	5	0	0
Notice board	4	20	1	3
Meetings	6	30	15	50
Fellow farmer friends	4	20	12	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

NAADS had employed radios as one of the key channels for communicating NAADS message.

It was noted that radios were not the most appropriate channels for communicating NAADS message because many people especially women could not afford to buy and own radios. More so, because of too much domestic work some radio messages pass unnoticed. The study found out that very few respondents agreed that they got agricultural information through the radio. This was an obvious mismatch and NAADS needs to inquire into it, as radio was identified as the handiest channel of communication. Women farmers in Focus Group Discussions pointed out that;

*Communication and information is a problem to us women. Sometimes meetings are scheduled when you are busy that you can not attend.*

*“Personally i am even too tired to switch to the radio” “Even if we try to listen to these programme, we can not easily conceptualize the message because we are continually interrupted during the day*

*”We prefer getting information from our fellow women.*

*(FGDs, Pokea parish).*

Lack of battery cells, which affected many respondents, appears to constrain women’s access to radio sources of information more than men. Some respondents reported battery cell even up to 4 months especially when sales of agricultural produce are at minimum. This indicated that during such moments, radios were never tuned and agricultural advisory service information passed unnoticed.

The use of mass media (radio, television) in dissemination of agricultural information was not effective in increasing the general awareness and intervention in new ideas about agricultural technology. This was in contradiction to Oryokot's (2003), study where it was said that the media was increasingly becoming a source of advisory information for farmers in many LDCs. Although well designed advisory service message on radio can be transmitted at low cost, the effectiveness of radio programmes may be limited due to low coverage in many third world countries. In Cameroon Manyeh (1991) found that women farmers in Cameroon appreciated agricultural message aired over the radio. On the contrary in Saito (1990), in China, women questioned agricultural information discussed over the radio. This was an indication that radios are not potential avenues for getting agricultural advisory services.

The above discussion suggests that media can not play a key role in communicating critical agricultural advisory service information. That gender differences particularly at household levels need to be addressed. However, in Uganda, there is generally insufficient information on how mass media sources of agricultural information have been utilized in particular from a gender perspective. This study indicated that some men who moved with their radios could not even pass information to their wives.

Further more, communication and information strategy indicated that there was an information system developed and operationalised by NAADS. NAADS had aimed to distribute translated information materials which could be well understood by farmers in their local languages on advisory service at various levels especially at district and sub-counties. In addition, it aimed at empowering rural poor farmers to seek agricultural information and communication. However, this strategy did not work out well to address farmers' needs as it was intended. The study revealed that

posters were only put at the sub-county offices and many farmers especially women would not have access to it. Very few farmers who happen to come for meetings at the sub-county would only have the chance to read these posters. More so, the fact that the information materials have not been translated into local languages denies most women from accessing information which would be helpful in the implementation of NAADS programme.

The study revealed that in Vurra sub-county, the only formal communication and information was within meetings or at farmer group levels. This information was said to be provided by community Based Facilitators (CBFs) and service providers. However, it was realized that most service providers did not do their work. Farmers complained that NAADS did not have a follow up mechanism for agricultural advisory work. The service providers taught the farmers once and never returned to them, cited in FOWODE report, (New vision, Tuesday, July, 2007). In the same report, it was also noted that some of the service providers were not residents of the areas where they operated. Some of them were sub- contracting their work to unqualified people. If NAADS is to make impact in the lives of poor people, how then does it use unqualified service providers. In the study findings, some farmers had this to say;

*“Service providers are not consistent with their work. We are not taught how to treat our pigs. Some of them are too old, we need young service providers who will not dodge us. Community based facilitators are doing better work compared to the service providers. If they (CBFs) could be facilitated the better”.*

*(FGDs , Alivu parish and Urugbo Parish).*

Suitable information and communication infrastructure like fixed telephone/fax networks, internets were lacking. At the sub-county, there was no strategy developed for collecting disaggregated data and dissemination of information to build an effective network for information flow between NAADS managers, implementers, service providers and beneficiaries. Yet an information network would be useful in guiding the different agricultural training needs for example on crops, input prices, markets, weather conditions, social services and credit facilities of female and male farmers. This would have helped in projecting future crop prices that would have enabled farmers to plan for better quantities of crops. Masias (1997), also suggested that such information network would assist in determining the types of agricultural advisory service to be provided.

A key informant stated;

*“We can not afford to access useful and relevant information from the internet. Internets provide useful information world wide which can not be got from some books and handouts. Information provided on women is lacking, this makes it hard to provide women specific advisory service information “.*

*(A key informant, service provider).*

While there were clear guidelines for information flow at National, District and Sub-county levels; at village levels no clear guidelines existed resulting into delays. The situation was made worse by lack of facilitation, to the farmer for a members and farmer group leaders, to meet the cost.

The researcher noted that farmers had valued communication and information as an important resource for enhancing agricultural production. Respondents indicated the need to develop innovative communication and information systems like establishing information methods of

sensitizing the public like through (agricultural shows, drama shows videos etc) Mattee and Lassale (1994), also indicated that such creative method would enable farmers develop their communication links with their own independent activities to build their social solidarity and networks.

Some farmers had not appreciated communication as an essential element in the process of delivery of advisory services in addressing the different needs and interests of farmers. Generally, there was a constraint of communication and information flow system thus the resultant delays in accessing and utilizing agricultural advisory service by men and women NAADS programme farmers. Some farmers had this to say:

*“We are tired of advisory information, some training have been repeated several times and we have lost interest even where there could be chances for learning new idea say for example from new trainers”*

*(A farmer in Urugbo parish).*

**4.5.2 Access to land as a factor that determines women participation in advisory services**  
**Table 8: shows land size owned by respondents**

Land size	Males		Females	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1-3 acre	17	85	7	23
Less than an acre	3	15	23	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

Findings indicate that it was the ability to control land that determined women participation in NAADS activities. This indicated that for women to be able to control land, which control was associated with security of tenure was infact a very crucial issue in their participation in NAADS.

