

**REPORT ON THE FARMER LED DOCUMENTATION (FLD) CAPACITY BUILDING
WORKSHOP FOR FARMER LED ORGANIZATIONS**



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ACRONYMS

A2N	Africa 2000 Network
ALIN	Arid Lands Information Networks
ESAFF	Eastern & Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum
FLD	Farmers Led Documentation
KAFNA	Kabale Farmers Trainers Network
LIF	Local Information Facilitators
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MP	Member of Parliament
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
PROLINNOVA	Promoting Local Innovations
REN	Rural Empowerment Network
SFAPE	Strengthening Farmers Associations for Poverty Eradication
SA	Sustainable Agriculture
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Farmer Led Documentation (FLD) is an empowering process in which local farming communities take the lead role in documenting their knowledge and experiences for sustainable agriculture and natural resource management. The results of FLD can be used for purposes of knowledge sharing and exchange between and among farming communities, as well as with development practitioners and policy makers.

PELUM Uganda with support from Oxfam Novib organized a Farmer Led Documentation (FLD) capacity building workshop for farmer led organizations. It was held at Sports view hotel, Kireka, on the 10-11th February, 2009. The workshop attracted 35 participants (15 women and 20 men) from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Ireland. Organizations represented at this workshop were ESAFF Uganda, MVIWATA- Tanzania (which hosts the ESAFF regional secretariat), ALIN- Kenya, Oxfam- Ireland, Oxfam GB, A2N Uganda, REN, Environmental Alert, UEEF and PELUM Uganda country desk.

1.1 Workshop Objectives

i) Overall objective

The overall objective of this workshop was to enhance the capacity of farmers in FLD by bringing on board farmer led organizations in the use of FLD for sustainable agriculture and natural resource management.

ii) Specific objectives

- To facilitate learning on FLD among participants
- To share experiences and ideas on FLD
- To encourage farmer led organisations to integrate FLD efforts into their regular development and advocacy programmes

The report describes the context of the workshop, objectives, workshop presentations, FLD synthesis, case studies; group discussions, action planning; and the workshop conclusions.

2.0 WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Pre Session

Mr. Nicholas Ssenyonjo, a member of the FLD steering group facilitated day 1 of the workshop. He welcomed participants and thanked them for taking time out of their busy schedule to attend the FLD workshop. He briefly introduced the objectives of the workshop as well as the workshop programme.

2.2 Opening remarks

Official opening remarks were made by the chairperson of ESAFF Uganda, Mr. Hakim Baliraine. He noted that farmers had in the past not considered documentation to be of great importance to their livelihoods, a perception which had to be changed.

He mentioned that the 2 day workshop was an opportunity for ESAFF farmer leaders and other stakeholders to learn more on how farmers can take the lead in documenting their own experiences and the different methodologies of documentation that farmers can take on. He finally thanked the workshop organizers and the FLD promoters PELUM, Oxfam Novib and PROLINNOVA for supporting farmers and making the workshop possible. He thanked PELUM Uganda in a special way for hosting and fostering ESAFF Uganda since its birth to date. He also thanked all the partners of ESAFF especially Oxfam GB and VECO for the support they have rendered ESAFF over the years.

2.3 EXPECTATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

Workshop expectations expressed by participants were:

1. Sharing experiences on FLD.
2. FLD practice being entirely managed by farmers globally.
3. Farmers gaining skills in documentation.
4. Keeping time in accordance to the workshop programme.
5. Know about the different FLD pilots and who implemented them.
6. Get a broad overview of the FLD concept.
7. Know the practical benefits from FLD and share with other countries/ regions.
8. Interaction among participants.
9. Learn from what other farmers are doing.
10. How farmers can use emerging technologies in documenting their work.
11. Know the role of farmers in the whole FLD practice.

3.0 DAY 1 SESSIONS

Day 1 sessions included presentations on the introduction to FLD, general overview of FLD, FLD phase 1 pilot presentation from Kayunga and Kabale, Sharing of experiences on FLD by ESAFF Uganda, ALIN and MVIWATA, group work and plenary on FLD and an Exhibition on FLD by participants.

3.1 An overview of the FLD project

Ms. Stella Lutalo, country coordinator of PELUM Uganda made 2 presentations, one to give an overview of the FLD project and the other to introduce FLD with highlights of the FLD international workshop.

She began her presentation by quoting two proverbs highlighting the value of information and documentation.

*African proverb: "When an old man dies, a library burns down."
"Knowledge is Power" goes the old German proverb*

a) Definition of FLD

FLD is an empowering process in which local communities take the lead role in the documentation process and where the results are used by the community members for purposes of internal learning and exchange between communities, and between a community and development workers / policy makers.

b) Promoters of FLD

Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM)

PELUM Uganda is a network of 28 non governmental organizations in Uganda that are working towards sustainable local community livelihoods and empowered small scale farmers. PELUM Uganda is affiliated to PELUM Association which is a network of over 200 civil society organizations in 10 countries in east, central and southern Africa working in the area of participatory ecological land use management . Member countries are Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Promoting Local Innovations (PROLINNOVA

PROLINNOVA is an NGO- led/ facilitated Global partnership programme that aims to promote local innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management Partners in each country include government, research, education, and extension organizations. PROLINNOVA is in 15 countries, namely, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Ethiopia, Senegal, Morocco, Nepal, Cambodia, Sudan, Niger, Ghana, Mali, Solomon Islands and Bolivia.

Oxfam Novib

Oxfam Novib promotes a global society in which the social-economic contradictions between poor and rich are overcome, in which the world's prosperity is divided justly and in which people and population groups can get to know and respect each other's cultures, and co-operate on the basis of shared responsibility and mutual solidarity to benefit their development

c) FLD Steering Group (phase 1)

- PROLINNOVA International (2 members)
- PELUM Uganda (3) i.e UEEF, Country desk and A2N regional (Chair).
- Oxfam Novib (1)

d) Activities Phase 1

- International exchange and capacity building workshop on FLD. (attracted participants from 11 countries in Africa, Latin America and Europe) Report available on www.prolinnova.net/fld.php, www.oxfamkic.org, www.pelumrd.org,
- FLD Dissemination materials have been developed including a publication and 2 DVDs
- 3 FLD Pilots (Africa 2000 Network (Kabale, Uganda), Rural Empowerment Network (Kayunga, Uganda) and Farmer Support Group (Potshini, Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa)
- Dissemination workshops in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia
- Ongoing discussions and sharing of experiences on FLD On KIC website (Knowledge Infrastructure with and between Counterparts) hosted by Oxfam Novib www.oxfamkic.org

e) Phase 1 achievements

- FLD widely shared
- Isolated FLD cases brought together
- FLD successfully piloted
- FLD documented

f) Phase 2 plans

- More piloting of FLD in other methodologies (6 more pilots in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia)
- Bringing on board farmer led organizations (ESAFF, ALIN)
- Developing an FLD toolkit

3.1.1 Introduction to FLD

The 2nd presentation by the PELUM Uganda country coordinator was to introduce FLD. In her presentation, the Coordinator noted that, successful development of SA and NRM depends on effective interaction between knowledge and experiences of local farmer communities with expertise of development agents.

