

Kabarole Research and Resource Centre

THE FOURTH RWENZORI REGION CLIMATE CHANGE WEEK REPORT

*Coping with effects of climate change; Potentials
and Opportunities for Adaptation*



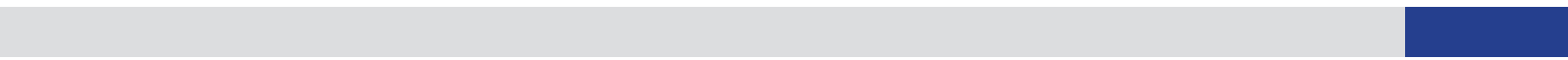
Fort Portal, 25th – 29th July 2016

Organizers



sponsors





The Fourth Rwenzori Region Climate Change Week

REPORT

*Coping with effects of climate change;
Potentials and Opportunities for Adaptation*

Fort Portal, 25th – 29th July 2016

Contents



ABOUT THE CLIMATE CHANGE WEEK	3
THE FARMERS’ DIALOGUE	4
Remarks from Dr. Kajobe Robert, Director of Rwebitaba ZARDI.....	4
Field study to different technologies at Rwebitaba ZARDI.....	4
PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS	6
Kick the 3-stone cooking stove out of public institutions campaign	7
STREET MATCH FOR CLIMATE CHANGE	8
Inspiring Boda-Boda riders as new climate change agents	8
Street display of technologies	8
THE PRIVATE SECTOR DIALOGUE	9
Launching the exhibition	9
THE LEADERS’ DIALOGUE	11
Grand Event, BOMA GROUNDS 29 TH JULY 2016	12
Presentation of leaders’ and farmers’ petitions.....	13
Handover of solar lights to Karo Karungi Bakyara Tukwatanize Group	13
Handover of reflector jackets to Boda-Boda riders	14
Handover of maize sheller to Iruhura maize farmers.....	14
Closing speech by Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga	14
APPENDICES	15
Rwenzori Region Petition to the Speaker of Parliament at the 4th Rwenzori Region Climate Change Week ...	15

About the Climate Change Week



The KRC Executive Director, Mr. Julius Mwanga addressing participants at the Climax of the Climate Change Week in Boma

The Climate Change Week is a headline event that annually marks the Rwenzori Region's preparedness to respond to the effects of climate change. Started in 2011, the climate change week continues to garner momentum in mobilizing the region's populace and leaders in the public, civil society and private sectors, first to build awareness and then engage stakeholders to come up with practical solutions to the climate change problem. The Fourth Climate Change Week was held in Fort Portal from the 25th to 29th July 2016-the first one having been held in 2011 and succeeding ones in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively Organized under the theme; ***Coping with Effects of Climate Change; Potentials and Opportunities for Adaptation***". In addition to promoting public awareness about climate change, the Climate Change Week also sought to promote knowledge sharing and dissemination of best practices in climate change impact adaptation. It also sought to provide a platform where technological progress made in adaptation in the agriculture sector could be showcased and shared. The Event was organized by Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC), in partnership with Rwebitaba Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (ZARDI) and Kabarole District Local Government, with sponsorship from Broederlijk Delen (BD), World Food Program (WFP) and USAID Feed the Future Program

The Farmers' Dialogue



Remarks from Dr. Kajobe Robert, Director of Rwebitaba ZARDI

At the opening the first session, Dr. Kajobe the ED of the National Agricultural Research Institute(Rwebitaba ZARDI) began by giving a brief history of Rwebitaba, since it opened in 2011 as a Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute serving the Western Highland agro-ecological zone constituting the districts of Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kasese, Bundibugyo and Ntoroko by doing research in Tea, crops, livestock and fisheries and Livelihood and farming systems program.

“Our participation in this event is a crucial engagement between the institute with the farmers, on whose taxes we get our operational costs and salaries. Rwebitaba ZARDI is a people’s institute, and our gets are always open, come and use our services”, said Dr. Kajobe while extending a public invitation to the institute.



