



Fort Portal – HEWASA

# CARITAS FORT PORTAL- HEWASA ANNUAL REPORT



*Undergoing training on construction of Sanitation Systems by Caritas Fort Portal -HEWASA*

## 2023

## REMARKS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARITAS FORT PORTAL- HEWASA



The Bishop of Fort Portal Diocese,  
The Board of Directors Caritas Fort Portal -HEWASA,  
Development Partners  
Beneficiaries and Staff.

It's my pleasure to congratulate you upon completion of the year 2023. Guided by our mission; 'To strengthen community capabilities through initiatives that promote charity, solidarity justice and peace for human development', Caritas Fort Portal has taken a successful leap to serving other communities outside Fort Portal Diocese. At the request of our long-time partners, in 2023 we have expanded to serve communities in Gulu, Lira, Jinja and Lugazi Dioceses. Our thematic areas of Agriculture, Justice and Peace, Water, hygiene and Sanitation, Natural Resources Management, Women and Gender and Microfinance remain relevant. In the same line we have added Skilling and entrepreneurship as an independent thematic area basing on the need for self-reliance. Significant in the year was the coming on board of the 'Restore Africa project (RESAF) a carbon trade project funded by CRS and the 'Sanitation and Hygiene project' funded by SHF (Sanitation and Hygiene Fund) through water for people.

I am happy to report that Caritas Fort Portal – HEWASA has gained remarkable experience in Humanitarian work especially in refugee settlements where for the last three years we have intervened in Kyaka II refugee settlement with packages of Livelihoods and protection activities. We are working hard to fundraise to add more settlement areas with more packages of Women-led entrepreneurship, skilling, water, and sanitation.

On a special note, I thank your Lordship for creating an enabling environment, the Board of directors for the good counsel, our partners for enabling us to remain relevant to the communities we serve, the beneficiaries for upholding the intended objectives and the staff for the tireless implementation.

Caritas Fort Portal -HEWASA recognises and appreciates your effort as we look forward for more opportunities to serve God's creation. On our part we pledge more in streamlining our policies and systems to match the required standard of management.

Ubi Caritas et amor  
Ubi caritas, deus ibi est

Rev. Fr. Joseph Musana  
**Executive Director,**  
**Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA**

## Our Vision

Improved livelihoods of people in Fort Portal Diocese and beyond

## Our Mission

To strengthen community capabilities through initiatives that promote charity, solidarity justice and peace for human development in Fort Portal Diocese and beyond.

## Core values

Love of God  
Team work  
Transparency  
Equity  
Environmental protection

## Our goal

To empower communities and households to engage in sustainable projects that increase on their incomes for better livelihoods and to support the vulnerable and marginalized in realizing their dignity as human beings *“what’s so ever you did for least of my brothers you did unto me”* Mt. 25:40.

## Thematic areas

1. Agriculture
2. Justice and Peace (Good governance, human rights, humanitarian)
3. Water and Sanitation
4. Skilling and entrepreneurship
5. Natural Resources Management
6. Women and Gender
7. Microfinance

**Our thematic areas are hinged on all the sustainable development goals (SDGs) below:**



## PROJECT PARTNERS AND AREA OF OPERATION

Project partners	Area of operation (District and T/C and S/C			Catholic parishes
1. Misereor	<b>Kamwenge District</b> Busiriba,	<b>Kabarole District</b> Kasenda TC,	<b>Bundibugyo District</b> Kirumya	<b>Fort Portal Diocese</b> Kahunge, Rwimi. Mpara Kanyamukale Yerya Kyamatanga Bukwali Wekomiire Virika, St.Charcles Lwanga, Kitumbi, Kijuraneema, Bugombwa, Nyahuka, Ntoroko Iboroga Katoosa Kamwenge
2. Caritas international Belgium (Ci.Be)	Kamwenge SC Kamwenge TC Rukunyu TC Kahunge TC Kabuga TC	Kasenda, SC Kabonero Ruteete Karangura Kibasi	Mbatya Harugala Tokwe Burondo Bundingoma Busaru Ndugutu	
3. Open Swiss Hand	<b>Fort Portal City</b>	Kicwamba Hakibaale Kiyombya		
4. Climate asset Management through the Global Evergreening alliance/CRS	<b>Ntoroko District</b> Karugutu TC KarugutuSC Nombe Bweramule Kibuku TC Butungama Rwebisengo	Karago TC Kiko T C <b>Bunyangabu District</b> Kabonero Buheesi Buheesi TC Rwimi Kibiito TC Kibiito SC	<b>Kyenjojo District</b> Katooke Town Council, Katooke sub county Nyakisi sub county	
5. WASTE				
6. SIMAVI	<b>Kyegegwa District</b> Rwentuuha Kyaka II refugee settlement			
7. The sanitation and Hygiene fund (SHF), UNOPS				
8. GIZ	<b>Nwoya District</b> Koch Goma Purong Olwiyo Anak	<b>Amuru district</b> Amuru TC		<b>Gulu Diocese</b> Christ the king Catholic Koch goma Anaka
SIMAVI	<b>Agago District</b> Kaolongo TC Patongo TC Paimol TC Kotomor Lira-Palwo Arumu Lapono Wol Omot	<b>Kole district</b> Ayer/kole TC Aboke Alito Okwerodot		<b>Lira Diocese</b> Kalong Patong Abongo -Dero Alito Ngeta
9. The sanitation and Hygiene fund (SHF), UNOPS	<b>Kayunga District</b> Galiraya Bbaale Kitimbwa/wabwokho Kayonza Kayunga TC	<b>Buikwe District</b> Ssi Najja Najjemba Nyenga Ngogwe		<b>Lugazi Diocese</b> Kasawo Buvuuma Bukeerere
The sanitation and Hygiene fund (SHF), UNOPS	<b>Buyende District</b> Kidera Kagulu Buyende Nkondo	<b>Kamuli District</b> Namwendwa Balawoli Wankole Kagumba magogo	<b>Luuka District</b> Ikumbya Irongo	<b>Jinja Diocese</b> Nawanyango Namwendwa Balawol parish Irundu Parish Kidera Wesuniire parish

**The total financial resource utilised on the implementation of the activities for the period was UGX. 3,180,922,898=**



# AGRICULTURE

Caritas Fort Portal-HEWASA targets active poor farmers with an aim of strengthening their capabilities through promotion of sustainable agriculture and access to market. The main objective was:

1. To achieve poverty reduction among farmers through using gender sensitive and environmentally sustainable approaches.

The Methodologies: Farmer field schools, Indigenous Knowledge and Technology, farmer-to-farmer extension approach, and hands-on trainings to provide practical skills to improve production and support agricultural innovations. Farmers form groups through which they are supported as a form of project sustainability.

