

# COCTU ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14



*Prof. Charles Waiswa*  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
COCTU

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## 1.0 Introduction

Uganda Trypanosomiasis Control Council was created by Parliament as a **corporate, semi-autonomous Institution** through the enactment of Act No. 16 (Cap. 211) of 8<sup>th</sup> October 1992 which legalized the Council, the Technical Committee and **COCTU** as the secretariat of the Council. This was in an effort to rationalize the Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis research and control in Uganda. COCTU (Coordinating Office for Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda) is the operational arm of the Council and is headed by a Director as the Chief Executive. In July 2013, UTCC put in place new leadership for its Secretariat (COCTU). Prof Charles Waiswa was appointed Executive Director and Mr. Joseph Muguwa as Deputy Director. The new team embarked on the task of “*Repositioning towards tsetse eradication and Trypanosomiasis elimination*”.

### Functions of UTCC

- a) To monitor all aspects of the programme and to intervene if work plans are not carried out according to plan or if any project input is not utilized for the purpose for which it is intended;
- b) To direct any department, authority or agency or person responsible for giving effect to any part of the programme to carry out any particular activities in the interest of the programme;
- c) To intervene and give appropriate directions if any in terms of reference concerning any particular project that are not being duly implemented;
- d) To liaise with donors, executing agencies and ministries and departments regarding any requisition or input required for the programme;
- e) Through the technical committee, to arrange and carry out periodic reviews and evaluation of research activities and supervise relevant research institutions;
- f) To solicit and receive, for the purpose of the programme, grants, aid, gifts, donations, fees, subscriptions and other sums required for the implementation of the programme and to make disbursements from them in accordance with this Act;

### Functions of the secretariat

- (a) To supervise the initiation, formulation, negotiation and implementation of all projects for Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis control in Uganda;
- (b) To prescribe standard specifications, certification marks and codes of practice and do all things incidental to or connected with them as may be required for the purpose of this Act;

- (c) To be responsible for submission of proposals for the formulation of policies of the council and for the implementation of those policies when adopted by the council;
- (d) To collate and disseminate to all relevant parties, reports and other information relating to projects for carrying out the programme;
- (e) To initiate and organise seminars, conferences and workshops and other similar activities aimed at promoting the effective implementation of the programme;
- (g) To establish and maintain relationships with national, regional and international organisations and agencies as may be appropriate for facilitating the implementation of the programme;
- (h) To carry out or cause to be carried out any study or examination or test in respect of commodities of different specifications whether produced in Uganda or elsewhere;

## 2.0 Administration and Staff

<b>COCTU STAFF 2013-2014</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Prof. Charles Waiswa	Executive Director
2	Mr. Joseph Muguwa	Deputy Executive Director
3	Mr. Albert Mugenyi	Data Analyst
4	Mr. Hanan Mpangire	Accountant
5	Ms. Beatrice Oyella	Secretary/Assistant to ED
6	Ms. Sany Nakiwala	Accounts Assistant
7	Ms Sylvia Nankinga	Accounts Assistant
8	Mr. Charles Epyetu:	Office Attendant
9	Mr. John Paul Owere	Records Assistant
10	Mr. Robinson Kawooya	Driver
11	Mr. Moses Bakyayita:	Driver
12	Mr. Ernest Ssali	Driver
13	Mr. Matovu Abubaker	Gardener



**Critical Staff Gaps**

- Program Officer (1)
- Internal Auditor (1)
- IT/Data Assistant (1)

These need to be addressed in subsequent recruitments

**2.1 Achievement & Staff work approach Recognition by the Civil Service College Uganda**



The Right Hon. Prime Minister of Uganda, John Patrick Amama Mbabazi handing over the Award to the Executive Director COCTU, Prof. Charles Waiswa who was accompanied by Prof. Ian Maudlin representing the SOS partners



During the year COCTU was recognized by public service as WINNER for the Uganda Public Sector Networking Across Government Award 2013. It was all smiles for the staff for the period as they received the award

