



# LUGAZI RURAL FINANCE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

## BACK TO OFFICE REPORT

### FOR THE FIELD SUPPORT VISIT ON 10<sup>TH</sup> FEB. 2024 WITH THE

## GERMANY DELEGATION

### *PROJECT NAME*

**Improving the Use of Traditional Medicinal Plants in Uganda**

### *IN PARTNERSHIP WITH*



UNIVERSITÄT  
LEIPZIG



MBARARA UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SUCCEED WE MUST

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## INTRODUCTION

In line with the project objectives, it is one of the requirements for project partners to visit and assess progress of field activities. This field assessment aims at moving in line with the project goals and at the same time ensuring that project funds are ultimately put to good use.

Project beneficiaries are selected and sensitized before the project commences and the organization ensures that only rightful/targeted members/household are dealt with. Activities are at group and household levels, but the organization makes sure that all these activities do benefit the entire community where the host lives.

For this project i.e. **“Improving the use of Traditional Medicinal Plants in Uganda”**, activities are done at group, household and organization levels as below;

S/NO	ACTIVITIES	IMPLEMENTATION LEVEL
1.	Preservation and development of suitable planting material in the existing shade net in Namagunga.	Organization
2.	Survey (developing questionnaire to carry out market surveys and establish market for medicinal plants).	Organization
3.	Support to the establishment of a pilot value chain based on traditional medicinal plants and the development of a financing and marketing concept (business plan) for the exemplary utilization and sustainable commercial use of medicinal plants.	Organization
4.	Support to the consulting and training of further local partners in the cultivation and use/processing of traditional medicinal plants	Organization
5.	Domestication and care for medicinal Plants	Group/Household
6.	Identification of more medicinal plants for wound healing	Group/Household
7.	Giving more traditional knowledge about medicinal plants	Group/Household
8.	Documentation of Traditional knowledge on medicinal plants	Organization

All these activities at each level are monitored and evaluated to ensure that each implementation level does perfectly plays its roles because all implementation levels interlink for purposeful project outcomes.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

This project aims at addressing the following community gap;

**“Improving the income situation of women in selected rural regions of Uganda through sustainable commercial use of traditional medicinal plants”.**

Currently **Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust** through its community outreach program, identified the Ugandan rural areas of;

VILLAGE	PARISH	SUB-COUNTY	DISTRICT
Namagunga	Namataba	Nagojje	Mukono
Namulugwe	Bulika	Nama	Mukono
Kateete	Kabembe	Kyampisi	Mukono
Nabiyagi	Bulijjo	Kyampisi	Mukono
Kisimba	Kisimba	Najja	Buikwe

In all the five selected rural areas, **Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust** has distributed medicinal plants seeds and seedlings for domestication at household and group level. To further the project



objective, these domesticated medicinal gardens are regularly visited for quality and quantity support in preparation for value addition and for an economic factor.

## ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

In Namagunga, **Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust** has established a shade net from where seedlings are germinated and distributed to all project selected beneficiaries.



**ROSEMARY SEEDLIGS PREPARATION BY PUPILS FOR GERMINATION AT NAMAGUNGA SHADE NET**



**PLANTING OF ROSEMARY SEEDLIGS BY PUPILS FOR GERMINATION AT NAMAGUNGA SHADE NET**





**LOCALLY MADE PROPAGATORS TO SIMPLIFY GERMINATION IN THE SHADE NET AT NAMAGUNGA**

**Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust** together with her partners from Germany, visited project activities at office and field levels. During the visit, since many of the visitors were visiting the organization for the first time, it was of great importance to trace **Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust** activities to ascertain the sustainability component. The Germany delegation/visitors visited;

1. The Green House
2. The Solar Drier
3. The Shade Net



**TOURING THE GREEN HOUSE AT NAMAGUNGA**





**TOURING THE SOLAR DRIER AT NAMAGUNGA**



**IN THE SHADE NET AT NAMAGUNGA**



## THE FIELD TOUR

In the field, activities at group and household levels were visited. At group level, the group members were readily available and they gave details of what they are doing. This was at **Namulugwe** and among group activities highlighted included

- Medicinal plants growing
- Micro savings and credit
- Sustainable Agricultural Activities



**THE GROUP CHAIRPERSON AT NAMULUGWE  
GIVING OPENING REMARKS**



**CHRISTOPH GREETING MEMBERS**



**LRFD T CHAIRPERSON GREETING GROUP MEMBERS AT NAMULUGWE**

At Namulugwe, there is also a group medicinal garden from which group members get seedlings and seeds for domestication at household level. This garden has different types of medicinal plants;

- ❖ Rosemary
- ❖ Oregano
- ❖ Basil
- ❖ Osulundia oposiata



- ❖ Justicia betonica
- ❖ Papper Mint



**MEMBERS WITH VISITORS IN THE MEDICINAL GARDEN**



**NAMULUGWE GROUP MEMBERS WITH GERT**



**NAMULUGWE MEDICINAL GARDEN**

In the same group, micro savings and credit activities are carried out with a Technical Arm from **Lugazi Rural Finance development Trust.**



**MICRO SAVINGS AND CREDIT ACTIVITIES AT NAMULUGWE GROUP**



From Namulugwe, we proceeded to Nabyagi where **Kabiine Yusuf and Nkuba Andrew** were visited with their medicinal garden.



**DR. GERTH ANDRE WITH CHRISTOPH SCHMITT AT NABYAGI MEDICINAL PLANT GARDEN IN THE BANANA PLANTATION**

In this garden, the following medicinal plants are domesticated;

- ❖ Oregano
- ❖ Basil
- ❖ Hoslundia opposiata
- ❖ Justicia Betonica
- ❖ Papper Mint

## MEMBERS' VIEWS

The two categories of members visited gave their views about medicinal plants;

1. All these species are getting extinct and domestication would save such species,
2. Members know the importance of medicinal plants
3. Members are not yet at the level of value addition on medicinal plants, they are using in their raw form
4. Members need more seedlings of different medicinal plants which they do not have in these gardens.



## PROJECT AND ORGANIZATION REMARKS

On the side of the project and organization,

- We are now focusing on multiplication of seedlings for distribution to different project target for domestication
- A questionnaire is underway to interview community people for different medicinal plants for wound healing.
- We are developing a business plan for medicinal plants to be in position to be in line with the project objective.
- The value addition stage is also in the pipeline because it facilitates the project objective of sustainable commercial use of traditional medicinal plants.

## END OF FIELD THE TOUR

As organized and planned, all the places were visited and the Germany team appreciated the group members for their participation in all project activities. They also went ahead and thanked members for sacrificing their time and waited for them.

Through **Lugazi Rural Finance Development Trust**, they promised to keep in touch and search for more partnerships for a positive change in their lives.

The organization **Lugazi Rural Finance Development Trust** was given some text books for reading about Germany and we also promised to work hard and have project objective realized.



MS. GRACE NALWANGA OF LRFDT RECEIVING SOME TEXT BOOKS FROM CHRISTOPH SCHMITT WHILE DR. GERTH ANDRE LOOKS ON

## APPRECIATION

We take this opportunity to thank the following partners for all their efforts toward this project.

1. Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)
2. Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT)
3. Geninsa
4. GIZ
5. Freistaat Sachsen
6. University of Leipzig

Together we are building a synergy to have the project objective realized. All project beneficiaries who have made sure that medicinal plant gardens are looked after so well.

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**GRACE NALWANGA**  
**SECRETARY**

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**OLIVIA HARRIET MAKUMBI**  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**THE END**