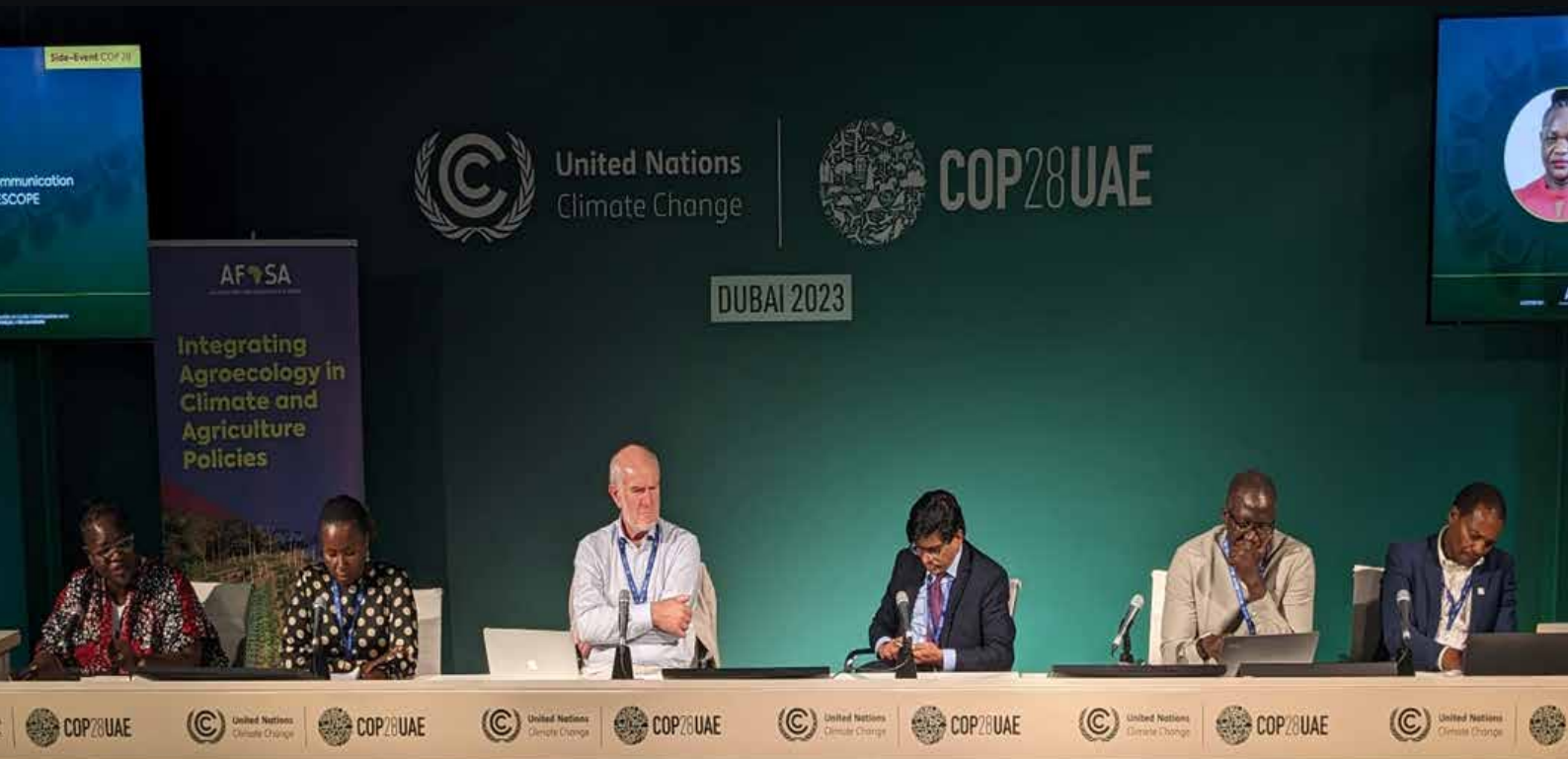


THE AGROECOLOGY POST

Amplifying Stories of African Journalists and Communicators

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2023 | ISSUE 004



AGROECOLOGY SHOULD BE CENTER AT ALL CLIMATE DISCUSSIONS

Remarks from Editor in Chief:

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Agroecology Post, where we delve into the transformative world of Agroecology and explore the incredible potential it holds for revolutionizing our agricultural systems. As the Editor-in-Chief, it is my pleasure to present to you a collection of thought-provoking articles, insightful and inspiring stories that shed light on the path towards sustainable and regenerative agriculture written by our journalists from the Agroecology School for Journalists and Communicators.

Agroecology emphasizes the complex interdependence of agriculture, ecology, and human well-being, and it marks a paradigm shift in our approach to food production. It acknowledges that our globe is a complex, linked system in which every action taken in the agricultural landscape has an ecosystem-wide effect, affecting biodiversity, soil health, water supplies, and people's lives.

