



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF DENMARK**  
*Danida*



# **An Assessment of NURI Interventions against Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Criteria**



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With input from the NURI Coordination Function

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Front photo: A NURI constructed bio-swale captures and channels rain water into a dam while slowing water flow, reducing erosion risk and increasing infiltration.

This document was prepared by Reint Bakema under a contract with the Embassy of Denmark in Uganda. The content is the sole responsibility of the author and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Government of Denmark or Danida.

## Abbreviations

CC	Climate Change
CE	Climate Envelope
CF	Coordination Function (of NURI)
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
DKK	Danish Kroner
DLG	District Local Government
EoD	Embassy of Denmark
FF	Food Forests
FG	Farmer Group
GHG	Greenhouse Gasses
GR4W	Green Roads for Water
HH	Household
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NBS	Nature-based Solutions
NURI	Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development- Development Assistance Committee
PC	Permaculture
RD	Resilient Design
RWF	Refugee Women Farmer Group
RI	Rural Infrastructure
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TG	Target group
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WP	Water pond
WRM	Water Resources Management

## Introduction

The report is made by the consultant under contract DC F2 2022-7576 with the Embassy of Denmark (EoD) in Uganda, running from 1 February to 31 December 2022. It presents an assessment of the extent to which the interventions of the Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative (NURI) contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation by the beneficiaries.

The assessment comes in the wake of the ongoing preparation for a one-year extension of NURI up to December 2023<sup>1</sup>. Given that some of the funds for the NURI extension were derived from the Danish Climate Envelope (CE), the extension will have to have a strong 'green' and climate mitigation and /or adaptation signature. In particular the extension will serve four purposes:

- Assessing and documenting climate adaptation measures in existing activities;
- Completing and consolidating ongoing activities to withstand future climatic changes and ensure longevity of projects;
- Piloting new climate-smart interventions to green NURI and a likely follow-on programme;
- Piloting new activities and mechanisms related to operational sustainability, to ensure perpetual and scalable impact.

The enhanced greening agenda would qualify the NURI extension for a Rio Marker principal or significant score in the ODA database of the OECD DAC. For that, the interventions should be based on: 1) identified risks and vulnerabilities as a result of CC; 2) state the intent to address these, and 3) link the interventions of the extension directly to known risks and vulnerabilities. Step 1 and 2 have been accomplished to a large extent. Indicators were rephrased to capture adaptation outcomes, based on the Risks and Vulnerability Assessment done in March 2022. The Appraisal Team for the NURI extension concludes that on the basis of the work done thus far, the NURI extension qualifies for a Rio Marker 2 score. However, the AT recommends to make an even stronger link between the interventions and identified risks and vulnerabilities to enhance the justification for a Rio Marker score 2 (principal objective).

In support of the design of the extension and the design of a multiannual follow-up programme after the extension, the consultant developed an analytical tool to assess the climate mitigation and adaptation component in the NURI interventions, and applied it with the selected members of the NURI team to the NURI core interventions. The outcome of this process, including broader conclusions by the consultant, is presented in this report. The report gives clear pointers towards possible candidates for NURI interventions in the extension period, and some suggestions for a NURI follow up programme.

The report complements previous preparatory work for the NURI extension, in particular a Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment of Northern Uganda by this consultant, an update of the Results Framework of NURI to include CC objectives by this consultant, the Assessment of NURI Interventions against Nature-Based Solutions by the NURI team with input from the consultant, and the DANIDA Appraisal Mission Report for the NURI extension.

## Climate change mitigation and adaptation concepts and definitions

Climate change (CC) is defined as 'a change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere, and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods<sup>2</sup>. The effects of climate change are observed in both increased climate variability, and expected impacts of future climate change

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<sup>1</sup> The Appraisal Team fort he extension period proposed to extend the extension up to mid 2024

<sup>2</sup> Pörtner, H.-O., et. al (eds).: In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 37–118

on lives, livelihoods, health, ecosystems, economies, societies, cultures, services, and infrastructure.

