

# THE AGROECOLOGY POST

Amplifying Stories of African Journalists  
and Communicators

APRIL - JUNE 2024 | ISSUE 006



**AGROECOLOGY CAN PLAY  
A PIVOTAL ROLE IN  
REVIVING FRAGILE  
ECOSYSTEMS**

## Remarks from Editor in Chief:

Dear **Readers**,

In this edition of the Agroecology Post, we explore the amazing potential that Agroecology holds for completely changing our agricultural systems and fragile environment while delving into the realm of this game-changing practice. I am delighted to share with you, as Editor-in-Chief, a selection of incisive and motivational pieces, written by our journalists at the Agroecology School for Journalists and Communicators, that illuminate the way towards sustainable and regenerative agriculture.

Agroecology represents a paradigm change in our understanding of food production by highlighting the intricate relationships between agriculture, ecology, and human well-being. It recognizes that the world is a complex network of interconnected systems, and that every decision made in the agricultural sector has an impact on the ecosystem as a whole, influencing things like biodiversity, soil health, water availability, and human well-being.

I would also like to thank all of the hardworking journalists and contributors who put their knowledge and hearts into this issue. Their combined knowledge and unwavering work are proof of the worldwide Agroecology movement and

motivate us all to act.

Finally, I would want to thank all of our readers for coming along on this incredible journey with us. As we push for agroecology's inclusion in agricultural practices and policy around the globe and continue to explore its frontiers, your involvement and dedication to a sustainable future are crucial.

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

### Editorial Team:

Rashida Kabanda  
Andrew Adem  
Nancy Mugimba

Get the latest edition of  
The Agroecology Post on:

**[www.agroecology-school.org/post](http://www.agroecology-school.org/post)**.

Or send an email to:

**[study@agroecology-school.org](mailto:study@agroecology-school.org)**

## Inside this Edition:

Why Seed Saving Is Important .....	<b>Page 1</b>
ESAFF - Uganda Scales Up Support to Smallholder Farmers in Value Addition .....	<b>Page 1</b>
Rwandan Farmers Educated on Manure Benefits for Soil and Environmental Conservation .....	<b>Page 2</b>
Wisdom School Harnesses Agroecology for Productive Gardens .....	<b>Page 2</b>
Environment Day: NGOs call for concerted efforts to protect ecosystem .....	<b>Page 3</b>
Climate Action Network’s take on the Bonn talk shop .....	<b>Page 3</b>
Environmental Activists Ask Government to Support Agroecology .....	<b>Page 4</b>
How Community Seed Bank is Empowering farmers in Lamwo .....	<b>Page 4</b>
Mutoko smallholder farmers lead the way in sustainable agriculture .....	<b>Page 5</b>
Cultivating Change: Transforming Food Systems through Regenerative, Agroecological Approaches .....	<b>Page 5</b>
Farmers, district planners decry “disastrous” agriculture budget cut .....	<b>Page 6</b>
Fruit tree planting initiative launched in Sembabule district .....	<b>Page 6</b>
Drought-stricken Zambia turns to Uganda for 0.5m tonnes of maize .....	<b>Page 7</b>
KRC Uganda calls for enhanced awareness on food security and nutrition .....	<b>Page 7</b>
Trees for Global Benefits: “Climate neutral” burgers in Sweden. Starvation in Uganda .....	<b>Page 8</b>
We either “Go Green or Go Home”, environment is our lifeline .....	<b>Page 8</b>
Elephants return to haunt Moyo farmers .....	<b>Page 9</b>
Organic Agriculture: Tanzania Makes Compelling Case amidst Africa’s Hunger Crisis .....	<b>Page 9</b>
WWF - Uganda Launches Green School Project to Boast Environment Stewardship in Rwenzori Sub Land Scape .....	<b>Page 10</b>
RAB urged farmers to use manure on their crops .....	<b>Page 10</b>
ESAFF Uganda transforming lives of small-scale farmers .....	<b>Page 11</b>
Commit more Funds to Agroecology - CSOs Implore Government .....	<b>Page 11</b>
Championing Peasant Rights: Reflecting on the International Day for Peasant Struggle and the Urgency of Implementing UNDROP .....	<b>Page 12</b>
Climate shocks bring devastating drought to southern Africa's doorstep .....	<b>Page 12</b>
Why you should apply organic fertilizers .....	<b>Page 13</b>
Minister Bwino Launches New Agriculture Project to Enhance Food Security .....	<b>Page 13</b>
Rural Villages Leverage Alternative Certification Systems for Organic Agriculture .....	<b>Page 14</b>
Why Climate Change Severely Affects Women .....	<b>Page 14</b>
ANSWERS TO AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 5.....	<b>Page 15</b>
AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 6.....	<b>Page 17</b>

