

LAUNCH:

Global Program for Small scale Agroecology producers and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation Project (GP-SAEP) in Uganda

29th February 2024
Esella Country Hotel

Moderators:

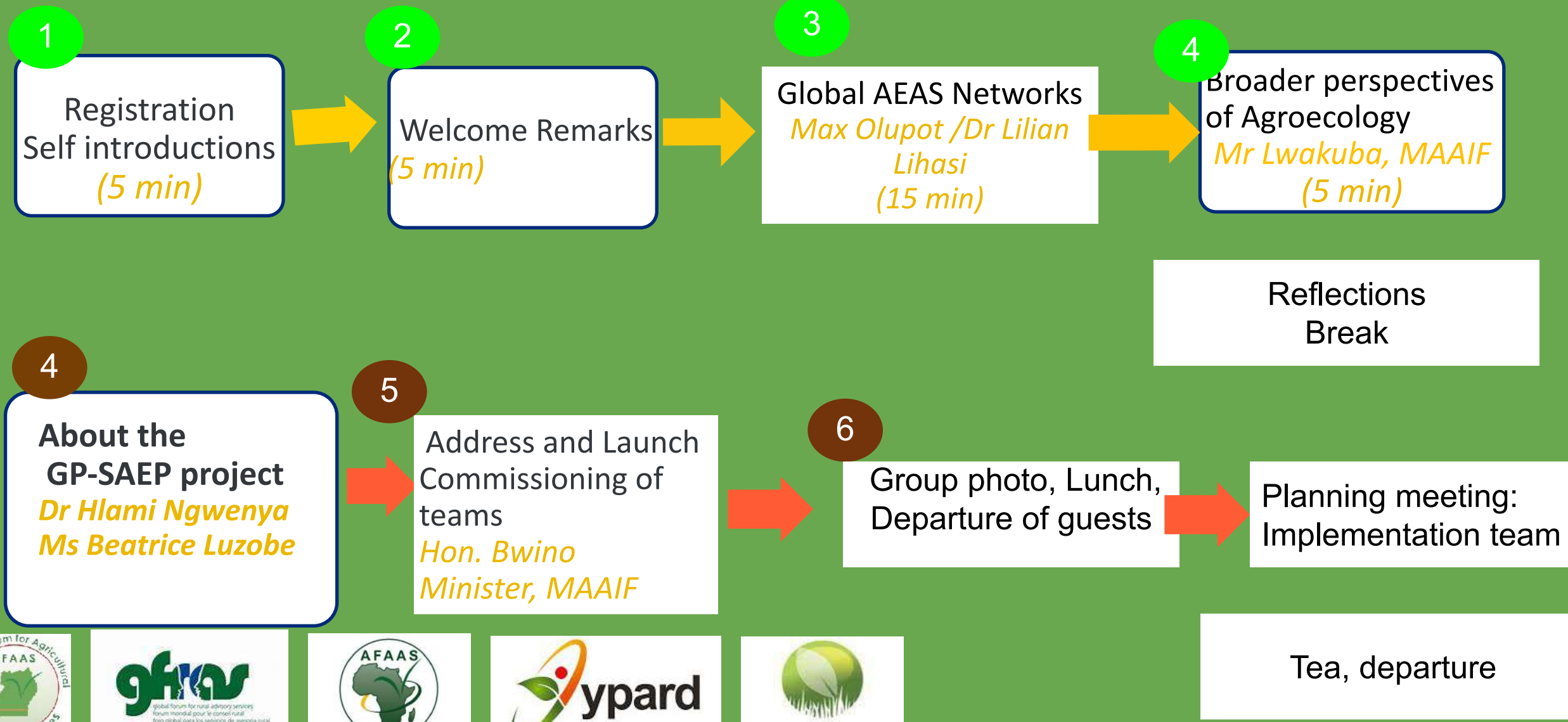


Elizabeth Asiimwe
Communication, Information and Knowledge
Management, UFAAS



Samuel Mpiira,
DPMO, Buvuma District Local Government

Agenda



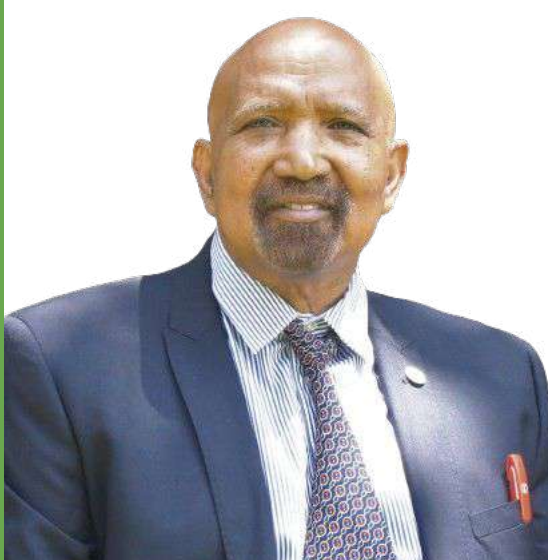
**Welcome
remarks**



Ms Adeline Muheebwa

**Board Chairperson, Uganda Forum for
Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS)**

Welcome
remarks



Dr Silim Nahdy

**Executive Director African Forum for
Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS)**

**Welcome
remarks**



Dr Hlami Ngwenya

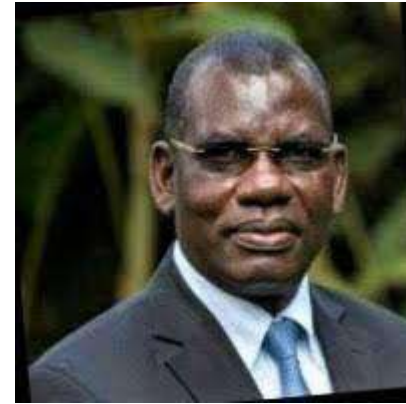
Coordinator, GP-SAEP, GFRAS

Presentation:

