

Report

On

3rd Quarterly Partnership Meeting

On

Improved Food Crop Marketing through Appropriate  
Means of Transport for Poor Farmers

Kasese

May 2004

**Prepared by**

**Transport Forum Group, Uganda**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0 Background to the meeting.....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 <i>The objectives of the meeting.....</i>	<i>3</i>
2.2 <i>Opening Ceremony by RDC, Kasese.....</i>	<i>4</i>
2.2.3 <i>Brief from Secretary for production, Kasese.</i>	
<b>3.0 Meeting presentations.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.1 Communication from the Chair.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1.1 <i>Reactions from Communication from the chair.....</i>	
<b>3.2 Matters arising.....</b>	
3.2.2 <i>NAADS progress in Iganga.....</i>	
3.2.3 <i>Matters arising.....</i>	
3.2.4 <i>Report on TRAP by Wekesa.....</i>	
3.2.5 <i>Report on Iganga by Badru.....</i>	
3.2.6 <i>matters arising from Iganga report.....</i>	
3. 2.7 <i>Report on Animal Care in Iganga by Badru.....</i>	
3.2.8 <i>Report on Animal Cart Production by Waduda.....</i>	
3.2.9 <i>Report on Kasese by Biira.....</i>	
3.2.10 <i>Responses from Kasese Report continued.....</i>	
3.2.11 <i>Monitoring and Evaluation by Kaira.....</i>	
3.2.12 <i>Training in use of Monitoring and Evaluation by Kwamusi.....</i>	
3.2.13 <i>Katakwi Presentation by Simon.....</i>	
<b>4.0 Plan for period of May-August..... 2004.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4.1 Activities for period June to September.....</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1.1 <i>Partnership meeting.....</i>	<i>10</i>
4.1.2 <i>Special reports.....</i>	<i>11</i>
4.1.3 <i>General reports.....</i>	<i>11</i>
4.1.4 <i>Commitment by farmers on animal sheds. ....</i>	<i>11</i>
<b>4.2 Iganga Action Plan for Jan-April 2004.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4.3 TFG Action Plan for Jan- April 2004.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4.4 Katakwi Action Plan.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4.5 Kasese Action Plan.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5.0 Closing Ceremony.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5.1 Vote of thanks by H. Iga.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5.2 Invitation of Guest of Honour by Chairman of TFG.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5.3 Speech by Guest of Honour,,.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>6.0 Field Visit Reports.....</b>	<b>12</b>

## **1.0 Introduction.**

This report about the third quarterly meeting for the stakeholders in the project entitled Improved Crop Marketing for Appropriate Means of Transport for Poor Farmers in Uganda. The overall purpose is to review the project process amongst the stakeholders for the previous three months and plan for the next quarter.

The meeting was convened from 4-6<sup>th</sup> May 2004 at Rwenzori International Hotel in Kasese, Kasese District.

Transport Forum Group Uganda (TFG) the local project-implementing agency organized the meeting and was hosted by Karughe Farmers Association, a local NGO that supervises the project activities in Iganga District.

The meeting brought together farmers from districts of Kasese, Katakwi and Iganga, artisans and technical people who shared together experiences on a wide range of issues concerning rural transport.

## **2.0 Background to the Meeting.**

Rural transport has been identified as a major problem for poor farmers in Uganda. This problem is commonly encountered when the poor farmers try to market their crops or access social services such as health.

National Resources Institute of University of Greenwich and Transport Forum Group have since 2001 been implementing an action research on introducing and validating intermediate means of transport in three districts of Kasese, Katakwi and Iganga. Department of Finance and International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID) funds the project.

The project process involves understanding further the farmers' response on the introduction of IMTs towards their livelihood. One way of understanding this is by closely monitoring this process through meeting, study tours and other means of learning. The meeting in Kasese was the third and was preceded by one in Busembatia in Iganga District in January 2004.

### **2.1 The objectives of the meeting.**

- a. Brief participants on the progress of the project process in Uganda.

- b. Discuss the opportunities and constraints in promotion of IMT in the project areas.
- c. Monitor the project process from the beneficiary perspective.
- d. Strengthen the partnership function amongst the different players.
- e. Share experiences from different farming systems in the country.

