

# **Uganda Weekly Agriculture, Market, and Weather Report (14–21 Feb 2025)**

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**Key agricultural updates, market  
analysis, and weather forecasts for  
Uganda's farming community.**



# **IDEA**

**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION AGENCY**

# 1. Weather Forecast (14–21 Feb 2025)

Overview: Most of Uganda will be dry, with minimal showers only in southern regions. Temperatures will range from mid-20s to mid-30s °C, with northern areas experiencing the highest temperatures [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com), [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). Below is a regional breakdown:

## 1 Karamoja (North-East)

Hot and dry conditions persist with no rain expected. Daytime highs above 32°C [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com), [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). This falls within Karamoja's long dry season (Sept–March) [kabiza.com](https://kabiza.com). Farmers should prepare for continued water stress until April rains.

## 2 Northern Uganda (Acholi, Lango, West Nile)

Dry conditions with clear skies and temperatures of 30–34°C [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com), [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com). Typical for the dry season, with no significant rainfall expected. Farmers advised to focus on irrigation and moisture conservation.

## 3 Eastern Uganda (Teso, Busoga, Elgon sub-region)

Generally dry with possible isolated showers near Lake Kyoga and Mt. Elgon slopes by weekend [timeanddate.com](https://timeanddate.com). Any rainfall will be minimal (<5 mm). Temperatures remain high at 30–32°C. Farmers should continue field preparations without expecting significant rainfall.

## 4 Western Uganda (Rwenzori, Ankole, Bunyoro)

Mostly sunny with slight chance of light showers (<10 mm) in southwestern highlands [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). Given forecasts of below-normal March–May rainfall [icpac.net](https://icpac.net), farmers should harvest any available water and prepare for a drier planting season.

## 5 Central Uganda

Warm conditions with possible isolated thunderstorms near Lake Victoria. Weekly rainfall expected to be low (<20 mm) [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). Main rainy season anticipated to start in early March [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). Farmers should finalize field preparations to be ready for planting rains.

**Cross-Verification:** UNMA and ICPAC forecasts confirm dry conditions across Uganda this week, with only light rainfall (<50 mm) possible in southern regions [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). This aligns with the December–February dry season pattern [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com). Farmers should focus on water conservation and monitor UNMA's daily updates for any changes.

## **2. Crop Calendar & Growth Stages (Mid-February 2025)**

Uganda's farming regions follow either bimodal or unimodal rainfall patterns, with most areas currently between growing seasons. Farmers are focusing on land preparation and completing post-harvest activities.

## 1 Karamoja (Unimodal zone)

Off-season with fallow fields. Single planting season begins with April rains and harvest around August–September [climatestotravel.com](https://climatestotravel.com). The 2024 harvest was completed by November [fao.org](https://fao.org). Current tasks: repairing granaries, seed selection, and land preparation for the long rains [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org). Farmers should prepare for early planting when rains arrive in late March/April.

## 2 Northern Uganda (Acholi, Lango, West Nile)

Off-season for cereals with some ongoing perennials. Main crops were harvested by Oct–Nov 2024 [fao.org](https://fao.org). Current focus: land preparation and input gathering for March–April planting. Perennial crops (bananas, coffee) are in maintenance phase. Key tasks: tillage, compost application, and planning for early planting of sesame, millet, and maize.

## 3 Eastern Uganda (Teso, Bukedi, Bugisu regions)

Between Season B harvest and Season A planting. Second season crops were harvested Nov–Jan [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org). Current status:

- Maize: Post-harvest storage; field preparation for March planting
- Beans: In storage; preparing for mid–March to mid–April planting [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org)
- Rice: Fields being cleared for March planting with rains

## 4 Western Uganda (Toro, Ankole, Kigezi regions)

Season B ended; preparing for Season A. Late 2024 harvest complete for major crops [fao.org](https://fao.org). Highland potato farmers marketing January harvest and preparing seed tubers for March planting [rvo.nl](https://rvo.nl). Perennials: banana plantations fruiting heavily, coffee harvest ending.

- Priority tasks: Mulch bananas, prepare for possible below-normal rains [icpac.net](https://icpac.net). Prepare seed potatoes and plan staggered planting for March.

## 5 Central Uganda & Lake Victoria Crescent

Between seasons with ongoing perennial activity. Second season crops harvested by January [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org). Current focus: field preparation, coffee processing, and banana maintenance. Key tasks: secure quality seeds, complete irrigation preparations, and apply lime where needed.

