



WEST NILE PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION CENTRE LTD (WENIPS)

Promoting the Private Sector for Sustainable Development

ANNUAL REPORT, 2022

*“Empowered, Healthy and Prosperous
Communities in Uganda”*

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am proud to present the 2022 Annual Report

I am very happy to use this report to highlight how far we have come and how much farther we



can go especially after the devastating impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Once again, we have proven that West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Center Limited is a sustainable and above all, a very resilient organisation.

The plight of the people of Uganda and the people of West Nile in particular, the brunt of the burden of poverty borne by rural women and other vulnerable community and the desire to see our youth thrive is what motivate us. This year 2022, we are proud to count ourselves among those who contributed to seeing the burden of poverty, the devastating impact of climate change and the suffering of those forced to leave their homes reduced. That they have food and income securities. That they can care for their households. To see these vulnerable communities smile is a pride beyond measure.

And so, on my own behalf and the behalf of WENIPS management, let me pledge my commitment and extend a welcome those who would “work with our communities to improve livelihoods, conserve the environment and promote human rights”

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Onegi Puringi Jenaro (MBA)

Chief Executive Officer

West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Centre Ltd

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear valued stakeholders,

I am pleased to present to you the 2022 Annual Report of West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Centre Ltd (WENIPS). This year, we made significant strides toward achieving our vision of Empowered, Healthy, and Prosperous Communities in Uganda. Our programs focused on skills development, financial inclusion, renewable energy, and agribusiness promotion, reaching thousands of beneficiaries in West Nile.



I am proud to report that in 2022, WENIPS empowered 210 women and youth with skills upgrades, supported over 7,500 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs), distributed energy-efficient lanterns to 60,000 households, and promoted agribusiness development among 373 farmer groups. These achievements demonstrate our commitment to improving livelihoods, conserving the environment, and promoting human rights.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners, including Welthungerhilfe, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), the Government of Uganda, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Mwangaza Foundation, and the district local governments of West Nile, for their invaluable financial, technical, and moral support. Your collaboration has been instrumental in our success.

As we look to the future, we remain dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of communities in West Nile. We recommit to working tirelessly with communities, governments, and partners to address our region's pressing challenges.

Thank you.