## **2.2 Opening Ceremony by Representative of RDC, Kasese.**

### *2.2.1 Invitation by Chairman, TFG*

Mr. Kwamusi Chairman of the TFG briefed the RDC about the TFG. This programme is based on active research. The action research is to add information on what can contribute to rural transport development. He said that it is important for the local government planners and politicians to look at the intermediate means of transport to maximize the benefits of roads infrastructure. TFG is advocating for this and has so far worked well. He requested the RDC to address the participants.

### *2.2.2 Opening Ceremony by Representative of RDC, Kasese.*

The Resident District Commissioner, Kasese Mr. Rwembera Kiiza, in his address, He welcomed the participants especially from Katakwi and Iganga.

He sympathised for the bad security situation in Katakwi but said that Kasese had passed through the same situation.

He said for transport to benefit the poor, it has to be affordable and useful. He acknowledged that government has invested a lot in roads but given the mountainous terrain like that of Kasese, it is rather difficult to sustain and maintain the roads, as it is expensive. The use of donkeys is therefore important as it is less expensive yet appropriate to the production levels of the poor farmers.

He cautioned the beneficiaries over animal care and maintenance culture in case of carts in order to maximize the use of these IMTs. He said it will not good for farmers to lose animals due to poor care and was happy to learn that the donkeys had started producing the young ones.

He thanked the DFID, the funders of the project with the TFG for having implemented the project well. He said it was important to realise the role of development partners in the development process. They want the poor people to live a quality life and improve their livelihood. He asked the Sub County and District local government to take over the initiative as the project duration is about to end. He ended by welcoming the participants to enjoy their stay in Kasese

### *2.2.3 Brief from Secretary for production, Kasese.*

The Secretary for Production, Mr. Tinka, briefed the RDC on the progress the district Local Government had done towards integrating the TFG project into the Local

Gorverment plans. He said that in February 2004, a team involving the local government and TFG visited the project beneficiary areas. The outcome of the mission was that the local leadership and farmers were appreciative for this project.

### **3 Meeting presentations.**

#### **3.1 Communication from the Chair.**

Dr Kaira briefed participants on the following key issues. In this period, Firstly, there was a farmer exchange visit to Kenya. Secondly, Iganga district repayment targets are extremely good and Kasese has started doing well in repayment of IMTs. TFG is using the savings to provide loans to other farmers, as there is no more funding from donors for IMT purchase. Thirdly, there was a tour of farmers in Kasese with Kasese district officials, Fourthly, Kaira, made a visit to the UK for purposes of renewing the contract and also writing the report. During his stay, he wrote articles that will appear in the IFRTD's Forum News. TFG findings will appear in NARO's Conference due in October. TFG plans to present two papers on partnership building and distribution of IMT's. He plans to visit UK in November for final report writing. Lastly, he said that there is a possibility of TFG to do work with the local government on an ILO sponsored study on Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning. The Ministry of Local Gorverment has blessed this work and the target will be Iganga and Kasese Local gorverment.

##### *3.1.1 Reactions on Communication from the chair*

1. Kayemba briefed the members of the Fabio programmes in Kasese. He said arrangements are underway to supply 35 bicycles to the Kasese farmers. Local traders will be used to make the supply to reduce on the cost. The coordinators will use 5 bicycles for purposes of monitoring. Biira wanted to know whether transport cost of bicycles to the farmers had been covered. He responded that the donors do not cover this cost except for the Katakwi project that has been designed for that budget. Mr. Tinka advised that farmers also need to cover some cost in order to realise the need for ownership. He also revealed that it could be cheaper to procure bicycles from Kampala rather than Kasese as it is the local Kasese traders add in the profit margin.

2. Kayemba advised the TFG not to ignore involving Katakwi because the security situation has greatly improved.

3. Katakwi farmer said there was a new technology of use of the animal power to grade the rural infrastructure. He wanted to know if TFG could take it up. Kaira said it could useful for Iganga.

4. Tinka wanted to know what arrangements have been done in regard the disabled. Kayemba said, they are aware of this concern and there is appropriate technology section in FABIO dealing with making the bicycles for disabled thereby increasing the cost compared to conventional bicycles. Biira said, there provide for the disabled

under another arrangement as karughe farmers Association. They provide Micro finance to the disabled to do business.

### **3.2 Matters arising**

#### *3.2.2 NAADS progress in Iganga*

Owor, asked Jikaali a farmer from Ivukuula sub county implementing NAADS programmes to brief participants on the progress of NAADS.

