Africa 2000 Network
Uganda Initiatives

A Presentation at
The 4th Austrian Development Conference at
Innsbruck, Austria 14th to 16th November 2008
By
Frederick Musisi Kabuye
Executive Director, and East Africa Regional Representative for Horizont 3000 Partners
A2N Uganda Vision

- Improved and sustainable livelihoods for the smallholder households.
A2N Uganda Mission

• Alleviate poverty by supporting smallholder farmer groups comprising of men and women to undertake initiatives geared towards livelihood improvement and natural resources regeneration and conservation.
A2N Historical Time Line

- 1986 UN General Assembly special proposal to UNDP to initiate A2N.
- 1990 initiation of A2N in Uganda and 12 other countries in Africa as a small grants project of UNDP.
- 1994 intensification of organic agriculture concept in Uganda.
- 2000 evaluation of A2N regional programme that recommended autonomous legal entity.
- 2001 registration of A2N Uganda as a local NGO.
A2N Uganda Objectives

• Promote the use of sustainable agricultural technologies and practices in harnessing the natural resources.

• Build the capacities of smallholder farmers for ecologically sustainable development.

• Encourage active participation of men, women and youth of all capabilities in development activities.
A2N Uganda Objectives Cont’d

• Empower the local communities to cease opportunities for livelihood transformation, democratic leadership and good governance.

• Build local institutions for collective action in the areas of marketing, resource mobilisation and advocacy.

• Strengthen farmers’ entrepreneurial skills for sustainable income generation and poverty eradication.
A2N-Uganda Priority Area 1

- Organizing smallholder farmers for collective action towards household food security and income generation
A2N-Uganda Priority Area 2

- Gender integration and natural resources regeneration and conservation
A2N-Uganda Priority Area 3

- Dissemination of appropriate production and productivity enhancing technologies
A2N-Uganda Priority Area 4

- Information generation and dissemination about best practices and experiences
A2N-Uganda Priority Area 5

- Community empowerment for sustainable development and livelihood improvement through creation of social capital
A2N-Uganda programme areas

1. Natural Resource Management (NRM)
2. Local Community Empowerment
3. Market Access/ Marketing
4. Information, Communication And Networking
5. Organizational Development and Management
A2N Uganda strategic and specific objectives for 2007-11

• Natural Resources Management
  – Improving productivity, regeneration and conservation of Natural Resources for improved livelihoods in the project areas.
    • Participants in the project undertake effective soil, water and land use management practices.
    • Energy and Environment Conservation practices enhanced among the participating communities.
    • Smallholder farmers in the project areas practice sustainable crop and livestock management for food security and income generation.
Access to Markets

• Small holder farmers facilitated to transform from subsistence to market oriented farming for food security and increased household income.
  – Enterprise development among the participating communities based on participatory market research (PMR) and Participatory Market Chain Analysis (PMCA) interventions.
  – Participating communities adopt post harvest handling and processing methods and technologies to mitigate losses and for value addition to their produce.
  – Participating communities access critical inputs, savings and credit services to boost their enterprises development.
Local Community Empowerment

- Local communities are well organised to attain Good governance and actively participate in their own development initiatives using PDM methodology
  - Participating communities organise themselves into viable local institution to promote their development initiatives at all levels.
  - Participating communities embrace civic education and undertake community advocacy to influence local governance.
  - Participating communities access development information and utilise the same to plan and make decisions about their livelihood transformation.
  - Participatory Development Management (PDM) methodology piloted and popularised among the participating communities and local governments.
Information, Communication and Networking

- Communities utilising ICT to generate, document, and disseminate indigenous knowledge while accessing critical information for their development initiatives.
  - Participating communities facilitated to generate, document and disseminate information about their development initiatives and experiences.
  - Critical linkages and alliances identified and established to create synergy for community transformation.
  - Info-centres established for reference and ICT utilisation by the communities in the project areas.
Outreach strategies

• Integration of livelihood improvement interventions
• Mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues
• *Facilitating the emergency of strong farmers organizations for collective action*
• Innovations
• *Partnerships*
A2N-Uganda Institutional capability

- Track record
- Human resource base
  - Board of Directors (BOD)
  - Professional Staff
  - Members
  - Volunteers
- Management
  - Participatory Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PPM&E)
  - Transparent Reporting
Affiliations

- Africa 2000 Regional Network
- Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations (DENIVA)
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM)
- National Organic Agriculture Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)
- Participatory Ecological and Landuse Management (PELUM)
- Promoting Local Innovations in Ecologically Oriented Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (PROLONNOVA)
Collaborators

- CIAT/BOKU University
- International Centre for Research on Agro-forestry (ICRAF)
- International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology - ICIPE Nairobi
- Makerere University Faculty of Agriculture
- Ministry of Agriculture
- National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO)
- Local Governments
- Sister NGOs in project areas
Supporters of A2N-Uganda