The human response to CC falls into two main categories: mitigation and adaptation. CC mitigation is defined as human interventions to reduce emissions or enhance the storage of greenhouse gasses (GHG)<sup>3</sup>. Typical interventions in this category are the use of clean energy, energy conservation, carbon sequestering in above and underground biomass, carbon capture and storage, preventing deforestation and degradation of natural ecosystems, replacing products based on fossil petroleum with renewable source materials, and improving agricultural and industrial processes to reduce GHG emissions. CC mitigation measures can have additional benefits, such as air-quality improvement, (urban) micro-climate improvement, health benefits and reduced traffic congestion, and negative effects, such as unsustainable mining for rare materials required for the energy transition, and increased inequality due to the cost of the transition.

Climate change adaptation refers to a process of adjusting to actual and expected climatic changes, or to the effects of CC on social and ecological systems. In particular, adaptation aims to moderate harm to human well-being associated with those changes, through enhancing the ability to adapt to, or absorb, climate change stresses, shocks and variability and/or by helping reduce exposure to them, or by exploiting opportunities that arise from CC<sup>45</sup>. In addition, in some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate or enhance the adjustment to expected climate and its effects<sup>6</sup>. As with mitigation, maladaptation practices have been observed, caused by inadequate knowledge and understanding of CC, short-term, fragmented or single sector interventions, and non-inclusive planning and decision making. Maladaptation usually affects vulnerable communities more than others, and can reinforce entrenched inequalities<sup>7</sup>.

Given the fact that, irrespective of future CC mitigation measures, global warming will most likely surpass 1.5°C in the coming 10-20 years, adaptation to such temperatures and resultant climatic hazards, has become imperative. Adaptation interventions are highly context specific, and can range from building flood defences in coastal areas, setting up early warning systems for extreme weather events, switching to drought-resistant crops and adjust cropping patterns, climate proofing of infrastructure, buildings and urban environments, and redesigning government policies and legislation. Understanding the context in which an adaptation intervention takes place requires practitioners to explore the specific relationship between the development status of the intervention's beneficiaries and their vulnerability to CC.

Adaptation and mitigation can be closely linked or even be achieved with the same intervention. For example, agroforestry systems can increase water retention capacity of soils (adaptation to dry spells) and sequester carbon (mitigation). Likewise, greening build up urban areas cools down their ambient temperature, enhances floodwater absorption and retention, *and* sequesters carbon.

Closely linked to adaptation efforts is the concept of resilience: the ability of a system and its component parts to anticipate, absorb, accommodate, or recover from the effects of a hazardous event in a timely and efficient manner, including through ensuring the preservation, restoration, or improvement of its essential basic structures and functions<sup>8</sup>. The above concepts and definitions have informed the design of an assessment framework for the NURI extension.

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> OECD DAC Rio Markers for Climate: Handbook

<sup>5</sup> Ibid (1)

<sup>6</sup> Margaret Spearman and Heather McGray, 2011; Making adaptation count; Concepts and Options for Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation; World Resources Institute.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid (1)

<sup>8</sup> Ibid (1)

## The Assessment Framework and Methodology

### Mitigation and Adaptation Assessment Framework

NURI was primarily designed as a livelihoods programme. The outcomes as formulated in the original Results Framework focus on income, food security, and access to agriculture related infrastructure. Underlying these core outcomes was the notion, captured in the justifications, that the target group will be negatively affected by CC in the coming decades. Therefore, climate adaptation was from the onset an integral part of NURI, and was incorporated from 2020 onwards in the RI projects in the form of resilient designs. However, CC mitigation and adaptation outcomes or outputs, either directly, or through enhanced resilience were not reflected in the indicators, and no specific CC adaptation data were collected.

Ready-made tools to assess interventions of livelihoods interventions against their mitigation or adaptation potential or effectiveness are few. The OECD DAC designed a tool to assess and categorise mitigation and adaptation projects in their Official Development Assistance (ODA) database. IUCN developed a tool to plan and assess interventions following a Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) approach, and the World Resources Institute developed a toolkit for adaptation M&E. Lessons about basic requirements for successful mitigation and adaptation interventions (and maladaptation) can be derived from various sources, of which the IPCC is arguably the most authoritative.