### 3.0 Resources and Work-Plan Implementation

Resources for quarter one work-plan implementation					
	PROGRAMMES	SOURCE	BUDGET (UGX)	RELEASED FUNDS	REMARKS
1	COCTU planned activities.	GoU	800,000,000	800,000,000	Activities implemented with 100% performance
2	Human sleeping sickness project in West Nile.	FIND	547,200,000	547,200,000	Activities implemented with 100% performance
3	Tiny targets project in West Nile	LSTM	38,400,000	38,400,000	Activities implemented with 100% performance
	<b>Total</b>			<b>1,385,400,000</b>	

### 4.0 Highlights of Annual Workplan Achievements

#### 4.1 Statutory Coordination and Consultative Meetings

##### 4.1.1 UTCC and TC Meetings

Held the Uganda Trypanosomiasis Control Council (UTCC) and Technical Committee (TC) statutory meetings. These meetings were held at least once every quarter for the UTCC and for the TC whenever there was need to discuss and guide on issues of policy and technical nature. Discussions mainly centered on future interventions, upcoming projects, streamlining administration and transition from the old to the new administration including establishment of internal control systems at the secretariat.

The handover and change to the new administration was witnessed by the Hon. Minister of State for Animal Industry, Hon Bright Rwamirama, UTCC and TC (Figure 1 below).

Figure 1: Hon Bright Rwamirama signing the visitor's book at COCTU (Left) and Touring the premises (Right) with guidance by the Executive Director, Chair and Vice Chair UTCC

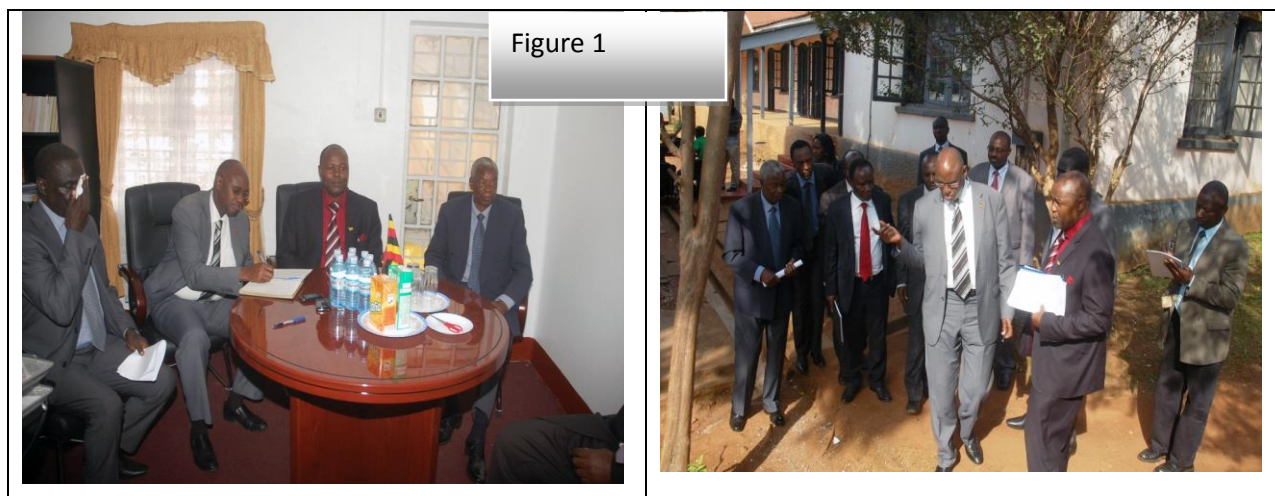


Figure 1

#### 4.1.2 Key Issues Handled by UTCC, TC and Stakeholders during the year

- UTCC and TC have been very supportive as all meetings were well attended including those held in Jinja. Workplans and reports were always discussed and timely guidance given to the Secretariat
- UTCC and TC also held several meetings related to the development of the Tsetse Eradication and Trypanosomiasis Elimination Policy. A final draft was passed by the UTCC and recommended to Ministry of Agriculture, animal Industry and fisheries (MAAIF) Top Management Policy (TPM) for further handling and forwarding to Cabinet for Approval



COCTU staff and Principal Policy Analysts from MAAIF and MOH meet to refine the policy draft as per retreat, UTCC and consultative meetings recommendations.