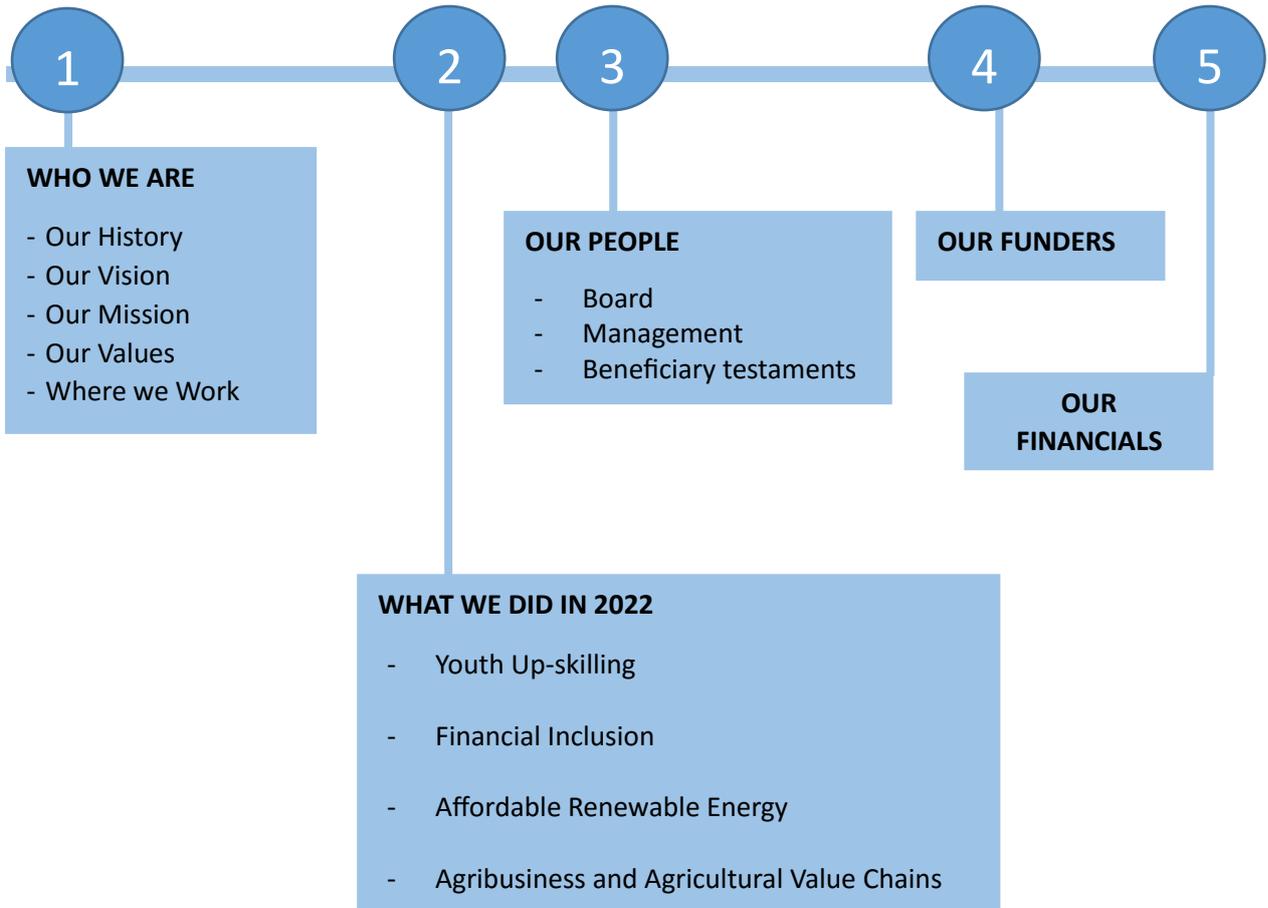
Sincerely,

Dr. Anthony Okwir

Chairperson, Board of Directors

West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Centre Ltd

TABLE OF CONTENT





WHO WE ARE

We are a national Non-Governmental Organisation built on a solid foundation, with supportive frameworks and robust systems that make us exceptionally suited to take the long journey to an “Empowered, Healthy and Prosperous Communities in Uganda

Our History

*From a humble beginning with a great patronage,
we continue to carry the candlelight
with great care and responsibility
and let it shine bright*

West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Center Limited (WENIPS) was first launched as Nebbi District Private Sector Development Promotion

District Private Sector Development Promotion

Centre on December 8, 1997 under

Government of Uganda and United

Nations Development Programme

Country Cooperation Framework I

(CCF1: 1997 – 2000). It became the

first of 11 private sector development

promotion centers in Uganda with a

mandate to promote private sector led growth

and development.

Under GOU/UNDP CCF2 (2001-2004), the organization was re-profiled on April 8, 2004 as a Company Limited by Guarantee without share capital (Registration Number 63373) with 24 subscribers drawn from local organizations in West Nile.

On November 28, 2019, WENIPS acquired an NGO Registration Certificate Number 4204 and a 3-year Permit to Operate an Organization Number 4555.

Since its inception in 1997, WENIPS has provided demand-driven business development services to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), promoted financial inclusion through microfinance development interventions, promoted agriculture and agribusiness development, community-based education, clean and renewable energy for community lighting, and other services to the communities in West Nile.

WENIPS operates through head office in Nebbi Municipality Council in Nebbi District, branch offices in Arua City and Moyo Town Council and a network of community-based resource persons in supported sub counties in West Nile sub region.



Our Vision, Mission and Services



Our Vision

Empowered, Healthy and Prosperous Communities in Uganda

To work with communities to improve livelihoods, conserve the environment and promote human rights



Our Mission

Service Areas



The core values underpin our culture and guide our behavior.