## Tasks this week

Focus on field preparation: complete weeding, manage crop residues, apply soil amendments, and ensure tools are ready for planting season.

## Summary of Major Crops & Stages (Feb 2025)

Bimodal regions (Central, East, parts of West) have completed Season 2024B harvest and are preparing for Season 2025A planting in March–April [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org). Staple crops are between cycles, while perennials continue production [harvestmoney.co.ug](https://harvestmoney.co.ug), [fao.org](https://fao.org). Unimodal areas await next rains. Nationwide focus is on field preparation and input procurement for the upcoming planting season [flawlessconsultsug.org](https://flawlessconsultsug.org).



# 3. Input Recommendations & Technical Advisory

As farmers prepare for planting season, proper input preparation and soil management are crucial. Here are key recommendations for fertilizers, pest control, and soil amendments.

## Soil Fertility & Fertilizers

Ugandan soils need nutrient replenishment after continuous cultivation [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu), [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu). Consider these key interventions:

### 1 Apply Basal Fertilizer at Planting

For cereals, apply phosphorus-rich fertilizer (DAP or SSP) at planting. Use about 125 kg/ha of DAP for maize (roughly one 50-kg bag per acre) [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu), [agra.org](http://agra.org). Mix fertilizer into the planting hole, keeping it separate from seeds to prevent burning.

### 2 Plan Nitrogen Top-Dressings

Apply nitrogen (Urea or CAN) 3-4 weeks after emergence. For maize, use 125 kg/ha of Urea at 1 meter height; for sorghum, 110 kg/ha of CAN after 3 weeks [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu). Even small amounts help in N-deficient soils. If using manure, apply during land preparation for slow nutrient release [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu).

### 3 Soil Testing and Lime

Test soil pH and fertility to optimize input use. For acidic soils (pH < 5.5), apply agricultural lime 2-4 weeks before planting. High rainfall areas benefit from 5-7 bags of lime per acre every few years. Government extension services offer soil testing to help determine proper fertilizer types and rates [fao.org](http://fao.org), [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu).

### 4 Use Quality Inputs

Source certified seeds and fertilizers from reputable dealers. Look for the UNBS quality mark on fertilizer bags. Consider rhizobium inoculant for legumes, especially during first season planting (March-April) [farmertofarmer.crs.org](http://farmertofarmer.crs.org).

# Pest & Disease Management (Pre-season)

Address these key pest management issues now to prevent problems during the growing season:

## 1 Storage Pest Control

Protect stored grains from weevils, beetles, and rodents using hermetic storage bags or silos. The World Food Programme recommends hermetic bags over traditional polypropylene sacks [wfpusa.org](http://wfpusa.org) as they prevent pest entry and reduce contamination [eprcug.org](http://eprcug.org). If using traditional storage, treat grain with appropriate storage insecticides following safety instructions.

## 2 Field Pest Scouting & Preparation

Scout fields for persistent pests, particularly fall armyworm (FAW) and cutworms. Set up pheromone traps for FAW and plow fields to expose cutworm larvae. Stock recommended pesticides (emamectin benzoate or lambda-cyhalothrin) based on local pest history. Practice crop rotation to break pest cycles, especially for maize fields affected by stem borers and FAW.

## 3 Seed Treatment

Protect seedlings by treating seeds before sowing. Use appropriate fungicide treatments for beans to prevent root rot, and ensure maize seeds are coated with pesticide/fungicide dressing. For saved seeds, apply recommended seed treatment chemicals, following safety guidelines and proper labeling protocols.

## 4 Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Implement IPM strategies: plant early with first rains to avoid peak pest populations [flawlessconsultsug.org](http://flawlessconsultsug.org), maintain field hygiene by destroying pest-harboring crop residues, and consider trap crops for Striga control. Preserve beneficial insects by avoiding unnecessary pesticide applications.

## 5 Livestock Pest Control

Treat livestock for ticks and worms before the rainy season begins. Deworm all animals and apply tick control measures to prevent disease spread. This ensures healthy animals for plowing and maintains good quality manure production.

# Soil Amendments & Conservation

Mid-February is an ideal time to improve soil structure and moisture retention:

## 1 Mulching

Apply available mulch materials (dry grass, banana leaves) on fields after planting or on perennial crops. This conserves moisture, moderates soil temperature, and reduces erosion when rains begin. Particularly effective for banana plantations and coffee gardens in central/western Uganda [harvestmoney.co.ug](https://harvestmoney.co.ug).

