



FIELD OF HOPE
BUILDING RESILIENCE

2023 IMPACT REPORT

To the Board

To the Field of Hope board members, thank you for forming the foundation upon which Field of Hope cannot only stand but thrive. Operating an organization such as this requires dedication, time, and hard work, all of which you give Field of Hope without hesitation. We are grateful for the work that was done this year with your support.

The Problem

Food and nutritional insecurity exists in Uganda because there are barriers for at-risk populations gaining equal access to financial and agricultural education due to time, gender, location, and cultural constraints.

The Solution

Identify and invite under-represented populations to determine their biggest needs and desired outcomes relating to food and nutritional insecurity, and provide agricultural education and training to community and education leaders.

The Outcome

Communities and schools build a resilient mindset by more effectively adding to and using the resources available to them and creating a community of Ugandans teaching Ugandans, resulting in food and nutritional security.



Youth Agriculture Education



A note from David:

Greetings in the name of the Almighty God. I am David Obong the Program Associate under the Youth Agriculture Education program. I would like to thank the donors for your generous support. Your donations have made a huge difference in the lives of the students and farmers we serve. Your contributions have helped us to reach more students and smallholder farmers and to make a lasting impact on the future of agriculture in Uganda. To the board I am so grateful for your leadership and guidance. Your dedication to Field of Hope is truly inspiring. Your input and insights have helped us to grow and improve in so many ways. To my colleagues in the office, thank you all for the hard work and dedication. I have learned so much from you. Together we shall create a lasting impact on the people we serve. May God bless you abundantly.

In 2023, Field of Hope trained **163 teachers** from **133** different **schools** across Uganda.

As a result of this, **62,350 students** across the country were impacted by improved teaching methods.

They remain supported by Field of Hope year-round through our **Teacher Guides**, of which **306** more were given out this year.

Enforcing that support, Field of Hope visit, monitor, and evaluate teachers year-round. In 2023, the staff evaluated **123 teachers** during school visits.

*I am Basil an Agriculture Teacher at St. Mary's College Kisubi, Kampala. I have attended the teacher training for the first time The training has helped me a lot especially to link the topics with relevant career opportunities, the systematic lesson planning before lesson delivery. And providing reference materials for students to do more research. I hope we shall get more training to help us improve.**

Since 2019, the Inspiring Students in Agriculture Grants continue to be wildly successful. In 2023, FOH funded several more ISA Grants, totaling in **17** operating projects.

Through this, over **9,500** students continue to gain practical agriculture skills and experience directly from the projects.

*I am Aisha a student of Asili Girls Vocation Secondary School and the president of Asili Girls Agriculture student Association (AGASA). I have learned a lot from the Aquaculture project. I have learned a lot on the management of the fish pond like feeding, testing and regulating the water PH, maintain fishpond environment clean. The knowledge and skills I have gained from the fish pond made me to inspire others to start rearing fish in my village. I would like to thank the Global Teach Ag Network and Field of Hope for the time they have spent with us and the aquaculture project they have established at our school.**

This year Field of Hope supported one irrigation Project at Gulu University bringing a total of **5 irrigation projects** supported. The one at Gulu University is being used for students' hands-on training and for examination by the Directorate for Industrial Training assessment.

Since 2021, Field of Hope has been Donating \$1,000 towards Gayaza farm camp. Field of Hope supported **3 partner schools** to attend the farm camp.

Field of Hope has a WhatsApp platform called "FOH Ag. Educators". The platform has been created to help bring together agriculture educators, with over **300 members**, from the partner schools from across Uganda. The platform provides a space for educators to share information, resources, and best practices in agriculture. The Platform is also being used for Continuous Professional Development training.

Field of Hope in partnership with the Global Teach Ag Network via funding from USDE Fulbright-Hays program facilitated a collaborative project between U.S. and Ugandan Educators on food security. They funded **5 projects**. The Ugandan Educators and the U.S educators implemented 5 projects in selected partner schools. The projects were on Poultry and aquaculture.

**In their own words*



Smallholder Farmer Advancement



My name is Agnes Obote, I work for Field of Hope as the general coordinator.

The year 2023 has been a wonderful year, we have seen the hands of God in all that we do and I would like to thank God Almighty so much for all that He has done and all He has enabled us to do. My appreciation goes to all the donors who generously donated to support all that Field of Hope does in the communities to help them build resilience, most especially the women farmers who are able to support their families due to your donations.

May God Almighty bless you our donors and may He protect you, keep you, may His face shine towards you and May He give you peace.

God has been so kind and merciful to us in 2023. I have witnessed significant impact of Field of Hope's Smallholder Farmers Advancement Pillar (Women's Program) on women farmers in Uganda.

Through field training and visits, I have seen women farmers gaining knowledge and skills on good farming methods, increasing crop yields, keeping livestock, saving money in their respective women's groups, building decent houses, paying school fees for their children, and venturing into micro-businesses. These have all happened because of generous support from Field of Hope's donors, leadership, staff, together with support from the partners from the rural communities of Northern Uganda.

