

Uganda Cooperative Alliance (UCA) is currently implementing a variety of projects supporting cooperative movement and communities across the country. In the Post COVID 19 era, the focus has been shifted to implementation of our 5 Year Strategic Plan (2021-25) themed repositioning UCA to deliver revitalized and vibrant cooperatives for job, employment and wealth creation in Uganda.

Through development partner projects like the World Bank funded Agriculture Cluster Development Project (ACDP) whose main objective is to increase productivity, production and marketable volumes of rice, maize, beans, cassava and coffee commodities in 57 districts targeting 450,000 households organized in 30,000 farmer groups, 3,000 Rural Producer Organizations (RPOs) , 300 Area Commodity Cooperative Enterprises (ACCEs). Over the implementation period, there has been great achievements like over 15,932 farmer groups have been trained and introduced to a business oriented approach to group development and 57% now have a savings and credit scheme, 56% are holding weekly meetings, 50% have acquired record books 50% have developed business plans, 62% now have improved constitutions while over 430 smallholder groups have been linked to Higher Level Farmers Organizations (Market off takers) and processing companies for value addition. All these contribute towards the achievements of the project goal.

ACDP is supplemented by the Electronic -Voucher system which UCA implements and it is facilitated by the United Bank for Africa (UBA) to enhance /Intensify On-farm Production and Productivity by imparting new knowledge and skills to the targeted participants in Agronomy, Input Usage and Farming as a Business. This project component mainly emphasizes input use for increased farm yields.



UCA training participants on institutional development in Bunyangabu district under the Agriculture Cluster Development project (ACDP).



Practical field agronomy trainings to farmers in Hoima District under the E-Voucher System support.

Uganda Cooperative Alliance (UCA) in another partnership with the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), together with the Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC) are supporting the EURECCCA Project to form specialized cooperatives known as Water and Environment Cooperative Societies (WECS) in the respective Victoria, Upper Nile and Kyoga Water Management Zones (WMZs) across Uganda to effectively manage a revolving fund and implement the alternative Income Generating Activities (IGAs) that are environmentally friendly as the restoration of encroached swamps and streams revive themselves organically. So far every region has formed a cooperative that has seen reduction in environmental degradation hence gradually contributing to the achievement of the EURECCCA project objectives. Each of the registered Water and Environment Cooperative Societies (WECS) will receive a startup revolving fund to assist the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) to improve on their livelihood in the agreed

aftermath of wetlands demarcation along the water bodies in Uganda.



UCA Cooperative Governance trainer sensitizing Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in Maziba Catchment on cooperative business model under the Ministry of Water EURECCCA Project



Sensitization of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) under the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) EURECCCA Project of Kyere Water and Environment Cooperative Society members on cooperatives in Serere district, Uganda.



The interim executive committee of Kyere Water and Environment Cooperative Society accepting responsibility of leading the community of Kyere Town council to promote environmentally friendly activities while implementing the revolving fund.

Uganda Cooperative Alliance Ltd in partnership with Vi-Agro forestry is implementing a five-year project named Project for Empowering Farmers through Cooperative Agribusinesses (PREFCA) that is supporting strengthening of four unions and six Area Cooperative Enterprises (ACEs) located in 9 Districts.

The Overall Objective is “ Farmers Livelihoods improved through Sustainable Cooperative Businesses” and so far the team has helped the beneficiary cooperatives to set up business systems, strengthened governance structures among other activities. For the case of Sebei Elgon Cooperative Unions, they have been supported to secure funding under the USADF grant project and also link the Union and agro input supplier Faith Agro inputs to promote access to quality inputs at an affordable cost to farmers since the union is setting up an input shop that will promote aggregated demand and bring service nearer to the farmers. Further to this there has been fruitful engagements on advocacy whereby the Districts agreed to support enforcement of an ordinance to reduce fake inputs in the region and sensitize farmers on how to differentiate fake inputs.

Under the East Acholi Union, UCA has been able to support them to fast track the revival of the primary cooperatives to revive business and this union has also been earmarked for support to apply for the USADF grant. Among the other trainings done are streamlining governance policies, financial management, Strategic & business planning, support to develop M&E systems to mention but a few. All in all there is positive progress towards revival of business in the cooperatives and unions supported under the PREFCA Project.



Above (left) UCA PREFCA project team orienting the new BOD and Management of Sebei Elgon Cooperative Union. (Right) Training of East Acholi Union in developing M&E system in Lira, Uganda.

In partnership engagements, UCA is in advanced stages of securing MOUs with several partners in a bid to support the cooperative movement rebuild better as this year's #CoopDay2021 revealed. Among the list is Health partners International to offer health insurance to cooperative members across Uganda, Heifer International towards economic empowerment of youths and women in farmer groups, cooperatives, Housing Finance Bank Uganda to affordable cheap and affordable mortgage and agricultural credit facilities to cooperatives. This partnership will be reinforced with CIC Insurance Company insuring all the loans disbursed under this arrangement to minimize risks.

Important events to note.

The Uganda Cooperative Alliance (UCA) Annual General Meeting will take place in December 2021 that will also see a new BOD elected to steer the strategic direction of Uganda's Apex body of cooperatives.



Above, UCA staff attending a Health Partners meeting in Kampala.



UCA General Secretary (3rd right) and team together with Hosing Finance Bank Uganda after a partnership meeting about offering mortgage and agricultural credit facilities to cooperatives and unions at UCA head office in Kampala.

Obituary



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

TOM WAKIGHOMA TIBAMWENDA

The **Board and Management of Uganda Cooperative Alliance Ltd** are deeply saddened by the untimely death of the late **Tom Wakighoma Tibamwenda**.

He served as the **UCA Board Chairman** for a very long time & at the time of his demise, he was serving as the **UCA Chairman vetting committee** and also **Chairman CIC Life Insurance**.

The late has been a distinguished person who **greatly contributed to the development of Cooperative societies** here in the region, the entire country and globally.

Our deepest condolences go out to the entire Cooperative Fraternity, family, relatives, Friends and the entire country.

His memory will forever be held in our hearts.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN ETERNAL PEACE