THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

# MAAIF

**Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries**



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*President of the Republic of Uganda*



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*Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries*



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*Minister of State for Agriculture*



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*State Minister for Animal Industry*



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*State Minister for Fisheries*



*Maj. Gen. David Kasura Kyomukama*
*MAAIF Permanent Secretary*



*Ms. Mary Aacha Orikiriza*
*MAAIF Under Secretary*

## inauguration message

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), through the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project (UCSATP), warmly congratulates **His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni** upon his resounding re-election as President of the Republic of Uganda for the 2026–2031 term.

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# Uganda's Agro-Industrialization Programme: Driving Value Addition and Jobs for Tenfold Growth

Uganda's Agro-Industrialization Programme, under NDP III, aims to transform agriculture into a driver of inclusive growth and jobs by integrating farming with industry. Key objectives: boost production/productivity, improve post-harvest handling & storage, increase agro-processing & value addition, expand market access, enhance agri-finance, and strengthen institutions. It targets priority value chains like coffee, dairy, beef, maize, fish, fruits, tea, and cotton. The 2024/25 budget allocated Shs1.787 trillion, with good overall performance of 72.1%. Anchoring Uganda's Tenfold Growth Strategy to reach a $500B economy by 2040, the program leverages agriculture for structural transformation, commercialization, and climate resilience. Below is a list of positive outcomes realized from the implementation of AGI for the period 2024/25.



## Key AGI Programme results

### 1. Agricultural production and productivity sub-programme

The objective of this subprogramme is to increase agricultural production and productivity through agricultural research, extension, water for production, mechanization, and disease control, among others. Over the NDPIII period, real agricultural GDP generally increased but remained below target during the first four years. However, in FY2024/25, it surpassed the NDP III projected GDP, growing by 6.8 per cent, against the targeted 6.0 percent. This growth also exceeded the agricultural GDP recorded in FY2023/24, which was 6.1 per cent. The performance was primarily driven by increased production of cash crops, livestock, and a recovery in fishing activities.

Cash crops such as coffee reached a production level of 9.3 million (60kg bags) in FY2024/25, exceeding that of Africa's largest coffee producer, Ethiopia. This success was primarily due to favourable weather conditions, supportive government programmes, and regulatory measures. For example, coffee benefited from the massive seedling distribution towards the end of the NDP II, while fishing activities gained from the lifting of bans in parts of the country. During this period, the Agroindustrialisation programme also invested in vital agricultural infrastructure, provided regular training on good farming practices, conducted extensive research, and introduced drought- and disease-resistant crops along with improved livestock breeds. The NDPIII also established targets for the agro-industrialisation programme related to the sector's share of total GDP, measured in nominal terms. Data shows that agriculture consistently exceeded the NDPIII targets, with its highest contribution in FY2024/25 at 26.1 per cent. The sector's share of total GDP in nominal terms grew from 24.6 percent in FY2023/24 to 26.1 percent in the FY FY2024/25.

Over the NDPIII period, the services sector consistently accounted for the largest share of GDP in nominal terms, followed by industry and agriculture. It is worth noting that, although agriculture ranks third, it remains Uganda's largest employer. This emphasises the sector's vital role in providing livelihoods and employment opportunities to a significant portion of the population.

**Employment in agriculture.**

NDPIII set a target of creating 100,000 jobs in the agriculture sector for the FY2024/25. This is part of a broader strategy to enhance employment opportunities and boost economic growth within the sector. Recent data from the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), derived from the 2024 National Population and Housing Census (NPHC), indicates a significant increase in agricultural participation among households.

Specifically, 62 percent of households are now engaged in agricultural activities, a substantial rise from the 35.8 percent recorded in the 2016/17 Uganda National Household Survey. This demonstrates an increase in agricultural employment. This trend not only reflects a growing reliance on agriculture for livelihood but also highlights the potential for further development and investment in this crucial sector.



*Newly renovated poultry hatchery at LES- Entebbe.*

### Household dependency on subsistent agriculture as a primary source of livelihood.

A critical outcome of the NDPIII under the agro-industrialisation programme was to substantially decrease the reliance of households on subsistence agriculture. The target aimed for a reduction from 68 percent in the FY2017/18 to 55 percent by the end of FY2024/25. However, recent data shows that this effort surpassed expectations; by FY2024/25, the percentage of households depending on subsistence agriculture had declined to 33 percent. This shift underscores the Government's commitment to enhancing household incomes and transforming the agricultural sector.

