

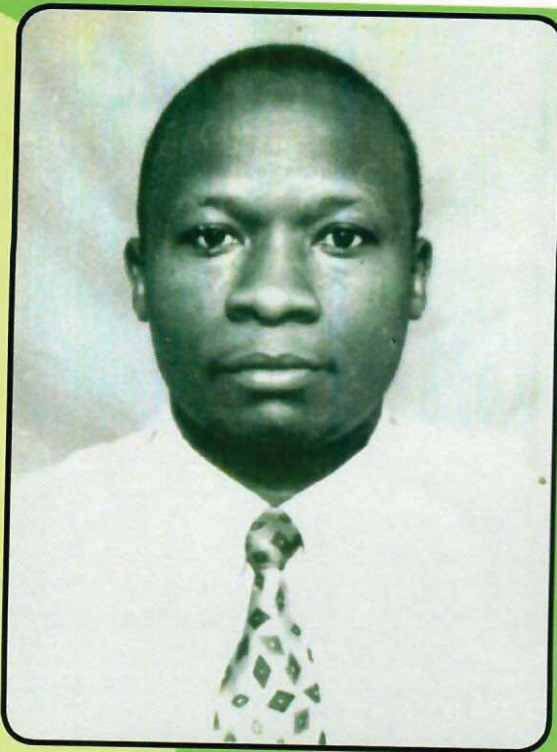
**AGENCY
FOR
INTERGRATED
RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2009**

Work with the Poor to Foster Development

Table of Contents

Word from the Chairperson	3
Word from the Executive Director	4
AFIRD staff	5
Statements: Vision, Mission and Values of AFIRD	6
1.0 AFIRD performance in 2009	
1.1 Agricultural production	7
1.1.1 Crops	7
1.1.2 Livestock	10
1.2 Value Addition and Market Access	13
1.3 Human Rights	14
1.3.1 Gender and HIV/AIDS	14
1.3.2 Access to clean water	15
1.4 Environment management	18
2.0 Situational analysis in the North	19
3.0 Overview of Funding	20



Word from the Chairman

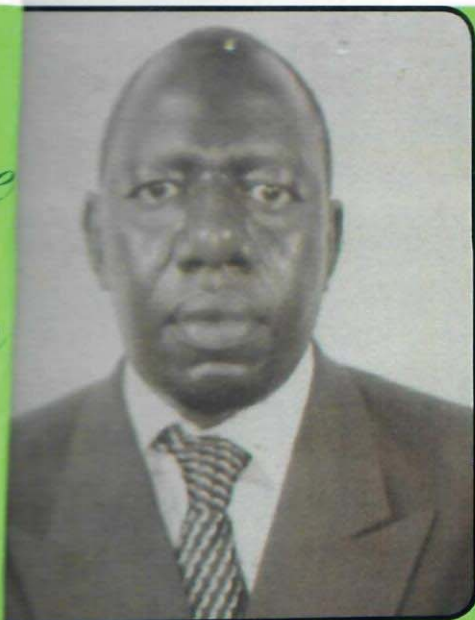
In this era of globalization, the market is ruling economies of both developed and less developed countries. However, not all sections of the population are benefiting from this new trend of development. There is need to target excluded sections and iam happy AFIRD is doing so. Among the section which are supported by AFIRD include marginalized groups like the Women, the youth and small scale farmers whose average land holding is about 3 acres.

In 2009, we were able to reach directly to 813 small holder farmers organized in 38 farmer groups. In addition we also carried out a situational analysis in Otuke, Kaberamaido and Amolatar districts. On behalf of the AFIRD Executive, I would like to thank the Staff whose efforts have generated the results in this report.

I would also like to thank our partners who have helped us to reach out to the marginalized groups. These include; the Donor World, Partner NGOs, the Private Sector and local authorities in the districts were we worked.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Kasule'.

Joseph Kasule
Chairman AFIRD Executive Board



Word from the Executive Director

AFIRD has existed for 10 years but what has never changed is its commitment and devotion to building capacity of farmers to take up and promote sustainable agriculture to address food security and improve household income.

I wish to call upon all promoters of sustainable agriculture in Uganda, to celebrate AFIRD key achievements in 2009.

I also wish to recognize our partners without whom we would never have received the commendable achievements. First of all, I wish to recognize the support of our Technical and Financial partners who include; Misereor. They provided funding /advice which made our work possible. Secondary, I also wish to commend the support of our local partners who include district authorities of Central and Northern Uganda where we were able to implement activities in the year 2009. I also wish to commend the likeminded partners mainly NGOs and private companies without whom our efforts would never have borne results. Finally I also take this opportunity to thank the beneficiaries without whose efforts there would be no work done.