The consultant combined the various sources into the assessment framework as presented in Annex 2. The assessment tool consists of 25 criteria, divided into three categories: design, impact and measurement, and capacity building.

As one of the prime objectives of the assessment is to design the NURI extension in a manner that qualifies it for a Rio Marker score, the Rio Marker Handbook of the OECD was the prime source of information for the tool. Complementary criteria and insights were derived from other sources where relevant, most notably the NBS assessment tool, and the World Resources Institute Adaptation M&E tool. The IPCC sixth assessment report provided some important insights, especially with regard to community involvement and planning.

### Methodology of the assessment

The assessment statements were uploaded in a Google form, to be scored on a 3-point Likert scale: agree, somewhat agree, not agree. For most of the statements a free comment box was included to qualify the scoring. Originally, nine core interventions were selected to be assessed, but given the overlap between some of them (Green Roads for Water and Rural Roads, and Food forests Institutional and Individual), this was reduced to seven.

The assessment was carried out by 14 selected members of the NURI team during a workshop held in Gulu on 9 November 2022 (Annex 1). The consultant introduced the basic concepts of CC, mitigation, adaptation and Rio Marker scoring, and explained the process of filling the tool. Participants were paired and the pairs received the on-line tool on their computers, whereby each team was expected to assess five interventions. On average, an assessment took 15-20 minutes. Thirty-six valid assessments were made, meaning that each intervention was assessed by five teams. The scoring was received and analysed on-line and projected for the participants in real time. By the end of the exercise, the overall scoring per statement was discussed and further clarified.

In the week after the workshop, the consultant carried out a detailed analysis of the assessments, including the remarks made in the comment boxes. For further quantification and presentation, the consultant applied a weighted score to the 3 levels of the Likert scale as follows: 1 (not at all) = 10%; 2 (somewhat) 60%; 3 (fully) 90%. The outcome of the weighing resulted in a % score for each of the seven interventions and twenty five criteria, indicating to what extent a criterion was

met on a scale from 0-100<sup>9</sup>. In the presentation of the findings in the next chapter, traffic light colour codes are used for quick interpretation as follows: < 60% red; 60% - 74% amber; > 74% green.

Overall, the process proceeded smoothly with no technical hiccups, and few clarifications were needed. The fact that a similar exercise was done a few months earlier with the NBS assessment may have contributed to the smooth execution of the assessment.

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<sup>9</sup> Note that in this weighing system neither a 0% score nor a 100% score is possible. This reflects the uncertainties in the scores caused by, for example, missing information by the assessors.

## The Assessment Outcomes

### Mitigation or/and Adaptation interventions

Figure 1 shows the distribution between adaptation or mitigation interventions. Practically all interventions (97%) are considered by the assessors to have an CC adaptation component, and 11% both an adaptation and mitigation component. None of the interventions is thought to have no CC adaptation or mitigation component at all.

Five of the seven interventions are considered solely adaptation interventions, whereas food forests and CSA farmer groups do have a mitigation component included according to some assessors.

### Linkage of interventions to adaptation objectives

The first criterion of the Rio Markers, in particular with respect to adaptation, is to what extent climate adaptation objectives are explicitly mentioned in the project document. In the original Results Framework, this was implicitly included in the outcome in terms of enhanced resilience, and was more explicitly linked to CC through the project justification.

The original linkage of NURI to CC is reflected in the assessors score (table 1). Across the board, the objectives are moderately linked to climate adaptation, either explicitly or implicitly. The table shows that Rural Infrastructure and Spring Protection with Resilient Design are considered to be most explicit in their adaptation objective, although the RD element was included later during programme implementation. As for the expected contribution to mitigation or adaptation outcomes, the scores for all interventions are high, meaning that according to the assessors the programme has developed a strong CC signature over time.

