**TRI – AFRICA SERVICE BRIEF**

**Profile**

Technological Research Initiative Africa (TRI - Africa) is a non profit Community Based Organization located in Masindi Municipality.providing services of agricultural advisory, advocacy and consultancy in agriculture, career guidance and wealth creation in the districts of Masindi, Kiryandongo and Bulisa (Greater masindi)

Tri – Africa currently has a membership of 2000 farmers across its implementation areas organized in Small Farmer Groups Associations (SFGAs) mainly producing maize, beans and coffee. Tri – Africa’s focus is to improve farmer’s production in three value chains of interest through trainings on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), Post-harvest handling (PHH), Enterprise selection and innovation through Parish Entrepreneurship Clubs (PEC), Mechanization, bulking and collective marketing, value addition, financial literacy, market linkages and crop insurance services.

This is with main focus on interesting and guiding the youth in the agricultural career path but also engage and support more women and farmers in general to consider farming as a business.

In partnership with aXiom Zorn and Centenary Bank, Tri – Africa links farmers for credit access through geospatial data collection and utilization of the data to provide a social credit score for financial linkages as well as crop and micro health insurance (AZ - Bundle).

Tri – Africa possess a structure of skilled agronomists/extension officers who collaborate with coordinators at Subcounty level and village agents to extend services to the community.

**Mission:** To provide innovative teaching, research and services responsive to global changes.

**Vision:** To be the leading organization for technological research excellence and innovations in Africa.

**Objectives:**

1. Promoting Agriculture
2. Involvement of technology in agriculture development.
3. A mechanised agriculture environment for wincreased production.
4. Career guidance amongst the youth
5. Evironmental conservation through good agronomy and tree planting.
6. Inclusivity for the women youth children and people with disabilities for better livelhood .
7. Wealth creation in the underserved community

**TRI - Africa serves**

Farmers, especially rural based providing them rural banking opportunities, marketing of their products, giving weather index, lobbying both moral and financial support, insuring farmers projects against risks, proper use of agro-inputs as well as adopting technological progresses in farming.

The youth, especially skilling young men and women to also start earning a standard of living along the agricultural value chains and other skills in carpentry, welding, crafts, tailoring, mechanics and building.

TRI – Africa can partner with any organization that is working on legal empowerment network in minimizing gender based violence and promoting human rights in development in Bunyoro region as well as Uganda at large.

According to our research many house wives have been denied access to money after selling projects products by their husbands for the case of farmers, husbands have sold off homes without the consent of their wives, chassed from homes due to claims for their rights and marginalized during decision making due to lack of awareness on gender balance programs.

Also farmers and other rural people have lost properties and lands by land grabbers on grounds of poor law taking approaches and corruption tendencies in the Country.

Important still, many young men and women (youth) have been thrown from homes due to their struggles to defend their visions (clear right life careers), denied support in attaining skills that could earn them a living to sustain their lives and become independent. They have instead been forced to provide free labour, enter unprepared marriages (early marriages).

TRI – Africa can work with any organization in fighting the afore mentioned threats in the rural communities.

**Key areas of support**

1. Completion and refurbishment of existent 6 storage facilities with standard PHH value addition equipment to enhance bulking and collective marketing of maize and coffee in the implementation areas.
2. Supporting of the agents’ structure with improved and up to standard smart phones to support in data collection and digitization of farmers for financial inclusion under the partnership with aXiom Zorn and Centenary bank.
3. Support in the installation of a coffee hulling machine to promote marketing of hulled coffee beans (FAQ).
4. Facilitate building farmers’ capacity and experience sin entrepreneurship and agribusiness development through trainings on Farming as a business, value addition quality control and marketing skills along the value chain of maize, beans and coffee.