AFRICAN WOMEN IN ANIMAL RESOURCES FARMING AND AGRIBUSINESS NETWORK (AWARFAN)



AWARFAN MAGAZINE

#AWARFAN
MAG - 2025

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INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES

Resilient African Feed and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) Project
African Union - Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources

MAAIF
Ministry of Agriculture
Animal Industry and Fisheries



Foreword by the President of AWARFA-N Uganda Chapter

Since its inception in 2020, culminating in formal registration on 9th April 2024, the African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness Network (AWARFA-N) Uganda Chapter has been at the forefront of empowering women in animal resource farming and agribusiness across Uganda. As part of the larger Pan-African AWARFA-N network, our work has focused on improving the social and economic transformation of women involved in animal resources and agribusiness activities, such as dairy farming, technical guidance for formulation, review and implementation of gender policies, Advocacy,legislation, standards, in areas of animal resources sector.

Over the past year, AWARFA has made significant strides in creating a foundation for women's empowerment and advocacy within Uganda's agribusiness sector. Through the support of over 100 dedicated members, we have been able to engage in training, networking, and policy advocacy, all aimed at enhancing women's participation in the sector and creating a more inclusive agribusiness environment.

Our advocacy efforts have already yielded positive outcomes, including increasing awareness of the challenges women face in agribusiness, initiating partnerships with key stakeholders, and advocating for policies that support women's empowerment in agriculture.
However, much remains to be done. The strategic path ahead is one that seeks to build on our successes while addressing the challenges that persist. Our 2025–2029 strategic goals focus on mobilizing and empowering at least 1,200 women across Uganda, expanding our market reach, growing our financial base, and increasing our membership in order to create a more resilient, sustainable, and vibrant community of women in agribusiness.

We extend our deepest gratitude to African Union-IBAR and AWARFA-Network (Continental). We remain committed to continuing our work to drive positive change in the lives of women in animal resource farming and agribusiness, as we strive towards achieving greater social and economic outcomes for our members.

We are excited for the future and confident that, with the collective effort of all those involved, AWARFA will continue to be a leader in empowering women in agribusiness in Uganda and beyond.

Lovin Kobusingye
President- AWARFA-N
Uganda Chapter

AWARFAN KICKING OFF 2025 WITH AN IMPACT



AWARFAN President, Lovin Kobusingye was among, global leaders who gathered in Kampala from January 9-11th for the 2025 CAADP meeting

HIGHLIGHTS from KAMPALA









CAADP
COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Kampala Summit

2025 is off to a powerful start. From the CAADAP summit in Kampala where African leaders laid the groundwork for a decade of Animal resources transformation to the grassroot women farmers in their farms. And the momentum is only building. AWARFA Uganda is gearing up to host the first Women in animal resources Forum 2025 bringing together over 1000+ leaders, innovators and change makers in the animal resources sector ready to unlock new opportunities create partnerships and drive real progress



KEY DAYS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN 2025

DATE	DAY	Why it Matters
Mar 08	International Women's Day	Women are the backbone of agriculture, livestock farming, and fisheries but often face limited access to land, credit, and training. This day is a reminder to push for gender equality in agribusiness, equal pay, and recognition of women's contributions to food production.
Mar 21	International Day of Forests	Many women in rural areas practice agroforestry—combining trees with farming to boost soil fertility, prevent erosion, and increase farm productivity. Celebrating this day promotes sustainable land-use practices that benefit women farmers.
Mar 22	World Water Day	Water is essential for crop irrigation, livestock, and fish farming. Many women farmers lack access to clean water for agriculture. This day calls for better policies on water access and conservation to benefit women in agribusiness.
June 5	World Environment Day	Sustainable farming, climate-smart agriculture, and responsible fisheries directly affect women farmers. This day promotes eco-friendly agribusiness practices, reducing pollution, and adapting to climate change.
Oct 15	International Day of Rural Women	Most rural women are engaged in small-scale farming and livestock production, but they often lack land rights and financial resources. This day celebrates their resilience and calls for greater support for rural women in agribusiness.
Oct 16	World Food Day	Women play a major role in food production, from farming to processing and distribution. This day promotes nutrition, food security, and women's involvement in feeding communities.
Nov 25	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	Women in agriculture, fisheries, and livestock farming often face gender-based violence, harassment, and discrimination. This day advocates for safe and fair working environments for women in these industries.



Spotlight on Leading Ugandan Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness 2025.

Purity MBAE-Musyoka



Purity Musyoka

Purity Christian Umotho Mbae, known as Purity MBAE-Musyoka, is an Agri-entrepreneur in Banga village, Mpatta Subcounty in Mukono District, Uganda. She serves as the Operations Manager and Director of Mashambani Dairy Goats Farm Limited. Purity holds a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Nairobi (UON), a Postgraduate Diploma in Management from the Uganda Management Institute (UMI), a Professional Diploma in Marketing from CIM-UK, and an MBA from the East and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI).



Before her venture into dairy goats, she was the Marketing Manager for Uganda Tea Development Agency Ltd, where she ensured product quality for international markets. Purity has grown Mashambani DGF from 21 to over 300 dairy goats in four years and is focused on breeding PURE Saanen bucks for commercial reproduction. She has developed various goat milk products and expanded the distribution of Nutrifit Goat Milk and Yoghurt.

