

CASE STUDY: LAWINO PAULA



My name is Lawino Paula. I am 50 years old and married to Mr. Oponya John, with whom I have 7 children. I am a farmer and I belong to Oruu Kitic farmers group in Burgweng Village, Lapyem Parish, Laguti Sub-county, Pader District.

I got to know about the Cassava Applied Research For Food Security in Northern Uganda Project that Oxfam, Africa 2000 Network and NARO were introducing when the District Agriculture Officer informed us that our farmer group had been among those selected at sub county level to participate in the planting of demonstration gardens, which would later

provide stems to multiply and expand the planting of the new cassava varieties. I am appreciative of the project because unlike before, when farmers were still planting the local types/varieties of cassava which were often affected by cassava mosaic, this project has provided us with new varieties which are fast maturing and high yielding. From our demonstration garden, we have harvested and sold the cassava tubers as well as used them for food. Besides the cassava tubers, we have also been able to distribute the clean cassava stems from the same demo garden to group members and also sell to the rest of the community.

My husband and I have plans of multiplying the new varieties in our garden, and from this I anticipate high yields meaning we shall have enough food and even be able to sell off some; which will increase our household income.

I have come to realize that this project aims at reducing poverty within the communities and I believe it is doing just that. This is because since its inception, over 30 households in our group have benefited tremendously from this project and from these groups, we have almost 20 women, several of whom are in leadership positions. This is all thanks to the Oxfam, A2N and NARO for the work and especially the many trainings we have been able to receive on savings, farming as a business, and disease management.