Indeed this study has shown that access and control to land gave farmers the authority to make decisions on what type of enterprise to select. In Vurra, culturally men owned land. Women lacked full ‘user’ rights, control and ownership even when they had acquired land jointly with their husbands or even when they had met full costs of purchasing it. This meant that women were not allowed to control and make decisions on agricultural activities.

In-depth interviews gave more information regarding women farmers’ limited control over land in many male-headed households. These remarks were commonly expressed;

*“I would like to produce more groundnut for sale yet he uses most of the land for his own groundnuts and cabbage”*

This kind of view was typical where production was done for commercial purpose. However, sometimes women from poorer homes would also be denied access to land when the men were not in position to develop it. For example one woman complained,

*“He prefers to look for casual labour and rent his land. Yet i feel I could utilize more of the land to grow some crops for sale”*

Given the fact that most women did not own land, the majority of farmers produced largely for subsistence that aggravated poverty among them.

The position of women that borrowed land was appalling. These women were allocated small plots of less than half an acre. Only 7 females had land ranging from one to two acres. This scenario justified that the land size was a major constraint affecting women participation in NAADS programme activities. The women reported that they were allowed to interplant their beans after men had planted their maize crop. Since some of the women in the study sample were not able to

rent land in their own right, some of them could not practice what they learn on their own that is, have individual enterprise apart from that of the group. That meant if they left the groups, the trainings got would equally be of no use. This disqualifies the statement made in reports that majority of the participants in NAADS are women. Participation should not be in numbers but the desired outcomes or outputs. If women do not have access to their own land, how then do they become active participants when control over land is not in their hands? This is a serious issue which needs to be considered under NAADS programme.

While most farmers especially women had accessed and utilized hired land. Currently only 8% of women own land in their own right. To others the value of renting land at 40,000-50,000 per hectare per season is out of their reach .This means the present practice where most women get access to agricultural land through their spouses (without legislation or strategies to improve women's control over land which land) significantly accounts to inequalities in participating in NAADS programme.

The youth who lacked money to buy and hire land were no longer participating in the NAADS activities as stated;

*“The hired or rented land is unreliable because landlords or people who freely give us land sometimes take their land away after you have cleared for one harvest season. Those who freely give demand for a proportion of your product as their benefit. This makes us vulnerable and we are always at their mercy”*

*(Woman respondent, Yivu parish).*

The researcher found out that, women from female-headed households and widows who had full land rights were more independent and participated more fully in NAADS activities than their counterparts who hired borrowed land or those whose land was controlled by their husbands. The study also established that for most women farmers accessed land through their spouses, access and utilization of land was largely dependant on their spouses' land. She would loose land upon separation or divorce.

Findings indicate that men and women face entirely different incentives as agricultural producers, incentives that depend on who controls the resulting income. When asked about their crop preferences women listed cassava, beans, sweet potatoes and groundnuts because they contribute to household food security (sweet potatoes can also be sold) in contrast, men cited coffee and goats, of the income from which they control (Keller 2003).(UPPAP 2002).

Women's lack of security of tenure and their low levels of participation and control over agricultural activities mean that choices about which crop to grow and how to use any income from their sale remain the preserve of men. Together with low levels of agricultural advisory trainings for women farmers, this issue is central to Uganda's Strategic Export Initiative.

The studies above indicate that access to land and land rights affect the level of decision-making for farmers and consequently their incentive for agricultural production. World Bank defines "incentive structures" as all these aspects of the farmers environment which affects his or her willingness to produce and sell; Staudt (1987). Staudt further describes situations in which women rejected agricultural innovations if they did not see benefits from the adoption of new technologies. It may then be argued that the "incentive structure may be one of the key factors that determine

farmers participation in NAADS activities. It may be further argued that due to gender inequalities in access to productive resources, the “incentive structure” may be gender differentiated, and consequently lead to unequal participation in NAADS activities for both men and women farmers. This argument is supported by Fortune’s (1984) Botswana study, which found out that where men and women had similar access to resources, they exhibited similar behaviour and similar relationships with agricultural extension delivery agents. Fortune’s study gives an indication of a strategy that might foster gender equity in agricultural advisory delivery.

#### **4.5.3 Educational level**

Study findings indicated that education affected women participation in NAADS to some extent. It was revealed that the uneducated women feel inferior and want educated women or persons to represent them in NAADS meetings. They failed to articulate their own issues and preferred men to participate in enterprises like apiary and piggery. A woman and a service provider had this to say:

*“The uneducated are taking us backwards. Every time we come for teaching, they do not understand very fast. We are forced to explain to them after the meeting. When you are busy and want to send the for meetings to represent your group, they give excuses of i do not know how to read and write”*

*(A key respondent (a service provide) and a respondent)*

It was usually taken for granted that it is easier for service providers and training agencies to work with well educated farmers than with illiterate ones who are unacquainted with scientific background of modern farming. The interrelationship between openness to change and contacts

with service providers is perhaps more complicated than it might appear at first. This was in agreement with Kazungu (2000) study which indicated that some farmers believed that contacts with service providers not only lacked benefits but also presented them with new problems. For example, some farmers described the sale of inputs like improved seed varieties as merely a profit making venture. This indicated that these farmers had little understanding of agricultural advisory services but also were unable to attend meetings voluntarily.

The findings revealed that educated farmers understood instructions and adapted very fast to the technological changes than the uneducated.

