



Launch of Kaara Community Landcare Group

The "Local Efforts to Mitigate Landslides in Kaara Watershed" initiative officially commenced on June 5th, 2024. The launch event began with a comprehensive tour of the watershed, providing participants with a firsthand understanding of the extent of land degradation while also showcasing the progress made by the group's members. A delegation comprising three KAN representatives and local government officials was deeply impressed by the members' unwavering enthusiasm and commendable leadership.

This dedicated group, consisting of 25 individuals (10 men and 15 women), collaborates effectively in constructing water channels and check dams, strategically designed to control water runoff and prevent further erosion. Following the tour, the members gathered at their designated meeting point to receive essential tools acquired through a Global Landcare grant. These tools included hand hoes, shovels, pickaxes, and hammers, equipping the group with the necessary resources to continue their vital work.



Situated in the same sub-county local government as Ikamiro, the Kaara Landcare Group's grant application had envisioned an exchange visit to learn from the successful landcare efforts of their fellow farmers.

To facilitate this knowledge sharing, an exposure visit was organized for a select group of 12 leaders from the Kaara Landcare Group. The visit to Ikamiro Landcare groups was warmly welcomed by the hosts, led by their Coordinator, John Bosco Habyalimana.



The Ikamiro members guided the Kaara delegation through their various landcare sites, sharing their experiences with landslides, the challenges they faced, and the positive changes they achieved through collective community action. The Kaara members were particularly inspired by the transformation of the valleys, now adorned with agroforestry trees and protected from runoff water. The success of these efforts was evident in the absence of landslides despite the heavy rains. The visit provided a valuable platform for questions and discussions, leaving the Kaara members energized and motivated by the positive impact of community-driven landcare.



The exposure visit coincided with World Environment Day 2024, providing a timely opportunity for collaboration and learning. Kabale Agroforestry Network (KAN) seized this occasion to host their annual Tree Planting Day at a new partner junior landcare school in the Ikamiro area, conveniently located near the landcare site visited by the Kaara farmers.

The visiting farmers and their Ikamiro hosts converged at Kabaya Primary School, joining forces with the pupils and teachers to plant a variety of trees in the school compound. The event also included a tour of the school to observe the junior landcare activities in action.

Adding further significance to the day, KAN Chairman Jimmy Musiime delivered a lecture on the theme "Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought," aligning perfectly with the day's activities. He expressed gratitude to Global Landcare and Beyond Subsistence from Australia, key partners who have been instrumental in supporting these developments. He also extended his appreciation to all stakeholders for their collaborative efforts and dedication.