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2022 Annual Report



Our Mission

To empower rural communities, especially women, with skills and knowledge to reduce poverty, end malnutrition, and increase women's voices and agency.

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Dear Friends,

2022 was a remarkable year for us not only did we serve nearly 500 households through our direct program and maintained beautiful relationships that reached about 1000 people. We also clocked 9 years in the Kasese community.

Over the years, we have grown into a respectful and impactful organization with our four committed volunteers. We have continuously provided nutrition education, agricultural solutions and economic empowerment projects benefiting women and children. These women and girls are now empowered to provide nutritious food to their households, and have improved their incomes through the sale of some food products. I therefore thank you friends for the continued support to our mission and vision.

We implemented six projects;

1. Economic Empowerment for women through vegetable growing
2. Empowering rural households overcome malnutrition
3. Promoting regenerative and agro ecology techniques to end malnutrition and hunger.
4. School gardening as a means to end malnutrition.
5. Seed Money Community garden
6. Increasing income for women through beekeeping.

My appreciation for the support (financial, technical, material and in kind) from Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE), Marie – Schlei Verein (MSV), One World Group Oxted, Re:Lush Fund, Seed Money, Bees Abroad, Kasese district local government(KDLG) and all other partners.

I again appreciate the valuable and voluntary support of the volunteers and our board of directors for continuing to put their resources and expertise at the service of Anasi Farmers Association.

We all need to remain dedicated and united to keep AFA continuing to transform more communities.

Thank you.



BIIRA PAMELA
Chairperson Board



Overview.

Anasi Farmers Association is a community based, non – profit organization founded in 2013. It is legally registered with Kasese district local government with registration number CBO/1925 and other development networks in the Rwenzori region and country at large. Our major focus is ending cases of food deprived people through promoting regenerative agriculture towards ending hunger and malnutrition.

During the year 2022, the volume of the activities continued to grow within the community and the organization at large. Significant progress was made in the direction of lobbying, networking and capacity building at the organization level while scaling up our programs to other areas of the district where we did not operate.

Our Commitment.

In 2022, we continued implementing activities in three thematic areas of health and nutrition, climate smart agriculture, and economic empowerment to achieve the organizational goals and objectives which include;

- To encourage women farmers to start income generating projects which can enhance their sustainability.
- To encourage women to conserve and protect the environment through improved farming techniques.
- To establish model farms from which women farmers can learn new agricultural production techniques aimed at improving yields and quality of their produce.
- To improve nutrition at both family and community level.

Our Thematic Areas

Climate Smart Agriculture

This is our primary focus and the organization builds most of its activities around this program. Through increasing access to locally produced food whereas protecting biodiversity and increasing knowledge on farming practices that improve soil health hence supporting the ecosystem, with support from Re:Lush Fund, we supported 50 women from 50 households and distributed and planted over 1000 fruit trees to increase access to nutritious food as well as conserving the environment and promoting fair share during our project implementation to empower people to protect and preserve nature through promoting coexistence. Through promoting agro ecology, we emphasized women centered approaches in supporting families and enabling them to be lead agents of change. We continued to conduct training on post-harvest management and food loss and wastage.

A community garden with support from Seed Money was established in Kiburara Community to act as a learning site for over 100 women from 100 different households and also construct a vegetable solar dryer that would be used to preserve vegetables to be eaten during dry seasons.

We also prioritized establishing demonstration plots for rural women farmers and emphasized kitchen gardens that are easily manageable and easy to establish to increase availability of food in homes whereas increasing income from the sale of the surplus. These demonstration sites acted as

farmer school gardens where learning processes on various vegetables and fruit tree species took place to increase knowledge on different vegetable behavior in Kisinga and Munkunyu Sub Counties. We again carried out a community dialogue to assess agricultural production and hunger amidst the changing climatic conditions in Kiburara Community that attracted over 50 participant farmers including the Kisinga Sub County extension officer, Kasese district head of production department and Chairperson local council five and mechanisms on challenging hunger through mitigating the rate at which wild animals invade farmer's gardens was agreed.