Operating on a zero-grazing model, Purity sources over 98% of the Animal feed from own farm and has established 25 acres of diverse pastures. The farm also raises Guernsey cows and local chickens and cultivates 8 acres of Matooke and 6 acres of Gonja (Plantain). Purity is a member of the Network of Dairy Goats Agriculturalists Ltd and the Dairy Development Authority.

We rear dairy goats in a zero-grazing system that primarily emphasizes the Saanen breed, supplemented by Toggenburgs, British, French, German, and Kenyan Alpines. In addition, Jersey cows are raised to provide essential milk for goat kids, while well-managed pastures are cultivated to support both goats and cows. The operation also focuses on the growing and selling of Matooke, Ndiizi, Bogoya, and Gonja, ensuring a diverse agricultural portfolio.

Furthermore, agro-tourism initiatives are developed around dairy goats, bird watching, pasture cultivation, and management, along with an array of lakeside activities such as swimming and rod fishing, creating a multifaceted approach to sustainable farming and community engagement.





Kiyaga Bumbaire Igara Bushenyi district

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Products:

- *Raw Goat Milk*
- *Goat Milk Yorghurt*
- *Gonja*
- *Matooke & Bogoya*

Future Plans:

- *Developing the farm into a learning center for dairy goat management and an agro-eco tourism site, as well as automating dairy goat milking and processing Gonja into snacks.*
- *To empower young people and women economically in commercial farming.*
- *To promote sustainable farming.*

Rachel's Poultry Farm



Ainembabazi Rachael

Rachel's Poultry Farm is a leading commercial poultry farm located in the heart of Wakiso Kira Kitukutwe, Central Region, Uganda. Established in 2020, our farm specialises in battery cage poultry farming, maximising egg production while ensuring high-quality poultry products.

Wakiso Kira Kitukutwe

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ainembabazijoy@yahoo.com

Objectives

- Ensure consistent production of top-quality eggs that meet market standards.
- Maintain a healthy and humane environment for our birds, adhering to best practices in poultry farming.
- Implement eco-friendly and sustainable farming practices to reduce environmental impact.
- Support local communities through job creation, education, internships, and outreach programs.

Key Features of Our Battery Cage System

1. Efficiently distributed feed to all cages, reducing labour and ensuring proper nutrition.
2. Well-spaced cages for easy egg collection, minimizing breakage and enhancing efficiency.
3. Timely and efficient manure removal that maintains cleanliness and reduces odours, including a state-of-the-art solar dryer for quick drying.
4. Sophisticated ventilation and temperature control systems to keep the environment comfortable for the birds.
5. Regular health monitoring, including health check-ups and vaccinations, to maintain flock health and prevent disease outbreaks.

Market Demand: With the rising demand for high-quality eggs and poultry products, Rachel's Poultry Farm is well-positioned to meet the needs of our target market. Our commitment to quality and sustainability sets us apart from competitors.

Competitive Advantage:

- Advanced battery cage technology for efficient and humane egg production.
- Commitment to high standards of animal welfare and sustainable practices.
- Strong community presence and support.

Target Market:

Local households, supermarkets, restaurants, and food processing companies.

Products:

- *Fresh, high-quality eggs available forlocal markets and distributors.*
- *Organic fertilizer for sale to local farmers.*
- *Training and consultancy services for aspiring poultry farmers.*



Future Projections:

- *Well-equipped state-of-the-art brooders, housing cages with the capacity to accommodate 20,000 birds, a solar dryer for quick manure drying, and additional land for other farming ventures.*
- *Be able to produce a manimum of 300 trays of eggs every week.*

Kisombwa Ranching Scheme



Milly Mubiru

Milly Mubiru is a seasoned Human Resource practitioner with a Master's in Human Resource Management and a Bachelor's in Education, known for implementing turnaround workforce strategies in public and private organizations. She is a director at Kisombwa Ranching Scheme Ltd, where she has seven years of experience in goat farming (South African Boer & Mubende goats) and pasture management, overseeing 15 permanent and 61 temporary staff. A published author, she co-wrote The Goat Farmers' Handbook and Pasture Production and Livestock Feeding Handbook. Passionate about training women and youth in Kibaale, she teaches enterprise management and marketing while also contributing to biodiversity conservation efforts in Murchison and Budongo Landscapes under the Research Triangle Institute.

Kyenda Town, Mubende District

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Nature of Business:
Kisombwa Ranching Scheme is a family-run business focused on ethical farming and sustainable practices. The ranch has three departments mainly cattle department (rearing mainly Boran cattle), goat department (rearing Boer goats and Mubende goats) and the pasture department (focuses on growing planted pastures as supplementary feeding for cattle and goats).