She further noted that development organizations are documenting and sharing local knowledge as part of the development process but this is done in an extractive mode where by outsiders control the process and the product are kept in offices and shared with the development community/donors etc

However, there are isolated experiences of FLD which is an empowering process in which local communities take the lead role in the documentation process, ensures that relevant experiences and good practices at the community level are visible.

Documentation is a process through which is information which might written, visual, audio and electronic about a place, an object, a practice, a product, an experience, an event etc for the purposes of learning, and/or sharing.

Conventionally, documentation is a top down practice where by technical experts (writer, video crew, photographer etc) carry out the process and decide on the method, purpose and audience. Results are usually shared within the development community or with donors and media (vertical sharing)

With FLD, Farming communities take the lead role in the documentation process and results are used by community members for purposes of internal learning (within the community) and exchange between communities (horizontal sharing) and communities, development agents and policy makers (vertical sharing) (PELUM, PROLINNOVA 2006).

There is a growing interest by development agents in FLD but little known of; the best designs of such documentation processes, available and appropriate communication tools and media to be used for farmer-led documentation, how farmer- led documentation has led to knowledge spread and a wider development process and improvement of livelihoods.

a) Key Principles of FLD

- Farmer driven
- Participatory method
- To be of benefit to farmers
- Integrated into their on-going activities

b) Underlining assumptions

- Farmers consider information to be valuable
- Farmers' experiences & practices of use to others

- Farmers able to express themselves

c) Benefits of FLD

FLD empowers farmers to:

- Speak about their issues/concerns & experiences
- Preserve & share local knowledge
- Attract external attention for their concerns
- Facilitates their efforts - e.g. marketing
- Gain new skills and insight into FLD

d) For whom and by whom

- Those taking the initiative and those doing the documentation not always farmers
- But decisions of when and how to document to be made by farmers (this is a challenge)
- FLD products for: farmers, policy makers, research networks, NGOs, farmer associations, development workers etc

e) How it is done

- Actual documentation to be done by farmers, can be facilitated by NGOs/technical experts
- All stakeholders to be introduced to FLD
- Strengthen capacity to use the various documenting tools
- Conduct a baseline survey to establish available methodologies.
- Can be in the form of written text, drawings, still/digital photography, video, audio recordings etc
- Be open towards the tools – traditional and modern
- Farmers to be encouraged to use existing tools

f) What can be documented

- Best practices, experiences, meetings, economic data etc
- Protection of farmer knowledge (intellectual property rights) important

g) Conditions for success

- FLD to be driven by the needs and ideas of the whole community
- Need for policy support
- Sufficient resources

h) Sustainability

- Linkage with existing structures for documentation and learning
- Integration into income earning activities
- Selected tool to match available resources
- Farmers to own the process and products

3.2 PRESENTATION OF EXPERIENCES FROM FLD PHASE 1 PILOT BY (REN - KAYUNGA)

Patrick Kasangaki of Rural Empowerment Network (REN) shared experiences from the pilot project titled; Towards Improved Farmer Participation in Documenting Agricultural Information.

REN implemented a Farmer Led Documentation (FLD) pilot project as part of its Question and Answer Service (QAS) in Kayunga District with the support of Oxfam Novib, PELUM - Uganda, and PROLINNOVA.

60 farmers in 3 farmer groups were involved in the pilot namely:

- Kiwana Rural Development Association,
- Busaana Farmers Association, and
- Patience Pays Farmer Group.

The pilot project lasted for 5 months (April – August 2007) and involved the training of farmers in formulating, capturing, and documenting their questions and answers using digital cameras and farmer information request forms.

Project objectives

- To enhance farmers' expertise in the documentation of agricultural information
- To build rural agricultural information archives at the community level
- To catalyze communication among farmers through farmer-to-farmer exchange of agricultural information
- To mainstream FLD best practices into REN's activities.

The process

- Training and group discussions in the use of the digital camera
- Hands-on practice in the use of the digital camera (60 Farmers)
- Farmers Capturing Photographs of their problems
- Downloading photographs from digital camera to computer
- Farmer Information request form
- REN and farmers modify request form
- Attaching the photograph to the information request form
- Expert Farmers identified
- Expert Farmers providing answers to the questions
- A sample Answer
- Farmer evaluation
- Compilation of information Archives
- Farmer-to-farmer information exchange

Advantages of the Methodology used

- Addresses a Specific Farmer Problem
- Appropriate for illiterate Farmers (Photographs)

- Mobilises Farmer Expertise
- Generates Archives that can be used for a long time by more farmers
- Costs relatively lower than other means - Video

Integrating FLD into the REN QAS

- The use of expert farmers to answer questions in our QAS (Expert database was developed)
- Modifying the farmer information request form to include a picture
- Information Archives – Reference sources

Project Achievements

- Awareness of farmers' expertise in answering questions created.
- Farmer's knowledge is being documented and kept in the community archives
- Farmer expert database compiled
- Tools for the FLD QAS in place at REN (Request forms & database)

Challenges

- Low literary levels (Most cannot read and write)
- FLD new concept (Farmers wanted REN to provide answers)
- Digital cameras for farmers were not easily accessible

Lessons Learnt

- Farmers have a lot of hidden expert knowledge which other farmers can utilise to solve their day-to-day problems
- Farmers are more willing to provide information if they are convinced that it is going to assist fellow farmers.
- Farmers become motivated when they are allowed to take the lead in deciding how to document their experiences and knowledge.

Recommendations

- Future projects should empower farmer groups with digital cameras
- Partners should Upscale FLD activities to reach out and involve more farmers.

3.3 PRESENTATION OF EXPERIENCES FROM FLD PILOT BY A2N KABALE

Mr. Jimmy Musiime, the programme assistant A2N Kabale made a presentation on the experiences generated from the FLD pilot project implemented in Kabale district using Video and Still camera in promoting documentation among farmers.

He started by defining farmer led documentation as; a farmer led, farmer owned documentation process of empowering farmers to take charge of collecting and documenting their own experiences. It's a shift from, top – bottom to bottom up information/ knowledge sharing where communities are the building block. A facilitator may come in only to backstop the on going process.

A2N is an NGO which supports grass root smallholder farmers to undertake initiatives geared towards livelihood improvement. A2N operates in 14 African countries including Uganda. In Uganda it operates in districts of Kabale, Kamuli, Mayuge, Palisa, Hoima, Kisoro, Kanungu and Kitgum.

In Kabale district where the FLD initiative was piloted, A2N supported farmers who took the lead in the pilot

3.3.1 The FLD process

Selection of lead team

The first step in the FLD pilot was the selection of the lead team from a cross section of active groups who subscribe to Kabale farmers Networking Association (KAFNA), a farmer's network with a 50% women representation. The selection criterion was developed by KAFNA executive members in collaboration with farmer groups.

A manageable number of 8 farmers was agreed to lead the FLD process.

Hands on training

A session to introduce participants to the use of some of the documentation tools was conducted by the lead facilitator. The training session centered mainly on the use of digital and video cameras as well as note taking.