He said as members of TFG are participating in the NAADS as it is providing the seeds, chicken and pigs for the poor farmers. Kaira wanted to know if improved seeds will lead to increased purchase of the IMTs which Jikaali confirmed that is within their plan. Kayemba wanted to know whether the local government in Ivukula has accepted the TFG programme.

#### *3.2.3 Matters arising*

1. It was realized that Kasese does not have NAADS programme but is implementing an Area Based Modernisation Programme whereby farmers are given agricultural inputs. Kaira wanted to know if TFG work could be integrated into this project. Hon. Tinka said it was late but can benefit from the Belgian Technical Cooperation.

2. Owor said that it is necessary to provide a monitoring tour for Iganga as had been done for Kasese.

It was agreed that Hon. Tinka teams up with TFG to make a mission to Iganga to convince the local government there although there are signs that they are appreciating the TFG work, for instance for garbage collection purposes.

#### *3.2.4 Report on TRAP by Wekesa*

Mr. Wekesa presented a report about the activities in the project. The project report is attached as *Appendix 1*. There has been support from the Belgian Funds and they will be training farmers in tillage near Nyakiyungu Sub County and we can use the carts to raise the interest of the farmers. For the ploughs and farmers were given to the farmers although they were not trained. The TRAP did not pay Ploughs. Oxen were delivered with carts and ploughs were not delivered. There was problem on the transport of oxen thereby the delaying the payment of the ploughs.

Nyakiyungu farmer's representative said that they received 2 ox carts and ox and no training as we only had an introduction before the training season. Biira blamed the delay of training on Wekesa. She transported the plough to the training area but did not appear. Tinka suggested that this should be handled administratively. Owor also

blamed the TRAP and urged Wekesa to avail the plough so those farmers do not miss out. It was agreed that Mr. Wekesa pays for the plough.

Biira said that combined training is not good. She said that there are 100 farmers to be trained. Kaira said that the training is only farmer's representatives. Kayemba wanted to know whether Wekesa was paid for the training. Wekesa said it was done for 5 days. The tillage training needs three weeks. The training will start as soon as possible probably next week. Seven farmers will be trained and both Wekesa and Biira will produce a joint report.

#### *1. Matters arising of Wekesa's presentation.*

Hon Tinka invited the TFG to integrate their work by participating in the World Food Day activities in October 16<sup>th</sup> 2004. Wekesa and Biira were asked to work with the Tinka to exhibit the animal power activities of tillage and the transportation.

2. Wekesa briefed members on the promotion of the TFG when the President of Uganda visited Kabarole District. He showed the president the tillage and transportation role of animal power. The President was so impressed that he invited them to his home in Rwakitura to share with him the way forward.

#### *3.2.5 Report on Iganga by Badru*

Badru read out the report that had been prepared. It is attached as *Appendix 2*. The report highlighted the innovative use of donkeys in waste management process in the district.

#### *3.2.6 Responses from Iganga report*

1. Kaira argued from Fig. 4 of the report, it shows the amount owed by farmers is almost equivalent to the amount requested for by the farmers for IMT's acquisition. If the farmers could be urged up to pay, then it would be possible for the farmers who are on the waiting list be able to benefit. This he said was important, as the donor money has been exhausted. He requested the participants to respond. Owor, requested that since each group has its own leaders, it would be advisable to make sure that show the plans of how they can make their members to pay up the amount being owed.

2. A representative of the Makutuu farmers said the delay has been due to the tender they had in school food (maize) and payment is due. Secondly, the pineapple season is on and the market is still is a problem. The representative of Bukanga is that they have supplied maize in the cooperative society, which is soon due. Secondly in Bukanga the season of sugar cane is soon after the June. A member that there was a drought that caused low production and suggested that payment should be on a weekly basis, the idea that Kayemba objected that it increases cost of recovery. For Ivukula, he suggested that they would establish a community shamba (garden) which they could be sold at a good price and soon will be implemented. He requested the TFG to help in the marketing process. The seeds given by NAADs and they have planted three acre garden which would help pay the debts. Wekesa said that they have set aside 10% of their food. In Kamwenge there is revival of

cooperatives, he wanted to know more about the cooperative movement. The Bukanga representative said they sell it a European dealer in Kampala through FETUS. Kairigi said there is a marketing project with Jinja Diocese Development Cooperation (JIDECO)

3. Geoffrey wanted to know why does the Iganga District Administration use the artisans already made by the TFG. Badru said it is because of the orientation people have towards the civil society. Kaira suggested the to refer them to the SAMMAICO carts but Geoffrey said he requested for the same but failed and referred him to Namalere. Owor said that their experience is that it might not be successful from the experience of the adult literacy. Kaira said that let the credit go to the politicians and then the project will succeed.