No	Key Interventions in 2023	Beneficiary target	Numbers reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
1	Enabling farmers adopt to and sustain improved agricultural methods (e.g., conservation practices such as mulching, pruning, agroforestry, grass stabilizer planting on contour bands planting in lines, timely weeding etc.) In Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts.	540	620	80	More farmers attended the trainings to benefit upon seeing the benefits.
2	Enabling Farmers to have kitchen gardens, In Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts.	430	425	5	Failed to sustain their gardens
3	Establish two demo sites of Indigenous bananas and inter crop with indigenous species of maize and beans seed	540	540	No variance	No variance
4	Farmers decrease post-harvest losses by adopting improved storage and value addition in order to fetch better prices at both regional and national markets inn Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts.	3 groups 98 people	3 groups 98 people	No variance	No variance
5	Groups register formally and obtain legal status at county/sub-county level In Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts.	16 groups	16	No variance	No variance

## Achievements

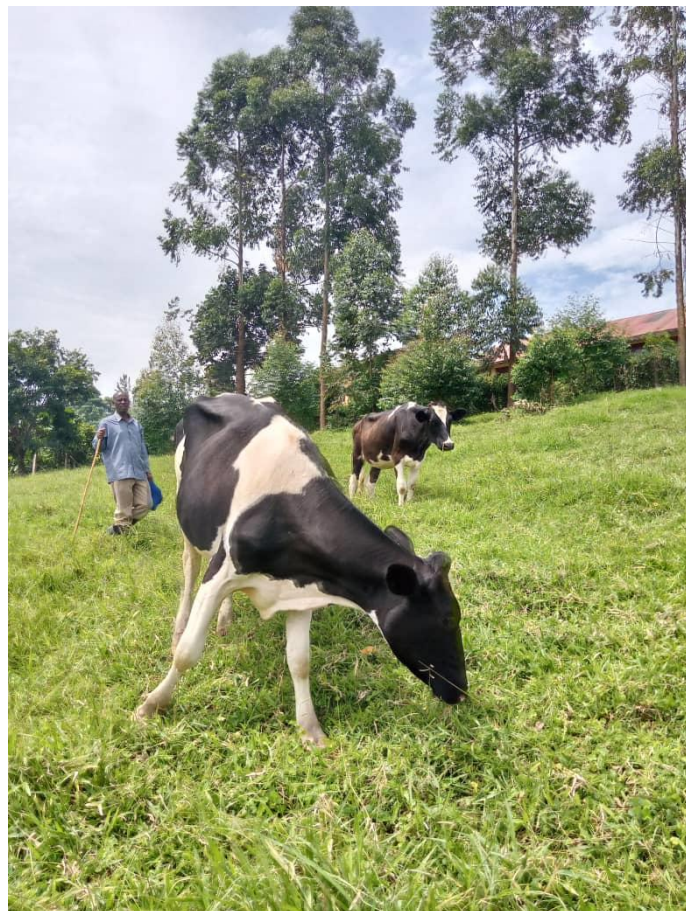
	<p>710 crop gardens and banana plantations were put under improved management practices resulting into improved quality in the banana crop harvest. Before the intervention, 55% farmers of the selected gardens would sell about five (5) bunches of bananas at a lumpsum of UGX 40,000. After the intervention, 75% of the said farmers can get between 20,000 to 25,000 shillings from a single sale of a bunch of bananas. Farmers can now get bunches weighing 30kgs which can fetch up to UGX 50,000 UGX. The intervention has led to increased quality resulting into improvement in the income of an average farmer in Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts.</p> <p>The establishment of demonstration sites enabled farmers multiply their seeds and access non adulterated seed resilient to climate changes for planting from their gardens (maize and beans).</p>
	<p>A total of 74% of the targeted households that had established kitchen gardens of different vegetables species were able to eat vegetables and sell some for-income generation. These households sustained their gardens up to the next season an indicator that they understand both the nutritional and income generation value of vegetables.</p>

	<p>3 groups (Kyamatanga women, Kisomoro Ageteraine and Kiboota Karokarungi) were trained in poultry demonstration establishment and management and supported with 300 kurioler birds to address nutritional challenges. Some birds were put in a demonstration farm while others were put to free range by group members at household level. At maturity those in the demonstration farm were sold off at 5,875,000/= and money put in groups saving schemes(VSLAs) to increase the loan portfolio where members benefited through taking loans. Other birds were shared among the group members for multiplication and improvement of the breed.</p> <p>3 groups of (Irinda TuKwatanize, Ababiri nibakira omu and Nyarugongo B farmers) were supported with Irish potato seed to establish a demo and were able to raise UGX 4,722, 000/= from the sales and was shared amongst members. Some seed was kept for multiplication.</p> <p>250 kgs of rice seeds were provided for demo purposes to two groups (Njara yabaana and Nyabweya rice) A total of 5250 kgs of rice was harvested. 5000kgs were sold at UGX 12,500,000 UGX 5,000,000 was saved in the two VSLA groups and the balance of 7,500,000 = was shared among members. The balance of 250kgs was kept for planting as seed for the next season.</p> <p>All members in the beneficiary groups were supported with improved Pigs and Goats. They benefited through multiplication of the animals and animal dung is being used in members' gardens as manure to enhance fertility in the soils. 8 groups were supported with 65 piglets and 9 groups with 71goats in April and June 2023. By December, the goats had multiplied to 181 and the pigs to 293. Some had been sold off to attend to other needs like buying land, home improvement, paying school fees, buying cattle.</p>
	<p>Three trained groups (Kyawehige Bakyara, Kiboota Karokarungi and Kyabwiso Abagambakamu) prioritized Wine production for value addition and had so far produced 140 liters of wine which was sold locally. Production has continued and members await training in product upgrading, packing and branding, targeting bigger market.</p>
	<p>16 households were supported in construction of food stores to minimize post-harvest losses and trained in post-harvest handling. Members are now practicing good post-harvest practices such as harvesting at the right time, using taplines for drying and storing in granaries .A decrease in post-harvest loss by 35% was regestered. Post-harvest handling of crops has made food accessibility easy to farmers by keeping the food in stores well preserved by pesticides made locally by the farmers from (red-pepper, smashed burnt bricks among others) as taught to them by the ADP project.</p>
	<p>All 25 groups registered at sub county level and obtained a legal status, The 5 groups of Kabonero Sub County were mobilized to form an association and registration is underway.</p>
	<p>Buheesi/Kiyombya ADP Community Based Facilitators (CBF) formed an association of trainers with a main objective of being a Trainer of trainers (ToT) in Sustainable agriculture. They are model farmers in their locality and lead agents in advocacy for their groups. The Association presented its plan and support to the sub counties to seek funding for their different programs.</p>

## Success Story

"My group was supported with 8 improved pigs from ADP Caritas. I was among the first lucky member to be given a piglet. I fed it very well and after 4 months it produced 8 piglets and they were given to members. After sometime the sow that was given to me produced 11 piglets for the second time (one died). After three months I sold off the ten piglets each at UGX 100,000/= fetching a total of UGX 1,000,000/= and as a family we agreed to buy a cow, which I bought at 1,300,000/=. At the time of buying the cow it was being milked 1 litre per day. Presently; because of improved feeding, it is now producing 4 and a half litres of milk per day. The sow that I was given littered the third time, producing 9 piglets, and I sold off 8 at UGX 150,000/= each making a total of UGX 1,200,000 and I added UGX 100,000 and bought another cow. This means as a family we have bought two cows from the sale of piglets. The other group members have also bought domestic utensils, beddings, paid fees etc from the sale of their piglets. Ms Mugisa Rose a member of my group has also sold her boar at UGX 500,000 and added 700,000 and bought a cow. Out of the 8 piglets that we were given; the group now boasts of 76 pigs. All members have benefited and are happy with the project. My wife who is also a member in the group received a pig which has also produced 12 piglets as its first litter. 11 piglets have been sold off each at UGX 100,000/ and she is planning to also buy a cow. I appreciate Caritas Fort Portal and all the group members extend their appreciation too."

**By Sabiiti Richard, Kyamatanga Tweyimukye group Kyamatanga II cell, Buhesi town council, Bunyangabu county, Bunyangabu District.**



*The sow and piglets that Mr. Richard Sabiiti sold to buy the cows as shown in the pictures.*

## **Challenges and Mitigation measures in agriculture**

- It was not easy for some members to collectively market their produce because of the different needs that require them to sell off the produce as soon as they harvest making collective marketing hard. Members were encouraged to form small groups and start off collective marketing as they register lessons for improvement.
- There was a poor harvest because of changes in weather/climate. For instance, some parts of the targeted areas were receiving rains which should not have been the case (maize and beans were drying.) This greatly affected the maize crop which was at the drying stage. Farmers were forced to break the maize stalk and bend the cobs to stop water from entering the maize cob as the leaves were dry.
- Lack/scarcity/reduction of animal feeds. The dry season affected fodder production and also lack of feeds of pigs and poultry projects. The farmers were advised to establish the feed bank to overcome this challenge.
- Inadequate veterinary extension services leading to death of some animals (Njara ya abaana group heifer) poor disease control and poor management e.g., banana strip disease. The groups that were supported with livestock were advised to liaise and stay in contact with vet assistants at sub county level for immediate response in case of any disease outbreak. The project profiled contacts of farmers and provided the lists at sub counties to ease follow up from Agriculture Officers, CDOs and other extension staff to offer extension services and provide technical backstopping.

## **Lesson learnt**

- Collective marketing is key in getting competitive prices for farm products
- Mentoring and coaching in groups should not be limited to leadership. There is need to have all members on board regardless of position to enable better results.
- Poultry farming requires a lot of capital, good breed and ready feeds to make profits.



# JUSTICE AND PEACE

This thematic area focuses on good governance, Human rights and humanitarian response to the displaced people. The main objectives were:

1. To Ensure the living conditions of displaced populations, refugees and host communities in Uganda are improved
2. To Have Community leaders and community councils that are accountable and transparent in their service to communities.
3. To Have the vulnerable victims of human rights violations access to justice

No	Area of intervention	Beneficiary target	Numbers reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
1	Offering Cash grant to Un Accompanied Minors (UAMs)	196	196	No variance	No variance
2	Conducting of Home Monitoring Visits to all UAMs and Foster Parents	196	196	No variance	No variance
3	Refresher training for Caritas Fort Portal HEWASA Community Extension Workers (CEWs), Refugee Welfare Councils (RWCs) and Project staff on protection	40	40	No variance	No variance
4	Identification and training of paralegals (basic legal training in law to assist in providing legal assistance access to rights and Justice. (A total of 10 Males and 6 Females were trained. 5 refugees and 5 from host communities)	10	10	No variance	No variance
5	Facilitation of high court sessions in Fort Portal.	32	32	No variance	No variance
6	Construction of shelters for People with Special Needs (PSN)	19	19	No variance	No variance
7	Completion of construction works on the Child and Family protection house	1	1	No variance	No variance
8	Completion of construction works for 1 school fence	1	1	No variance	No variance
9	Trainings on human rights among local council leaders at village and sub county level	1510	1470	40	Some participants did not turn up due to other engagements.
10	Broadcast live call-in radio talk shows on good governance	7	7		All carried out as planned
<b>Achievements</b>					
	196 unaccompanied minors in Kyaka II refugee settlement received 45,000UGX per month for six months totaling to UGX 52,920,000=. Out of these grants, 95% of Foster parents have invested the monthly cash assistance as startup capital for income generating activities (IGAs) such as selling vegetables, silver fish, dry foods and plastic basket weaving which has improved their income and their standards of living. Other beneficiaries have used the cash grants to cater for their other needs like, paying school fees for the unaccompanied Minors (UAMs), and general upkeep .				
	40 people were trained in paralegal activities and conduct of field legal outreaches. They foster protection to the persons of concern (PoC) and also mainstreaming it in all the activities that they				

