

NABAKAZI RESTORATION PROJECT FIELD ASSESSMENT.

In march 2026 a team from NAPE comprised of Gregory Bakunda and Kureeba David was dispatched by the executive director to the fields pilot areas to;

- a) Assess the functionality of the spring water site that was protected by NAPE with funds from PNK as Well as the performance of apiary projects in the pilot area
- b) Assess the alignment, existence and proper location of the wetland buffer zone mark stones.
- c) Assess farmer progress on soil conservation, buffer Napier progress and other restored species
- d) Understand from the communities the progress of apiary project in the coffee growing in the pilot sites
- e) Assess the soil conservation progress in the pilot farmer community
- f) Understand from the communities the existence of partners such as one-acre project in the project pilot sites and their link with Nabakazi wetland conservation.
- g) Suggest the possible follow up action as identified from the communities to better the project in the pilot sites.

- a) Assess the functionality of the spring water site that was protected by NAPE with funds from PNK as Well as the performance of apiary projects in the pilot area**

The provided water spring was making progress although it was not performing to the expectations of the recipient communities. The water inlets had gotten blocked.

In order to restore water sanity in the area after community outcry, an engineer was called who opened the water reservoir and unblock the pipes. After the removal of blockage, the reservoir was protected again and water started flowing normally as seen below.



Plate 2. the repaired water spring back to normal water flow as was before blockage

The water source after rectifying the blockage was fenced off with the wire mesh to avoid trampling upon the water retention area hence decreased water flow.

b) Assess the alignment, existence and proper location of the wetland buffer zone mark stones.

The team was able to go NOMA in Madudu sub county where the mark stones were put for more than 2 kilometers on a threatened feeder wetland that would easily be finished if not protected from farmer encroachment. The mark stones also near the conservation zoo site under development in Kabweyakiza. The wetland is also near the east African crude oil pipeline crossing



Plate 3. The NAPE /Nabakazi engraved boundary mark stones.

c) Assess farmer progress on soil conservation, buffer Napier progress and other restored species

At the time of the visit to some of the restored sites, with Napier had grown and others maintained. The team also found one of the farmers harvesting it for mulching the coffee garden and the rest for feeding goats at home.



Plate 4. A farmer harvesting Napier grown next to Nabakazi wetland in the buffer zone for mulching and feeding zero grazing goats.

d) Understand from the communities the progress of apiary project in the coffee growing in the pilot sites

The apiary project in the buffer zone conservation area and coffee growers is making progress with some challenges relating to colonization and decolonization suspected to be caused by communities not near the wetland who use chemicals in their farming. In some beehives bees have been found dead and the bee hives decolonized.



Plate 5. A farmer showing the cobs used in un colonized bee hives to attract bees.



Plate 6. Apiary project is ongoing in coffee farming communities of Rwabagoma in Kitenga sub county Mubende district.

e) Assess the soil conservation progress in the pilot farmer community

Farmers were well progressing with the soil conservation agenda by putting terraces in their gardens as well as introducing intercropping and mixed farming in their pilot areas. Coffee has been introduced in some of the banana plantation that didn't have them initially. terraces have also been introduced to retain soil and fertility escape that eventually silts the wetland.



Plate 7. A farmer introduces coffee in the banana plantation to maximize sustainable harvesting of perennial crops.



Plate 8. A coffee farmer next to Nabakazi proud to conserve the wetland and use its water for irrigating his coffee while reducing further encroachment and removing the eucalyptus trees he had grown in the wetland.

f) Understand from the communities the existence of partners such as one-acre project in the project pilot sites and their link with Nabakazi wetland conservation.

In the communities of Kabweyakiza and Kansambya parish Madudu Sub county Mubende district, one-acre project was found to exist closely working farmers on coffee quality and quantity produce. Some of the communities working with NAPE on conservation of Nabakazi wetland were found to be members of one-acre project. The team identified the leaders of the project and farmers.

