The Inclusive Dairy Enterprise (TIDE)
The dairy sector in Uganda has seen tremendous change over the past few years. At farm level, traditional methods of extensive and communal grazing are being abandoned, with paddocking and upgraded breeds becoming more common and fodder and feeding starting to generate interest.

Up the value chain the introduction of milk coolers and increase in processing capacity has created demand and competition with Uganda emerging as a prominent exporter.

These sector developments validate the choice of the Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda funded SNV Uganda dairy project - The Inclusive Dairy Enterprise (TIDE) to focus on increasing productivity of dairy animals and reduce seasonal production variations.

TIDE is a four year project funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda. The overall project goal is to reduce poverty by improving dairy farm incomes, household nutrition and employment opportunities for 20,000 farmers by 2019 by addressing the following:

- Improving farm productivity through; the establishment of practical dairy training farms, support on-farm investments, strengthen cooperatives and improve dairy services to farmers
- Improve milk quality through the introduction and promotion of quality based payment systems
- Improve regulation and investment facilitation
- Improve household nutrition by; supporting the introduction of milk in schools and promoting dietary diversity at household level

Impact:
Poverty reduction through improved dairy farm incomes, household nutrition and employment opportunities for 20,000 farmers by 2019

Project Districts
Bushenyi, Isingiro, Kiruhura, Mbarara, Ntungamo, and Sheema.
The TIDE project identifies systemic market constraints, limiting the expansion of the dairy sector. It identifies opportunities for addressing these constraints by taking the lead in the formulation of relevant business cases, with implementation depending on the uptake by the private sector and in partnership with other organisations. Partnerships are sought to either strengthen institutionalisation of project initiatives or to provide leverage for business case implementation. Extensive use is also made of local organisations and expertise in project implementation, including District Local Governments.

The project is also working at addressing the nutritional status of dairy farming households by supporting a school milk programme in schools and using the school as entry points for community nutrition. Action research is used to document solutions for improving climate change resilience of farms and the effect of project interventions on climate change, and lessons incorporated into programme learning. The gender component of TIDE is to ensure that female-headed households benefit from project activities and through working with cooperative societies intra household relations become less one-sided. This latter is also crucial for the youth-focused approach, not only aiming for creating youth employment, but also specifically putting farm succession on the agenda of the dairy sector.

### TIDE project outcomes

#### Outcome 1: Improved farm productivity

1. **Training (PDTF)**
   - Setting up 3 training farms, providing one week topical courses against payment on breeding, animal nutrition and disease control.

2. **Dairy services**
   - Improving supply of services to dairy farms, including AI, disease control, in-calf heifers, seeds, fodder and hay and feed supplements.

3. **On-farm investments**
   - Support provision of reliable on-farm infrastructure (including Water for Production) and facilitate farmers’ access to finance.

4. **Cooperative engagement**
   - Strengthening cooperative societies, building on the introduction of milk coolers and strengthening governance and service provision to members.

#### Outcome 2: Improved milk quality

1. **QBMPS**
   - Piloting of Quality Based Milk Payment System with two processors (Pearl and Lake Side) and 10 milk collection centres.

#### Outcome 3: Improved regulation and investment facilitation

1. **Milk ATMs**
   - Support the introduction of milk ATMs to access new customers, initially in Kampala but also in other towns.

2. **Value chain investment**
   - Carrying out studies, organising events and B2B opportunities, and facilitating investment along the value chain, including (pro-biotic) yoghurt promotion.

3. **Mbarara pilot**
   - Implement a pilot for introducing processed milk in Mbarara town (which is now dominated by raw milk), in order to increase formal segment of the market.

#### Outcome 4: Improved household nutrition

1. **School milk**
   - Facilitating the introduction of milk in schools in partnership with DDA and Min of Health and Education.

2. **Community nutrition (PDTF)**
   - Improving the dietary diversity of dairy households by using schools as entry points for community nutrition.
2016 Project results

Practical Dairy Training Farms (PDTFs) established: Three practical dairy training farms (PDTF) have been established offering one week training courses to dairy farmers on three thematic areas: Dairy breeding; Fodder, feeds and nutrition; Disease prevention and control. 237 farmers (65 youth and 43 female) have so far paid and attended the training at the PDTFs.

"I am very happy that dairy farmers are paying to learn. This is the way to go if we want to increase our productivity and add value to our businesses. Instead of traveling to Kenya and other countries to learn, SNV and Dairy Development Authority have opened three dairy training centres of excellence for the region. We should take advantage of this opportunity to learn how to add value to our products. I thank SNV and DDA for this great initiative."
Hon. Joy Kabatsi, State Minister for Animal Industry.

SNV School Milk Programme takes root in 77 schools, giving 34,000 school going children the much needed nutritious breakfast. Through the programme, SNV aims to reduce the high malnutrition rates in the region (stunting is at 42%) by reducing short term hunger and increasing the dietary diversity score among school going children. On average 30,800 litres of milk is consumed daily by the 77 schools, which milk is purchased from the cooperatives and milk collection centres near the schools at 1,000 UGX a litre. This has boosted rural dairy farmers’ income, who now have an assured demand for their milk during the school term. SNV plans to scale the school milk programme in 2017 to 500 schools reaching 200,000 school going children.

Increase in on-farm investment: A significant number of farmers have demonstrated a willingness to invest in their farms. Accumulated additional investments generated directly and indirectly by farmers in 2016 was 140,000 Euros (557,613,420 UGX), exceeding the 2016 project target of 40,000 Euros. Most of the farmers invested in milking parlours, biogas plants and to increase access to water for dairy animals through the construction of water reservoirs (dam liners) and installation of pumps and pipes to distribute water within their dairy farms.

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