## KWEEN | UGANDA

## Why Seed Saving Is Important



Any farmer worth his salt will tell you that good seed begets good breed. In crops, it is important to preserve the best seeds for future planting. This helps in making the crop variety survive pests, diseases as well as harsh climatic conditions.

Moses Kiptala, a famous farmer in Mengya village, Kween district and has been a farmer for the last 40 years says past farming communities treated the preservation of seed not only as a necessity for the survival of the crop type in question but for the very social itself.

*"For instance, the best maize, the cobs would be carefully selected and tied up in a bundle. The bundle would then be tied on a pole with the cobs facing downwards. The protective sheath covering the cob would not be removed. The method preserved the seeds from pests for a considerable length of time,"* he explains.

Read more:

<https://www.harvestmoney.co.ug/why-seed-saving-is-important/>

**By Umar Nsubuga**  
Harvest Money

## GULU | UGANDA

## ESAFF - Uganda Scales Up Support to Smallholder Farmers in Value Addition



The longstanding challenges of access to better markets, exploitation by middlemen, and financial credit faced by sections of small scale farmers across Uganda could soon come to an end. The Eastern and Southern Small Scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF)-Uganda is currently embarking on closing the gaps through supporting farmers to add value to their crop for better sales.

Last week, St. Mauritz Agroecology Business Enterprise in Gulu City became the eighth beneficiary of ESAFF Uganda's noble project, Agroecology Business Hub (ABH). The group of about 50 members with majority being women, received a brand new groundnut paste grinding mill. The machine worth UGX3M processes up to 30kg-50kg of roasted groundnuts and sesame per hour.

Read more:

<https://dailyexpress.co.ug/2024/06/29/esaff-uganda-scales-up-support-to-smallholder-farmers-in-value-addition/>

**By David Okema**  
Daily Express



## KIGALI | RWANDA

## Rwandan Farmers Educated on Manure Benefits for Soil and Environmental Conservation



Farmers from various districts in Rwanda have reported that incorporating manure into their agricultural practices significantly benefits environmental conservation. These insights were shared on May 16, 2024, during a ceremony recognizing farmers who have excelled in sustainable agriculture.

Mukamurara Kajabo Théodette, a farmer from Bugesera District in Ntarama Sector, cultivates vegetables, peanuts, beans, and maize. She attributes the environmental benefits of manure to the specific types of plants it comprises.

*"Manure includes various plants that do not harm insects, which are integral to the ecosystem, nor do they damage intercropped trees," she explained. "These plants are bitter to insects, so when they land on the crops, they sense the bitterness or smell and flee. This ensures the insects' survival and prevents crop damage."*

Read more:

<https://www.teradignews.rw/en/rwandan-farmers-educated-on-manure-benefits-for-soil-and-environmental-conservation/>

By Kwizera Robby  
Teradig News

## MUSANZE | RWANDA

## Wisdom School Harnesses Agroecology for Productive Gardens



Wisdom School, situated in Musanze District, has adopted agroecology for its agriculture and livestock farming, achieving substantial and sustainable yields. In the school's gardens and surrounding fields, they have planted a variety of fruit trees intercropped with vegetables, tubers, sugarcane, and medicinal plants.

