



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES**

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES (NAADS)**

**PRESS BRIEFING AT THE UGANDA MEDIA CENTRE**

**14th January 2020**

**Structure of the Statement**

1. Introduction
2. Progress in implementation of NAADS Interventions – July to December 2019
3. Plans for Second Half of 2019/2020 FY and preparations for Season A 2020
4. The NAADS Zonal Review and Planning Workshops 2020
5. Plans for next Financial Year

**1.0 Introduction**

The National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) has, since the refocusing of its mandate to supporting farmers with the provision of agricultural inputs for wealth Creation, focused on the following interventions of the Agricultural Sector:

1. Management of agricultural input distribution chains;
2. supporting strategic interventions for priority commodities under the commodity approach, including supporting the multiplication of planting and stocking materials;
3. Agribusiness development; and
4. Value chain development focusing on the upper end of the chain.

 **2.0 PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NAADS INTERVENTIONS**

The NAADS Secretariat approved budget for the FY 2019/20 is **UGX 145.894Bn**. In the first half of the Financial Year, a substantial percentage of the budget has been spent on the various interventions for provision of agricultural inputs to farmers for season 2019B as well as offsetting outstanding balances on prior year commitments.

**2.1 Highlights of half year Achievements (July – December, 2019)**

In the first half of the Financial Year 2019/20, NAADS has focused on the following;

1. Provision of improved planting materials for food security and strategic commodities
2. Provision of Agro machinery to support farm mechanisation
3. Provision of Value addition equipment for agro processing

These interventions are aimed at increasing production and productivity of the various priority and strategic crop commodities for improved household food and income security; as well as export earnings in the case of the strategic crop commodities.

1. **Improved planting materials for food security and strategic commodities**

**Food security interventions;**

1. **Maize**: Procured and distributed 2,434.437 tons of maize seed to 125 DLGs as well as to constituencies through the Members of Parliament under the food security initiative for constituencies, for the establishment of 243,444 acres of Maize benefiting 121,722 households.
2. **Banana**: Procured and distributed 632,187 Banana tissue Cultured planting materials to 57 DLGs, for the establishment of 1,405 acres of banana for 2,810 households.
3. **Irish Potatoes**: Procured and distributed 4,080 Bags of seed potato to 25 DLGs for the establishment of 680 acres for 1360 households.

**Strategic crop & livestock commodities**

1. **Cashew nut**: Procured and distributed 166,695 Cashew nut seedlings to 28 DLGs, for the establishment of 2,381acres for 238 households

The above interventions are aimed at increasing production and productivity of the various priority and strategic crop commodities for improved household food and income security; as well as export earnings in the case of the strategic crop commodities.

1. **Agro-machinery to support farm mechanisation**

This intervention is aimed at increasing farm production and productivity for increased household food security and incomes through adoption of improved and efficient production technologies, enhancement of timeliness and profitability of farm operations and intensified farm production systems; as well as provision water for production to address adverse effects of climate. Specific progress during the reporting period is indicated below;

1. **Tractorization Programme**
* Since October 2019, conducted training for the 560 tractor operators across the country on proper operation & maintenance of the tractors. The last batch of operators is to be passed out on 7th February 2020 at Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research Development Institute and Mayuge Zonal Agricultural Research Development Institute.
* Delivery & distribution of the 280 tractors for beneficiary groups in 119 DLGs is ongoing and expected to be completed by end of February 2020.
* The total number of tractors procured by Government is 320.

ii) **Provision of Value addition equipment for agro processing**

This intervention aims to enhance agro processing for increased household incomes through provision of value addition equipment for reduction of post-harvest losses and improved shelf life of agricultural produce, increased profitability of agricultural enterprises and job creation and/or employment for rural and urban population especially the youth.

**Fruit Processing Facilities**

**Yumbe Mango fruit processing factory**

* Planned Capacity of the plant is 40MT per day
* Processing equipment delivered to the site (pending installation & Commissioning).
* Completion works for the factory in advanced stages
* Factory expected to be commissioned in June 2020

**Kayunga fruit processing Plant**

* Planned Capacity of the plant is 8 to 11 MT/day
* Equipment delivered and installed. Pending power connection and commissioning
* Commissioning expected in June 2020

**Kapeeka multi-fruit processing plant in Nakaseke** district

* Planned capcity of the plant is 1 MT/Hr
* Procurement process for supply & installation of the equipment is on-going

**Nwoya Multi Fruit processing factory**

* Planned capcity of the plant is 12 MT/Hr
* Procurement process for supply & installation of the equipment initiated

**Pipeline Fruit processing Facilities**

* Feasibility studies are currently being undertaken for the construction of two (2) fruit processing facilities in Masaka and Busoga Region.

**Maize Mills**

* 20 sets of maize milling equipment and 4 sets of feed milling equipment delivery is on-going