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THE SEED NEWSLETTER



UNYFA Annual General Meeting 2022



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On February 28, 2024, the Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda board members and members gathered at the secretariat, Plot 27, Nakasero Road, for our highly anticipated Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022.

The event marked a pivotal moment for the organization, as members convened to reflect on past achievements, discuss current challenges, review the previous resolutions, and table deliberations on the matters agreed upon. It was chaired by the President of UNYFA, Richard Ssemwanga.

During the sessions, UNYFA's annual financial and narrative reports were presented. There were new developments, organizational policy suggestions and challenges that were

discussed and positions were taken.

Richard said, "We have concluded our AGM 2022, which didn't happen in the closing year of 2022, and am so delighted that we had a good representation of all our member associations, District Young Farmers' Associations (DYFA), and all our members from the 6 regions.

Ssemwanga expressed his gratitude towards the members' enthusiasm and the desire to know what transpired in 2022. "The board and management were well prepared to give accountability to the members which included, the number of activities that were implemented at international, national and at the grassroots levels where the members come from," he added.

Continued on Page 5

OPPORTUNITIES

1. The 10th Youth Agribusiness Tour 2024
2. Inbound project Launched
3. The International Rural Women Exchange Programme of FBOs
4. The 3rd National Agricultural Education Show
5. IYFEP Alumni Project

For Bookings & Inquiries, contact us on:
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Have your story featured in the FOVL News Section, **The Seed Magazine**.

Forward



Dear Esteemed reader,

I am delighted to welcome you to this edition of the Seed Newsletter.

It is packed with inspiring stories of success and impact from the Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda. This quarterly publication showcases our efforts with our esteemed partners, to empower young farmers and agriprenuers, shaping the agricultural sector and fostering cultural exchange among youth and rural women.

As you flip the pages, inside, you'll find remarkable stories of female leaders in agriculture, excelling in leadership, lobbying, climate change, and entrepreneurship. Our recently concluded IYFEP Alumni Entrepreneurship Project Workshop, supported by Schorlermer Foundation, highlights the achievements of our alumni, the dlV delegation visit led by Mrs. Bentkämper. The 10th Youth Agribusiness Tour, which explored farms in Uganda and Kenya, also shares its enriching experiences.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our valued partners - Andreas Hermes Akademie [AHA], German Association of Rural Women [dlV], the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development [BMZ], and Trias East Africa - for their unwavering support. Your contributions have empowered our young farmers and agriprenuers to thrive.

Thank you for your continued support. Follow us on our digital platforms for more updates and opportunities.

We trust that you will find this issue both enlightening and inspiring.

Happy reading!

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CEO UNYFA

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IYFEP start Seminar Cohort 8



In the photo above: IYFEP Cohort 8 interns at Maria Flo Hotel during the start seminar

UNYFA, together with our partner Schorlemer Foundation of the German Farmers' Association [DBV], we organised the start seminar for the International Young Farmers' Exchange Program [IYFEP] cohort 8 from April 5 to 8 in Masaka city.

The 8 German interns arrived in Uganda on April 4. They visited the UNYFA offices in Nakasero and the German embassy in Kololo, Kampala and later joined the 12 Ugandan interns in Masaka for the IYFEP start seminar.

According to the CEO, UNYFA, Denis Kabiito, the start seminar is meant for the interns to learn from each other, exchange culture, and also share their expectations for the exchange program in preparation for their host farms and families.

"You will learn and exchange culture, expectations and you will also write something to yourself or a letter that you will read in 3 months," said Kabiito.

Joseph Wandera, lead trainer at UNYFA, urged the interns to be focused, committed, open minded and also achieve their

objectives as teams even though they applied individually for this programme.

Barend Kaengers, a 24-year-old, German intern, pursuing Bachelor of ecological agriculture at the University-Kassel in Witzenhausen, said, "It was a good experience to share my ideas with my fellow interns from Uganda on agriculture and culture through conversations. I expect to continue networking with them during and after the exchange."

The interns were split in groups as they participated in team building activities such as the magic stick game, rope, ball on the strings balancing game, rope and cards. This was aimed at promoting team work, networking, communication and also team building. Thus, giving them a practical approach on what they are going to expect in the exchange program at their host farms.

Currently, the Ugandan interns are in Germany at their host farms. The Germans are also at their host farms for 3 months in Uganda. They've had preparation sessions as well to equip them on how to survive in the host countries.

We invited all practicing young farmers to apply for the upcoming IYFEP cohort 9 that is scheduled from August to October 2024.

About IYFEP

The International Young Farmers' Exchange Program is a 3 months internship program for all young farmers in Uganda who would want to have exposure and further understanding of Global Farms and Food Systems especially in Germany. German farmers are also hosted on the Ugandan farms to learn about tropical agriculture.

The qualifying Ugandan participants have an all-expenses paid 3 months stay in Germany by [DBV] with special support from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development [BMZ]. The program that promotes education, training and exposure among young farmers through hands-on experience and cultural integration between Uganda and Germany.

Rural Women Final Evaluation Workshop



In the photo above: Rural women in a group photo with the DLV delegation and the CEO, UNYFA, Denis Kabiito

From April 28 to 2 May, 2024, we hosted the German Association of Rural Women [dlv] delegation led by its president, Mrs. Bentkämper Petra at the final evaluation workshop as the Ugandan rural women celebrated the successful implementation of their transfer idea projects in Jinja city.

