



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**UGANDA NATIONAL REPORT AND INFORMATION ON  
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION EFFORTS FOR THE  
WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISASTER REDUCTION  
(Kobe-Hyogo, Japan, 18-22 January 2005)**

By  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

Uganda is a small country with a total area of 236,040 square kilometers of which the land area is 199,710 and water makes up the remaining 36,330 square kilometers. It is a landlocked country of fairly high elevation in East Africa. At the lowest level, Lake Albert, the elevation is 621 meters above sea level, while at the highest, Mount Rwenzori, it is 5,110 meters. Uganda is an agricultural country of comfortable climate and good soils. The population is (2002 Census) 24 million of which 51% is female and 49% is male. Most of the economic activity is geared to the production, handling and marketing of crops, livestock, wood and other products arising from these.

The society is largely rural. Rural population densities are generally lower than 100 per km<sup>2</sup> and most people are concentrated in a wide area band around lakes Victoria, Kyoga and Albert. This is because of the abundant rainfall and very fertile soil in the lakes' region.

## **DISASTER HISTORY**

Disasters are rampant in Uganda. The earliest recorded disaster is an earthquake in 1897. These disasters have caused a great deal of suffering and loss of property and productive capacity for the peoples of Uganda. In so doing, disasters have contributed to the retardation of social development.

Uganda has experienced a wide range of disasters directly affecting most of the country. The following have been frequent: displacement of persons as a result of civil strife; famine as a result of drought; earthquakes; disease epidemics, livestock and crop disease; flooding and landslides as a result of heavy rains and injudicious environmental management; and technological accidents as a result of inadequate safety procedures. New on the scene and most frightening is the phenomenon of terrorism.

### **Component 1 Political Commitment And Institutional Aspects**

**1.1 Are there national policy, strategy and legislation addressing disaster risk reduction in Uganda? YES.**

Uganda also has in place a National Disaster Preparedness Policy and Institutional Framework approved by Cabinet in 1999 and revised in 2003. (visit [www.opm.go.ug](http://www.opm.go.ug) ) In addition Uganda has in place a National Policy on Internal Displacement of Persons and is currently writing a National Policy on Conflict Resolution and Peace Building ( copies are herewith attached)

A draft legislation referred to as a “National Disaster Management bill” is under development. At the same time a strategic plan for implementation of the national disaster policy is being drafted.

**1.2 Is there a national body for multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration in disaster risk reduction, which includes ministries in charge of water resource management etc? YES.**

The Department of Disaster Management and Refugees in the Office of the Prime Minister is responsible for multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration in disaster risk reduction. The department is headed by the 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Disaster Preparedness and Refugees who is supported by a Minister of State and a team of Technical Experts lead by a Commissioner and two Assistant Commissioners. The department is also the secretariate for an Inter-Ministerial Policy Committee (IMPC), which gives coordinated policy direction in disaster management. With support from ISDR, a National Platform of disaster focal points from relevant Ministries such as Environment, Water and Lands, Health and Education was put in place to plan and implement in coordinated approach mitigation and response initiatives.

**1.3 Are there sectoral plans or initiatives that incorporate risk reduction concepts into each respective development area (such as water resource management, poverty alleviation, climate change adaptation, education and development planning)? YES**

The national platform, locally referred to as the “Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee” is an initiative whose members are Sectoral Disaster Focal Point Officers assigned to mainstream disaster risk issues into sectoral work plans and budgets. The Sectoral Focal Point Officers chair the sectoral disaster risk working group forums e.g we have in place the Health Sector Working Group, the Water Sector Working Group, the Education Sector Working Group, the Food Security Working Group and the Sanitation Working Group. Each of these sectors have in place sectoral plans with clear disaster risk features.

