

OMUKURA SMALLHOLDER FARMERS GROUP
MEMORANDUM TO SUYANA DURING VISIT ON 09/10/2024

BACKGROUND OF THE GROUP

Omukura farmers group is a small holder farmers group found in Omukura-Village, Gwetom-Parish, Lalle-subcounty and Soroti-district. The group started in 2018 and it has ... members: ... women and ...men. It applied to TIP for help and from September 2023 it was accepted to join the Community Empowerment Project.

ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP

The Community Empowerment Project brought us training in group management, agriculture that is friendly to the environment, kitchen gardening, how to save and borrow money, how to keep local poultry, safe water and use of good latrines. The project gave us maize, beans, eggplants, cowpeas, striker chemical and PICs bags. Although there was drought, the farmers harvested maize at 2 bags and beans at 0.4 bags each. Kitchen gardens also do well and helped in easy access to vegetables.

Members of this group nowadays do mulch, line planting, cover cropping, crop rotation, intercropping and tree planting.

The project sensitized us on water hygiene and sanitation to reduce open defaecation which was common in our area. It also encouraged hand washing facilities, good latrines, hanging lines and rubbish pits which members are beginning to adopt. Now our community has ...

As far as poultry is concerned, we were trained in poultry management practices and the vaccination. The group members now vaccinate their chicken and give other feeds. This has made our chicken numbers to grow from To now

We also selected some people to be trained in agriculture, poultry, VSLA and WASH. They were given training manuals. These people help us in monitoring how we copy the best practices. We are happy for this help.

Members are now saving and borrowing money for the education of children (... number), for treatment of household members (how many, buying agro chemicals, and vaccination of the chicken. Our saving day is Sunday at 2 pm. The table below shows money shared over the years.

The cycle year	Money shared	Number of members
2019	3 million	14
2020	4 million	14
2021	5 million	14
2022	5 million	14
2023	8 million	21

CHALLENGES

- Droughts which occurred mid first season extending to first part of second season of 2024 made the crops to have low yield.
- Root rot disease in beans as the drought set in. This affected yields.
- Middlemen are a challenge as they contribute to low prices of the agriculture produce
- We are unable to add value to our crops and poultry products
- Transporting our produce to good market out lets is also a problem

CONCLUSION

We thank TIP for helping us with knowledge and Suyana who give them money to help us improve our lives. We are trying our best so that our lives and that of our children improves.

Yours in Service

Orago Thomas

CHAIRPERSON OMUKURA SMALLHOLDER FARMER GROUP