As you embark on this reading journey, I invite you to critically reflect on the challenges that lie ahead. We must confront the barriers that hinder the widespread adoption of Agroecology, from policy gaps and financial constraints to the need for capacity building and market access. By identifying these hurdles, we can work together to overcome them and create an enabling environment that facilitates the transition towards sustainable and regenerative agriculture.

I extend my gratitude to the dedicated journalists and contributors who have poured their expertise and passion into this edition. Their collective wisdom and tireless efforts are a testament to the global movement towards Agroecology and inspire us all to take action.

Finally, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our readers for joining us

on this remarkable journey. Your engagement and commitment to a sustainable future are vital as we continue to explore the frontiers of Agroecology and advocate for its integration into agricultural policies and practices worldwide.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any suggestions or feedback. We endeavour to make the Agroecology Post the best publication devoted to promoting the work of Agroecology journalists and communicators.

Warm regards,



Nancy Mugimba
Editor-in-Chief,
Agroecology Post

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Rashida Kabanda
Andrew Adem
Nancy Mugimba

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www.agroecology-school.org/post

Or send an email to:
study@agroecology-school.org

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DUBAI | UAE

Why Agroecology should take center stage at COP28 in Dubai



At the heart of agroecology lies a commitment to biodiversity conservation, a key factor in bolstering ecosystem resilience in the face of climate change.

As the international community gears up for COP28 in Dubai, a rallying cry for sustainable agriculture and climate resilience echoes through the corridors of discussions.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/blogs/why-agroecology-should-take-centre-stage-at-c-NV_176365

By Lawrence Kanakulya
PELUM Uganda

WEST NILE | UGANDA

Experts warn on over use of fertilizers



Farmers from West Nile districts of Adjumani and Yumbe have continued to use fertilisers which affects their lives and farming knowingly and unknowingly.

In some instances, according to agricultural experts, the heavy treatment of soil with fertilizers has led to the decline in soil fertility in some farmlands on the Rive Nile Bank.

Read more:

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/experts-warn-on-over-use-of-fertilisers-4454458>

By Scovin Iceta
Daily Monitor

BURKINA FASO | AFRICA

AGROÉCOLOGIE: La clé de la résilience de l'Afrique face au changement climatique



Du paysan au scientifique, en passant par le politique et l'acteur de société civile, le rôle de l'agroécologie comme solution d'atténuation et d'adaptation au changement climatique n'est plus à démontrer.

De plus en plus, des voix s'élèvent pour revendiquer son financement conséquent et sa prise en compte dans l'agenda de la Conférence des parties sur le climat (COP). Récits et argumentaires!

Read more:

<https://www.sidwaya.info/agroecologie-la-cle-de-la-resilience-de-lafric-face-au-changement-climatique-une-voie-sure-de-resilience-face-au-changement-climatique/>

By Mahamadi Sebogo
Sidwaya

DUBAI | UAE

COP 28: Put People, Nature, And Livelihoods at The Forefront of Climate Action



Before the AFSA delegation left for COP28 in Dubai, they published a statement and policy brief outlining AFSA's key demands. Representing 37 African networks and organizations, AFSA's statement emphasized putting people, nature, and livelihoods at the forefront of climate action.

They highlighted the severe impacts of climate change on Africa, affecting agriculture and livelihoods.

Read more:

<https://afsafrica.org/adaptation-resilience-and-mitigation-through-agroecology/>

By AFSA

BUNGOMA | KENYA

Why Agroecology Should Be Considered as Key for Climate Negotiations



Students of St Denis Libolina Primary have used agroecology farming techniques to transform the entire school garden and any free space into food forests and gardens for different vegetable varieties, legumes, and herbs. Now the students, who are physically challenged, have challenged their parents, villagers, and farmers in the outskirts of Myanga Township, in Kenya's Bungoma County, in the Western region, to do the same.

"Barely one year ago, teachers had to contribute money to buy green vegetables to be used by staff members," said Gladys Orlando, the school head teacher. She was speaking to IPS during a recent media visit. "But today, there are always more than enough vegetables, not just for the teachers but for all students in our boarding facility."

Read more:

https://www.ipsnews.net/2023/12/a-groecology-considered-subject-climate-negotiations/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=agroecology-considered-subject-climate-negotiations

By Isaiah Esipisu
IPS News

LARE | KENYA

Agroecology can help Kenya become more climate-resilient, food-secure



As the United Nations Climate Change Conference scheduled for 30th November to 12 December in Dubai draws closer, the question of food production systems is getting increasingly critical.

This is because climate change is pushing hunger and malnutrition levels to record highs.

