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Michal Brink from CMO shares information during an FSC gap analysis field excursion in Mubende

UTGA pursues FSC Group certification

UTGA embarked on the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC™) group certification starting off with a small pilot group of six members from the Mubende cluster “the guinea pigs” have chosen to lead the path. Although the process staggered a bit since the start in 2016, it is now revitalized and a road-map has been developed to guide the process. UTGA is working towards attaining the certificate by the end of 2018. The strategy is to start small but the ultimate aim is to have very UTGA member plantation FSC certified. This is quite achievable, realistic, filled with commitment and optimism of both the forest owners and the

To page 2

Why Cape Town Run Out of Water

KAMPALA IS NEXT!



The South African city of 4 million people recently. Capetown is just one of many cities around the

world facing a future with too little water. There are several likely causes of the water shortage. Population growing faster than

To page 2

UTGA group certification

group manager (UTGA), we'll definitely get there sooner. The group certification process allows for the extension of scope by adding new plantation units that meet the certification requirements from time to time.

To start with, a couple of follow up meetings have been held to revitalize the process and recently with support and facilitation from FSC Africa, UTGA conducted an in-field technical gap analysis of forest management activities and a group certification training. This also attracted a couple of prospective growers who it is hoped will be the next in line during the extension of scope. The technical analysis in the field was aimed at identifying loopholes and recommend strategies to put them right in preparation for the main assessment. The training was attended by UTGA staff, group members (forest owners and their plantation managers), four prospective tree growers and a representative from the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). The trainees acquired knowledge on general forestry management, the ten principals and criteria of FSC and were also introduced to the draft FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS) for Uganda, which we expect to use for the audits.

Why FSC certification is important to UTGA

It's not uncommon that as the journey to certification begins, many tend to compare the benefits of forest certification to the required dedication and investment. To start with, FSC certification is hinged on the notion of "responsible forestry management" which emphasizes the establishment and management of forests that are;

- Socially beneficial
- Environmentally appropriate and
- Economically viable

The benefits

As we focus on the future of forestry in Uganda at all scales, some of the outstanding challenges are in

To page 5



WATER CRISIS: Kampala may follow Cape Town

storage.

Since 1995 the city's population has grown 79%, from about 2.4 million to an expected 4.3 million in 2018. Over the same period dam storage has increased by only 15%.

The Berg River Dam, which began storing water in 2007, has been Cape Town's only significant addition to water storage infrastructure since 1995. It's 130,000 megalitre capacity is over 14% of the 898,000 megalitres that can be held in Cape Town's large dams. Had it not been for good water consumption management by the City, the crisis could have hit much earlier.

High consumption preceding current drought

Cape Town is in the middle of a drought. In 2015 there was a spike in the amount of water treated. This suggests that consumption went up in that year, coupled with the onset of below average rainfall.

Human-caused global warming

Experts say rainfall to the city's catchment areas is coming later, dropping more erratically, and often missing the catchments altogether. "We have to acknowledge that carbon dioxide is finding its way into the atmosphere and has reached a new high. This is a global system, so the bigger systems are beginning to impact us. There is no doubt that pressure and temperature are related. Disturb the temperature, you disturb the pressure and you start to see different systems operating. The current water crisis is not a temporary phenomenon that will resolve in a year or two. It's a long-term problem. Substantial government intervention to make Cape Town's water supply sustainable is required.

Four million people in Cape Town, one of Africa's

To page 8

Approximately 41 million trees are cut down every day—far faster than we are currently replanting them. The consequences of deforestation and other types of land degradation are severe, exacerbating climate change, biodiversity loss, and declines in ecosystem services that hundreds of millions of people depend on. In response, governments around the world have committed to restore 160 million hectares, an area larger than South Africa. But it will take more than government action to execute on these commitments; the private sector has an important role to play, too. In fact, these commitments are spurring increased demand for companies that can deliver large projects cost-effectively. Restoring degraded land has the potential to become a big business opportunity, on top of providing much needed climate mitigation and other ecosystem benefits. Established companies and entrepreneurs alike are finding new ways to make money from sustainably

