



# Sustainability School Bulletin

21ST EDITION | September, 2019





# Editorial

**Mr. Frank Muramuzi**  
Executive Director NAPE

We welcome you to the 21st Edition of the Sustainability School bulletin.

We started publishing this bulletin in 2013 as a way of keeping a track record of the key activities implemented within the Sustainability School programme and also generating debate on contemporary sustainability issues of concern in Uganda and the world at large.

Previous editions are available online at; [www.greenradio.ug](http://www.greenradio.ug)

In 2014, the Community Green Radio (CGR) was born out of the main Sustainability School Programme. This bulletin therefore carries articles about the Sustainability School Programme and the Community Green Radio.

We thank those who have contributed articles and those that gave feedback on previous editions.

Our special thanks go to the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation of Germany whose financial support has enabled us to continue publishing this Sustainability School bulletin.

Please enjoy your reading. For any feedback, please send your comments to [nape@nape.or.ug](mailto:nape@nape.or.ug) or at [kalangi@nape.or.ug](mailto:kalangi@nape.or.ug)



**Community Green Radio**  
Boza Green. Hurra Green

Currently the **Community Green Radio** broadcasts through affiliating with Liberty Radio on 89.0 FM. The radio is always on Air from Thursday to Sunday between 1:00 PM-3:30 PM  
Office: Muganwa Centre, Hoima Municipality  
Tel: +256 794 731 214 Email: [greenradio@nape.or.ug](mailto:greenradio@nape.or.ug) Website: [greenradio.ug](http://greenradio.ug)

## NAPE in big drive to promote non-timber forest products



*Mr. Joram Basiima a NAPE community partner from Hoima District (in overall) demonstrates the proper way of harvesting honey. This was during a training on bee keeping as an important way of earning income through preserving the environment.*

*The training was carried out in September, 2019 in Kihagya village, Hoima District. In front (left) is Rev. Fred Musimenta another NAPE community partner from Kikuube District who is also a seasoned apiary farmer. At the training which attracted sustainability School actors from different districts in Uganda, it was emphasized that conserving forests can enable communities carry out environmental friendly activities such as bee keeping, eco-tourism and herbal medicine research which can earn them income sustainably.*



*Sustainability School activists move around Kihagya forest which the community members have resolved to conserve.*

*This was during a knowledge sharing visit that was hosted by members of Kihagya sustainability village*

# WOMEN DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION TO STOP DESTRUCTION OF BUGOMA FOREST

BY PRECIOUS NATURINDA

Women in Hoima and Kikuube districts have called on government to come up with stringent measures of protecting Bugoma Central Forest Reserve against massive destruction.

The forest is currently threatened by massive encroachment for cultivation, timber cutting, charcoal burning and lumbering. This contributes to about 100,000 hectares of forest cover that Uganda loses every year.

While appearing in Nyinabwenge – Women’s show at Ugandan Community Green Radio in Kiboga district, Beatrice Rukanyanga, the National Steering Committee member of Rural Women’s Movement and the Chairperson of Kwataniza women’s group in Hoima said continued destruction and change of use of the forest will affect the climate and water sources.

She notes that this will largely affect women since most of them heavily depend on natural resources for their livelihood.

“The forest is important to everyone but most importantly to rural women who are farmers and derive their livelihood from agriculture,” she said.

Rukanyanga notes that continued destruction of the forest when Uganda is heading towards production phase of the oil in the region is uncalled for since it would be crucial in absorbing the toxic gases that will be originating from oil waste.

Mbabazi Aidah, Member of Kaseeta Collaborative Forest Management group says communities adjacent to the forest have for long protected and supported the conservation due to its benefits. She expresses concern that letting it away to encroachers frustrates the conservation efforts by the local communities.

“We have for long taken part in protecting the forest against timber cutters by acting as whistleblowers. We are also taking part in massive tree planting around the forest. We are frustrated by the government officials who offer land titles in the forest and also allow sugarcane growers to frustrate it,” she decried. Mbabazi said women are already faced with climate change challenges like drought and change of seasons which have affected them economically and further destruction means women will continue to suffer.

The women are calling on government leaders to support the conservation efforts by the local communities and also put up strong measures to conserve it for good.