Read more:

<https://nation.africa/kenya/business/seeds-of-gold/agroecology-can-help-kenya-become-more-climate-resilient-food-secure-4449148>

By Julius Seigi
The Nation

ETHIOPIA | AFRICA

Climate - resilient food system through holistic agroecology



Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in his latest appearance at the parliament, said that the country would harvest 800 million quintals of produce this year, taking into account the agricultural activities carried out during the Kiremet (from June to September) rainy season.

This is more than 200 million quintals of production compared to the 600 million quintals harvested from the 20 million hectares of land cultivated last year.

"22 million hectares of land will be cultivated this year. This means that we have added two million hectares of land that have not been used for agriculture in the past. This is a great achievement in and of itself. Not only in production but also in land use."

Read more:

<https://newbusinessethiopia.com/nbe-blog/climate-resilient-food-system-through-holistic-agroecology>

By Abebe Haile

New Business Ethiopia

GULU | UGANDA

PRIORITIZING AGROECOLOGY: A vital step for Africa's climate resilience and food security at COP28



The global battle against climate change has made remarkable strides over the last three decades, marked by an enhanced understanding of climate science and the development of effective tools to address its causes and consequences.

As the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) convenes in Expo City, Dubai, from November 30th to December 12th, 2023, discussions are amplifying around robust strategies for adaptation and mitigation. Central to these conversations is the critical role of agroecology in fortifying Africa's resilience to climate shifts and ensuring food security.

Read more:

<https://www.independent.co.ug/prioritizing-agroecology-a-vital-step-for-africas-climate-resilience-and-food-security-at-cop28/>

By Polycarp Kalokwera

The Independent

DUBAI | UAE

FROM HOPE TO DISCONTENT: Africa's Profound Disappointment in Stalled COP 28 Agriculture Negotiations



At the conclusion of COP28, the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) expressed deep disappointment with the stalled negotiations on agriculture, particularly the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture and Food Security (SSJW).

While AFSA appreciated initial actions like the loss and damage deal and the focus on food systems transformation, we are concerned about the deadlock in negotiations and the postponement of discussions until June 2024.

Read more:
<https://afsafrica.org/cop-28-from-hope-to-discontent/>

By AFSA

APAC | UGANDA

Only 35 percent of the government land in Lango is registered.



TNDNews understands that some of the institutions' land is being encroached into by people who are now claiming ownership, they are registering the land in their names.

This publication has further established that in the nine districts, one city and one municipality, only 35 percent of the land that belongs to the government is registered with land titles.

Read more:
<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/09/30/only-35-per-cent-of-the-government-land-in-lango-is-registered/>

By Taibot Marko
TND News

ZAMBIA | AFRICA

COP 28 Agriculture Negotiations, “Disappointing”, like the Wet Gun Powder



Although COP28 creates opportunities for decision-making and a concrete way forward on the implementation of actions in agriculture and food security, adaptation, finance, loss and damage, among others, the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA), which represents 37 African networks and organisations representing 200 million Africans, expresses profound disappointment and concern regarding the stalled negotiations on the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture and Food Security (SSJW).

Read more:

<https://newsghana.com.gh/cop-28-agriculture-negotiations-disappointing-like-the-wet-gun-powder-afsa/>

By Misheck Nyirongo
News Ghana

ZIMBABWE | AFRICA

Greenwashing concerns as food systems take center stage at COP28



The United Nations Climate Change, currently convening in Dubai from November 30th to 12th December provides a picture perfect focus for food systems.

Organizers have so far obtained the signatures of 136 heads of state, representing countries with more than 500 million farmers, for the COP 28 Declaration on Resilient Food Systems, sustainable agriculture and climate action, also known as the Emirates Declaration.

Read more:

<https://www.businessweekly.co.zw/greenwashing-concerns-as-food-systems-take-centre-stage-at-cop28/>

By Jeffrey Gogo
Business Weekly

APAC | UGANDA

Akokoro residents accuse NFA and want Maruzi Forest boundaries opened



Residents of Akokoro Sub county, Apac district who are living around Maruzi Central Forest Reserve have accused the National Forest Authority of extending the boundaries of the forest into community land which they have been using for grazing their animals.

The residents claim that NFA has extended the boundaries from the original land that their grandparents gave to the government between 1967 and 1968. Now they say the government has entered by more than 3 square kilometers.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/09/29/akokoro-residents-accuse-nfa-and-want-maruzi-forest-boundaries-opened/>

By Taibot Marko
TND News

DUBAI | UAE

AFSA Announces Launch of Thousand Africa Youth Summit on Food Systems and Agroecology 2024 at COP28



At COP28, AFSA announced the launch of the Thousand Africa Youth Summit on Food Systems and Agroecology 2024, held at the Ethiopian Green Legacy Pavilion in Dubai. This upcoming Pan African summit is uniquely focused on being a platform for actionable solutions rather than just discussions. Recognizing that merely talking about challenges isn't enough to create real change, the summit is dedicated to finding innovative and practical ideas and strategies that can realistically address the complexities of African food systems.