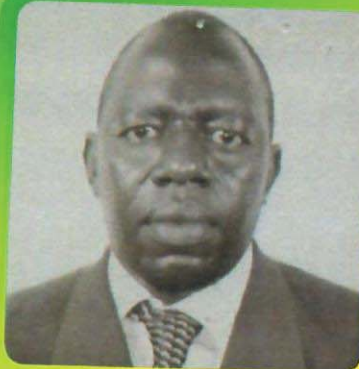
This year, a number of capacity building exercises were carried out. These included training and extension together with exposure visits. Information was also provided to beneficiaries which enabled them to make informed decisions. Seeds were also provided to the farmers to improve on productivity. The outcomes of our efforts are presented in the performance section of this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eustace Sajjabi', written in a cursive style.

Eustace Sajjabi
Executive Director AFIRD

AFIRD

Staff



Eustace Sajjabi
Executive Director



Julius Justice Musimenta
Deputy Director



Nyakato Verah
Monitoring & Evaluation Officer



Annet Nakiwala
Administration/ Finance Manager



Dr. Kirembe Gerald
Programme officer, Animal Husbandry



Kaggoya Lydia
Programme Officer Advocacy



Musisi Sulaiti
Programme Officer, Market Access



Dhalia Nabunnya
Fundraising Officer

Statements: Vision, Mission and Values of AFIRD

AFIRD Vision

We envision:

A society free from hunger and disease living in a peaceful and green environment

AFIRD Mission

We are:

A national NGO working with vulnerable communities and development partners.
We aim at improving the livelihoods of vulnerable communities through capacity building in sustainable natural resources management to increase household income.

AFIRD Values:

With the people at the center of development:

We believe in Justice

We strive for excellence

We value self-reliance

We learn and share from each other

We value honesty, transparency and accountability

We are loyal, honest and trustworthy

We believe in love thy neighbour

1.0 AFIRD PERFORMANCE DURING THE YEAR 2009

All the insights in this section are based on some outcomes of the strategic plan 2009-2013.

This Strategic Plan whose mission is aimed at improving the livelihoods of vulnerable communities through capacity building in sustainable natural resources management to increase household income the second in the history of AFIRD. Its overall program goal is to increase farmer households' income by 50% by 2014 in the AFIRD operational area.

In the year 2009, AFIRD had interventions in the areas of Agricultural production and environment conservation, Access to markets and Human rights.

Achievements

AFIRD was able to reach out to 813 direct beneficiaries organized in 38 farmer groups in Wakiso district. In addition, 5 schools were also reached and three communities of Lango region in Northern Uganda where a situational analysis was carried out.

Of the 38 farmer groups, 18 were in their first project cycle (3 years) where the result areas worked upon were increased crop and animal productivity. On the other hand, the remaining 20 farmer groups had completed their first project cycle and were in year two of the second project cycle. Project measures in the latter category targeted group empowerment and access to markets. In this Annual report, the groups in the first project cycle are referred to as new groups while those in the second cycle are referred to as old groups.

Performance at farmer group level was collected using result monitoring frames where a sample of farmer groups met and scored their performance according to a set target which had criteria for its evaluation.

1.1 Agricultural production

1.1.1 Crops

According to the result monitoring framework analyzed data, two important areas of income from crop sales (38%) remained low and animal sales (39%) remained static. This may be attributed to the long dry season of 2009 which affected all levels of production.

Comparing new groups to old groups, the latter performed better as shown by the results below. The detailed criteria that constitute the above indicator are provided below:

