



# **MARU ACTION DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (MADF)**

## **INTEGRATED ACTION 2 MILLION TREES CAMPAIGN; ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION PROJECT REPORT.**

**Involving schools and at-risk communities to achieve and strengthen sustainable farming and agroforestry practices through climate change adaptation.**

**Project start date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023, and continuing.

**Project funders:** Maru Action Development Foundation, individual donors and locally based and international organizations.



*MADF staff together with Worth A Haven Nursery and Primary School learners showcasing the need for Action 2 Million Trees, with tree seedlings planted in the school compound.*

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Kasese district being so disaster-prone experiencing both human and naturally induced disasters, this project was envisaged to serve at risk and vulnerable communities for two main reasons. Firstly, being home to concurrent disaster shocks including river floods, landslides and draughts resulting in devastation to both the arable land as well as the environment. Secondly, and most importantly, poverty, poor agricultural practices, and low level of education underlined these communities with majority of the vulnerable citizens from the rural areas.

Maru Action Development Foundation (MADF) together with Young Agro Green Africa Network (YAGANET) and other local and international actors came to realize the need to collectively champion the implementation of the project with its core activities on facilitating agro-forestry practices that included planting of trees and crops together on individual, private and public farmlands, schools among others with an objective; To empower at-risk communities and the youth in schools to create a safer, healthier, cleaner, and greener environment that supports the thrive and development of the ecosystems, as well as; To alleviate poverty through building, strengthening, and empowering the communities to produce adequate amounts of food without



destroying the environment, leveraging on sustainable regenerative farming and agroforestry practices.

In order for Maru Action Development Foundation to ably champion the integrated action 2 million trees project; Involving schools and at-risk communities to achieve and strengthen sustainable farming and agroforestry practices through climate change adaptation, needed the support including human and capital resource to facilitate the smooth running and realization of the project. Maru Action Development Foundation therefore in a partnership with individual donors both locally and across the globe and also local based and international organizations made their skills and resources count towards the project implementation hence, the results we see today and going forward.



## **INTRODUCTION.**

Maru Action Development Foundation (MADF) is a non-for-profit Community Based Organization located in Central Division, Kasese Municipality, Kasese District, Rwenzori Region, Western Uganda.

We envision; Just and climate resilient communities responding to their needs, by Co-creation and implementation of inclusive community-led innovations through promotion of sustainable eco-friendly low cost-high impact initiatives for improved lives and livelihoods of

women, youths and children.

Being aware of the basic needs for a vulnerable community, the need for an inclusive better future, a peaceful environment, a healthy and poverty free society, believing that working together with all the entire community without discrimination, respecting each other's rights, and advocate for skills development towards a just society especially among the less privileged categories of people, MADF interventions target to benefit the highly vulnerable categories of people i.e., Women, Youth and Children, including People with Disabilities among others.

Maru Action Development Foundation has been and will still continue to provide tools, resources, partnerships and support to its beneficiaries, empowering them to gain the voice, ability, and problem-solving capacity to realize their full potential. MADF has and will keep welcoming and serve all women, youth and children and focus its most efforts on the less privileged young women especially single mothers, people with disabilities, youth and children who live in low-



income households and communities much more those disrupted by natural and man-made disasters.

Leveraging on such has and or will help our beneficiaries engage in designing and implementing inclusive tailored community-led innovations that fosters empowerment of underserved women, people with disabilities, youth and children, through promotion of sustainable socio-economic low cost and high impact approaches that does not only transform lives and improving their livelihoods, but also thrives their living in environment and mother nature.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL APPROACH WHILE DELIVERING ON OUR PROGRAMS.**

We leverage on community needs and challenges with integration of indigenous knowledge and practices through a community-led approach while informing actions that are locally adaptive, improving lives and livelihoods. This helps sustain our projects and programs with served populations and communities, as beneficiaries play a big role and always keeping at the centre point of whatever we do.

When communities need and challenges are discussed in a very welcoming and conducive environment where local people feel given the whole space, they give out their minds, opinions, ideas, suggestions and insights to what affects them while guiding on priorities. This then forms actions which are people and or community-led and full, inclusive participation and programs sustainability are guaranteed.

### **A BRIEF ABOUT THE PROJECT BENEFICIARIES.**

The primary focus on beneficiaries of this project are the at-risk and vulnerable communities and the schools always affected by disaster shocks that includes river floods, landslides and drought. The farmers in these communities constitute over 70% of the district's population (850,000 people) UBOS projection 2022, with over 77% of this population being the youths majorly in schools who are less than 30 years of age and women constituting about 60%.