A world food day webinar that saw over 30 participants from different sectors including farmers, civil society, government leaders and different countries participate to discuss and share ideas on increasing food security and care for the earth saw panelists from organizations like Cycle to Farms, Regenerosity International, SESEKAWA Africa and Rukungiri District Farmers Association take lead and with our lead partner FCDE, recommendations on continuous discussions on promoting people participation through different platforms was realized as key in increasing community led development.



Health and Nutrition

This program continues to be a game changer in the lives of many rural women and children and its impact has revolved from one household to another and both health knowledge and skills on living healthy lives. Our focus last year was to increase knowledge on proper feeding and dieting practices and also increase access to nutritious foods to tackle nutritional challenges that have increasingly affected the lives of expectant women, breast feeding mothers and also children below five years of age. We therefore trained over 50 women in Kyondo and Kisinga Sub County all round on proper dieting and child management to tackle the increasing cases of malnutrition. This also included distributing packets of nutritious vegetable seeds to local partners with malnourished and at-risk children to plant them in their backyard gardens and this would break the nutritional ignorance.

One World Group Oxted and Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment were at the peak of this as our main project partners on this campaign and being our longest partners they have also continuously provided all the technical support to enable us realize more organizational goals through recommendations, grants and capacity building.



Economic Empowerment

Financial inclusion is one thing we have emphasized to enable our local partners to (re)earn, (re)save and re(invest) money from activities they indulge in. Through engaging women local

beneficiaries, we trained over 50 households and 200 women directly in financial literacy, financial management, record keeping and management, marketing, startup and management of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to fight violence related cases caused as a result of poverty and poor financial management home homes.

We supported 25 women beneficiaries with support from Marie Schlei verein with establishing vegetable gardens which are early maturing and highly yielding with crops that are locally marketable to enable earn easily and also support their children. This project enabled women to be pillars of financial management in homes through increasing household income by over 50% among direct beneficiary women and reduced gender violence as a result of over dependence on male partners.

We also supported 3 village loans and savings associations for widowed women from the three sub counties of Kisinga, Kyondo and Munkunyu with the current financial dynamics and how to manage returns to investment as well as opportunity identification and 68% these beneficiaries have already started off small businesses and also engaged in savings schemes at different levels of their communities yet 55% of them have reported increase in household income as a result of business startups and saving.

We supported 25 women beneficiaries with support from Bees Abroad with 125 bee hives to increase their income through beekeeping and sale of products gotten from honey after value addition and the colonization of the hives has been impressive with all the first batch of hives colonized.



Our Partners

We are grateful to our partners both local and international for the endless and continuous love and support over the years towards the implementation of project programs towards achieving our goals;



Others;

Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Organizations (DENIVA): An umbrella for indigenous Associations in Uganda that has supported us through capacity building at organizational level and also sharing information and knowledge on community development through networking

Kasese District Local Government (KDLG) has continuously supported our projects and beneficiaries through providing extension services and this has enabled projects' continuity and also increased support supervision of these projects.

Movement for Community Led Development (MCLD) has continuously provided training and capacity building on resource mobilization, project monitoring and evaluation and community led mechanisms of supporting people centered approaches in providing local solutions.

Our 2023 Plans

- Amplify voices of rural women towards promoting regenerative projects that increase food security and increase nutrition in rural communities.
- Support village savings and loans associations with financial knowledge and amplify their potentials in financial management and business startups.
- Support mother to child relations among the target households through our nutrition and positive parenting syllabus that will improve the lives of children.
- Establish a solar water pump system to increase water availability for rural water people so as to increase their yields.
- Increase campaigns towards reducing domestic violence as it has been among the push factors for women in ability to actively participate in decisions that amplify their voices and promote equity.

- Introduce a nutritional syllabus among rural schools through regenerative school gardening projects to enable learners to be active agents of change in their own local food systems hence reduce malnutrition.

Conclusively:

We call upon our funding partners and well-wishers, especially those who believe in community-led transformation to join hands with Anasi Farmers Association in the year 2023 to ensure that women are the lead agents of socio-economic growth and development at both grass root and national level.

Our Vision:

Improved living conditions of rural women in Kasese, Uganda.