Director COCTU makes a presentation of the draft T&T policy at consultative meeting in Arua to capture views of stakeholders working in West Nile

## 5.0 Development of a Five Year Strategic Plan Jan 2015-Jan 2020

Kick started the process of developing the tsetse eradication and trypanosomiasis elimination agenda five year strategic plan Jan 2015-Jan 2020.

A two days retreat to discuss the finalization of national tsetse and trypanosomiasis control policy and plan for a the development of Five year Strategic Plan

### 5.1 Retreat workshop to Finalise Institutional Documents (Jinja retreat report)

 <p>GROUP PHOTO OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE RETREAT TO FINALISE THE NATIONAL TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS CONTROL POLICY SCHEDULED 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER TO 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER, 2013</p>	<h4>Retreat Objectives</h4> <p><i>The Executive Director stated that ‘as COCTU, we have come here knowing what we intend to achieve and these are’:</i></p> <p>Meet each other: UTCC, TC, COCTU Staff, Vital Partners/Stakeholders &amp; Media to share issues in the area of tsetse and trypanosomiasis</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Update ourselves on the issues of tsetse and trypanosomiasis</li><li>2. Discuss the tsetse and trypanosomiasis policy draft &amp; financial Manual</li><li>3. Receive a Presentation from the Consultant that handled the Human Resource Manual</li><li>4. Hold statutory UTCC and TC Meetings</li><li>5. Agree on a way forward on the issues to be presented</li></ol> <p><b>SEE FULL REPORT OF RETREAT AT:</b> <a href="http://www.coctu.go.ug/COCTU_Reports">http://www.coctu.go.ug/COCTU_Reports</a></p>
<h4>COCTU MANAGEMENT RETREAT AMBITIONS</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Coming out of the retreat with renewed assignments: Tell us your desires</li><li>2. Endorsement of our requests.</li><li>3. UTCC, TC , COCTU &amp; Vital Stakeholders in Total agreement on many issues</li></ol>	

#### After the retreat:

- The Direction and approach by new COCTU management was well understood
- Sub-committee to ensure finalization of the policy draft was put in place
- Guidance on the Financial and Human Resource Operations manual was put in place and were later finalized and approved by the UTCC
- Members of UTCC, TC and their staff at COCTU came to know one another and had both formal and informal interactions and discussions
- Visibility of the Institution was agreed as a priority



- The Contribution of UTCC and COCTU to the house hold income and national economy had to be made clear in the policy and strategic plan if the Institution was to attract more resources for its activities in future
- It was recommended that the staffing gaps had to be addressed urgently



A section of some TC Members discussing the policy at one of the statutory meetings



Some TC Members holding discussions with Prof. Mike of LSTM

## 6.0 Fitting in the Broader National Agenda

COCTU works all the time to ensure that the multi-stakeholders concerns are addressed in time. The Institution was closely supervised by the line Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and was always found to be in line with its set agenda as per the mandate given by the UTCC Act. The supervisory visits have only helped to actualize the view that COCTU can only grow stronger and nothing less.



Hon. Tress Bucyanayandi took a photo with some of the COCTU staff after the tour of the office premises



Hon. Minister for Agriculture also looked and inspected the surroundings of COCTU and other activities taking place

