

ACHOLI CAP NEWSLETTER

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TRAINING COURSE IN JAPAN

Training course named “The Project for Capacity Development in Planning and Implementation of Community Development in Acholi Sub-Region”



Report meeting after coming back from training in Japan

was conducted in Japan from July 27 to August 16, 2014 in Japan, and 8 Ugandan government staffs participated. Report meeting for training course was held on 5th September at Acholi CAP office. All ex-trainees showed their motivation to utilize experience obtained during training course for their own work. The following is a comment of ex-trainee from Agago District.

First and foremost, I am humbled and honoured for the opportunity offered to me to attend the training under the ACAP- JICA project from the mutual partnership between the Government of Uganda and the Government of Japan from July-August 2014. The training conducted in Japan was inspiring, motivating and as well very challenging. It encompassed various areas of development which included but not limited to;

Local development Advisory System, the local autonomy system, Local tax system, Finance system, Policy promotion, Community based planning, Local government administration and citizen participation, Public Private partnerships, Subsidy for community development among others. Our stay in Japan was characterized by attending lectures, sharing impressions, Discussions, Observation tours, on boat sightseeing, visiting community development initiatives/ centres and enjoyment of the different recreational facilities. In all the above, there were striking and challenging insights adopted and currently being disseminated and implemented in the different Local governments who attended the training.

Out of all the learning’s, here are some few insights that our readers can appreciate;

1. Time management is the most important resource for efficiency and effectiveness in our daily activities.
2. Community led evidence planning is key for successful implementation and sustainability of development.
3. Patriotism and Nationalism is important in enhancing community participation.
4. Agriculture is the backbone of Uganda; let us empower our farmers in line with value addition and protection of the local markets.

Worth noting is the fact that the trend of development in Japan is the same as that in Uganda in such a way that both are implementing development under

the decentralization policy. The community being a collective body of people with common attributes as well as an awareness of inter relatedness and who carryout mutual communication with one another have the opportunity to develop common ideas based on their strongest feelings for their own development. The high level of autonomy system enhances citizen participation, ownership and sustainability of development initiatives.

I therefore call upon us to embrace evidence based planning and utilize the



Ex-trainees received certificate from Hokkaido International Exchange Cooperation Centre (HIECC)

diverse resources we have in our land for sustainable development. Be blessed, inspired and challenged if you read this article.

Thank you

Akullu Grace Regina (Ms.)

<SPREAD OUT OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA AND NECESSARY SHEETS TO AGAGO, LAMWO AND GULU DISTRICTS>

Spreading out a method for selection by scoring against standard criteria to Agago, Lamwo and Gulu Districts was started in August based on the agreement during Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting on 20th June 2014.



Planner and Population Officer, Lamwo District

Besides the discussion, an introductory exercise was conducted for District Planners as facilitators for trainings to be conducted for sub-county chiefs/ town clerks and S/C CDO/ACDOs.



Planner (right) and Project Field Coordinator, Gulu District



Planner (left) and Project Field Coordinator, Agago District

At the same time, Acholi CAP Project already distributed necessary sheets to all sub-counties/ town councils; namely Inventory Sheets, Feedback Sheets, Village Proposal Sheets and Parish Priority Sheets so they can



Amuru Planner after discussion of progress check sheet

utilize them during on-going planning process.

Monitoring and Assessment

Meantime, Acholi CAP project team together with District Planners of 4 districts (Amuru, Nwoya, Pader and Kitgum trained at Sub-counties/ Town councils in the standard criteria), revising a progress check sheet of planning and distributed to all Sub-counties/ Town councils in August 2014. District Planners and Acholi CAP Project team also discussed how to assess planning process of Sub-Counties/ Town Councils by using a standard questionnaire.

Utilization of the tools

Right after the Census period conducted Sub-counties and Town councils started series of planning meetings with utilizing the sheets. Therefore, currently the focus of District Planners is to mentor and monitor proper utilization of the selec-



Sub County Chief of Koch Goma, Nwoya District discussed deadline

tion tools during the on-going planning process.

The result of the monitoring is going to be shared among all districts in Acholi Sub Region through “Experience Sharing Workshop” to be conducted by Acholi CAP Project later.

<2nd Pilot Project>

PROCUREMENT AND SUPERVISION

The construction of boreholes in 32 communities of the four pilot Districts of Amuru, Kitgum, Pader and Nwoya started in April and were successfully completed in September 2014. JICA expert of ACAP (Mr. TANAKA Ichiro) started his on - the Job-training by revising Technical Specifications of the Bid Documents and holding clarification meetings. One of the modifications was installation of U2 Hand Pumps with uPVC Riser Pipes and Stain-



less Steel Connecting Rods as a measure against corrosion thus improving sustainability.

This modification was successful in Boreholes with installation depths not exceeding 45 meters.



Another expert (Mr. Kenichi ISHII) also supported Procurement from July to September 2014. He carried out several trainings on one stage - two envelope method of Procurement in the four Pilot Districts. The target groups were the Procurement Officers, members of Contract Committee and User Departments. The main objective was to deepen their knowledge in this method in order to apply into the district procurement. Below are some key ACAP's recommended ways forward in procurement and supervision of the third pilot project;

1. Apply one stage two envelopes method of procurement process.
2. Maintain specification of installation of U2 hand pumps with uPVC riser pipes and stainless steel connecting rods especially with pipes and rods centralizers.
3. As a measure against delay in completion of the contracts, the districts should encourage periodic management meetings with contractors, issue warning letters and apply liquidated damages as per special conditions of contract

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SUSTAINABILITY PLAN BOREHOLES

With the assistance of expert (Mr. Akitoshi Iio) water user committee training started in the 66 communities which received boreholes under JICA ACAP pilot project phase. Training started in Kitgum district and will be extended to Pader, Amuru and



Training in Layamo Sub County,

Nwoya Districts. The major facilitators for the training are sub county CDOs, health assistants and heads of hand pump mechanic at the sub county.



Hand Pump Mechanics training in Layamo Sub County, Paibwor



Training in Amida Sub County, Oyuru village