Agricultural practices in the projected communities including in Central and Nyamwamba divisions, Rukoki and Kilembe sub counties among others are largely subsistence and marked by traditional approaches such as bush burning, deforestation and uninformed use of fertilizers, the environmental harmful practices adding on the already existing and continuously developing human settlement. The entry points and explicit constituencies engaged by this project have been the Kasese municipality, Busongora south and Bukonjo west all in Kasese district, being the fact that they have concurrently been hit by disasters including river floods, landslides, drought, hailstorms among others causing misery and vulnerability among people affected, with most forcibly displaced and losing their plantations and homes.





## PROJECT BACKGROUND.

Where as forests covers one third of the earth's land mass, performing vital functions around the world, approximately 1.6 billion people including more than 2000 indigenous cultures depend on forests for their livelihoods, medicines, fuel, food and shelter. Uganda's diverse forest ecosystem is important for both nature conservation and human development through the water cycle and soil development. These forests are a required partner for the agricultural sector, the country/s backbone.

However, the country Uganda continues to suffer from unprecedented rates of deforestation and forest degradation and also destruction of other natural/protected areas like wetlands, swamps despite concerted efforts by government and non-government actors to protect and restore these natural resources. Overall, Uganda has been losing on average 122,000 hectares per year of forest from 1990 to 2015 with the greatest loss in the country estimated at 250,000 hectares of forests per year between 2010 and 2015 (MWE 2016)

In 2010, Kasese district had 153 kha of tree cover, extending over 46% of its land area. However, in 2021, it lost 596 hectares of tree cover, equivalent to 328kt of carbon-dioxide emissions. From 2000 to 2020, Kasese a net change of -2.10kha (-1.9%) in its tree cover, pointing out the major causes on the environment linked to the Kasese's rapid population growth currently standing at not less than 850,000 from the 7,213 in 1969 and 18,750 in 1991 respectively, bad farming practices across hilly areas that have been left bare, unguided agricultural activities along river banks, swamps and wetlands, massive deforestation for house construction and charcoal burning among others.

Looking at this population trend, you would expect a serious competition on the already limited land that never expands but also surrounded with two national parks namely; Queen Elizabeth and Mt. Rwenzori, the lakes and rivers among others. As a result, several disasters including river floods, landslides, draughts, earth quakes, hailstorms, windstorms among others have hit the district and Kasese municipality that harbors the main town of the district has either not been spared.



## **PROBLEM DESCRIPTION.**

While Maru Action Development Foundation and partners believed human and community survival is inextricably linked to the natural environment in many ways, their activities in Uganda and most especially in some parts of Kasese district in the Rwenzori region are most highly responsible for the degenerating level of the natural habitat and the general environment. Population encroachment on the forested lands for agriculture and settlement, and also the in-country internally displaced people (camps) are partly to blame for the massive pressure placed on the natural environment.

Having encouraged drastic felling of trees and loss of green cover and subsequently, the harmful practices have resulted into uncontrolled erosion and desertification of many of the vulnerable communities with now concurrent flooding, landslides and draughts the norm of the day. Additionally, the concurrent flood and drought experiences in the region most especially in Kasese district was fully responsible for the high level of poverty and hunger experienced by these vulnerable communities. This in effect has resulted into extreme cutting down of trees for both firewood and commercial purpose as seen in the increased trading of coal and timber. Thus, exacerbating the level of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere as the green cover is reduced.

Further, the displacement of these communities during the floods and other related disaster shocks also accounts for the low level of education often demonstrated in poor agricultural practices such as bush burning, deforestation and excessive use of fertilizers. These communities show demonstrable lack of awareness and information on the agricultural scientific inventions as well as the dangers elicited by the use of agricultural chemicals on both the agricultural products and the environment. The rampant use and poor disposal of plastics and polythene accounts for the reduced food productivity in the district as well as the region. This is directly linked to the effects of plastics and polythene disposed of on arable land and thus degenerating its fertility.

Hence, such uninformed practices expose the soil to dangerous poisonous chemicals and consequently reduces its productive quality over time thus poor yields and eventually subjecting households to food insecurity, poverty and hunger, as well as releasing the greenhouse gases into the atmosphere resulting into the day-to-day global warming, hence unexpected droughts drying off farmer crops and also vegetation.