Edible crops grown include vegetables, yams, pumpkins, cassava, avocado, guava, sugarcane, banana trees, and rosemary, which is known for its brain-refreshing aroma. They also grow short beans, sweet potatoes, and other crops.

Read more:

<https://www.teradignews.rw/en/wisdom-school-harnesses-agroecology-for-productive-gardens/>

By Kwizera Juvenalis  
Teradignews.rw

## LAFIA | NIGERIA

## Environment Day: NGOs call for concerted efforts to protect ecosystem



Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) and Association of Small Scale Agro Producers in Nigeria (ASSAPIN), NGOs, have called for concerted efforts of relevant stakeholders to restore and protect already threatened ecosystem.

Mr Ango Adamu, Executive Secretary, YMCA Mada Hills made the call on Wednesday in Lafia to commemorate 2024 World Environment Day. According to him, it is an established fact that humanly-induced environmental damages are escalating, with serious consequences such as climate change, ecosystem loss, and land desertification.

Read more:

<https://dailynewsbreakers.wordpress.com/2024/06/05/environment-day-ngos-call-for-concerted-efforts-to-protect-ecosystem/>

By Daily News Breakers

## BONN | GERMANY

## Climate Action Network's take on the Bonn talk shop



Proper progress is urgently needed at the UNFCCC climate negotiations this week as, with each day passing, the talks are turning into a cesspit of inaction. Underscoring this is how divorced Bonn is fast becoming from real-world conversations, while long-standing inequities within the UNFCCC process, and between and within countries, are worsening.

Providing an overview of the June UN Climate Meetings so far, Mohamed Adow, Director, Power Shift Africa, said: "Negotiators from the global north at the Bonn Climate Summit risk undermining the key outcomes from COP28 last year. Developed countries are backtracking on their commitments made in Dubai to accelerate discussions around climate finance.

Read more:

<https://spikedmedia.co.zw/climate-action-networks-take-on-the-bonn-talk-shop/>

By spiked online media

## KAMPALA | UGANDA

## Environmental Activists Ask Government to Support Agroecology



Climate Change activists have asked government and different stakeholders to prioritize agroecology over industrial agriculture as part of support for climate change and sustainable agriculture. Led by Xavia Ejoj, the Executive Director of Action Aid Uganda, the activists made this plea while speaking at the opening day of the two-day climate justice week of action symposium.

The symposium organized to raise awareness about the environment and climate change as part of Climate Justice Week is taking place at Makerere University School of Public Health Auditorium.

Read more:  
<https://www.krcfm.com/2024/05/17/environmental-activists-ask-govt-to-support-agroecology/>

By KRC-FM Reporter

## LAMWO | UGANDA

## How Community Seed Bank is Empowering farmers in Lamwo



Situated in Kaliro village, Pawaja Parish, Paloga sub county in the Northern district of Lamwo, Nen Anyim Community Seed Bank has transformed the lives of its members since its establishment in 2018.

The seed bank is governed by a handwritten constitution of 30 farmer members with a majority of 25 female and 5 male farmers. They are all active with a set of committee to handle administrative issues and work with other seed banks to grow.

Read more:  
<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2024/04/10/how-community-seed-bank-is-empowering-farmers-in-lamwo/>

By Okello Jesus Ojara  
TND News



## MUTOKO | ZIMBABWE

## Mutoko smallholder farmers lead the way in sustainable agriculture



As the sun rises over the field, casting a golden glow over the crops. Abel Katsande (67) and Marova Moyo (62) smile as they welcome visitors to their 1.5-acre field in Kawere village, Mutoko, about 170km from Harare. One easily notices the remnants of the recently harvested maize crop with leftover maize stalks on the piece of land. *"We use these remains as livestock feed or to mulch our crops,"* Moyo told this publication during a farmers' engagement tour organized by the Zimbabwe Smallholder Organic Farmers' Forum (ZIMSOFF) last week.

The couple inherited this land from Katsande's parents, who started farming here in 1961. Over the years, the soil started losing its fertility, and in 2010, they adopted agroecology, which helped improve fertility and boosted their yield substantially. They now grow various crops all year round, using permanent holes, organic manure, natural herbs to keep aphids and other insects away, and ash to control soil acidity.

