



**PILOT PROJECTS 2012/2013**

As a part of supports to strengthen the capacity of Local Governments in the implementation of development projects, pilot projects were launched in FY2012/2013 with the following districts and projects. All of the pilot projects fell into community facilities/infrastructure. The actual work started in April after the procurement of contractors done by the districts from January to March 2013. Some of the works completed in June, while others delayed and was completed in December, although they had been planned to complete by the end of August 2013. The delay of the construction is due not only to the heavy rain and the capacity of the contractors but also due to the management challenges of the districts.

	Nwoya	Amuru	Kitgum	Pader
Borehole	10 communities	8 communities	10 communities	6 communities
Lightening Arrestor	---	25 schools	---	25 schools
Culvert construction	---	---	---	Atanga-Wiipolo road

**1. Identifying and confirming the communities**

Selecting the communities that receive the projects is an important process for the implementation of pilot projects. Although projects were planned by the bottom up approach, reviewing the process is necessary for strengthening the planning process as well as achieving outcome from the implementation.

Selecting communities is not an easy task to do for Local Governments. It is difficult to select a few communities out of many communities who are badly in need of such facilities and infrastructure. Boreholes, for example, are one of the first priorities for many communities. After returning to their villages from IDP camps, people in the communities are not yet capable to drill boreholes on their own.



Availability of safe water is a driving force for the ex-IDPs to return and they may contribute to confirming their settlement.

Visiting 34 borehole drilling communities was not an easy task to do. Some communities are very far from the Sub-county office. For example, some communities in Nwoya are more than 60 km away from the Sub-county office. It is not easy for a parish chief staying near the Sub-county office to visit such communities with bicycle. Even someone with a

vehicle may not be able to reach some of the communities where there is no access road. The drivers of the Project sometimes had to drive



not on the roads but on the garden where sorghum or ground nut grew. Though these communities are definitely in need of safe water, they had to be excluded from the list because drilling the borehole requires accessibility for heavy machine to reach.

**2. Technical supports**

The Project’s technical supports are mainly in three areas, namely; (a) procurement, (b) supervision and (c) water users committee. In the area of procurement and supervision in borehole drilling, technical supports were given mainly by JICA Experts and coordinated by the Project engineer as already reported in newsletters earlier.

**(1) Procurement of contractors**

After the identification and confirmation of projects and communities, procurement of the contractors started in January 2013 and contracts were awarded in March, followed by actual construction which started in April 2013. Procurement of contractors took less than 2 months which may be faster than the usual practice of the procurement by the districts.

Modification into Bid Documents was done in support and advice from JICA expert to erase discrepancies and contradictions. One of the District Water Officers mentioned such improvement as timely and adherence procurement in his presentation at Technical Working Group meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

## (2) Supervision

According to the District Water Officers in the districts, the Project's supports contributed to improve supervision process of Local Governments and outcome of the construction in such areas as borehole drilling,

Proper inspection of materials supplied by the contractors and approval of quality prior to installation was one of the areas practiced during on-the-job training. This was checked in conformity with technical specifications in bid documents.



Technical supervision on daily basis was also practiced at every stage of construction and record made by inspectors independently to counter check contractors' reports.

Test pumping for the case of boreholes were closely monitored to ensure that only boreholes with good yields are accepted by the districts. Facilitation to technical supervision in terms of safari day allowance and fuel for motor cycles made it possible to achieve good performance.

Testing for functionality of the installed lighting Arrestors in primary schools were done using



Insulation Tester. This was done to all the units to ensure that they meet the required standard and workmanship as well.

This procedure was not being practiced by the district initially.

Despite of the technical supports, however, there are still some technical challenges that have to be addressed further in Acholi Sub-region with such areas as poor underground water potential and poor water quality.

The poor underground water potential in some communities caused the relocation of the drilling places. This consequently led to the delay of the construction.

Several water sources got water with brown colour. As water colour changed a few months after the drilling, the cause of the poor water quality is not yet identified and undergoing the investigation with several possible reasons assumed.

In order to address these issues, we are currently looking at technical specification of bid document such as drilling method and pipes.

## 3. Communities and Water Users Committee

As community is the one taking a responsibility to operate and maintain the borehole, how well the borehole is maintained depends on the commitment of community. Formation of Water Users Committee also contributes to the good management and maintenance of the borehole within the community.

If one visits a borehole, one may realize how strong/weak the commitment of the community is to maintain the borehole by looking at fence, flower and cleanliness surrounding the borehole. Also, one will realize the strong commitment of community, if one sees such a scene that an old man limping is sitting in a small hut near the borehole as a care taker to look after the borehole, as shown in the photograph below. From such experiences, one can



realize the level of potential capacity of community not only in maintaining the borehole alone but also in organizing

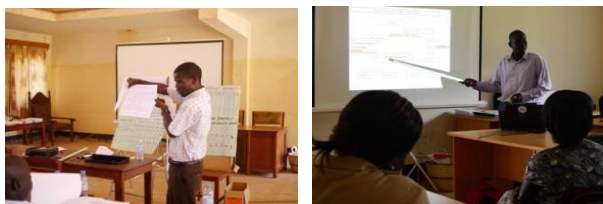
and managing community development activities in general which Local Government is not to neglect but to encourage or support.

Also, such an institutional setup may restore or promote the good relationship of people within the community or between communities. For example, after the formation of Water Users Committee, someone who had not been associated with other community members or even not trusted by other

## PROJECT SELECTION AND MONITORING

*“This criteria and formats will help us a lot to do our jobs during our planning process”* - one of sub-county chiefs said during training “Project Selection and Monitoring Planning Process” conducted in four districts, Nwoya, Amuru, Pader and Kitgum to spread out selection criteria and related formats in November.

District Planners and DCDOs of each district facilitated the process of trainings attended by S/C chiefs, town clerks and CDOs/ACDOs of all sub-counties and town councils.



The trainings consisted of two parts, explanation of criteria and the related formats such as Village Proposal Sheet, Parish Priority Sheet, Basic Information Sheet, Scoring Sheet and Monitoring Sheet and group exercise to select the prioritized projects by scoring based on indicators.



Prior to these trainings, District Planners and DCDO of the 4 districts had one-day workshop to discuss and revise some points of selection criteria and ways of monitoring planning process on 11<sup>th</sup> November at Acholi CAP Project in Gulu.

community members can now associate with others through his involvement in the committee, although the opposite case might possibly be found.

For these reasons, the Project has been engaged in supporting Sub-county CDOs and Health Assistants to facilitate the community mobilization and the formation of committees. The Project is planning to conduct a trainers’ training for them to give trainings to communities and committees.

The discussion was made based on actual experience to utilize the formats in 2 pilot sub-counties in each district for the last three months.

These participants (SC Chiefs and CDOs) are expected to be facilitators of trainings on selection criteria and monitoring for other members of TPC at their own sub-counties and town council.

### Staff Introduction

**OISHI Tsuneo**  
Project Coordinator  
/ Peace Building



#### Q. Area of speciality

A. Besides working as a Project Coordinator, “Peace-building” is another area of my assignment in Uganda and my background of speciality is farm machinery.

#### Q. Where was your last assignment?

A. I worked in an NGO, Japanese Embassy and JICA project for a total of 8 years in Sri Lanka (mainly in an area affected by armed conflict)

#### Q. While in Uganda, what other activities besides work related activities?

A. My favourite activity is jogging (running).

#### Q. Any other message for your readers

A. Let’s work together for capacity development and go further.

## ACTIVITY SUMMARY (Dec 2012 – Nov 2013)

On-the-Job training continuously conducted in Community Development Planning with Mr. SATO and Ms. KOBAYASHI from September 2012 to February 2013

Agreements and Memorandum of Understanding for pilot projects were signed between JICA/ACAP and 4 districts and procurement commenced at the end of January 2013.



In order to ensure that the capacity development needs of Local Governments and the project objective are appropriately addressed, baseline survey was conducted from January to March 2013.

4 districts completed their procurement to select contractors for pilot projects in 2 months-time and



construction of boreholes and a culvert and installation of lightening arrestors were started from April 2013 respectively.

A Japanese expert, Mr. MINAMI, was dispatched for the area of “Community Infrastructure Development” from February to July 2013 and conducted on-the-job training in 4 districts.

Equipment support of FY2012/13 was done in March and May 2013 to improve work environment of 7 districts offices in Acholi Sub-Region. Power equipment such as solar panels and invertors to all the 7 districts, 30 sets of furniture and some office equipment to 3 districts, and a total of 32 units of motorcycles to 4 districts were provided.

Study tours on “Sustainability Plan” related to pilot projects for 4 districts were organised by the ACAP project in Gulu totally 4 times between March and June 2013.

An expert in “Local Governance”, Mr. NAKAJIMA Kosuke arrived in Uganda on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 to stay for 2 years. He took over tasks in



an area of capacity development in development planning from short-term experts who were engaged previously.

Following the 4<sup>th</sup> Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting held at boardroom in Pader District Local Government on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) meeting was held at Fairway hotel in Kampala on 9<sup>th</sup> May in order to see an over view of project activities of the last one year and discuss a plan of FY2013.

Mr. Mutabwire Patrick, Acting Permanent Secretary, Mr. Bukenya Seguya Moses, Chief Administrative Office of Nwoya district and Dr Kubo Yusuke, Chief Advisor of ACAP, went to Japan and participated in JICA symposium titled “Bridge towards Peace-building by Local Government” which was held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013 in accordance with TICAD V.

A workshop on “Water User Committee” was held in Gulu on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in order to share experiences of water user committees of 4 districts and also to discuss how to develop it further among district and sub-county staffs.



A Japanese expert in Monitoring, Dr WATANABE, was dispatched twice in June-July and October-November 2013 to conduct assessment and training on monitoring activities by District Local Government.

Mr. SUGA, a Japanese Consultant, visited Acholi sub-region in August and September for follow-up of JICA training programme TECLG which sent Ugandan government officials to Japan last three years.

A Japanese expert, Mr. KURASHI, was dispatched for the area of “Procurement and Supervision” from September to December 2013 and conducted On-the-Job training in 4 districts.

Mid-term review team visited Uganda between 19<sup>th</sup> September and 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and the result of review was shared and discussed at the 5<sup>th</sup> TWG meeting at Gulu on 8<sup>th</sup> October and at the 3<sup>rd</sup> JCC meeting in Kampala on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013.