	do. Paralegals supported the community in identification of legal challenges to be addressed in outreaches in refugees and host communities.																						
	<p>Caritas Fort Portal-HEWASA in conjunction with the Judiciary, the Uganda Police Force, the Uganda Prisons Force, the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and other actors in the settlement, organized a High Court Mini criminal session for refugees who had been committed to the High court but because of administrative issues had never had a day in court. The result progress was as follows.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No</th><th>Category of Cases Heard</th><th>Numbers</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td>Cases Dismissed</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Cases Acquitted</td><td>04</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Cases Sentenced</td><td>04</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Cases Pending ruling</td><td>08</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Cases Postponed to the next High court Session</td><td>02</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Total of cases</td><td>32</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		No	Category of Cases Heard	Numbers		Cases Dismissed	14		Cases Acquitted	04		Cases Sentenced	04		Cases Pending ruling	08		Cases Postponed to the next High court Session	02		Total of cases	32
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	<p>Outside the settlement in Fort Portal, Bunyangabu, Kabarole and Kyegewa districts victims of justice have received legal counsel from the Justice and Peace office and some have been referred for probono services rendered by partners, 12 people have been supported.</p> <p>In the same areas, Leaders were trained to identify and make referral pathways of victims of human rights violation. Leaders developed a tool of recording information regarding cases of human rights violation handled in their areas.</p>																						
	<p>In creating an accessible dignified protection environment, 19 PSN (persons of special Need) shelters were constructed in the zones of Buliti, Kaborogota, Mukondo, Bwiriza, Byabakora for (Persons of Special Needs; Elderly, PWDs and the Sick) and are now sleeping in safe and secure houses</p> <p>One Child and Family Protection House was Constructed as holding cell for juveniles or children under 18 and preventing them from mixing with hard-core criminals and taking up extremely violent characters at an early age</p> <p>One Chain Link Fence was constructed and completed at Bujubuli Secondary School and it has provided security, safety and guarded students against any form of abuse</p>																						

## Success story

### THE PATH TO JUSTICE.

**Name** – Nanziyika Innocent

**Sex.** Male

**Individual ID No.** Inactivated due to absence because of Prison remand during UNHCR verification

**Group No.** Inactivated due to absence because of Prison remand during UNHCR verification

*Nanzyika Innocent is a male adult Congolese refugee living in Kyaka2 settlement. He was previously convicted on a charge of Aggravated defilement contrary to sections 129(3)(4)(a)(b) of the Penal Code Act of Uganda. It was alleged that on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020 while infected with Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) had sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old girl in the neighborhood.*

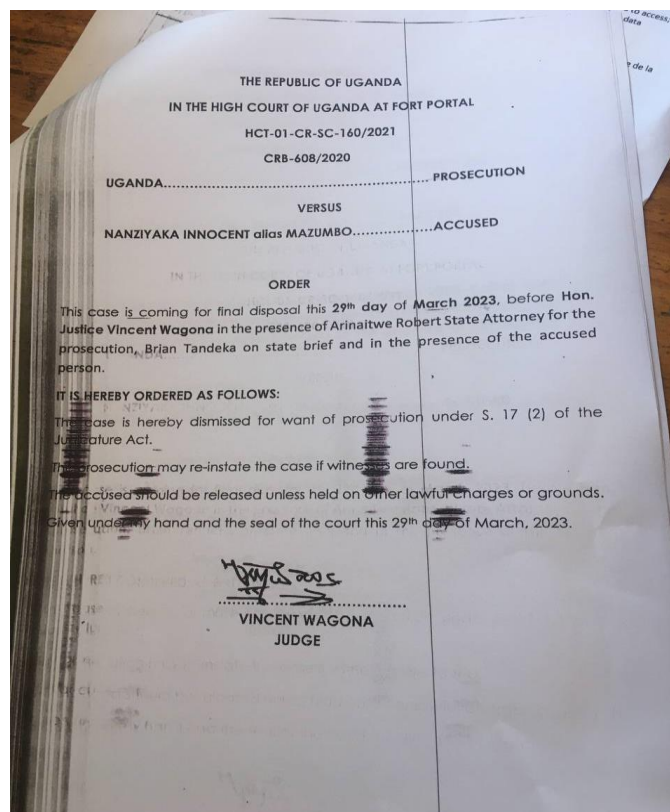
*He was arrested, and later taken to remand in Prison. His case could not proceed because he lacked legal representation and the High court back log did not favor the process too. He stayed in Prison for 3 years without his case being heard until Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA together with other partner organizations working in the settlement organized and facilitated a High court session wherein his case was cause listed.*

*The case was dismissed for want of prosecution. He is back to the settlement and finding ground for life after prison. Before the High court session, he did not have hope since he could not afford a lawyer to follow-up his matter. The special High court session saved him and others from the usual case backlog that takes an average 5-10 years before a matter is heard.*

*He was referred to others partners for further support.*



*Nanzyika standing at the Caritas Kyaka2 office after release by court*



*The Court order that dismissed Nanzyika's case*

### **Challenges in Justice and Peace and mitigation measures**

- The numerous porous border points in Uganda that have allowed free entry and exit of registered refugees into and out of the settlement have made it difficult to track and offer appropriate services such VSLA group loans and UAMs.
- Civic engagements deal with mindset and attitude change which takes long to get results. It calls for continuous sensitization
- The misconception of advocacy in good governance where it is believed that talking about an ideal situation is being against the government or on the opposition. This can be erased by continuous sensitization and having clearly signed MOUs .
- Governance issues are shunned by village leaders due to their high levels of illiteracy. Village leaders take governance issues to be for the highly educated. ‘Governance matters should be for the elite’ This hinders their participation. This calls for continuous sensitisation.

### **Lessons learnt**

- Attaining a civically awake community is a gradual process that requires time and continuous engagement.



# WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

This thematic area envisages; A Healthy Population in a Healthy Environment. The main objectives were:

1. To provide quality and cutting- edge Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) services geared towards creating a healthy & prosperous population that is environmentally responsible, with secure and sustainable livelihoods both in schools and communities,

Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA seeks to achieve this mission through effective coordination, networking, capacity building, IWRM service delivery & knowledge brokering, resource mobilization, research, robust M&E and policy influencing;

