

**Gender Responsiveness in the National  
Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)  
Programme:  
The case of Bubare, Kabale District-Uganda**

A Paper presented at the IAFFE 2011 Annual Conference held at the College of Economics, Zhejiang Gongshang University, 18 Xuezheng Street, Xiasha University Town, Hangzhou, China, June 24-26, 2011

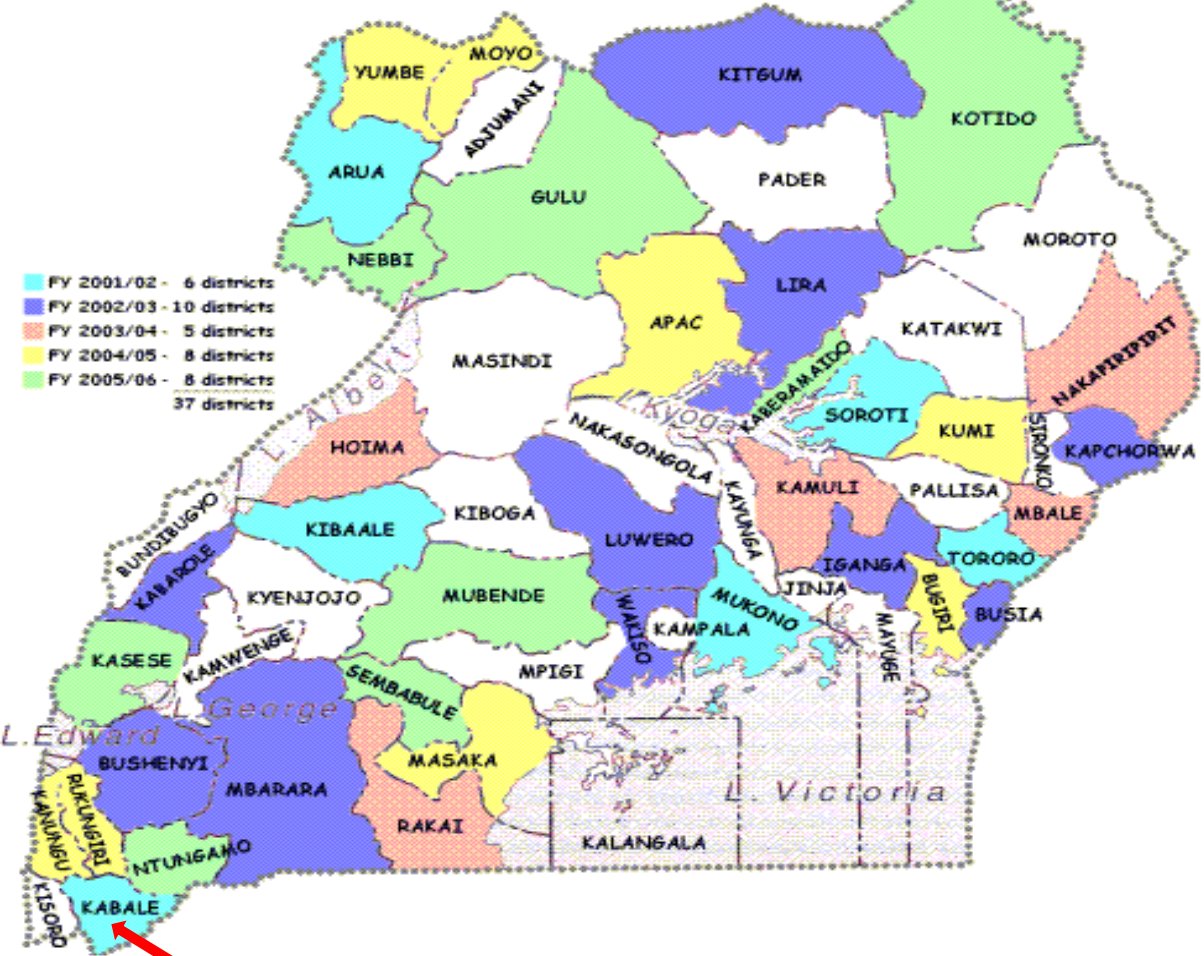
*Harriet Kebirungi  
Kyambogo University  
Department of Economics & Statistics  
Email: kebirungiv@yahoo.co.uk*