## 2 Erosion Control

While soil is dry, repair erosion control structures like terraces, bunds, and drainage channels. Highland farmers should focus on bench terraces, while those in Teso and Lango regions should prepare infiltration pits to harvest early rains and prevent nutrient loss.

## 3 Green Manures & Cover Crops

Incorporate existing cover crops (mucuna, lablab, beans) into soil now for nutrient release [agronomy.unl.edu](https://agronomy.unl.edu), [agronomy.unl.edu](https://agronomy.unl.edu). Plough these under 2-3 weeks before sowing your main crop to allow proper decomposition.

## 4 Fallow/Rotation Planning

Consider resting fields or rotating crops to combat nutrient depletion, which is significant in Uganda's farming systems [agronomy.unl.edu](https://agronomy.unl.edu). Either leave land fallow or plant soil-improving crops like sunhemp or forage legumes. MAAIF and NARO recommend crop rotations, such as maize followed by soybeans, to break pest cycles and boost soil nitrogen.



# Technical Tip of the Week: Hermetic Grain Storage for Better Food Security

Hermetic storage bags (like PICS or AgroZ bags) are a proven, low-cost solution to prevent grain loss during storage. These triple-layer, airtight bags protect your harvest from weevils, mold, and aflatoxin without using chemicals [eprcug.org](http://eprcug.org). The bags work by cutting off oxygen supply to insects, effectively preventing infestations.

To use hermetic bags effectively:

- Dry your grain properly (to 13% moisture or until seeds are hard when bitten)
- Clean the grain thoroughly, removing chaff and damaged kernels
- Fill the inner bags, expel air, and tie tightly
- Store in a cool, shaded place off the ground
- Expect 6-12 months of safe storage

At UGX 10,000-20,000 per bag, this investment can significantly improve your food security and income by preserving grain quality for later sale or planting.

**(Tech Tip in action:** A farmer in Eastern Uganda stored beans in a PICS bag and found zero weevil damage after 5 months, while beans in ordinary bags were partially destroyed [instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com).)



## 4. Livestock & Ranching

As the dry season continues, we provide updates on livestock market prices, animal health guidance, and feeding recommendations based on recent ministry advisories.

# Livestock Market Prices (Mid-Feb 2025)

Current farmgate and market prices show stable to slightly rising trends compared to last year. Latest data from Selina Wamucii marketplace (Feb 2025) indicates:

## 1 Cattle

**UGX 7,470 to 18,675 per kg live weight** (about US\$1.94–4.86/kg) [selinawamucii.com](https://selinawamucii.com). An average mature cow (250 kg) sells for UGX 1.9–4.7 million. Export prices have increased from UGX 16,934/kg last year to UGX 17,890/kg currently [selinawamucii.com](https://selinawamucii.com). Premium prices apply to well-fattened bulls and steers, with lower prices for local breeds and lean animals.

## 2 Goats

**UGX 7,358 to 11,038 per kg** (≈ US\$1.91–2.87/kg) for live goats [selinawamucii.com](https://selinawamucii.com). A medium goat (30 kg) sells for UGX 220,000–330,000. Sheep prices are similar at UGX 7,359–11,039 per kg [selinawamucii.com](https://selinawamucii.com), with a 25 kg sheep averaging UGX 185,000. Urban markets in Kampala/Jinja maintain steady prices at UGX 10,000–11,000 per kg.

## 3 Pigs

**UGX 7,548 to 15,097 per kg** (≈ US\$1.96–3.93/kg) for live pigs [selinawamucii.com](https://selinawamucii.com). A 100 kg pig sells for approximately UGX 0.75–1.5 million. Prices vary by region, with central Uganda commanding UGX 8k–12k/kg due to higher commercial activity. Market demand remains strong across most urban areas.

**(Trend insight:** Regional trade with Kenya, South Sudan, and DR Congo continues to support strong local prices, while lower feed costs help maintain livestock condition.)

# Feeding & Watering (Dry Season Management)

As the long dry season concludes in the cattle corridor, pastures and water sources are depleted. Here are critical management strategies:

## 1 Supplementary Feeding

Use stored feeds like hay or silage from previous rains. Crop residues (banana peels, maize stover, bean haulms) should be chopped and enhanced with molasses or urea when possible. Reserve legume hays for lactating cows, calves, and weak animals. Provide mineral blocks or salt licks to replace lost minerals, especially for animals traveling long distances.

