



THE TREE

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"The tree" n'orupapura rw'amakuru orurikuhandiikwa aba TIST uganda imagi rya The International Small Group and Tree Planting Program.

OKUKORA KWAITU

TIST n'ekigombe ekyehaireyo kwimutsya omutindo gw'abahingi aba hansi kirikubongyeramu amaani gokurwanisa okucwekyerezibwa kw'ebibira, okwenjuna obworo nekyanda kitari kyaburirije.

EBIGYENDERERWA BYAITU

Omukunywanisa entunguuka yentuura n'okurundana orwoya orurungi orurikuru ga omumiti. Nokunyunyuta orwoya orube kuruga omu mwanya TIST nehwera abahingi abarikurenga 25,000, eby'okwerinda sirimu, endiisa enungi yab'onumaka nokucendeza enkoresa y'enku n'amakara.

PREFACE

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EBIRY'OMUNDA

Amagoba agari omukubyara emiti.

Tist niki kandi nekora ki?

Oramanyire eki?

Obusiri bwensigo – oburugo

bw'entasya namasharuura

Emitwarize ya TIST.

OCTOBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR'S MESSAGE.

TIST FARMERS.

From the middle of this year, some of the TIST Program activities including tree payments were put on hold on temporary basis.

Major activity is to get as many SGs/groves to PDD.

SGs/groves which attain good standards with all data available and accurate will be validated and be eligible for carbon sale on the world market.

TIST Quantifiers and staff are visiting your groves to assess the standard and collect more data. At the end of this exercise, validators will be invited to do their job.

Make sure your GSG/grove is validated. Keep listening to Radio talk show.

Ara.

OBUTUMWA BWA EDITA.

Abahingi bemiti omu Uganda,

Kurigirira ahagati yogu mwaka, emirimo etari emwe oteiremu nokushashura abahingi sente zaabo, ekeemerezi'bwaho ahabwa akaanya.

Omurimo omukuru nokureeba ngu ebibira/amahamba maingi gashwijumwa kugabaasisa kuza omukuhayana gakai, irizibwa kuguza omwoya obwo gari aharurengo rwensi yoona ahabwo mwoya kuguzibwa.

Ababazi bemiti nabandi bakozi ba TIST bari omukutaayaayira amahamba ganyu nokwakiira agandi makuru. Ekyo kukirahwe abashwijumi nibajja kwetwa batandikye ogwabo. Recba ngu ihamba/ekibira kyawe tikyanagwa nyima yebindi. Guma ohuriirize ebya TIST aha Radio.

Ara.

TREE PLANTING: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

In this age where we all feel the impacts of global warming, tree planting has become a requirement rather than an option. This is well and good because tree planting has much more benefit to people than those we read about in books. However, it is sad to note that 33 soccer pitches of trees are cut down every minute worldwide. We can do something to help. Start now by educating yourself on the many benefits of tree planting.

Trees provide a haven of privacy.

Trees and shrubs can provide enhanced privacy for urban residents, emphasize attractive views or screen objectionable ones, reduce glare and reflection, and create a barrier for noise and wind. Planting trees around your home is a good investment since, according to the International Society of Arboriculture, property values are 5 to 20 percent higher for landscaped homes than for homes without landscaping. Well-placed trees lead to lower utility bills because shading your home lowers your need for fans or air conditioning. Greening improves our communities by making them more visually appealing and by providing color and character to individual neighborhoods and business areas.

The sight of trees improves our well-being daily.

Parks, green spaces and trees affect our quality of life through our everyday moods, activities, and physical and emotional health. Research performed by social scientists has found substantial evidence of this.

People who view nature after a stressful situation exhibit reduced physical indicators of stress as well as fewer feelings of fear, anger, and aggression. Hospitalized patients recover faster when their view through the window includes trees.

Clearly, trees and other greening does much more for us than just beautify our neighborhoods.

Trees provide diverse economic benefits

When we plant trees, we can diversify our income from the fuel, food, fodder, and environmental benefits they provide. Fruit and nut trees, and trees that provide fodder, can help feed our families and keep them healthy when other crops have a poor harvest. Other trees provide fuel wood, timber, and non-timber forest products that we can sell or use for our families' benefit.

Clearly, trees can make a big difference in our lives. Why not add some more trees to your shamba today?

Millian Kyorimpa

WHAT IS TIST, AND WHAT DO WE DO?

Who is TIST? We are! TIST Uganda is a community initiative empowering people, small groups of local farmers to come together to earn money and improve their land and the world by planting trees for the carbon offset market.

TIST combines sustainable development with carbon sequestration.

TIST trains on best practices like Conservation Farming. TIST combats the devastating effects of deforestation by encouraging tree planting. TIST combats poverty and drought.

TIST Small Groups plant many trees to improve their land and earn money from fruit trees, fodder trees, and fertilizer trees that improve crop yields. TIST Small Groups plant indigenous trees that provide all of these benefits and improve biodiversity. Because we are TIST, and we make TIST, TIST today also addresses other concerns we share. Today, we share training in groups on agriculture, food security and nutrition, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, and building of improved stoves that save us money and time, protect forests, and improve our health. TIST is international: we work with our brothers and sisters around the world, and invite our neighbors to join to create more TIST small groups in more places working for a better world.

DO YOU KNOW THIS?

God created the earth, all the creatures and plants in their natural environment.

Man has disturbed nature by destroying forests, killing plants and animals, abusing the land, and not taking good care of the work He created.

Today is the right time to work hard to protect our lands and be good caretakers of God's creation. Today is the right time to work so we will have enough

to eat and drink. Otherwise, we will be starving.

Why do I say this?

