SESAME-GREEN JOBS Uganda

Eco-Agriculture-Sesame Livelihoods and Organic-Green Business Opportunities for Young Rural People

1. Characteristics

Lira District

- Barr
- Ogur
- Agweng

FUNDING

243,014 USD

3 years

BENEFICIARIES

15 Farmer Youth Organisations

450 members

288 Female
159 child mothers

162 Male

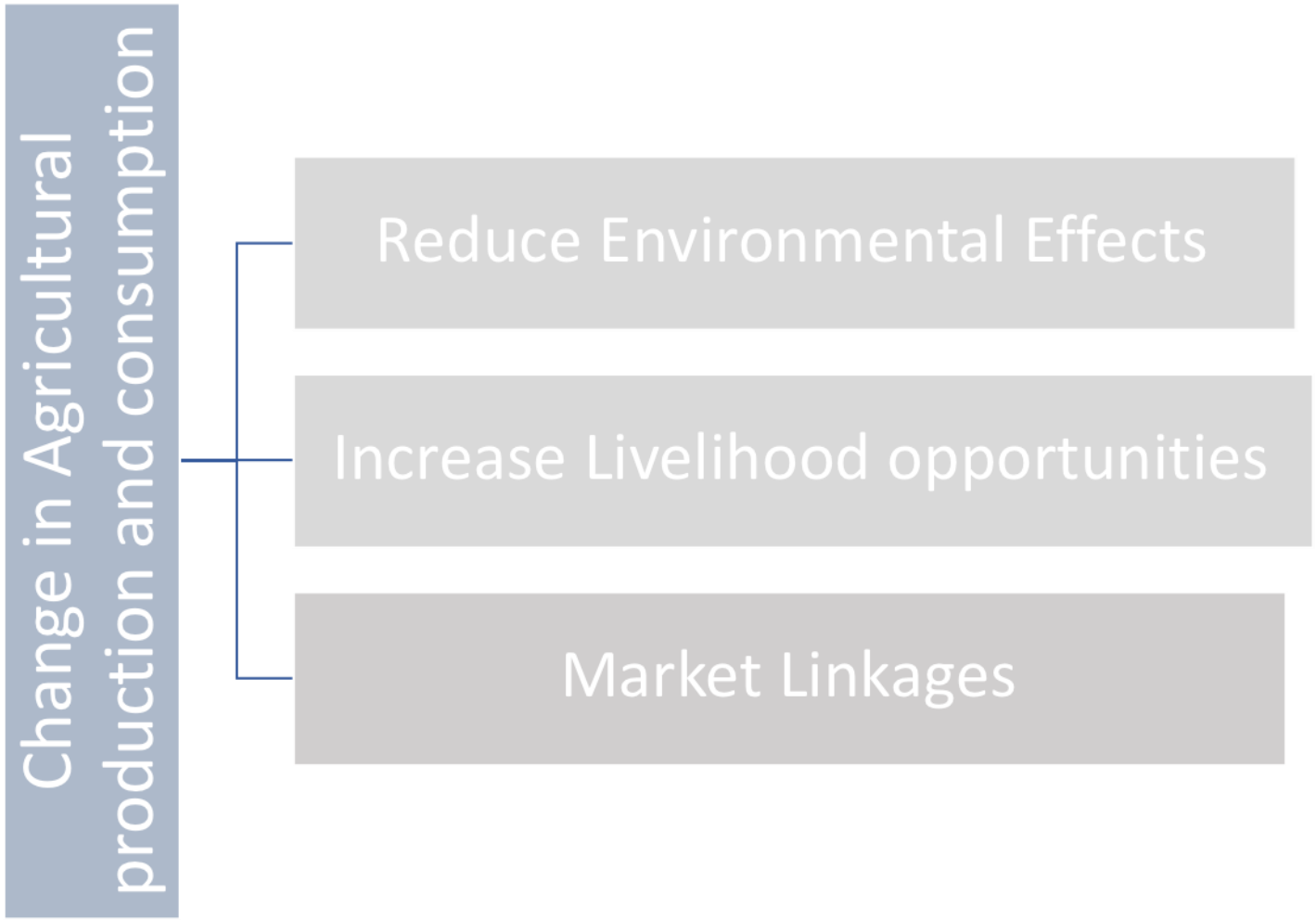
PARTNER

1. Characteristics: Specific Goal

Increase livelihood opportunities for youth sesame-farmers through improved eco-agriculture production and green economy inclusion

R1: Targeted relevant organizations in sesame growing sector increase their eco-market opportunities through policy support and the promotion of green economy

R2. The technical, administrative and financial capacities of local actors to engage in eco-agriculture production and access to strategic eco-markets have been strengthened.


Change in Agricultural production and consumption
Reduce Environmental Effects
Increase Livelihood opportunities
Market Linkages

Eco-Agricultural Methodology

MINDSET CHANGE

Trainings

- Information sharing and learning
- On farm demonstration

Linkage

- To input suppliers → Quality seed
- To markets (OTIS)

Eco-Agricultural Practices

On-farm Practices

Soil and water conservation

1. Mulching
2. Minimum Tillage
3. Intercropping
4. Contour Ploughing

Average Adoption Rate above 70%

Eco-Agricultural Practices

On-farm Practices

Tea made from animal droppings used to manage pests and disease as well as adding fertility to the soil

Integrated Pest Management

- Use of **Organic pesticides**
  - Cow dung
  - Indigenous plant species
    - *Tephrosia* concoction as a pesticide against rodents, bollworms, aphids, fungi.
- Control storage pest
  - Dry banana fibres
  - Dry *Lantana camara leaf powder*

Eco-Agricultural Practices

Post harvest handling practices

- Drying methods
- A mixture of cow dung and chili is smoked in the storage facility to kill storage pests
- Placing storage bags on pallets rather than placing the bags on the floor to avoid moulding of the sesame
- Control storage pest
  - Dry banana fibres and *Lantana camara* leaf powder

Reduction loss from 20% to 5%

Major achievements

- Green jobs created in the value chain
- **Economic benefits –** sales of manure tea, organic simsim, value addition, collective marketing.
- **Social benefits –** access to credit through VSLA program, joint labor, group sustainability.
- Participating groups increased from 15 to 30.
- **Environmental benefits –** Increased biodiversity, energy-saving initiatives, reduced bush burning and cutting of trees and better waste management where plastics are collected and sold away.

Challenges

- The project was short term vs impact [Premature end]
- Inadequate framework to support organic agriculture development (mechanization, certification, etc.)
- Climate change remains a real threat!

Lessons learnt

- Presence of untapped Indigenous knowledge in the community.
- Working in groups reduces stigmatization.
- Youth are very productive when guided.
- Non-formal education can be as rewarding as formal education
- Availability of markets makes Youth more active and productive

Thank You for Listening!