

Issue No. 3 | Volume 3

THE FARMERS' VOICE



Empowering Communities for Sustainable Livelihoods

CAPCA III PROJECT

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

in | Bukomansimbi, Butambala, Luweero, Mpigi, Mubende,
Mukono, Nakaseke, Rakai and Wakiso Districts



2013



The President of CARITAS Uganda, Archbishop Cyprian K. Lwanga officially launching a strategic plan (2012-2014) for the Uganda Farmers' Common Voice Platform.

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ACRONYMS

AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
BBW	Banana Bacterial Disease
BUKAKIMU	Buwama, Bulo, Kammengo, Kalamba, Kituntu and MUMPIFA
CAIIP	Community Agricultural Infrastructure Improvement Programme
CAPCA	Central Archdiocesan Province Caritas Association
CBO	Community Based Organisations
CDD	Community Driven Development
CIDI	Community Integrated Development initiatives
CK	Caritas Kampala
CKL	Caritas Kasana-Luweero
CKM	Caritas Kiyinda Mityana
CL	Caritas Lugazi
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CU	Caritas Uganda
CMD	Cassava Mosaic Disease
CWD	Coffee Wilt Disease
DLSP	District Livelihood Support Programme
EADEN	Eastern Archdiocesan Development Network
FAL	Functional Adult Literacy
FAQ	Fair Average Quality
FBO	Faith Based Organizations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
HH	House hold
HCT	HIV Counselling and Testing
HIV	Human immuno virus
HR	Human Resources
IRF	Internal Revolving Fund
ICS	Internal Control System
KARI	Kawanda Agricultural Research Institute
KATUKA	Kampala,Tusuubira Women's Group and Caritas Kasanaensis
KDTL	KATUKA Development Trust Limited
KMD	Kiyinda Mityana Diocese
LINKS	Loan in Kind Scheme
MADDO	Masaka Diocesan Development Organisation
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industries and Fisheries
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MUMPIFA	Mutubagumu Mpigi Farmers' Association
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NARO	National Agriculture Research Organization
NFA	National Forest Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OVCs	Orphans & Vulnerable Children
PMC	Programme Management Committee
SAPs	Sustainable Agricultural Practices
SCCVI	Swedish Cooperative Centre
SCOUL	Sugar Corporation of Uganda Limited.
TAALI	Twezimbe Agricultural Association Limited.
TWG	Tusuubira Women's Group
UCDA	Uganda Coffee Development Authority
UFCVP	Uganda Farmers' Common Voice Platform
UGOPAP	Uganda Governance & Poverty Alleviation Programme
VCT	Voluntary Counselling & Testing

WORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN



The Most Rev. Dr. Cyprian K. Lwanga

“Empowering Communities for sustainable livelihoods”

In March, 2012, I launched CAPCA III project under the Uganda Governance and Poverty Alleviation Programme (UGOPAP) that covers a period from 2012 to 2014.

The programme came at a time when we had successfully completed four projects that promoted integrated agricultural development, namely KATUKA I, KATUKA II, CAPCA I and CAPCA II from 2001 to 2011.

Since 2001 to-date we have been promoting livelihood programs within communities of nine districts covered by the dioceses of Masaka, Kasana Luweero, Lugazi, KiyindaMityana and Kampala Archdiocese as well as Tusubira Women Group and CIDI Rakai.

The idea behind CAPCA III project is to empower communities to drive their development with the aim of attaining sustainable livelihoods. Currently we are challenged by the low participation of youth in agriculture. We pray that in future the youth will steadily get on board since they are a big potential in the sustainability of development in this country.

We shall continue delivering interventions that are aimed at poverty alleviation and uplifting the welfare of communities. We have

now embarked on the exercise of preparing a CAPCA strategic plan that will guide us in carrying out community development in the next five years. We hope the plan will also be helpful in resource mobilizing for purposes of supporting more interventions for the benefit of more communities. On our own we do not command adequate resources for the entire community development. Hence we, together with communities, shall continue working with Government and other development partners in community development.

We are indeed grateful to Caritas Denmark. The support we receive from Caritas Denmark is a manifestation of the love extended to our communities by the people of Denmark. Specifically we thank Caritas Denmark for funding the production of this magazine.

I wish to thank my fellow Bishops for their support towards CAPCA programmes. Thanks also go to the Board members for their involvement and guidance to the staff. To the staff, we appreciate the work you do in improving the conditions of life in communities.

+ The Most Rev. Dr. Cyprian K. Lwanga
Board Chairman- CAPCA

WORD FROM THE LIAISON OFFICER



Bukenya Joseph
CAPCA Liaison Officer

In this third CAPCA publication, we introduce to you CAPCA III project that we implement under Uganda Governance & Poverty Alleviation Programme (UGOPAP), funded by Caritas Denmark.

The project commenced in February, 2012. The overall goal of the project is poverty reduction among peri-urban and rural communities. It builds on a foundation left behind by the four previously completed projects that include KATUKA I, KATUKA II, CAPCA I and CAPCA II Projects.

The project is in line with government agricultural priorities expressed in the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy & Investment Plan: 2010/11 - 2014/15 (March 2010), namely to enhance agricultural production and productivity as well as improving access to markets and value addition. CAPCA III project is implemented by seven CAPCA partners in nine districts located in Central Uganda. The seven partners comprise the development departments of five Catholic dioceses, namely Kampala Archdiocese, Kasana Luweero diocese, Kiyinda Mityana diocese, Lugazi diocese and Masaka diocese as well as two secular organisations i.e. Tusuubira Women Group and Community Integrated Development Initiative.

CAPCA III Project is aimed at contributing to building sustainability of farmer organizations to continue contributing to the livelihoods of target

beneficiaries, thereby reducing their poverty situation in the process. In so doing the project employs a Change Triangle model that was used to design and guide the operationalisation of the UGOPAP.

Hence CAPCA III project, under UGOPAP, focuses on organizational capacity building of partner organizations, delivering thematic interventions and advocacy. These three elements reinforce one another to bring about change in community development. The three elements mentioned in the triangle are demonstrated in the community development interventions carried out by CAPCA, some of which are contained in this magazine. In this regard credit goes to the Diocesan Caritas departments and the agencies, in particular, the Board and staff for the professional expertise exercised by the CAPCA team in implementing the development interventions.

Though still on-going, the enhancement done in farmer organizational capacity has improved the planning process, the interventions and advocacy carried for and by the target beneficiaries. One of the key outputs in CAPCA III project are the strategic plans for the 26 farmers' associations. The plans are expected to guide the development of the associations as well as improving the livelihoods of the members.

Some of the thematic areas CAPCA delivers its

services include integrated agriculture, agricultural marketing, environment and basic health. The services have enabled us to contribute to the improvement in the conditions of living of the communities hence resulting into meaningful legitimacy that CAPCA has with the target group, mainly the small holder farmers (SHFs).

Since CAPCA does not command all the resources to do the entire development within the farming community, promotion of lobbying and advocacy initiatives help farmers to use collaborations with government and development partners to provide solutions to their development needs that are meant to improve their quality of life. Advocacy is gradually strengthening both the farmers and implementing organizations through dialoguing with duty bearers and making use of partnerships.

The Change Triangle therefore is a useful approach in

planning for and building sustainability in community organizations as well as implementing partner organizations in community development. Hence the triangle is beneficial in empowering communities for sustainable livelihoods.

This publication gives an overview of what has transpired in the target communities since the commencement of CAPCA III project. The magazine brings out cases where CAPCA has promoted community development.

I am indeed grateful to the stakeholders of CAPCA for their continued contributions and support towards the organization.

Good reading

Bukenya Joseph
CAPCA Liaison Officer





The Central Archdiocesan Province Caritas Association (CAPCA) is a development arm of the Central Archdiocesan Province comprising seven partner organizations, also referred to as agencies. CAPCA is made up of five diocesan Caritas organisations and two secular development organisations. The agencies are; Caritas Kampala, Caritas Kasana Luweero (Kasanaensis), Caritas Kiyinda-Mityana, Caritas Lugazi, Caritas MADDO, Community Integrated Development Initiatives (CIDI) and Tusuubira Women Group.

Caritas means love. Hence in CAPCA we extend love through caring for the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged in society.

Our Vision

A society where all people live a decent livelihood sustainably.