Contrary to the above, other respondents disagreed that their educational level never affected their participation in NAADS programme. They believed that trainings were done in local languages which helped them to understand everything. More so, that agriculture has been part of them for quite long, practicing what was taught was not a problem to them at all. NAADS was just adding on to the knowledge they had acquired from childhood. That even if contract with the service providers ended, they were able to continue on their own. That in case of any difficulties, they would seek advice from friends whose enterprises were doing well.

Level of education appeared to affect the type of crop grown by women farmers. Women with secondary education made decisions in both food and cash crops. However, it is important to note that these (educated) women's decisions were not necessarily associated with better access to land. The decision to grow both food and cash crops by these women could have been that many of them viewed agriculture as a business in the long run, in comparison to petty trade, which was an

alternative for many women. Hence education not only enhanced women's understanding of the value of advisory services but influenced the type of decision –making and their participation.

The study found out that although women who are educated appreciated the value of agricultural advisory services, they were more likely to making decisions regarding both food and cash crops and less referred to attendance of meetings compared to the less educated. Some educated regarded their husbands as superior because of the ability to invest. It was mostly in female headed households and households where men were part-time farmers that many educated women clearly saw themselves as worthwhile farmers, or farmers whose roles equated those of male farmers. Hence education alone appears not to be sufficient enough to influence stereotypes regarding women farmers' participation. Infact the study findings indicate that being female heads greatly enhanced the participation of these (educated) women in NAADS.

Inequality in access to education and training retards economic growth. This was in line with a study done in more than 100 countries over three decades that found out that an increase in 1 percent (%) share of adult women with education implies an increase in per capita income of up to 0.3 percent(%) age point (Dollar and Gatti 1999).

In summary, the study findings indicate that women farmers with no formal education are more vulnerable in comparison to their male counterparts. In contrast, the men who had some level f education did not attend meetings.

#### 4.6. Benefits of women participation in NAADS programme

**Table 9: Shows some benefits of participating in agricultural advisory services**

Benefits	Males		Females	
	Frequencies	percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Enterprise selection	7	35	8	27
Modern farming methods	7	35	10	33
Land management and soil conservation	3	15	5	17
Group dynamics/teamwork	2	10	3	10
Food security	1	5	4	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

##### 4.6.1 Enterprise selection

Enterprise development may be broadly interpreted as a process of creating or improving and expanding the operations of an organized effort intended to return a profit. The process includes among other things identification, development and promotion of those farming initiatives that can generate incomes for farmers and make production profitable. The process of enterprise development or selection is linked to the overall participatory planning process. The following positive attributes are considered during enterprise development; profitability of the enterprise, availability of markets, financial outlay is low and the risks are low with their weights as 4, 3,2 and 1 respectively (NAADS, 2003).

Studies found out that 8 women had learnt to select and promote different enterprises like groundnut, pigs, goats, poultry and apiculture among others. Enterprises under NAADS had been fine-tuned and partnerships with private sector brought in line with the zoning policy. Examples included apiculture in West Nile region. Bee Natural Products (BNP) one of NAADS private sector partners, provides ready market for honey and facilitated the expansion of apiculture in

West Nile districts ( Arua, Nebbi, Moyo, Yumbe).In this way, NAADS had provided farmers opportunity for an on-farm value addition.

The study revealed that on individual accounts, the respondents had acquired some income from the sale of enterprise produced under their control, while 4 women noted that the enterprises they had engaged in enabled them to secure food for their families. This coincided with, Kenaherwe-Obbo's (2002) findings that women's enterprises were rewarding since they sold off their produce and acquired high incomes, this acted as a motivating factor to start other enterprises. She also noted that the availability of community –based groups particularly for women played key roles in teaching women for example to grow vegetables have led to the success of women enterprises.

*Because of the successful nature of our enterprises, I have been able to build a semi-permanent house for my self and in position to pay my children in school.*

#### **4.6.2 Acquisition of skills**

Training in knowledge and skills vital for the day-day management of the group and its project activities has been attained. More so, it has provided training in group dynamics, leadership skills, project proposal writing, community projects management, group fund mobilization, savings and record keeping.

In NAADS, training was a means of increasing agricultural production with the ultimate goal of improving household nutrition, incomes and general welfare of both men and women engaged in agricultural production. Respondents had this to say;

*For us in Vurra sub-county, NAADS has trained us to acquire skill in apiary (bee keeping), piggery, vegetables poultry farming and groundnut . We also*

*acquired some skills in farm group formation, planning accountability, Mobilization, record keeping, pest and disease control, post harvest management team work among others.*

*(Respondents, Alivu, Pokea, Etori parishes)*

Different farmer groups expressed happiness for NAADS activities. They (10 women and 7 men) reported that they had been exposed to modern farming systems through their groups. They also got some inputs like improved seeds and planting materials like cassava stems from PMA through NAADS. Due to their involvement in training and practicals, respondents stated that their knowledge as far as agriculture is concerned had increased, and that they were able to practice what they learnt on their own. However, one of the respondents hinted that there was more of theoretical work than the practical work. The use of both theoretical and practical teaching has been very beneficial to female farmers, as it will help to enrich their produce.

*In groups, we have been taught to practice enterprises our husbands can not select which has added on to our incomes*

*(A woman respondent).*

Relationships in a home usually hit a snag when its only one person contributing to the welfare of the household. Women involvement in agricultural business has improved relationships. Agricultural output has provided both food and income for the home which has supplemented on our husband's income. When such a situation occurred, they stated they were in position to discuss home issues and allocate funds on a friendly basis with their spouses.