Our Values



Concern for the Poor

Will keep us mindful of the marginalized people



Openness and mutual respect

For our clients, beneficiaries and other stakeholders



Team Work

To bring out the best in everybody and synergy of efforts



Integrity

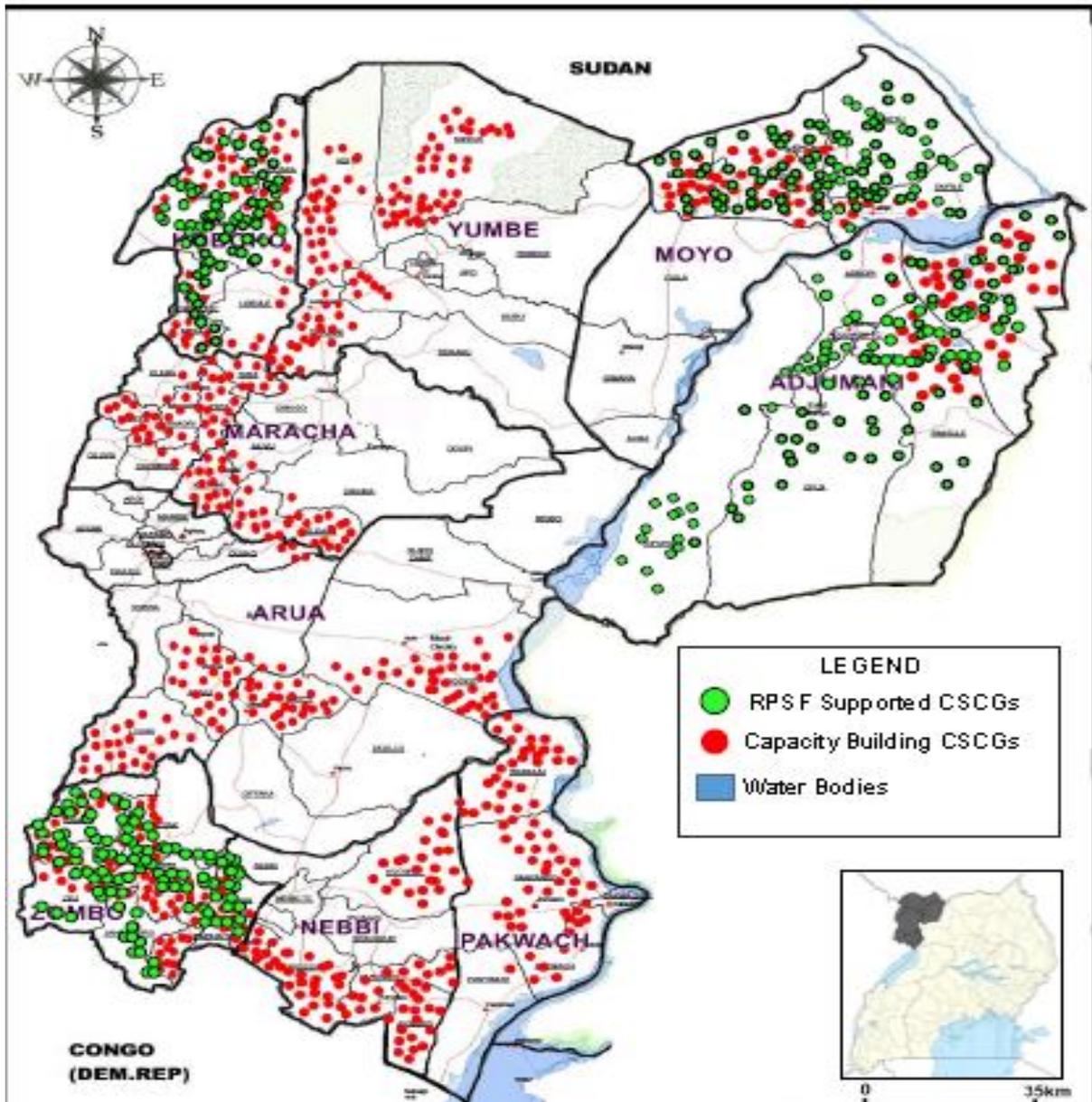
In the way we behave and act internally and toward others and in the way we handle resources entrusted to us