The global AEAS networks

Max Olupot

Director of Programs, AFAAS

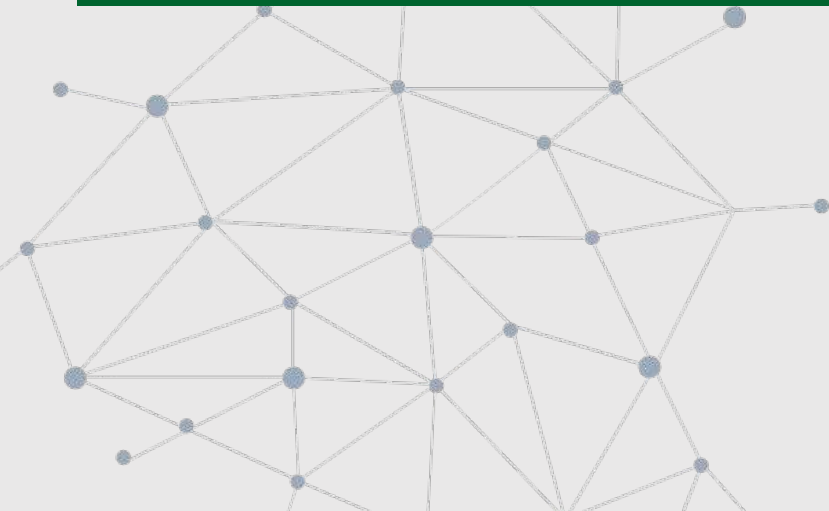
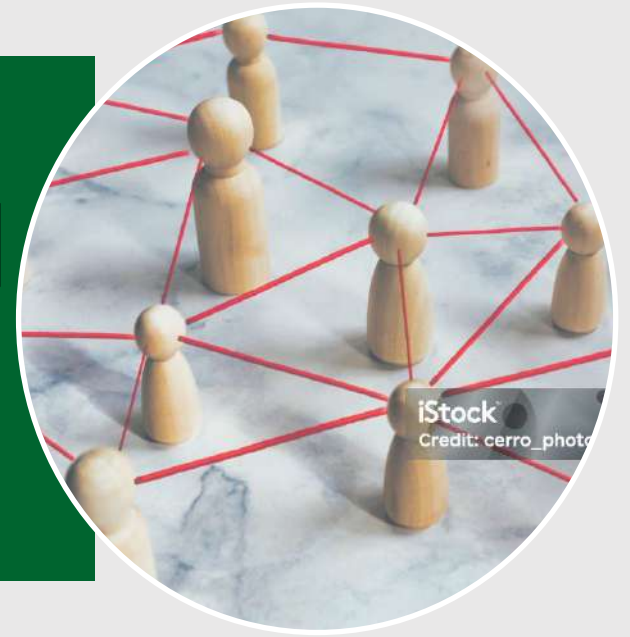


Dr Lilian Lihasi
AFAAS

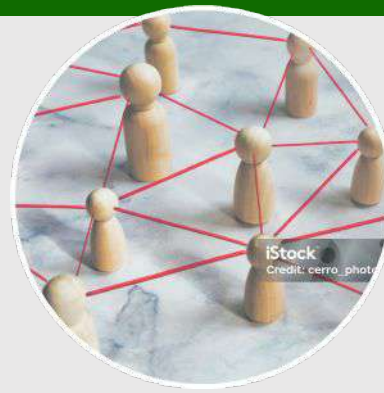




The Global AEAS Networks and Agro-ecology



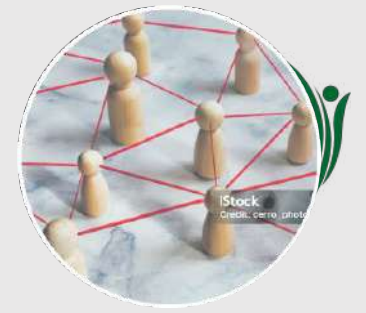
Agricultural Extension & Advisory Services



AEAS plays a multifaceted role in

- ✓ disseminating knowledge & best practices
- ✓ promoting sustainable agricultural development
- ✓ enhancing farmer livelihoods
- ✓ ensuring food & nutrition security,
- ✓ fostering rural development.



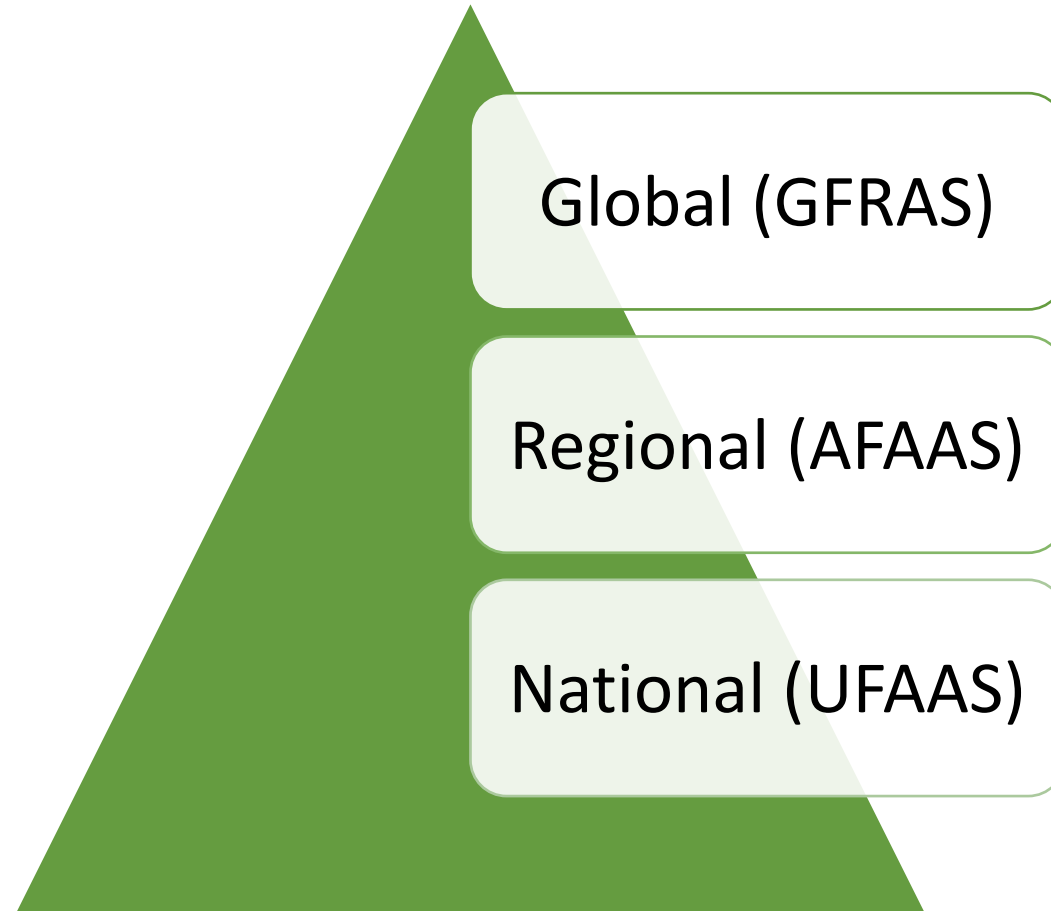
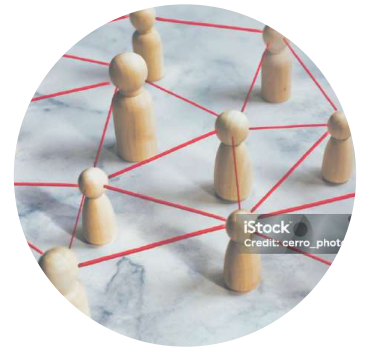


The evolving landscape of AEAS is characterized by:

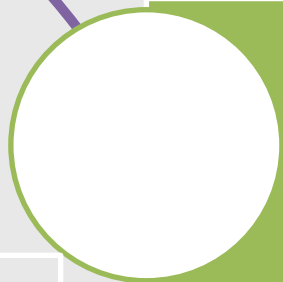
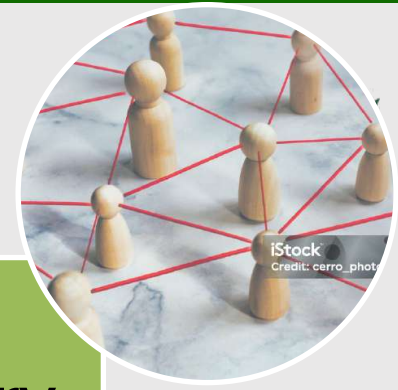
- a shift towards more holistic, participatory, and technology-driven approaches
- aimed at promoting sustainable agricultural development and improving the livelihoods of farmers worldwide



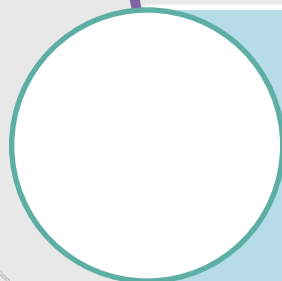
Global AEAS networks share the overarching goal of improving performance of AEAS at different levels



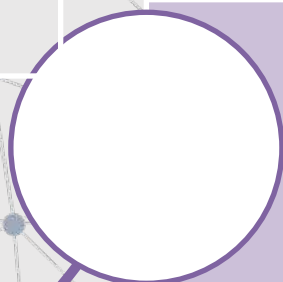
The AEAS Networks



GFRAS- provide advocacy & leadership on pluralistic and demand-driven rural advisory services for sustainable development.



AFAAS- spearheads issues of AEAS within the continent and provide linkages with global-level AEAS institutions.



UFAAS- strengthens the capacity of AEAS stakeholders at country level to lead advisory service development



Agroecology



- These networks are increasingly recognizing the importance of sustainable farming practices that work in harmony with the environment - **Agroecology**

Agroecology is recognized as a **holistic & transformative approach** to agriculture that aligns with the principles of **sustainability and resilience**; and emphasizes the importance of **working with nature** rather than against it, promoting harmony between agriculture, ecology, and human well-being



Aligning to its Strategic objectives, the global & continental objectives, AFAAS is implementing projects that contribute to global effort in food systems through Agroecology

Agroecology
Projects
implemented
by AEAS
networks

1. Delivering Extension Services to the Last-Mile (LMP)- **Kenya, Malawi and Cameroon**
2. Sustain Sahel- enhance soil quality and yields, build resilience towards climate change, and contribute to food security and better livelihoods- **Burkina Faso, Senegal and Mali**
3. CAADP XP 4- Uganda, Kenya, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Malawi, Cameroon, Mali, Liberia, Nigeria, Ghana, and South Africa

Agroecology Projects

BIO4Africa

Developing bio-based solutions & value chains with a circular approach to drive the use of local resources and diversify farmers' income - *Uganda, Ghana, Senegal and Ivory Coasts.*

Digital Connectors

Inclusion of women and youth into economic activities that will support the digitalization of extension services leading to resilient and agrifood systems – **Kenya and Uganda**

ATREA

Identification & documentation of sustainable, inclusive & responsive extension approaches for Agroecological Transition among target countries -**Benin, Ethiopia, Kenya and Madagascar**

Agroecology Projects

CANALLS

To drive agroecological transitions in the humid tropics of Central and Eastern Africa via multi-actor transdisciplinary Agroecology Living Labs (ALLs) - **Burundi, Cameroon and Rwanda**

GP-SAEP

Empowering Small-Scale Farmers in the Agroecological Transition through participatory Rural Advisory Services – **Uganda, Madagascar, Equador & Cost Arica**



THANK YOU!

Tea break



Presentation

The broader perspectives of agroecology

Mr Alex Lwakuba

Mr Sunday Bob

MAAIF



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**NATIONAL LAUNCH OF GP-SAEP PROJECT IN UGANDA.
ESELLA COUNTRY HOTEL
29TH FEBRUARY 2024.**

SUNDAY BOB GEORGE

**SAO/FS & FOCAL PERSON ECOLOGICAL ORGANIC
AGRICULTURE**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL INDUSTRY
AND FISHERIES.**

MSc. Agroecology - Uni Aberdeen UK Scotland

MSc. Soil Science - MUK

PGD Agric Extension & Mgt- NIAET India

PDG. Public Admin & Mgt- UMI

BSc. Agriculture - UMU



1.0 Background



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1.1 Origin of Agroecology

Global Perspective:

- ✓ Agroecology emerged more than 80 years ago originally referred to the ecological study of agricultural systems (Gliessman, 2007).

- ✓ Was first used in the 1930s by Bensing (Schaller, 2013), Russian agronomist in reference to applying ecological methods to research on crops.



ness





Origin of Agroecology Contd.....



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The 2nd International Agroecology Symposium held by the FAO in April 2018 in Rome, Italy included the launch of the scaling up agroecology initiative, with a strong call from dialogue to action.





Five key actions for scaling up agroecology



□ Strengthen the central role of farmers and their FOs in safeguarding, utilizing and accessing natural resources in a sustainable manner.

□ Promote markets of agroecologically produced products that are health, nutrition and sustainability.

□ Foster experience and knowledge sharing, collaborative research and innovations.

□ Review institutional, policy, legal and financial frameworks to promote agroecological transitions to sustainable food systems.

□ Take agroecology to scale through integrated and participatory territorial processes.



1.2 Definition of Agroecology



FAO - Agroecology as a scientific discipline, a set of practices and a social movement

As a science - Studies how different components of the agroecosystem interact.

As a set of practices - Seeks sustainable farming systems that optimize and stabilize yields



