



# THE TREE

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TIST Uganda

APRIL 2016 Newsletter

"The Tree" Ndurupura r'wamakuru orurikuhandiikwa aha TIST Uganda, etagi rya the International Small Group and Tree planting program.

#### OKUKORA KWAITU

TIST n'ekigombe ekyehaireyo kwimutsya omubindo gwabahingi aba'hanzi linkufungyeramu amaani gokurwanisa okucwekyereziwa kw'ebibara, okwejuna obwona nekyenda kitan kyaburjo.

#### EBIGYENDERERWA BYAITU

Omukunyanyisa ontunguka yentuzura nokurundana onwoya orurungi orurukuruga omumiti. TIST nehwera abahingi abarikuranga 25,000/ ebyokwerinda Simu, endiisa enungi yabomumaka nokucendeza yonku namakara.

#### PREFACE

- TIST Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report
- Vaccinations will improve the health of our children
- Tist payment in Kanungu District

#### EBIRI OMUNDA.

- Repoota ya TIST y'omwaka.
- Okusirika endwara nikihwera ahamagara g'abaana baitu.
- Enshashura ya TIST omuri Kanungu.

## EIHURIRE RW'OKWAKANA 2016.

### EDITORS MESSAGE.

I urge all TIST farmers to plant more trees in this rainy season and more especially indigenous and fruit trees and to keep your groves clean.

Thank you,

**Jennifer.**

### Obutumwa bwa edita.

Abahingi bemiti mwena aba TIST nimbashaba kumubyara emiti yenzarwa hamwe ne y'ebijuma.  
Namunonga omubwire obu obwenjura.  
Mwebare munonga.

**Jennifer.**



**TIST Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report  
October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015**

To: TIST Participants in India, Kenya,  
Tanzania and Uganda  
From: Country Coordinators, Leadership  
Council Members and USA Team  
Date: March, 2016

*This is the first of 3 monthly newsletter articles to inform TIST participants of the operational and financial progress of TIST. This article covers the background and general information on operations, marketing, and finance. Later articles will have audited financial reports and detailed discussions of the past results and the future prospects as TIST expands.*

**Overview:**

TIST has just completed a very good year. 2015 was a year of continued growth in TIST participants, in trees, in benefits to the TIST farmers, and especially in the increase in the tonnes of CO2 the trees are sequestering. We were able to prepare the Verifications of over 200,000 tonnes certified to the VCS and CCBA standards, although it will not be complete until 1st Quarter of 2016. It was a year when we had two respected British firms decide to invest in TIST Clusters to improve farmer livelihoods and to reduce their carbon footprint.

2015 was a year when the nations of the world recognized Climate Change as a serious problem, and all the nations where TIST presently operates made pledges of taking actions and reducing their emissions at the Paris negotiations. This should be very good news for TIST as the governments begin to look for ways that have been proven to work for the farmers, for their farms, and for the global environment.

It was also a year where Pope Francis spoke out to the whole world, not just Catholics, about the serious issues of poverty and climate change. He issued an Encyclical named "Laudato Si" that has been used and discussed worldwide. Since TIST deals directly with both the climate, and with local livelihoods, it is an excellent example of

people working to reverse the damage done by prior generations.

Here are two tables that show TIST worldwide results during the past fiscal year. Please note that the "Total CO2" is the amount the trees have sequestered, not the number of credits created (see under "Marketing" for that information).

**TIST Results October 1, 2014**

Country	Trees	Participants	Total CO2	Ha
India	1,180,165	4,376	35,604	1,179
Kenya	7,080,810	57,027	777,846	22,488
Tanzania	147,387	1,382	27,857	221
Uganda	4,623,610	7,087	1,114,231	3,571
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,031,766</b>	<b>69,872</b>	<b>1,955,538</b>	<b>27,459</b>

**TIST Results October 1, 2015**

Country	Trees	Participants	Total CO2	Ha
India	1,839,960	5,754	45,764	2,067
Kenya	7,522,973	59,256	933,101	24,530
Tanzania	147,266	1,382	28,099	223
Uganda	5,594,716	7,579	1,590,404	4,433
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,104,915</b>	<b>73,971</b>	<b>2,597,368</b>	<b>31,253</b>

**TIST Operations:**

TIST Operations is made up of all the activities necessary to successfully improve the lives of the TIST farmers. It includes providing educational opportunities to the farmers, especially at Cluster meetings or village meetings; writing, producing and distributing the newsletters; collecting information and "best practices" from meetings of TIST farmers or individual farms; organizing for payments to the TIST participants; organizing and implementing the expansion of TIST to new areas both nearby and at a distance; organizing and holding TIST Seminars; hosting visitors to TIST; keeping appropriate County, District, and National officials informed of TIST activities and results; Quantifying and reporting the results of the TIST participants; keeping the equipment



working; maintaining and improving the TIST database and websites; and maintaining all of the information and procedures necessary to keep all of the above activities going well.

**As you can see - TIST Operations is a very big job!**

TIST Operations has done well in 2015. Costs have remained low, and results have continued to be good. Quantifying and training has gone on in each of the 4 countries. Improvements have been identified and worked on in each of the countries. More of the data from meetings and from Quantification has been sent by mobile data and the improved mobile networks and data speeds have helped TIST servants get their work done more easily. Newsletters are being created and distributed in almost every country. Expansion is happening in most of the countries. In later reports, more detailed information will be provided for each country.

