

THE AGROECOLOGY POST

Amplifying Journalists and Communicators
Voices on Agroecology in Africa

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023 | ISSUE 003



**Agroecology presents the
best solutions in mitigating
the Impact of Climate Change**

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
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NAIROBI | KENYA

How Africa's Food System can overcome the threat of Climate Change



As the African Climate Summit entered its second day, calls for Africa attaining her food security and sovereignty featured predominantly in discussions with leaders vouching for climate adaptation investments to unlock the continent's full food production potential.

African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina called for the galvanizing of African based solutions towards climate change and its effects to the continent's food systems warning that the crisis is putting the future of the continent at risk. He cited increased droughts and floods across Africa, destruction of crops and massive death of livestock, things he said called for urgent action from African leaders.

Read more:

<https://mountkenyentimes.co.ke/how-africas-food-system-can-overcome-the-threat-of-climate-change/>

By Jackson Okata

The Mt. Kenya Times

APAC | UGANDA

Apac residents asked to Register Land



Residents of Apac district and the rest of districts in Lango Sub-region have been advised to register their land if they are to avoid getting involved in the rampant land disputes.

The call was made on Monday by the Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum [ESAFF] at Apoi, Akokoro, and Iduje sub-counties while training area land committee members, opinion leaders, local council chairpersons on land rights. ESAFF which is a not-for-profit organization influences development policies and promote ecological agriculture through capacity strengthening, research and networking in several countries.

Read more:

<https://thecooperator.news/apac-residents-asked-to-register-land/amp/>

By Geoffrey Onyanga

The Cooperator News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

SAVING AGRICULTURE; Why Uganda government should guide Land Rights



Land in Uganda is critical Natural Resource which support both the growth and development of many sectors. In Uganda, natural resources have been and are still critical factors of production especially in the key sectors such as Agriculture and industrial Development among other sector.

In Agriculture, Land supports Agricultural production in many ways. It contains minerals like nitrogen, potassium, calcium of which all are vital in the supporting the Agricultural sector. Uganda like other countries in the World, the Land Natural Resource is occupied by other Ecological Natural resources such as Wetlands, Minerals, Mountains and Swamps all such futures modify the country's weather to support the agriculture sector which employs majority of the population especially the Youth, Women and the Elderly.

Read more:

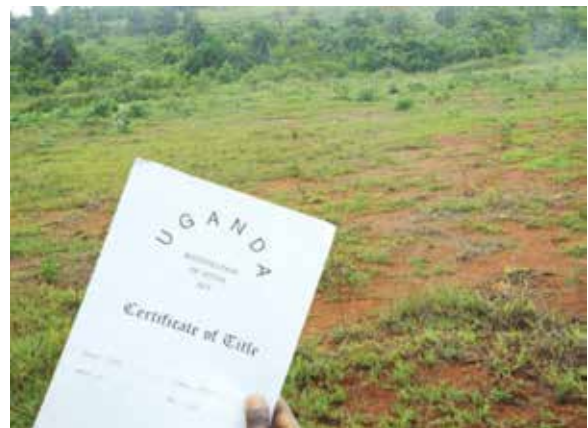
<https://thereportersug.com/saving-agriculture-why-uganda-govt-should-guide-land-rights/>

By Samuel Nabwiso

The Reporter News Uganda

LIRA | UGANDA

Government to rollout free Land Certificate acquisition in Lango



Government is to roll out systematic land certification and adjudication to the Lango sub region to help people acquire free land certificates or certificates of ownership.

The acting commissioner of land administration in the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development, Abdu Nassar Olekwa, said the program was initiated by the government seven years ago and had since been piloted in Oyam and other areas in the country.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/govt-to-rollout-free-land-certificate-acquisi-NV_168808

By Patrick Okino

New Vision

DAR ES SALAAM | TANZANIA

AGRF 2023: Experts and Activists call for the inclusion of Smallholder Farmers in the Summit



Thousands of delegates have gathered in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania for the Africa Food Systems Forum 2023. The summit has also seen experts speak out on the critical issue of soil health and inclusion of Smallholder farmers who they claim have for long been left out.

Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOhyI-gJoiQ>

By Suhail Mugabi

SEE TV

NAIROBI | KENYA

Climate Voices: Smallholder Farmers call on Donors for financial backing in Climate Change battle



Phoebe Mwangangi is a smallholder farmer from Makueni County, a semi-arid area that receives minimal rainfall. Despite the minimal rainfall in the area, Mwangangi says that they are able to farm drought-tolerant crops like sorghum, millet and cowpeas through the use of new innovative techniques that are fit for their landscape.

"We are being assisted with innovative methods like deep tillage that is basically digging deep with minimum soil disturbance, this helps the turbulence to hold water when the rains fail," said Mwangangi during an interview at the side event in the ongoing ACS. Makueni County is one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located in the southeastern parts of the country.

Read more:

<https://www.talkafrica.co.ke/climate-voices-smallholder-farmers-call-on-donors-for-financial-backing-in-climate-change-battle/>

By Lenah Bosibori

Talk Africa

DAR ES SALAAM | TANZANIA

Africa Governments must Fund Food Security Research



Africa's transition to a more sustainable food system is facing strong headwinds that must be addressed to avert hunger. Speaking during the Africa Food Systems conference in Dar es Salaam, Philip Mpango, the Vice President of Tanzania says transforming the continent's food systems requires more investment in scientific research plus a multi-sectoral development approach in easing supply chains and movement of commodities.