Pollution of air, soil and water due to the uninformed human activities inextricably had resulted in poor human health. On the other hand, the burning of plastics and polythene in open spaces was responsible for air and water pollution in this region and Kasese district especially given that they depend on open water sources such as rivers, streams and wells for domestic use. This is responsible for adverse health effects such as disruption of the hormone, nervous and immune systems.

Maru Action Development Foundation in partnership with other locally based organizations and agencies acknowledged that some of these activities are undertaken due to extreme poverty that leaves these communities with no alternative options. As a result, we saw it a want to ably take



on a deliberate and more action-oriented approach with the youth in schools and the communities of Kasese district to remedy these challenges. Our approach needed to inform, sensitize and empower the youth in schools and the general population most especially from at-risk and disaster-prone areas on the practical and context-specific sustainable mechanisms of food production and environmental management through a regenerative and ecological sustainable locally adaptive actions.

Therefore, through our partnership, we hoped to improve the situation by raising communities and youths in schools' awareness and understanding of their responsibility towards themselves, the ecosystem, biodiversity and the future generations thrive.



### **PROJECT IDEA DESCRIPTION**

Maru Action Development Foundation together with local based partners believed that active youths in schools and community engagement and empowerment most especially from the at-risk and vulnerable areas will not only stimulate productivity and environmental protection but will most importantly preserve the natural environment for generations to come. We also believed that the empowerment initiatives will deepen the understanding of both the youth in schools and the general population on how to sustainably conserve

while taking use of the available natural resources such as water and soil without straining it or depleting it, thus enabling ecosystems and biodiversity thrive.

We believed that active involvement of the at-risk population from the highly disastrous areas in activities such as tree planting including fruit trees and better waste disposal practices will enhance community ownership and make it self-sustaining. Contrary to interventionist approaches that take services to the people, our strategies entailed active participation of the youth and the communities as of today.

The sustainable approach stimulated societal and individual responsibility for the environment, most importantly the involvement of young people championing their desired climate justice actions that including environmental education amongst their peers and families fostering tree



planting. This proved to us that by empowering the population with information on the contextual causes and effects of climate change, they will not only adjust their practices, but these pieces of information will guide their decision-making processes thus ensuring posterity sustainably.

Having believed that through training of farmers specifically and the population generally, the communities would adopt farming practices which are environmentally friendly and sustainable. And indeed, by adopting these methods have continuously restored and strengthen soil fertility, enhance ecosystem balance, reduce air, soil and water pollution and boost agricultural production in these communities the project reached.

In the long term, we hope and look forward to creating a youth population that is empowered and enlightened through school debates and public sensitization talks and create communities which are self-sustaining, self-reliant, productive, poverty-free environmentally conscious. These communities will result from our continued deliberate and active engagement of communities in trainings, farm visits and awareness talks.

It was our commitment as Maru Action Development Foundation and partners to promote sustainable and community-led regenerative farming, integrating agroforestry and endear climate change adaptation strategies amongst the young people in schools and farmers in local communities as a means of strengthening the communities towards self-sufficient living and ultimately fostering resilience and sustainable development.

Maru Action Development Foundation together with local partners including Young Agro Green Africa Network, Inspire Girls Foundation, the Uganda Red Cross Society Kasese Branch among other locally based organizations have involved over 600 students and over 4 farmer groups from 10 primary and high schools as well as colleges and at-risk communities respectively in Kasese district engaging in environmental activities such as tree planting, climate education talks and debates, recycling and waste management, renewable energies transition, and also attending our extra-ordinary and locally-led climate café jazz where local indigenous knowledge and human experiences have been openly discussed to inform local climate justice actions.

The partnerships as well as involving local communities most especially those at risk have provided us with extensive experience and strengthened our bonds with the students and community members. Collaboratively, we hope to foster the development of regenerative-sustainable agricultural and environmental conservation practices locally, nationally and internationally, as long as human and capital resources are not a limitation. Finding a financial partner with adequate capacity to fund our projects and activities will boost our potential to cover the entire district, country and beyond. Consequently, it will deepen our community and school penetration while effectively impacting society positively leading to just and climate resilient communities responding to their needs.





