Growing Resilient Agricultural Enterprises (GREAN)

Improving sustainable livelihoods for 10 000 smallholder coffee farmers in Uganda through climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Elly and Night Kalindiriza, from Buhili village, in Kakindo town council, are coffee farmers participating in the GREAN project.
KEY GOALS

- Strengthened capacity of 10,000 smallholder coffee farmers to implement practices in Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM)
- Enhanced participation of three coffee producing organisations along the coffee value chain
- Improved participation of women and youth in decision making at organisational and household level
- Adoption of climate-friendly energy cookstoves and coffee husk briquettes generating Fairtrade Carbon Credits as well as employment and income opportunities for women and youth
- Improved financial literacy and access to financial services

PROJECT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>Seven districts in the West and Central regions of Uganda: Mbarara, Bushenyi, Bukomansimbi, Mitooma, Sheema, Ibanda, Ntungamo</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TARGET GROUP</td>
<td>10,000 smallholder coffee farmers</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERIOD</td>
<td>30 months (February 2017 – July 2019)</td>
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</tbody>
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SITUATION ANALYSIS

Productivity of coffee in the West and Central regions is declining due to use of unsustainable production methods contributing to soil fertility and nutrient deterioration. The situation is worsened by climate change effects and market failures.

Food insecurity and lack of regular income can cause smallholder farmers to sell their coffee harvest prematurely at prices far below its potential market value. Women and youth are highly vulnerable and unemployment rates among youth are high (64%).

Many youth are engaged in unpaid work on smallholder family farms, making it difficult to develop financial independence. Women provide most of the labour on coffee farms, but generally lack access to information, are excluded from decision-making and lack control over family finances and assets. Women are also underrepresented in community politics and have little influence over community strategies for adaptation to climate change.
INNOVATION

The GREAN project is providing an opportunity for the coffee producing organisations to own a new Fairtrade coffee brand, thus engaging them from production and processing, to packaging and marketing - an innovation of owning more of the coffee value chain and retaining the benefits of value addition for their farmer members.

Coffee husks available within coffee farming communities provides an alternative energy source if processed into briquettes. The GREAN project supports manufacturing and sales of coffee husk briquettes and certified improved cookstoves, benefitting particularly women and youth groups. Through the improved cookstoves, the coffee producing organisations accesses carbon credits and financial resources from the private sector. This is anticipated to contribute to green growth, jobs creation and improved livelihoods among their members.

THE GREAN PROJECT

The project objective is to contribute to improved sustainable livelihoods for smallholder coffee producers in Uganda through climate adaptation and mitigation measures, specifically Sustainable Agriculture Land Management (SALM) and climate-friendly energy solutions.

INCREASE CAPACITY

Increasing the capacity of smallholder farmers living in poverty to adopt to, and mitigate, climate change by adopting agroforestry and Sustainable Agriculture Land Management practices. These practices will also allow for increased crop quality and yields.

PROMOTE CLIMATE-FRIENDLY BUSINESS

Smallholder coffee farmers, primarily women and youth groups, will be trained on how to produce briquettes from coffee husks and how to manufacture and sell improved cookstoves. The producer organisations will be trained on the Fairtrade Climate Standard and the generation, monitoring and selling of Fairtrade Carbon Credits. The improved cookstoves will generate carbon credits and the income will be reinvested into the organisations' business development.

By introducing producer-owned Fairtrade coffee in Uganda, the coffee producing organisations will be able to take advantage of the rising coffee culture and increase their market share.

INCREASE ACCESS TO FINANCIAL SERVICES

Enabling farmers to access and open affordable savings and credit accounts. Increased access to loans for women and youth will boost their business activities.

INCREASE WOMEN & YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Including women and youth in joint planning and decision making to increase yields and profit.
The Green Project is a collaboration of several partners

Vi Agroforestry
Vi Agroforestry is a development organisation, fighting poverty and climate change together with smallholder farmers and their organisations. The foundation of Vi Agroforestry’s work is sustainable agriculture and agroforestry - growing trees alongside crops and livestock. Sustainable agriculture contributes to the mitigation of climate change and protects against the negative effects of climate change. Since its inception in 1983, the organisation has helped planting over 100 million trees and improved the livelihoods for 1.8 million people.

Fairtrade Africa
Fairtrade Africa is a co-owner of Fairtrade International, a global movement supporting smallholder farmers and workers to secure better terms of trade. Fairtrade Africa was established in 2005. Currently, the organisation represents over 1,050,000 producers and workers across 33 countries in Africa and the Middle East, who are certified against Fairtrade standards.

Farmer-Owned Coffee Producer Organisations

Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union Ltd.
Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union, located in Kabwohe, Bushenyi, started in 2006 and has a membership of 17 primary cooperative societies. The Union operates in the Districts of Sheema, Bushenyi, Ntungamo and Buhweju Districts of Uganda. The societies have a membership of 8,000 farmers. The Union deals in robusta coffee production, processing and marketing.

Banyankole Kweterana Cooperative Union Ltd.
Banyankole Kweterana Cooperative Union, located in Mbarara, was started in 1958 and has 100 active primary cooperative societies of which 30 are Fairtrade Certified. Its area of operation covers 10 districts: Mbarara, Sheema, Ntungamo, Kiruhura, Isingiro, Mitooma, Bunyaruguru, Bushenyi, Rubirizi and Buhweju. The Union deals in coffee production, processing and marketing.

Kibinge Coffee Farmers’ Cooperative Society Ltd.
Kibinge Coffee Farmers’ Cooperative Society, located in Bukomansimbi District started as an association in 1995 under National Union of Coffee Agribusiness and Farmer Enterprises and became a cooperative society in 2009. Kibinge has a membership of over 1,700 members and was recently awarded as Africa Fairtrade small trade producer of the Year by Fairtrade International. The organisation engages in coffee production, processing, buying and marketing and has been Fairtrade certified since 2011.

Nordic Climate Facility (NCF)
The Nordic Climate Facility (NCF) is a challenge fund that finances innovative climate change projects. NCF financing is allocated on a competitive basis with calls for proposals arranged annually. It is financed by the Nordic Development Fund, a development finance institution established by the Nordic countries.