Read more:

<https://spikedmedia.co.zw/mutoko-smallholder-farmers-lead-the-way-in-sustainable-agriculture/>

By Lloyd Rabaya  
Spiked Online Media

## ARUSHA | TANZANIA

## Cultivating Change: Transforming Food Systems through Regenerative, Agroecological Approaches



The true cost of the global food systems was laid bare in the 2023 United Nations (UN)'s Food and Agriculture Organization's groundbreaking assessment which revealed that the cost surpasses \$12 trillion annually. Within this context, the Global Alliance for the Future of Food and their partners including farmers' networks and associations explored what it would take to accelerate and scale food production approaches.

In this regard, the 'Cultivating Change Gathering June 2024' provided a platform



to establish a collaborative pathway towards accelerating and scaling regenerative and agroecological food system transitions. The gathering sought to address threats and barriers to sustainable agriculture, finance and funding, market development, policy and implementation and, ecological coordination.

Read more:

<https://news.scienceafrica.co.ke/cultivating-change-transforming-food-systems-through-regenerative-agroecological-approaches/>

**By Joyce Chimbi**  
Science Africa

## LIRA | UGANDA

# Farmers, district planners decry "disastrous" agriculture budget cut



Farmers, district planners and non-state actors have decried government cuts on funding agriculture, warning that continuous reduction to production- an engine for local production is disastrous. Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Mr. Matia Kasaija on Thursday read the National Budget which saw the reduction of the allocation

to agriculture from the initial Shs. 1.805 trillion to the current 1.6 trillion.

Read more:

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/farmers-district-planners-decry-disastrous-agriculture-budget-cut-4657670>

**By Bill Oketch**  
Daily Monitor

## SEMBABULE | UGANDA

# Fruit tree planting initiative launched in Sembabule district



A new environment initiative code-named 'My Tree Initiative' (MTI) with the aim of promoting fruit tree planting in schools and conservation of the environment has been launched in Mawogola County in Sembabule district. The initiative will also help combat climate change through empowering primary and secondary school students to become environmental stewards by bringing them closer to the benefits of trees.

Schools have been identified in Mawogola North County where School Food Forest Gardens will be established to boost food

production. Further 'Green Clubs' will be established in schools to serve as platforms that engage students in green activities and mobilise them to take up meaningful environmental leadership roles.

Read more:

<https://thecooperator.news/fruit-tree-planting-initiative-launched-in-semba-bule-district/>

**By Isa Aliga**  
The Cooperator News

---

## LUSAKA | ZAMBIA

# Drought-stricken Zambia turns to Uganda for 0.5m tonnes of maize



Lusaka banned the exports of maize grain and flour in February, following a prolonged dry spell that has adversely impacted the production of the crop in 84 out of the country's 116 districts. Zambia is in talks with Uganda for a possible supply of more than 500,000 metric tonnes of maize to replenish its depleted reserves that have exposed more than two million people to starvation.

Lusaka banned the exports of maize grain and mealie (maize flour) in February following a prolonged dry spell that has

adversely impacted the production of the crop in 84 out of its 116 districts. Uganda's Ministry of Agriculture, Animal, Industry and Fisheries says through a correspondence seen by The EastAfrican that Kampala has received a request to supply up to 500,000 metric tonnes of the grain to Lusaka.

Read more:

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/drought-stricken-zambia-turns-to-uganda-for-0-5m-of-maize--4605424>

**By James Anyanzwa**  
The East African

---

## FORTPORTAL | UGANDA

# KRC Uganda calls for enhanced awareness on food security and nutrition



Kabarole research and resource center in partnership with Leaders in North division, Fort Portal Tourism City are demanding for mindset change and enhanced awareness of the people on food security and improved nutrition. This was during a nutrition and food safety training held at Atacco country resort in Central Division Fort portal tourism City.

Walter Baala, a councilor representing Karago ward observed that people have a variety of food in their homesteads but lack the knowledge to prepare a balanced diet for improved nutrition.