**1.4 Is disaster risk reduction incorporated into your national plan for the implementation of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), National Adaptation Plans of Action, National Environment Action Plans and WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development) Johannesburg Plan of Implementation? YES**

The Government of Uganda has recognized the importance of disaster risk reduction and made it its third topmost priority in the Poverty Reduction Strategic Framework locally referred to as the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). The third pillar of the PEAP is entitled “Security, Conflict Resolution and Disaster Management”. The PEAP is the National Development Policy Framework and Medium Term Planning Tool that guides formulation of Government policy and implementation of Government programmes in

line with the MGDs, PRSP etc. the main contacts for this initiative are Mr. Martin Owor whose e-mail address is [mowor@opm.go.ug](mailto:mowor@opm.go.ug)

**1.5 Does your Country have building codes of practice and standards in place, which takes into account seismic risk? YES**

The Ministry of Works, Housing and Telecommunications in partnership with Uganda Seismic Safety Association (USSA) designed building codes that have been revised several times since 1969. Every Urban and Local Government Authority in the Country enforces it. The Western parts of Uganda experience destructive earthquakes at interval of 5 to 10 years.

**1.6 Do you have an annual budget for disaster risk reduction? YES**

One of the budget lines in the National Budget caters for the Department of Disaster Management and Refugees through the Office of the Prime Minister

**1.7 Are the Private Sector, Civil Society, NGOs, Academia and media participating in disaster risk reduction efforts?**

The involvement of institutions outside Government is still very low. Disaster risk reduction is a new phenomenon. Apart from some few members of the mass media whom the Government has trained in disaster risk reduction, the other institutions need training.

## **Component 2 Risk Identification**

**2.1 Has your Country carried out hazard mapping/assessment? YES**

We have hazard maps for Wetlands, Environment, Forests, Earthquakes, Landslides, Drought and Floods. The Earthquake hazard maps were developed in 1994, Wetlands in 1997-2000, Environment 1999, Forest 1999-2001, landslides in 2002 and drought/ floods are being developed.

**2.2 Has your Country carried out vulnerability and capacity assessments? YES**

This has been done for 30 out of 56 districts in the year 2001. This however needs annual updates which has not been possible due to financial constraints. A Community participatory method was used, that involved drawing a hazards profile of the district basing on historical experiences and forecasting the future. These profiles are then mapped on the major social, economic and physical settings of the district. Inventory of capacities within the district were also carried out.

**2.3 Does your country have any mechanisms for risk monitoring and risk mapping?  
Yes**

Climate change is monitored by the Department of Meteorology. An inter-ministerial team of experts basing on climate change information draws Drought/ Floods and Landslides risk maps.

**2.4 Is there a systematic socio-economic and environmental impact and loss analysis in your country after each major disaster? YES**

The impact and loss analysis is done by the responsible line Ministry, e.g when the Country experiences a drought disaster, the Ministry of Agriculture takes the lead.

**2.5 Are there early warning systems in place?**

Hazards such as Drought, Floods, Landslides and Epidemic diseases especially cholera, meningitis and ebola have well developed early warning systems. The main institutions are the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, the Department of Meteorology, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment and the Local Governments.

### **Component 3 Knowledge Management**

**3.1 Does your Country have disaster risk information management systems (governmental and/or non-governmental)? Yes**

Information on Drought, Floods, Landslides Environment degradation, Wetlands Degradation and Epidemic diseases is available. Information is collected by Community level workers in the respective field, analysed at the central level and disseminated through the media, community leaders and politicians.

**3.2 Are the academic and research communities in the country linked to national or local institutions dealing with disaster reduction? Yes**

On mitigation of earthquakes, the Department of Disaster Preparedness, Ministry of Works, housing and Communications and Makerere University Departments of Geology, Physics and Technology are linked through the Uganda Seismic Safety Association (USSA) that meets two times every month. Likewise the Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment is linked to Makerere University Institute of Environment Studies. A number of Environment and Forestry Studies Institutes are available in the Country.

**3.3 Are there educational programmes related to disaster risk reduction in your public school system? Yes**

The educational programmes in place cover hazard studies such as climate change, environment degradation, and drought and flood patterns. These programmes have not been re-oriented to address disaster risk reduction related to the hazards.

### **3.4 Are there any training programmes available? Yes**

Some disaster risk areas such as control of environment degradation leading to landslides, floods and soil degradation is taught in schools. Terracing is practiced in the hilly parts of Uganda as a result of these training programmes.

### **3.5 What kind of traditional indigenous knowledge and wisdom is used in disaster-related practices or training programmes on disaster risk reduction in your country?**

Depending on the hazard e.g landslides is traditionally monitored by looking at the uprightness of trees on sloping grounds. Any degree of slantedness is an indication of mass creeping and alert messages are sent around.