Enhancing farmers’ access to climate change adaptation technologies in agriculture; the role of government, private sector, CSOs and farmers, 26th July 2016, Rwebitaba ZARDI, Kyembogo, Fort Portal

Field study to different technologies at Rwebitaba ZARDI

Farmers were exposed to a range of crop and livestock farming systems at the research institute to provide a practical and visual platform for uptake of researched knowledge and best practices.

Bananas

The farmers interactions were mainly focused on the general agronomics of banana and exploration of best practices in production. Farmers were taken through an elaborate procedure to contain the spread of Banana Bacteria Wilt disease which was until recently the most threatening setback for banana production in the region.



Apiculture

While most farmers only leave bees to fend for themselves, it was important to learn that bees need to be provided supplementary feeding to enrich honey production and of course revenues. A commercial apiary needs an environment that is selectively envired with researched and recommended bee forage; some including Blue gum eucalyptus, Calliandra, Ocimum (omujaja), Angels trumpet, Bottle brush, Vernonia amygdalina (Ekibirizi) among others.



Bottle brush, an excellent bee forage planted at Rwebitaba ZARDI demo apiary

Aquaculture

Farmed fish is gaining commercial and household food security importance and for reason Rwebitaba ZARDI is sharing practical knowledge with farmers and also providing quality seed for farmers undertaking aquaculture. Farmers were exposed to backyard and cage fish farming systems.



Photo: Cat fish, of the fish species promoted at Rwebitaba ZARDI

Livestock

Rwebitaba ZARDI is breeding dairy cattle, piggery and goats and running trials on a variety of fodder crops aimed at improving the livestock sector in the region. One outstanding research that is being pioneered in Uganda that is in final stages of dissemination is the use of artificial insemination for pigs. This will facilitate first breed improvement for farmers in the region.

The farmers however challenged the institute to keep-up with new discoveries in livestock production systems such as the natural deep bed system that uses indigenous micro-organisms (IMO's) to create and maintain healthy environment for commercial production.



Piggery production unit. ZARDI was challenged by farmers to begin IMO trials



A tour of the livestock fodder production site

Presentation and discussions

Mr. Sunday Emmanuel, the Secretary General of the Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE) delivered a passionate appeal to farmers and government to wake up to the climate change challenge in his presentation, "Enhancing farmers access to climate change adaptation technologies in agriculture".

Mr. Sunday castigated the blame game driven approach to the issue of climate change while he inquired of all stakeholders of their actions and inactions. His provocations with farmers generated practical insights into what can be done and by who in regard to responding to the impacts of climate change.

In response to his presentation, farmers agreed to diversify household energy sources and reduce over-reliance on fuel wood. Charcoal briquettes, bio-gas and solar are alternative energy sources that farmers need to embrace to adapt to effects of climate change and embrace micro irrigation technologies to minimize over-dependence on rain-fed agriculture

In his closing remarks the LCV Kabarole Hon. Rwabuhinga commended KRC and ZARDI for organizing platforms where farmers and stakeholders in the agriculture dialogue on issues affecting the sector. The Chairperson decried the selective application of environmental laws, where big shots in government have continued to destroy environment with impunity.

Hon. Rwabuhinga thanked KRC and other civil society organizations for supporting farmers through expositions, giving Busaiga in Kichwamba as a classic example of transformative community development stimulated by KRC through farmer collective marketing centres. He said that working together is the principal source of strength we can utilize. The farmers made a compendium of issues which were presented to the speaker, later at the grand event in Boma Grounds





| Kick the 3-stone cooking stove out of public institutions campaign

The campaign to phase-out the 3-stone cooking stove from households and public places is one of the core components of the Climate Change Synergy Project implemented by KRC and funded by Broederlijk Delen. The Executive Director of KRC, Mr. Mwanga Julius said the donation of the 3.5 million Uganda Shillings energy efficient stove was in line with the objectives of this project. Citing schools and prisons as the biggest users of wood fuel in the country and key drivers of forest degradation, Mr. Mwanga impressed it upon the pupils and everyone to be agents of 3-stone cook stoves phas-out from households.