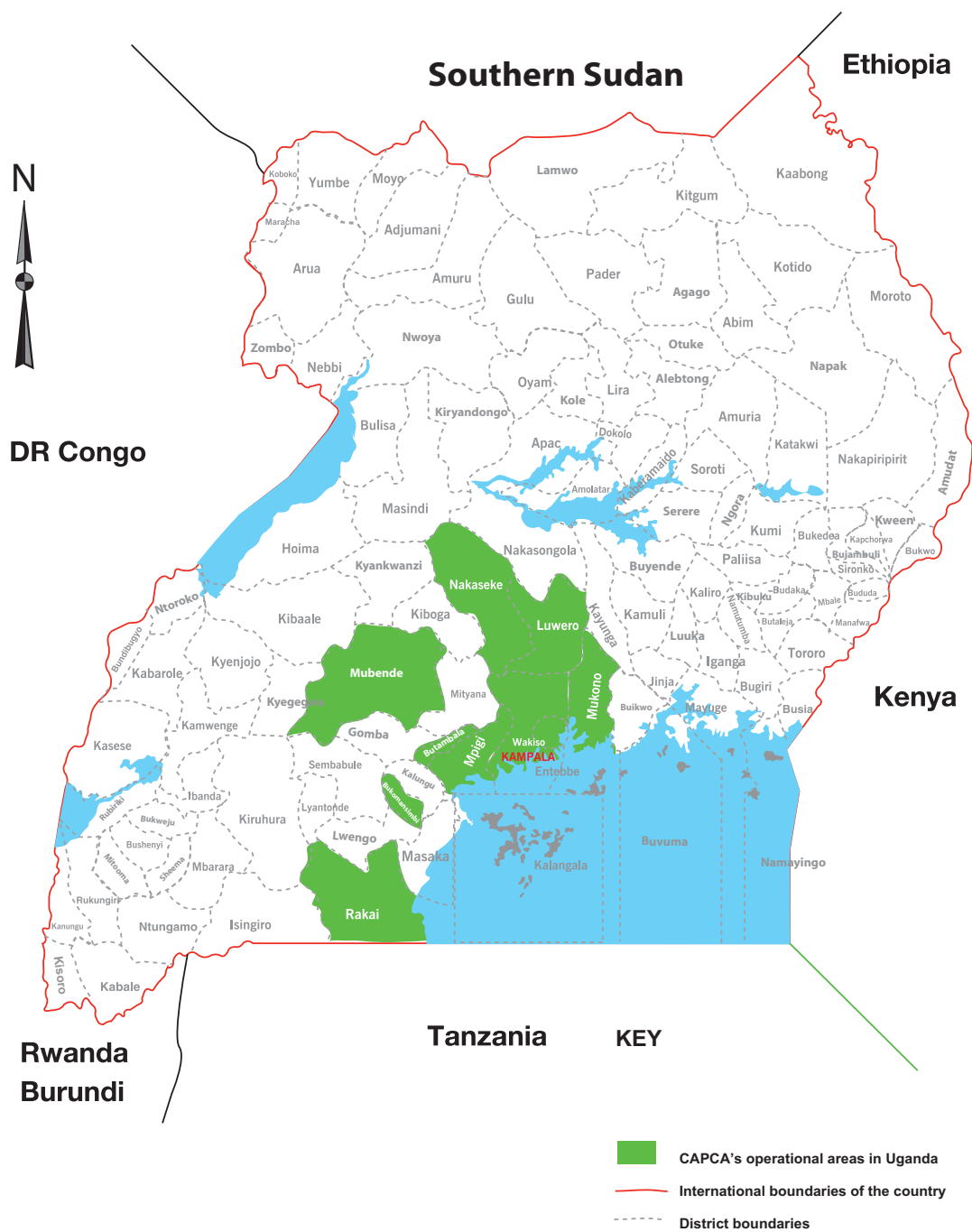
Mission

To promote integrated spiritual, social and economic interventions.

Core Values

- Human dignity
- Fairness (Justice & Peace)
- Accountability/Transparency
- Integrity/Honesty
- Professionalism
- Teamwork

**A Map of Uganda showing districts where CAPCA operates:
Bukomansimbi, Butambala, Luweero, Mpigi, Mubende, Mukono,
Nakaseke, Rakai and Wakiso Districts**





KDTL gets a new Business Manager

KATUKA Development Trust Ltd. (KDTL) appointed a new Business Manager, in the names of Bro. Nicholas Asiimwe Gonzaga. He commenced his duties in September, 2013.

Formerly Bro. Asiimwe was the Manager, WEKEMBE Cooperative Society in Luweero. CAPCA warmly welcomes the new Business Manager and wishes him success in his new assignment.

CAPCA III Project Overview

CAPCA III project is an integrated agricultural development project implemented by seven agencies in the districts of Mubende, Bukomansibi, Rakai, Mukono, Mpigi, Butambala, Luweero, Nakaseke and Wakiso. The Liaison office plays a coordinating and supervisory role in all these agencies.

This publication highlights progress of activities implemented since CAPCA III project commenced in 2012. The project is geared towards empowering communities for sustainable livelihoods among vulnerable subsistence farmers. CAPCA III project is implemented under UGOPAP, a programme supported by Caritas Denmark.

The overall development objective of UGOPAP is poverty reduction in rural communities targeting 26 farmers' associations comprising 216 groups and a total of 6480 households of vulnerable small holder farmers in targeted districts. However, there are also indirect beneficiaries.



Immediate Programme Objectives:



1. To build capacity of farmers' organisations
2. To strengthen the organisational capacity of partner organisations
3. To deliver thematic competences so as to improve social conditions of the target group
4. To promote Advocacy initiatives

Enhancing capacity of Farmers' Organisations

CAPCA's desire is to see farmers and their organizations moving towards attaining sustainability. Hence the idea of providing capacity building to farmers' organisations is to enable them be in the driving seat of their development and learn to collaborate on development issues.

Farmer organisations receive support in terms of participatory planning, financial management, governance, promoting savings and credit, production & collective marketing, advocacy and lobbying as well as venturing into investments, FAL interventions etc.

Hence building the organisation capacity of farmer organisations is aimed at enabling the communities and their organizations to be organized advocates of poverty oriented solutions to sustainable development.

To-date all farmers' associations have constitutions, strategic plans and bank accounts.

CAPCA, through the respective agencies, has provided coffee hullers, maize mills, moisture meters and weighing scales to some associations for value addition and quality management.

In addition to the associations' executive committees, sub committees were established to focus on Marketing, Savings & Credit, Lobbying & Advocacy, monitoring and Investment, where applicable.

Below is an insight into the 26 associations under the respective CAPCA agencies in their stride towards realizing their respective objectives.

Associations under Caritas MADDU:

Biganda CAPCA Farmers' Association

Biganda CAPCA Farmers' Association is found in Bigasa Sub County, in Bukomansimbi district. The association

was formed in 2009 comprising of 13 farmer groups, with a 6 member Executive committee (2 women and 4 men of which 2 are youths). The Association has 321 members, where 40% are male and 60% female.

The farmers now have a common voice when it comes to selling their produce. Since they sell collectively, they are in position to have a bigger bargaining power hence able to attract high prices. In the last season, members sold a kilo of coffee (FAQ) at 4,700/- yet those who sold as individuals sold at 4,500/-.

The association started a savings and credit scheme that is used to alleviate member's financial woes by extending to them soft loans at 4% interest. The Association has lobbied for land from Buganda Kingdom through the Sub County Chief and a 7 - year lease was secured. It is on this land that a jointly owned coffee huller by three associations affiliated to Caritas MADDU has been constructed.



Coffee Huller jointly owned by three associations affiliated to Caritas MADDU at Bigasa.

Kitanda Tukolerewamu Farmers' Association

KITFA is found in Kitanda Sub County, Bukomansimbi District. KITFA is comprised of 7 groups with a total membership of 167, of which 38% are male and 62% female. The association was formed in 2011.

The groups came together to form the association which is led by a strong six member committee (2 women and 4 men) each group being represented on the committee. The Association has empowered the farmers in a number of ways which range from; increased production, increasing their incomes thus reducing poverty levels.

Last season KITFA members collected 1100kg of coffee (FAQ) selling each kilo at 4,200/=. Through collective efforts, the association has constructed 12 water harvesting tanks for 12 group members.

Before the association, it was hard to negotiate prices with buyers which increased exploitation but now that is a thing of the past. Through the Association, farmers started a savings scheme which has a tune of up to one million shillings which is lent out to members at minimal interest.



Caritas Denmark Program Coordinator for Uganda inspects the interior of the coffee factory set up at Bigasa.



A front view of the coffee factory at Bigasa.

Butenga CAPCA Farmers' Association

Butenga CAPCA Farmers' Association (BUCAFA) is a registered entity with the District of Bukomansimbi. The Association offices are located in Butenga Town Council. BUCAFA is made up of 8 groups with a total of 231 members of whom, 37% are male and 63% female. The Association has an Executive committee of 9 members and is mandated with the oversight role, guidance and governance. Leadership at Executive committee level is shared by a representation of the respective groups.

The association is in the process of putting up a maize mill, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.

Associations under CIDI



CIDI Rakai Coordinator makes his remarks during a lobby meeting by Lwanda producers & Marketing Association. On his left are the sub county duty bearers from Lwanda Sub county.

Kasasa Farmers' Association:

Kasasa Farmers Association is one of the associations affiliated to CIDI Rakai under the CAPCA. The association was formed in 2010. It is found in Kasasa Sub County under Rakai District. The association is registered with the District. To date the association is made up of 12 farmer groups with a membership of 320 farmers of these, 119 are men and 201 being women.

The Chairperson of the association had this to say: "Before joining CAPCA, every coffee farmer was on his own and sold individually but now we sell collectively

at association level and earn much more".

The farmers, through their Associations, have employed lobbying skills as a result; they have managed to get coffee seedlings from NAADS and two million shillings grant from Community Driven Development (CDD) fund, which they used to expand their water harvesting programme. In addition, they lobbied their area Member of Parliament, Hon. Matia Kasamba, and received over 7,000 coffee seedlings. Due to their visibility in the sub county, the works of the original eight groups attracted four more groups, making a total of 12 groups to date.

Kakuuto farmers' Association:

Kakuuto farmers Association is made up of 240 farmers coming from seven groups of these, 41% are male and 59% female. The association has a governance structure which has seven members supported by five sub committees. Leadership and membership to these functions is based on group representation. The association owns the following assets; a store, a weighing scale and 16 bicycles.

The association is in the process of putting up a maize mill, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.

Lwanda Produce and Marketing Association



Premises for a coffee processing factory that is under construction by the members of Lwanda Produce and Marketing Association through which they intend to maximise the benefits of value addition and collective marketing.

Lwanda Produce and Marketing Association is located in Lwanda Sub County and is registered with Rakai District. The association is made up of nine groups with a total membership of 259 farmers of these, 102 are men and 157 are women. The association's asset base includes; a store, moisture meter, weighing scale and bicycles. Last season, association members sold FAQ, 40.5 tonnes, each kilo going at Shs. 4,500/=. Non CAPCA members sold individually at 4,100/=.

The association promotes a savings & credit scheme and lends out at an interest rate of 5%. The association lobbied for quick drying tarpaulins from Kasaali Coffee Farmers' Association for quality management during postharvest handling.

