



## MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

# FARM INCOME ENHANCEMENT AND FORESTRY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME – PROJECT 2 (FIEFOC 2)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

### **Q1. What is FIEFOC 2?**

FIEFOC 2 is an acronym, which stands for Farm Income Enhancement and Forestry Conservation Programme – Project 2. It is a public sector investment that seeks to consolidate and expand notable achievements of FIEFOC 1 that ended in December 2012. It complements other existing agricultural production and natural resources management programmes. It was designed within the context of the Government of Uganda’s second National Development Plan (NDP II) and the long-term development strategy, the Vision 2040 both of which promote agricultural infrastructure and income enhancement.

### **Q2. What is the overall objective of FIEFOC 2?**

The overall objective of FIEFOC 2 is to improve farm incomes, rural livelihoods, food security and climate resilience through sustainable natural resources management and agricultural enterprise development. The project also aims to create employment opportunities for the youth through commercialization of agriculture, including post-harvest handling and marketing.

### **Q3. Who are the funders of FIEFOC 2?**

The funders of FIEFOC 2 are the African Development Bank (AfDB), Nordic Development Bank (NDF) and the Government of Uganda (GoU) with a total project cost of USD 108.3 million.

### **Q4. What is the project duration?**

The project was initially designed as a five-year project, starting from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2021 for the AfDB supported component (agricultural infrastructure development), and from 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2021 for the NDF supported components (agribusiness component and integrated natural resources management component). However, following the impact of Covid 19 pandemic and extensive flood in Kasese District, Oyam District and Butaleja District that affected Mubuku II irrigation scheme; Tochi irrigation scheme; and Doho II irrigation scheme; the Bank decided to grant FIEFOC 2 “No Cost Extension” from July 2021 to December 2022, and later to December 2024.

#### **Q5. Where is the project implemented?**

The project is implemented in five districts, where the irrigation schemes are located. These include Mubuku II irrigation scheme (480 hectares) in Kasese district, Doho II irrigation scheme (1226 hectares) in Butaleja district, Tochi irrigation scheme (500 hectares) in Oyam district, Ngenge irrigation scheme (880 hectares) in Kween district, and Wadelai irrigation scheme (1000 hectares) in Pakwach district. The project is also implemented in 40 districts, which form part of the irrigation scheme catchment areas.

#### **Q6. What are the water sources for the irrigation schemes?**

Water is a critical element for irrigation. The water source for Mubuku II irrigation scheme (Kasese District) is River Nyamwamba and for Doho II irrigation scheme (Butaleja District) is River Manafwa. While Ngenge irrigation scheme (Kween District) are rivers: Kabajiria and Ngenge; for Wadelai irrigation scheme (Pakwach District) is River Ora, and Tochi irrigation scheme (Oyam District) is feed by River Tochi.

#### **Q7. Who are the target beneficiaries of the project?**

The project beneficiaries are farmers, including youth and women located within the five irrigation catchment. The overall target population is 8,554, 049 of which 51 per cent are women.

#### **Q8. What are the major project components?**

The project consists of four major components: Agriculture Infrastructure Development (AID), Agribusiness Development (ABD), Integrated Natural Resources Management (INRM), and National Project Coordination Unit (NPCU).

#### **Q9. What are the roles of each project component?**

- (i) **Agricultural Infrastructure Development Component** is responsible for developing irrigation schemes and establishing farmer-based cooperatives for sustainable management of the irrigation schemes. It implements two sub-components: Irrigation Infrastructure and Facilities Development, and Sustainable Irrigation Scheme Institutional Management. The former is supported by a technical team from the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), and the latter includes irrigated agronomy and extension related activities supported by expertise from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). A team based at the three Regional Centres of Water for Production in the East, North and West under MWE, as well as staff at the District Local Governments also implement the infrastructure component. A coordinator from the water ministry heads the component consisting of 41 designated technical staff.
- (ii) **Agribusiness Development Component** aims at increasing business outlook of the beneficiaries towards household incomes. A coordinator from the agriculture ministry heads the component consisting of seven designated technical officers. It implements two sub-components: Alternative Livelihoods Development and Business Skills Development. The latter includes the ENABLE Youth Uganda Program, a pilot project developed by the AfDB to focus on young entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector to promote start-ups and growth of youth-led agro-enterprises. “ENABLE” stands for “Empowering Novel Agribusiness led Employment.”

- (iii) **Integrated Natural Resource Management Component** aims at establishing a viable basis for irrigated agriculture and natural resources management in the five irrigation schemes and their surrounding watersheds. A coordinator under MWE heads the INRM component that consists of three designated technical officers. The component comprises three sub-components: Integrated Soil and Water Conservation Management, Sustainable Forest Management, and Capacity Building. A team based at MWE supported by technical teams at District Local Governments and other Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies implement the component.
- (iv) **National Project Coordination Unit** is responsible for overall project coordination, financial management, procurement, monitoring and evaluation and capacity building. The coordination unit comprises the National Project Coordinator, Programme Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Project Accountant, Environment and Social Development Officer, Agri-business Development Officer and Procurement Officer.

#### **Q10. How is FIEFOC 2 organised and managed?**

At the apex, FIEFOC 2 is managed through a multi-sectoral Project Steering Committee (PSC) that provides policy oversight, reviews and approves annual work plans and budgets, and ensures adherence to relevant strategies established by the Government of Uganda.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) chairs the National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) meeting, which draws its membership from the Permanent Secretaries or Representatives of MAAIF; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD); Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED); Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives (MoTC); Ministry of Local Governments (MoLG); National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); Uganda National Farmers' Federation (UNFFE), and Chief Administrative Officers of the six districts of Oyam, Nebbi, Kween, Butaleja, Kasese and Pakwach. The Committee meets every quarter to review progress of the project implementation and perform other functions as deemed necessary by its mandate.

#### **Q11. How is the project managed on day – to – day basis?**

The day –to – day coordination and management of the project is undertaken through the National Project Coordination Unit (NPCU) with support from the project components and District Technical Support Teams (DTST). The DTST supports implementation and technical supervision of the Project, including sensitization of farmers, training and monitoring and evaluation in the respective Local Governments. Each District has designated a Project Support Officer (PSO) among its staff, who heads the DTST composed of the District Engineer, District Forestry Officer (DFO), District Water Officer (DWO), District Agricultural Officer (DAO), District Natural Resources Officer (DNRO), District Production Officer (DPO), District Commercial Officer (DCO), and Community Development Officer (CDO). FIEFOC 2 also receives technical support from the development partners – especially on matters of project implementation, procurement and financial management.

#### **Q12. How is the project executed at the national level?**

The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) jointly implements the project with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). MWE is the project's executing agency, responsible for implementation of irrigation infrastructure and related activities under component one and the natural resources management activities under component three. Meanwhile MAAIF is a key

implementing partner responsible for implementing agronomic and extension related activities and the agri-business development.

### **Q13. How does the project consider Gender Equality?**

The project activities are in line with the Gender Policy Brief for Uganda's Agricultural Sector 2012, the Uganda Forestry Policy, the Uganda Climate Change Policy and the Ministry of Gender's revised Gender Policy 2007■



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