

Project Factsheet

EcoProsperity - Climate Resilient Livelihoods through Regenerative Agriculture Technologies for Women and Youth



CONTEXT

Youth aged 15–34 years make up 34% of Uganda’s population, playing a crucial role in economic planning. However, young mothers face significant challenges, with 25% of women aged 15–19 giving birth or becoming pregnant by age 18. School closures during COVID-19 led to a 366% increase in pregnancies among girls aged 10–14 years. Early motherhood often leads to stigma, rejection, domestic violence, and school dropouts, jeopardizing future education and employment opportunities.

Poverty further hinders youth and young mothers, limiting participation in income-generating sectors like agriculture, services, and manufacturing. While the service sector contributes over 50% to GDP, its employment share stagnates at 25%, leaving 41% of youth (9.3 million aged 18–30) unengaged in productive work.

Agriculture employs 55% of youth, with horticulture popular for its short maturity period and high returns. Yet, access to inputs, technical support, and climate shocks such as droughts and floods significantly affect productivity. Tackling these issues is vital to empower youth, enhance livelihoods, and drive Uganda’s sustainable development.

SDG RELEVANCE



PROJECT PARTNERS

- Private Sector:** Agricultural climate resilient technology providers, agro-input companies, market providers (e.g., export companies, farmer organizations, business development service providers, etc.) offer access and skilling to the target group.
- Public Sector:** Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, District Local Governments, Uganda Meteorological Authority, and other public entities provide climate-specific information and services.
- Associations:** National apex associations such as the Grain Council, Uganda Cooperative Alliance, and umbrella organizations support the identified small and medium-sized enterprises.

ECOPROSPERITY - CLIMATE RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS THROUGH REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGIES FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH

Project Timeline: Phase 1: May 2024 – December 2028

Implemented by: Swisscontact Uganda

Location: 10 districts (Mayuge, Kamuli, Luuka, Buyende, and Namutumba in Eastern Uganda and Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kagadi, Buhweju, and Mitooma in Western Uganda).

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Key Constraints:

- Lack of access to skills in climate-related innovations, technologies, and practices to trigger entrepreneurial capacities.
- Limited access to climate-specific technologies, practices, and innovations.
- Lack of willing business companies to spur climate resilience among the population in these two regions.

OUR APPROACH

The project will be implemented using the Inclusive Systems Development (ISD) Approach. The approach focuses on a holistic understanding of the root causes of systemic market constraints.

It builds the capacity of businesses to offer climate-smart solutions in a commercially viable manner, build a new market segment, and work with regulators and public service providers to create a more supporting environment for businesses to grow in a sustainable manner.

SUMMARY

The project aims to create employment opportunities, increase incomes, and ensure food security for young mothers, young women and men (18-35 years) in the agriculture sector. This involves providing access to climate-resilient technologies and inputs, market information, skills and practices, and finance.

By improving their knowledge and skills, the target group can make their agricultural production more demand and market-oriented and gain sustainable access to food through improved production and productivity. At the same time, the project supports the private sector in developing and implementing new business models that target young people and women with climate-smart products and solutions. This leads to an increase in income and profitability on both sides.

DESIRED IMPACT



Skilling & Access

12,000

young mothers, young women, and men (**70% women**) access climate-resilient technologies, inputs, market information, skills, and practices. **2,000** off-farm eco-friendly businesses established.



Food Security

10,000

young mothers, young women, and men (**70% women**) gain access to diversified food security.



Job Creation

1,200

full-time and part-time jobs are created in the targeted locations.



Income Increase

80%

of the young mothers, young women, and men mentioned above (**70% women**) are empowered and increase their climate resilience and production, resulting in an average annual net income increase of **CHF 500** per person.

