

## Project Summary

Title	Enhancing Local Chicken Productivity through Strategic Breeding and Nutrition Management in Northern Uganda (ELOCHIP)
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Purpose	The overall objective of the project is to increase productivity of free range and semi-intensive chicken in the Districts of Gulu and Kiryandongo with the dual aim of increasing household food security and incomes.
Project Summary	The project aims to increase productivity of free range and semi-intensive chicken so as to improve household food security and incomes among small and medium scale farmers of Northern Uganda. This will be achieved through research on use of feed from non-conventional feed resources, increased access to better chicken genotypes, and reduced loss of young birds to diseases and predators through a housing-box innovation. In line with the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets for addressing poverty and hunger, we propose a participatory action research focusing on smallholder chicken farms. The current production system will be characterized and opportunities for improvement identified through participatory methods. An inventory of local feed resources will be established,

	<p>evaluated and recommendations for use developed. Adaptability of the Namasagali cocks will be established. Offspring of Namasagali and Kuroiler sires bred to local chickens will be evaluated on-farm alongside pure local chicken progeny. The box technology will be evaluated for egg hatchability and chick survival. Capacity building will be incorporated by enabling two students to pursue M.Sc. degrees. Student I will evaluate the feed resources and their utilisation; Student II will evaluate the improved cocks and the incubation-box technology. Chicken farmers will be trained and in an innovation platform, they will be empowered to market their produce. The research results will be synthesized into a resource document for extension service providers for promotion through existing extension networks; two MSc. theses and scientific journal publications.</p>
Country and Specific Location(s)	Ethiopia, Ramma and Abregele, Northern Ethiopia, Tigray.
Participating Institutions	Makerere University National Livestock Resources Research Institute (NaLIRRI)
Start Date	September, 2012
End date	August, 2014
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