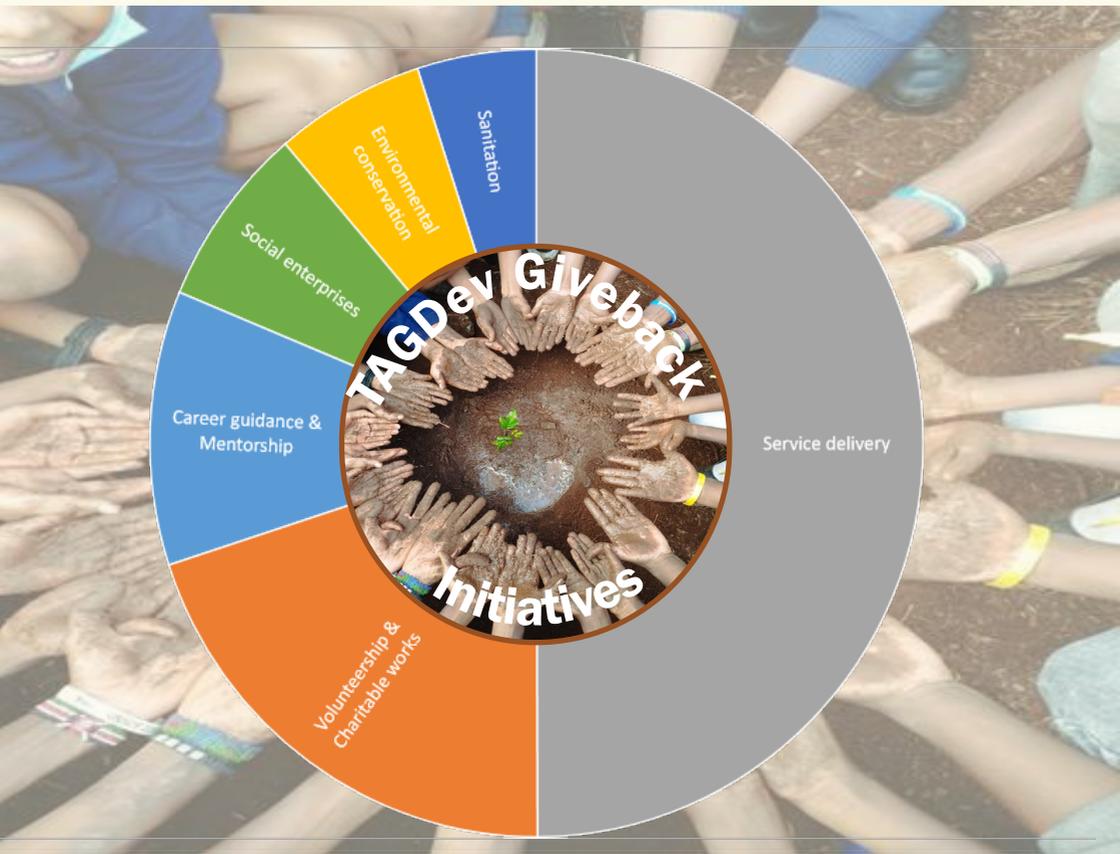


In partnership with



# Voices of Impact



## Touching Lives, Creating Opportunities

Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development' (TAGDev)

## RUFORUM

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), is a consortium of 163 universities in 40 countries in Africa.

## Vision

The RUFORUM Vision 2030 envisions vibrant, transformative universities catalyzing sustainable, inclusive agricultural development to feed and create prosperity for Africa.

## Mission

RUFORUM's mission is to strengthen the capacities of universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of small-holder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact-oriented research and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, national agricultural research institutions and governments.

## Voices of impact

TAGDev over the last seven years has been working with young women and men from different background and countries. In this series of voices of impact, their actions that have touched lives and created opportunities are being documented. Voices of impact also presents a summary of the impact the program has made in the lives of students that have been participants through scholarships, research, entrepreneurship, and other wrap-up services. The TAGDev program invests in individuals who become change agents in society. These young women and men have been nurtured to become responsible citizens who now derive value and meaning in givingback to society as agents of hope and change. They include alumni, and those still undertaking their studies in various universities. These young women and men are deploying skills acquired to create opportunities for themselves and others through entrepreneurship and giveback initiatives.

We hope these stories inspire you as you read.