The president commended the women for their accomplishments and emphasized the importance of addressing local needs as she awarded them certificates upon successful completion of the 1year long programme.

The dlv delegation considered it a very special day as they had gathered to evaluate the project activities of their international cooperation with us and the Uganda National Farmers' Federation [UNFFE].



Mrs. Bentkämper recalled that in October 2023, she had welcomed them to Germany for their 75th anniversary, marking the beginning of a fruitful exchange. She further noted that the rural women's groups had worked hard and successfully implemented their transfer idea projects, and each individual could take pride in their accomplishments. She acknowledged that although they shared a common journey, they had shown the ability to recognize the specific needs of their local women's groups

Sandra Nakayenze, a program participant, initiated a briquette-making project in Sironko and Bulambuli districts, utilising coffee waste to empower rural women and address environmental concerns.

Inspired by her experience in Germany, Nakayenze recognised the similarities in challenges faced by Ugandan and German women, drawing motivation from post-World War II German women's resilience.

Through her project, over 130 rural women have

benefited, gaining employment opportunities and contributing to sustainable agricultural practices. By repurposing agricultural waste, the initiative not only tackles environmental issues but also promotes awareness on deforestation. Through the conversion process, coffee wastes are transformed into briquettes, which can be used for cooking, and they last for over 6 hours.

Denis Kabiito, our CEO, observed that through our 3-year partnership with dlv, we have started up different small projects and one of them is exposure through peer-to-peer learning. This was aimed at targeting 20 rural women to move with them for 1 year. The women have training on advocacy, lobbying, business ideas and pitching and the biggest activity is one of exposing them to Germany through a 10-day exchange programme.

"We are happy that we are growing the voices and the opportunities for rural women. We hope with dlv's further



support we shall reach out to more rural women in agriculture and try to create a platform for them to have a strong voice in agriculture, leadership, as they also develop their fellow women,” said Kabiito.

The next cohort of Ugandan rural women of farmers-based organisations is yet to travel in September 2024 for an exchange programme to Germany.

Gina Krebs, project manager, dlV, highlighted the association’s experience of over 75 years and commitment to advocating

for rural women’s interests, including political issues and gender-based violence. The organization has over 450,000 members across Germany and rural areas.

Field visit

We were ushered in with jubilations as we visited some of the rural women like Judith Auma who implemented a Music Dance and Drama project to create awareness on HIV/AIDS and early pregnancies in Bugiri District. And Martha the chairperson of Women of Hope Katosi Fish Processing Association in Katosi Town

Council, Mukono District who started up a briquette project. The women showcased their projects as our team and dlV delegation witnessed their successful implementation.

UNYFA’s efforts together with dlV have empowered the rural women to develop their transfer ideas, to support the rural women in a sustainable way as they implement such projects. They have gained personal development skills and exposure through the exchange programme. And have been able to create a strong network between themselves as they work on their enterprises.

Continued from Page 1: UNYFA Annual General Meeting 2022

“The covid-19 pandemic affected the resource availability of the federation because the main focus of the donors and all other agencies were on securing and making sure that people have life. So, you find that they would not prioritize farmers organisations and it was understandable,” said Richard.

He revealed that the annual general meeting for the closing year 2023 will be held in August 2024 at a date that will be communicated to the members through our digital platforms.

UNYFA’s membership increased as new members were ushered in through their District Young Farmers’ Associations. These include: Ento Organic Farm; Sirius Ventures Uganda Limited; Kalisizo Sub County Young Farmers Association; St. Jude project Farm and vocational institute, Luqman fresh farm, Green Growth plus Investment, Arua District Youth Farmers Network; Terego Youth Network, Adjumani East Young Farmers Association; Yonder life Uganda, Zion Wanyama Agri business club; Wonder hands Farm enterprises, Hented poultry farm, Kutokea Afrika Initiative [white meat value chain and vegetables]

The 10th UNYFA Agribusiness Tour 2024



A photo moment of the participants in the 10th agribusiness tour at Nairobi National Park Main Gate

The 10th Agribusiness Tour took us on a thrilling journey from May 28 to June 3, 2024, uniting young farmers and agripreneurs across Uganda and Kenya..

It was held under the theme, “Uniting for agribusiness impact through exposure, learning interconnectedness and fun.”

The goal of the agribusiness tour is to introduce our young farmers to the newest technologies in different agricultural value chains and to give them a firsthand experience of peer-to-peer farmer exchange.



Our tour began in Kampala, where we explored the innovative Africa Mushroom Growers in Makindye. We headed to Farmacy Farm’s Kitezi Branch, Sight Farm in Namulonge, Ento Organic Farm, and SALINEST agribusiness farm, discovering the latest technologies in mushroom cultivation, horticulture, and dairy management.

We cruised along the scenic shores of Lake Victoria, enjoying a boat ride on the source of the Nile and a campfire under the stars at the source of the Nile camping site. Our journey continued to Kenya via the Malaba border, where we visited thriving dairy farms in Eldoret and Nairobi.

In Nairobi, we embarked on a game drive in the iconic Nairobi National Park and explored the vibrant city. Throughout our 5-day adventure, we shared knowledge, cultures, and

laughter with fellow farmers and travellers.