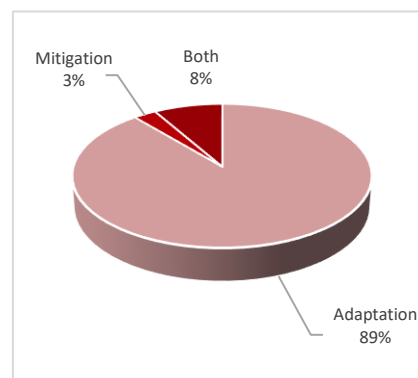


Figure 1: Aggregate score (%) on distribution of interventions between adaptation, mitigation both or none (n=36)

Table 1: weighted score (%) of criterion 2 and 19 by assessed intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
2 Explicitly mentioned	66	73	46	55	74	75	68	65
19 Contribution to Mitigation and Adaptation	78	79	84	75	77	83	75	79

The assessors mention that by its name, CSA could be considered an adaptation intervention, but in the outcome and indicators in the original Results Framework, the emphasis of this intervention is on production and income. It is also noted that in the operational- and training manuals CC adaptation was explicitly mentioned.

In the revised framework to be used for the extension period, the outcome has been explicitly linked to HH resilience to cope with current and expected climate change and variability, and therefore qualifies for a principal level (score 2) according to the Rio Markers scoring system. The NURI extension Appraisal Team came to the same conclusion in October 2022.

### Linkage of interventions to known risks and vulnerabilities

The third Rio Marker criterion captures whether the objective and interventions are linked to known risks and vulnerabilities. The aggregate scoring across the interventions as shown in the pie-charts below suggests that this is quite strongly the case. All interventions are considered to have an explicit or implicit link to known CC risks and vulnerabilities (figure 2). The contextualisation for NU (figure 3) and the consultation process (figure 4) score slightly lower across the board, but still show that the design process for climate adaptation was largely based on the local context and carried out in consultation with the target group.



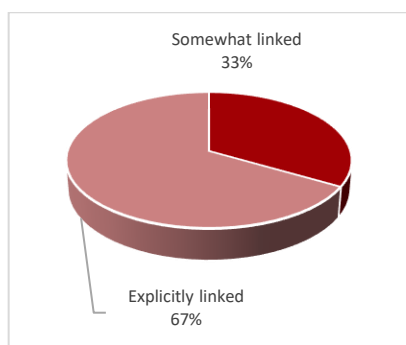


Figure 2: Aggregate score (%) on the link between interventions and known risks and vulnerabilities (n=36)

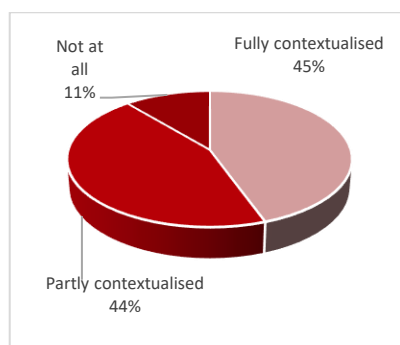


Figure 3: Aggregate score (%) on whether adaptation intervention contextualised for NU (n=36)

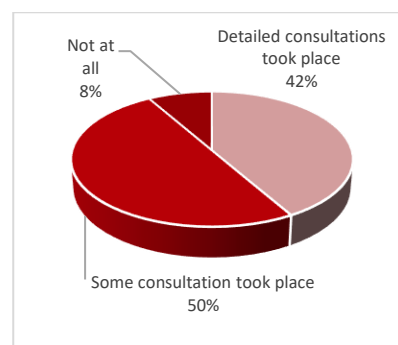


Figure 4: Aggregate score (%) on levels of consultation with the target group (n=36)

The breakdown of these criteria by intervention (table 2), show that all interventions are clearly linked to known CC risks and vulnerabilities, and reasonably well contextualised for NU. Only Water ponds score a bit lower in this aspect. Some assessors felt that for Springs, Refugee groups and Food forests, the general blue print missed Northern Uganda specific context in the design. On the other hand, assessors mentioned the potential contribution of Food forests to adaptation objectives, and in particular that they directly address issues of tree depletion and the need for diversification of farms. Similarly, assessors mentioned the crucial importance of resilient designs in road design. Traditional designs fail to ensure the lifespan of roads, where more intense rainfall is leading to rapid gully formation.