It's designed to be a space for creativity, sharing knowledge, and working together, with the goal of developing tangible solutions that can make a positive impact on the ground in Africa's food systems.

Read more:

AFSA Announces Launch of Thousand Africa Youth Summit on Food Systems and Agroecology 2024 at COP28

By AFSA

YUMBE | UGANDA

Outbreak of cassava diseases hits 11,000 farmers in Yumbe



In regional news, more than 11,000 farmers in Yumbe district are grappling with the burden of Cassava Brown Streak Disease and Cassava Mosaic diseases, which recently emerged in the area.

Agriculture experts report that these diseases have significantly diminished cassava production in the region.

Watch:

<https://www.ntv.co.ug/ug/news/national/outbreak-of-cassava-diseases-hit-11-000-farmers-in-yumbe-4391798>

By NTV Uganda

TANZANIA | AFRICA

COP28: It's time to think of Farmers hit hard by Climate Change Impact



Climate Change's pressing urgency and its profound impact on both human and environment is irrefutable. Food and agriculture sector, major contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions, stands at the heart of this global challenge.

The emissions, largely from industrial agricultural practices, are unsustainable and drive biodiversity loss at an alarming rate.

Read more:

<https://www.ippmedia.com/en/news/cop28-it%E2%80%99s-time-think-farmers-hit-hard-climate-change-impact>

By Zuwena Shame

IPP Media

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Buganda Kingdom Partners With Aquafina, Uganda Biodiversity Fund in Tree Planting Drive



The Obwakabaka Bwa Buganda (OBB) cultural institution has fortified its determination to safeguard Uganda's dwindling biodiversity through a strategic alliance with Aquafina and the Uganda Biodiversity Fund, embarking on a spirited tree-planting endeavor.

Their vision entails crafting a majestic forest, christened "Ekyibira Kya Kabaka", in every nook and cranny of Buganda Kingdom. This grand initiative is slated to span a five-year odyssey, encompassing each and every county within Buganda, thus requiring all counties to designate areas for the cultivation of this arboreal haven.

Read more: <https://www.watchdoguganda.com/news/20231006/160612/buganda-kingdom-partners-with-aquafina-uganda-biodiversity-fund-in-tree-planting-drive.html>

By Mourice Muhoozi
Watchdog Uganda

SENEGAL | AFRICA

Adaptation au changement climatique: la solution par les paysans et les systèmes alimentaires



Différents rapports d'experts ont plusieurs fois démontré que les modes de production agricole et les systèmes alimentaires promus contribuent largement au réchauffement climatique.

Parmi les solutions, l'agriculture durable. Mais malgré les résultats probants de cette pratique ancestrale, la voix de ses défenseurs reste encore inaudible lors des COP.

Read more: https://www.impact.sn/Adaptation-a-u-changement-climatique-la-solution-par-les-paysans-et-les-systemes-alimentaires_a42093.html

By Faydy Dramé
Impact. Sn

KAMPALA | UGANDA

ESAFF – Uganda awarded pupils from Kasese and Mbale schools that emerged winners of the 1st Edition of the Schools Agroecology Poem



Promoting agroecology and its farming practices in Uganda has not been embraced by many farming communities, especially the small-scale farmers of which many have been highly adopting conventional farming practices which in most occasions depend more on the application of inorganic and synthetic fertilizers that are harmful to soil, environment and human health.

Read more:

<https://environmentnewsug.blogspot.com/2023/10/esaff-uganda-awarded-pupils-from-kasese.html>

By Sylvia Namuwanga
Environment News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Farmers demand total ban on imports and usage of chemicals in agriculture



Farmers under their umbrella Organisation Eastern and Southern African Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) have asked government to ban import and usage of agriculture chemicals in to the country.

Addressing media to commemorate this years World Food day under the theme: water is food, farmers argued that usage of agriculture chemicals has greatly affected Uganda's agriculture food exports.

"We demand that government bans import and usage of chemicals into our country. Keeping off chemicals off our food system will enable Uganda sustain our fresh food market," Baliraine Hakim ESAFF Chairperson said.

Read more:

<https://www.elixnews.com/2023/10/farmers-demand-total-ban-on-imports-and.html?m=1>

By Elix News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Environmentalists Advocate For Subsidized Electricity and Gas for Citizens



Environmental experts in Uganda have sounded the alarm, warning that the very heart of the nation's ecological balance is under imminent threat due to relentless deforestation driven by the insatiable demand for firewood and charcoal.

Should immediate action not be taken, to find sustainable substitutes for charcoal and firewood they say, Uganda's path to climatic disaster seems inevitable.