The association members also approached NAADS and were given coffee seedlings, as well as CDD funds.

The association is in the process of putting up a coffee factory, courtesy of Caritas Denmark

“

Before I joined the association, I used to sell my coffee at home, individually, at low prices but now in the association I get higher prices and I am able to pay school fees for my children. I have no regrets for selling collectively under the association”.

says Deo Sekanjako

Associations under Tusubira Women's Group



Some of the members of associations under Tusubira Women's Group after an association meeting

Wakiso Farmers' Association

The association is located in Wakiso sub county under Wakiso district. The association came into being in 2011 after the members from seven groups were trained by CAPCA staff about the advantages of associations. The association has a membership of 148 farmers, of which 120 are females and 28 males. The association is registered with Wakiso district local government.

The members of the association are in a rural and peri - urban setting and some farmers engage in urban farming. The main enterprises of association members are maize and coffee, especially among the members who still have some sizeable land where to grow them. But poultry and piggery are also reared, especially for members with little land.

The association promotes savings & Credit activities (SILC) among its groups.

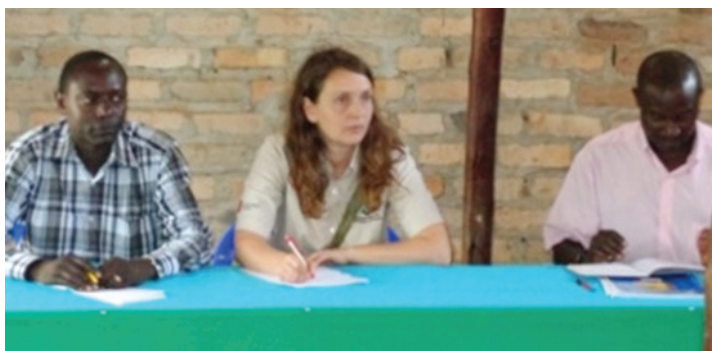
Farmers borrow from SILC at an interest rate of 10% for a period of not more than 3 months.

“

Tusubila Julius aged 31, married and with one child had this to say "I realized that it is important to join the SILC group because it can help me to save and develop myself. I hope to buy land and build since I don't have any land now. Before I joined SILC I used to waste my money on useless things, eating chapatti commonly called 'kikomando' but am now saving that money. I am careful with my expenditure because I want to save as much as possible"



Left; Maj Forum, the Caritas Denmark Programme Coordinator for Uganda, interacts with Farmers in Wakiso Farmers' Association.



Maj Forum, the Caritas Denmark Programme Coordinator for Uganda, listens to farmers of Butenga farmers' association in MADDO, presenting their maize mill business plan.

Kakiri Farmers' Association

The association is located in Kakiri Sub County under Wakiso District. The Association was established in 2011 after 134 members from six groups agreed to form a stronger organization that would help them to effectively engage in collective activities with bigger numbers of members and hence a bigger voice. The activities include collective marketing, lobbying, resource mobilisation and influencing duty bearers for favourable policies.

The association was registered up to the district level and has an Executive committee of six members, of which four positions are filled by women. The association is engaged in both the production and trading of maize and coffee as their key enterprise. The members are also engaged in rearing of poultry, livestock and growing of food crops such as cassava, sweet potatoes, beans and vegetables.

The Wakiso and Kakiri Farmers Associations are in the process of putting up a joint maize mill, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.

Associations under Caritas Kiyinda Mityana

Kiganda CAPCA Farmers' Development Association

KICAFA was started in 2010 in Kiganda sub county under Mubende District. The association has eight groups with 947 members, of whom 131 are men and 816 are women. In addition, there are four groups that are still at formation stage and these will eventually join the Association. The association is registered at the District as a Community Based Organisation (CBO).

The association is engaged in production and collective marketing of maize and coffee as key enterprises. Members are also engaged in the rearing of livestock and growing of other crops since they adopted CAPCA system of promoting an integrated farming system. Through collective efforts, the farmers have been able to access low priced coffee seedlings at 300/= instead of paying 500/= from their coffee nurseries and UCDA.

The association has active savings and credit activities. To-date all the eight groups have a savings and credit component.

The association is in the process of putting up premises for a coffee factory, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.



Members of Alinyikira Bavakwemu Group in one of their savings and credit meeting.

Kassanda Farmers' Association

KAFA has a membership of 320 farmers coming from eight member groups located in Kassanda Sub County, Mubende District. The association sells coffee collectively. Last season, 25 members collectively sold a total of 3.5 tons of FAQ. A kilo was sold at Shs. 4600/= . Non-members sold Kiboko individually at Shs. 2000/= per kilo.

The association has nurseries of coffee, mangos and other tree seedlings. It also lobbied and got CDD funds which were used to boost the nursery bed project. The farmer organisation is also encouraging groups to save and lend amongst themselves.

The organisation promotes hygiene and sanitation as well as environmental conservation practices at household levels of members.

Kassanda Farmers Association is in the process of putting up premises for a maize mill, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.



Kassanda Farmers' Association promotes joint coffee nurseries as well as collective marketing

Myanzi CAPCA Farmers' Development Association

The association was started way back in 2010 and is comprised of 8 groups with 250 members where 183 are women and 67 men. The association is located in Myanzi Sub County under Mubende District. The association has an 8 member executive committee (5 women and 3 men). In the last season, the association collectively sold 6.6 tons of maize at Shs. 1400/- per kilo.

The association has a co save group called Agaliawamu farmers group which has 52 members with an account in centenary bank. The group managed to lobby and got CDD funds which was to loan to members at an interest rate of 10%.

The association also has a FAL group with 27 learners, of which 6 are men and 21 women. FAL has aided the members to learn how to read and write. Members are now able to read agreements, count and have acquired skills in managing small businesses.

Associations Under Caritas Lugazi



A maize mill owned jointly by the three Associations under Caritas Lugazi. The processing equipment helps members of farmer's associations to add value to their maize and sell it as maize flour instead of maize grain.

Twekembe Nagojje Farmers' Association

The association operates in Nagojje Sub County under Mukono District. The association has 7 farmer groups with a membership of 207 members of which 124 are females and 83 males. The association is registered with the district local government and has a 13 member Executive committee.

AgaliAwamu Kyampisi Farmers' Association

The association is located in Kyampisi sub county under Mukono District. The association has five groups with a membership of 103 farmers. The association has an 11 member Executive committee, of which 6 are women and 5 men.

Under collective marketing, the association secured a tender to supply St. Cyprian Secondary School maize flour.

The association is now making attempts to train the youth in making energy saving stoves as a way of generating income and contributing to environmental conservation.

The association is currently pursuing collaborations with TAALI to provide members with biogas. As part of their sustainability plan, the association is looking for resources to procure a grinding mill.

Kimenyedde Tukolerewamu Farmers' Association

The association was formed in 2010 and is composed of 7 farmer groups with a membership of 212 members of which 124 are females and 88 males. The association is found in Kimenyedde Sub County, Mukono district. It is registered at the district. The association has an Executive committee which oversees the general operations. The association is engaged in the production and marketing of maize and coffee as key enterprises. The association also promotes savings & credit activities at group level. Credit is extended to members at an interest rate of 10%.

Ntunda Farmers' Association



Sekanyo Benon and Kafifi Mika, executive members of Ntunda Farmers' Association in their 5 acre cassava garden. The association acquired a tender to supply NAADS with cassava stalks.

The association started operating in 2010 and is located in Ntunda sub county, Mukono districts. It is registered with the district local government. It has six member groups and a membership of 198 individuals.

The association has an aim of using a collective voice of members in marketing their products as well as in advocacy. The main activities that the members engage in include; maize growing, coffee growing, cassava and sugar cane growing. In addition, they are engaged in advocacy, lobbying and networking. The association lobbied NAADS for disease resistant cassava, of which they got five acres of cassava cuttings for multiplying and then distribute member farmers for food security.

The association lobbied UCDA and got 20 kg of elite coffee seeds from which the organisation will be selling seedlings to farmers at low prices. The farmers also approached SCOUL (A sugar making company) that helped in grading a 3 km Buryanti road and repaired broken bridges using CAIIP.

The association secured over 16,000 tree seedlings from NFA which seedlings were passed on to the members for planting.

The organisation is also involved in collective marketing and value addition. To-date the association has collectively sold 14.3 tonnes of maize flour. In addition, the association has a savings and credit scheme.

Associations under Caritas Kampala

Buwama Organic Producers' Association

The Association was formed in 2007 and is comprised of 11 groups with 275 members, of which women make 71% of the membership. The association which is located in Buwama Sub County Mpigi District was formed with an aim of giving farmers a unified voice, carry out collective marketing, advocacy and value addition. Through collective marketing, the association sold coffee three times to a tune of 20 tons of FAQ through KDTL. Each kilo was sold at Shs. 5,000/-, on fair trade terms. Quality of coffee sold improved, hence the high price. Such competitive prices help to enhance incomes in households. The association also adds value to other farmers' produce by processing juice, jam and milk from soya. On behalf of the members the association lobbied for inputs from NAADS and also got seven cows from heifer international.

Kamengo Organic Farmers' Association

Kammengo Organic Farmers' Association (KOFA) is a registered community based organization within Mpigi district. It is located in Kammengo Sub County under Mpigi District. The association comprises 10 groups of farmers and has an executive committee of 9 members, backed up by 5 sub committees. The association has a store, 1 platform weighing scale, 1 hanging weighing scale, and 2 moisture meters. These have enhanced the capacity of the association to add value to members produce for selling collectively.

Mutubagumu Mpigi Farmers' Association

The association is located in Mutubagumu Sub County under Mpigi District. It comprises 10 groups with a membership of 230 people, of whom 75% are women. Through advocacy efforts, the association was able to lobby for a biogas project from Inter University of Africa Organization and Mpigi Farmers Association where most of their members benefitted. The association has so far lobbied for chicken, cows and fish farming from

NAADS.