Table 2: weighted score (%) of criteria 2 -6, 14 and 21 by assessed intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
3 Linked to risks or vulnerabilities	78	77	84	83	81	90	68	80
4 Contextualised for NU	78	70	72	63	69	63	55	67
5 Consultation with the TG	66	66	62	68	70	83	68	69
6 Understood by the TG	84	77	78	83	73	75	68	77
14 Culturally acceptable	90	90	78	90	80	90	83	86
18 Sustainability of interventions	78	70	72	83	69	90	60	74

The level of incorporation of the Northern Uganda context can be also derived from the consultation process with the target group (TG). The broad picture is that quite extensive consultations with the target group took place for some interventions and less for others. At the same time, the scoring on the sustainability of the interventions beyond programme support is with 74% across the board high. This suggest that the interventions are well received, internalised and adopted by the target group.

In the comment boxes typical examples of effective consultation processes were the Cash-for-Work consultations, pilot projects, community crop enterprise selection and site selection of micro-catchment sites. On the other hand, some assessors mentioned the limited options menu that was sometimes offered to communities. For Rural Infrastructure and Food forests, some assessors felt that these were imposed, rather than selected by the beneficiaries.

The assessors thought that across all interventions the target group had a good grasp of the link of the interventions with CC adaptation (criterion 6). This may indicate that the climate angle to the interventions became more important, and that communication to and understanding by the target group was enhanced over time. This is a positive finding as communication and understanding of CC is considered a prerequisite for future effective climate action by communities.

## Quality of design and execution in relation to CC adaptation outcomes

Four criteria were used to assess the quality of the design in relation to adaptation outcomes. The assessment suggests that the design paid some fair attention to scientific information, including other options in relation to expected adaptation outcomes. The consideration of other options scores low for CSA Farmer Groups and Rural Infrastructure. Some assessors mentioned that they were not aware if other options were considered or comparisons between options were made; possibly not all assessors may have been aware of the decision process to include them as a core intervention in the original project document.

The assessors scored relatively low on how in the design process the expected adaptation outcomes were described, qualified and quantified. Some exceptions mentioned by the assessors were the detailed descriptions of the RD measures in the technical guidelines, the hydrology and flood level studies, and the CSA and WRM surveys that were carried out.

The moderate score on qualified and quantified adaptation outcomes is also reflected in the low scoring on the existence of metrics and a functional tracking system for adaptation components (table 3, criterion 20), and in the low 31% score against criterion 21 (not in the table), which captures whether the M&E system specifically captures CC adaptation. The absence of a set of CC adaptation metrics is also clear from the original Results Framework, and triggered the update of the Framework for the extension period. The next step in strengthening adaptation M&E for the extension period, is the design of smart indicators and data collection systems that measure adaptation outcomes.

Table 3: weighted score (%) of criteria 7 -10 by assessed intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
7 Scientific underpinning	66	69	84	68	73	68	60	69
8 Other options considered	48	57	78	68	49	63	68	61
9 Impact qualified	66	56	56	68	53	68	48	59
10 Impact quantified	56	27	36	55	17	60	10	37
20 Outcomes tracked, measured	42	23	36	50	39	55	23	38

Across the board, the assessors are very positive about the feasibility of the interventions (table 4), with slightly lower scores on the financial feasibility of Rural infrastructure and Water ponds. In some instances, the affordability for households was put into question, which contrasts with the observation that especially the CSA options are relatively cheap. Generally, the assessors felt that the adaptation interventions were well designed with cost-effectiveness as a major consideration.