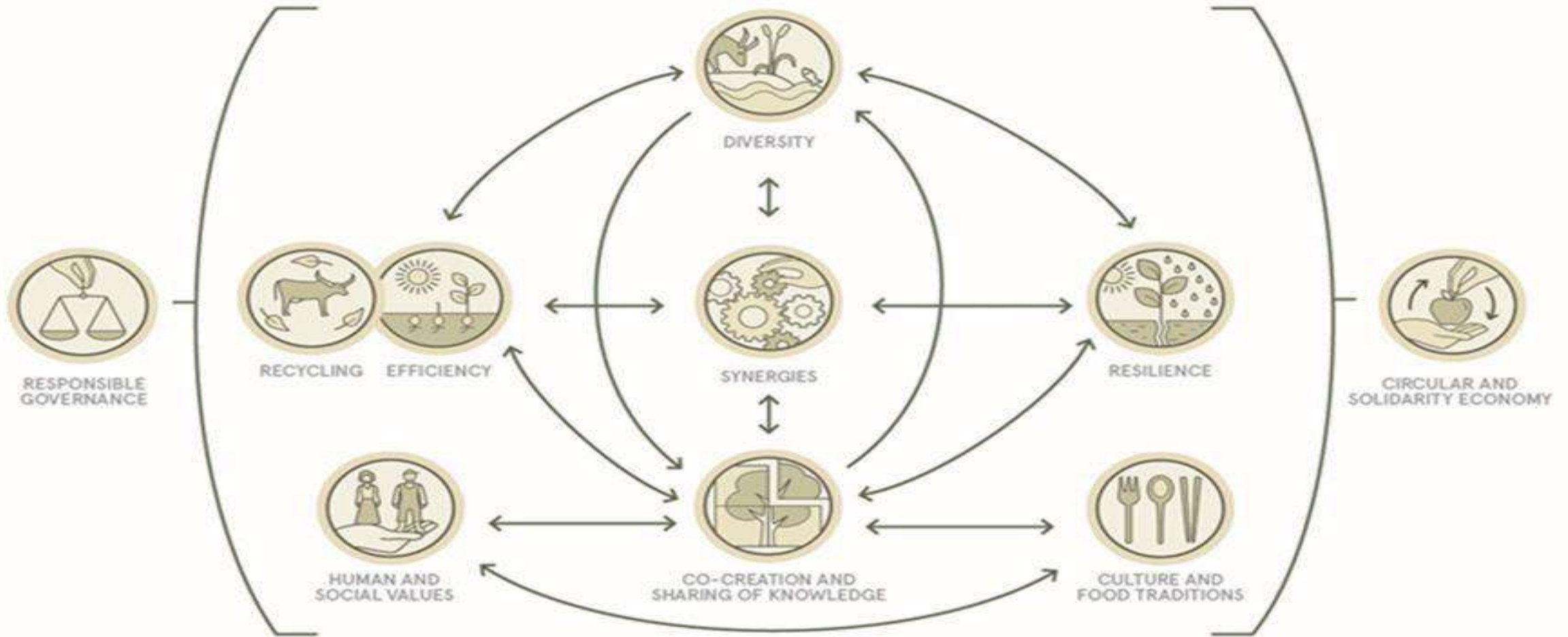
As a social movement - It pursues multi-functional roles for agriculture, promotes social justice, nurture's identity and culture, and strengthens the economic viability of rural areas.



1.3 Elements of Agroecology



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1.3 Principles of Agroecology



1. **Recycling**

2. **Input reduction.**

3. **Soil health** -Managing organic matter to enhance soil biological activity.

4. **Animal health.** Ensure animal health and welfare

5. **Biodiversity.**

6. **Synergy.** Enhance positive ecological interaction



7. **Economic diversification**

8. **Co-creation of knowledge**

9. **Social values and diets.** Build food systems based on the culture, identity.

10. **Fairness.**

11. **Land and natural resource governance**

12. **Connectivity**

13. **Participation.**



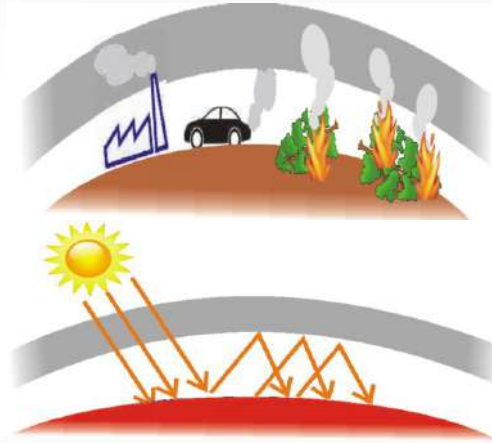
2. Agroecology in the Context of Uganda



- Population growth rates (3.4%) dependent on static resources

- Land degradation is very high costing over 10% of GDP

- Climate change has increased the vulnerability of farming communities threatens to undo the poverty alleviation gains



- Inappropriate use of chemicals leading contamination and poisoning

- Clash of terminologies; CSA, RA, EOA, OA, SA etc

- Limited financing to agroecology intervention internationally and nationally

- Agroecology still not well understood and contested by some stakeholders



Why Agroecology



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1. Food and nutrition security



2. Better farm incomes, lower costs, Poverty reduction, more stability



3. Inclusive and sustainable economic development, both youth & women



4. Farm biodiversity





Why Agroecology Contd....



6. Enhanced soil fertility



7. Consumer, Farmer & Env` t Health



8. Resilience to climate change



9. Animal Welfare





4. Is Uganda Practicing Agroecology

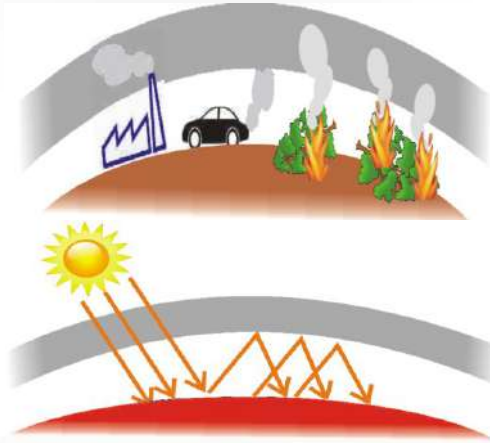


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5.0 Research in AE

- National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARO)
- Civil Society Organization
- Farmers (IK)

- **Makerere University**
 - Biopesticides
 - Bio fertilizers
 - Kebera Organic
- **Uganda Martyrs University**
 - BSc. Organic Agriculture
 - MSc. Agroecology
 - PhD. Agroecology
 - Farmer Training





5. Enabling Policy Environment AE in Uganda



1. NOAP 2019



2. OA Bill



3. NAS (Processes)



Are we promoting any AE in Uganda?..... YES

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- Organic Agriculture
- Sustainable land management practices
- Climate smart agriculture
- IPPM/Plant Clinics
- ESS in agricultural projects.
- Safe use and handling of agrochemicals
- 4acre model / enterprise mix
- Agricultural risk management
- PHH (food hygiene, aflatoxin control, safe storage of produce etc....)
- Numerous supportive international commitments, laws & policies.





7. Moving Forward



- ✓ Finalize national agroecology strategy
- ✓ Create more awareness creation and engagement of National negotiators on Agroecology
- ✓ Consistent and proactive participation in CC negotiation process
- ✓ Strengthening inter-ministerial & inter departmental synergies.
- ✓ More national level evidence generation on agroecology
- ✓ Strengthen research, technology development and uptake



4.0 Certification of AE Produced (Organic)

Certification Bodies

- Uganda Organic Certification Ltd (UgoCert)
- Ceres, Control Union, Ecocert/IMO (Germany)
- Control Union (Dutch)
- EcoCert (French)
- Soil Assessment of the UK
- UNBS (Work in close collaboration)

Certification Standards

- East African Organic Product (EAOSP)
 - second regional organic standard in the world
- Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)
 - 2nd party certification system
- International Certification System
 - 3rd party certification system



5.0 Actors and Stakeholder in AE

5.1 Local Actors

- ESAFF Uganda ((Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers)
- PELUM Uganda
- NOGAMU
- ACSASA.
- Uganda Martyrs University
- Swiss Contact
- KULIKA Uganda
- National Research Organizations
- Independent Researchers/ Subject Matter Specialists

5.2 International

- Bio vision African Trust
- Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- Bread for the World (Germany)
- SOSFEIM (Belgium)
- Agroecology Fund (USA)
- SOS FAIM (Belgium)
- Oxfarm





6.0 Existing opportunities

Strong Political Will.

Approved National Organic Agriculture Policy (NOAP).

