

**BUTALEJA DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT
P.O BOX 1, BUTALEJA**

20th April 2016

**PROPOSED RICE INVESTMENT PRIORITIES THAT NEED TO BE INTEGRATED
IN THE 5 YEAR DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

Introduction

Butaleja is among the leading Districts producing rice in the country. Rice is planted in Doho rice irrigation scheme which has a total area of 1000Ha, Lwoba irrigation scheme which has a total area of 400 Ha, Doho rice scheme out growers and Seasonal wetlands under rain fed conditions where an estimated 29,600 Ha are planted.

Although rice is not a staple food crop in the area, the total area under production has of late surpassed that of other crops produced within the District as it is estimated that over 70% Of the farm households grow rice. Rice has become the most potential crop that can improve the farmers' income & livelihoods.

Although the District has tremendous potentials (two growing seasons, fairly good soils, Political support and farmers' enthusiasm) for increasing rice production, productivity and Quality, Players in the rice value chain are encountering several constraints that inhibit their ability to improve rice productivity, quality and profitability as evidenced from the findings of the research studies conducted by IITA under PASIC project which were disseminated to the stakeholders in the feedback workshop from 11th April – 15th / April 2016.

These challenges require urgent definition and redress. In addressing some of these challenges the team discussed the results and came up with interventions and activities that need to be integrated in the District development plan as indicated in the table below

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Butaleja District priorities for the DDP



<p>Similarity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most farmers use their own seed. • Most agro-input dealers are not registered • Disease diagnosis at farm level was inappropriate • High post harvest losses exist at farm level. • Leveling of fields increases yields • Weeds and water management increase yields. • Improved Seed supply gap is at 90%. • There is need to increase acreage of seed production. • Gender inequalities exist. • Land ownership affects yields. • Availability and affordability of quality seed. <p>Other identified issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mention on land wrangles in line with wetland management policies. 	<p>Key interventions to prioritize at the district</p> <p>Short term priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering farmers with information on seed quality. • Integration of gender issues in rice production. • Formation and strengthening of existing groups • Linking farmers to financial institutions. • Recruitment of Extension workers. • Market research and information • Initiation of appropriate mechanization technology • Wetland user registration • Mitigate child labor through formulation of ordinance 	<p>Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmer education and trainings on rice cultivation techniques and Agri business • Establish Demonstration farms • Support Doho cooperative to enforce cropping calendar • Register all wetland land lords • Information through radio stations, meetings, • Conduct Gender analysis and establish the gender issues • Formulation of ordinance on child labor related to rice production • Formation of local economic development (LED) forum • Hold quarterly joint PPP / LED meetings • Procure hydro power float tillers/tractors, trans-planters, weeders, and combine harvesters... • Formation of a DISTRICT TECHNICAL RICE COMMITTEE. (DTRC)
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No child labor information given • Clarity on government wetlands and landlords in wetlands. • Ownership and rights of landlords in Doho rice scheme. • 75% of the funds invested in rice production is from private savings. • Interest rates are per season, not per month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen private public relation through joint meeting • Strengthen linkage with Rice research centers like NARO • Warehouse receipt system • Lobbying and advocating for irrigation facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and deploy technical staff to specifically handle RICE extension
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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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