Table 4: weighted score (%) of criterion criteria by intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
12 Technically feasible	84	74	90	90	86	90	90	86
13 Financially feasible	78	81	78	90	69	90	68	78
17 Strengthening HH resilience	90	86	90	90	81	83	75	85

Strengthening HH resilience against CC hazards is a critical criterion in the Rio Marker scoring systems, and more generally in the CC international literature. On that aspect, all interventions score very well. Unfortunately, there are in the literature no real metrics for resilience, and therefore tracking resilience, either qualitatively or quantitatively, is not easy to do. The use of proxy indicators, for example income, or a scoring of the income risk perception of the target group should be considered for tracking resilience in the future.

## Quality of design and execution in relation to CC maladaptation outcomes

The analysis of the expected impact should include possible maladaptation outcomes. Table 5 shows to what extent three categories of maladaptation were considered in the design process and expected outcomes.

Table 5: weighted score (%) of three potential maladaptation (criterion 8) by intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
Increased NR degradation	72	74	84	75	70	90	83	78
Biodiversity loss	46	81	62	43	54	63	68	59
Increased risks and vulnerabilities	84	70	84	90	57	83	75	78

Natural resources degradation and Increased risks and vulnerabilities for the TG as a result of the interventions are considered minimal to low, whereas the picture for possible biodiversity loss is more mixed, with Food forests doing quite well, and the other intervention scoring intermediate to low. This finding tallies with the NBS assessment of NURI interventions, which also brought out the low attention of NURI to biodiversity. Whether this is a reason for concern is debateable, in light of the fact that NURI is primarily a livelihoods programme, and has no biodiversity conservation objectives and interventions.

### Capacity building of governments in relation to CC mitigation and adaptation

Capacity building and policy influencing of government agencies is an important criterion in all the three adaptation assessment frameworks used for this assessment. NURI scores fairly high on the three sub-criteria applicable at District Local Government (DLG) level. This tallies with the outcome of NURI NBS assessment, and reflects the close integration and cooperation that NURI maintains with the local government structures. Whether the DLG shall be able to apply and enforce this consistently beyond the NURI programme is not captured in this analysis.

The impact at National level scores generally much lower, but with a high score for interventions with Refugee women groups, which have become a model for other programmes dealing with refugees.

Table 6: weighted score (%) of criteria 22 – 25 by intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
22 DLG capacity building	72	66	66	75	81	75	75	73
23 DLG resilience to CC impacts	72	66	62	60	86	75	75	71
24 Local policy and regulation impact	66	73	66	75	67	75	68	70
25 National policy and regulation impact	56	59	56	75	50	63	35	56

## Conclusions and recommendations

### Summary of all scores

In the previous chapter the assessors’ scores against the assessment framework were broken down in themes. Further aggregation of the scores of all the criteria into a single score per interventions is presented in table 7. The aggregate scoring shows that all the seven interventions score moderate to high on their CC mitigation or adaptation contribution.

Table 7: average weighted score (%) of all criteria by intervention

Criterion↓ / Intervention→	CSA FG	FF	PC	RWG	RI+RD	SP+RD	WP	AVG
All criteria	70	68	70	73	66	76	64	70

The aggregate average score for all interventions by criterion (figure 8), shows that four criteria score relatively low: the manner in which adaptation outcomes are qualified, quantified and measured, and the impact on national level policy and regulation. These lower scores on CC adaptation M&E, also found in the NBS assessment, are a result of the original design, in which CC adaptation and mitigation were not the prime motivation for the programme, and therefore not fully incorporated in the M&E system. On the positive side, high scores are given to a broad range of criteria, whereby relevance for the TG, and technical design and execution are the common themes.

