

# The Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration Network - Uganda.



ANNUAL REPORT  
FINANCIAL YEAR

2021



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# 2021

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FMNR Network

c/o Tree Talk Plus.

Plot. 842 Lugolobi Close, Sempagala Zone-Buye, Ntinda,

P.O Box 31833, Clock Tower - Kampala

Email: [info@treetalkplus.org](mailto:info@treetalkplus.org),

Direct line: +256 392 177 128,

Website: [treetalkplus.org](http://treetalkplus.org), [fmnrnetworkuganda.org](http://fmnrnetworkuganda.org)

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**Cover Photo:** *Aerial photo of tree-less farmer plots identified for regeneration in Rubanda district*



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# List of Acronyms

BDFA	Bugiri District Farmers Association
CAN	Climate Action Network
CSCO	Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DFA	District Farmers Associations
DLG	District Local Government
ECO	Ecological Christian Organization
FBEs	Forest Based Enterprises
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
GODFA	Gomba District Farmers Association
ICRAF	International Council for Research in Agroforestry
IGA	Income Generating Activities
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MPIFA	Mpigi Farmers Association
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NGOs	Non - Government Organizations
SC	Steering Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEDFA	Ssembabule District Farmers Association
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TTP	Tree Talk Plus



# Greetings from the Chairperson



**Mr. Gerald Kato**  
**Chairman**

Dear esteemed readers, it is a pleasure that we present to you this annual report, which is a demonstration of the boldness of the small steps we are putting together in spreading the FMNR model. Ebenezer, this far, we have come.

When Vi-Agroforestry ventured in getting us resources to spread the Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration model, little did we know we were to excel to this level in year one of implementing the project. Indeed, the financial resources we got required being innovative to come up with tangible results.

Because of the involvement of people like you, in adopting and embracing the FMNR model, the FMNR Network has played a pivotal role in helping Ugandans transform the forest sector over the past one year. The impact may seem to be low at the moment, but will grow going forward.

Since our founding of the FMNR network, we have grown to be the largest (covering the entire country) network and most established environmental organization network, providing educative programs, meaningful information, programs and other resources to make it easier for FMNR promoters, well wishers, and the communities to flourish.

The past year has been a tough one for FMNR communities all over the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are taking up this issue and discussing how best we can recover. More than 20 million people have been exposed to this virus and the unfortunate ones have died. As part of the recovery programs, we are committed to taking baby steps in overcoming this problem by providing various topics related to the COVID-19 to discuss.

We would like to pledge continuous engagement going forward, explore new opportunities and resources mobilization which includes resource mapping, landscape identification, mapping donors and obtaining resources to implement the FMNR model. We also would like to venture into gender equality in FMNR, forest foods enhancement in FMNR sites, and social movementisation to popularise the FMNR model in the country.

Alluta continau

**Gerald Kato, Chairman**

# Executive Summary

**T**ree Talk Plus, with support from Vi Agroforestry is implementing a two-year project (2021-2022) titled - 'Strengthening the FMNR Network to increase adoption of the FMNR Model in Uganda.'

The project aims to strengthen the FMNR Network, project a positive public image of the FMNR model and enhance adoption of the FMNR approaches in Uganda. The Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration Model is a low cost and sustainable means of protecting and multiplying indigenous trees within forested landscapes through systematically regenerating stumps, seeds, and roots. It has been identified as one of the strategic options to address the causes and drivers of deforestation, and the challenges hindering restoration efforts through traditional tree growing approaches such as low survival rates for indigenous tree species as a result of drought, stray animals, poor quality seedlings, low technical awareness by farmers and the cost involved in purchasing and managing planted seedlings. It has also been embraced by the Government of Uganda as a low-cost approach to re-greening landscapes, increasing tree cover and creating resilient livelihoods among farmers.

We strive to achieve the objectives of the network. A position of a Network Coordinator was created within Tree Talk Plus to ensure smooth running of network activities. During the year, the following activities were carried out:

- Three (3) Steering Committee Meetings guided the implementation of the Network activities,
- One (1) Training Needs Assessments informed the Secretariat on the training needs of the members.
- Training was conducted for 59 members across the board.
- Physical training sessions involved 59 (29 from Arua, 14 Sembabule, and 20 in Bugiri members.
- Established 3 demonstration sites in Bugiri, Sembabule and Terego sites.
- Income Generating Activities, in the form of apiary were established in the sites.
- Publications to increase the visibility of the network included 3 newsletter, 1 advocacy brief and 1 Annual Report.

