

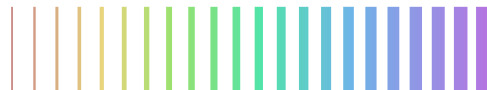


**Development and Relief
Initiative Uganda**

LOCALLY LED
EVIDENCE DRIVEN
BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

2026 edition



Meet DRI



DEVELOPMENT & RELIEF INITIATIVE – UGANDA

Locally Led. Evidence Driven. Building Resilient Communities Together.

DRI-Ug is a Ugandan indigenous, non-profit, non-partisan and community-based organization working with vulnerable communities to overcome poverty, inequality, environmental degradation and humanitarian crises through locally led and sustainable development solutions.

AT A GLANCE

Established

2010

**Registered as an Indigenous
National NGO**

2012

OUR REACH

National mandate — Uganda

DRI-Ug is mandated to work across Uganda. Our geographic reach is shaped by programme needs, partnerships and funding availability, and other areas reached through strategic partnerships.

WHO WE WORK WITH

Women · Children & young people · Smallholder farmers · Vulnerable households · Community groups · Health workers · Schools · Local governments · Civil society organizations

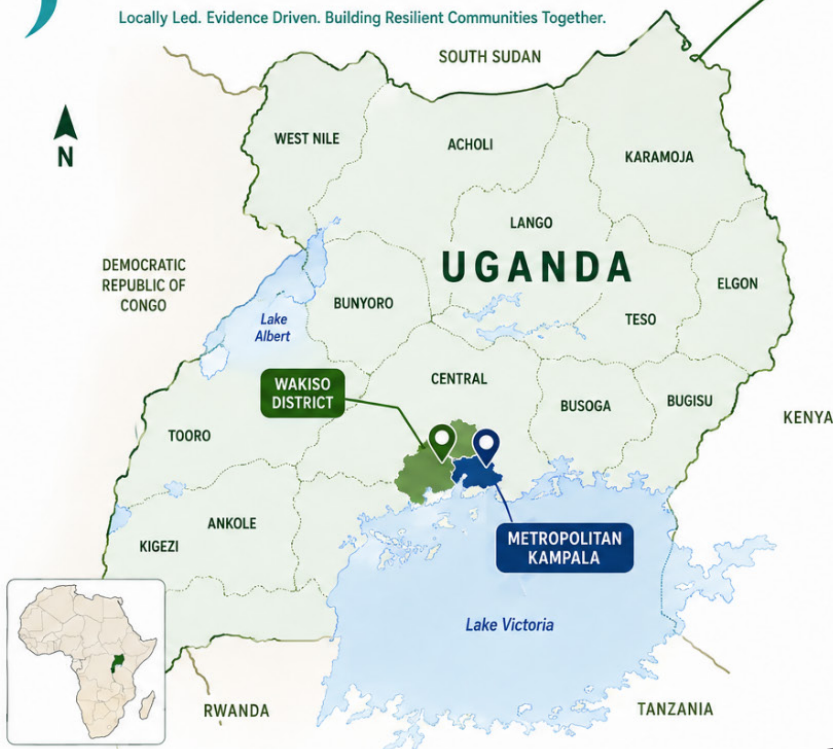
WHAT DRIVES US

We believe lasting development is achieved when communities are trusted as leaders, equipped with knowledge, and supported to shape their own futures.



DEVELOPMENT & RELIEF INITIATIVE – UGANDA

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WHERE WE WORK

DRI-Ug works with vulnerable communities across Uganda with a current focus in Wakiso District and Metropolitan Kampala.



WAKISO DISTRICT

Our programmes in livelihoods, women's economic empowerment, health, education and community resilience.



METROPOLITAN KAMPALA

Urban programmes focused on economic empowerment, WASH, youth development and health.

OUR GEOGRAPHIC REACH



Working in multiple regions across Uganda



Partnerships with communities, local governments and national institutions



Focus on vulnerable populations and marginalised communities



Building resilient, empowered and self-reliant communities



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DEVELOPMENT & RELIEF INITIATIVE - UGANDA

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DRI-Ug is a registered not for profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) in Uganda since (2012). It started its operations in Teso Eastern Uganda in 2010 as a CBO, and continues to work directly, and in collaboration with vulnerable populations and diverse organizations to build healthy, empowered and developed communities that are free from the effects of poverty, diseases, climate weather shocks, War – (Displacement), that lead to; food insecurity, indecent livelihoods, child abuse (child mothers), gender based violence, negative Cultural beliefs & Practices and inadequate service delivery.



OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



16,200+

Rights holders supported in Livelihoods / food security



18,750+

Women & Girls Empowered Economically



56,900+

SRHR & Safe motherhood support



5,464+

Menstrual Hygiene support in schools

CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE, PARTNERS IN IMPACT

YORGias
FOUNDATION



Islamic Relief



FCA Finn Church Aid



Women's Bank
Finn Church Aid



KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CoF

**Charter 4
CHANGE**



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Who we are

OUR STORY

DRI-Ug began as a community-based organization in 2010 and was formally registered as an indigenous national NGO in 2012.

Over more than a decade, we have worked alongside communities and development partners to address interconnected challenges of poverty, vulnerability, poor health, food insecurity, environmental

degradation, gender inequality and humanitarian risk.

Our work has evolved into an integrated development approach that combines community ownership, local systems strengthening, evidence and learning, strategic partnerships and practical implementation.



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Our Vision

Healthy, resilient, and empowered communities that are socially, economically, and environmentally capable of determining their own development.

Our Mission

To partner with vulnerable communities and development stakeholders to promote integrated, community-led solutions that improve public health, strengthen resilient livelihoods, protect natural resources, and advance equitable and sustainable development.



Our development Philosophy

COMMUNITIES ARE PARTNERS, NOT JUST BENEFICIARIES

DRI-Ug recognizes that complex development challenges rarely exist in isolation. Poor health, environmental degradation, food insecurity, climate change, poverty, gender inequality, and humanitarian vulnerability are interconnected. We therefore facilitate locally owned processes through which communities identify priorities,

co-design interventions, test approaches and refine solutions based on evidence and experience. We invest in local institutions, community organizations, and government systems because sustainable progress depends on capable local leadership rather than long-term external assistance.

Our Core Values

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

Communities are the primary architects of their own development.

INTEGRITY & ACCOUNTABILITY

Transparent, ethical leadership and responsible stewardship of resources.

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION

Sustainable change through trust-based partnerships and complementary expertise.

LEARNING & INNOVATION

Continuous learning, evidence generation and adaptive management.

INCLUSION & EQUITY

Women, youth, persons with disabilities, and marginalized populations participate meaningfully in development.

RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

strengthening systems that enable communities to anticipate, adapt to, and recover from challenges.



What we do

06 thematic areas

01

Food Systems & Climate Resilience

We work to strengthen resilient food systems and livelihoods while helping communities respond to climate and environmental pressures.

Climate-smart agriculture

Regenerative agriculture

Food security

Natural resource management

Community resilience

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Karamoja Sustainable Livelihoods Programme

Agriculture · Agro-pastoral field schools · food security · livelihood diversification · community resilience
1,620 women and men reached



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02 Community Health

DRI-Ug works with communities, health workers and health systems to improve access to quality health information and services and strengthen local capacity.

Family planning & reproductive health

Maternal & child health

Nutrition

HIV prevention

WASH

Mental health

Health systems strengthening

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

COF / CHAI / Ministry of Health partnership

Health-provider capacity strengthening and health-systems support.
869 healthcare providers strengthened





03

Women's Economic Empowerment

We support women to strengthen economic agency through skills, collective organization, savings, enterprise development, and access to opportunities.

Enterprise development

Vocational skills

Financial inclusion

VSLAs

Women's leadership

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

FCA-supported Women's Economic Empowerment Programme — three phases

Women organized into VSLAs and progressively supported towards clusters, cooperative structures, and women-led enterprises.

3,750 women & girls reached

150 VSLAs established





04

Education

We address barriers that prevent children and young people—particularly girls—from participating fully in education.

School health

Menstrual health & hygiene

Child protection

WASH

Access to quality education

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

IRN — Menstrual Hygiene Support, Wakiso

Supporting menstrual health and hygiene, sanitary materials, facilities, psychosocial support and girls' ability to remain in school.





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05

Humanitarian Action & Disaster Risk Reduction

We connect humanitarian response with longer-term resilience, supporting vulnerable communities to prepare for, withstand and recover from shocks.

Emergency preparedness & response

Refugee support

Early recovery

Resilience building

DRI-Ug HUMANITARIAN ACTION & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



We connect humanitarian response with longer-term resilience, supporting vulnerable communities to **prepare** for, **withstand** and **recover** from shocks.



Saving lives. Restoring dignity.
Building resilient communities.