Working in groups was an idea that had been received with great enthusiasm by farmers in Vurra. The respondents noted how beneficial it had been to them to work in groups. In groups, farmers noted issues such as strengthening of relationships, sharing of ideas, provision of labour to their female counterparts outside the enterprise, unity and pooling of money. The farmers stated that as they met each other in groups, their friendship and dependency on each other improved, they were able to share ideas on family issues or even advice one another on family matters incase they were facing any hardships. In a situation where a group member needed financial help, members had always pooled money to help each other out. In this way, they carried each others burden. This had promoted unity among women as they look at each other as sisters.

Farmers revealed that NAADS had sensitized them on the use of environment and natural resource conservation. That it had mobilized them to use indigenous ways of preventing soil erosion and conservation of natural resources. Because of NAADS programme there were indicators of improved conservation of resources especially soil. Before the introduction of NAADS and other resource conservation partners like NEMA, Africa 2000 network, conservation practices had been abandoned. Now soil erosion and land degradation are being prevented using different methods learnt from NAADS.

Contrary to the above, some farmers believed that the poor did not benefit from NAADS programme. A male respondent said it was the service providers benefiting form the system. “We the poor farmers do not get anything”. He concluded that knowledge alone was not enough. “It would have been better if NAADS provided us money to buy seeds and agro-chemicals”.

However, the study found out that benefits that accrued from NAADS was not consistent. The farmers who benefited in one year made losses in the following year. This was because NAADS comes up with new enterprises every year, implying formation of new farmer groups. (New vision, Friday July 20, 2007).

## **CHAPTER FIVE SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **5.0 Summary of findings**

This chapter presents the summary of findings and conclusions of the study on women participation in NAADS programme. The chapter concludes with issues for consideration inform of recommendations.

The study was conducted with the aim of examining women participation in NAADS programme in Vurra sub-county, Arua district for the period of 2001/2007. Women participation in NAADS focused on women participation in the implementation, decision-making process of NAADS, women access to agricultural advisory services and the factors that determine their access to agricultural services and the benefits of their participation.

It was found out that in Vurra Sub-county, NAADS had reached farmers in remote villages. This was by group approach that allowed one service providers to reach many farmers. NAADS organized trainings and workshops for those in remote areas. Women were perceived as economic contributors rather than economic dependants as was in the past. Framers registered increased yields and that their social capital networks had improved significantly. All these were possible because of awareness and availability of agricultural information on knowledge and skills in modern farming methods NAADS had impacted in them.

### **5.1 Women participation in decision-making, the type and whether their ideas are taken in for planning and implementation.**

Affirmative action in NAADS programme is still lacking. There was inequalities realized at all levels of NAADS programme implementation and decision-making. Decision-making were mostly made by men because they were the main occupants of key executive positions in NAADS.

Because of high illiteracy levels, lack of confidence in public speaking and negotiation skills, women did not take part in managerial position in NAADS. It was realized that NAADS was dominated by males but not as stated on papers. Lack of equal consideration of both sexes at all levels that is planning and implementation and management has limited farmers' access and participation in NAADS programme.

NAADS programme had some constraints in the implementation due to implementation gaps arising from problems like inadequate involvement of women in planning and non inclusion of the target groups in determination of projects or enterprises to be established.

## **5.2 Women participation and factors that determine their access to agricultural advisory service programme**

Land was the major constraint to commercial farming and a challenge to women participation in NAADS programme. On average, in Vurra sub-county, women had accessed less than 1 acre of land. With such size of land, thorough planning for its use is very important. Livestock farming such as zero grazing, piggery and bee keeping are being emphasized. Vegetable gardens and quick maturing crops would be good for women with marginal land holdings. Otherwise women might not benefit from NAADS programme. Land use planning may require technical experts to advice and guide people in their efforts to participate in production of NAADS enterprises.

Gender differences in access and control over land limited women farmers' decision-making and restricted the kind of crops women farmers were able to produce. It was evident that males however, generally engaged in much wider range of income generating agricultural enterprises including the production of so called 'women crops' where the crops yielded additional incomes.

The gender bias in access and control over land were linked to the fact that men generally viewed themselves as "borrowers" of family land. Women too viewed themselves as such. Hence lack of control over land explained men's control and exploitation of women farmer's labour. Consequently, the bottom issue in perpetuating disparities in access to agricultural advisory service was really inequality in access and control over land. The study has clearly shown that it is control over land that is important. This may probably explain the reason why more women from female headed households and widows participated in advisory service activities although they did not necessarily have bigger plots of land. Hence improving women farmer's control over land they farm (through legislation or any other means) is of paramount importance, in effort to reduce gender inequalities in farmers' access to agricultural advisory services.

The study has shown that women farmers are not homogeneous in their needs, experiences and constraints as regards access to agricultural advisory information. The young and poorly educated women are the most vulnerable yet they comprise the biggest proportion of women farmers in the study population. This implies that there was urgent need to adopt and exploit advisory approaches that cater for the advisory needs of women, to reduce gender gaps in NAADS.

Besides the level of education of women in Vurra sub-county was low and yet, education is the basis for development and enhancement of agricultural modernization. Educated people made informed decision on what enterprises to engage in, they easily adopted new technologies and were easy to change their attitudes towards lifestyles. Participation in new innovations must be linked with adequate education. NAADS will not be effective unless women clearly understand and interpret the technicalities of the programme. Given the educational level of women in Vurra some

of the practical applications need careful handling with regard to sensitization and mobilization of the community.

High levels of illiteracy among women accounted to a big extent for the farmers' inability to demand for what was due to them. There were no adult education programmes running parallel with NAADS to build the capacity of farmers to understand simple calculations, for example enterprise gross margins or checking bank accounts

It appears that limited access to agricultural advisory services by farmers of low education seem to be reinforced when the farmer is a woman. On the basis of the above findings, the question that may arise here is, what dynamics are at play when the farmer with low education is a woman? This is an important issue taking into consideration that in Uganda the majority of women are illiterate. The knowledge from such a study, besides complementing other findings would provide appropriate tool for interventions on the issue of gender inequalities in accessing agricultural advisory service information in Uganda.