Favorable Enabling Environment for AE investment in Uganda.

Vibrant and responsive AE Civil Society and Private Sector.



Supportive Academic Institutions-UMU, MUK, St.Lawrence Univ., RUCID.

Increasing Research Prioritization

Increasing Investments in Manufacturing of Agro-inputs and Products.

Uganda now seen as Reg. Centre of Excellency in AE

Increasing global demand for organic products



7.0 Challenges to AE



1. Low production & productivity



2. Low levels of investments



3. Inadequate Research



4. Limited knowledge about OA



5. Inadequate regulatory framework





8.0 Recommendations



- Need to address the high costs of certification for OA
- Scale up knowledge management / capacity building
- Strengthen research/commercialization
- Attract more investment in AE

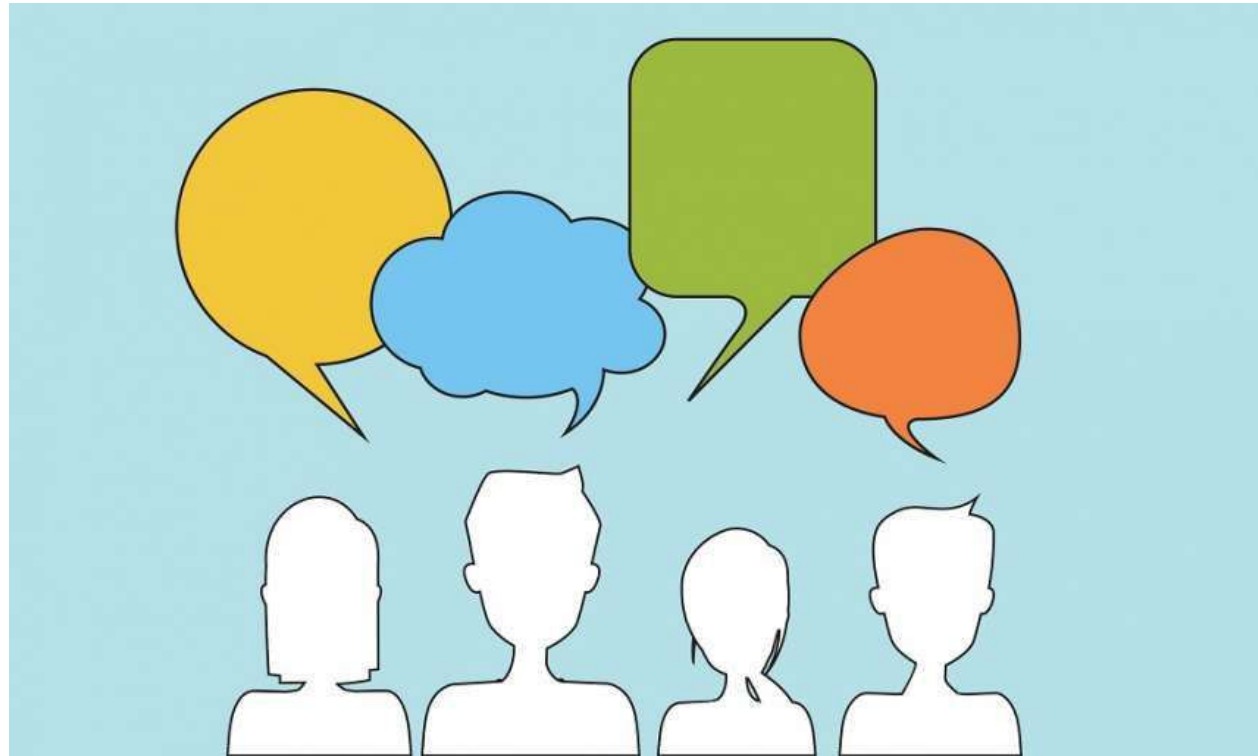


- Scale up and popularize cost effective certification system
- Fast track AE enabling environment (policies/legislation)



Thank you
for
listening

Reflections on agroecology



Source: [web](#)

Presentation



Overview of the SAEP-Project and Implementation modalities

Dr Hlami Ngwenya

- **SAEP-GP Project Coordinator, GFRAS**

Presentation

Overview of the SAEP-Project and Implementation modalities

Global Programme for Small-Scale
Agroecology Producers and
Sustainable Food Systems
Transformation



Video

GP-SAEP Project

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Tq5q-h3M_4&t=181s

Presentation



Overview of the SAEP-Project and Implementation modalities in Uganda

Ms. Beatrice Luzobe

Chief Executive Officer, UFAAS

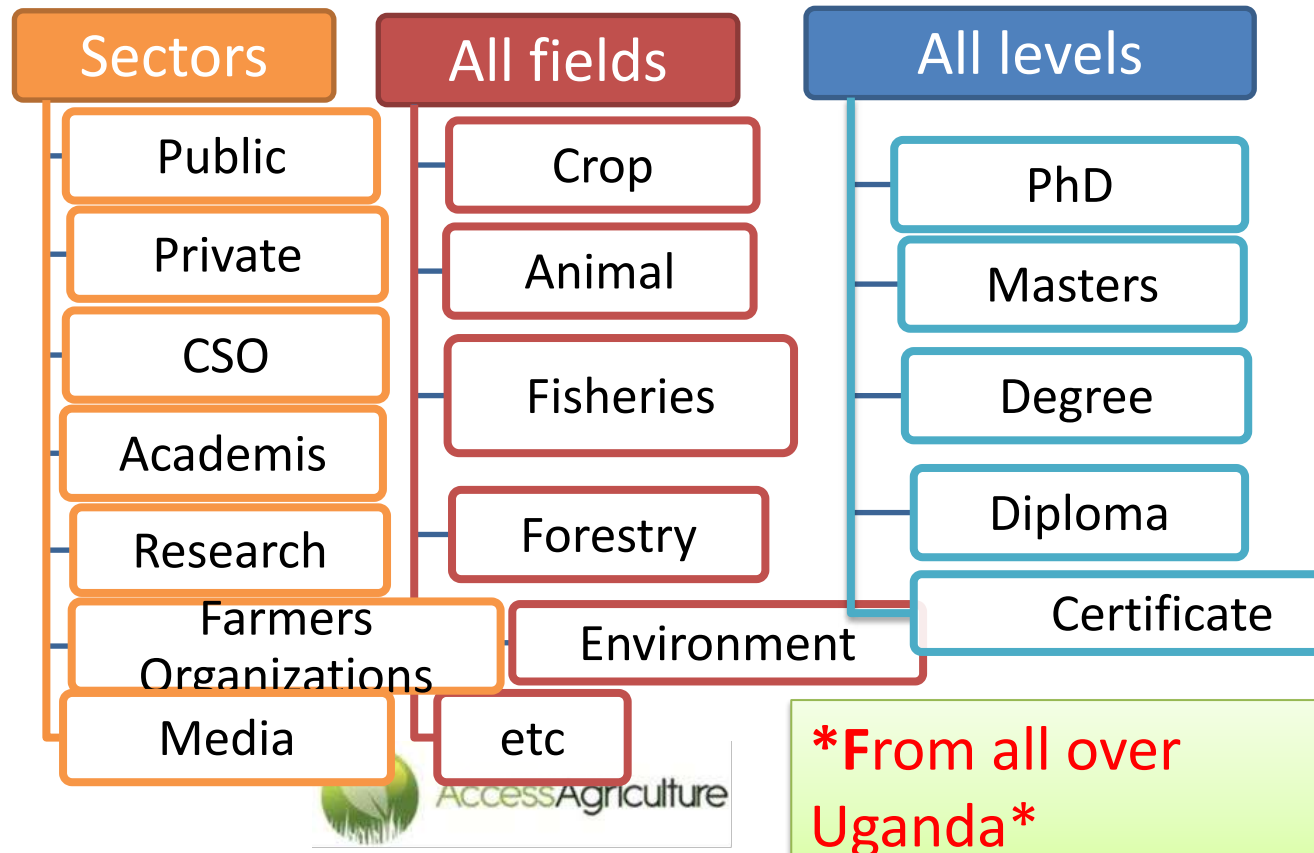
Implementation modalities the GP-SAEP project in Uganda

