

# AGRICULTURAL GOVERNANCE RESULTS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (A-GRIP)

ANNUAL REPORT MARCH, 2025.



# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

#### © Cordaid

The Agricultural Governance Results Improvement Project (A-GRIP) team extends its heartfelt appreciation to all stakeholders whose invaluable contributions made the implementation and documentation of the 2024 achievements and activities possible.

We sincerely thank the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for your generous financial support and strategic guidance, which has enabled the realization of A-GRIP's objectives. Special thanks go to the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD) and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) for your unwavering technical support and alignment with national priorities.

To the implementing partners, we extend our appreciation to the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and ZOA. Your dedication, technical expertise, and field leadership are very instrumental in achieving our project's total reach. Specifically for 2024, we were able to reach over 59,000 smallholder farmers, we implemented activities geared towards strengthening land governance and improving agricultural productivity across the 16 districts.

We also acknowledge the tireless efforts of district leaders, community-based organizations, extension workers, and the many land management institutions that have engaged with A-GRIP. Your commitment at the local levels has laid a strong foundation for more resilient and food-secure farming communities.

Finally, to all the farmers, youth, and community members who participated in trainings, actively engaged in project activity implementation, thank you for your trust, feedback, and partnership. Your involvement is a driving force behind the success of A-GRIP.

#### Donor



# **Implementing Partnerss**









#### ■ 1. Introduction

A-GRIP is a five-project funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Cordaid Uganda implements the project in a consortium with Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and ZOA, with technical support from the Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development (MLHUD) and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED). A-GRIP is implemented in 16 districts across five regions of Busoga, Elgon, Kigezi, Lango, and Rwenzori.

The overarching goal of A-GRIP is "Strengthened, food secure and resilient farming systems through increased accessibility, availability and quality of land tenure security, agriculture and food security services in 16 selected districts."

The implementation design of A-GRIP is pivoted on the principles of results-based financing (RBF), an approach that aims to strengthen existing government systems by paying financial rewards based on the performance of contracted parties against agreed indicators with clear, pre-defined results and outputs. Implementation of the project commenced in November 2023, and by the end of December 2024, the project had achieved significant strides that were compiled in an annual report submitted to the Donor and shared with stakeholders.

This document provides an overview of the project's annual performance, comparing planned and actual results of executed activities and challenges experienced during the first year of project implementation.

#### ■ 2. Geographical Scope of A-GRIP



A-GRIP contributes to SDGs







#### ■ 3. Overview of project outcomes and indicator performance

#### Outcome 1: Secure Customary Land Tenure

#### Capacity Building

Trained 159 land management institutions, including DLBs, ALCs, ADRCs, and LPPCs in Busoga, Kigezi, and Rwenzori.

#### CCO Applications

Over 9,220 applications received (4,335 male-owned, 4,885 joint).

#### CCOs Issued

None issued due to procurement delays of mapping equipment and legal approvals.

#### Challenges

- Limited awareness of land rights information among smallholder farmers, despite the ongoing sensitization activities at the community level, the majority of the smallholder farmers demonstrated limited knowledge of the available opportunities to register their land, and some don't participate in the awareness sessions conducted in their areas
- Delays in the mapping activities have occurred due to internal delays in the procurement of mapping equipment and, recruitment of field assistants, which have further delayed the execution of several project activities

#### Outcome 2: Sustainable Agricultural Production

#### **SHF Training:**

59,557 farmers trained on Good Agronomic Practices (GAPs); 20,292 adopted GAPs.

#### Access to Seed :

SHFs accessing Quality Declared Seeds rose from 1,201 to 5,249.

#### Yield & Income:

39% reported increased income, though no data on farmland acreage due to a lack of district capacity.

#### Constraints:

 Very high extension-worker to farmer ratio, in many project areas, the number of farmers greatly exceeds the recommended number of extension workers per smallholder farmers (1:500), which comes in handy with the very large geographical coverage of extension workers.

#### Outcome 3: Enabling Policies and Regulation

#### By-laws/Ordinances:

None were enacted with direct support from A-GRIP during this reporting period; however, Bunyangabu district enacted an ordinance on Vanilla with support from CRS. Coordination with other EKN partners is ongoing to support the formulation and enactment of bylaws using the RBF incentives to support the implementation.

#### Certified Input Dealers:

Increased from 60 (at baseline) to 162 (at end of 2024), the increase is expected to improve access to quality inputs for smallholder farmers within the project catchment areas.