*A demonstration garden of one of our project beneficiaries doing better under agroforestry practice with the garden looking healthy.*

#### **ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PROJECT.**

Among successful implementation of the project activities have been;

- Sensitization and Awareness creation amongst students and at risk and disaster affected communities about community-led actions to nature conservation and regenerative farming practices.
- Formation and establishment of school and outside school community clubs to strengthen climate justice practices including climate education talks and tree planting, influencing local actions with their peers among other activities.
- Tree planting integration including fruit and shade giving trees in schools, communities and on public lands to foster nature restoration and carbon absorption which will enhance reduction of carbon emissions from the atmosphere.
- Training of local farmers including small scale and large or commercial in scaling up agroforestry and re-afforestation ecological farming practices.
- Facilitating the sitting of the climate café jazz where local and indigenous people as well as students attend to discuss and inform local climate justice actions.
- Follow-up on tree planting and other ecological community-led actions including feedback sharing and networking, informing more realistic and sustainable practices amongst actors.
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting including sharing of good workable practices.



## **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS.**

We have successfully conducted four workshops for the first six months project implementation for community members and leaders on sustainable regenerative farming with integration of agroforestry practices and climate change adaptation. Through these workshops, issues, causes and effects were discussed, including management of plastics and

polythene, and use of renewable energies which have been extensively discussed while fostering locally-led actions. We have trained 5 farmer groups of 217 farmers from across four divisions and sub counties in Kasese district, and indirectly benefited over 600 members of their households. Follow up has been made to assist these farmers adopt and implement the ideas.

We have planted 739 tree species in the last 6 months in different at risk and vulnerable communities and schools including Worthy A Haven Primary School in Central Division, Wisdom Nursery and Primary School in Central Division, Kasese Industrial Park in Central Division, Masule B in Kilembe sub county among other areas that are highly exposed to disasters that have caused land degradation. This has included both fruit trees and other tree species to improve the green cover as well as mitigate and absorb carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas) from the atmosphere. We have gone ahead to train and encourage farmers to uphold agroforestry, regenerative and carbon farming as a way to restore the lost forest cover. This will ensure sustained provision of wood products without damaging the natural habitat. We generally believe that this approach will create a safe, clean and healthier environment and atmosphere.

Farmers have improved food productivity due to a well-maintained soil fertility. This has ably increased food production by more than 10% and it has encouraged farmers to diversify crop variety while integrating agroforestry in a regenerative manner. Increased nutrition and food production have paved way for sale of surplus and therefore increasing the household income levels hence reduced poverty.

We have engaged over 10 schools, established and supported 4 environmental clubs and organized writing competitions and debates amongst students on climate change and the general environmental management. This has created a generation of enlightened young and adult citizens fostering local actions that will shape their sustainable bright future where the ecosystems and biodiversity continue to thrive.



Communities especially from remote and off-grid have tremendously shown shift from burning biomass fuels and using kerosene lamps locally called, tadoba to renewable and on time investment solar energy products. This has reduced and cut on their carbon emissions emitted into the atmosphere.



*MADF staff supporting learners planting acacia tree in their school compound. While taking lead, Catherine a Primary four pupil said; My TREE, My LIFE as she put the tree seedling in the dug hole.*

#### **LONG TERM PROJECT IMPACT.**

The long-term impact of our project has been defined by the following attributes;

- The improved standards of living among project benefiting communities associated with reduced poverty, improved regenerative farming and agricultural productivity, enhance green vegetation and forest cover on both farmlands, in schools, private and public lands, better health standards, and an informed society.
- Increased vegetation and tree cover, reduced levels of air, soil, and water pollution, improved methods of waste disposal, fostering best waste management practices and reduced incidences of floods, landslides and drought in the project communities of Kasese district.





## **SUSTAINING THIS PROJECT.**

Being and working under stewardship, the longevity and sustainability of this project will be enhanced through the following ways;

Active engagement and involvement of farmers during the trainings which will ensure that they continuously master the skills and practices including their indigenous knowledge integration to shape their sustainable-regenerative farming and agroforestry practices. These practical skills will endear in the farmers, a sense of ownership fostering conservation of natural resources and the environment around them at large.

Sensitization and involvement of both the young people in schools and community members in land preparation for tree planting and general environmental protection will continue to provide room for checks and balances. But most importantly, the youths in schools as the custodian of the future will make informed choices in championing climate justice practices including climate education and tree planting as well as raising awareness to their fellow community people which will protect their dear environment.

The successful formation of environmental clubs in schools and community farmer groups will continue to ensure that the vital information, knowledge and skills continue to flow from one generation to the next. The engagement of schools and communities will also ensure that the trees are nurtured and sustained. Though most importantly, the schools and communities will continue to take ownership of the projects implemented in their jurisdiction with organizational staff support on follow-ups.

Our engagement and involvement of all people including people with disabilities, local women and gender groups, local leaders including religious and political, and also government agencies like National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), National Forestry Authority (NFA) and the Ministry of Water and Environment at the lower local government level of Kasese district has enabled ownership of the project and as such they are protected and sustained by local council legislations and the local people themselves.