Watch: :

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

By Racheal Mildred Nabisubi
NTV Uganda

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Lands Ministry, PELUM, ESAFF & NUDIPU Organize Land Awareness Week in Lango Sub-Region.



The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD) in partnership with Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Uganda, ESAFF Uganda, National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU), Caritas, ACSA and other Non-State Actors have organized the seventh (7th) Land Awareness Week-(LAW) 2023 to be held in Lango Sub Region. *The Land Awareness week is under the theme "Promoting Land Rights and Inclusion for Enhanced Production and Sustainable Development"*. The awareness weeks will be held in the Districts of Lira, Apac, Dokolo, Amolatar, Kwanja, Kole and Alebtong.

Addressing the journalists at the Uganda Media center, Minister Nabakooba said that a similar event shall be held in Busia district focusing on issues of extractives/mining and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD).

Read more:

<https://spyreports.co.ug/lands-ministry-pelum-esaff-nudipu-organize-land-awareness-week-in-lango-sub-region>

By Spy Reports

VIHIGA | KENYA

Sustainable Farming Practices offering hope for Climate Resilience and Prosperity for Smallholder Farmers in Kenya



Vihiga county executive member in charge of agriculture Nicholas Ligayo notes that majority of smallholder farmers in the County cultivate maize and beans as major food crops on an average of 0.4 hectares of land with the County's economy being predominantly agriculture which supports approximately 85 % of the population's livelihood. Subsistence farmers account for 90% of agricultural production in the county.

Jacktone Kwendo, a thriving agroecology farmer inspects passion fruits on his farm in Vihiga county. On a cold morning in a tiny village on the slopes of Ebuhandu hills in Vihiga county, Western Kenya, 54-year-old Stephene Olaka, marches purposefully towards his one-acre farm to begin the day's work. He wears sturdy rubber soled gumboots to easily navigate the muddy loamy soil in his farm.

With a jembe in one hand and a small radio in the other, Olaka leads us to a small

stream on the edge of his farm which he says is his source of irrigation water. The rough surface of his wooden handled flat blade designed jembe is a clear indication of years of sweat and hard work.

Watch: :

<https://mountkenyatimes.co.ke/sustainable-farming-practices-offering-hope-for-climate-resilience-and-prosperity-for-small-holder-farmers-in-kenya/>

By Jackson Okata
Mt Kenya Times

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Could Agroecological Entrepreneurship lead towards Sustainable Food Systems?



Sustaining agricultural production through land use management has become a challenge worldwide. There is a tendency to increase food production to meet the food needs of the increasing population without focusing on practices that conserve agricultural resources.

According to the Scientific Group of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 report, food systems contribute approximately 80% of biodiversity loss. In Uganda, according to a World Bank report, the cost of unsustainable rate of soil erosion and land degradation is approximately 17% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). One of the approaches towards sustainable food systems that has gained much attention recently is Agroecology.

This focuses on the application of ecological practices and principles to food systems aimed at conserving biodiversity, resource management, stabilization of yields, strengthening resilience towards the impacts of climate change as well as promoting healthy and diverse food systems.

Read more:

<https://eprcug.org/blog/could-agroecological-entrepreneurship-lead-toward-s-sustainable-food-systems/>

By Christine Arwata Alum
EPRC

KASESE | UGANDA

Local Farmers in Kasese are still cleaved to Inorganic Farming



About 70% of local farmers in Kasese District are still cleaved to inorganic farming, an agricultural practice partly blamed for the increasing cases of chronicle diseases in the district, Mr. Asanairi Bukanywa, the Kasese Municipal Agricultural extension officer has said.

Speaking to our reporter shortly after Community Organic Agricultural Dialogue on promoting Agro-ecological farming techniques and healthy food held in Road barrier cell in Kasese Municipality organized by the Eastern and southern Africa small scale farmer's forum "ESAFF" Uganda, Mr. Bukanywa said the project was a dream come true against agricultural practices that endanger the lives of the locals.

Read more:

<https://kaseseguiderradio.com/local-farmers-in-kasese-are-still-cleaved-to-inorganic-farming/>

By Peter Masereka
Kasese Guide Radio

KABALE | UGANDA

Nkuringo Community Conservation Development Foundation Members advised to embrace Unity and Peace



Nkuringo community conservation development foundation members have been asked to be vigilant and careful as they approach elections time. The call was made by the current chairperson of NCCDF Turyagenda asigariyo who is waiting for his term of office to come to an end.

Asigariyo who is also former parliamentary contender for Bukimbiri county in 2021 has used the platform to request the entire community of Bukimbiri to desist from chaos and rather opt for dialogues if there are to succeed. He called upon all members of general assembly to embrace unity and peaceful demonstrations during the forthcoming elections to elect new leaders of NCCDF. It is in the same meeting that the electoral commission was unveiled.