I therefore, would like to thank all who have contributed to this cause, especially our donors through whom seeds of hope have been sown in different women communities to cause change and build their resilience in livelihood, food and nutrition security. God bless you all!
-Apea Joseph, Program Associate



In 2023, Field of Hope trained **75 farmers**.

"I thank Field of Hope for helping us to grow and for following us up to the village here. When we started, we had nothing but from the group. I was able to borrow money and now I have things to show; I started a hotel and my children are now going to school. I built a house, I have cows and I'm now taking milk." Auma Eunice, Arwotcek Women Farmers' Cooperative Society

This year, the farmers within the Village Savings Loan Association groups increased their **savings to 36,882,200 Ugx (\$10,245.05)**. These savings earned through the interest from the initial grant enable the community to make investments in their businesses and farms.

"Field of Hope gave us the grant which I got and used it to hire land for cultivation and my maize is doing very well. I also bought pigs and I'm paying my daughter who is doing a diploma in nursing." Alum Oliver, Akaidebe Farmers' Cooperative

In addition, Field of Hope trained **301 women farmers** through **10 trainings**—impacting over **1,806 household members**.

"Field of hope came in our midst and trained us on good agronomic practices, how to plant our crops and I planted maize of which I will get good harvest; when I sell, my children will go to school and it will help me in the fight against poverty" Sylvia Apok, Nen-Anyim Women's Group, Amolatar District.

There are now a total of **2 maize demonstration gardens** established. One (1) in Onot-Tam Women's Group in Alebtong District, and the remaining one (1) in Nen-Anyim Women's Group in Amolatar District. There was **570,000 Ugx (\$150)** from the sales of produce from the demonstration garden.

"I have learnt a lot of good farming practices from the demonstration garden that was set by Field of Hope to our group like proper land preparation and early planting, row planting, soil fertility management, weeds, pests and disease control and post-harvest handling practices." Jennet Apio, Onot-Women's Group, Alebtong District.

One (1) animal demonstration (Leyi Naa) Project was established at Ayabi Women Farmers' Cooperative Society Limited, Kwania District.

"We know that each member will benefit from this project and we are being trained on how to take care of these pigs right from cleaning their house, feeding (how to measure the feeds and the quantity each pig should eat per day) which will help the members when they start their own projects at home. Thank you Field of hope for training us, we did not have this kind of knowledge, God bless you." Angwec Nancy, Chairperson Ayabi Women Farmers' Cooperative Society

Two (2) needs assessments were conducted with the two new communities of Te-Yao and Abongo-Nyeko Women's Groups in Barr and Iték Sub-counties, Lira District. **Six (6) training sessions on agri-science** were conducted as well.

"Thank you Field of Hope for choosing to work with us, these training sessions are very important to us as farmers and we pray that you will continue with us in the future" Jane, W. Chairperson, Te-yao women's group.



Leadership Development

In 2023, we hosted **one (1) fellow**, Ms. Agela Hurst from Oklahoma State, bringing the total to **18 U.S. former fellows**.

This year, we had **7 Team Development Activities**, including a physical and virtual retreat, Harvest money conference, World Food Prize Program, GTAN, GLAG, WhatsApp P.D., and the AIAEE conference.

Additionally, we recruited **one (1) volunteer**, Hilda Akwero.

"My name is Hilda Akwero, this year's volunteer with FIELD OF HOPE. I am a 23-year-old Born-again Christian a dynamic and passionate agriculturalist.

While with Field of Hope, I was directly attached to the Youth Agricultural Education pillar due to my education background but also did work with all the remaining pillars since we are one big team and work collectively to achieve the organization goals. Career wise a committed and enthusiastic agricultural educator like myself my time with the organization has allowed me to learn and grow in the my professional capacities with an in depth exposure to day to day activities and work systems for a nonprofit organization, during the teacher trainings as a member of the Field of Hope team I was also indirectly trained intensively on; effective teaching practices, enhancing retention, capturing learners interest and encouraging the love for agriculture among students through creeds, career talks and projects. This opportunity to volunteer has put me in the position of receiving a rewarding benefit of being a part of the great mission to support livelihoods foster and sustainable agriculture for my country fulfilling my passion for helping impoverished communities help themselves through Agriculture.

I thank the Almighty God for allowing me be part of the Field of Hope vision in order to contribute to a cause bigger than myself and serve His people through His love and agriculture also would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of the field of hope staff that I have got the chance to interact with you have given me chance, mentored me, trained me in numerous aspects with skills and knowledge I can successfully carry to achieve my career objective, thank you for being welcoming, accommodative and loving."



2023 was yet another year of continued recovery from COVID-19 pandemic. With the backlog of activities that spanned the period of the pandemic, it meant our staff had to do extra work to close the gap created. They have been relentless in pursuing their roles and showed unwavering energy and enthusiasm towards serving our people. I can't be prouder of them all.

It is a year that saw more collaborations and partnerships. Field of Hope was privileged to work with Global TeachAg Network Organization and the Pennsylvania State University with support from the United States Department of Education to host a 12-member team for an immersion experience in Uganda, setting up 5 agriculture projects and working with 5 secondary schools in Lira for 4 weeks. These schools benefited from the partnership through projects that aided practical learning and sharing of cultural experiences between students, teachers, and the guests.