Rukanyanga said it’s high time women teamed up to fight against climate



*Ms. Rukanyanga (R) being hosted in the Nyinabwenge Programme at the Community Green Radio recently*

injustices which are leaving women in untold suffering and force government to take action on protecting the forests.

“As rural women’s movement we are coming up to fight injustices such climate and land injustices, that’s why we need more women to join us in the struggle,” she noted . Responding to some of issues raised, Stuart Maniraguha, the Director for Plantation Development in the National Forestry Authority says NFA is



already partnering with development partners to restore part of Bugoma forest. He says he supports women organizing to fight against forest destruction; which is one of the core objectives of NFA.

"We are working hard to ensure that the forest is protected. We have already partnered with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees-UNHR to restore about 100 of the 150 hectares of the degraded forest land," he said.

The Nyinabwenge show which was held on 17th August was looking at "How Bugoma Forest Giveaway to pave way for sugarcane growing

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affects women and how women can take part in protecting the forests". The show was also being filmed by Thomas Lenta, a journalist from Mongaby Media Services.

Lenta said he was interested in the show due to its unique nature of giving a platform to women express themselves and to talk about the issues affecting them.

Nyinabwenge show that runs every Saturday from 17:00 to 19:00 is a gender program which gives women platform to discuss issues affecting them and also contribute towards development of the society.

# Environmentalists warn about the dangers associated with Palm Oil growing in Kalangala District



*Most of the land in the Island District of Kalangala is now dotted oil palm plantations*

*BY BERNA NAKIWALA AND JULIUS KYAMANYWA*

In 2006 Oil Palm growing started in Kalangala district. The growing of palm oil in the area came with the destruction of forests by both the company and out growers. Towa forest reserve was encroached on by the company and small scale farmers. Timber cutting and charcoal burning became order of the day in this forest.

Many private forests were cleared and replaced by oil palm plantation chief among which were Lwonga, Buguzi, Bweeza, Bwendero, Kizira and Bbeta.

“The clearing of forests for palm oil growing has far reaching adverse effects on the environment and the environment is life”, says Ms. Joan Akiiza, the Legal Officer at National Association of professional Environmentalists, NAPE. NAPE has been working in this area with community members to ensure that palm oil growing does not completely destroy the environment.

David Kureba, the Programme officer in charge of forests at NAPE believes if palm oil growing is not checked, the forest cover in Kalangala might be history. He says the destruction of forests has a direct bearing on the

lives of the people in the area. “Forests are responsible for rain formation and are vital for crop production. This continuous cutting of forests will a cause food crisis here”, explained Mr.Kureba.

The chemicals that are sprayed in palm oil plantations end up in the water sources. Fire wood has become a challenge since most forests were cut. Women trek considerably long distances looking for firewood.

Food security is at stake since many land owners turned their into palm oil plantations. This has greatly affected food crop growing. Salongo ‘Jim Jim’ Jagenda, a crop farmer explains the

gravity of the problem. “Most people here are now getting food from Kampala and Masaka since there isn’t any land for cultivation here”, explained Mr. Jagenda.

A palm oil growing project has been presented by proponents as source of income. However, environmental degradation concerns and land grabbing continue to dominate discussion in this area.

In May 2013, Friends of the Earth International released a report indicating that the palm oil project was being promoted as a poverty-reducing endeavor, yet it was causing displacement, food insecurity and deforestation.



*Sustainability School activists plant trees on patches of degraded land in Kalangala recently*

# GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP COMMENDS COMMUNITY GREEN RADIO FOR PROMOTING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

By Julius Kyamanywa

Government Chief Whip and Member of Parliament for Kiboga District Ruth Nankabirwa Sentamu has again heaped praise for Community Green radio for promoting government programs.

The minister said the free air time the radio has allocated for government programmes has been vital in popularizing various government programmes in Kiboga and other places.

"I can't stop thanking the management and ownership of this radio for giving

government time to talk to citizens. There is a great improvement in the awareness about government programs since you gave government airtime", said the minister.

Minister Nankabirwa made the remarks in August while appearing on the Community Green radio's Akatuuti show during the time designated for the Resident District Commissioner, RDC (President's representative in the district).