- One (1) website to increase visibility of the project and social media platforms on twitter, Face-book were also created.
- An Annual General Meeting of the FMNR network was held bring together 50 members.
- Over 55 members were involved in the exchange visits (44 men and 11 women).
- Acreage under FMNR now stands at 60 acres.
- The budget now stands at a burn rate of 60.7% (meaning UGX 171,321,600 was used in year one out of the total which is UGX 282,199,000). Whereas this will be sufficient to complete the planned activities, there are new areas that the project is finding out which require funds.
- The project was initially challenged by COVID-19 which led to limitation in the implementation of some activities especially those related to meeting with project stakeholder and movements.

Therefore the key achievements this year have been the recruitment of Coordinator, to ease the implementation of FMNR activities. We have been able to organise quarterly Steering Committee Meetings, that provided guidance to the Secretariat on implementation of network activities, and discussed key decisions and outputs of the network. We were able to organize Annual General Meetings, which elected new members of the governance structure. Most importantly, we organized field exchange/learning visits for farmers, exposing members to practical implementation of the FMNR model, raising awareness on the importance of FMNR – alternative livelihood enterprises and enhancing peer to peer learning among FMNR actors to integrate and implement the FMNR model at all levels through field exchange visits.

We are moving on. We plan to planned to have a resource mobilization strategy for network next year. We have planned for an exchange visit during the world forest day celebrations. God willing, we intend to continue supporting the FMNR demonstration plots with skills of managing income generation activities. Above all, deepening the understanding of FMNR model, the benefits in the different landscapes (refuge landscape as well as the cattle corridor). We know that it will require resources to do it and we have to demonstrate that we are able.





# About FMNR in Uganda

<b>Goal</b>	To improve livelihoods and household resilience for small holder farmers
<b>Vision</b>	Sustainable natural resource management for improved livelihoods.
<b>Focus</b>	We focus the regeneration of trees for economic, social and environmental benefits with a view to conserve the biodiversity and ecosystem.
<b>Mission</b>	To establish strong partnerships for up scaling farmer managed natural regeneration practice.
<b>Purpose</b>	The overall purpose is to increase adoption and replication of the FMNR model among stakeholders in Uganda. This is achieved through creating an FMNR movement; by increased membership, increase visibility, continuous capacity building and awareness creation, engagements with various actors including decision makers, establishment of FMNR demonstration sites, exchange visits and improving information dissemination of FMNR benefits and opportunities towards national development.
<b>Core Values</b>	<b>Integrity:</b> Operating to the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and transparency
	<b>Team work:</b> Taking advantage of FMNR strength, skills and knowledge
	<b>Collaboration:</b> Partnerships and alliances in support of the FMNR mission
	<b>Excellence:</b> Pursue excellence in all endeavors
	<b>Communication:</b> Effective internal and external communication.
	<b>Effectiveness:</b> Ensuring value for money in all FMNR Network programs
	<b>Innovation:</b> Maintaining innovative approaches to achieving the mission

# The FMNR Steering Committee



Mr. Gerald Kato - Chairman



Ms. Prudence Ayebare  
Vice Chairperson



Mr. Moses Mununuzi  
Secretary



Mr. Ronald Leo Toorach  
Treasurer



Mr. Geoffrey Musitwa  
Member - Regional Node



Mr. Pope Onen  
Member - Regional Node



Mr. Gaster Kiyingi Secretariat

The FMNR Network set up the governance structure in 2014 to govern the network. Since its setup, the Steering Committee has done a good job supporting the network, even with merger resources. In December 2021, a new committee was set up. Mr. James Muhindo, Esq the National Coordinator, Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas (CSCO) presided over the election of the new steering committee members.

After making a presentation on how elections were to be conducted as guided by the Constitution of the Network, Mr. Muhindo guided that only fully paid up members were eligible to participate in the elections.

Since most of the members were new, and issues of payment channels had been cited as a huge challenge, Mr. Mununuzi Moses of Vi-Agroforestry proposed suspension of Clause 4 of the Constitution, which the members agreed to. An election was carried out and those elected were:

1. Gerald Kato - Chairman, from Hunger Project Uganda
2. Prudence Ayebare - Vice Chairperson, from Uganda National Farmers Federation.
3. Mununuzi Moses - Secretary, from Vi Agroforestry
4. Leo Toorach - Treasurer, from World Vision Uganda
5. Geoffrey Musitwa - Member, from Bugiri District Farmers Association,
6. Pope One - Member, from Cradle Garden Centre,
7. Gaster Kiyingi - Secretariat, from Tree Talk Plus

Mr. Kato appreciated the Annual General Meeting for entrusting the committee with the mantle to lead the FMNR Network. He promised to prioritize fund raising to support the Secretariat mobilize resources for the Network.