One of the groups, Kitebe Kyamagezi group, together with the Association lobbied a grant from CDD funds which was used to buy tents and chairs for hire service. The association promotes environmental protection, which is being reflected in member households in the use of energy saving stoves and biogas, digging trenches to tap rainwater, growing trees particularly fruits.

Bulo KATUKA Farmers' Association

Bulo KATUKA Farmers' Association is located in Bulo Sub County under Butambala district. The association is a registered CBO in the district. It is made up of nine farmers' groups. The executive committee of the association is comprised of nine members and five sub committees charged with marketing, monitoring, savings and credit, advocacy and lobbying as well as resource mobilization. The association is in the process of re-organising itself to become actively involved in collective activities.

Kalamba CAPCA Farmers' Association

Kalamba Farmers' Association is located in Kalamba Sub County under Butambala District. It started in 2011 with 6 groups and 120 members of whom, 43 are men and 77 women. The association is registered at the District.

Last season the association collectively sold 2,000kgs of maize at Shs. 550/= per kg. Farmers who sold on individual basis obtained a price of Shs. 350 – Shs. 400/=per kg. Currently the association is bulking members' coffee for a better price.

The association promotes savings & credit activities (co save scheme) in its member groups. So far the association has lobbied NAADS for coffee seedlings and banana suckers. Recently the association got a tender to supply poultry, beans and maize seeds to NAADS in the sub county. The association also promotes food security among the households of its members.

Kituntu Caritas Farmers' Association

The association is located in Kituntu Sub County under Mpigi District. The association has 10 groups with a membership of 350 farmers where 36% are men and 64% women with a blend of few youths. The entity is registered at the District.

The Association is engaged in a number of activities ranging from; collective marketing, lobbying, savings and lending to mention but a few.

To date the association has collectively sold coffee four times to a tune of 1.2 tons of FAQ each kilo going for shs. 4960/= to KDTL, on fair trade terms. This earned members of the association more than the people who were selling individually, who earned Shs. 4200/- each kilo.

Through the association they have lobbied for support from agencies like SCCVI who gave them quality coffee from Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA). In the same spirit, they lobbied for land from Kikyusa Parish where they are to establish the association offices.

The association further trained members of the farmers groups in voluntary savings and credit. Group members access credit from their savings at interest rates of 3% per. The association has started saving to purchase their own coffee machine.

"It's very hard to negotiate for good prices as an individual but as an association they have lobbied and gotten good coffee prices", said Vincent Mande, a member of the Executive Committee.

The associations under Caritas Kampala are in the process of putting up a joint coffee factory under BUKAKIMU cooperative, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.

Associations under Kasana-Luwero



Kasaala Farmers' Association learning how to manage their savings and credit schemes

Kasaala Farmers' Association

Kasaala Caritas Farmers' Association is located in Butuntumula sub county under Luweero district. It was formed and registered in 2010 with the district local government. The Association is comprised of 10 groups with a membership of 473 farmers of which 347 are females and 126 males. The association has an Executive committee with 10 members of which 5 are women. The executive is assisted by 4 sub committees of resource mobilisation, finance, marketing and monitoring & Evaluation.

The association promotes savings & credit activities within the member groups. Members of the association are involved in collective marketing of coffee, maize and beans.

Katikamu CAPCA Farmers' Development Association

Katikamu CAPCA Development farmers' Association is located in Katikamu sub county under Luweero district. It was started in 2009 and officially launched in 2012. The Association is comprised of 11 groups with a membership of 292 members, of which 160 are females and 132 males..

The association promotes savings & credit activities and to-date, 5 groups are the most active in the said activities.

The association is engaged in collective marketing of coffee as a core business much as the members are also engaged in other farming activities. The association was supported with a coffee huller and to-date the members have completed constructing the coffee factory.

Currently the members are pursuing power connection from the electricity distributing company.

Kikyusa CAPCA Farmers' Association

Kikyusa Caritas Farmers' Association is located in Kikyusa sub county under Luweero district. It was started in 2011 and is made up of seven groups. The Association has a membership of 186 members, of which 103 are females and 83 males. The Executive committee is comprised of 9 members of which 3 are women. The association was formed with the objectives of having a common voice, promote collective marketing and use of SAPs in both the crops and livestock among the association members.

Bivamuntuyo Semuto Caritas Farmers' Association

Bivamuntuuyo Semuto Caritas Farmers' Association is located in Semuto sub county under Nakaseke district. It was started in 2012 and has 12 farmers' groups. The association has a membership of 294 members of which 160 are females and 134 males.

The objectives of the association are to promote collective marketing, increase household income and have a common voice to steer development.

The association is in the process of putting up a maize mill, courtesy of Caritas Denmark.

Kapeeka Caritas Farmers' Association

The association is located in Kapeeka Sub County under Nakaseke district. It was started in 2011 and is comprised of 4 groups. The association has a membership of 86, of which 43 are females and 43 males. The association has an executive committee with 9 members of which 3 are women and is registered up to the district level.

The association promotes savings and credit among its groups. Currently collective marketing is done mainly in food crops like matooke, cassava, beans and maize.

The association is in the process of negotiating with church for some land, where its offices will be built, courtesy of Kapeeka parish.



Summary of Current Farmers' Associations under CAPCA

No.	Agency	Groups	Association
1	Caritas Kasanaensis (CKL)	44	1. Kasaala Farmers' Association 2. Katikamu CAPCA Farmers' Development Association 3. Kikyusa CAPCA Farmers' Association 4. Bivamuntuyo Semuto Caritas Farmers Association 5. Kapeeka Caritas Farmers Association
2	Caritas Kiyinda Mityana (CKM)	25	1. Kiganda CAPCA Farmers' Association 2. Myanzi CAPCA Farmers' Development Association 3. Kassanda CAPCA Farmers' Association
3	Caritas Lugazi (CL)	22	1. Tweekembe Nagojje Farmers' Association 2. Ntunda Farmers Association 3. Kyampisi Farmers Association 4. Kimenyedde Tukolerewamu Farmers' Association
4	Caritas Kampala	58	1. Buwama Organic Producers' Association 2. Kammengo Organic Farmers' Association 3. Mutubagumu Mpigi Farmers' Association 4. Bulu CAPCA Farmers' Association 5. Kalamba Farmers' Association 6. Kituntu Caritas Farmers' Association
5	Caritas MADDO	28	1. Butenga CAPCA Farmers' Association 2. Kitanda Tukolerewamu Farmers' Association 3. Biganda Farmers' Association
6	Tusuubira Women's Group (TWG)	13	1. Kakiri CAPCA Farmers' Development Association 2. Wakiso CAPCA Farmers' Association
7	CIDI Rakai	26	1. Lwanda Producers' and Marketing Association 2. Kakuuto Farmers' Association 3. Kasasa Farmers' Association
	Total	216	26

CAPCA and its Partner Organisations



Dr. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga delivers his speech during CAPCA III project launch. On his left is Owek. Edward W. Lutaaya Mukomazi Minister in charge of Agriculture, Animal industry, Fisheries, Forests and Environment, in Buganda Kingdom. On his right are the Caritas Directors.

The seven CAPCA partners organisations (agencies) are Caritas Kampala, Caritas MADDO, Caritas Kasana Luweero, Caritas Kiyinda Mityana, Caritas Lugazi, Tusubira Women group and CIDI-Rakai.

CAPCA and its Agencies have been undergoing strengthening of their organisation capacity so that they can ably support farmers, communities and their organisations in development work. Capacity building has been done in terms of staff training, strategic planning, advocacy & collaborations, provision of transport facilities, office equipment, management information system and accounting systems etc.

This is expected to enable the partner organizations to be organized advocates of the target group's poverty oriented solutions to sustainable development.

A brief synopsis of the seven partner organizations is outlined as below;

CARITAS MADDO

Caritas MADDO is the Social Services and development arm of Masaka Catholic Diocese. The diocese is

headed by Bishop John Baptist Kaggwa, who is also the President of Caritas in the Diocese. The Director of Caritas MADDO is Rev. Fr. Raphael Ssemenda and Assistant Director Rev. Fr. Peter Ssenkaayi.

Caritas MADDO started in 1981. Currently Caritas MADDO activities cover 8 districts of Masaka, Rakai, Ssembabule, Lyantonde, Kalangala, Bukomansimbi, Kalungu and Lwengo. Caritas MADDO's vision: "A society of Persons Actively Involved in Holistic Development". The mission: "To foster development among the people of Masaka diocese regardless of their religious and political affiliations.

On Social Services, Caritas MADDO handles health services, distribution for Joint medical stores, OVCs, widows and the elderly, provision of access to clean and safe water as well as promotion of good sanitation. As a development arm, MADDO promotes food security and improvement of household incomes through agriculture, value addition to farmers' produce, commercialized farming & collective marketing, rural savings and credit schemes, environment conservation, lobbying & advocacy as well as managing MADDO diaries for milk processing. Currently Caritas MADDO works with over 15,000 Farming households organized in 430 farmer groups 9 farmer Associations and 11 cooperatives.



The Bishop of Masaka Diocese, Rt. Rev JB Kaggwa handing over a Friesian cow to beneficiaries



Bishop JB Kaggwa trying out a tippy-tap during his monitoring of Caritas MADDO activities

CARITAS Kiyinda - Mityana

Caritas Kiyinda Mityana (SSD-KMD) is the Social Services and Development arm of Kiyinda Mityana Diocese. The diocese is headed by Bishop Joseph Antony Zziwa, who is also the President of Caritas in the Diocese. The Director of Caritas Kiyinda Mityana is Rev. Fr. Joseph Sekyewa and the Asst. Director of Caritas is Rev. Fr. Simon Kyambadde.