NAADS programme did not ensure effective coverage of women since it was designed not to target individual women but women's group, thereby excluding advisory coverage to such women who might have reasons (either religious or social) for not belonging to any primary group. In addition, the women described the programme ineffective advisory service delivery system since it neglected women agricultural and livestock production problems, as well as other constraints faced by women farmers.

Because gender inequality acts as a powerful constraint to women participation in NAADS, removing gender-based barriers would make a substantial contribution to help NAADS realize its growth potential and achieve its growth targets articulated in the Poverty Eradication Action Plan.

### **5.3 Benefits of women participation in NAADS**

NAADS has been highly indebted for the training it provided to farmers. Farmers acquired some skills in agricultural management and practices. The acquired skills enabled some farmers to translate NAADS knowledge into practice on their own. This led to high yields leading to increased seed multiplication, incomes after sale. Improved nutritional levels and food security in households.

Farmers revealed that NAADS had sensitized them on the use of environment and natural resource conservation. That it had mobilized them to use indigenous ways of preventing soil erosion and conservation of natural resources. Because of NAADS programme there were indicator of improved conservation of resources especially soil. Before the introduction of NAADS conservation practices had been abandoned. Now soil erosion and land degradation are being prevented using different methods learnt from NAADS.

### **5.4 Conclusion.**

#### **5.4.1 Women participation in decision-making process, type and whether their ideas are considered for planning.**

NAADS had promising outcomes or results for which it was recommended. However, NAADS structures and activities need to be modified to include women in all aspects of decision-making concerning the activities of NAADS. NAADS programme should ensure effective coverage of women since it was designed not to target individual women but women's group, thereby not

excluding advisory coverage to such women who might have reasons (either religious or social) for not belonging to any primary group.

#### **5.4.2 Women in implementation of decisions**

Although NAADS programme had some constraints in the implementation due to implementation gaps arising from problems like inadequate involvement of women in planning and non inclusion of the target groups in determination of projects or enterprises to be established for them, NAADS has succeeded in empowering women. The women that participated in implementation of the programme were empowered economically because they were able to control their financial resources thus strengthening their income standing.

#### **5.4.3 Women participation and factors that determine their participation in advisory services**

Despite farmer empowerment under NAADS, the average control level over the resources has significantly retarded women motivation in engaging themselves to group and societal issues around them because of the gap that exists between efforts and rewards. It is therefore, imperative that any developing policy like NAADS significantly considers overcoming gender inequality so that women will have power alongside men to influence their society.

There is need to revise opportunities for micro-finance facilities. There should be more female service providers and trainings should be provided to all service providers. NAADS has not addressed the agricultural needs of the poor majority of whom are women who were the actual target of the programme. Many enterprises selected have mostly favoured men.

Unless women are considered important contributors” on ground” in NAADS programme implementation, their position will never change.

#### **5.4.4 Benefits of women participation**

The programme had impacted more on their involvement in many activities and had exposed them to the environment, which had great magnitude of changing their abilities to understand

themselves as well as their relations to the society. The programme had improved women to develop positive attitude towards themselves. They had been sensitized to the injurious beliefs and practices against the development of women. In spite of the inadequacies the programme has somehow succeeded in achieving their objective primarily to sensitize women economically.

## **5.5 Recommendations**

Basing on the study, the following are recommended;

1. Women should be allowed select the enterprises of their choices. The study revealed that the choice of decision-making at enterprise selection was mostly done by men especially in mixed groups. Although enterprise selections were done at farmer group levels by farmer group members, such enterprises were approved at the sub-county by farmer fora executives.
2. Women should be given responsibility at all levels say farmer for a executive at the sub-county, parish and group levels. Emphasis should be put on women more at the district level to take on executives positions compared to men so that they may take decisions according to their needs and priorities.
3. Given the fact that some categories of women are not in position to benefit from the policy and implementation changes in advisory service systems, there is need to make specific efforts to target the disadvantaged groups of women. For example, there is need to establish some form of “positive discrimination” to improve advisory service for young women, women of low formal education and those from poor households.
4. Experience and research show that market oriented crops are domains of men. In addition to market –oriented crops, emphasis should be put on crops where women have interests,

control and benefits. That is, there is need to ensure that women's enterprises are selected and the selection of these enterprises should be based on their needs so as to increase farmers' participation. Thorough consultation with women farmers at village level should be done before deciding upon the enterprises to be selected. This process could be done using a combination of tools such as interviews, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Rapid Rural Appraisal, observation rather than one stop meeting with farmers.

5. NAADS as being part of PMA needs to prioritize offering advice to farmers on marketing, as unless farmers have markets they have no incentive to invest. It should be made clear to farmers that advice and access to information on marketing is available through NAADS. There is need to create market for the agricultural products because in transforming agriculture to "farming as a business", availability of markets for agricultural produce is a pre-requisite for the success of advisory service delivery.
6. NAADS should liaise with micro-finance institutions for helping poor subsistence farmers in order to build farmers capacity to utilize advisory services. Further more; in order to facilitate improving agricultural productivity, NAADS should release funds to match with production cycles in a particular season.
7. If radios are considered as a major channel for disseminating agricultural information, adjusting the programme schedule as well as access to time saving technologies at household levels would probably improve women farmers' use of radios as a source of advisory information. If such programmes are transmitted between 8:00pm – 9:00pm, women would have a chance to listen.

