



To end hunger and poverty in Africa,
Africa doesn't need charity; it needs Change-makers.

At Roots Africa, to end hunger; we nurture resilient
agriculture; and to end poverty; we foster entrepreneurship.



Roots Africa Trip to **Uganda**



BUKOMANSIMBI NORTH MP
HON. DR. NDIWALANA
CHRISTINE NANDAGIRE



We took this trip to lay the groundwork for 10Xing our impact. Last year we trained 50 changemakers who then trained over 1000 farming families. Can you imagine what 500 young agricultural change-makers can do for the continent of Africa? They will decrease the Extension-Agent-to-Famer Ratio.

According to AGRA, the Extension Agent-to-Farmer ratio on the continent is sometimes as high as 1:10,000.

We believe that our change makers will change the agricultural industry for good. That is why we took this trip to Uganda with these three strategic objectives:

- Build on our existing relationships and partnerships in Bukalasa Agricultural College and Ugandan Martyrs University.
- Establish relationships with the Ministry of Agriculture and other government officials and institutions.
- Build new relationships and partnerships with other academic institutions and organizations.

In the end, we are proud to announce that we exceeded all of the goals and expectations of this trip. We met some extraordinary youth and women farmer entrepreneurs and leaders. We are happy to take you on this journey to share some of these highlights:

Government / Partnership Visits; Outcomes

20TH MAY, 2022

— WAKISO DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Discussed:

- Leveraging on existing agricultural practices in Uganda (subsistence farming, piggery Cash crop, and Coffee).
- Regenerative Agricultural Center: Agreed to have a demonstration site in the district to have a Roots Africa Learning/economic center.
- Roots Africa to train changemakers on the practice of organic farming, including black soldier fly farming.
- He encouraged us to consider the availability of private land owners to establish locations for Roots Africa Learning Centers.



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Discussed:

- Integrating technology in agriculture; controlled environmental agriculture.
- The Ministry of Agriculture supports youth development as change agents.
- The Ministry supports “black soldier fly insect farming.”
- Solicited the Ministry of Agriculture support for the Roots Africa changemakers projects.
- Provision of land to establish Roots Africa Learning sites in different zones of Uganda. Prioritize commodities to focus on large-scale farming; Coffee, tea, cocoa, macadamia, shea nut, avocado, maize, potato, Millet, etc.



KEY OUTCOMES FROM GOVERNMENT /PARTNERSHIP VISITS;

Outcome one:

The governor of Wakiso District, Uganda, promised to support Roots Africa by setting up a Roots Africa Learning Center.

Outcome two:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Uganda, is open to supporting Roots Africa to establish the Roots Africa Learning Center. Ministry of Agriculture, Uganda, is also open to enhancing this relationship by formalizing this partnership via an MOU with the government of Uganda.

Outcome three:

Meeting with the Member of parliament of the Bukomansimbi North District, Dr. Nandagire Christine Ndiwalana. The Bukomansimbi North District will now be one of the target communities for Roots Africa. We plan to work with the MP to support some of the already existing agricultural ventures in the communities.

Records

number of beds)

planting

ype, price
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Academic Institutions and Partnerships

ROOTS
A F R I C A



Bukalasa Agricultural College

Background

Bukalasa is purely an agricultural Institution that provides certificates and diplomas to agricultural students. Roots Africa started working with the Institution in 2019 through to Roots Africa/Agro Innovators Club.

Attended

- **Bukalasa:** The Patron, Samuel, Academic Registrar, Principal, Public Relations Officer, Mr. Galiwango Samuel, Serwanga Joseph, Abigaba Enock Kayongo, Suule Ivan and Judith.
- Members of the Uganda skills development project supported by the African Development Bank.
- **ROOTS Africa team**

Discussed

- The changemakers expressed the need for more mentorship and technical training.
- Noticeable increase in Urban farming; agro-innovators promoting animal husbandry and horticulture to improve food access and economic viability changemakers need markets for their value-added products.
- Sustainable model to monitor and evaluate the impact.
- The need for post-evaluation to see student impact post-graduation.
- Encourage changemakers to go to communities post-graduation through Roots Africa continuously.
- Specialization of the student area so that the changemakers can develop their communities.
- Importance of innovation to promote economic viability.
- There is a need for a farm space to support Agro-innovators changemakers.

Activities

- MOU was signed between Roots Africa and Bukalasa Agricultural College.
- We visited the student's coffee farms and performed a tree planting exercise to commemorate Roots Africa's visit. The changemakers also demonstrated different techniques present at school for extension training.



• 21ST MAY 2022

Makerere University

Background

Makerere University is the oldest and biggest university in Uganda, and it is celebrating 100 years of existence this year, 2022!

