

Annex 1 Project completion fact sheet

Project Name:	Growing Resilient Agricultural Enterprises (GREAN)		
Country/ Region:	Uganda/East Africa	Financing:	
		EUR	%
Nordic Partner:	Vi Agroforestry	61,032	11.25
Local Partner:	Fairtrade Africa	61,631	11.36
Other Partner:	1. Ankole Coffee Cooperative Union (ACPCU)	3,668	1.63
	2. Banyankole kweterana Coffee Union (BKCU)	2,465	
	3. Kibinge Coffee Cooperative Society Ltd (KCFCS)	2,682	
	NCF grant disbursed	410,874	75.76
	Total		100.00
Classification:	combination		
Project cycle:	Contracted: 1st February 2017 Original Closing Date: 31 st July 2019 Actual Closing Date: 30 th September 2020.		
Project description:	<p>GREAN project was implemented through three coffee Small Producer Organisations (SPO) as local partners who all had experienced staff with. The SPOs had 13,220 members of which 26% were women and 22% youth. In total, 10,000 coffee farmers were targeted. These farmers were organised in 405 groups and were either Fairtrade certified members of the SPOs or associated to the members, such as spouses or youth family members. The three SPOs had low representation of youth (18-35 years) and social and cultural challenges are affecting the next generation of farmers. GREAN selected and trained 81 farmer trainers with SPOs' staff on Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM), business development, gender equality, carbon credits, farmer field schools methodology, climate change, financial literacy and financial services replicated training to an average of 5 farmer groups each.</p> <p>GREAN project promoted SALM and agroforestry practices which reduced pressure on agricultural and forest lands, increased soil fertility and thus improved coffee productivity, which in turn raised incomes and reduced poverty. promoted SALM practices included Nutrient Management; Soil & Water Conservation in coffee gardens such as mulching and compost manure, Agronomic practices, Agroforestry, Tillage & Residue Management and Sustainable energy. The project used Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) SALM methodology to estimate the amount of carbon dioxide equivalent sequestered. GREAN aligns well with the National Adaptation Plan of Action II, National Development Plan, Uganda Vision 2040, Uganda National Climate Change Policy and Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy.</p> <p>Green growth for improved livelihoods was fostered, enabling SPOs and their members to benefit from increased access to local and regional coffee markets. GREAN project built capacity of farmers in marketing and product development, which enabled them to keep more of the value of their coffee. Through GREEN, an innovative Fairtrade labeled product "Butonde Coffee" was introduced to the Ugandan market for the first time; it is a roast and ponded Robusta coffee. Additionally, the project employed innovative household tools such as the gender balance tree, household road map/visioning and the leadership empowerment map to support families in joint</p>		

planning and decision making, empowering women and youth. The training of SPOs on financial literacy and introduction of financial services such as Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) created the opportunity to women and youth to have access to affordable credit facilities for their businesses. Financially stable women and youth enabled improved standards of living in households and livelihood diversification increased resilience to climate change.

In terms of mitigation, GREAN innovatively realized reduced emissions from the use of improved cook stoves and briquettes made from coffee husks and other biomasses which also created employment opportunities for women and youth through the sale and repair of cook stoves and production and sale of briquettes. Through Fairtrade Climate Standard, SPOs were linked to Fairtrade climate fund to buy the carbon that is sequestered from the use of improved cook stoves and briquettes; the revenue generated from sale of stoves and briquettes will be used to finance future implementation of climate friendly interventions.

Vi Agroforestry and FTA capacitated SPOs' staff and farmer trainers in various skills required in this project and this was disseminated down to the farmers in over 405 groups. A participatory approach for planning, monitoring, implementation and evaluation was used, with multi-stakeholder involvement at local level. The project mobilized and trained farmers in groups through participatory group approaches, using farmer led implementation, training of trainers and learning sites serving as centres for technology transfer, they included Farmer Field Schools and SALM demo sites. Sustainability was ensured through local organisations' capacity development, farmer trainers and cost sharing.

Key results:	NCF indicators	Results
	1. Number of beneficiaries reached (women/men)	17,249 (F=5,236; M=9,687; Y=2,326)
	2. Number of people with increased resilience to climate change (women/men)	15,835 (F=4,807; M=8,893; Y=2,135)
	3. CO ₂ e emissions reductions (actual at project completion and expected during the lifetime of the project's mitigation investments)	79,379.61 t CO₂eq Expected 258,900 t CO ₂ e by 2036
	4. Number of green business concepts tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 (The businesses introduced included briquette making, sale and repair of cookstove)
	5. Number of new decent jobs created (disaggregated by number of permanent (women/men) and seasonal (women and men))	1,218 (women=696, Youth-496) permanent- Women=200; Y=181. Seasonal Jobs- Women=496, Y=315
	6. Number of people with improved livelihoods/income-generating possibilities (women/men)	8,452(49%)
	7. Number of multi-stakeholder partnerships developed	6 (Vi with SPOs and FTA, AGRRITERA(Netherlands) with KCFCS, GEPA from Germany with ACPCU, Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU) with KCFCS, Fairtrade Climate fund-SPOs, Micro project of improved cook stoves for smallholder coffee farmers-SPOs.
	8. Amount of funds leveraged (actual project co-financing and secured future investments for scaling-up/replication)	By the end of the project there wasn't any secured future investment yet from Vi and the partners
	Main Expected Outputs	Achieved End-of-project status

