



BUDS Project funded by DFID and implemented by PSFU

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Introduction

- Over the years PSFU has attracted and continues to manage different projects on behalf of various stakeholders (e.g . W/Bank, Gov't, EU, Austria,)
- Some of the projects successfully managed include BUDS 1, BUDS-ERT 1, Austrian Fund, BUDS-SSE, BUDS-EDS, Global Fund – HIV Project, PSCPII, BUDS-ERT 2, etc
- The BUDS-PSCPII Sub-component under the PSCPII will conclude its activities by June 2011
- To address the gap, PSFU working with DFID and Office of the Prime Minister identified a successor project – BUDS-DFID
- PSFU through BUDS will implement the 5 year Project



Background

- PSFU working with the OPM received funding from DFID under the Northern Uganda Post Conflict Recovery Programme
- The 5 year grant is worth BSP 10 Million and will go to eligible business entities in Northern Uganda
- The project is due to start January 2011 and will cover 64 districts stretching from Moroto up to West Nile
- The programme will promote private sector growth, investment and employment opportunities in Northern Uganda



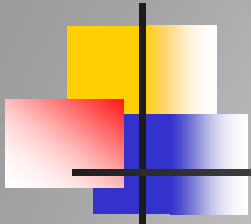
Programme Objectives

- To stimulate pro-poor economic growth in Northern Uganda and to better retain the economic benefits in the North
- Improve post-harvest handling, processing, storage and marketing of agricultural and pastoral production
- Increase performance in all sectors including manufacturing, commerce, services, commercial agric., consultancy, business assoc. farming cooperatives. Etc
- Maximize value addition channels and supply chain management



Programme objectives con'td

- Development of rural enterprise based on sustainable utilization of natural resources
- Development of labour-intensive industries for employment creation
- Elimination of gaps in the supply chain leading to processed agricultural Products
- Development of links between investors and the local economy through the supply of raw materials, employment and training; and promotion of trade by rural enterprises including trade outside their locality



Scheme Support

- BUDS-DFID will support acquisition of improved technologies through a matching grant facility
- Activities that increase the number of Northern Uganda farmers who own a share of that brand equity
- Value addition in commercial agriculture products and by-products such as shea nuts, simsim, wheat, milk, barley, fruits, etc
- Business development services in order to achieve greater impact by SMEs



Eligibility Criteria for Support

- A company registered in Under, a cooperative society, an NGO, a chamber of commerce, trade association or similar business representative
- Have demonstrated/verifiable ownership of title or right of beneficial use of assets/land on which farming activities are carried
- Formal business except those in production of weapons and gambling
- Stable and have sufficient financial resources to ensure continuity throughout the project



The Grants implementation Process

- BUDS is a cost sharing scheme that reimburses up to (in this case) 60 percent of approved costs
- Eligible business entities (formal/registered) will submit a filled application form together with a project/activity proposal
- Technical Assistance (hand-holding) will be provided by the Scheme Officers
- Activities can only be undertaken after a signed Client Agreement letter



UP date on progress

- Project documentation completed and approved by the Steering committee
- Financing Agreement signed between Ministry of Finance and DFID
- Memorandum of Understanding signed by OPM, DFID and PSFU
- Partial funds released to PSFU for project implementation
- Process of securing and opening office space in Gulu on going and in advanced stages



Office Location

- The project design requires us to have a permanent office for the project duration
- Efforts are underway to identify office space and a report on the findings has been presented to management
- The office will be based in Gulu town and will serve the entire northern region
- The Scheme will also maintain the Kampala office (PSFU) with skeleton staff



Conclusion

- A 6 month work plan was submitted and approved by a Project Steering committee
- Regional office is expected to start operations end of March 2011
- During the period, the Scheme will undertake aggressive sensitization and marketing campaigns
- The findings (including challenges) during the 1st year of implementation will be reviewed and the programme



Finally

- Ladies and Gentle Men, thank you so much for making the time and listening in to this presentation.
- A Question and Answer session follows