Read more:

<https://www.krcfm.com/2024/05/07/krc-uganda-calls-for-enhanced-awareness-on-food-security-and-nutrition/>

By Mwinganiza Immaculate  
KRC-FM

## KAMPALA | UGANDA

# Trees for Global Benefits: "Climate neutral" burgers in Sweden. Starvation in Uganda



The Swedish fast food chain Max Burgers AB claims to have had more than three million trees planted in the tropics. "Planting trees is an effective way to remove carbon dioxide," the company states on its website. "Since 2018, MAX has been funding trees that capture the equivalent of 110% of our entire value chain's greenhouse gas emissions."

But a new investigation by Staffan Lindberg in the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet reveals that some of the farmers in Uganda who planted trees for Max Burgers carbon credits are now cutting down the trees and making them into charcoal. The farmers faced starvation, because the trees were planted on their farmland.

Read more:

<https://reddmonitor.substack.com/p/trees-for-global-benefits-climate>

By CHRIS LANG  
REDD Monitor

## KAMPALA | UGANDA

# We either "Go Green or Go Home", environment is our lifeline



The environment is our lifeline, the delicate web that sustains all life on Earth. From the lush forests teeming with diverse ecosystems to the vast oceans that regulate our climate, every aspect of our environment is interconnected. However, as a result human activities such as deforestation, pollution, and overconsumption are placing immense



pressure on our planet. The Chatham House Report published in June 2023, indicated that Africa loses 3.9 million hectares of forest annually.

Read more:

<https://famreports.com/2024/06/05/we-will-either-go-green-or-go-home-environment-is-our-lifeline/>

**By Adrine Tusiimirwe**  
FamReports

## MOYO | UGANDA

# Elephants return to haunt Moyo farmers



Farmers in Moyo are living in fear after elephants invaded their gardens and destroyed food crops. After several years, the animals from South Sudan have been moving to Dufile sub county to cause havoc. Speaking to daily monitor at the weekend, Mr. James Droma a resident of Indridri village in Dufile subcounty said no efforts have been made to control the roaming elephants.

Read more:

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/elephants-return-to-haunt-moyo-farmers-4629772>

**By Scovin Iceta**  
Daily Monitor

## ARUSHA | TANZANIA

# Organic Agriculture: Tanzania Makes Compelling Case amidst Africa's Hunger Crisis



Africa is facing a deepening food crisis in the backdrop of unhealthy and unsustainable agricultural practices. Estimates paint a concerning picture of 868 million people experiencing moderate to severe food insecurity across the African continent, with over one-third of them facing the latter.

Overall, nearly 20 percent of the population in Africa is undernourished, with 57 million more people facing hunger since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Against this backdrop, a growing number of African countries are turning to agroecology as the silver bullet to food and nutrition security.

Read more:

<https://news.scienceafrica.co.ke/organic-agriculture-tanzania-makes-compelling-case-amidst-africas-hunger-crisis/>

**By Joyce Chimbi**  
Science Africa

## KABAROLE | UGANDA

## WWF - Uganda Launches Green School Project to Boast Environment Stewardship in Rwenzori Sub Land Scape



World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in Uganda has launched a green school projects in the Rwenzori sub land scape to reduce the impacts of climate change. The initiative is in collaboration with WWF-Denmark.

The four-year project is focused on children and youth becoming change agents for sustainable resource management and climate change adaptation. The green school project will be 35 schools targeting 31,000 girls and boys aged 7-18 years in the district Kasese, Bunyangabu, Kabarole, Ntoroko and Rubirizi.

Read more:

<https://www.krcfm.com/2024/05/01/wwf-uganda-launches-green-school-project-to-boast-environment-stewardship-in-rwenzori-sub-land-scape/>

**By Mwinganiza Immaculate**  
KRC-FM

## KIGALI | RWANDA

## RAB urged farmers to use manure on their crops



The Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB) is urging farmers to adopt a more effective fertilization strategy by combining chemical fertilizers with manure. This approach has been shown to significantly enhance crop yields. Dr. Ndabamenye Telesphore, the Director General of RAB, emphasized the necessity of this practice due to the aging condition of Rwanda's soil, similar to other countries in the region.