4. Kaira raised the issue of sustainability. He cautioned members that the role of TFG is to open this project to the eyes of the government about the benefits of the programme. TFG will not continue funding this project after December. They are to pick up from this project. Kayemba agreed but said this is an opportunity but there is need for the replication and lobby for resources. They could even get funding. He challenged the TFG to help the district local government and lobby for resources. Kaira accepted this issue and gave the example of Kasese local government in association with Karughe with the back stopping from TFG. NAADs has also approached TFG to introduce the carts in the West Nile.

### *3. 2.7 Report on Animal Care in Iganga by Badru.*

Badru apologized for the Dr. Mugiriji inability to attend the meeting. He had to attend the council was to defend his budget. The donkey was in poor condition though he underwent the project. 3 foul donkeys had been delivered. He was concerned about of overloading and treatment as some donkeys have ticks. TFG was requested to purchase the drugs at the sub county level. Kaira said it would be the local government and re emphasized the need for partnership is that farmers should be more responsible and take on that role. In other words TFG will not provide for the drugs for the animals. The animal care report is attached as *Appendix 4*. Photos of the cart shed were displayed. Kairigi said during the training and saw no need for another training on this issue. A farmer from Kasese said that it is a farmer's responsibility to care for them. In Ivukula the shed were made. A local farmer suggested the tick control.

You get a lump-full of tobacco, pour in water, and then Pour it over the body of the animal. For control of cough and you should de-worm it. Tobacco is a de-wormed but has caution on how to use it. Dr. S. Muhindo urged members to keep the donkey's some animal health care budget from the income that has been created by the income from the donkey. Urged members for record keeping



### *3.2.8 Report on Animal Cart Production by Waduda.*

He said they have made 11 carts, 4 for ox carts and 7 for the donkeys. The details are attached as *Appendix 5*. He was concerned about the ever-increasing cost of materials thereby increasing the overall cost of cart prices. He said the practice of overloading is still prominent. They use the cart for bricks up to the full board there by weakening and spoiling the carts. Owor said after the Kenyan visit a cheaper method of cart making by using the front wheel axle rather than the rear wheel.

### *3.2.9 Report on Kasese by Biira*

Biira provided the main report concerning the activities on the project. The report is attached as *Appendix 6*. Main issues of the report covered the visit by the district officials to the beneficiaries. Soil erosion and food security were sighted as concern issues. Belgian Technical Fund will fund the project after the project expiry of TFG. Many women still fear the donkeys. There was a study tour Kenya. Training has been delayed due to the visit to Kenya. This report is attached as *Appendix 7*. 3 donkeys died and one had a mis-carriage in the period under review. She talked of the experiences from Kenya to implement for child labour control and also through Transport Ambassadors Clubs. Already, two schools have been involved and more are to be introduced. An Association called Kasese Donkey Transport Association has been formed for the purposes of promotion of reduction of child labour and promotion of donkey use in Kasese.

### *3.2.10 Responses from Kasese Report*

1. Kaira wanted to know why the donkeys died. Two died due to delivery problems. One died due to lack of control of disease that caused the heart water borne disease. She sprayed externally and died recently. Kaira wanted to know whether the veterinary about the disease. Biira said the doctor did not know of the accident. Kayemba wanted to know if accidents on donkey fatality have reduced. Biira said that situation improving. Tinka advised that we should maximize the use veterinary services. In case of heifers, they are having only 25% survival rate. He called for love and commitment to use the veterinary services. He suggested the retrieval of animals for those who do not care for the animal. Produce given out on credit, no single credit is done, so those are lies and there is no credit so the market is not there. The system is not true. Cotton for instance fetched 30 billion. He advised that going to schools use the local leadership to be able to run the clubs in order to promote the local leaders. The culture of friendship is new. Kasese people only know goats and pigs. Donkeys and cattle are still new. On exchange visit, make use of the local leadership.

