

YOUTH IN AEAS, CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS



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- ❑ Key coping strategies
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INTRODUCTION

- ✓ Sasakawa Global 2000 Uganda (SG2000-U) promotes youth, women and PwSNDs involvement in agribusiness for increased income earning.
- ✓ This is done through building the entrepreneurial mind; enterprise selection and management and linkages with the value chain actors and support service providers
- ✓ Over the last 21 years, SG2000 Uganda and her partners have promoted youth's employment in agricultural value chain as producers and chain service providers which has become the driving force for youths' employment and modernization of Agriculture
- ✓ This is strategically positioned to the realization of the national development plan II and the global sustainable development goals (SDGs).



SITUATION ANALYSIS OF YOUTH

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- ✓ Uganda is among the countries with the youngest population in the world, with 77% of its population being under 30 years of age (UBOS, 2017)
- ✓ Accordingly, UNFPA report of 2018 indicate that 8.8 million young people aged 15-24 are not engaged in education, employment or have had any training.
- ✓ Majority of the young workers in Uganda are engaged in the informal sector largely agricultural related; 90.9% in the informal sectors, 5.8% are self-employed in business and 3.2% in waged employment.
- ✓ Youths under involvement in the agribusiness has been due to limited add-on empowerment efforts, limited access to Agri-finance, low number of influential youths in business and the seasonality of agribusiness activities that creates a repulsive force for youths and women in agribusiness



HOW DISRUPTIONS AND SHOCKS THAT HAVE AFFECTED YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

- ✓ Limitations to movement affected service provision activities of youth i.e. offering advisory services, agro-processing and post harvest services, production services thus income reduction. According to the study conducted by SG 2000 on effects of covid 87% of service providers reported a low demand of their services
- ✓ Inability to access resources i.e. land has accelerated inability for youths to access finance as they don't have collateral
- ✓ Since group meetings of more than 5 people were banned limited the possibility of youths groups accessing credit using members as guarantors since there was no saving going on



HOW DISRUPTIONS AND SHOCKS THAT HAVE AFFECTED YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

- ✓ Due to lock down, youths concentrated on production activities but despite the bumper harvest they have faced low prices offered for their produce especially matooke
- ✓ Access to markets has been challenge since most village markets were closed and transportation to bigger markets became a challenge.
- ✓ Access to extension services became harder



- ✓ Embracing Digital strategies. Registration and encouraging youths to use of e-extension for accessing inputs, markets and credit access
- ✓ Radio programs where knowledge on various farming aspects has been, coping mechanisms, ideas on investment has been shared throughout the pandemic period
- ✓ Some of the youths we have as extension workers have been provided with protective gear thus



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

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Despite the challenges that arose due to the impact of the Covid Pandemic, opportunities to evolve have been realized in this season: i.e.

- ✓ Youths are now agents on the e-extension platforms. They are registering farmers, providing advisory services to farmers and also getting commission from input and output marketing
- ✓ Youths are engaging more in input delivery and output marketing using their boda bodas as they aren't allowed to carry passengers



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

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Okello Bonny whose main income generating activity was Boda boda decided to grow an Maize during the lockdown after movement was prohibited due to Covid 19



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

09



Extension workers in Kiboga District being trained on the use of m-Omulimisa which is an online agricultural advisory platform



RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ Digitalization of extension will enable more farmers to be reached in a shorter period of time. Utilizing the available platforms like eazy Agric, m-Omulimisa
- ✓ Intensify capacity building/ training of extension agents on the use of e-extension





THANK YOU

