



BUNGOKHO RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE **SHORT REPORT August 2023**



VISION

Empowered Communities with knowledge, right attitude and skills for better utilization of available resources in a sustainable manner with love for God and their neighbours, while respecting the environment .

MISSION

To improve the lives of the most vulnerable members of our Community by unleashing their God given potential in a holistic manner through skills development .

A summary of activities in the last three months

TRADE SCHOOL

The enrolment at the centre is slightly below our normal capacity, however, we were boosted by skills training in the community supported by a partner (PACE) .

This program was targeting vulnerable young mothers or girls who are either infected or affected by HIV AIDS. In total 200 girls were identified from four communities and are being trained from within there. The courses include tailoring, hair dressing, catering and computer skills. All of them are taught life skills and general counselling .

They come along with their babies, the project provides training \training materials for the mother, a care taker for the baby, breakfast and lunch. Babies are also given a balanced diet .

What is a really interesting aspect of this training is that all the trainers are our former students who are actually doing a wonderful job . The training takes three months and at the end they will sit for a trade test, we are confident that they will excel .

This program gives these girls a second chance and a hope that they can stand again and move .

Medical care is also provided for the girls and the babies, in total we have 78 babies to care for in addition to the 200 mothers .



These girls either have babies or are expecting, the photo was taken at one of the training points during an assembly .

In general we are in the last month of the term at the Centre and we are preparing for the exams for both the formal program and the skills training .

COMMUNITY BASED TRAINING

We extended our community programs into a new district and are currently preparing to start in January 2024. The program is still being run by one staff member until finally approved .

So far three cluster levels have been formed out of the required four. Close to 30 self help groups have been formed and are actively participating in activities such as savings and borrowing while meeting once every week .

TREE PLANTING

We raise and distribute more than a million trees annually through our eight nursery sites.

- i. Below is women's tree nursery bed, the women raise and distribute to the community around Bukiendo sub county. The women encourage every home to plant at least a variety of trees including fruit trees, shade trees, fodders trees etc,



- ii. Tree seedling distribution
Both the young and old line up to receive free tree seedlings at the beginning of the first rains in April.



- iii. A hand-dug well being constructed in Namili nursery to provide a permanent source of water, especially in the dry season.



FUEL CONSUMPTION

A high level of deforestation in Uganda is attributed to fire wood consumption, most homes still use the three stones concept.

BRDC constructs over 200 energy saving stoves in the communities annually. These are made from local materials, mainly soil and cow dung. They reduce the fuel consumption greatly to less than a third.



SOIL CONSERVATION

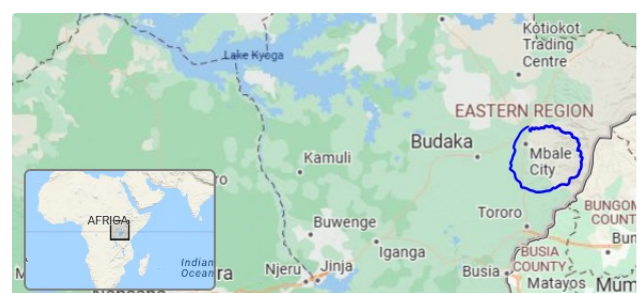
We have had very heavy rain down pours leading to land slides in the mountainous areas and flash floods in the planes. Most of the river banks have been eroded.

BRDC is currently raising bamboo shoots in its two tree nursery beds, the farmers will be encouraged to plant in the riparian areas . Bamboo roots have been found to have a root system that can hold the soil firm midst the flowering water on the banks .



Bungokho Rural Development Centre (BRDC) was opened in 1995 to serve the community in Bungokho and the immediate area. BRDC is operated by the Church Army Africa and it has a Christian ethos which directs its operations. It is located on the outskirts of Mbale a city in eastern Uganda, near the slopes of Mt. Elgon .

Business units: **1) Children's education:** BRDC run a private school, which is made up of a nursery classes 1-3, educating children from Bugema and neighbouring villages. **2) Vocational Training:** BRDC provides vocational training to youths from rural communities; running a range of courses from carpentry to hair dressing. **3) Tree Planting:** BRDC has a central tree nursery bed at their main site just outside of Mbale, with a total of 13 community based nurseries and a team of staff that manage and run the tree planting project. **4) Community training:** BRDC provide community based training, each training programme is specific to the needs of each community, i.e. business and marketing skills, leadership skills and vocational training .



Web Address

bungokhordc.com