Ms. Abalo Josephine, a Board Member of Tree Talk Plus adjourned the meeting, and thanked the Secretariat for organizing the meeting.





# 1

## Improved understanding of FMNR

*....the least cost model for regenerating trees*

**F**our activities were conducted to realize this outcome. The engagements are described in the following paragraphs.

**Undertake a recruitment drive for targeted members at regional level:** Recruitment of new members was undertaken. Of the 59 members trained, 19 were new members enrolled into the network.

**Undertake a Training Needs Assessment and develop Training Modules:** A TNA for organizations practicing FMNR was undertaken to;

- i) provide a deeper understanding of the knowledge, skills and competence of the FMNR members and potential members on the FMNR model,
- ii) identify capacity gaps and training needs of the FMNR network members to inform the proposed capacity building initiatives and,
- iii) prepare training modules and delivery strategies for capacity building of the FMNR network members.

Thirty four (34) respondents provided feedback to the TNA. The capacity gaps identified provided basis for formulation of training modules. The training modules are to fill the gaps that include limited information/knowledge on FMNR; poor attitude by communities; land/tree tenure insecurity; and insufficient funds. These challenges are exacerbated by population pressure that results into encroachment for settlement and agriculture. From the capacity gaps identified

above, it was concluded that there is need for capacity enhancement and awareness. Eight training modules were proposed; they include:

- a) Introduction to Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
- b) FMNR practices and considerations
- c) FMNR as a potential approach for restoration
- d) The role of FMNR in farming systems
- e) FMNR interactions - between trees, crops and livestock
- f) Socio-economic issues in FMNR systems
- g) Extension
- h) Institutional, Policy and Legal Environment

**Conduct training sessions for new members at regional level:**

The secretariat organized two forms of trainings for its members in 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there was an on-line training that was attended by members and potential members of the network over a two days, 4 hour sessions. This training was attended by 59 participants from across the country. The physical trainings were later organized for members at Bugiri DFA (20 participants) Ssembabule DFA (14 members) and by World Vision in Arua (25 members). These trainings were facilitated by Tree Talk Plus together with members that hosted the teams (World Vision, Bugiri DFA, Ssembabule DFA) alongside Vi Agroforestry staff. The participants included Vi Agroforestry Partners and other FMNR members and potential members (CSOs/NGOs) in the Eastern Region; representatives of District Farmers' Associations; District Local Government

representatives among others.

In Bugiri, total of 20 participants (15 men and 05 women) from the eastern region attended the training and a demonstration exercise was conducted. A practical exercise was conducted at Kazimbakungira Village, Iwemba Sub County, Bugeso Parish, in Bugiri District with a community group known as 'Together we can'. In Ssembabule, the training was conducted 14 participants (12 Males, 2 Females) from member organizations in central and Eastern Uganda including SEDFA, BDFa, World Vision. In Arua the training was conducted with support of World Vision and a practical and exchange visit was conducted in Terego, where a demonstration site was established. The training was attended by 21 participants (4 females, 18 males)

#### **Undertake monitoring visits to document performance of new members and new sites**

: Field monitoring visits were conducted for Arua (11 members), Bugiri/Namutumba/Jinja/Kaliro/Bukwo (56 members), Terego/Arua (8 members) and Ssembabule/Gomba (12 members). The intentions of the of the visit was to take notes on performance so far. Over 50% of the respondents who were visited were able to set aside land, approximated 1 acre of land, for FMNR activities. Approximately 3% were women. This is tagged to land ownership among FMNR practitioners. Over 95% require training on income generating activities in FMNR settings. Over 90% require additional tree seedlings to plant as compound trees, boundary and commercial trees alongside tree regeneration under FMNR.

#### **Support establishment and management of 4 demo/research sites:**

Three of four demo sites have already been established. These sites were established in November 2021 and are located in Ssembabule, Terego and Bugiri Districts. Two of the three sites have been fixed with bee hives to support apiary management as one of the model interventions for FMNR sites. Already 6 of the 8 hives donated to these sites have been colonized and the farmers managing them are preparing to purchase more bee hives to increase their numbers. The sites are described below.

