



ACTION STORY



BUDLACC, Bukwo

Growing Trees in the Riwo Catchment

Background

Bukwo District Landcare Chapter (BUDLACC) brings together farmer groups, community organisations and local government in Bukwo District, eastern Uganda. In the Riwo catchment, on the slopes of Mt Elgon, families face a shortage of firewood and increasingly erratic rainfall, while steep slopes and the banks of the Riwo River are badly degraded.

Solutions

With a Global Landcare small grant of AUD \$1,000 and technical support from neighbouring KADLACC, BUDLACC held community meetings on climate change, trained farmers in tree growing and soil and water conservation, and distributed seedlings for planting on farms, steep slopes and riverbanks.

Understanding Climate Change

Community meetings, organised with local councils, helped Riwo farmers see how climate change affects their crops, water and livelihoods, and why trees matter on every farm.



Learning by Doing

Facilitators demonstrated each step of tree planting, from preparing holes to mulching and watering. Farmers, many of them women, then planted alongside them, with a strong focus on including everyone.



4,790 Seedlings Shared

Eight species, including grevillea, cordia, *Prunus africana* and markhamia, were planted on contour bunds, farm boundaries, home compounds and woodlots.



Moving Forward

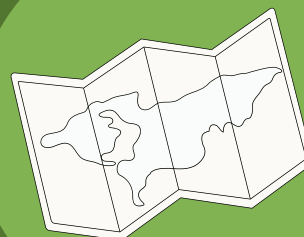
60 households (35 women, 20 men and 5 young people) took part, gaining practical skills in tree growing and soil and water conservation. Catchment committees were also trained in natural resource management, so the community can keep leading this work. Just as important was the time neighbours spent learning together, building the connections that keep landcare going.



60 Households



4,790 Trees



1 Catchment