Since 2017, UNYFA’s Agribusiness Tour has connected young farmers and scholars from around the world, fostering hands-on learning and lifelong connections. It was such an exciting journey and discovery of the beauty of agribusiness in East Africa during the 10th edition of the agribusiness tour.

And, if you’re a young farmer who missed out on this opportunity, we’re excited to announce that the next Agribusiness Tour is coming up in September 2024. Join us for another thrilling adventure as you network with fellow farmers, learn from industry experts, and get inspired to take your agribusiness to the next level. Mark your calendars and get ready to join the agribusiness revolution. Contact UNYFA to reserve your spot.

The 48th AHA TOP Kurs student visit



Above: A group photo of AHA TOP Kurs students with UNYFA members and staff.

From November 27 to 6 December 2023, the 48th Andreas Hermes Akademie [AHA] TOP Kurs students made their visit to Uganda. They were welcomed by our CEO, Denis Kabiito

The program [TOP Kurs] runs every year for training and exposes young farmers and youths with different professions who are interested in farming coming from all regions of Germany by equipping them with leadership and management skills.

The visit, aimed at directly interfacing with Ugandan youths involved in agriculture, to visit state or private owned farms and small holder farms. Also, to conduct a workshop with young farmers, play a football match between the hosts and visitors. To visit and exchange Ugandan small-scale farmers and adventure to Uganda's tourist attractions.

Richard Ssemwanga, the president of UNYFA, and Stephen Muchiri, the CEO of the East Africa Farmers' Federation, both gave talks about Ugandan agriculture. Two Andreas Hermes Akademie trainers and 16 German students participated in the 10-days tour.

The team visited UNYFA program's family farm, at Kituntu village for exposure to coffee farming, bananas, vanilla and poultry and Tony Katumba a beneficiary for AHA TOP Kurs 2016 students networking session.

There was a football tournament between Uganda – Germany Agricultural Rendezvous on November 29, 2023 with UNYFA members in Masaka. They visited Kibinge Coffee Cooperative for Coffee Value Chain [Seed to Cup] where they stayed at a small holder family farm for farm activities, cultural exchange and storytelling in Masaka during day and night.

AHA TOP Kurs students toured Ssese Island on Lake Victoria and Ssese Farm Institute where they had interactions with agricultural students. They visited the source of the Nile and went for a boat cruise on R. Nile at Jinja in Eastern Uganda.

The Farmacy Farm, a UNYFA member, farming vegetables at Zirowe Luweero was also visited on December 5, 2023.

The participants made safari to Murchison falls National Park in Buliisa, Nwoya, Kiryandongo and Masindi district for game drive, boat cruise to the bottom of the falls, Hiking to the top of the falls and Zziwa Rhino Sanctuary for Rhino Breeding experience.

The visit climaxed with a tour at Kalerwe market in Kampala Central, on December 6, 2023. They later arrived at the UNYFA office in Nakasero for the final remarks and thereafter returned to Germany.

Farmer Organisation Video Library (FOVL)



An excerpt from the FOVL news section showcasing an interview with an urban farmer. Check link below for full article on the FOVL platform

INTERVIEW:

FOVL saved me from fake, inorganic farm inputs – says Ssemayengo - FO-Video-Library [fo-library.org]

As the world continues to supersonically transform from the orthodox ways of doing things to the digital era, it is only timely and prudent for one to adapt to the changing times, lest they are left behind. Needless to say, agriculturalists have to be at the fore front of embracing digitalisation.

Easy access to information, for example, is one of the avenues through which this transformation can be achieved, and with UNYFA's Farmer Organisation Video Library [FOVL], the process is already being made easier.

The FOVL is digital platform where various video content

about anything and everything in agriculture is described, translated and uploaded. The platform so far translates content in English, Luganda, Swahili and French, to enable various users benefit.

To give an elaborate story of how FOVL is easing farming practices, we had a chat with Joseph Ssemayengo, 27, a passionate urban farmer, in Wakiso, dealing in horticulture [vegetables and organic farming practices]. Ssemayengo also trains young people in Agro-ecology practices.



When and how did you hear about FOVL, and what did you think about the platform at first?

I'm not a scholar of Agriculture, but a passionate farmer who enjoys putting things together and getting results through acquiring skills variously. After using different online sites to search for information about farming, with some proving helpful and the rest misleading, I heard of FOVL, on July 1, 2021, when it was launched. With what the platform offered from the beginning, I regained hope and trust in accessing relevant and vital farming content, especially since it was run by Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda [UNYFA], a reputable organisation.

What fascinated me even more was that all the videos about farming were translated in different

languages like English and Luganda, which I understand better.

How has your farming business changed ever since you started using FOVL?

In terms of spending a lot on buying artificial agricultural inputs, FOVL has helped me to devise alternative means of making my own agricultural inputs. This is not only cost effective, but also environment-friendly and helps with conservation.

The platform has also taught me a lot about organic farming, and this has helped me boost my farm, hence attracting more customers.

What challenges were you facing in your Agri-business and how did FOVL help you solve them?

Firstly, it was the fake inorganic Agro-inputs on the market including pesticides, acaricides, and insecticides. It was hard to tell which ones were fake and which ones were not. However, FOVL offers tips on how to apply the right inputs and I'm a beneficiary of this content.