- a) **Ssembabule demo site:** The site in Ssembabule is managed with support from SEDFA and is located at Kenneth Bamwenda's FMNR site in Lwembwera Village, Kyeera Sub County, Kakooma Parish, in Sembabule District. Kenneth had dedicated 10 acres of his farmland to FMNR, but after realizing a number of benefits including regular shade and fodder for his animals, he dedicated an extra 10 acres of land to increase his acreage under FMNR. The farmer had already fenced off part of his land under FMNR to stop his animals from destroying the young trees and was provided with fencing materials and bee hives to start another section of FMNR on his farm where he will start apiary management. All the hives donated to this site (04) have already colonized.
- b) **Bugiri demo site:** In Bugiri, Bugiri District Farmers' Association is supporting 'Together we can' a youth farmers' group that grows trees and manages an apiary site to technical backstop a one-acre site that was established for demonstrating FMNR practices. The secretariat supported the group with fencing material and bee hives for the site and colonization has already taken place. The site is located at Kazimbakungira Village, Iwemba Sub County, Bugeso Parish.
- c) **Terego demo site:** The demo site at Terego is a former refugee settlement space that was vacated by refugees due to poor productivity of soils as it was considered too dry and rocky. Inhabitants felt nothing could grow on these soils and therefore asked the Office of the Prime Minister to consider providing them with an alternative. World Vision and the secretariat demarcated part of this land to start a regeneration process that can demonstrate to members of the community practices that can help land be productive.





# 2 Increased uptake of FMNR model

...through new recruitment of members practicing the model

**N**ew members have been recruited to take up the model. This recruitments are through:

**Prepare quarterly reports based on activities implemented by members:** Summaries of progress made by members on a quarterly basis is made and is used for newsletter publication. However, this needs to improve in the next year.

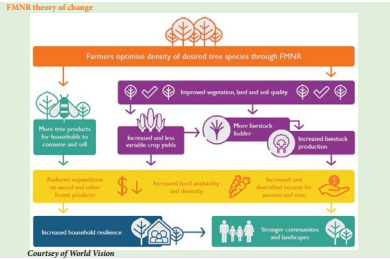
**Produce and disseminate policy briefs based on achievements of FMNR in Uganda:** One policy brief has been developed and disseminated. This brief that is titled 'From stumps to trees' provides evidence to policy makes on the works of FMNR in different parts of the country and makes a call to them to mainstream the model in line departments and ministries such as MWE, MAAIF and more. The brief was produced



**What is Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration?**  
 FMNR is the systematic regeneration of trees from living tree stumps, roots and seedlings. It is a low-cost restoration technique used to combat deforestation, poverty and hunger amongst poor subsistence farmers by increasing food and forest/tree products, and resilience to climate extremes. Looking at the deforestation rate of 2% per annum (MWE, 2018), the remaining trees are few compared to the perceived environmental functions that they perform, for food production regimes, amelioration of micro-climate, provisioning for hunger and aesthetic beauty of the environment. It can be promoted in most parts of Uganda and is complementary to other restoration efforts.

**When is FMNR appropriate?**  
 FMNR is appealing in communities where:

- Community members are able to recognize that their environment is deteriorating, trees are disappearing and they are interested in restoring land productivity. Communities are faced with shortage of fuelwood, building materials, forage for animals (including bees) and a decline in productivity of agricultural lands.
- Community members have a vested interest and stand to benefit from improved agro-ecological conditions that they create over many years.
- Community leaders have an interest in conserving and managing natural resources for community survival and command FMNR acceptability, propel its spread and sustainability in the community for diversification of household incomes.



platforms and was also uploaded on the website for the network.

**Produce FMNR Quarterly newsletter:** Three newsletters has been produced, over 2000 copies printed and disseminated to the stakeholders. The newsletter introduced the project to the members and highlighted the

expected results for the two-year period of the project. Eleven organizations contributed articles to the newsletters on the status of the activities they are undertaking regarding FMNR. These included World Vision, PELUM, Hunger Project, Tree Talk Plus, ICRAF, MPIFA, SEDFA, GODFA, BDF, Kaliro Environment Conservation Project, The Hunger Project.

**Develop and update FMNR web site and social media messages:** The Project has been able to develop a website for the Network to serve as a repository of information (<http://fmmrnetworkuganda.org/>). The website is up and fully functional, and requires regular updates. The challenge has been the low rate

**Tree Talk Plus**  
Branching out to empower communities

Vol 3, November 2021

**FMNR Network establishes new demo sites**

**Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts!**

**FMNR: Climate Change and COP 26 in Glasgow**  
 Some of the main values from FMNR at household level never enter the cash economy, but enter into the climate change economy. This includes wild food plants, health benefits arising from diversified diets, amelioration of the environment, etc. alone, except on which we depend for life.

