



## ***Gender and land: lessons from an inclusive business model in Uganda***

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# Vegetable Oil Development Programme - VODP

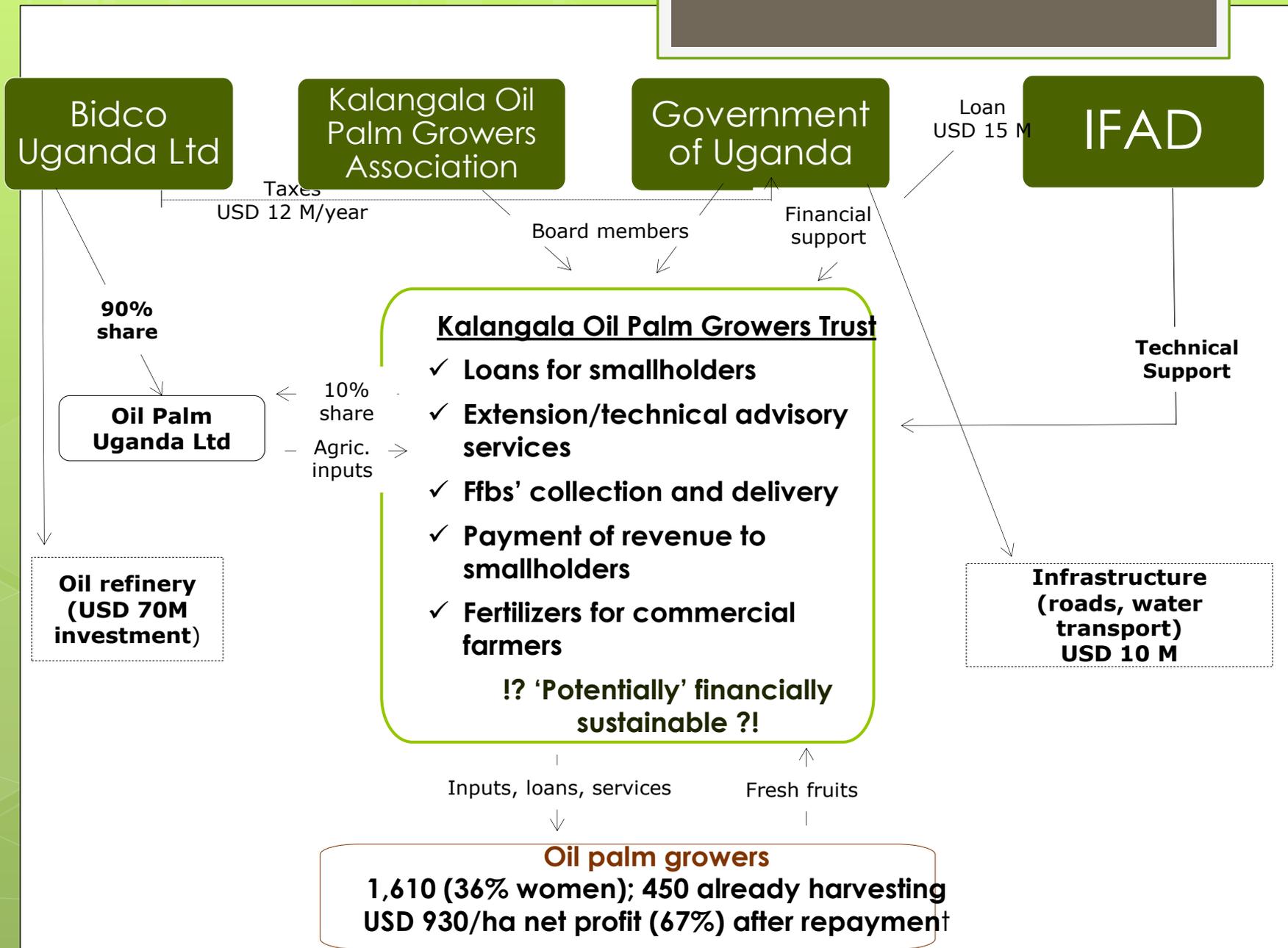


# VODP – business model

- Smallholder farmers, private sector, Government
- Smallholder farmers (1610 farmers, incl 578 women)



- Private sector: provides services to farmers (quality inputs, assured market, training on quality standard); nucleus estate and contract farming
- Government: purchased and leased land for nucleus state, supports smallholder involvement (KOPGT); provides infrastructure (extension, loans, transport)



# VODP Uganda – gender analysis at design

## Proactive measures thorough gender analysis at design

- Women's access to land;
- Women's membership and participation in smallholder sourcing household level schemes;
- Women benefit from technical training, extension services and production inputs;



- Gender equality and women's empowerment at household level: household mentoring approach to promote gender equality and women's empowerment at household level.
- Leadership; third of all positions reserved for women
- Community women extension service providers

# VODP – first results community



- Creation of employment (2,000 employed on nucleus estate, 500 in farmer gardens and 1,600 directly as farmers)
- Address gender disparity (household mentoring)
- Improved infrastructure (e.g. 750 km of road network and ferry service) and services (e.g. financial and public)

# VODP – first results community

- Production in other crops, livestock and complementary agricultural activities, tourism and other non-agricultural enterprises is expanding
- Illegal logging is down; less reliance on dwindling fish stocks
- OPUL Contribution to Kalangala District is invested in improving facilities (schools, clinics, etc.) and infrastructure (roads and electricity)



# VODP - First results farmers

- 578 women engaged in the project in their own right;
- Investment in housing, schooling, farm and off-farm businesses;
- Improved land rights (landless and women, purchase of land, demonstration of legitimate access to land, legal support);
- Women's Empowerment.



# Conclusions

- Wide consultations with farmers and communities before implementation
- Business models that support local farmers are more promising and make good business sense
- Farmers have proved to be highly dynamic and responsive to market forces



- Success of partnerships depends on the level of ownership, voice, risk-sharing and benefit-sharing between partners
- Mutually beneficial partnerships require sustained support by a range of service providers (Government, civil society, private sector)

# Thank you!