The minister called on the masses to support the radio so that it continues to deliver even more. Community Green radio has, since its inception,

been providing space for government officials to share with the listeners on the available government programs. It is through such engagements that the listeners find an opportunity to seek for accountability from public office bearers.

Government officials share vital information in regard to various programmes aimed to uplifting the social welfare of women, youth, elderly and the general public.

Already, the radio has hosted Gender and Social Development minister Janet Mukwaya and other government dignitaries.

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## NAPE partners in Hoima District officially open a Community Learning Centre

BY PERUTH ATUKWATSE

Members of Butimba Sustainability Conservation Association (BUSUCA) which evolved out of Butimba Sustainability Village have officially opened up their Community Learning Centre.

The centre which is located in Kiziranfumbi sub-county was opened officially in August 2019 at a function presided over by Mr. Frank Muramuzi.

Rev. Fred Musiimenta, the Chairperson of BUSUCA said that the learning centre will be accessible to all people interested in learning about good environmental conservation practices. He said that the group members have specific interest in the revival of growing indigenous and traditional seed varieties using organic means that are friendly to the environment.

Rev. Musiimenta said that the money for setting up the centre was realized from the sale of honey and tree seedlings. He thanked NAPE for the capacity building programmes extended to the group which he said their achievements were hinged on.

Mr. Frank Muramuzi thanked the people of Butimba and other sustainability school actors for putting into practice the knowledge acquired from within the Sustainability School programme.

He also thanked the NAPE donors such as the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation (RLF) of Germany, the Open Society Initiative for East Africa (OSIEA) and the American Jewish World Service (AJWS) whose support has enabled NAPE to sustain the Sustainability School work.



*Mr. Muramuzi opens the learning centre officially by cutting the ribbon. Clapping in the middle with blue cape is Mr. Richard Mugisha from OSIEA. Right is Mr. Fred Musimenta, the chairperson of BUSUCA*



*BUSUCA members and colleagues from other Sustainability villages prepare to open the Learning Centre officially*



*Students of St. Pauls Vocational School Sustainability Club entertain guests during the official opening of the BUSUCA office*

## **NAPE intensifies the capacity building drive for Community Green Radio Staff and Listeners Clubs of the radio**

BY DORCUS DRIJALU

In order to make the Community Green Radio serve its target audience better NAPE has intensified efforts to build further the capacity of its technical staff and the listeners clubs. Between August and September, 2019, NAPE organised several training sessions targeting representatives of the listeners clubs and the NAPE technical staff.

The main facilitator at the trainings was Dr. Adolf Mbaine from Makerere University Department of Mass communication. The trainings were carried out in Kiboga Districts where the CGR studios are located. Mr. Allan Kalangi, the NAPE Programme Officer in Charge of the Sustainability School and the Community Green Radio said that capacity building for the two categories of people named above is a continuous exercise.



*Group work during the training for the Listeners Clubs. In the doorway is Mr. Samuel Kasirye from the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation who was one of the participants. This session took place at the CGR offices on Kiboga hill*



*Mr. Kasirye addresses the participants during a training session for representatives of CGR listeners clubs at Atkon Hotel in Kiboga Town*



*Dr. Adolf Mbaine facilitates at a training session for technical staff of the Community Green Radio*



*Ms. Sheila Muwanga of AJWS stresses a point during the training of CGR Listeners Clubs' representatives*

## GENERAL PICTORIAL



The NAPE Gender Officer (middle) Miss Sostine Namanya participates in the Climate Change protests in New York, in September, 2019



Mr. Gregory Bakunda, the NAPE Finance Officer in the CGR studios during a talk-show on good financial management practices for small community based projects



*Dr. Adolf Mbaine facilitates at a training session for technical staff of the Community Green Radio*



*Ms. Peruth Atukwatse of NAPE being hosted at the CGR Youth Programme by Mr. Nsamba Peter*



*The oil refinery affected residents that were resettled in Kyakaboga, Hoima District block their access road to protest against its poor state. They accuse the government of failing to fulfill some its promises to them which include having good access roads, access to clean and safe water and easy access to health facilities among others.*