



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**DYNAMIC AGRO-PASTORALIST DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION**

# (DADO) LTD

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## PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2021



## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**AFI** Andre Foods International

**CA** Conservation Agriculture

**CAHWA** Community Animal Health Worker's Association

**CLTS** Community Led Total Sanitation

**COVID 19** Corona Virus Disease



**CSA** Climate Smart Agriculture

**DADO** Dynamic Agro pastoralist Development Organisation

**DINU** Development Initiative for Norther Uganda

**EU** European Union

**FMNR** Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration

**HH** Household

**IGA** Income Generating Activity

**IPM** Integrated Pest Management

**TRAIL II** Transforming Rural Agricultural Initiatives for sustainable Livelihoods

**UNICEF** United Nations Children's Fund

**USAID** United States Agency for International Development

**VICOPA** Village Community Banks

**VSF** Veterinarian San Frontiers

**VSLA** Village Savings and Loan Associations

**WASH** Water, Sanitation and Hygiene





## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights the accomplishments and impacts of five major donor-funded development projects implemented by DADO in 2021 in the Karamoja region of Uganda, focusing on conflict resolution, livelihood initiatives, food security, and improved access to water and sanitation.

### USAID – EKISIL Activity

The EKISIL Activity strengthened both formal and informal structures to prevent and resolve natural resource disputes and livestock theft among the Jie and Dodoth communities in Kotido and Kaabong districts. Through facilitating community dialogues and security meetings, the activity built trust, supported peaceful coexistence, and promoted collaborative livestock recovery. The project responded to increased cattle raiding and COVID-19 related challenges, aiming to reduce tensions and conflict, and enhance resource sharing and peace in the region.

### TRAIL Project (2021)

The Transforming Rural Farmers Agricultural Innovations for Sustainable Livelihoods (TRAIL) Phase II project promoted income diversification for smallholder farmers, especially women and youth. It supported integrated livestock and crop-based enterprises such as poultry, piggery, and apiary, advancing household food security and economic resilience. TRAIL empowered 1,800 women and 1,600 youth by building their entrepreneurial capacities, introducing business skills training, and strengthening Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) to foster adaptation to climate change and conflict disruptions.



### DINU Project

The Development Initiative for Northern Uganda (DINU) aimed to increase food and nutrition security and household income for 68,250 small-scale producer households, with a focus on empowering women. Coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister and funded by the EU, DINU improved agricultural value chains, promoted sustainable practices, and strengthened local development structures in partnership with government and civil society organizations.

### WASH Phase III

WASH Phase III, implemented by VSF-Belgium and DADO, aimed to enhance health and well-being by increasing access to potable water and improving sanitation and hygiene in the Kapeta Basin. It promoted the establishment and maintenance of community-based water management systems and sanitation infrastructure in Kaabong and Karenga districts, directly benefiting local communities and fostering long-term public health improvements.

Collectively, these projects have contributed significantly to conflict reduction, peace-building, enhanced food and nutrition security, economic empowerment, and improved water and sanitation for Karamoja's vulnerable populations. They exemplify successful community-led development that responds to the region's complex challenges of insecurity, poverty, and climate change.



## PROJECT BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Karenga and Lokori sub-counties are home to Agro-Pastoral communities frequently affected by insecurity, recurrent droughts, livestock thefts, and limited access to basic services. The region's porous borders with Kenya and South Sudan exacerbate insecurity, but efforts by DADO and partners continue to foster peace and socioeconomic development. The undertaken projects aim at transforming agricultural livelihoods, improving water, sanitation, health, and strengthening community resilience.

### Project Objectives

- Improve access to safe and clean water
- Strengthen peace and resource-sharing among cross-border communities
- Increase youth and women engagement in diversified livelihoods and financial inclusion
- Support climate-smart agriculture and animal husbandry for nutrition enhancement.



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

### Improved Access to Safe Water

- Rehabilitation of 25 boreholes, meeting project targets.
- The Todoknase borehole in Narengapak Parish was rehabilitated, benefiting 257 households and the primary school by ensuring access to clean water.

### Methodologies

- Component observation and pump testing
- Removal and re-installation of pipes and connecting rods

Community participation, involving local mechanics, project staff, and community representatives-Peace-building and Conflict

### Mitigation

- **Cross-border peace dialogues** between Dodoth (Uganda) and Turkana (Kenya) communities, with participation from local and central leaders, resulting in actionable resolutions and peace agreements.
- Support for voluntary disarmament and the role of women in conflict mitigation through radio talk shows and public forums.