#### **TIST Marketing:**

Marketing includes all the activities necessary to measure the tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> that the trees have sequestered, and turn those results into saleable Carbon Credits. Marketing makes sure that TIST tonnes meet the highest standards of accuracy of measurement; that the many additional benefits that the TIST farmers gain for themselves from using TIST best practices are measured carefully; that the very many rules of the Methodology are carefully followed and documented; and then putting all of that information into very detailed documents called "Project Documents" so that it can be reviewed and approved by the 3rd party Validators and Verifiers. Once that is done, Marketing organizes for the Verified tonnes to be listed in an approved registry, ready for sale.

Marketing also develops relationships with potential buyers, explains TIST's exceptional quality and results, organizes visits to TIST project sites, develops offers and contracts, and gets the tonnes sold. Even after the sale, the marketing effort continues as additional information about TIST is provided to the customer, and marketing information is developed for them and others.

2015 was a mixed year for TIST Marketing. The trees had sequestered over 600,00 tonnes, yet during the fiscal year only 84,000 Uganda tonnes were able to be put through the Validation and

Verification process. Lots of work was done preparing for a Kenya Verification, but it was delayed until after September 30th. 210,000 tonnes has now been verified for Kenya in the last few months, and more are expected this year. Part of what caused the slow Verification results was discovery that there were a substantial number of Small Groups in Uganda and Kenya that had errors in their Quantification. Some had 'overlaps' where the grove track was not accurate, some had not been quantified in the past 5 years as required by the Methodology, and some did not have all of the required questions answered.

During the year, because we started with an inventory of Uganda, India and Kenya tonnes, we had enough premium quality TIST tonnes to increase our sales by over 25% from the year before. In the past we have marketed most of the TIST tonnes through a 'retailer' named The Carbon Neutral Company. However, neither we, nor they were able to sell all of the tonnes we had in inventory. Although we kept the price of the TIST tonnes reasonably high, we did not sell as many tonnes as we wanted to.

During 2015 TIST India was able to gain additional customers who paid to have trees planted, some of them wanted the carbon credits, some just wanted to plant the trees. We were also able to complete two long-term contracts where the British companies involved invested with Clean Air Action to start expansion Clusters in East Africa that would provide them with enough tonnes to be carbon neutral within 10 years. These approaches are a new way to keep TIST growing at the same time that the companies can know that their funds are making an important investment in the environment and in TIST farmers' lives.

#### **TIST Finances**

Clean Air Action Corporation (CAAC) operates TIST through branches in Kenya and Uganda, and through subsidiaries in India and Tanzania. All of the costs of the 4 programs are paid for by CAAC, and the sale of the carbon credits is the source of CAAC's income. There are 6 people who work for the TIST program globally.

TIST continues to produce excellent quality carbon credits, to improve the local environment, and to successfully encourage TIST participants



to improve their livelihoods. We have now been operating the program exclusively on the carbon income for over 2 years. However, as discussed above in the Marketing section, the inability to sell all of the tonnes being produced at a good price has meant that TIST is still not as profitable as it could be.

### **VACCINATIONS WILL IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OUR CHILDREN.**

**By Dr Barnabas R. Atwiine**

Vaccination, which is the administration of antigenic substance to stimulate an individual's immune response to develop immunity to a pathogen, is one of the most cost effective health interventions through which a number of serious childhood diseases have been successfully prevented or eradicated. Vaccination has the potential of protecting children from early and unnecessary deaths if its schedule is adhered to. The current Ugandan infant vaccination schedule begins at birth, then 6, 10 and 14 weeks of age and ends at 9 months. Furthermore, children are given additional doses of vaccines at different times to further provide more protection against specific diseases.

Infants are immunized against germs that cause common childhood illnesses like, tuberculosis, measles, pneumonia, diarrhea, tetanus, polio and others. When infants are protected from such illnesses, they grow up into healthy children and adolescents.

In spite of such good news, many Ugandan children still miss out on vaccinations. For example, only 52% of Ugandan children complete their infant vaccination schedule and only 55% children received measles vaccine in 2013 and as a result, the country suffered a number of measles outbreaks in 2014.

A study that was done in Kyabugimbi sub-county in Bushenyi district revealed that only 63% of children between ages 12 to 23 months had completed their vaccination schedules. The commonest reason for not completing their vaccination schedules included unreliable vaccination programs. Children who are born outside a health facility were also unlikely to have received their initial vaccines.

When children do not fall sick oftenly from common childhood illnesses, the money that would be used on their treatment is otherwise saved and spent on other needs like education, food and clothing. This further protects children from avoidable deaths. This results in socio-economic development for our families and communities.

Therefore, I wish to urge all TIST farmers to take all their infants to receive vaccines to protect their children from these common illnesses. These vaccines are offered free-of-charge at the health facilities or vaccination outreaches near our homes so that our children can live healthy lives.

### **TIST PAYMENT IN KANUNGU DISTRICT. Evalyne from Tukwatanise TPG, Kanungu District.**

I am Evalyne a TIST farmers planting trees in Tukwatanise TPG. Am a youth who love trees and I have about 120,000 trees planted on my land. When I joined TIST, I had fears that it was not possible for them to always pay my tree incentive.

I really want to thank the TIST leadership for helping me join TIST, having my trees counted and paying me big amounts of money. I have been paid three times and am so happy.

I will use the money to pay school fees for my siblings, buy another large piece of land where I can plant trees to increase on the number I have so far. I would want to plant indigenous and fruit trees.

TIST has taught me how to plant trees on the right measurements, make nursery beds, the right time to prune and thin my trees. TIST has taught me the importance of trees on conserving the environment for the good of our wellbeing in our homes.

I have learnt a lot from attending TIST payment and training meetings which I usually attend. I therefore urge fellow farmers especially the youth to completely engage themselves in planting trees and joining TIST and you will achieve more. To my fellow farmers always attend these meeting and you will get to know more about your trees and all the TIST activities.

Long live TIST.