Creativity

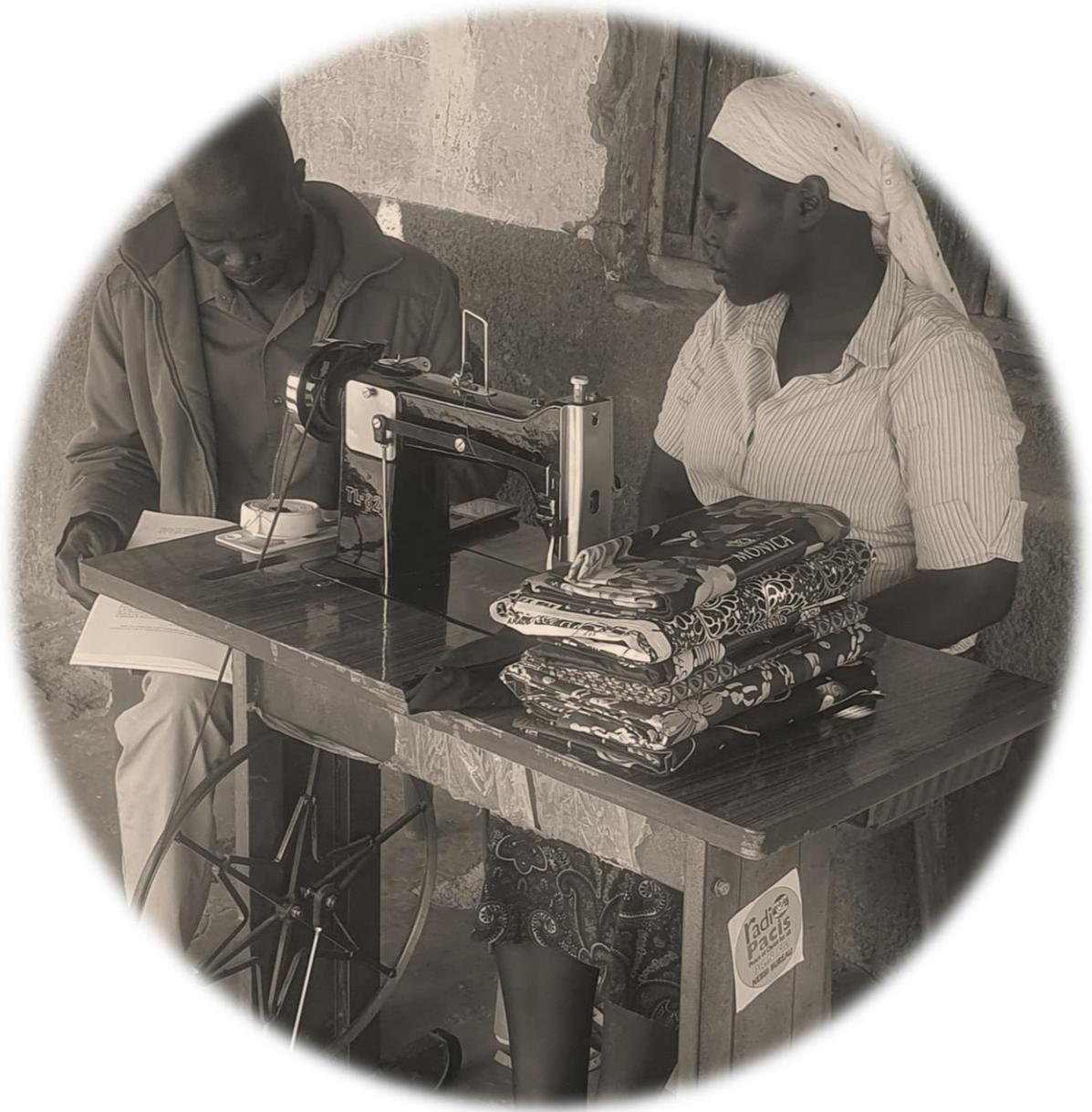
Will enable us to adapt to new challenges and always look for better ways of satisfying our clients and meeting our objectives

Where We Work



WENIPS operates in all districts of West Nile sub region, Uganda (Adjumani, Arua, Arua City, Koboko, Madi Okollo, Maracha, Moyo, Nebbi, Obongi, Pakwach, Terego, Yumbe and Zombo). With community structures all sub counties (Community-Based Trainers) and villages (Village Agents), WENIPS has a strong regional presence. Further, with over 7500 Village Savings and Loans Associations and over 63 farmer cooperative organisations, WENIPS is a household name with regards to VSLAs, agribusiness and promotion of agricultural value chains.

What We Did in 2023



Mr. Augusto Adrama, a Senior Tailor and Mentor, guiding a beneficiary through financial management and records keeping in Imvepi Refugee Settlement, Terego District

Youth Skills Development (up-skilling) Project

Refugees and host communities in West Nile face numerous challenges, including limited access to basic necessities. To address these issues, West Nile Private Sector Development Promotion Centre (WENIPS) and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) implemented a project funded by the European Union Trust Fund through Enabel. This project aimed to enhance the livelihoods of refugee and host community youth and women in Arua, Terego, and Madi Okollo.