Kick the 3-stone cooking stove out of public institutions campaign 27th July 2016, Buhinga Primary School, Fort Portal

Handover of the fuel saving stove to Buhinga Primary School

Mr. Jozef Serneels, the events representative of Broederlijk Delen's Country Delegate presided over the official handed over the fuel energy saving stove to Buhinga Primary School, in the company of Mr. Julius Mwanga, Hon. Rwabuhinga Richard, the Head Teacher and the pupils of Buhinga Primary School. Mr. Jozef expressed his gratitude to KRC and partners for supporting over 2,000 children and teacher community of Buhinga Primary School to enjoy a smoke free environment as a result of using a smoke free energy efficient stove. He re-iterated BD's commitment to the climate change cause



In appreciation, the Head Teacher of Buhinga Primary School thanked KRC and BD for the donation, a gesture that will in no doubt impact on the schools general performance.

Street Match for climate change

| Inspiring Boda-Boda riders as new climate change agents

As a way to recruit as many climate change agents, KRC and Kabarole District Local Government addressed a group of Boda-Boda men at the Fort Portal main roundabout in what appeared to be an initiation moment. The Boda-Boda men were given reflector rider jackets to inspire them join the climate change fight. The jackets imprinted with the words, "Preventing Climate Change, My responsibility... Your responsibility", were meant to be used by the riders as communication tools to the riders themselves and their passengers on the subject of climate change. They joined the street match through Fort Portal town



Protect Mother Earth; My Responsibility, Your Responsibility, 27th July 2016, Streets of Fort Portal

| Street display of technologies

Grain processors along Magambo Street and downtown Kabundaire Market were treated to an unusual street display of post-harvest handling and grain processing machinery. A mobile Maize Sheller, with capability to shell 3.5 tons of grain per hour on only 2 litres of diesel was tested to the delight of a multitude of grain dealers, by Munyengera Agro Machinery Limited. This was followed by the display of modern silos by World Food Program and interactions with the grain processors.



During the street march, women, men, children, students, Boda-Boda riders, leaders, private sector actors, CSOs and all peoples joined the procession to demonstrate a shared commitment.



The Private Sector Dialogue



Turning climate change challenges into private sector business opportunities, 27th – 29th July 2016, Boma Grounds, Fort Portal



| Launching the exhibition

The launching ceremony of the exhibition was presided over by Hon. Richard Rwabuhinga, the Kabarole District Chairperson, who was accompanied by the Kabarole Chief Administrative Officer, and country representatives of World Food Program and Broederlijk Delen.

Mayuge's Munyegera showcases Value addition technology and agriculture mechanization

This was an exciting exhibition category that showcased a range of value addition and post harvest handling technologies by Munyegera Agro Machinery Ltd and World Food Program. These technologies provide leverage for farmers to maximize output and quality in our time when climate change poses to reduce farm output and exacerbate post harvest losses.

Production and trade for export promotion

Climate change adaptation potentials and opportunities for farmers also do exist in higher market-oriented segments of value chains. Esco Uganda Ltd is promoting the commercial production and export trade of non-traditional crops. Such crops include among others moringa seeds and red eagle eye which cost 13,000 Ugx and 10,000 Ugx per kilogram respectively. The Esco Uganda Production Manager said that these crops provide opportunity for farmers diversify their farm enterprises and revenues. Diversification of farm enterprises and revenue sources provide leverage for farmers in face of climate induced failure of traditional crops like cotton

Clean and efficient energy

Clean and efficient energy technologies were exhibited by Barefoot Uganda, Canan Pioneering Innovations and Development Agency (CAPIDA), Upenergy and Kamuda Stoves. This included technologies for cooking and lighting that harness energy from the sun, domestic waste and use regulated wood fuel consumption.

Value addition & food processing

Value addition enables farmers benefit more from their farms, and producing a range of products that fetch an extra shilling. During the climate change week, farmer proved that they are steadily treading this path. A range of final products are being produced from bees, bananas, and sunflower seed.



Edible vegetable oil from sunflower processed by Kyempara Farmers Cooperative



Bee products processed by Bunyangabu Beekeepers Cooperative

Animal feeds production technology

For livestock farmers, the discourse on household food security without the thought of livestock food security makes inadequate meaning. This appreciation led KRC to consider an investment into Bio-refinery to process high protein content livestock feeds, including protein concentrate and whey juice. These products will contribute to quality production of dairy, poultry and piggery products.