### **3.6 Do you have any national public awareness programmes or campaigns on disaster risk reduction?**

Every year we hold at least one national seminar on earthquakes disaster in which school children and the mass the media are involved. We also have a road safety week, Uganda Red Cross Week, Environment week and many other such programmes that focus on public disaster reduction campaigns using school music festivals, debates, discussions in the mass media, posters etc.

## **Component 4 Risk Management Applications/Instruments**

### **4.1 Is there any good examples of linking environmental management and risk reduction practices in your country? YES**

Uganda's wetlands have been drained for rice production. The degradation of the wetlands is partly responsible for increased flooding during rainy seasons and extreme water shortages during dry seasons. Programmes to address flood and drought hazards include wetlands regeneration by encouraging rice growers to adapt upland rice production.

### **4.2 Are financial instruments utilized in your country as a measure to reduce the impact of disasters?**

In areas emerging from disasters such as North-Eastern Uganda, Government established micro-finance credit scheme to support recovery efforts of the communities.

## **Component 5 Preparedness and Contingency Planning**

### **5.1 Do you have disaster contingency plans in place? Are they prepared for both national and community levels? YES**

The disaster prone districts numbering 30 out of 56 have contingency plans in place. The plans show the risks and likelihood of related disasters occurring with potential effects. It also shows measures in place to respond to the disaster.

### **5.2 Has your Government established emergency funds for disaster response and are there national or community storage facilities for emergency relief items – mainly food, medicine, and tents/shelters?**

Government has not established an emergency fund but it has a central storage facility for emergency relief items.

### **5.3 Who is responsible for the coordination of disaster response preparedness and is the coordination body equipped with enough human and financial resources for the job?**

The Department of Disaster Management and Refugees in the Office of the Prime Minister is responsible for preparedness and coordination (see 1.2 above)

## **Component 6 Call for good practices in disaster risk management**

### **A SUCCESSFUL - LANDSLIDES MITIGATION PROJECT – SIRONKO DISTRICT- UGANDA**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

During the last few decades, farmers living on the slopes of mount Elgon in Uganda have moved high and higher up the slopes in search of land for agriculture. In the process, they have cleared the slopes of their natural vegetation leading to environmental problems such as landslides soil erosion, flooding, deformation of the landscape etc. Landslides in particular have become very rampant and disastrous in Sironko District. 31% of the total population of Uganda lives in mountainous areas including Mount Elgon.

## ANALYSIS OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS LANDSLIDES MITIGATION PROJECT

### Awareness on landslides increased

Raising of awareness was the first and most important step in the implementation of the landslide mitigation project. The aim of this activity was to sensitise the public on the causes of landslides, trend, impact, dangers of living in risky areas and proposed mitigation measures. The project targeted Central Government, Sironko district and sub-county local leaders, departmental heads and the public. A number of methods were used in creating awareness, which included the workshops, community meetings, and electronic and print media. The project achieved a number of its objectives (Table 1)

**Table 1. Awareness Activities**

Planned activity	Status	Remarks
Sensitize Councilors in 12 sub-counties on landslide issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6 workshops were conducted for officials from 12 sub-counties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The sub-county leaders led in the sensitization meetings at parish level with support from technical staff</li> </ul>
Carry out 48 community sensitization meetings at parish level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 2 community meetings were held in each sub-county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The community is willing to implement the mitigation measures</li> </ul>
Sensitize the public on landslides using electronic media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spot messages were aired on 3 radio stations</li> <li>▪ Documentary developed on landslide for sensitization on landslides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nobody died due to landslides</li> <li>▪ There was immediate response to the call for temporary relocation countrywide</li> </ul>
Sensitize the public on landslides through print media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50 posters were distributed in Sironko and other stakeholder offices in Kampala</li> <li>▪ Sensitization package was circulated in 2 the two leading Ugandan papers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Awareness on landslide in Uganda has greatly increased</li> <li>▪ No lives have been lost due to landslides in the country</li> </ul>

Generally, the sensitization meetings were very successful and attracted a lot of enthusiasm from the local community and the general public. This was shown by the amount of feedback from the public. However, during and after the sensitization meetings and radio spot messages a number of issues were raised, which need to be considered:

