



# THE TREE

A TIST UGANDA's Publication

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## THE TREE

*The TREE is a monthly newsletter published by TIST Uganda, a project area of The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program.*

### **Mission statement:**

*TIST Uganda is a community initiative dedicated to empowering small groups of subsistence farmers to combat the devastating effects of deforestation, poverty and drought.*

### **Object Statement:**

*Combining sustainable development with carbon sequestration, TIST supports the reforestation efforts of over 25,000 subsistence farmers. Sales of carbon credits generate participant income while TIST today also addresses agriculture, HIV/AIDS, nutrition and fuel wood challenges.*

### **Address:**

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Website: www.tist.org*

## TIST's NOTION OF "LOW BUDGET":

*Mr. Ara Baanyanga*

The notion of "Low budget" in TIST values is making things happen and for real!! This may be a puzzling statement to some one who is considering the needed resources while establishing a project without making priorities in his planning.



*TIST Volunteer trainers attending one of the numerous local refresher courses on best agricultural skills*

He/she may ask, "How can budget be low and yet make things happen?"

*Continued on Pg. 2*

***If your small group needs  
more training, contact:***

***The Training Co-ordinator,  
Rev. Enock Tumwebaze, Tel: 0752 406507***

The resources and labour are vital but they require prioritised planning and expending.

For instance, in the agricultural business, one must consider land, labour, selection of seeds, time and market in future.

When you first give the needed materials priority, the enterprise will be sustaining. The expected yields will be constant, giving high income on average ventures. Risks and uncertainties may come to you but the enterprise will not be affected much.

As more than 90% of our country's population depend on agriculture, better yielding farming

systems are needed so as to have a sustainable agricultural economy.

And TIST is helping the farmers of Bushenyi, Kabale, Kanungu and neighbouring districts to learn and practice working on low budget through the various training workshops, cluster meetings and practical demonstrations.

### WORKING TOGETHER IN SMALL GROUPS:

*Rev. Enoch Tumweebaze*

Working together in units is costing us little money and we acquire more! Low budget is a key to success.

Take an example; Nursery bed formation would be expensive but its low costing if the following are done by the Small group members; Seed selection, manure formation, soil preparation and the constructions of raised stand.

This, in addition helps us to have good seedlings of the wanted species in our farms.

I am pleased by the work of TIST and how it shapes and sharpens the work of self sustaining programs in a small group.

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*Training in Progress: TIST staff sensitising local community leaders about TIST activities*

*Work together ... from Pg. 2*

As TIST, one of the lessons we have learnt overtime is that one person can make a difference. We see this in our small groups' monthly meetings and particularly through our periodic best small group seminars.

When we, as a small group, conceive, share and implement a small best practice that helps only a few people, it can be hard to see how we really are changing the world;

It can be difficult to see how planting and caring for a tree, implementing conservation farming best practices or using less water can really bring a better and healthier tomorrow.

But if many people make them together, those small changes will make an enormous difference to our children and grand children.

As TIST small group members, we know

very well that these small changes – these private, individual choices – can add up to something tremendous. The decisions we make may seem small, but they are nothing of the kind.

I ask all of you to remember that, because you are leaders in your communities, and you have chosen to help lead the way to a better future. In the matter of agricultural development, as in all others, we must first lead by making the choices that will bring us a healthier and sustainable tomorrow.



*Measurable success: TIST quantifiers admiring and advising on well maintained trees for a TIST member*

With this, the turn over will be higher than before, our environment is now promising to be a bright one in future, the trees we are planting will bring in finances in future and soil improvements will support life.

***Kabale small groups that need help or advice on any TIST matter, contact:***

***The District Co-ordinator,  
Rev. Ernest Nkwatsibwe, Tel: 0782 399658***

## TIST'S VALUES:

### Who we are

- 1) We are honest.
- 2) We are accurate.
- 3) We are transparent
- 4) We are servants to each other.
- 5) We are mutually accountable to each other.

### How we do things that other people can see

- 1) We are volunteers.
- 2) We do the work ourselves in small groups
- 3) We develop and use best practices
- 4) We use our head and hands.

### What we do

- 1) We plant a variety of trees for the long-term.
- 2) We find ways to improve our health.
- 3) We practice Conservation Farming.
- 4) We do other projects and businesses.
- 5) We sell carbon credits.