**There are psychosocial benefits arising from the peace-of-mind brought by the beauty and comfort of the new greener landscape from FMNR.**

**We have enhanced leadership confidence and experience for women and men who take part in FMNR activities and improve attitudes towards the environment and greater optimism for the future of their farms and communities.**

**With COP 26 in Glasgow, climate change adaptation and mitigation requires re-thinking of strategies to regreen the universe. Whereas deforestation has a major negative effect on people's wellbeing and ability to adapt to changing economic and climatic conditions, climate change is detrimental in all aspects of life. FMNR offers cognitive ability to cope with such stresses.**

**We need community collaboration to care FMNR farmers to farmers information and to establish collective procedures among farmers that improve social capital and secure the livelihoods of individual households. The sum of outcomes entails consideration of crop yield, bio diversity and timber production from FMNR adoption. The effects of FMNR today are yet spread widely beyond the target communities but, FMNR adopting farmers are earning more in addition to fighting climate change.**

**World Food Day**  
 FMNR Members showcase the link between trees, food security and climate change

**production and productivity:**  
 A total of 13 FMNR members were actively engaged in the celebration, joining hands with technical staff from local and central government, businesses, NGOs, the media, and general public.

**The FMNR network members that exhibited their work included Mpigi District Farmers' Association, (tagged a radio talk show on food security) and Bugiri District Farmers' Association (exhibited farmers' enterprises including cassava value chains and marketing).**

**Farmers showcased the relevance of agroforestry especially fruit trees to household income, the contribution of spay to nutrition and household incomes and also had a tree planting exercise.**

**In Mayuge, the Mayuge District Farmers' Association celebrated with exhibitions at Bulabula sub county, showcasing the different forestry related income generating activities for their farmers, including spay value chains.**

**Goomba District Farmers' Association conducted sensitization meetings and talkshows prior and during their exhibition event.**

**The Masaka District Farmers' Association launched its food processing plant while Wakiso District Farmers' Association celebrated by conducting a training on Sustainable Landuse Management practices.**

This newsletter was produced by the Healthy Diets Network, a collaboration of AgriPro and VITA Agronomy. VITA and VITA Agronomy do not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed. Tree Talk Plus also is responsible for the content.



# The FMNR Network



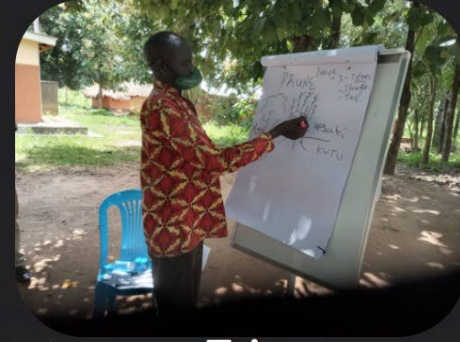
## Goal:

To improve livelihoods and household resilience for small holder farmers by 2022.



## Vision:

Sustainable natural resource management for improved livelihoods.



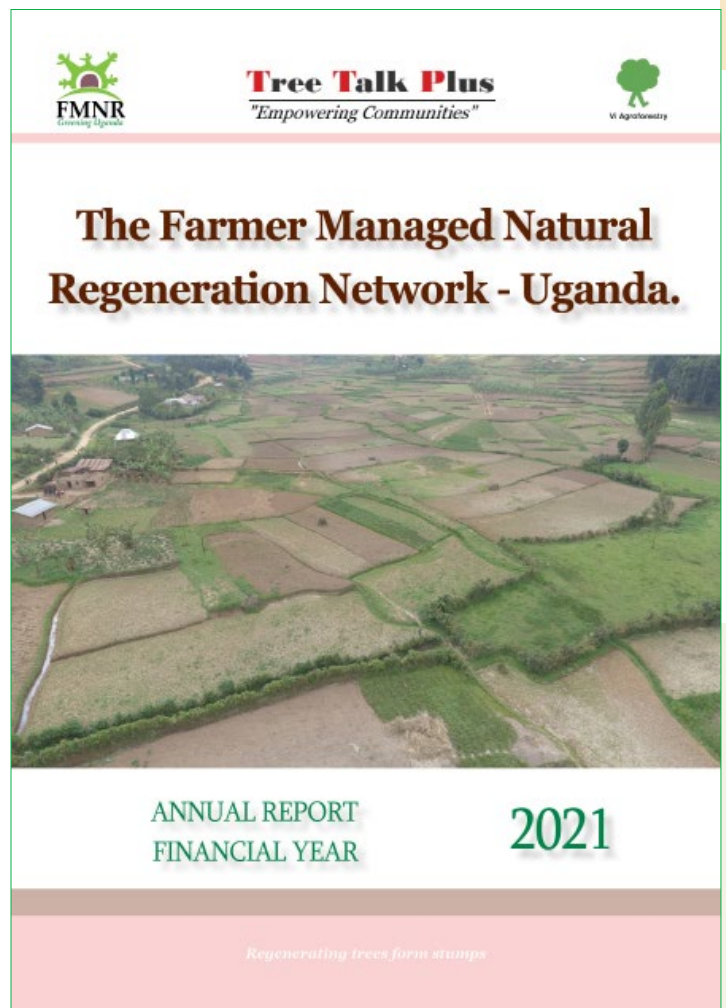
## Mission:

To establish strong partnerships for up scaling farmer managed natural regeneration practice.

of contribution by network members to both the website and the social media pages of the networking. Tree Talk Plus is working on strategies to address this.

**Produce and disseminate the FMNR annual reports:** An annual report for 2021 was produced and 1,000 copies of this report were printed and distributed to network members. The annual report features the progress of the network regarding the project and the undertakings of different members on the model.

**Hold evidence-based advocacy engagement meetings at national and sub-national level:** Sub national level engagements on advocacy were initiated during the physical training of members on FMNR practice. The members were trained in advocacy engagements and given tasks of engagement in their own jurisdiction. A follow up on actions undertaken by members on their own advocacy issues and how they pushed the FMNR agenda in their respective areas is yet to be assessed.



**Production of promotional materials:** There has been production of 200 branded polo t-shirts that act as a promotional item for the project and FMNR in general. These shirts have been distributed to members of the network and some model farmers.





# 3 Result against targets

....measuring achievements of the project

Output name	Output indicator	Targets 2021	Achieved 2021	Target 2018 - 2022	Total Achieved 2018-2022
1 network coordinator recruited	Increased visibility of the FMNR network	1 network coordinator recruited	1 Network coordinator recruited	1 Network coordinator recruited	1 Network coordinator
2 AGMs conducted for FMNR network members	Increase in membership	1 AGM organized	1 AGM	2 Annual General Meetings	1 AGM
1 steering committee organized for the network every quarter	Improved understanding of the FMNR model among members and farmers  Increased adoption of the FMNR model by ministries, departments and agencies of government.	4 steering committee meetings organized	4 SCM Meetings	8 Steering Committee meetings	4 SCM meetings
2 exchange visits conducted	Increased uptake of the FMNR model Increased membership to the network Increased visibility	1 exchange visit	2 exchange visits conducted	4 exchange visits	2 exchange visits
1 resource mobilization strategy developed	Increased uptake of the FMNR model	1 resource mobilization strategy	Not achieved	1 resource mobilization strategy	None
20 members recruited 100 hectares of land put under FMNR	Increased adoption of the FMNR model	20 new members recruited	20 new members recruited	20 members	20 members
1 TNA conducted Training Manual developed	Increased adoption of the FMNR model	1 TNA conducted	1 TNA conducted	1 TNA	1 TNA
4 capacity building training sessions conducted	Increased adoption of the FMNR model	2 capacity building training sessions	2 capacity building training sessions	4 capacity building sessions	4 capacity building sessions



Output name	Output indicator	Targets 2021	Achieved 2021	Target 2018 - 2022	Total Achieved 2018-2022
150 farmers trained in forest based IGAs/FBEs	Increased adoption of the FMNR model	Training 150 FMNR model farmers in Forest Based Enterprises (FBEs)	150 farmers trained		
4 demonstration sites set up	Increased adoption of the FMNR model	4 new demo sites	03 new demo sites established	4 new demo sites established	3 demo sites established
2 policy paper produced and disseminated to key stakeholders	Improved understanding of the FMNR model among members and farmers	1 policy paper	1 policy paper produced and disseminated	2 policy papers produced	1 policy paper produced
10 newsletters produced and disseminated to stakeholders	Improved understanding of the FMNR model among members and farmers  Increased adoption of the FMNR model	4 newsletters	4 newsletters produced	8 newsletters produced	4 newsletters produced
2 Annual reports produced	Improved understanding of the FMNR model among members and farmers	1 annual report	1 annual report produced	2 annual reports	1 annual report
10 information package on FMNR in Uganda developed and uploaded on the websites platforms	Improved understanding of the FMNR model among members and farmers	5 info briefs	3 info briefs produced	10 information package on FMNR in Uganda developed and uploaded on the websites platforms	3 info briefs