Read more:

<https://www.watchdoguganda.com/news/20231017/160982/environmentalists-advocate-for-subsidized-electricity-and-gas-for-citizens.html>

By Mourice Muhoozi

Watchdog Uganda

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Uganda set to destroy 1,700 tonnes of maize



Fresh laboratory retests carried out by the East African Community standards experts have confirmed the presence of high aflatoxin levels in Ugandan Maize rejected by South Sudan authorities.

The South Sudan National Bureau of Standards red flagged the grains in May before dumping the consignments at the Elegu border post in July.

Read more:

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/uganda-set-to-destroy-1-700-tonnes-of-maize-4408556>

By Kabona Esiara

Daily Monitor

KAMPALA | UGANDA

ESAFF Uganda marks World Food Day with a call to enhance investment in the preservation of water resources



World Food Day annually falls on 16th October, this year as the world commemorates it, the Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) Uganda joins the celebration with a call to advocate for increased funding for the protection and preservation of water resources and agroecological practices that conserve water resources.

This year the global event focuses on raising awareness about the importance of food security and eliminating hunger, emphasizing the fundamental role that water plays in our ability to nourish the world's growing population.

Read more:

<https://joripress.com/esaff-uganda-marks-world-food-day-with-a-call-to-enhance-investment-in-the-preservation-of-water-resources>

By Drake Nyamugabwa
Jori Press

KAMPALA | UGANDA

World Food Day: ESAFF Uganda Tasks Gov't To Ban Importation Of Toxic Chemicals Damaging Quality Of Water Resources



Today, Monday 16th October 2023, the Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) Uganda joined the globe to commemorate World Food Day under the theme "Water is Life. Water is Food".

The Day raises awareness about the importance of food security and eliminating hunger.

Read more:

<https://theswiftnews.com/2023/10/16/world-food-day-esaff-uganda-tasks-govt-to-ban-importation-of-toxic-chemicals-damaging-quality-of-water-resources/>

By Frank Kamuntu
Swift Daily News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

World Food Day: Farmers call for increased funding to preserve water resources



Ugandan small scale farmers have cried out to potential donors and agencies to help in conservation of the environment with an increased funding for the protection and promotion of agroecological practices that conserve the water bodies.

Read more:
<https://dailyexpress.co.ug/2023/10/16/world-food-day-farmers-call-for-increased-funding-to-preserve-water-resources/>

By Remmy Asemeza
 Daily Express

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Wetland Farming poses a threat to food safety in Gulu City



Without the brunt of agrochemical practices and proper waste management policy of wetlands in Gulu city, a year to come many people will have health issues as the levels of food and water contamination are expected to be high.

Read more:
<https://is.gd/foodGulu32>

By Okot Lil Romeo
 TND News

NAIROBI | KENYA

Environment Court Allows Planting of GMO Maize



The Court has dismissed a case challenging the release and planting of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) maize in Kenya.

In its ruling, the Environment Court has cited a lack of evidence showing that using GMOs causes harm to human health or the environment.

Read more:

<https://www.kenyans.co.ke/news/93773-court-allows-planting-gmo-maize>

By Brian Kimani
Kenyans.co.ke

RUBIRIZI | UGANDA

Ow'emyaka 64 afiire amaisho bwanyima y'omubazi gw'okufuhirira kumweshuka omu maisho



Ow'emyaka 64 y'obukuru afiire amaisho bwanyima y'omubazi gw'okufuhirira kumweshuka omu maisho.

Watch more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8ydgzHgLhY>

By Hannington Katehangwa
TV West

BULIISA | UGANDA

In Buliisa, Keyhole gardens are powering EACOP - displaced women to rise above hunger



When officials from the East AFRICAN Crude Oil pipeline asked Judith Bero-Irwoth to relocate from her home to pave the way for the project in 2018, she sternly refused cash compensation and instead asked for another piece of land to continue farming.

The rains were about to fall and at that time Bero had just planted some maize seeds upon clearing her garden.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/12/04/in-buliisa-keyhole-gardens-are-powering-eacop-displaced-women-rise-above-hunger/>

By John Ken Okot
TND News

OBONGI | UGANDA

Small-scale farmer on Chemical Fertilizer Use: Not transitioned to Agroecology to promote food security and environmental conservation



African soils are known to be one of the oldest soils on the planet. First because of the temperatures we live in, in the tropics, soils grow old so fast. So this means they need to be replenished. What bothers us and what we should be afraid of is that many people, instead of feeding the soil, want to quickly get returns by feeding only the crops. So there is a difference between soil fertility and plant nutrition and what many farmers do is plant nutrition by feeding crops on inorganic fertilizers.

In regards, Climate change is making it harder to grow enough nutritious food to adequately feed our planet's population. Temperature increases, rainfall pattern shifts, reduced water availability, and

increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are all impacting agricultural productivity.