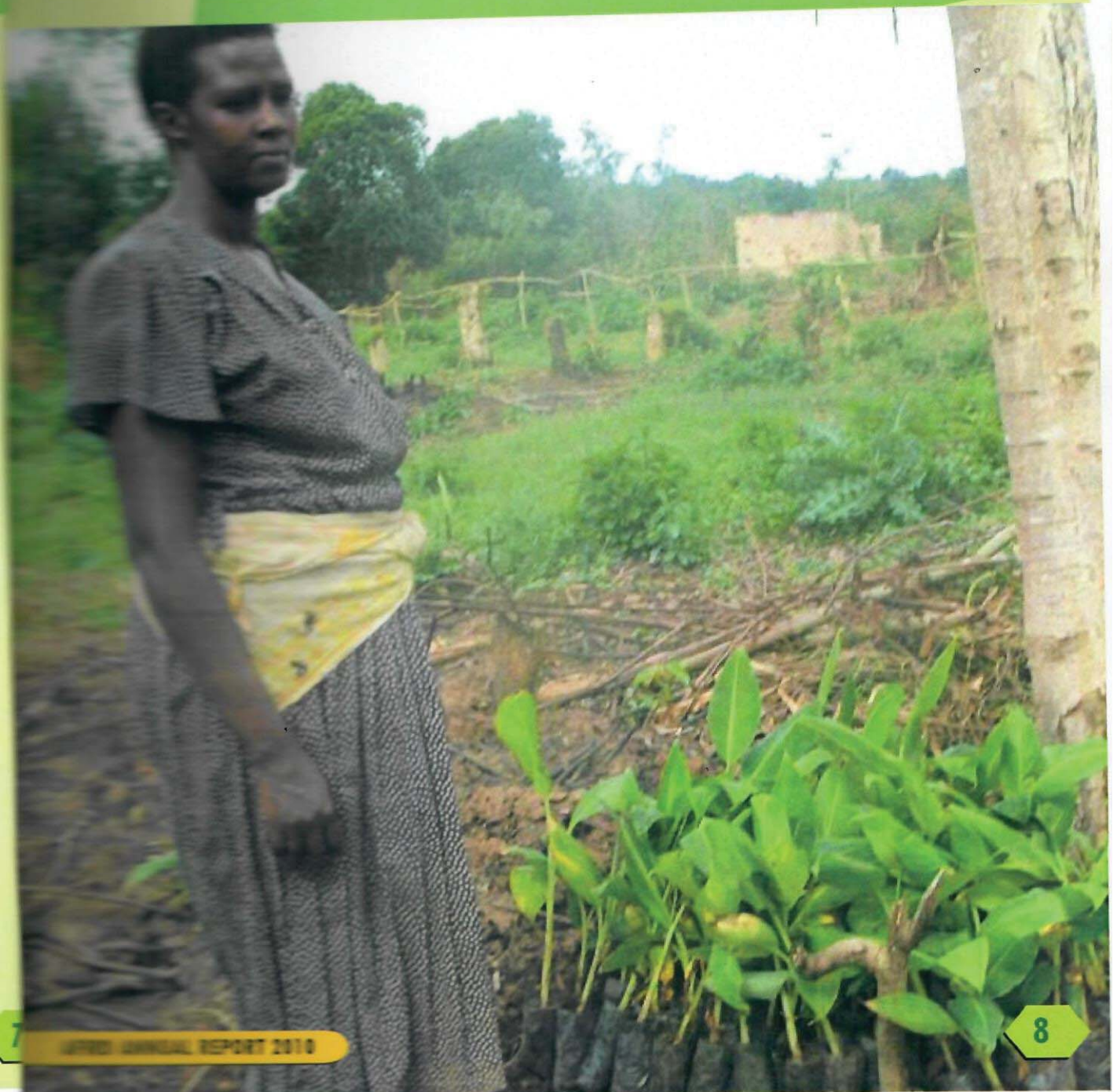
Criteria	Medium +	New
1 Food security at household level	88%	96%
2 Income from crop sales	85%	55%
3 Income from animal products	82%	38%
4 Income from other activities	3%	39%
5 Ability of household to afford medical care	100%	88%
6 School enrolment of children	97%	82%
Total % for index	87%	66%

Table 1.

Overall, the old groups achieved the project goal of 75% having scored 87%.

The success of the old groups over the new groups maybe attributed to the longer extension cycle given to the old groups (6 years as compared to 3 years).

There was a down ward trend in Banana production at an average of 80 stools. For the poorer farmers' production was at 20 stools. This reduction attributed to the out break of diseases especially banana bacterial wilt that have wiped out entire gardens of plantations. This we are tackling by providing clean planting materials in form of tissue cultures and also sensitizing the farmers on preventive measures of bacterial wilt disease.





Ms. Nabacwa, in the plantation which she established out of the tissue culture banana provided by the AFIRD

Coffee production stood at an average of 80 kgs among project farmers despite its ready market and potential. There were farmers not involved in its production. The reduction in coffee production was attributed to the coffee wilt that has killed many trees and at times wiped out plantations. In order to tackle the issue of the coffee wilt, we worked with the National Union of Coffee farmers (NUCAFE) who have provided us with seeds from elite trees (which have resisted the coffee wilt) for distribution to our farmers. The five old groups which are supported by funding from MISEREOR have established nurseries at group level where individual farmers are getting seedlings to plant.