# 4

## Gender in FMNR

*...are really women and vulnerable people involved?*

**O**ur work with the FMNR communities involves making women, girls and vulnerable people play an important role in understanding the FMNR plots, the income generation activities, and sustenance of the FMNR model. We appreciated that women are at the center stage of FMNR, they are the least powerful members of the communities, and stand to benefit from access to natural resources.

Our first challenge was to create awareness about the gender equality FMNR communities. We have come to learn that FMNR as a model, contributes to the lives of girls and women by providing a reliable source of firewood, from close to their homes and within their own gardens. In the same way, because it requires less labor, the FMNR model provides an opportunity for rural women to easily manage trees on the farm. It is also a cheap, less costly since the family does not spend money on tree seedlings.

During the training sessions, we made sure trainees articulate the different roles, responsibilities, entitlements and decision making FMNR. They appreciate the need for gender equality in access to and control over productive resources (land, income from the sale of farm products and income for revenue

generating activities.

The ALIVE program has made it easier for women to get involved in the management of natural resources too. Rural women are being given priority in accessing important items such as tree seedlings in addition to extension work. Prominent gender inequalities still exist in FMNR and need to be wiped out. There are still cultural beliefs and traditional practices that restrict women and children especially girl children from managing trees and tree resources and making decisions on what, when and where to invest in income generating activities. It should be remembered that women are primary producers (and times primary users) of FMNR resources.

As regards strengthening the family as a unit and avoiding gender based violence, the program encourages both women and men to work together to create a vision for their family and work on achieving it. There have been testimonies of increase in women taking up positions of power and leadership within FMNR groups which is a manifestation of empowering women to lead and speak out.

There is need for all players to continue encouraging women and the vulnerable people to participate in FMNR sector and civil society organizations should encourage





girls to practice the model. Currently, women don't have the incentive to look after and manage trees because they would be investing their labor, but not be able to reap the benefits of that labor. There is therefore need to ensure that the country's gender mainstreaming policies and laws are backed by effective implementation as well as continuous sensitization of communities to change their mindset about women's rights. Women capacity should be built in order for them to have an opportunity to choose models of FMNR that best suit their household needs and enhance their capacity to make decisions.

These can be in terms of which choice of trees to regenerate that is selected based on the household need for inputs that are not available, they also need to be supported by men to carry out activities in FMNR that are labour intensive.

In many places, men prepare the FMNR plot but in some places, women may do the land preparation too. In certain situations, men and women may each tend different fields and grow different crops. However, for fields owned by women, men always own the trees in those fields. Men would therefore sale those trees for cash, while women deal with the lower status products for the family. In addition, men own animals kept on the field. In general, women do more farm work than

men, though this is often not recognized.

It is common that husbands and wives do not necessarily share their incomes from FMNR activities. Men may keep the money they earn, and give only part of it to their wives to buy food and other essentials.

Women tend to sell their produce like firewood close to home. Men are more likely to take their produce to distant markets for sale where they earn more. Husbands have a tendency of exploiting their wives who have a limited understanding of the markets and have limited access to market information.

Men are more likely than women to attend extension meetings and be members of FMNR groups. They tend to be better educated, go to town more often, and have better access to information from outside.

Women tend to have fewer rights than men. Men normally own the land and in some traditions, women cannot even legally own it. Even if it is legal, they are prohibited from doing so by local customs. Women are denied land rights when their husbands die. It is not easy for a wife to qualify for credit schemes. For women to meaningfully benefit from FMNR, they must have access to a full bundle of rights.





# 6

## Climate change and COVID-19

...ups and downs for FMNR Network

**F**MNRR is “the greatest positive environmental change that addresses climate change in Uganda” says Anthony Wolimbwa, former coordinator, Climate Action Network, but now Program Manager, ECO Uganda.

The regrown trees and shrubs, help restore soil structure and fertility, inhibit erosion and soil moisture evaporation, rehabilitate springs and the water table, and increase biodiversity.

In Conference of Parties 26 in Glasgow, FMNR was seen as fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, improving the lives of millions of children and their communities around the world. It provides a holistic approach and delivers on all its dimensions including economic, social and environmental.