### What we create.

- 1) We create Team Work; By doing things this way, we end up working like a team.
- 2) We create Capacity; We create organization, strength, and a system that is strong.
- 3) We create Enjoyment; We see results, we accomplish big things that we enjoy
- 4) We create Big Results; Big results in planting trees, in conservation farming and from other projects and business that we do.
- 5) We create Low Administrative costs, yet we achieve big results.

## TIST: GOD SENT POVERTY RELIEVER:

*Mr. Asaph Katungi  
Nyakabingo Tree Planting Group*

The TIST program started in our village in June 2004 after a series of sensitisation seminars organised by TIST trainers. Mr. Ara Baanyanga and Rev. Enock Tumwebaze were held at Ruhinda Mitooma Archdeaconry.

## TIST'S NEW HOME:

TIST Uganda is now in a spacious and well organised office space.

This will aid TIST staff to effectively and efficiently discharge their duties and obligations of serving the small groups.

This new home is located at Katungu Hill, on the Bushenyi - Mbarara highway, just 2 kms from Bushenyi town, near the road junction to Bweranyangi Diocesan Offices and behind Eureka Motel.

**For directions, call:  
Office: 0485 433699  
Ara : 0782 301953**

It was at these workshops that they clarified to the people the TIST values and the goodness of it.

We felt good and joined with 12 members to form Nyakabingo Tree Planting Group, of which I was chosen as their chairman.

We began with the formation of nursery beds for fruit trees, such as avocado, jack fruits and oranges and others.

Some group members, including myself had no trees but now most families have trees to sustain their lives.

So far, our group boasts of eucalyptus and pine forests which in future will generate income.

In 20 years to come, the small groups will have put away poverty through tree planting, have timber to sustain their families on top of attaining a cleaner environment.

Because of our group's hardwork, honesty and dedication to serve others, two members, Mr. Asaph Katungi and Mrs. Jane Rutashoberwa were chosen as cluster trainers and coordinators for Mitooma Subcounty, Bushenyi.

acquired from various seminars, educate people and make sure communities have got the right information about tree planting and the environment in general.

We TIST members, commend the leaders of TIST at any level for their support in education programs about tree planting.



*TIST is improving the environment through tree planting:  
A well maintained pine grove in Kabale district*

TIST has made it possible for our groups to get financial assistance in form of tree payments from which we were able to purchase seeds to increase on number of trees and their varieties on top of acting as a parent, for it has paid school fees of our children because of knowledge TIST gave.

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*Kanungu small groups that  
need help or advice on any  
TIST matter, contact:  
The District Co-ordinator,  
Mr. Charles Rwamunaha, Tel: 0772 886044*

## ARTICLES FOR THE TIST NEWSLETTER:

TIST members, its through this TIST newsletter that you have a chance to share experiences, wisdom and best practices with other small groups not only in their localities, districts or countries but to the whole world.

Imagine how happy you would become if you heard that your own invented best practice is being practiced in other parts of the world!

Group members are encouraged to think about, write and submit articles on:-

- ✓ The history of your group. How it was formed and what activities you do
- ✓ Best practices for tree-planting, agriculture and health care advice

✓ The parts of the program you enjoy the most or those you want improved

✓ Any feedback/advice that will make the TIST office serve you better.

Don't mind about typing the articles, you can handwrite them and give them to our field staff/quantifiers or post them to:

TIST Uganda,  
P.O. Box 232,  
Bushenyi.

## WHAT A BEAUTIFUL LAND!!:

*Rev. Enock Tumweebaze*

The beautiful land!  
The beautiful land!  
The beautiful land!

The green canopy shows the changes and challenges

Rains! Food.  
Nobody could believe it  
Nobody could witness it  
Nobody could care for it  
Animals and plants are enjoying.

Life our environment needs sustaining and minding.

Come and See!  
Come and Observe!  
Come and Enjoy!

*The nature of our land is fruitful.*  
The Atmosphere is full of oxygen.

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TIST TIST TIST

What a great change, What a great challenge, You've brought us!

Development, Understanding and caring for our motherland

Its known soil. Existence of man, Water; life of every creation  
Oxygen, breathing of every breathing creature

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