Coffee seedlings from a farmer group supported by AFIRD.

100% Livestock

Indicator: 70% of the farmer groups trained are able to look after their animals well and scale up their livestock production.

Seven criteria were used to calculate this indicator. State of roof for goats, poultry, pigs, bedding for cattle and pigs, urine tank, manure utilization, fodder, health, water and vaccination.

Of the 100 farmers trained, 39% of them managed to look after their animals well and scale up their livestock production. The farmers had low income levels which made it hard for them to invest in animal production. This is further compounded by the poor animal breeds kept by the farmers.

In general, livestock production improved compared to last year's results. However, poultry production declined. This was attributed to disease outbreak and high cost of feeds especially during the long dry season of 2009.

The qualitative data of the old farmer groups still showed a better performance as compared to new groups. The old groups had more improved breeds of livestock than the new groups. However, the new groups performed better in poultry production.

It is important to note that the average number of cattle per farmer for old groups was high. This is attributed to the impact of AFIRD support and zero-grazing projects which are coming up to promote dairy farming and exploit market opportunities created by the nearby City. A point of concern is the BUBUSI dairy cooperatives where there is ready market for farmers' milk.

A health hazard is also likely to develop, especially for farmers who keep a high number of zero-grazing animals. This has prompted us to initiate dialogue with SNV-the Netherlands development organization on biogas development among zero-grazers in the project area.

Table 2. Showing livestock distribution in old groups

Quantitative indicator	% farmers with at least one animal	Average no
Goats	52%	2.0
Goats improved breed	29%	0.9
Pigs	54%	2.7
Pigs improved	13%	1.4
Cattle	72%	1.8
Dairy cattle	47%	0.7
Poultry	73%	16.9
Improved poultry	14%	9.4

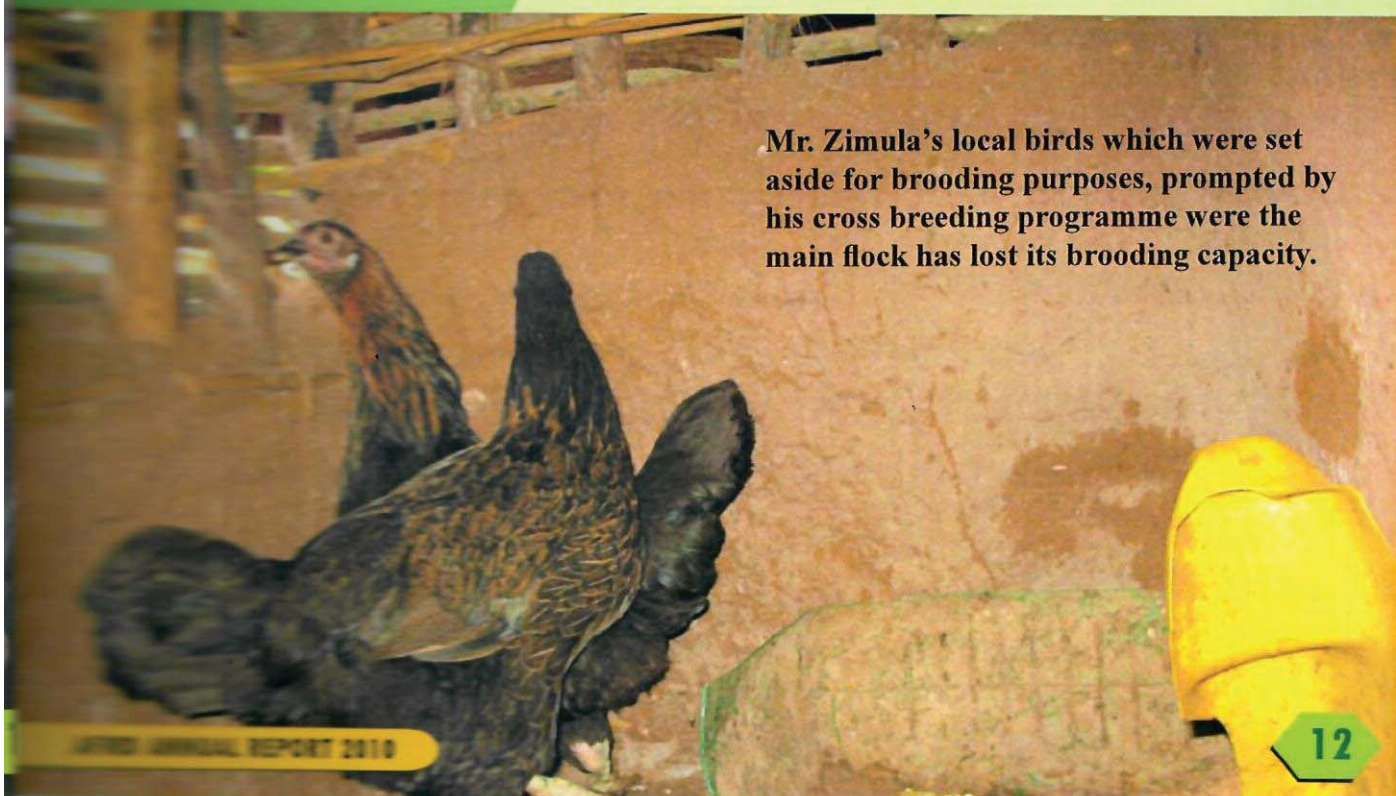
One of the AFIRD beneficiaries feeding her zero-grazing animals



