EIHURIRE RY’OKWAKANA 2014.

EDITORS MESSAGE.

TIST FARMERS
You all have been trained on the importance of opening small group Bank accounts with three signatories.

As there is no more cash payment, do it to avoid inconveniences.

SGs whose payment is less than UGX 50,000= will be paid by Mobile Money.

Hakim and Sarah are training you on the system to follow.

Ara

OBUTUMWA BWA EDITA.
ABAHINGI BEMITI ABA TIST.

Mweena mukegyesibwa ahabukuru bwokwigura Account yekibiina omu Bank eteirweho emikono yabantu bashatu. Obuhatakiriho kushashura sente zoburiho, kora ekyo kwezibiza okuremesibwa kutunga sente.

Abarikutunga sente ziri ahansi ya 50,000= nimuba nimushashura ahasiimu.

Hakim na Sarah bariyo nibabegyesa entwaza eimurakuratire.

Ara
TIST SMALL GROUPS OPEN BANK ACCOUNTS
By Sarah Nankunda

For 10 years since TIST Uganda started, we have been paying tree incentives in the form of cash. In the past, we would carry cash as we travel from district to district, from places of meeting to other places. TIST has now graduated from that mode of payment to another level where we shall be depositing your tree stipend money on your bank accounts.

This is to inform and encourage each group to open a bank account in a bank of your choice near your home. Open bank accounts in International banks like Post Bank (U) LTD, Pride Microfinance, Centenary Bank, Barclays Bank, Bank of Africa and others. You are advised not to open bank accounts in your village SACCOS.

For this to take place effectively, the following is a must:

➢ The group should open a bank account in its group name.

➢ The group should have a meeting where they shall select three members who will be their account signatories.

➢ The group should write a set of minutes indicating their need to open a bank account in a named bank. This will also serve as an application for opening the account.

➢ The group signatories’ chosen shall go to the bank to open a group account. Each person will need (2) passport size photos, identity cards and a confirmation letter from Local Council One (LC1) chairperson.

➢ The group will be advised to present a group certificate from a Community Development officer.

➢ The group will also be asked to present their group constitution signed by the chairperson, secretary and their treasurer.

➢ TIST office shall provide an introductory letter introducing those groups in the banks where TIST groups shall open bank accounts.

➢ TIST office will provide a document, which each group should fill out completely; group signatories will sign, write the group name and the account number and leave this document at the bank where they choose to open the account.

I want to thank all groups who have already opened bank accounts. For those groups who have not opened one yet, it is your time to do the same. I further caution all groups opening bank accounts to use group signatories who are true members of your groups.

For all groups which have received tree incentives that exceed UGX 50,000=, you will need to open bank accounts. For TIST members which get incentives less than UGX 50,000=, you will get your money from mobile money services on your phones and do not need to open bank accounts. Let us all work together to make TIST a success!

TRY THIS! LIQUID MANURE PLUS NATURAL PESTICIDE
By Enoch Tumwebaze, Training Coordinator.
I have legumes in my banana plantation and I use liquid manure to prevent the spread of some diseases and pests. Here is the recipe for your use:

**Liquid manure composition:**

The liquid manure is made of urine, pepper, tobacco, and ash in the following way:

- 1 plastic mug of pepper
- 1 plastic mug of tobacco
- 1 plastic mug of crushed ash

**Preparation:**

Mix the above ingredients to 20 liters of urine and let them stay for 14 days. By this time, the mixture will have decomposed. Add two jerry cans of water, and then filter for application to the banana plantation.

**Application:**

Spraying of this component on sword suckers is very important for controlling banana weevils and other insects that affect the plants. This manure is also used in orchards for spraying of fruits to control pests and diseases and as it goes down to the roots, it feeds the plant as liquid manure. It is valuable both as a natural pesticide and to feed the plants as organic fertilizer. I have also used this to increase yield in market gardening, fruit growing and in banana plantations.