Products:
The ranch produces high quality pastures for goats and cows; high quality breeding Boran cows, Boer goats and Local Mubende goat; high quality Boran cows, Boer goats and Mubende goats for slaughter. These animals are fed on organic pastures









Future Plans:

- *The ranch plans to invest in packaging high quality beef products to reach the final consumers.*
- *The ranch also plans to work with the neighboring communities to address challenges faced by the most vulnerable in regard to climate change.*

Mutsimba Farm Entreprises



Atuhaire Catherine

Atuhaire Catherine holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences from Makerere University. She is a vibrant entrepreneur in the fields of education and Farming. She is a senior Business Developer at Namirembe Hillside High and she is also the Operations Manager and Co-Director of Mutsimba Farm Enterprises , a mixed farm located in Namakofu Village Zirobwe Sub County in Luwero District.

Namakofu Village Zirobwe Sub County, Luwero District.

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Mutsimba Farm is mainly a livestock farm comprising mainly cows and goats however it also has many acres dedicated to crop growing for crops like coffee and Bananas.

The livestock is majorly for beef production and milk production. The farm sits on over 600 acres in Luwero and she has diversified this land usage by growing pasture for hay and sillage. She produces over 2000 bales of hay and sillage every month for sale. Her beef production market has mainly been schools in metropolitan Kampala amongst other restaurants and hotels. Alongside her other Co-Director, she has managed to create a zero grazing section of Mutsimba Farm Enterprises in Kira Town in Namugongo in Kampala Metropolitan area which was created to supplement the Free Range farming in Luwero. This zero grazing currently has around 20 heavily milking cows and the major milk market has been schools in the metropolitan area. Catherine is also a coffee grower and Mutsimba Farm has planted 30 acres of coffee so far and is looking to continue expanding this over the coming years.Mutsimba Farm has attracted the attention of the government of Uganda to partly finance a fully functioning Irrigation system on the farm land to supply the Mutsimba farm and neighbouring farmers with constant water supply.

The farm intends to provide land to the community of Namakofu as part of the Government irrigation directive to proportion land for small scale farmers to plant high income crops to sustain their families.

Products:

- *Milk*
- *Coffee*
- *Beef*
- *Banana*



Future Plans :

- *Mechanise the farm to use modern powered equipment to increase production through labor efficiency.*
- *To focus more on Human resource development by providing recruitment and agricultural training.*





Kyakuwa Farm



Prof. Jolly Mary L. Kabirizi

Kyakuwa Farm is a family-owned agribusiness specializing in urban farming through modern, sustainable techniques. The farm focuses on integrated smallholder crop-livestock farming in an urban environment, using innovative and sustainable methods.



Livestock Farming
Cows (zero grazing), goats, and chickens are raised to produce high-quality meat, milk, and eggs for both local and commercial markets. Ethical farming practices ensure proper nutrition, disease control, and optimal living conditions.

Climate-Smart Vegetable Production
Hydroponic and aquaponic farming methods produce fresh, nutrient-rich vegetables with minimal water and space. Fish waste nourishes the plants, creating a self-sustaining ecosystem. Additional methods include container and sack farming, with crop residues repurposed as livestock feed.



Fish Farming
A catfish farming unit operates using recirculating water systems, ensuring sustainability and high productivity while minimizing waste.

Waste Management & Sustainability
Urban agricultural waste is processed into high-quality animal feed, cow dung is converted into eco-friendly briquettes, and circular agriculture practices help reduce pollution.

Agri-Tourism & Community Engagement
Interactive learning experiences, training workshops, and resource materials educate students, farmers, and urban dwellers on sustainable farming and waste management.





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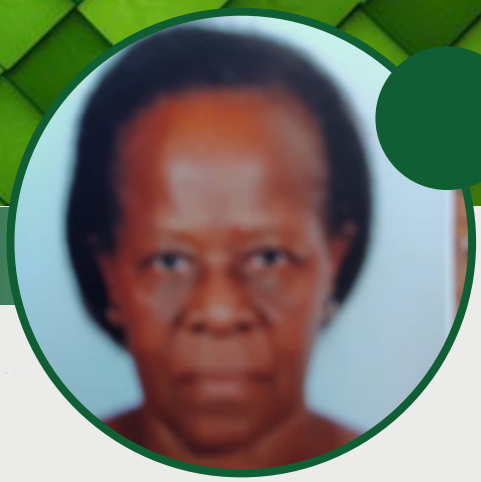
Products:

- *Milk, livestock feeds*
- *vegetables, charcoal briquettes*
- *fertilizer & training (agritourism).*

Vision for the Future

- *Expand our urban farming operations, adopting more innovative & create a "Centre of Excellence for Climate Smart Urban Agricultural Technologies and Innovations".*
- *Enhance community training programs, equipping farmers and youth with the skills needed to start and sustain small-scale agribusinesses.*
- *Strengthen waste recycling initiatives, further reducing environmental pollution and promoting circular agriculture.*
- *Develop partnerships with schools, organizations, and policymakers to advocate for sustainable urban farming practices.*
- *Resource mobilization*

Shalom Organic Farm Ltd



Joy Mary Lwanga

Joy Mary Lwanga I am an entrepreneur, Managing Director/Founder of Shalom Organic Farm Limited. The farm is located at Janda B, Kabulanaka, Zirobwe sub county, Luwero district. We pack our products at Magere, Luteete in Wakiso district. I hold a diploma in Administration.

