

Discover Newsletter – July 2023



Dear Friends,

- Farmers practising agroforestry under pressure from sugar cane growers in Kaliro District,
- Planting bamboo on the banks of the Nyambamba River under the Rwenzori Mountains to reduce the danger of flooding,
- Seed collection and tree nurseries on the slopes of the deforested Elgon Mountains,
- Schools that are planting trees in their compounds in Arivu and Kasasa.

These are all projects that I will visit in September and October in Uganda this year. I look forward to judging the success of all our tree growing activities over the past three years. I am led to believe that communities are being transformed: after I return, I will let you know whether this is true!

Uganda visit in September 2023

Arivu:
Christopher Nyakuni

Kasese Netzwerk
under the Rwenzori
Mountains:

1. Robert Bwambale
2. Emmanuel Masereka
3. Kenja Thomas

Vumbula Masaka:
Rehema Namyalo



Joseph and Milly Grace Ogwal

Makabuli Yusuf on the slopes of the Elgon Mountains

Kihuluka Eric Mikwano, Kaliro District

Grace Learning Centre und Kasasa village:
Judith Nambi

At our Annual General Meeting on 24 June, I presented a report of the last year, including my visit to Zimbabwe and Malawi. I commented that to support African people to plant and protect trees is not simply an act of kindness. Given that the climate crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa has been caused by emissions from the industrialised countries, it is also an act of climate justice.

We cannot claim that our work makes more than a very modest contribution to re-establishing justice, but we take great satisfaction in knowing that the well-being of many families has been massively enhanced through planting trees and practising agroforestry: For example, Mrs Muwando Kawa in this picture.

Agroforestry and peace-making

Christopher Nyakuni is a key partner in West Nile in Uganda. As well as his activities in growing trees, as a catechist he works in an area where conflict is rife. Christopher has remarkable skills in conflict resolution and spends much of his time in long conversations, which enable alienated individuals and groups to be reconciled. Such work demands skill, dedication and patience, qualities Christopher has in abundance. When reconciliation occurs, it must be cemented, and this occurs by people working together on a project for the common good – at best by establishing an agroforestry project for the benefit of the whole village.



Thanks to the work of Makabuli Yusuf, Muwando Kawa, from Namabasa near Mbale in Uganda, benefits from firewood, timber, shade, good soil, wind protection, seed collection, food and medicinal plants.

For this work Christopher needs support for transport and communication, materials (seeds and seedlings) and a modest honorarium for his time and work. As we primarily support tree planting and protection, I have so far not succeeded in finding an extra source of support for this very valuable work. I estimate his needs as being about £2000 over a period of 2 years, that being support of £80 each month for 2 years.

We are very grateful to you all for your ongoing moral and financial support.

Finally, something new! We have produced a 15-minute film in which some of our partners talk about the very valuable work they are doing. Please watch it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wk7DLM5Bull>

With best wishes,

Keith Lindsey and the Discover Team