Therefore, adopting FMNR helps to improve healthy lives (SDG3) through food security (SDG2), eliminates poverty (SDG1) and develops communities sustainably (SDG11).

Communities in Uganda that have adopted FMNR are benefiting from increased and more sustainable production, reduced inequalities (SDG10) and greater gender

equality in decision making and access to natural resources (SDG5). Several environmental and economic benefits have been recorded (SDG8), which have had a positive impact on climate change (SDG13 & SDG15).

Therefore, the FMNR Network in Uganda needs to rethink in terms of prioritization and planning to scale-up FMNR model, creating an enabling institutional and legal framework for scaling-up FMNR, mobilizing additional resources to scale-up FMNR and address technical knowledge and skills gaps to scale-up FMNR.

Meanwhile, it has been greatly hit by COVID-19. There is little resource available for over 3 years. FMNR has been robbed of expertise and skills at community, and national level. A lot of species such as *Warburgia ugandensis* and *Zanthoxylum gillet* are over harvested. Communication has seen it move to Internet, through platforms such as Zoom, as opposed to local means of communication. New methods of work and new methods of resource mobilization will be required to bring back FMNR to the lost glory.





# 7

## Alternative Livelihoods

*...bee-keeping in Bugiri, Terego and Sembabule*

**This is a bee hive that was put up in Sembabule in November 2021, and to the surprise of many, it is already colonized. The hives were also placed in Bugiri and Terego district demonstration sites as Income Generating Activities.**

This was found out during a monitoring and evaluation exercise for the FMNR activities that have so far been rolled out. The idea was to create a link between planned activities and on-ground accomplishments in addition to identifying challenges to FMNR activities. It was also to identify Income

Generating Activities that can be replicated. In Terego, Sembabule and Bugiri districts the District Farmers Associations established demonstration sites that were supported by the FMNR network with apiary equipment. The farmers in the three sites went ahead to recruit more new farmers into their group following the exchange visit. In Sembabule, 10 more acres were dedicated to FMNR. They have a hope to increase the apiary sites to at least 25 sites from the current 4 by end of 2022. This is the only way the woodlands can be maintained, other wise they will be attacked by charcoal burners and varnish.





## 8

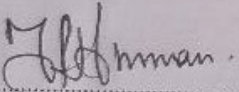
## Financial Report

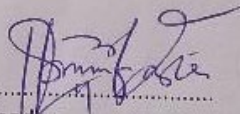
Tree Talk Plus  
Annual financial report on "Scaling up FMNR Model in Uganda" project report to Vi Agroforestry  
For The Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Statement of Financial Activity and other comprehensive income					Questioned	
	Note	2021 Shs	Budget Shs	Budget Variance (%ge)	Ineligible Shs	Unsupported Shs
<b>Income</b>						
Receipts	3	187,961,600	176,763,000	6%	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>187,961,600</b>	<b>176,763,000</b>	6%	-	-
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Project expenses	4	154,139,800	130,483,000	18%	-	-
Personnel costs		19,000,000	22,800,000	-17%	-	-
Administration costs		4,500,000	3,600,000	25%	-	-
Operating costs		3,330,000	4,280,000	-22%	-	-
		<b>180,969,800</b>	<b>161,163,000</b>	12%	-	-
Excess of income over expenditure		6,991,800	15,600,000	-55%	-	-
Income Tax Expense	5	-	-	0%	-	-
<b>Profit/(Loss) after Tax</b>		<b>6,991,800</b>	<b>15,600,000</b>	-55%	-	-

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form an integral part of this financial statement.  
Report of the independent auditor is on pages 7 to 8.

The accounts were approved by the Directors on for issue on 18/02/2022 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Chairman

  
.....  
Team leader



# About the FMNR Network

Tree Talk Plus is the host of the FMNR network in Uganda, currently funded by Vi-Agroforestry. Tree Talk Plus works towards shaping the minds and attitudes of communities for improved land-use practices, building resilience towards climate change improving the lives of ordinary people.

**Tree Talk Plus**  
*"Empowering Communities"*

FMNR Network in Uganda is currently hosted by Tree Talk Plus,  
Plot. 842 Lugolobi Close,  
Sempagala Zone-Buye, Ntinda,  
P.O Box 31833, Clock Tower - Kampala  
Email: [info@treetalkplus.org](mailto:info@treetalkplus.org),  
Direct line: +256 392 177 128, Website: [www.treetalkplus.org](http://www.treetalkplus.org)