



TIST

The International Small Group
& Tree Planting Program

ACTION

CORPORATION

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Uganda, a project area of The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program.

Mission statement:

TIST Uganda is a community initiative dedicated to empowering small groups of subsistence farmers to combat the devastating effects of deforestation, poverty and drought.

Objective statement:

Combining sustainable development with carbon sequestration,

TIST supports the reforestation efforts of over 25,000 subsistence farmers. Sales of carbon credits generate participant income while TIST today also addresses agriculture, HIV/AIDS, nutrition and fuel wood challenges.

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TIST EXPANDS TO KYENJOJO

DISTRICT

Kyenjojo means Elephant in most Ugandan local languages. Historically this area was known for the high population of elephants before the gazetting of Queen Elizabeth National Park before 1900. Kyenjojo farmers have sparse and fertile land they have promised to plant timber and fruit trees these are oranges, mangoes, avocados, macademia nuts, pawpaws, and for the trees we have mahogany, musizi, and grevillea. Farmers have got a few nursery beds established as individuals and also group nursery beds. The expansion to this area was farmer demand driven where farmers approached TIST through the office.

After being trained on what TIST is about and what it does.

The farmers applied through the website and TIST office followed up on the request.

The first TIST team that went had enough sensitization and training. After sensitization farmers were able to establish tree nursery beds. We are yet to have a seminar in February 2017 to start officially TIST in Kyenjojo. The lead farmers were Andrew and Edward who did the extension work of mobilizing farmers in groups and clusters.



TIST Uganda Expansion Team with farmers in Kyenjojo after training workshop that lasted for 3 days in Kyenjojo

THE BEAUTY OF GOD

AND HIS CREATION

God created the earth, all the creatures and plants in their natural Set up. Man has disturbed nature by trying to cause destruction.

This is the right time to work hard to have what to eat and drink otherwise we are starving.

I say this to TIST members in their small groups to plant trees to enable those coming in future to reap the right harvest. Shall we get benefits without caring for our groves and develop sense of ownership?

As a quantifier, find many people don't care for their groves and do not know that the trees belong to them.

Pierce a small hole at the bottom of the bottle.

Fill it with water and tie the bottle on a stick near the grown seedling. Allow the water to drop, drip by drip.(drip irrigation).

Make sure the tree is mulched to prevent loss of water by evaporation. There is need to fill the bottle possibly every morning, depending on the size of the bottle and the rate of evaporation. Whenever you drink water don't throw away the water bottle. Keep it.

It can save one live tree which can earn you a live tree in future.

By Jennifer Turyatamba



Some of the bottle irrigation system used by farmers in TIST

HOW CAN I PREVENT GLOBAL WARMING?

Plant and care for trees! Carbon dioxide is one of the gases that cause global warming. Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air during photosynthesis and store it in the wood, roots and soil as cellulose carbon. However, when trees are cut and burned, they release the carbon they had stored back to the air.

**Did you know each
Tree could create a
microclimate?**

Trees and their cover cool the surface of the earth. Feel the comfort of the shade of a tree. Notice that the soil below is moister than where the sun bakes it with no shade. When the ground stays cooler, the ground holds more moisture longer.

This means that trees on your land will help improve the amount of water in your soil, and help retain it for a longer time. This will help your crops and also even help the water users in your area.

By Bachwa Hakim



**Uganda Quantifiers with an auditor
being audited in Kanungu District
during field work**

**CONDITIONS TO
CONSIDER
WHEN ESTABLISHING A
NUSERY BED**

1. **Shading:** Construct a shade to protect the seedlings from direct sunlight for two to three weeks after pricking out. Use locally available materials such as grass, mats, or banana fibers for shade construction.

Watering: The regular supply of clean water is essential to plant growth. Plants are made out of more than 90% water. When grown in containers, nursery plants have only a limited volume of substrate and do not have the ability of mature trees to search for water from below the soil surface. Therefore regular supply of water for seedlings is required.

Amount of sunlight. If the area is sunny, more water is needed and vice versa. However, do not keep the area shady for too long to reduce water use. Seedlings need minimal light to be able to grow well and be strong.

Soil type. The nature of soil where to establish a nursery bed is also important for example sandy soil loses water faster than soils with high clay content hence need more frequent watering. However clay content should not be much as they may cause much water retention and hence rotting of the seedlings. A watering can or a hosepipe with a nozzle should be used to ensure uniform distribution water and one should water the whole bed and not just the plants in the centre of the bed.

Low water pressure is good but one should ensure that water gets to the bottom of the container to avoid a dry and hard bottom, which will affect the growth of the roots as they get to the bottom of the container.

Water should be clean to ensure seedling health so water from such sources as kitchen waste should not be used. Too much water can damage the plants just as much as not enough water because of water logging which makes the roots not breathe. Use a watering can or an empty tin with holes at the bottom.

Potting: Potting should be done at the site to avoid pots breaking and losing soil already packed in the pots. Potting mixture (soil, sand and compost/manure) should be moistened and then pressed into containers to a depth of about three-quarters of the height of pots. Pots should then be topped up more loosely with mixture and pressed down lightly to about 2 cm below the top. Heavy compaction should be avoided at the top of pots because it will prevent root penetration. Before planting seed, containers or pots should be watered lightly.