OUR APPROACH:



PREPAREDNESS

- Risk assessment & analysis
- Community awareness & training
- Contingency planning
- Early warning systems
- Pre-positioning of resources



RESPONSE

- Rapid needs assessment
- Life-saving assistance
- Health & WASH services
- Shelter & safe spaces
- Protection & psychosocial support



RECOVERY

- Restoration of basic services
- Livelihood support
- Cash & in-kind assistance
- Rehabilitation of infrastructure
- Reintegration support



RESILIENCE

- Strengthening community systems
- Climate-smart livelihoods
- Disaster risk reduction
- Social cohesion & inclusion
- Sustainable development



We work with communities, local leaders and partners to ensure that no one is left behind before, during and after crises.



06

Governance & Social Inclusion

We strengthen participation, accountability, and inclusive decision-making while addressing barriers that exclude vulnerable people from development opportunities.

Community participation

Gender equality

Youth engagement

Accountability

Safeguarding

Protection



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Our Experience in Action

KARAMOJA

Sustainable livelihoods

Agriculture

Food security

Resilience

1620

People supported

FCA

Women's Economic Empowerment

VSLAs

Enterprise development

7500

Women & Girls supported

YORGHAS FOUNDATION

Maternal & Newborn Health

Mama Kits

100

Pregnant women supported

COF / CHAI

Health Systems Strengthening

869

HealthCare Providers supported

IRN

Menstrual Health & WASH

Girl's Education

Women's Enterprise Incubation

3469

Pupils

100

Women



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How we work

LISTEN → ORGANIZE → BUILD CAPACITY → CONNECT → IMPLEMENT → LEARN → ADAPT

We work through community structures and partnerships with local governments, civil society organizations, academic institutions, development partners, and other stakeholders.

Our approach combines community ownership, local capacity strengthening, evidence and learning, partnership, and practical implementation.



Why work with DRI?

LOCALLY ROOTED

An indigenous Ugandan organization with long-term experience working with communities and local institutions.

COMMUNITY-LED

We enable communities to identify priorities, participate in decision-making, and build solutions they can sustain.

INTEGRATED

We recognize that health, livelihoods, education, climate, social inclusion, and humanitarian vulnerability are interconnected.

EVIDENCE-DRIVEN

Monitoring, evaluation, learning, research, and community feedback inform programme improvement and adaptation.

SYSTEMS-FOCUSED

We work with communities, government, and other partners to strengthen the systems that sustain development beyond individual projects.

PARTNERSHIP-READY

We bring community access, programme implementation experience, technical capacity, and experience working with development partners. DRI-Ug's partnership approach includes collaboration with local governments, civil society organizations, academic institutions, private-sector actors, and development partners.



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Our Experience is Evolving

FROM PARTICIPATION TO PRODUCTIVE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Our experience with women and livelihoods has led us to ask a broader question:
How can women and young people move beyond participation and basic livelihood support towards

productive economic participation, enterprise growth and greater control over economic value?
We are increasingly interested in pathways that connect:



A woman farmer should not necessarily remain only a producer.

She can potentially become a processor, product developer, brand owner, market participant, and employer.

A young person should not necessarily be left alone

to “start a business”.

They can potentially be connected to peers, practical skills, mentors, enterprise networks, value chains, markets and opportunities for employment or business growth.

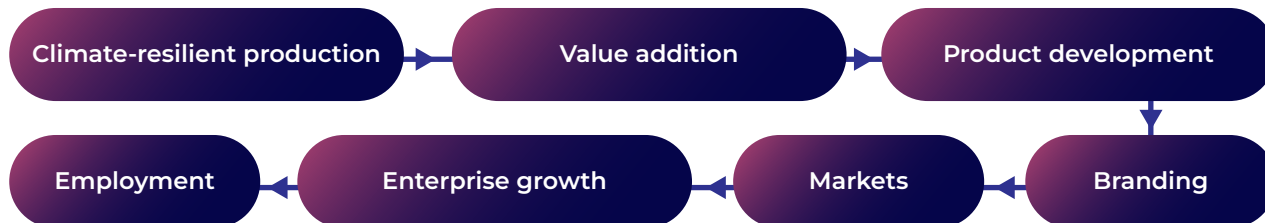
One Emerging Direction

Women-Led Climate-Resilient Agricultural Enterprises for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

DRI-Ug is exploring how its experience in women's economic empowerment, sustainable livelihoods, food systems and climate resilience can be brought

together to create stronger pathways for women to capture greater economic value from productive activity.

This emerging direction could connect:



An emerging area of exploration—not a predetermined project proposal.

Our Commitment

We are committed to working with communities and partners to develop locally appropriate solutions that are economically meaningful, socially inclusive and capable of generating lasting resilience.



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