*"Our crops still need essential nutrients for rapid growth," Dr. Ndabamenye explained. "Given the degraded state of our soil, there are other countries where the soil remains nutrient-rich."*

Read more:

<https://www.teradignews.rw/en/rab-urged-farmers-to-use-manure-on-their-crops/>

**By Kwizera Robby**  
Teradig News

## KAMPALA | UGANDA

## ESAFF Uganda transforming lives of small-scale farmers



The Eastern and Southern African small-scale farmers [ESAFF] Uganda is impacting the lives of a good number of small-scale farmers, according to the 2023 impact report published by the organisation.

The 2023 report released last month indicates that at least 2,167 community members were empowered through the community Agroecology School, and 17 small-scale farmers-led enterprises strengthened through the agroecology business hub. The report further elaborated that, 4560 small-scale farmers & citizens are supported through the land rights support center, and 2448 small-scale farmers are supported through the farmers' seed lab to access quality and affordable seeds.

Read more:  
<https://thecooperator.news/esaff-uganda-transforming-lives-of-small-scale-farmers/>

**By Marko Taibot**  
 The Cooperator News

## KAMPALA | UGANDA

## Commit more Funds to Agroecology - CSOs Implore Government



Civil Society Organizations advocating for Climate Justice have implored the government and development partners to commit more funds to support Agroecology if Ugandans are to mitigate the effects of Climate Change.

Agroecology simply means the use of nature based solutions in advancing agriculture and improving yields especially by positioning small-scale farmers where they can withstand the effects of climate change. CSOs argue that with agroecology, farmers can be supported to use basic irrigation that is accessible to them on top of homemade manure, to diversify their agriculture productions including animal husbandry and cultivation of crops on the scale of land they have.

Read more:  
[https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/commit-more-funds-to-agroecology-csos-implore-NV\\_188155](https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/news/commit-more-funds-to-agroecology-csos-implore-NV_188155)

**By Lawrence Mulondo**  
 New Vision



**Kampala | Uganda**

## Championing Peasant Rights: Reflecting on the International Day for Peasant Struggle and the Urgency of Implementing UNDROP



On April 17th of every year, the world pauses to reflect on the enduring resilience and unwavering commitment of peasants and small-scale farmers. This day marks the International Day for Peasant Struggle, a poignant reminder of the challenges faced by rural communities globally and the vital contributions they make to society, culture, and sustainable agriculture.

The roots of April 17th trace back to 1996, etched with tragedy as 19 landless peasants were brutally killed during a peaceful protest in Brazil, known as the Massacre of Eldorado dos Carajás. This horrific event serves as a stark testament to the ongoing violence and oppression experienced by peasants fighting for their rights and land.

Read more:

<https://www.ugstandard.com/championing-peasant-rights-reflecting-on-the-international-day-for-peasant-struggle-and-the-urgency-of-implementing-undrop/>

**By Sharon Muzaki**  
UG Media Standard

**Buhera | Zimbabwe**

## Climate shocks bring devastating drought to southern Africa's doorstep



Southern Africa was once a reliable source of food for the continent. Now, it is almost a basket case, with at least three countries on the brink of devastating famine following a severe drought in the just-ended planting season. The drought in the continent's traditional breadbasket has been blamed on the El Niño climate phenomenon, described by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) as the worst on record.

Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe have now declared national disasters as a result of the El Niño-induced drought, which has devastated their food production and wiped out most of their staple crops.

Read more:

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/science-health/climate-shocks-bring-drought-to-southern-africa-s-doorstep-4608000>

**By Kitsepile Nyathi**  
The East African

## Kampala | Uganda

# Why you should apply organic fertilizers



It is quite common nowadays for some activist groups to tell farmers to avoid applying manufactured pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. They claim that agrochemicals destroy the soil and that they are dangerous to food consumers and the environment. But is it really possible to carry out successful farming here in the tropics without the use of agrochemicals?

