

APEP interventions contribute to increased investment by the private sector

RICE MILLING PLANT INSTALLED IN LUWERO DUE TO APEP INTERVENTION



A medium-scale rice processing plant in Kasana, Luwero district, installed by Savannah Commodities, an APEP-SAF client.

IMPACT

The rice mill recently installed will increase rice production, improve quality and generate on- and off-farm employment, as the mill will attract more farmers to grow upland rice.

APEP INTERVENTION AND RESULT

In response to increased farmer interest in upland rice, APEP collaborated with Savannah Commodities Ltd to set-up an outgrower scheme in Masindi and Luwero districts. A total of 1,400 farmers have been organized around this scheme. With an estimated area of one acre per outgrower, nearly 1,500 acres of upland rice were planted in these two districts. APEP through its SAF provided technical oversight and supported the demonstration program, which has acted as a learning centre for the farmers, extension staff and managers of Savannah. With such a level of farmer involvement, it became necessary for Savannah to establish a rice milling plant at the point of production. The plant, which cost US\$120,000, has a capacity to mill about 5.0-7.0 tons of rice per day. According to Mrs. Mulondo Hawa, the Treasurer of the Kawerimidde producer organization, "The establishment of the plant will not only provide us with an assured market for our rice, but will also provide employment for some of our people. With such machinery that produces high quality rice, our rice should now favourably compete with imported rice".

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