Caritas Kiyinda Mityana started in the 1980s in response to the need for rehabilitation, relief and community welfare due to the political and civil strife that prevailed from 1980 to 1985.

The activities of Caritas Kiyinda Mityana cover 5

districts of Mubende, Kiboga, Mityana, Gomba and Kyankwanzi.

SSD-KMD's vision: A self-reliant community engaging in sustainable and holistic development.

SSD-KMD's mission: A Catholic Faith Based Organization working in collaboration with other development partners to empower communities in KMD achieve self-reliance.

On Social Services and development, Caritas Kiyinda Mityana handles food security, increased income, environment conservation, health services, access to safe and clean water, good hygiene, good Governance, gender, social protection of vulnerable people including the OVCs, PLWD and the elderly.



Bishop Anthony Zziwa of Kiyinda Mityana Diocese carrying out households visits in the community.

CARITAS Lugazi

Caritas Lugazi is the social pastoral development arm of Lugazi diocese mandated by the diocese to design and implement development activities.

The diocese is headed by Bishop Mathias Ssekamanya, who is also the President of Caritas in the diocese. The Director of Caritas Lugazi is Rev. Fr. John B. Lule and the Asst. Director Rev. Fr. Athanasius Kafeero.

Caritas Lugazi operates in four districts of Mukono, Buikwe, Kayunga and Buvuma Islands

Caritas Lugazi's vision: Improved quality of Life for all People of Lugazi Diocese. The mission: To foster community based initiatives through promotion of charity, solidarity, social justice and reconciliation for

integral Human Development in lugazi diocese.

Caritas Lugazi aims at improving the social and economic conditions of the people irrespective of their cultures, religious affiliation or political affiliations.

Among the areas handled by Caritas Lugazi in development work include; sustainable agriculture, health specifically HIV/AIDS, water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, education, micro finance, care for the elderly, orphans and widows, environmental sustainability, income generation, human rights and research and advocacy.



The Bishop of Lugazi Diocese, Dr. Matthias Ssekamanya, takes the Archbishop of Kampala around farmers' exhibitions at Lugazi during the 2012 Caritas day celebrations, accompanied by the Director and Asst. Director of Caritas Lugazi.

CARITAS Kampala

Caritas Kampala (CK) is the social services and economic development Department of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Kampala that was started in 1973 and became fully established in 1986.

The Archdiocese is headed by Archbishop Dr. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, who is also the President of Caritas in the Archdiocese. The Director of Caritas Kampala is Rev. Fr. Peter Musumba and Assistant Director Rev. Fr. Kirumira.

Currently Caritas Kampala activities cover 4 districts of Mpigi, Butambala, Kampala and Wakiso.

Caritas Kampala's vision: A self-sustaining Family of God founded on love, solidarity and reconciliation". Mission: To progressively develop a holistic, integrated and self-sustaining Family of God, Spiritually, socially through building a civilization of love, solidarity and Reconciliation".

Currently, Caritas Kampala handles development activities in the following areas: Agriculture, value addition, income enhancement, Health, Cooperatives & Micro-Finance, good governance and civil society enhancement, Gender, orphans and vulnerable children, support to marginalized groups, and women's empowerment.



Savings day for members of Mabombwe Savings Group in TWG

Tusuubira Women's Group (TWG)

Tusuubira Women's Group (TWG) is a development Organization founded in 1997 by a group of local women in order to have a common voice to address their social and economic needs. Currently TWG activities are carried out in Wakiso district.

The Chairperson of the group is Ms. Naava Maria Tereza. Tusuubira Women's Group vision: A united community free from human suffering and poverty.

Mission: To improve the livelihoods of the rural and peri-urban poor and vulnerable communities in Wakiso District through supporting appropriate empowerment and integrated community based development initiatives.

On its development activities, Tusuubira Women's Group currently implements grass root poverty alleviation interventions in 600 small holder member households that are organized into groups and farmer associations.

TWG interventions focus on Economic empowerment (Agri-business & Entrepreneurship), Natural Resource Conservation and Public Health (Agriculture, food security, environment conservation, access to clean and safe water, hygiene & sanitation) OVC's, HIV/ AIDS prevention, Good Governance, Lobbying and Advocacy.

Community Integrated Development Initiative (CIDI)

Community Integrated Development Initiatives (CIDI) was founded in 1996 and registered in 1999 as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO).

CIDI is a National NGO, currently operating in the districts of Kampala, Rakai, Soroti, Napak and Amuria. The Chairman of the Organisation is Mr. Francis A. Lubowa and the Executive Director is Dr. Fulgencio Jjuuko.

CIDI's vision: To be the leading NGO offering quality sustainable services to the poor communities. The mission: To improve people's livelihood and create self-sustaining communities in Uganda through provision of equitable, participatory, integrated development interventions.

CIDI mainly focuses on actions that improve the lives of the poor, vulnerable and marginalized communities in urban, Peri-urban and rural areas.

CIDI's areas of intervention include; promotion of access to clean and safe water, hygiene and sanitation, health, agriculture, food security, income enhancement, environment conservation and advocacy.

CARITAS KASANAENSIS

Caritas Kasana Luweero (Kasanaensis) is the Social-Pastoral Arm of Kasana-Luweero Catholic Diocese which began in 1997.

The diocese is headed by Bishop Paul Ssemogerere, who is also the President of Caritas in the Diocese. The Director of Caritas Kasana Luweero is Rev. Fr. Hilary Muheezangango and the Assistant Director is Rev. Fr. Alfred Ddumba.

Currently the activities of Caritas Kasana Luweero cover Luweero, Nakaseke and Nakasongola districts.

The vision of Kasanaensis: A sustainable spiritual, social and economically developed community. Mission: Working with communities to improve their living conditions and sustain their local development processes and outcomes.

Caritas Kasana Luweero handles the following interventions agriculture, food security, marketing, income enhancement, micro-saving and credit, HIV/ AIDS, OVCs, Environmental conservation, promotion of access to clean and safe water, sanitation, home improvement, gender in development, good governance, lobbying and advocacy.



Bishop Paul Ssemogerere of Kasana Luweero Diocese inspecting farmers' stalls during the 2013 Caritas harvest week.



CAPCA planning meeting for programme strategy (2014-2017)

Delivering thematic competences to enhance social conditions of farmers



CAPCA III Project has continued to build on the previous CAPCA interventions, by empowering farmers to play an active role in improving their quality of life.

CAPCA provides farmers with knowledge and skills in various areas to enable them improve their social conditions in their households.

Sustainable agricultural practices (SAPs) enable farmers to increase agricultural production for household food security and increased incomes so as to enable beneficiaries meet their needs beyond food.

The other areas of capacity building include good practices in environmental conservation, nutrition,

sanitation and hygiene as well as HIV/AIDS mainstreaming. Some farmers have also benefitted from Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) classes.

In an effort to build sustainability and as pointed in CAPCA magazine, volume 1 of 2011, farmer-to-farmer extension system will be promoted further. Hence, in delivering thematic competences, Community Based Trainers (CBTs), based at group level, will continue training fellow farmers. Each trained farmer also trains at least five other members in the process spreading the effect to non CAPCA members.

What follows below are some testimonies from farmers on their experience with CAPCA thematic interventions.

COLLECTIVE MARKETING BENEFITS FARMERS

Daisy: Collective marketing improves her reputation

"As members of Tulina Esubi Mixed Group, we grow vegetables and sell them collectively to Nakasero market. Selling as a group has enabled us negotiate for good prices as well as supply in large quantities especially during the rainy seasons" said Daisy.

With support from Wakiso CAPCA Farmers' Association, group members have started a savings scheme to generate capital for our small scale enterprises. The scheme charges a low interest rate of 3% when we borrow money from it.

"I am very proud of CAPCA, because it has made me what I am today. I have even moved from a two-roomed house to a five-roomed house, which I constructed from the savings. This coming season I am hoping to get some money from my harvest to buy glass windows for my house. My reputation has greatly improved and I am much better off than the people who refused to join CAPCA", said Daisy.

Matilda Muwonge: Collective marketing saves her from being cheated

"I am a member of Kyosimba Onanya Women's Group. When I sell my coffee through Buwama Organic Producers' Association, I earn more money than selling as an individual. Through collective marketing, we have a stronger bargaining voice. Last season we sold our FAQ coffee at 4800/= a kg while non-group members were selling at 4200/=. All in all the association was able to sell 15.4 tons of coffee and this is good business for all of us members. This has saved us from being cheated by middle men who usually offer low prices, in addition to using poorly calibrated weighing scales", said Matilda.

Nakiwala Eva: Collective Marketing has changed her life

Nakiwala Eva, 75 years of age, is a member of Tusekimu Farmer's Group, under Kasasa Farmer's Association in Rakai district. With the help of the Association, she received 100 coffee seedlings and she mixed them with her old coffee to get a better farm harvest.

In the previous season, Eva harvested 13 bags of coffee. She is happy that through collective marketing in Kasasa Farmers association she sold FAQ at 3650/=per kilogram, instead of selling Kiboko at 1200/=per kilogram. Within the same season Eva also harvested six bags of maize, which she sold to invest in a piggery enterprise.

She acquired a loan and constructed a tarpaulin underground water tank in her compound to solve water scarcity problems. "As an old woman I can't walk long distances to fetch water, this tank provides me with enough water for my household needs." "I use this water to irrigate my vegetable gardens and also to feed my pigs", said Nakiwala.

"My life has greatly changed ever since I joined CAPCA, my coffee harvest has greatly increased and I always have enough food for my family", said Nakiwala.

Lwebuga Francis: Collective Marketing improves his household income



Lwebuga Francis uses SAPs to increase his production. He has also taken up piggery enterprise.

Lwebuga Francis, 43 years of age is a member of Lwanda farmers' group under Lwanda Farmers' Association.