Youth for Green Action Kenya planting trees in Mombasa



### Lillian Onyango

Co-founder of Youths for Green Action Kenya

Youths for Green Action Kenya has planted over 100,000 tree seedlings. It has engaged higher education learning institutions in Kenya to clean over 10 tons of waste, mobilised 300 youth into voluntary service. The dynamic team has also partnered with 20 institutions and organizations that has enabled them to realize their goals of “building community resilience towards addressing challenges posed by climate change.”

The group employs thirteen (13) young women and men.



Youth for Green Action Kenya conducting community service in Mombasa, Kenya



## Zena Saliru

Co-Director Jumafarm  
Agricultural Center,  
Uganda

From Kenya, Zena returned to Uganda with skills and capacity as an agricultural extension worker and entrepreneur. Together with a colleague they established Jumafarm Agricultural Center based in Wakiso district. The farm provides agricultural advisory and extension services to at least 1,000 farmers per season. The Center also supplies quality agro-inputs to farmers. Through these services, farmers are able to increase the profitability of their farm enterprises.

The center employs seven (7) people.



Jumafarm Agricultural Center, training farmers  
in Wakiso District, Uganda



### **Suzan Moletsane**

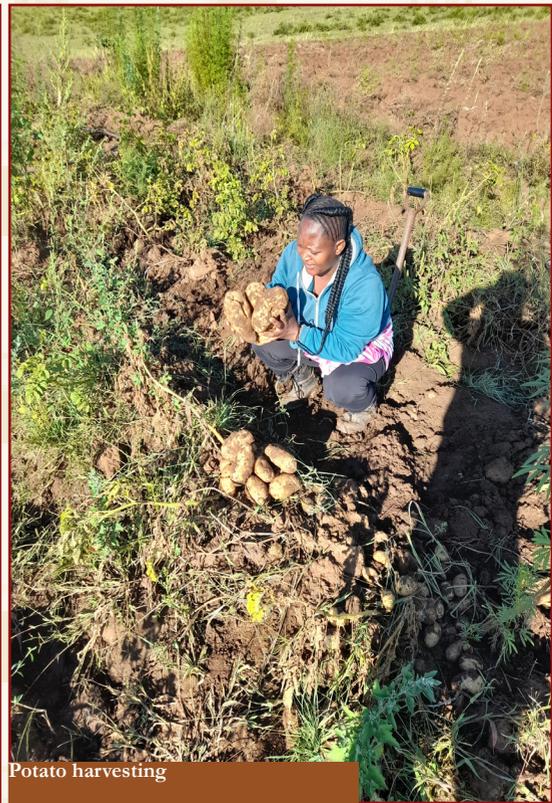
Suzan & Sello's potato farm,  
Lesotho

Trained in Kenya, Suzan Moletsane returned to Lesotho as a professional agronomist. She established Suzan and Sello's Potato Farm for technology transfer based on her training at Egerton University in the potato community action research program. Suzan has successfully established a community seed system for potato and horticultural crops (vegetables). Suzan's farm is recognized within the Ts'akhlo region. Four farmers trained on the farm merged as the best vegetable farmers in the region because of their adoption of best practices. The number of potato farmers from the region has also increased thirtyfold.

The farm employs on average fourteen (14) people during the growing season.



Suzan & Sello's potato farm, Lethoso



Potato harvesting



## Grace Aipa

Agricultural extension officer,  
Kenya

Aipa Grace, has risen from the shadows of education in the pastoral Turkana region of Kenya where she was being forced into early marriage to become a transformational leader championing girls to stay in school and delivering agricultural extension services to pastoral women farmers. She's currently working with three farmer groups in Turkana with a membership of 256 women farmers. Through her work, the women have been able to sustainably participate in the profitable horticultural value chains; onions, vegetables, pumpkins, as well as in the key food security crops. Grace is optimistic of supporting the women to create the horticultural cooperative in Turkana, Kenya with the vision, Turkana feeds Kenya.

She employs six (6) people.



Grace Aipa training farmers in Turkana, Kenya



Grace Aipa planting trees in Turkana, Kenya





## Anthony Emaru

CEO 4pillar Giveback,  
Kenya

4Pillar Give Back is a joint effort led by Anthony Emaru involving six other students from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo. The initiative runs a Field Demonstration Unit for training farmers and intern students. Further, the team runs routine farmer open training days and organizes mentoring activities for high school students. 4Pillar Give Back also links farmers to a sustainable market for their produce.

4Pillar Give Back has reached over 2,000 smallholder farmers in Kenya under the vegetable value chain.