THE BUSINESS OF PLANTING TREES

A Growing Investment Opportunity



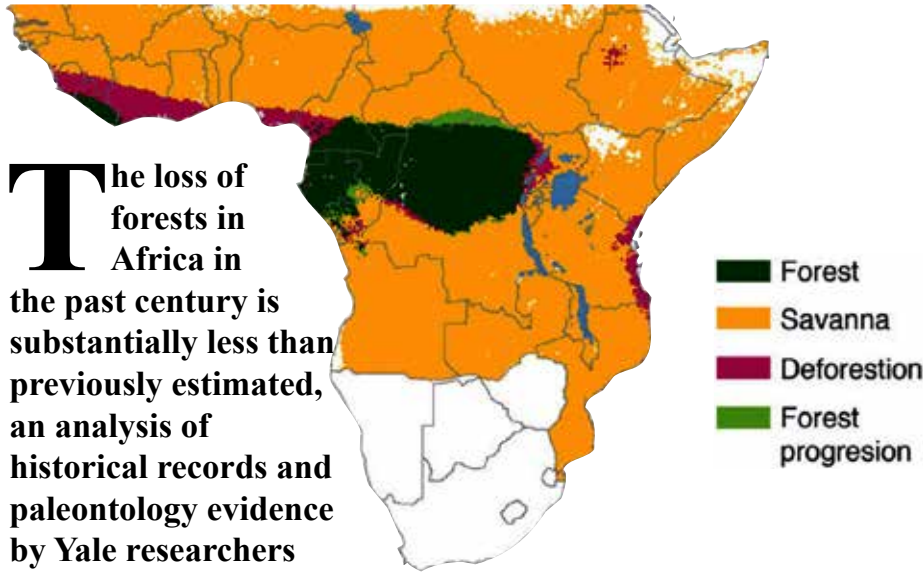
Eucalyptus plantation on degraded area in Mubende

managed forests and farms. Some are responding to governmental incentives; others are responding directly to the market, restoring land to generate new products and services, or to differentiate their offerings from the competition. Some entrepreneurs are betting that a huge new business opportunity for natural carbon sequestration will emerge as more governments charge a fee for emissions driving climate change. New research by The Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute and other partners shows that restoration and other land management improvements could provide more than a third of the emissions reductions necessary to keep global warming under 2°C. Yet hurdles remain, and one of the biggest is funding. Many investors still know little about restoration opportunities. The report is intended to bridge that

information gap; it includes case studies of 14 innovative enterprises across eight countries. They cover a fascinating range of activities, from drones that shoot seeds into hardened soils to genetic research on tree species threatened with extinction. The restoration economy is at the take-off stage. New business models are emerging, technology is advancing and governments are showing political will. This is great news for investors looking for the next growth opportunity. And this is good news for the planet, since restoring land can provide clean water, improve livelihoods and enhance biodiversity, all while pulling back to the earth excess atmospheric carbon dioxide that would otherwise lead to heating up the planet. Opportunities have never been greater and the task has never been more urgent. As an ancient Chinese proverb says, “The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now.”

Article adopted from The Nature Conservancy

African deforestation not as great as feared



The loss of forests in Africa in the past century is substantially less than previously estimated, an analysis of historical records and paleontology evidence by Yale researchers shows.

Previous estimates put deforestation at 35% to 55% on the continent since 1900. The new analysis estimates closed-canopy forests have shrunk by 21.7%, according to findings published Dec. 11 in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution*. However, research also shows that some West and East African forests have been reduced between 80% and 90%.

Earlier surveys incorrectly labelled ancient savannas as newly deforested regions, said A. Carla Staver, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and senior author of the study. The new analysis should help focus conservation efforts in Africa, she said.

“There is a global effort to increase the number of trees that can trap carbon,” Staver said. “In Africa, it would make the most sense to focus these efforts in areas that have truly been deforested rather than in areas which have long been savannas.”

Staver and former Yale postdoc Julie C. Aleman, now at the University of Montreal, used traditional sources such as early 20th-century European maps to estimate the extent of African forests in 1900.

But the team also cross-checked the documents with paleontological re-

ords including pollen, leaf parts known as phytoliths, and charcoal preserved in lake sediment and soil -- to reconstruct the historical ecology of tropical regions of Africa.

The single greatest contributor to continental deforestation was conversion of forests in West African countries including Ghana and Sierra Leone. However, the team also found that forests had actually expanded in Central African countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Central African Republic.

“As conservationists, it is easy to look at this study as good news that deforestation isn’t as bad as we thought,” Staver said. “The bad news is that central African forests have been spared because violent conflicts have prevented economic development, at the costs of human lives and livelihoods.”

**UTGA ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING 2018 will take
place on Thursday
22/03/18 at City
Royal Resort Hotel**

NOTICE

ANNUAL FEES

UTGA Members with unpaid subscription fees are reminded to send them by CASH/CHEQUE to the UTGA office, Mobile money to 0785343564 or 0703343565 or you if you can make a bank deposit - please call the office

NEXT PLANTING

The next planting season is not far away!