On realising high agricultural yields, CAPCA extension workers encouraged the farmer to join the association to be able to do collective marketing of his produce and have influence on prices.

Lwebuga said "as a member of the association I only have to transport my produce to the nearby collection centre, I don't need to go around looking for buyers of my coffee as the case was before", said Lwebuga.

Organising farmers into groups has greatly helped to improve the quality of their produce.

Market Information Enhances Collective Marketing

To many rural farmers in Uganda, marketing of their agricultural produce is not easy because of lack of up-to-date market information, weak voice to bargain for good prices and exploitation by middlemen who pay very low prices, among others. In light of this, CAPCA puts emphasis on providing timely agricultural market information.

Through their Associations, farmers receive weekly short messages (SMS) on their mobile phones about market information. Selling as an informed group on prevailing market prices, gives farmers more power to bargain for better prices as well as reduce the costs of transporting their produce to markets as they use collective transport.

ENHANCING SAVINGS AND CREDIT CULTURE AMONG FARMERS



In communities where CAPCA operates savings culture has been weak in some groups. On the other hand, many farmers have lost their property in the process of paying for loans acquired at high interest rates from commercial banks or moneylenders.

To overcome the above challenge, CAPCA supports the re-organisation and training of farmers to revive and / or strengthen their savings schemes.

Money collected in the savings groups is kept in financial institutions. Members borrow the savings at lower interest rate ranging between 3% to 10% per month on stipulated terms. Many farmers have used this opportunity to get loans for buying farm inputs, paying school fees and solving a number of problems they encounter.

Group savings and credit scheme provides capital for members' enterprises



Ruth Kaddu borrows money from savings & credit scheme in her group to buy inputs for agricultural production

Ruth Kaddu, 35 years of age, is a member of Kaliti Twegate Farmers' Group under Wakiso CAPCA Farmers' Development Association.

From CAPCA trainings, she started piggery and banana enterprises for income generation. She borrows money for piggery feeds, at an interest rate of 3% per month from the savings & credit scheme of her group. When she borrowed money from the group, she used her cow as collateral.

Kaddu hopes to borrow more money from her group savings & credit scheme and buy more land to increase on her income through increased agricultural production.

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Promotion of Biogas as Energy Saving Technology

In most rural Uganda, majority of the people use firewood or charcoal as their main source of cooking energy. As a result, a significant number of trees in forests are cut down thus contributing to environmental degradation.

In response to this challenge and the need to conserve the environment, CAPCA is promoting the use of biogas as an alternative source of energy. CAPCA agencies are therefore identifying and training a number of households by demonstrating the use of biogas especially in the community.

**Jane Nabakooza:
Biogas, a clean
effective energy**



Jane Nabakoza and her family member prepare cow dung for making biogas. Right: Jane is demonstrating the use of biogas at her home.

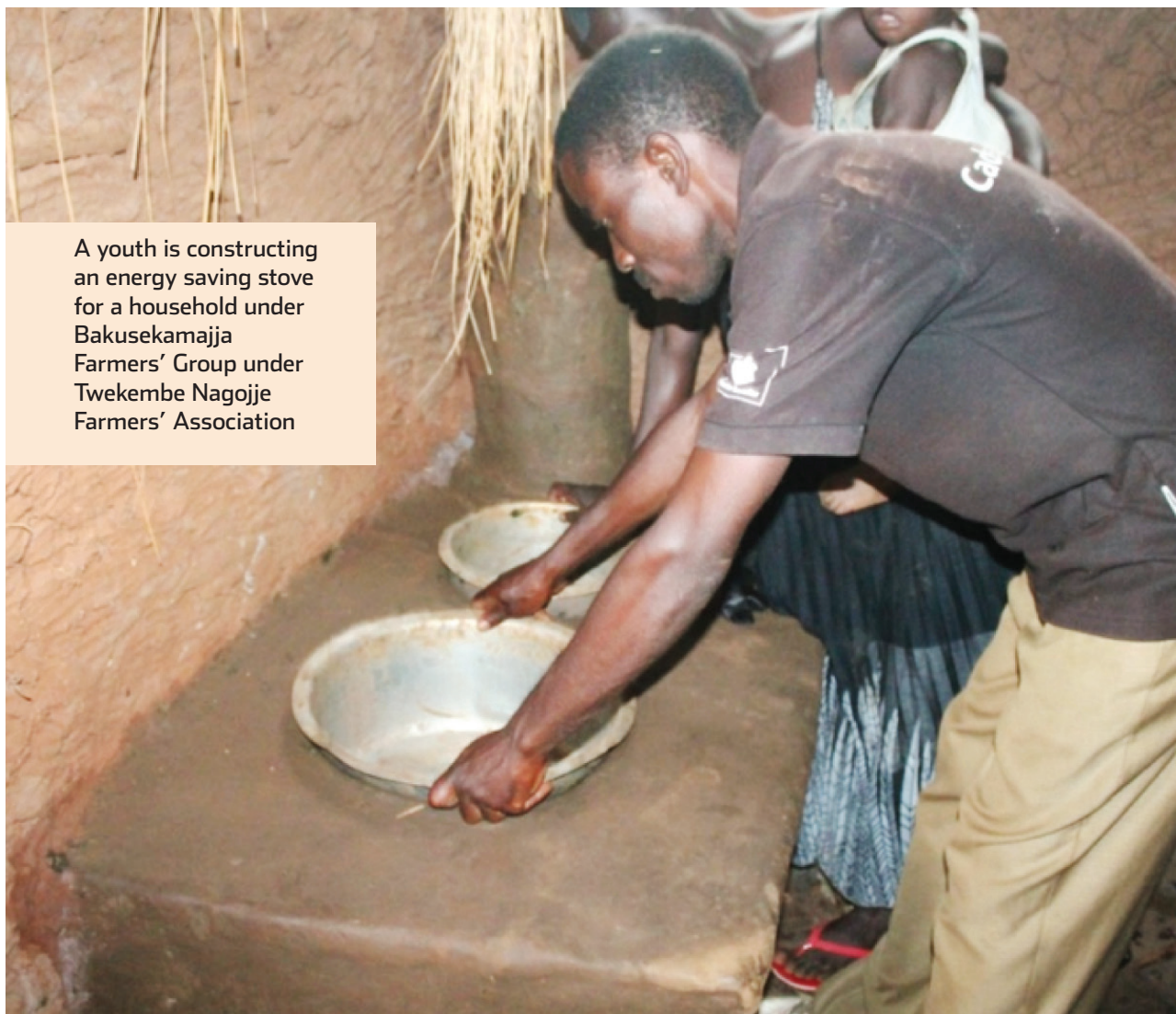
Jane Nabakoza, aged 53 is a member of Twezimbe Kalagi farmers' group under Kiganda Development Farmers' Association,

With the help from Twezimbe Agricultural Association Limited (TAALI) Jane was selected to host a biogas demonstration in her community. Five families have so far learnt from her demonstration to take up biogas technology.

"I like using biogas for cooking because it saves me from choking smoke which affects my lungs.

Biogas also cooks quicker than fire wood. I have since stopped depleting forests in search for firewood. I no longer have to spend any money on buying paraffin because I use biogas for lighting and my children have enough light to read their books. I am now making a monthly saving of 8000/=, the money I was spending on buying paraffin. Cow dung used to litter everywhere in my compound but now you cannot find any, because I use it in making biogas. There is also improved hygiene as a result, since the remains from the bio gas process are used for manure in the gardens", said Nabakoza.

Environmental Conservation through Using Fuel Saving Stoves.



A youth is constructing an energy saving stove for a household under Bakusekamajja Farmers' Group under Tweekembe Nagojje Farmers' Association

CAPCA promotes natural resource management hence the continued training of farmers in agro forestry, construction and use of energy saving technologies in their households.

Anyango Caroline: Energy Saving Stove saves her from arrests

Anyango Caroline, a widow with three children, is a member of Tukwatirewamu CAPCA Farmers Group under Ntunda Farmers Association. She is one of the farmers who have benefited from environmental conservation initiatives.

"I am very happy that among the many things I

have achieved from CAPCA, I have learnt how to build energy saving stoves (ESS)", said Anyango.

Before constructing this fuel saving stove, I was using 10 bundles of firewood a week but now I use only 3 bundles. If I had not learnt to use the fuel saving stove, I would always have a shortage of firewood because the forestry authority restricts community members from looking for firewood in Mabira forest. We could only collect firewood on Saturdays and Sundays. Using the energy saving stove therefore helps me not to get arrested by the Forest Officers especially if they find me collecting fire wood on unapproved days.



Anyango Caroline tries out her newly constructed Energy Saving Stove

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Access to safe water and sanitation is a human right. It is also one of the first steps in the fight against abject poverty, realisation of good health and human dignity. In light of the above, CAPCA has continued to mainstream good sanitation and hygiene practices in farmers' households.



Nakiwala Evalista of Kakuuto draws water from underground rainwater harvesting tank

Mbabazi Jessica: Improved health due to good sanitation practices



Mbabazi Jessica washes her hands using a tippy tap

Mbabazi Jessica, a mother of four and a chairperson of Butenga CAPCA Farmers' Association says that all members of the association have been sensitized about good sanitation and hygiene.

She said "Sanitation has improved; members' no longer practice open defecation because each household has built a pit latrine and a hand washing facility built with local materials (tippy tap)".

"Before joining CAPCA, I did not know that washing hands with soap at critical times (after visiting a toilet, before feeding a baby and eating food) is one of the most cost effective ways to protect a family's health from a number of sanitation and hygiene related diseases. CAPCA has also taught us about waste/rubbish management. We collect organic rubbish into a pit and later use it as manure", says Jessica.

"Members have learnt to construct drying racks, which have three levels; the first level for unwashed utensils to avoid putting them on ground. The second level is for washing and drying saucepans while the third (top) level is for drying cups and plates", says Jessica.

