

Uganda

Spotlight: Building the Capacity of Refugee Populations

Uganda hosts more than 850,000 South Sudanese refugees. In the West Nile region, reduced food rations have led to increased food insecurity in the refugee settlements, while the large number of refugees has put additional pressure on host communities.

Our work in West Nile introduces refugees to improved vegetable farming, both for home use and as a business venture, and builds the capacity of farmers in host communities to increase production of high-quality vegetables.

In addition to benefiting over 14,000 refugees in Omugo and Imvepi settlements in West Nile since 2019, we have been partnering with the University of Juba in South Sudan to share agricultural knowledge and provide hands-on training in vegetable production.

The EWS-KT Uganda team helped to set up a learning farm on the University of Juba campus to train instructors, extension agents, students, and farmers. In 2022, we directly trained **442 farmers in South Sudan** through the learning farm and related activities at Dr. John Garang Memorial University.

2022 Results

12,332

FARMERS TRAINED

WOMEN 50%



MEN 50%



YOUTH 42%



323

 DEMO PLOTS ESTABLISHED

AVERAGE NET PROFIT

US\$ 262.02

 per crop cycle, 500 sq. m. plot

HIGHEST NET PROFIT TOMATO

US\$ 428.76

 AVERAGE NET PROFIT, per crop cycle, 500 sq. m. plot

1,648

 TRAINING EVENTS



Annet Masare trains other farmers

Addressing Malnutrition Through Pumpkin Farming

Annet Masare, a 37-year-old mother of four, was struggling to provide nutritious food for her children and to pay their school fees. So when she heard that EWS-KT was holding a training on pumpkin farming in her village in the Mbale district, she made sure to go.

Selected as a key farmer, Annet participated in hands-on training with other farmers in the community and began to set up her own pumpkin demonstration plot. She learned about land preparation, seedling production, fertilization, soil and water conservation, crop protection, and more. She especially appreciated the training on improved seedling production, as she learned how to make sustainable, cost-free pots out of banana and mango leaves.

Just a few weeks after transplanting her pumpkin seedlings, Annet began benefiting from her demo, harvesting some of the leaves for her family to eat and selling the surplus to generate income. Later in the season, her family dined on

the pumpkin flesh and seeds.

Annet has become a trainer in her community, passing on her knowledge to other farmers. Looking ahead, she plans to increase her pumpkin production and to train more farmers. “There is still a need for pumpkin fruits, leaves, and seeds,” she said. “People consume pumpkin for its nutritional value, hence there is a market for it.”

“ My farm has helped in solving the problems of malnutrition in my family and the community at large. This is because pumpkin and pumpkin leaves are now in farmers’ reach. ”

– Annet Masare

This is part of the Pumpkins in Africa project, co-funded by East-West Seed founder Simon N. Groot (2019 World Food Prize).