Janda B, Kabulanaka, Zirobwe Parish, Luwero district.

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Shalom Organic Farm (SOF) employs five full time employees of which three are women and three part time workers. I partner with six women poultry out growers to market our pasture fed chickens eggs to 10 supermarkets in Kampala city and Entebbe town.

- 2013 SOF was recognised as VV Grow Fellow and earned a grant.
- 2022 after going through a competition SOF was one of the finalists, we got WOMED Award 2022.
- 2023 SOF we won a grant of NSSF Innovation Challenge.

Shalom Organic Farm Ltd specializes in rearing layers and indigenous chickens, as well as raising Dorper and local sheep. In addition to livestock, we cultivate a variety of fruit trees. This combination of poultry, sheep farming, and fruit cultivation fosters a diverse agricultural practice that contributes to food sustainability and enhances livelihoods. Our products include eggs from both layers and local chickens. Farmgate sale of lemons, oranges, jack fruits & sour soup.



Products:

- *Eggs*
- *Chicken Meat*
- *Spices & Seasoning*

Future Plans :

- *To produce egg and eggshell powder.*
- *To sell mutton meat.*
- *To produce biogas slurry for manure.*
- *Pasture growing for both birds and animals.*
- *Open the farm for agrotourism and training.*

Kanyes Dairy Farm SMC Ltd



Juliet Kanyesigye

Ms Juliet Kanyesigye holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education, Masters of Women Studies Makerere University and Two-Year Certificate in HIV/AIDS programme Management from Makerere School of Public Health,Kampala. She has over 20 years' experience in research, business and organizational management. Since 2003, she has been a Director at IconAfrika Consult which is a business consultancy firm that supports government, development partners, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and private sector address development issues in various socio-economic fields.



Juliet is the Director of Kanyes Dairy Farm, a business specializing in dairy goat rearing using a zero-grazing model for sustainability. The enterprise produces fresh goat milk for immunity boosting, skincare products like bathing soap and body lotion, and organic fertilizer for soil health and crop yields. Through this venture, she has trained over one million Ugandans on the benefits of dairy goat farming via radio, television, newspapers, WhatsApp, and social media. Additionally, her products have positively impacted many lives, creating employment opportunities for youth and women.



Her innovation has gained recognition from various organizations, including UWEAL, UN Women, Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), and the Uganda EU Business Summit. She was an award winner of the NSSF-Stanbic-MasterCard Foundation Women Accelerator Programme (2023, Cohort 3). Juliet is a member of AWARFA-N and networks such as Uganda Women Entrepreneurs Association Limited (UWEAL) and PELUM, which support women's economic empowerment.

She has also pursued specialized business training, earning certifications from the SHONA Neycha Accelerator Fund for Agro-Ecology Entrepreneurship (2024), the AWE/SHONA Dream Builder Course (2023), and the Hi-Innovator Business Academy (2022).

With over 20 years of experience in implementing social aspects of projects, she has worked on World Bank and donor-funded water and sanitation projects with agencies like the Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Finance, Uganda AIDS Commission, and the UN.



Uganda, Central, Kampala, Makindye, Luwafu Parish, Bukeje Zone, Dorotia Road

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The farm specializes in rearing dairy goats under a zero grazing system, utilizing suitable breeds such as Saanen and Toggenburg, which are known for their high milk production and adaptability. Additionally, the establishment of pastures along Akright Entebbe Road provides the necessary forage for these goats, ensuring a sustainable and efficient dairy farming operation.

Products

- *Fresh Goat Milk, bathing soap and body lotion using goat milk as an ingredient., Foot Soak Gel.*
- *Recycling of goat droppings to manufacture Kanye's Organic Fertiliser*
- *Free training of dairy farmers*

Future Plans :

- *Establish a fully functional processing unit*
- *Product expansion, Pasture planting*

AMATZ Holdings Limited



Namanya Patience

Namanya Patience is business woman and a farmer who is a co-founder of AMATZ Holdings Limited based in Kampala Uganda working as its director. She is a graduate of Makerere University with Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Masters of Business Administration. She has worked with the largest law firms in Uganda i.e KTA Advocates a leading law firm in Technology, Media and Telecommunications as the Business Development and Client Relationship Manager and Kampala Associated Advocates (KAA) one of the largest full-service independent law firm as the consultant in credit management services and as a Data analyst; the jobs that have equipped her with excellent business acumen.

Mawotto village, Mpatta Parish, Ntenjero Sub-county in Mukono District.

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AMATZ focuses on agribusiness and value addition of dairy products like ghee processing and packing, cheese, yogurt, eshabwe, chunned milk (Amacunda) making and vegetable farming.

Our aim is to train women in the cattle corridor of Uganda on various value addition supply chain instead of relying on only fresh milk sales which is very perishable with high price fluctuations.

Also on proper handling and storage of animal feeds because there is a lot of wastage during wet season and scarcity in the dry seasons.