Attendance

The Roots Africa team met with the Dean of the School of Agriculture at Makerere University and agreed to work together.



Discussed

- How to link student's products to market.
- The main priority is developing/enhancing agro-processing in villages.
- The possibility of partnering with Makerere's Farmer-Field Program and transitioning the program from an academic exercise to a focus on impact.
- Commodity target: Dairy Farming, horticulture, poultry.
- Academic ends May-June, then students may have six months to engage in Roots Africa Activities, where students will focus on post-harvest handling and value addition, assisting them in becoming extension officers.
- The dean is to discuss with the VC to develop an MOU with Roots Africa.



- 23RD MAY 2022

Nkumba University

Background

The University has a key focus on Agro-business and value addition. Therefore, both parties have a mutual interest in enhancing these focus areas.

Attendance

- Alex Baraof Kinge - Dean of the School of Agricultural Science and his leadership team.
- Roots Africa Team.

Discussed

- Connect students to Roots Africa mentors and on-ground experts to train them for extension services.
- Introduction to the University legal team to look at the draft MOU presented by Roots Africa. Once signed, the students will be mobilized and begin a student club.
- There is land available for a demonstration farm.
- Interest in hydroculture: Aquaponics & Hydroponics.



Uganda Christian University

Background

At the Uganda Christian University, community engagement with students is embedded in the curriculum as an agricultural extension program. The students are attached to a community in their third year. The student is attached to a household that caters to them. The community is responsible for the financial accommodations.



Discussed

- Transforming farmers from subsistence farming to agribusiness.
- The students are introduced to research in their first year.
- Roots Africa can support with a kitchen garden.
- The need for more student engagement.
- The need for additional funding university only provides the vehicle to visit farmers.
- Data collection and follow-up are a problem. Lack of utilization of data and limited resources to follow up with community farms students work with.
- Post-Harvest loss: Roots Africa solar dryers.
- Motivational speeches.
- The University would like to form a Roots Africa club.

• 25TH MAY 2022

Uganda Martyrs University

Background

Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) is a faith-based private University owned by the Episcopal Conference of the Catholic Bishops of Uganda. UMU currently has 7 Faculties, 1 Institute, 3 Schools, 3 Directorates, and about 5,000 students, of whom about 1,500 are full-time residents on campus. The remaining 2,500 and 1,000 participate in distance learning and part-time programs at the Kabale, Kampala, Masaka, Mbale, and Lira university campuses.

Action

- MOU signed with Vice Chancellor.

Discussed

- Produce more cash crops.
- Club already established at UMU.
- Experience from students is important and whatever is happening in the club needs to be published.
- We need to focus on the Research base with the students.
- Agroecology center within the university.



• 26TH MAY 2022

Bishop Stuart University

Background

Bishop Stuart University is one of Uganda's best and fastest growing universities, ranked 10th by Webometrics (Ranking Web of Universities)- [July 2020 Edition]. Founded in 2002 by the Ankole Diocese of the province of the Anglican Church of Uganda, Bishop Stuart University (BSU) is a private, not-for-profit university chartered in 2014 and located in Western Uganda 31/2 km from Mbarara City Headquarters.

Action

Met with different departments—mainly lecturers from the Faculty of Agriculture. As a result, the two parties agreed to work together, and the MOU was signed.



Mbarara University of Science & Technology (MUST)

Background

Mbarara University of Science and Technology, also known as MUST, was opened in October 1989. its mission is to provide quality and relevant education at the national and international levels with particular emphasis on science and technology and its application to community development.

Discussed

- Agricultural exhibition Hub.
- Boost women in the work.
- Extension services to the communities.
- Financial assistance.



• 27TH MAY 2022

Mountains of the Moon University

Background

Mountains of the Moon University was transformed from a Private Chartered University to a Public University in 2022 with well Accredited academic Programmes and established facilities. The University serves a population of over 3.7m people, expanding at the rate of 4.8% per annum. The University's strategic location in the City of Fort Portal was aimed at easing access to meeting the education, research, and community service needs of the people in Central Western Uganda and beyond.

Action item

- We met with Dr. Cloovice, who promised to fast-track the signing of the MOU.
- Students were tasked to register a club to work with Roots Africa.



Key Outcomes from Agricultural Colleges Partnerships For Roots Africa Student Clubs;

Outcome One: Bukalasa University:

Encouraged Mega Exhibitions throughout Uganda, changemakers requested a competition between all Roots Africa Students Chapters.

Outcome Two: Makerere University

Change Maker's Program to empower students awaiting their graduation. The MOU signing process is in progress.

Outcome Three: Nkumba University

There is an interest in partnering with Roots Africa Learning Centers in Uganda and establishing a student chapter.