4pillar Giveback training horticulture farmers in kenya



Impressive harvest after training



Tomatoes harvested from the 4pillar Giveback demonstration farm



**Simon Mwaura**

Trendy Animal feeds,  
Kenya

Trendy Animal Feeds Ltd produces a wide range of livestock feeds including for poultry, piggery, and cattle. These feeds are tailor made to the growth requirements and needs of livestock farmers. The chicken feeds include; broiler starter and finisher, chick mash, layers mash, growers mash, and “Kienyeji” mash. Cattle feeds includes; calf pellets, economy, standard, and high-yield dairy meals. Pig feeds include; Mazao sow and Weaner meal; Mazao pig finisher. The company also produces Mfalme dog meal. The enterprise supplies feeds to about 5,000 farmers in Thika, M’uranga and other parts of Kenya.

Trendy Animal Feeds employs ten (10) employees.



Trendy Animal feeds factory in Thika, Kenya



Packed animal feeds ready for market



Animal feed packaging



**Ikonya Judith Engurat**  
CEO and Founder, ARCTAS, CBO  
Kenya

Judith Ikonya is the founder and the C.E.O of African Rural Commercialization Through Agribusinesses (ARCTAS), a community based organisation that is operating across Chakol North Ward, Teso South Sub-County Busia County. The organization is supporting farmers to practice correct agronomy and minimize losses through provision of well trained farm managers. Through ARCTAS, farmers have the opportunity test their soil and match to correct fertilizer needs as well as match their agronomy to market within the region. The organisation has partnered with Alupe KALRO in Busia for soil testing. They have also partnered with Greenwise Ltd company, an exporting company for linking farmers to direct market.

They employ threes(3) farm managers that work with farmers directly.



Kitchen gardening in Busia, Kenya



ARCTAS practising vertical farming



### **Gordon Victor Akejo**

Founder, GAO-UG Limited,  
Uganda

Gordon runs GAO-UG Limited, which provides agricultural extension and advisory services to 2,000 smallholder farmers and supplies inputs and other farm tools in Alebtong District in northern Uganda. The company equally supports rural women's access to microfinance credit at affordable interest rates as well as providing them with financial literacy and entrepreneurial education.

GAO-UG employs eight (8) people.



GAO-UG Limited training farmer group in Alebtong District in northern Uganda



### Sedi Didier

CEO and Founder  
Provende Bukavu,  
DR-Congo

Provende Kivu, a company located in Combo, Province of South Kivu in the DR - Congo, founded by Mr. Sedi Didier, produces and markets highly nutritious poultry, pig, and rabbit feed. The company has a thriving workforce of diverse expertise, particularly in agronomy, accounting, information technology, and law. The Provende Kivu Ets received initial funding from RUFORUM and additional funding from PICAGEL and FAO for the establishment of a fish feed factory. The company has a market guarantee and has helped local fish farmers to boost their benefits and competitiveness in comparison to neighboring countries' products.

The company employs thirteen (13) people.



Provende Bukavu mill in Bukavu, DR-Congo



**Christophe Kongolo**  
CEO Bukavu Youth Agripreneurs,  
DR-Congo

Christophe Kongolo together with 10 other young entrepreneurs founded Bukavu Youth Agripreneurs (BYA) after receiving training on the value chains of cassava, maize, soybeans, and beans. Starting out small, the company received startup capital from RUFORUM and a \$100 commitment from each member. The enterprise's activities include the production of maize, sorghum, chin-chin cookies, bread made from cassava flour, and porridge produced from a combination of sorghum, soy, and maize. Currently, BYA works with 10 groups of farmers, each with an average of 30 members, who are scattered throughout the South Kivu Province and supply them with raw materials.

Bukavu Youth Agripreneurs employs sixteen (16) people.



Bukavu Youth Agripreneur Products



Bukavu Youth Agripreneurs exhibiting in DR-Congo



Bukavu Youth Agripreneurs in DR-Congo



**Brigitte ASSOGBA**

CEO Ekofa du Roi,  
Benin

EKOFA du Roi was born in the frame to provide a better quality of akpan. Akpan is a known yogurt-like product traditionally prepared in Benin from Ogi, a fermented starchy flour made from maize, sorghum or millet grains. Ekofa du Roi is producing Akpan enriched with vitamin C from baobab fruit pulp. The akpan is produced through a standardized technology which ensures quality and exquisite packaging.