### Volume of production of priority commodities

The increase in the production volumes of priority commodities is a key indicator of progress under NDPIII, reflecting the development of these essential products. A baseline growth rate of 10 percent was established for FY2017/18 to measure future improvements. By FY2022/23, the production of priority commodities grew at an annual rate of 37.1 percent, surpassing the NDP III target of 35 per cent for that year. This success was driven by improved farmer access to technologies and water for production, and by enhancements in the management of crop and animal pests and diseases. However, in FY 2024/25, production growth slowed to 31.2 percent, falling short of the 50 percent target. This gap underscores the need for frequent strategic adjustments to meet production goals consistently.

### Water for production

The NDPIII recognized the critical role of water storage in enhancing agricultural productivity, ensuring food security, and supporting sustainable agricultural practices. The NDP III therefore set forth targets for cumulative water for production storage capacity, with the base year FY2017/18 set at 39.3 Mcm. Over the NDPIII period, capacity grew from 50.7 Mcm in FY2020/21 to register 54.855 Mcm in FY2024/25. The performance was attributed to the Government's deliberate efforts to construct storage for both on-farm and off-farm water for agricultural production facilities. However, despite the growth, this remained consistently below the annual NDPIII targets, as funding and investments did not match the requirements. In FY2024/25, the cumulative water for production storage capacity was 54.855 Mcm against the target of 76.82 Mcm.

The NDPIII set an ambitious goal to expand the area under formal irrigation, aiming to grow from a baseline of 15,147 hectares in FY2017/18 to a projected 27,242 hectares by FY2024/25. This initiative was part of a broader effort to enhance agricultural productivity and ensure food security. However, by the end of the 2024/25 fiscal year, the actual area covered by formal irrigation reached only 23,595 hectares. This figure shows a significant shortfall relative to the original target, highlighting challenges in scaling irrigation infrastructure within the projected timeframe.

In FY 2024/25, the percentage of operational water production facilities reached 88.7 percent. This represents a notable increase from the baseline figure of 86.7 percent recorded in FY2017/18. Despite this improvement, the percentage still did not meet the FY2024/25 target of 89.2 percent in the NDPIII. This



*Silage bunkers ready for filling at Nshaara ranch- Kiruhura.*



*Animal feed production complex at Kasolwe*

data indicates ongoing progress in enhancing the functionality of water production facilities, yet it also highlights the need for continued efforts to ensure that the target is achieved in the coming years.

## 2. Storage, processing, and value addition sub-programme

A key objective of the sub-program is to improve post-harvest handling, storage, processing, and value addition of agricultural products by providing cooperatives and farmers with relevant technologies and by establishing or rehabilitating agro-processing and value addition facilities.

A World Bank study revealed that Uganda loses approximately $400 million annually due to limited value addition, with over 75% of its agricultural output being exported raw. This highlights significant challenges in managing the harvest process. To address this, NDPIII set an ambitious target to reduce these losses to 15 per cent by the end of the fiscal year 2024/25, from a baseline of 37 per cent in FY2017/18. Achieving this would require comprehensive strategies and interventions to improve agricultural practices, invest in better storage solutions, and enhance overall supply chain management. However, statistics indicate that by FY2024/25, post-harvest losses stood at 16.4 per cent, a slight deviation from the annual target. Indeed, this was associated with an increase in export receipts in FY2024/25, demonstrating the Government's commitment to reducing postharvest losses.

Storage plays a pivotal role in the agricultural value chain, significantly contributing to the outcomes outlined in the NDPIII, with an ambitious target for increasing storage capacity. The aim was to expand from 750,000 metric tons (MT) in FY 2020/21 to 1,500,000 MT by FY 2024/25. To support this growth, the government implemented a matching grant scheme aimed at farmer groups, enabling them to construct new storage facilities across 57 districts. Another initiative, in partnership with the Grain Council of Uganda, further enhanced the capacity for storing and preserving grain. As a direct result of these strategic interventions, the storage capacity increased significantly—from 792,714 MT in FY2020/21 to 1,267,768 MT by FY2024/25.

However, it's essential to note that the enhanced storage capacity surpassed the NDPIII target only during FY2020/21 and FY2022/23, indicating that while progress has been made, further efforts were needed to consistently meet the ambitious goals.