Read more:

<https://www.ugstandard.com/small-scale-farmer-on-chemical-fertilizer-us-e-not-transitioned-to-agroecology-to-promote-food-security-and-promote-environmental-conservation/>

By Sharon Muzaki
UG Standard Media

GOMBA | UGANDA

UIA, ESAFF & Giz Pioneer a Unified Approach to Economic Growth and Strategic Investments



The Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF Uganda), and Giz have advocated for a unified approach to economic growth through facilitating strategic investments.

These organizations are working towards achieving the objective of economic growth in Uganda, through strategic investments by creating a conducive environment for the establishment of Local Economic

Development and Investment Committees (LEDICs)

Read more:

<https://famreports.com/2023/11/08/uia-esaff-giz-pioneer-a-unified-approach-to-economic-growth-and-strategic-investments/>

By Muhoozi Mourice
Famreports

MASAKA | UGANDA

Container Gardening



Worry less about having a passion for gardening or without any piece of land. This is because due to innovation, everything is possible using the very materials one can have in a home with ease.

Josephine Kiiza, director of St. Jude Family Projects says that for people living in urban centers most especially, container gardening is an alternative to explore and enjoy fruits from your veranda or backyard.

Read more:

<https://www.harvestmoney.co.ug/container-gardening>

By Victoria Nampala Bugembe
Harvest Money

MUKONO | UGANDA

Mukono Farmers Restort To Organic Fertilize For Better Yields



After realising low crop harvest for several years, farmers at Kasaala village in Kyampisi sub-county in Mukono district have started making their fertilisers to save on the cost of doing business and protecting the environment. The fertiliser they innovated is called Biocha and it is made out of organic waste and is applied on different crops to improve the yields.

Kintu John, a farmer at Kasaala is happy after applying the fertiliser in his maize garden for two seasons, the yields fulfilled his expectations because he got a lot of money after selling the crop.

Read more:

<https://www.harvestmoney.co.ug/mukono-farmers-restort-to-organic-fertilize-for-better-yields>

By Victoria Nampala Bugembe
Harvest Money

ADJUMANI | UGANDA

Farmers Call For Protection Of Seed Variety



In Uganda, a scarcity of desirable and high-quality plant genetic resources continues to constrain smallholder agriculture and risk food and nutritional security, especially as the environment changes. Most Ugandans are small-scale farmers who use farm-saved seed procured through Farmer-Managed Seed Systems (FMSS), which are underfunded in regulations and research.

According to Masudio Margaret, a small-scale farmer leader, farmers do not know how to keep or select seeds. To make matters worse, many do not know whether they are keeping seeds or grains.

Read more:

<https://www.harvestmoney.co.ug/farmers-call-for-protection-of-seed-variety>

By Victoria Nampala Bugembe
Harvest Money

KAMPALA | UGANDA

BEE VENOM: A Booming Apiary Business To Embraces



Beekeeping is one of the agricultural enterprises that the Government, non-government organizations, and development partners are promoting in different parts of the country, for mainly three reasons — income generation to improve household incomes, nutrition, and protecting the forest cover.

John Kaddu, an apiary farmer in Kawempe adds that bees are best kept in natural forests or plantations, say of coffee, especially in the Lake Albert crescent zone of Uganda.

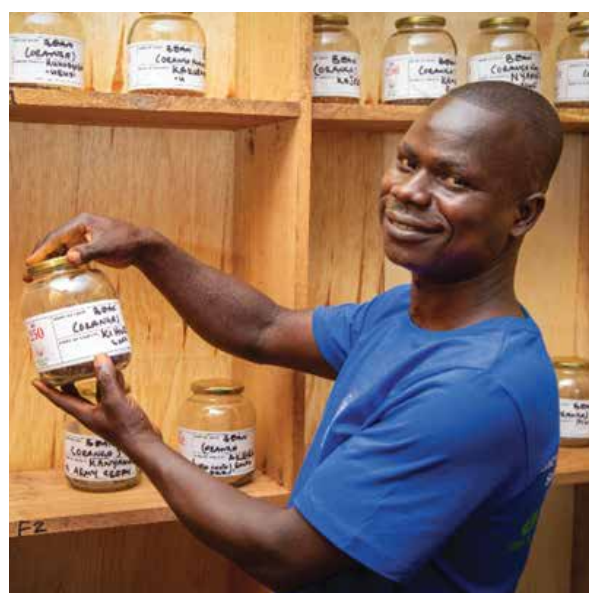
Read more:

<https://www.harvestmoney.co.ug/bee-venom-a-booming-apiary-business-to-embraces>

By **Victoria Nampala Bugembe**
Harvest Money

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Through our small-scale farmer's group, "we are preserving local cassava seeds"



The 5th National Agroecology Actors' Symposium (NAAS) on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, organized by **Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Uganda** brought together various stakeholders ranging from farmers, the private sector, research and academia, government institutions, non-government organizations, international organizations, media, and the general public to provide a platform for agroecology actors to share experiences and strategies for transforming food systems in Uganda and improving public policies.