#### ■ Water catchment & Land restoration Plans:

About 50% of the supported districts have implemented a total of seven (7) water catchment and five (5) land restoration plans. A-GRIP plans for an upward shift in subsidies to further the performance of this result area.

#### Outcome 4: Governance & Management

#### Departmental Execution:

Good in Administration and Natural Resources; low in Production due to procurement and fund flow delays.

#### Advocacy:

During the first year of A-GRIP implementation, no advocacy events were held with support from A-GRIP. To ensure results are realised, the project has planned quarterly advocacy coaching for contracted departments in 2025.

#### Good Governance Training:

56 staff trained across districts and sub-counties.

#### Summary of Indicator Performance





#### Smallholder Farmers

**59,557** Directly reached **202,494** Indirectly reached



#### **Certified Input Dealers**

**162** CIDs are operational in project implementation areas





#### **Land Registration & CCO**

**818** technical teams trained on CCO processes **9,220** CCO applications received **No CCO** was issued, Equipment setup process is

ongoing



#### **Other Indicators**

**48** District departments contracted across the A-GRIP district

**19** Community Based Organization contracted

**35%** Of households in project area are satisfied with quality of service of the extention workers

# 3



#### Agronomic Practices

**59,557** SHF trained on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP)

20,292 Adopting GAP





#### **Quality Declared Seed farmers**

**71** QDS identified in A-GRIP areas (According to DPOs)

5,249 SHF accessed seeds from QDS

#### **Budget:** Annual Performance Overview

	BUDGET vs ACTUALS (Nov '23 - Dec '24)-SUMMARY REPORT								
	YEAR 2023 2024								
	BUDGET	BUDGET	ACTUALS	BUDGET	ACTUALS	Total Budget	Total Actuals	Budget Variance	%Spent
Staff Costs	4,619,834	41,538	41,538	865,684	824,169	907,222	865,708	41,515	95%
Office Costs	752,325	12,992	12,992	135,200	117,276	148,192	130,268	17,924	88%
Project Investments	356,622	19,469	19,469	337,152	311,758	356,622	331,228	25,394	93%
Admin Costs	78,500	93	93	22,500	14,446	22,593	14,538	8,055	64%
RBF Payments	13,734,663	0	0	669,165	115,339	669,165	115,339	553,826	17%
Activities	2,298,670	22,611	22,611	617,432	314,041	640,043	336,651	303,392	53%
Capacity Development (ZOA)	3,000,000	7,134	0	1,974,925	723,980	1,982,059	723,980	1,258,079	37%
Other Program Costs		5,222	5,371	291,859	124,569	297,081	129,941	167,140	44%
Contingency	468,543	0	0	75,106	0	75,106	0	75,106	0%
Overhead (OCA/ICR)	1,625,000	7,134	7,145	210,986	127,512	218,120	134,657	83,463	62%
TOTAL	27,839,342	116,193	109,220	5,200,008	2,673,089	5,316,202	2,782,309	2,533,893	52%

#### **Lessons Learned**

- Deliverables that require substantial investment are often deprioritized during district planning. A-GRIP will revise the Project Implementation Manual (PIM) and assign higher weights to subsidies of affected indicators to receive more attention and resources during the district planning.
- Additionally, it's noted that the Steering Committees will play an advocacy role and influence better planning and funding decisions at the district level.
- Capacity Gaps: Need for technical training in measuring land use and reporting production.
- Extension Services: Address staffing and logistical gaps to increase reach and quality.
- It's important to improve coordination and strengthen regional and national synergy with other EKN partners to maximize impact.

## **ABOUT CORDAID**

Cordaid is a value-based international development and emergency relief organization, based in the Netherlands with offices in 14 countries. We work in and on fragility and support communities in their efforts to improve health care, education, food security, and justice. Where disaster strikes, we offer humanitarian assistance.

Cordaid is deeply rooted in the Dutch society with more than 250.000 private donors. The Christian values of human dignity, justice, compassion and care for the planet guide us in our work . Cordaid is a founding member of Caritas, CIDSE and ACT Alliance .

## CONTACT

#### Heleen van der Beek

Uganda Country Manager <a href="mailto:Heleen.van.der.Beek@Cordaid.org">Heleen.van.der.Beek@Cordaid.org</a>

#### **Beatrice Okware**

Chief of Party-A-GRIP Fort Portal Office <a href="mailto:beatrice.okware@cordaid.org">beatrice.okware@cordaid.org</a>

#### **Cordaid Uganda**

Plot 12B, Farady Rd, Bugolobi, Kampala,

info@cordaid.org www.cordaid.org

CARE. ACT. SHARE. LIKE CORDAID