- It was noted that the public did not know that landslide effects could be mitigated and believed that landslides were a result of fate.
- The general public especially the people of Sironko received the awareness message quite positively and relocated temporarily to safer areas during the El Nino rains. During this period there was no single death that occurred as a result of landslides although landslides occurred. Radio programs in particular had a lot of impact countrywide.
- It was noted that awareness creation should be complimented by other activities to achieve the desired objectives. For instance, during the sensitization workshop, some people in landslide prone areas expressed willingness to relocate to safer areas but they lack the means for acquiring land and initial settlement. There is no program in place to support those willing to relocate.
- It was also noted that Sironko experiences high population pressure and rampant poverty, which is likely to affect the progress of the local people relocating to safer areas because of lack land and facilitation to relocate to other areas. Some people living in the mountainous areas are not willing to relocate to lowlands because of fear of change to a hostile weather and diseases.
- The community is interested in simplified guidelines for use of mountainous areas and tree species that are compatible with their crops. The community was concerned that trees such as eucalyptus may cause their crops to wither.

### **People living in landslide prone areas encouraged to relocate**

Field visits were made to some villages to identify and map out the risky areas. The idea of mapping out risky areas was aimed at reducing landslide disasters and to agree on mitigating measures for such areas. Some of the Sub-counties visited for this purpose include Buteza and Zesui in which a number of hill slopes were identified as risky. Some of these areas have been vacated while in some others communities living in those areas were advised to relocate to safer areas.

**Table 2. Mapping of risky areas**

<b>Planned activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Mapping out risky zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All the 12 sub-counties were visited but only a few areas were mapped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This requires more time with meetings with sensitisation meetings with the community</li> </ul>
Negotiate with people in risky zones to relocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At least 1 meeting per sub-county has been held with people in risky areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It will require time for the people to relocate permanently due to the costs involved</li> <li>▪ It requires a lot of</li> </ul>

Although the Hilly and Mountainous areas Regulations 2000 authorizes the District Environment Committees to identify, map out, and prescribe measures for mitigation of such areas, no such measures have been taken so far. The district extension staff identified a number of risky areas recommended them for tree planting but the final decision will depend on the district environment committee. During this exercise, a number of issues were raised:

- While carrying out the mapping, a substantial proportion of land was found to fall in the risky area. Although people living in the risky areas were encouraged to relocate were willing, due to land scarcity in Sironko and insecurity in the low lying areas this activity is unlikely to be done expeditiously. Therefore if the people are to relocate on their own, it will take time as land is acquired slowly.
- Many affected people are willing to implement the mitigation measures recommended, they will need to be supplied with the seedlings. This is a big challenge because only one tree nursery was established in each sub-county yet village experiencing landslides are many and widely separated. There is need to establish tree nurseries at village level.
- Although many people are eager to implement the mitigation measures, some people with land in the risky areas are not willing to plant trees because of lack of land for agriculture. There is need for more sensitization to for such people to appreciate the need to plant trees in such areas and also take on tree planting as an income generating activity, just like agriculture.

### **Landslide mitigation measures implemented**

A number of activities were initiated and implemented by the Sironko Landslide Mitigation Project with technical and financial support from GTZ. The main thrust of this activity was to build capacity and initiate preventive landslide management in order to minimise occurrence of landslides and minimise costs in the long run. Once this is achieved, landslide disasters and environmental degradation will be greatly minimised. Four Extension Officers from each sub-county were trained in tree nursery management, tree planting, and management of Napier grass bulking plots. The community was also sensitised on the laws and regulations governing hilly and mountainous areas. Enforcement of the laws and regulations will be begin after the district council has formulated specific laws, prescribed measures for risky areas and the community is fully sensitised.