No	Area of intervention	Beneficiary target	Numbers reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
	<b>School WASH</b>				
1	Access to safe sanitation by constructing Sanitation infrastructure in Mituli and St. Kizito Primary Schools in Kabarole District: - 2 schools with one latrine facility, each bearing 4 stances for girls with a wash room (bathroom)	2 schools with 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys)	2 schools with 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys)	No variance	No variance
2	Access to safe water by Constructing Water infrastructure in Mituli and St. Kizito Primary Schools in Kabarole District: - 2 rain water harvesting tanks constructed in each of the 2 schools each with a capacity of 25,000 liters. A 500ltr hand washing facility at each school.	2 schools with 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys)	2 schools with 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys)	No variance	No variance
3	Adoption of good Hygiene practices and proper operation and maintenance of WASH infrastructure in schools facilitating formation and capacity strengthening of School Health Clubs Mituli and St. Kizito Primary Schools in Kabarole District.	2 Schools Health Clubs, (60 members)	2 schools Health Clubs, (60 members)	No variance	No variance
4	Increased access to Menstrual Hygiene Management by conducting trainings on menstrual hygiene in 2 schools of Mituli and St. Kizito Primary Schools in Kabarole District	A total of 348 (145 boys; 203 girls).	A total of 348 (145 boys; 203 girls).	No variance	No variance
	<b>Community WASH</b>				
5	Support the sanitation sector data synchronization by undertaking Household listing in 7 Sanitation and Hygiene Fund (SHF) target Districts of Kabarole, Kole, Buyende, Buikwe, Luuka, Kayunga and Kamuli	76,000 households	70,000 households	6000	Data collection did not start at the same time affecting the planned result.
6	Construction of on ground and underground harvesting water tanks in Buheesi Kasenda Rwimi Kabonero and Kiyombya	18 households	18 households	No variance	No variance

	<b>Achievements</b>
	<p><b>School wash</b></p> <p>A total of 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys) benefited in latrine facilities in two Primary Schools in Kabarole District: Each with one latrine facility, each bearing 4 stances for girls with a wash room (bathroom). The Pupil stance ration reduced from 72:1 to 50: 1 in Mituli Primary School and from 64: 1 to 48:1 in St. Kiziito Primary School in Kabarole district</p> <p>A total of 1043 pupils (555 girls, 488 boys) benefited in receiving 2 rain water harvesting tanks (25000ltrs) leading to Increased access to safe water for the pupils from two target schools of Mituli and St. Kizito Primary Schools in Kabarole District. This contributed to an increase in hand washing practice in schools and reduced WASH related diseases (contribution towards creating a child friendly learning environment).</p> <p>The school health clubs created health awareness in the schools leading to a 65% increase in handwashing practice among pupils.</p> <p>Increased awareness on Menstrual hygiene management among 145 boys and 203 girls of St. Kizito and Mituli primary schools in Kabarole district. A positive attitude and reduced stigma against menstruation, enhanced MHM support system in the 2 schools and increased availability of menstrual products for girls hence, reduced girls' absenteeism.</p>
	<p><b>Community wash</b></p> <p>Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA collected Data from 70,000 households across the 7 target district of Kabarole, Kole, Buyende, Buikwe, Luuka, Kayunga and Kamuli. Collected data is now on the national dashboard used by all sector actors including the Ministry of Health.</p>
	<p>In Buheesi, Kasenda Kabonero and Kiyombya sub counties.10 on ground and 8 underground water harvesting tanks were constructed and now benefitting 162 households to access water for domestic use, irrigation of kitchen gardens and the general improvement of house hold hygiene. Each underground tank holds 7000 liters and those on ground hold 5000 liters.</p>

## Success Story

### The diamond wonders

The diamond approach in latrine construction has done wonders to communities. Forming the four corners of the diamond is the client (household) at the top, then the business (business partners in latrine construction and maintenance), the financial institutions (banks, Saccos) that offer loans towards the construction and lastly the government responsible for the protection of the people.

Mr. Aroho David, a community member from Rukooki village Kamwenge District who benefitted from this approach under the FM Uganda programme has this to say:

*"Having learnt that poor sanitation affects women most, I made a decision to construct an improved toilet for my lovely wife and family. Constructing a safely managed sanitation facility (Lined VIP) in my home has reduced the occurrence of diarrhoea among my children, UTI from my wife and more respect in the community". Aroho David*



*Mr. David Aroho and his wife appreciate their new toilet in Rukooki village, Kamwenge District*



*Ainembabazi Annet a beneficiary from Masaka village Kamwenge District poses outside her newly constructed sanitation system under the diamond approach*

## Challenges and mitigation measures in WASH

- Inflation: This resulted into increased prices for building materials including cement, iron bars and transport. Construction and completion of toilets by households was greatly affected. The inflation also contributed to increased costs of operation due to increased fuel prices. The FINISH Mondial(FM) team continued encouraging communities to buy building materials in groups to save on transport. The implementing team resorted to planning joint field movement. The team also encouraged latrine owners to be part of the construction team (potters) to reduce labour costs. The FINISH Mondial team decided not to scale to the new districts of Ibanda and Mbarara as a result of the rising cost of operation, but rather focus on a concentrated area for more impact to achieve the required targets.
- Climate change: Increasingly erratic weather patterns and natural disasters such as floods destroyed infrastructure (roads and bridges) making access to some areas difficult and sometimes impossible for example in Agago District.
- Instabilities/ conflicts: Tribal conflicts such as cattle raids by the Karamojong posed a security risk within the targeted areas of Agago.

### Lessons learnt

- Right information, knowledge and skills are key ingredients to sustainable community change. Empowering girls with the right information and knowledge such as WASH and entrepreneur skills enables them to overcome the WASH challenges that affect them in their homes and communities.
- Irrespective of having common problems, community solutions may depend on considering what target communities regard as issues. There is always need to understand the pain-points of the communities that we work with to progress together.
- Value of Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration. Effective engagement with stakeholders at various levels, including local communities, government agencies, and implementing partners, is essential in driving project activities forward and fostering ownership and buy-in.
- Flexibility and adaptability are important for sustainable success. Good projects can be designed, but their implementation can easily be hampered or affected by local context on ground. Their successful implementation can easily be dependent on the degree of flexibility and adaptability.



# SKILLING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This area had the following main objectives,

1. To equip and support youth, women and the vulnerable with necessary knowledge and expertise to succeed in the job market in entrepreneurship and technology
2. To equip and support the youth, women and the vulnerable with skills in value addition to improve on their incomes.