I ask TIST members to plant trees to enable those coming in future to reap good harvest and to share the benefits of God's creation. Shall we reap benefits without caring for our groves and developing a sense of ownership? As a Quantifier, I find many people don't care for their groves and do not know that the trees belong to them. To have good results, planting must be followed by good care. However, many groves are under bush. Remember, tree planting is like planting other crops. If trees are not cared for, they will not grow well.

My advice to SGs is to clear bushes on and around the groves. Understand that you are the caretakers and stewards of your land and trees and God's creation. When harvest time comes, you will reap much.

Plant trees, and from these trees, you'll get food, medicine, shade, a clean environment and income. Plant many trees! When harvest time comes, harvest a lot!

**By David Murungi
, Quantifier Bushenyi.**

PREPARING NURSERIES

It is now time to start nurseries. When we start our own nurseries, we can keep costs low and results big. We can grow diverse species that provide varied benefits for years to come.

First, choose a suitable place for the tree nursery. The place should have a slight slope so

water runs off. The place should be out of floods but near a water source like a river or water tap so it is easy to water the seedlings as they grow. It is useful if the nursery is close to where the trees will be planted. This way, it is easy to carry the saplings to the groves, so that they are healthy and not stressed during transplanting. Once you have chosen a site, prepare the seedbed. First, the nursery bed should be surrounded with dried maize stalks or branches as a fence to prevent animals from getting in. After that, prepare the fertile seedbed soil. There are many ways to make good seed soil. One way is to use 3 parts of topsoil from forest areas, 2 parts of sand and 1 part of manure or plant compost. Make sure the compost is well matured. This will ensure that the soil is rich with nutrients to help the seeds grow.

TIST members have shared these best practices for raising seedlings:

- Make sure you have gathered good quality seed from healthy parent trees with good traits (good strong trunk for a tree you are growing for timber; no diseases; good fruits for a fruit tree). Check to make sure the seeds are free of pests and mold. Planting diverse species makes healthy groves that provide long-term benefits.
- You should time when you plant the seed

according to how long it will take it to be strong and the right size to transplant into the prepared hole in the field. You want to have the seedlings ready to transplant at a time when rains and weather will be good for their survival.

- Put the seed in some sort of bag or tube filled with the fertile soil mixture so the bag constrains the plant vertically. Some Groups use polytubes. Others make tubes from clean, used plastic sacks from shopping, or from pieces of sacks from charcoal cut in strips and sealed with an ember. Others use banana leaves.
- Seedlings should be checked at least every week and probably more often than that. They need to be watered and weeded.
- When you check the seedlings, look at the roots. You can either clip off the small roots that are coming out or you can just move the seedling in the nursery *once per week*.

Start your nurseries now so we can grow more trees, grow our profits and benefits, and grow TIST!

**By Ndyabawe Carl Peters
, Trainer Kabale.**

THE TIST VALUES

To begin, we want to remind you about the TIST Values. They are the foundation and heart of the TIST Program. Without them, the program and the work that we do will not thrive.

Understanding TIST values will help all the TIST participants have a better understanding of: Who we are, how we do things *that other people can see*; What we do and What we Create.

This is how we can contribute to the well-being of our families and our communities and to sustainability the TIST program:

Who We Are

- 1) We are honest.
- 2) We are accurate.
- 3) We are transparent
- 4) We are servants to each other.
- 5) We are mutually accountable to each other.

How We Do Things that other people can see

- 1) We are volunteers.
- 2) We do the work ourselves in Small Groups
- 3) We develop and use best practices
- 4) We use our head and hands.

What We Do

- 1) We plant a variety of trees for the long-term.
- 2) We find ways to improve our health.
- 3) We practice Conservation Farming.
- 4) We do other projects and businesses.
- 5) We sell carbon credits.
- 6) We use energy saving cook stoves

What We Create.

This is different from what we do. When we have these values and as we live and do business the way on

Projects, we create something that was not there before.

These include;

- 1) We create Team Work—by doing things this way; we end up working like a team.
- 2) We create Capacity—we create organization, strength, and a system that is strong.
- 3) We create Enjoyment—we see results, we accomplish big things and enjoy this achievement and success.
- 4) We create Big Results—Big results in planting trees. Big results in Conservation Farming and from other projects and business that we do.
- 5) We create Low Administrative costs, yet we achieve big results.

Let's look at some examples of how living the TIST values help us succeed.

Imagine that you know that a member of your group plans to cut their TIST trees despite the promise to keep them for 30 years. Your group receives payment for the trees. When auditors come to the grove, however, they find that there are no trees when we reported that there were thousands! They don't believe TIST's data. They believe we are not honest or accurate, and do not want to do business with us. TIST cannot sell carbon offsets and so fails. Farmers who are honest suffer. Can you see how important honesty, accuracy, and mutual

accountability are to TIST? If you know this, and hide it, it hurts everyone in TIST in Uganda and around the world.

Imagine, instead, that your Small Group meets weekly, and covenants to plant 500 trees on each member's farm this year. You create a schedule and plan, perhaps sharing work for a group nursery, and to prepare land for tree planting, taking turns on each farm. You keep your word to each other, and have a successful planting season. One member sees another member has not prepared holes even though time for planting is coming near. She asks the member, and learns that the member has been tending a sick child and fallen behind. She works with other group members to help this member prepare his land. The entire group benefits when they qualify for tree payment.

What kind of group do you want to be? How can living by the TIST values help you succeed?

If there are things that are confusing or that you do not understand about the TIST Values, please ask questions so we can serve you better. If you have stories of how TIST values have helped you and your group succeeds, please share with your trainer so that we can share with others in the newsletter!

Enoch Tumwebaze, Training Coordinator