

## Group leaders Training Held in Mpigi, Masaka, Rakai and Sembabule - from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July 2007 REPORT

### Objective(s)

- 1- Discuss the challenges and issues in Buwama coffee farmers association and devise a way forward
- 2- Form one new association in Rakai, review work done so far in 3 associations by assessing the challenges and opportunities and prepare for the April – September season 2007
- 3- Formation of 3 new associations neighboring Kibinge CFA to boost Kibinge volumes and have optimum utilization of the processing capacity there and other vital quality and quantity assurance devices.

### Activities and results

- 1- **Discuss the challenges and issues in Buwama coffee farmers association and devise a way forward**

A number of issues were discussed which revolved a round having interests of groups in the governance and ownership of the sub county based association. It was agreed as follows

- i. NUCAFE secretariat carries out mobilization in all the other parishes for formation of groups preferably after AGM in August
- ii. All groups in Buwama review the old constitution and make it group owned, New association memorandum and articles of association registered
- iii. Elections held before the December season

- 2- **Form one new association in Rakai, review work done so far in 3 associations by assessing the challenges and opportunities and prepare for the April – September season 2007**

In rakai, a new association “Lwanda coffee farmers association” is in formation. The training which was well attended illustrated the formation and registration of groups and how the groups then form an association that is farmer owned group based Sub County level association. In order to do this 20 group registration forms were provided and 20 groups are already in formation with registration expected by the end of July.

In the three old associations of lwamagwa, kagamba and dwaniro, meetings were held with the respective association executives followed by meetings with group leaders at two locations in each of the associations. Issues discussed included:

- i. An update on the secretariat activities such as the AGM, the elections of a new National Board, fair-trade and subsequent elections in the associations
- ii. Crop estimate activity, its importance, how and when it should be carried out.
- iii. Marketing plan for the current season, lessons learned from current sales
- iv. Strengthening the association- building association strength to 20 groups minimum, review and registration of association memorandum and articles of association, road map to elections.

Both the association and group leaders welcomed the above issues and pledged their efforts to see to it that the objectives of the above issues are realized for the benefit of the group leaders.

The leaders in Lwamagwa requested for a general meeting of farmers in which NUCAFE should participate after the National elections.

- 3- Formation of 3 new associations neighboring Kibinge CFA to boost Kibinge volumes and have optimum utilization of the processing capacity there and other vital quality and quantity assurance devices.

Sensitization was made in three sub counties of butenga in Masaka district, Matete and Lwebitakuli in Sembabule district. Three associations namely, Butenga Coffee farmers association, Matete Coffee farmers association, and Lwebitakuli coffee farmers association are in the process of formation. The

coffee farmers from Matete coffee farmers association responded positively and marketed over 8MTs of FAQ and more coffee is expected to be sold. The leaders expressed a need of holding a bigger sensitization workshop at the sub county at a latter date.

All the new associations formed are relying on some of the already existing and some of the business managers are getting over stretched with 5 or more associations. In some case new business managers who work on part time basis have been used to deliver NUCAFE services to associations. The challenge is to find meaningful ways of rewarding these business managers from the resources raised in their activity (pay on performance).

It has also become apparent that each new association and even the old associations need to have resident Business managers who can be trained by NUCAFE to get the need skills and Knowledge to provide the needed services. In line with this the market development manager is coming up with a comprehensive paper for review by management and for onward further action.

#### ATTENDANCE

<b>ATTENDANCE ASSOCIATION &amp; GROUP LEADERS IN MPIGI, MASAKA, SEMBABULE &amp; RAKAI</b>				
<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Buwama CFA</b>	4-Jul	1	13	14
<b>Lwanda</b>	5-Jul	2	28	30
<b>Lwamagwa</b>	6-Jul	2	30	32
<b>Kagamba</b>	7-Jul	2	20	22
<b>Dwaniro</b>	8-Jul	5	41	46
<b>Butenga CFA</b>	9-Jul	10	14	24
<b>Matete</b>	9-Jul	0	10	10
<b>Lwebitakuli</b>	10-Jul	9	30	39
<b>TRAINING TOTAL</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>217</b>

Generally the turn up was lower than expected.