In regards poultry, achievements made in the new groups can be partly attributed to efforts made by the project in poultry promotion. During the year we carried out two activities targeting poultry: participatory technology development and breeding for meat and egg production. So far we have supported eight farmer groups in this regard and the remaining ones are getting the underway.



Poultry stock from breeding efforts of Mr. Zimula of Kyengeza AFIRD group, supported by the project



Mr. Zimula's local birds which were set aside for brooding purposes, prompted by his cross breeding programme were the main flock has lost its brooding capacity.

1.2 Value Addition and Access to markets

All the 20 old groups have benefited from measures aimed at value addition and access to markets. Two of these groups were able to process products which have accessed supermarket shelves. On the other hand 9 of the twenty groups were able to market collectively.

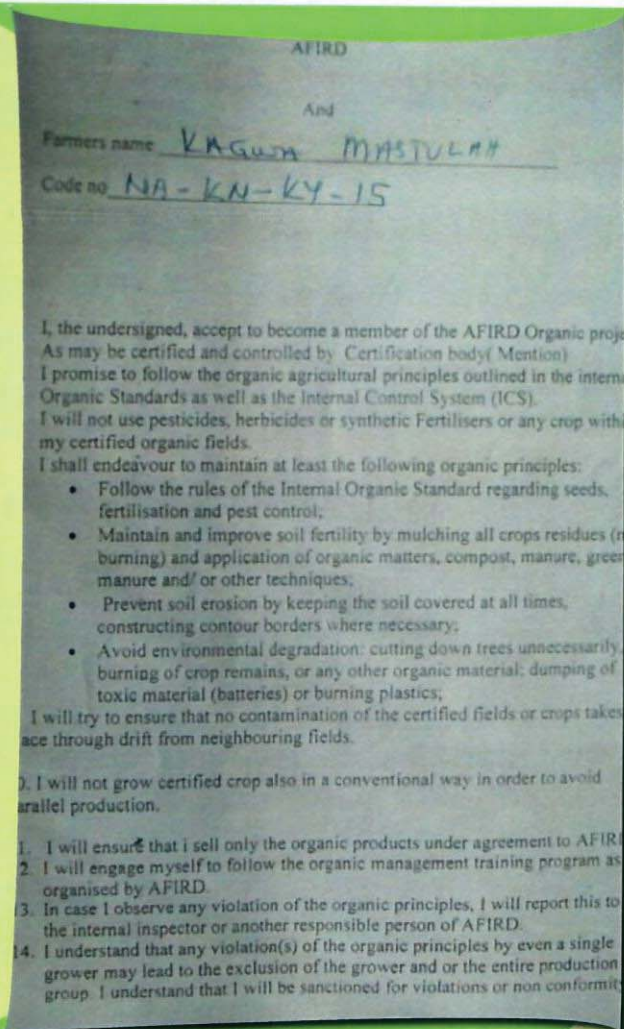
Among the project measures carried out in this regard are; training and exposure visits to kampala markets and development of internal control system for organic market of coffee.

Farmers in one of the coffee group; Sentema were able to process coffee at group level and benefited from advantages of bulking. Mr. Serulangira, one of the group members pointed out that he was able to get an extra UGX 170,000 from his 5 bags of unprocessed coffee, equivalent to about 300 Kilograms.

It was also noted that coffee from our farmer groups gave a better price compared to the general coffee produced by other farmers in the project area. One of the farmers from Sentema group, Mr. Ndawula, told project staff that his coffee was bought by middlemen at UGX 1,000 per kilogram whereas the maximum price for other farmers in his area was only UGX 900. This, he said was achieved because he manages his land using organic methods and also harvests only ripe berries which results good quality cherries which are heavy and have less black beans he also dries his coffee on tarpaulin.