## 6.1 Planning Meetings With Development Partners

COCTU, IKARE, CEVA, HHS/3Vs, EY Meeting



Dalburgh, Avia GIS and Vets Without Borders-US Meetings



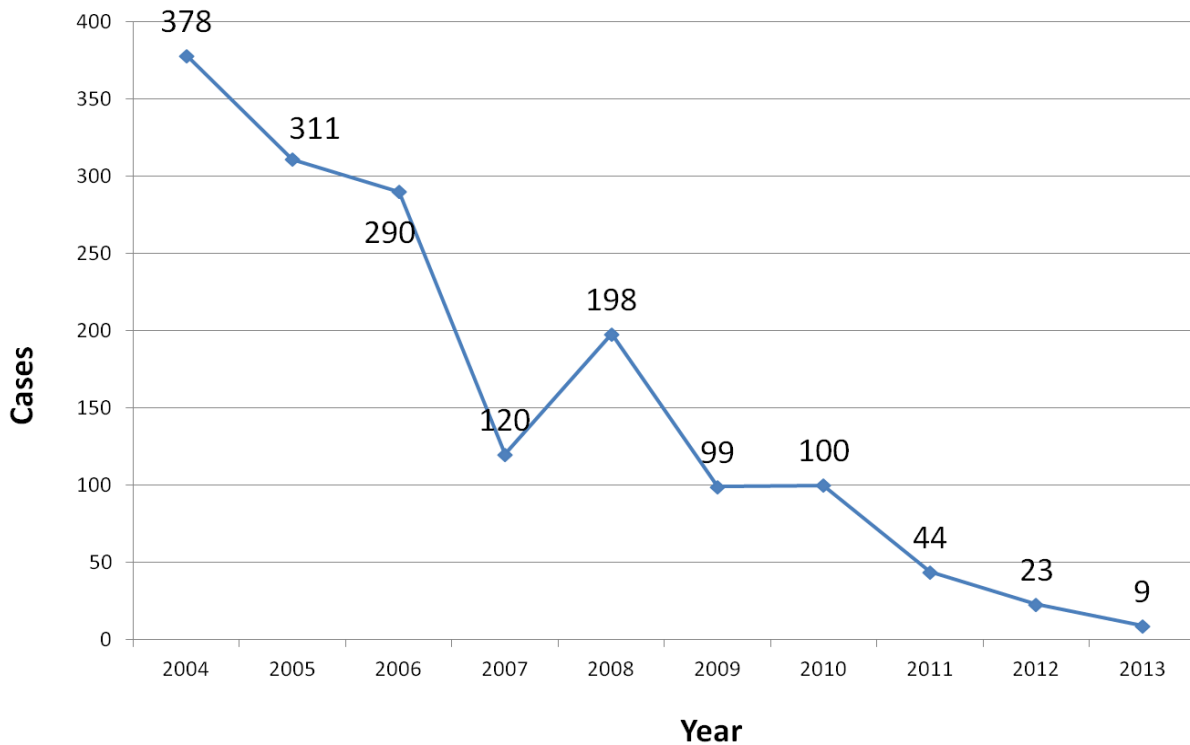
COCTU/CEVA/3V/IKARE HHS Meeting on use of RAP in control of trypanosomiasis



The Executive Director was also available to the partners who wanted to share COCTU approach and experiences on camera