## Outcomes

- Reduced cattle raids and theft, increased recovery of stolen livestock
- Strengthened inter-community cooperation and resource-sharing
- Activation of **peace committees**, ongoing trade and social interaction

## Livelihoods and Business Support

- Training and refresher courses in **Income Generating Activities (IGAs)**, apiary, piggery, poultry, and vegetable farming.
- Distribution of piglets and chickens to youth and women-led households with follow-up support.
- Financial inclusion activities such as digitization, monitoring, and technical support for VSLA, VICOBA groups, and livestock management associations.

## Results

- Improved record-keeping among 8 groups
- 116 participants engaged in monitoring sessions
- Mobilization of youth and women for business development training.



## KEY ACTIVITIES

- Monitoring CLTS villages, establishing contour bands and ridges, implementation of FMNR (Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration) approach for land and water management.
- Facilitation of budget conferences and global hand-washing events in collaboration with UNICEF and other partners.

## Cross-Border Peace Dialogues

- Dialogues held in October and November 2021 brought together 316 to over 660 participants from Uganda and Kenya, including kraal leaders, district officials, youth, and women leaders.



*Kraal leader addressing a group of youth on peaceful coexistence*



- Dialogues focused on resource sharing, trade, dispute resolution, and peaceful coexistence, with signed agreements and ongoing joint meetings planned.



### Role plays on peace by women in Kalapata

- 20 Women of Loyoro peace fora, matching and advocating for voluntary disarmament



### Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS)

- Monitoring and follow-up of 10 triggered villages for sanitation improvements; assessment of latrine coverage and use.
- Identification of migration challenges and insecurity affecting project activities.
- Recommendations included collaboration with security teams and continued engagement with local structures for sustainability.





## Livestock and Financial Inclusion Support



- Monitoring and assessment of 4 veterinary drug outlets for profitability, access, and operational challenges.



- Collection of savings and business records from various VICOBA



and VSLA groups with guidance for proper record-keeping, asset management, and digitization.

## Outcomes and Impact

### Improved Youth Participation

- Training of 68 youth and women in IGAs selection and value chain promotion.
- Grants disbursement to 13 youth, supporting small business startups in apiary, poultry, and piggery.
- Enhanced business skills, financial literacy, and entrepreneurial spirit among youth, with expanded choices for sustainable income activities.

### Rural Finance and VSLA Results

- Training sessions for youth and women on savings, financial literacy, and business development.
- Weekly savings group meetings, with improved practices and outcomes reported by 38 youth and 70 women households.





- Recognition of savings and business development as key drivers for household resilience, investment in schooling, healthcare, and asset acquisition.



### Challenges

- **Insecurity** across Karenga and Lokori sub-counties disrupted activities; spot raids and thefts by armed groups





persist, making communities and staff cautious about fieldwork.

- **Drought** and unpredictable rainfall caused crop failures and diminished household food security, particularly impacting vegetable-growing women.
- High expectations for food and monetary support during periods of acute food insecurity.
- Digitization challenges with VSLA group tablets needing updates and repairs.

### Lessons Learned

- **Women's exchange visits** offered significant learning, with cascading effects on diets and household nutrition improvement.
- Piggery and poultry projects proved highly beneficial, with better returns compared to agriculture under current climatic conditions.
- Active involvement of women and youth is critical for successful adoption and scaling of business models and agricultural innovation.
- Sustained dialogue and cross-border engagement are essential to long-term peace and resource-sharing.



### Recommendations

- Maintain and expand collaboration with local and district security offices to ensure safe project implementation.
- Invest in training and technology updates to support digitized groups and rural entrepreneurs.
- Encourage local leaders and women's groups to continue voluntary disarmament campaigns and awareness initiatives.
- Develop robust contingency plans to address drought and insecurity, ensuring project sustainability.



## CONCLUSION

This reporting period demonstrates notable achievements in water access, peace-building, and economic empowerment, all driven by robust community engagement and participatory approaches. Despite continuing challenges, especially insecurity and drought, project objectives were largely met, with clear evidence of improved capacity, income, and resilience among target groups.