Read more:

<https://m19news.co.ug/2023/08/05/nkuringo-community-conservation-development-foundation-members-advise-d-to-embrace-unity-and-peaceful/>

By Edward Ngabo
M19TV News

APAC | UGANDA

ESAFF Uganda Reflects on 7th Land Awareness Week



During the Land Awareness Week (LAW) 2023, Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) Uganda with its partners reflected on the recently concluded 7th LAW to solve land-related disputes among small-scale farmers under the theme of "promoting land rights and inclusion for sustainable development.

From the 27th of August to the 1st of September, ESAFF Uganda had the 7th LAW in the Lango sub-region in 7 districts of Lira, Dokolo, Amolatar, Kole, Kwania, Apac, and Alebtong exercising the responsibility of managing dialogues, legal aid clinics, and other engagements with the interest of extending critical land rights information to the communities by supporting or giving a platform to access legal guidance from legal experts through legal aid clinics.

According to Hakim Baliraine, Chairman of ESAFF, Land rights were one of the major goals why the organization was formed to make sure that small-scale farmers have one voice and are able to observe and understand their rights and use them appropriately.

Read more:

<https://www.ugstandard.com/esaff-uganda-reflects-on-7th-land-awareness-week/>

By Sharon Muzaki
UG Standard Media

KASESE | UGANDA

Rock Primary school has merged National Winners of School Agroecology Poem Writing Competition



Rock Primary school in Kasese Municipality has merged the national winners of school Agro ecology poem writing competition with a call on local community to empower the young people with Agronomic skills based on organic farming.

Victor Mumwezuki and Morgan Agaba from Rock primary school came as first and second respectively among hundreds of learners from over ten schools that participated in this competition that required participants to write from their respective schools before submitting to

Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale farmers' Forum, ESAFF, head offices in Kampala.

Read more:

<https://kaseseguiderradio.com/rock-primary-sch-has-merged-national-winners-of-school-agro-ecology-poem-writing-competition/>

By Peter Masereka
Kasese Guide Radio

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Farmers Group Trained in Agro Business Related Enterprise



Farmers' Groups from ten districts in Uganda have been trained in agroecological agricultural business skills. The training is aimed at improving their business capacity and to improve their economic environment.

The training which focused mainly on small-scale farmers, and widely targeted women farmers groups, empowered them to create agroecological businesses that promote environmental conservation and drive economic growth.

While opening the training in Kampala, the Vice Chairperson of the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) Uganda, Margareta Masudio said farmers need more financial support and business skills.

Read more:

<https://earthfinds.co.ug/index.php/en/tourism/environment/item/3862-farmers-group-trained-in-agro-business-related-enterprise>

By Baz Waisswa

Earth Finds

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Farmers' Organization embarks on equipping Small-scale Farmers with Business Skills



Masudio Margaret, the Vice Chairperson of ESAFF Uganda, said the business tools will help the smallholder farmers to become more agro-enterprises oriented hence improving their livelihoods.

The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) Uganda has embarked on training farmers to become

business-oriented. The farmer's forum through the Agroecology Business Hub project intends to empower small-scale farmers with business skills like financial risk management, book records and business enterprise selection, among others.

Masudio Margaret, the Vice Chairperson of EASFF Uganda, said the business tools will help the smallholder farmers to become more agro-enterprises oriented hence improving their livelihoods.

Read more:

<https://charmarnews.com/farmers-organization-embarks-on-equipping-small-scale-farmers-with-business-skills/>

By Fahim Muyingo

Charmar News

KAMPALA | UGANDA

National Organic Week: Creating more awareness on Organic Best Farming Practices



Eastern and Southern Africa Small Farmers Forum (ESAFF) Uganda has organized the 5th National Organic Week (NOW) 2023

which will aim at informing the wider public about the importance of organic farming and consumption of organically produced foods.

NOW is also aiming at encouraging the uptake of organic farming practices among small-scale farmers. Therefore, this year's theme will be focusing on the promotion of Agroecological farming techniques and healthy foods. The event is to run from the 25th of September 2023 to the 29th of September 2023.

Read more: <https://www.watchdoguganda.com/news/20230925/160084/national-organic-week-creating-more-awareness-on-organic-best-farming-practices.html>

By Stephen Kalema
Watchdog Uganda

KISORO | UGANDA

St. Gertrude Student wins school fees for writing Environment Poem



A National Poem Writing Competition about Agro ecology was organized back in June by Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale

Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) to promote awareness about the dangers of using Agrochemicals.

Peruth Nyirambabariye, a senior three Student at St. Gertrude Secondary School in Kisoro District have been awarded school fees for one term after her poem on environmental conservation was the second best out of ten Secondary School from across the Country.

Read more: <https://vomuhabura.com/st-gertrude-student-wins-school-fees-for-writing-environment-poem/>

By Gerald Niyirinda
Voice of Muhabura

KAMPALA | UGANDA

National Organic Week to on promote Agroecological Farming Practices and Healthy Food



The fifth Annual National Organic Week is back. The 2023 event will focus on promoting agroecological farming techniques and healthy food in the country.

This year's theme is Promoting of Agroecological Farming Techniques and Healthy Foods. It will kick off on Monday, September 25 2023 and end on September 29 2023.

