

Year 2022

# UNYFA ANNUAL REPORT



YOUNG FARMERS'  
FEDERATION OF UGANDA

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## LETTER FROM THE CEO

We remain indebted to each and every one who has journeyed with us in mobilizing and empowering youth in agriculture for socio-economic development which has catapulted UNYFA as a leading young farmers organization in the region. From its inception in 2016, UNYFA has continued to grow both in membership and impact through its activities. This year, we welcomed new partners who share our values and vision of supporting the young farmers of Uganda. Trias, Solidaridad and 8-Tech have joined us as new partners to support our activities such as solidifying our impact at the grassroots, gender mainstreaming, support for specific value chains and including information technology as a key aspect of the development of the agriculture sector. 2022 undoubtedly was a year to remember. We want to thank our amazing partners, members and all stakeholders for sharing our value. You have all played a significant role in helping us shape the future of farming in our nation and across the world. As we begin another exciting journey of shaping the future of farming in 2023, we are excited to share the annual key highlights from 2022.

**Denis Kabiito**  
Chief Executive Officer



# INTRODUCTION

## Introduction

This is the annual report for the Young Farmers Federation of Uganda (UNYFA) detailing its interventions, achievements, challenges and notable good practices period as of January – December 2022.

## About UNYFA

The Young Farmers Federation of Uganda (UNYFA) is an umbrella organization for young farmers in Uganda started in 2016 and launched in June 2017 as a duly incorporated member-based organization, with a registration number 80020000478713 under section 18(3) of Companies Act 2012. UNYFA has over 70 members which are District Young Farmers Associations, Youth agro-based initiatives and school agricultural clubs totaling to over 35,000 individual young farmers. The Federation operates countrywide in six regions namely: West Nile; Northern; Far-Eastern; Eastern; Central and Western Region. And it is driven by the desire to have a holistically transformed youth in agriculture for a sustainable economy: UNYFA target age group is of youth between 12 to 39 years who are rural and/or urban agro-based and young farmers in and out of school/ Institutions. Due to diverse interests of farmer groups/farmers'-based organizations within UNYFA membership, young farmers need specific services such as trainings, peer to peer exchanges, market linkages, inputs and financial assistance. Youths have the propensity to move with the changing dynamics of the world and are capable of formulating and taking lead in farmer-based organizations. UNYFA believes that if Uganda is to realize development, the youth need to be involved in development programs so as to reduce the dependency syndrome and to transform youth groups into a productive force. Therefore, UNYFA's focus is on five key areas namely: Institutional development; Advocacy; Education & Training; Networking and Services, these form a basis under which UNYFA establish partnerships and roll-out interventions to its members and communities.

UNYFA Vision: "A Holistically Transformed Youth in Agriculture for Sustainable Economy"

UNYFA Mission: "To Mobilize and Empower Youth in Agriculture for Social- economic Development"

UNYFA Core values: Team work; Transparency/accountability; Commitment; Honesty; Exemplary; Respect for all and Sacrifice.

UNYFA Partners: German Farmers Association-DBV; Andreas Hermes Akademie-AHA; Schorlemer Stiftung-SST; Food & Agriculture Organization; Agriterra/SNV; TRIAS;

# UNYFA BOARD & MANAGEMENT TEAM

## UNYFA BOARD

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>District</u>
Mr. Semwanga Richard	President	Nakasongola
Mr. Ariaka Vincent	Vice President	Maracha
Mr. Ogolo Brain	Secretary General	Oyam
Ms. Namaganda Betty	Treasurer	Iganga
Mr. Atukwase martin Kafanta	Publicity Secretary	Kanungu
Ms. Awor Sarah	Board Member	Lira
Mr. Kilimo Bashir	Board Member	Kapchorwa
Mr. Akuonzi Joel	Life Member	Zombo

## UNYFA MANAGEMENT TEAM

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Mr. Denis Kabiito	Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Samuel Magezi	Programs Manager
Ms. Samalie Namata	Administrative Assistant
Ms. Anasta Nankanja	Assistant Accountant
Ms. Lanyero Juliana	Communications Officer
Mr. Wandera Joseph	Lead Trainer / Project Officer
Mr. Odur Hartwel	Project Officer-IYFEP
Mr. Mawejje Harbert	Project Officer-Gen x & YIYA
Mr. Kiguli Shafic	Project Officer /Editor -FOVL
Mr. Mangeni Edrine	Driver
Mr. Walusimbi Emmanuel	Documentation support staff
Mr. Mwabira Geoffrey	Cleaning & Messenger support staff

# UNYFA COVERAGE & MEMBERSHIP

UNYFA undertakes a countrywide coverage and structure emanating from national level with a secretariat, regional level with committees, district level through young farmers' associations sub-county and Parish levels where young farmers' groups found. In order to develop tailor made services and enhance the reaching out campaigns to young farmers who are at the grass root levels, UNYFA proportioned its areas of operation into six regions namely: West Nile, Northern, Far-East, Eastern, Central and Western each with an average number of nine (9) districts. Today we are the strongest young farmers' association rolling out plans and working along UNFFE structures right from the Apex body to gross roots – District Farmers' Associations. In the reporting period, our membership base is now at over 70 member associations and approximately 35,000 individuals, UNYFA member provisional data basing survey, July,2022. UNYFA currently has the following categories of members:-

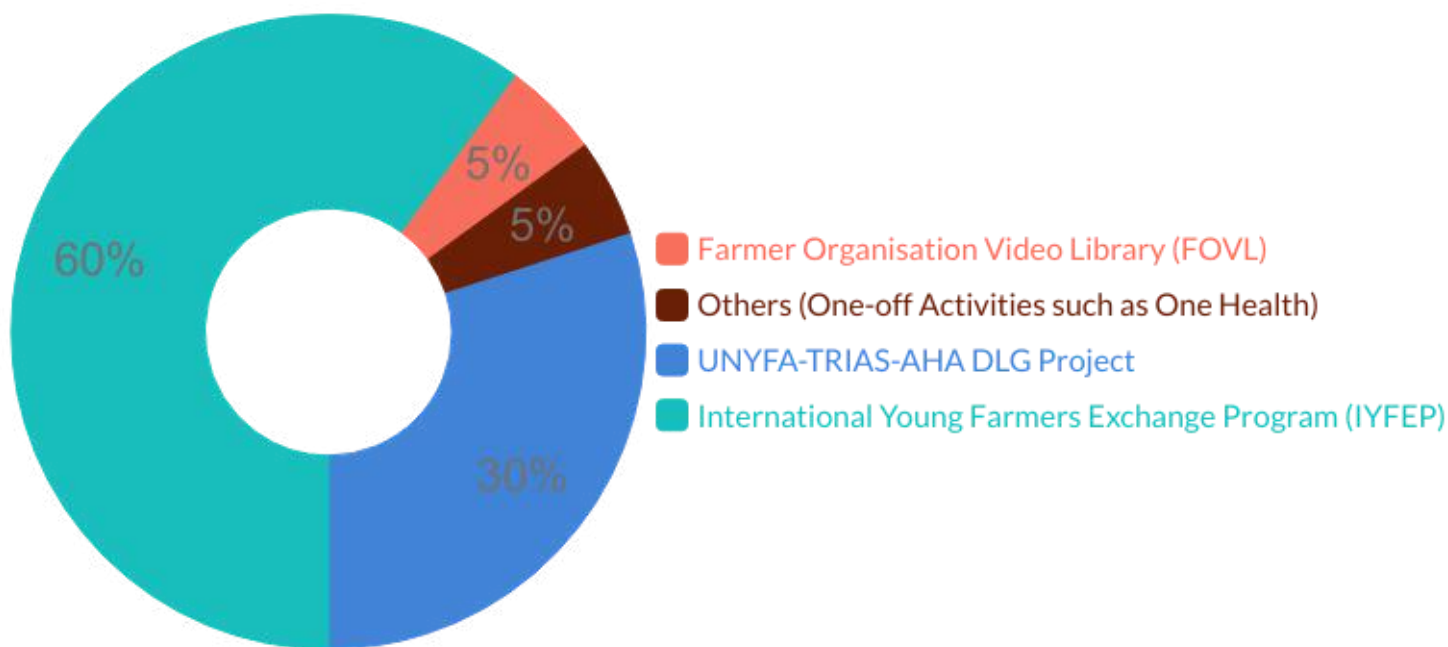
1. District Young Farmers' Associations who are our main members.
2. Members from schools and tertiary institutions
3. Other Youth Associations/ Initiatives

Therefore, UNYFA has over 70 members and 100 of the members present have paid the on time membership fee and about 65% of the total members have fulfilled the 2022 Annual subscription fee.

## New Members

<u>Name of Association/ initiative</u>	<u>Contact person</u>	<u>District</u>
Farm and art space community initiative	Ms. Nanono Diana	Masaka
Ento Organic farm	Mr. Tenywa Martin	Wakiso
Sirius Ventures Uganda limited	Ms. Apio Angella	Buikwe
Kalisizo sub county young Farmers Association	Ms. Nantongo Teddy	Kyotera
ST Jude project Farm and vocational institute	Ms. Josephine Kizza	Masaka
Luqman fresh farm	Mr. Lubega Lukhuman	Wakiso
Green growth plus investment	Mr. Olanya Richard	Gulu
Arua District Youth Farmers Network	Mr. Candia Freedom	Arua
Terego Youth Network	Mr. Aleku Fred	Terego
Adjumani East Young Farmers Association	Ms. Baako Gladys	Adjumani

# Projects



In the reporting period, UNYFA has managed to implement the above segregated 3 (three) projects and the following is the detailed information per project.

## 1. **The International Young Farmers Exchange Program (IYFEP)**

In partnership with Andreas Hermes Akademie/DBV/Schorlemer Stiftung with special support from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation & Development-Germany. The program promotes education and training among young farmers through hands-on experience and cultural integration between Uganda and Germany. UNYFA together with Schorlemer Stiftung successfully conducted two exchange cohorts namely IYFEP-4 (April -July, 2022) & IYFEP-5 (August-October 2022), these provided networks to a total number of 37 Ugandans and 17 Germans who lived on German and Ugandan farms respectively for 3 months. Within the program design a series of events/ activities such as call for applications, screening of participants; preparation workshops; visa acquisition/ application; medical examination of participants; send -off; review workshops and pick-ups; Host farmer profiling and preparations were successfully carried out by UNYFA. The 4th IYFEP Cohort was a round to remember due to an Agribusiness Competition (ABC project) organized by Schorlemer Stiftung that saw 3 Ugandan participants (Ms. Laura Nakigozi-Winner; Mr. Gashali Tom-First Runners-up and Mr. Bakkabulindi Mwazi James- Second Runners-up) coming back home with cash prizes worth 3000 Euros, 2000 euros and 1000 euros respectively and the rest with well documented agribusiness business ideas /proposals. Despite 2022 being a great year where we exchanged a big number of interns, IYFEP -5 cohort turned into a big lesson for us program organisers after one Ugandan and one Kenyan participant decided not to come back to home after the 3 months stay in Germany. This brought standstill for the program and delayed call for the future cohorts. The case was reported to police in German and back home, UNYFA with help of its lawyer started the process of forfeiting the security/collateral left by a Ugandan the participant in its custody.



On Right -Ms. Laura Nakigozi-Winner, Middle -Mr. Gashali Tom-First Runners-up and Left- Mr. Bakkabulindi Mwazi James- Second Runners-up, (Winners of ABC project competition)



YFEP Participants for the 5th Cohort (August-October 2022 during a midterm review farm tour to a German farm 6

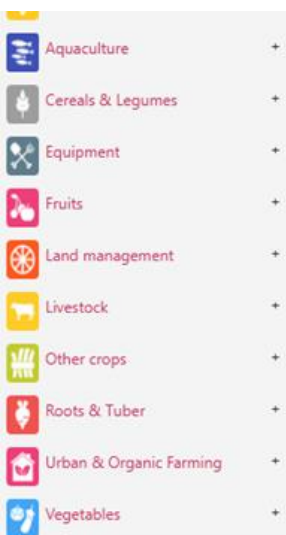
## 2. UNYFA-TRIAS -AHA DGD PROJECT

The DGD program is a tripartite arrangement between UNYFA, TRIAS and AHA. The program is a 5-year project (2022-2026) with an overall out reach of empowering and supporting 1000 young Agripreneurs within their agribusiness enterprises and further foster their competitiveness within the agribusiness space through Lobby and advocacy. The year 2022 kick started the project and we managed to carryout the various activities: Development of policy, guidelines and strategies with a specific gender approach to enhance the real participation of women on equal terms with male members.; Gender strategy and policy developed. Presented to the Board for adoption and ownership; Conducted member and voter education through decentralised Pre-AGMs The pre-AGM's were conducted in Two region (North and Eastern having 3 representatives from each Member. Training in digital technology and tools-110 members were trained in use of digital marketing and how to utilize digital tools to enhance their production. Design, print, and distribute information materials to members through News letter and Seed Magazine 100 Magazine were printed and distributed to members; Reviewing the strategic plan of UNYFA to integrate the issues of climate change and environment Using a problem tree approach, causes and effects of climate change were identified regionally and prioritized for the national Agenda; Attending National and international Climate and Environmental meetings to advocate member issues against climate change CEO attended COP 27; Conducted a beneficiary profiling (as part of the 1000 direct beneficiaries) combined with business and training needs analysis with the view of understanding better the members and their' businesses in order to provide appropriate business services. 120 Agripreneurs, were profiled with the needs identified include; Linkage to financial services, market, training, and capacity building training. Engaged Trias Advisor to provide entrepreneurial trainings, technical advice and assistance to selected beneficiary groups.; Supported UNYFA members to participate in the National Agriculture show for exposure to agricultural technologies and developing business partnerships. individuals facilitated to attend the 28th Agriculture jinja show as both exhibitors and show goers. 38% being female youths; Needs Assessment of VSLA's within UNYFA structure 8 saving groups assessed for their needs in the areas of Sembabule and Nakasongola . Each with an average of 30 members; Training UNYFA Members (in regional clusters) in the in FACT (Farmer Advocacy consultation Tool)90 members trained; Conduct consultative meetings at sub national level to build consensus on issues for national attention.5 national. Challenges were: Delayed project kick off-the project started in late July in steady of January as anticipated during project planning; Wide coverage- UNYFA operating National wide makes activities very expensive to implement; Relying on external experts to execute at most all the activities makes the activity more costly. We should consider building internal expertise to reduce on cost activities. Recommendations: Concentrating on three regions maximally for the DGD program to effectively execute the activities and have a maximum impact; Need to develop monitoring tools to help track the outreach and impact as the project progress for easy tracking and Expose, train and build capacity of Staff to conduct trainings especially in climate change, gender, and lobby and advocacy.



### 3. FARMER ORGANIZATION VIDEO LIBRARY (FOVL)

The FOVL platform continues to offer lasting solutions to modern-day farmers in as far as accessing information is concerned. In a bid to make the platform even more exciting and engaging, Users can access the FOVL platform via <https://unyfa.fo-library.org/>, register for an account, and go right ahead. The platform is up and running with over 45 videos for various stages of agricultural value chains being sourced monthly, edited, translated into luganda, swahili and french languages and uploaded for farmers to better their farming practices. A new interface and software package were introduced to the platform towards the end of the year and we are now aiming at popularizing the platform to see that it accrues more subscribers and followers. The platform faces a challenge of having subscribers however in the reporting year, the project team embarked on developing marketing materials for the platform namely: pull-up banners; brochures; flyers; animations and presentations a key Information and Education Materials for the platforms. The team also participated in the annual National Agricultural Show and presented about the platform in the quest to guide and have more subscriber. A number of marketing approaches such as linking the platform to UNYFA website and social medias, mass media campaigns, community outreaches and so on are being discussed at the moment by UNYFA before the project funders (AHA) to develop its wide coverage and serve the purpose. FOVL impacts: Having the right information prior to beginning a farming enterprise is crucial. Our video library is here to answer all of your questions. Where, when, and from whom are all important questions. "I always utilize the Farmer Organization Video Library because, as a dedicated farmer, I am always eager to learn new farming techniques. Learning never ends, and with the FOVL, which also delivers agriculture information in local languages, learning never stops. I am able to discover new innovations, such as organic farming (agroecology) methods, which are less expensive to implement compared to the artificial practices that many people employ, which are not only harmful to our health but also costly to implement." - Ssemayengo Joseph-UNYFA member from Wakiso Youth Unit.



# UNYFA INHOUSE EXPERT CERTIFIED



Mr. Wandera Joseph -UNYFA Lead Trainer during one of the Training at UNYFA office.

## **UNYFA lead trainer, Wandera Joseph now a certified international trainer**

In a bid to empower local trainers in the East African region, AHA conducted training for 17 senior trainers of trainers from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia. They were trained to facilitate training in farmer organizations. From Uganda, we were honoured to have our lead trainer Wandera Joseph take part in this training and was certified by AHA as an international trainer. This given UNYFA a leverage in training farmers as it widened its local expertise base and position in carrying out capacity building sessions under the various projects and across the country. 'With every engagement or training, there is always more to learn. Be ready to share what you know and learn as much as you can from others. This is a platform for us to learn from those who have gone ahead of us, to grow and build the farming community and nation as a whole. The Young farmers' fraternity now has an international trainer closer to us.'- Wandera Joseph.

# KENAFF -UNYFA EXCHANGE



Early this year, UNYFA hosted a delegation of Kenya National Farmers Federation - KENAFF youth on a bench-marking mission for a week as they begin the process of putting in place the Young Farmers Federation of Kenya. This was a great time that was spent with our fellow young farmers from Kenya. We had an opportunity to exchange knowledge and share experiences. "It's incredible to witness the efforts of the young farmers who are harnessing the opportunities existent in the agriculture sector to improve their livelihoods, and contribute to the country's socioeconomic transformation." -Peter Owidi, Team leader Kenya National Farmers Federation - KENAFFyouth core team.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-2BRRRiQsoA>



# FARM SUCCESSION @ DIARY CO-OPERATIVES

## UNYFA Farm succession Service continuation with Agriterra/SNV at the Dairy Co-operatives:

In dairy farming, sustainability is a complex idea with many facets, including the economic the social and the environmental. It has proven to be an important source of income and employment for many people today and in years to come. Gainful participation in dairy is determined by an individual's ability to manage the barriers to entry because coming from a dairy-producing home does not necessarily result in gainful engagement in dairy production. UNYFA conducted the farm succession training for dairy farmers from Mbarara, Isingiro, Bushenyi, Ntungamo, Kiruhura, Lyantonde, Sheema, Kazo, Kamwenge, Sembabule, Kyegegwa and Kabarole. The main aim of the training was to create awareness among the farmers about farm succession as a new approach to creating employment and avail land to the young generation. It also aimed at guiding the farmers to understand what it takes for a successful transition of farm ownership. The farmers were specifically trained in communication, financial and legal aspects.



Farm succession workshop on communication at Rushere

# THE UNYFA 8TH AGRIBUSINESS TOUR



Participants of the 8th UNYFA Agribusiness tour during their visit to Sight Farm Namulonge to learn about Nutrition of Cow in Dairy Value Chain.



Participants of the 8th UNYFA Agribusiness tour performing a team building exercise during one of the mornings of the tour day.

UNYFA organizes annual agribusiness Tours biannually and this trip is meant to expose and offer on-farm learning experiences to young farmers and young people who want to just know more about agriculture. This year in June, we had more than 40 young farmers from across Uganda visit farms and tourism sites from Kampala, Wakiso, Mitayna, Mubende to FortPortal. The 5-day journey is summarized in this video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQLEpsEZSps)

[v=dQLEpsEZSps](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQLEpsEZSps)

# UNYFA GENDER POLICY & CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

Agricultural production in Sub-Saharan Africa is a predominantly small-scale farming system, with more than 50% of the agricultural activity performed by women. As a strategy, to make our activities and services more inclusive to all genders and vulnerable groups within the organization, UNYFA embarked on the process of developing a gender policy and guidelines on how women can have an equitable footing in our activities as their male counterparts. Likewise, a growing global population and changing diets are driving up the demand for food. Climate-smart agriculture which addresses the interlinked challenges of food security and climate change is a deliberate step UNYFA is taking. UNYFA reviewed its Strategic Plan and incorporated climate-smart interventions that will enable us to be much more assertive in our climate change actions.



Photo taken at Birinzi Farm -a UNYFA host Farm showing participation of female farmers in Ground nuts drying

# 28th NATIONAL AGRICULTURE SHOW

With the theme: “Fostering Resilient Commercial Agriculture for Agro-industrialization and wealth creation” The National Agricultural Show has been going on for the last 27 years and it is the biggest and leading agriculture exhibition in Uganda and East Africa with over 1000 exhibitors showcasing different products and services geared at improving agriculture in Uganda. The show sets a platform for knowledge bench-marking, and business and market opportunities for both exhibitors and show goers. It gives farmers the opportunity to attend agronomical, technological, industrial and entrepreneurial training. UNYFA’s participation in the show was aimed at exposing, creating market opportunities and gathering knowledge and information on the latest and available technologies within the sector that could assist young farmers to improve and boost their agri-business. 36 young farmers from across the country were sponsored to attend the show and they were able to be exposed and create business connections.



IYFEP participant Mr. Hendrick interacting with UNYFA FOVL project team at Jinja National Agricultural Show

# DLV PRESIDENT VISITS UNYFA



dlv Present handing over a gift to UNYFA President-Mr. Richard Semwanga and UNYFA CEO during her visit to UNYFA

We were honoured to host the President of the German Rural Women Association and the Program Manager for International Programs. dlv aims to improve the quality of life and working conditions for rural women. We are looking forward to this collaboration to increase the participation of young female farmers in key agriculture value chains and leadership.



# CELEBRATING YOUNG FEMALE FARMERS



Ms. Milly Phoebe Nagawa in her vegetable garden

To mark the celebration of International Day, GIZ awarded several rural female farmers for the work they are doing in rural communities. Our own Ms. Milly Phoebe Nagawa from Masaka (in the photo) was awarded for her great work in supporting women and youth in Masaka to improve their well-being through farming. Phoebe has supported 171 households in the Buwunga sub-county to use improved seeds, supported 47 women groups to form savings groups, trained community volunteers in horticulture and is an advocate for a sustainable environment through tree planting campaigns.

**Female young farmers graduate from the mentorship and coaching of the Young Women Agripreneurs Program in East Africa:** From May to October 2022, 10 female young farmers (UNYFA members) participated in the mentorship and coaching of Young Women Agripreneurs Program in East Africa by Africa Women Agribusiness Network with financial support from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The training entailed physical and virtual sessions, practical application of principles taught and on farm visits.

Ms. Sarah Awor, a participant and the female representative on the National Executive Committee of UNYFA while sharing her experience during the graduation ceremony the training has changed her mindset towards doing business because she now understands the need for proper planning and keeping records. Sarah also thanked the trainers and funders for looking out for female farmers and being deliberate to support them to turn their farms into profitable ventures.

# UNYFA AT COP27, SHARMA EL SHEIKH CITY



UNYFA CEO -Mr. Denis Kabiito on Left side during the Panel discussions at COP27 , Sharm El Sheikh Egypt

The 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as COP27, was the 27th United Nations Climate Change conference, held from 6 November until 20 November 2022 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. COP27 presidency vision was to move from negotiations and planning to implementation. It sought action on the ground and rapidly moved towards full, timely, inclusive, and at-scale action on the ground. Farmer's constituency at COP27. For the first time, we had farmers' constituency In UNFCCC meetings. UNYFA was represented by the CEO Mr. Kabiito Denis on the table to discuss with politicians and decision- makers on climate change. Often farmers have been neglected or left behind but only blamed to be part of the problem. We are the fundamental fulcrum for the solutions. Therefore, we had the opportunity to congregate daily but also have a special day to organize a farmers' market. To share the solutions, and successes but also what should be done. I presented some key things we do as young farmers to the globe as a panelist.

# UNYFA ROLLS-OUT ONE HEALTH



Panellists comprising officials from Solidaridad, MAAIF One Health UNYFA and FAO One Health

The Young Farmers Federation of Uganda (UNYFA) being an umbrella organization for youth in agriculture, embarked on building the capacity of its members, creating of awareness about One Health. UNYFA conducted a ToT training on One Health at Masaka City, for 40 in composition of farmers representing different District Young Farmer Associations [DYFA]/farmer-led community-based organisations from Masaka, Luwero, Nakasongola, Sembabule, Mbarara, Ibanda, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Madi-Okollo, Oyam, Mpigi and others were extension workers local governments and Ministry of Agriculture, Animal industry and fisheries. The participants were trained on the various aspects of One Health including; basic one health concept, relevance of one health, application of one health in solving public health challenges such as zoonotic diseases, climate change, food safety and security, Antimicrobial Resistance [AMR]. The Training was followed by social media campaigns and a round table dialogue organized on 15th December 2022, at Fairway Hotel Kampala which was graced by stakeholders from Ministry of Health, MAAIF, FAO, Solidaridad, UNFFE and our members. One Health is a collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach- working at local, regional, national, and global levels - to achieve optimal health and well-being outcomes by recognizing the interconnections between people, animal, plants and their shared environment. Within this complex web of interactions, One Health takes a holistic perspective to understand the evolution and transmission of diseases. The focus is mainly on preventive measures in order to preserve health and minimize risks.

# CONCLUSION

We extend our sincere appreciation to each one of you for being part of the UNYFA family and look forward to future collaborations and your continued support. We hope you had a lovely holiday season with your loved ones. We are excited about what we shall achieve together in 2023!

The Coming up in year 2023 is creation of Market linkages through establishment of the UNYFA Shop a physical and online marketplace to sell our agriculture products. We encourage young farmers from across Uganda to brace themselves for this opportunity which will offer them a platform to market their products better.

With Support from dlV & GIZ we envisage the roll-out of ECAWA Project (Enhancing the Capacity of Young Women in Agri-business) in the month of March, 2023. The project will target is 400 female farmers coming from Northern and West Nile region.

UNYFA will continue to organize the International Young Farmers' Exchange Program and in year 2023 we shall have two rounds namely IYFEP-6 and IYFEP-7.

The Elective Annual General Meeting will be organized in August/October 2023 and new term of leadership for UNYFA will commence.