She is a treasurer of African Women in Animal Resource Farming -Uganda Chapter (AWARFA-N-UG) and member of various groups' i.e. Uganda National Women's Fish Organisation (UNFWO), African Women in Agribusiness Network (AWAN), and National Organic Agricultural Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)

We engage in dairy farming, which presents a significant opportunity for value addition through the production of premium products such as ghee, eshabwe, cheese, and yogurt. By focusing on these high-demand dairy items, farmers can enhance their revenue streams while meeting consumer preferences for quality and variety. Additionally, integrating the cultivation and sale of matooke, bogoya, and a diverse range of vegetables within the farming operation not only promotes sustainable agricultural practices but also diversifies income sources. This holistic approach not only maximizes land use efficiency but also positions farmers to respond dynamically to market trends, ultimately contributing to a more resilient agricultural economy.



Products:

- *Ghee*
- *Yorghurt*
- *Cheese*
- *Vegetables*
- *Banana*
- *Eshabwe*

Future Plans :

- *Ghee processing and packing machine.*
- *Training Centre for value addition and family nutrition.*

BRIQUETTE MAKING: HOW TO MAKE CASH FROM COW DUNG

Dr. Jolly Kabirizi (Dairy farmer) E-mail: jmkabirizi@gmail.com



Introduction

There is a lot of damage being caused to local forests and trees in Uganda as a result of the daily collection of firewood for fuel by mostly the women and youth. Additionally, the women responsible for firewood collection are increasingly coming into direct contact, and conflict with, wildlife (particularly snakes) on their daily firewood forays. The women have to travel long distance to collect firewood because of the deforestation caused by their activities, which is taking them away from their other household duties. So, desperate to put food on the table for their families, poor women often resort to using unhealthy sources of fuel such as plastic waste, at the expense of their health. In an effort to reduce expenditure on cooking fuel, they are also pushed into abandoning nutritionally rich traditional foods that take long to cook, further affecting their families' nutrition security.

A number of market-oriented smallholder dairy cattle farms are being managed in urban and peri-urban areas of Uganda. Dairy intensification provides both opportunities and challenges that need to be managed accordingly in order to improve milk production in a sustainable way. A well fed and managed cow can produce about 25 kgs of dung daily. That is about 10 tons of dung per year. Improper disposal of cow dung is a major challenge in urban and peri-urban areas and this causes environmental pollution, unpleasant odour, endemic diseases, and water infiltration in soil and river. One of promising methods that youth groups is venturing in is transforming cow dung into briquettes.

What is a briquette?

A briquette is a block of compressed coal dust, charcoal dust, sawdust, wood chips or biomass and is used as a fuel in stoves and boilers. Charcoal is not like clay. Charcoal is a material without plasticity and cannot be moulded into a shape without adding a binding material. To form charcoal dust into briquettes, an agglomerating material is added to the charcoal dust, and then pressure is applied to the mixture to form a briquette.

There are different ways of making briquettes. You can use cow dung and charcoal dust, you can also use cassava flour by boiling it until it looks like porridge then when it cools, you mix it with the charcoal, mould it and spread it under the sun

Requirements for making charcoal briquettes from cow dung

- Overalls,
- Black plastic gloves,
- Masks,
- Covered shoes/boots.
- Cow dung,
- Stick/rod to turn the material,



Locally made briquette mould produced at Kyakuwa Farm

- Water,
- A place to mix your material,
- Briquette press and,
- A place to dry your briquette

Easy step-by-step instructions on how to make charcoal briquettes

Stage 1: Sieve charcoal dust to free it from any impurity.

Stage 2: Crush charcoal dust into fine powder.

Stage 3: Mix cow dung with charcoal dust and very little water in a ratio of 1:2: 0.5 (cow dung to charcoal dust to water).

Stage 4: Put the material inside the briquette mould, hit 2 or 3 times and remove.

Stage 5: Remove the briquettes and dry in a solar dryer or under a well-ventilated place where they stay for 4 days before being packaged. Drying fuel briquettes on the ground slows down the process as some pieces receive low amounts of sunlight. Spreading briquettes on roof tops speeds up the drying process, but results in breakages. Briquettes dry in less than 3 days during the dry season and take twice as long during the wet season.

How to use the briquettes

- Light your charcoal stove with a little charcoal.
- When the charcoal has lit up, add the briquettes.
- Briquette making can be a money venture that you can involve your children at any age.

Benefits of briquettes

- Briquettes are a clean cooking fuel that helps keep the environment safe and does not damage one's health since they are smokeless.
- Briquettes reduce household indoor air pollution with carbon monoxide and fine.
- Briquettes made of cow dung and charcoal dust burn for over four hours, compared to two and a half hours for regular charcoal.
- Briquettes emit neither smell nor sparks.
- Briquettes leave no soot on saucepans.
- Briquette production is a profitable business for the youth since materials used to make them are locally available and the demand for charcoal is high.



Cow dung briquettes

Marketing briquettes

- You can sell 5 charcoal briquettes for Ushs 1,000.
- Two youth can make about 1,000 briquettes in 3 hours.
- You will need half a bag of charcoal dust (Ushs 5,000) and 2 wheel barrows of cow dung (Ushs 5,000) to make 1,000 briquettes.
- To realize high sales, potential customers need information on multiple benefits of fuel briquettes. Give a few charcoal briquettes to people for free so they understand that they burn hotter and for longer than normal charcoal.