8. Shortage of land justified low women participation in NAADS programme activities. Technologies that do not consume a lot of land should be introduced. NAADS should put emphasis on the dissemination of affordable technologies and encourage techniques that may improve farmers agricultural outputs encourage an enterprise mix for women that will enable them both to improve food production and earn some cash income and also provide market information to women farmers.
9. Capacity building for farmers should emphasize adult functional literacy to enable women read and write basic records on their farm activities, expenditures and incomes. It will also enable women demand for accountability and participate in higher forum in monitoring and evaluation of implementation of NAADS programme.
10. Use of demonstration sites in conjunction with local key stake holders in agricultural sector could be explored, agricultural shows, drama groups meetings are some of the ways. Given the importance of demonstration as methods of technology transfer, demonstration plots need to be set up preferably at parish, village and group levels, to benefit farmers of low mobility, and those who face severe time constraint.
11. Service providers should provide reading materials regarding agricultural advisory service at the district, sub-county and at the community after every training session so that farmers can refer to them as and when agricultural advisory service need arises.

## **5.6 Suggestions for further research**

1. The effect of male dominance in service provision on responsiveness of the services to Women's situation and why there are actually very few females in service provision needs to be assessed.

2. Another research could examine the extent to which the resource-poor (especially women) can be empowered to adopt the technologies disseminated under NAADS including factors that contribute to success or weakness of NAADS programme.

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**APPENDIX**  
**APPENDIX A: INTRODUCTORY LETTER**

**MAKERERE**

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**UNIVERSITY**

Tel: 256-41-531499  
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**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

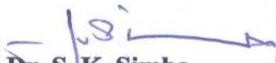
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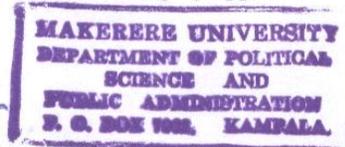
**To Whom it may Concern**

I wish to introduce to you Ms Driciru Centenary, who is a Master of Arts (Public Administration and Management), Makerere University. She is seeking to do research at your organization. Her research topic is: "*Women Participation in the National Advisory Services in Uganda*".

Any assistance given to her will be highly appreciated

Yours sincerely

  
Dr. S. K. Simba  
Coordinator, Graduate Programs



CC: Dr. Yasin Olum, Head, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Makerere University.

## **APPENDIX B : QUESTIONNAIRE AND INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR FARMERS**

Dear participants, we are carrying out a research on women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Services in Uganda: A case study of Vurra Sub-county, Arua district.

Please respond to the questions as honestly as possible. All responses will be treated with strict confidence.

Thank you.

### **SECTION A: SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

1. Identification .....
- Date of interview .....
- Name of interviewer .....
- Parish .....
- Village .....
- Name of the group .....

#### **2. Background characteristics of respondents**

##### **Age of respondents**

1. Under 20       2. 20-29       3. 30-39
4. 40-49       5. 50 above
2. 50 above.

#### **3. Sex**

1. Male
2. Female

#### **4. Marital status**

1. Single       2. Married       3. Widowed

4. Divorced/ Separated       5. Others

#### **5. Level of education**

1. Primary     2. Ordinary     3. Advanced level   
 4. Tertiary     5. University     6. None of the above

6. Your full occupation

1. Rural farmer     2. Self-employed     3. Civil servant   
 4. Others (specify).

**INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR FARMERS**

Dear participants, we are carrying out a research on women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Services in Uganda: A case study of Vurra Sub-county, Arua district.

Please respond to the questions as honestly as possible. All responses will be treated with strict confidence.

Thank you.

1. Sex .....
2. Educational level .....
3. Marital status .....
4. Occupation .....

**SECTION A: ACCESS AND FACTORS THAT DETERMINE WOMEN PARTICIPATING IN NAADS PROGRAMME.**

**A. Access to information**

5. Where do you obtain information on NAADS from this village? (Lead discussions on media and other sources).
6. How do you get to know about the programme schedule of extension agencies or workers?
7. How often do NAADS service providers organize agricultural advisory services?
8. In your view, how important is advisory information, in farming activities for farmers like you?
9. What factors constrain your participation in various activities of NAADS

Programme?

10. In your opinion, how appropriate is radio as a means of acquiring agricultural advisory information for farmers like you? (Lead discussions on access to radio set/ control of set timing or programme and comprehensibility of message).

**B. Access to land**

11. For women only:

On whose land do you carry your farming activities?

12. What problems do women farmers commonly face by virtue of the fact that they (usually) do not own land on which they cultivate (lead discussions on access to land and misappropriation of farm product by spouses).

- 13 .Does lack of access to land affect your decisions on what enterprises to engage in?

**C. Education**

14. Do you think your level of education has affected your participation in NAADS?

- 15 What have you done to cope with the situation?

**SECTION B: BENEFITS OF WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN NAADS.**

16. In your view, how have women farmers benefited from participating in NAADS programme activities?

17. If women farmers produce and sell crops (from husband's land), who in your opinion should control and decide how to use the money?

**A. Training**

19. Have you attended any farmer training?

- 20 Mention some of the knowledge and skills you acquired in the training.

**B. Enterprise selection**

21. Do women participate in enterprise selection?

22. What aspects do you consider during enterprise selection?

23. In your view then, of the two, the men and women farmers, who benefits from

attending agricultural advisory services?

24. For men only:

In your view, is there need for women to participate in NAADS as long as you (men) participate?

25. Suggest ways which could be adopted to improve your access to agricultural advisory services in this village?

Thanks for your time and cooperation.

Dear participants, we are carrying out a research on women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Services in Uganda: A case study of Vurra Sub-county, Arua district.

Please respond to the questions as honestly as possible. All responses will be treated with strict confidence.

Thank you.