## Introduction

- Majority of Uganda's population is mainly rural based and depends on agriculture
- 32% live below the poverty line and majority of them are women
- Women provide 80% labour in agriculture
- The NAADS programme in Uganda is expected to reduce poverty and therefore to improve the livelihoods of women

# Map of Uganda

## NAADS PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS



Arrow pointing to the study District

## Land Size in Kagarama Parish



Average land size was less than half a Hectare

# The Objective of the NAADS Program

To develop a demand-driven, client oriented & a farmer led extension service delivery system particularly targeting the poor who are mainly women

# Rationale for the study

- Although NAADS mechanisms had the potential to reduce poverty by increasing agricultural production, food insecurity has persisted among female farmers
- The study focused on NAADS responsiveness to gender needs of farmers engaged in: irish potatoes (cash crop & main staple), apiary and fruit (apple) growing in Kabale District

## Research Objectives

- Examine the integration of gender strategies in the NAADS implementation programme
- Assess the participation and placement by gender in the NAADS management
- Assess utilization of NAADS programme services and gender constraints therein

## Methodology

- A cross-sectional study
- The study covered 3 parishes in 3 sub counties of Kabale District
- Targeted sample size was 60 (30 male and 30 female)
- both qualitative and quantitative methods were used
- Tools (Open-ended questionnaire, FGDs guide and observation)
- Coverage: 59 (27male & 32 female), 48 FGD participants 50% female and 16 Key informants.
- Data was analyzed by computing proportions and content analysis of the FGDs in correspondence with the objectives



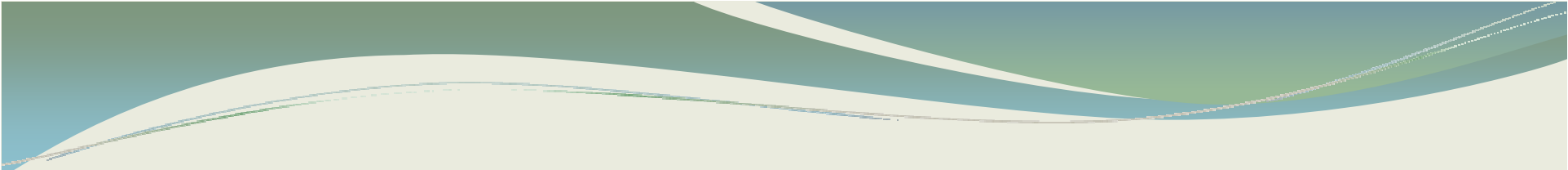
# Findings

The program managed to:

- Institutionalized farmer groups for easy access to its services,
- Imparted knowledge and skills, and further enhanced land and soil conservation techniques,
- Solidified team work through planning & record keeping
- Group assessment yield increment from 20% to 40%
- Increased Household Income and Nutritional levels
- Networks among women improved (social capital)
- Women perceived as economic contributors by men in HH

## Gaps

- Although the program framework is gendered, there has persistent gaps in budgetary provisions for women specific needs
- The gender poverty reduction strategy implementation was lacking in content in the sense that issues of access, participation in decision and control of resources were not highlighted
- Lacked mechanisms to address institutionalized unequal gender power relations
- Implementers of the program had not internalized GPS.

- 
- High illiteracy levels, were indicated by the community to be women's major constraints from leadership positions I the implementation of program
  - Hence program services were male dominated and this scenario negatively affected food security
  - Gender focal points to relay AAS information on who was actually benefiting and how and why others were not benefiting in a gender-disaggregated manner was not available
  - Information on prices, markets, weather conditions, and credit facilities was not available at strategic locations which affected success of out-puts and outcomes

- Inadequate supervisory support from the Secretariat, poor information flow at all levels, constrained both implementers and beneficiaries
- Monitoring and Evaluation by the Technical Audit Teams (TATs) were inadequate leading to suspension of the NAADS program in some areas of the districts
- The ability to turn NAADS services into increased productivity and profits was limited to the wealthy
- Poor farmers, particularly women and the youth were incapable of capitalizing on NAADS services

## Conclusion

- The programme did not apply the Gender and Poverty reduction Strategy
- Unless gender mainstreaming is contextualized and appreciated as relevant in the NAADS program NAADS Poverty reduction will remain elusive



Thank You