## 7.0 Innovative Sleeping Sickness Elimination Project (ISSEP) Activities

### 7.1 The Graph shows Uganda Gambiense cases reported (10 yrs) 2004-2013



### 7.2 Stakeholder Meetings

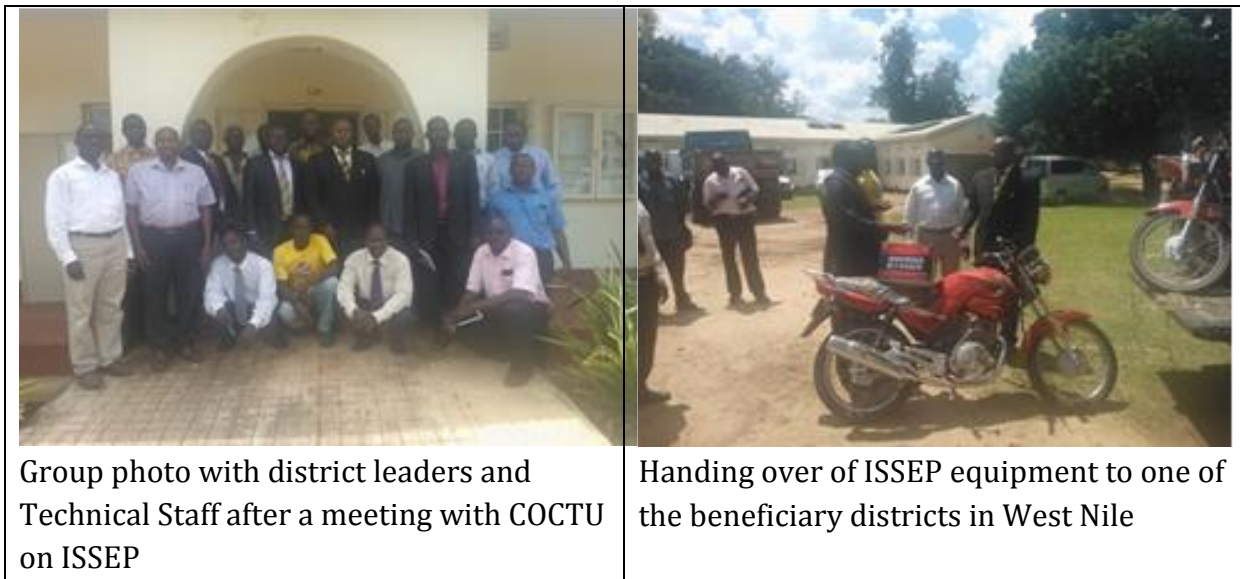
Figure 2: Some of the UTCC, TC, COCTU and FIND Members who attended the meeting, July 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Fairway Hotel



The ISSEP Phase 1 was to last 12 months with funding agreement of USD 285,000  
Over 200 health facilities in West Nile Region of Uganda were to be empowered to undertake RDT for purposes of sleeping sickness detection in addition to empowering some facilities with Microscopy and molecular techniques

Details on the project and reports can be got at: <http://www.coctu.go.ug> and also <http://www.finddiagnostics.org/resource-centre/news/130822.html>

The planned activities were completed on schedule and a comprehensive review meeting will be posted on the COCTU website as a follow up of the subsequent engagements after the launch of the project.



## 8.0 Tiny Targets Projects

The Program to eliminate the *T.b.gambiense* sleeping sickness has been deepened in Uganda by the introduction of the Tiny Targets that would help control the tsetse vector. During the reporting period, COCTU on behalf of Government of Uganda signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) to use the Tiny Targets Technology in the control of tsetse in West Nile region of Uganda. The activities were to cost USD 62,000 Over a period of 12 months. In addition, LSTM provided extra technical support as need arose during the agreed period.

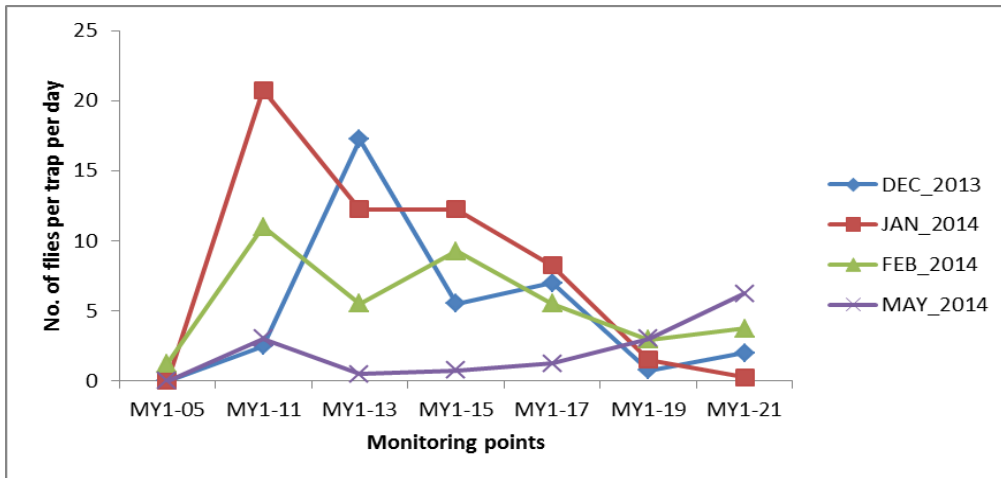


Members of the UTCC on a supervisory visit to the Tiny Targets Project in Arua district

