



**PILOT PROJECTS:** Acholi CAP project has 3 components. These are to Strengthen (1) Capacity in Development Planning, (2) Capacity in Implementation of community development plan and (3) Systems & Guidelines of development planning. In order to support Local Governments in relation to the component (2), “Pilot Projects” started in January 2013 and are being carried out in four targeted districts (Amuru, Nwoya, Kitgum and Pader) at this moment. The projects selected for 2012/13 are 34 boreholes in 34 villages spreading to 17 sub-counties, lightning arrestors for 50 schools and 1 culvert construction. These projects, especially borehole drilling, came out from the bottom-up planning process of Local Governments started from villages. This volume focuses on the Pilot Projects.

## PROCUREMENT AND SUPERVISION

The District Local Governments of Amuru, Nwoya, Kitgum and Pader, under support of Acholi CAP, procure Service Providers for the implementation of the selected Pilot Projects following PPDA (Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets) Regulations and Guidelines. The four districts started procurement of contractors in January 2013 by advertising the projects in the newspapers. The procurement took about 2 months in the four districts which is much faster than what the districts usually spend. Contracts were signed between the district as the employer and contractors by the end of March 2013.



Borehole Siting in Lwala in  
Pader Town Council

The delayed procurement is one of the causes for the unspent budget in districts that needs to return to the Central Government. This is a critical area that districts need to improve since their

budget is limited. Also, bid documents and contract documents are the areas which were supported by the Project to improve through technical support.

After the contract awards, Contract Management and Supervision by the districts then started in April 2013. Acholi CAP on the other hand is monitoring the implementation, advising the district officials and providing supervision support to the districts.



Materials Inspection at  
Borehole Drilling site

In April 2013, Acholi CAP brought a Japanese Expert named Mr. MINAMI Teruaki to support the district officials, especially District Engineers, Water officers and their Inspectors through on-the-job training at

their offices as well as in the field.

The progress of these pilot projects at this moment;

- i) Boreholes:
  - Siting work (Hydro-geological Investigations) is already completed in all the four districts.
  - Drilling work is completed in Pader district, on-going in Kitgum district and it is beginning in Amuru and Nwoya districts.
  - Test Pumping, Casting and Installation of Hand Pumps will follow drilling.
- ii) Supply and Installation of Lightning Arrestors in 50 Primary Schools; 25 in Amuru and 25 in Pader districts; installations are on-going.
- iii) Mobilization for the installation of culvert along Atanga Mission to Wipolo road in Laguti Sub-county in Pader district is on-going.

Full completion of these implementations is expected by August 2013.



Installation of  
Lightning  
Arrestors in  
Primary Schools  
in Pader District

## MOBILISATION AND FORMATION OF WATER USER COMMITTEE

Borehole drilling is a technical matter, and therefore the Project supports District Water Office in supervision of the construction. Also,



the Project supports both Local Governments and communities for the sustainability of boreholes. The ownership of boreholes belongs to communities and thus boreholes need to be operated and maintained by communities through Water Users Committee (WUC). At present, the Project is supporting sub-county Community Development Officers/Health Assistants to conduct meetings with community people to form the Water Users Committee at each community.

## STUDY TOUR

The Project has also organized a one-day study tours in Gulu district for each of 4 districts of Amuru, Nwoya, Kitgum and Pader in order to provide opportunities for members of newly-formed Water Users Committees and district/sub-county officials to expose them to the existing Water User Committees as good practices. This is to help communities not only operate and maintain the



boreholes well but also possibly engage in various community activities such as improvement of sanitation and hygiene, saving

groups (Voluntary Saving and Lending Association: VSLA) which is commonly known in Luo language as “Bol Cup” and collective farming to generate income for both the committee and community people. This also aims at encouraging Local Governments to conduct this kind of study tour for members of the committees, and the interaction between the government officers and community people.

So far 3 study tours have been conducted, i.e. for Amuru, Nwoya and Pader districts. Participants were representatives from each Water User Committee, 1 staff from District Community based Service Development and either Community Development Officers or Health Assistants from sub-counties where sites are located.

During the study tour, Hosting Communities explained to participants their bad historical life before getting trained on the “improved sanitation and other communities development projects”. The study tour encouraged the visiting participants to think positively towards development activities in their communities.

Some of the good practices shared by the hosting communities are:

- “Open Defecation Free” which meant that nobody defecates in a bush because every household has a latrine.
- Accountability and they have now banking culture which will help them in future planning.

Both hosting and visiting participants at the study tour promised to develop their village to be a “model village” whereby



communities from within and without Uganda can go and learn the importance of bottom-up approaches planning. Besides that, the two communities agreed on self-reliance in the next few years through their income generating activities like VSLA. Through this study tours, participants learnt other social aspects on how to set communities’ rules and regulations which govern not only WUCs but also bring unity to people within and outside the village that is mainly on handling domestic violence.

Also local government officials were impressed with how their colleagues in Gulu district were active on mobilization and monitoring of community projects.

## TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING

The 4<sup>th</sup> Technical working Group (TWG) Meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 in Pader District at the Production Board Room. TWG meeting is a routine meeting which is held after every six months. This is a moment when the progress report of activities is shared and the plan for the next term is discussed.

This meeting was well represented by representatives from the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), District Planners and Community Development Officers of all the seven districts in Acholi sub region. This meeting was also attended by representatives from JICA Uganda Office, JICA Gulu Office.

The meeting was chaired by CAO Pader District who is one of the Project Managers of this project and



meeting was opened by LC5 Chairperson of Pader District Local Government.

The project team (Chief Advisor and Project Coordinator) made presentations on the progress of project activities and plan for the next six months. Discussion kicked off smoothly with contributions and suggestions such as to prepare "Operation & Maintenance" manuals, utilize lesson learnt from this project into timely-managed procurement to avoid un-spent fund and positive opinions about future livelihood support by the Project.

## JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at Fairway Hotel Kampala following the TWG meeting. This meeting was to review activities progress for the last one year, present activities plan for the next Japanese Financial Year, discuss issues at policy level and approve the annual plan.

Representatives from the MoLG, OPM, CAOs of all the seven districts in Acholi sub-region, JICA Uganda Office, JICA Gulu Office and project team were

present. This meeting was chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government.

Following presentations made by the project team, a session of open discussion, reactions and responses were made. Basing on several challenges for maintenance or lack of institutional resources mentioned by district representatives, the Permanent Secretary guided them to think in their planning process on how to address these issues through their Technical Planning Committee. Also he advised them, based on the scope of work by the project, to come up with districts' own sustainability plan on how things will be right in future. Some suggestions to a mid-term review which is planned to run this year were also made.



### INTRODUCTION OF PROJECT STAFF

#### *Name:*

NAKAJIMA Kosuke

#### *What is your area of specialty?*

Local Governance especially for Community Development



#### *What was your assignment before coming to Uganda?*

8 years working in 2 projects in Indonesia

- 2004-2007: Human Resource Development for Local Governance Indonesia-Jakarta.
- 2007-2012 Capacity Development in Planning and Implementation of Community Development in Sulawesi region

#### *What was your First impression of Uganda?*

People are polite and friendly !

#### *Do you have anything to share with our readers?*

I am a curious person and I would like to know many things not only work related things but also about the way of living, culture, music in Acholi sub region.