The KRC Bio-refinery Plant

Resilient crop varieties

The impact of climate change on crop production cannot be over emphasized; compromised nutritional content of staple foods, reduced outputs by droughts and the like. However, farmers are steadily adapting to high yielding, drought resilient, and shorter harvest period crops to counter the effects of climate change. Byaruganda John from Rwamwanja is one farmer who has emphatically taken this path. He is promoting the growing of a variety of



Livestock feeds processing at KRC bio-refinery



Livestock fodder promoted at Rwebitaba ZARDI

sweet potato genotypes that are Vitamin A fortified. These varieties are excellent boosters of body immunity, vision and health

growth for children. Byarugaba is being supported by Samaritan Purse to promote Naspot 8, 12, 13 and Kabode.

Agriculture financing

Many questions arise as to what extent financial service providers should be concerned with the issue of climate change. Nonetheless, Hofokam and Centenary Bank are among the financial institutions that have come to terms with this reality. These institutions have embraced the green finance agenda and thus designed products for farmers including capitalization loans for mechanization, value addition, irrigation and solar energy. These products were showcased during the private sector dialogue of the climate change week.

The Leaders' Dialogue



The role of leadership in increasing climate change adaptive capacity, 28th July 2016, Mountains of the Moon Hotel, Fort Portal

Welcoming leaders to Kabarole District to the fourth commemoration of the Rwenzori Regional Climate Change Week, Hon. Richard Rwabuhinga began by calling attention to the leaders the significance of the discussions that would feed into concrete resolutions for presentation to the Speaker of Parliament.

Hon. Rwabuhinga started by adducing evidence of climate change impacts in the region, including the rampant floods in Kasese and Bundibugyo, the landslides and receding snow on the Rwenzori, pests and diseases like the latest outbreak of the Eucalyptus bug. Anything that affects rain patterns and the geographical equilibrium must be confronted, the chairperson noted. He decried selective justice used where the law often apprehends the poor. The leaders' dialogue of the fourth climate change week must show the way and go all the way, he said.

Hon. Richard Gafabusa MP Bwamba County applauded KRC, Rwebitaba ZARDI and the Kalarole District Local Government for organizing such a dialogue, put into perspective the role of leaders in enabling the adaptive capacities of communities to impacts of climate change.

With passionate appeal, he said that if leaders can resolve to put their action forward, recalling the institution and role of Environment Protection Police Unit (EPPU), then leaders can resolve to put the wrong right.

Delivering the keynote address entitled "coping to the effects of climate change", Morrison Rwakakamba, a Senior Presidential Assistant and Morrison is also a HIID Merit Scholar & Mason Fellow in Public Policy Management, at Harvard University - Harvard Kennedy School of Government appreciated KRC for

inviting him for the second time to the Rwenzori region to share insights about climate change.

Rwakakamba noted that while technology availed the necessary tools to change the world, instead we have failed at this endeavor, with more confusion, problems and uncertainty.

According to Rwakakamba the problem of global warming causes the fear that if the world temperature increases by more than 2 degrees, the earth would certainly become uninhabitable. Such is predicted to happen by 2050. Whether this is a problem or not, Morrison rhetorically likened it to a response by one American Admiral, when asked what the greatest world problem was? The Admiral replied, "global warming", and not "terrorism" as every would expect him respond. What everybody did not look at was what the Admiral anticipated, "the limitation of sailing his marine fleet through rising sea levels caused by global warming!!

Onesmus Mugenyi the Deputy Executive Director of ACODE and has taught both Commercial and International Business Law at Makerere University Business School and is an Advocate of the high Court of Uganda highlighted the challenges affecting effective implementation of climate change policies. He noted that from what we observe, are all indicators of a situation getting worse, across all the corners of the geographical divide; from the major cattle corridors to mountain ecosystems. From the global to the national level, all policies and legislation instituted do not seem to work. The polluters pay principle failed and the "wrenched" of the earth in the developing world are paying the real price instead.