The **Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) Uganda** organized a side event under the theme: "Strategies and opportunities for scaling up the Farmer Managed Seed Systems." During the event, the participants discussed the different ways to preserve local seeds and how they are

driving other community members to transition to Agroecology.

Read more:

<https://www.ugstandard.com/through-our-small-scale-farmers-group-we-are-preserving-local-cassava-seed/>

By Sharon Muzaki
UG Standard Media

GOMBA | UGANDA

UIA, GIZ & ESAFF Partner to Establish Secure Land Tenure Essential for Strategic Investments



The Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF Uganda), along with GIZ, are advocating for a collaborative approach to foster economic growth.

These organizations are dedicated to realizing this goal in Uganda by establishing conducive conditions for the formation of Local Economic Development and

Investment Committees (LEDICs). Taking the lead in spearheading this initiative is Peter Muramira, the Deputy Director of Business Development at Uganda Investment Authority. He underlined the critical intersection between local economic development and district-level investments.

Read more:

<https://www.watchdoguganda.com/news/20231026/161354/uia-giz-esaff-partner-to-establish-secure-land-tenure-essential-for-strategic-investments.html>

By Muhoozi Mourice
Watchdog Uganda

KAMPALA | UGANDA

PELUM Uganda & Partners Kick Off Agroecology Week 2023 At Hotel Africana



The Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Association in conjunction with the government of Uganda and other partners have kicked off the Agroecology Week 2023 At Hotel Africana.

Addressing the presser on Monday at Hotel Africana, PELUM Uganda Country Director

Josephine Akia said that the events will enable farmers to share ideas on a wide range of issues in Agroecology and how they can promote their sector.

Read more:

https://theswiftnews.com/2023/10/24/pelum-uganda-partners-kick-off-agroecology-week-2023-at-hotel-africana/#google_vignette

By Frank Kamuntu
Swift News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Uganda Unveils New Strategy for Agroecology and Organic Farming



The Ugandan government is developing a new strategy to promote agroecology and organic farming nationwide. The goal is to protect smallholder farmers and local and export agriculture markets amidst rising concerns over chemical use in agriculture, especially substandard toxic substances.

Agroecology is a farming practice that utilizes natural synergies between plants, animals, and soil to maintain production without artificial inputs. Experts say it produces safer food while reducing costs for smaller farmers.

According to Senior Agricultural Officer Sunday Bob George of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, the draft strategy is currently under review by different government agencies. It was developed by Makerere University Professor GS Tenywa with NGO and government experts.

Read more:

<https://onion.co.ug/uganda-unveils-new-strategy-for-agroecology-and-organic-farming/>

By Onion Reporter

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Demand for organic foods goes up



The demand for organic foods on the market has shot up, farmers and experts have said. This is attributed to their effectiveness and safety. Experts add that as more consumers become aware of the potential health risks associated with chemicals and pesticides, their tastes and preferences have shifted to organic foods in recent years.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/demand-for-organic-foods-goes-up-NV_173337

By Ibrahim Ruhweza
New Vision

KAMPALA | UGANDA

PELUM Uganda Brings Together Farmers To Discuss Agroecological Challenges



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Read more:

<https://binocularug.com/agroecology-week23-pelum-uganda-brings-together-farmers-to-discuss-agroecological-challenges/>

By Binocular Uganda

<https://youtu.be/wrSBT33rCds?si=2LOwDVEIple8sg1e>

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Government fronts National Agroecology Strategy to promote safe food



The government in partnership with the Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (Pelum) Uganda is in the advanced stages of developing the first-ever National Agroecology Strategy which officials say will help in regulating the previously private sector-dominated area to provide safe food.

While launching the 2023 National Agroecology Week of Action in Kampala, the National focal point person for organic agriculture, and agroecology at the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Bob George said the strategy will provide guidance implementation of agroecology practices and organic farming in Uganda, from the farm to the market level.

Read more:

<https://www.kfm.co.ug/news/govt-fronts-national-agroecology-strategy-to-promote-safe-food.html>

By Moses Ndhaye

KFM

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 3

Here are the responses to the quiz in the third issue. Please let us know how many you got right. If you don't have the questions, please download the third issue of the Agroecology post from the website.

1.

True or False: Agroecology places a strong emphasis on preserving biodiversity within agricultural ecosystems.

Answer:

True. Agroecology places a strong emphasis on preserving biodiversity within agricultural ecosystems. The approach focuses on creating agricultural systems that embrace natural ecosystems, promoting biodiversity, and enhancing the overall sustainability of farming practices.

2.

True or False: Agroecology aligns with the concept of food sovereignty, emphasizing local control over food production and distribution.