Preparations for planting:-

- Clearing of land
 - Burning the rubbish
 - Booking for seedlings
- UTGA recommends the use of certified contractors (*List available on demand*).

UTGA has information on external suppliers for chemicals, herbicides and tools

NURSERY INFORMATION

UTGA currently has various seedlings which are ready for planting for this March-May rains and these are:-

1. Pinus caribaea seedlings
2. E.grandis seedlings
3. Clones (GU'S and GC'S)
4. Musizi seedlings
5. Melia seedlings
6. Gmelina seedlings

We therefore inform all utga members and non members to make orders/bookings with us in advance for proper planning to avoid inconveniences before the rains start.

UTGA group certification



Annah Agasha from FSC East Africa and Michal Brink from CMO listen to Richard Bakojja a UTGA farmer in the group scheme

marketing, value addition, processing and expansion of our forest establishments. This we may not be able to do on our own and therefore compare with countries with more developed forestry industry around the world, FSC certification provides an outstanding point to create and support cases for mobilization of support for the success against the stated challenges. Our cooperate members, the “big companies” “saw the light” long ago. We currently have three of them already certified and probably already enjoying the benefits. The small growers ought to emulate them since they are in the same market with the same challenges.

- FSC certification provides a good case in the mobilization of external funding and technical support to tree growers who are committed to responsible forest management. It acts as an incentive to access subsidies like grants from NGOs and government which are the direct answers to the current challenges facing the commercial forestry sector today.
- Immediate change in the management of forests, reduction of risks in the investments, change of attitudes and improvement in compliances on a whole. This will directly result in reduction in costs of production, value for money and a greater return on investment.
- Certification requirements improve

forest owner’s public image and provide tremendous improvements in interactions with forest neighbors. This results into direct benefits like reduction of fire risks and actual occurrence among other community challenges.

To page 7

SEEDLINGS FROM FERDSULT ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD

Quality seedlings are now available at very attractive prices:



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Seedlings of grafted mangoes @ 2,000/=

The nurseries are located 8 kilometers off Jinja road in Luwombo-Lugazi Buikwe District.
For more information and booking please visit our office: Plot 17/19 Kampala Road,
7th & 8th floors, Diamond Trust Building
or contact:
Project Manager on tel: 0772 474431/0701 474431



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ENGINEERING SERVICES LTD
(Always Innovating)

Discovering New Potential

The Lightwood of Indigenous Tree Species

There is a forestry mission by Fairventures Worldwide in Uganda. It involves introducing a new wood product in the country.

Lightwood is already known in the global caravan, airplane, automobile and boat industry. It's a material that has its benefits.

It's weight saving, strong enough, reduces the process costs and there is a global demand. At the moment in Uganda most of the lightwood is used for producing charcoal. The potential of this material is totally undervalued and the global demand has not been considered since there is a ban on exporting raw timber.

So why indigenous lightwood species

- Fast growing -> short rotation times
- Entering synergies with other materials and create value addition
- Reducing process costs
- Reaching new markets by engaging in the global market
- Reducing deforestation by creating a new supply
- Cost efficient
- Flexible

How will Ugandan forestry get connected to the global Lightwood industry?

Fairventures Worldwide is an international working company interested in creating and supporting forest industries. They connect global and specific knowledge of the sector. Cooperating with the European import promotion, Fairventures wants to create new sustainable global supplies.



Blended GLULAM made out of lightwood in Indonesia

In Europe, the wood construction sector is well established. The construction details are getting better. That allows to build already

