



THE TREE

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TIST Uganda December 2011 News letter

"The Tree" N'orupapura r'wamakuru orurikuhandikwa aba TIST Uganda, etaagira the International Small Group and Tree planting program.

OKUKORA KWAITU

TIST n'ekigombe ekyehaireyo kwimutsya omutindo gwabahingi aba'hansi kiikubonyeramu amaani gokurwanisa okucwokyerezibwa kw'ebibira, okwejuna obworo nekyanda kitari kyabunjo.

EBIGYENDERERWA BYAITU

Omurwanisa entunguka yentuura nokurundana orwoya orurungi orurukuru ga omumiti. TIST nehweza abahingi abarikurenga 25,000, ebyokwerinda Sirimu, endisa enungi yabomumaka nokucendeza enkoresa yenku namakara.

PREFACE

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EBIRYOMUNDA

Okurinda emiti n'okurinda abantu bangye.
Tist netuhwera kukorera hamwe.
Ensi yeitu esigirweho
Ekiigombe ekirungi ekya Tist
Okwegyesa omu Tist nikuteebwamu amaani
Tist niki kandi nekoraki?

AMAHURIRE GA DECEMBER 2011

EDITORIAL

EIHURIRE RYA DECEMBER 2011

EDITORS MESSAGE:

TIST coordinator wishes you merry Christmas and happy year as you plan to put much effort in planting many indigenous trees.

God be with you, Happy Christmas.

OBUTUMWA BWA EDITA.

Omushuganisa wa TIST ya Uganda nabendeza sikuukuru nungi nomwaka musya ogwobusingye obwo nimweteekateeka kubyara emiti yenzarwa mingi.

Ruhanga agume naimwe, Sikuukuru ebebere ihoreere

Validators visit TIST

Uganda: an important step for TIST farmers

In December, TIST is hosting validators from Environmental Service Inc, a certified US-based Validation and Verification Company.

The purpose of this visit was to audit the TIST program and ascertain whether our work has been accurate and honest. This is important in assuring our buyers (carbon credit buyers) that what we tell them about Small Group activities is true and correct. This, on the other hand, gives the buyers confidence and trust in us, hence they are able to buy carbon credits from TIST farmers. Because we abide by TIST Values, we expect to pass validation and verification. This is good news for thousands of our farmers and entire TIST family. This underscores the importance of abiding by TIST Values. Everyone should respect and adhere to TIST Values. Quantifiers should be accurate in the tree counts, and ensure complete baseline or quantification of each group they visit. Auditors must ensure that audits are up to the highest standards, Trainers should ensure farmers get accurate information; Leaders should help hold each other mutually accountable. TIST farmers should keep their word, follow the training guidelines. We

must be truly committed to keeping our trees alive for the long-term.

All of us, should be honest, accurate, transparent, serve one another as we hold each other mutually accountable. Because, in TIST, we are.

PROTECTING TREES AND COMMON INTEREST OF MY COMMUNITY

Communities like and rely on the by-products of trees. However, we sometimes don't take good care of our trees and forests. We do not let trees grow to maturity. Timber traders can make it worse because even the young trees are being cut down for commercial benefits without leaving others to grow. Timber traders harvest even young trees which do not provide durable furniture. Some species are dying out completely. Without older trees, it is harder for us to gather dry branches for firewood. We can no longer find this, or many useful tree species in natural forests. Natural forests have been cleared, and animals are running away from the game parks and reserves because they have nowhere to live. The birds have nowhere to make their nests and the whole environment is changing. The timber traders now register and are given licenses to carry on their activities. This has improved

on the rampant loss of trees.

However, many farmers are more interested in money more than the tree its self.

The TIST Program came as a good parent to remind us for the uses of the trees in our environment. We all need these trees. Preserving them is the best way to meet our own needs and community needs. We are all encouraged to always plant more trees as we cut: cut one and plant two.

TIST trains Small Groups of farmers to plant trees, especially indigenous and fruit trees to preserve the environment. Plant more and more trees. Trees are good for our lives.

From Rutagasa, Ryamasa Group

TIST HELPS US WORK TOGETHER FOR GREAT THINGS!

When we want to accomplish something important, we need to mobilize and motivate our families and communities to take action. We cannot stay idle or wait for someone else to make a change for us. We come together and identify what we need, and organize these needs according to the most pressing ones. Identifying our specific community needs and organizing ourselves to take specific actions to achieve our shared goals is essential to understanding and to

make real change. We share dreams and vision so the community can work together to make them real.

TIST has helped us a lot. We have formed Small Groups where we are trained, sensitized and we learn to build ourselves and each other. We have learned tree planting, Conservation Farming, Energy saving cook stove formation and much more.