Under leadership development, the team had numerous activities from conference attendance, urban garden project, Cooperative leaders' workshop, Global Learning in Agriculture attendance by teachers, World Food Prize Program to Staff retreat. In a bid to build the capacity of the staff, one staff member was supported to pursue his master's program at Oklahoma University. Relative to this, the two initial scholarship beneficiaries have completed their programs from Makerere University and graduated this January. Additionally, the leaders of the farmers' cooperatives were able to convene for a three-day workshop having not done so since 2019. They exchanged ideas while chatting about a way forward for sustainable growth of their cooperatives. This has also enabled them to create links with various service providers in the agricultural value chain.

The Youth Agricultural pillar saw significant progress with many teachers attending the professional development workshop and being evaluated in their classrooms, S.3 teachers guides being rolled out and printed, multiple teachers equipped with the teaching resources, Inspiring Students in Agriculture grants disbursed to more schools and all the ISAG projects were monitored.

Looking to 2024, I am very excited about the prospects. We intend to enroll more communities into the smallholder farmers advancement pillar including the new partnership of Agweng, assess the outcome of Leyi-Naa project and potentially scale-out to another group, evaluate the impact of the smartphone-based video project, generate more projects that would go a long way to meeting the needs of our people. Additionally, we intend to create more partnership and capacity building opportunities.

I continue to thank our generous donors and board for the support and guidance they are offering respectively. I also would like to thank the team for showing commitment and diligence while serving our communities.

May God bless you,

Walter Okullu
FOH's Country Coordinator

A Message from the Executive Director

As we step into a new year, it is with immense gratitude and excitement to share the profound impact your unwavering support and prayers have had on the mission of Field of Hope. Your commitment has been the driving force behind empowering communities and fostering sustainable change in Uganda.

In 2023, the dedication to create positive change led to the initiation of several impactful programs and projects. It opened doors for educators to enrich their classrooms through comprehensive teacher training programs. Collaborating with 12 United States Agriculture Educators from the Global Teach Ag Network, it created a dynamic space for knowledge exchange and professional growth. The success of this collaboration created not just five but ten Inspiring Students in Agriculture Grants, amplifying the commitment to student experience in the classroom.

The desire to nurture leaders also extended to dedicated farmer groups through a tailor-made leadership camp. This unique initiative equipped farmers with the skills and confidence needed to instigate positive change within their communities, magnifying the transformative potential of sustainable agriculture and leadership. None of this could have been done without the hard work of the Field of Hope staff on the ground in Lira. Their commitment to serve the people of Uganda is extraordinary.

Looking ahead, the Field of Hope Ugandan team engaged in a strategic planning session, aligning the mission with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Anticipating the challenges of 2050, this new focus sharpens to addressing the critical issues of poverty and hunger. This strategic shift ensures that efforts are aligned with a clearer and more impactful goal. From this planning session there were eight expectations created to guide actions in 2024. At the forefront of the planning session, it was agreed that the commitment to Trust in the Lord with all challenges and opportunities will guide decisions navigating the path ahead.

To the champions of Field of Hope, it is with a heartfelt thanks for the continuous trust and support. Your belief in the mission stands as the cornerstone of the success that happens year to year. As we embark on the journey into 2024, we eagerly anticipate bringing you to Uganda through stories and videos to share the profound impact of your generosity in Uganda.

Together, we are sowing seeds of hope, transforming lives, and we envision a future where poverty and hunger ceasing to exist is not just a dream, but a reality. Thank you for being a part of the Field of Hope Family.

With sincere gratitude,

Olivia Murphy-Sweet

A Message from the Board President

Happy New Year to our entire Field of Hope family! I am so excited to share our 2023 Impact Report with all of you so that you will see the impact you have made in Uganda. God has been so faithful in providing for this work through each of you, the Champions of Field of Hope. Your generosity has improved the lives of people in Uganda. As you read our 2023 Impact Report, you will see some impressive numbers and you will see how your impact continues to grow each year. But behind every "number" on these pages, there is a real person. You are changing lives one by one!

Because of your generosity, many farmers in Uganda have learned to better utilize the resources that are available to them to improve their farming. This leads them to food and nutritional security and helps them generate income. As they generate income beyond what is required to feed their families, one of the first things they do with their surplus income is to send their children to school. This is exactly what we are praying for on a regular basis.

Because of your generosity, teachers are trained by Field of Hope to be more effective in their teaching and they receive wonderful teacher's guides that include daily lesson plans that are designed to capture the interest of their students. You have provided funding for grants to establish projects at many schools where students get hands-on experience growing crops and rearing animals. These are valuable life lessons that many students are taking back to their villages and teaching their families. They also learn that you can make money by becoming a farmer so this is teaching them entrepreneurial skills that will one day allow them to support their own families.

Finally, your generosity is helping people learn key leadership skills and receive continuing training and education. This prepares them to become stronger leaders in their communities, making further, positive impact in Uganda.

I pray that God will bless each and every one of you for your generosity. Please enjoy reading this report to see you have changed lives in Uganda.

Chuck Hammond





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