The business employs three (3) youths



Akpan ceiling machine



Different flavours of Akpan on display



## Emmanuel Mugwaneza

Founder, Lamina Group Ltd,  
Kenya

Emmanuel founded Lamina Group Ltd. to reduce post-harvest losses and ensure food security, improving livelihoods, and minimizing waste. The enterprise has developed effective evaporative coolers to slow down the ripening and deterioration processes of horticultural crops, especially fruits and vegetables. The coolers maintain proper temperature and humidity levels during storage that helps prevent mold growth and moisture-related issues.

The company has created jobs 4 for youths as full-time and 9 part-time, and it is helping improve their livelihoods and the society.



Lamina Group Ltd cooler



Storage cooler construction



Tomatoes for storage in the cooler



### **Grace Kyarimpa**

Founder, Agrobiodiverse  
Kenya limited,  
Kenya

Agrobiodiverse Kenya Limited utilizes organic wastes of both plant and animal origin thus ensuring environmental hygiene and offers high quality and affordable animal feeds, organic fertilizers and pesticides. The company also does consultancy services to the communities including community engagement programs by reaching out different communities in order to identify their major farming challenges and come up with the most viable solutions. The company offers mentorship for the youth and women.

The company employs three (3) people.



Preparing media for insect rearing



Snails for food



Maggots for animal feed



### **Timothée Bagula**

CEO, Epicerie Du Kivu Sarl,  
DR-Congo

In order to meet the growing demand for fruits and vegetables and reduce imports of fresh fruits and vegetables in Bukavu City, Timothee established Epicerie du Kivu. The entreprise specializes in production, sale and delivery of fresh fruits, spices and vegetables in the city of Bukavu, supplying 29 restaurants and hotels. Timothee also supplies his produce to 11 international organisations including one at Panzi hospitals for the victims of sexual violence project which takes up 70% of Epicerie du Kivu products. The entreprise has a turnover of US\$17,000 and has empowered 187 farmers, more than 1700 households.

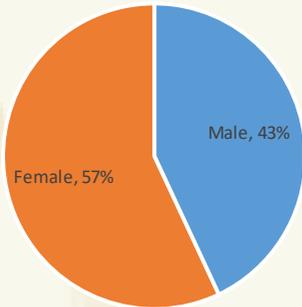
Epicerie du Kivu employs 26 young people.



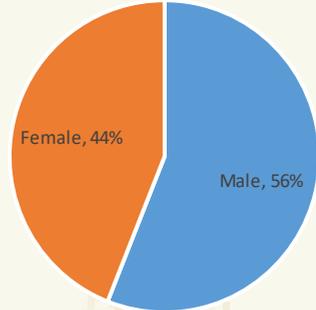
Epicerie Du Kivu Sarl horticultural products

# TAGDev Programme Fact Sheet

## Students trained in African universities

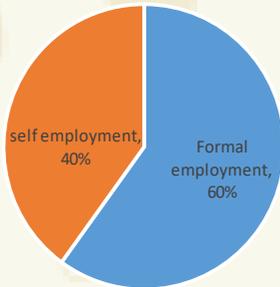


TAGDev direct scholarship students at Gulu University and Egerton University (n=245)

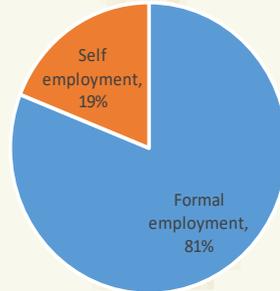


Other TAGDev supported students in 16 universities (n=323)

