**Project Specific Goals:**

To increase household income, farm yield, reduce malnutrition in children and improve living conditions of 100 women in the Meluf community, an impoverished rural agricultural community

**How we intend to achieve this.**

(a)Strengthening the evidence and knowledge base to address gender/Women's issues in agriculture. Empowering them to improve and have control over their own produce as a means of strengthening their financial background.

(b) Providing them with managerial and technical capacity building to enable them to run a business. This should improve their financial viability and thus act as a bridge to the solution to many of the problems they encounter.

(c) The provision of vocational training/support in activities like marketing, tailoring and market gardening.

(d)Also help in activation of value chains in the transformation of primary less expensive products to more valuable products. Such include the processing of crops like cassava other valuable products like Garri, meyondo etc all of which have high demand in the market.

(e) To provide women with basic equipment to start a job and support them to become organised in community-based working units to effectively manage and run their businesses

(f) To establish women’s associations in marketing (business units) to exploit collective bargaining power as well as build strong coalitions with like groups elsewhere.

(g)Provide them with technical, administrative and logistical support and promote their products in the formal market through the provision of publicity tools on the various media.

(h) Promoting collective action and leadership of these women in order to take advantage of opportunities and address discrimination

(i)Promoting women’s ownership and access to productive resources

(j) Making women/gender aspects in agriculture more visible and recognized

**Data Collection:**

Data collection method shall be done by the project management committee under the surpervision of the project leader. Questionnaires shall be distributed from time to time to beneficiaries to fill. Interviews shall also be conducted and results used to see where adjustments to the project can be made. The project committee shall be charge with close follow up of all activities relating to the project and every individual shall be expected to give an account of how she is running her own activities.

**Total Expected Beneficiaries:**

The project is designed for 100 direct beneficiaries but it will benefit some 550 women and girls including direct beneficiaries. A total of 60 women with ages of 24 and above with their entire families will benefit from the project. This will be in the area of provision of agricultural loans to enable them increase farm yield much needed to improve the living standards.

25 girls of less than 24 years will be trained in other vocational activities including income generation and in the activation of value chains which should enable them raise enough incomes from the conversion of primary less expensive to more valuable products.

8 young girls shall equally benefit from this in that; we shall be able to send them to vocational schools to take up academic course in these fields. Others enlisted and younger than 17 will benefit from regular academic courses

**Indicators for measuring success**

The first indicator will be measured after the first three months of the start of the project. The results of the cultivation of Irish potatoes. Proceeds should be greater than or equal to three times the amount initially requested.

We equally shall look at the number of women and girls applying to join the cooperative and the enthusiasm with which current members are participating in project implementation. This should be seen in how they come out to work on the communal farm during molding and harvesting.

The next indicator will be measured late in April during harvesting. Given that women will be able to cultivate larger pieces of land will be evidence that their level of income has increased. Expenditure styles and immediate reation to health demands

We shall measure too the success of the project during the first 9-10months for those who will receive vocational training in marketing, tailoring and other activities.

**Time frame:**

This project is to start in September 2014. It is to start with the communal cultivation of Irish potatoes the highest income generating crop here. The advantage is that it will help raise the finances to three times the initial amount requested making the project stronger in terms of finances.

A microfinance scheme will then be set up in preparation for the upcoming farming season which starts in March 2015. Other activities will also be carried and include trainings, capacity building measures.

A Women's cooperative will be created immediately after the sale of the Irish potatoes to take control over the micro finance scheme. This should be Done in January in preparation for planting which should start in March.