How make soil briquettes What you need:

- Anthill soil or clay
- Charcoal dust
- Water

Briquettes made with clay last longer than those made with any kind of soil.

- Mix soil or clay with charcoal dust.
- Add some water and mix it thoroughly.
- Mould the mixture into small round balls or any shape that is suitable for you.
- Put it in the sun to dry.

Milia's poultry farm



Natukunda Milia

At Milia's Poultry Farm, we are dedicated to excellence in poultry farming, specializing in raising layer birds for the production of high-quality eggs. Our commitment to providing fresh, nutritious, and hygienically produced eggs ensures that our customers receive the best products for their households and businesses. By implementing modern poultry management practices, we focus on the health and welfare of our birds, optimizing production while maintaining sustainable and ethical farming standards.

In addition to our poultry operations, we cultivate Matooke, a highly nutritious and widely consumed banana variety that serves as a staple food in many Ugandan households. Our farm follows sustainable agricultural practices to ensure the highest quality Matooke while promoting soil health and environmental conservation. This diversification not only strengthens our agribusiness but also contributes to food security and local economic growth.

Beyond farming, Milia's Poultry Farm is committed to empowering women by providing hands-on training, mentorship, and essential resources in poultry farming. Our goal is to equip women with the skills and knowledge needed to start and manage their own poultry businesses, thereby promoting financial independence and community development. Through structured training programs, we offer guidance on proper poultry management, disease control, feeding techniques, and business strategies, enabling women to thrive in the agricultural sector.

As we continue to grow, we remain focused on expanding our operations, increasing our production capacity, and creating more opportunities for women and youth in agriculture. By fostering a sustainable and inclusive farming ecosystem, Milia's Poultry Farm strives to make a lasting impact on local communities while contributing to the broader agricultural landscape.

Mukono Nakasajja, Kwaba, Mukono District.

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milianatukunda@yahoo.com

Products:

- *Eggs, manure*

Future Plans:

- *Bee Keeping*





MADCO Investments Ltd



Namabiro Martha Matovu

At our facility in Buwambo Trading Center, Wakiso District, Gombe Division, we specialize in the production of high-quality, conservative animal feeds, including silage and hay. Our mission is to enhance livestock nutrition by transforming agricultural waste into nutrient-rich feeds that support the health and productivity of animals.

Buwambo, Wakiso district

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madcoinvests@gmail.com

In addition to our feed production, we offer a comprehensive range of services and products that enhance the entire value chain of fodder conservation. This includes the rental of advanced machinery for live hire, providing farmers with access to the latest technology without the burden of ownership. We also supply essential ingredients and tools necessary for effective fodder preservation, ensuring our clients have everything they need to produce the best quality feeds.



Furthermore, we distribute finished products such as hay and silage directly to farmers, guaranteeing convenient access to nutritious feed options. Our commitment to quality and sustainability sets us apart, as we strive to support farmers in optimizing their livestock production while minimizing waste and maximizing resource efficiency.





Products:

- *La'Boss microbes*
- *Dry yeast*
- *Silage*
- *Hay*
- *Hire machines*
- *Sell silage covers and bags*

Future Plans :

- *Increase in feed production.*
- *Increase in product development.*
- *Increase in job creation*
- *Export animal feeds hay, silage, microbes, dry yeast, and concretes.*

KWEG Establishments Co Ltd



Kyomukama Phoebe T

KWEG Establishments Co. Ltd was founded in 2014 as a community-based association of women entrepreneurs engaged in ghee processing. It has since expanded to produce other dairy products such as butter, yoghurt, and cosmetic jelly. The company was established to empower women in Kiruhura District, Uganda, particularly in response to gender-based economic and social challenges. The goal was to create opportunities for women in the dairy value chain to enhance their financial independence and overall well-being.

Kiruhura District

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ptumwebaze83@gmail.com

KWEG is located in Nyakasharara Trading Centre along the Kiruhura-Ibanda main road, near the Kiruhura District headquarters.

Business Operations
The company focuses on dairy value chain processing, producing ghee, butter, yoghurt, and cosmetic jelly. The business operates by:

Processing and selling dairy products in local markets such as Rushere, Kazo, Mbarara, and Kampala.

Organizing women into small groups for training in financial literacy, dairy production, and enterprise management.
Encouraging women to buy shares in the company to promote sustainable business growth.
Participating in local exhibitions and trade fairs to market their products.

KWEG aims to enhance women's economic and social empowerment while ensuring product competitiveness in the market through improved branding and certification.

Products:

- *Low fat yogurt*
- *ghee*
- *Butter*
- *Jelly*

Future Plans & Goals

- *Establish a women-owned processing plant for jelly, ghee, butter, and yoghurt.*
- *Increase women's access to financial services, literacy, and information by at least 30%.*
- *Expand women's involvement in the dairy value chain from 15% to 30%.*
- *Support at least 200 vulnerable households with basic needs and income-generating activities.*
- *Obtain UNBS certification and expand product distribution to key strategic markets.*
- *Acquire essential infrastructure such as a milk cooler, delivery van, and standby generator.*







Kati Farms Ltd



Lovin Kobusingye

Registered in Kampala Uganda in 2012 "KATI FARMS LTD" is a national and regional player in fish handling export, and technical / skills services provision and value addition.