Hakim Baliraine, the National Chairperson of the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF Uganda) said in a media statement that they will use the Week to share agroecology farming practices and experiences.

He said they also use the Week to raise awareness among the public on the consumption of agroecologically produced agricultural products.

Read more: <https://earthfinds.co.ug/index.php/en/tourism/environment/item/3861-national-organic-week-to-on-promote-a-groecological-farming-practices-and-h-healthy-food>

By Baz Waisswa
Earth Finds

NORTHERN UGANDA

Agroecology, A Remedy to Mycotoxins in Northern Uganda



Gulu leaders from Acholi subregion have made a call for government intervention over mycotoxin contamination in the North and country wide.

The Call was made through a motion to address challenges of mycotoxin moved by Martin Ojara Mapenduzi, MP of Bardege Layibi Division on Tuesday July 18 2023.

Read more: <https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/08/13/agroecology-a-remedy-to-mycotoxins-in-northern-uganda-27811/>

By Okello Ojara Jesus
TND News

Nairobi | Kenya

Agroecology; Not Just about Food Security but also Food and Environment Safety for the African Continent



Regina Njeri, 46, has been practicing organic agriculture on her 2-acre piece of land for the past three year. The mother of three says organic farming is safe and cost

effective compared to conventional farming techniques.

"My yields have been encouraging and the cost burden of farm inputs is no longer a bother because I generate my own manure on the farm" she said on the sidelines of the final day of the African Climate Summit in Nairobi. Njeri says the shift to organic farming helped her reduce almost 90% of crop pests and diseases on her farm.

Read more:

<https://mountkenytimes.co.ke/agroecology-not-just-about-food-security-but-also-food-and-environment-safety-for-the-african-continent/>

By Jackson Okata
Mount Kenya Times

NORTHERN | UGANDA

Why Farmers in Acholi are using the wrong Chemicals on Tomatoes



Gulu leaders from Acholi subregion have made a call for government intervention over mycotoxin contamination in the North and country wide.

The Call was made through a motion to address challenges of mycotoxin moved by Martin Ojara Mapenduzi, MP of Bardege

Layibi Division on Tuesday July 18 2023.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/08/13/agroecology-a-remedy-to-mycotoxins-in-northern-uganda-27811/>

By Okello Ojara Jesus
TND News

NAIROBI | KENYA

Ban GMOs in Africa, Farmers urge Governments



A cross section of residents from the oil rich Albertine Region have petitioned African heads of state to ban genetically modified organisms and crops across the continent to save Africa's indigenous crops and animal species from extinction. The August 26 petition addressed to President William Ruto of Kenya the Chairperson of the committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change, asks African heads of states who are meeting this week for Africa Climate Dialogue to pass strong resolutions to ban GMOs.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/08/16/why-farmers-in-acholi-are-using-wrong-chemicals-on-tomatoes-27896/>

Okello Jesus Ojara
TND News

NAIROBI | KENYA

Agroecological Systems Leaving Nobody Behind in Food Security



An increasing number of people in Kenya and the larger sub-Saharan Africa region still rely on emergency food support. The number of food-insecure people in Kenya increased by 35 percent between 2022 and 2023. Vulnerable households are using multiple coping strategies to survive such as consuming less expensive foods irrespective of nutritional value and living on one meal a day.

"The world is changing and climate change is here. We only have three options – mitigate, adapt and restore the ecosystem. Agroecology is the most sustainable path towards addressing climate change. It is anchored in leaving no one behind, be they women, youths, people living with disability, indigenous groups and many other categories of vulnerable groups who are often left behind agricultural interventions," says Arnold S. Lemaletian from the A Jesuit Center for Social Transformation in East Africa.

Read more:

<https://scienceafrica.co.ke/2023/09/06/africa-agroecological-systems-leaving-nobody-behind-in-food-security/>

By Joyce Chimbi
Science Africa

OBONGI | UGANDA

South Sudanese Refugee in Parolinya Settlement Embracing Agroecology to Promote Community Resilience to Climate Change.



The on and off civil conflicts and the political instability in South Sudan has led to the largest ongoing refugee crisis in Africa. According to The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 2 million people have fled, and many have settled in Uganda while a number of them are still coming into the country.

In Palorinya refugee settlement in Obongi district, West Nile sub region is one the biggest settlements where a large number of them have been resettled. While here, they face difficult living conditions of increasingly long droughts due to climate change effects. But have to depend on small-scale farming to sustain their families topping on the food support received from

the different organizations to increase their sustainability.

Read more:

<https://www.ugstandard.com/the-south-sudanese-refugees-in-palarniya-settlement-embracing-agroecology-to-promote-community-resilience-to-climate-change/>

By Sharon Muzaki
UG Standard Media

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Small scale Farmers Embrace Agroecology for Easy Access to Markets



The adoption of this approach is gaining momentum across all regions of the country, empowering farmers and fostering sustainable food systems. Agroecology encompasses the relationship between agricultural production systems and ecological processes. It includes all the techniques that allow agricultural practices to be more respectful of the environmental and its ecological specificities.

According to a report by ESAFF Uganda the impact of community Agroecology schools has been significant. Over 5645 people

have directly and indirectly benefited from the initiative with 34 community schools built and over 1,000 individuals becoming members of these schools.

