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ACSA ANNUAL REPORT 2025

“Collective Voices
for Sustainable
Development”

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

1.	ACCEC	Action for Climate Change Education Conservation
2.	ACALISE	African Centre of Excellence in Agro-Ecology and Livelihood Systems
3.	ACSA	Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture
4.	AFIRD	Agency for Integrated Rural Development
5.	ASSP	Agriculture Sector Strategic Plan
6.	ASWG	Agricultural Sector Working Group
7.	CANU	Climate Change Action Network
8.	CONSENT	Consumer Education Trust
9.	CSBAG	Civil Society Advocacy Group
10.	CSO	Civil Society Organization
11.	FRA	Food Rights Alliance
12.	JASAR	Joint Agricultural Sector Annual Review
13.	MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
14.	MDMFO	Mityana District Modern Farmers
15.	MP	Member of Parliament
16.	MoL	Ministry of Lands
17.	MTIC	Ministry of Trade, Industries and Cooperatives
18.	MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
19.	MUMPIFA	Mutuba Gumu Mpigi Farmers Association
20.	MUK	Makerere University Kampala
21.	NACORI	National Agriculture Coffee Research Institute
22.	NARO	National Agriculture Research Organisation
23.	NDP	National Development Plan
24.	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
25.	NOAP	National Organic Agriculture Policy
26.	NOGAMU	National Organic Agriculture Movement of Uganda
27.	OA	Organic Agriculture
28.	PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
29.	PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
30.	P & V	People and Views
31.	RUCID	Rural Community In Development
32.	SEATIN	Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations
33.	SODI	Skill Oriented Development Initiatives
34.	UCSD	Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development
35.	UGOCERT	Uganda Organic Certification
36.	UMU	Uganda Martyrs University
37.	UNFFE	Uganda National farmers' Federation
38.	URSB	Uganda Registration Services Bureau
39.	UYDNET	Uganda Youth Development Network



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

“Reflecting on a Year of Transition, Growth and Impact”

It is with honor and pleasure that I welcome you to the ACSA AGM for the Year 2025 as I reflect on the achievements of ACSA during 2025. Despite a challenging and rapidly changing global environment, the year marked an important period of strategic transition and growth for our network.

Through the commitment of our members, the Secretariat, and both the outgoing and incoming Boards, ACSA successfully navigated the transition between project phases, adapted to evolving donor funding realities, on-boarded new partners, and continued to deliver on its mission of strengthening agroecology and sustainable food systems in Uganda in the now prevailing reducing donor support. I must say that ACSA has reached several milestones in the year 2025 and at this point, I would like to thank the previous board under the Chairmanship of Eustace Sajjabi for steering the network very well. Picking it from where you stopped, together we have been able to achieve the following major milestones.

One of the major highlights of the year was securing a new three-year grant from Misereor, which provides a strong foundation for the network's continued growth and impact. We were also pleased to welcome several new strategic partners, including Power for Food Partnership (SNV), Women in Mining (WoMIN), DKA Austria, Horizont 3000, and Capital Solutions Limited (CSL).

During the year, ACSA finalized and launched two important guiding frameworks: the ACSA Strategic Plan 2025–2030 and-

the ACSA Strategy for Food Security in Plantation Growing Areas 2025–2030.

These documents provide a clear roadmap for advancing our mission and responding to emerging challenges and opportunities. Our policy engagement efforts have also continued to yield results. ACSA contributed to key national and regional policy processes, including the National Agroecology Strategy, the Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Policy, the Value Addition Strategy, the East African Community Seed and Plant Varieties Bill 2025, Food and Nutrition Policy discussions, and ongoing dialogues on agroecology financing, EUDR implementation, and Just transitions. The network also published a study on the Stumbling Blocks and Enablers in the Implementation of Organic Agriculture Value Chains in Uganda and developed a range of policy briefs and simplified policy materials to support wider stakeholder engagement.

At the membership level, we strengthened capacities in advocacy and compliance, resulting in a more vibrant and influential network. These efforts have contributed to stronger partnerships, increased visibility, and the on-boarding of new members. As our membership grows, so too does our collective voice and ability to influence positive change. These achievements would not have been possible without the invaluable support of our partners, particularly Misereor Germany, Power for Food Partnership (SNV), UMU/ACALISE, Horizont 3000, JA, and WoMIN. We are deeply grateful for their trust and collaboration.

We were also honored to host our major partners, Mr. Martin Gottsacker and Dr. Sabine Dörlöchter Sulser from Misereor Germany, whose engagement enriched our understanding of the evolving global development landscape and the opportunities available to civil society organizations and farming communities.

As we look to 2026, ACSA remains committed to strengthening policy influence, expanding strategic partnerships, mobilizing resources, and enhancing the capacity of our members to champion sustainable and resilient food systems. We believe we are well-positioned to capitalize on new opportunities and we are confident that, together, we can continue to create meaningful impact for smallholder farmers and rural communities across Uganda.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their guidance and commitment as we continue to provide the oversight with the highest levels of integrity. I extend my deepest gratitude to the secretariat for their hard work, and to you, our shareholders, for your continued trust, loyalty, and confidence in the leadership of this organization. Let us continue to support the least of the humanity in different things so that God is seen in the work we do.

For God and My Country.



FLORENCE NDAGIRE KAKANDE

Chairperson, ACSA Board.



MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Dear Members, Partners and well-wishers, 2025 has been a year of great resilience in amidst of the changing Civil Society (CSO) landscape in Uganda and this has been possible with all of us moving together. Through it all, ACSA network in general has moved stride in in attracting relevant partnerships and linkages that advance the shared vision of ensuring and enabling environment for farmers to thrive. In the year 2025 ACSA has reached a number of milestones for growth and success that included: the development of two guiding frameworks - ACSA Strategic Plan 2025 -2030, ACSA Strategy for Food security in Plantation Growing Areas 2025 -2030, Documented and Published a study on the Stumbling Blocks and Enablers in Implementation of Organic Agriculture Value Chains in Uganda; established a new partnership of Power For Food Partnership – SNV, Women In Mining (WoMIN) and Horizont 3000, Capital Solution Limited (CSL), and elected a new board of Directors.

With respected to the core mandate of advocating for farmer-friendly agrarian policies and budgets, ACSA was able to support policy processes at different levels like National Agroecology Strategy (NAS), Genetic Resource for Food and Agriculture Policy (GRFA), Value Addition Strategy, fast-tracking of the Bills tabled (2023–2025), generated policy summary pagers, inputting into the East African Community Seed and Plant varieties bill, 2025, Food and Nutrition Strategy, EUDR discussions, EU financing for Agroecology, Just transition for Agroecology, as well as the generation of Policy Popular Versions of Bills and ACTs.

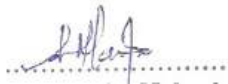
Through these, the voices of CSOs and farmers were amplified at national, regional and international policy levels.

On the other hand, ACSA strengthened the capacities of the members and their smallholder farmers in areas of advocacy for change through an on-gong cohort training program, governance and compliance issues, and local resource mobilization and social enterprise development towards suitability of interventions in communities. This in addition to putting in place additional organizational policies has built an exemplary and unique network in the country whose key strategic interventions are now hinged on the following 7 pillars: Advocacy and lobbying for agrarian policies, budgets and services; Promotion of climate resilience, sustainable organic agriculture and agroecological techniques; Research, Innovation and Dissemination; Strategic Partnership and alliances; Responsible consumption of healthy and indigenous foods; Seed systems and Land use Management; and Institutional development in pursuance of a Collective Voices for Sustainable Development.

ACSA has maintained her uniqueness in partnership with MAAIF, CSBAG, FRA and other stakeholders to support policy and budget processes in the relevant technical committees, which were reinforced by, TWG in relevant agrarian policy process that include fast-tracking and inputting into Genetic Resources for the annual fora like the National Organic Agriculture Innovation and Research Dissemination Symposium, 2025; Seed Diversity Fair 2025;

CSOs, Farmers- Students Platform 2025; which continue to support the scaling up of policies and practices. Nevertheless, the milestones would not be possible without the support from primarily ACSA Board members and Board Technical Advisory committee (BTAC). Secondly, the Technical advisory visit Mr. Martin Gottsacker - Misereor Africa Depart' Desk officer Ethiopia, Uganda, Djibouti, Somalia, Eritrea, Dr. Sabine Dorlöchter Sulser Desk Officer for Rural Development Africa / Middle East, Misereor - Germany and most importantly, our major development partner, Misereor Germany together with and PFP – SNV for supporting ACSA interventions as well as all ACSA strategic partners who have exhibited strong and good collaboration and partnership in pursuit of the enabling policy environment for farmers to thrive, through policy and budget engagements and these include but not limited to CSBAG, CEFROHT, FRA, MAAIF, MWE, MUK, PELUM, SEATIN, UFCVP, UMU/ ACALISE, UNFFE. Last but not least, I commend ACSA membership for the unprecedented commitment to contribute to her vision of **“Smallholder farmers living in a Sustainable Environment** and together we can achieve **“Collective Voices for Sustainable Development”**.

Looking ahead, ACSA is commitment to advocating for an enabling policy framework policy framework for improved service delivery through an empowered CSOs and their smallholder farmers to collectively address the systemic challenges in agrifood systems while building sustainable enterprises. Small steps, small actions if done collectively and in solidarity without leaving any one behind will contribute to the just agrifood system.



NAKASI HARRIET - NATIONAL COORDINATOR

1.0

OVERVIEW OF ACSA

1.1 Who are we

The **Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA)** is a legally registered national network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) dedicated to improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and promoting the sustainability of farming communities in Uganda. **ACSA advocates for sustainable agriculture, agroecology, agricultural market development, environmental conservation, research, and policy reforms** to create a more favorable agrarian policy environment. By building the capacity of farmers and CSOs, ACSA ensures that agricultural policies respond to the real needs of smallholder farmers. Through collaborative action, technical engagement, and evidence-based advocacy, ACSA strives to champion a just and resilient food system. Founded as a national network, ACSA now brings together **30 member organizations** across **55 districts in the Central, Eastern, Western, and West Nile regions**. Its diverse membership includes **15 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), 7 Faith-Based Organizations, 3 Regional/Thematic Networks, and 5 Farmers' Associations**. Together, these organizations form a unified voice advocating for smallholder farmers' rights, sustainable agricultural practices, agroecology, and inclusive policy reforms. ACSA's mandate is: "Advocating for a favorable agrarian policy environment for smallholder farmers in Uganda."

1.2 ACSA Operational Context in 2025

Institutional Context:

An enabling policy agrarian environment is very vital, coupled with strong institutions both at CSO and farmer levels to ensure sustainability of interventions as well as attracting relevant partnerships. ACSA continues to contribute to this enabling agrarian policy environment for smallholder farmers to thrive, while positioning herself as one of the major actors in supporting policy and budget processes at different levels. Since November 2007, ACSA's work is derived from her mandate and overall Goal of "Relevant agriculture policies and services for Small Holder Farmers (SHFs) are implemented to foster profitable sustainable agriculture enterprises", which is achieved through lobbying and advocating for agrarian policies and budgets that support the cause of the smallholder farmers in Uganda. This has been done primarily through capacity building of ACSA member organizations and their smallholder farmers to undertaking effective lobbying and advocacy towards accessing government resources and services at different levels for improved livelihoods. Secondly, the continuous technical accompanying support and mentorship of ACSA CSO membership to ensure good governance, legitimacy of institutions, visibility and compliance with the national laws. This has led to confidence building in the membership to build strong strategic partnerships and exploit opportunities that support their work at national and local government levels. On the other hand, ACSA supports local government to understand the policies and ACSA's supporting agriculture as well as building their capacity to implement them thereby enabling farmers to have collective voices to access services and-

resources within their reach through Government programs like Parish Development Model (PDM), Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers (UgIFT), Grow among others for complementarity and sustainability of their interventions within the communities. This approach has contributed to strong ACSA Membership who can ably contribute to smallholder farmer friendly policies and budgets for improved service delivery.

In the year 2025 ACSA has continued her operation among members CSOs, Local government and SHFs and other actors in Uganda with innovativeness in agriculture value chain through capacity building and mentorship in effective advocacy and lobbying at different levels, Peer to Peer learning as well as engagements with line ministries and actor like-minded actors. This has been made possible through the continued support from MISEREOR – Germany and collaboration with Power for Food Partnership (P4FP)-SNV following the thematic areas: Advocacy and lobbying for agrarian policies, budgets and services, Promotion of climate resilience, sustainable organic agriculture/ Regenerative Agriculture- Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) and agroecological techniques, Research, Innovation and Dissemination, Strategic partnership and alliances, Responsible consumption of healthy and indigenous foods, Seed systems and Land use Management, and Institutional development.

Additional mile stones have been reached in finalizing and publishing the operational guiding frameworks – the **ACSA Strategy for Food Security in Plantational Growing areas 2025 – 2030** as well as the **ACSA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030**.



1.3 ACSA Strategic Direction



ACSA Overall Goal is
"Relevant agriculture policies and services for Small Holder Farmers (SHFs) are implemented to foster profitable sustainable agriculture enterprises"



ACSA Mission is "to empower civil society organizations working with small holder farmers to advocate for favorable agrarian Policy environment for sustainable communities"



ACSA Vision of
"Smallholder farmers living in a Sustainable Environment"

ACSA Strategic Objectives;

- 1 Member Organizations and smallholder farmers influence agrarian policy and budgeting processes at local and national level
- 2 Member Organizations access, generate, exchange and disseminate information and innovations, for evidence-based advocacy at local and national level
- 3 ACSA and its Member Organizations foster strategic partnerships, alliances and collective action for improved service delivery to small holder farmers at local and national levels
- 4 ACSA and Member organizations are continuously developing strategies that lead to improved food security, nutrition, climate resilience and change in consumption habits at all levels.
- 5 Supporting MOs to improve SHF incomes through promoting on-farm and off-farm activities, value addition and market access.
- 6 Strengthening capacities of ACSA Board, secretariat and Member Organizations for effective and efficient service delivery.



Core Values: Spirituality, Commitment, Empathy, Professionalism, Transparency, Love and care, Equal participation.



ACSA's Slogan:
Collective Voices for Sustainable Development

ACSA's Focus Areas

- 1 Advocacy and lobbying for agrarian policies, budgets and services
- 2 Promotion of climate resilience, sustainable organic agriculture and agroecological techniques,
- 3 Research, Innovation and Dissemination,
- 4 Strategic partnership and alliances,
- 5 Responsible consumption of healthy and indigenous foods,
- 6 Seed systems and Land use Management, and
- 7 Institutional development.

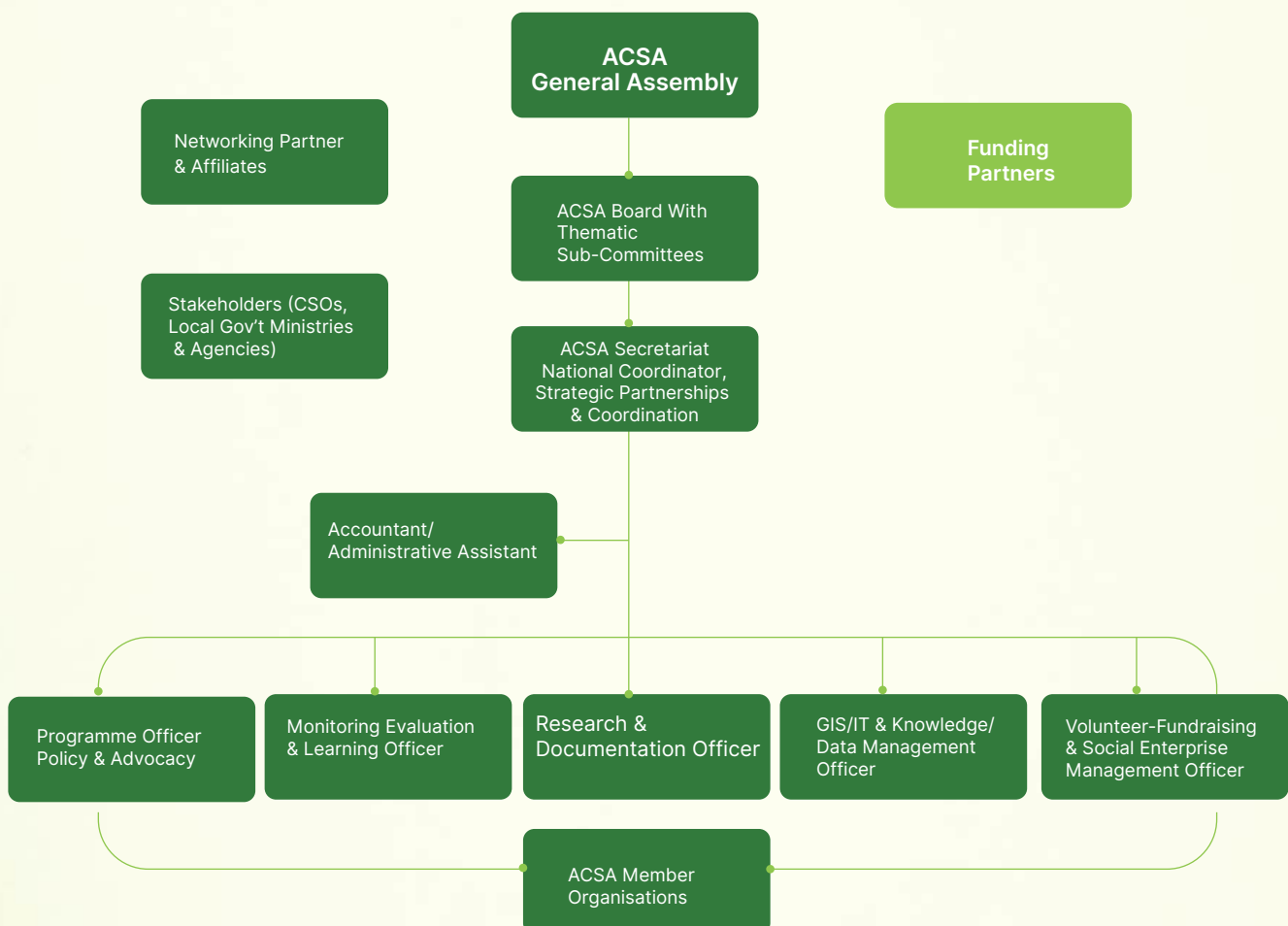
1.4 ACSA Corporate Governance Statement

ACSA is committed to adhering to best practices in corporate governance for non-profit organizations, with a focus on transparency, accountability, and operational efficiency. In alignment with Uganda's NGO Act and best practices for non-profit organizations, ACSA continuously improves its governance, policies, and practices to enhance organizational impact.

Governance Structure: ACSA operates under a Constitution, formally adopted by its member organizations, and continuously reviewed to ensure alignment with the network's evolving goals. The Constitution is the foundational governance document that defines ACSA's roles, responsibilities, and processes. It also outlines the election and re-election procedures for Board members, ensuring fair representation of ACSA's diverse membership.

Supreme Governing Body: The Annual General Meeting (AGM), held annually, serves as the supreme governing body of ACSA. This meeting is responsible for electing the Board of Directors, approving key strategic decisions, and ensuring broad member participation in the governance process. The AGM ensures a democratic approach to governance, where members have the opportunity to engage in discussions, vote on critical matters, and provide input on the organization's future direction. Additionally, during the Country Working Group Meetings, the annual audited financial statements, Chairperson's reports, and the appointment of auditors are reviewed and adopted by ACSA members. These meetings serve as a platform for transparency, where ACSA's financial health and organizational progress are presented and evaluated by the membership.

Figure 1: ACSA Organogram



1.5 ACSA Board of Directors

ACSA Board of Directors: Driving Strategic Vision and Institutional Integrity

In 2025, ACSA elected a new Board of Directors composed of seasoned professionals with extensive expertise in sustainable agriculture/agroecology, policy advocacy, financial management and audit, institutional development, and resource mobilization. Guided by the ACSA Constitution, the Board is entrusted with providing overall governance oversight and strategic direction to the organization. Its key responsibilities include approving annual budgets and reports, appointing the Executive Director, and ensuring adherence to institutional policies and accountability frameworks.

Throughout 2025, the Board has continued to demonstrate strong governance, thought leadership, and strategic accountability. It has played a critical role in strengthening institutional integrity, guiding organizational priorities, and ensuring that ACSA remains aligned with its mandate of promoting sustainable agriculture and empowering smallholder farmers in Uganda.

Among the outstanding achievements of the Board during the tenure were the provision of strong governance and strategic oversight, demonstrated through exceptional commitment and unwavering consistency in holding statutory meetings. The Board effectively operated through well-functioning technical committees that provided timely policy and programmatic guidance, reinforced governance standards, and strengthened risk management systems in close collaboration with the Secretariat.

Secondly, the Board provided critical advisory support that enhanced operational stability across the organization. In addition, it played a key role in stakeholder engagement and resource mobilization, serving as ambassadors of ACSA. Through strategic engagements with Members of Parliament, government agencies, and development partners, the Board significantly improved the visibility of ACSA at national and regional levels. This engagement laid a strong foundation for new partnerships and sustainability strategies, thereby strengthening ACSA's growth, resilience, and long-term impact.



Board and Committee Orientation Training

Strengthening Governance Systems and Board Effectiveness:



Board Orientation and Capacity building by Mr. Joseph Kaggwa

ACSA enhanced the effectiveness of its governance structures through targeted Board capacity development and structured oversight processes. A 2-day Board Orientation Training was conducted to strengthen leadership capacity in governance, strategic decision-making, risk management, and institutional oversight. In addition, multiple Board Committee meetings including the Programs and Resource Mobilization Committee, were held to review organizational performance, financial accountability, audit findings, and strategic priorities. These engagements also strengthened AGM preparations, succession planning, and alignment of Board functions with the 2025–2030 Strategic Plan.



Table 1: The 8 members ACSA I board comprised of Treasurer derived from the Member CSOs but with relevant competences to support the secretariat as below;

#	Name	Position on ACSA Board	Organization & Designation
1	Mrs. Florence Kakande	Chair Person	Equator Commercial – Director
2.	Ms. Emily Drijaru	Vice Chairperson	ICS – Executive Director
3.	Mr. Joseph Kasibante	Treasurer	KULIKA Uganda - Financial manager
4.	Mr. Matovu Geofrey	Member	HOCADDO – Team Leader
5.	Mr. Mulindwa George	Member	Caritas Lugazi – Project Coordinator
6.	Mrs. Nantume Leocardia	Member	Caritas MADDU – Field Extension Staff
7.	Mr. Ababo Stephen	Member	PENDO AFRICA – Executive Director
8.	Ms. Harriet Nakasi	Secretary- Ex-Official	National Coordinator

The following are the Board of Directors



Florence Kakande
Chairperson



Emily Drijaru
Vice Chairperson



Joseph Kasibante
Treasurer



Matovu Geoffrey
Member



Ababo Stephen
Member



Nantume Leocardia
Member



George Kizito Mulindwa
Member

Major Contributions of the board:

The ACSA Board played a pivotal strategic and governance role in 2025, significantly strengthening the network's effectiveness, credibility, and impact across all programme areas. Through its leadership, the Board contributed to shaping innovative and more effective approaches to lobbying and advocacy, enabling ACSA and its member organizations to engage more strategically with policy actors and improve service delivery outcomes for smallholder farmers and other target communities. This repositioned the network as a stronger voice in influencing the agrarian policy environment in Uganda.

In addition, the Board provided critical oversight in the development and refinement of key policies governing the network and its membership structures. These policy frameworks enhanced accountability, clarity of roles, and cohesion among member organizations, ensuring that ACSA operates on a strong institutional foundation. The Board also conducted thorough technical reviews of both narrative and financial reports, offering strategic guidance that improved reporting quality, compliance, transparency, and overall organizational performance.

Furthermore, the Board played a central role in identifying and nurturing strategic partnerships and linkages essential for the growth and sustainability of the network and its member organizations. It actively accompanied members through targeted technical support in institutional strengthening, governance systems, and organizational sustainability. Beyond internal support, the Board also represented and engaged with external stakeholders on behalf of members, strengthening ACSA's visibility, credibility, and influence at national and regional levels. Collectively, these contributions significantly enhanced the network's resilience, coordination, and long-term impact.

1.6 ACSA Board Committees:

The Board of Directors of the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) plays a pivotal role in guiding the strategic direction, governance, and overall sustainability of the organization. Composed of experienced professionals from member organizations and relevant sectors, the Board provides oversight, advisory support, and strategic linkages that ensure ACSA remains true to its mission of promoting sustainable agriculture and favorable agrarian policies for smallholder farmers in Uganda. The Board operates through regular meetings and specialized committees, fostering close collaboration with the Secretariat and key stakeholders to drive the organization's vision and impact.

1 The Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) is responsible for overseeing financial audits, budgeting, and risk management to maintain ACSA's financial integrity and accountability. It ensures that all financial operations are transparent and in compliance with industry standards, mitigating risks that may affect the organization's sustainability. The ARMC plays a critical role in safeguarding the organization's assets and maintaining the trust of stakeholders.

No	Name	Position	Organization
1.	Mr. Joseph Kasibante	Chairperson	KULIKA
2.	Ms. Gorretti Kibone	Member	Uganda Revenue Authority
3.	Mr. Vicent Mutaawe	Member	ACSA
4	Ms. Harriet Nakasi	Member	ACSA

2 The Programs Committee (PC) monitors the performance of ACSA's programs, ensuring they align with the organization's strategic goals and effectively meet the needs of smallholder farmers. It assesses the impact of each program, providing guidance and recommendations for improvement. By regularly evaluating the programs, the PC ensures that ACSA's initiatives are both relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of the farming community.

No	Name	Position	Organization
1..	Mr. Ababo Stephen	Chairperson	PENDO AFRICA
2.	Mr. Matovu Geofrey	Member	HOCADAO
3.	Ms. Nantume Leocardia	Member	Caritas MADDO
4.	Ms. Harriet Nakasi	Member	ACSA
5.	Mrs. Nassuuna Florence	Member	ACSA

3 The Resource Mobilization Committee (RMC)- focuses on securing resources to sustain ACSA's long-term impact by driving fundraising efforts and enhancing the organization's financial sustainability. It develops strategies to attract funding from diverse sources, including grants, partnerships, and donations. The RMC ensures that ACSA can continue to execute its mission and expand its reach through the efficient mobilization of resources.

No	Name	Position	Organization
1.	Mrs. Florence Kakande	Chairperson	Equator Commercial
2.	Ms. Emily Drijaru	Member	ICS
3.	Mr. Matovu Geofrey	Member	HOCADAO
4.	Ms. Harriet Nakasi	Member	ACSA

4 Board Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC): The Board Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC)- provides expert guidance on governance, compliance, and ACSA's focus on maintaining its niche in sustainable agriculture. Its main role is to ensure all ACSA initiatives comply with the latest technical standards and best practices, particularly in agroecology and sustainable agriculture. The BTAC oversees program implementation, regulatory compliance, and offers strategic advice to the Board. It ensures that ACSA's projects effectively meet the needs of smallholder farmers. The committee helps align ACSA's initiatives with its long-term goals and its commitment to sustainable, inclusive, and agroecological practices. BTAC's guidance supports the Board in making informed decisions about program priorities. This ensures ACSA's activities are impactful, scientifically sound, and adhere to governance frameworks and industry standards.

No	Name	Position	Organization
1..	Mrs. Stella Lutalo	Chairperson	Consultant Civil source
2.	Ms. Joseph Kaggwa	Member	Humentum
3.	Mr. Joseph Semakula	Member	Uganda Martyrs University
4.	Ms. Harriet Nakasi	Member	ACSA

In 2025 a new Board was inducted and training to equip them with knowledge and skill in good governance, while familiarizing with ACSA's Constitution, operations, and key policies. Additionally, the Board members are encouraged to participate in ongoing professional development to stay current with governance best practices. While ACSA lays a strong emphasis on Ethical Standards and Code of Conduct of the Board and staff giddied by a comprehensive Code of Conduct, other aspects like performance evaluation and reflection through which governance performance is evaluated annually is equally important. This coupled with internal coordination and member engagement are constantly emphasized to improve internal communication and coordination among its members, by ensuring that all voices are heard in decision-making processes.

ACSA Co-opted Board Committee Members



Goretti Kibone, Audit & Risk Management Committee



Nakanyike Sylvia Programs Committee

1.7 ACSA Management Staff:

The ACSA Secretariat has continued to play a pivotal role in driving the organization's strategic agenda throughout the reporting period. Under the leadership of the National Coordinator, the dedicated management team ensured smooth coordination of programmatic activities, resource mobilization, stakeholder engagement, and institutional compliance. The staff have demonstrated unwavering commitment to advancing ACSA's vision of smallholder farmers living in a sustainable environment. Through effective planning, collaboration with member organizations, and adaptive leadership, the Secretariat successfully supported key advocacy initiatives, capacity-building interventions, research efforts, and network strengthening. As the engine of ACSA's operations, the management staff have remained focused on transparency, accountability, and impact, enabling the organization to meet its objectives and uphold its reputation as a leading voice in sustainable agriculture and agrarian policy advocacy in Uganda.



Harriet Nakasi

National Coordinator /
Strategic Partnerships
& Coordination



Florence Nassuuna

Program Officer
Policy & Advocacy



Alex Mwiine

Monitoring Evaluation
& Learning Officer



Vicent Paul Mutaawe

Accountant/
Administrative Assistant



Benjamin Kato

Knowledge
Management & IT Officer



Namakula Diana

Research &
Documentation Officer



Dominik Gabel

Technical Advisor
Value Chain

2.0

ACSA TARGET GROUP

ACSA brings together 30 member organizations across 55 districts in the Central, Eastern, Western, and West Nile regions disaggregated as below:

Table 2: Categorization ACSA Target groups and Demographics

#	Item	Numbers
1.	Total Member Organizations	30
2.	Categories	
	Non-Government Organization	16
	Farmer organisations	05
	Faith based organization	08
	Networks	01
3.	MOs with commercial wings (Social Enterprises)	14
4.	Total no. of Farmers reached by these MOs (Excluding networks)	39,824
5.	Total Farmer groups (Excluding networks)	1,566
6.	Farmer Cooperatives (Excluding networks)	28
7.	Total Households (Excluding networks)	20,296
8.	Female Farmers (Excluding networks)	23,057 (57.9%)
9.	Male Farmers (Excluding networks)	16,606 (41.7%)
10.	Youth Farmers (Excluding networks) but included in sex	9,435 (23.7%)
11.	Schools (Excluding networks)	195
12.	Sub Counties (Excluding networks)	636
13.	Districts (Excluding networks)	55
14.	Total farmers (Networks)	15,236

Table 3: List of Member Organizations and Coverage as at 31st December 2025

#	CSO	Districts of Operation	Year of Joining ACSA
1.	Action for Climate Change Education Conservation (ACCEC)	Masaka	2025
2.	Agency for Integrated Rural Development (AFIRD)	Wakiso	2006
3.	Caritas Fortportal	Bundibugyo, Bunyangabu, Kabarole,	2022
4.	Caritas Hoima	Hoima, Kagadi, Masindi, Kakumiro, Kikube, Buliisa	2006
5.	Caritas Kampala	Wakiso	2006
6.	Caritas Kasese	Kasese, Kyenjojo, Kibaale	2018
7.	Caritas Lugazi	Buikwe, Mukono	2012
8.	Caritas Masaka Diocesan Development Organization (MADDO)	Kalangala, Rakai, Masaka Lwengo	2006
9.	Caritas Mbarara	Ibanda, Buhweju, Rubirizi	2022
10.	Equator Commercial Farming & Processors (ECOFAP) Nutri-foods	Wakiso, Mpigi	2019
11.	Green Light Future Union	Buikwe, Butambala, Hoima, Wakiso, Luwero, Mpigi, Kayunga, Buvuma, Jinja, Kamuli, Mayuge	2025
12.	Green Organic Farmers' Cooperative Union (GOFCU)	Buikwe, Butambala, Hoima, Luwero, Mpigi, Wakiso	2025
13.	Happy leaves Bioservices	Buikwe, Kampala, Kayunga, Masaka, Mpigi Wakiso	2023
14.	Pendo Africa/ Heat International (HI)	Arua, Madi-Okollo, Maracha, Nebbi	2019
15.	Homeland Organics	Mubende	2019
16.	Integrated Child Services(ICS)	Arua, Madi-Okollo,	2021
17.	Kakunyu Parents Support Association for Children with Special Needs	Lwengo	2014
18.	Kazo Mixed Farmers` Association (KAMIFA)	Mubende	2013
19.	KULIKA Uganda	Wakiso, Mityana, Mubende Kiboga, Arua, Nebbi , Lira, Oyam, Kamuli, Iganga, Kumi	2018
20.	Mayuge Famers` Association	Mayuge	2015
21.	Mityana District Modern Farmers` Organisation (MDMFO)	Mityana, Mubende, Kasanda	2013
22.	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM)	Countrywide	2015
23.	People and Views (P&V)	Mpigi	2006
24.	PEWOSA	Central Uganda	2025
25.	PROMETRA Uganda	Wakiso, Mpigi	2019
26.	Rural Community in Development (RUCID)	Mityana, Kiboga, Kyankyanzi	2006
27.	Skills Oriented Development Initiatives (SODI)	Mpigi, Wakiso	2019
28.	Uganda Youth at Development Network (UYDNET)	Buikwe	2014
29.	Integrated Functional Literacy for Development (IFLID)	Busia, Namayingo	2025

Table 4: List of Networking Member Organizations and Coverage as at 31st December 2025

#	CSO	Districts of Operation	Year of Joining ACSA
1	National Organic Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)	Countrywide	2006
2	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management	Countrywide	2015
3	Uganda Governance and Poverty Alleviation Program (UGOPAP)	Country wide	2018

Table 5: ACSA Membership Payment as at 31st Dec 2025

#	CSO	Year 2022	Year 2023	Year 2024	Year 2025
1.	Action for Climate Change Education Conservation				✓
2.	Agency for Integrated Rural Development (AFIRD)	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.	Caritas Fortportal		✓	✓	✓
4.	Caritas Hoima	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.	Caritas Kampala	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.	Caritas Lugazi	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.	Caritas Masaka Diocesan Development Organization (MADDO)	✓	✓	✓	✓
8.	Caritas Mbarara		✓	✓	✓
9.	Caritas Kasese				✓
10.	Equator Commercial Farming & Processors (ECOFAP)Nutri-foods	✓	✓	✓	✓
11.	Green Light Future Union	✓			✓
12.	Green Organic Farmers' Cooperative Union (GOFUCU)				✓
13.	Happy leaves Bioservices		✓	✓	✓
14.	Pendo Africa /Heat International (HI)	✓	✓	✓	✓
15.	Homeland Organics	✓	✓		
16.	Integrated Child Services(ICS)	✓	✓	✓	✓
17.	Kakunyu Parents Support Association for Children with Special Needs	✓	✓	✓	✓
18.	Kazo Farmers` Association (KFA)	✓	✓	✓	✓
19.	KULIKA Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓
20.	Mayuge Famers` Association	✓	✓	✓	✓
21.	Mityana-District Modern Farmers` Organisation (MDMFO)	✓	✓	✓	✓
22.	People and Views (P&V)	✓	✓	✓	✓
23.	PEWOSA				✓
24.	PROMETRA Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓
25.	Rural Community in Development (RUCID)	✓	✓		
26.	Skills Oriented Development Initiatives (SODI)	✓	✓	✓	✓
27.	Uganda Governance and Poverty Alleviation Program (UGOPAP)	✓	✓	✓	✓
28.	Uganda Youth at Development Network (UYDNET)	✓	✓	✓	✓
29.	Integrated Functional Literacy for Development (IFLID)				✓

#	CSO
1	National Organic Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)
2	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
3	Uganda Governance and Poverty Alleviation Program (UGOPAP)

3.0

OPERATING ECONOMIC & POLICY CONTEXT 2025

As Uganda pursued intensive electoral cycles in 2025, characterized by heightened political mobilization around Presidential, Parliamentary, and Local Government elections, the operating environment for civil society organizations became increasingly sensitive and dynamic. Political activities, public scrutiny, and institutional caution significantly shaped the space within which policy advocacy, accountability work, and citizen engagement were conducted. At the same time, major national policy and budget decisions including the launch of the National Development Plan IV (NDP IV) and approval of the FY2025/26 national budget created both opportunities and challenges for organizations such as the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA).

Electoral Environment and Civic Operating Space

As the country entered a politically charged election period, civic engagement, particularly work involving governance accountability, public expenditure tracking, and policy advocacy faced increased scrutiny. Civil society actors operating in governance and accountability spaces had to recalibrate their approaches to avoid political misinterpretation while sustaining citizen engagement and oversight.

For ACSA, this electoral environment required a more strategic, non-partisan, and evidence-based advocacy approach. Engagements involving land governance, agricultural financing, service delivery, and agrarian policy reforms had to be carefully positioned to protect institutional credibility while sustaining influence. The election cycle also presented an opportunity for ACSA to engage political actors, parties, and candidates to prioritize agriculture, food security, youth employment, climate resilience, and rural livelihoods in their campaign agendas and future policy commitments.

Approval and Launch of National Development Plan IV (NDP IV)

Uganda approved and launched the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) in 2025, setting the country's development direction for FY2025/26–2029/30. The plan is anchored on Uganda's ambition for accelerated economic transformation through the ten-fold growth strategy, with priority investments in agro-industrialization, tourism, mineral development, oil and gas, and science, technology, and innovation.

As ACSA, the launch of NDP IV created a critical policy engagement opportunity. Since agro-industrialization is a central pillar of the plan, ACSA is strategically positioned to influence implementation by ensuring that smallholder farmers, agroecology/regenerative agriculture and productive use of renewable energy (RA-PURE Nexus), organic agriculture, food systems resilience, and equitable market participation are integrated into government investment priorities. ACSA also has a responsibility to monitor whether implementation remains inclusive and responsive to rural farming communities.



CSOs during post budget dialogues and budgeting processes

Approval of the FY2025/26 National Budget

The Government approved a national budget of UGX 72.37 trillion for FY2025/26, representing a modest increase from the previous financial year. The budget prioritizes economic growth, infrastructure development, industrialization, and social service delivery.

This budget provides ACSA with a strong platform for budget advocacy and expenditure accountability. ACSA must continue analysing whether allocations to agriculture, extension services, RA-PURE Nexus which includes sustainable water for irrigation, climate adaptation, research, and farmer empowerment are sufficient and aligned with national development commitments. This also strengthens ACSA's role in ensuring that public investments translate into tangible benefits for smallholder farmers, women, and youth.

Reduction in Local Government Financing

Despite the increase in the national budget, financing to local governments declined by 6.69%, reducing from UGX 5.973 trillion in FY2024/25 to UGX 5.573 trillion in FY2025/26. This reduction threatens decentralized service delivery, particularly in agriculture, health, education, and environmental management.

For ACSA, reduced local government financing poses a direct risk to grassroots agricultural transformation efforts. District-level extension services, climate adaptation programs, farmer training, and community resilience initiatives may face resource constraints.

This calls for stronger district-level policy engagement, budget tracking, and advocacy to ensure agriculture remains prioritized within local government planning and resource allocation.

Increase in Refugee Influx and Pressure on Social Services

As Uganda continued to uphold its progressive open-door refugee policy in 2025, the country experienced a significant influx of displaced populations, particularly from **South Sudan** and the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** due to escalating conflict and insecurity in the region. Between January and June 2025, Uganda received approximately **84,991 new arrivals from South Sudan and over 66,000 arrivals from the DRC**, according to refugee emergency updates by the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**. Uganda currently hosts over 1.7 million refugees, making it one of Africa's largest refugee-hosting countries. This continued influx has led to the expansion of refugee settlements and increased pressure on already stretched public services, including food systems, healthcare, education, water, sanitation, land, and environmental resources.

For ACSA, this evolving humanitarian and demographic context has direct strategic implications, particularly because some of its member organizations work in refugee-hosting districts and directly support refugee and host communities through agriculture, livelihoods, food security, natural resource management, and resilience-building interventions.

This means that:

- The growing refugee population increases demand for food, land, water, energy, and agricultural production systems in host communities, directly affecting ACSA's food systems and sustainable agriculture agenda.

- Competition over productive land and natural resources may intensify, increasing vulnerability among both refugee and host farming households.

- ACSA has an opportunity to strengthen advocacy for inclusive agricultural policies, climate-resilient food systems, and livelihood financing that benefit both refugee and host communities.

- Member organizations operating in refugee settlements can generate evidence and best practices on agroecology, nutrition-sensitive agriculture, youth livelihoods, and women's economic empowerment to influence national refugee response frameworks.

- ACSA should position itself to engage government, humanitarian actors, and development partners in promoting refugee-inclusive agricultural transformation, ensuring that agriculture is recognized not only as humanitarian support, but also as a pathway for self-reliance, social cohesion, and local economic recovery.

- Strategically, the refugee influx reinforces ACSA's role in advocating for food security, resilient livelihoods, social inclusion, and sustainable natural resource governance in both fragile and high-pressure communities.

Overall Strategic Implication for ACSA

The 2025 operating context reinforced the need for ACSA to strengthen its role as a policy influencer, accountability actor, and convener of farmer voices. Amid political transitions, economic reforms, and fiscal pressures, ACSA's work remains critical in ensuring that Uganda's development agenda delivers inclusive, sustainable, and farmer-centred agricultural transformation.



3.1 ACSA's Achievements and Performance in 2025 in Key thematic

Objective

1

ACSA Member Organizations (MOs) and smallholder farmers advocate for sustainable, organic, and agroecological agriculture practices, equitable and sustainable land use rights, and climate resilience that foster local seed systems and responsible consumption of healthy and indigenous foods.

Uganda's agricultural sector remains the backbone of the country's economy and the primary source of livelihoods for millions of smallholder farmers. However, the sector continues to face numerous challenges, including climate change, environmental degradation, declining soil fertility, loss of agrobiodiversity, insecure land tenure, and increasing dependence on external agricultural inputs. These challenges threaten food and nutrition security, undermine rural livelihoods, and limit the resilience of farming communities. At the same time, the erosion of indigenous knowledge, local seed systems, and traditional food cultures poses significant risks to sustainable food production and the preservation of biodiversity.

In response to these challenges, ACSA continues to strengthen the capacity and collective voice of its Member Organizations (MOs) and smallholder farmers to advocate for policies, practices, and investments that promote agroecology, organic agriculture, sustainable land governance, and climate resilience. This has earned the network a certificate and a recognition award for promoting Agrarian Policy in Uganda.



Through evidence-based advocacy, stakeholder engagement, community mobilization, and policy influence, ACSA seeks to advance food systems that are environmentally sustainable, socially inclusive, and economically viable. The coalition also promotes the protection and revitalization of local seed systems, equitable access to and control over land and natural resources, and increased appreciation and consumption of healthy, nutritious, and indigenous foods. These efforts contribute to building resilient communities and sustainable food systems while supporting national development priorities and global commitments related to food security, biodiversity conservation, climate action, and sustainable agriculture as follows;

A Strengthening Policy Advocacy for Agroecology, Seed Sovereignty, and Climate-Resilient Food Systems through NDP IV Engagements

During the reporting period, ACSA actively participated in national policy and budget advocacy processes aimed at influencing the implementation of Uganda's Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV), which serves as the country's overarching framework for achieving inclusive economic transformation and sustainable development. Working collaboratively with civil society actors under the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG), ACSA engaged with the Parliamentary Budget Committee and other policy platforms to advocate for increased public investment in sustainable agriculture, agroecology, climate resilience, and farmer-centered agricultural transformation. These engagements provided an important opportunity to ensure that the needs and priorities of smallholder farmers, rural communities, women, and youth were reflected in national planning and budget allocation processes.

Through these advocacy efforts, ACSA contributed evidence-based policy recommendations calling for increased financing for agro-industrialization, agricultural research, climate-smart and agroecological farming practices, and equitable access to agricultural services and productive resources. Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening public investments that support sustainable food systems, enhance resilience to climate change, and improve livelihoods for smallholder producers. ACSA also advocated for stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure that agricultural budget allocations translate into tangible benefits for farming communities, while promoting policy coherence between national development priorities and sustainable agriculture objectives.



ACSA and other CSBAG Members presenting the CSO Position Paper on agriculture to the Parliament Agriculture Committee on 26th March 2025.

In addition, ACSA collaborated closely with the Plant Genetic Resources Centre (PGRC) and other stakeholders in policy discussions aimed at strengthening Uganda's agricultural biodiversity, local seed systems, and sustainable land management frameworks. These engagements contributed to ongoing national processes related to the National Agroecology Strategy, the Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA) Policy, and the recognition of community seed systems as a cornerstone of seed sovereignty, biodiversity conservation, and resilient food systems. ACSA further supported advocacy efforts aimed at addressing the misuse of pesticides and the proliferation of counterfeit agrochemicals, recognizing their adverse impacts on human health, environmental sustainability, and agroecological production systems.

ACSA's Specific Contribution to Influencing Uganda's FY2024/25 National Budget

Through these collective interventions, ACSA strengthened the voice and influence of its member organizations and smallholder farmers within national policy spaces, contributing to greater recognition of agroecology, climate resilience, equitable land and resource governance, local seed systems, and indigenous food systems within Uganda's agricultural transformation agenda. The engagements reinforced multi-stakeholder collaboration and advanced evidence-based policy reforms that support sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food systems for present and future generations.



Civil Society Engagement in FY2025/26 Budget Advocacy: Advancing Agroecology, Climate Resilience, and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation

During the FY2025/26 national budget process, ACSA, in collaboration with other civil society organizations under platforms such as CSBAG, actively engaged in national policy and budget advocacy aimed at influencing resource allocation towards sustainable agriculture, environmental governance, and climate-resilient development. A joint CSO position paper was developed and submitted to key parliamentary committees, highlighting critical financing gaps in agro-industrialisation, environmental sustainability, and renewable energy investments. These engagements contributed to shaping national budget priorities, with partial adoption of CSO recommendations reflecting both progress in policy responsiveness and persistent implementation gaps that continue to affect sector outcomes.

For ACSA, this development presents both opportunities and advocacy entry points. The increased funding provides space to push for more inclusive agro-industrialisation that prioritizes smallholder farmers, cooperatives, and value chain actors. ACSA will continue to advocate for investments in post-harvest handling, storage, agro-processing, and market access infrastructure to reduce losses and increase rural incomes. At the same time, the shift toward domestic financing underscores the need for strengthened budget transparency, accountability, and citizen monitoring to ensure that resources effectively reach intended beneficiaries. ACSA further emphasizes that agro-industrialisation investments must remain aligned with agroecological principles, climate resilience, and sustainable production systems, rather than solely large-scale industrial priorities.



Agro-industrialisation Programme: Budget Adjustments and Inclusive Value Chain Priorities

One of the key advocacy areas focused on the Agro-industrialisation Programme, which remains central to Uganda's transformation agenda. CSOs raised concern over declining allocations in the Ministerial Policy Statement, which initially projected a reduction to UGX 1,371.89 billion. However, following advocacy engagements, the approved FY2025/26 budget increased allocations to UGX 1,857.57 billion, with domestic development financing rising significantly from 24.1% to 57.2%. This adjustment reflects a partial but important government response to civil society recommendations.



Water and Environment Sector: Addressing Wetland Encroachment and Ecosystem Degradation

Another key area of engagement focused on increasing environmental degradation, particularly wetland encroachment, which threatens biodiversity, water security, and climate resilience. In response to CSO advocacy, Government increased financing for environmental governance institutions, including the Directorate of Environmental Affairs, which received UGX 111.36 billion in FY2025/26, up from UGX 71.92 billion in FY2024/25. Government also indicated intentions to review and update key environmental policies, including those on forests, water, and wetlands, to strengthen sustainability frameworks.

While these allocations represent a partial response to civil society concerns, implementation challenges remain, as wetland degradation continues to intensify. For ACSA, this issue is directly linked to agricultural sustainability, as ecosystem degradation undermines water availability for irrigation, livestock production, and household use. ACSA therefore continues to advocate for stronger integration of agroecology, watershed protection, and sustainable land management within national environmental governance frameworks. The ongoing policy review processes provide an opportunity for ACSA to influence stronger regulatory enforcement, promote community-based natural resource management, and strengthen collaboration between agriculture and environment stakeholders to build resilient farming landscapes.



Renewable Energy and Climate Finance: Advancing the RA-PURE Agenda

During the same period, CSOs also engaged in influencing Uganda's climate finance and renewable energy priorities under the FY2025/26 budget framework. Joint civil society analysis and position papers focused on the Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Lands and Water Resources Programme and the Sustainable Energy Development Programme, emphasizing the need for increased investment in renewable energy systems, climate adaptation, and mitigation measures.

For ACSA, these engagements strongly align with its Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) agenda, which integrates sustainable land management with clean energy solutions. The renewable energy financing space presents an opportunity to promote regenerative agriculture practices such as soil restoration, agroforestry, composting, and biodiversity enhancement as core climate adaptation strategies. It also supports the adoption of productive use technologies including solar-powered irrigation, cold storage, grain drying, and agro-processing, which directly improve productivity and reduce post-harvest losses for smallholder farmers.

Furthermore, climate finance discussions create pathways for advocating integrated financing mechanisms that link agriculture, energy, and climate resilience, ensuring that regenerative agriculture and renewable energy solutions are jointly supported. These engagements strengthen ACSA's ability to position RA-PURE as a scalable model for sustainable food systems transformation in Uganda. They also open opportunities for member organizations and smallholder farmers to access climate adaptation funds and green financing mechanisms that enhance rural livelihoods and resilience.

Implication for ACSA

Overall, these engagements demonstrate that civil society advocacy is increasingly influencing national budgeting priorities, though implementation gaps remain a major challenge. For ACSA, this reinforces the need to deepen budget monitoring and policy tracking, strengthen integration of agroecology and environmental sustainability in national planning, and ensure that smallholder farmers remain central in Uganda's development transformation agenda. These processes further position ACSA as a key actor in advancing inclusive, climate-resilient, and sustainable agricultural and energy systems in Uganda.





Strengthening Local-Level Budget Advocacy, Capacity Building, and Multi-Stakeholder Policy Engagement

During the reporting period, ACSA strengthened its grassroots policy influence by supporting six Member Organizations to actively participate in district-level budget consultations for the FY2025/26 cycle. These engagements enhanced local accountability mechanisms and ensured that community priorities—particularly those of smallholder farmers—were effectively integrated into district development planning processes. Through this localized engagement, ACSA contributed to bridging the gap between community needs and public resource allocation, thereby strengthening participatory governance and inclusive development planning at the sub-national level.

In parallel, ACSA collaborated with the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) to participate in pre-budget and post-budget dialogues at both regional and national levels. These platforms provided critical space for civil society actors to interrogate public expenditure decisions, assess policy coherence with national development priorities, and advocate for more equitable and pro-poor agricultural financing. Through these engagements, ACSA reinforced its role in shaping budget discourse, particularly on issues affecting sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods.

To further deepen budget accountability and strengthen the advocacy capacity of its Member Organizations, ACSA advanced innovative “Budget to Business” dialogues. These sessions enhanced budget literacy and improved practical understanding of public finance management among grassroots actors. As a result, Member Organizations became better equipped to analyze budget allocations, engage constructively in policy processes, and advocate for fair, transparent, and inclusive resource distribution within the agriculture sector and associated value chains.

Through these combined interventions, ACSA effectively amplified key policy concerns affecting smallholder farmers and sustainable food systems. These included persistently low agricultural financing below the 3% benchmark, inadequate support for community seed systems and seed sovereignty, high taxation on agro-inputs, weak agricultural extension services, and insufficient investment in agro-processing and rural infrastructure. Consequently, issues related to agricultural financing, agroecology, and seed sovereignty gained increased visibility and traction in both district and national policy dialogues. This represents an important step toward embedding smallholder farmer priorities and agroecological principles within Uganda’s broader agricultural transformation and sustainable development agenda.



Strengthening Inclusive Planning, Budgeting, and Accountability Processes

Stakeholders during Mpigi District budget conference

ACSA continued to strengthen citizen participation and accountability in public planning and budgeting processes by supporting Member Organizations, farmer groups, and local stakeholders to engage effectively in district and national budget processes. Through strategic advocacy, technical guidance, and coordination, the coalition promoted greater inclusion of smallholder farmers’ priorities in public resource allocation and development planning frameworks.

At the district level, ACSA worked closely with Local Governments in Wakiso, Mpigi, Mubende, Mayuge, Buikwe, Terego and other districts to strengthen farmer participation in district budget conferences, planning meetings, and consultative forums. These engagements provided critical platforms for communities, civil society organizations, and farmer representatives to articulate their development priorities and influence local decision-making processes. As a result, district stakeholders demonstrated increased awareness of planning and budgeting procedures, improved engagement with local governance structures,



and a stronger commitment to integrating agriculture, food security, climate resilience, and agroecology priorities into district development plans and investment frameworks.

The district-level advocacy processes also contributed to enhanced transparency, accountability, and citizen oversight in public resource allocation. They fostered stronger collaboration among local governments, civil society organizations, farmer groups, and development partners in shaping inclusive and responsive district development agendas. Through these collective efforts, local stakeholders were better positioned to monitor public investments and advocate for improved service delivery that addresses the needs of smallholder farmers and rural communities.

At the national level, ACSA actively participated in key policy and budget advocacy platforms to strengthen civil society engagement in the FY2025/26 national budgeting process. The coalition participated in the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) National Budget Framework Paper (NBFP) Retreat held from 3rd–4th January 2025, contributing to discussions on national development priorities and budget allocations. ACSA further supported five Member Organizations—Integrated Community Services (ICS), Humanitarian Efforts and Relief Uganda (HEAR), Social Development Initiatives (SODI),

Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (P&V), and Agency for Food and Rural Development (AFIRD)—along with an ACSA staff member, to participate in pre- and post-budget analysis meetings held on 13th February 2025 at Protea Hotel Kampala under the theme, “Making the Budget Work for the People: Prioritizing Expenditure for Inclusive Growth in FY2025/26.”

In addition, ACSA facilitated the participation of Member Organizations in strategic post-budget engagement platforms, including support to P&V to participate in the Regional Post-Budget Dialogue in Nsambya and support to ICS to participate in the Budget-to-Business (B2B) Post-Budget Dialogue. These engagements enhanced stakeholders’ understanding of national budget priorities, strengthened analysis of budget allocations and expenditure trends, identified implementation gaps, and generated evidence-based recommendations to improve accountability, efficiency, and inclusiveness in public expenditure management.

Through these interventions, ACSA strengthened the capacity of its Member Organizations and farmer constituencies to engage constructively in public finance governance processes, advocate for increased investment in agriculture and rural development, and contribute to shaping policies and budgets that respond to the aspirations and needs of Uganda’s smallholder farmers.

F Policy Analysis, Knowledge Production, and Legislative Tracking for Strengthened Evidence-Based Advocacy

During 2025, the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) significantly strengthened its role as a knowledge and policy intermediary by translating complex budgetary, legal, and policy information into simplified, farmer-friendly formats. This enhanced access to information for smallholder farmers, civil society actors, media practitioners, and policymakers, enabling more informed participation in agrarian governance processes and national development planning, including priorities under Uganda's NDP IV framework.

Throughout the year, ACSA produced and disseminated 15 key knowledge products, including CSO position papers on the FY2025/26 national budget, simplified analytical briefs on the Office of the Auditor General report, and accessible summaries of key legislation such as the Competition Act 2024, National Coffee Amendment Act 2024, the EAC Seed and Plant Varieties Bill 2025, and EU Regulation 2018/848 on organic production. Additional policy briefs addressed emerging issues affecting agriculture and rural livelihoods, including pesticide misuse, climate-induced migration, mining impacts, and pest outbreaks.

ACSA further strengthened its legislative monitoring and policy tracking role through analysis of key fiscal and agrarian reforms, including the VAT Amendment Act 2025, Sugarcane Amendment Act, Stamp Duty Amendment Act 2025, and Hides and Skins Export Duty Amendment Act 2025. In addition, ACSA disseminated over 100 copies of its study on organic agriculture value chains in Uganda, stimulating dialogue on strengthening organic production systems and expanding sustainable market opportunities.

These efforts were supported through wide dissemination channels, including media engagement, physical distribution, partner networks, and digital platforms such as www.acsa-ug.org. As a result, ACSA enhanced evidence-based advocacy, increased the uptake of its knowledge products in policy discussions, and strengthened the capacity of farmers and stakeholders to engage meaningfully in legislative and budget processes. This firmly positions ACSA as a credible bridge between policy formulation and grassroots action within Uganda's agricultural transformation agenda.



During 2025, ACSA intensified its policy advocacy efforts to advance the development and approval of the Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA) Policy. Two strategic engagement meetings were convened with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), and other civil society organizations to accelerate the presentation of the GRFA Policy Draft to the Top Policy Management (TPM) and National Agricultural Sector (NAS) processes. These engagements strengthened collaboration among key stakeholders and enhanced coordinated lobbying efforts through policy allies within government structures. As a result, the policy drafting and review process gained momentum, positioning the GRFA Policy closer to formal government consideration and adoption.

In preparation for the 2025 Joint Agriculture Sector Annual Review (JAPAR), ACSA collaborated with key partners, including Food Rights Alliance (FRA), Caritas Uganda, and PELUM Uganda, to organize and participate in a Civil Society Organization (CSO) preparatory meeting held on 4th November 2025. The meeting provided a platform for reviewing progress within the agriculture sector, identifying emerging policy issues, and consolidating a unified CSO position and presentation for Uganda. Through this collaborative process, civil society actors strengthened their collective voice and enhanced the quality and coherence of evidence-based recommendations presented to sector stakeholders.

These engagements reaffirmed the commitment of civil society organizations to actively participate in agricultural policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and review processes at national, regional, and international levels. Participation in JAPAR, Policy Working Groups (PWGs), and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) contributed to improved policy dialogue, stronger multi-stakeholder coordination, and increased recognition of CSOs as credible partners in shaping Uganda's agricultural development agenda. The strengthened collaboration and advocacy efforts are expected to contribute to more inclusive, responsive, and sustainable agricultural policies that address the needs and priorities of smallholder farmers and rural communities.



Advancing Agricultural Policy Reform Through Strategic Advocacy and Civil Society Engagement

During 2025, ACSA intensified its policy advocacy efforts to advance the development and approval of the Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA) Policy. Two strategic engagement meetings were convened with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), and other civil society organizations to accelerate the presentation of the GRFA Policy Draft through the Top Policy Management (TPM) and National Agricultural Sector (NAS) processes. These engagements strengthened collaboration among key stakeholders, enhanced coordinated lobbying efforts, and fostered strategic alliances within government structures. As a result, the policy drafting and review process gained significant momentum, bringing the GRFA Policy closer to formal government consideration and adoption.

Through this collaborative effort, civil society actors strengthened their collective voice, enhanced coordination, and improved the quality and coherence of evidence-based recommendations presented to government and sector stakeholders.

These engagements reaffirmed the commitment of civil society organizations to actively participate in agricultural policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and review processes at national, regional, and international levels. Active participation in JAPAR, Policy Working Groups (PWGs), and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) contributed to stronger policy dialogue, enhanced multi-stakeholder collaboration, and increased recognition of CSOs as credible and influential partners in shaping Uganda's agricultural development agenda. The strengthened partnerships and advocacy efforts are expected to contribute to more inclusive, responsive, and sustainable agricultural policies that address the needs and priorities of smallholder farmers, promote food system resilience, and support sustainable rural development.

In preparation for the 2025 Joint Agriculture Sector Annual Review (JAPAR), ACSA collaborated with key partners, including Food Rights Alliance (FRA), Caritas Uganda, and PELUM Uganda, to organize and participate in a Civil Society Organization (CSO) preparatory meeting held on 4th November 2025. The meeting provided an important platform for reviewing sector performance, identifying emerging policy priorities, and consolidating a unified CSO position for engagement in the national review process.



Strengthening Multi-Stakeholder Advocacy and Public Awareness on Aflatoxin Management and Food Safety

ACSA actively collaborated with like-minded stakeholders, including the Food Rights Alliance and CONSENT Uganda, to organize and support national and community-level aflatoxin awareness and advocacy campaigns. These campaigns were designed to raise public awareness about the growing threat of aflatoxin contamination in food systems and its implications for food safety, public health, nutrition, trade, and livelihoods. Through stakeholder engagements, public dialogues, media outreach, and awareness creation activities, ACSA and its partners highlighted the risks associated with the consumption and marketing of contaminated food products, particularly staple crops such as maize, groundnuts, and other cereals that are widely consumed and traded across Uganda. The campaigns also emphasized the need for increased investment in preventive measures, improved post-harvest handling practices, quality assurance mechanisms, and stronger enforcement of food safety standards.

The collaboration further provided a platform for engaging policymakers, farmer organizations, researchers, private sector actors, and consumer groups in constructive dialogue on addressing aflatoxin challenges within Uganda's food systems. ACSA contributed to advocacy efforts aimed at strengthening policy implementation, enhancing farmer knowledge on aflatoxin prevention and management, and promoting the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices that reduce contamination risks along the value chain. By working collectively with strategic partners, ACSA helped amplify citizen voices and evidence-based recommendations on food safety governance, while fostering greater public understanding of the linkages between safe food, nutrition security, market access, and sustainable agricultural development. These efforts contributed to building momentum for coordinated multi-stakeholder action towards reducing aflatoxin prevalence and improving the quality and safety of food available to Ugandan consumers.



ACSA together with other stakeholders marching for awareness creation against Aflatoxins



Plantation Advocacy and Strengthening Food Security in Plantation-Growing Communities

In 2025, ACSA achieved a significant milestone in advancing food systems resilience in plantation-growing areas through the development and implementation of a strategic framework addressing structural food insecurity and livelihood vulnerabilities. A key output was the **Advocacy Strategy for Food Security in Plantation Growing Areas (2025–2029)**, developed with technical support from Misereor. The strategy provides a long-term roadmap for improving household food security, strengthening livelihoods, and promoting sustainable land use in plantation-dominated landscapes. It was formally launched in Mayuge District, marking an important step toward coordinated multi-stakeholder action.

The rollout of the strategy strengthened collaboration among key stakeholders, with over 30 actors from government, civil society, and community structures actively engaged across Buvuma and Mayuge districts. This process enhanced shared understanding of food insecurity challenges in plantation areas and strengthened collective ownership of locally driven solutions. Local governments also demonstrated increased political commitment by agreeing to review and strengthen relevant bylaws, support implementation of food security interventions, and improve coordination with civil society and community actors. Stakeholders further agreed on priority action areas aimed at transforming plantation-dependent communities into more resilient and diversified local economies. These included promoting agroecology and sustainable farming systems alongside plantation production, strengthening women's economic empowerment and participation in value chains, enhancing youth engagement in agricultural innovation, and supporting livelihood diversification beyond plantation wage dependency.

These commitments reflect a growing shift toward more inclusive, resilient, and community-centered food systems approaches.

Overall, this initiative represents a significant transformation in addressing food security within plantation-growing regions, shifting from a narrow production-focused model to a broader integrated food systems approach. It has strengthened collaboration among local governments, civil society, and development partners, laying a foundation for more sustainable, inclusive, and diversified rural economies aligned with agroecology, climate resilience, and local development priorities.





Strengthening Community Seed Governance Through Local Bylaws and Ordinances

On 22nd August 2025, ACSA provided technical backstopping to the Africa Institute for Rural Development (AFIRD) in conducting stakeholder sensitization meetings on the need for seed-related bylaws and ordinances in Sanda and Mende Sub-counties, as well as Buwanuka and Kitebi villages in Kakiri Sub-county. The engagement brought together farmers, community leaders, local government representatives, and other key stakeholders to discuss the critical role of local governance frameworks in protecting indigenous seeds, strengthening farmer-managed seed systems, and promoting agro-biodiversity conservation. The sensitization was informed by increasing concerns over the erosion of local seed diversity, limited protection of farmer-saved seeds, and the growing need to safeguard community seed resources for future generations.

Through the discussions, participants gained a deeper understanding of how seed-related bylaws and ordinances can provide a legal and institutional framework for conserving indigenous seed varieties, regulating the movement of planting materials, promoting quality seed production, and protecting farmers' rights to save, exchange, multiply, and use seeds. ACSA's technical support enabled stakeholders to appreciate the linkage between local seed governance, food sovereignty, climate resilience, and sustainable agricultural development. The meetings also provided a platform for communities to share experiences, identify existing challenges affecting seed systems, and propose practical measures that could be incorporated into local bylaws and ordinances. The sensitization process marked an important step toward strengthening community ownership and stewardship of local seed systems.

It generated increased commitment among local leaders and community members to support the development and enforcement of seed-related bylaws that promote seed security, agroecological production, and biodiversity conservation. Furthermore, the initiative enhanced the capacity of AFIRD and local stakeholders to engage in evidence-based policy processes and advocate for community-centered seed governance mechanisms.

These efforts are expected to contribute to more resilient food systems, improved access to quality locally adapted seed, and the preservation of valuable indigenous genetic resources that underpin sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods.

Key Outcomes

- Increased stakeholder awareness of the importance of seed-related bylaws and ordinances.
- Enhanced understanding of farmers' rights, community seed systems, and agro-biodiversity conservation.
- Strengthened collaboration between communities, local leaders, and development actors on seed governance issues.
- Increased commitment among local authorities to support the development of seed-related local legislation.
- Improved capacity of AFIRD and community stakeholders to engage in local policy advocacy and seed governance processes.
- Enhanced recognition of indigenous seeds as a foundation for food security, climate resilience, and sustainable agricultural development.



Strengthening Inclusive and Climate-Resilient Agripreneurship in Organic Agriculture Value Chains

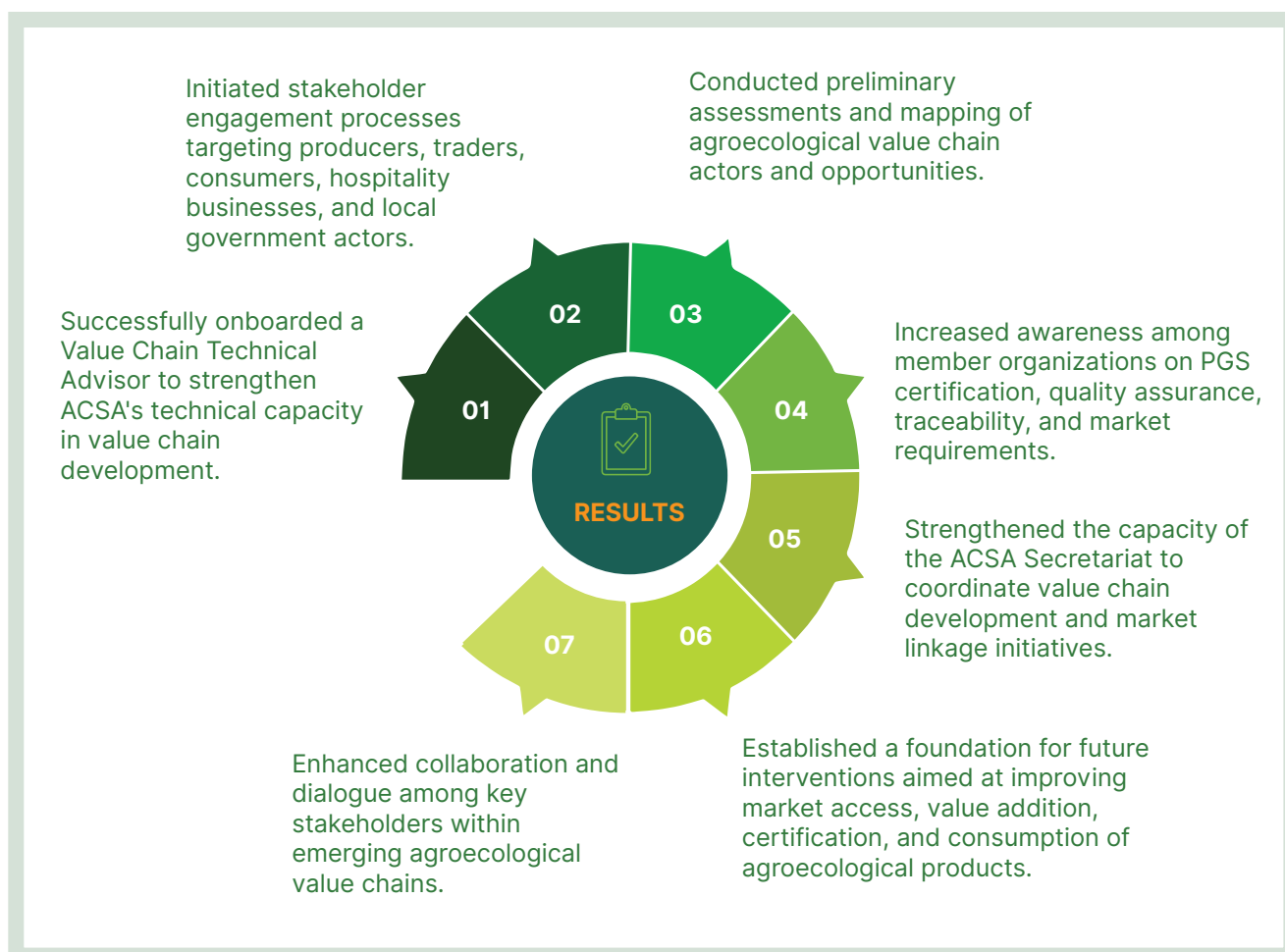
To strengthen ACSA's capacity to support the development of inclusive, market-driven, and climate-resilient agroecological value chains, Horizont3000 supported the placement of Mr. Dominic Gabel as a Value Chain Technical Advisor (VCTA) at the ACSA Secretariat. Having commenced his engagement towards the end of 2024, 2025 largely marked the inception and foundation-building phase of this strategic intervention. The initiative was designed to enhance ACSA's technical capacity in value chain development and to position both the Secretariat and member organizations to better support smallholder farmers, organic agripreneurs, and market actors in accessing sustainable market opportunities.



During the reporting period, the Value Chain Technical Advisor worked closely with the ACSA Secretariat and member organizations to initiate value chain assessments, identify priority value chains, and map key actors across production, processing, marketing, certification, and consumption stages. Particular emphasis was placed on engaging stakeholders—including member organizations, smallholder farmers, consumers, traders, middlemen, market vendors, hotel owners, processors, and local government authorities—to begin addressing prevailing perceptions and barriers affecting the production, certification, marketing, and consumption of agroecological products. Through consultations, stakeholder dialogues, learning sessions, and technical discussions, the intervention laid the groundwork for stronger collaboration among value chain actors and increased appreciation of the economic, environmental, and health benefits associated with agroecological production systems.

Although still in its early stages, the initiative has already established important building blocks for future impact. ACSA and its member organizations have enhanced their understanding of value chain development approaches, Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), market requirements, quality assurance mechanisms, and market linkage opportunities. The engagement has also strengthened the Secretariat's capacity to coordinate value chain interventions, facilitate partnerships, document emerging lessons, and provide technical support to members. As the initiative progresses, these foundational investments are expected to contribute to stronger agroecological enterprises, increased market access for producers, improved consumer confidence in certified products, and the development of more inclusive and climate-resilient organic agriculture value chains across Uganda.

Emerging Results and Milestones



Organic agricultural value chain within the ACSA network

Observations on Uganda's Organic/Agroecological Agricultural Value Chain By Dominik Gabel – Technical Value Chain Advisor, ACSA

2025, Dominik Gabel, Technical Value Chain Advisor at ACSA, undertook an analytical review of the organic and agroecological agricultural value chain among ACSA members and other stakeholders in Uganda, drawing on an external field-based perspective. The following key observations emerged.



Firstly, agricultural production among Ugandan farmers is highly diverse, reflecting the country's rich natural resource base and strong food production potential. This diversity, combined with long-standing traditional farming systems, provides a solid foundation for organic and agroecological agriculture, much of which is already practiced by default, even in the absence of formal certification.

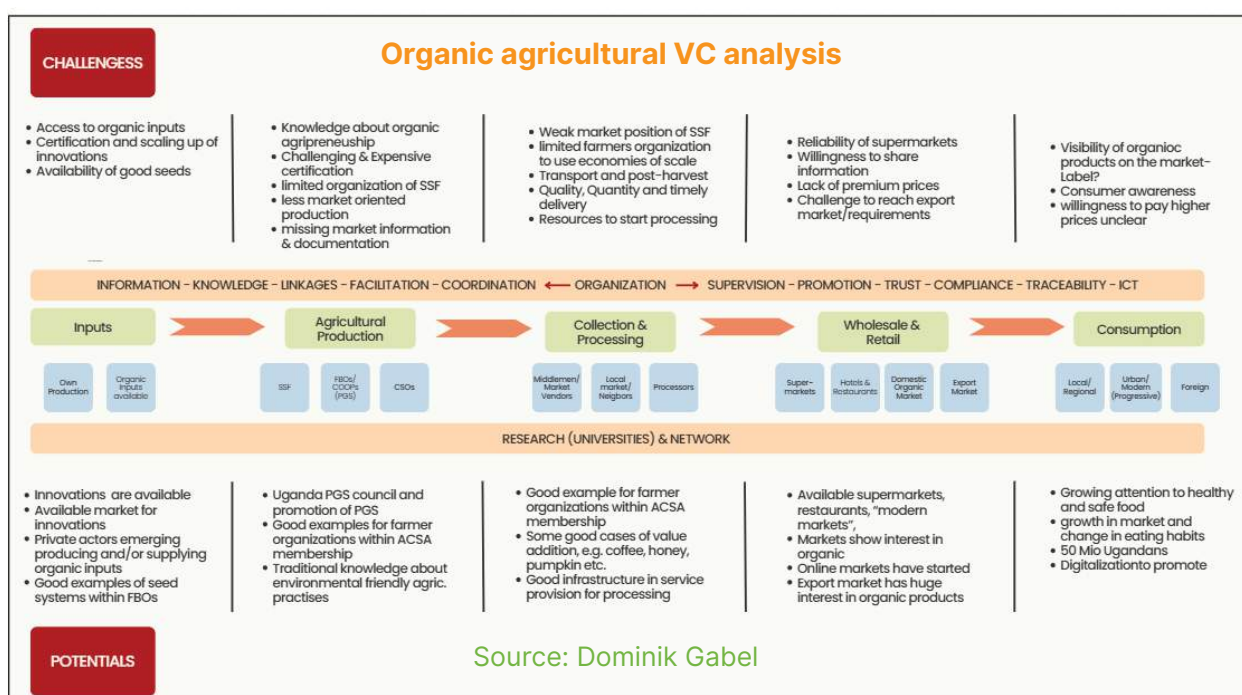
Secondly, Uganda's young and rapidly growing population estimated at approximately 50 million people—represents a significant and expanding market for agricultural produce. At the same time, consumer preferences are gradually shifting, with increasing demand for safe, healthy, and transparently produced food. Many consumers are now asking a fundamental question: "Where does our food come from and how is it produced?"

Despite this strong potential, the organic agricultural value chain remains insufficiently developed to adequately benefit actors along the entire chain. Beyond the impacts of climate change and youth migration to urban areas, several structural challenges were identified. These include weak or missing linkages between producers and markets (buyers/consumers), limited trust among value chain actors, inadequate documentation and information flow, and weak traceability systems. Additional constraints include inconsistent supply in terms of both quantity and quality, weak farmer organization limiting economies of scale, difficulties in-

achieving organic certification, and relatively low levels of consumer awareness regarding organic and agroecological products.

Nevertheless, the potential of Uganda's organic and agroecological value chains remains substantial, particularly if actors along the chain are properly identified, coordinated, and strengthened. The ecosystem of supporters, enablers, and facilitators already exists and can be leveraged to significantly improve performance across value chains.

In conclusion, there is a clear need to address existing bottlenecks while building on the available opportunities. Key recommendations include: strengthening agroecological production systems; conducting comprehensive stakeholder mapping for each value chain; organizing farmers into structured groups such as Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) models; progressively working toward organic certification—starting with domestic markets and later expanding to export markets; improving documentation, data management, and information flow; establishing regular producer–market dialogue platforms; aligning production with market demand; increasing consumer awareness around "OUR FOOD" and its origins; and enhancing the enabling policy environment for organic and agroecological agriculture in Uganda.



Objective**2**

Member organizations successfully support smallholder farmers, youth, and marginalized groups in accessing, generating, exchanging, and disseminating ICT-enabled, climate-resilient innovations and research information.

Access to timely, relevant, and actionable information remains a critical driver of agricultural transformation and resilience among smallholder farming communities. In an era characterized by climate variability, emerging technologies, and rapidly evolving agricultural markets, strengthening knowledge systems and information sharing mechanisms is essential for empowering farmers to make informed decisions and adopt sustainable agricultural practices.

During the reporting period, ACSA and its member organizations continued to strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers, youth, women, and other marginalized groups to access, generate, exchange, and utilize climate-resilient innovations and research-based information through ICT-enabled platforms and participatory knowledge-sharing approaches. These efforts focused on bridging information gaps, promoting farmer-to-farmer learning, enhancing digital inclusion, and facilitating access to technologies and innovations that improve productivity, climate resilience, food security, and livelihoods.

Through strategic partnerships, training initiatives, knowledge exchange forums, digital communication platforms, and community-based learning processes, member organizations enhanced the flow of agricultural information between researchers, extension actors, policymakers, and farming communities.

Particular emphasis was placed on ensuring that youth and marginalized groups actively participated in knowledge generation and dissemination processes, enabling them to become agents of innovation and champions of sustainable agricultural development within their communities.

The achievements registered under this objective demonstrate the growing role of ICTs and collaborative learning platforms in strengthening adaptive capacities, promoting agroecological practices, and fostering inclusive agricultural transformation among Uganda's smallholder farming communities.

Providing Strategic Leadership in Policy Engagement and Agricultural Governance



ACSA continued to play a leading role in fostering collaboration among government ministries, departments and agencies, local governments, civil society organizations, research institutions, and farmer groups to promote policy coherence, improve service delivery, and strengthen the implementation of farmer-responsive agricultural policies and programmes. Through its convening power and advocacy mandate, ACSA facilitated constructive engagement between smallholder farmers and duty bearers, ensuring that the voices and priorities of farming communities informed policy development and implementation processes at both national and local levels. This collaborative approach contributed to strengthening decentralized governance systems and advancing more inclusive and accountable agricultural decision-making.

A major highlight during the reporting period was ACSA's strategic leadership in the review and harmonization of Uganda's Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA) Policy, a process spearheaded by the Plant Genetic Resources Centre (PGRC). Recognizing the critical role of genetic resources in food security, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable agricultural development, ACSA mobilized and coordinated civil society organizations, farmer groups, researchers, and technical experts to actively participate in the policy review process. Through stakeholder consultations, technical dialogues, and evidence-based advocacy, ACSA ensured that key issues such as farmers' rights, seed sovereignty, conservation of indigenous genetic resources, equitable access and benefit-sharing, and the sustainable utilization of agricultural biodiversity were effectively integrated into policy discussions.

As a result of these efforts, the GRFA policy review process gained renewed momentum and remained a priority agenda item within national Technical Policy Meetings throughout 2025. The engagement strengthened civil society participation in national policy processes, enhanced collaboration between state and non-state actors, and reinforced the recognition of farmer-managed seed systems, indigenous knowledge, and biodiversity conservation within Uganda's agricultural policy framework. Furthermore, it positioned ACSA as a trusted and influential civil society partner in national agricultural governance. Ultimately, the initiative contributed to the development of more inclusive, resilient, and future-oriented frameworks for genetic resource management while advancing the protection of farmer rights and supporting the transition towards sustainable and equitable food systems in Uganda.

Championing Inclusive Land Governance, Land Rights Awareness, and Climate Justice through the 9th National Land Awareness Week 2025

ACSA, in collaboration with government ministries, district local governments, cultural institutions, civil society organizations, and community stakeholders, successfully co-organized the 9th National Land Awareness Week (LAW) 2025 in the Bugisu and Sebei sub-regions from 25th–29th August 2025. The campaign served as one of Uganda's most significant multi-stakeholder platforms for advancing dialogue on land rights, responsible land governance, environmental stewardship, natural resource management, and climate justice. Through a combination of legal aid clinics, community sensitization meetings, radio talk shows, exhibitions, policy dialogues, and a joint sub-regional council meeting, the initiative created inclusive spaces for citizens, leaders, and institutions to jointly address persistent land governance challenges affecting local communities.

The campaign generated tangible outcomes, including increased public awareness and understanding of land rights and legal protection mechanisms, particularly among women, youth, and smallholder farmers who are often the most affected by land-related vulnerabilities. Communities accessed practical legal information and advisory services, while local leaders and government officials improved their awareness of emerging land governance issues requiring policy and administrative attention. In addition, the initiative strengthened coordination among institutions working on land governance, environmental protection, human rights, and community development, fostering a more integrated and collaborative approach to addressing land disputes, tenure insecurity, and environmental degradation.

Importantly, the engagement catalyzed new strategic partnerships among civil society organizations, legal aid service providers, human rights institutions, resource mobilization partners, and actors in the extractives sector. These partnerships are expected to enhance service delivery, improve community access to justice, strengthen advocacy on land and environmental rights, and mobilize resources for sustained interventions. Building on the key recommendations from the 9th LAW, ACSA is actively undertaking targeted community sensitization and capacity-building for farmers and CSOs on land tenure systems, land rights, and responsible land governance. This follow-up engagement reinforces ACSA's leadership in advancing equitable land governance and underscores its commitment to empowering communities with the knowledge and tools needed to secure their land rights and promote sustainable, climate-resilient livelihoods.

Strengthening Member Capacity to Champion Indigenous Seeds and Neglected & Underutilized Species (NUS) for Sustainable Food Systems

As part of its commitment to strengthening member capacity and advancing agroecological food systems, ACSA supported its member organizations to actively participate in and contribute to the 3rd Indigenous Seed Diversity and Neglected & Underutilized Species (NUS) Fair and Peer-to-Peer Learning Platform under the theme, "Seeds/Trees of Resilience: Reviving Neglected & Underutilized (Indigenous Species) for Sustainable Food Systems." The platform provided members with a unique opportunity to showcase indigenous seeds, traditional food products, farmer-led innovations, and community conservation initiatives while engaging directly with policymakers, researchers, development partners, and private sector actors. Through these interactions, members enhanced their visibility, strengthened their networks, and amplified their role as custodians of indigenous knowledge and biodiversity conservation.



ACSA facilitated knowledge exchange and peer-to-peer learning among member organizations, enabling them to deepen their understanding of the ecological, nutritional, cultural, and economic importance of indigenous seeds and Neglected & Underutilized Species. Members gained valuable insights on community seed banking, seed conservation, agroecological production practices, value addition, quality standards, and market opportunities for indigenous foods. The platform further strengthened members' capacity to document indigenous knowledge, promote climate-resilient farming systems, and advocate for the protection of farmer-managed seed systems as critical pillars of sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty.

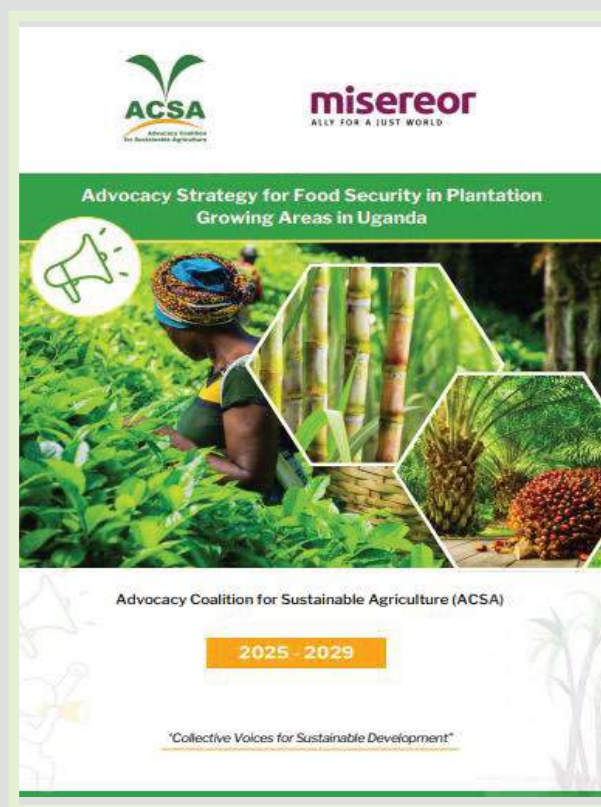
The event also strengthened the collective voice of ACSA members in influencing policy and development discourse around indigenous seeds and agrobiodiversity conservation. Through dialogue with government institutions, research organizations, and other stakeholders, members contributed to discussions on genetic resource conservation, farmer seed rights, research priorities, and the need for supportive policy frameworks. The official launch of the ACSA NUS Programme provided a strategic platform for members to engage in coordinated advocacy, conservation, research, and awareness-raising initiatives. As a result, member organizations emerged better equipped to champion indigenous species conservation, promote sustainable food systems, and mobilize communities to preserve Uganda's rich agricultural heritage for present and future generations.



Plantation Advocacy and Strengthening Food Security in Plantation-Growing Communities

In 2025, ACSA achieved a significant milestone in advancing food systems resilience in plantation-growing areas through the development and implementation of a strategic framework addressing structural food insecurity and livelihood vulnerabilities. A key output was the Advocacy Strategy for Food Security in Plantation Growing Areas (2025–2029), developed with technical support from Misereor. The strategy provides a long-term roadmap for improving household food security, strengthening livelihoods, and promoting sustainable land use in plantation-dominated landscapes. It was formally launched in Mayuge District, marking an important step toward coordinated multi-stakeholder action.

The rollout of the strategy strengthened collaboration among key stakeholders, with over 30 actors from government, civil society, and community structures actively engaged across Buvuma and Mayuge districts. This process enhanced shared understanding of food insecurity challenges in plantation areas and strengthened collective ownership of locally driven solutions. Local governments also demonstrated increased political commitment by agreeing to review and strengthen relevant bylaws, support implementation of food security interventions, and improve coordination with civil society and community actors. Stakeholders further agreed on priority action areas aimed at transforming plantation-dependent communities into more resilient and diversified local economies. These included promoting agroecology and sustainable farming systems alongside plantation production, strengthening women's economic empowerment and participation in value chains, enhancing youth engagement in agricultural innovation, and supporting livelihood diversification beyond plantation wage dependency.



These commitments reflect a growing shift toward more inclusive, resilient, and community-centered food systems approaches. Overall, this initiative represents a significant transformation in addressing food security within plantation-growing regions, shifting from a narrow production-focused model to a broader integrated food systems approach. It has strengthened collaboration among local governments, civil society, and development partners, laying a foundation for more sustainable, inclusive, and diversified rural economies aligned with agroecology, climate resilience, and local development priorities.

Shaping Policy Debates through Media and Public Engagement:

In 2025, ACSA implemented a comprehensive and structured media and communication advocacy programme aimed at promoting transparency, accountability, and informed public participation in Uganda's budget and agricultural policy processes. The interventions strengthened farmers' understanding of budget priorities, agricultural transformation while advancing evidence-based policy debates at national and local levels.

At the media and public engagement level, ACSA significantly expanded its outreach through a total of 72 thematic media engagements, including 24 TV talk shows, 24 radio talk shows aired on Bukedde TV and Akaboozi 87.9 FM, as well as 24 newspaper features, complemented by bi-monthly multimedia content such as videos, infographics, podcasts, and digital storytelling products. These platforms were strategically used to document and disseminate organic and agroecological success stories while promoting Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) innovations. Key content highlighted climate-smart agriculture, biofertilizers, biopesticides such as BlackOff, Garner's Gold, Kulika Tephrosia pesticide, and TEPHROCID acarine, alongside farmer experiences, indigenous knowledge systems, seed diversity, and the revival of neglected and underutilized species under themes such as "Seeds/Trees of Resilience." This significantly enhanced public awareness, policy dialogue, and uptake of sustainable agricultural innovations across diverse stakeholder groups.

At community and regional levels, ACSA further strengthened policy popularisation through targeted radio sensitisation programmes. These included regional radio engagements in Mayuge to promote local ordinances, four community radio sessions implemented by SODI on indigenous food systems and value chains, and sensitisation campaigns in Mubende and Mayuge focusing on aflatoxin control and food security in sugarcane-growing communities. These efforts ensured that policy discussions were not only national in scope but also translated into actionable community-level awareness and behaviour change.

Cumulatively, these media and public engagement efforts significantly enhanced public awareness of agricultural policy issues, strengthened citizen participation in budget accountability processes, and improved dissemination of sustainable agriculture innovations across multiple platforms. They reinforced ACSA's role as a credible policy communicator and influencer, effectively bridging the gap between policy, research, and grassroots practice, while advancing inclusive, farmer-centered agricultural transformation in Uganda.





Inspiring Change Through Learning Exchanges: Driving Innovation, Sustainable Agriculture, and Community Resilience

ACSA organized an exposure and learning visit to People and Views (P&V) Bulamu, Mityana Road, bringing together 15 representatives from member organizations to strengthen their practical knowledge and skills in sustainable agriculture, agribusiness development, and environmental stewardship. The visit provided a unique opportunity for participants to interact with successful agricultural enterprises and observe innovative approaches to semi-urban agriculture, integrated farming systems, organic production, value addition, market linkages, and sustainable wetland management. Through hands-on learning and peer exchange, participants gained practical insights into how innovation can be leveraged to improve productivity, diversify livelihoods, and build resilient farming systems.

The learning exchange inspired participating organizations to adapt and replicate proven practices within their own communities. As a result, several members initiated new livelihood and enterprise development ventures aimed at strengthening household incomes and reducing vulnerability to economic and climate-related shocks. A notable example is the Bidhampola Community Development Association (BICODA), which established a commercial poultry enterprise as a livelihood diversification strategy. Starting with 500 layer birds, the enterprise has evolved into a sustainable income-generating venture currently producing an average of 25 trays of eggs daily. The initiative has created employment opportunities for community members, increased organizational revenue, and demonstrated the transformative potential of knowledge-driven agricultural innovation.

Beyond enterprise development, the exposure visit strengthened the capacity of member organizations to champion climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable natural resource management, and community-led food security initiatives. Participants reported increased confidence in promoting integrated farming systems, resource-efficient technologies, organic production methods, and conservation-oriented approaches that balance environmental protection with livelihood improvement. The exchange further enhanced peer-to-peer learning, innovation uptake, and collaboration across the ACSA network, contributing to stronger, more resilient communities capable of addressing food insecurity, environmental degradation, and economic challenges through sustainable agricultural development.

Strengthening Research, Innovation, and Strategic Partnerships for Agroecology and RA-PURE



ACSA MOs and partners during the symposium

In 2025, the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) successfully convened the 9th National Annual Organic Innovation & Research Dissemination Symposium under the theme “Accelerating Research & Innovations in Regenerative/Organic Agriculture and Renewable Energy for Resilient Food Systems among Smallholder Farmers.” Held at Silver Springs Hotel, Bugolobi, the symposium brought together a diverse multi-stakeholder platform of farmers, researchers, academia, development partners, government institutions, private sector actors, and civil society organizations, reaffirming its role as a leading national convergence space for sustainable agriculture innovation and policy dialogue.



Key note address from the National Coordinator-ACSA

In her welcome remarks, the National Coordinator highlighted ACSA's growing role as a farmer-centered coalition advancing the emerging RA-PURE nexus, strengthening co-creation of knowledge, and deepening farmer-research-policy linkages for resilient food systems. The keynote address by the Vice Chancellor of Uganda Martyrs University, Prof. Patrick Kyamanywa, set a transformative tone by emphasizing the urgency of integrating regenerative agriculture with renewable energy systems to address poverty, climate change, biodiversity loss, and food insecurity. He stressed that Uganda's natural resource endowment presents a major opportunity, but only if supported by deliberate convergence across sectors. Complementary contributions from SNV Power for Food and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development reinforced the critical role of Productive Use of Energy (PURE)—including solar irrigation, biogas, clean cooking, and post-harvest technologies—while also underscoring the need for financing, capacity building, and strong multi-sector partnerships to drive innovation scale-up.



Key Panelists during the symposium

A central highlight of the symposium was the vibrant innovation ecosystem showcased through farmer-led and research-driven solutions, complemented by a dynamic RA-PURE exhibition side event. The exhibition brought the nexus to life by presenting regenerative agriculture innovations such as organic pesticides, biofertilizers, vermicompost, and seed systems alongside renewable energy technologies including solar irrigation systems, biogas solutions, briquettes, and energy-efficient cookstoves. Innovators including SODI, UYDNET, Black Off, and others demonstrated measurable impacts such as improved soil health, reduced production costs, increased productivity, and expanded market access within and beyond Uganda. Institutional stakeholders such as NARO, MAAIF, universities, and private laboratories emphasized the urgent need for strengthened certification systems, improved testing infrastructure, and enabling policy frameworks to support innovation validation, credibility, and scaling.



Left: MOs exhibiting innovations while right: stakeholders pause for a group photo after the symposium



Innovators and partners exhibiting RA-PURE solutions and products respectively

The symposium further featured high-level policy dialogues and panel discussions focusing on innovation scaling, regulatory compliance, and ecosystem strengthening. Key issues raised included market access constraints, certification bottlenecks, low consumer awareness of organic products, and the need to strengthen participatory guarantee systems. Stakeholders called for improved coordination among key government agencies—including the STI Office of the President, NARO, UNBS, and MAAIF—to enhance innovation commercialization and standardization. The symposium concluded with strong commitments to deepen RA-PURE integration, scale farmer innovations, strengthen investment readiness, improve certification pathways, and enhance multi-sector collaboration. Overall, the event reaffirmed ACSA's leadership in driving Uganda's transition toward resilient, inclusive, and sustainable food systems through innovation, partnership, and evidence-based transformation.



Major impact:

- ACSA created opportunities for farmers and local innovators to showcase their ideas, technologies, and products at national and international platforms. Innovations such as organic fertilizers, biopesticides, seed systems, and renewable energy solutions gained greater recognition from government, researchers, private sector actors, and development partners. This increased market opportunities, improved product credibility, and encouraged wider adoption of farmer-led solutions.
- Through partnerships with universities, research institutions, and government agencies, ACSA connected farmers, researchers, students, and policymakers to jointly develop practical solutions in agroecology and renewable energy. As a result, ACSA expanded knowledge sharing, strengthened innovation, promoted regenerative agriculture and PURE technologies, and contributed to building more resilient food systems and sustainable rural livelihoods across Uganda.

Bridging Research and Practice: Strengthening the RA-PURE Nexus through the 3rd Student-Farmer-CSO Research Exchange Platform 2025

The Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA), in partnership with Uganda Martyrs University (UMU), Power for Food (PFF), and Misereor, successfully organized the 3rd Student-Farmer-CSO Research Exchange Platform 2025 under the theme “Bridging Research and Practice: Unlocking Research and Innovation to Address Gaps in Agroecology/Regenerative Agriculture and the Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE).” The platform brought together over 150 participants, including students, researchers, farmers, civil society organizations, renewable energy practitioners, policymakers, and development partners.

The engagement provided a unique multi-stakeholder space for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and co-creation of practical solutions that integrate regenerative agriculture and renewable energy. Through presentations, panel discussions, farmer testimonies, and innovation showcases, participants explored ways of strengthening the RA-PURE nexus as a pathway to sustainable food systems, climate resilience, and improved rural livelihoods.



3rd Student-Farmer-CSO Research Exchange Platform 2025

A key outcome of the platform was the strengthening of collaboration between universities, farmers, and CSOs, resulting in a renewed commitment to farmer-driven and solution-oriented research. Students showcased innovations in areas such as organic pesticides, biochar technologies, briquetting, value addition, and climate-smart agriculture, demonstrating the potential of youth-led research to address real community challenges. Universities, particularly Uganda Martyrs University and Mountains of the Moon University, highlighted practical mechanisms for transferring research and technologies to farmers through demonstration farms, internships, community outreach, and farmer field schools. The event also increased awareness and understanding of renewable energy opportunities, including solar irrigation, biogas systems, solar drying technologies, and other productive energy solutions that can enhance agricultural productivity while reducing environmental degradation.



The platform generated significant impact by inspiring a new generation of researchers and innovators to align their work with community needs and national development priorities. ACSA secured commitments to link students with member organizations and farming communities for internships, applied research, and solution testing, thereby creating stronger pathways for translating research into practice. The discussions further identified priority research areas, including post-harvest loss reduction, organic fertilizer development, renewable energy technologies, and improved access to research findings by farming communities. Ultimately, the platform reinforced the institutionalization of the Regenerative Agriculture–Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA–PURE) approach, strengthened partnerships among key stakeholders, and contributed to building a vibrant ecosystem for sustainable agriculture, renewable energy adoption, youth entrepreneurship, and climate-resilient food systems in Uganda.

Objective**3**

The ACSA network (Member Organizations, and smallholder farmers), together with strategic partnerships and alliances, engages actively in shaping the small-scale farmers' policy environment and related emerging issues.

ACSA recognizes that a conducive policy and regulatory environment is fundamental to enhancing the livelihoods, resilience, and competitiveness of smallholder farmers. As agricultural systems continue to face emerging challenges related to climate change, market access, land governance, seed systems, food security, and sustainability standards, there is a growing need for coordinated engagement in policy processes to ensure that the voices and interests of small-scale producers are adequately represented.

During the reporting period, ACSA leveraged its network of Member Organizations, smallholder farmers, and strategic partners to actively participate in policy dialogue, advocacy platforms, consultative processes, and multi-stakeholder engagements at local, national, regional, and international levels. Through these collective efforts, the network contributed to influencing policy reforms, promoting evidence-based decision-making, and advancing farmer-centered solutions on critical agrarian and food system issues.

By strengthening partnerships and alliances with civil society organizations, government institutions, research organizations, development partners, and farmer groups, ACSA continued to facilitate inclusive participation in policy processes while responding to emerging issues affecting the agricultural sector. These engagements have enhanced the capacity of farmers and their organizations to shape policies and programs that support sustainable agriculture, agroecology, food sovereignty, climate resilience, and improved service delivery for smallholder farming communities.

Strengthening Strategic Partnerships, Alliances, and Policy Influence

In 2025, the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) significantly expanded and strengthened its partnership ecosystem, further consolidating its position as a leading national platform for agricultural policy advocacy, strategic networking, knowledge exchange, and collective action. Through deliberate engagement with government institutions, civil society organizations, research institutions, academia, development partners, private sector actors, farmer organizations, and regional networks, ACSA enhanced its role as a trusted convener, policy broker, and catalyst for inclusive, farmer-centered transformation of Uganda's agrifood systems.

Throughout the year, ACSA engaged and collaborated with more than 35 strategic institutions and networks, creating opportunities for coordinated advocacy, policy reform, resource mobilization, evidence generation, and capacity strengthening. These partnerships facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogue on critical issues affecting smallholder farmers, including seed systems governance, agroecology, climate resilience, food sovereignty, sustainable land use, genetic resources management, market access, and agricultural financing. The strengthened alliances also enhanced the visibility of smallholder farmer priorities within national development processes and sector policy discussions.

Strengthening Strategic Partnerships and Value Chain Alliances for Sustainable Agroecology Development.



As part of its strategic commitment to promoting sustainable agriculture and agroecology in Uganda, ACSA continues to strengthen alliances and partnerships with local, national, regional, and international development actors. Through deliberate engagement with donors, technical institutions, private sector actors, community-based organizations, and value chain players, ACSA has positioned itself as a key connector and facilitator within the organic and agroecology movement.

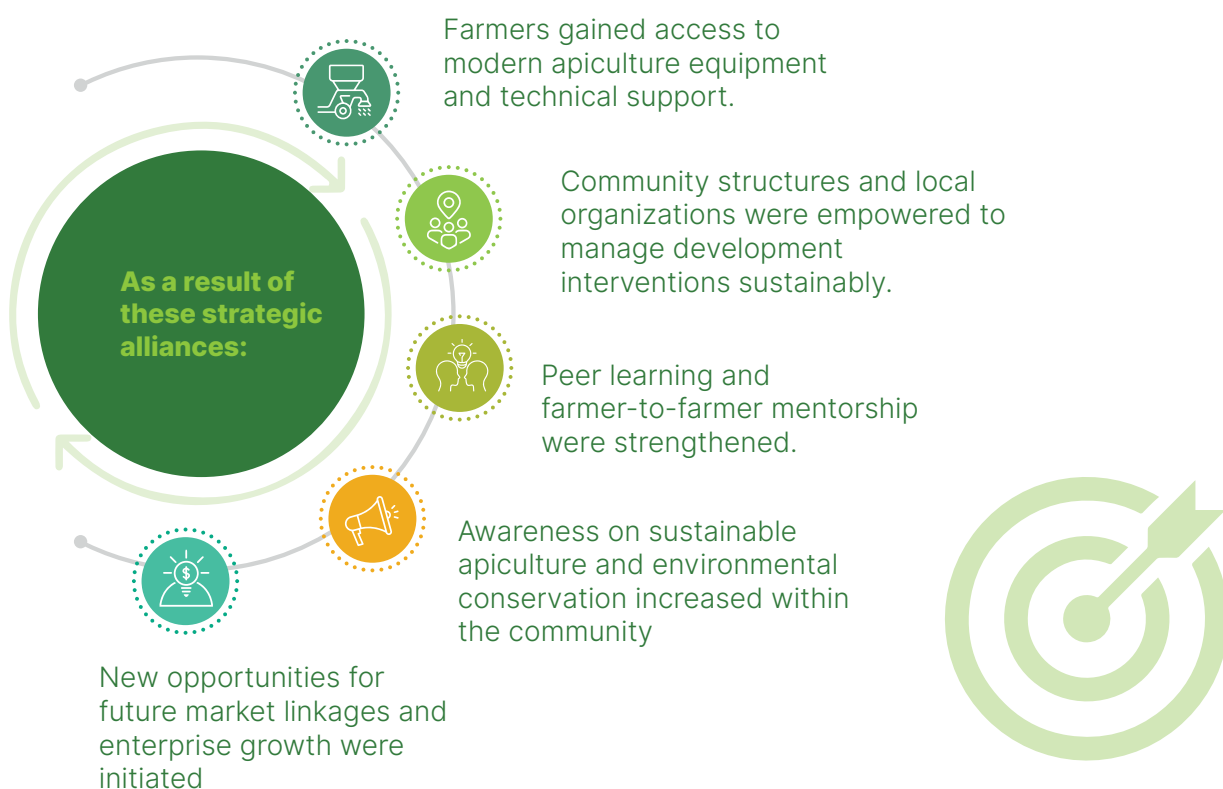
In line with the strategic objective to “Build alliances with local, national, regional and international donors and organize bi-annual meetings with strategic partners and potential donors in the organic/agroecology value chain,” ACSA has continued to mobilize partnerships that directly support grassroots transformation, enterprise development, farmer empowerment, and sustainable livelihoods.

Over the reporting period, ACSA strengthened collaboration with TiKA through strategic linkage and coordination support provided to Skill Oriented Development Initiatives (SODI) in Kituntu, Wakiso District. This partnership enabled the mobilization and distribution of modern beekeeping equipment to organized farmer groups under a structured and accountable value chain development approach.





Beyond resource mobilization, ACSA played a facilitative role in strengthening technical linkages, accountability systems, farmer preparedness, and future market-oriented engagements within the apiculture value chain. Through its coordination role, ACSA connected SODI and beneficiary farmers to broader learning opportunities, technical mentorship pathways, and prospective partnerships for value addition and market development, including planned engagements with Malaika Honey.



The partnership has become a practical demonstration of ACSA's role in building impactful collaborations that bridge donors, grassroots organizations, and farming communities for sustainable agroecological transformation. The following success story further highlights the impact of the ACSA–TiKA partnership through SODI's apiculture intervention in Kituntu

SUCCESS STORY:**ACSA-TIKA Partnership Ignites a New Era of Sustainable Apiculture in Kituntu**

In Kituntu Sub-county, Mpigi District, a quiet but remarkable transformation is unfolding through the partnership between the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA), TIKA, and Skill Oriented Development Initiatives (SODI). Through strategic value chain linkages, technical support, and community empowerment, the partnership has revitalized apiculture as a sustainable livelihood opportunity for smallholder farmers. According to Ms. Claudia Sanyu Naggwanyi, a Value Chain Development Officer at SODI, the intervention has gone far beyond the simple distribution of beekeeping equipment. ACSA played a pivotal role in connecting SODI and grassroots farmers to TIKA support while ensuring that accountability, farmer preparedness, training, and sustainability remained at the center of the initiative.

“ACSA helped us build meaningful linkages and provided technical backstopping within the apiculture value chain beyond the usual member organization support towards resource mobilization. Farmers first underwent sensitization meetings, technical trainings, field assessments, and accountability commitments before receiving equipment. This created ownership, seriousness, and confidence among the beneficiaries,” Ms. Claudia explained. One of the beneficiaries, Mr. Luwerekera Vincent, says the project completely transformed his perception of beekeeping. Having previously lost hope in apiculture due to limited technical knowledge and lack of proper equipment, he now manages his apiary with renewed confidence and enthusiasm.

“With ACSA’s guidance and support through SODI, we now view beekeeping as a serious business capable of improving household incomes, creating employment, and securing our future,” Mr. Vincent shared proudly.

The partnership has further strengthened peer-to-peer learning among farmers, promoted environmental conservation through pollination and biodiversity protection, and inspired more youth and women to venture into apiculture. Farmers are also being linked to future opportunities for mentorship, exposure visits, value addition, and advanced technical support through engagements with actors such as Malaika Honey.

For SODI and the farming communities of Kituntu, the ACSA-TIKA partnership represents far more than a development project. It is a symbol of trust, empowerment, sustainability, and community transformation driven through strong value chain coordination and strategic partnerships that continue to improve rural livelihoods.

Support members in resource mobilization /fundraising at all levels:

ACSA's Strategic Role in Strengthening UYDNET's Resource Mobilisation and Consortium Leadership for Agroecology Transformation

The Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) played a pivotal catalytic role in strengthening the capacity of Uganda Youth and Development Network (UYDNET) to effectively develop, position, and secure funding for a multi-country agroecology initiative under the Agroecology Fund. This intervention directly contributes to Activity 14, which focuses on supporting partners to jointly develop proposals for resource mobilisation and implementation of theme-based agrarian policy advocacy at national, regional, and international levels.

Through sustained and structured technical backstopping, ACSA guided UYDNET through a step-by-step process that enabled the organization to evolve from a grassroots initiative into a credible consortium coordinating agency capable of leading cross-border partnerships. The support covered the full proposal development cycle, including concept refinement, logical framework strengthening, budgeting coherence, partner alignment, and compliance with donor requirements.



Beyond proposal development, ACSA provided critical institutional strengthening support to ensure UYDNET's readiness to manage complex international funding arrangements. This included guidance on governance structuring, clarification of leadership roles, strengthening of internal coordination systems, and enhancement of accountability and documentation frameworks. These processes were essential in building donor confidence and positioning UYDNET as a reliable lead applicant and consortium coordinator.

A key outcome of this support was UYDNET's successful acquisition of funding from the Agroecology Fund for the implementation of the project titled "Roots of Sovereignty: Promoting Agroecological Transitions for Land Justice, Food and Nutrition Security and Community Resilience in East Africa." Under this arrangement, UYDNET is now coordinating a regional consortium that includes two Kenyan partner organizations, thereby extending the project's reach and influence across East Africa.

ACSA's role extended beyond technical writing support to include strategic advisory on consortium structuring, partner role definition, financial accountability systems, and donor compliance mechanisms. This comprehensive support significantly strengthened the credibility of the proposal and enhanced UYDNET's capacity to meet international resource mobilisation standards.

Through this intervention, ACSA has demonstrated its core mandate of enabling member organizations not only to access funding but also to lead and manage complex, multi-country agrarian policy advocacy and agroecology transformation initiatives. The partnership has significantly enhanced UYDNET's institutional capacity, visibility, and legitimacy as an emerging regional actor in sustainable agriculture and policy advocacy.

Overall, this success underscores the effectiveness of ACSA's technical backstopping model in building resilient, well-governed, and fundable member organizations capable of driving transformative agroecology and sustainable agriculture transitions across national and regional levels in East Africa.

SUCCESS STORY:

UYDNET's Agroecology Innovation Hub Inspires Community Transformation through ACSA Technical Support

By Mr. Samuel Kabuye – UYDNET

What began as a dream to establish a farmer-centered agroecology learning space has steadily grown into a transformative community innovation hub through the support, technical guidance, and partnership of the Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA).

Through continuous technical backstopping, proposal guidance, and organizational mentorship from ACSA, Uganda Youth and Development Network (UYDNET) successfully developed the concept for the project titled "Roots of Sovereignty: Promoting Agroecological Transitions for Land Justice, Food and Nutrition Security and Community Resilience in East Africa." The initiative seeks to accelerate agroecological transitions among smallholder farmers and indigenous communities in Uganda and Kenya.

According to Mr. Samuel Kabuye, ACSA played a significant role throughout the entire resource mobilization and project development process, helping UYDNET strengthen its vision into a practical and impactful intervention.

"ACSA stood with us beyond ordinary network support. They provided technical guidance, proposal development support, strategic direction, and continuous encouragement that enabled us to confidently develop this initiative for community transformation," Mr. Kabuye explained.



As a result, UYDNET established a modern Agroecology and Regenerative Agriculture Innovation Hub designed to promote practical learning, demonstration, innovation, and farmer capacity building. The hub now serves as a center for farmer-to-farmer learning and community empowerment, particularly targeting youth, women, and smallholder farmers.

Several demonstration and learning facilities have already been established at the hub, including a BSF larvarium, demonstration gardens, poultry unit, aquaculture section, livestock unit, agroecology laboratory, and a community campfire learning site. These facilities are helping farmers gain hands-on experience in sustainable and climate-resilient farming systems.

Through the initiative, over 1,000 farmers are expected to benefit from agroecological training, practical demonstrations, and innovation platforms that strengthen circular farming systems, renewable resource utilization, and sustainable food production practices.



Mr. Kabuye further noted that ACSA's commitment to supporting member organizations in fundraising and resource mobilization has greatly strengthened grassroots organizations like UYDNET to become more visible, strategic, and impactful within the agroecology movement.

Today, the UYDNET Innovation Hub stands as a strong example of how strategic partnerships, technical backstopping, and investment in local organizations can drive community resilience, food sovereignty, and sustainable rural transformation.

Success story 2: **A Gift of Land, A Harvest of Hope:** How Ms. Nankya's 2-Acre Agroecology Garden is Transforming Youth Lives in Buikwe District

In Buikwe District, where many young people face challenges of unemployment, school dropout, and vulnerability to negative peer influence, one woman's selfless decision has become a catalyst for change. By dedicating two acres of her personal land to support vulnerable youth, Ms. Nankya Racheal has created opportunities that are transforming lives through agroecology.

As a member of the Uganda Youth Development Network (UYDNET), an organization that supports and counsels at-risk youth, Ms. Nankya recognized that many young people needed more than guidance, they needed practical opportunities to build their futures. Driven by this conviction, she offered two acres of her own land for the establishment of a Youth Agroecology Demonstration Garden.



Youth in their joint garden weeding vegetables

Today, the garden serves as a learning and empowerment center for 100 young people, including 70 students and 30 out-of-school youth. The initiative provides a safe and productive environment where young people can acquire agricultural skills, generate income, and develop a sense of responsibility and purpose.

During school holidays, the students actively participate in managing the garden, while the out-of-school youth work alongside Ms. Nankya throughout the year. Through practical training, the young people have learned how to produce and apply organic fertilizers and organic pesticides, enabling them to grow healthy crops while protecting the environment and reducing production costs.

The demonstration garden hosts a wide variety of vegetables, including nakati, sukuma wiki, dodo, bitter berries, carrots, strawberries, green pepper, and red pepper. In line with agroecological principles, the youth also plant red pepper and Tithonia (locally known as Ekimyula) around each garden paddock as a natural method of controlling pests and protecting crops.

The impact of the initiative has been remarkable;

Income generated from the sale of vegetables has enabled many young people to purchase essential scholastic materials such as books, pens, and school supplies. For girls, the garden has become an important source of income for purchasing sanitary towels, helping them stay in school and continue their education with dignity.

The project has also significantly reduced idleness among participating youth. Instead of spending their free time loitering around trading centers or being exposed to negative influences, the young people are engaged in productive activities that build their skills, confidence, and aspirations.

"The land was sitting there, but I realized it could do much more than produce crops," says Ms. Nankya. "It could help young people discover their potential, learn valuable skills, and create opportunities for themselves." For many participants, the garden has become more than a farming project. It is a source of income, practical education, mentorship, and hope for a better future.

The initiative has also brought benefits to Ms. Nankya herself. Through the sale of vegetables and the provision of agroecology training to other farmers, she has generated income that supports her household and enables her to educate her children. The use of organic fertilizers and pesticides has improved the quality and health of her produce while maintaining soil fertility and environmental sustainability.

Most importantly, Ms. Nankya has witnessed firsthand the transformation of young lives.

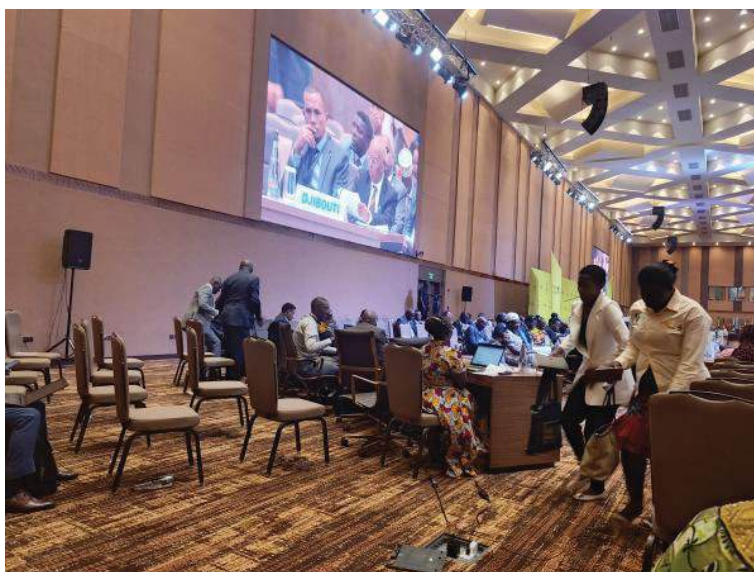
"Some of these young people can now buy their own school materials. Others have learned farming skills that can support them throughout their lives. Seeing them become responsible and focused gives me great joy," she explains.

The Youth Agroecology Demonstration Garden stands as a shining example of how individual commitment and community action can create lasting change. By donating two acres of land, Ms. Nankya planted more than vegetables, she planted seeds of hope, opportunity, and self-reliance.

The experience from Buikwe District demonstrates that when young people are provided with access to land, skills, mentorship, and practical opportunities, they can become active contributors to sustainable food systems and community development.

Through her generosity and leadership, Ms. Nankya Racheal is helping nurture a new generation of empowered young agroecology champions—one harvest at a time.

Influencing Africa's Agricultural Transformation Agenda through Strategic Policy Engagement



During 2025, ACSA strengthened its role as a national and regional policy actor by actively participating in high-level agricultural policy platforms that shape the future of Africa's food systems. ACSA participated in the African Union Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Summit held from 8th–11th January 2025, where African Heads of State, policymakers, development partners, farmer organizations, and civil society actors endorsed the Kampala CAADP Declaration and renewed commitments to agricultural transformation across the continent. Building on these engagements, ACSA also participated in the Agri-Food Systems Summit organized by the African Agribusiness Incubation Network (AAIN) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) from 24th–25th June 2025. The summit provided a strategic platform for dialogue on food systems resilience, agricultural investment, agroecology, nutrition, climate adaptation, and inclusive agricultural growth.

Through these engagements, ACSA successfully positioned the interests of smallholder farmers, agroecology practitioners, and civil society actors within broader national and continental food systems discussions. The coalition strengthened relationships with influential institutions including FAO, AGRA, MAAIF, NPA, WFP, CARE International, AAIN, and other development partners, creating new opportunities for collaboration in policy advocacy, research, and programme implementation. The engagements further enhanced ACSA's understanding of emerging policy directions under the Kampala CAADP Declaration and enabled the coalition to align its advocacy agenda with continental priorities on food security, climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, and farmer-centred development.



Most importantly, participation in these strategic platforms increased ACSA's visibility and credibility as a trusted civil society actor contributing to agricultural transformation debates. The knowledge, partnerships, and policy insights gained are expected to strengthen future advocacy efforts aimed at influencing national agricultural policies, promoting agroecological food systems, and advancing investments that respond to the needs and aspirations of Uganda's smallholder farmers.

Building Global Learning Partnerships and Strengthening Technical Capacity for Sustainable Food Systems

Recognizing the importance of international learning and knowledge exchange, ACSA facilitated strategic engagements that connected local development experiences with global perspectives on sustainable agriculture and food systems transformation. On 1st February 2025, ACSA hosted an international learning dialogue organized by Sarah Kornellia of Misereor involving university students and scholars from Germany, Uganda, Nepal, India, Nigeria, Togo, Morocco, Tunisia, Cameroon, and Aachen studying Business Engineering and Law. The engagement provided a unique platform for sharing practical experiences on agricultural development, agroecology, policy advocacy, rural livelihoods, and the role of civil society in promoting inclusive and sustainable development. Participants gained a deeper understanding of Uganda's agricultural landscape and the innovative approaches employed by ACSA and its member organizations to support smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities.

In addition, ACSA supported Ms. Sanyu Claudia from SODI on a cost-sharing basis to undertake specialized training in Urban and Confined Agriculture in Dubai from 17th–21st April 2025.

The training exposed her to modern technologies and innovative production systems designed to maximize food production in limited spaces while enhancing climate resilience and resource efficiency. The skills acquired included vertical farming approaches, urban food production models, efficient water management systems, and sustainable techniques suitable for urban and peri-urban environments.

These initiatives contributed significantly to strengthening ACSA's international networks, promoting cross-cultural learning, and enhancing technical capacity within its partner institutions. The knowledge and skills acquired are expected to support the development of innovative urban agriculture initiatives, improve household food and nutrition security, and promote the adoption of climate-smart production practices. Furthermore, the engagements elevated ACSA's profile as a learning organization committed to facilitating knowledge exchange, innovation, and capacity strengthening for sustainable food systems development.

On the other hand, the role of ACSA in contributing human rights beyond borders has increased in the year 2025 where two staff were part of the annual corporate impunity workshops against extracivism in Maputo, while also joining the Women's Right to Say No campaign under Women in extractivism (WoMIN)



2025 Corporate Impunity workshop in Maputo and WoMIN Steering Group Meeting in Nairobi

Strengthening Global Partnerships and Advocacy Platforms for Agroecology, Land Justice, and Sustainable Food Systems Transformation

During 2025, ACSA actively strengthened its global and regional partnerships through strategic engagement in land governance, agroecology, food systems transformation, and environmental justice platforms. A key milestone was the support provided to the National Coordinator in engaging strategic partners during the Land Commons Steering Group meeting held from 17th–20th March 2025 in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting brought together Steering Group members and WoMin staff to strengthen collaboration, align on shared objectives, and agree on concrete annual outputs aimed at advancing land justice and commons-based approaches to natural resource governance. This engagement reinforced ACSA's role in contributing to continental dialogue on equitable land access, community rights, and sustainable resource governance.

In addition, ACSA participated in a series of strategic physical and virtual engagements that enhanced knowledge exchange and strengthened advocacy alignment across multiple thematic areas. These included the Global Agrotourism Network meeting under the theme "Rooted in Indigenous and Neglected Crops," CAADP debriefing sessions, Land Commons meetings, TIKA visits to SODI and ETO focusing on Maastricht Principles for future generations, and high-level aflatoxin dialogue platforms.

Further engagements included Agroecology Coalition meetings, Global Soil Partners' plenary, policy learning brief dissemination on zero stunting campaigns, Land actors' orientation on the National Development Plan IV (NDP IV), and PGS learning events. These platforms provided critical opportunities for ACSA to contribute to policy discussions on sustainable agriculture, food systems governance, soil health, and agroecological transition.

Furthermore, ACSA strengthened its global solidarity and advocacy influence through participation in high-level discussions and thematic networks addressing urgent environmental and agricultural challenges. These included the Agriculture Food Systems Summit organized by MAAIF, dialogues on the geopolitics of green colonisation and emerging green sacrifice zones, FAO-led pesticide pollution harmonisation efforts, and engagements under the Network of Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB). Additional engagements included Misereor Zoom meetings on "Stop the Poison" campaigns supporting seed systems, solidarity calls for sustainable agriculture, and consultations with SNV Seeds of Change global, regional partners from Ethiopia, and SDG hubs. Collectively, these engagements enhanced ACSA's visibility, strengthened multi-stakeholder alliances, and deepened its contribution to global advocacy on agroecology, seed sovereignty, climate justice, and sustainable food systems transformation.

Institutional Strengthening, Governance and Secretariat Development



The National Coordinator ACSA making remarks during the AGM 2025

The ACSA Partners' Forum and Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025 was successfully held on 18th July 2025 at JFRIGH Hotel, bringing together Member Organizations (MOs), technical advisors, auditors, and key stakeholders from across Uganda's agroecology and sustainable agriculture sector. The meeting commenced with registration and confirmation of quorum, followed by formal adoption of the agenda and opening prayers, setting a strong tone of unity, accountability, and shared purpose. The forum was guided by the 2024/2025 theme: **"Fostering value addition, marketing of organic products and compliance to relevant requirements for income generation and job creation in Uganda."**

The AGM featured comprehensive organizational updates, where Member Organizations presented key milestones in advocacy, agroecology innovation, compliance, and community development.

Members reported significant achievements including establishment of community seed banks, expansion of organic farming initiatives, youth skilling programs, innovations in herbal veterinary solutions, and strengthened partnerships with government and development actors. The Chairperson's report highlighted ACSA's continued growth, expanded membership, functional technical committees, and increased engagement in policy advocacy and research. Financial accountability was reinforced through the presentation of audited financial statements, which were duly discussed and approved by members. Key reflections also focused on sustainability, compliance requirements, and strengthening local fundraising capacities among Member Organizations. The meeting further emphasized the need to enhance organizational systems, improve documentation practices, and strengthen coordination among Member Organizations to support effective implementation of ACSA's strategic objectives.



Eustace Sajjabi handing over the Instrument of Power to the new board chairperson, Florence Ndagire Kakande

Importantly, the 2025 AGM was also held as an elective and democratic decision-making forum, marking a significant leadership transition in line with ACSA's governance framework and constitutional term limits. The outgoing Board, led by Mr. Eustace Sajjabi, successfully concluded its term after providing strategic leadership and guidance that contributed to the growth and consolidation of ACSA as a national agroecology platform. Members expressed appreciation for the outgoing leadership's commitment to strengthening governance, expanding partnerships, and advancing the organization's visibility and impact.

Following a transparent and participatory electoral process, members unanimously elected a new Board to steer the organization into its next phase. Mrs. Florence Kakande was elected as the new Board Chairperson, taking over leadership from Mr. Eustace Sajjabi. Her election was widely welcomed as a continuation of ACSA's commitment to inclusive leadership, gender representation, and democratic governance. The new Board was entrusted with the responsibility of deepening institutional sustainability, strengthening member services, and advancing ACSA's strategic agenda in agroecology transformation and sustainable food systems in Uganda.

A notable highlight of the AGM was the recognition and awarding of outstanding Member Organizations (MOs) that demonstrated exceptional commitment and innovation in advancing agroecology, value addition, organic production, and community transformation in line with the 2025 AGM theme: "Fostering value addition, marketing of organic products and compliance to relevant requirements for income generation and job creation in Uganda." In recognition of its exemplary performance and impactful community-based interventions, SODI was awarded the "Member Organization of the Year 2025" for the remarkable work exhibited in promoting sustainable agriculture, value chain development, and community empowerment. The award served as both a recognition of excellence and a motivation for Member Organizations to continue strengthening innovation, accountability, and impact within Uganda's agroecology movement.



SODI Team receiving an award for the best ACSA Member Organisation of the year 2025

During the reporting period, ACSA also recorded notable progress in institutional strengthening, governance, and Secretariat development. The organization enhanced its internal governance systems through improved policy compliance mechanisms, structured reporting frameworks, and strengthened oversight of Member Organizations. Greater emphasis was placed on accountability, transparency, and adherence to regulatory requirements, including annual audits, statutory reporting, and compliance with national registration frameworks. The Secretariat was further strengthened through improved coordination capacity, enhanced documentation systems, and more effective communication channels between the Secretariat, Board, and Member Organizations, enabling better delivery of coordination and technical backstopping services.

In addition, ACSA intensified its efforts in member accompaniment and organizational development support, ensuring that Member Organizations are better equipped for local fundraising, advocacy engagement, and project development. Capacity-building initiatives were strengthened to improve skills in proposal writing, compliance management, and value chain development. These interventions significantly enhanced ACSA's institutional credibility and positioning as a leading national platform for agroecology advocacy, while laying a stronger foundation for long-term sustainability, strategic partnerships, and expanded impact across Uganda's sustainable agriculture and food systems sector.

Strengthening Policy, Safeguarding, and Institutional Frameworks

ACSA significantly improved its internal policy environment by developing and operationalizing a comprehensive set of governance and compliance instruments. These included the Safeguarding Policy, Data Protection Policy, Anti-Human Trafficking Policy, Sexual Harassment Policy, Due Diligence Procedures, and a revised Code of Conduct for Board and staff.

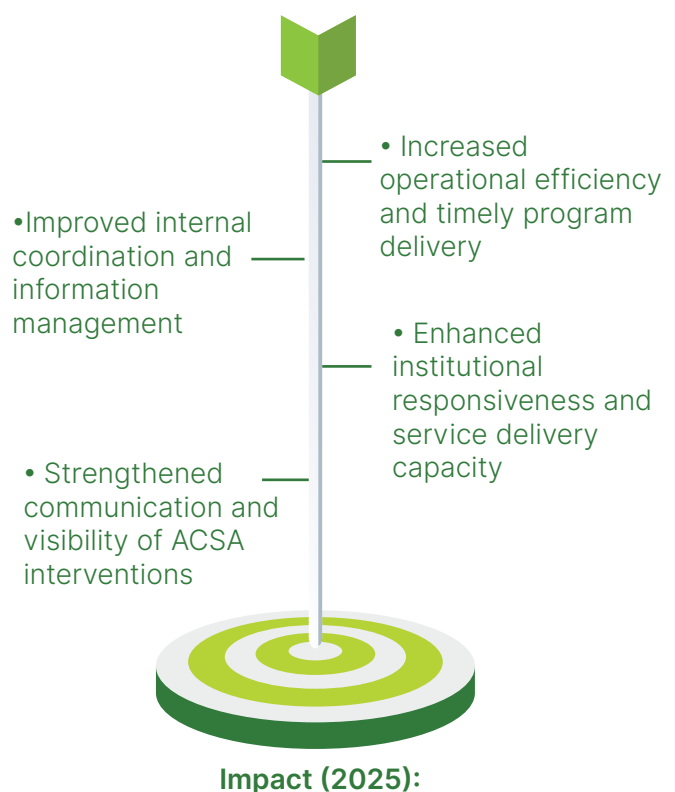
These frameworks strengthened organizational integrity, ethical standards, and risk management systems across all operations and member engagements. The finalization and launch of the ACSA Strategic Plan 2025–2030 further provided a structured roadmap for institutional growth, sustainability, and programmatic focus.



Secretariat Strengthening and Operational Efficiency

The ACSA Secretariat improved its operational effectiveness by strengthening administrative systems, communication structures, ICT platforms, transport logistics, and staffing support. These improvements enabled smoother coordination of programs, enhanced documentation, and improved responsiveness to member needs.

Regular system updates, improved office management, and strengthened communication platforms ensured better internal coordination and external visibility of ACSA's work



4.0

MAJOR PARTNER INSTITUTION SUPPORT MONITORING VISIT



Dr. Sabine Dorlöchter Sulser Desk Officer for Rural Development Africa / Middle East, Misereor – Germany - **Member Accompaniment and Institutional Capacity Strengthening**

ACSA intensified its direct support to member organizations through structured physical and virtual follow-up visits across the network. These engagements focused on strengthening governance systems, monitoring and evaluation, fundraising capacity, advocacy skills, compliance, and innovation development.

Member organizations received tailored technical assistance in proposal development, social enterprise strengthening, financial management, and organizational development. Peer learning exchanges and joint learning visits further enhanced knowledge sharing and replication of best practices.

Impact (2025):

- Improved governance and institutional systems among member organizations
- Increased fundraising success and proposal development capacity
- Strengthened monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems at grassroots level
- Enhanced peer learning, collaboration, and innovation uptake within the network
- Improved readiness of member organizations to engage with donors and government programs

Overall Institutional Impact (2025)

Through its governance and institutional strengthening interventions, ACSA achieved significant transformation in its internal systems and network effectiveness. The organization strengthened its accountability structures, improved operational efficiency, and enhanced its capacity to deliver value to member organizations.

As a result, ACSA emerged in 2025 as a more credible, resilient, and professionally governed national network, with stronger systems for safeguarding, compliance, strategic planning, and member support.

These achievements positioned ACSA to effectively scale its impact in agroecology, regenerative agriculture, seed sovereignty, and sustainable food systems transformation in Uganda in the years ahead.

Challenges Encountered By ACSA in 2025

- Delayed membership subscription payments affecting network sustainability.
- Limited institutional and governance capacity among some Member Organizations.
- Inadequate funding for scaling agroecology, advocacy, and innovation initiatives.
- Slow policy reform and implementation processes.
- Low consumer awareness and weak markets for agroecological products.
- Climate change impacts, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss.
- Increasing regulatory and compliance requirements affecting CSO operations.
- Limited adoption of certification and quality assurance systems.
- Digital and information access gaps among farming communities.
- Sustainability challenges for member-led enterprises and local fundraising efforts.
- Limited financing and investment for scaling Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) technologies across ACSA Membership.
- Low awareness, technical capacity, and affordability of renewable energy technologies (solar irrigation, biogas, solar drying, cold storage) among smallholder farmers.
- Weak integration of agriculture, energy, and climate financing mechanisms to support RA-PURE adoption at scale.
- High upfront costs and limited access to appropriate renewable energy technologies for farmers and rural enterprises.

Key Lessons Learned in 2025

- Strong partnerships and multi-stakeholder collaboration are essential for influencing policy and driving sustainable food systems transformation.
- Investing in Member Organization capacity strengthens advocacy effectiveness, resource mobilization, and institutional sustainability.
- Community-led agroecology and seed sovereignty initiatives are more sustainable when supported by local governance structures and policy frameworks.
- Integrating **Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE)** offers significant potential for improving productivity, resilience, and rural livelihoods.
- Continuous public awareness, knowledge sharing, and evidence generation are critical for increasing adoption of agroecological practices and influencing policy decisions.

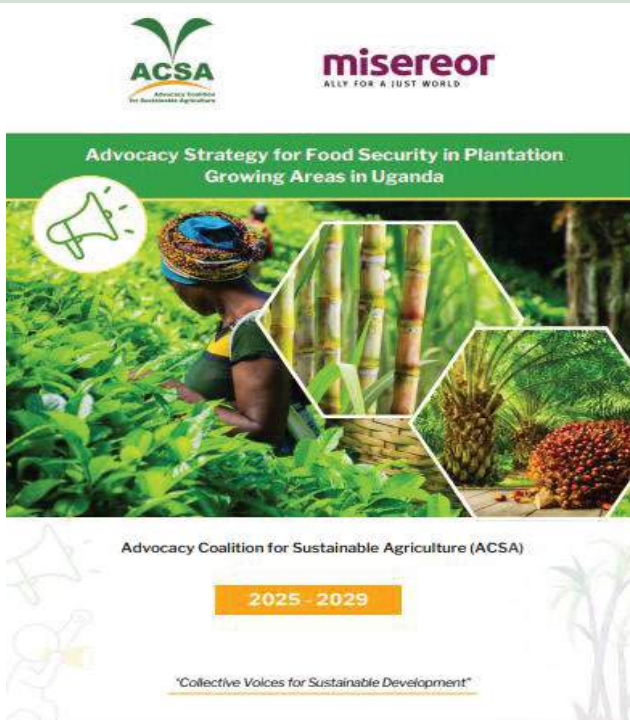
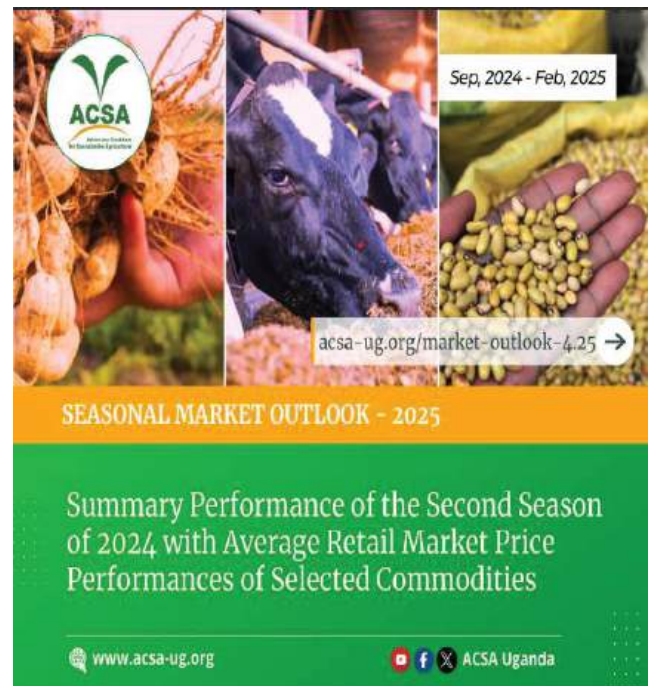
Future Plans for 2026 and Beyond

1. Scale up Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy (RA-PURE) technologies among smallholder farmers and Member Organizations.
2. Strengthen policy advocacy and influence implementation of agroecology, seed sovereignty, land governance, and climate resilience frameworks.
3. Expand market access, certification, value addition, and Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) for agroecological products.
4. Enhance Member Organization capacity in governance, resource mobilization, compliance, and institutional sustainability.
5. Strengthen strategic partnerships, research collaborations, and knowledge-sharing platforms to drive innovation and sustainable food systems transformation.

5.0

PUBLICATIONS

5.1 Policies and Guiding frameworks generated in 2025





Agriculture Outlook for March, 2025

With Average Retail Market Price Performances of Selected Commodities

BACKGROUND

Uganda's agriculture sector remains pivotal to the nation's economy and livelihoods. In the first quarter of the 2024/25 fiscal year, agriculture contributed 24.9% to the country's GDP, reflecting its substantial role in economic activity (Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBS), 2024a). The sector experienced a year-on-year growth of 0.2%, primarily driven by a 9.1% increase in food crop production (UBS, 2024a). Approximately 80% of Uganda's households are engaged in agriculture, underscoring its significance in employment and sustenance (UBS, 2024a). Smallholder farmers, cultivating less than five hectares, dominate the sector and are crucial for national food security and poverty reduction (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 2024).

However, challenges such as limited market access, post-harvest losses, and climate-related risks persist. Notably, the first quarter of 2024 witnessed below-average rainfall production due to erratic rainfall patterns, impacting food availability (FAO, 2024). Enhancing access to timely agricultural information and investing in climate-resilient practices are essential strategies for improving decision-making, profitability, and food security among smallholder farmers. Strengthening the sector is thus critical for Uganda's economic stability and sustainable development.

Agriculture Outlook: Mar 25



Agriculture Outlook for February, 2025

With Average Retail Market Price Performances of Selected Commodities

Background

Agriculture remains the dominant sector of Uganda's economy, employing approximately 65% of the working population and contributing around 23% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (UBS, 2024). Smallholder farmers, cultivating plots under five hectares, account for nearly 82% of total agricultural output. Agriculture is fundamental not only for food security and employment but also for poverty reduction and economic growth. Despite its importance, the sector faces significant challenges, including limited market access, exposure to climate risks, and post-harvest losses. Strengthening agricultural resilience and improving access to timely market information are therefore vital for achieving sustainable development targets.

February 2025 Performance

Weather Conditions

February 2025 was characterized by peak dry season conditions, with high temperatures prevailing across most of the country. Central and Northern regions experienced severe rainfall stress, as the influence of a tropical cyclone over the southern Indian Ocean diverted rainfall away from East Africa. This further compounded the ongoing drought, posing additional pressure on smallholder food systems and livelihoods production.

Agriculture Outlook: Feb 25



Summary Performance of the Season from September 2024 to February 2025 with Average Retail Market Price Performances of Selected Commodities.



BACKGROUND

Agriculture remains the cornerstone of Uganda's economy, contributing approximately 24.9% to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the fiscal year 2023/24. Owing to its significance, the sector faces challenges that hinder its full potential, including limited access to quality inputs, inadequate irrigation infrastructure, and vulnerability to climate change. The agriculture market in Uganda was valued at USD 4.07 billion in 2023 and is projected to reach USD 6.21 billion by 2031, growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.26%. Uganda's agricultural landscape is shaped by two distinct rainfall patterns: bimodal and unimodal. These patterns determine the country's seasonal rhythms and profoundly influence agricultural production activities. As Uganda's agriculture is predominantly rain-fed, the timing, intensity, and distribution of rainfall play a critical role in defining periods of land preparation, planting, crop growth, and harvesting.

Seasonal Market Outlook: 28



Organic Agriculture Outlook in Uganda

Value Chain Actors and Market Integration Pathways – Sustainable SOCs

1. Background

Agriculture is a foundational pillar of Uganda's economy, contributing substantially to national income, rural livelihoods, and export revenues. However, challenges such as soil degradation, climate variability, and post-harvest losses continue to constrain productivity and hinder farmers' access to premium markets. Organic agriculture offers a sustainable pathway to overcome these challenges, promoting environmental health and economic resilience. The growing demand for organic products globally and regionally presents a significant opportunity for Uganda's agricultural sector to enhance its competitiveness, improve its value chain, and attract market opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Evidence from national and international markets indicates that organic agriculture contributes a significant share of Uganda's agricultural export value, particularly in high-value commodities such as coffee, cocoa, and tea. This sector serves as a critical link between smallholder farmers and global markets (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Organic agriculture operates as a holistic of ecological, economic, and social systems, emphasizing the use of natural inputs and processes. These practices reduce dependence on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, thus supporting soil health, biodiversity, and water conservation. When integrated into a broader sustainable environment where natural resources are managed responsibly, organic agriculture can contribute to the overall resilience of the sector, ensuring the economic, social, and environmental well-being of smallholder farmers (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Organic Agriculture Outlook: 2025



Organic Agriculture Outlook in Uganda

Financing and Investment Architecture for Organic Sector Expansion – October 2025

1. Background

The expansion of organic agriculture in Uganda must be understood within the broader context of national agricultural financing and food systems transformation. Agriculture contributes significantly to Uganda's gross domestic product, employment, and export earnings, with the sector's total value added reaching USD 1.1 billion in 2023. Despite its importance, the sector faces challenges such as limited access to finance, inadequate infrastructure, and post-harvest losses. Organic agriculture offers a sustainable pathway to overcome these challenges, promoting environmental health and economic resilience. The growing demand for organic products globally and regionally presents a significant opportunity for Uganda's agricultural sector to enhance its competitiveness, improve its value chain, and attract market opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Evidence from national and international markets indicates that organic agriculture contributes a significant share of Uganda's agricultural export value, particularly in high-value commodities such as coffee, cocoa, and tea. This sector serves as a critical link between smallholder farmers and global markets (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Despite the progress, the financing and investment architecture for organic agriculture remains underdeveloped. Limited access to finance, inadequate infrastructure, and post-harvest losses continue to constrain the sector's growth. The growing demand for organic products globally and regionally presents a significant opportunity for Uganda's agricultural sector to enhance its competitiveness, improve its value chain, and attract market opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Evidence from national and international markets indicates that organic agriculture contributes a significant share of Uganda's agricultural export value, particularly in high-value commodities such as coffee, cocoa, and tea. This sector serves as a critical link between smallholder farmers and global markets (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Organic Agriculture Outlook: 2025



Organic Agriculture Outlook in Uganda

Financing and Investment Architecture for Organic Sector Expansion – November 2025

1. Background

Uganda's economy is undergoing structural transformation, driven by the private sector's growth, which is increasingly moving towards higher value-added activities. The agricultural sector, which has long been the backbone of the economy, is now being repositioned to support the country's economic growth. The growing demand for organic products globally and regionally presents a significant opportunity for Uganda's agricultural sector to enhance its competitiveness, improve its value chain, and attract market opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Evidence from national and international markets indicates that organic agriculture contributes a significant share of Uganda's agricultural export value, particularly in high-value commodities such as coffee, cocoa, and tea. This sector serves as a critical link between smallholder farmers and global markets (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Investment is a key driver in the emergence of a growing sector, and the private sector's growth is a key driver in the emergence of a growing sector. The growing demand for organic products globally and regionally presents a significant opportunity for Uganda's agricultural sector to enhance its competitiveness, improve its value chain, and attract market opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. Evidence from national and international markets indicates that organic agriculture contributes a significant share of Uganda's agricultural export value, particularly in high-value commodities such as coffee, cocoa, and tea. This sector serves as a critical link between smallholder farmers and global markets (FAO, 2024; NEMA, 2020).

Organic Agriculture Outlook: 2025

Read more summary articles: <https://acsa-ug.org/seasonal-market-outlook-summary-performance-of-the-season-of-2025-march-july-2025>

5.2 Policy briefs



CLIMATE INDUCED MIGRATION AND ITS IMPACT



Those movements are driven by declining agricultural productivity in rural areas, reduced access to water resources and changing ecological stability across regions. The IOM - Mawene University study on climate related migration in Uganda confirms both sudden disasters (floods, landslides) and gradual degradation (soil depletion, deforestation) to replace like Butaba, Karamoja and Arua.

In South Asia, Bangladesh and India face related internal migration risks due to rising sea levels, increasing cyclones and heat floods.

Key drivers of climate - induced migration

- **Sea level rise**
- **Extreme weather events** hurricanes, cyclones, floods and wild fires disrupt infrastructural or permanently
- **Drought and water scarcity** affects agriculture, water supply and livelihoods
- **Desertification and land degradation** threaten viable land leading to rural depopulation and conflict over remaining resources
- **Food insecurity** Climate impacts on agriculture can cause famines, undernourishment and migration especially among vulnerable populations

Climate Induced Migration & Impact | 1



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE HIDDEN COSTS OF PESTICIDE USE



The SPIRIT K0700 project found widespread pesticide contamination across soil, water, food, air and even human and animal tissue samples in both conventional and organic farming systems. Chronic effects exposure to multiple pesticide residues pose complex and under regulated risks to ecosystems and health. The SothAfrica project confirms the presence of pesticide residues in thousands of soil samples across Africa, underlining the pervasiveness and pervasiveness of chemical use in farming.

According to the Global Ecological Survey (GES), pesticides such as diazinon, malathion and other herbicides often leach into groundwater contaminating drinking supplies and posing long term health risks. Many pesticides are persistent in the environment and can impact soil microbial health, pollinator populations and aquatic biodiversity. Some like organophosphates and certain insecticides are linked to chronic illnesses such as Parkinson's disease, developmental issues and embryonic disruption.

The FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit supports low and middle income countries with guidance on pesticide registration, risk assessment and regulation including specific tools for managing Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs).

The Hidden Costs of Pesticide Use | 1



COFFEE PRICE SLUMP IN UGANDA COFFEE AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR VALUE CHAIN ACTORS (MARCH - JULY 2025)



1.0 INTRODUCTION

Coffee remains the cornerstone of Uganda's agricultural export economy, contributing more than 15% of the country's foreign exchange earnings and supporting the livelihoods of over 1.7 million households. Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) 2025. Historically, Uganda's coffee sector has experienced fluctuating price cycles and global market dynamics. In the late 1990s, foreign prices fell drastically following global overcapacity and the liberalisation of Uganda's coffee industry, which exposed farmers to international price volatility. A similar price shock occurred in 2018 when Uganda prices plunged below US\$4.00/lb due to market corrections. International Coffee Organisation (ICO), 2018. From 2020 to 2023, coffee prices showed an upward trend driven by global supply chain disruptions and increased demand for home-grown coffee during the COVID-19 lockdowns. However, the current price decline between March and July 2025, ranging from 38% to 50% for various grades, signals a new market correction that threatens farmer incomes and sector sustainability (UCDA, 2025; Somo Wamuk, 2025). This report analyses the underlying drivers of this price collapse, its socio-economic impacts, and proposes strategic interventions.

Update on Coffee Subnational Analysis (Introduction) | 1



AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF MINING MINERALS IN UGANDA



1.0 Introduction

Uganda is richly endowed with a diverse array of mineral resources, making it an emerging hotspot for mining in East Africa. From gold and copper to rare earth elements, the country holds vast untapped potential that is increasingly attracting attention from both local and international investors.

Strategic Importance of the Mining Sector: The mining industry has been envisioned as a key driver of economic transformation under Uganda Vision 2040 and the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV). The sector is not only seen as a catalyst for industrialization and job creation, but also as a potential source of

revenue for national development.

1.1 Key Minerals and Extraction Areas

Uganda's mineral wealth spans across various regions and includes:

- **Gold:** Uganda's significant deposits in Karamoja, Busia, Mubende, and Ishaka.
- **Copper and Cobalt:** Historically mined in Karamoja District (KID), with emerging plans for revival.
- **Iron Ore:** Deposits located in Karamoja and Karamoja.
- **Vanadium:** Large deposits in Mubende, Mubende, Mubende, and Ishaka Hills (Ishaka).
- **Phosphates and Rare Earth Elements (REEs):** Concentrated in Ishaka Hills and Karamoja.

An Update on the Current Status of Mining Minerals in Uganda | 1



CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS' PRESS STATEMENT

Unmasking Uganda's Silent Food Safety Crisis: The Invisible Killers on Our Plates

World Food Safety Day - Saturday, 7th June 2025 | City Square, Kampala

As Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) committed to advancing sustainable agricultural trade, food safety and sovereignty, climate and gender justice, biodiversity restoration, human and environmental rights, and equitable development, we express profound concern regarding the deteriorating state of food safety in Uganda.

On this World Food Safety Day, observed under the theme "Food Safety: Science in Action," we come together to emphasize a vital message: **Food safety is not a luxury. It is a Right. It is a necessity.** Unfortunately, this right is currently under significant threat.

Food safety lies at the core of public health, food security, and national resilience. Commemorated annually on June 7th, World Food Safety Day serves as a crucial reminder to strengthen safe food practices, raise awareness about the dangers of unsafe food, and advocate for the implementation of comprehensive and effective food safety measures.

Foodborne diseases constitute a major global public health concern. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2024) estimates that approximately one in ten individuals worldwide experience illness annually as a result of consuming contaminated food. This burden translates to an estimated 420,000 deaths each year and a loss of 33 million Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs), highlighting the substantial impact on global health and well-being. Moreover, unsafe food is responsible for over 200 diseases, with approximately 1.6 million people falling ill daily.

The economic repercussions are equally significant, with foodborne illnesses imposing an estimated annual cost of US\$110 billion on low and middle-income countries, underlining the magnitude of this challenge. In Uganda, the burden of foodborne illnesses remains alarmingly high. According to the Ministry of Health (MoH, 2021), approximately 1.3 million cases of foodborne diseases were reported in 2021, accounting for 14% of the total disease burden treated nationwide. This statistic underscores the urgent need for comprehensive and effective food safety interventions across the country's food supply chain.

Despite the well-known health risks posed by unsafe food, it is alarming that up to 75% of staple grains in Uganda, as well as other foods such as milk, eggs, and meat, are contaminated with aflatoxins at levels exceeding safe limits. These toxic contaminants are also increasingly present in a wide range of essential foods, including fruits and vegetables, thereby exposing every Ugandan to serious health risks.

Aflatoxins are particularly dangerous. Acute exposure can cause liver failure, digestive complications, and even death; chronic exposure is strongly linked to liver cancer. Uganda



HOW TO PROTECT YOUR PIGS FROM AFRICAN SWINE FEVER



Introduction

As of August 6, 2025, Vietnam is experiencing a severe resurgence of African Swine Fever (ASF), a highly contagious viral disease affecting pigs. The country has reported 1,162 ASF outbreaks since 2019, with 20 over 100,000 pigs having died or been culled. The virus has not yet reached Uganda, but the risk is high.

The Vietnamese government has launched the national ASF control campaign, urging all pig farmers to take immediate action to prevent ASF from entering the country.

What is African Swine Fever (ASF)?

ASF is a deadly viral disease that affects pigs. It does not affect humans, but it can wipe out the entire pig stock. There is no treatment and no cure. It can spread fast, even in landfills, boats, clothes, and other items. The only solution is to kill the infected pigs and dispose of them properly.

How ASF spreads:

- Direct contact with infected pigs
- Through contaminated food, water, clothes or vehicles
- Pigs feeding on raw or uncooked kitchen waste
- Through pig markets and unregulated animal movement

How to protect your pigs from ASF:

- Avoid direct contact with infected pigs
- Avoid feeding your pigs with raw or uncooked kitchen waste
- Through pig markets and unregulated animal movement

Recommendation to the Government (GAS):

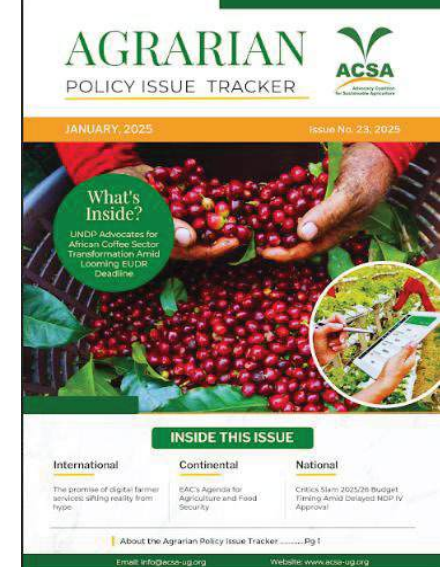
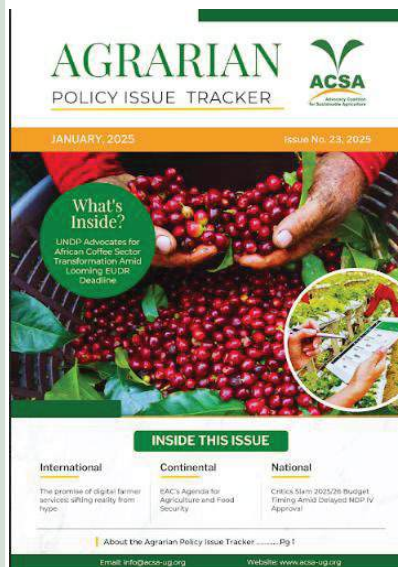
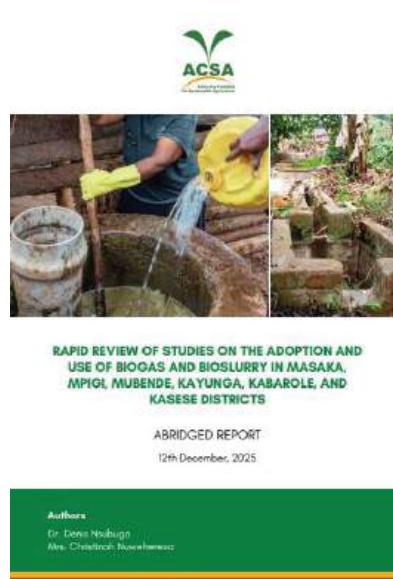
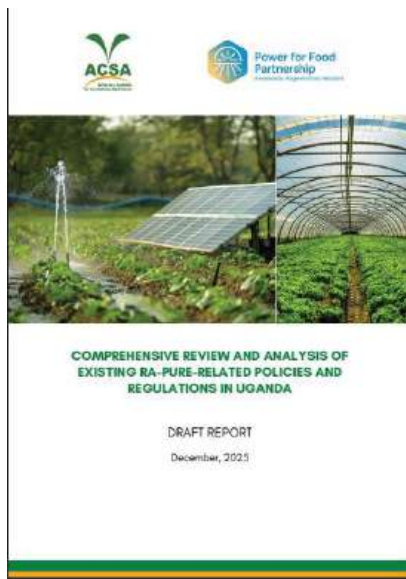
- Train veterinary officers and local leaders on how to control ASF in the field
- Encourage farmers to report ASF in their area
- Create ASF control committees with local leaders and pig farmers
- Create awareness campaigns to help pig farmers understand ASF and how to prevent it

Call to Action:

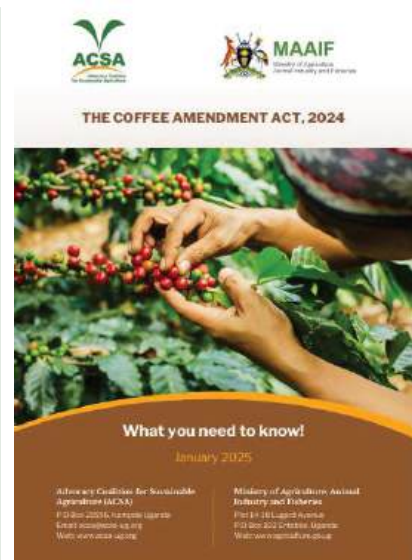
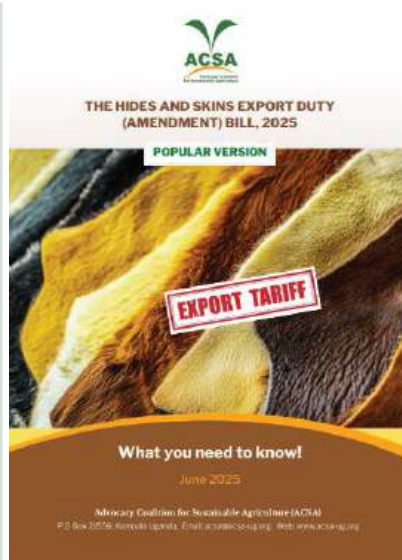
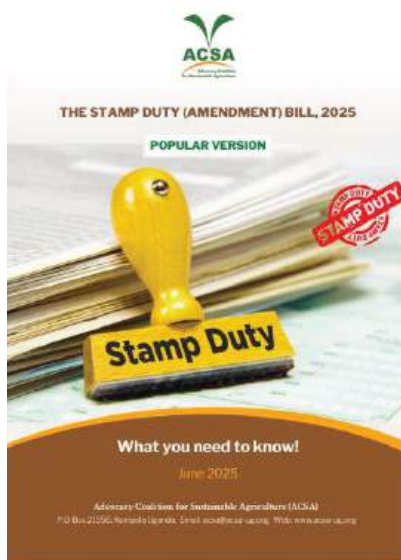
Take the lead in ASF control in your area. Educate your pig farmers and local leaders on how to control ASF in the field. Encourage them to report ASF in their area. Create ASF control committees with local leaders and pig farmers. Create awareness campaigns to help pig farmers understand ASF and how to prevent it.

[Good practices only. Not to be used as a guide]

5.3 Studies & Documentations



5.4 Popular versions 2025



6.0

ACSA PARTNERS

6.1 ACSA Networking Partners

Name of Partner	Area of partnership and Collaboration
Africa- Europe Civil Society Platform(CSEP)	Food systems related inter-continental policy
Agroecology Coalition (AEC)	Advocacy for ecological organic Agriculture at National and regional levels
Center for food and Adequate living Rights (CEFROHT)	Food justice and Human Rights based approach to agrarian Advocacy local , national , regional and international levels
Charter for Change(C4C)	Advocacy for locally-led response to Humanitarian AID
Civil Society Advocacy Budget Group (CSBAG)	Coordination of CSOs in related Budget advocacy and Policy Analysis at National and regional levels
CIDSE	Human rights under Our land Our life Platform engagements at Regional and Continental levels
Climate action Network Uganda (CANU)	Climate change advocacy at national and International levels
Consumer Education Trust(CONSENT)	Media Consumer awareness Campaigns and advocacy
ETO Consortium	Policy Engagements on Human rights beyond borders and Transnational Corporations
Food Rights Alliance (FRA)	Capacity building and Agriculture related engagements at national levels
Global Soil Partners	Engagements on Innovations and policies in soil related issues
IFOAM	Global engagements in ecological Organic Agriculture and Agro ecology
Network of Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB)	Global Soil Research and biodiversity Networking forum
Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations (SEATIN)	Policy engagements Trade related issues at National, regional and International levels
Uganda Forum for Agriculture Advisory Services(UFAAS)	Extension service coordination and harmonization
Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE)	Coordination and harmonization of farmers' voices at national level
Uganda Organic Certification (UgoCert)	Linkages of MOs and farmers to local, regional and international Certification,

6.2 Development Partners/ Donors

- **Misereor – Germany:** (Major Donor)
- **Power for food partnership -SNV :**
Regenerative Agriculture and Productive Use of Renewable Energy
- **UMU/ ACALISE -** Organic Agriculture Research support
- **Turkish Cooperation Agency (TIKA):** Production & Value addition input support
- CIDSE – Women Land Rights
- **WoMin African Alliance:** Extractives and Community Common Resources
- **DKA Austria (Dreikönigsaktion):** Policy and Advocacy Agroecology and land rights

6.3 Line Ministries & Government Agencies

- Ministry of Energy and Mineral development (MEMD)
- Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF)
- Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban development (MLHUD))
- Ministry of Trade Industries and Cooperatives (MTIC)
- Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)
- National Agriculture Coffee Research Institute (NACORI)
- National Agriculture Research Organisation (NARO)
- Plant Genetic Resource Center(PGRC) – NARO
- Science Technology and Innovation (STI)
- Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS)
- Uganda Registration Bureau (URSB)

7.0

SUMMARY OF PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS AND PARTNERS IN ACSA ACTIVITIES AT DIFFERENT LEVELS IN 2025

#	ACSA MEMBER ORGANISATION	ACTIVITY											
		Institutional Capacity development	Capacity building at regional	Capacity building at National	Networking meeting /Workshops	Exhibitions and shows	Exposure visits	Farmer Research and Innovation dissemination	Follow up visits	District Engagements / Meetings	Media engagements	Linkage s to service provider s/	RA- PURE
1.	Action for Climate Change Education Conservation					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
2.	Agency for Integrated Rural Development (AFIRD)				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
3.	Caritas Fortportal			✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
4.	Caritas Hoima	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
5.	Caritas Kampala			✓			✓	✓	✓				
6.	Caritas Lugazi						✓	✓	✓				
7.	Caritas Masaka Diocesan Development Organization (MADDO)	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
8.	Caritas Mbarara	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
9.	Caritas Kasese	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
10.	Equator Commercial Farmers and Processors (ECOFAP) Nutri-foods	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
11.	Green Light Future Union	✓										✓	✓
12.	Green Organic Farmers’ Cooperative Union (GOFCU)					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
13.	Happy leaves Bioservices			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
14.	Homeland Organics	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
15.	Integrated Functional Literacy for Development (IFLID)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
16.	Integrated Child Services(ICS)	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ✓	✓	
17.	Kakunyu Parents Support Association for Children with Special Needs	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
18.	Kazo Farmers` Association (KFA)			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				
19.	KULIKA Uganda			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
20.	Bidhampola Community Development Association (BICODA)	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21.	Mityana-District Modern Farmers` Organisation (MDMFO)			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

#	ACSA MEMBER ORGANISATION	ACTIVITY											
		RA - PURE	Linkage s to service provider s/	Media engagements	District Engagements / Meetings	Follow up visits	Farmer Research and Innovation dissemination	Exposure visits	Exhibitions and shows	Networking meeting /Workshops	Capacity building at National	Capacity building at regional	Institutional Capacity development
22.	Pendo Africa		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
23.	People and Views (P&V)	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
24.	PEWOSA					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
25.	PROMETRA Uganda					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
26.	Rural Community in Development (RUCID)					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
27.	Skills Oriented Development Initiatives (SODI)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
28.	Uganda Governance and Poverty Alleviation Program (UGOPAP					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
29.	Uganda Youth at Development Network (UYDNET)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

8.0

ACSA FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2025

8.1 Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of ACSA as of 31st December, 2025 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and comply with the funding agreements provisions, Company's Act Cap 106 NGO Act Cap 109, NGO Regulations 2017 and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAPs).

What we have audited

The financial statements of ASCA that we have audited are set out on pages 31 to 38 and comprise of:

- 1 Statement of financial position as at 31st December, 2025;
- 2 Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31st December, 2025;
- 3 Statement of changes in Fund Balances as at 31st December, 2025;
- 4 Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31st December, 2025; and
- 5 Notes to the financial statements, which includes a summary of significant accounting policies.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and Guidelines issued by the donor partners if any; and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of ACSA in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Uganda, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises of “background information”, “the statement of the Board Members’ Responsibilities” and a “National Coordinator’s Annual Report”, but does not include the financial statements and our auditors report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard

Responsibilities of Those Charged with Governance - for the Financial Statements.

ACSA Board of Directors and Management are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Funding Agreement, Generally Acceptable Accounting Principles, ACSA Articles and Memorandum of Association, Companies Act Cap 106 and other applicable rules and regulations and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing ACSA’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization’s financial reporting process.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of ACSA's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on ACSA's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause ACSA to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

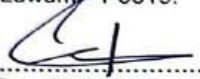
We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Companies Act Cap 106, we consider and report to you based on our audit, that:

- 1 We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- 2 In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by ACSA so far as appears from our examination of those books; and
- 3 The Statement of Financial Position is in agreement with the books of accounts.

The Engagement Partner on this audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Okello Luwum, P0019.


Ben Okello Luwum - P0019




BVL & Co.
Certified Public Accountants of Uganda
Reg. No. AF 0039; P.O. Box 26285 Kampala, Uganda



Date: 12th JUNE /2026

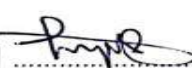
8.2 ACSA Audit Report and financial Statements for the year Ended 31st December, 2025

ACSA - Statement of Financial Position as at 31st December, 2025

	Note	2025 UShs	2024 UShs
Assets:			
Non- Current Assets	7.1	13,451,875	28,968,750
Current Assets			
Cash and Bank Balances	7.2	443,375,666	12,560,697
Subscriptions Receivable	7.3	2,400,000	900,000
Investments in UAP (Institutional Reserve)	5.4	5,635,234	5,834,832
Prepayments	7.4	-	5,100,000
Total Assets		464,862,775	53,364,279
Fund Balances and Liabilities:			
Fund Balances:			
Accumulated fund Balances	5.4	403,457,187	(9,771,018)
Capital Grant	5.4	13,451,875	28,968,750
Institutional Reserve	5.4	27,816,781	22,181,547
Total fund balances	5.4	444,725,843	41,379,279
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	7.5	20,136,932	11,985,000
Total Fund Balances and Liabilities		464,862,775	53,364,279

These Financial Statements were approved by the Board on 11th June /2026; and were signed on its behalf by:


National Coordinator
M/s. Harriet Nakasi


Treasurer
Mr. Joseph Kasibante


Chairperson Board
Mrs. Florence Kakande

Note: The notes to the financial statements, form an integral part of these financial statements.

9.0

FUNDING TREND & SHARE OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE TOTAL BUDGET

Figure 2: ACSA Funding trend for the Years 2022 to 2025

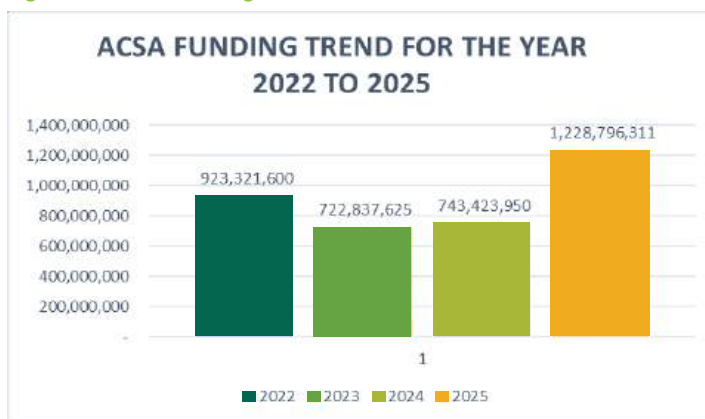


Figure 4: Breakdown of ACSA Total Budget in 2025

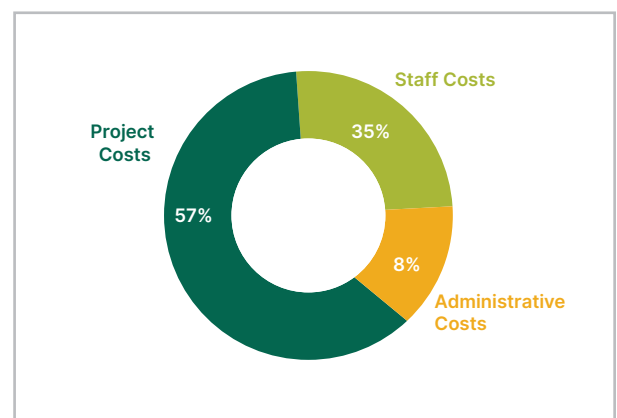
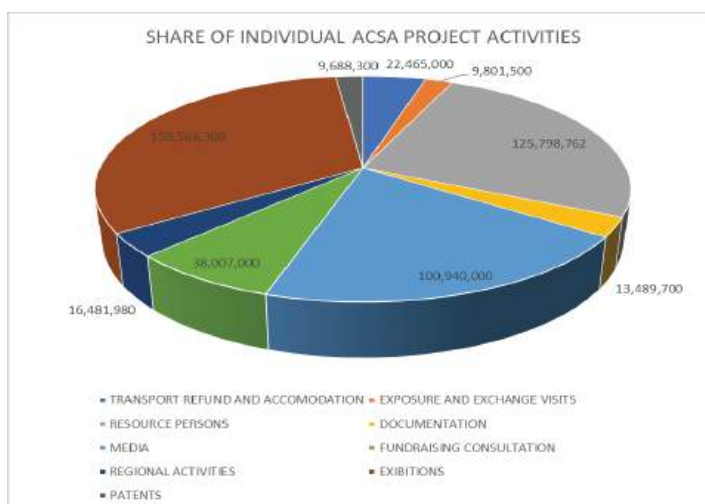


Figure 3: Share of ACSA individual activities of the total budget in 2025



10.0

ACSA ANNUAL WORK PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2025

Item	Qty	JAN-APR	MAY-JLY26	AUG-OCT 26	NOV-DEC 26	MOs & Partners to engage	PROJECT
4.1 Objective 1: ACSA Member Organizations (MOs) and smallholder farmers advocate for sustainable, organic, and agroecological agriculture practices, equitable and sustainable land use rights, and climate resilience that foster local. seed systems and responsible consumption of healthy and indigenous foods							
4.1.1 Organize and support consultative meeting/ conferences (budget& agrarian policies) for MOs and SHFs at local government level to identify funding gaps in the budget formulation, implementation and monitoring.	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	Terego, Mpigi, Mayuge & Wakiso, ICS, PENDO Africa, SODI , GOFTU , GLFU, P&V, BICODA, KULIKA & AFIRD, PEWOSA	MISEREOR
4.1.2 Facilitate national and regional policy analysis fora to identify funding gaps in agrarian policy formulation, implementation and monitoring	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mpigi, Mayuge, Namayingo, Mubende	MISEREOR
4.1.3 Develop agriculture specific budget and policy analysis to inform local government policy and budget processes.	1			✓		Kasese, Mpigi, Namayingo, Consultant , Secretariat	MISEREOR
4.1.4 Generate and disseminate ICE materials for advocacy messaging (flyers, reports, online resources) to MOs and SHFs to assist in their engagement with government decision-making.	2	✓	✓			ALL MOs	MISEREOR
4.1.5 Organise and participate in advocacy campaigns around key agricultural policy issues and budget decisions at the national and local government levels.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mpigi, Mayuge, Namayingo, Mubende	MISEREOR
4.1.6 Support MOs to conduct public outreach programs, such as local media, town hall meetings, to raise awareness about the importance of organic and ecological agriculture funding.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	ACCEC, PEWOSA, Namayingo,	MISEREOR
4.1.7 Develop, translate , publish and disseminate popular versions of Policies, strategies, directives, ordinances and budget.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Secretariat & Consultants	MISEREOR
4.2.1 Facilitate MOs to organize community meetings between MOs, SHFs, and local governments to identify key issues and priorities, to collect input for drafting of ordinances/bylaw	2			✓	✓	Mubende, Buikwe, Wakiso Kikuube, Buvuma , Kalangala & Mpigi, MOs in those Districts	MISEREOR
4.2.2 Facilitate technical reviews of ordinances/ bylaw with local governments and legal experts.	0	✓	✓			Mubende, Buikwe, Wakiso Kikuube & Mpigi	MISEREOR
4.2.3 Organize stakeholder dialogues to disseminate popular versions of ordinances/bylaw formulation Facilitate collaborative workshops support the adoption of bylaw proposals.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mubende, Buikwe, Wakiso Kikuube & Mpigi, MOs in those Districts	MISEREOR

4.2.4 Support MOs to conduct public awareness campaigns to educate communities on the importance of supporting bylaw/ordinances that ensure climate resilience and sustainable agriculture.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mubende, Buikwe, Wakiso Kikuube & Mpigi, MOs in those Districts	MISEREOR
4.2.5 Facilitate ACSA, MOs and SHFs to Fastrack, monitor/ follow up the implementation of ordinances and bylaws at LG to assess their effectiveness in supporting organic agriculture/ agroecology practices.	2			✓	✓	Mubende, Buikwe, Wakiso Kikuube & Mpigi, MOs in those Districts	MISEREOR
4.2.6 Engage Stakeholders (MOs, SHFs consumers, Middlemen , market vendors , hotel owners , local government etc.) for mindset change towards supporting the production , marketing , consumption and certification (PGS) of agroecological product value chains)	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	All MOs and Respective Stakeholders in LGs	MISEREOR
4.2.6.1 Develop Stakeholder analysis for selected value chains and formation of working groups			✓			PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese) , HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	Value Chain project(VC)
4.2.6.2 Train in MOs on agripreneurship & business ideation, incubation, planning, marketing, sustainability (ERI ToT)			✓			ALL	VC
4.2.6.3 Train MOs in Value Chain development, Business Model Canvas SWOT, costing & profitability				✓	✓	PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese) , HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC
4.2.6.4 Provide linkages for efficient testing, dossiers, registration & certification of innovations					✓	Kulika Uganda, UYDNET,	VC
4.2.6.5 Organise Stakeholder roundtables & buyer–producer meetings					✓	PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese) , HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC
4.2.6.6 Organise and encourage Peer to Peer learning/ exchange visit for processing, packaging, branding & exposure visits			✓	✓	✓	PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese), HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC

4.2.6.7 Link to supermarkets, hotels, schools & online markets			✓	✓	✓	PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese), HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC
4.3.1. Disseminating and popularise ACSA Strategy for Food security in Plantation growing areas	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	Kalangala, Kikuube, Namayingo, Buikwe, Mukono	MISEREOR
4.3.2. Empower and strengthen SHF/out grower-households to know and advocate for their rights (agriculture extension rights, children and women rights, sugarcane act etc.)	2	✓	✓			All MOs	MISEREOR
4.3.3. Engage district production officers/district technical persons to provide seeds and agricultural equipment for SHF-communities to enhance alternative profitable agricultural enterprises	4	✓		✓		Mubende, Wakiso, Mpigi, Buikwe, Ibanda	MISEREOR
4.3.6. Train MOs and SHFs in plantation areas on land tenure laws, focusing on their rights to land and food security.		✓	✓			MOs working in Kalangala, Kikuube, Namayingo, Buikwe, Mukono, Mayuge	MISEREOR
4.3.7. Organize dialogues between plantation workers, landowners, religious leaders and policymakers to address conflicts over land-use practice in order to sensitize, mobilize and change attitudes (to include gender-based violence)	2			✓		MOs working in Kalangala, Kikuube, Namayingo, Buikwe, Mukono together with the various stakeholders	MISEREOR
4.4.1 Conduct district-level farmer-supplier learning sessions jointly convened by ACSA and USEA, bringing together RA farmers and private PURE solution suppliers to demonstrate PURE technologies	1					Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	Power for Food Partnership (P4FP)
4.4.2 Strengthen the capacity of district RA-PURE champions and Learning Centre trainers as Trainers of Trainers, to advance structured RA-PURE adoption across communities.	6		✓	✓		Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
4.4.3 Consumer Awareness and Market Engagement through Strategic Participation in Existing Platforms	1		✓	✓	✓	Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
4.4.3.1 Consumer campaigns on healthy food, climate & environment						Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	Misereor/ VC/ P4FP
4.4.3.2 Conduct consumer surveys on awareness & willingness to pay for AE/ organic products						Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese), HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	Misereor /VC/ P4FP

4.4.4 Development, Validation, Publication, and Dissemination of Simplified RA–PURE Advocacy Materials derived from ACSA's 2025 PFP-conducted studies and documentation for use by extension workers and field personnel.	1			✓	✓	Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
4.4.5 Establish district RA–PURE advocacy committees through structured platform formation workshops	1			✓	✓	Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.1 Member organizations successfully support smallholder farmers, youth, and marginalized groups in accessing, generating, exchanging, and disseminating ICT-enabled, climate-resilient innovations and research information.							
5.1.1 Train MOs and SHFs in participatory research and guarantee systems/ methods for organic /agroecology.			✓			All MOs	MISEREOR & VC
5.1.2 Document, Publish and disseminate successful scalable organic /agroecological on farm innovations, Model farmers and best practices of SHFs.	1			✓		All MOs	MISEREOR
5.1.3 Jointly support farmer-led field days and MO events that demonstrate scalable innovations, research findings and best practices in organic agriculture /agroecology.	2		✓	✓	✓	UYDNET, Homeland, AFIRD, Mubende , HOCADDO, Caritas Lugazi	MISEREOR
5.1.4 Produce bi monthly multimedia content (e.g., videos, infographics, podcasts) to document and disseminate organic/agroecological success stories (Radio, TV and Newspaper).	2 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Secretariat & Consultants	MISEREOR
5.1.5 Support Press conference on policy issues, pronouncements and directives at national, regional and international levels affecting SHFs	2		✓	✓		ACSA, CSBAG, PELUM, NOGAMU, ACME, NREP	MISEREOR
5.1.6 . Document the economic viability/ profitability of agroecological organic agriculture in an integrated farming system (joint with other stakeholders).	1		✓			Secretariat & Consultants	MISEREOR
5.2.1 Organize and conduct annual Peer – to Peer learning visits for MOs and SHFs in commodity chain and value addition.	2	✓			✓	All MOs to SODI	MISEREOR & P4FP
5.2.2 Support MOs to participate in regional and national expos/ events for linkages, markets and popularization of organic/ agroecological products and technologies	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	ECOPAF, UYDNET, SODI, HOCADDO, MDMFO, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas MADDO, PEWOSA, ACCEC	MISEREOR, Value Chain
5.2.3. Develop, Publish and disseminate market profiles and market information for organic /agroecological products for targeted / speciality market.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Secretariat & Consultants	MISEREOR
5.3.1 Facilitate annual farmer- CSO – researcher/ Academia collaborative platforms and linkages in and outside Uganda.	1			✓		All MOs , Mountains of the Moon Mbuye , UMU , PFP	MISEREOR & P4FP

5.3.2 Organize annual national organic agriculture innovation and research disseminate symposium for popularising, scaling up and validating findings.	1			✓		All MOs , Mountains of the Moon Mbuye , UMU , Power for food partners and other stakeholders	MISEREOR & P4FP
5.3.3 Develop an ICT-enabled knowledge-sharing and online platforms for MOs and SHFs to exchange research findings and innovations, market their organic / agroecological value-added products at national regional and international fair-trade markets	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	Secretariat & Consultants	MISEREOR
5.5.3.1 Develop simple traceability tools (records/ICT)				✓		PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese), HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC
5.5.3.2 Training value Chain MOs on traceability and tools				✓		PEWOSA, Rural Family Care (Caritas Kasese), HOMELAND, GLFU, GOFCU, SODI, MADDO, IKEA-Mityana, HOCADDO, Equator, MEMAGO, UYDNET, Pendo Africa, AFIRD, Caritas Mbarara	VC
5.3.4 Organise annual seed fairs and exhibitions to showcase Neglected and Underutilised (NUS) and Indigenous seeds and foods to influence adoption and consumption habits.	1		✓			ALL MOs , PGRC, PFP	MISEREOR
5.3.6 Hold theme – based meetings for ACSA MOs and SHFs for experience sharing and technical back stopping by MAAIF or any other relevant person (Seed, Innovators, commodity value chain etc.).	2					MOs in Seed Systems , PGRC & Secretariat	MISEREOR
5.4.1 Organise internal Partner Triangulation and Evidence Alignment meeting on Bioslurry Adoption for ACSA, ABC and Biogas Solution	1		✓	✓		Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.2 Identify and document best practices and innovations that integrate renewable energy with sustainable agriculture (RA–PURE) amongst small holder farmers in 6 districts of Mpigi, Masaka, Mubende, Kayunga, Kabalole and Kasese	1	✓				Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.3 Identification, Assessment and Mapping of Existing Learning Centres for RA–PURE Learning in 6 districts of Masaka, Mpigi, Mubende, Kayunga, Mbarara, Kabarole, Kasese and Ntungamo, and assess their strengths and weaknesses to establish the gaps and support needed	1	✓				Caritas Fortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP

5.4.4 Strengthen regional multi-actor engagement by training selected stakeholders, in partnership with ACME, on issue-based reporting that focuses on Regenerative Agriculture for public media exposure on agriculture and the Productive Use of Renewable Energy.	1			✓		Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.5 Support RA–PURE Engagement in Value Chain Expos and Trade Fairs	1		✓			Caritas FortPorta, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.6 Profile, document, validate and disseminate best practices of financial initiatives and models that have worked for scaling up among PFP partners and beyond(SACCO, VSLA, PDM, Myooga, ACDP, UgiFT)	1			✓	✓	Caritas Fort Portal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.7 Capacity building of mapped women and youth networks to integrate and lead RA–PURE nexus programming	1			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.8 Conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of existing RA–PURE related policies and regulations to identify gaps, inconsistencies, and barriers that affect the implementation and scaling of RA–PURE initiatives	1	✓		✓		Caritas Fort Portal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
5.4.9 Develop an RA –PURE Investment Blueprint mapping financial flows, barriers and opportunities for equitable scaling	4			✓	✓	Caritas Fort Portal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
6.1 The ACSA network (Member Organizations, and smallholder farmers), together with strategic partnerships and alliances, engages actively in shaping the small-scale farmers' policy environment and related emerging issues.							
6.1.1 Develop, publish and disseminate advocacy policy briefs, position papers, policy alternatives and concept notes on policy budget related issues to inform national, regional and international processes in organic agriculture/agroecology in favor of SHFs.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	ACSA, CSBAG, FRA,PELUM, ESAFF	MISEREOR
6.1.2 Partner with CSOs to support the fast-tracking, monitoring the implementation of agrarian policies/ Strategies/ government Programs (Genetic resource, Organic Agriculture, Agroecology, Nutrition, Land, Climate, Extension, NOAP, Seed, NDPIV, PDM, AGI) budgets & government program for accountability and ensure sustainable agricultural practices are funded.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	ACSA, PGRC, PELUM, NOGAMU, OXFAM	MISEREOR

6.1.3 Develop strategic partnerships and alliance for improved service delivery. collective action and sustainability e.g. local legal aid organizations to offer pro bono services for reviewing and drafting ordinances., human rights, land issues, extractives, fundraising etc. a. Kikuube, Kalangala, Buikwe, Mayuge	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	HOCADDO, Caritas Lugazi, UYDNET, BICODA	MISEREOR
6.1.4 Engage legislature, (Members of Parliament), judicial, government officials' and non-state actors to understand national issues and policies with a SHFs' perspective.	2	✓	✓			ACSA, CSBAG, FRA, PELUM	MISEREOR
6.1.5 Organise and participate in joint policy formulation and review meetings (JAPAR, PWG, TWG etc.) with other stakeholder to inform policy processes. at national, regional and international levels.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	MAAIF, PGRC, STI, MWE	MISEREOR
6.1.6 Organise and Support ACSA Staff, MOs and SHFs to participate in policy processes and events (including workshop side events, Breakfast meetings) at national, regional and international levels.	2	✓	✓			Staff & Selected MOs	MISEREOR
6.2. Support Staff to participate and coordinate with international agrarian advocacy platforms and events to align local policy papers/ implementation with regional and global sustainable agriculture agendas(BIOFACH, COP, EAAC, CAADP etc.).	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Staff	MISEREOR
6.2.1 Develop proposals with partners for joint resource mobilization and implementation of theme – based agrarian policy advocacy activities at national, regional and international levels.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	Caritas Kasese, ACCEC, Caritas Fortportal , SODI and GLFU	MISEREOR
6.2.2 Co-implement with MOs agrarian policy and budget related organic agriculture /agroecology value chain projects.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	ECOPAF, HOMELAND, P&V, HOCADDO, Caritas MADDO, PENDO, KULIKA, BICODA, SODI, GOFCU, Discovery COFTU	MISEREOR
6.2.3 Build alliances with local, national, regional and international donors and organize bi annual meetings with strategic partners (potential donors and partners in organic/ agroecology value chain) at national, regional and international levels.	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	TIKA, AE, PFP- SNV, WoMIN, JA, AEF	MISEREOR
6.3.1 Facilitate district-level RA-PURE investment matchmaking sessions to strengthen renewable energy integration within agricultural value chains across five Power for Food districts.	1			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
6.3.2 Strengthen Internal Coordination among Power for Food Partners and Operationalization of the RA-PURE Technical Working Group	1			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP

6.3.3 Facilitate interministerial policy engagements through structured meetings at three levels, with local government committees convening annually, operational committees meeting quarterly and high-level committees meeting twice a year.	3			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
6.3.4 Facilitate engagement of government, research, civil society, farmer and private-sector actors through Policy Technical Working Groups (JAPAR), National Agroecology Strategy (NAS) platforms and the Joint Agriculture Sector Annual Review Programme to advance regulatory integration of the RA–PURE nexus	3			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
6.3.5 Facilitate and institutionalize structured interministerial policy engagements at district-level committees, operational ministerial working groups, and high-level national committees to strengthen coordination and advance RA–PURE integration across governance systems.	1			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal, Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP
6.3.6 Participation in Market oriented Roundtables, symposiums, networking events			✓	✓	✓	All MOs	VC
7.1: ACSA network (MOs and Secretariat) is strengthened in governance, compliance, advocacy, research, participatory decision-making, effective communication, staff retention, and accountability mechanisms for sustainability.							
7.1.1 Conduct bi-annual capacity-building workshops in governance and compliance training and assessment workshops for ACSA staff, Board and MOs, focusing on regulatory frameworks and legal obligations.	1		✓			ALL MO & Consultant	MISEREOR
7.1.2 Develop, publish and disseminate governance online compliance toolkits, including National compliance schedules, templates for audits and reporting	1		✓	✓		ALL MOs	MISEREOR
7.1.3 Develop and implement advocacy mentorship programs to improve organizational effectiveness and to support new membership (Caritas Kasese , Milk Weed and others).	1	✓	✓			Caritas Kasese, Xtreme Biologicals, GOFTU, GLFU, ACCEC, AFLID	MISEREOR
7.1.4 Develop and review organisational policies for compliance as need arises.	2			✓	✓	Consultant	MISEREOR
7.1.8 Conduct quarterly Board and staff MO Monitoring and evaluation follow up visits to track progress, identify gaps and register success stories for replication, peer – peer learning, sharing best practices in governance.	5 6	✓	✓	✓	✓	SODI, NCFD, RUCID	MISEREOR
7.2.1 Hire a fundraiser staff to support the development of a ACSA social enterprise for sustainability.	1			✓		ACSA	MISEREOR

7.2.2 Organise a capacity building session for ACSA Network in social enterprise development and sustainability (feasibility studies to identify viable, business plans and operational strategies for ACSA's social enterprises)	1			✓	✓	5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA, St . Francis , CSL	MISEREOR
7.2.3 ACSA annually subscribes to relevant fora, platforms, networks and organisations.	1	✓				FRA, IFOAM,UFAAS	MISEREOR
7.2.4 Develop ACSA Institutional Knowledge Management Strategy to Contribute to the Consolidated PFP KM Strategy and Inform Future Knowledge Hub Development	5			✓	✓	Caritas FortPortal Caritas Kasese, Caritas MADDO, SODI, P&V, GOFTU, GLFU, Homeland, Kazo Farmers, ACCEC	P4FP/ VC
7.2.5 Pilot market facilitation & service delivery of ACSA-SE				✓	✓		VC
8.1 Selected Misereor Partners start experimenting viable business ventures to build-up successful social enterprises for local resource mobilization							
8.1.1 Conduct a 2-day tailored curriculum development workshop	1	✓				5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA, St . Francis , CSL	MISEREOR
8.1.2 Conduct a 2-day SE master class for the 5 partner organisations	1	✓				5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA Staff , St . Francis , CSL , Board Chairperson , Legal advisor	MISEREOR
8.1.3 Business plan tools development	1	✓				5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA, St . Francis , CSL	MISEREOR
8.1.4 Facilitate the process of ideation and formulation of business strategies and 3 days' workshop at individual partner organisation		✓	✓	✓	✓	5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA, St . Francis , CSL	MISEREOR
8.1.5 Business plan development		✓	✓	✓	✓	5Misereor Partners(HOCADDO, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas Mbarara, Caritas ACSA, St . Francis , CSL	MISEREOR

10.0

GLOSSARY OF PICTURES FOR 2025

Advocacy and lobbying for Agrarian policy and Budget



Left: EAC Parliamentarians exposure visit to Agroecology Farm; Right: Stakeholder meeting on food security & nutrition



Left: Post Budget Dialogue FY 2025/2026 and Press Conference on integrating Agroecology in the CAADP strategy on the right

Research, Innovations exchange and Dissemination



Left: Dr. Sabine – Misereor interacting with Dr. Cosmas Mwirize – Superintendent Value Chain –STI Office of the President after the ACSA Symposium 2025; Right: Symposium Panelists from NREP, CHEMIPHAR & UMU.



Dr. Sabine – Misereor handing bover certificate to Dr. Gerald Lubega



Dean of Faculty of Agriculture - Umu with Dr. Mulongo and Umu Team at their stall



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Building Momentum for Agrarian Policy Change

SESSION

Called on CSOs and farmer groups to actively engage in policy dialogue, respond to global trends in sustainable agriculture, and advocate for systemic changes that support regenerative and renewable energy solutions.

Dr. Sabine Dorlöchter – Sulser
MISEREOR, Germany



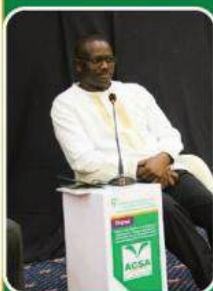
Power for Food
Partnership



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Role of Research and Stakeholders in RA-PURE

SESSION

Urged universities, CSOs, and farmer groups to strengthen collaboration, ensuring research outputs are translated into practical solutions, innovations are shared widely, and RA-PURE practices are adopted more broadly.

Dr. Br. Murongo Marias
UMU / ACALISE



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EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



How PURE is Integrated in Institutions of Higher Learning

SESSION

Urged universities to systematically integrate RA-PURE principles into curricula, research, and community engagement, so that students and staff actively contribute to sustainable agriculture and renewable energy adoption.

Prof. Kyamanywa Patrick
Vice Chancellor, Uganda Martyrs University (UMU)



Power for Food
Partnership



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



EXHIBITION AT THE SYMPOSIUM 2025



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Overview of the Power for Food Partnership

SESSION

Encouraged all partners to strengthen coordination and collaboration, ensuring that the RA-PURE solutions are scaled efficiently and benefit smallholder farmers across multiple districts.

Ibrahim Mutebi
Deputy Program Manager, SNV Power for Food Partnership



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Future of Innovation in Sustainable Agriculture / RA

SESSION

Urged farmers to harness Science, Technology, and Innovation initiatives to establish enterprises that drive economic transformation, align with national development priorities, and contribute to Uganda's Vision 2040 through innovative agricultural practices.

Dr. Cosmas Mwikirize
Superintendent Value Chain - STI Office of the President



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Making Agriculture Innovations work for Farmers

SESSION

Recommended that CSOs, farmers, and private actors align their agricultural innovations with government programmes, such as STI initiatives, to ensure compliance, access to support, and scale successful RA-PURE solutions.

Sir Bob Sunday
MAAIF, Focal Person - Organic Agriculture & Agroecology



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

9TH NATIONAL ANNUAL ORGANIC INNOVATION & RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM

2025



Certification opportunities for Organic/RA/Agroecological products

SESSION

Advocated for empowering farmers and CSOs with knowledge and resources to access organic and RA certification, thereby improving market opportunities and enhancing the credibility of RA-PURE products.

Chariton Namuwoza
CEO, NDGAMU





Panelist and participants for the 2025 ACSA Organic/ AE/ RA Research and innovation Dissemination Symposium

MOs Activities



Left: AFIRD's 2025 open day at Bujuuko UMEA Primary School; Right: UYDNET's Farmers' Retreat/ Olusira Iw'ebyobulimi 2025.



Follow up visit to Kakunyu Parents School and RUCID initiatives and training for Youth

Strategic partnerships and Network



A convening for the 26th Regional Steering and 20th Technical & Advisory Committee for African Centres of Excellence



Left: Collaborative visit by Verena and Harriet DKA to ACSA



Right: Horizont 3000 introducing Dominik - Value Chain Assistant to ACSA



Left: ACSA with other partners participated in the 'Kick Aflatoxins Out of Uganda walk' on World Food's Day. Right: Mr. Murat, Country coordinator -TIKA visiting beneficiaries of Apiary equipment under SODI in Kituntu subcounty, Mpigi district





ACSA Engagement meetings with Resource Rights Africa (RRA)

Misereor Monitoring Visits



Left: Martin Gottsacker – Misereor Desk officer in a meeting with ACSA and CSL; Right: Dr. Sabine and ACSA team interacting on a panel during ACSA symposium 2025



Dr. Sabine – Misereor IMPACT Monitoring and the ESLA Tool workshop with Partners supported by Misereor in Uganda (ACSA, AFIRD, Caritas Kampala, Caritas Hoima, Caritas Fortportal, Caritas MADDU, Caritas Mbarara)

Board Meetings and AGM 2025



First board meeting for the ACSA newly elected Board of Directors



Member Organisation, staff, Old and New ACSA Board of directors during and after elections at the ACSA AGM 2025



Indigenous seed conservation and Community seed banks



Caritas Mbarara exhibiting indigenous seeds during regional fair



SNV Power for Food Partnership Project visit UYDNET Community Seed Bank

Supported MOs Exhibition



MOs Supported to exhibit at New Vision Harvest money expo 2025 and Mpigi District organised exhibition at Buwama



MOs supported to exhibit at AFIRD'S open day.

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