### 3. Market Access and Competitiveness sub-programme

The sub-programme aims to increase agricultural exports and to improve the quality and standards of agricultural products. These objectives would be achieved through interventions that enhance capacity for quality assurance and market access, both domestically and internationally, as well as improve agri-food marketing infrastructure and facilities. Over the period, agricultural exports exceeded the annual NDPIII targets, except in FY2022/23 and FY2023/24. Uganda experienced a remarkable increase in agricultural exports, with an average annual growth rate of 29 percent. This upward trend peaked in fiscal year 2024/25, when agricultural exports surged by an impressive 87 per cent, resulting in export revenue of USD 4.09 billion. This is higher than the NDPIII target of USD 2.7 billion for the fiscal year. The surge in agricultural exports can be attributed to several key factors. Firstly, there was a notable increase in agricultural production, bolstered by improved farming techniques, increased access to inputs, and favourable weather conditions that boosted yields. Additionally, targeted efforts to market Uganda's agricultural commodities on international platforms increased their visibility and competitiveness in global markets. Moreover, the overall stability of the exchange rate during this period provided a favourable environment for trade, encouraging both local farmers and exporters to engage more actively in international markets. Below is a demonstration of the annual performance of agricultural exports against the NDPIII targets in Billion USD.

Agricultural exports against the NDPIII export targets Coffee, which has been the cornerstone of Uganda's agricultural exports, accounted for an average of 51.7 percent of total export value. Notably, in fiscal year 2024/25, the coffee subsector recorded the highest value at USD 2.21 billion. This significant milestone underscores not only the vital role that coffee plays in Uganda's economy but also the potential for further expansion within the agricultural export sector.

Other key commodity exports that exceeded their NDPIII targets for FY2024/25 include meat, fish, and maize. In that fiscal year, export revenues were USD 0.21 billion for fish, USD 0.079 billion for dairy, USD 0.005 billion for meat, and USD 0.107 billion for maize. These results surpass the set targets of USD 0.184 billion, USD 0.11 billion, USD 0.002 billion, and USD 0.059 billion, respectively. However, it is worth noting that tea registered lower export receipts than projected. The total value of tea exports in FY2024/25 was USD 0.055 billion, against the target of USD 0.094 billion.

### 4. Agricultural financing sub-programme

The objective of the sub-programme is to increase mobilization, equitable access, and utilization of agricultural finance through the implementation of the agriculture finance and insurance policy. Over the period, the agro-industrialisation program executed several externally financed activities. Both loans and grants financed these activities. The table below enumerates the projects within the NDP period.



*Hatchery complex in Abim- Karamoja*

| Donor/Lender | Project Name |
|---|---|
| World Bank | Agriculture Cluster Development Project |
| Japan | Atari irrigation scheme project |
| World Bank | Climate Smart Agriculture Transformation Project |
| EU | Developing a Market-Oriented & Environmentally Sustainable Beef Meat Industry |
| UKEF | Enhancing Agricultural Production, Quality and Standards for Market Access Project |
| World Bank | Multi-sectoral Food Security and Nutrition Project |
| IFAD | National Oil Palm Project (NOPP) |
| IFAD | National Oil Seeds Project |
| Japan | Northern Uganda Farmer Livelihood Improvement Project |
| Japan | Project on Irrigation Scheme Development in Central and Eastern Uganda (Atari Irrigation Scheme) |
| EU | Promoting Commercial Aquaculture Project |
| Japan | Rice Development Project Phase II |
| AfDB | Support to enhancing the Agriculture Value Chain Development |
| AfDB | Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation II |
| NDF | Farm Income Enhancement and Forest Conservation II |
| BADEA | Irrigation Schemes Development in Unyama, Namalu & Sipi |
| IDB | Irrigation Schemes Development in Unyama, Namalu & Sipi |




According to the Government Finance Statistics, Classification of Functions of Government (COFOG) compiled by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MFPED), foreign disbursements towards the agro-industrialisation programme amount to Shs. 5,536 billion to finance production, marketing and processing over the NDPIII period. Annually, disbursements to the agroindustrialisation programme were Shs. 769.4 billion in FY2020/21 and increased to Shs. 1,201.2 billion. This increment demonstrates Government's commitment to investing in the sector.