- CORDAID.
- Farm Africa.
- ADA through Horizont 3000.
- Local Governments.
- The McKnight Foundation.
- UNDP.
- Kilimo Trust (Gatsby Foundation)
- Plan International, Uganda
Institutional Sustainability

• Ecological Fruit Processing Initiative of Africa 2000 Network-Uganda for:
  – Value addition to get higher incomes
  – Extension of shelf-life to mitigate post harvest losses
  – Offer additional income to A2N-Uganda towards own budget contribution while supporting farmers with a steady fair market
  – Best practices demonstration
Organizational setup

- Africa 2000 Network – Uganda 100% ownership of the Business Company to generate co-financing revenue towards her development activities budget support

Soleil Enterprises Ltd.

Registered business company (limited by shares)

Ecological Fruit Processing (EFP)

Project funded by the Austrian Government (ADA/Horizont3000)
Ecological Fruit Processing (EFP)

- Project funded by the Austrian Government (ADA) April 2006 – March 2008
- Drying of pineapples, mangoes, apple bananas, papayas, and jackfruit with modern hybrid dryers (solar plus biomass backup)
- Intended to process organic produce to tap into European niche markets
Fruit solar drying facility established

Achievements
- Facility established
- Equipment installed
- “Lease title” is being pursued
- 9 staff members employed

Challenges/lessons learnt
- Delays in construction & delivery of equipment
- Power supply
- Quality standards and steady markets
Organic agriculture (OA) contributes to food security and poverty reduction in Uganda

- Organic farmers in Uganda get a premium between 25% and 150% over farm gate prices for conventional fresh produce

- A study among farmers in Uganda found that
  
  • Organic farmers’ average net income consistently exceeded those of conventional farmers
  
  • Organic pineapple farmers produced significantly more pineapples than conventional farmers; however, they sold a majority of their crop without a premium to conventional buyers*

- Most Ugandan farmers are poor and marginalized from input and product markets → OA can improve food security by cheap, low-cost, locally available technologies and inputs

- Farmers’ testimonies confirmed that organic agriculture is a perfectly viable system to address food security and poverty

* Not because of labour, time or cash constraints, but their organic buyer was only interested in pineapples weighing 1.2-1.6 kg which were only less than a quarter of all pineapples harvested

Source: Taylor 2006; Bolwig & Odeke 2007; Scialabba & Hattam 2002; NOGAMU
Small farmers still face many challenges to get organically certified

- Insufficient knowledge of sustainable and organic agriculture
- Management skills insufficient to establish and implement an Internal Control System (ICS)
- Governmental extension service institutions (i.e., NAADS) remain too conventional in their approach
- High costs of certification/lacking credit facilities to make such an investment
- High level of trust and cooperation among farmers required

As a result, most produce in Uganda is grown naturally, though only a small fraction is certified.
Uganda’s organic sector started developing in 1994 and has now its own inspection and certification body

- In 1994 two projects gained certification (cotton, fruits & vegetables) and EPOPA* started to support organic exporters

- In 2001 NOGAMU was founded – an umbrella organisation bringing together producers/farmers, processors, exporters, and other stakeholders

- UgoCert – the national organic certification body – was registered in 2004 (aiming at getting internationally accredited by the end of this year)

- UgoCert developed their own certification marks in 2006

* Export Promotion of Organic Products from Africa (EPOPA) is a programme created by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
Organic exports from Uganda are growing

- Dried fruits exports grew between 50-360% p.a.*
- Strong growth of most certified export products
- Total value of exports increased from 4.6M. USD (2002) to 10.3M. USD (2005)**

### Certified organic exports by product (tons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000/01</th>
<th>2001/02</th>
<th>2002/03</th>
<th>2003/04</th>
<th>2004/05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dried fruit</td>
<td>3,8</td>
<td>17,5</td>
<td>49,0</td>
<td>75,0</td>
<td>64,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh fruit</td>
<td>256,6</td>
<td>500,0</td>
<td>650,0</td>
<td>800,0</td>
<td>1,080,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>262,0</td>
<td>480,0</td>
<td>681,0</td>
<td>750,0</td>
<td>856,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sesame</td>
<td>590,0</td>
<td>340,0</td>
<td>474,0</td>
<td>800,0</td>
<td>1,100,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>301,2</td>
<td>86,4</td>
<td>150,0</td>
<td>109,7</td>
<td>120,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanilla</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>1,9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa</td>
<td>84,0</td>
<td>160,0</td>
<td>180,0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Except a decline in volume between 2003/04 and 2004/05
** Annual average growth rate of 50%

Source: NOGAMU
Thank You!