**Table 3. Landslide Mitigation Activities**

<b>Planned activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Train extension workers in nursery management	48 Extension officers from 12 sub-counties were trained in tree nursery and Napier	Capacity built in all the sub-counties

grass management		
Establish 1 tree nursery in 12 sub-counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11/12 sub-counties have established tree nurseries</li> <li>▪ Nursery beds not sown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of the sub-county most affected by landslides not established</li> </ul>
Establish 1 acre of bulking plot for planting Napier grass in each sub-county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11/12 acres of bulking plots for Napier grass established and planted with Napier</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of the sub-county most affected by landslides not established</li> </ul>
Sensitization and enforcement of the hilly and mountainous areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Posters printed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final action plan to come from the workshop</li> </ul>

The training of Extension Officers in tree nursery, planting and Napier grass management was a very important step in building capacity for landslide mitigation. Since then, tree nurseries and bulking plots for Napier grass have been established in 11 out of 12 sub-counties experiencing landslides. The people who were trained are expected to train more people at parish level to ensure that more tree nurseries are established in each parish. One of the sub-counties has not made any efforts because of political differences in the sub-county. However, there were some constraints experienced or likely to be experienced during this process:

- There was shortage of land for Napier grass bulking plots especially in some sub-counties. Although some people were willing to offer land for the Napier grass, the fear was that people will not freely access them.
- Although the sub-county extension staff is willing to build capacity in nursery management and tree planting at parish level, it does not have facilitation and resources to equip the parishes.
- Most Napier grass and tree nurseries were established at the sub-county Headquarters where public land was available. However, the distance people will walk to access the planting materials, is very long, and is likely to affect the rate of implementation of the mitigation measures.

### **Capacity for Disaster management at district level enhanced**

During this period, the Sironko landslide mitigation project received a number of equipment from GTZ, for both field and office equipment to enhance implementation of the project activities. The equipment includes a computer set, office stationary, sensitisation materials, and a motorcycle. The equipment is meant to facilitate the district project implementer to run the project efficiently.

The District of Sironko with funding from GTZ purchased field equipment for tree nursery and Napier grass bulking plots. These were supplied to all the 12 sub-counties experiencing landslides in Sironko. The equipment has been supplied to the twelve sub-

counties and it is hoped they will sustain the project activities, particularly tree nursery and bulking plot management.

During this period, GTZ funded training in Disaster management for 48 people from the districts Sironko, Kapchorwa, and Mbale. The training targeted the district leaders, administrators, planners, and environment officers. Consultants from UNOCHA and UNCEF facilitated the training. The training was aimed at building capacity in disaster preparedness and response within the three districts and to guide districts in the integration of disaster management in the District Development Plans.

To sustain the project activities, the district has been facilitating the development of the Parish Environment Action Plan development to be integrated in the sub-county and District Development Plans. This will enable district to plan and finance the landslide project activities after GTZ has pulled out.

**Table 4. Capacity Building Activities at District Level**

<b>Planned activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Provide office equipment to district authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 complete computer set given to Sironko</li> <li>▪ 1 motorcycle purchased for Sironko</li> <li>▪ Office and sensitization materials supplied to the district</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Documentation and reporting of landslide issues is likely to improve in the district</li> <li>▪ Improved monitoring of field activities</li> <li>▪ Sensitization workshops were well facilitated</li> </ul>
Provide field equipment to the district of Sironko	Each of the 12 sub-counties were supplied with 2 wheelbarrows, 4 hand hoes, 4 pangas, 4 spades, 4 watering cans, 4 Kg of potting materials	Sub-counties adequately facilitated to manage the tree and Napier grass bulking plots
Elaborate district disaster management plan	Yet to be done	Consultant not yet identified
Train district staff in disaster management	36 district leaders and technical staff trained in disaster management and response	Sironko has established a vote under Administration for Disaster response and management
Integrate landslide issues in Parish Action Plan		Landslide management

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district and sub-county consultation meetings introduced in the DDP as a development plans conducted sub-sector under Environment management

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The District Environment Office implementing the Sironko Landslide Project has been equipped with the basic office requirements for the implementation of the project. This support will greatly sustain the mitigation projects until the district secures funds the next project.