I also learnt how to make my own organic pesticides, insecticides like vermi wash, ash Brew, and foliar fertilizers among others, using the things surrounding me.



Secondly, the high cost of hiring an agronomist for consultation. With the relevant content of the FOVL platform, I'm able to get assistance without necessarily having to hire an agronomist.

What challenges are you facing with the platform so far and what changes do you think should be made?

Personally, I have not found any serious challenges with FOVL. However, some videos are not yet translated into local languages, which leaves some terminologies unknown.

What advice would you give a farmer who hasn't tried out the FOVL?

Most importantly, they better start using the platform now because the search for

knowledge helps us to convert our ideas into reality, and to reach the success that we desire in life. Moreover, knowledge assists us to differentiate between what is right and what is wrong. It helps us to overcome our faults, weaknesses and dangerous situation in life, to non-schoolers of Agriculture, FOVL is here to help us change our agribusinesses.

Users can access the FOVL platform via <https://unyfa.fo-library.org/>, register for an account, and go right ahead to enjoy numerous video and text content about Agri-business.



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UNYFA and Trias East Africa join forces to transform Uganda's agriculture



A group photo of ToTs, UNYFA and Trias Staff during the ERI training at Kabanyoro Farm

Together with Trias East Africa, we are empowering rural innovators through the Enabling Rural Innovation (ERI) training under the In-cent project, which kicked off from May 7 to 9, 2024, in Kabanyoro, Gayaza-Wakiso district.

The training, funded by Trias, aims to equip 20 ToTs [Trainers of Trainers] from 12 districts in West Nile, Central, and Rwenzori regions with the skills to identify market opportunities, develop competitive agriculture enterprises, and enhance household food security and natural resource management.



Richard Nsamba

Richard Nsamba, an Agro-enterprise development advisor at Trias East Africa and a facilitator of the ToTs, revealed that a team of young people has been strengthened to transform them and build their skills to pass them on to their community. He emphasized the program's focus on transforming young people into change-makers.

Nsamba says, "The ERI model is an entrepreneurial approach that strengthens farmers and their organisations or groups to embrace farming as a business and also taking into consideration, market opportunities, food security and natural resources."

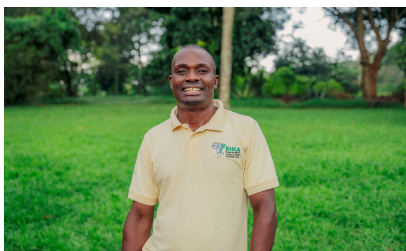
"It opens up the mindset of the person embracing the approach

and it is called the participatory diagnosis. The main objective is to analyse the current situation of a farmer or agriprenuer and then set a vision where they want to be. Its a mindset changing process that breaks the old practices of carrying out farming as a way of life and doing it as a business," he adds.

"We decided to use this model because we have seen that it has changed a lot of farmer communities and individuals. We have seen farmers becoming serious entrepreneurs from subsistence farming to semi commercial and wholly commercial farming," said Richard.

The participatory diagnosis marks the first of the five modules that the ToTs will cover over the year. The program aims to impact 1000 individual farmers, empowering them to drive positive change in their communities. It will be the ToTs' responsibility to impart the information they gained from the training to the community.

Participants share their views



John Nowembabazi, ToT Mubende District

According to John Nowembabazi, a 36-year-old, farmer from Mubende District Young Farmers' Association says that he's passion to transform his community inspired him to participate in this training.

"The training has been an eye opener to me as a young farmer by enabling me to find some of the undiscovered opportunities, like marketing of farm products, new farming methods, where I can get improved seeds and fertilizers.

I can now utilize the resources around me." John revealed.



Bear Charity, ToT, Adjumani District]

Bear Charity a 23-year-old young farmer from Adjumani District, revealed that the training has equipped her with skills of utilizing the available resources around her through the use of a vision map where she will use it as a guide in her business.

IYFEP
INTERNATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Call for Applications

AUGUST – OCTOBER 2024

The Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda (UNYFA), in partnership with Schorlemer Foundation of the German Farmers' Association (DBV), invite interested practicing young farmers to apply for International Young Farmers Exchange Program.

Hands-on Experience Cultural Integration

APPLY NOW <https://forms.gle/hG3KZZaDUfzeQdNXA>

DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2024

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Logos: UNYFA, YOUNG FARMERS' FEDERATION OF UGANDA, Schorlemer Stiftung, ANDREAS HERMES AKADEMIE, DBV, Deutscher Bauernverband, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

According to her, a vision map is an imagination or an idea one forms from a clear and specific vision with a detailed road map to achieving a vision. "People in our community have very many resources however they are more interested in collar jobs yet they have resources around them that they can utilize and improve their lives." she adds.

"I used to only deal in food produce and not to cultivate, with the training I have received, am going to implement these skills in my garden and I will use little resources to get more money. also used to fear to speak in the community but now I have gained

confidence and got rid of panic, I will be able to share these skills to the farmers in my community boldly." said Charity.

It is anticipated that the program's emphasis on market driven strategies, sustainable farming practices, and participatory diagnosis will support the nation's agricultural transformation strategy through our partnership with Trias East Africa.