FLD orientation workshop

FLD orientation workshop was organized with the aim of introducing the FLD concept to the lead team and sharing experiences on their current practices in documentation. The workshop attracted 18 participants from 10 farmer groups/ associations.

A Participatory video on the Batwa taken from Kisoro was viewed during the training.

Field visits

These were geared towards exposing the lead team member to various knowledge assets and innovations that could be widely shared through FLD. The lead team was indeed amazed at what they found in the field including the treasure d documentation in various community libraries hosted in farmers' homes

Feedback workshop

After the field visit to selected farmer innovators a one sharing event conducted and all the collected raw materials from the field was shared with cross section of stakeholders. Participants were excited with the results which included video scripts captured by the lead team members. The scripts were used for self evaluation and remedial learning.

Report on findings/ recommendations

A report on the pilot findings and recommendations for better integration of FLD was compiled and shared with all stakeholders. Among the recommendations was ;

- The need to bring more farmers on board especially women,
- Organize a workshop on creative writing to awaken the inner farmer writing skills
- Support KAFNA to publish FLD experiences in local newsletter.

Lessons from FLD pilot

1. FLD enhances information/ knowledge sharing/ cross learning
2. FLD increases participation and social inclusion/ gender responsive
3. farmers can express themselves in own words more explicitly without “middlemen”
4. FLD enhances preservation of indigenous knowledge
5. FLD products can be used for advocacy
6. FLD promotes cohesion among small holder farmers

Farmers’ reactions/ testimonies

Farmers who took part in the FLD pilot had testimonies generated from their experiences which pose as a potential source of encouragement to other fellow farmers. They are listed below;

- Video cameras are not as sophisticated as they thought
- With time, farmers can do anything
- FLD encourages sharing between farmers
- Farmers have a lot of indigenous knowledge which is hardly documented like local pesticides and medicine for animals
- All the information generated by farmers from FLD pilot project could be published and shared for wider benefit
- More capacity building needed for farmers in ICT for example computers to match with the global trends.
- Farmers were thrilled to see women holding cameras and capturing their farm experiences

FLD products

- Testimonies of farmers experiences
- Local farmer innovation
- Still photos and video scripts
- Community maps and profiles
- Farming products and market information, action plans etc
- Family photos
- Information on crop/ animal curative medicine
- Information on weather, climate change and seasonal calendars
- Advocacy success stories

Challenges encountered in FLD pilot

- Lack of basic equipments like video cameras, tape recorders and others
- Lack of documentation skills for example writing skills
- Inability of farmers to open up and communicate/ provide adequate information
- Inability of farmers to provide time and other resources for documentation
- Lack of capacity to manage FLD products in terms of storage and publishing
- Lack of supportive policy environment.

Sustainability strategies

- Capacity building of farmer groups in FLD

- Institutionalizing FLD
- Mainstreaming FLD in programmes/ projects radical
- Enhance farmers skills in advocacy and lobbying
- Organize competitions in documentation and reward best practices
- Sharing success stories (video, newsletter, radio) and the rest
- Fundraising for FLD activities by CBOs, ESAFF
- Train and equip FLD community lead facilitators

3.4 SHARING OF EXPERIENCES ON FLD BY ALIN, MVIWATA AND ESAFF UGANDA

This session involved presentation of experiences in farmer led documentation with special focus on the practice, benefits, challenges and lessons learnt. This session was to aid on information sharing among participants as well as identifying other FLD methodologies. The outcomes from the presentations are here below;

3.4.1 Presentation of experiences by ALIN

ALIN is a Network of over 2,000 Community Development Workers (CDWs) drawn from NGOs, community-based organisations and government departments, all offering a form of extension service in their fields of expertise.

Community Development Workers (CDWs) Informediaries

These are the people who act as a source of information and knowledge for the rest of the community out of duty or social responsibility. They work more directly with the community members who include; farmers, pastoralists and youths composed of both gender. Their core business is to facilitate information exchange among communities

What ALIN does;

Information Support

ALIN publishes and disseminates information on a wide range of topics on livelihoods issues focusing on sustainable agriculture, environment and market information. *Baobab*, is published 3 times a year since 1988.

Capacity building

ALIN invests in building the skills of the Community Development Workers to document and share their development approaches through workshops, meetings, field-based trainings, open days and exchange visits.

ALIN engages young volunteer professionals (Community Information Volunteers) to build their capacities in documentation, leadership skills and information / Knowledge management at community level with the help of Community Knowledge Facilitators (CKF).

Community Knowledge Centres

In collaboration with other partners, ALIN establishes and equips Community Knowledge Centres (*Maarifa Centres*) with ICT equipment to enhance information access, *Local content creation* and skills development among rural communities.

The centres are also equipped with appropriate info resources - publications, DVDs, CD-ROMs. Three of the centres have a Very Small Aperture Transponder (VSAT) technology, an earthbound station used in satellite communications of data, voice and video signals, excluding broadcast television installed to ease connectivity.

FARMER LED ACTIVITIES

ALIN supports Community Led Documentation activities in the region through network ing with members who work directly with communities (Communities include; farmers, pastoralists and youth). Documentation is done at the community farms or sometimes at the Maarifa centres.

Case studies; The Story of Kyuso farmers

In 2005, ALIN partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture and PELUM Kenya to pilot an online information service for non-chemical pest management in the tropics known as; Order Independent Signature Analysis Technique (OISAT) an information management concept on non chemical pests management in the tropics . For more information, visit www.oisat.org.

The pilot project involved 7 farmers from 7 farmer groups selected using a specific criteria. The farmers' role was to experiment, document and validate OISAT Information. During the planting season, the 7 farmers were encouraged to meet and share experi ences. Other farmers and partner organizations with interest in Agricultural activities were also invited to participate.

The 7 farmers shared their documented experiences on using OISAT Info and validation in the farmer sharing forums which were very enriching since they shared a lot of indigenou s knowledge on pest management and the farmers' feedback was later uploaded on the OISAT Information website.

The story of Mr. F. Kiarahu of Ngarua

Francis started documentation using photographs since 2006 because they are easily understood by illiterate people. The documentation involves various stages of activities in his farm and this has changed community minds on farming activities and other farmers have replicated his ideas.

Beneficiaries of Mr. Francis' d ocumentation

- Francis passes on his skills to others who include:
- Family members
- Neighbors and friends
- Visitors to his farm
- Community members at large

How other network members in Ngarua document

- Photographs
- Visitors book
- Farm input records
- Farm account books

- Farm layout
- Video/documentaries
- Web based at Maarifa – <http://196.201.231.147/eNRICH/>

KIC portal- www.oxfamkic.org

Empowering Communities in use of ICTs

- Capacity building on use of digital cameras and Mobile Phone s
- Use of multi-media (ipods, community radio, podcasts community blogs)
- Computer basics
- Basic writing skills
- Need to foster partnerships among communities and development partne rs as facilitators

3.4.2 Sharing of experiences by MVIWATA

MVIWATA is the national network for smallholder farmers of Tanzania and a host of ESAFF regional secretariat. MVIWATA was established in 1993 by 22 innovative farmers from six regions of Tanzania (Dodoma, Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya, Morogoro and Tanga) to serve the interest of the small-scale farmers. The main aims of the organization is to increase the farmers’ voice, to solve produce market problems, to enhance communication between and among farmers, cater for lobbying and advocacy and generally solve other farmer related problems.