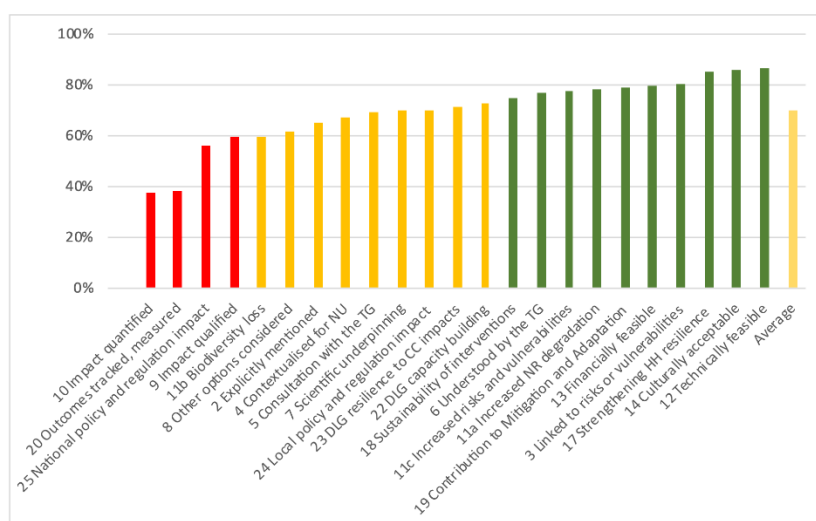


Figure 5: Aggregate score (%) across all interventions against CC adaptation and mitigation criteria

The overall aggregate scoring of 70% for the all the interventions combined confirms the observation by the Appraisal team that NURI has made substantial strides towards a relevant CC adaptation, and to a lesser extent mitigation, programme.

The second conclusion is that *all* NURI interventions seem to have built-in over time a significant adaptation agenda, which gained further prominence during programme implementation.

### Conclusions with respect to Rio Marker scoring

The OECD DAC Rio Marker scoring system makes a clear distinction between scoring for mitigation and for adaptation. For a CC *mitigation* qualification, the programme must contribute to at least one of the following objectives: 1) limit anthropogenic emissions of GHG; 2) protect or enhance GHG sinks; 3) integrate climate concerns in recipient countries’ development objectives through capacity development and strengthening the legislative and regulatory frameworks; 4) support the efforts of the recipient country to meet obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). For a CC *adaptation* qualification, the adaptation objective must be explicitly stated in the programme document and the activities must target increased resilience of human and natural systems to the impacts of climate change, and the interventions must show a clear and direct link between identified risks or vulnerabilities and the expected impact of the interventions.

For a *principal* score (2) the mitigation or adaptation objective must be stated in the activity documentation as one of the principal reasons for undertaking it. A *significant* score (1) is given when the objective is explicitly stated but it is not the fundamental driver or motivation for

undertaking it. Instead, the activity has other prime objectives but it has been formulated or adjusted to help meet the relevant climate concerns.

The Appraisal Team found a strong justification for a principal score (2) for the NURI extension but felt that the justification would be even stronger if the direct link between vulnerabilities or risks and the interventions was better described. This is confirmed by the current assessment, which found an increasing CC adaptation focus over time, that now needs to be linked, retrospectively to the risks and vulnerabilities that were identified in the recent Risks and Vulnerabilities Rapid Assessment Report. The current assessment also shows that the programme derives a principal score primarily, if not only, from adaptation interventions, and that CC mitigation is an additional bonus, but not a prime motivator for the NURI extension programme. Also, at the scale that NURI operates, it would be hard to make a significant contribution to CC mitigation.

For a principal score on account of CC adaptation interventions, NURI does not need to surrender its livelihoods objectives. After all, the endpoint of human adaptation is successful development and human well-being in spite of continuing challenges posed by climate change<sup>10</sup>.

### Adaptation interventions for the extension period

The current assessment shows that, with some modifications, all interventions have a clearly recognizable CC adaptation signature, and would therefore qualify in terms of their adaptation impact for continuation during the extension period.

However, keeping in mind the short duration of the extension, a most feasible approach to selecting interventions would be to look at existing interventions, and aiming at existing structures build during NURI 1.0, that can be consolidated and possibly enriched with specific adaptation activities. Such activities could be:

- Scaled-up tree planting with existing CSA FGs, in Food Forests and in WRM interventions. The extension period *could* be used to pilot community forestry activities on degraded hilltops and other communal lands. The lessons from the pilot could inform the design of the NURI follow-up programme.
- Strengthening CSA FGs in diversifying income streams as a means towards HH resilience against climatic and market shocks. It could be built on the existing CSA marketing groups, whereby the CC adaptation component is enhanced by facilitating community dialogues and trainings on diversification strategies and resilience.
- Enhancing CC adaptation in Refugee Women Groups. Given the fact that the NURI 2.0 programme is likely to focus more on refugees, the extension could be used to pilot enhanced CC adaptation options in permaculture. More focus on perennial crops and trees are obvious candidates, and an enhanced focus on climate proofing HH compounds and surroundings.
- Advocating and capacity building on CC matters at all levels. This could be done through organising CC adaptation seminars and trainings for district council members and technical teams, building on what was already done under NURI 1.0, and creating CC specific communication materials for farming HHs and refugees.

