



Youth Group Henry Kiwola & Rosette Nsimenta

GLY

Green Livelihoods Youth Project



Vi Agroforestry



This project is funded by the European Union

Overall goal

To contribute to improved livelihoods of young people disaggregated by gender in Arua and Adjumani districts through creation of green employment options and strengthening youth governance, advocacy and decision-making capacities at local and national levels.

Situation analysis

Despite the nationwide challenge to create adequate and sustainable employment opportunities to the young and more so rapidly growing population, youth unemployment in Adjumani and Arua districts has been further aggravated by the influx of refugees and asylum seekers, majorly from the neighboring countries of South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. The project will support the young people (both refugees and locals) in both districts through interventions targeted at increasing their employment and small business opportunities while also equipping targeted civil society organizations with capacity to support these activities and support youth agency.

The project will also pursue the goals of democratic good governance and gender equality through supporting self-sustaining social structures capable of enabling the youth to claim and access their rights and integrate into the mainstream economy.

At a glance

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PROJECT DURATION:
2020-2023

DONOR:
European Union

TARGET GROUP:
Unskilled out of school youth, (2,400 young women and 1,600 young men) between 18-35 years of age; Youth Organizations, Adjumani and Arua District Farmer Association (DFAs) affiliates to UNFFE;

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:
Uganda
Arua and Adjumani districts

Specific objectives

- To increase farm and off-farm green employment options for economic empowerment of female and male youths through sustainable apiculture, solar energy businesses and access to affordable financial services
- To strengthen capacity of youth organisations to influence decision-making processes at local and national levels through the adoption of progressive governance systems.

Key results

- Youths' capacity in business improved (including sustainable solar, apiculture, and marketing)
- District Farmers' Associations and youth led business initiatives with improved access to business development services provided by government and financial service providers from private sector.
- Youth capacity to engage in youth inclusive policies at local and national levels enhanced.
- Existing and newly established district youth agencies are strengthened in sustainable business operation, financial viability, good governance and democracy related to promotion of youth leadership and employment especially young women.

Our approach

The project will focus its efforts on enhancing economic opportunities for young women and men to earn an income and accumulate economic assets. This action is also structured with the understanding that sustainability of the services delivered by Adjumani and Arua District Farmer Associations and youth organisations will be ensured through livelihood improvement of their membership. This will be undertaken by identifying the constraints preventing the realization of their economic rights and supporting them to develop and implement strategies aimed at improving their livelihoods on a sustainable basis hence strengthening young people's agency. This will involve skills development as well as linkages to business development services including financial services.

The project will support local youth organisations capacities in order to strengthen young women and men participation in decision-making and to be able to lend their voices in addressing social and economic challenges that they face. To achieve this, focused interventions aimed at ensuring young women, and men's interests, are increasingly and effectively represented and visible through leadership at all levels of decision-making from household to community levels. This will entail guiding households' participation in joint decisions at household level, strengthening the capacity of farmer organisations to support young women and men's participation in advocating for and upholding commitments on their socio-economic rights at community level such as devolved units of government including planning and budgeting processes, and equipping youth to take up leadership roles.

Human Rights-Based Approach

Vi Agroforestry actions are guided by the principle that embrace meaningful participation and involvement of local communities in the planning and decision-making processes. The methods to be applied on the proposed action take a participatory approach to include young women and men and having their voices heard. The action is guided by Vi Agroforestry's application of a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in all its interventions. HRBA ensure that no one is left behind in a development process, the core of this approach is embedded on the principles of participation, links to human rights, accountability, non-discrimination, empowerment and transparency. The approach will be applied in the engagement with different actors (both state and non-state actors) in the action.

Agroforestry, Sustainable Land Management and Landscape Restoration

Agroforestry and sustainable agriculture practices will be developed and adopted to the local ecological conditions. Apiculture and solar energy projects will be promoted in this action as part of a sustainable land use practice. Vi Agroforestry will enrich this project with its wealth of experience in promoting in the apiculture and solar energy installation and management. This will involve supporting mechanisms of increased production, sustainable linkages with markets, partnerships with support institutions, well managed beekeeping infrastructures. The youth will be supported to come up with viable enterprises in beekeeping (modern bee farming techniques, wax processing techniques, exchange visits, participation in trade fairs, innovative value-added products, market access through information and facilitation).

Value chain and financial services

The project will promote value chain development to enhance the economic empowerment of young women and men to enable them to play an imperative role in the competitive honey value chain. This project will use the value chain development approach to enable youth to realise higher economic growth through their engagement at different stages of honey production and marketing as well as adopting solar energy technologies. The action will also promote Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) methodology to provide easy access to credit facilities at reasonable rates to young women and men.

CSOs capacity strengthening for bottom up accountability mechanism

Vi Agroforestry focuses on strengthening capacities of local CSOs to be able to identify their rights and engage duty bearers to hold them into account based on their rights or existing development plans. The action will employ this method by undertaking organizational capacity assessment for the mapped out CSOs and then building their capacities to ensure that they are able to identify and act / facilitate promotion of youth employment and agency. Capacity strengthening will entail a mix of methods including training leadership and management, review of governance documents.



Rosette Nsimenta & Henry Kiwolany



Honey harvesting Vi Agroforestry

Partners



Vi Agroforestry

Vi Agroforestry

Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish development organisation, fighting poverty and climate change together with smallholder farmer families and farmers' organisations in East Africa. Vi Agroforestry work focuses on sustainable agriculture and agroforestry – growing trees alongside crops and livestock. Since its inception in 1983, the organisation has helped planting over 100 million trees and improved the livelihoods for over 1,8 million people.



Uganda National Farmers' Federation (UNFFE)

The Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE) is the largest non-governmental farmers' organisation in Uganda. It was founded by farmers from all over Uganda in 1992 with the objective to mobilize the farming community and voices under one independent umbrella organisation. UNFFE's vision is empowered farmers through strong farmers' organisations.



European Union

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CONTACTS

Vi Agroforestry

Uganda P.O. Box 8486 Kampala, Uganda | E-mail: uganda@viagroforestry.org
Regional Office P.O. Box 45767, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya | info@viagroforestry.org



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