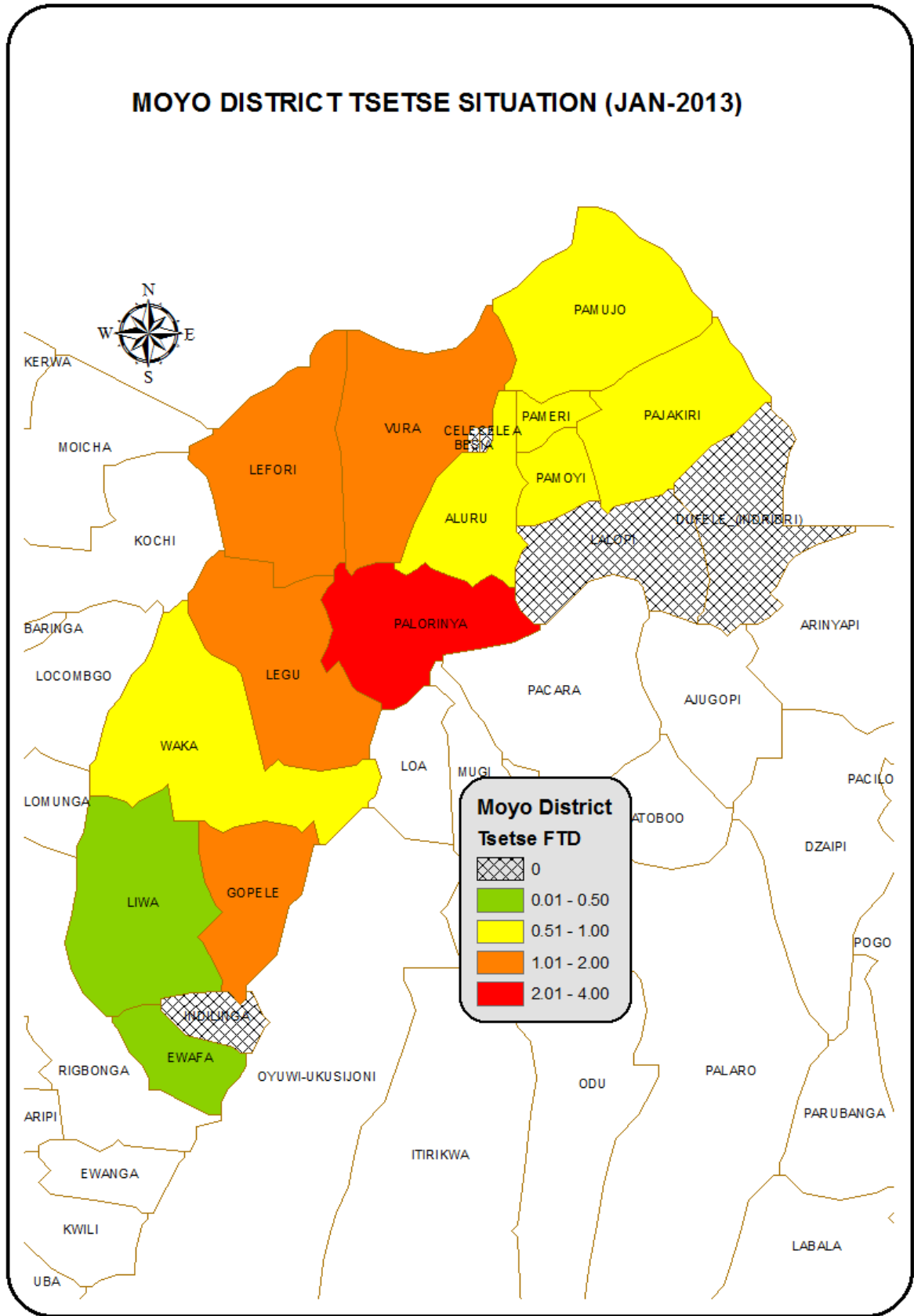


COCTU, Department of Entomology, LSTM and Local Government staff at one of the Project review meetings in Arua

