



## **National dialogue to reflect on Mainstreaming climate change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Agriculture Sector in Uganda**

### **1.0 Background**

Environmental Alert (EA) is a non-government organization that envisions, 'resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.' EA's mission is to, 'advocate for an enabling environment, sustainable natural resource management and food security frameworks for targeted communities through empowerment and policy engagement.' This is achieved through implementation of programmes under Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Environment and Natural Resources and Food Security. In addition, Environmental Alert hosts the Environment and Natural Resources Network for Civil Society Organization (ENR-CSO network) and the Uganda Forestry Working Group (UFWG) which is a network for forestry stakeholders in Uganda and is the Secretariat for PROLINNOVA Uganda.

Under the Food Security programme, Environmental Alert (EA) is working with communities of West Nile (Moyo, Yumbe, and Adjumani Districts) to implement three year project funded by Bread for the World (BfdW) i.e., '*Community Empowerment for Improved Food Security and Income in West Nile.*'



Farmer trained by staff to plant onions in Metu Sub county, Moyo District



Ms. Beatrice Dramali explains how to manage the orchard through simple irrigation, Moyo District

Furthermore, EA is coordinating the implementing another project in 6 cattle corridor districts (of Nakasongola, Nakaseke, Luwero, Kiboga, Mubende, and Ssembabule) on provision of capacity building services for Local Government, Non-Governmental Organizations and Private sector to strengthen stakeholders coordination and mainstream of climate change into the sub-county development plans. This project is implemented with financial support from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

Every year on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2016, it's the World Food Day celebrations. This day was **set aside in 1979** by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with the aim to heighten public awareness of the world food problem and strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. In 1980, the General Assembly endorsed observance of the Day in consideration of the fact that "food is a requisite for human survival and well-being and a fundamental human necessity" (resolution 35/70) of 5 December 1980).

The theme for this year's celebrations is, '***Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too.***' This theme was strategically selected to raise awareness on food security which is one of the biggest issues related to climate change. For Uganda the celebrations will at **Ngetta Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (Ngetta ZARDI)** in Lira district, Northern Uganda.

In this context, EA has organized several engagements at the national and local level as the contribution for the celebration of the World Food Day. Some of these include:-



Mr. Matalocu advised by Entomologists on hanging a transitional bee hive, Moyo District

- i. Partnering with the local governments of Moyo, Yumbe and Adjumani to organize and fund the World Food Day Celebrations;
- ii. Organizing a national dialogue in commemoration of the World Food Celebrations, will a purpose of reflecting on the mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture sector in Uganda;
- iii. Public education; Radio talk shows on the *6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 on Voice of the Nile 106.1 FM from 7:00pm to 8:00pm*; Radio spot messages, announcements, and related sensitization activities particularly in the West Nile region on the bimonthly radio programme on VON FM, EA's website and other in-house social media platforms. The talk shows will involve technical personnel from the production department, farmer representative and EA staff;
- iv. Exhibitions demonstrating farmer's best practices and innovations for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- v. School performances through drama, particularly poems/songs in relation to theme of the World Food Day;
- vi. Documentation and dissemination of the World Food Day commemoration experiences and lessons

### ***1.1 National dialogue in commemoration of the World Food Celebrations, reflecting on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agriculture sector in Uganda***

With particular focus at the national level, EA is organizing a National dialogue to share experiences, lessons, best practices, information and draw recommendation towards mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation into agriculture (climate SMART Agriculture) in Uganda. The dialogue will bring stakeholders in agriculture sector to share experiences and lessons learnt in implementing climate Smart agriculture in Uganda. The dialogue will provide a platform for exchange of knowledge and experiences in planning and management of Smart agriculture initiatives. In addition the dialogue will help MAAIF focus on effective planning of climate Smart agriculture initiatives for benefit of the farmers and agriculture sector in general. This is an opportunity for stakeholders to draw lessons, best practices and recommendations/actions towards mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation into agriculture at different levels (farm, community, local and national). It is in this context that EA is organizing the National Dialogue to reflect on climate change adaptation actions mainstreaming in the Agricultural sector.

***The dialogue is slated for 13 October, 2016 at Hotel Africana, in Kampala.***

## **1.2 Purpose of stakeholder sharing workshop**

The purpose of the dialogue is to share experiences, lessons, best practice, and information and draw recommendations to advance mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation into agriculture sector at the national, local and community levels. In addition the dialogue aims at increasing stakeholder's participation and commitment to implement climate Smart agriculture. Furthermore, it will provide opportunity for joint stakeholder assessment to identify problems and effective solutions in implementation of smart Climate agriculture.

## **1.3 Target group for the workshop**

The activity targets policy implementers, Development workers, Development partners, civil society, farmer organizations, farmers, agricultural researchers, extensionists, government/MAAIF technocrats and local government staff. The total participants will be 40 partners from all over the country. Participation in the dialogue is by invitation only.

## **1.4. Expected output / results of the workshop**

- Recommendations on mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation (Smart agriculture).
- Shared information on experiences and lessons on implementing Climate change Adaptation and Mitigation (Smart Agriculture).
- Synthesis report of lessons learnt and recommendations on implementing Smart Agriculture.



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