

Kabale Agroforestry Network



Global
LANDCARE

School Woodlot Project - Phase 2

Kabale Agro-forestry Network (KAN), a Community-Based Organisation (CBO) founded in 2013, aims to improve farmers' livelihoods through tree-based resources and sound agroforestry practices. Partnering with Beyond Subsistence and Global Landcare, KAN's School Woodlot project (2021-present) supports five Kabale, Uganda schools in establishing woodlots to address fuelwood shortages and provide poles, stakes, and timber. This initiative, which has planted over six hectares of eucalyptus trees in the past three years, also educates students, teachers, and parents in agroforestry techniques. A second phase, targeting five additional woodlot sites, is underway. This report summarizes the project's progress in establishing these woodlots.





In order to provide security, fencing of the plantations has been done and water bunds constructed on steep slopes to protect them from water run-off and landslides. The bunds will also serve as fire lines although fires are not common in the project area.





This project phase encountered significant challenges due to unpredictable weather patterns resulting from climate change. These fluctuations necessitated repeated replanting efforts at several sites where seedlings succumbed to drought conditions. The Kanyankwanzi Primary School site remains unplanted due to leadership transitions, though planting is now scheduled to commence during the March/April rains. The project's popularity has generated numerous applications to KAN. Furthermore, the strategically placed site signage not only serves as project publicity but also enhances security by deterring potential vandalism due to the visibility of collaborating organisations.

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Following the woodlot's establishment, KAN will train stakeholders—champion parents, pupils, and teachers—on tree management and project sustainability. Funding is needed before the new school term begins in late January 2025. Phase 2 expanded KAN's and its partners' reach into areas lacking junior landcare programs. We plan to initiate junior landcare at schools like Kicumbi Primary, which generously provided land for the woodlot project. This phase also deepened our understanding of community dynamics. KAN expresses sincere gratitude to Global Landcare, Beyond Subsistence, and all partners for their continued support and generosity, which has significantly impacted our communities and schools. We look forward to strengthening this partnership in the coming years. Happy New Year and a prosperous 2025!