### **Day Two 5<sup>th</sup> May 2004**

#### *3.2.10b Responses from Kasese Report continued.*

1. A farmer from Kyabarungira, Baluku said he recalls the issue from Busembatia and that their animal death has reduced. Most of the farmers agreed about the handing over the offspring will take time. Those who promised to pay cash are paying and will be done. Kaira sympathised with Baluku over the death of his donkey and promised to replace on the next restocking. He said the window of passing over the donkey's offspring is a promotional and sustainable way of promoting IMTs.

2. Baluku requested for assistance in monitoring and evaluation in terms of transport, as there is need to visit the farmers. In addition, Helena said her donkey has given birth and she will give out the foal to the next farmer. Kaira wanted to know that whether the problem was not solved following the acquisition of motorcycles and the Secretary for production readiness to assist in transport. Biira responded that she has a problem of accessing funds of monitoring and evaluation. Kaira said the funds are available and Biira is free to access the funds once the claim has been made. Kaira explained the two windows of paying by giving the off spring to another in case of female owners and then the other is for cash especially in the case of male donkeys. Owor wanted to know if this arrangement could be extended to Iganga.

3. A farmer of Mahango, Kisinziro John, agreed that there is a problem of repayment of the loan. He said there is a balance of 387,000/- that is owed. He said the delay in payment is due to the hailstorm, which caused famine. Tinka said the report was not well written to show the amount owed. It was agreed that Biira with her team sit and work out a detailed report during the lunch break. He was also not happy with the explanation with the John's of drought. He said he was aware of farmers from Mahango who have ably paid the loans from Centenary Bank. He blamed non payment of the loans due to the to the expensive cultural lifestyle of eating fish for dinner.

4. A farmer from Nyakiyumbu, Wabwirana, has two physical factors of highlands and low lands. They had worked with Kawanda and the loans that will be paid. He promised that they would pay the loan even after the end of the project. He reported they have not lost any donkey and the amount owed is 118,000/- which will be paid. Katusabe from Nyakiyumbu sub county and got a donkey from TFG. Somebody killed it. They sat and changed and applied for oxen. They were promised to be given the animals. They got them. The total loan was 2 ox carts, 1 pair of oxen and a harness. The value of the loan was 365,000/-. They collected only 50,000/-. This was due to the new technology. They promised that they would pay the loan. There was a delay in the training. They did not get tillage training. Only 20,000/- have been collected. During the harvest, they will recover the loan. They will not pay by cash but will do it by the agricultural products. Some farmers have not yet been convinced until his trip to Kenya and they accept the new technology. Being a councilor on the committee, more especially for study tour to Kenya. He blamed the poor response to politics. He saw that support is being seen at the district level but not the sub county level.

5. Kwamusi wanted to know whether the political leadership had been supportive of the project. Biira reported that in Mahango Sub County the LC111 chairman embezzled the money collected by the poor farmers worth 50,000/-. Biira noted that there was a trend that when the TFG officials visit the, the politicians show that they are with the project but when the local coordinators like Biira goes to the field he is given the a different reception. Patrick a councilor from Iganga said the politicians are being interested in where they benefit. Secondly it is selfish ness on the part of the politicians. Councilors are known for not telling the council meetings of the new development or projects in the area. Owor advised that councilors need to be helped in capacity building in order for them to appreciate the need and role of the project.

6. A councilor, Malusu mentioned about a minute in the council meeting that discussed the issue of the animal traction the area. No body bothered to inform the people about it. It is only after the intervention of TFG and his own initiative that the project makes the way forward.

7. Kaira mentioned that the project plan by the research team before the project commencement where the politicians were put. He gave the example of Bukanga where the LCs denied our project and then said they do not know of the project yet the women acknowledged the presence of the project. He called this hypocritical. Patrick explained that the incident was unfortunate and it was being solved. Badru explained how he was given a cold reception during the monitoring and evaluation process in all the sub county implementing the project. He called it an eating syndrome spoiling the project process.

### *3.2.11 Monitoring and Evaluation by Kaira*

Kaira expressed the apologies from Naiga for having not been able to be attend the meeting. She made a report, which is attached as *Appendix 8*

1. Ivukula according to the report scored poorly. The discussions found out as due to non-delivery of the expected inputs. Bukanga also provided that as the reason for their poor performance. Owor blamed the poor performance on poor attendance during the monitoring and evaluation. He said they are used for lunch during the meeting with TFG whereas there was no such facility during the monitoring.