Documentation activities

MVIWATA produces quarterly publications featuring success stories of farmers in the network. The magazines are published in local language (Swahili) which is widely understood by even the illiterate farmers.

The publications are disseminated to farmers at subsidized prices affordable to low income earning small scale farmers .

Reactions from participants

Participants suggested that MVIWATA should not only document success stories as the case seemed but also include challenges and lessons learnt in their document ation.

3.4.3 Sharing of experiences by ESAFF Uganda

ESAFF district representatives also made presentations on their experiences regarding FLD.

3.4.3.1 Mubende district

ESAFF Mubende was represented by Mr. Kitandwe Mathias . Their FLD revolved around development of Community Action Plans (CAPs)

Formulation of CAPs involved different stages and these include;

Stage 1; farmers realizing and identifying their problems

Stage 2; prioritizing beginning with the most pressing community problem

Stage 3; Identify problems whose solution can be tackled using locally available materials and formulate a problem tree

Stage 4; Identify solutions for prioritized problems and create a solution tree.

Stage 5; Finally create a final document (CAP)

He also mentioned that the CAPs must have the objective, specific activities, available resources, responsible persons and a timeframe for implementation. A monitoring strategy/tool also has to be put into consideration to keep track of the implementation of CAPs.

As a benefit, when farmers take the lead in the formulation of their own CAPs, it ensures proper allocation of resources to suit their needs. Farmers are also able to identify problems they can solve on their own (internally) and those which they cannot so that they can solicit for support from government or development practitioners.

3.4.3.2 Masaka district

Ms. Rose Nankya represented ESAFF Masaka and shared their experiences on FLD

One of the activities was to train farmers on daily record keeping of their activities for personal accountability and self evaluation. Records kept include; visitors book, farm records like different farm enterprises and sales from farm produce.

Documentation is also done on good land use management practices to promote sustainable land management among farmers and improved benefits from their farms.

Small scale farmers of Masaka have also tried to document and keep track record of market prices for their crops especially plantain famously known as “gonja” which is a very marketable crop enterprise in the region especially in trading centers and town councils on the Kampala- Mbarara highway for example Lukaya.

Benefits from documentation

- Records enable farmers to plan ahead with regard to their incomes and what they want to achieve.
- Documentation has prevented farmers from being cheated by middlemen since they keep record of market prices
- Farmers have been able to be accountable to themselves by keeping records of their activities, inputs, outputs and how they are managed.

Challenges

One serious challenge of promoting FLD among farming communities is high illiteracy levels among farmers. Majority of the farmers cannot read or write and this makes it rather difficult to convince them to keep records. Even though some one was to document for them, then putting records into use also becomes a challenge.

Therefore, methodologies that can be used even by the uneducated need to be promoted because the challenge of illiteracy is not a specific problem for farmers of Masaka but a global phenomenon among small scale farmers.

3.4.3.3 Mayuge District

Mr. Hakim Baliraine of ESAFF Mayuge shared their documentation experiences. ESAFF Mayuge works with other Community based organizations (CBOs) in promoting Farmer Led

Documentation among farming communities. These CBOs are purely farmer led and their documentations/ records kept include; registers, visitor's books, advice books, income and expenditure records, constitution and accountability materials.

Also, farmers have been able to brand their products from local innovations for example liquid manure, organic pesticide, types of crops produced like different bean varieties and other products they intend to package for marketing. This has promoted a sense of identity and belonging among farmers .

Challenges faced

1. High illiteracy levels among farmers
2. Climate change/ variations which has made documentation of events unpredictable like planting seasons, dry seasons and others
3. High poverty rates among farmers which has made it difficult to buy and maintain documentation

Opportunity

Introduction of Universal primary and secondary education (UPE/ USE) is likely to reverse the trends of illiteracy among farming communities. At least one person in the household can be able to document or use the records made. However, limited involvement of the youth in farming is still a challenge that needs to be tackled.

3.4.3.4 Mukono district

Mr.Wali Christopher of ESAFF Mukono shared their experiences on farmer led documentation, the methodologies used and the challenges faced.

Documentation methodology

1. Photographs (ordinary and digital photos)
2. Screening
3. Writing articles in newspapers highlighting their success stories
4. Use of computer and digital video disks
5. Newsletters
6. Calendars
7. Notice boards
8. Posters
9. Computers

Challenges faced in documentation

1. Documentation not entirely in the hands of farmers
2. High levels of illiteracy among farmers.
3. Limited access to ICT and lack of practical skills to operate the technology

How they can be overcome

1. Build capacities of farmers on the different FLD methodologies
2. Need to conduct research/ survey on the best FLD methodologies to introduce and the availability of materials used

3.4.3.5 Kisoro district

Members of ESAFF Kisoro take part in choosing the FLD enterprise . Types of documentation include;

1. Visitors book
2. Treatment books
3. Photographs

Challenges

1. High illiteracy levels
2. Poor communication and transport

3.4.3.6 Iganga district

FLD in ESAFF Iganga is centered on promoting local innovations . Local innovators document their innovations using photography, writing and branding the innovation products . They test results on crops and animals that have used the innovation products and the information is shared with fellow farmers who may want to replicate their innovations with support from development partners like PROLINNOVA who are interested in supporting local innovators and researchers who are interested in improving in these local innovations.

Benefits from documentation

1. Source of income through sell of their documentations to interested parties.
2. Documentation has enabled them to upgrade their local innovations and seek assistance from researchers and other development partners.
3. Documentation has improved on marketing of their local innovations
4. Passing on indigenous knowledge on local innovations to young and next generations.

Challenges

1. Limited funding for documentation work in terms of availing the necessary material for documentation like note books, cameras, register, visitors book and others.
2. Marginalization of farmers' work by the so called elites which has demoralized many farmers from documentation. The elites don't appreciate work done by the farmers, instead of building on it they just go to communities to extract information that suits their personal needs.

3.4.3.7 Mityana district

ESAFF Mityana documents in group meeting where proceedings are taken in form of minutes

Due to high illiteracy levels, ESAFF Mityana collaborates with farmer resource centers to record experiences of farmers

3.5 Group work (Strength, Weaknesses and Opportunities of FLD)

Participants were divided into three groups and were tasked with identifying the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of FLD. Outcomes are presented in the table below.