Mr. Mugenyi noted that the probable causes all point to human actions contributing the greater proportion of greenhouse emissions and in developing countries, agriculture remains the leading emitter. Mr. Mugenyi called upon all stakeholders should push for operationalization of the climate change policy and Demand for cancellation of land title holding in wetlands and forest reserves

Mr. Bernard Tumwebaze of Trias called upon the stakeholders to Promote private sector linkages for coordination of their contribution to find climate change and advocate for out-put based budgeting across all the sectors

This was also re-echoed by Mr. **Alozious Katabazi a lecturer at Uganda Pentecostal University** who called for fixing of the leadership gap on climate change matters.

Mr. Werikhe of National Planning Authority presented a paper entitled, "The Role of Leaders in Championing Sustainable Development and the simultaneous attainment of Middle Income Status and Environment sustainability". He described Sustainable Development as a development path that addresses intergeneration development needs, the very essence and focus of national efforts to counter the effects of climate change.

Mr. Werikhe noted that the government of Uganda through its planning structures has made every effort to set the foundation and the pace for sustainable development, while enlisting a number of frameworks for its achievement; including Uganda Vision 2040 and the Second National Development Plan (NDPII 2015/16-2019/20).

Hon. Ruhunda Alex, the MP for Fort Portal Municipality, and Chairperson of Rwenzori MPS Forum revealed that the Rwenzori regional MPs had committed to work as a team on issues of regional development and the issue of climate change is a unifying factor that they resolved to tackle together. He said that this team was ready to take the resolutions discussion and applauded the leaders' dialogue for making their work easier.

| **Grand Event, BOMA GROUNDS 29TH JULY 2016**

The closing ceremony of the fourth climate change week was graced by Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga. The Speaker was received by the event host, KRC and led to the exhibition tour in admiration and appreciation of the many innovations and technological inventions of many Ugandans who are tirelessly working to counter the effects of climate change.

The Speaker was also cordially received to the fourth climate change week by the company of the Rwenzori Regional Members of Parliament, led by Sylvia Rwabogo (Kabarole WMP), Alex Ruhunda (Fort Portal Municipality), Spelanza Baguma (Kyenjojo WMP), Richard Gafabusa (Bwamba County), Stella Kiiza (Kyegegwa WMP)

and Akugizibwe Lawrence (Mwenge North) and Tumwine Ann (Ntoroko WMP). The MPs presented an artistic portrait of a child is worry of the future ahead amidst intensified effects of climate change (cover photo)

Mr. Julius Mwanga welcomed and congratulated the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda upon her re-appointment to the sit and briefed her and the audience of KRC's humble beginnings in 1996 under the visionary leadership of Hon. Alex Ruhunda, to a formidable institution we have today with outstanding investments into a radio and bio-refinery dedicated to farmers. He also briefed the Speaker on how the climate change week is a sustained campaign since 2011 to date, with the fourth being organized by KRC Rwebitaba ZARDI and the Kabarole District Local Government with the overriding message of "protecting mother earth; my responsibility... your responsibility", a message echoed by Pope Francis encyclical, recalling the world to the values of sustainable development.

In light of the visible impacts of climate change, Mr. Mwanga said that KRC is committed to efforts to enable people adapt. As a run-up to this event, KRC has partnered with Barefoot Uganda to install 15 solar power units for households, donated a mini-irrigation scheme, an efficient woodfuel saving cooking unit for Buhinga Primary School and worked with boda-boda riders in a way to inspire them join the climate change fight. KRC has worked with BD, Trias and the Kabarole District Local Government to deliver on these.

Mr. Mwanga decried the continued loss of people's lives in tribal related conflict situations in the Rwenzori region. He appealed to the Speaker to look into these issues through more conflict sensitive means as opposed to the heavy-handed approach that government is always quick to employ. He finally appealed for deliberate financing to support direct Environ and Natural Resource (ENR) sector activities.

The Mayor, Fort Portal Municipality Kintu Muhanga, welcomed all the people to Fort Portal Municipality. He called the attention the citizens of the Rwenzori region to awareness and action on the issue of climate change, one of the foremost human development challenges of our time and the future generation.