### **APPENDIX C: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION FOR FARMERS**

- 1 .Where do you obtain information on NAADS from this village? (Lead discussions on media and other sources).
2. How often do NAADS extension agents organize agricultural advisory services?
3. In your view, how important is advisory information in farming activities for farmers like you?
4. What factors constrain your participation in various activities of NAADS Programme?
5. Do you think radio programmes are appropriate means of acquiring agricultural advisory information for farmers like you? (Lead discussions on access to radio set/ control of set timing or programme and comprehensibility of message).
6. For women only:  
On whose land do you carry your farming activities?
7. What problems do women farmers commonly face by virtue of the fact that they (usually) do not own land on which they cultivate( lead discussions on access to land and misappropriation of farm product by spouses.
8. Have you attended any farmer training? Mention some of the knowledge and skills you acquired in the training.
9. Do you think your level of education has affected your participation in NAADS?
10. In your view then, of the two, the men and women farmers, who benefits from attending agricultural extension activities?
11. If women farmers produce and sell crops (from husbands land), who in your opinion, should control and decide how to use the money?
12. Do you participate in decision-making process of NAADS programme?
13. Are these decisions taken for planning?
14. For men only:

In your view, is there need for women to participate in NAADS as long as you (men) participate?

15. Suggest ways which could be adopted to improve your access to agricultural advisory services in this village?

Thank you.

**APPENDIX D : INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR DISTRICT AND SUB-COUNTY COORDINATORS**

1. Sex .....
- 2 .Educational level .....
3. Marital status .....
4. Occupation .....

**WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTATION AND DECISION-MAKING.**

5. What criteria are laid by NAADS programme for participating in the programme?

**A. Women participation in implementation and decision-making.**

6. How many women sub-county coordinators and service providers are there in influencing NAADS programme policies?
7. What is the composition of women in NAADS programme management at sub-county and farmer group level?
8. How is NAADS programme implemented? What has been the level of participation of women in implementation and planning?
9. What is the level of women farmer participation in enterprise selection?
10. What aspects do you put into consideration during enterprise selection?

**B. Women participation in decision-making**

11. During advisory service meetings, do women participate in decision-making?
12. Do we have service providers who are women in Vurra Sub-county?

**C. Challenges faced in implementing NAADS programme.**

13. What challenges do you face in the implementation of NAADS programme?
14. What have you done to improve on the situation?
15. Suggest ways in which women participation in various areas of NAADS programme can be improved.

Thanks for your cooperation.

## **APPENDIX E: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS**

1. Sex .....
- 2 .Educational level .....
3. Marital status .....
4. Occupation .....
5. What are the different types of agricultural services that are being offered by NAADS programme?
6. Does NAADS programme provide women specific agricultural advisory services separately?
7. Are there factors that constrain NAADS programme extensionists from reaching women farmers?

### **Challenges faced in delivering advisory services to women**

8. What challenges do you encounter when delivering advisory services to women?
9. What have you done in order to reduce the challenges?
10. What recommendations can you give in order to improve NAADS activities?

Thank you.

**APPENDIX F: OBSERVATION GUIDE**

**Benefits of women participation in NAADS programme:**

Do not ask questions from this section just observe and note where necessary.

1. Presence of farms and enterprises mentioned.

1. Yes  2. No

2. Enterprises present

1. Goats  2. Groundnuts  3. Bee keeping  4. Pigs

5. Bananas  6. Maize  7. Chicken  8. Cattle

9. Coffee  10. Beans  11. Others (specify).....

3. Quality of the enterprises present

1. High  2. Moderate  3. Low  4. Poor

4. Housing structures.

1. Permanent house  2. Semi-permanent

3. Grass thatched  4. Others (specify).....

## APPENDIX G

### Structure of NAADS at district level

Level	Personnel/ Institution	Roles/ responsibilities
District	NAADS coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical guidance</li> <li>• Programme coordination and supervision in the district</li> </ul>
	District Farmer Forum (composed of chair persons SC FF, secretary for Production LCV, District .NAADS coordinator)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision making on all NAADS matters in the district</li> </ul>
Sub-county (LC III)	NAADS coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compiles the sub-county NAADS budget.</li> <li>• Gives technical guidance to procurement committee in the choice of service providers</li> <li>• Supervises, monitors and evaluates service providers.</li> <li>• Collection of farmers contribution for NAADS activities</li> <li>• Countersigns sub-county chief and sub-accountant on NAADS bank account</li> </ul>
	Sub-county Farmer Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes decisions on behalf of sub-county farmers</li> <li>• Selects sub-county enterprises</li> </ul>
	Contract committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves the shortlist for service providers</li> </ul>
Parish (LC II)	Parish Development committee (PDCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help farmers to identify their priorities</li> </ul>
Village (LC1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in priority identification and group enterprises.</li> </ul>

