

Plan Vivo producer profile

Faustini Kashaija | Emiti Nibwo Bulora, Tanzania



"We have planted 359 trees in a woodlot on the farm. Thanks to the trees, the wind is not as strong here, and the crops can cope better. The money we get from carbon offsetting is used for school fees for our children, new tree seedlings and to improve the farm."

Community: Nyakayanja

Year joined: 2009

Area planted: 0.6 ha

Activity type: Pine woodlot

Trees planted: 359

Carbon benefit: 80 tCO₂

Earnings to date: \$350

Faustini Kashaija lives with his wife Josefina and their children. Growing up on the farm he has seen the climate change over the years. "When I was a boy we knew when the rains were coming, but now it's hard to know" he says. "When they do arrive, they are hard and last only a short time. And they destroy our crops. Sometimes our beans dry out when no rains come at just the right time just when the plants bloom. Then we know that there will be no harvest that season."

Being a member of the farmers' group Juhudi has helped mitigate this instability. Here he receives training in tree planting as well as how agroforestry can improve the productivity of his farm and fight the stubborn banana

diseases which has affected the whole area. The trees and training are paying off, "before, we had to buy extra food for the household, but now with more food from the farm, we don't need to." Today he grows and sells beans on the market, beans that before was just merely sufficient for household use. Next he wants to start producing and selling honey from the bees on the farm. This entrepreneurship is inspiring his son, Ernest, who declares with a smile "I want to be a businessman when I grow up."

Faustini and his family have come a long way in fighting poverty. They have the knowledge to improve their farming and get higher yields. And they know that the trees provide them with secure access to shelter, firewood and timber. Now, they dream about the future: "I wish that my children will get good education and learn about entrepreneurship so that they can become self-sufficient and not depend on my farm."



Vi Agroforestry