No	Area of intervention	Beneficiary target	Numbers reached	variance	Explanation for variance
1	Training and supporting 33 GBV survivors with sewing machines and hair dressing machines in Kyaka II refugee settlement	33	33	0	No variance
2	Comprehensive stakeholder mapping aiming at profiling sanitation value chain actors for capacity building and linkage to sanitation market in Anaka cluster towns of Nwoya and Amuru Districts conducted	Masons – 20, Hardware stores – 5, Financial Institutions - 5	Masons – 20, Hardware stores – 5 Financial Institutions - 5	0	No variance
3	Strengthening the Supply Chain for Sanitation through strengthening capacities of Private Sector (Masons, Pit diggers) in construction of safely managed sanitation systems in Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kamwenge and Kyenjojo Districts.	300 people	401 people	-101	More masons were trained than anticipated to take care of the high dropout rate of masons.
4	Capacity building of Key stakeholders (WASH entrepreneurs, Health Extension workers, Sub County teams, WASH Management structures i.e., Water supply and sanitation boards and Water user committees (WSSBs, WUCs) in Kabarole District.	548 people	568 people	-20	During the initially planned trainings on WASH Financing, MHM, and Governance, there arose a need to train the stakeholders on O&m of WASH Infrastructure, something not previously planned, hence an increase in number of trainings and trainees
5	Business training of Small , Medium enterprises (SMEs) and Masons in Nwoya and Amuru Districts	25masons and 5 SME	24 masons and 1 SME with skills on WASH Business Skills	1 mason, 4 SMEs	1 Mason and 4 SMEs did not turn up on day of training despite being earlier mobilized
<b>Achievements</b>					
33 beneficiaries Gender based violence survivors (GBV) survivors were supported with sewing and hair dressing machines in Kyaka II refuge settlement. The beneficiaries have started group and individual IGA's in the trades.					

	Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA was able to have an up to-date inventory developed of 20 masons, 5 hardware stores, and 5 financial institutions in 19 wards of the 5 urban Councils in the Anaka cluster towns of Nwoya and Amuru Districts
	<p>401 masons and pit diggers capacities were strengthened to construct good quality Latrines. By investing in the skill development and proficiency of these key stakeholders, the intervention has successfully fortified the construction of safely managed sanitation systems. This initiative has not only elevated the quality of sanitation infrastructure but has also catalyzed the engagement of the private sector, resulting in a more robust and sustainable framework for the delivery of safe and managed sanitation solutions</p> <p>17,375 sanitation systems were constructed by the 401 trained mason and pit diggers in Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kamwenge and Kyenjojo Districts.</p>
	Capacities of 568 WASH stakeholders (WASH, Sub County teams, WASH Management structures i.e., Water supply and sanitation boards and Water user committees (WSSBs, WUCs) who are offering quality services to WASH Clients were strengthened in Kabarole District.
	Skills and capacities of 24 masons and 1 Small Medium Enterprise (SME) enhanced and these have been reported to running their WASH businesses well in Nwoya and Amuru Districts

## Success story

### THE POWER OF SKILLING

Skilling has created more entrepreneurship opportunities to both women and youth. The GBV survivors can now earn an income at group and individual level after gaining skills in sewing. Team work and income generation have reduced the level of vulnerability.

*Trained masons under the FINISH mondial programme under go assessment by the Directorate of Industrial training*



*GBV Survivors from Kyaka II refugee settlement receiving sewing machine*

# NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Natural resources management aimed at preserving and protecting the flora and fauna in order to maintain the ecological diversity and provide resources for a future generation.

The main objectives were:

1. To rehabilitated degraded landscapes
2. To strengthen initiatives in natural resource governance.
3. To engage in land restoration activities and adopt to climate change and related ecosystems.

No	Key interventions	Beneficiary target	No. reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
1	District Inception meetings	3	3	No variance	No variance
2	Sub- county inception meetings	24	24 (100%)	No variance	No Variance
3	Community engagements	20	13 (65%)	7	Ntoroko was affected by the terrain (susceptible to floods, grazing area, so stony) There was need to make thorough assessment before engaging with communities thus the delay
4	Rehabilitated degraded landscapes in three districts, of Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Ntoroko and in 24 sub-counties (8 sub- counties in each district)	5,640 ha	953.8 ha	4,686.2ha	The project started past the planting season. It was not possible to plant all the targeted areas.
5	Tree planting in Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Ntoroko districts	253,800 seedlings	152,772 Seedlings	101,028 Seedlings	The project started past the planting season. It was not possible to plant all the targeted trees.
	Establishment of tree nurseries	2	1	1	Two tree nurseries were planned one in Kabarole and another in Bundibugyo. Considering the expenses involved, and time it was opted that Bundibugyo nursery be put on hold
7	Engagement in the Carbon market strengthened	3550	0	3550	Carbon conversations were not yet strengthened because of uncertainty about the carbon standard and guidelines to follow
8	Awareness raising on WASH, environment management and protection in Kalongo, Patongo, Lapono, Lira Palwo, Paimol, Arum and Kotomor in Agago District.	1500 people	1827 people	-327	More people turned for the community meeting than anticipated
9	Completed construction works on Fecal and Solid Waste Management Plant and	1	1	1	No variance



	operationalized it by processing co-compost by treating and processing Solid Waste manage and Fecal Sludge I Fort Portal City.				
	Training farmers in energy efficient technologies	430 people	425people	5	Didn't attend the trainings
	Farmers adopt agro forestry for wood fuel, fodder, fruits, soil improvement and attracting rain fall	90farmer	92farmers	2	Farmers attended the trainings in excess as a result of interest
	<b>Achievements</b>				
	District inception meetings were carried out successfully in the three districts of Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Ntoroko. The project goal, objectives, and approach as stipulated in the project documents were presented. Technical personnel (Natural Resource Forestry and Agriculture officers,) were identified to support the project in technical backstopping, trainings and follow-ups.				
	24 sub county inception meetings were carried out in all the targeted sub counties where the project was implemented. Parishes were identified and selected where the project would work. In total 65 parishes were identified.A profile of 348 villages was also established.				
	Community engagements (house level engagements) in 13 sub counties (7 for Bundibugyo and 6 for Kabarole) were carried out to prepare farmers for tree planting.				
	152,772 assorted indigenous tree species were planted among 2033 households in three districts, Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Ntoroko and in 24 sub-counties ( <b>8 sub- counties in each district</b> )				
	Appropriate agro-forestry systems were identified in major crop types, capacity of some of the existing three tree nurseries have been strengthened for certification				
	200,000 pots already prepared out of which 80,000 pots had either seeds or seedlings( Measopsis Grevellia, Mutumba, Prunus African, Albizi), in Fort Portal City				
	754 Households adopted safe Hygiene practices and were implementing sustainable environmental management practices in Kalongo, Patongo, Lapono, Lira Palwo, Paimol, Arum and Kotomor in Agago District				
	100 tons of co-compost were processed in Fort Portal City awaiting results of nutrient content and safety studies conducted by NARO and Mountains of the Moon University.				
	A total of 306 stoves were constructed in in the 25 targeted groups. Farmers reported reduced fuel use in households.				
	Four groups were supported with 1740 Agro-forestry tree seedlings that included 640 Calliandra, 525 Measopsis and 575 Grevellia. The activity was meant to support farmers soils to regain nutrients. Those that planted in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of the project are using the trees for fuel and fodder for animals				

## Success story

### Turning Waste to wealth

"For so many years I have served as a WASH promoter, I have always perceived WASH as a means of securing our human surroundings of any dirt, waste materials only for safe disposal. Little did I know that people are building wealth and earning a good living out of what we only dispose. Talk of waste water from the kitchen or the toilet flush that ends as septage in septic tanks, Organic waste that is landfilled together with the rest of unsorted solid waste, we have always wasted these important raw materials.

