

A REPORT ON UGANDA 2022: SCALING UP TREE PLANTING HELD IN BUSIA DISTRICT



Working on the nursery bed for the tree seeds donated by trees for the future



The Resident District Officer together with our partner the scouts planting a tree donated by Youth Initiative Programs Uganda

INTRODUCTION

Busia is an area where people get fruits from other districts yet there is a steady and ready market in Kenya. Planting fruit trees is one of the strongholds that most of the members can uphold. Many community members, schools, and other partners in Busia have land that can support the project. This helps to combat quite a number of SDGs from no poverty, zero hunger, gender equality, partnership for the goals and climate action. The project is aimed at promoting visibility and creating awareness on protecting and conserving the environment. School children and community members actively participate in the exercise and be encouraged to nurture the trees for posterity. Different tree species were planted ranging from fruit trees to hard wood trees. Restoration tree planting in forests together with the surrounding community members were part of the exercise. The farmers were trained on various aspects of sustainable farming, soil and water management, plastics and polythene management. The training has discussions, sharing experiences, demonstrations of skills and best practices and is participatory on the farm.

Activities

- The activities carried out during this project were
- Sensitization/education
- Tree planting
- Dialogues with the local leaderships and community members
- Vegetable growing

Stakeholders involved

- Political leadership
- Community members
- Students
- Other NGOs and CSOs (Trees for the future, World vision, ASHWA, and Youth environment service)

How it was done

- Sensitization was done by a number of young volunteers from the community who were trained and understood the concept of the project. Sensitization was done in the different parts of the district from rural to urban, and many people understood, backed and promoted the project.

- The chairpersons of different villages became agents of environmental climate action. Many members took up the initiative to promote climate action in the villages, schools, and other workplaces.
- Our volunteers held different trainings in the district to provide an area for members to understand and do likewise.
- After the sensitization, tree planting was started and many of our partners were involved, trees for the future donated 200 mango seedlings, the scouts helped in the tree planting exercise, ASHWA did the mobilization, youth environment service distributed the seedlings and youth initiative programs donated 500 grevillea seedlings, 50 jackfruit seedlings, 400 eucalyptus seedlings, 200 avocado seedlings and also did the mobilization.
- The municipal council got more avocado seeds which were put in a nursery and later budded and distributed to the communities.

Challenges faced

- Changes in planting seasons, the rains delayed and later became too much which affected some of the tree seedlings.
- We managed to afford less than what the population expected of us in terms of tree seedlings
- Lack of agricultural equipment like trowels, wheelbarrows, gumboots, hoes and potting bags.
- Transport to different parts of the district was so hard since some areas are “hard to reach”.

Recommendations

- Proper planning and involvement of the agriculture offices will help in knowing the different planting seasons.
- There is a need to procure agricultural equipment to ease the planting exercise both at the seedbeds and the gardens/ fields.
- Proper transportation to the fields is required to ease the challenges of transport to “hard to reach” areas.
- More of such activities should be organized to benefit community members.

ACTIVITY PHOTOS



COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON TREES
WITH SUBCOUNTY LEADERS



NURSERY BEDS FOR TREE SEEDLING



DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS AS A
CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIVIST



COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON CLIMATE
CHANGE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE



CLIMATE EDUCATION AT BUSIA SS



CLIMATE EADUCATION AT BORDER SEED



CLIMATE EDUCATION AT LUMINO HIGH