Read more:

[https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/magazines/farming/why-you-should-apply-organic-fertilisers-4580588?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter\\_DailyMonitor](https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/magazines/farming/why-you-should-apply-organic-fertilisers-4580588?utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter_DailyMonitor)

**By Micheal J Ssali**  
Daily Monitor

## Entebbe | Uganda

# Minister Bwino Launches New Agriculture Project to Enhance Food Security



The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fred Bwino Kyakulaga, has launched a new project dubbed 'Rooted in Diversity - Partnership for Food Security and Livelihoods' (RID) by PELUM Uganda and partners. Speaking at the launch of the five year project in Entebbe on Friday, Bwino said the project will promote organic agriculture, benefiting 30,000 households across the country.

The minister added that Agrobiodiversity is the best way to promote food and nutrition security in this era of unpredictable weather that has affected agricultural production and productivity.

Read more:

<https://softpower.ug/minister-bwino-launches-new-agriculture-project-to-enhance-food-security/>

**By Muhamadi Byemboijana**  
Soft Power News

ARUSHA | TANZANIA

## Rural Villages Leverage Alternative Certification Systems for Organic Agriculture



Life has not been the same for Flora Godson from Oldonyowas village of Oldonyowas Ward in Arusha Tanzania since embracing the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) five years ago. Not only is her expansive farm putting food on the table, but more money in her pocket as she can now sell her farm produce of fruits and vegetables at double the price come rain or sunshine.

*"When we take our children to the clinic for growth monitoring, they always hit their development milestones because we are now able to diversify our diet. We no longer suffer from stomach ulcers too. This region gets very dry from May to November every year, but we still receive a bountiful harvest all year round. Before, our Moran – young men in the Maasai community- could not eat vegetables and lived solely on meat and milk,"* says Godson, popularly known as Mama Ezra.

Read more:

<https://news.scienceafrica.co.ke/tanzania-rural-villages-leverage-alternative-certification-systems-for-organic-agriculture/>

By Joyce Chimbi  
Science Africa

LAMWO | UGANDA

## Why Climate Change Severely Affects Women



From Global Action to global finance, there are ways to ensure that climate adaptation programmes address gender inequalities in society. Women represent 80% of climate displaced people and in their communities, they are already experiencing serious climate and environmental impacts on food, water, land and services necessary for human health, livelihoods, settlement and survival.

Read more:

<https://tndnewsuganda.com/2024/04/05/why-climate-change-severely-affect-women/>

By Okello Jesus Ojara  
TND News



# ANSWERS TO AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 5

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

1.

Does agroecology advocate for the incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge into farming practices?

Answer:  YES

2.

Does agroecology prioritize agroforestry techniques for enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services on farms?

Answer:  YES

3.

Is agroecology aligned with the principles of food sovereignty, emphasizing local control over food systems?

Answer:  YES

4.

Does agroecology involve the implementation of participatory research methods, engaging farmers in the scientific process?

Answer:  YES

5.

Does agroecology aim to challenge conventional notions of productivity, emphasizing resilience and ecosystem health over maximum yields?

Answer:  NO

6.

Is agroecology compatible with large-scale industrial agriculture practices?

Answer:  YES

7.

Does agroecology address issues of food justice and equity within the global food system?

Answer:  YES

8.

Does agroecology incorporate principles of social agroecology, focusing on community empowerment and collective decision-making?

Answer:  YES

9.

Is agroecology a dynamic field that recognizes the importance of adaptive management in response to changing environmental conditions?

Answer:  YES

10.

Does agroecology challenge the dominance of monoculture farming systems by promoting crop diversification and polyculture practices?

Answer:  YES

11.

Does agroecology prioritize building synergies between agricultural production and local ecosystems?