## 2 Water Management

Ensure daily watering, preferably during early morning or late afternoon to reduce heat stress. With natural water points drying up, utilize boreholes, wells, or community valley tanks. At shared water sources, maintain cleanliness and consider treating drinking water to prevent disease spread. When possible, transport water to remote animals rather than forcing long treks.

## 3 Livestock Body Condition

Monitor animal condition closely. Consider strategic de-stocking for severely emaciated cattle while market prices remain favorable. Use funds from sales to secure feed for remaining livestock. For small ruminants, supplement browsing with concentrates if needed. Focus on maintaining survival until the rains return, when rapid weight recovery typically occurs.

# Veterinary Care & Vaccinations

February is critical for preventative healthcare as disease risks increase with upcoming rains. The Ministry of Agriculture (MAAIF) emphasizes these key interventions:

## 1 Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)

Over 30 districts are under FMD quarantine as of early 2024 [tridge.com](https://www.tribune.com). The government is providing free vaccinations in affected areas [african.business](https://www.africanbusiness.com), but future vaccinations will be compulsory and farmer-funded [tridge.com](https://www.tribune.com). Action items: Get your cattle vaccinated if in affected districts, maintain strict quarantine measures, and prepare for bi-annual vaccination costs. Report any signs of FMD immediately.

## 2 Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Goats/Sheep

PPR vaccination campaigns are ongoing, particularly in Karamoja and the cattle corridor [ilri.org](https://www.ilri.org). With up to 80% mortality rates [ilri.org](https://www.ilri.org), prevention is crucial. Check with local veterinary officials about vaccination if your flock hasn't been covered recently.

## 3 Other Vaccines

Regional priorities include CBPP for cattle in the north/north-east, CCPP for goats in dry areas, and anthrax vaccination in Kiruhura/Kazo and Mt. Elgon regions [fao.org](https://www.fao.org). FAO has provided vaccines for these diseases in Karamoja and Elgon [fao.org](https://www.fao.org).

## 4 Routine Veterinary Care

Deworm animals now before the rains begin to reduce parasite loads on fresh grass. Intensify tick control to bi-weekly treatments during this transition period. Rotate acaricide classes under veterinary guidance to prevent resistance. Use only MAAIF-approved products.

## 5 Disease Surveillance

Monitor for trypanosomiasis in areas requiring long-distance grazing, Lumpy Skin Disease after rains, and Newcastle Disease in poultry. Newcastle vaccination is recommended now, costing approximately UGX 100 per bird. Contact your sub-county extension officer about free vaccination programs.

# Livestock Feeding & Husbandry

## 1 Health through Nutrition

Animals weakened by the dry season need strong nutritional support. Provide mineral lick blocks to boost appetite and health. For dairy cows, maintain concentrate feeding (cottonseed cake, maize bran) to sustain milk production. Plan to sow improved pastures like napier grass or brachiaria when rains begin. Consider planting protein-rich fodder trees like Calliandra for long-term feed security [mdpi.com](https://www.mdpi.com).

## 2 Breeding

Late dry season is optimal for breeding decisions. Cows often come into heat when their condition improves with first rains. Ensure breeding stock is healthy and disease-free. Time goat breeding so kids are born when feed is abundant. When replacing breeding males, quarantine new animals before herd integration.

### Notable Livestock-Related Updates:

1 Uganda is shifting to compulsory vaccination with cost recovery, especially for FMD [tridge.com](https://www.tridge.com). Initial vaccines are subsidized, but farmers should budget for future vaccination costs. Egyptian FMD vaccines have been donated at reduced prices [african.business](https://www.african.business).

2 FAO has delivered vaccines (FMD, CBPP, CCPP, PPR, anthrax) to Karamoja and Elgon regions [fao.org](https://www.fao.org). Recent immunizations reduce outbreak risks for early 2025. Some NGOs offer feed voucher programs in drought-affected areas - check with local authorities for availability.

3 Livestock movement controls remain in quarantine zones, affecting market access [tridge.com](https://www.tridge.com). Government is deploying 2.3 million vaccine doses to lift quarantines [parliamentwatch.ug](https://www.parliamentwatch.ug). Monitor local announcements for updates.

**Veterinary Tip:** Maintain a basic first aid kit with antiseptic spray, prescribed antibiotics, anti-parasitics, and vitamin injections. These essentials can save animals in emergencies. Always consult veterinarians for proper dosing.

In summary, focus on nutrition, vaccination, and observation during this critical period. With current market prices and disease control measures, maintaining herd health will maximize returns. Prepare your stock now for upcoming pasture growth.