It is important to note that support on coffee has been given to only 5 of our old groups which leave a gap of 15 old and 18 new groups. There is need to extend this kind of support to the groups which are not reached.





Front page of the contract signed between the farmers and the project

1.3 Human Rights

1.3.1 Gender & HIV/AIDS

In the human rights area, we were able to carry out gender and HIV/AIDS mainstreaming activities. These included promotion of gender friendly technologies and access to clean water by vulnerable groups.

On HIV/AIDS, constraints identified included;

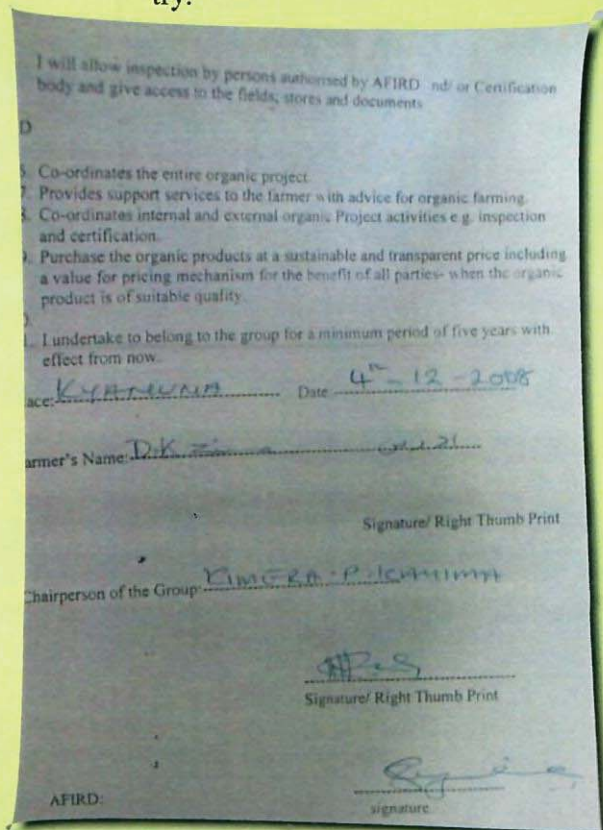
- Increased number of people living with HIV/AIDS in married couples
- Many people who are infected or affected by HIV/AIDS are not receiving support from the government
- The nearby army barracks (1st Division) is promoting promiscuity. A discussion with an official from one of the dispensaries in AFIRD opera-

tional area revealed that whenever soldiers get their salary, prostitutes travel from as far as kampala city to come and share the soldiers proceeds

- ARVs need to be taken when people are able to feed very well
- There are terminally ill people staying far from the health centers
- School requirements are high yet the income of many HIV/AIDS affected people is constrained

Achievements have been gained in the fight against HIV/AIDS, but further efforts need to be done. Further measures which could be carried out include;

- Promotion of sharing of labor to mitigate against labor constraints. For example digging water conservation structures.
- Promotion of small animals for women and children such as poultry.



Hind page of the signed copy of the contract

- Promotion of a farming system which favors women
- Promotion of nutrition through vegetables and fruits supplements
- Sustainable clean water sources near homes to reduce on disease burden and also ensure that time for productive work is saved
- Promotion of micro-finance services which are friendly to farmers and vulnerable groups

1.3.2 Access to clean water

It was an interesting experience to facilitate negotiations between water users and land owners. In one of the areas where the shallow well was established, the owner of the land (Mr. Kagwa) did not like its protection due to past experience where children who used to come to fetch water stole his sugarcanes (planted) next to the well. It took sustained dialogue and facilitation between the users and the owner to agree on the construction of the well.