Answer:  YES

12. Does agroecology emphasize the importance of cultural context and indigenous knowledge in shaping sustainable farming practices?  
Answer:  YES
13. Is agroecology concerned with fostering resilience in agricultural systems to mitigate the impacts of climate change?  
Answer:  YES
14. Does agroecology advocate for the use of agroecosystem analysis to understand the complex interactions within farming systems?  
Answer:  YES
15. Is agroecology compatible with conventional industrialized farming methods that heavily rely on external inputs?  
Answer:  YES
16. Does agroecology promote farmer autonomy and empowerment through initiatives such as seed saving and participatory plant breeding?  
Answer:  YES
17. Does agroecology recognize the interconnectedness between agricultural practices and broader socio-economic factors such as poverty and inequality?  
Answer:  YES
18. Is agroecology solely focused on maximizing individual farm productivity without considering broader environmental impacts?  
Answer:  NO
19. Does agroecology advocate for the restoration of degraded landscapes through practices like reforestation and soil regeneration?  
Answer:  YES
20. Is agroecology primarily a theoretical framework without practical applications in modern agricultural systems?  
Answer:  NO

# AGROECOLOGY QUIZ 6

The Agroecology Quiz sessions aim to create awareness and build knowledge of agroecology. We challenge you to take some time to answer these quiz questions and look for the right answers in the next issues of the Agroecology Post.

1.

**Agroecology is an ever-changing, science-based approach to sustainability.**

True  / False

2.

**Agroecology only applies to organic farming operations.**

True  / False

3.

**Agroecology is essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals?**

True  / False

4.

**Agroecological approaches can be applied globally but must be adapted to local conditions.**

True  / False

5.

**Cover cropping is a technique commonly used in agroecological farming systems to improve soil health.**

True  / False

6.

**Agroecological farming systems consider socio-economic factors, including fair labor practices and community well-being.**

True  / False

7.

**Agroecological farming systems focus solely on maximizing crop yields regardless of environmental impacts.**

True  / False

8.

**Agroecological farming systems are designed to work with natural processes, such as nutrient cycling and energy flow.**

True  / False

9.

**Agroecology is widely recognized as the only solution for future sustainable agriculture.**

True  / False

10.

**Consumer choices can support the growth and adoption of agroecological practices.**

True  / False

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



# Call FOR APPLICATIONS

## 4<sup>TH</sup> COHORT OF THE AGROECOLOGY SCHOOL FOR JOURNALISTS AND COMMUNICATORS

Are you a journalist or communicator passionate about sustainable agriculture and food systems? The Agroecology School for Journalists and Communicators is now accepting applications for its 4<sup>th</sup> Cohort! This unique program offers an in-depth exploration of agroecology principles, practices, and policies, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to effectively communicate the importance of agroecology in addressing global food security, environmental sustainability, and social equity.

### What You Will Gain:

- **Comprehensive understanding of agroecology.**
- **Practical training from leading experts in the field.**
- **Networking opportunities with like-minded professionals.**
- **Hands-on experience through field visits and projects.**


### Who Should Apply:

- **Journalists covering agriculture, environment, or food systems.**
- **Communicators working with NGOs, governments, or private sector organizations in related fields.**
- **Media professionals interested in expanding their expertise in sustainable practices**

Application Deadline: **28<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Visit:  [www.agroecology-school.org/course to apply](http://www.agroecology-school.org/course to apply)

Don't miss this opportunity to join a movement of change-makers dedicated to transforming our food systems. Apply now and become a voice for Agroecology!

In case you have any other questions, please write to:  [study@agroecology-school.org](mailto:study@agroecology-school.org)





**AGROECOLOGY SCHOOL**  
FOR JOURNALISTS AND  
COMMUNICATORS

@ study@agroecology-school.org  
f @AgroecologySchool  
X @Agroecology\_Sch  
i @agroecology\_sch



Eastern and Southern Africa  
Small Scale Farmers' Forum  
**ESAFF - UGANDA**

✉ | coordinator@esaffuganda.org  
🌐 | www.esaffuganda.org  
in @ @ f X ▶ Eastern and Southern  
Africa Small-scale Farmers'  
Forum (ESAFF) Uganda