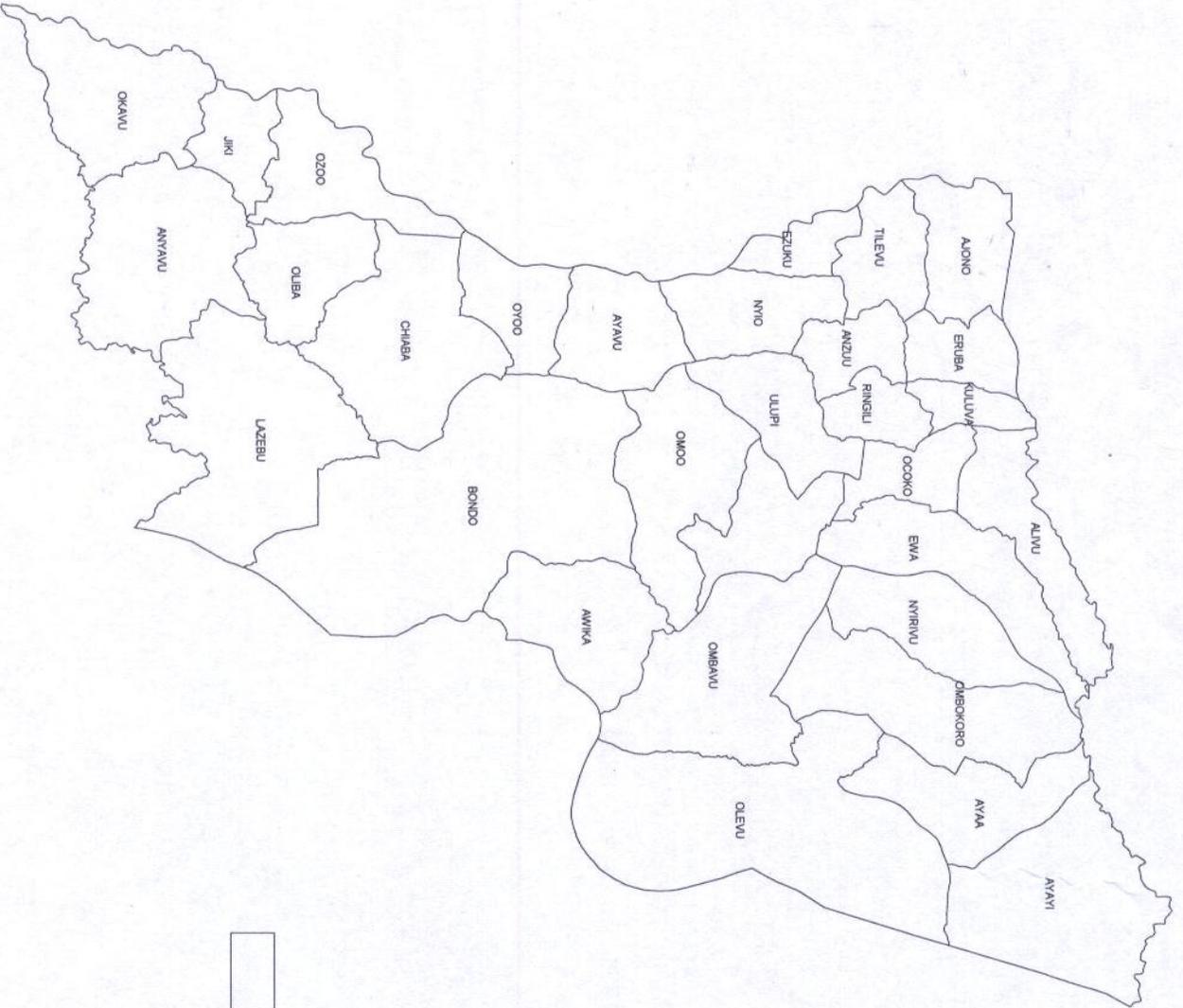
### Sub-county NAADS Farmer Institutions

The table below shows the activities that are supposed to be done by NAADS at sub-county and what is still lacking which makes women participation in NAADS programme implementation a challenge.

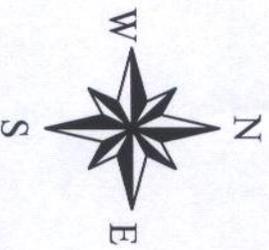
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Composition</b>	<b>Level of operation</b>	<b>Roles/responsibilities</b>
Farmer groups	All members of The group	Village (LC 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supposed to engage in participatory planning of selection of group enterprises for inclusion in the parish priority list.</li> </ul>
Parish Coordination Committee (PCCs)  Sub-county Farmer Forum	Chairpersons of farmer groups from that parish  2 farmers made up of the chairperson of each group and another group	Parish          Sub- county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supposed to engage in participatory planning of selection of group enterprises for inclusion in the Sub-county priority list.</li> <li>• Approves sub-county work plans and budgets</li> <li>• Supports and facilitates farmer group operations</li> <li>• Monitors programme implementation</li> <li>• Ensures inclusion of women and the youth in the programme</li> <li>• Advises on strategic implementation of the programme</li> </ul>
Procurement committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three members of the SC FF each with at list Ordinary level of education, one of whom should be a female.</li> <li>• Chairperson of the SC FF and the NAADS coordinator as ex-officials</li> </ul>	Sub- county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves the specification of goods to be procured</li> <li>• Approves the ToR for service providers</li> <li>• Approves the shortlist for service providers</li> <li>• Approves and awards contracts based on the technical committee's report</li> </ul>
Farmer Forum Executive committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The chairperson of the sub-county FF and two other farmers one</li> </ul>	Sub- county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the NAADS coordinator to compile the sub-county NAADS</li> </ul>

	<p>of which should be a female</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-county NAADS coordinator</li> <li>• Secretary for production</li> </ul>		<p>budget based on indicative budgetary estimates given by the NAADS secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decides and approves ToR for service providers</li> </ul>
Implementation committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC FF Chairperson</li> <li>• Two other members of the FF</li> <li>• Secretary for production</li> <li>• NAADS coordinator</li> </ul>	Sub-county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To oversee the implementation of NAADS activities in the sub-county</li> </ul>
Technical committee (this committee has no farmer representation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC Chief, sub accountant</li> <li>• NAADS coordinator</li> <li>• Community Development Assistant and any other extension staff</li> </ul>	Sub-county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepares ToR for service providers</li> <li>• Evaluates EOI from service providers</li> <li>• Evaluates service providers' proposals</li> </ul>

# VURRA COUNTY-ARUA DISTRICT



Vurra\_admn.shp



# ARUA DISTRICT