2. Kyabarungira scored highly in the evaluation. This was due to the a bye law in place to the effect on the fine of 1000/- for absence and 500/- for late coming. This compels high attendance during the monitoring. In addition, there are many tenders for carrying building materials in the area making the optimal use of IMTs.

3. The partnership results revealed that due to the low interactions due to the lack of the IMT supply.

### *3.2.12 Training in use of Monitoring and Evaluation by Kwamusi*

Kwamusi taught participants of how to use the monitoring forms for;

a) Animal welfare

- b) Use of animal
- c) Cart maintenance
- d) Monitoring the use of carts.

Kaira emphasised the role coordinators to be able to supervise farmers to fill correctly the forms.

### *3.2.13 Katakwi Presentation by Simon..*

Simon presented a report covering the distribution IMTs, carts and harnesses within the quarter. Geoffrey carried out in addition training. The report is attached as *Appendix 9*.

### *3.2.14 Responses on Katakwi report*

1. The issue of veterinary services was seen as a limitation and Kayemba agreed to help in convening a meeting to help solve this problem as he will be implementing some activities in Katakwi.
2. a farmer wanted to know why her donkey cart has delayed. Simon said it was ready and could be collected.
3. Geoffrey said there would be need to delay monitoring young fowls that were supplied so that it needs to be delayed.
4. It was realized that some non-members accessed the loans. It was agreed they pay back the full amount and money used to buy for the members.

## **4.0 Plan for period of June to September 2004.**

### **4.1 Activities for period June to September 2004.**

#### *4.1.1 Partnership meeting*

The fourth partnership meeting is slated for September 7-9 2004. It will take place at High way Guest House, Busembatia

#### *4.1.2 Monitoring and Evaluation*

- i) Farmers were requested to do the monitoring starting with Monday, 10th May 2004
- ii) Coordinators were asked to visit the Sub- County's to explain the members of how to fill the monitoring forms. The secretariat will be informed of the progress in two weeks time.

#### *4.1.3 Purchase of IMTs in Iganga*

- i) Iganga to purchase IMT from the remittances from the farmer's money. This will be reviewed at the end of May to see if donkeys or carts are to be purchased.
- ii) Progress on Animal health and management by Dr. Muhindo  
Training in Iganga in making animal harnesses by Allan

#### *4.1.4. Purchase of IMTs for Kasese*

The district Administration has agreed to procure donkeys for farmers. TFG has been requested to purchase and then be refunded on delivery. TFG has no objection to this and will do this in first week of June

#### *4.1.5 Visit by TRL and Team leader*

TRL team and the project team leader will visit the country in July. The purpose is to monitor the project. The artisans and cart makers will be involved and the team leader will meet farmers in Iganga and Katakwi.

#### *4.1.6 Final Workshop*

Is slated for October and will tentatively be held at Nile resort in Jinja.

### **5.0 Closing Ceremony**

#### **5.1 Vote of thanks and invitation of Guest of Honour by Chairman of TFG.**

Mr. Kwamusi briefed the guest of Honour the TFG mission and objectives. He was happy to report that the project has registered a lot of success stories and appealed to the guest of Honour help sustain it in the district. He invited him to address the participants

#### **5.3 Speech by Guest of Honour, Mr. Kikuusa**

Mr. Kikuusa, who represented the LC5 Chairman Kasese, thanked the participants for being involved in such important and useful project. He thanked TFG for selecting Kasese as a beneficiary district. He told participants that as a Councilor from Kyabarungira Sub County where the project is being implemented, he fully understands the role of the pack animals in alleviating the transport problem. He cited where a contractor had to use donkeys for transporting building materials for the school. He said that his local government had already endorsed the TFG project and they will continue with it even after the expiry of the TFG work in December. He however requested the TFG to come in to backstop the project whenever it is necessary. He wished participants a safe journey to both the field work and the back home.

#### *Day Three 6<sup>th</sup> May 2004*

### **6.0 Field Visit Reports**

The day was dedicated for field trip and in the evening a meeting for presentation of finding was made.