Kati Farms is a Private Fish Value Addition and processing firm in Uganda with a track record of implementing successful grassroots development projects and improving relevant policies on agricultural development. It works with small holder fish farmers to develop innovative approaches to make sustainable improvements to their livelihood activities through more effective and productive fish resource management. In addition, Kati Farms supports its beneficiaries with trainings in value addition of their products and links them to markets in order to establish viable income generating enterprises. Kati Farms sells new fish products including fish sausages, Fish burgers, fish fillets, fish powder and Fish samosas.

Kati sources fish from small holder fish farmers, trains farmers, sells processed products in Uganda and neighboring countries. Kati's customers include hotels, schools, supermarkets and restaurants, both domestically and internationally, as well as the informal markets. Kati has gone through the process of developing her suppliers' capacities and finding markets for her innovative products with the support of Ugandan government institutions like NARO and Uganda Industrial Research Institute. Katifarms and her fish suppliers now reliably deliver processed fish products to local super markets and hotels.

Wakiso District

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katifarms@yahoo.com

Products:

- *Value added fish products*
- *Free Trainings in fish value addition*

















Gender-specific analysis and mapping of the African Catfish valu chain in Uganda: A focus on women's roles and opportunities.

Authors: Lovin Kobusingye, Gertrude Atukunda, Cassius Aruho, and Veronica Mpomwenda

Conducted Under: Uganda National Women's Fish Organization (UNWFO) and African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET)

Sponsored by: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Background

Uganda has a rich history of fisheries and aquaculture, with fish being one of the country's most important sources of protein and a key contributor to the national economy. The catfish industry, in particular, has seen significant growth in recent years, with Clarias gariepinus (African catfish) being one of the most farmed species due to its resilience, fast growth rate, and high market demand. Despite these advancements, the sector remains largely male-dominated, with women primarily engaged in low-income activities such as fish processing and retailing.

Government initiatives and international support have played a role in expanding Uganda's aquaculture sector. Programs like the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) and Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) have provided inputs and training to small-scale fish farmers. However, women often face systemic challenges such as limited access to financial services, inadequate infrastructure, and cultural norms that restrict their participation in high-value segments of the value chain.

This study, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and conducted by the Uganda National Women's Fish Organization (UNWFO), aimed to conduct a gender-specific analysis of the catfish value chain in Uganda, identifying gaps in women's participation and proposing solutions to foster inclusivity and economic growth.

Introduction

The Ugandan catfish industry has long been a significant player in the country's aquaculture sector. However, gender disparities in production, processing, and marketing persist. A ground-breaking study conducted by the Ugandan National Women's Fish Organization (UNWFO) sheds light on the unique roles women play in the catfish value chain, the challenges they face, and opportunities for their empowerment.

Understanding the Catfish Value Chain in Uganda

Catfish farming in Uganda is a vital economic activity, supporting thousands of livelihoods and contributing to national food security. The value chain consists of key players: seed and feed producers, fish farmers, traders, processors, and consumers. However, the study highlights an imbalance in gender participation. Women are predominantly involved in processing and trading but remain underrepresented in production, feed, and seed supply, which limits their earning potential and decision-making power.

Key Findings
The study analyzed 164 participants across eight districts in Uganda and found that:

- Women play an essential role in fish processing but earn significantly lower incomes than their male counterparts in other value chain segments.
- Women in processing make about half the income of fish farmers and one-third of what traders earn, making them vulnerable to economic instability.
- Women's access to financial services is limited, with most relying on family savings and cooperative savings (SACCOs) rather than bank loans.
- Cultural norms and financial barriers prevent women from taking on leadership roles in the industry.
- The majority of women engage in artisanal fish processing, which offers limited economic returns due to inadequate infrastructure and market access.

Challenges in the Industry
The catfish industry faces several obstacles, including:

- **High costs and low profitability**: Many small-scale farmers struggle with expensive feed and limited access to quality inputs.
- **Seasonal market fluctuations**: The demand for catfish is inconsistent, making it difficult for traders and processors to sustain steady incomes.
- **Limited access to resources**: Women, in particular, face challenges in securing loans or investment capital due to lack of collateral and financial literacy.
- **Cultural barriers**: Traditional gender roles restrict women's participation in decision-making and higher-income segments of the value chain.
- **Lack of Training**: Many women lack access to training in fish farming techniques, business development, and financial literacy, further limiting their ability to scale their businesses.



Opportunities for Growth
Despite these challenges, the study outlines several opportunities to empower women and enhance the industry:

- **Financial Inclusion**: Increasing access to microloans and SACCOs can help women expand their businesses.
- **Training & Capacity Building**: Providing education on fish farming, financial literacy, and value addition techniques can enhance women's participation.
- **Networking & Mentorship**: Establishing mentorship programs and networking opportunities for women in the industry can help them gain business insights and access markets.
- **Value Addition**: Encouraging women to engage in value-added processing, such as smoked or packaged catfish products, can improve their economic standing.
- **Market Access**: Strengthening women's access to domestic and regional markets through cooperative networks can help increase profitability and industry participation.