**The Graph below shows the number of flies trapped per day**



## MOYO DISTRICT TSETSE SITUATION (JAN-2013)



### **Achievements of the Tiny Targets Project:**

- Reduction of tsetse apparent density in the target areas
- Reduction in annual recorded cases of sleeping sickness
- Good lessons that have attracted scaling up of the intervention and expanding the target area.

A comprehensive report on this project can be accessed at <http://www.coctu.go.ug/>

### **9.0 UTCC and COCTU Field T&T data Collection and Supervisory Visits**

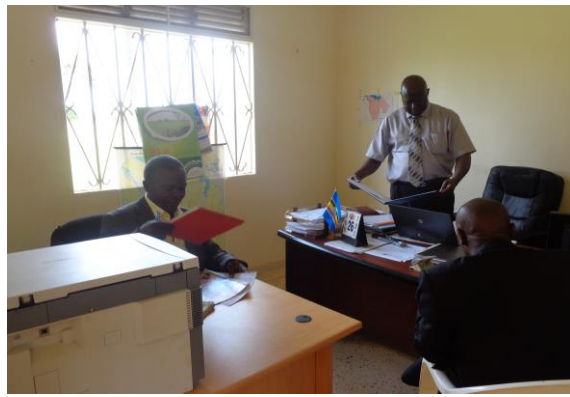
Data collection is made using field visits and also encouraging the various districts and Institutions to send the reports of their engagements to the GIS/Data unit at COCTU. This data is used for generating and updating maps which can be found on the COCTU website <http://www.coctu.go.ug/> under the relevant disease sections and statistics.



The introduction of the Kamuli-Kayunga Ferry has made supervision of T&T activities in these two epidemic district more easy as the Executive Director was able to work in both districts in one day as compared to the past when it would take two days for the two districts



The visits indicated weaknesses that need strengthening in the regulation of movement of cattle traded in Trypanosomiasis endemic areas. In Kamuli like in other livestock markets, treatment before movement is not handled as per recommendations



Visitation to Buyende district showed that good data lies at districts and there is need to build capacity for districts to learn its usage for decision support on T&T issues



The Medical team has been helping COCTU monitor current practices in Busoga, Bukedi and Teso regions to relate them to what they were and what they should be in the future

## 10.0 Regional and International Harmonization Meetings

Two (2) Officers attended the EAC meeting held in Arusha, Tanzania and 01Staff participated and represented COCTU at the 32<sup>nd</sup> ISCTRC conference held in Khartoum, Sudan. See back to station reports under [http://www.coctu.go.ug/COCTU\\_Reports](http://www.coctu.go.ug/COCTU_Reports)

## 11.0 Institutional Capacity Building

### 11.1. Staff Training

- 01 Officer (GIS Analyst) attended a T&T Data Management Training in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013. This was a Tailor-made training workshop on Tsetse and animal Trypanosomiasis data management and geo-spatial analysis
- Secretary trained in Database Design and Graphics Designing to improve efficiency and effectiveness in causing improvement in individual, functional and organizational performance
- Two (2) Accounts Assistants were trained in accounting packages to obtain accurate financial information to make sound analyses of financial documents such as budgets and financial statements



## 12.0 Equipment and Transport

- Director's office renovated and furnished
- Equipped Deputy Director's office
- Renovated Accountant and Partners' offices, and furnished them
- Removal of junk from COCTU square
- Flying the Ugandan flag at the COCTU offices
- Repaired the previously grounded COCTU station wagon for temporarily use by ED
- Put in place Website for COCTU <http://www.coctu.go.ug>