Plate 2: participants taking part in group work

Group one: Strengths of FLD	Group 2: Weaknesses of FLD	Group 3: Opportunities of FLD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotes cross learning and experience sharing among communities • Promotes sovereignty-Sense of ownership • Enhances policy formulation • Aids in advocacy work • Allows for continuity of ideas and knowledge hence sustainability • Helps to forecast and planning ahead– weather etc • Promotes quality of products, value addition, reference to previous records etc. • Avoids in-breeding promoting cross breeding • Blends indigenous and scientific knowledge • Facilitates research – Innovation and creativity • Promotes group cohesion • Source of reference in proposal writing and fund raising • Promotes transparency and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some farmers feel inferior to document their experiences • Farmers lack the necessary capacities and methodologies to document their experiences. • Illiteracy /low literacy level among farmers • Gender insensitivity-women left out so lots of necessary information for farmers is not documententated. • Some of the promoted technologies for documentation are inappropriate or inaccessible by farmers e.g video cameras. • Most of the time is spent on farming that farmers barely spare time for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It helps farmers share knowledge and experiences • Incentives to record keeping • Helps them get property rights • Technology transfer • Archiving info • Lobbying and advocacy • It attracts donor funding • Use of multimedia approaches • Create linkages with existing institutions that will facilitate documentation-e.g. NAADS has a component of documentation • Use existing platforms for wider sharing e.g. resource centres, KIC portal to share experiences

<p>accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps in M and E. 	<p>documentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different people have different ways of learning which are not usually considered in the FLD methodologies promoted. • Carelessness of farmers in record handling • Lack of proper awareness and capacity building farmers 	
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Plenary discussions and comments

- Takes time for people to adapt to new technologies, time frame given by donors is very limiting.
- Documentation should be a continuous process
- Use of community based centers, local facilitators, forums should be used to break the barrier of inferiority/culture

3.6 EXHIBITION ON FLD BY PARTICIPANTS

In this session, participants displayed materials from their organizations/ communities related to FLD. The session was in form of a market place where materials were displayed on different table in the conference hall and participants freely moved around seeking for explanations and picking some extra copies where necessary. Materials exhibited included, FLD information pack, Archives from FLD pilot projects, newsletters, magazines, community resource maps, farm maps, farmers’ visitor’s books, local innovation products/ materials and many others. Participants were amazed by the diversity of FLD materials and methodologies there are. It was an opportunity for participants to broaden their understanding of FLD since they realized that FLD can be done in different ways, using different methodologies that suit personal/ community interest and resource availability.

4.0 DAY 2 SESSIONS

Day 2 was facilitated by Mr. Joshua Jake from Environmental Alert. The sessions included; FLD in advocacy presentation, group work, action planning, way forward and wrap up. The first session was a brief recap of day one sessions which was given by the rapportuer to ensure that all participants are at the same level of understanding.

4.1 FLD IN ADVOCACY

Joshua Zake presented a paper on how FLD can be an important tool in advocacy . His presentation focused on Definition of FLD, Concepts, Principles and Application to Lobbying and Advocacy, paradigms to Community Development, advocacy and Lobbying (CAL), application of FLD to Advocacy and lobbying, benefits from FLD, challenges

associated with FLD, key lessons learnt and entry points for application of FLD in institutions/organizations

4.1.1 FLD definitions, concepts and Principles

FLD entails farmers at the centre stage playing an active role in the documentation of lessons and experiences in research and development initiatives. It is an empowering process in which results are used for internal learning and exchange between communities (horizontal sharing), development agents and policy makers (vertical sharing)

Environmental Alert used the FLD concept and approach in documentation of lessons learnt and experiences from her pilot project on sustainable land use and soil management in Lukwanga parish; and food and nutrition security initiatives in Tororo district.

In both initiatives, the farmers were involved right from the beginning and clarity was made on purpose and their role for any documentation, which was done. In addition regular feed back was given to farmers to facilitate them in utilization of results but this as well motivated them and enhanced ownership of the process. The process was twofold as described below:

1. **Service Delivery** – Participatory identification of constraints; deliver services to the community usually tangible benefits to overcome the constraints; notion that communities are vulnerable or powerless; and as a development agency, we have the capacity (resources both technical, financial) to deliver and overcome the identified constraints for example, delivery of farm inputs (seeds, livestock, fertilizers); agricultural extension
2. **Lobbying and Advocacy** - Participatory identification of community felt constraints/issues; Recognize that the Government has a role and obligation to address/overcome community constraints; as a development agency, recognize that we don't have adequate capacity to deliver and overcome the identified constraints; Appreciate that there are policy/legislative gaps that undermine success in service delivery; Recognize that communities have a lot of potential though with various gaps
E.g. monitoring government programs such as NAADS/PMA, policy lobbying and advocacy

4.1.2 Definitions for Campaigning, Advocacy and lobbying

Campaigning is about creating a desire as well as willingness to respond to an issue through mass mobilization with a single theme in order to exert pressure on policy, or decision making. Hence campaigning should have at least three important components including: an issue to address, a mass or popular movement of supporters, and a theme of the campaign (PELUM, 2006). For example, recently EA conducted a media advocacy campaign on land use and soil management in Uganda, the issue for the campaign was land degradation and its implications on livelihoods and national growth; the mass or popular support for the issue were smallholder farming communities, CSO and the theme was sustainable land use and soil management for improved livelihood, national growth and development.

The overall objectives of the campaign were to raise awareness of the land degradation problem and its implication to livelihoods and national growth but also present policy and practice recommendations to address it.

Definition of Lobbying

Lobbying is one of the tools of advocacy that takes campaigning further and is related to a specific policy or legislation. It is about influencing or persuading decision makers to make decision that you want e.g. pushing for provision of innovation support funds by National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and Local Governments. Lobbying becomes advocacy when it takes on another face of actions.

Factors/basic elements for effective advocacy

- There should be an issue that needs to be addressed
There are usually power imbalances at play such as gender, marginalization, poverty, HIV/AIDS
- Time – advocacy takes time to show impact, hence adequate time should be planned and allocated.
- Resources both financial and human - advocacy requires adequate resources effective and efficiently allocated.
- Partnerships / networking are necessary in order to create a strong voice or common position.
- Research is necessary for justification, gravity and implications of the issue or problem
- Dialogue with key stakeholders including policy makers
- Monitoring the trends and impact of advocacy

Key stages in effective advocacy

Effective advocacy requires the following stages as sequenced ;

- Identifying and stating the issue
- Collecting relevant information/research
- Design of objectives/strategy/plan for the advocacy
- Identifying/mobilizing interested group/stakeholder/audience
- Mobilizing and managing necessary resources
- Networking/alliance formation
- Involving all forms of media – sharing with them clear and precise information
- Establishing contacts with relevant policy makers (Government) – through a meeting, interface with them through dialogue or sharing with them documented products
- Monitoring and evaluation

4.1.3 Application of FLD to Advocacy

Step 1

Introducing the documentation activity to the farmers clearly highlighting the purpose, role of farmers and facilitators

Leveling ground regarding understanding of FLD among the farmers and the facilitator (including definitions, concepts and purpose)

Step 2

Agreeing on key documentation products; tools to use and method or approach (fliers, fact sheets; paper, flip charts; camera, pens; Focus group discussions) in light of the target (policy maker, political leader, technical official)

Exploring farmers' input or contribution to the process for example what they think should be part of the documentation or role they could play

Step 3

Actual collection of information (photographs, filming) and documentation of the issues clearly passing on the agreed upon advocacy message as may be appropriate

Step 4

This step involves; discussions on method of presentation of the message and who presents. A mentoring/rehearsal on how it would be presented is very important

Role-plays, dance, songs by farmers depicting findings

These could be done on a particular event where the farmers can interface/interact with their leaders (political and technical) or during celebration of important days like world food day. It's important to note that through all these steps, the farmers are central in the documentation and hence encouraged to participate actively. Mentoring or coaching on some of the aspects is part and parcel of the process

Communication during engagements with the farmers is through the local language hence even scientific terms and or concepts are explained and presented in simpler terms in the local language e.g. ('Luganda'). This reinforces understanding and appropriate documentation

Additionally, adequate planning in terms of resources including time, technical skills (whether internal of external) and finance should be done for successful documentation.