Outcome Four: Uganda Christian University

The university is a potential partner as it looks forward to exploring more fundraising strategies with Roots Africa. Also, the MOU signing is in progress.

Outcome Five: Uganda Martyrs University

We met with the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Patrick Edrin Kyamanywa. He was excited to receive the Roots Africa Team. He promised to support our existing programs on campus, signed the MOU, and is interested in the Roots Africa Learning Center.

Outcome Six: Bishop Stuart University University

The two parties agreed to work together, and the MOU was signed. So we shall be working with their impact hub.

Outcome Seven: Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)

At MUST, the meeting was more focused on understanding the two parties. Roots Africa will continue building this relationship.

Outcome Eight: Mountains of the Moon University (MMU)

Dr. Cloovice promised to fast-track the signing of the MOU. Students were tasked to register a club to work with Roots Africa.

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Partnerships and Projects with Farming Communities in Uganda



1. Kiteredde Farmers Group



Overview

The Kiteredde Farmers group is one of the groups Roots Africa supported during the Africa Covid-19 relief fund. Seeing how they used this fund to expand their group was impressive.

Action points

- We provided each family with \$20 to support living expenses during COVID-19.
- The group used the funds to establish a Table banking/revolving funds. Funds are collected from each member and loaned amongst members. Once all funds are collected, farming members in need get a loan with interest, and then this money goes back into the group & community and is again recycled.
- They used some relief funds to buy land to construct a meeting site and resource center.
- We plan to connect Bukalasa Change-maker to assist this community in agricultural management and productivity.

2. Fauster's Farmers in Bukulula- Kalangala Village

Overview

Fauster is one of the changemakers that ROOTS Africa has supported to empower her community. She has empowered farmers in the coffee value chain. She ensures that coffee is picked well from the garden and dried to compete on the market.



Action points

- Kitchen Garden: compost manure at the center of the bed, and when watered, it disperses throughout the garden.
- Coffee value addition and Cassava (porridge)
- Post-Harvest handling
- SAC gardening
- Improving the quality of coffee beans for better cost value
- Marketing agent for Mercy
- Passion Fruit farming

3. Bukomansimbi Farmer's Community



Overview

The Bukomansimbi Farming Community was mobilized by the Member of Parliament, Hon. Dr. Christine Ndiwalana, we visited their farms and production sites.

Action points

- Roots Africa partnership, land acquisition for Roots Africa learning center, and community development.
- Roots Africa plans to send Uganda Martyrs changemakers to empower this community with better farming skills.
- Bukomansimbi farmers requested Roots Africa to support farmers to enable them to buy garden tools and pesticides.

22ND MAY 2022

4. Hydroponic Farm at Kasangati



Overview

One of our Change-makers, Called Mercy from Bukalasa College, partnered with some farmers and started a hydroponic farm.

5. Black Soldier Flies at Kabanyoro Gayaza

Overview

The group partnered with Makerere University to research insects. They wish to become the leading insect research center for Uganda.

Action Points

- Mentoring 50 farmers on record keeping, post-harvest handling.
- Grow kale and cabbages (seasonal vegetables)
- They use organic waste from the slum in the fly operation by paying residents to collect compost.
- All women farmers supported are single mothers in farming ventures.
- Partnered with Makerere to use the facility and worked with Netherlands expert - (Ento Organic Farm) Professor Kabii.
- Farm to Farm Training on backyard farming: Urban Farming, especially Sac gardening.



Key Outcomes from Partnerships and Projects with Farming Communities in Uganda

Outcome One: Kiteredde Farmers Group

Roots Africa plans to mobilize support for the group's growth and boost their farming projects through the Bukalasa student chapter.

Outcome Two: Fauster's Farmers in Bukulula- Kalangala Village

Great changemaker with massive impact. We will plan to create opportunities for her to train the next batch of changemakers.

Outcome Three: Bukomansimbi Farmer's Community

The Member of Parliament, Hon. Dr. Christine Ndiwalana, is a crucial player in our initiative in Uganda. We plan to work with her community to create a model village for the African continent.

Outcome Four: Hydroponic Farm at Kasangati

Great changemaker with massive impact. We will plan to create opportunities for her to train the next batch of changemakers.

Outcome Five: Black Soldier Flies at Kabanyoro Gayaza

Roots Africa will empower them and support them in training more farmers in the area. In addition, this plant is vital to Roots Africa's plans to establish a learning center.

General Benchmark Outcomes

- Establishing one new Roots Africa Student Club in Mountains of the Moon University.
- Launching the Roots Africa Learning Centers in Uganda.
- Launching the Agro Symposium in 2023.



Thank You

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