In general, there is improved health in our area due to increased availability of sanitation and hygiene facilities as well as access to safe water. Households are making huge savings on the money they were spending on treating water and sanitation related diseases.

Use of tippy tap facilities and drying racks promotes good sanitation



Water for Production

Access to adequate amounts of safe water is necessary for human life and sustaining agricultural production. In respect of this, CAPCA promotes access to safe water to reduce on the prevailing water stress in many households.

One the options popularly used by some households is the underground rainwater harvesting tarpaulin tank. The type is cost effective compared to the other available options



Ssendegeya John of Biganda Farmers' Association drawing water from an underground rain water harvesting tank

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (SAPS)

Buyungo Joseph: Achieving his dream through Sustainable agriculture



Buyungo Joseph displays the maize he harvested last season.



Buyungo Joseph and his wife grow sugar cane as a business.

Buyungo Joseph, 48 years of age, married, with six dependants, is a member of Kkonkoma Integrated Farmers' Group under Mutubagumu Mpigi Farmers' Association (MUMPIFA).

In spite of the challenges farmers face, Buyungo maintained his dream of educating his children up to university level. CAPCA enabled him to generate income from sustainable agriculture that increased his production, hence enabling him to pay fees for his children up to University.

Buyungo said "all the tuition for my children

comes from my gardens. Each university semester I pay more than one million shillings in fees". He has 20 acres of land and wants to buy two more from the income earns from selling his produce. In increasing his farming area, he intends to increase production then his income.

"Last season I sold 16 bags of maize grain at Shs. 2.4 million. I have two acres of coffee were I harvest between harvest 1.5 - 2 tons every year. I also have a poultry enterprise of broiler sand sugarcane garden" said Buyungo.

From Food Security to Farming as a business

Namakula Deborah: From poverty to a role model in the community



Namakula Deborah engages in farming as a business. Her livestock provides dung for biogas.

Namakula Deborah 40, a mother of six children, is a member of Kitebbe kyamagezi Farmers Group under Mutubagumu CAPCA Farmers' Association. Namakula Deborah was a poor housewife relying on her husband's meagre income.

As a family, they could hardly meet their basic family needs like food, health and education for the children.

After undergoing CAPCA trainings in sustainable

agriculture and farming as a business, she now has coffee and maize enterprises as well as piggery and dairy enterprises.

"I have become a role model for modern agriculture in my community, as a result I have acquired many friends and respect in the entire district. I take my children to good boarding schools and my husband loves me more than before. CAPCA has changed my life," said Namakula Deborah.

Kibirige Emmanuel: A Consultant Model Farmer in Kammengo Sub County



Kibirige Emmanuel earns his respect, income and motor cycle from his hard work in farming.

Kibirige Emmanuel 59, a father of eight, is a member of Kiswa Kwekulakulanya Farmers' Group under Kammengo Organic Farmers' Association.

After joining CAPCA, Kibirige, a former carpenter, established coffee and dairy enterprises from which he generates income. Besides buying a motorcycle, he has been able to pay children's fees up to university level from what he earns from agricultural production.

"I am a model farmer in my community and many people come to consult me on better farming methods. I am very popular in the entire sub county that's why even the Kabaka (King) awarded me a present and even promised to visit my projects. I could not have got all this, if I had not received training from CAPCA" said Kibirige.



Daisy generates income using her exotic he-goat to serve goats of her clients in the village.

Daisy Zimbe: Generating Income from a He - Goat

Daisy Zimbe, a married mother of six, is a member of Tulina Esuubi Mixed Group under Wakiso CAPCA Farmers' Association.

Daisy acquired capacity building from CAPCA. "After achieving enough food for my family my focus shifted to commercial agriculture" said Daisy. She put up a

coffee and goat enterprises as well as using his male goat to serve female goats of her clients. She also intends to buy a male pig for serving sows of clients, at a fee.

"I grow most of the foods and vegetables I used to buy thereby making huge savings. I use these savings to contribute to other family needs such as health care and buying books for my children", said Daisy.



In addition to goat rearing, Daisy applies improved agricultural skills from CAPCA to improve her farm production

Voices from Agali Awamu Kyampisi Farmers' Association

Edward Kigozi: "Farmers have gained knowledge in modern methods of farming leading to food security in people's homes as well as increased household incomes. I have ¼ an acre of yams, I grow sugarcane which I sell and ever since I became a member of the association my house hold income has increased tremendously."

Kyeyune Costance: "Joining the association has helped rural farmers to reduce poverty levels in their households. Many farmers have learnt a number of income generating activities and are able to negotiate for better prices by selling as a group. I now own almost an acre of coffee plantation, two cows and three pigs. I earn more than Shs. 100,000 /= from selling bananas (Matooke) alone every month. I am very grateful that the association is playing such a significant role in many people's lives."

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Awareness

CAPCA has continued to mainstream HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness in its intervention activities. Farmers are organised in their groups and associations to be sensitised on HIV & AIDS, its prevention, care, Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) as well as accessing treatment from available service providers, especially for pregnant women. In addition, farmers learn about the nutritional needs of people living with HIV/AIDs and the need for positive living in order to have a good life.

Musisi Joseph, chairman of Myanzi CAPCA Farmers' Association said: "as an association we put a lot of emphasis on addressing HIV and AIDS related issues, we carry out sensitization, counselling and linking members to Health

Centres in Myanzi where they can get free ARV's. Through our efforts HIV/AIDS counsellors move to different farmers' groups sensitizing members about HIV and AIDS."

Mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS in Agali Awamu Kyampisi Farmers' Association

The association through community meetings is engaged in creating awareness about HIV & AIDS and its prevention, encouraging members to undertake VCT and guiding them to service providers for treatment, in case of the infected. In addition, focus is on fighting stigma and encouraging positive living for people living with HIV & AIDS.

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"When I joined CAPCA Project I learnt positive living. My life was rejuvenated, I am a happy woman now because through improved agriculture production, I can get money to buy whatever I want, my nutrition has greatly improved and I can afford medical care. I am able to drink milk, eat meat, fish and vegetable from my garden. My grand children are also fine and healthy because am able to provide them with the necessities of life," said Margaret Namusoke

Kalembe Christopher chairperson Kakuuto Farmers Association, Kakuto Sub County Rakai: "Members of Kakuuto Farmers groups under CAPCA Project People Living with HIV/AIDS are healthier than before, because they have sufficient food and have balanced diet. Due to increased household incomes through collective marketing of coffee and piggery projects, they can afford transport costs on motor cycles some have even bought their own motorcycles or bicycles which they use to go to Kakuuto Health Centre for HIV treatment and care unlike before."

Functional Adult Literacy, a step to Poverty Reduction



Learners of Makata FAL Class under Kassanda Farmers' Association.

High levels of illiteracy in most parts of Uganda have been identified as the major cause of poverty, especially among the rural communities. CAPCA promotes Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) in its areas of operation to enable illiterate community members learn how to read, write and do simple arithmetic. FAL also provides knowledge and skills to community members in better farming methods and other community development aspects. Community members are organised in groups in order to access FAL classes.

It has been observed that women constitute the majority of the FAL classes.

Bavakwemu Seeta Functional Adult Literacy Group

One of the functional adult literacy groups organised by CAPCA is Bavakwemu Seeta Group under Kiganda CAPCA Farmers' Development Association.



Learners of Alinyikira FAL Class-Bavakwemu under Kiganda CAPCA Development Association.

Due to benefits of literacy and acquiring agricultural skills, Bavakwemu Seeta FAL group attracted a big number of learners. Hence the group was divided into two, i.e. Alinyikila FAL class (as a sub group) and Bavakwemu Seeta FAL class.

Bavakwemu Seeta FAL class started in February 2011 with 31 learners, of which 26 are women and 5 are men. At the beginning, the majority of the learners in the FAL class could not write their names on the attendance lists. After some weeks, they gradually learnt to write letters on paper and eventually fully master writing their names and much more.

One community member Ms. Nayiga Josephine, 27 years of age, was trained by Kiganda CAPCA Farmers' Development Association as a FAL instructor. After the training, the association supported her to start FAL classes in her community to teach interested farmers in their local language, Luganda.

Ms. Harriet Nakibule, 33 years of age and one of the beneficiary members of the group, said that before joining the FAL classes, she could not write or read anything. She would seek assistance from her friends to write for her. After one year in Alinyikila FAL class, she can read and write in Luganda.

Prosy Nalugo, 20 years of age and married with two children, said that although she studied up to senior two she did not know how to read and write Luganda. "After joining the FAL classes I have learnt how to read and write my local language and I am using the skills acquired to help my husband in writing land agreements."

Nakazibwe Miriam, 38 years of age and a mother of seven children, is so proud of the FAL initiative. She

said "I stopped in primary two. When I joined our farmers' group I was elected a treasurer but I found lots of difficulties while executing my work, even if it was written in Luganda, my local language".

"I could only ask for assistance from other people. When our farmers' association introduced FAL classes, I joined. After one year, I learnt how to read and write. I can now sign any bank document and no one can cheat me because I am no longer illiterate", said Nakazibwe.



Advocacy and Lobbying



CAPCA cannot do community development alone because the organisation does not command enough resources. Hence CAPCA has continued to empower communities in its area of operation to develop their capacities and be able to, collaborate and dialogue for better service delivery from their duty bearers and development partners. Building community capacity in lobbying and advocacy is one of the mechanisms employed by CAPCA to improve and sustain the livelihoods of the farmers' communities.

CAPCA will continue facilitating communities to collaborate with Government organs, policy makers and other development partners in the process of advocating for their needs.

Farmers in the CAPCA areas of operation have acquired the skills and capacity to utilise available platforms starting from sub country level, district local government up to the national level advocating for pro poor service delivery.



Farmers raise their concerns to duty bearers during the 2012 CAPCA National Farmers Forum at Nsambya.