*Meeting with local leaders and partner organizations to foster effective delivery of project activities.*





## **PROJECT RISKS AND HOW WE TRIED TO OVERCOME THEM.**

Some of the trained farmers reverting to their old ways of farming exposing the soil and general environment to degradation and soil erosion. We hope the community members will continue to have an interest in sustainable-regenerative farming methods since the practice results have already shown success.

Unfavorable weather conditions such as long spells of drought, floods and landslides impacting the agricultural and tree planting activities. The social, economic, political and weather conditions have occasionally favored for sensitization, training, and most importantly acceptance and execution of the ideas.

Unchecked cutting down of trees by foreign agencies may change the community's attitudes towards tree planting. Working out with our district local government line authorities including the water and environment-natural resources department to stop the illicit activities on tree cutting.

Insufficient resources including both human and capital to continue facilitating a smooth and concurrent activities and follow-ups. Our partnership with mind related individual donors, local organizations and funding agencies enabling us pursue the project mandate without changing the focus and the mission.

## **PROJECT SCOPE OF WORK.**

Below have been the major activities involved in our project implementation;

- Awareness creation on environmental protection and climate change adaptation measures.

The school children and community members have been sensitized on the causes and effects of climate change and consequently, the community needs to be enlightened on environmental dangers associated with traditional farming, human activities, and the availability of alternative sustainable and regenerative farming approaches.

We have employed different methods of community reach including media and school talks, public rallies, field days, church gatherings, posters, social media, visits to existing farmer groups and schools. We have gone ahead to establish manageable clubs and groups in schools and communities respectively and these have received a number of capacity building trainings including climate education and tree planting management, conservation and regenerative farming practices among others. We have supported and facilitated debates and writing competitions on climate change and sustainable farming practices among school children at different levels.



- Land preparation, tree species selection and planting, management and care.

Tree planting activities including species selection, management and care have been done in schools and the communities within the projected areas. School children and the community members have actively participated in these activities and have been encouraged to nurture the trees and vegetation cover for posterity.

Different varieties of trees have been planted ranging from fruit trees, calliandra, jacaranda, maesopsis eminii, cordia Africana, albiziacoritaria, acacia, bamboo, tarminalia among others to shade giving trees. Degraded land restoration in schools and communities as well as tree planting in forests together with the surrounding community members have been part of our exercise.

- Training of farmers on sustainable, regenerative and agroforestry integration in climate smart farming practices.

The farmers have been trained on varied aspects of sustainable, regenerative and conservation farming, including soil and water management, plastics and polythene management. The trainings have embodied discussions, sharing of experiences, demonstrations of skills and best practices, and participatory on-farm experience.

The key concepts for the trainings have been centred on; Techniques for soil improvement, Methods of Soil Conservation, Crop Rotation and Farm Management, Crop Diversity and Regenerative farming practices, Agroforestry and Environment Conservation, Water Harvesting and Home Technologies, Animal Husbandry in relation to animal welfare, Renewable energies, Plastics and polythene disposal and management.



*Baluku Isaya, ED YAGANET engaging with learners while delivering climate education and the need for young people to take lead in championing tree planting and general environmental conservation.*



## **PROJECT FOLLOW-UPS**

Continuous engagement with the project beneficiaries and their communities including farmers have enabled smooth transition to sustainable practices. These regular visits have provided guidance, advice and motivation to the young people in schools and also communities fostering their actions. These have also boosted the community members in coming up with varied sustainable livelihood initiatives, championing their own development and thrive. The follow-up exercise has continued to open new grounds for demonstration farm visits by different community farmer groups and substantially enhancing the sharing of best practices amongst themselves.

Information sharing and networking. We have worked very closely with other like-minded institutions and local organizations to improve on efficiency in service delivery. Through these approaches, we have learned from the works of others which have enabled us to play a complementary role to others and mitigate duplication. We have participated in relevant meetings, conferences and workshops to gather knowledge and information, and strengthen our practices within the sector. We have become part of the policy preparation and change, advocacy and public awareness on topical issues across the different networks.

We have continued to share the relevant experiences, ideas and information gathered during our discussions with the school children and community members through different strategies including print and online media and consequently enable our project beneficiaries to share their views, feelings, ideas and actions accelerating their work sustainability and development.



