

Introduction

Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is part of the Lutheran World Federation Department for World Service (LWF-DWS), an International Humanitarian and Development Non-Governmental Organization (INGO), founded by the Lutheran Churches with its headquarters in Geneva.

The LWF, Department for World Service has been operating in Uganda since 1979. Its head office is in Kampala, with six Sub Programme offices in Luuka, Kitgum, Pader, Kamwenge, Moyo and Adjumani districts.

LWF focusses on four priority areas: Disaster risk reduction, Emergency preparedness, Response and adapting to climate change, Sustainable Livelihoods, Community-led action for justice and peace, Organizational effectiveness and quality assurance.

In January 2007, LWF commenced its operations in Pader to supplement charitable services to internally displaced persons (IDP), a result of a civil war between the Ugandan Government and Lord Resistance Rebels.

LWF has extended various humanitarian projects and services to Pader including; HIV/AIDS, Livelihood & food security, Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), support for nodding disease victims, Health and nutrition as well as farmers empowerment (PAFEP) benefiting thousands of IDP returnees.

LWF has implemented several projects including; Farmer Field School (FFS) Project (2008), Food Security Project (December 2008 - 2011), Orphans and Vulnerable Children (2009 - 2011), Community-based Supplementary Feeding Programme (2009 - 2011), Linking Relief Rehabilitation to Development (2010 - 2012), Women's Bank project (2011 - 2014), Nodding Syndrome Project (January - December 2012), Pader Farmers Empowerment Project (2013 - 2015), and ACP- Energy Facility Project (2012 - 2014).

Currently, LWF is implementing 04 projects in Pader; Hope Alive project (2014 - 2017), Kitgum Pader Sustainable Livelihood Initiative (2014 - 2017), Teko Wa project (2014 - 2018), and Pader Agribusiness Value Chain project (2016 - 2018).

Key livelihood thematic areas



Micro-enterprises: Stimulates entrepreneurship, access to finance and business development.

Interventions Include;

- a) Increasing off-farm employment, productivity and new job creation as well as entrepreneurship education.
- b) Financial education skilling and integration of a savings culture among refugees and host communities.



Environment: An approach that favors development of sustainable villages, peri-urban (rural growth) centers and markets for environmental goods. The approach looks at environmentally sustainable "urban" development and integrated approach to land use & management.



Agriculture value chain development: LWF supports structures and processes of Agricultural Value Chains to address issues related to production constraints, agricultural productivity & profitability growth by building the sector's comparative and competitive advantage. **Interventions include;**

- a) Promotion of on-farm research and education through farmer field schools with technical demonstration plots.
- b) Improvement of small scale irrigation community seed security and sovereignty.
- c) Livestock production and support to silage production.



Livestock production: It involves support for land opening by providing oxen and ox-plough for tillage to both refugees and host communities.



Skill training for youth employment: Its main objective is to ensure that all youth have access to fulfilling and productive work, making positive contributions to their rural economy.



One of the banana gardens in Latanya Sub-County

Specific challenges being addressed

- Inadequate efforts to improve access to diversified livelihood options like; livestock production, farm related income generating activities (IGAs) and agro-processing
- Low production and productivity.
- Inadequate post-harvest handling techniques and poor quality control measures.
- Limited access to credit to enhance income opportunities for small scale farmers.
- Insufficient skills and knowledge on value addition.
- Limited access to timely, relevant and accurate information to influence informed decisions by farmers on price, market, weather, and new technologies.

Approach

LWF approach to the given challenges offers a wide range of interventions including; Cash Vouchers, Local Economic Development, Agricultural Value Chain Development and Market Linkages/or Facilitations.

This approach is aimed at redeeming recipients from extreme poverty to sustainable livelihoods. It's a people-centered development approach that includes robust education, focusing on livelihood development with financial inclusion.

The approach is monitored to assess the impact and adjust the approach accordingly. Actions are planned, implemented as well as assessed in collaboration with the District Local Government (DLGs), refugees and host communities since their partnerships are central for the project implementation.

Overall goal

To contribute to sustainable livelihoods and economic empowerment for households in Pader district by 2018.

Specific objectives

- a) To enhance agricultural production for improved food, nutrition security and incomes for households.
- b) Strengthened capacity of lead farmers and farmer-groups to practice market-based agricultural production.
- c) Strengthened linkages of lead farmers, other value chain actors and farmer groups to market.

Other expected results

- Active FFS identified, people trained in livelihood skills as well as supported to establish and manage profitable enterprises.
- Capacity of FFS networks strengthened to support livelihoods and food security initiatives.
- Increased household incomes.
- Improved knowledge and skills in value chain among staff, lead farmers and farmer groups.
- Increased number of farmers practicing commercial farming.
- Established linkages of lead farmers and farmer groups to different value chain actors.

LWF achievements in Pader

- a) Improved access to alternative livelihoods especially through cattle rearing, grind milling and retail shop businesses.
- b) Improved production and productivity through produce stores construction and trading in bulk.
- c) Adaptation of agronomic practices like line planting.
- d) Improved access to a credit and savings culture enabled by the Village Savings Loan Association sessions.



Business at a bulk store owned by Iye Gwa Group in Latanya Sub-County

Activities being Implemented include;

- Trainings in agronomy and post-harvest handling.
- Entrepreneurship and business plan development.
- Instructions on value chain development and VSLA methodology for both staff and farmers.
- Edifications in farming as a business.
- Market-linkage dialogue meetings between farmers, agro-input dealers and bulk produce buyers.
- Linkage meetings between farmers and micro-finance institutions (DFCU and Stanbic banks).
- Radio talk shows and spot messages on market information targeted at farmers.
- Bi-annual review meetings with farmers.
- Joint monitoring visits with stakeholders.
- Exposure visits to agricultural sites.
- Trainings in financial, business management and land rights.



Farmers with livestock acquired for multiplication