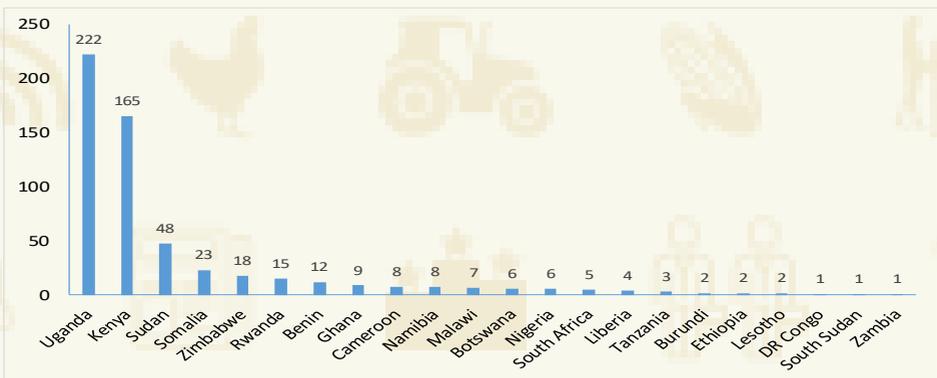
## Students Transitions



Gulu University and Egerton University

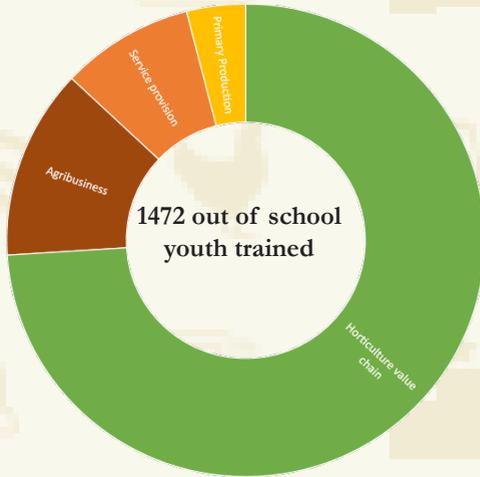


From Scale-out universities

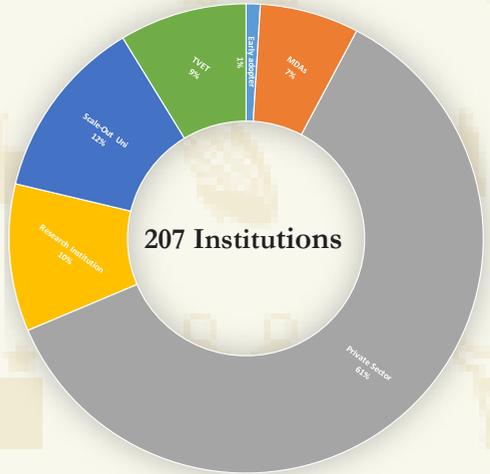


Students trained per country

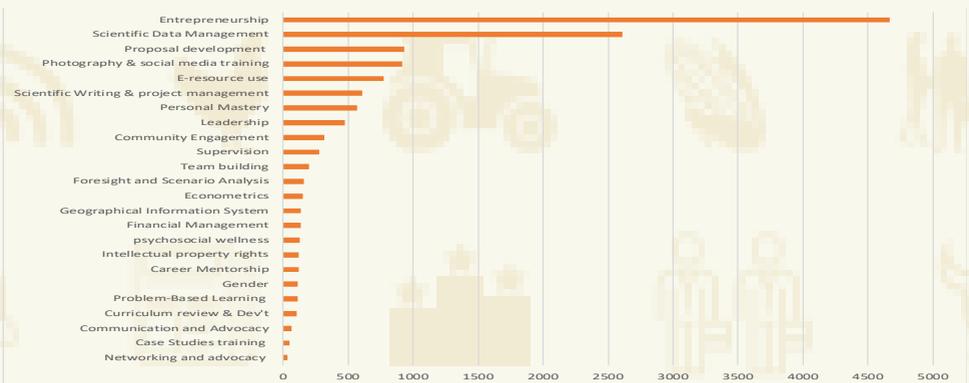
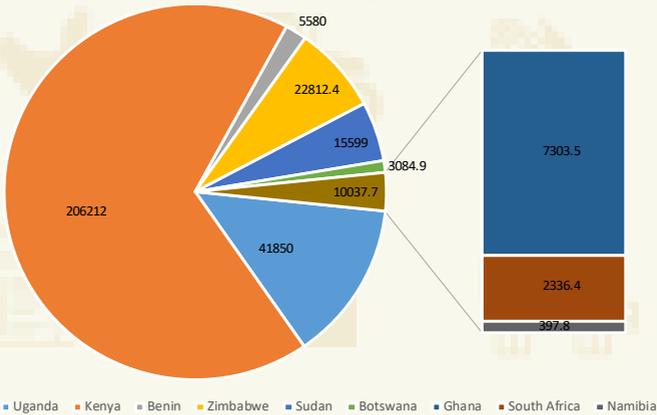
## TVET - Out of school youth trained



## Institutional collaboration and partnerships



## Farmers reached per country



## Skills enhancement training



**163 Member Universities**

**40 Countries**

**RUFORUM Secretariat is hosted by  
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