Private-sector investments are vital for the growth of the agricultural sector through financing. Although credit to agricultural activities grew in nominal terms, the share of the total credit declined. Agriculture credit in nominal terms grew from 26.5 trillion in FY2020/21 to 32.2 trillion in FY2024/25 while the share fell from 12.58 percent to 11.74 percent over the same period. This decline is mainly due to a faster increase in credit extended to the subsectors of trade, transport, communication, and manufacturing. Nonetheless, the Government is committed to boosting investments in the agricultural sector. Government is currently drafting the National Agricultural Financing Policy (NAFP) to address financing challenges in the sector.

### 5. AGI Programme institutional strengthening and coordination sub-programme

The objective of this sub-program is to establish and/or strengthen

a coordination mechanism of actors in the value chain and also ensure that services and resources are delivered to facilitate the AGI Programme agenda. For NDPIII period, the focus was on improving access to quality food and food security data in local governments to support policy and coordination, and the implementation of the Parish Development Model.

MAAIF is establishing an internet-based system, NINFAMIS, an upgrade from the NFASS. The system is intended to enhance data collection but also automate processes within MAAIF. This system will integrate data from several compilers in the agriculture sector to ensure quality, timely data. The Ministry undertook a user requirements specification exercise with data compilation departments and agencies to ensure the system's comprehensiveness.

## Programme challenges

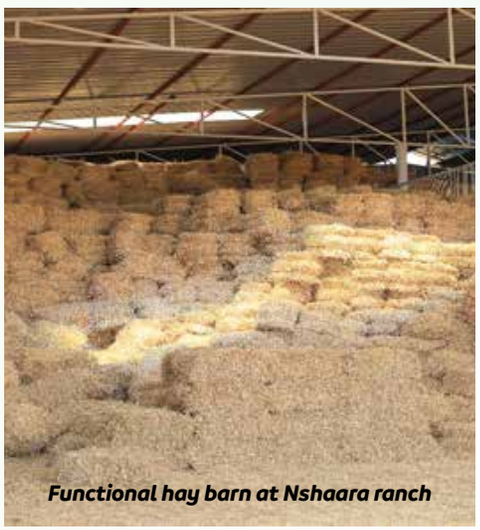
The following challenges affected Programme implementation.

i. Some countries imposed restrictions/bans on Ugandan exports of maize, sugar, dairy and poultry products citing sanitary and phytosanitary concerns and partly to protect their local industries from competition.
ii. Fewer technical staff compared to the tasks to perform for effective programme implementation at national and local government levels
iii. Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) reduced or suspended community-based activities such as extension and physical meetings; and infrastructure construction projects
iv. Invasive water weed more especially on lake Kyoga destroying fishing inputs
v. Rampant use of indiscriminate fishing gears
vi. Increased cost of feeds especially fish feeds
vii. Pests and diseases including the fall army worm (FAW), banana bunchy top virus disease, African army worm, sweet potato butterfly caterpillars and banana rust thrips.
viii. Escalating impacts of Climate changes manifesting through long droughts and floods disrupting production infrastructure, crop and livestock production.
ix. Rapid degradation of water catchments.
x. Land acquisition for infrastructure projects and demonstrations are lengthy and complex due to land tenure and ownership challenges.
xi. Many input suppliers did not have adequate capacity to produce adequate and quality inputs
xii. Inadequate critical facilities including analytical and diagnostic laboratories, motor vehicles (cars, motorcycles) for field activities, heavy machinery & equipment for construction of water storage infrastructure, high-speed internet connectivity and office space.
xiii. Overwhelming demand for water for production facilities (dams, valley tanks and irrigation schemes) compared to the available resources.

## Recommended actions

i. All Programme MDAs should integrate Covid-19 interventions into their annual work plans and budgets
ii. Government should invest in developing ICT platforms, adopt use of ICT tools to extend services (e.g. information dissemination, extension advice, supervision and surveillance of disease outbreak more effectively and efficiently.
iii. Urgent recruitment and retooling in critical areas and alternative models of service delivery be applied.
iv. Government should reactivate District Land Boards to expedite land access issues for Programme investments.
v. Programme MDAs should institute regular supervision and penalties to improve private sector provision of quality of materials and services.
vi. Government should facilitate the national and local government level staff with critical facilities and logistics for effective performance.
vii. Continuous surveillance and capacity building of the agricultural extension staff to manage the crop pests and diseases
viii. Research and investment in biological and mechanical control of invasive aquatic weeds


Fish breeding facilities at Kasolwe


Functional hay barn at Nshaara ranch




Agri engineering research support facility (100%)


Antitick vaccine research and production facility (98%)


Cocoa and coffee research laboratory (100%)


Aflatoxin research and production facility (98%)





L-R: Eight staff accommodation units were completed at NaLIRRI Maruzi in Apac District and Administration block completed at ABI-ZARDI in Arua District

**Research, irrigation, safe storage, increased production, mechanization, and value addition are being strengthened to drive agro-industrialization and transform Uganda's agriculture into a competitive, industrial growth engine.**















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# National Oilseeds Project (NOSP): Accelerating Uganda's Oilseed Sector.