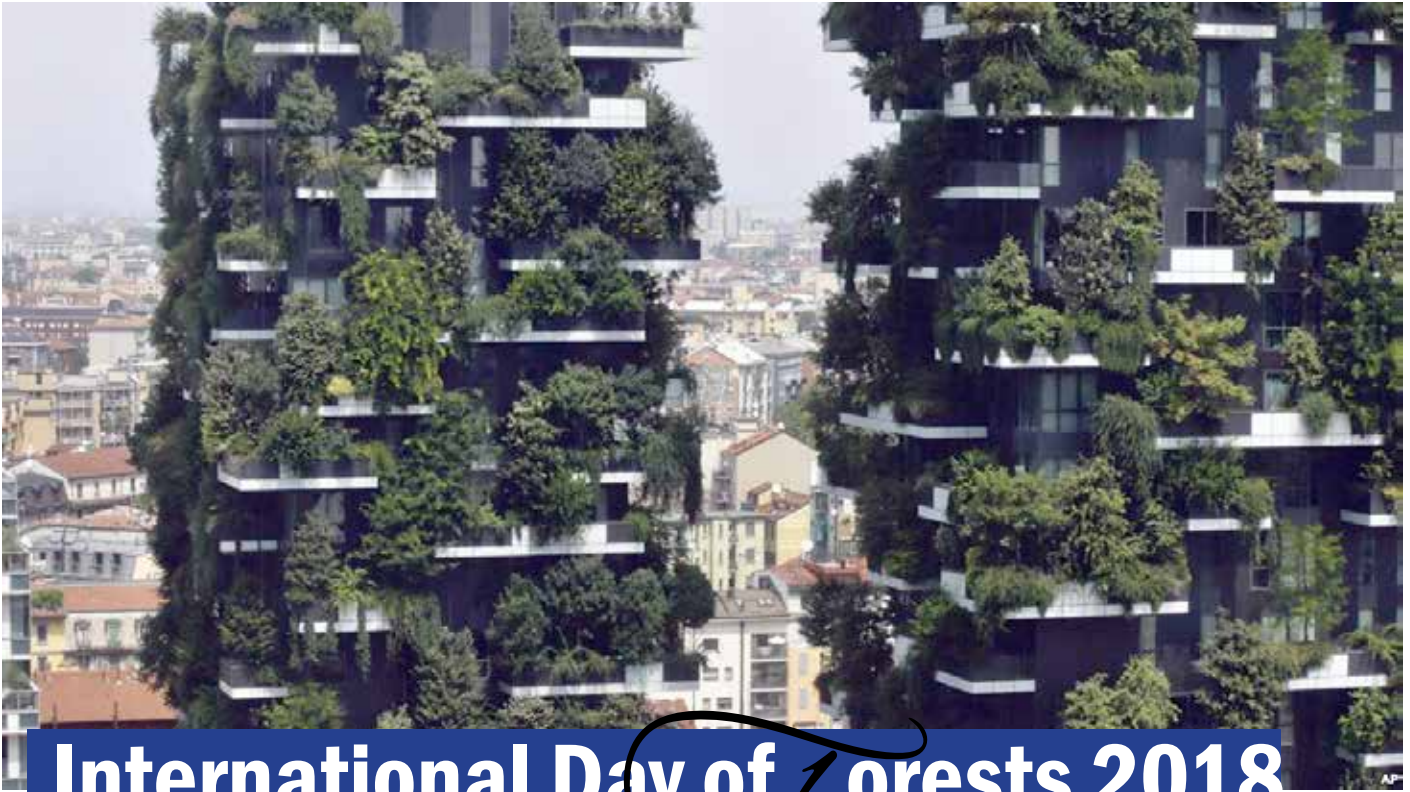
towers, which are more than 80 meters high. Out of wood! (HoHo Tower in Vienna - www.hoho-wien.at/en). Wood is not just sustainable, it is ready for the market to compete and synergy with concrete and steel. Synergy means, the construction can benefit from the special properties of concrete and wood.

As seen in the photos above, the first Glued-Laminated-Timber (GLULAM) are currently in development. These Beams are made out of lightwood. The relation between the density and the properties of lightwood is the perfect basis for developing new innovative products and enhance the value of the finished products. With the usage of lightweight-construction, the companies can save process-costs, the buildup of a house is much faster and the petrol-costs for the whole transportation are much lower. Beside this, Lightwood is a really good isolator concerning the climate.

After establishing successfully, the lightwood idea, exports and technology in Indonesia with the 1MTrees project (<https://fairventures.org/en/worldwide/1mtrees-borneo/>), the next steps are coming to Uganda.

If you are interested in value addition of your Timber and the possibility to enter the global lightwood market get in contact with Fairventures in Uganda.

Article from vinzenz.held@fairventures.org



International Day of Forests 2018

More people live in cities than ever before and by 2050, 6 billion people or as much as 70% of the global population is expected to live in urban areas. There will also be a doubling of global urban infrastructure which if not handled well may result in polluted urban sprawl. Trees and urban forests can make our cities greener, healthier and happier places to live for current and future

forests and sustainable cities

generations. They do this by cooling the air by between 2 and 8 degrees, filtering out harmful pollutants and mitigating the effects of climate change by being carbon sinks. People need to live in harmony with nature. Join UTGA to celebrate the Annual day of forests 2018.