I give this testimony to my fellow TIST members to apply. I have found it to be one good way to control pests and diseases in damp and humid conditions in our agricultural lands.

Let us work together for better yields!

Taking care of our groves is very important for the life of our trees we have transplanted. Remember, if trees are not well taken care of, they will become weak, lack energy and even die. Like our own children, or for our crops, making sure that the young have what they need to grow is most important for long-term success. We need to make sure that we clear brush that can keep the young trees from growing well. We should thin trees to preserve those that will grow best with good spacing. We should remove dead wood and other materials that can make dangerous fires.

It is also very important that we remember our commitment to keep these trees in for the long-term. We commit to keep the trees in our groves for at least 30 years. If we do not keep this promise, we can lose the ability to sell carbon offsets. If we lose this, it hurts all farmers in TIST. Let us keep our word and be accountable to each other and not harvest trees before 30 years. If you do not think you can keep this commitment, you should talk with your Quantifier and TIST Uganda leaders today.

Trees have many important uses and benefits for people and animals:

- Trees give fresh air that is good for people and animals.
- Trees absorb carbon and put it back into the soil.
- Trees encourage rain, prevent soil erosion, and give shelter to wild animals.
- Trees provide firewood for cooking, and provide timber for building, making furniture, etc.
- Trees give shade and shelter our homes from wind.
- Trees provide fruit and nuts.

**CARE FOR TREES IN YOUR GROVE - KEEP TREES FOR THE LONG TERM**

*By Sarah Nankunda*
Trees benefit us in so many ways in our daily lives. Let us all take care of our trees!

In order for our trees to grow well, groves require frequent weeding. Clean groves will make your trees grow healthy and faster. Also, when weeds are crowded around trees they take nutrients and water from the soil and block sunlight so trees cannot use them and may attract dangerous snakes. This causes trees to become thinner and unhealthy.

In quantification and audits, TIST staff has seen much better tree growth for Small Groups who keep their groves clean. These groups gave weeding a high priority in their weekly activities, and this is keeping their trees healthy. In addition to the benefits listed above, here are other advantages of weeding your groves:

- Trees are more protected from a fire spreading.
- Clean groves are an example to others and they become eager to learn more about TIST trees.
- Clean groves indicate that Small Groups are maintaining them and are good examples of the TIST program. This will attract many people to come and see your work.
- Clean groves enable the Quantifiers to count the trees quickly and accurately.

Please let us all carry on weeding our groves and keep the trees alive and healthy for 30 years or more as we promised. It is worth the effort of each member of our Small Groups and you will be able to see the difference as your trees grow healthy and strong.

I am so grateful for TIST Uganda. They have taught and trained me how to plant trees, especially fruit trees. Oranges, mangoes, avocados, jackfruits, and guavas are the trees I planted on my farm, my banana plantation, and on my compound along the paths to my home. The fruit trees grow well and are yielding so much. They have improved my diet, since fruits are good for our bodies.

I have benefited a lot from the surplus that I sell to the markets nearby and also receive payments for my trees from TIST as well. In addition to my fruit trees, I also have medicinal trees like the Fagara. They provide medicine for my family and I am able to sell some of the leaves to people who have related illnesses.

Through TIST tree incentive payments, I have now been able to save and start operating a shop in town. The money I get from TIST for planting trees, and from the sale of fruits and medicinal products from trees, have contributed greatly to my startup capital for my shop.

I have now improved my living status, started educating my children in good schools, buying other plots of land where I can plant more fruit trees and I have an idea of building a better house for my family. Great thanks to the TIST Program!

Together we can join hands and learn from my testimony and let us develop ourselves. Tree planting is very useful in our lives. I encourage my fellow TIST members to take up this idea. You are sure to see a difference!

TREES BEAR FRUIT AND HELP START A BUSINESS

By Yasini Bilaali, Kanyinya Small Group