

## YPARD UGANDA ENGAGEMENTS

- This year YPARD Uganda in partnership with RUCID Organic Collage and AVSI trained 15 YPARD members in food Value addition.
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- Members come from Kampala, Wakiso, Mityana, Mukono, Luweero and Buikwe districts and the training took 2.5 months residential and started on Aug 14 2023.
- Still on 14 Aug YPARD Uganda selected five (5) Agro-ecology fellows to be recruited under the center of recruitment for agro-ecology fellows proposal by YPARD.
- These members were between 25-35 yrs (young professionals) with 3 yrs experience working within Kampala and surrounding areas.
- The Climate Change opportunities for Youth webinar inspired one member of Ypard Ethen Okello to start using the knowledge he acquired to plant trees within Mukono.
- Okello's tree planting campaign has become serious and got him recognised through a nomination in Green Finance Awards 2023 organised by Uganda Institute for Banking and financial services
- There's also a project (for Daniel Kiseka one of the Country Rep YPARD and team lead Nutravest in partnership with UNMA and Agro Consortium are working on called Community Led Adaptation Solutions for a Sustainable and Resilient Development under a changing climate and environment (CLASS- ReD).
- ❖ This is going to create access to weather information as an early warning against harsh climate/ shocks that could cause pre-harvest losses to farmer communities in Uganda and Agriculture insurance services which will be their safety net.
- ❖ The project pilot starts February 2024 targeting 20,000 farmers for the three years and YPARD farmer groups nominated by district amabasadors will benefit in the pilot and the major project at scale to the rest of Uganda
- On top of that two webinars we have successfully conducted as YPARD Uganda.
- The first about opportunities for youth in climate change
- And the Second about food loss and waste management with our Kenyan counterparts
- We have also participated in the food systems Transformation Civil Society Organization workshop as food systems exhibit diversity and thus a people centric approach is essential. As CSOs, it falls upon us to ensure that food systems embody sustainability and inclusivity as we strive for a world free hunger
- Together with other 13 youth-led organizations we're part of the Food Systems Partnership. It's noted that engaging with one youth perspective isn't enough to galvanize action on food. To navigate the complex journey of transforming our food system, we

need a range of experiences, knowledge and cultural contexts which is why we're so excited to partnering with this collective of youth-led networks.

- We also engaged our youth in partnership with Vibrant Generation Uganda Empowerment Center on “Re-imagining a Healthy Food system through Agroecology youth taking lead. This emphasized that the integral role of youth in shaping a more sustainable and equitable food system.
- YPARD we are participating in The Agro-ecology project with Global Forum for Agricultural Advisory services and other partners which “Empowering Small Scale Farmers in the Agroecological Transition through Participatory Rural Advisory Services.
- We also work through the district Ambassadors.
- Through Vibrant Generation Uganda we also participated in CSOs position to Government of Uganda on Climate issues: where emphasis was on Considering and adopting agro-ecology as a strategic intervention and pathway for enhancing climate resilience, sustainable food production and food security
- In preparation for COP 28, There's need to prioritize Africa's adaptation needs on the COP 28 Agenda especially on Agriculture, food systems, Agro-ecology, small holder farmer support to build resilience. This should include protection of land rights, rangelands protection of indigenous communities to enable them sustain their livelihoods and protect diversity and finally to engage youth from the word go, not just having them on panels but involve them in the process. ( A just transition is not possible without youth and communities in vulnerable situations at the center of discussions and solutions)
- Encourage collaboration and well-coordinated efforts. Knowledge sharing and collective commitment to transit to a greener future

By Gerald Kasiita-YPARD district Ambassador, CEO and founder Vibrant Generation Uganda Youth Empowerment Center.