

25TH JANUARY, 2021

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ACTIONAID INTERNATIONAL UGANDA



Foreword

By Janet Agaba, Communications Officer.

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Dear Reader,

Happy New Year to you and yours and welcome back from a long break. The start of our year was consumed for the most part, by political events that led up to the election period in Uganda.

We welcome you to the first edition of the AAIU weekly newsletter- 2021. This issue is dedicated to the work AAIU has done around humanitarian response during emergencies, with key notable milestones in building communities that are resilient to climate change and supporting community members with creating sustainable livelihoods.

Read about our work in Bullisa district where we supported communities affected by the floods from Lake Albert and other stories of change.

Happy reading!

AAIU supports communities affected by floods in Buliisa district.



In the month of December, over 9000 (1,800 households) people in the sub counties of Buliisa, Kigwera, and Butiaba in Buliisa district were affected by heavy floods.

With financial support from the ActionAid International Humanitarian Action and Resilience Team (**iHART**), AAIU teams on ground worked through the festive season to support survivors with emergency relief for a planned number of 3000 people (600 households).

Click [here](#) to watch the video.

Click [here](#) to read more on the story:



AAIU provides relief items to people affected by floods in Buliisa district.

In the month of December, over 700 people in the sub counties of Buliisa, Kigwera, and...

🚩 ActionAid Uganda / Jan 5



Transforming communities through Climate Resilient and Sustainable livelihoods- A story of change.

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“I can now afford a nutritious meal of my choice for my household”- Natyang Betty, 28.

ActionAid International Uganda rolled out Climate Resilience Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) Model that ensured resilient production of food as a way of self-employment to 1,755 (1,090 females, 665 male) youth in both Kotido and Panyangara sub-counties. This is aimed at enabling them to build sustainable livelihoods suitable for their specific cultural, geographic, and social conditions.

Natyang Betty, who is 28 years, married to Lokwang with 3 children, a resident of Lokitelaebu Trading centre Kotido Sub County Kotido district is among the women who benefitted from the CRSA model under the European Union funded Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Self-employment and National Development (YESSSEN) project. She explains the benefits of the support as follows;

“I am one of the many youths who benefitted from the above trainings and embraced CRSA approach right from year 1 that made me to realize a bumper harvest of eggplants, onions, cabbages, and watermelon last year from seemingly bare soil. From my ¼ acre of vegetables, I was able to realize 1,850,000Ush (502 USD)”.



Nothing went to waste as I was quick to preserve my vegetables including onions leaves for the lean season by sun-drying. I also harvested 14 bags of groundnuts, 1 bag of Simsim, 1.5 bags of beans 1 bag of green gram, 16 bags of sunflower seed, and 13 bags of sorghum.

“I can now afford a nutritious meal of my choice for my household, meet the medical bills and my two children are in good boarding school, and this has all been possible because of new knowledge and skills from YESSSEN Project”. says Betty.



On Climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods.

Kotido district in North Eastern part of Uganda remains one of Uganda's poorest, largely dependent on cultivation and animal husbandry to provide...

Click [here](#) to read more on this story:

Empowering young people for self-employment in Lira District.

- By Hope Masika



A total of 25 young people from 4 tailoring groups in Amach and Agali Sub county In Lira District received 25 sewing machines, 2 embroidery, 4 Over lock machines, 25 meter sticks, 25 scissors, 25 tape measures, 4 cutting tables and 25 Aprons under the European Union funded Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Self-employment and National Development (YESSEN) project that was being implemented in the five districts of Lira, Amuru, Pader, and Nwoya in Northern Uganda and Kotido in North-Eastern Uganda supported by European Union and PennyAppeal.

The purpose of the project was to empower the youth with employable skills under the 3 models: Community Resilience to Climate change, Apprenticeship [CRSA] and CRSA Clubs across the districts.

The items were handed over in a ceremony that was attended by the Sub county leaders who included the LCIII Chairperson, Community Development Officer [CDO], Parish chiefs of Agali and Amach sub counties who also participated in the identification of the beneficiaries that were trained by the local artisans and first beneficiaries.

"I would like to appreciate ActionAid for the support they have rendered to us, this is a rare opportunity for us. The sewing machines have come at the right time when we are entering the festive season and we therefore expect to make a lot of money that will help us run our businesses." Says Akello Juliet(beneficiary)

Click [here](#) to read more on this story:



Young people in Lira district receive startup kits.

A total of 25 young people from 4 tailoring groups in Amach and Agali Sub county In Lira District received 25 sewing machines, 2 embroidery, 4 Over lock machines, 25 meter...

! ActionAid Uganda / Dec 15, 2020

Seed banking to diversify livelihoods and build community resilience during emergencies.

-By Sheila Apiny

Christine Otilem is a 49-year-old lady from Osudio village in Katakwi District and the seed bank manager of the Aipecitoi farmers group, supported by ActionAid.

Christine is one of the victims of the recent floods which had the Gardens submerged in water, crops rotting, and as a result, families experiencing hunger and starvation in Katakwi district. The situation worsened when the country was locked down to control the spread of the covid-19 pandemic which in turn led to reduced agricultural production since the communities could not access their farms or sell their produce.

When all hope seemed lost, AAIU came through with trainings on seed preservation, and conservation which led the local farmers to establish a community managed seed bank.

"I used to spend Ush.10.000 (2.7 USD) on transport each time I went to buy seed since the agro input markets are far. The cost of maize was Ugx.4000 (1USD) per kilogram and I needed 5 kilograms to plant an acre. Sadly, I would harvest only a bag with that maize and yet the cost of production was high. This was too expensive for a small holder farmer like me."

With the coming of the seed bank, farmers collect, preserve and conserve indigenous seeds because these seeds have stood the test of time.

"Last season, I planted 10kgs of traditional groundnuts in one acre and harvested 2 bags. Farmers appreciated the benefits of storing seed during the lockdown period. As a single mother, I have reduced costs on transport and the risk of buying fake seed. We are grateful to ActionAid for this support." says Christine

Click [here](#) to read more on this story:



Seed banking for survival and diversity.

Christine Otilem is a 49-year-old lady from Osudio village in Katakwi District and the seed bank manager of the Aipecitoi farmers group, supported by ActionAid. Christine is one of th...

Empowering young Activistas with business skills for self-employment.

By Sheila Apiny

Emorut's success story.

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"My mother and siblings can now afford three meals a day and I project earning from these projects in Millions. Thanks to ActionAid" Says Emorut.



Emorut belongs to the Activista group, one of the structures ActionAid uses to engage young people in Strengthening Struggles for Social Justice. Through this structure, Emorut was able to receive a training on business skills. It was after this training that he opted to start a poultry farm at his home.

With only two local chicken in hand, the 24-year-old embarked on the poultry project in 2019. Gradually, the number of birds on his farm grew to over 300 and with that came an increase in income which he used to start constructing a permanent home for his mother and siblings.

He made his first significant return on investment in the month of December 2020 when he sold 200 birds each at UGX. 12,000(3.2 USD) earning him an income of UGX.2,400,000 (650 USD). Emorut does marketing with ease since his customers are hotels, weddings, events, among others.

He also earns additional income from the sale of eggs and vegetables. His birds feed on free range while the pigs are fed on maize bran, peelings and grass, to cut costs.

Click [here](#) to read more on this story:



Building community resilience to climate change in Katakwi district.

Born in Acucu Village, Ngariam Parish, Palam sub-county in Katakwi district and from an impoverished family, Emorut Zadok never had a...

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