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

1. Registration
   - Self introductions
   - (5 min)

2. Welcome Remarks
   - (5 min)

3. Global AEAS Networks
   - Max Olupot /Dr Lilian Lihasi
   - (15 min)

4. Broader perspectives of Agroecology
   - Mr Lwakuba, MAAIF
   - (5 min)

5. Address and Launch
   - Commissioning of teams
   - Hon. Bwino
   - Minister, MAAIF

6. Group photo, Lunch, Departure of guests

Reflections

Break

Planning meeting:
- Implementation team

Tea, departure
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

- Global (GFRAS)
- Regional (AFAAS)
- National (UFAAS)
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

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, Madagscar, Equador & Cost Arica**
THANK YOU!
Tea break
The broader perspectives of agroecology

Mr Alex Lwakuba

Mr Sunday Bob

MAAIF
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

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 Bensin (Schaller, 2013), Russian agronomist in reference to applying ecological methods to research on crops.
Origin of Agroecology Contd.............

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
1.3 Principles of Agroecology

1. Recycling
2. Input reduction.
5. Biodiversity.
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

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

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

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

- Inappropriate use of chemicals leading contamination and poisoning

- Limited financing to agroecology intervention internationally and nationally

- Agroecology still not well understood and contested by some stakeholders
Why Agroecology

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

- **Makerere University**
  - Biopesticides
  - Bio fertilizers
  - Kebera Organic

- **Uganda Martyrs University**
  - BSc. Organic Agriculture
  - MSc. Agroecology
  - PhD. Agroecology
  - Farmer Training

- National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARO)
- Civil Society Organization
- Farmers (IK)
5. Enabling Policy Environment AE in Uganda

1. NOAP 2019
2. OA Bill
3. NAS (Processes)
Are we promoting any AE in Uganda? ....... YES

- 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

1. Strong Political Will.
3. Favorable Enabling Environment for AE investment in Uganda.
4. Vibrant and responsive AE Civil Society and Private Sector.
5. Supportive Academic Institutions—UMU, MUK, St. Lawrence Univ., RUCID.
6. Increasing Research Prioritization
7. Increasing Investments in Manufacturing of Agro-inputs and Products.
8. Uganda now seen as Reg. Centre of Excellency in AE
9. 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
Overview of the SAEP-Project and Implementation modalities

Dr Hlami Ngwenya

- SAEP-GP Project Coordinator, GFRAS
Overview of the SAEP-Project and Implementation modalities

Video
GP-SAEP Project
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OThq5g-h3M_4&t=181s
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)
What is UFAAS: At a glance

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:

- Public
- Private
- CSO
- Academis
- Research
- Farmers Organizations
- Media

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)

*From all over Uganda*
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.

**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
PARTNERS AND MEMBERS

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:

**THEMATIC AREAS**
- Institutional and Membership development
- Communication, and Digitalisation
- Professionalization and Advocacy
- Resilient and inclusive Agriculture
- Private Sector Extension

**TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS**
- Resource mobilisation
- Resilient Agriculture
- Gender
- ICT 4Agric
- Policy and Advocacy
Specific focus on Resilient Agriculture

**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
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

- PLTI: 4 FEWs
- PLT2: 4 FEWs
- PLT3: 4 FEWs

1 Master Trainer

8 F/groups of 25 = 200 farmers
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

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

**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 1\textsuperscript{st} training of MTs
- Planning meeting for the District Activities (implementers and worker teams)
- Agreements with the district implementing partners
- 1\textsuperscript{st} 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

Let's 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