4.1.4 Benefits of using FLD

- Enhanced capacity in documentation skills of both the farmers and facilitators.
- Ownership of documentation process and subsequent products by farmers and increased opportunities for continuation even after the project has phased out.
- Increased opportunities for utilization of generated information by farmers hence strengthening their confidence to speak on their own behalf by making reference to the documented products.
- Increased visibility of land degradation problem and various strategies for addressing it.
- Farmers' efforts and contribution to food production and environmental sustainability were recognized. Hence they are motivated when they appear on a radio talk show or on television or in an article.
- Providing evidence that the issue we are working on is widely felt and therefore needs attention/action by different stakeholders at various levels.

4.1.5 CHALLENGES FACED DURING DOCUMENTATION AND HOW THEY CAN BE ADDRESSED

	CHALLENGES	STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THEM
1	Most farmers knowledge and experiences are not documented, they are resident in individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews, probing discussions • Process documentation from the beginning to the end • Encourage farmers to take records for example, giving them tailored simple

		data entry sheets, training in record keeping
2	Documentation is not a priority to farmers, their priority is addressing their immediate needs like food security, income generation among others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endeavour to address the farmers priorities first • Linking farmers to other research and development institutions which can address some of their interest/expectations • Providing regular feed back • Give farmers the opportunity to take lead in the process and only take a facilitators role. For example hosting them on a radio/ television talk shows and exhibitions
3	Limited skills for print and audio visual techniques of documentation by farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior briefing on purpose, process and their role in documentation • Practice and rehearsal • Continuous backstopping • Feedback with products for purposes of inspiration
4	Limited funding for documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource mobilization • Because people take it as secondary at inception, it is provided for as an eventuality. Provision is usually for end of project reports yet there are many process products as well as several products that can be derived from the report itself
5	Print audio and visual media for documentation is very expensive and profit oriented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons from others- first round of cost can earn you attraction of partnership that can subsidize the cost. Overtime, in house skills and equipment can cut down the cost substantially- script development, programming, shooting, design and others.

Key Lessons learnt

- Documentation plan should be conceived at inception and not in retrospect because some sessions/experiences when repeated simply for documentation purposes present as very artificial and frustrate farmers because of low value in terms of purpose (as compared to doing the real thing and documenting simultaneously).
- Need for demonstration of the value of documentation and the tangibles from it.

- Documentation is a tough task for farmers given that it is heavy on writing and yet is not one of their sports but also coupled with difficult language, low education level among others. Hence the need to allow for diversity of products but with coordination they can be transformed it into universal products

4.1.6 Entry Points for application of FLD in institutions/organizations

- Sharing insights/perspectives of FLD with fellow staff clearly highlighting associated benefits and implications
- Integrating FLD concepts and principles in organizational plans e.g. at strategic planning level, activity level i.e. as part of documentation of lessons and experiences or as a tool for advocacy
- Planning and budgeting adequate resources for FLD

4.2 GROUP WORK ON HOW FLD CAN BE APPLIED IN ADVOCACY

Participants were divided into two groups and each group was tasked with;

1. Identifying a key advocacy issue in which advocacy needs to be applied .
2. Come up with different strategies that can be used to address the identified situation.

Groups were given 30 minutes each to brainstorm on the given tasks and later present to the rest of the participants. Outcomes of the group work are provided below;

4.2.1 GROUP ONE:

As a start, the group brainstormed and identified the following issues;

1. Limited Access to Agricultural Information
2. Drunkenness among communities
3. High School drop out
4. Marketing of products
5. Land use and access and ownership
6. Youth idleness
7. Access to resources
8. Gender imbalance

Secondly, various sources of Agricultural information were explored as follows;

1. Ministry of Agriculture
2. Resource centres
3. Farmers
4. Research institutions
5. NGOs
6. Radio, books, websites etc

Selected issue for intervention: Limited Access to Agricultural Information

Associated Problems	Solutions
Limited awareness among farmers about information sources	Mobilization and sensitization of community sources

Negative attitude towards information	Conduct surveys
Limited extension services	Activate through advocacy
Language barriers	Translation to local languages

4.2.2 GROUP TWO

Issue for advocacy: Prices fluctuation in agricultural products

Probable causes-

- Poor post harvest handling mechanisms
- Free market economy controlled by demand and supply
- Reliance on rain fed agriculture leading to seasonal harvests
- Existence of middlemen who cheat farmers
- Lack of market information among farmers
- Poor transport and communication

Strategies for addressing the issue

- Keeping track of the market prices for different products
- Research about prices in the different markets
- Use multimedia approaches like community radios to express the concerns
- Conduct dialogues with stakeholders to seek solutions for price fluctuation
- Strategic partnerships with organizations
- Involving opinion leaders
- Documenting the exact causes of price fluctuations
- Value addition
- Policy of trade liberalization policy
- Establishment of farmer cooperatives/movement bodies
- Packaging farmers information/concerns in various forms for example tape recording and drama
- Organizing focus group discussions strategically on calendar days using farmers fact sheets for example during campaigning period, NRM liberation day celebrations and other political/ social days to get more attention

4.3 ACTION PLANNING

The participants with help of the facilitator developed action plans on how to integrate FLD in their activities. Each district/ organization came up with its own action plan which they later presented to the rest of the group for reactions (see Appendix 3). Participants endeavored to develop action plans that are simple, achievable and realistic in relation to the resources at their disposal and areas where they expected some associated support from development partners were clearly spelt out.

Generally, the action planning process revealed that participants had grasped the concept of FLD and appreciated it. It also highlighted key areas of intervention tailored to specific communities for development partners who may wish to further promote FLD among these communities.

4.4 WORKSHOP CLOSURE

Mr. Hakim Baliraine, the Chairperson of ESAFF Uganda gave closing remarks. He thanked the organizers for the wonderful opportunity for building capacities of ESAFF farmers in FLD and hoped that everyone was leaving the workshop with a clear understanding of FLD. He thanked the workshop facilitators for the job well done as well as participants from ALIN and MVIWATA who crossed national boundaries and shared their experiences with ESAFF Uganda and wished them a safe journey back home.

Finally, he challenged all participants to implement their action plans and endeavor to promote FLD in their farming communities as it is one step to addressing farmer related concerns. He also urged PELUM and FLD development practitioners to follow up on participants and offer technical backstopping to the FLD practice among their communities.