Project performance:	Output 1.1: Capacity of 10,000 coffee farmers in 3 Small Producer Organisations to implement Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) practices strengthened	Highly Achieved	16,904 farmers were implementing SALM
	Output 2.1: Participation of three SPOs along the coffee value chain enhanced through organisational strengthening as well as through development of new local and regional markets	Achieved	The 3 indicators for this output were all achieved. SPOs are strengthened. -10 trainings of trainers -10 meetings with strategic actors. -3 SPOs with function gender and youth policies
	Output 2.2: Women and youth's participation in decision-making in SPOs and households enhanced.	Achieved	3 youth and gender policies were developed and implemented. A total of 31 farmers were at leadership role of which 38% (8) were female and 6% (2).
	Output 3.1: Access to and adoption of climate friendly energy cook stoves and coffee husk briquettes, enabling Fairtrade Carbon Credits (FCC), employment and income generation opportunities for women and youth.	Achieved	-4,000 stoves were supplied and distributed to farmers. -3 carbon related advocacy and marketing expos compared to target of 6 40 women and youth trained in the repair & sale of stoves 100% of the farmers involved in the production of coffee husk briquettes were women and youth compared to the target of 70%.
	Output 3.2: Financial literacy and access to financial services for women and youth in SPOs improved	Highly Achieved	90.8% of the members trained in financial literacy are women and youth. 94% of members accessing loans from the established VSLAs are women and youth.
Final beneficiaries:	17,249 small scale coffee farmers from 3 SPOs, 37% are women and 13% are youth.		
Climate change impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the high adoption rate of SALM and implementation of climate Risk and Opportunity Action (ROA) plans, there was increased tree cover in the project areas 81% of farmers (13,972) adopted 3 or more SALM practices in their farms. By the end of the project 100% of the people engaged in climate businesses were women and youth. The businesses introduced included briquette making, sale and repair of cookstoves. All women and youth participating acknowledged getting income from the climate businesses. A total of 4,000 climate friendly improved cookstoves were distributed and are in use by farmers to reduce on the stress to natural resources and to sequester and generate carbon credits. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An estimated net GHG emissions reductions of 517,147.80 tCO₂e is expected in 20 years equivalent to Net Present Value (NPV) of 2,725,462.67
Development impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender equality: 3 policies developed. Employment of youth and women. Environment sustainability. organisation development-Good governance. Household incomes improved through improved coffee yields and access to financial services.
Innovation, technology and learning:	<p>The project introduced Producer Owned/ Fairtrade labelled coffee- <i>Butonde Coffee</i> in Uganda for the first time, innovatively introducing locally processed and packaged Ugandan coffee to the local market. This is quality Robusta roast coffee to the East African market for the first time whereas Robusta is usually used in instant coffee</p> <p>The project has promoted and introduced climate friendly stoves in line with the Improved Cook Stoves for East Africa. There are similar energy efficient cook stoves in the market in Uganda, however few use briquettes and not all burn briquettes efficiently. The stoves were properly designed for briquette burning stoves that are recognized for their emissions are supplied and sold.</p> <p>Additionally, coffee is predominantly a male value chain, however this project has innovatively incorporated women and youth's engagement within the coffee sector through briquettes production, improved cook stoves and sale of carbon credits.</p>
Partnership:	<p>8 partnerships which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vi Agroforestry in partnership with 3 SPOs and FTA, FTA in partnership with SPOs, Partnership between 3 SPOs to produce BUTONDE coffee. Micro project of improved cook stoves for smallholder coffee farmers-SPOs. AGRRITERA(Netherlands)with KCFCS, GEPA- with ACPCU, PSFU- with KCFCS, Fairtrade Climate fund-SPOs
Sustainability and replicability:	<p>The project has built capacity of staff leaders and farmer trainers of the SPOs - member based Fairtrade certified producer organizations with local presence. The activities are continuing beyond the project period as some them are included in the budgets and workplans of the SPOS.</p> <p>The project has through gender transformative tools has promoted participatory decision making at household level and at organisation level which will continue after the project is finalized. Gender implementation plans have been drawn to support the operationalisation of gender policies.</p> <p>The SPOs produced a joint brand of Butonde coffee that has penetrated the coffee markets beyond Uganda. The brand is stimulating increased production of coffee volumes of quality Robusta coffee to meet the demand. Therefore, implementation of SALM is expected to continue by farmers to sustain the demand.</p>
Lessons learned:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GREAN project provided an opportunity to communities to acquire skills in tree seedlings production, which was new to some farmers. Demo sites have led to spill over of technologies to other non GREAN project farmers; they see, learn and implement in their farms. SPOs had experienced production challenges of reducing yields and quality of coffee because of climate change effects such as long droughts among others.

- Farmer trainers' approach is good in extending agricultural knowledge to farmers and bridge the gap of few extension officers; farmers learn faster from their fellow farmer in the same community setting.
- There are potential opportunities for local consumption of coffee in Uganda. However, lack of a focused approach and consumer appealing mechanism have been a hindrance. The existing measures should also address needs of local buyers not only external buyers.
- The GREAN project, through project financial management system, has enabled SPOs to improve internal controls, accountability, transparency and financial reporting even for the non-accountants in the project.
- The SPOs acknowledged learning the implementation skills of a multi-faceted project that addresses climate change, gender inclusiveness, financial services and carbon business as it was the first of its kind in all SPOs.
- Staff motivation is beyond salaries but is very key in project success; it should be clearly catered for in projects design. This was unforeseen challenge that at one point reduced the morale of supporting staff in the project at SPO level during the first milestone phase.
- Time allocated to the project was inadequate especially for carbon activities (the project design was very ambitious on the timelines for business arm of the project and the generation of carbon credits).
- Impact monitoring should be inbuilt in the design of the similar future project and capture key impact indicators that can be measured at baseline.