Presented at
The Launch of the Project
29th Feb' 2024

By Beatrice Luzobe (CEO- UFAAS)

A National Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) Forum Formed in 2011 by AEAS actors and legally registered in 2013

Brings together agricultural extension and advisory services (AEAS) actors from:



Works closely with MAAIF through DAES and other partners to reach out to the AEAS actors:

Public Focal Persons

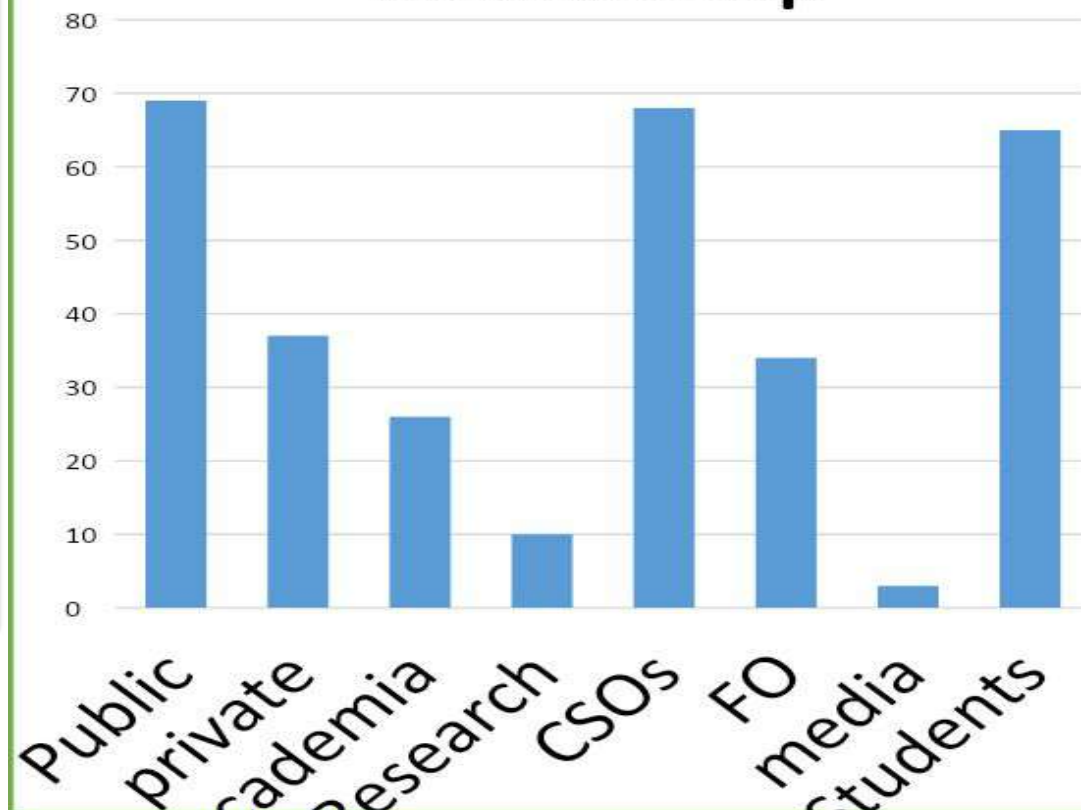
- National Level
 - Dr. Patience Rwamigisa
- Local Government Level
 - Mr. Samuel Mpiira (DPMO Buvuma)

UFAAS Membership and Reach

Paid-Up Membership to date

- The 366 paid-up members make the general Assembly,
 - 336 (132F, 204M) are individuals
 - 30 are organisations
 - Out of the 333 individuals, 55% are youth and 37% of the youth are females.

Current UFAAS Paid-Up Membership



However, the overall UFAAS reach is over 1,500 AEAS actors nationally.

UFAAS Strategic Direction

VISION

- ***“Quality AEAS effectively contributing to agricultural development in Uganda”***

MISSION

- ***“To promote an effective, efficient and innovative AEAS system through strategic partnerships, advocacy, capacity building, information sharing and interaction among AEAS actors in Uganda.”***

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen and sustain an effective platform for pluralistic agricultural Advisory Agricultural Services in Uganda
- To support information sharing and networking among AEAS actors
- To develop capacity of Agricultural Advisory Services systems to provide innovative and business-orientated services along the agricultural value chains
- To enhance professionalism and ethical conduct in AEAS systems in Uganda.
- To lobby and advocate for a conducive environment for business oriented inclusive AEAS in Uganda

Development Partners and Donors worked with since Inception



Members Organizations



+++++ individual professionals ++++++

UFAAS Value Proposition

(What we want to be known for)