For all the activities it is crucial at the design phase to analyse, describe and, where possible quantify, the CC mitigation and adaptation outcomes, design tools and indicators for CC outcomes, and pilot them during the extension period, to inform the design of NURI 2.0.

<sup>10</sup> This point is eloquently made in: Margaret Spearman and Heather McGray, 2011; Making adaptation count; Concepts and Options for Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation; World Resources Institute.

## Annex 1: The assessment teams

Team	Members	Interventions assessed
1	Andre Ebic and Jerry Nyeko	RI + RD, WP, FF, PC, RWG
2	Charles Ochan and Dan Evans	CSA FG, FF, PC, WP, RI+RD
3	David Edaku and Rilla Kirk	CSA FG, FF, PC, RI+RD, WP
4	Gloria Drateru and Marie Ediu	CSA FG, FF, PC, WP, SP+RD
5	Habart Atayo and Joel Bayo	RWG, CSA FG, SP+RD, RI+RD, FF
6	Joseph Ebinu and Jimmy Arubaku.	RWG, FF, RI+RD, SP+RD, PC
7	Martin Malinga and Francis Otim.	RWG, FF, SP+RD, RI+RD, CSA FG

## Annex 3: Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Source*	RMH Page	
<b>Design criteria</b>			
1	Is it a mitigation or adaptation intervention (or both)	N/A	
2	The Mitigation or Adaptation objective(s) is explicitly mentioned as part of the motivation to include it in the project design	RMH	3, 4
3	The Mitigation or Adaptation objective(s) is/are explicitly linked to a known (set of) risk(s) or vulnerability(ies)	RMH	4
4	The known risk or vulnerability is contextualised for Northern Uganda	RMH	4
5	The intervention is designed in consultation with the target group	IPCC, WRI, various	
6	The intervention's link to CC is understood by the target group	IPCC, various	
<b>Feasibility criteria</b>			
7	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation objective(s) is based on scientific information?	RMH	4
8	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is assessed against other options	NBS	
9	The impact of the CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is qualified or described	RMH, NBS	4
10	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation objective(s) of the intervention is quantified	RMH, NBS	4
11	Possible negative consequences on CC are considered in the design Increased natural resources degradation Increased biodiversity loss Increased risks or vulnerabilities of HH	IPCC, various	
12	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is technically feasible	RMS, FAO, NBS	Various pages
13	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is financially feasible	NBS	
14	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is culturally feasible	UNCPP, WRI, NBS	
15	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is scalable to regional level	NBS, various	
16	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention is scalable to national level	NBS, various	
17	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention builds resilience at HH level	RMH, IPCC, WRI	3, 4, 29, 31
18	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation intervention will be sustained without project support	various	
19	The intervention will make a significant contribution to CC Mitigation or Adaptation	RMH	3, 4, 6
20	The contribution to CC Mitigation or Adaptation is tracked and measured	NBS, WRI	
21	The intervention is adjusted and improved on the basis of a solid M&E system	IPCC, NBS, WRI	
<b>Institutional capacity building</b>			
22	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation builds DLG capacity to deal with CC	RMH, NBS, WRI	7
23	The CC Mitigation or Adaptation builds DLG resilience to adjust to CC impacts	RMH, WRI	7
24	The findings and lessons are shared to influence local policy and regulations	RMH, NBS, WRI	7
25	The findings and lessons are shared to influence national policy and regulations	RMH, NBS, WRI	7