## 13.0 IMPLEMENTATION/OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

- (i) **No National Policy on T&T:** Absence of guidelines makes it difficult to design and follow activities. There is need to strengthen the channels of reporting
- Similarly the strategic plan (SP) is important and we need to go back to the 1976-1988 spirit that emphasised collective effort in the 'control programme'
  - The management handled many challenging issues that were left by our predecessors and we are trying our best to address them
  - **Suggestion:** As done for the policy, sub-committees should be put in place to develop the HRM & SP
- (ii) **Lack of adequate transport for Executive Director and Deputy Director**
- Available vehicle for ED is an old station wagon-Terrano which can only move around Kampala due to its old condition
  - **Suggestion:** Have written to public service to allow us procure at least two vehicles (for ED & DD). Request has been granted and the vehicles have been included in next year budget. Lobbying will be vital
- (iii) **Security & Sanitation Concerns**
- Very many activities in the premises and neither COCTU nor security has a list of people using the premises.
  - Users need to know each other to enable maintenance of facilities like the single toilet

- **Action taken:** Agreed with AIP that security should record all users of the premises and write a brief to PS MAAIF

(iv) **Other challenges**

- No current Map for activities of T&T in Uganda. Will need adequate resources to address this matter
- Recruitment of needed staff to address earlier audit queries will need financial resources
- Re-linking with district staff and Local government authorities will need a lot of resources

#### 14.0 WAY FORWARD, RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITIES FOR F/Y 2014/15

- Increasing Visibility: *'You can only be seen if you take steps that enable others to see you'* states (C. Waiswa, 2013).
- Up-scale sensitization and awareness campaigns about UTCC/ COCTU among T&T stakeholders
- Use electronic services in establishing data collection/communication channels to and from districts and others
- There is a website and we need to use it for advocacy locally and Internationally
- Plan to have a stakeholder Round Table; Feb 26-27th 2014 looks suitable timing (Communication to be posted on website). The purpose is to enable COCTU meet the stakeholders and share research into use approaches / achievements
- District Visits to continue October 2013 and each of the districts at risk should have been at least visited once by end of Feb 2014 (Before stakeholder round table).
- Create an inventory of who is doing what and where
- Sensitization and awareness to continue through available channels e.g. seminars, w/shops radio talk shows etc. UTCC to visit south eastern Uganda or Lango sub-region
- Establishing and using uniform data collection procedures.
- Holding statutory TC and UTCC meetings
- Printing approved manuals and policy drafts
- Developing HRM manual and Strategic plan
- Staffing gaps: Approve qualifications and advertise the posts

**Conclusion**

Achieving Tsetse eradication and Trypanosomiasis elimination will need efficient coordination of the intervention activities. This is what COCTU is working towards and will need support from various stakeholders.

Submitted by	Sign	Date
.....	.....	.....

**Project STAFF**

<b>Project Staff on Innovative Strategy to Eliminate Gambiense Sleeping Sickness from Uganda</b>		
Dr. Charles Wamboga	Principal Investigator	MoH
Dr. Enock Matovu	Co-Investigator	MUK
Dr. Jimmy Opigo	District Health Officer	Moyo
Dr. Patrick Odong	District Health Officer	Amuru
Ms. Anne Adunia	District Health Officer	Adjumani
Dr. Alfred Driwale	District Health Officer	Koboko
Dr. Alfred Yayi	District Health Officer	Yumbe
Dr. Patrick Anguzu	District Health Officer	Arua
Mr. Ronald Ocatre	District Health Officer	Maracha
Dr. Robert Ssekubugu	Study Monitor	

<b>Project Staff on Liverpool Tiny Targets Project</b>			
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position in the project</b>	<b>Institution</b>
<b>1.</b>	Mr. Fredrick Luyimbazi	Principle Investigator	MAAIF
<b>2.</b>	Mr. Ambrose Gidudu	Technical Lead	MAAIF
<b>3.</b>	Mr. Albert Mugenyi	Database Manager	COCTU
<b>4.</b>	Mr. James Aroba	District Entomologist	Moyo
<b>5.</b>	Mr. Rachid Kawawa	District Entomologist	Yumbe