Contributing to: A resilient, productive and sustainable agri-food system

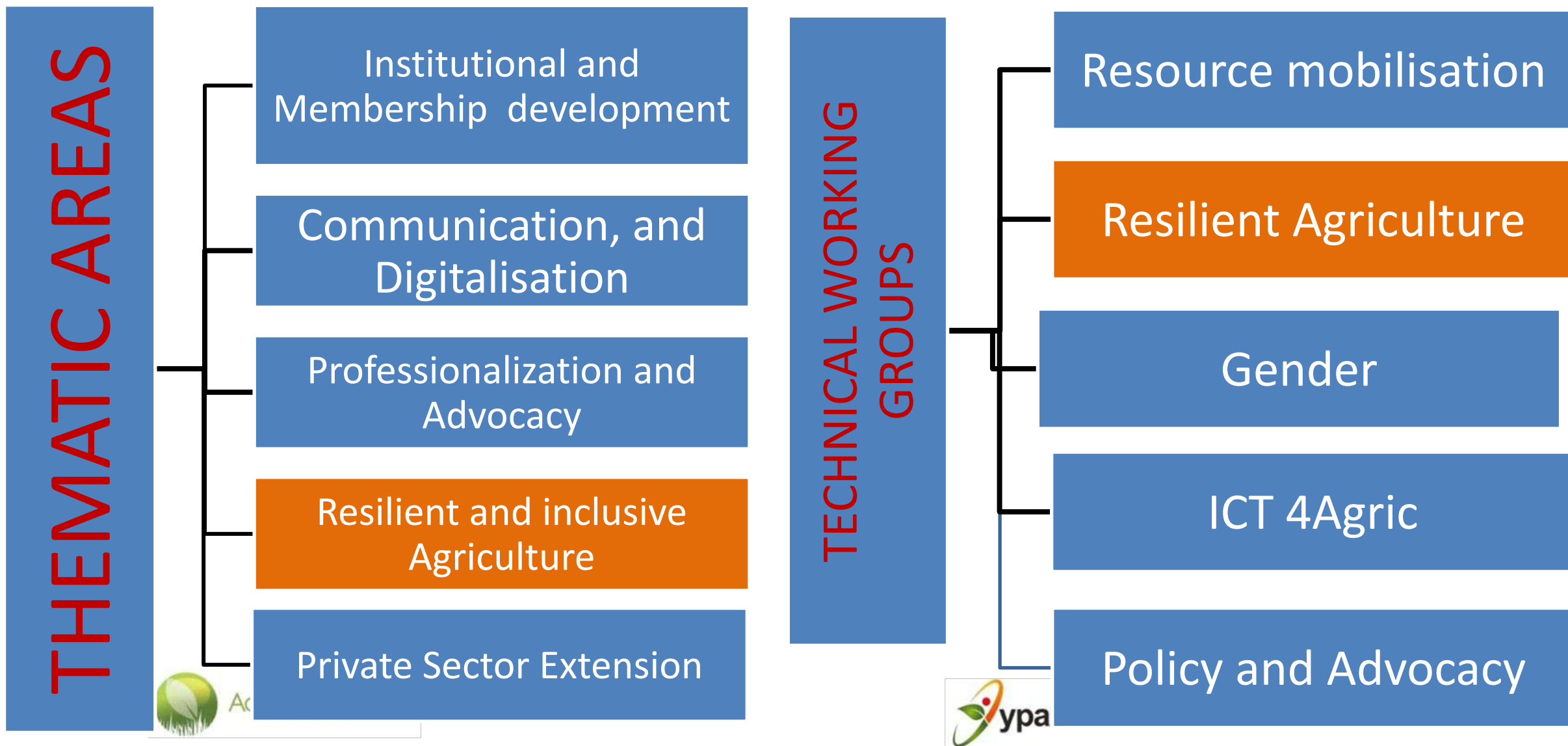
For who: All AEAS actors (individual professionals and organizations), from all sectors (public, Private, CSOs, FOs, academia, research, media)

A unique innovative, pluralistic and inclusive AEAS platform

Intended outcome: Quality effective AEAS delivery system

For what: Networking and information sharing, effective coordination, professionalism, and advocacy

UFAAS Implements through:



Note: Actors are different terminologies (sometimes interchangeably),
to achieve resilient agriculture

For example:

- Agro-ecology,
- Climate smart Agriculture,
- Regenerative Agriculture,
- Nature based Solutions,
- Productive use of Renewable Energy, etc...

😊 ***Hence, UFAAS is flexible to partner approach*** 😊

To Date-Preparation Mission

The International Project Preparation Mission Workshop was held in Uganda -September 2023 at 11-15 September 2023 Springs Hotel, Kampala,. **Included a Field trip to KOFLEK Agro-Ecology activities in Kasese**



To Date-Strategic Alignment

- The project was aligned into UFAAS' new strategic direction –**October-Nov 2023**
- **GP-SAEP was placed under** the new thematic area on Resilient and inclusive Agriculture (RIA).

GOAL OF RIA: To promote and advocate for resilient, environmentally friendly, and inclusive agriculture in Uganda.

Objective 1: To contribute to the understanding and knowledge of RIA AEAS and its impact among the farming community, AEAS actors and other stakeholders.

Activity ii. *Implement RIA projects that directly engage farming communities and sustainable management practices, such as the GP-SAEP .*

To Date-Selection of Target Areas and partners

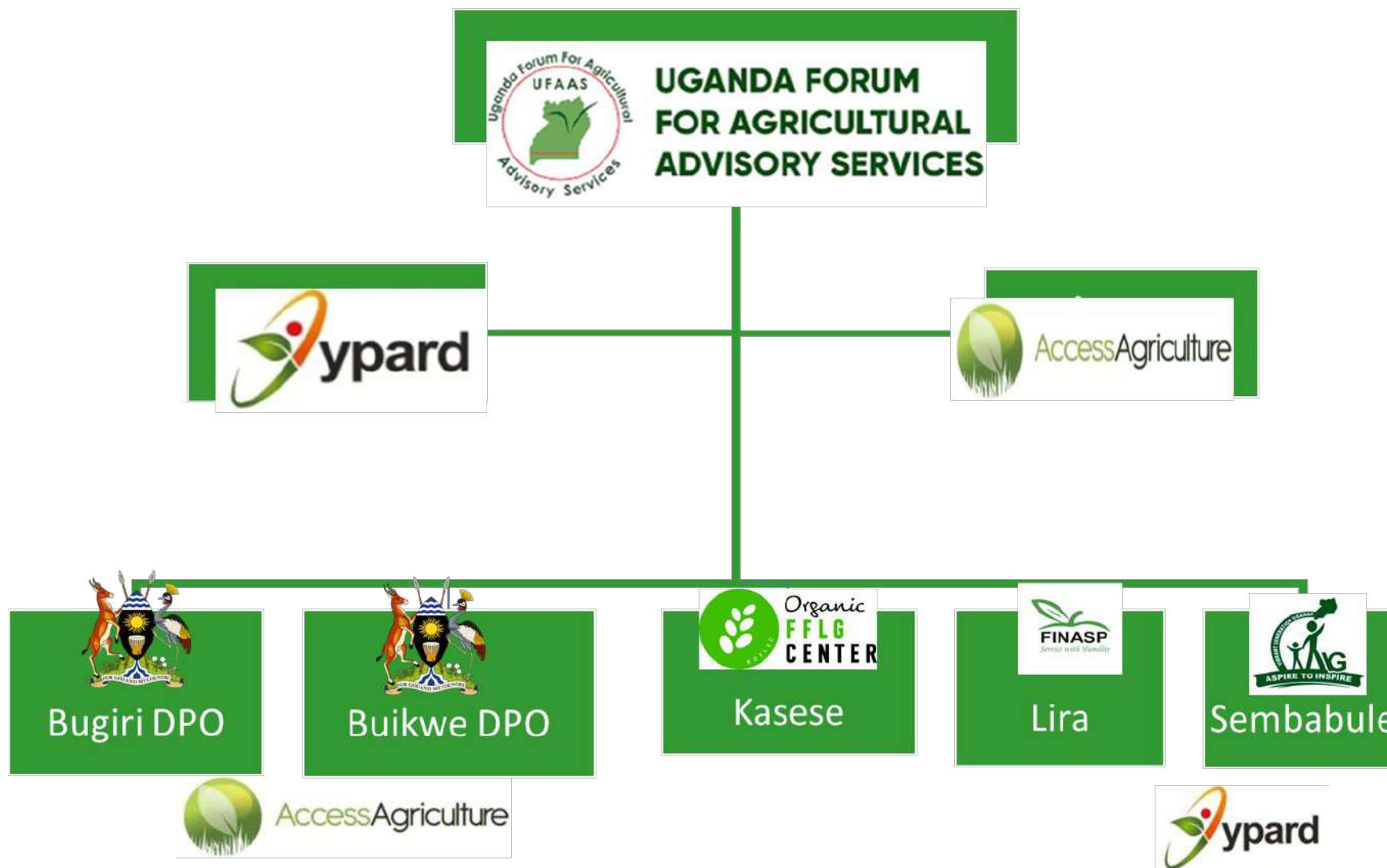
Final Selection of five target districts areas and the co-implementing RAS Provider Organizations (RASPOs) was done—**November 2023**