## **EVALUATING AND REPORTING ON OUR PROJECT.**

The project activities have been followed up regularly, documented, reported, and discussed by the management, staff and local stakeholders on a progressive basis. The records have been kept and store. Progress and general reports have been safely kept and only shared with the boards, individual donors, the funding agencies, and other relevant partners and subsequently used for project evaluations.



We have evaluated our project success so far for the six months since the project inception and assessed the extent to which the mid targets are met. During this stage, we have analyzed the project enablers and challenges and have laid ground for the following period as long as funding is secured from individual donors and also from funding agencies. If funds allow, we shall love to invite an external consultant to evaluate our project perhaps at some fit time ahead.

The report and recommendations of the independent consultant shall be used for project adjustments and help the funding agencies and individual donors to assess the impact of their support in meeting the community's needs.

### PROJECT EXPENDITURES.

Activity	Quantity	Unit cost in Euros	Amount in Euros	Source of funds that facilitated the activity.
Project inception meetings with stakeholders and local based partner organizations.	2	67.5	135	Maru Action Development Foundation membership.
Sensitization and awareness creation workshops amongst students and at risk and disaster affected communities about community-led actions to nature conservation and regenerative farming practices.	4	53.75	215	Maru Action Development Foundation membership, and Young Agro Green Africa Network.
Formation and establishment of school and outside school community clubs to strengthen climate justice practices including climate education talks and tree planting, influencing local actions with their peers among other activities.	4	55	220	Maru Action Development Foundation membership and local partners; Red Cross Kasese Branch.
Purchase of tools and materials including watering cans, jerricans, pangas, rakes, ropes to facilitate planting and caring for tree seedlings.			175	Maru Action Development Foundation membership, and Individual donors.
Tree seedling purchasing planting including fruit and shade giving trees in all schools, communities and on public lands to foster nature restoration and carbon absorption which would reduce carbon emissions from the atmosphere.	739	0.55	411	Maru Action Development Foundation membership, Hope Beyond Boundary Elderly Foundation and Individual Donors.
Training of local farmers including small scale and large or commercial in scaling up agro-forestry and re-forestation ecological farming practices.	3	66.67	200	Maru Action Development Foundation and Hope Beyond Boundary Elderly Foundation.
Facilitating the sitting of the climate café jazz where local and indigenous people as well as students attend to discuss and inform local climate justice actions.	2	83.5	167	Maru Action Development Foundation, Young Agro Green Africa Network and Individual Donors.





General monitoring and evaluation including follow-ups on tree planting and other ecological community-led actions including feedback sharing and networking, informing more realistic and sustainable practices amongst actors.			135	Maru Action Development Foundation membership and Individual donors.
Transport, communication and internet.			125	Maru Action Development Foundation membership and Individual donors.
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>1,783</b>	

**More project photos.**















#### **PROJECT BRIEF HIGHLIGHTS.**

- Two inception meetings conducted with stakeholders including the district line department and local based partners.
- Engaged partners included; Young Agro Green Africa Network (YAGANET), Hope Beyond Boundaries Elderly Foundation (HOBBEF), Uganda Red Cross Society-Kasese Branch, Gender-Environment and Development Action- Uganda, Force of Nature, Kasese District Local Government, Kasese Municipal Council, Global Green Grants Fund and Inspire Girls Foundation.
- Establishment of 4 including 2 in school and 2 out of school (communities) environmental justice clubs, fostering climate education and general environmental conservation actions.
- Purchase of tools and materials including 4 watering cans, 5 jerricans, 5 pangas, 3 rakes, and 10 ropes to facilitate planting and caring for planted tree seedlings at schools and in communities.
- To date, 937 fruit, shade and indigenous tree seedlings were procured and planted. 856 are growing well by this day, giving us a 91% growth rate with only 09% having failed. These trees include; Calliandra, Jacaranda, Maesopsis eminii, Cordia Africana, Albiziacoriaria, Acacia, Bamboo, Terminalia, Jackal and Avocado trees.





- 2 sitting of the climate café jazz with attendance of school students and representatives of the local communities.
- Establishment of 4 local farmer groups who are actively practicing regenerative sustainable agriculture and agro-forestry practices.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION.**

Maru Action Development Foundation with great pleasure wishes to acknowledge and thank all participating actors including our served communities and schools as well as individual donors and local based partner organizations for their dedicated efforts and support towards the success we have achieved to date.

PREPARED BY;

**ALEXANDA KULE.**

**PROGRAMS COODINATOR**

**MARU ACTION DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

**(MADF)**

APPROVED BY;

**FRED MARULE.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.**

**MARU ACTION DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

**(MADF)**