Upon our bench-marking trip to India, where a lot of wealth is generated from waste materials. Caritas Fort Portal HEWASA constructed a fecal sludge treatment plant and composting shades, where through a scientific process, fecal sludge is dewatered, and composted together with organic materials to produce a soil conditioner/co-compost.

To-date, we have composted over 100 tons of organic waste together with dry sludge, and the product is already undergoing scientific tests to ascertain its safety and application.

Being a unique plant in the region, it attracts scientific studies from surrounding universities thus, adding to knowledge building. Fort Portal City authority is eyeing it to reduce the excess garbage in town, yet the agriculturalists are getting an alternative to chemical fertilisers

The plant is targeting revenues from both the private sector depositing the organic waste, fecal sludge, the liquid waste oozing from the composting piles as well as the produced organic co-compost itself, and fees from university learners visiting the site."

**Kabagumya Cecilia the plant manager, who also participated in the study tour to India.**



The completed fecal sludge plant in kyegobe, Fort portal City

## **Challenges and Mitigation measures in natural resources management**

- Changes in farmers preferences in the choice of tree species poses financial risk in terms of procuring seedlings and also affects implementation schedules. Thorough community engagements to exhaustively enable farmers make right choices for their interventions a follow up was made on farmers to see that the choices they made served their purpose.
- Poor and impassable roads caused due to heavy rains that hit the districts during the (September, October, November, December) SOND season. Staff manoeuvred with the Motorcycles and reached the planned household in their respective sub-counties.
- Misconception of the project objectives; Some of the community members developed a fear that their land would be taken/grabbed after they grow the trees especially when they were asked if they own land titles by the carbon consultants. More village level engagement in partnership with the local leaders were planned to inform communities about the project objectives and approach.

## **Lesson learnt**

- Involvement of district technical teams in Project work increases opportunities for integration and synergy and also sustainability of project work.

# WOMEN YOUTH AND GENDER

This area affirms and supports women's equal role in development. It promotes gender equality and empowers women and youth in advocacy through awareness raising, trainings and VSLAs. The main objectives were:

1. To protect and advocate for women, children, youth and other vulnerable persons and empower them in human rights,
2. To provide skills in entrepreneurship and income generation to women and youth.

No	Key interventions	Beneficiary target	No. reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
1	Hold project inception and launch meetings at district and subcounty level in Kamwenge, Kyegegwa and Bunyangabu Districts	120	125	5	Some participants did not turn up due to other engagements
2	Hold induction meetings with village local council leadership at village and sub county levels in Busiriba, Rwentuuha and Kabonero sub counties	2190	2098	92	Some participants did not turn up due to other engagements
3	Inducting women leaders on issues of human rights and good governance in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties	1480	1487	-07	Some women leaders requested to attend though not invited
4	Inducting youth leaders on issues of human rights and good governance in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties	1460	1448	12	Some youth participants did not turn up due to other engagements
5	Have youth leaders trained on their role in good governance and characteristics of good governance in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties	1460	1425	35	The variance resulted from a few participants who could not turn up due to domestic reasons. And other engagements.
6	Have women leaders trained on their role in good	1460	1434	26	



	governance and characteristics of good governance in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties				
7	Have women leaders sensitised on the principle of accountability in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties	1460	1440	20	
8	Have youth sensitised on the principle of accountability	1460	1435	25	
9	Sensitise women on women social legal issues and access to justice in Rwentuuha, Busiriba and Kabonero sub counties	1460	1445	15	
10	Case Management for Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors. Caritas fort portal to procure medical supplies and equipment to beef up the GBV corners in both MTI and ADRA hospital in Kyaka II.	74	74	No variance	No variance
11	Completion of Construction works on the GBV protection house in Byabakora Zone, Kyaka II settlement.	1	1	No Variance	No variance
12	Completion works on the construction of 4 Girls changing rooms with incinerators in 4 schools in Kyaka II refugee settlement.	4	4	No Variance	No Variance
	<b>Achievements</b>				
	Memorandums of understanding were signed in the three districts of Kamwenge, Kyegegwa and Bunyangabu upon understanding what the project was about and the different roles of various stakeholders to ensure the project success.				
	Participants (women leaders, youth leaders and village local council leaders) undertook to actively participate in project activities as required of their roles and responsibilities in ensuring the project success. The outcomes included; high turn up in the subsequent meetings, providing a conducive learning environment in terms of providing space for trainings, keeping time, and actively participating during training sessions.				
	A tune of 57% of Women and youth have developed business plans aimed at improving their incomes at group and household level. They have equally developed a self-assessment plan of action on their				

	level of contribution/ performance as leaders at individual and group level in promoting and protecting human rights.
	GBV survivors and victims in Kyaka II settlement received shelter, medical and psychosocial support that has enabled them live a better life free from Gender Based violence
	A GBV protection house constructed in Byabakore Zone, kyaka II refugee settlement can now shelter GBV survivors while receiving psychosocial, medical and any other form of assistance.
	The construction of the Girls changing rooms with incinerators led to improved environmental and general improved body hygiene. These were constructed in Sweswe special needs unit, Kyamakagabo primary school, Bukere secondary school and Sweswe vocational skills training center.

### Success story

*principles of accountability and their role in good governance has enabled them to be accountable in their village groups and at home. They now involve their husbands in their planning both at household and village group levels. This has created teamwork and reduced cases of domestic violence among the women group members.*



***Women leaders of St. Joseph the Worker Caritas Group***



***Women of St. Joseph the worker Kyakataama caritas group receive their savings with their husbands at the close of a VSLA cycle.***

## **Challenges**

- The youth perception is that matters of governance is past the youthful age. They think they are too young for such matters. In this case they tend to shy away from taking lead.
- High illiteracy rates among women curtails their participation.

