

**WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES IN**

**UGANDA: CASE STUDY OF ARUA DISTRICT, PAJULU SUB COUNTY.**

**BY**

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**DECLARATION**

I ANNET ABIYO do here by declare that this is my original work and has not been submitted for any other degree award to any other university or institution of higher learning.

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**APPROVAL**

This is to certify that this report by ANNET ABIYO has been successfully completed under my supervision and recommend it for submission to the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences of Busitema University with my approval.

Signature..... Date.....

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to my parents Ukuni Paul Omeson and Arech Molly Joyce, brothers Karayi Henry Omeson, Drani Allan Omeson, Bush Herbert Omeson, Norman Mindra Karali Omeson, David Livingstone Omeson and Daniel Comboni Omeson and sisters Sharon Onzia, Harriet Jolly and Alone Beatrice Omeson.



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God bless you all.

## ACRONYMS

<b>CAO</b>	Chief Administrative Officer
<b>ECOSOC</b>	Economic and Social Council
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agricultural Organization
<b>GOU</b>	Government of Uganda
<b>MAAIF</b>	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries
<b>MFPED</b>	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
<b>MGLSD</b>	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
<b>NAADS</b>	National Agricultural Advisory Services
<b>PMA</b>	Plan for Modernization of Agriculture
<b>PPA</b>	Participatory Poverty Assessment
<b>RDC</b>	Resident District Commissioner
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNHS</b>	Uganda National Housing Survey
<b>UPPAP</b>	Uganda Participatory Poverty Assessment Process



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## ABSTRACT

This study was done to examine women participation in National Agricultural Advisory Service (NAADS) programme in Pajulu sub-county, Arua District Uganda for a period of 2001/2007. Data collected included; women participation in decision-making process of NAADS, implementation of decisions of NAADS programme, women access and factors that determine their participation, and benefits of women participation in NAADS. The study used a case study design. A total of 54 respondents were interviewed. Six 6 parishes were randomly selected from which six farmer groups (3 mixed and 3 women) were selected using stratified random sampling. The study used interview guides, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), documentary analysis and observation to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive methods.

The findings indicate that decisions on enterprise selection at the sub-county were in most cases carried out hurriedly and without regard to farmers preferences. Which means at sub-county level, farmers had not been given the chance to decide on what best suits their needs. Women expressed disappointment on lack of access to critical resources like land, inadequate information, non-payment of attention to women preferred enterprises as being a grate problem on their side which led to their limited participation in their own fields. The study also found that women did not take part in decision-making process of NAADS programme activities since most key positions are taken by men. However, it was found out that NAADS had registered some achievements. Women acquired skills through training which has empowered them to translate NAADS knowledge on their own. And working in groups has strengthened their relationships and sharing of ideas. These are some of the areas where the benefits of NAADS were realized.

Special consideration of women in all aspects needs to be taken care of. Service providers need to promote women participation in identifying their own needs and implementing their own solution, women should be allowed to make decisions on which enterprises to select, there should be functional adult literacy to enable women read and write basic records on their farm activities, In addition, women should be given responsibility at all levels say farmer forum, parish and group levels. Unless women are considered important contributors "on ground" in NAADS programme implementation, their position will never change.



## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.0 Background to the study

According to Olawoye, Samanta, and Jiggins 1994, women contribute 70-80% of the total agricultural labour force, providing 60-80% of food for domestic consumption and surplus for sale to both local and export markets. Besides the women market 64% of this food and do in this way contribute significantly to the cash economy Throughout the world, women are engaged in a range of productive activities essential to household welfare, agricultural productivity, and economic growth. Women play important roles in rural economies throughout Latin America, the Carribean and the world over. Research indicates that women are also most active in the small-farm sector and on high technology export oriented farms. Women also comprise a large proportion of the labour employed in non-traditional agriculture exports than men (Kleysen and Truitt, 1996). In Central America, women comprise of at least more than 50% of the workforce in the agricultural sector and spend average of four hours a day on agricultural activities (Chiriboga 1995). Unfortunately, however, the situation seems to neither be that women farmers neither receive social support they needed to perform these critical roles nor receive due rewards from their contributions. They have been conveniently side-stepped by most capacity building programmes, including the agricultural advisory service delivery (GOU 1993, FAO 1992).

Studies being carried in other parts of the world reveal that, although women grow half of the world's food, 95% agricultural extension services worldwide are directed at men (Dunn 1995 and FAO 1989 reports). The survey found out that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, an average of only 5% of extension services are directed to programmes for women farmers (FAO, 1993 and UNDP, 1991).

The history of extension approach in Uganda has been six phases. Extension service through the chiefs (1920-1956); the progressive farmer period(1957-1963); the extension education phase (1964-1971); the non-directional phase (1972-1979); the recovery phase (1980-1991); the unified service and Training and Visiting (1991-2000), which emphasized regular scheduled farmer training and visits to ascertain the contact farmers adopt package disseminated (AHI 1997, Semana 1998 and Friis-Hansen 2002). The various enumerated agricultural extension service failed to effectively to deliver the necessary agricultural services to the poor farmers thus, the introduction of NAADS in 2001 to date.

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