To stress the significance of the climate change campaign, Mayor Kintu Muhanga elicited a number of initiatives that Fort Portal Municipality is undertaking upfront to adapt to a changing climate by cleaning up the town of solid waste, through regulated dumping and then harnessing it into useful manure to boost agriculture production. Emphasis is seriously put on the fight of polythene materials use and discharge.

| **Presentation of leaders' and farmers' petitions**

Hon. Richard Rwabuhinga presented the concerns of the leaders and farmers raised throughout the dialogues of the fourth Rwenzori regional climate change week to the Hon. Speaker of Parliament. (See Appendix 1)

He also brought to the attention of the Speaker, matters concerning the planned closure of Makerere University Campus in Fort Portal and dire need for public financing of Mountains of the Moon University, construction of Buhinga Sports Stadium and finance allocation increase for Local Governments.

| **Handover of solar lights to Karo Karungi Bakyara Tukwatanize Group**

Highlighting the significant contribution of fossil fuel derived energy to global warming and climate change, KRC and her partners sought to otherwise to highlight a shift to the use of renewable energy sources to reduce of carbon emissions.

In this regard, Hon. Gafabusa, the Member of Parliament for Bwamba County was requested to officiate the handover of solar lights to Karo Karungi Bakyara Tukwatanize Group. While handing over the solar lights, he said that in addition to lighting for climate change, the gesture was also to light for peace to a region that has in the past been engulfed in ethnic conflicts, and in recognition of KRC's outstanding contribution in facilitating platforms for peaceful co-existence of all peoples of the Rwenzori.

| Handover of reflector jackets to Boda-Boda riders

Hon. Alex Ruhunda graced the handover of reflector jackets imprinted with messages of climate change to Boda-Boda riders. He inspired them to harness their youthful energy and wisdom as agents to spread the message of climate change.

| Handover of maize sheller to Iruhura maize farmers

A mobile maize sheller manufactured by Munyengera Agro Machinery Ltd handed over by Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga to Iruhura United Farmers Cooperative Society Ltd. The maize sheller was donated by KRC in partnership with BD and Feed the Future to the cooperative for their outstanding and committed struggle to uplift the status of women farmers in Kasenda Sub County.

While presenting the group representatives to the Speaker, KRC's Medius Bihunirwa hinted on the ordeal of rural women maize farmers go through; pounding the maize by way of shelling them. This increases post harvest losses, reduces efficiency, and reduces the time to rest and multi-task, she said. These were touching words that the Hon. Speaker responded to as she handed over the maize sheller keys to women, telling them to go and use the sheller to support themselves and others to increase production efficiency and multi-task.

| Closing speech by Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga

The Speaker applauded KRC for sustaining the climate change week that began in 2011. She was spot-on the issues of Munyengera and his innovations, and promised to support him from the Research Innovation Fund. She promised to handle the concerns of the leaders and farmers presented to her in a petition. She reiterated the matter of the silos as an important food security tool handed down from our traditions. She congratulated WFP for the improvement it has made on the silos.

The Speaker also underscored the role of trees in regulating our environment. She told of how she admired the Ethiopian experience and grand plan

to plant 12 billion trees in a year, and 120 billion in 10 years. This is a good thing to emulate, she said. Earlier the Speaker had inspired student leaders and made a commitment with them for each student to plant 20 trees. She promised to engage Gen. Elly Tumwine, a renowned forester and enthusiast of tree planting campaigns.

The Speaker promised to handle the ban on polythene bags. Speaker said that the implementation of the ban hit a snag when unscrupulous people used the ban in Uganda to smuggle polythene into Uganda.

Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga concluded by addressing the issues of low cost irrigations systems, the closure of Makerere University Campus in Fort Portal and public funding of Mountains of the Moon University which she promised to handle in parliament. She pledged to work with the LC5 Chairperson Kabarole to introduce the carbon credit market program for farmers with expansive lands for forestry.

Appendices

| Rwenzori Region Petition to the Speaker of Parliament at the 4th Rwenzori Region Climate Change Week

FORT PORTAL 29TH JULY 2016

Right Hon Speaker

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the 4th Climate Change Week in the Rwenzori Region builds into a sustained climate change campaign started in 2011 by Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC), working closely with stakeholders in the public, social and private sectors.

AND WHEREAS the 2016 fourth Climate Change Week is organized by KRC in collaboration with Rwebitaba Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (ZARDI), Kabarole District Local Government, Broederlijk Delen and other development partners, Under the theme: "Coping with effects of climate change; Potentials and Opportunities for Adaptation".