Read more:

<https://t.co/bONfscjPQX?ssr=true>

By Aloysious Kasoma
New Vision

NORTHERN UGANDA

The Green Gold of Acholi: Locals form cooperatives to conserve the “Wonder Shea Tree”



A long time ago, nut collectors from Northern Uganda searched the dark forests for a wonder tree which could satisfy their hunger and treat their mortal ailments. A tree which could hold the linear majesty of human royalty intact.

They searched long and hard because they needed this cardinal source of anointing oil so deeply to illuminate their celebration of

twins; a rare gifts of the supernatural to their posterity. A solemn tree to soothe their tired skins after garden work and nourish the elderly back to their youth. It won't work without obligations. And so, a solemn unbreakable bond was inched in blood. For every stem humanity will despicably fell, only a sacrifice of a blameless lamb will quench its fury. So magical to even tell when it will rain with precision. This is the tip of a long tale of the wonder Shea tree.

Read more:

<https://dailyexpress.co.ug/2023/09/18/the-green-gold-of-acholi-locals-for-m-cooperatives-to-serve-the-wonder-shea-tree/>

By David Okema & Peter Labeja
Daily Express

NAIROBI | KENYA

Climate Summit: Africa can feed itself if it uses Right Technology and Scientific Research



As the Climate Summit (ACS) kicked off in Nairobi Kenya under the theme, 'Driving

Green Growth and Climate Finance For Africa's Solutions, discussions on food systems transformation in Africa took to the center stage to showcase how Ethiopia has moved from a net importer of wheat to a stable country.

Speaking during the side event on investment opportunities for food systems transformation in Africa, Dr Ibrahim Mayaki African Union Special Envoy for food systems said that with the right investments and policies, Africa can become a vibrant, sustainable, and prosperous engine of economic growth. "Our journey in Ethiopia began with the commitment to modernize agriculture by recognizing that the smallholder farmers form the backbone of our economy," added Mayaki.

Read more:

<https://www.talkafrica.co.ke/climate-summit-africa-can-feed-itself-if-it-use-s-right-technology-and-scientific-research/>

By Lenah Bosibori
Talk Africa

NAIROBI | KENYA

Climate Summit Kicks Off with Focus on Financing, Continental Unity in Nairobi



Africa's first climate summit kicked off in the Kenyan capital today with delegates aiming to forge a common position ahead of upcoming global conferences and discussing how to fund the continent's environmental priorities. This is the first-ever climate summit co-hosted by Kenya and the African Union.

President William Ruto welcomed all delegates who responded to the call to attend the summit.

"I welcome everyone to the Africa Climate Summit. You have not just stepped into a conference hall but into the future. This is no ordinary summit," he said. He said the summit seeks to profile Africa as part of the climate crisis solution.

Read more:

<https://dareakogun.com/climate-summit-kicks-off-with-focus-on-financing-continental-unity-in-nairobi/>

By Dare Akogun
DA News

NTOROKO | UGANDA

Vanilla farmers in Ntoroko threaten to uproot gardens



The Ministry of Agriculture officially scheduled July 17 as the harvesting date for vanilla across the country, however, farmers from Ntoroko district argue that

this date was delayed and the ideal time should have been June.

Mr. Magest Masereka, a vanilla farmer, said during the previous season farmers were selling a kilogram of vanilla for shs. 50,000 and the lucrative returns had encouraged more farmers to venture into vanilla cultivation. Unfortunately, this season's price was shs. 7,000 per kilogram leading to severe losses.

Read more:

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/vanilla-farmers-in-ntoroko-threaten-to-uproot-gardens-4324832>

By Alex Ashaba
Daily Monitor

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Smallholder Farmers call for Involvement in Research Processes.



Through their umbrella organization, ESAFF Uganda, farmers say because they are not involved in research, most technologies haven't been embraced because they don't

understand them. Through their chairperson, Hakim Baliraine, they add that even when they want to access new technologies, the language used is unfriendly to farmers.

Hakim is now calling on researchers to work with farmers, through a participatory research approach so their concerns can be addressed at the start of the research process.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/agriculture/smallholder-farmers-call-for-involvement-in-r-NV_166032

By Prossy Nandudu
New Vision

NAIROBI | KENYA

Agroecology, Crucial Pathway in Achieving SDGs



East African countries are grappling with extreme poverty due to an escalating and consistent drought situation. Gaps and weaknesses in the agricultural sector have prevented a consistent, sustainable reduction in rural poverty and inequality, leaving smallholder farmers trapped in a poverty cycle.

As matters agriculture and the green economy took center stage at the just concluded inaugural Africa Climate Summit under the theme, 'Driving Green Growth

and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World', delegates spoke of the urgent need to halt and reverse the snowballing food crisis.

Read more:

<https://scienceafrica.co.ke/2023/09/08/agroecology-crucial-pathway-in-achieving-sdgs/>

By Joyce Chimbi
Science Africa

Call to Action from the PELUM Uganda Country Board Chairperson - Dr. Christopher Kyeswa during the Land Awareness Week 2023: District political and technical leaders, District Enforcement agencies and all those with Land titles to actively participate and use this opportunity to Verify any title documents and information from the National Land Information System.