*Makerere-CAES-MakCSID-MakSoy-7N-Variety-Release-by-NVRC-13th February 2026 -Samples-2048x1055*

Uganda's agricultural transformation agenda is gaining remarkable momentum as the government intensifies efforts to transition smallholder farming from subsistence to commercially viable, resilient, and market-driven systems. At the heart of this shift is the **National Oilseeds Project (NOSP)**—a flagship seven-year initiative (2021–2028) jointly implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Ministry of Local Government, with support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID).




*Hon MAAIF Frank Tumwebaze accompanied by PS MAAIF at the Handover of 169 motorcycles under NOSP.*

## Driving Structural Change

Implemented across nine sub-regions—Karamoja, Teso, Bugisu, Bukedi, Busoga, Mid-Western, West Nile, Acholi, and Lango—covering 81 districts, NOSP is reshaping Uganda's oilseeds subsector through investments in productivity, input systems, market development, research, infrastructure, and financial inclusion.

The project tackles Uganda's heavy reliance on imported vegetable oil, valued at **USD 300 million annually**, by boosting domestic oilseed production. Its objective is clear: accelerate commercialization, raise farmer incomes, and strengthen resilience among smallholders.

## National Reach and Scale

Targeting 4,600 farmer groups and 120,000 households, NOSP has already reached **over 70,000 smallholder households**, a testament to its steady progress and strong institutional delivery.

## Key Achievements

### Productivity Gains

- 162 motorcycles distributed to extension workers across 81 districts, improving service delivery.
- Nine contracted agribusiness firms supplementing government extension systems.
- Climate-resilient technologies promoted, including drought-tolerant seed varieties and crop insurance linkages.
- Yields doubled: soybean (300 → 600 kg/acre), groundnuts (400 → 700 kg/acre), sesame (200 → 500 kg/acre).
- Farmers expanded acreage from 0.5 to 2 acres on average.

### Research & Seed Systems

- Release of **Maksoy 7N**, a high-yielding soybean variety.
- New groundnut varieties (NARONUT 3R, 4R, 5R) released and elite disease-resistant lines identified.
- Sesame and sunflower breeding programs advancing with multi-location trials.
- 200 Local Seed Businesses established, multiplying seed across 81 districts.
- Innovative **Seed Box Model** mobilized UGX 91.2 million, enabling farmer-led seed financing.



*Packaged QDS Multiplied by Alito Joint Cooperative in Kole District.*

## Farmer Institutions

- 1,380 farmer groups trained in business development.
- 483 groups developed viable business plans.
- Over 1,100 groups trained in governance and leadership.

## Market Access

- Between Nov 2024 and Sept 2025, exports included:
- 24,045 MT of simsim (USD 41.26M)
- 16.9 MT of soybean (USD 22.02M)
- Groundnuts (USD 4.55M)
- 6,930 MT of edible oils/fats (USD 10.14M)
- Farmers now benefit from stronger bargaining power and collective marketing.

## Rural Infrastructure

- 2,500 community access roads planned; 1,034 km already contracted, with 90% completed.
- Improved connectivity is reducing transport costs, enhancing competition, and integrating rural economies.

## Conclusion

The National Oilseeds Project is more than an agricultural program—it is a **transformational driver of Uganda's modernization agenda**. By combining innovation, infrastructure, and market systems, NOSP is empowering smallholder farmers to become active participants in agribusiness value chains. The results—higher yields, expanded acreage, stronger seed systems, and increased incomes—signal a new era of prosperity and resilience for Uganda's agricultural economy.



*Bibiana Adyelo's new 3 bedroom House Built out of Oilseed sales.*



*Soybean Deonstration Garden established in Nebi District.*



*Tabu coopeartive Bulambuli District Bulking and Aggregation Center.*