IN COGNIZANCE that Uganda has strong institutional and policy framework like National Climate Change Policy 2015 to regulate and enforce the management of natural resources to protect the environment and different planning frameworks like Vision 2040, National Development Plan (NDP), District Development Plans (DDP), Sub county Development Plans (SCDP) which clearly outline the objectives and interventions on natural resource management like conservation of forests and wetlands.

NOWHEREFORE we the hundreds of participants including Members of Parliament, LC5 Chairpersons, RDCs, CAOs, Cultural leaders, Environment Officers, Natural Resource Officers, Religious leaders, CSO leaders, farmers, entrepreneurs, teachers and students from the Districts of Kabarole, Bundibugyo, Kamwenge, Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo, Kasese and Ntoroko gathered here at Boma Grounds to mark the climax of the Climate Change Week, on this 29th Day of July 2016 hereby present to you our petition as hereunder;

Funding and Budget Allocation

1. *That Parliament advocates and increases budget allocation to Agriculture to 10%, Natural resources and Environment sectors by 5% of the national budget which are key to adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change.*
2. *That government provides funds to promote Alternative energy sources at household level to reduce pressure on forests*
3. *That government provides agriculture subsidies on irrigation kits, post harvest equipments, value addition technologies and agriculture mechanization*
4. *That Government establishes a farmers bank to enhance access to agricultural finance at farmer friendly interest rates*
5. *That Government provides specific funding for women farmers to deal with women specific labour and time saving technologies in production, harvesting, post harvest handling and value addition to enhance efficiency.*
6. *That farmers be supported to access high-yielding and drought resistant crop varieties. There is need to increase support to research in high-yielding and drought resistant varieties of crops –and make them more accessible to smallholder farmers to increase their adaptive capacity. NARO has invented many varieties but such varieties cannot be traced at small holder farmer level*

7. *That Government establishes silos/warehouses especially in each District of Rwenzori Region as well as the whole country and buys excess produce during bumper harvests, redistribute it to areas of scarcity in the country to stabilize prices of agricultural products and as well enhance food security for its citizens.*

Legislation, Enforcement and Oversight

8. *That Parliament passes and enforces Laws to support Water for production and irrigation systems for the farmers in water stressed regions especially in some parts of Ntoroko, Kamwenge, Kyegegwa and Kasese. Amidst these sporadic climate changes, our farmers need support to establish community valley dams and water harvesting at Household level for irrigation so as to continue growing crops –even during dry spells.*
9. *That government passes and supports a policy to rejuvenate granaries at household level to cater for changing seasons, since farmers cannot keep/preserve food produced during bumper harvests, so as to have enough food to eat during seasons of meager harvest due to weather changes*
10. *That parliament enforces the laws on Conservation of Natural Resources like wetlands and forest reserves, since it has been observed that wetlands and forestry resources continue to be depleted in spite of the existence of NEMA, NFA, Forestry and environment offices in Districts. Communities should be supported to establish community tree nurseries and plant trees by availing the necessary right tree seedlings for environment conservation. This is in line with the carbon trading that is enshrined in the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Declaration which compel first world countries-which ostensibly contribute the greatest percentage of greenhouse emissions (from their hundreds of industries) to provide financial support to communities who preserve existing forests –and also grow more trees.*
11. *That parliament enforces the laws banning the manufacture of polythene*
12. *That parliament quickly enforces laws on counterfeit seeds and other agricultural inputs.*

Information and Extension

13. *That government translates and disseminates information on National Climate Change Policy 2015 and other relevant laws and policies*
14. *That government provides critical information on effective and cautionary usage of agriculture chemicals*
15. *That government includes extension and advisory services in the implementation of Operation Wealth Creation*

Madam Speaker, the above prayers face constraints and we call for your intervention in advocating for budget allocation, policy formulation, implementation and enforcement.

Right Hon. Speaker, its our humble prayer that our petition is accorded your utmost attention and consideration

We your humble petitioners (attached signatories)

Presented by Hon. Richard Rwabuhinga, LC5 Chairperson-Kabarole District