Answer:

True. Agroecology aligns with the concept of food sovereignty, emphasizing local control over food production and distribution. Food sovereignty is a principle that advocates for communities and nations to have the right to define their agricultural and food policies in a way that is culturally, socially, economically, and environmentally appropriate.

3.

True or False: Agroecological farming systems are generally less resilient to climate change compared to conventional farming methods.

Answer:

False. Agroecological farming systems are generally considered more resilient to climate change compared to conventional farming methods. Agroecology emphasizes practices that enhance biodiversity, soil health, and ecosystem resilience, which contribute to the system's ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

4.

True or False: Agroecology is a static and unchanging approach to farming, with practices that remain the same over time.

Answer:

False. Agroecology is not a static or unchanging approach to farming. Instead, it is a dynamic and adaptive framework that encourages the integration of diverse practices tailored to local ecological and social contexts.

5.

True or False: Agroecology is a global movement advocating for sustainable and equitable food systems.

Answer:

True. Agroecology is indeed a global movement that advocates for sustainable and equitable food systems. It emphasizes the integration of ecological principles into agricultural practices, promoting biodiversity, soil health, and the overall resilience of farming systems.

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 3

Here are the responses to the quiz in the third issue. Please let us know how many you got right. If you don't have the questions, please download the third issue of the Agroecology post from the website.

6.

True or False: Agroecological farming systems prioritize monoculture farming for increased efficiency.

Answer:



False. Agroecological farming systems prioritize diversity and generally discourage monoculture farming. The approach promotes the cultivation of a variety of crops and often incorporates agroforestry, intercropping, and polyculture practices.

7.

True or False: Agroecology emphasizes sustainable farming practices that mimic natural ecosystems.

Answer:



True. Agroecology emphasizes sustainable farming practices that mimic natural ecosystems. The approach is based on ecological principles and seeks to create agricultural systems that work in harmony with nature.

8.

True or False: Agroecology is primarily about reducing the economic costs of farming practices

Answer:



False. While agroecology considers economic factors, its primary focus is not solely on reducing the economic costs of farming practices. Agroecology is a holistic approach that integrates ecological, social, and economic dimensions of sustainable agriculture.

9.

True or False: Agroecology is only applicable to small-scale farming and cannot be used in large-scale agriculture.

Answer:



False. Agroecology is applicable to various scales of farming, including both small-scale and large-scale agriculture.

10.

True or False: Agroecology is a purely theoretical concept and is not widely practiced in real-world agriculture.

Answer:



False. Agroecology is both a theoretical concept and a practical approach widely practiced in real-world agriculture.

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 4

1.

What is the primary goal of integrating agroecological practices in farming systems?

- a. Maximize profit
- b. Minimize biodiversity
- c. Enhance sustainability and resilience
- d. Increase dependence on external inputs

2.

Which of the following is a key principle of agroecology?

- a. Monoculture
- b. Synthetic input reliance
- c. Biodiversity enhancement
- d. Soil degradation

3.

How does agroecology contribute to pest management in farming?

- a. Increased reliance on chemical pesticides
- b. Introduction of genetically modified crops
- c. Diversified cropping systems
- d. Monoculture practices

4.

What role does local knowledge play in the implementation of agroecological practices?

- a. No significance
- b. Limited importance
- c. Essential for success
- d. Hindrance to progress

5.

What is the impact of agroecology on water conservation in agriculture?

- a. Increased water use
- b. No effect on water management
- c. Enhanced water conservation
- d. Depletion of water resources

6.

In agroecological farming, what is the emphasis on in terms of seed selection?

- a. Use of genetically modified seeds
- b. Local and traditional seed varieties
- c. Monoculture seed practices
- d. Dependence on hybrid seeds

7.

How does agroecology address the issue of soil erosion in farming systems?

- a. Aggravates soil erosion
- b. No impact on soil erosion
- c. Promotes soil conservation practices
- d. Depends on external soil management interventions

NOTE: Look out for the correct responses to the quiz in our next issue of the Agroecology Post

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 4

8.

What is a fundamental aspect of agroecology in promoting social equity?

- a. Centralized control over food production
- b. Exploitative labor practices
- c. Empowering local communities in decision-making
- d. Exclusion of marginalized groups

9.

Can agroecological practices be adapted for use in both small-scale and large-scale farming operations?

- a. Only applicable to small-scale farming
- b. Only applicable to large-scale farming
- c. Applicable to both small-scale and large-scale farming
- d. Not suitable for any scale of farming

10.

How does agroecology contribute to climate change mitigation in agriculture?

- a. Increases greenhouse gas emissions
- b. Promotes deforestation
- c. Enhances carbon sequestration and reduces emissions
- d. Indirectly contributes to global warming

NOTE: Look out for the correct responses to the quiz in our next issue of the *Agroecology Post*



**Eastern and Southern Africa
Small Scale Farmers' Forum**


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