4.5 GENERAL LESSONS LEARNT

Several Lessons were generated out the entire workshop exercise by participants;

1. Many farmers practice FLD subconsciously through recording sales of their produce, seasonal harvest, prescribed medicine for their animals and pesticide for crops but the process is not systematic to achieve the desired benefits which later demoralize the farmers. Farmers need to be fully explained the importance of FLD, introduce new methodologies and build their capacities in applying emerging technologies in documentation
2. FLD is a process and therefore building capacities of farmers to document their experiences requires time, resources and dedication among development practitioners if they are to achieve the desired results.
3. Farmers are used to interventions which offer direct inputs to solve their problems like improved seeds, gardening materials and others. Such perception makes promoting FLD among farmers, an empowerment process to addressing their own issues rather not so welcomed by farmers. Their perceptions therefore need to be addressed.
4. Need to follow up on action plans made by participants and to build on them while designing interventions for further capacity building of ESAFF farmers.
5. Farmers have their own pressing problems which have to be put into consideration while designing approaches to introduce FLD. Farmers need to be convinced beyond reasonable doubt that by taking up FLD their problem will be addressed or at least a step further to realizing solutions.
6. Farmers need to be fully involved in the entire process of designing interventions on capacity building of farmers in FLD to create a sense of ownership among them.
7. Farmers need to be facilitated to visit fellow farmers practicing FLD so that they get a hands on experience as a way of further building their capacities in FLD and making the practice more realistic. Exchange visits have proved rather effective in arousing interests of farmers by interacting and sharing success stories of fellow farmers.

5.0 APPENDICES

5.1 Appendix 1: List of Participants for the FLD capacity building workshop

No	Name of participant	SEX	Organization	Designation	Address
1	Kate O' Donnell	F	Oxfam Ireland	Livelihood program coordinator	kate.odonell@oxfamireland.org
2	Mugisha Lydia	F	ESAFF Kisoro	Farmer	0772303808
3	Isingoma Robina	F	OXFAM GB	Program officer	0772345728
4	Rev.Canon.E. Mature	M	ESAFF Kisoro	Chairperson	0782055539
5	Kimuli K. Vicent	M	ESAFF Masaka	Secretary	0751992106
6	Nnankya Rose Frances	F	ESAFF Masaka	Chairperson	0776520239
7	Annet Isabirye	F	ESAFF Mayuge	Member	0754612075
8	Katsigazi Beatrice	F	ESAFF Mubende	Treasurer	0772931323
9	Kitandwe Mathias	M	ESAFF Mubende	Chairperson	0701421944
10	Kateme Agnes	F	VEDCO	Volunteer	0712744150
11	Kirevu Abdul	M	ESAFF Iganga	Trainer	0752373131
12	Mwanje Alfred	M	ESAFF Iganga	Trainer	0775755460
13	Esther Longahi	F	ALIN	Knowledge worker	esther@alin.or.ke
14	Noah Lusaka	M	ALIN	Program coordinator	noah@alin.or.ke
15	Aijuka Joshua	M	PELUM-Ug	Volunteer	joshajuka@hotmail.com
16	Mugimba Nancy	F	PELUM-Ug	Ag: coordinator	pelumuganda@utlonline.com
17	Susuma.M.Susuma	M	MVIWATA	Communication officer	susuma@yahoo.com
18	Anthony G.	M	MVIWATA	Project coordinator	anthonymhagama@yahoo.com

	Mhagama				oo.com
19	Ikaali Zeridah	M	ESAFF Jinja	Vice chair person	0782239880
20	Twayaga Beatrice	F	ESAFF Kabale	chairperson	0772340903
21	Baliraine Hakim	M	ESAFF Uganda	National chair person	hakimbaliraine@yahoo.com
22	Rwamahe Keith	M	ESAFF Kabale	Secretary	0715284648
23	Jimmy Musiime	M	A2N Kabale	Project Assistant	0772557018
24	Harriet Mulumba	F	ESAFF Mitiyana	National treasurer	0752848502
25	Stella Lutalo	F	PELUM-Ug	Country coordinator	0772580282
26	Nabaggala Ruth	F	PELUM-Ug	Volunteer	0712121373
27	Ssenyonjo Nicholas	M	UEEF/PELUM	Vice chair person PELUM U	0772420182
28	Christine Nabwami	F	ESAFF Mitiyana	Treasurer	0751848502
29	Nakijoba Irene	F	ESAFF Mukono	Chair person	0782586620
30	Patrick Kasangaki	M	REN- Kayunga	Coordinator	fld@isicad.org
31	Wali Christopher	M	ESAFF Mokono	Secretary	0772897943
32	Katalya Richard	M	ESAFF Kamuli	Secretary	0772686382
33	Ngobi Willy	M	ESAFF Jinja	Chairperson	0752613305
34	Byeraga Moses	M	ESAFF Kamuli	Chairperson	0751777064
35	Akatuhurira Herbert	M	PELUM Ug	Finance/ Administration	0779308918

5.2 Appendix 2: FLD workshop programme 10th -11th February, 2009

DAY 1

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8.30-9.00am	Arrival and Registration	PELUM
9.00-11.00am	Welcome Remarks	ESAFF Uganda chair
	Brief report on FLD phase 1 and workshop objectives	Stella Lutalo
	FLD phase 1 pilot presentations(REN & A2N)	Jimmy & Patrick
11.00-11.30	Health Break 30minutes	Hotel
11.00-1.00pm	Sharing of experiences on FLD	All participants
1.00-2.00pm	LUNCH BREAK	Hotel
2.00-4.00pm	Group work and plenary on FLD(challenges and opportunities)	All participants
4.00-4.20pm	TEA/COFFEE	Hotel
4.30-5.30pm	Exhibition on FLD practices	All participants

DAY 2

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8.30-9.00pm	Recap of previous day	Participants
9.00-11.00am	FLD in Advocacy	Joshua Zake
11.00-11.30	Health Break	Hotel

11.00-1.00pm	Group work and plenary	Participants
1.00-2.00pm	Lunch Break	Hotel
2.00-4.00pm	Action planning	Participants
4.00-4.20pm	Tea break	Hotel
4.30-5.30pm	Way forward and wrap up	Joshua Zake

5.3 Appendix 3: Action plans

1. Action plans for ESAFF Mubende year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Mobilization of farmers groups	1 st march-1 st april,09	ESAFF executive Mubende	-ESAFF Mubende, ESAFF Uganda,OXFAM,PELUM
Training of farmer groups on FLD	2 nd April-30 th Sept,2009	2 trained persons, EA, ESAFF Uganda.	ESAFF Mubende, ESAFF Uganda,OXFAM,PELUM
Radio Programmes on FLD	1 st Oct-30 th Sept,2009	2 trained persons, EA, ESAFF Uganda.	ESAFF Mubende, ESAFF Uganda,OXFAM,PELUM
Monitoring farmers on FLD	1 st Dec,2009	2 trained persons, EA, ESAFF Uganda.	ESAFF Mubende, ESAFF Uganda,OXFAM,PELUM
2. Action plans for A2N Kabale year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
In house training workshop on FLD for A2N field staff(Kabale)	April 2009	Jimmy(PC/PA)	A2N budget, PELUM resources
Training of LIFs on FLD methodologies	May 2009	PC/PA	A2N budget
Documentation of FLD outcomes form focus group discussions(develop a concept)	Sept-Oct,2009	PC/PA/PELUM	A2N budget/PELUM/OXFAM
Organise FLD capacity Building w/shop for NRM Local partners(write concept Note)	Oct-Nov,2009	PC/PA/PELUM	A2N budget/PELUM/OXFAM