Key Achievements

- 105 youth received fresh skills training (210 at Siripi Youth Skills Center and 30 in Agribusiness skills)
- 105 women and youth were up-skilled at 22 private sector enterprises (PSEs)
- 240 women and youth received post-training support, including entrepreneurship skills training, occupational health and safety training, business coaching, mentoring, and business booster grants

Impact

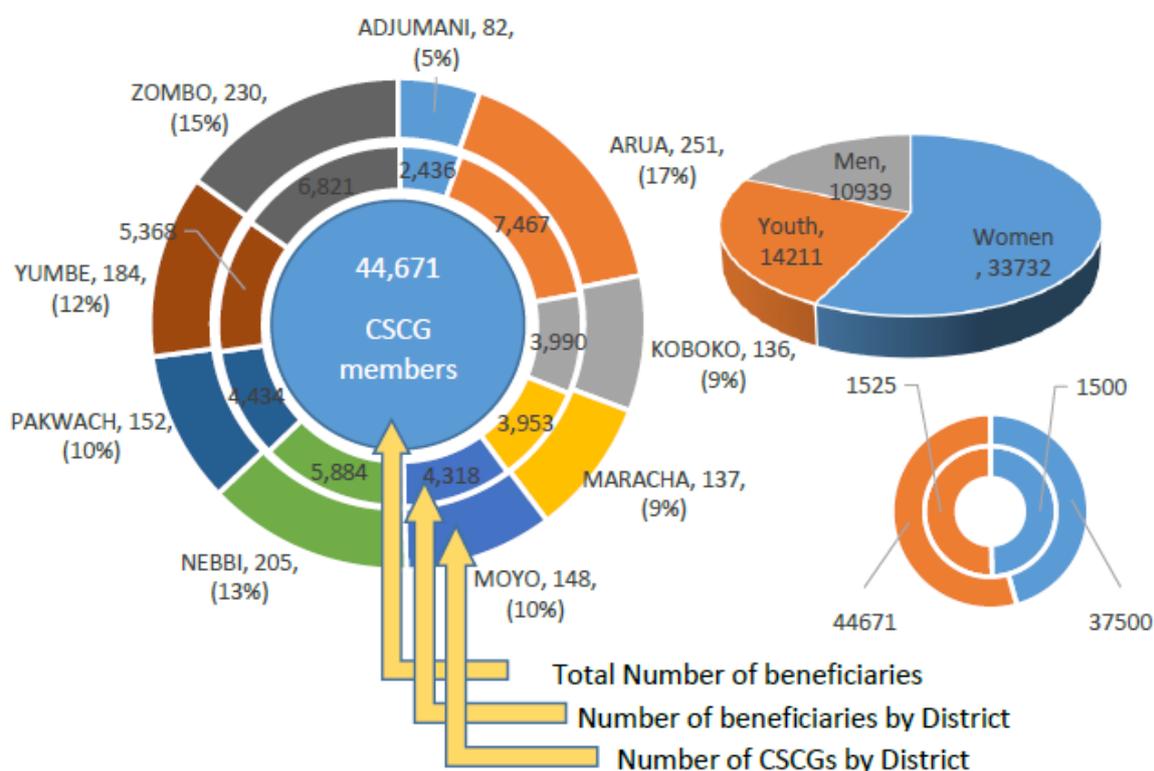
- 91% of youth are employed or self-employed
- 91% of beneficiary youth and women reported increased individual and household incomes
- Women (81.4%) and refugees (52.4%) formed the highest proportion of beneficiaries

Lessons Learned

- Validating applicant information reduces risks of selecting unqualified youth
- Attaching youth to PSEs increases upskilling effectiveness
- Engaging industry-relevant business mentors and coaches enhances skill application
- Digital platforms enhance collaboration and networking among value chain actors

Promoting Rural Financial Inclusion in West Nile

During the year 2023, WENIPS continued to provide support to over 7,500 VSLAs in West Nile. These comprised of 1,521 VSLAs supported under the Project for Financial Inclusion in Rural Areas (PROFIRA 2.1) with funding from the Government of Uganda and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. With over 70% of the membership being women and 15% being youth, WENIPS promotes financial inclusion by providing financial services including access to credits to finance agricultural and other income-generating activities.