Establishing and Supporting Mechanisms to Amplify Farmers' Voice

Farmers groups are equipped with skills to engage their district local governments and the different development organisations through various means ranging from dialogue, engagement, meetings, farmers' fora and various networks. At this level some of the farmers' issues are resolved while the pending ones are taken to the national level.



A farmer lobbying the duty bearers to prioritise agricultural financing



Members of Bigasa farmers association presenting their advocacy issues to the duty bearers during the farmers forum held at Nsambya.



Parliamentarians of the sectoral committee for agriculture addressing the farmers at the 2012 farmer forum at Nsambya.

Sub County Level Engagements

Building on the Rights Based Approach, farmers, in their organisations, for example Associations and groups, advocate for their needs and service delivery at the sub-county level through events that include farmers' fora, associations lobby meetings, duty bearer's engagements on specific development issues, follow up meetings, etc.

Using their advocacy skills some members of the farmers' organisations have benefited from government programmes that include CAIP, CDD, DLSP, NAADs, among others. There are also some farmers that have benefited from programmes of other development

partners like SCC VI and TAALI. Issues that surpass sub county duty bearers' jurisdiction are referred to district level with support of CAPCA agencies for further engagement of district level duty bearers.

District level engagements

There are issues that may surpass the mandate of the sub-county duty bearers.

Such issues are presented to district local government level. With support from CAPCA agencies, farmers are guided in preparing their advocacy issues and identifying the right duty bearers to engage. At this level farmers use lobby meetings, farmers' fora, issue specific engagements, follow-ups, etc.



Above; the vice-chairperson parliamentary standing committee on science & technology and also the MP Nakifuma County Engineer Kafeero Sekitoleko translates Dr. Olupot's presentation into Luganda during a consultative meeting on the National Biotechnology & Biosafety bill, 2012 that was organised by Caritas Lugazi at Nagojje sub county headquarters.

National level Advocacy

Farmers' issues that are beyond the district level mandate are pursued at National level, mainly through the Uganda Farmers' Common Voice Platform.

Uganda Farmers' Common Voice Platform (UFCVP)

The Platform is a coalition of likeminded civil society organisations that came together to champion common farmers' advocacy issues at the national level. The CSOs involved are engaged in improving the livelihoods of small holder farmers. CAPCA is one of the 17 members of the platform.

The Vision of the platform is "A Poverty-free and well governed society where farmers' rights and aspirations are fulfilled'.

The **Mission** of the platform is 'To be a collective voice of farmers and CSOs that influence decision making for pro-small holder farmers' policies'.

Objectives of the Platform

1. To improve public and private sector finance for agriculture
2. To improve agriculture research, documentation and dissemination
3. To influence pro-small holder farmer policies at local, National and International levels.

The platform is run on principles of; transparency, accountability, respect for human dignity, equity and equality, collective responsibility, solidarity and integrity.

The platform taps into the power of civil society organizations in influencing policy making, policy improvement and implementation as away of creating an avenue of ensuring that marginalized sections of society are given space to voice out their needs for redress by the duty bearers.

Currently the platform is coordinated by Caritas Uganda National Office, as its secretariat.

Examples of cases where some farmers have engaged in lobbying and advocacy with duty bearers;

Kiganda CAPCA Farmers Utilising Advocacy and Lobbying skills.

Nagujja, using the advocacy and lobbying skills acquired from CAPCA, helps members of her farmers' group to access government agriculture programmes including NAADS. Members of the group to which she belongs, Bavakwemu Farmers' Group, have been promised to be considered for allocation of pigs and goats being distributed by the NAADS programme in the area. "It is good that we have been supported by CAPCA to form farmer's groups. As a group, we have a stronger voice to request for support from government programmes than when you do this alone," said Nagujja.

Lwanda Producers and Marketing Association offers Lobby platform to its member Farmers.



From right to left; the chairperson Lwanda producers and marketing association, Mr. Nakumanyanga Fred, presenting farmers issues to the sub county duty bearers during a lobby meeting and the chairperson LCIII addressing the association members.

Due to a stronger collective voice, Farmers' Associations established by CAPCA have become good avenues for advocacy and lobbying. For example, Lwanda Producers and Marketing Association is involved in a number of lobbying efforts; they have lobbied for a quick drying tarpaulin from Kasali Coffee Farmers Association which they are using to dry and remove moisture from their coffee. They have also contacted NAADS office for seedlings. They were promised CDD funds from the Sub County and also received over 30,000 seedlings

from their area Member of Parliament.

Kituntu Caritas Farmers Association as a Lobby Platform

Farmers' groups are using the association to amplify their collective voice to seek for services from government and other development partners. For example another development partner called SCCVI gave the association farmers good quality coffee seedlings from UCDA.

Advocacy at National Level

Farmers Forum: Farmers presented their advocacy issues to duty bearers

Every year, farmers from CAPCA areas of operation hold a national Farmer's Forum in which they meet national level policy makers to deliberate on key agricultural issues affecting them.

The 2012, farmers' forum was facilitated by CAPCA and it took place at the gardens of Caritas Kampala in Nsambya. The forum attracted 306 participants of which the majority was the farmers from 9 districts.

The forum was organized under the theme; "Empowering communities for sustainable livelihoods". Some of the key advocacy issues that emerged from

the forum included; Lack of organization by farmers (No cooperatives) leading to inadequate farmer's participation at the sub county farmers' forums, high prevalence of Pests and diseases, a high cost and limited availability of improved farm inputs, poor infrastructure, fluctuating prices and lack of regulatory measures in place to ensure quality.

The issues were analysed and categorised in three levels. Issues that had to be handled at the community level were sent through agencies to the Associations. Agency level issues were sent to the CAPCA partners, while policy/legislative issues were forwarded to the UFCVP. So far one of the issues (Agricultural financing) was picked by the platform and its research was commissioned so as to enable evidence based advocacy.



In set; the high table consisting of MPs, Liaison Officer, CAPCA directors, MAAIF Commissioner representing the minister and the Chief guest during the 2012 CAPCA farmers' forum.



Farmers raise their concerns to duty bearers during the 2012 CAPCA farmers' forum.

KEY CHALLENGES FACED

Despite the benefits created by CAPCA Project, farmers still face a number of challenges that need redress.

- CAPCA farmers' agriculture production is greatly affected by pests and diseases, the most common one include cassava mosaic, coffee twig borer and swine fever for pigs among others. Buying pesticides on the other hand is very costly and at times, a lot of counterfeit drugs are very common on the market.
- Although CAPCA farmers are involved in group savings and internal borrowing, the loans are usually very small. Farmers access to loans from financial institutions is very costly- in most cases the many farmers do not have the security required to the loan or the interest rate charged is too high (at one point the interest rate reached 28%)
- Transportation of agriculture produce to markets is still a big challenge especially during the rainy seasons mainly due to bad roads. As a result, farmers dealing in perishable produce like tomatoes, vegetables and bananas are greatly affected since their produce can go bad since the trucks cannot go through the bad roads during the rain seasons.
- Majority of the farmers depend on nature for agriculture but these days they face the challenge of unpredictable climatic changes. As a result sometimes the drought periods are too long or the rainy seasons come at an unexpected time of the year. The unpredictable weather conditions usually cause huge losses to the farmers because of the poor harvests associated.
- Many farmers are still using their hand hoes; they have no access to tractors to open up more land for agriculture. This limits their farm output while on the other hand hiring labour is very costly.
- Agricultural inputs are very expensive lately. Improved seed varieties, fertilisers, animal feeds are all very expensive. Farmers need inputs at reduced prices to be able to get profit.
- Farmers still face inadequate processing capacity in order to add value to their agriculture produce. Although through CAPCA farmers associations, some farmers groups have acquired machines to process their produce, many farmers still sell their produce in raw form thereby attracting less money from the market.
- Adulterated agricultural inputs on the market is another challenge farmers face. The prevalence of fake inputs not only affect the quality of produce but also affects production.

LESSONS LEARNT

- Where farmers are working closely and in unison, they have the ability to influence market prices of their produce as well as tapping into available opportunities from different development partners.
- Enhancing farmers' capacity to voice and demand for accountable and transparent actions from duty bearers leads to better service delivery.
- With increased incomes, farmers are able to diversify in their agriculture production and grow their wealth which leads to increased livelihoods.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Through the farmers platform, there is need to devise mechanisms of fighting counterfeit drugs on the market such that farmers can be helped against being cheated.
- CAPCA needs to strengthen the savings and lending component of the respective association by creating a seed top up fund, which they can tap into at a subsidized interest rate.
- There is need to further promote value addition and collective marketing such that farmers can benefit more thus eliminating the manipulative middle man.
- In order to have clear advocacy issues coming through for uptake at higher levels, there is need to enhance the capacity of farmers and ensure that there are streamlined advocacy structures right from village, parish, Sub County up to District level. This will in turn help in policy influencing at the different administrative levels.



PICTORIAL



Kakuuto farmers association site for maize mill



Bivamuntuyo Ssemuto farmers association site for maize mill



Katikamu farmers association site for their coffee huller



CAPCA board members inspect the coffee huller site for Kigganda farmers association.



Wakiso farmers association site for their maize mill.



Ntunda farmers association site for their coffee huller



Caritas Kampala farmers association coffee factory site.



Kasaala farmers association site for their processing equipment.



PICTORIAL



Launch of Uganda farmers Common Voice platform.



Farmers voice out issues during 2012 CAPCA Farmers Forum.



Staff training in advocacy



CAPCA Strategic Planning meeting



CAPCA board members monitoring Caritas Kiyinda Mityana field



Association executive addressing members during a lobby meeting at Kassanda



Staff meeting at CAPCA office



CAPCA management meeting.

Central Archdiocesan Province Caritas Association

CAPCA III PROJECT



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