# 5. Market Analysis (Staple Commodity Prices & Trends)

Staple food prices in Uganda remain favorable for consumers and stable for farmers as of mid-February 2025. The strong second harvest of 2024 has maintained good market supplies, keeping prices lower than a year ago [fao.org](#). Here's the current market status of major staples:

## 1 Maize Grain

National average retail prices are 3% lower year-on-year [fao.org](#). Current prices range from UGX 1,000-1,200/kg in surplus areas to UGX 1,300-1,500/kg in urban markets. Kyegegwa district reports UGX 1,720/kg [ipcinfor.org](#). Trend: Expect modest price increases through May, but good harvests should keep rises moderate [fao.org](#).

## 2 Beans

Prices are currently low to moderate after a good harvest. Mixed dry beans sell at UGX 2,500-3,000/kg in rural markets, while premium varieties reach UGX 3,500-4,500/kg. Prices were 15% lower than the previous year as of August 2024 [fao.org](#). Trend: Expect 20-30% price increases by April/May, particularly if regional exports increase [harvestmoney.co.ug](#).

## 3 Sorghum & Millet

Sorghum sells at UGX 1,000-1,200/kg at farmgate in Karamoja and Teso, while millet ranges from UGX 2,000-2,500/kg in producing areas to UGX 3,500/kg in urban markets. Regional prices remain stable, with Uganda showing lower prices than conflict-affected neighbors [fao.org](#). Trend: Expect minimal price changes until next harvest.

## 4 Cooking Bananas (Matooke)

Prices remain low following a 2024 glut. Farmgate prices in western Uganda are around UGX 10,000 per bunch, while urban retail prices reach UGX 20,000-30,000 [harvestmoney.co.ug](#). Trend: Prices may gradually increase through 2025 as production normalizes [harvestmoney.co.ug](#).

## 5 Sweet Potatoes

Prices stable at UGX 1,000/kg farmgate and UGX 1,500-2,000/kg retail. Year-round harvesting maintains steady supply and prices.

## 6 Rice

Local medium-grain rice sells at UGX 3,000-3,500/kg, imported varieties at UGX 4,000/kg in Kampala. Paddy rice fetches UGX 2,000/kg in producing areas. Prices have stabilized after 2023 highs [fao.org](#).

## 7 Groundnuts & Oilseeds

Dry unshelled groundnuts sell at UGX 5,000-6,000/kg, with shelled varieties costing double. Sunflower sells at UGX 1,200-1,500/kg farmgate, soybeans at UGX 1,800-2,000/kg. Prices have risen significantly, with Kitgum reporting increases from UGX 3,500 to 6,000 [harvestmoney.co.ug](#).

# Key Market Trends and Analysis:

## 1 Year-on-Year Comparison

Staple food prices in early 2025 are generally lower than early 2024, thanks to a good second season harvest in late 2024. While regional markets like Malawi and South Sudan saw record high prices [fao.org](https://www.fao.org), Uganda's prices remained stable and affordable [fao.org](https://www.fao.org), indicating positive food security conditions.

## 2 Regional Trade Dynamics

Uganda's export markets remain active but with moderate price pressure. Kenya's maize demand is partly met by duty-free imports from various sources, leading to a 19% price drop [millingmea.com](https://millingmea.com). South Sudan offers higher prices but faces trade limitations due to security issues. Growing demand from Rwanda and DRC, particularly for beans, may drive prices up in coming months.

## 3 Inflation and Input Costs

While general inflation has stabilized and food inflation was negative in 2024, high fuel and transport costs continue to impact food prices in remote areas. The stable Ugandan Shilling has helped maintain price equilibrium, though transport costs have doubled in some regions [harvestmoney.co.ug](https://harvestmoney.co.ug).

## 4 Market Supply and Demand

Markets currently have abundant supply from the November-December harvest. Expected selling pressure in January-February for school fees may temporarily lower prices, but by May, maize and beans could rise 15-30% as supplies tighten before the next harvest.

## 5 Government Actions

The government maintains a free market approach with no current subsidies or export bans. While institutional purchases (for schools, refugees) could affect prices, WFP continues monitoring basic food basket costs [wfp.org](https://www.wfp.org).

## 6 Special Note on Matooke Surplus

The 2024 banana oversupply in western Uganda led to significant price drops [harvestmoney.co.ug](https://harvestmoney.co.ug). Early 2025 may see price recovery as supply normalizes, with local governments promoting cooperative formation and value addition to address market volatility.