#LandAwarenessWeek23.

Watch here:

<https://youtu.be/HUuV7taKDEs>

By PELUM Uganda

GULU | UGANDA

Northern Uganda: Musician turn to poultry farming to supplement earning



Erick Opoka aka Ezzy lyrical Zino says by understanding agriculture, one should practice innovation and technologies to respond to the emerging challenges and climate change. Ezzy spoke to TDN News during the five day regional agricultural exhibition in Gulu city which ended on Sunday July 31. The exhibitions brought together close to 150 agribusiness entities that showcased innovations and technology of farming.

The Agriculture show was organized by Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) in partnership with the Bank of Uganda and Gulu University among other partners.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2023/08/01/northern-uganda-top-musician-turn-to-poultry-farming-to-supplement-earning/>

By Okot Lil Romeo

TDN News

KENYA | NAIROBI

Climate Summit: Agroecology as a Pathway to Achieving SDGs



East African countries are grappling with extreme poverty due to an escalating and consistent drought situation. Gaps and weaknesses in the agricultural sector have prevented a consistent, sustainable reduction in rural poverty and inequality, leaving smallholder farmers trapped in a poverty cycle.

As matters of agriculture and the green economy took center stage at the just concluded inaugural Africa Climate Summit under the theme, 'Driving Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World', delegates spoke of the urgent need to halt and reverse the snowballing food crisis.

Read more:

<https://www.talkafrica.co.ke/climate-summit-agroecology-as-a-pathway-to-achieving-sdgs/>

By Joyce Chimbi

Talk Africa

KAMPALA | UGANDA

Why agricultural Insurance uptake in Uganda is low



A study conducted by the insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) across 18 districts in Uganda recently revealed that a significant proportion of commercial farmers, who have the most to gain, have not even heard of agricultural insurance.

The symbiotic relationship between agriculture and the Ugandan economy is undeniable, with the sector contributing significantly to exports, GDP and employment. The sector contributes 24.1% to the gross domestic product, 33% of export earnings and about 70% of employment-based.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/article/details/NV_169286

By Nelson Mandela Muhoozi
New Vision

NAIROBI | KENYA

Agroecology is The Silver Bullet to Africa's Chronic Hunger and Thirst



An increasing number of African countries are in the throng of a spiraling food crisis instigated by erratic and drastic changes in weather patterns. The deterioration in food security is such that in the greater Horn of Africa, nearly 60 million people are in an elevated state of acute food insecurity and need urgent food assistance.

One in five people in Africa or an estimated 20 percent of the population are facing hunger, a staggering figure compared to 9.1 percent in Asia and 8.6 percent in Latin America. Globally, 10 percent of people are facing chronic hunger compared to 20 percent or a fifth of people in Africa.

Read more:

<https://www.talkafrica.co.ke/agroecology-is-the-silver-bullet-to-africas-chronic-hunger-and-thirst/>

By Joyce Chimbi
Talk Africa

GOMBA | UGANDA

Why agricultural Insurance uptake in Uganda is low



Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are calling on the government of Uganda to strengthen its working relationship with development partners as a way of boosting fair and responsible local and foreign investment in the country.

The Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) say that the current investment environment is not conducive especially to the local communities because related laws are not in tandem with the international responsible investment protocols.

Some of the protocols not aligned with the Ugandan laws include the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) and the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI), as well as national frameworks.

Read more:
<http://earthfinds.co.ug/index.php/en/tourism/environment/item/3844-civil-society-guides-government-on-optimal-land-investment-practices>

By Samuel Nabwiso
Earth Finds

MUKONO | UGANDA

How Agro-ecology Battles Nutritional Deficiencies and Food Insecurity



In generations past, traditional farming practices ensured the harvests were enough and that population did not suffer much diseases caused by what they ate. But with modernity, came a dramatic shift to conventional methods.

Nutritional diseases now echo through the corridors of our healthcare systems, leaving us to question the true cost of progress. Climate change threats are also on the rise.

Read more:
<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/magazines/farming/how-agro-ecology-battles-nutritional-deficiencies-and-food-insecurity-4327050?s=08>

By Mourice Muhoozi & Miriam Najjingo
Daily Monitor

NAIROBI | KENYA

Why Uganda, South Africa and Nigeria skipped Africa Climate Summit



When 14 African presidents jetted into Nairobi, Kenya this week for the inaugural Africa Climate Summit (ACS), Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni was a no-show, as were South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa and Nigeria's Bola Tinubu.

But why?

The Nation has learnt from three senior Kenyan foreign ministry officials that Uganda's Museveni wrote to Kenya declining his invitation, stating categorically that he could not sit and be lectured by US climate envoy John Kerry, who hails from a Global North country that is among the world's biggest polluters.

Read more:

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/news/east-africa/why-uganda-south-africa-and-nigeria-skipped-ac-4362448>

By Nation Africa

MBARARA | UGANDA

Farmers tipped on Agroecology to mitigate climatic change disruptions



The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum [ESSAF Uganda] has appealed to small-scale Farmers in the country to embrace Agroecology in a bid to contain some of the disruptive effects of climate change such as food insecurity and diseases.