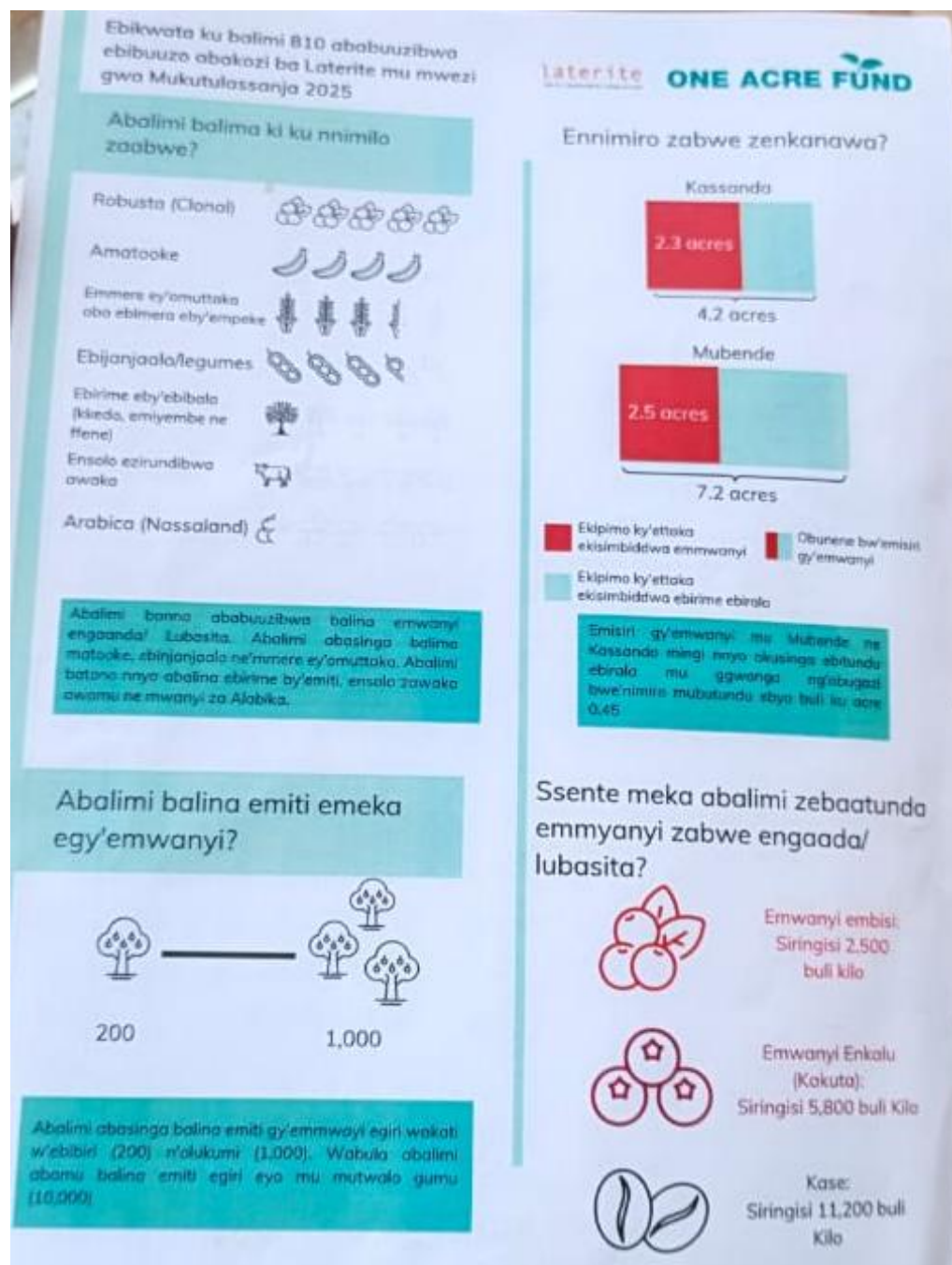


Plate 9. Guideline document for one acre given to communities



Plate 10. A farmer found putting on a t-shirt of one-acre project fund.

During the field visit it was known that NAPEs interventions could also be linked to once acre project implementers as they were also into livelihoods improvement and environmental protection, components that the project was also looking at.

Outstanding issues that need to be addressed

g) Suggest the possible follow up action as identified from the communities to better the project in the pilot sites.

After the pilot field visit the following have been recommended for follow up;

- Terraces next to the spring water to be put in place. These would be helpful in desilting the wetland.
- The eucalyptus trees still standing in Rwabagoma Nabakazi wetland belonging to one of the community pilot fields be encouraged to remove them.

Prepared by; Kureeba David.