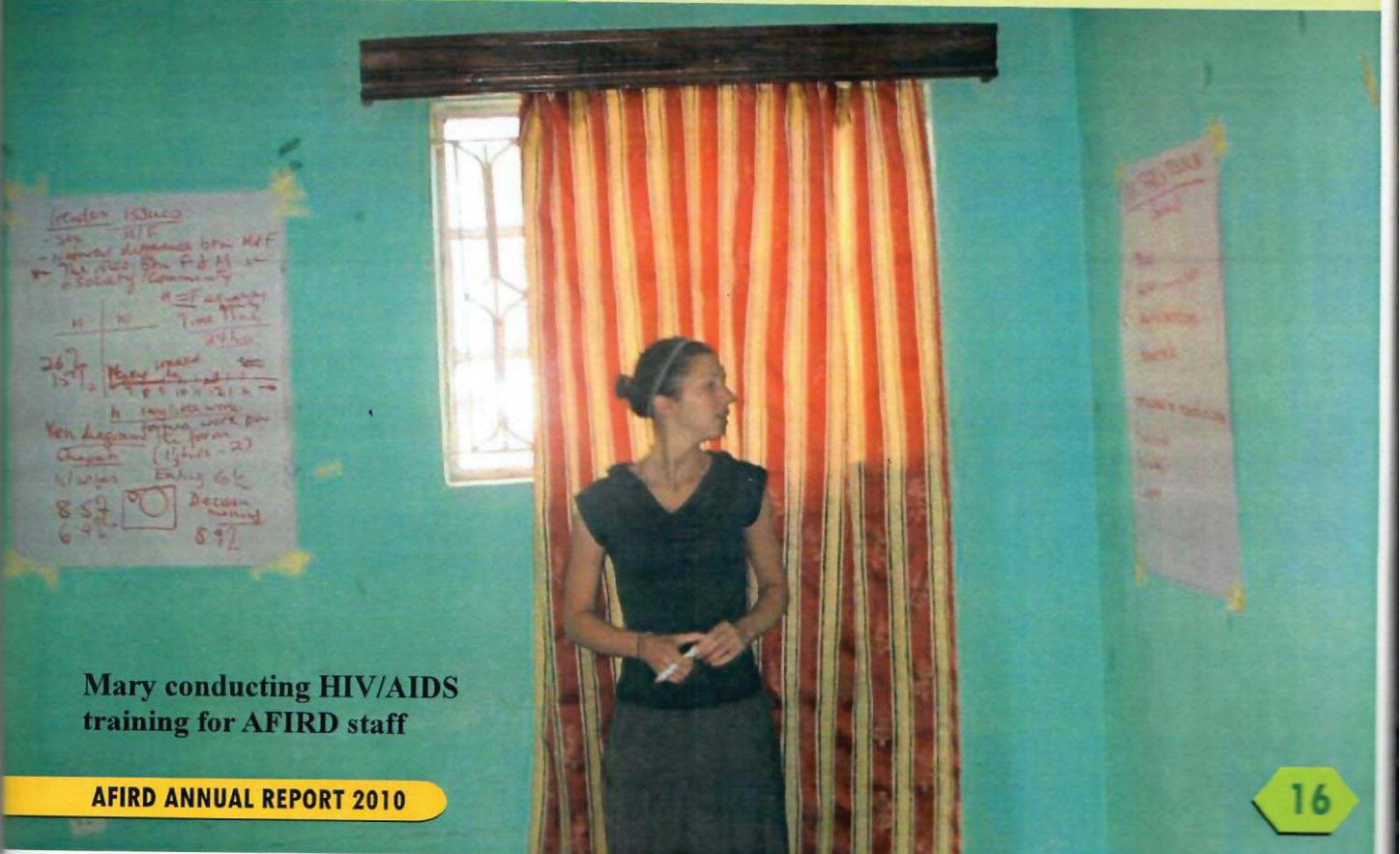


Ms Nampijja of Bakyala Kwagalana farming group at the water well where the village used to collect water. 'we used to collect water from this well. We would frequently become sick because children used to defecate around the well when they came to fetch water' said Ms Nampijja



The new well constructed with support from the project. 'The new well will protect us from water borne diseases, thanks to the project' says Ms. Nampijja.