WENIPS remains dedicated to expanding financial opportunities for marginalized communities, fostering a more inclusive and prosperous West Nile region.

Outcomes:

- 70% female membership
- 15% youth membership
- Access to credit for agricultural and income-generating activities

Enhancing Food Security and Reducing Hunger in Yumbe District

Project Overview

WENIPS aims to enhance agricultural productivity, commercialization, and resilience among smallholder farmers in West Nile. The program supports 63 primary cooperatives and 13 Area Cooperatives, benefiting over 1,800 farmers.

Key Achievements

Key Achievements

1. Expanded Outreach: WENIPS extended agricultural extension services to 1,800 smallholder farmers, promoting sustainable and climate-smart practices.
2. Cooperative Development: We strengthened institutional capacities of 63 primary



Cooperatives, enhancing professional organization, financial linkages, and market orientation.

3. Refugee Settlement Integration:

Three primary cooperatives were established in Rhino Camp Refugee Settlement,

promoting economic empowerment and social cohesion.

4. Farming-as-a-Business Training: Members received training to enhance commercialization of agriculture, fostering entrepreneurship and business acumen.
5. Average Cooperative Membership: 30 members per producer cooperative, demonstrating effective group dynamics and collective action.

Program Impact

- Improved agricultural productivity and productivity
- Enhanced commercialization of agriculture
- Increased access to finance and markets

- Strengthened institutional capacities of cooperatives
- Promoted climate resilience and sustainable practices

Lessons Learned

- Collaborative approaches with local stakeholders enhance program effectiveness
- Capacity building of cooperatives is crucial for sustainability
- Farming-as-a-Business training empowers farmers to make informed decisions

Future Directions

- Scale up agricultural extension services to reach more farmers
- Enhance market linkages and financial inclusion for cooperatives
- Intensify climate-smart agriculture practices and resilience-building

Conclusion

WENIPS has made significant strides in promoting agricultural productivity, commercialization, and resilience in West Nile. We remain committed to supporting smallholder farmers and cooperatives, fostering sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture practices.

Environmental Education and Conservation

Renewable Energy Initiative: Empowering Communities through Pico Plus Lanterns

As part of our environmental education and conservation efforts, WENIPS launched an innovative Renewable Energy Initiative. This program aims to promote sustainable energy solutions, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance energy access for marginalized communities.

Program Objectives

1. Increase awareness about renewable energy benefits among rural communities.
2. Provide energy-efficient solutions to reduce carbon footprint.
3. Enhance energy access for off-grid households.



Program Highlights

- Distributed over 60,000 Pico Plus Lanterns to 30,000 households in West Nile
- Conducted 2,000 community workshops, reaching over 60,000 participants.
- Collaborated with 50 local schools, integrating renewable energy education into curricula.

Impact

- Increase in household energy access.
- Improvement in community knowledge about renewable energy benefits.
- Positive impact on local economies through reduced energy expenditure.

Future Plans

- Introduce new renewable energy technologies (e.g., solar home systems).
- Strengthen partnerships with local governments and private sector stakeholders.

Conclusion

Our Renewable Energy Initiative has made significant strides in promoting sustainable energy solutions and enhancing energy access for marginalized communities. As we move forward, we remain committed to scaling up our efforts and exploring innovative solutions to address the climate crisis.

Our People

We thrive on team work, collaboration and oversight of our people: the Board and Management



Dr. Okwir Anthony
Chairperson Board of Directors



Mr. Ongula Peter Eddie
Vice Chairperson, Board of Directors

The Management



Mr. Onegi P. Jenaro
Chief Executive Officer



Ms. Ayloca
Treasurer, Board of Directors
Mr. Binega Vunde Jenaro
Programmes Coordinator



Mr. Ajuma Eujenio
Finance and Administration Manager



Mr. John Paschal Wapokra
Member



Mr. Kwach Morris Marines
Member



Mrs. Ongiertho Jesca
Member

Mr. Avutia Ronald Kizito
Senior Business Development Officer

Mr. Yanini Denis Benson
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Ms. Ochieng Fridah
Accountant

Our Funders



Ministry of Finance Planning
and Economic Development



Ministry of Agriculture, Animal
Industry and Fisheries



Aga Khan Foundation



Our Financial Performance