The initiation of this landslide project, training in disaster management and the support given to the district has played an important role in the integration of the landslide issues in the District Development Plan. The landslide mitigation project have been included in the environment sector as a chapter, while Disaster management has been included under administration, which is headed by the Chief Administrative Officer, who is also the chairperson of the Disaster Management Committee. Integration of the landslide issues in the DDP will ensure sustainability of disaster management and the landslide mitigation projects activities initiated in the district. However, there some constraints and challenges the district is faced with:

- Sironko district is new and generally lacks funding to ensure sustainability of the project activities in order to have a significant impact is a big challenge. If funding is not secured for the projects that have been initiated, the achievements that have been made are likely to be lost because some of the projects initiated like afforestation and reforestation, encouragement of people living in landslide prone areas to relocate, mapping out of risky areas, mainstreaming disaster management in other departments such works, agriculture etc.

### **Capacity for Disaster management at national level enhanced**

The Department of Disaster Preparedness of the Office of the Prime Minister was equipped with office equipment and stationary to help in building capacity for disaster management in the country. This included a computer, which will help in the documentation of disasters, planning and reporting by the office of Disaster Preparedness.

Although national workshops were planned during this period to disseminate findings of the landslide research and sanitise other landslide prone areas on the causes, impact and mitigation measures, it was not possible because of time constraint.

**Table 5. Capacity Building Activities at National Level**

<b>Planned activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Provide office equipment to the Department of Disaster Preparedness		
Organize national workshop to disseminate landslide	Not conducted	Time was a limiting factor and was substituted with

management approach	prevention	print media and documentation	video
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Support from GTZ played a very important role in improving documentation in the DDP, which is generally inadequately funded by government. The equipment will go a long way in enhancing disaster management in the country.

Although the national workshops for the dissemination of the landslide findings did not take place, the public were sensitised through radio programs and print media. This sensitisation played a big role in minimising landslide disasters. Usually, many people are killed and a lot of property is lost due to landslide disasters but landslides killed no body during this period.

## CONCLUSION AND THE WAY FORWARD

- ✓ During this short project, some fundamental changes have taken place in Sironko district. The first and most noticeable is the approach to landslide management in the district. The adoption of landslide preventive approach, which is a proactive method of managing landslides and its impacts instead of the reactive approach, is a big step in reducing landslides and the associated problems.
- ✓ The increase in the level of awareness of landslide issues in Sironko district and at national level is a very big achievement attributed to this project. During this period, nobody died due to landslides in Sironko and other parts of the country and the district leaders and the community has strongly come out to support the landslide mitigation project activities being implemented in Sironko. At national level, there has been a sudden increase in the radio programs and articles in the print media on landslide issues, which are good indicators of increased awareness.
- ✓ Another major achievement during this period is the integration of landslide and generally disaster management issues in the Sironko District Development Plan. This will ensure sustainable landslide management in the district. Although the district is cash strapped, this is a step towards sourcing for funding to implement landslide management in the district.
- ✓ The landslide research conducted in Sironko was a big eye opener in the management of landslide disasters in this country because it has led to the change in the approach to landslide management in the country. This is because it established that landslides in Uganda are mostly triggered by human activities and can be mitigated.
- ✓ There is need for close monitoring to ensure that projects initiated do not end due to poor implementation and project equipment are not diverted for private work.

There is need for the Department of Disaster Preparedness to visit the project activities at least once every quarter.

- ✓ The achievements in Sironko indicate that this project can be replicated in other districts with similar problems. The district of Mbale and Kapchorwa could be supported if funds allow to bring the to the level of Sironko. The two other districts in share the same ecosystem as Sironko and although Mbale is more affected

### **LESSON LEARNT**

- There is need for continuous sensitisation of the community on landslide issues if landslide disasters have to be minimised
- The preventive approach to landslide management is very appropriate to landslide management and should be emulated by other districts. Unless this approach is adopted, landslides are likely to increase tremendously.
- To have a significant impact implementation of mitigation measures should be done for at least 10 years consistently to have a significant changes
- Early warning systems need to be put in place to warn people every rainy season to minimise loss of lives and property
- Political support from local leaders is very important if the Hilly and Mountainous Regulations have to be enforced
- Guidelines are important if use and management of wise use of landslide prone areas have to be achieved
- A participatory approach is very necessary if communities have to adopt mitigation measures that change their ways of life to some extent.

## **Component 7 Priorities you want addressed at World Conference on Disaster Reduction**

- Supporting policy, legislation and institutional building programmes of Governments
- Supporting National public awareness programmes on disaster risks and reduction efforts.
- Supporting Governments to build early warning capacities