



MINISTRY OF KARAMOJA AFFAIRS

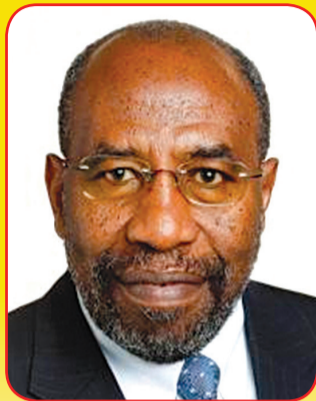
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER



2016 HEROES DAY SUPPLEMENT



H. E. Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.
President of the Republic of Uganda



Hon. Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda
Prime Minister of the Republic
of Uganda



Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni
Minister of Karamoja Affairs



Mrs. Christine Guwatudde Kintu
Permanent Secretary

The Ministry of Karamoja Affairs, Congratulate The President of the Republic of Uganda His Excellency Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, The Vice President, The Prime Minister, The Cabinet Ministers and all Ugandans as we mark HEROES DAY 2016

Education:

To ensure improved standards of education in the region, teachers' housing units have been constructed by the Ministry and under NUSAF 2, while four dormitories equipped with beds and solar lighting system have been constructed in Lobalangit, Kacheri, Karita and Lolachat Primary Schools to improve on the retention of children in schools especially the girl child. In addition 21 Primary schools in the seven Districts in Karamoja have been constructed and rehabilitated under the Irish Aid funded Karamoja Primary Education Project (KPEP).



A Girl's dormitory at Nakapiripirit Primary School constructed under the Irish funded KPEP



Twin Staff House constructed by the Ministry of Karamoja Affairs at Moroto High School

CHANGING FACE OF KARAMOJA

The Karamoja Region, in north-eastern Uganda, is a semi-arid area covering approximately 27,200sq km with an estimated population of about 1.2 million people. It comprises the districts of Kaabong, Kotido, Abim, Napak, Moroto, Nakapiripirit and Amudat.



MWE officials inspecting the access bridge at Kobebe dam in Moroto District

Before the National Resistance Movement (NRM) came to power, past regimes and governments in Uganda failed to pacify and develop Karamoja. The region remained a No-go-area characterized by armed conflicts, vicious cattle raids, resulting into death and mass displacement of people and as a result while other parts of Uganda were growing, development in Karamoja lagged behind for decades. It was only after the NRM coming to power in 1986 that attempts were made to address the root causes of the crises in Karamoja. Point No. 8 of the original NRM/A Ten Points Program was dedicated to addressing the Socio-Economic, Security and Development challenges of Karamoja. In order to speed up peace and development in Karamoja, Government under the leadership of H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni created a Ministry for Karamoja Affairs. The NRM government, prioritized among others, pacifying Karamoja, to pave way for development so as to bring Karamoja at the same level with other parts of Uganda. A comprehensive disarmament exercise was conducted to recover tens of thousands of illegal guns in the Karamoja region. Through the Ministry for Karamoja Affairs in the Office of the Prime Minister, Government has also implemented specifically designed affirmative action programs to empower and transform Karamoja. Outstanding achievements and development have been realized in Karamoja since then. Here below are the highlights of progressive interventions in the Karamoja region over time.

Water for production:

The policy of the Ministry for Karamoja Affairs is to have valley tanks in every parish in the region. This is being done in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment Protection. A total of 80 valley tanks have been constructed in the entire seven districts under the KIDP and the two sister programmes of Karamoja Livelihood Program (KALIP) and the Second Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF2). In addition, 5 big valley dams namely Longoromit in Kaabong District, Kailong in Kotido, Kawomeri in Abim, Kobebe in Moroto and Arechek in Napak Districts have been constructed in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment Protection.



Arechek dam in Matany Sub county Napak District

Promoting Food security:

In order to boost and promote food production in Karamoja farm implements, hand hoes and walking tractors have been distributed to the various communities. In collaboration with Nabuin ZARDI and the GIZ Climate Change Adaptation Project over 230 metric tonnes of assorted quick maturing and drought resistant crop seeds, cassava cuttings and potato vines have been provided to the communities. Selected commercial farmers are also being supported to establish drip irrigation systems on their farms on a pilot basis.



Hon Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs Barbara Nekesa Oundo hands over a hoe to a Tepheth farmer in Moroto District



Beneficiaries of Ox plough in Kangole, Napak

The Ministry is also supporting small-holder farmers through Nabuin ZARDI to improve milk yields of dairy cattle in Karamoja region and also improve mature weights and growth rate of beef cattle among progressive farmers.

Community Empowerment:

The Community Empowerment programme has been implemented by the Karamoja Affairs Ministry as a strategy for improving livelihoods and household incomes. Since 2011 to date, 7,600 oxen and 4,965 heifers have been distributed to 9,825 households in Karamoja. A total of 3,000 local goats were also distributed to women and youth groups to improve incomes at household levels and this year 500 improved He-goats will be given to selected farmers per Sub County to improve breeds.



Outgoing Minister of State for Karamoja Hon. Barbara Oundo handing over animals to beneficiaries of the community empowerment programme

To enhance economic empowerment of women, grinding mills have been installed in all the sub counties of Karamoja to help women raise income for themselves. They will also be used for milling their grains for consumption and value addition for markets. Sewing machines have been provided to the women groups to earn income and to schools and technical institutions for training and imparting practical skills to beneficiaries.



First Lady Janet Museveni handing over sewing machines to women groups in Abim District

School feeding Programme:

The school feeding programme implemented by the Karamoja Affairs Ministry in Office of the Prime Minister in partnership with Uganda Prison Service and the UN- World Food Programme was initiated by Mrs. Janet Museveni last financial year 2014/2015 to help feed the Karimojong children while at school.

So far a total of 758 metric tonnes of maize flour have been produced in 2 phases under this partnership and distributed to Primary schools contributing up to about 20% of the school feeding requirement in Karamoja. A three phase electricity line will soon be extended to the farm.



The Karamoja Affairs Minister with the Namalu Prison Staff and WFP Officials during one of the field visits to check the progress of the 400 acres of maize planted under the school feeding programme



First Lady Janet Museveni together with the Commissioner General of Uganda Prison Service Johnson Byabashajja and the Officer in Charge of Namalu Prisons Godfrey Obbo (on her right) and the Under Secretary P&D Ketty Lamara, WFP Resident representative Ross Smith and Nakapiripirit LCV Chairman John Lorot (on her left) after handing over the 403 metric tonnes of maize flour to Primary schools under the Ministry for Karamoja Affairs' School feeding Programme at Namalu Prisons in April.