



## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Title: Farming techniques and livelihood sustainability of rural women in Eastern Uganda

Investigators;

Ms. Flavia Amayo – Principal Investigator

Ms. Irene Lynette Akidi – Co-investigator

Dr. Robert Senath Esuruku – Co-investigator

Ms. Phylis Kaptui Brenda – Co-investigator

The study; farming techniques and livelihood sustainability of rural women is funded by the Government of Uganda through Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund. This study was conducted in Budaka and Kapchorwa districts in Eastern Uganda. Using focus group discussions, key informant interviews and household interviews, it interrogates what techniques of farming rural women employ and the contributions of these techniques to the sustainable livelihoods of rural women. The overall objective of the study is to understand how the different techniques of farming that rural women utilise enhance or impede the attainment of income, food security and improved wellbeing more generally. The specific objectives entail investigating the livelihood assets of rural women, techniques of farming that rural women employ, determinants of choice of farming techniques and the influences of the farming techniques used by rural women on livelihood outcomes.

There has been limited attention on the linkage between the farming techniques that rural women use and livelihood sustainability. And yet, this topic presents pertinent issues regarding what methods of farming boost agricultural outputs and sustainable livelihoods of women. These issues are crucial in effective development planning and the implementation of livelihood related programmes and projects. The study explores the different techniques of farming that female farmers use and their contributions to the attainment of income, food security, improved wellbeing, resilience to stress and shock of climate change and eventualities like COVID-19 and the

*This is made possible with funding from the Government of the Republic of Uganda through funding from Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund*



sustainable use of land. The study observes that since farming is the main source of livelihood for the majority of women, it is expected to adequately enhance access to food, medical care, education, clothing, shelter and resilience to eventualities now and in the future

The study also raises critical concerns regarding why rural women are unable to make use of different modern and indigenous strategies of farming to increase agricultural outputs and improve livelihoods. The data generated from this study will spur debates and learning regarding what techniques of farming women should employ in order to adequately attain more income, food, resilience to different shocks and stress and improved wellbeing. This will be basis for government and other development actors to determine and also evaluate interventions that are geared towards enhancing livelihood sustainability. Through these debates, the project will contribute to the realisation of sectoral, national, regional and international development priorities such as Uganda's vision 2040, National Development Plan III (2020/21 - 2024/25), Africa's Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Wide dissemination of research results through workshops, radio talk shows, policy briefs and publication of research papers will elicit even more interventions towards the sustainable livelihoods of rural women.

The study notes that there is a strong link between farming techniques and the livelihood sustainability of rural women. Therefore, efforts towards transforming the livelihoods of rural women should focus on equipping them to make use of different modern and indigenous agriculture-based knowledge of farming to boost agricultural outputs. In this way, food security, income, improved wellbeing, resilience to shocks and stress will be enhanced.

*This is made possible with funding from the Government of the Republic of Uganda through funding from Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund*