

Kyarumba Anti- AIDS Youth Group Organization

Project Proposal: Tree Planting and Environmental Campaign Project (TPECP)

Kyarumba, Kasese, Uganda

Project Summary

This is an environmental education and tree planting project. It is found out that participation of the people is essential for environmental protection to be effective. Public participation requires a process of education, informing people about their environmental threats, strengthen and opportunities and the means of taking the best actions, and to encourage them to fully participate in environmental protection efforts. The project targets the youth and school going children to get them involved such that our environment can be protected now and in the future.

By focusing on the youth and children we hope that trees will save Kyarumba town Board and its population since most people are not seeing this threat of the town being between three rivers that shown interest flood during rainy seasons an action should be under taken, hence the design of this project was inevitable. Over 50,000 trees that environmentally friendly will be planted by 2017 and a number of guidelines shall be followed to ensure that our objective is well achieved.

The environmental education is perhaps the most cost effective way to promote sustainable use of natural resources in the long term. Environmental education in primary and secondary schools has been approved as a successfully approach in environmental conservation, therefore, it should be an essential goal for all stakeholders.

Background Information

Kyarumba Anti-AIDS Youth Group (KAAYGO) is a community based organization established in 2002 to empower the vulnerable youth and children to respond to the HIV and AIDS plight and household poverty. The group is registered by with the local government in the office of the District Community Development Officer, recognized by Kyarumba Sub County and a member of Kasese District Network (KADDE-NET).

KAAYGO Vision is to Empower the vulnerable youth with productive skills in order to have increased skilled labor to our community.

KAAYGO Mission is having the youth participating in the community development and realizing their potential in fighting poverty, idleness and injustice that befall them.

KAAYGO to achieve its mission, it operates under four objectives as shown below;

1. Educating the youth on the life threatening diseases like HIV and AIDS.
2. Providing vocational skills to the youth for social economic development.
3. Working towards reducing the dependency syndrome of the youth.
4. To contributing towards environmental management and sustainability

Statement of Need

During the period 2002 to 2014, the population of Uganda increased from 24.2 to 34.9 million, an increase of 10.7 million over a period of 12 years (). This gives a growth rate of 3.03 percent which is slight decline from the rate of 3.20 observed between 1991 and 2002. Uganda's high rate population growth is mainly due to the high fertility level (over six children per woman) that have been observed for the past four decades, combined with a faster decline in mortality levels, reflected by decline in infant and childhood Mortality rates are revealed by the Uganda Demographic and Health Surveys (UDHS) of 2006 and 2011.

With the population growth rate of 3.03 %, Kasese district is experiencing a number of challenges of which increase pressure on vegetation for firewood is among the most pressing factor. This is due to the fact that majority of the households (96%) use fire wood for cooking (WWF Uganda 2013 annual report).

The use of firewood in Kyarumba Sub County has fueled cutting down of trees and 96% of the population still use the three stone fire cooking place that consumes a lot of firewood coupled with producing a lot of smoke, Kyarumba Sub County is likely to face more catastrophes like that of 1st May 2013.

Kyarumba Town Board is located in the river banks of Nyamungasana and Nyamurusheghe. This town is not safe basing on what happened in 2013. The need to plant environmental friendly trees both along the two river banks and within the town

look to be inevitable, and since the local leaders have not scanned this situation the citizens of Uganda that stay in Kyarumba Town Board are not safe.

Planting trees is the viable solutions and ensuring that laws, policies on environment and natural resource management is implemented by the government, civil society organization and the citizens of Uganda. Most of Ugandans look to be ignorant about the National Environment Act, Laws and Policies. KAAGYO would wish to promote awareness on this laws and policies and making demonstrations and environmental campaigns in Kyarumba Sub County.

Project Description

The tree planting and environmental campaigns project is broken into different phases, as follows;

First: Workshops to be held soon after we have been funded to generate interest in the project and to discuss the importance of planting trees in our environment to secure our natural feature. These workshops shall provide information on the values of the project, awareness on environmental act and policies and formulation of action points.

Second: Action phase, where the youth and the participants of the prior phase shall be mobilized to implement the actions agreed upon, collection and storage of species, tree planting and protection techniques, weeding control, irrigation, and trips to successful tree planting projects.

In order to have health trees in the future, KAAYGO shall ensure that trees are planted properly and following guidelines shall be used;

1. Digging the hole: the planting hole shall be twice the width of the root ball or container to encourage the roots to grow into the surrounding soil. The sides of the planting hole shall be sloped. The hole should be no deeper than the root ball or container to prevent the tree from settling or being planted too deeply.
2. Tree preparation: For trees in containers, the container should be removed. For a balled and bur lapped tree, remove the rope around the trunk and loosen the burlap.

3. **Backfill:** Use the same soil that was taken out of the hole. If the soil is very poor and appear to need topsoil, the hole size should be increased and sparingly mix in some local topsoil. The use of potting soil should be avoided). Remove stones and other debris. Fill the hole halfway with backfill, then water. Finish filling the hole with the backfill and water again. Make sure to work the soil around the ball firmly to eliminate any air pockets. Also, ensuring that the tree is vertical and properly supported but not packed with soil around the trunk.
4. **Mulch:** The areas around the tree should be mulched with woodchips, bark chips, or pine mulch. The mulch should be 3 to 4 inches thick and cover the entire planting area and beyond. The mulch should be placed in a donut or tire shape around the trunk of the tree.
5. **Fertilizing:** No use of fertilizers
6. **Pruning:** Prune only the branches that are dead, broken or severely deformed
7. **Timing for planting:** The best time of year to plant is March to May
8. **Watering:** Trees must be watered every 7 days during the first month period

The project goal: Contribute to sustainable land management in Kyarumba Sub County, Kasese district.

Project objectives 1: Promote awareness on the environmental act and policies in Kyarumba Sub County by 2017.

Project Objective 2: To plant 50000 trees around and within Kyarumba trading center and along the river banks of Nyamugasana, Nyangulhugha and Nyamuruseghe River by 2017 in Kyarumba Sub County.

Project Activities

1. Review and make brief on environmental act and policies
2. Conduct workshops on environmental conservation and involving primary and secondary in environmental education.
3. Upgrade the organization nursery to a capacity of producing over 10,000 tree seedlings per season
4. Tree planting and maintenance
5. Conduct trips focused on environment conservation
6. Evaluation and reporting