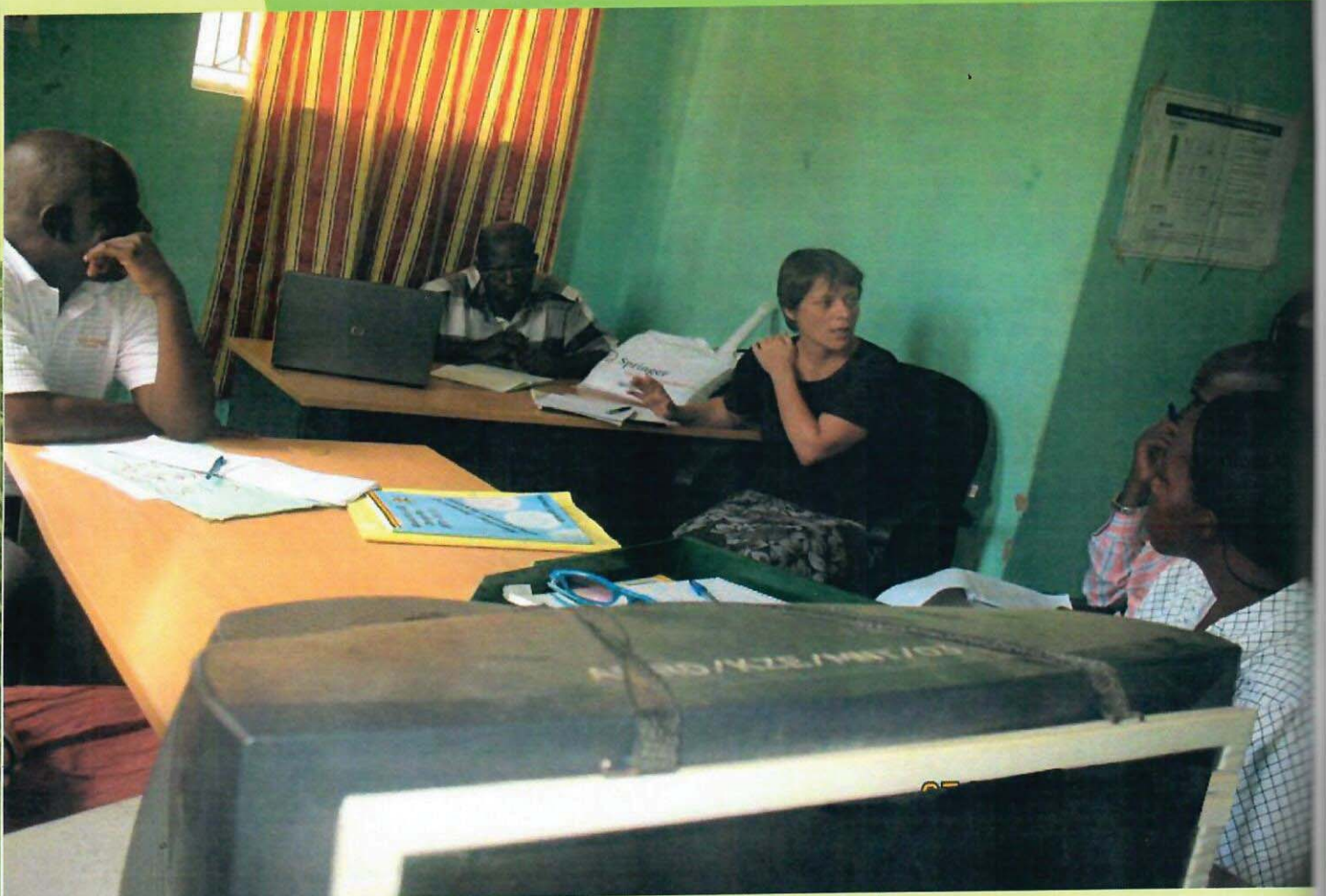
During the year all AFIRD staff under went capacity building training on HIV/AIDS which was conducted by Mary McQuilkin from American Peace Corps.



Mary conducting HIV/AIDS training for AFIRD staff

During the year we were visited by the MISEREO consultant on HIV/AIDS mainstreaming. We held a discussion on pertinent issues on the subject after which she trained us on how we could mainstream HIV/AIDS in our work.

We were also visited by Dr. Cora, the MISEREOR Desk Officer for Uganda who advised us on how to improve the project.



The Consultant on HIV/AIDS; Ms Ellen Schimiit supported AFIRD during the year



Dr. Cora, the MISEREOR Desk Officer for Uganda with beneficiaries of MISEREOR support

1.4 Environment management

In the previous years, 5 schools in Kakiri sub county were supported for fruit tree planting. A number of follow up visits were made to the above schools in 2009.

Pupils of one of the schools which benefited from our fruit tree project. In the background are the mango trees given to this school



Farmer groups were trained in making energy saving stoves. Below are farmers learning how to make energy saving stoves.



Final touches on new mobile energy saving stoves.

2.0 Situational analysis in Northern Uganda

Situational analysis in the district of Otuke, Amolatar and Kaberamaido was carried out. Problems ranged from production to market access (Report are available at AFIRD Offices).

3.0 Overview of funding:

During the year 2009, AFIRD received support totaling UGX 140,960,000. This funding was provided by MISEREOR of Germany. We wish to thank them for their generosity.



Contacts:

P.O Box 27193

Kampala - Uganda

Tel: 0414-374851

Website: www.afird.org

Email: afird@afird.org, afirdug@gmail.com