The action we are taking together is helping us make our lives better. Trees we have planted decrease pollution and risk from natural hazards like heavy rains that can cause landslides and flooding with bare land. Tree planting in our lands has helped to reduce the dangers in our communities. The tree incentive that we receive from the carbon offsets we will sell from the trees we planted adds to our incomes to support our families.

I appreciate TIST activities and the implementers who are expanding TIST in our village. We have been encouraged to work together, share knowledge and have exchange visits to our neighbors to learn more from them. The volunteer trainers who mobilize us have really done a great job in our communities and need to thank. Together, we can promote ourselves and improve our lives through TIST and its activities.

From Kyankoyo, Mugogo Burere.

OUR LONELY ENVIRONMENT:

What shall be left for the coming generation? Plants are perishing at the hands of mankind uncontrolled. What shall be left? After creation God put man in charge of all that he created. The so called caretaker is instead busy destroying what was put before him.

Mr. Caretaker, why trespass, cutting down trees indiscriminately causing bare land? Your smoke in the air causes pollution. Weather changes for the bad, destruction of the land are all the work of mankind. What shall be left for the coming generation? Mankind, please make up your mind and do something good. Plant more trees than those you cut. Think of what changes and actions you can make to preserve the environment for the coming generation. Provide places for better garbage disposal.

Mankind is responsible for the environment. Let us all preserve and improve the environment!

AGABA DENIS.

QUALITIES OF A GOOD SMALL GROUP FOR TIST PROGRAM

Who is TIST? We are! Each of us, in our Small Group, builds TIST. What does a group need to do to be a good group, or best group?

-The Small Group should have a number of six to twelve members.

-The members of the group should be from at least three different, nearby families, NOT only one family.

- The Small Group should be registered with TIST, and all of the members should have signed the registration form.

-Each member should have at least 100 trees planted and be ready to plant more.

- The Small Group should have one thousand trees and ready to plant more every year, to have at least 5,000 trees after 5 years.

-Members must agree not cut down the trees until a period of 30 years.

-The group should practice rotational leadership and meet weekly, so each member leads in turn. This helps us learn from each others' strengths and skills.

- The Small Group should keep their groves clean and well tended.

-Members of the group should all sign a quantification form to show that the tree count is accurate.

We are mutually accountable to each other to provide accurate data.

- The Small Group should make sure that their groves are quantified every year.

- The Small Group should be made up men and women.

-Members should plant trees on their own land.

-Members should plant diverse tree species, including indigenous trees, practice Conservation Farming, and build improved cook stoves, and follow and share other best practices.

These are some of the many things that help make a TIST group strong.

We encourage all groups to make sure that you are following the best practices mentioned above. TIST trainers in your areas can tell you more about this.

Caleb Kayabuki

TIST TRAININGS ARE ENCOURAGING.

Meetings, seminars and workshops refresh the mind. Trainings at these gatherings them give courage to us as farmers.

The places where people meet are surrounded with trees, which are essential to our well being. Flowers also give the area a pleasant look.

We are encouraged to have cluster meetings every three months in our small groups here in Rutoto. In TIST, the best practice is for groups to come together as a cluster to meet for training and sharing each month. The most important thing for us is to plant and look after the indigenous trees and environment.

I am a cook-stove trainer. I usually tell people to build improved stoves so they can use less firewood because collection of firewood has led to the destruction of tree species, especially of indigenous trees.

Let's always come for workshops, seminars and meetings for trainings. When we share what we know, our skills, and our experience, we will gain knowledge and courage on how to conduct ourselves in our society, how to prevent or live with HIV/AIDS, how to do Conservation Farming, how to improve our food security and many more important issues in our lives.

By Arinaitwe Frank.

WHAT IS TIST, AND WHAT DO WE DO?

Who is TIST? We are! TIST Uganda is a community initiative empowering people, small groups of local farmers to come together to earn money and improve their land and the world by planting trees for the carbon offset market. TIST combines sustainable development with carbon sequestration.

TIST trains on best practices like Conservation Farming. TIST combats the devastating effects of deforestation by encouraging tree planting. TIST combats poverty and drought.

TIST Small Groups plant many trees to improve their land and earn money from fruit trees, fodder trees, and fertilizer trees that improve crop yields. TIST Small Groups plant indigenous trees that provide all of these benefits and improve biodiversity.

Because we are TIST, and we make TIST, TIST today also addresses other concerns we share. Today, we share training in groups on agriculture, food security and nutrition, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, and building of improved stoves that save us money and time, protect forests, and improve our health. TIST is international: we work with our brothers and sisters around the world, and invite our neighbors to join to create more TIST small groups in more places working for a better world.

By Hakim Bachwa

The TIST Values

We are honest.

We are accurate.

We are transparent.

We are mutually accountable.

We are servants to each other.

We are TIST!