- i. Kyabarungira Sub County

#### **Report From Kyabarungira Sub-County Kasese District, Poor Rural Farmers Transport.**

Kyabarungira sub-county has four groups that are working under poor rural to further transport the community, they are as follows: -

- 1) Buhuhira organic farming group;
- 2) Kuruhe Thwanzane group;
- 3) Kaswa model farmers group;
- 4) Bwisumbu united farmers Association.

All the above-mentioned groups give thanks to the TFG for providing us with donkeys on hills, IMT transport that passes where there are no roads and use no fuel. By now our goods easily reach the markets, and they have helped us on domestic duties. Out of seventeen (17) donkeys that have been at Kyabarungira sub county one died of an accident while delivering. I am sorry for that bad news. However, I am to report that one donkey delivered a male calf and now we have seventeen (17) donkeys very healthy and good looking, six of them are pregnant.

We thank TFG to take our two farmers to Kenya to learn how farmers make it. We also thank our co-ordinator Biira Jennet who has done a lot of work for visiting home-to-home giving knowledge on IMTs and the seminars to farmers. Thanks to Dr. Muhindo for treating our donkeys, without forgetting to thank Mr. Kahangwa Joshua for a work of M & E, visiting home-to-home where there is a donkey.

As I end, the youth, women and men are very grateful for the work well done by IMT. Thank you very much.

I remain yours faithfully,

Buluku Andrew

### **Representative Kyabarungira Sub-County.**

#### ii. Nyakiyumbi Sub County

We take this opportunity to welcome the TFG team and the team from the district headquarters and district TFG coordinators. Let me take our thanks to the TFG Program for the work being done though out the year 2003. Special thanks to the founders (donors) for assistance since the program begun in Nyakiyumbu Sub County more especially in Kathalhu parish. This program is in three sub counties in the district, that is, Nyakiyumbu, Mahango and Kyabarungira.

To the project manager, we thank the office of Karughe Farmers office for the work they have done in our groups since the project begun. We appreciate very much for rural poor farmers had ignored the project but have realised that, its not like other project that have come and failed them. We received one pair of oxen and ox-carts and one plough when we put in our request on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2004.

We would like also to report that within a short time, animal training was introduced and conducted on the following subjects:-

- Moving with the animal along the road;
- Kilograms to load on the cart;
- Carts repairing;
- Making yoke;
- How to transport goods on the cart and
- How to tie harness on the donkey.

I would like to report that the six subjects were done and was facilitated by Mr. Deo Wasinyola and Mr. Rajab Makandra and the participants involved were as follows: -

- i) Katholhu drama Actors;
- ii) Bwengo wildlife women group;
- iii) Nyakirango 1 rural development association;
- iv) St. Elizabeth Katholhu women group;
- v) Kathikale thuyibohe women group;
- vi) Watherene Katholhu group;
- vii) Abakyara abayitherane Nyakirango 1 group;
- viii) Bwakyanyibandi Katholhu women group;
- ix) Kitaturwa women group;
- x) Katholhu youth development foundation;
- xi) Bulere sibusubirwa women group;
- xii) Katholhu youth anti HIV / AIDS club;
- xiii) Bakali Babuyirana group and
- xiv) Katholhu Babuyirana twanzane united group.

### **Group Activities**

- Growing of cotton, maize, moringa, beans, soyabeans, cassava, vanilla, banana, etc.
- There is a close relationship between the group and TFG;
- Rearing of local animals like goats, pigs, etc.
- Laying bricks for the purpose of building houses, and
- Saving energy stoves.

Our mission is to fight ignorance, poverty and diseases within group members and the community at large.

### **Achievements**

1. Every member has got skills and knowledge in handling oxen during work.
2. There is a close relationship between the group and TFG.
3. We have received 1 pair of oxen and 20 carts.
4. Conflict in our homes reduced by providing the means of transport.
5. We joined the Kenya trip and shared experience.

The animals if properly handled can easily understand the working language.

We were in collaboration with the local council by involving them in supporting TFG project and giving advice where possible.

### **Request**

- We requested to get ox plough training before April season while targeting the cotton season
- We request for a health and disease control training
- We request our veterinary to reach us on time
- We request for more 3 pairs of oxen, ox carts, ox plough and 3 donkeys to benefit all the group members
- We request for a tool kit for ox cart and ox plough repair and
- If possible, our members are taken out to get training in ox ploughing.

Safe journey back,

I remain,

Katusabe Musisi.

**Katholhu Farmer coordinator.**

iii. Mahango Sub County