From page 5

UTGA group certification

- The certification process puts in place procedures and tools for monitoring and evaluating forest operations and products which directly translates into increased operational efficiency in all management practices hence reduction of all the related costs.
- Insurance companies prefer to provide assurance for more sustainably managed forests.
- Reduction of accidents through improved safety.
- Price premiums and in-



Document review by CMO during the gap analysis for FSC group certification

creased sales among many other benefits. At UTGA, responsible forest management is a core value/belief and we stand to be exemplary in all our forest management practices. Growers need to manage forests in a socially, environmentally and economi-

cally sound manner. Acknowledgements go to the FSC East Africa Project Manager Ms. Annah Agasha, Michal Brink the CEO of CMO and his colleagues Steve Nsiita and Ruddolph Hoffman for efforts to the success of these two activities and their ongoing sup-

WATER CRISIS: Kampala may follow Cape Town



most affluent metropolises stood in lines surrounded by armed guards to collect rations of the region's most precious commodity: drinking water.

Population growth and a record drought, perhaps exacerbated by climate change sparked one of the world's most dramatic urban water crises, and South African leaders warned that residents are increasingly likely to face "Day Zero." The day, projected for mid-April, when the city may be forced to shut off taps to homes and businesses because reservoirs have gotten perilously low a possibility officials consider almost inevitable.

For years, a shutdown of this magnitude in such a cosmopolitan city had been almost inconceivable. But as overdevelopment, population growth, and climate change upset the balance between water use and supply, urban centers from North America to South America and from Australia to Asia increasingly will face threats of severe drinking-water shortages.

Nowhere has that threat seemed to come on faster and catch more by surprise than it did in Cape Town.

Approaching "Day Zero"

The city prepped 200 emergency water stations outside groceries and other gathering spots. Each served almost 20,000 residents. Cape Town officials made plans to store emergency water at military installations, and said using taps to fill pools, water gardens, or wash cars is now illegal. Authorities stepped up water-theft patrols at natural springs. Unscrupulous traders drove up the price of bottled water.

Citizens were urged to consume less, but more than half of residents ignored those volunteer restrictions.

In January, the city requested even steeper cuts, asking residents to consume just 50 liters per day less than one-sixth of users elsewhere. If consumption doesn't drop steeply and quickly, city officials warned, everyone would have to live on far less, about 25 liters a day, less than typically used in four minutes of showering.

David Olivier, a research fellow at the Global Change Institute at South Africa's University of the Witwatersrand noted, "The fundamental problem is the kind of lifestyle we're living. The sense of entitlement and right to consume as much.

The Complications of Climate

The path to Cape Town's crisis is both typical and not. South Africa is arid, but Cape Town's most recognizable land mass, Table Mountain, traps onshore breezes coming off warm ocean waters, creating local rains that power rivers and fill underground aquifers. It is an oasis surrounded by desert with a Mediterranean climate. Its beauty has driven populations skyward and brought increasing wealth and prosperity. There are pools and water parks and wineries and lush gardens, though even as the city modernized, hundreds of thousands still live in impoverished settlements. Unemployment tops 25 percent. Over the last 20 years, the city recognized some of the increased threat. It made strides in reducing water use from its six major reservoirs, which hold up to 230 billion gallons of water. Per capita consumption declined, the city reduced leaks, it forced large users to pay more, and generally promoted water efficiency. Cape Town won several international water management awards.

WATER CRISIS: Is Kampala safe?

But officials also made an increasingly common mistake: They assumed future rainfall patterns would resemble the past, or at least not change too quickly. They solved the old problems, but they didn't recognize the risks ahead.

A decade ago, the city was told that population growth and shifts projected to come with climate change drier, hotter weather, with less winter rainfall, and reduced stream flows would require it to find additional water sources.

Those warnings were not enough to shift attention from schools or hospitals or all the other things on the agenda.

In the end, the dangers came suddenly. In 2014, the six dams were full, but then came three straight years of drought the worst in more than a century.

While it's not clear how much of the current dry spell is driven by natural variability as opposed to climate change. There may not be another drought like this for a few decades but extreme events are only going to become more common. And consequences could be felt in many other places across the globe.

Other World Cities like Kampala are at Risk

Already, droughts in recent years have helped spark famine and unrest in rural nations around the Arabian Sea, from Iran to Somalia. But water crises are also threatening massive cities around the world.

