

World Environment Day 5th June, 2021 Activity Report



Mr Osidi John, Managing Director Arise Forestry Enterprise watering tree planted at Katingi PS during WED 2021 commemoration

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I.0 Background

Creative Initiatives for Enterprise Development (CifED) is a social Enterprise that was founded in 2012 and registered in 2013. We operate in Kaberamaido and Serere districts located in the Eastern part of Uganda. It was formed in response to the challenges of low income faced by the farming communities in the region.

Arise Forestry Enterprises is a sole proprietorship for profit social enterprise which is a youth led organization. They provide all the technical needs for the farmer on tree seedlings production, extension services, establishment and management of plantations forest for; community, individuals and institutions.

I.0 Introduction

During the World Earth Day celebrations that took place at Kaberamaido Mayors garden, the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) urged government to raise its commitments towards climate change which is the biggest threat affecting people. Civil society actors led by Africa Climate Reality Project, Oxfam, Sustainable Path Africa, and CIDI Uganda hosted by Creative Initiative for Enterprise Development and Arise Forestry Enterprises spearheaded a three-day mass environment awareness campaign in Kaberamaido to help communities fully understand the role played by their actions in damaging the environment.

Jackson Muhindo, the Resilience & Climate Change Coordinator at Oxfam Uganda said that climate change is exacerbating inequality and hurting poor people in communities. Several activities were conducted including tree planting, cleanup of Kaberamaido central market, climate literacy and launch of Climate Club at Teete Primary school. It was also highlighted that “Uganda was the first country in Africa to develop and endorse its Nationally Determined Contribution partnership plan (NDC-PP) in June 2018. It made key commitments in this regard, including reducing national greenhouse emission by 22% by year 2030, reducing climate vulnerability of climate sensitive sectors, and building climate resilience key sectors and managing of the

Disaster risks. “However to achieve the set Paris agreement commitments, we must step up and intensify actions that include among others protecting the country’s forests and fragile eco-systems like wetlands, lakes and rivers, pass strong legislation on industrial pollutions and investing in awareness initiatives to create an ecologically literate society, ‘Sempala said.

World Environment Day celebrations.

The Eastern part of Uganda has suffered severe land degradation due to massive tree cutting and land opening for farming, land fragmentation due to population increase coupled with unsustainable utilization of the natural resources as poverty bites hard on the front liners the farming community.

Arise Forestry Enterprises and Creative Initiatives for Enterprises Development are working hand in hand to engage the communities in restoration of the degraded land using; Collaborative forestry management, School climate change clubs and promotion of forest gardening – permaculture in the communities' where they have a presence.

Building on one of the recommendations from the Earth day dialogue meeting of scaling out the school climate change clubs model in all the schools in Kaberamaido district as an ongoing activity. This time spearheaded by Arise Forestry Enterprise approached the school administration of Atingi Primary School to initiate the establishment of a school club.

The team also preferred to mobilize communities adjacent to the school for a friendly football match between the staff of Arise Enterprises and the community. This gave an opportunity for awareness creation and sensitization about World Environment day focusing on this year's theme Ecosystem Restoration. It turned out that many people in the community including the school administration did not have much knowledge about the World Environment day. This was much appreciated by the community who pledged to make it an annual event.