Agroecology is the practice of combining trees and farming and demonstrates how food production and nature can co-exist, with food being grown without the use of agrochemicals. While addressing journalists in Mbarara on Tuesday, Andrew Adem said most Ugandans have embraced the use of agrochemicals such as fertilizers, pesticides, and fungicides among others to increase food production, forgetting that such agrochemicals are dangerous to human health.

Read more:

<https://thecooperator.news/farmers-tipped-on-agroecology-to-mitigate-climatic-change-disruptions/>

By Joshua Nahamya
The Cooperator News

NAIROBI | KENYA

Improving the uptake of Agriculture insurance among Uganda's Smallholder Farmers



Uganda's uptake of agriculture insurance remains low despite the agriculture sector facing erratic weather patterns, floods, landslides and pest invasions. The symbiotic relationship between agriculture and the Ugandan economy is undeniable, with the sector contributing 33% of the country's export earnings, 24.1% of its gross domestic product (GDP), and about 70% of employment.

Governments worldwide have embraced agricultural insurance as a means to minimise financial losses for farmers, stabilise household income, and boost funding for a sector predominantly comprised of smallholder farmers. Unfortunately, farmers in Uganda are yet to wholly embrace insurance in their agribusiness – the uptake, especially among smallholder and subsistence farmers, is disappointing. The current penetration of agricultural insurance in Uganda covers less than 1% of the farming population.

Read more:

<https://afahpublishing.com/improving-the-uptake-of-agriculture-insurance-among-ugandas-smallholder-farmers/>

By Nelson Mandela Muhoozi
Afah Publishing

NAIROBI | KENYA

Scientists Urge African Governments to Support Youth-Led Agricultural Technologies



Scientists have urged all African governments to invest in sustainable and modern technologies in agriculture to bring back the youth who have moved away. Prof Catherine Kanyanga Department of Food Science, Nutrition and Technology University of Nairobi speaking during the pre-summit said that the youth in Kiambu County used to feed Nairobi with pork and chicken because it was a quick way of making income but have shifted due to high cost of feeding them.

"Currently, the youth and women in Kiambu County have moved away from poultry farming terming it unsustainable. In our baseline survey we found out that their poultry started dying due to diseases, lack of vaccination, and lack of finance to feed them," said Kanyanga.

Read more:

<https://www.talkafrica.co.ke/scientists-urge-african-governments-to-support-youth-led-in-agricultural-technologies/>

By Lenah Bosibori

Talk Africa

GULU | UGANDA

Farmers told to Embrace New Innovations at Agricultural Trade Fair



Northern Uganda small-scale farmers were urged to embrace new innovations and technologies to respond to the emerging challenges of climate change as a regional agricultural exhibition commenced in Gulu City.

A five-day trade fair which kicked off on Wednesday at Pece stadium in Gulu City is expected to close on Sunday bringing about 150 agribusiness exhibitors with new innovations and technologies for farming. Addressing the launch of the exhibition on Thursday, Major General Samuel Kavuma, the deputy national coordinator for Operation Wealth Creation urged the farmers to grow drought-resistant crops.

Read more:

<https://thecooperator.news/farmers-told-to-embrace-new-innovations-at-agricultural-trade-fair/>

By Simon Wokorach

The Cooperator News

NAIROBI | KENYA

“No decision about us without us!” - Africa’s Leading Farmer Groups Call Out AGRA Over Corporate Interference



AGRA, until recently known as The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa — will hold its annual Summit in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 5-8 September. Branded as ‘the Africa Food Systems Summit’, the event brings together agribusiness leaders, experts, policymakers, and representatives from various sectors of the food industry. The forum claims to be “a unique platform for CEOs to build meaningful connections and partnerships within the food and agriculture sector.”

At a virtual press conference on 30 August, the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) and its collaborators, representing hundreds of small-scale food producer groups across Africa, rejected the validity

of the AGRA Forum. They highlighted the silenced narratives of those at the heart of Africa's agriculture: its farmers.

Read more:

<https://afsafrica.org/press-release-no-decision-about-us-without-us/>

By AFSA

KASSANDA | UGANDA

Small farmers raise alarm as land grabbing intensifies



Uganda relies heavily on agriculture, a sector that contributes nearly a quarter to its gross domestic product.

Just over two thirds of Ugandans earn their living from agriculture, most of whom engage in subsistence farming, meaning that land is at the core of their most valuable assets. However, complaints of farmers losing their land through dubious means risk creating a crisis for those whose only livelihood is agriculture.

Read more:

<https://observer.ug/news/headlines/78699-small-farmers-raise-alarm-as-land-grabbing-intensifies>

By Samuel Nabwiso

The Observer

GULU | UGANDA

EXCLUSIVE: Is Museveni's Executive Order No. 3 a "Blanket Order"?



Authorities in Uganda's government are now gripped in fear over a looming energy fuel catastrophe as President's ban against charcoal trade takes shape in the northern region which is seen as the biggest producer supplying charcoal to major urban towns in the country. *"Right Now, a bag of charcoal in Kampala has doubled in [price]."*

"90% of the people in Kampala use Charcoal," the Senior Presidential Advisor on Defence and Security, Gen Kaleb Akandwanaho, alias Gen Salim Saleh revealed while speaking to leaders and technical staff across Lango, Acholi and West Nile during a meeting at Gulu University recently.