Success stories



Judith Esaburu: A Champion for Rural Women in Agriculture

Judith Esaburu, a 31-year-old farmer from Maracha District Young Farmers Association (DYFA) in Northern Uganda, is a trainer of trainers under the towards social justice in Uganda, driven by inclusive and sustainable family entrepreneurship world wide (DGD- Trias) program.

Esaburu, who also doubles as a treasurer of the Maracha DYFA, is a renowned piggery, poultry, and rice farmer. She recalls that she joined UNYFA at the recommendation of Vincent Ariaka, the chairperson of the DYFA.

Being part of UNYFA has enabled her to gain even more knowledge in the field of agriculture in lobby and advocacy. Esaburu says she has now become a voice for the voiceless farmers in the district with the empowerment of the DGD program.

She is a beneficiary among the young agripreneurs the program has supported since

it's onset in 2022 whose social economic livelihoods have been transformed.

The skills she gained further opened new opportunities for Judith whereby in 2023, she was selected for a 10-day exposure trip to Germany under the Enhancing the Capacity of Young Women in Agribusiness (ECAWA) project, where she learned new skills and was inspired to introduce the eco-saving oven to her community. This innovation aims to reduce deforestation and promote environmental sustainability.

"It was a stepping stone, but also when I got the opportunity to travel to Germany for a 10-day exposure trip in 2023 in the international rural exchange program under the ECAWA project as a beneficiary, this was an eye opener for me," Esaburu reveals.

"I received funding worth UGX 1M for the eco-saving oven," said Esaburu. She has trained 30 women from 3 sub-counties,

including Dokolo, Kaomro, Nydria, and Yivu in Maracha district. She says all the farmers she has trained now have these ovens in their homes.

Esaburu has now successfully trained over 90 young farmers in various fields, such as entrepreneurship, climate change, gender, communication, and conflict management. A total of 60 farmers were trained under the DGD program while 30 were under ECAWA project.

Her impact extends beyond her community, as she has become a role model in her district. She has bridged the gap in business planning skills for rural women, empowering them to start their own businesses.

UNYFA together with our partners we celebrate Judith Esaburu's achievements under the DGD program and commitment to empowering rural women in agriculture, providing a platform for leadership development and community impact.

Peter Mungere: A Shining Example of IYFEP's Impact



Peter Mungere, (L) and (R) Jil Soika during the IYFEP Alumni visit

In partnership with Schorlmer Foundation, we are thrilled to share the transformative journey of Peter Mungere, an alumnus of the International Young Farmers Exchange Programme [IYFEP], Cohort 5. Peter's life took a remarkable turn after participating in the program, and he is now an inspiration to his community.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Peter was a graphics designer. However, with the outbreak in 2020, he transitioned into farming at Reanna Mixed Farm, as an operations manager. When we announced the IYFEP, Peter seized the opportunity and was selected for a life-changing internship at Ude Schmidt's farm.

Peter says, "The desire to seek knowledge from practicing farmers motivated me to participate in the program. Coming from a design background, I knew this was an opportunity for me to get

a practical understanding and transfer of knowledge and skills.

"I expected to see the agricultural mechanization, farm organization & structure and animal nutrition," he adds.

The experience had a profound impact on Peter. With the knowledge and skills, he gained proper planning, expanded his poultry farm that had a capacity of 4,000 birds to 12,500 birds, improved the brooder capacity which is enabling the continuity of rearing cycles. Currently, he's producing an average of 420 trays of eggs daily.

The dairy farm also flourished, as the number of stables were increased and also embraced pasture planning. The farm has impacted the community by creating employment opportunities for over 15 workers and promoting knowledge exchange through farm visits.

He has not only gotten a chance to be hosted in Germany but has also been able to host our IYFEP German intern, Julius Fricke. During Julius' internship, they managed to dive into poultry economics and nutrition, which also gave Peter confidence to add two new structures in the poultry section. His stay also fostered cultural exchange as he learned about Ugandan culture.

The most important thing he learnt was that German farmers receive official farming education, which explains their great output as they understand what needs to be done and why. He stressed that all of their actions are thoroughly described and supported by written materials or articles.

The experience had a significant impact on him, motivating him to read more and thereby narrowing the knowledge gap, which in turn increased the production of the farm through

implementing the gained knowledge.

“The knowledge and exposure I gained during the exchange program was phenomenal, and the changes I implemented at the farm have become a benchmark for other farmers to visit, learn from, and improve their own farms,” Peter observed.

Mungere revealed, “The program had a profound impact on me, teaching me to approach farming as a business by carefully calculating every aspect, no matter how small. Now, I meticulously assess risks and potential returns

on my farm, ensuring that every decision is informed and strategic.”

Peter’s success is a testament to the power of empowering youth in agriculture. He is now a beacon of hope for his community, inspiring other farmers to venture into agriculture as a business. His goal is to raise the number of birds to over 20,000, a clear indication of his confidence in the future. And also plans to acquire agricultural economics education to run the farm smoothly and not only concentrate on the agricultural

perspective but also on the economics so that the farm can be run as a business venture.

Peter’s story is a shining example of the impact of our program, and we are proud to have played a part in his journey. His determination and passion for farming are a reminder that with the right support and opportunities, young people can achieve great things and make a meaningful difference in their communities.



