FACTORS INFLUENCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAM; A CASE STUDY OF PALLISA SUB-COUNTY

BY

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DECLARATION

I, Akwaro Rose, declare that this research report has not been previously submitted to the University or any other Higher Institution of Learning for this Degree award.

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APPROVAL

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to the Almighty God for the divine guidance, and to my family members, Okoboi Joseph, Jemimah Francis, Inadi Ritah, Nambooze Olive Shammer and finally Mabiriizi Julius.

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Colors, Sector 1

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LIST OF ACCRONYMS

| DSIP | Development Strategy and Investment Plan |
|-------|--|
| DÁÓ | District Agricultural Officer |
| FAO | Food and Agricultural Organisation |
| GMS | Genetically Modified Seeds |
| IFPRI | International Food Policy research Institute |
| LGDP | Local Government Development program |
| MAAIF | Ministry of Agriculture Animal Husbandry and Fisheries |
| NAADS | National Agricultural Advisory Services |
| NRM | National Resistance Movement |
| OECD | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| PEAP | Poverty Eradication Action Plan |
| PMA | Plan for Modernization of Agriculture |

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ABSTRACT

The broad objective of the study was to determine the factors that influence the implementation of the NAADS program in Pallisa sub-county in Pallisa district. Data for the study was collected on variables like age, education level, sex, income level, marital status, awareness about modern farming technologies, modern technologies passed on to farmers, access and use of credit, source of information about modern farming practices and peoples' perception about government extension policy for 50 respondents and these were identified using random sampling technique.

Results indicate that implementation of NAADS program is influenced by socio-economic factors that include age, education level, family size, marital status, farming experience, income level and gender and institutional factors that include credit access, extension contact and policy, access to information. Membership to farmers' cooperatives was concluded as the most important source of information about NAADS to farmers. It was also discovered that improved varieties, pest control using chemicals, herbicide control of weeds, proper spacing of crops, deworming of animals and birds and use of modern farming implements were the technologies and modern farming methods passed on to farmers in Pallisa sub-county.

It was concluded that measures to improve socio-economic sector like education, family size in terms of family planning, should be intensified. It was also recommended that government effort should be intensified in terms of availing credit, extension services and fighting corruption.

Key words; NAADS, farmers, technology, implantation, Pallisa

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Agriculture plays an important role in employment and revenue generation as well as in the provision of raw materials for industrial development (Chikezie et al., 2012). Agricultural production seems to be declining over the years while the population keeps growing. Hence, with rapid increase in population growth of about 3.2 percent per annum, the gap between food demand and supply continues to widen (Ijere, 1992; Ugwoke *et al.*, 2005; MAAIF, 2011). Agriculture remains a family enterprise, as youth, women and men of all ages are involved one way or the other in the agricultural production process. The implication raised by this is that, concerted effort by everybody capable of potential contribution(s) to the agricultural development process is required, if any is to make a realistic and positive step in solving its agricultural problems (Akinola and Akindiji, 1991; Ekong, 2003).

The National Agricultural Advisory Service (NAADS) is a programme of the government of Uganda which was introduced to increase efficiency and effectiveness of agricultural extension services (NAADS, 2001). It is an innovative public-private extension service delivery approach (IFPRI, 2007). It is a semi autonomous body under the national agricultural advisory services Act of June 2001 with a mandate to develop a demand driven; farmer led agricultural service delivery system targeting the poor subsistence farmers, with emphasis to women, youth and people with disabilities. Its development goal is to enhance rural livelihoods by increasing agricultural productivity and profitability in a sustainable manner.

NAADS is working in pursuit of the national development framework of the poverty eradication agenda which is guided by the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). NAADS overall

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