Develop an FLD tool kits	May-june,2009	PC/PA/PELUM	A2N budget/PELUM/OXFAM
3. Action plans for MVIWATA year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Feedback on FLD workshop and submission of our proposal to MVIWATA	FEB,2009	FLD facilitation team	MVIWATA
Awareness creation on FLD to farmers village net works in 2 districts from Rukwa region(sebawanga) and Kuruma region (Mbinga)	March-April 2009	FLD facilitation team	MVIWATA
Capacity building workshops on FLD to farmers network representatives from 2 districts	April-May,2009	FLD facilitation team	ESAFF,PELUM,PROLINNOVA
Monitoring & Evaluation of FLD/Documentation progress	ongoing	FLD facilitation team	MVIWATA
4. Action plans for ESAFF Kamuli year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Awareness creation in formation and registration of small scale farmers' groups to have a strong voice	March-May,2009	ESAFF Kamuli	ESAFF Uganda secretariat/ PELUM and other NGOs.
Training district executive & farmer groups about FLD	March 2009	Chairperson and secretary	ESAFF Uganda secretariat/ PELUM and other NGOs.
5. Action plans for Rural Empowerment Network (REN) year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Mobilize and sensitize more farmer groups about FLD in Kayunga district.	6 months	REN	REN,DONOR
Scale out existing FLD farmer QAS initiatives to more farmer groups in Kayunga District.	1 year	REN	REN,DONOR
Exchange information on FLD best practices and methodologies with other groups carrying out FLD activities	6 months	Farmers & REN	Farmers & REN
Monitor the FLD activities in the project areas	2 years	REN	Farmers & REN

6. Action plans for ESAFF Kabale year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Identifying new farmers Feedback about the training	March	ESAFF Kabale	A2N, PELUM, OXFAM NOVIB, ESAFF
Training on how to use FLD tools	April	ESAFF Kabale	A2N, PELUM, OXFAM NOVIB, ESAFF
Field documentation(4 days activity)	April	Farmers and Trainers	A2N, PELUM, OXFAM NOVIB, ESAFF
Processing information	May	Farmers, Trainers, A2N	A2N, PELUM, OXFAM NOVIB, ESAFF
Dissemination of News letter	June	KAFNA & ESAFF Kabale	A2N, PELUM, OXFAM NOVIB, ESAFF
7. Action plans for ESAFF Mukono year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Orienting and mobilizing, sensitizing ESAFF MUKONO and other stakeholders about FLD.	FEB- March, 2009	ESAFF Mukono executive members	Technical Support from REN, PELUM ug, EA, ESAFF(local support 50% of the district contributions)
Conduct a baseline survey among communities (Farming) in 2 pilot sub-counties i.e Ntejeru & Kyampisi	April-July 2009	ESAFF Mukono executive members	ESAFF(local support 50% of the district contributions)
Training Farmers on FLD in the 2 pilots S/Cs basing on the results from the baseline survey at parish level	Aug-Nov, 2009	ESAFF Mukono executive members	ALIN, REN, EA, PELUM Uganda
Actual implementation of FLD in the selected groups in the pilot S/Cs	Dec-Feb 2010	ESAFF Mukono executive members	A2N, PELUM- Ug, EA, REN ESAFF Ug.
8. Action plans for ESAFF Kisoro year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Awareness of the executive members on FLD	March	Chairperson ESAFF Kisoro district	ESAFF members
Community sensitization meetings on FLD	April	ESAFF trainers	ESAFF Kisoro
ESAFF launching event	May	ESAFF secretarial	ESAFF Official
Planning of FLD amongst farmers	May	Stakeholders	i. Agriculture extension workers ii. A2N Kisoro iii. ESAFF Kisoro

Monitoring of FLD activities	June	ESAFF trainers, local leaders.	- Executive members - A2N
9. Action plans for ESAFF Jinja year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Capacity building on FLD of district ESAFF team.	March	ZERIDAH	ESAFF, PELUM
Meeting with local leader to disseminate FLD News.	APRIL	District ESAFF team	ESAFF
Train 30 members (one from each group)	May	District ESAFF team PELUM	ESAFF, PELUM, OXFAM
10. Action plans for PELUM Uganda year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Further fundraising	On going	Country Desk, Steering Group	Member organisations
Follow up on MOs, ESAFF and partner organizations on integration of FLD	MOs, PELUM, ESAFF, other partners	CD, SG	MOs
Further piloting and up scaling	On going		OXFAM S NOVIB, PROLINNOVA
Developing FLD tool kit/manual. More publicity of FLD	2009-2011	CD,SG	OXFAM S NOVIB, PROLINNOVA, other partners
11. Action plans for ESAFF Iganga year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Mobilization on FLD for Farmers	March	Kirevu Mwanje	ESAFF, PELUM, community.
Sensitization farmer on FLD	April	Kirevu Mwanje	ESAFF, PELUM, community.
Training farmers on FLD	May	Kirevu Mwanje	ESAFF, PELUM, community.
Monitoring the above	July	Kirevu Mwanje	ESAFF, PELUM, community.
12. Action plans for ESAFF Mitiyana year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Meeting with the district ESAFF executive to create awareness on FLD and reporting.	18-02-2009	ESAFF representatives in the workshop	Executive members
Meeting the farmer groups and sensitizing	2 months	Executive members	Executive members

them on FLD			
Visiting to establish whether farmers have the requirements for FLD	6 months	Executive Members	ESAFF members
Feed back / Evaluation	6 months	All farmers & the executive	ESAFF members, RUCID
Documentation farmer activities	1 year	Executive	ESAFF members, RUCID
13. Action plans for ESAFF Mayuge year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Hold executive meeting and sensitize district executive members about FLD	17 th Feb, 2009	Chairperson Mayuge	
Passing on the information of FLD to their respective groups	March- June	District executive members of ESAFF	A2N, ESAFF, OXFAM NOVIB
Monitoring and follow up	March-June	District chairperson, ESAFF, trained person.	PELUM, ESAFF
Documentation of the findings from farmers groups.	June	District executive members	Membership
14. Action plans for ESAFF Masaka year 2009			
Activities	Time Frame	Who is responsible	Associated support
Meeting of ESAFF Masaka	3 rd week FEB,2009	Chairperson	ESAFF Masaka
Mobilisation of members	1 st week March,2009	Secretary	ESAFF Masaka
Sensitization on FLD	3 rd week March,2009	Chairperson, Secretary	ESAFF Masaka, PELUM & OXFAM
Implementation of Documentation	4 th -1 st week April, 2009	Members	ESAFF Masaka
Monitoring and Evaluation	3 rd week April, 2009	Chairperson	PELUM & OXFAM