## **Lessons learnt**

- Giving women cash grants enhances their self-esteem to make decisions and contribute to household needs.
- Conducting women focus groups enables them fully express themselves and contribute to planning processes for development.
- Recognising and addressing gender disparities in access to services and resources is important for proper management of facilities for equitable outcomes
- When the youth are empowered and motivated, they participate productively in development issues.



# MICROFINANCE

The micro finance thematic area aims at empowering hundreds of active poor individual persons both women, men and youth with entrepreneurial skills and reduce poverty in households by giving small loans to groups and individuals and carrying out finance literacy.

The main objectives is;

1. To provide reliable and tailor made financial solutions to the economically underprivileged sections of the society.

No	Area of intervention	Beneficiary target	Numbers reached	Variance	Explanation for variance
1	Mobilisation and awareness rising yerya, Kanyamukale, Kitumbi Bukwali, and kyamatanga Parishes	100	108	8	More people turned up
2	Trainings in financial literacy in Kabarole, Bunyangabu, Kyegegwa and Kamwenge districts	1260 people	1240 people	20	Did not attend
3	Loan Disbursement,	250 people	215 people	35 people	These people did not meet loan requirement and other needed entrepreneurial skills  Some client wanted high loans compared to our seal (200,000/= - 1,500,000/=)
4	Loan Recovery	215	202	13People	Family Problems and low yield from their Produce affected recovery
5	Train credit officers in wash value chain financing and selling wash loans to communities	45	45	No variance	All members attended
6	Groups practice saving and credit (VSLA) according to their own established bylaws	26 groups	25 groups	1	1 group disintergrated

## Achievements

215 clients (women:160, men40 youth 15) received loan worth UGX 46,150,000 with an interest rate of 8,860,000/= and loan portfolio outstanding is UGX 44,744,750/= comprised of 15 groups and 10 individuals in Bunyangabu, Fort Portal city and Kyenjojo districts in the catholic parishes of Yerya, Virika, Kicwamba, Kanyamukale, Bukwali and Butiiti

Kiyombya kyawehige group with 35 which was at appoint of breaking up was able to solidify after trainings in financial literacy.

Beneficiaries have been able to utilize the loans profitably through starting income generating projects and buying assets and other household items. There is improvement in the saving culture among the beneficiaries

45 credit officers have increased capacities in WASH Value Chain Financing and are marketing and selling WASH Loans to communities. UGX 350,000,000 was disbursed to 283 beneficiaries through Financial institutions (Hofokam Ltd, Finance Trust, Opportunity Bank, Caritas SACCO as well as

	other Village Savings and Loan Associations)out as WASH Loans in Kabarole, Kyenjojo and Bunyangabu districts in WASH and WASH Value Chain Financing.
	The monitored VSLA groups saved UGX 361,909,100=. 86% of the members have benefitted in the saving scheme and have bought land to expand agriculture projects, constructed houses, rented plots of land for farming, paid school dues , have started petty businesses as well attending to other basic needs.

## Success story

Ataragabaine Clinton is a youth, 27 years and an orphan coming from a humble background in Kyamaiba Village, Kicwamba sub county, Kitumbi Catholic Parish. He has been a client receiving loans from PROMIC for over 5 years. He started getting agriculture loans when he had just completed senior 4 being guaranteed by his grandmother since he had no collateral on his own. Clinton invests his money in agriculture. He mainly grows onions, tomatoes and cabbages on hired land. After selling his produce, Clinton is able to raise money for school fees, other basic needs and loan recovery. The first outcome enabled him acquire a certificate in agriculture after S4. He further proceeded to getting a diploma in the same course and he is currently in his first year pursuing a bachelor's degree in agriculture. From a humble start of 300,000 loan 5 years ago, Clinton has upscaled to up 1,000,000 UGX. Through journeying with him and offering guidance Clinton has been able to reach this far.

**Mr and Mrs. Baguma Christopher** hail from Kabata-Ruboona, in Bunyangabu District. The two have been PROMIC clients for two years. Mr. Baguma supported his wife get a loan and start a piggery project, two years later she sold the pigs and used the proceedings to start a retail shop. The two have also improved their house. According to Mrs. Rose Baguma, getting an income has enabled them to stay peaceful at home. She's able to contribute to the household needs just like her husband. She attributes this to the value of being accountable to each



*Ataragabaine Clinton in his onion garden where he raises money to pay tuition for his education*



*Mr and Mrs Baguma in front of their piggery project whose profits gave birth to a retail shop*



*The improved version of Mr. and Mrs Baguma's house*

### **Challenges in microfinance.**

- Price fluctuation of Goods in the market making it hard for the loans to serve the intended purposes.
- Weather changes affected clients in agricultural produce leading to low yield and poor loan repayment
- Family conflicts. Domestic violence leading to disintegration of families making it hard for clients to clear their loans due to instability.
- Limited Capital Base at organisation limits loan disbursement in terms of amounts and period.

### **Mitigation measures**

- Training borrowers on risk management and saving culture.
- More emphasis on financial literacy and group cohesion to enable groups support each other in payments.

### **Lessons learnt**

- Diversification of income generating activities at home is essential in household management because it gives a fall back position in emergencies and loan repayment.
- Financial literacy trainings are essential when giving out loans they enable beneficiaries acquire other skills for development without basing on loan scheme only but working in groups and creating own saving skills
- VSLA is an important tool for community mobilization because it brings people together through village saving.
- Journeying with the client and making continuous follow ups to understand the clientele is very important. One gets to know the sources of income and challenges faced at home. It helps one understand and appreciate the client.

## **Cross cutting challenge**

1. The organisation has aging vehicles making it more expensive to run in terms of repairs
2. The vehicles are few limiting field movement.



## PICTORIALS



*The Executive Director, Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA (in a white shirt) giving an overview about Caritas Fort Portal-HEWASA during the inception meeting of the Restore Africa project in Kabarole district.*



*Tree distribution to farmers of Kabende sub county, Kabarole district*



*Across section of the Cirrus team with some GEA and PMU members attending a community engagement meeting in Bundingoma Sub-County in Bundibugyo district (photo taken from Bundibugyo)*



***Caritas Fort Portal- HEWASA staff at the Signing of the Civic Education project MoU with Kyegegwa district leadership***



***An Awareness session by the magistrate in Bukere Zone ,Kyaka II refugee settlement .***



***A civic education engagement with the women leaders on good governance.***