YOUNG FARMERS’
FEDERATION OF UGANDA



Call For Application

International Programme for Ugandan Rural Women of FBOs “Advocacy, Association Development and Leadership”

UNYFA in partnership with the German Association of Rural Women (dlV) invites all active female members of a Farmer Based Organization or women’s group in Uganda who are passionate about Advocacy, Association Development and Leadership to apply for the International Programme for Ugandan Rural Women of FBOs.

The objective of the international programme is to empower women in rural areas of Uganda in the agriculture and food sector.

Who can apply:

- **Rural female Ugandan farmers between the age of 18 and 50 years old.**
- Active members of a Farmer Based Organization (District Level or Subcounty Level) or women’s group in Uganda.
- Hold a leadership position or are ambitious to hold a leadership position in a Farmer Based Organization or women’s group in the agriculture or food sector.
- Participants should be able to act as multipliers back in Uganda.
- Participants can be elected or non-elected members.
- Participants are motivated to implement innovative ideas in Uganda to progress own business or organisation.
- The participants are proficient in English. English is the official language of the training in this project.
- Willing to actively participate in the project for several weeks for the entire program.
- Interested in international and interregional learning experiences/exchange.
- Able to travel to Germany for 10 days to participate in the seminar and possible field trips.
- Comes from any district in Uganda, there is no restriction to certain districts.
- Participant must be a female Ugandan Citizen.

Interested and qualifying applicants can find the application form here: <https://forms.gle/DJwU2Apkg1sbaVk69> or pick application form from UNYFA coordination office at **Plot 27 Nakasero Road** from **9am-5pm** from **Monday - Friday**.

Application deadline: 15th April 2024

www.unyfa.org

The Secretariat News

The Inbound Project launched

We are delighted to announce the launch of the Inbound Project, a groundbreaking apprenticeship program in collaboration with our esteemed partners - Andreas Hermes Academy (AHA), and Schorlemer Foundation of the German Farmers' Association (GBV).

This tripartite partnership offers a unique opportunity for young agricultural enthusiasts to gain hands-on experience through internships on German farms. The program is designed for active students, fresh graduates, and part-time students seeking to enhance their skills and knowledge in agriculture.

The internship program will offer two durations: 3 months and 12 months, with a comprehensive 1-week seminar in southern Germany. This initiative aims to foster cultural exchange, knowledge sharing, and skill development in the agricultural sector.

Join us in celebrating this milestone and empowering the next generation of agricultural leaders.



Staff Recruitment



OSCAR KAKANDE
Communications Officer



MATTE SHARIF
Accountant



REHEMAH NASEJJE
Gender & Project Officer

Employee Spotlight



In this edition, we are shining the spotlight on a true champion of agriculture. Meet Ms. Samalie Namata, our dedicated administrator at the Young Farmers' Federation of Uganda. As a pioneer member and driving force behind the federation's success, Samalie's journey from a teacher to farmer is a true inspiration. With a passion for bananas and a heart for empowering young farmers, she's been instrumental in shaping the future of agriculture in Uganda for over five years with us.

What has been your experience in our company culture.

As an administrator at the Young Farmers Federation of Uganda, I've had the privilege of being part of the organization's growth and development over the past five years. As one of the pioneers, I've had the opportunity to contribute to shaping the company culture and values. My experience has been enriching, with significant growth in various areas, including: Organizational management whereby I've developed skills in ensuring the smooth daily operations of the federation, I've

honed my ability to effectively communicate with members, staff, and stakeholders. I've successfully organized events like the Agri business tour, AGM, and PTM meetings. I've gained experience in budgeting, financial planning, and problem-solving, enabling me to find innovative solutions and improve organizational processes.

Overall, my experience at the Young Farmers Federation of Uganda has been rewarding, and I'm proud to be part of a team that supports the growth and development of young farmers in Uganda

What's the day to day of your role like?

As an administrator I work with all departments like administrative, accounts and projects etc therefore my work /responsibilities would likely be diverse and dynamic and that's why I am a full time employee – working from Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm since I have to check and respond to mails from UNYFA members, stakeholders and other staff, making and receiving calls from members to coordinate with partners or follow up on going projects therefore that's why I have to report to office on a daily basis. I organise staff meetings every Monday, partnership meetings in case of any. I also work on various projects with project officers in helping to organise training materials like markers, flip charts, note books etc to be used during the training. I respond to queries from members and staff by providing support, resources and also addressing any concerns or feedbacks. I organise logistics for upcoming events like workshops/ trainings through

booking venues, calling /inviting participants to participate in the event etc.

What has been your biggest accomplishments on our team?

I have been able to organize successful trainings on; education, leadership, personal development, business entrepreneurship and programs like the International Young Farmers Exchange programme [IYFEP], ECAWA – rural women exchange program among others which have significantly improved the skills and knowledge of young farmers, leading to increased productivity and sustainability in their farming practices. I have also successfully planned events like the UNYFA Annual General Meetings, UNYFA agribusiness tours, and the National agricultural show in partnership with National farmers federation. This has attracted significant participation and provided valuable networking and learning opportunities for the young farmers. Participating and organising youth campaigns / food security competitions which have enabled us to engage more youth in agriculture, which resulted into an increase in membership and active participation in the UNYFA activities.

Who are some of your biggest inspirations within the organization?