Many of the 21 million residents of Mexico City only have running water part of the day, while one in five get just a few hours from their taps a week. Several major cities in India don't have enough. Water managers in Melbourne, reported last summer that they could run out of water in little more than a decade. Jakarta is running so dry that the city is sinking faster than seas are rising, as residents suck up groundwater from below the surface.

Reservoirs in Sao Paulo, Brazil, dropped so low in 2015 that pipes drew in mud,

emergency water trucks were looted, and the flow of water to taps in many homes was cut to just a few hours twice a week. Only last-minute rains prevented Brazilian authorities from having to close taps completely. Sao Paulo was down to less than 20 days of water supply. What we're starting to see are the confluence of a lot of factors that might be underappreciated, ignored, or changing. Brought together, though, they create the perfect storm.


Competition for water is increasing, as population growth drives demand for drinking water and agriculture and as

countries become more affluent. In fact, cities aren't always even aware that the water they think they can count has been claimed or polluted or is being consumed by other users.

Climate change is causing wider swings in weather, with more intense storms and more extreme events.

At the same time, as with Mexico City, Jakarta or Kampala, infrastructure is often inadequate. Water management is unsanitary, leaky, polluted by heavy metals, or not sufficient to deliver enough supply to support demand.

Often the failure is about money, but there are almost always other dynamics at work, too.



UTGA MODEL NURSERY

We Offer

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- Training on best Nursery Practices
- After sales service on planting and plantation establishment

Seedlings / clones	Price (UTGA members)	Price (UTGA Non members)
GUs	600	650
GCs 796, 550, 578, 514	450	500
Indigenous species	400-1200	500-1500
Pine Seedlings	450	500
Eucalyptus Grandis S.Africa	250	300
Fruit seedlings	1300	1500

*** Price discounts available for early & paid bookings

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@ 9am - 5pm

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UTG SACCO NEWS

UTG-SACCO announces asset growth & gets new board

UTG_SACCO announced a growth of Assets and gets new leadership:

UTG-SACCO held its AGM on Thursday February 22, 2018 at Protea Hotel Kla. During this AGM, the SACCO Treasurer announced an increase of Asset base from UGX 244,756,027 to UGX 310,787,709 he reported an increase of advance to members from UGX 134,913,982 of 2016 to UGX 204,084,363 in 2018 he also announced an increase in the net profit from UGX 17,333,981 of 2016 to UGX 31,766,170 in 2017 and shall be shared by members as dividends.

New leadership

During the AGM, UTG-SACCO made a peaceful transfer of leadership from Mr. Ponsiano Besesa leadership. The new UTG-SACCO EXCOM includes Mr. Edward Mupada Chairman, Vice Chairman Mr. Aggrey Kankunda, General Secretary Hon Sheila Kawamara, Treasurer Dr. Robert Nabanyumya, Executive Members: Mr. David Rwanika, Mr. Charles Kabunga and Ms Agnes Wasike.

New Chairman Edward Mupada receives Strategic Plan 2018-2022 as his colleagues look on

UTG SACCO supports value addition

For the last 7 years, UTG-SACCO has been instrumental in bridging the cash flow gap of its members in form of loans. A number of members have enjoyed quick, flexible convenient loans from UTG-SACCO. With now an asset base of UGX 281,900,000, the SACCO is able to meet forestry needs of its members.

During 2017, the SACCO supported one of its members to finance value addition and many other members were able to carry out forestry activities using funds borrowed from the UTG-SACCO. When you visit ED Dominion you will see the wood crushing Machine that was partly purchased by the funds borrowed from UTG-SACCO.

The UTG-SACCO calls on all who want to join to pay UGX 100,000 membership fees and be part of this growing forestry financial institution.

UTGA News is a digital newsletter for the Uganda Timber Growers Association. It is published monthly (once a month) to briefly summarize recent forestry-related publications, projects, activities, news and other useful forestry info.

Do you have news, content, or ideas that you want to share in upcoming newsletters? Please send us your segments on articles and opinions on your organization, partnership, project, group, field stories, successes, challenges, fact sheets,

papers, books, guides, or other resources, upcoming or past events.

UTGA News is a great way to reach a wide audience of foresters, natural resource persons, practitioners, scientists and the public across the Uganda, East Africa and across the globe.

If you have friends (*of forestry*) or anyone you think will benefit if they receive UTGA News, please send their email addresses to dennisk@utga.ug.

Contact: Uganda Timber Growers Association (UTGA)
P.O.Box 75063 Kampala.
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