Enhancing Catfish Consumption

To further support the industry, efforts must be made to increase catfish consumption. Public awareness campaigns can highlight its nutritional benefits, while innovative products like ready-to-cook fillets can attract more consumers. Encouraging local production and distribution through farmer cooperatives can also stabilize market prices and improve accessibility.

Policy Recommendations
To ensure a more inclusive and sustainable catfish industry, policymakers should:

- Implement gender-sensitive policies that promote women's participation in all aspects of the catfish value chain.
- Support women's access to credit and investment opportunities tailored for small-scale fish entrepreneurs.
- Strengthen infrastructure for fish processing and storage to enhance the quality and marketability of catfish products.
- Facilitate partnerships between women's cooperatives and larger agribusiness firms to integrate them into national and international markets.

Conclusion

The findings from this study underscore the urgent need to support women's engagement in Uganda's catfish industry. By addressing financial barriers, providing training, and fostering inclusive policies, stakeholders can ensure a more equitable and profitable future for all involved. Empowering women in the catfish value chain is not just a gender issue—it is an economic imperative for Uganda's sustainable aquaculture development.



FROM PASSION TO IMPACT:

The Journey of Ampaire Daphine, CEO of Mac Bee Honey Harvest SMC Ltd

A Journey Rooted in Passion

Growing up in Uganda, I was always fascinated by the intricate relationship between nature and agriculture. Beekeeping, in particular, captured my heart. The ability of bees to create such a vital product while maintaining ecological balance was inspiring. This passion drove me to start my entrepreneurship journey with beekeeping,I joined one of the biggest key players in the industry a company dedicated to producing high-quality honey and beeswax products while promoting sustainable beekeeping practices.

However, my journey was not just about business—it was about transforming lives and reshaping Uganda's beekeeping industry. With a background in agribusiness and a desire to empower others, I took on the challenge of improving the honey value chain, ensuring that every player, from smallholder beekeepers to end consumers, benefited.

Navigating the Dynamics of the Honey Value Chain

Beekeeping in Uganda has immense potential, but several challenges hinder its growth. Limited access to quality inputs, poor post-harvest handling techniques, and market inefficiencies have often left smallholder beekeepers struggling to earn a sustainable income. Understanding these challenges, I set out to create a value chain model that would benefit all stakeholders.

At Mac Bee, we provide training and support to local beekeepers, equipping them with modern techniques that enhance honey production and quality. We also ensure that their products meet market standards by implementing strict quality control measures. Our approach bridges the gap between traditional beekeepers and modern markets, increasing profitability and sustainability.

Beyond production, we have integrated agroecological principles into our operations, focusing on sustainable land use, biodiversity conservation, and organic honey production. This not only enhances product quality but also ensures environmental conservation—a crucial factor in the survival of bee populations.

Impact: Empowering Communities, Strengthening Livelihoods

The impact of Mac Bee extends beyond honey production. Through our training programs, we have empowered hundreds of beekeepers, particularly women and youth, to turn beekeeping into a viable source of income. By creating market linkages and ensuring fair pricing, we have improved livelihoods and fostered economic independence among rural farmers.



Ampaire Daphine, CEO of Mac Bee Honey Harvest SMC Ltd holding one of her products made from honey

Additionally, our collaboration with organizations advocating for women in agribusiness, such as YOFCHAN, and CWEN, has amplified our reach, allowing us to champion policies that support women entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector. As a woman in agribusiness, I have made it my mission to ensure that women have equal opportunities to thrive in beekeeping, a traditionally male-dominated sector.

Prospects: A Vision for a Sustainable Future

The future of Mac Bee Honey Harvest SMC Ltd is filled with possibilities. We aim to expand our operations by establishing a state-of-the-art honey processing facility that will increase efficiency and product diversification. Plans are also underway to introduce value-added products such as propolis toner, bee pollen suppliments, and royal jelly, and many more tapping into new markets both locally and internationally.

In line with our agroecological approach, we seek to strengthen partnerships with environmental organizations to promote bee-friendly farming practices. By integrating beekeeping with agroforestry and regenerative agriculture, we can create a model that not only benefits farmers but also contributes to climate resilience.

As we move forward, my goal is to position Mac Bee as a leader in sustainable beekeeping in Africa. By continuing to innovate, empower communities, and advocate for environmental conservation, we will create lasting change—one hive at a time.

Conclusion

My journey as the CEO of Mac Bee Honey Harvest SMC Ltd has been one of resilience, learning, and transformation. From a deep-rooted passion for beekeeping to building a company that empowers farmers and promotes sustainability, every step has been a testament to the power of vision and determination.

Through the dynamics of the value chain, the impact we have created, and the prospects ahead, I remain committed to making beekeeping not just a business, but a vehicle for social and economic change in Uganda and beyond.

Our Bee Products:

- *Natural honey*
- *Shoe Polish*
- *Candles*
- *Body butter*

Future Plans:

Plans are also underway to introduce value-added products such as propolis toner, bee pollen suppliments, and royal jelly, and many more tapping into new markets both locally and internationally.





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