Being one of the pioneer members of the federation, I have some people who have really inspired me to love agriculture for instance, the founders and executives, the CEO of UNYFA, Mr. Denis Kabiito, Mr Charles Ogang, the former president-Uganda National Farmers federation [UNFFE]. These people worked so hard for the establishment of the Young Farmers Federation and have led it with a clear vision

and passion for empowering young farmers and driving agricultural development. The support from administrators like the program's manager- Mr Magezi Samuel, project officers especially Mr Wandera Joseph all these are among the pioneers who started UNYFA in 2015- up to date. My inspiration is also drawn from dedicated UNYFA members like Sembabule DYFA, Masaka DYFA, Oyam DYFA and Maracha DYFA whom we started with in developing organization documents like the constitution, strategic plan and many other documents. Successful young farmers like the roles models who have successfully implemented modern agricultural practices and they have achieved a remarkable productivity.

Which benefits are your Favorite and why?

I have gained a lot of benefits from the federation and will start with education and trainings which gave me access to most of the ongoing training programs and educational resources like financial management trainings, leadership trainings, personal development trainings, lobby and advocacy trainings, training on gender trajectory etc all these have helped me to acquire new knowledge in different sectors and also helped in supporting my career growth. I've received mentorship opportunities by experienced personnel in different sectors which has provided me with career guidance, support, valuable insights in agriculture sector to develop my career professionally.

The flexibility in work schedules like working from Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 5:00pm. I am free on weekends which allows me to balance work

with personal commitments, reducing stress and increasing job satisfaction. The health insurance UNYFA provides every year to all her employees is also another benefit on my side whereby we all have access to the necessary medical care services from different hospitals/ clinics and this has helped me reducing absenteeism and enhancing productivity. Monthly salary payments, the organization usually pays us in time like every 25th of the month and all workers have to receive their salary and latest is 30th of the month, this boosts morale and fosters a positive working environment. The staff saving scheme and NSSF which contributes to retirement saving plan, this really helps us to plan for our future and provides long- term financial stability. Finally, the team work and building activities, these regular team building events and social activities have really strengthened relationships among colleagues, fostering a collaborative and supportive workplace culture.

What's the most unique part about working with the young farmers?

First of all, mere working with youth is so unique whereby they are so creative in problem solving by bringing fresh minds/ perspectives, they also bring creative solutions to traditional farming challenges, their willingness to think outside the box leads to innovative approaches in crop and animal management, resource use and business operations. By working with the young farmers, I play a role in shaping the future of agricultural industry, supporting their growth and development also ensures that the next generation of farmers is well -equipped to handle future challenges.

IYFEP Alumni Entrepreneurship Project Launches with Intensive Training



Above: IYFEP Alumni in a group photo with Jil Soika

The IYFEP Alumni Entrepreneurship Project officially unfolded with an intensive training from May 14 to 16, 2024 in Gayaza at Kabanyoro Farm, Wakiso District. Out of the 40 applicants from the previous cohorts, 12 talented individuals were shortlisted for this opportunity.

The training led by our business experts Joseph Wandera and Ronald Mayanja, aimed at equipping the alumni with business pitching, public speaking, mindset and personal development skills in preparation for the international pitching event slated for September 2024.

While opening the workshop, the CEO, UNYFA, Denis Kabiito congratulated the alumni for participating in this competitive programme. He further emphasized, “Our goal is to help you perfect your business plans and prepare you for the

pitch event. We believe in the potential of your ideas and want to support you in making a difference.”

The second workshop, held at the Maria flo Hotel in Masaka City, commenced on June 5–6, 2024, as the facilitators began with a recap of the session held in May at Kabanyoro Farm, where participants gained valuable insights in business planning and personal development, among others.

During the workshop, the participants shared their expectations, including receiving constructive feedback from their business plans, refining their business plans, and learning more about pitching. The alumni took their learning to the next level with mock presentations on pitching, receiving valuable feedback from their peers and facilitators. They also had interactive sessions designed to

sharpen their public speaking skills.

The alumni received tips on effective pitching, including how to use lead stories, gestures, and eye contact. They also evaluated each other’s presentations and received practical feedback. They were urged to sketch a plan for their pitch, including the problem, solution, and action plan.



On May 6, 2024, the alumni had a mock business pitching session before a panel comprising of UNYFA staff; Hartwel Odur, Joseph Wandera, Samuel Magezi and Jil Soika Project coordinator

at Schorlermer Foundation as they put into practice what they had been trained.

Martin Tenywa, founder of Ento Organic Farm and an IYFEP alumnus, returned to Uganda from Germany with a transformed mindset, eager to expand his innovative idea. Selected for the prestigious alumni program, he felt grateful to UNYFA and the Schorlermer Foundation for recognizing the value of his project.

Tenywa's business idea harnesses the power of Black Soldier Fly biotechnology to convert waste into organic fertilizer, tackling environmental and community challenges while making farming sustainable. Through the alumni training, he gained confidence and learned how to present his pitch and structure a solid business plan.

With a 400 Euro grant [approximately 1.6M UGX], that was awarded to each alumnus, at the closure of the workshop, Tenywa plans to invest it in branded packaging materials, transitioning from a business-to-business model to a more established brand.

The top selected 4 alumni will receive extra award of 300 Euros after pitching their ideas at the pitch event in September 2024 that will have international attendance with representatives from Schorlermer Foundation and other partners.