- (Bugiri (in Eastern, Buikwe (Central), Lira (Northern), Kasese (Western) and Sembabule (Southern)

◆ Considerations were:

- ✓ Regional Balance
- ✓ Presence of strong membership, partners and relevant approaches
- ✓ Synergies of other UFAAS projects
- ✓ Variation of farming Systems

Implementing Partners



Targeted Beneficiaries

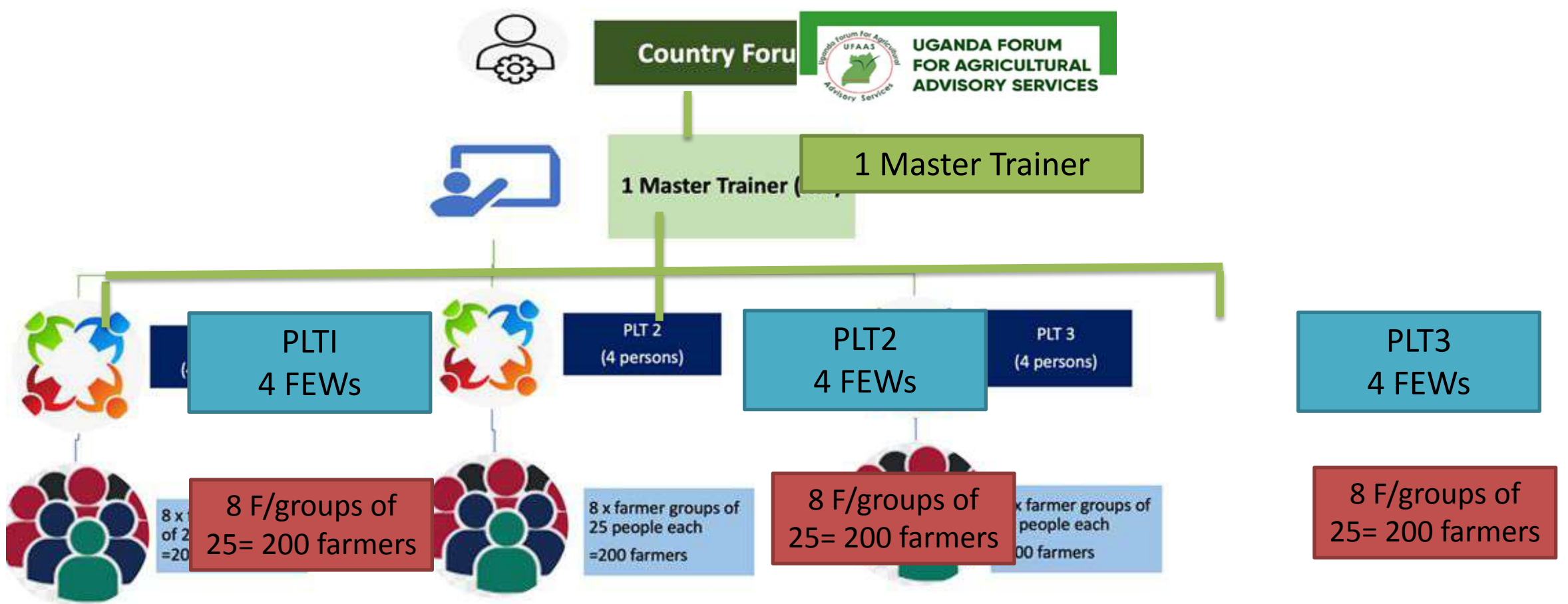
These beneficiaries will be reached via a total of :

- 60 RAS (Rural Advisory Services) Facilitators
- 5 Master Trainers
- 5 Young Agroecology extension fellows
- 5 Entrepreneurs for Rural Access (ERAs)
- 5 RAS Organisations (RASPOs)

The selection of beneficiaries and trained persons at all levels will ensure that at least

- **40% are women,**
- **30% are youth** (people under 35 years of age)

The Peer Learning Team Concept and Learning Clusters



To Date-Selection of work teams

- 5 Master Trainers (1 MT/ target area) selected **-Jan 2024**, being trained **-January 20**
- 5 YPARD Agroecological Fellows selected **-Feb 2024**
- 4 Access Agriculture young Entrepreneurs for Rural Access (ERAs) selected **-Jan 2024**

These Teams are ready for commissioning **-Today 29th Feb 2024**



Select persons for the work teams

Districts	MTs	AA-ERA	AE- Fellows
Bugiri	Jennifer Hiire	Abdallah Sseryazi	Keneth Mwanja
Buikwe	Andrew Munyole	Ochen Umar Bashir	Hajarah Nantume
Lira	Isaac Awany	Rebecca Akullu	Okello John
Kasese	Joseph Maate	Canary Ahabwe	Kinongo Caroline
Sembabule	Kasiita Gerald		Mufuruki Frank

What is common to all

- Agricultural Professional
- Agro-ecology leaning (at different levels)
- Trainers (at different levels)
- Conversant with local language of target area

Expected to learn from the synergies of one another

Training of the Master trainers

- Training of the Master trainers is on
- Being equipped with skills of cascading the training of the agriculture extension and advisory service providers (RAS facilitators) and do the backstopping at field level throughout the duration of the project.



Snapshot of the remaining activities for 2024

- Finalise 1st training of MTs
- Planning meeting for the District Activities (implementers and worker teams)
- Agreements with the district implementing partners
- 1st trainings of the selected 60 FEWs, 12/ district
- Launch of the project in individual districts
- Engagement with farmers by the RASFs (FEWs) backstopped by MTs
- National Review Workshop (latest in the year)

Last but not least
A GREAT CALL

Please join UFAAS

Please partner with us

**Lets join hands for extension delivery of
Agro-ecology**



Thanks

Address by Chief Guest

- **Launch of the GP-SAEP Project**
- **Commissioning teams**

Hon.Fred Bwino Kyakulaga

Minister of state for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries(Agriculture), Republic of Uganda.

MP Kigulu County North



Group Photo



Source: [web](#)

Lunch and departure of guests



Source: [web](#)



THANK
You! 😊



Planning meeting for project implementation team



Tea

Departure

END