## **BUKOTO CATHOLIC WORKERS BASE GROUP**

P.O. BOX 1934, MASAKA.

29<sup>TH</sup> OCT. 2009

Members of KAB, Munderkingen Germany

Dear Partners.

## RE: GENERAL REPORT OF BUCAWOMO BASE GROUP

First and foremost, we salute Mr. and Mrs. Bodenmueller who have traveled from Germany to Masaka particularly to Bukoto parish. We also salute all our partners of Munderkingen Germany.

We thank you so much for the love and support you give us. Bukoto base group comprises fifty five (55) members including men and women.

We have one long term group project i.e a forest of pine trees. We received support for this project from our partners. Individual group members involve themselves in different activities, these include:

- (i) Piggery keeping(ii) Coffee growing
- We received support form our partners for these two projects
- (ii) Coffee growing
- (iii) Poultry keeping
- (iv) Cattle keeping
- (v) Banana growing
- (vi) Growing seasonal crops like beans, peas, G. nuts, maize etc.

Generally we are all mixed or peasant farmers. As we fight for prosperity, there are many challenges that hinder us.

- (i) Change of weather the wet and dry seasons we previously experienced have greatly changed. We just guess when the rain comes and when it stops. Previously throughout Uganda we have suffered drought for five months which nearly made all crops fail, causing scarcity of both human and animal feeds.
- (ii) High prices of animal feeds.
- (iii) Veterinary services are also expensive.
- (iv) Control of farm pests also costs a lot.

On top of that we have economic instability in Uganda prices of farm products fall while prices of essential commodities rise.

We lack credit facilities which many times put us in a fix. Solution is always hard in such situation.

Well, on top of that life has to continue. We need training in using cheap methods of storing water during rain seasons thus when there is little rain or drought we can irrigate our crops. We need also to learn how to preserve animal feeds for the dry season.

We thank our leaders of MACAWOMO who regularly visit us and give us training and advice in different areas of our work.

Besides personal projects, we participate in church activities like leadership. We are glad to inform you that the leader of the laity, the vice, the secretary and treasurer are members of catholic workers. We also engage ourselves in other church activities. Some members take part in politics.

## WAY FORWARD

We plan to have at least a weekly or monthly income for the base group doing the following:

- i) Opening up a stationary shop in Bukoto trading centre as there many school in the area.
- ii) Buy plastic chairs and tents for hire.
- iii) Extension of the coffee project for individual members.
- iv) Getting agricultural education seminars from St. Jude Rural Training centre Busense.
- v) Empowering members financially so that they engage in standard education of their children in the good school started at the parish (St. Jude Junior School).

Last but not least we thank you again for visiting us here at Bukoto. We request you to convey our love and best wishes to our partners Munderkingen Germany. We wish you a nice and safe journey back home.

Faithfully yours

Rev. Fr. Peter Paul Ssemakula (Patron) Ssalongo Kasula Leopord (Chairperson)

Nambi Noel Secretary

c.c. Our Partners of Munderkingen Germany

c.c. Mr. & Mrs. Bodenmuellen

c.c. MACAWOMO Office