Ronald Mayanja, UNYFA's business expert and managing partner at Ability Uganda Limited, commended the program's approach, saying it provides a standard procedure for making a business plan, enabling participants to apply their knowledge to other income-generating ventures.

The workshop also focused on public speaking sessions, helping participants become more articulate and confident in their presentations. Mayanja noted that the participants are now better equipped to defend their business plans and persuade potential investors, donors, and partners.



The program inspired the launch of a savings scheme for the alumni, fostering a collaborative spirit and commitment to continued investment and problem-solving as a team. This supportive network will empower them to drive positive change and growth in their communities.

The IYFEP Alumni Entrepreneurship workshop demonstrated UNYFA's and our partners' commitment to supporting and empowering the IYFEP community. Through providing a platform for growth and development, we are confident that our alumni will drive positive change and make a lasting impact. We are excited to see our alumni grow and make a positive impact in their communities.




THE 3RD NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION SHOW

THEME "Young Innovations, Transforming Agriculture for National Prosperity"

24-29 JUN 2024

Entry will be open to showgoers at a fee of

UGX 5000

Venue:

Jinja Showgrounds.

For partnership with UNFFE, kindly contact us on Tel Number **+256787283777** or Show Manager Peter Kisambira **+256 772602035** or Deputy Show Manager **0702741144, 0774536906**
Email: antonykisambira@gmail.com

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Pictorial Moments

UNYFA Annual General Meeting 2022



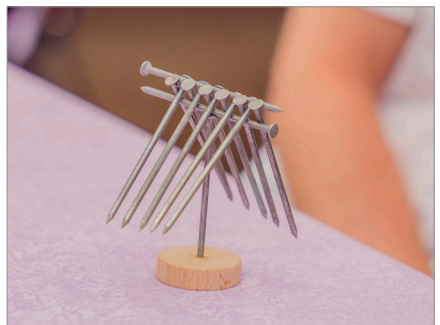
IYFEP Preparation Meetings



IYFEP start Seminar Cohort 8



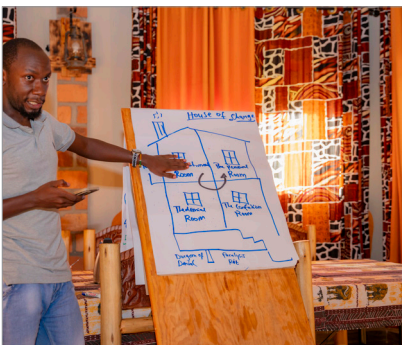
IYFEP Mid-term Seminar



Staff Retreat 2024



Above: UNYFA Staff at the Equator Monument located at Kayabwe, Masaka Road.



The 10th Agribusiness Tour 2024



German TOP KURS visit in Uganda



IYFEP Alumni Programme



MAY
28
JUNE
03
← 2024

YOUNG FARMERS' FEDERATION OF UGANDA

10TH UNYFA AGRIBUSINESS TOUR 2024

"Uniting for Agribusiness impact through exposure, learning, interconnectedness and fun"

FEES

NATIONALS
1,000,000 UGX

FOREIGNERS
400 USD

ROUTE

Kampala - Wakiso - Mukono/Kayunga - Jinja - Busia - Nairobi (Kenya)

MEANS
BUS

ACTIVITIES

Farm visits with focus following.

- Mushroom value chain (Seed varieties, gardens and management)
- Horticulture (High value vegetables, fruits Spices & Herbs)
- Strawberry Farming and marketing
- Insect Farming
- Dairy Farming, Nutrition & Management
- Irrigation systems

Recreation/fun activities

- Camp fire
- Boat cruise to Source of the Nile
- Nairobi City Tour

FOR BOOKING & INQUIRIES

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Advert Position	Size	Cost [UGX]
Inner Back Page	Colour A4	2,000,000
Outer Back cover	Colour A4	2,000,000
Inner side of cover page	Colour A4	2,000,000
Full page	Colour A4	1,500,000
Front cover page banner	Colour A4	750,000
Half page	Colour A5	750,000
Quarter Page	Colour A6	250,000

- » The artwork should be a press ready PDF file [version 1.3] generated through Illustrator/ Quark Xpress or InDesign, saved on maximum resolution [300 dpi] in actual size with bleed and crop marks.

- » All files must be CMYK format and all black text as over print.
- » A colour printout of the saved artwork should be sent for reference along with the CD. However, please note that colour prints/digital proofs supplied will be used only as a guideline and the advertisements will be reproduced as per the data specifics supplied on the CD.
- » For bleed size add 3mm extra on all four sides after the trim marks.
- » Image loss in the gutter 3mm either side.
- » For full page ads ensure that the text is 20 mm away from the crop marks on all four sides.
- » If text runs across a DPS please ensure that the text is 20mm away from the gutter on either side.

FOR ADVERTISEMENTS ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

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or +256 393 241565 +256 706 322431

In the Media

Empowering rural women farmers through value-added agriculture produce tips

By Simon Mbago — May 16, 2024 — No Comments — 3 Mins Read



Germany NGO Awards Certificates To Uganda Rural Women Striving To Transform Others Through Farming

By FIELD INSPECTORS — MAY 3, 2024 — ADD COMMENT — 8.8K VIEWS



By Juma Nsubuga

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