In summary, Uganda's staple food market remains stable with maize at UGX 1,300/kg and beans at UGX 3,000/kg. While prices are lower than last year, benefiting consumers, the market outlook suggests modest increases as the lean season approaches, barring any significant changes in regional demand or rainfall patterns [fao.org](https://www.fao.org).

# 6. Government & NGO Updates

Several significant policy changes and development initiatives from the Ugandan government and NGOs are shaping the agricultural sector. Here are the key updates affecting farmers and agricultural stakeholders:

## 1 Policy Shift to Mandatory Livestock Vaccination

MAAIF is implementing compulsory livestock vaccination, starting with FMD. Cabinet approved 10 million vaccine doses for immediate free distribution [tridge.com](https://tridge.com). From next financial year, farmers will be required to pay for bi-annual FMD vaccinations [tridge.com](https://tridge.com). Currently, 36 districts are under FMD quarantine, and this vaccination program aims to control outbreaks and facilitate livestock trade.

## 3 Climate and Disaster Preparedness

With forecasts indicating below-normal rains for March-May 2025 [icpac.net](https://icpac.net), key preparations include:

- Early warning bulletins from FAO and OPM recommending drought-tolerant crops and staggered plantings [fao.org](https://fao.org)
- Fall Armyworm monitoring and control measures through the Crop Protection Department

## 2 MAAIF Extension Services and Campaigns

The Ministry's recent initiatives include:

- Digital extension services expansion through radio programs and SMS alerts [farmradio.org](https://farmradio.org)
- Distribution of improved seeds and planting materials under PDM and NAADS/OWC programs
- Price stabilization efforts for banana and dairy products through value addition and market linkages [harvestmoney.co.ug](https://harvestmoney.co.ug)

## 4 Grants and Projects by NGOs/International Partners

- FAO Emergency Support: Provided \$1 million in livestock vaccines for Karamoja and Elgon regions [fao.org](https://fao.org)
- WFP's cash assistance in refugee settlements is affecting local market prices, with slight increases in maize flour prices in some areas [data.unhcr.org](https://data.unhcr.org)
- World Bank and IFAD projects supporting input subsidies, irrigation development, and agro-industrialization
- USAID's Feed the Future program promoting bio-fortified crops and market linkages in eastern and northern Uganda



# NGO Activities in Specific Areas:

## 1 Karamoja

NGOs under the Karamoja Resilience Support Unit are implementing critical projects. Mercy Corps, World Vision, and CRS focus on farmer field schools and drought-resilient crops. A key initiative involves improved forage seeds to address feed deficits in pastoral areas [mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com).

## 2 South Western Uganda

SNV and RHUgE are addressing the banana price crisis through value addition training, while IFAD supports Irish potato processing and cooperative marketing in Kigezi region.

## 3 Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)

IITA's Stepwise CSA program has improved coffee farmers' yields through climate-smart practices [farmradio.org](http://farmradio.org). Organizations like Care, Oxfam, and CGIAR offer training in drought-tolerant crops, water harvesting, and agroforestry.

## 4 Agricultural Finance and Grants

Key financial opportunities include:

- Bank of Uganda's Agricultural Credit Facility (ACF): 12% interest loans for farming and agro-processing through commercial banks.
- NUTEC-DF matching grants for Northern Uganda agri-SMEs and Yield Uganda Investment Fund support for innovative agribusinesses.

## 5 Fertilizer and Seed Policy

MAAIF is developing a national fertilizer policy to increase usage from current 2 kg/ha [agronomy.unl.edu](http://agronomy.unl.edu). The ministry is also implementing regional seed harmonization standards through community seed producers to improve rural seed access.

## 6 Humanitarian Updates

- Sudan/Ebola: A January 2025 outbreak in Kampala [travelhealthpro.org.uk](http://travelhealthpro.org.uk) is being contained with minimal disruption to agricultural trade.
- Refugee Support: Ongoing refugee influx creates opportunities for host community farmers to supply food to settlements and WFP, while World Bank investments improve local infrastructure.

Government policy now emphasizes proactive agricultural management through vaccination enforcement, input distribution, and improved extension services. Farmers should utilize these resources: participate in vaccination programs, attend trainings, access available subsidies, and join cooperative marketing initiatives [harvestmoney.co.ug](http://harvestmoney.co.ug). Stay informed through local council meetings, radio, and extension officers to maximize support and adapt to policy changes.



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