Read more:

<https://dailyexpress.co.ug/2023/07/20/exclusive-is-musevenis-executive-order-no-3-against-charcoal-trade-a-blanket-order/>

By David Okema

Daily Express

NEBBI | UGANDA

Government Asked to Empower Lower Area Land Committees



Leaders and land actors in West Nile have appealed to Government through the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development (MoLHUD) and Local governments to allocate resources to lower area land committees to enable them execute their duties and mandates as per the Land Act and National Land Policy 2013.

During a recent meeting in Nebbi Town on Area Land Committees (ALCs) attended by representatives of District Land Boards of Zombo and Arua districts, local leaders and other land actors expressed concern that the Central Government has not been supportive to the lower land structures. They said activities of the Area Land Committees aren't financed and this has led to the high incidences of land conflicts, fraud and poor land service delivery in the region.

Read more:
<https://businessfocus.co.ug/govt-ask-ed-to-empower-lower-area-land-committees/>

By Samuel Nabwiso
Business Focus

KAYUNGA | UGANDA

Authorities impound maize dried on Kayunga tarmac roads



Police and Kayunga Town Council authorities on Wednesday impounded maize being found being dried on tarmac roads in the district. Kayunga Town Clerk, Faridah Kulabako said that two youths and unspecified tons of the grain were impounded and are being kept as exhibits at the Kayunga Town council offices.

Read more:
<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/authorities-impound-maize-dried-on-kayunga-tarmac-roads--4338414>

By Fred Muzaale
Daily Monitor

GULU | UGANDA

Northern Ugandan Farmers urged to embrace vegetable farming as a business.

Farmers in Northern Uganda have been urged to embrace vegetable farming as a business so that they can earn some income. The call was made recently by Moses Oremo, the Program manager for Northern Uganda Horticulture market acceleration Project [NU-HortiMAP]. He said that Vegetables can be grown in most parts of Northern Uganda adding that farmers should work with the extension workers in their sub-counties so that they can grow better crops. He also cautioned farmers against using agro-chemicals without guidance from trained personnel saying that it could put their lives and other lives at risk.

Molly Atim, an Agricultural extension worker with Techno serve said they are helping farmers in Northern Uganda to grow fresh fruits and vegetables adding that farmers should select good seeds and technical services. She also urged farmers to use technology like Irrigation, sola drier among others which will help them to increase on their household income.

Read more:

<https://www.favourfm.org/northern-ugandan-farmers-urged-to-embrace-vegetable-farming-as-a-business/>

By Patrick Uma

Favour FM

GOMBA | UGANDA

Gomba farmers receive digital tools to speed up PDM



ESAFF Uganda, a small scale farmer led movement in partnership with GIZ, has donated devices with tools to track the investment activities of small holder farmers with the district leadership.

Speaking at the compliance Investment Monetary tools handover to Gomba district officials on Wednesday, Hakim Baliraine, The chairperson of ESAFF Uganda said that the tools will create harmony among the district leaders and communities.

Read more:

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/agriculture/gomba-farmers-receive-digital-tools-to-speed-NV_167658

By Aloysius Kasoma

New Vision

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 2

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

1.

Answer: **FALSE**, If it is not done by the organization because all the margin goes to the shopkeeper and it doesn't enable farmers to earn a living from their work.

2.

Answer: **RATHER TRUE**, because as a result we can make them aware of the quality (health), of the way we produce, of how we manage to live as a farmer.

3.

Answer: **TRUE**, Because it promotes biodiversity and reduces the dependence on climate and economic risks.

4.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecology, as a sustainable farming and agricultural approach, aims to find outlets in the main chains of distribution. This means that agroecological practices and products should be integrated into mainstream food distribution systems to reach a wider consumer base and promote sustainable and environmentally friendly food production methods.

5.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecology promotes an alternative and more sustainable approach to agriculture that prioritizes ecological principles and local food systems over industrial practices

6.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecology is indeed a comprehensive approach that embraces three interrelated components

7.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecology prioritizes the use of ecological and organic practices to minimize or eliminate the need for these chemicals

8.

Answer: **FALSE**, Agroecology is not just a set of agricultural practices; it is a holistic and multifaceted approach to agriculture that encompasses various dimensions.

9.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecological practices often draw on indigenous and traditional knowledge systems, respecting the cultural heritage of local communities.

10.

Answer: **TRUE**, Agroecology primarily contributes to the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) and Goal 15 (Life on Land), but it is not directly related to Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) or Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)

AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 3

1.

Agroecology places a strong emphasis on preserving biodiversity within agricultural ecosystems.

True False

2.

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

True False

3.

Agroecological farming systems are generally less resilient to climate change compared to conventional farming methods.

True False

4.

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

True False

5.

Agroecology is a global movement advocating for sustainable and equitable food systems.

True False

6.

Agroecological farming systems prioritize monoculture farming for increased efficiency.

True False

7.

Agroecology emphasizes sustainable farming practices that mimic natural ecosystems.

True False

8.

Agroecology is primarily about reducing the economic costs of farming practices.

True False

9.

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

True False

10.

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

True False

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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