



## BUKEDI RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (BRUCI).

### STORY OF CHANGE

#### REDUCED COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY TO DISASTERS.

Name of the Community: **Muyebe Community, Kabale District, Uganda. (2022)**

Key Conclusions	Specific Activity conducted by BRUCI
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community members have come up with ways to reduce risks/threats.</li> <li>2. Government does not prioritise the need to address the risks/threats in the community.</li> <li>3. Different people noted different threats in the community</li> <li>4. Community relaxed whenever there was no risk/threat and only got concerned when it happened.</li> <li>5. Government did not provide resources to the community at all to address risks/threats.</li> <li>6. People have different views as to what the consequences of the threats are to the community.</li> <li>7. As much as people mentioned climate as a big barrier, they also acknowledged their laziness.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organising interface meeting.</li> <li>2. Training communities on the diversity of income generating activities ie crop growing and rearing animals.</li> <li>3. Setting up demonstration gardens</li> <li>4. Construction of water channels.</li> <li>5. Procurement and planting tree seedlings.</li> </ol>



Figure 1: Community members being sensitized.

Organising the Community interface meetings were central and these meetings helped to sensitize the communities about the problems they facing learnt to work as a team to implement these disaster Risk Reduction Initiatives to mitigate them. This training brought cohesion and team work which has aided BRUCI's success in the area. No wonder, the lessons learnt have been benchmarked to other areas with similar disaster risk conditions both at community and household levels.

BRUCI involved many stakeholders right from its inception to implementation etc. The stakeholders involved were the community members local Government, the Church, educational Institutions, the National Coordinating Organisation among others. The Government as a stakeholder played a major role of providing a good environment for community mobilisation to embrace the new disaster risk reduction initiative/ project in the area. They aided us with the work space that has enabled the success.

The implementation of BRUCI disaster risk reduction initiative in muyebe community has led to the formation of a disaster risk reduction association in the area the first of its kind (Muyebe bahingi turindobuhangwa Association) which is an association of self-motivated community members to fight any disastrous event like floods, drought, famine, landslides etc which are climate change induced in the area. This association has helped the successful implementation of any disaster risk reduction initiative in the area. This association has been training and sensitizing the neighboring communities in disaster risky neighborhoods on self-protection against climate change disasters as well as better environmental management practices to combat future likely disaster occurrences in their areas.



*Figure 2: Community members making water trapping trenches.*



***“Flooding has been sweeping all our properties and crops but BRUCI came as a saviour and we can now be sure of harvesting food and saving our property from disasters by being prepared and resilient” Jonson Said.***

Johnson was not in any disaster risk reduction association, however when BRUCI started, he mobilized other people to form an association which he later was elected the chairperson of the association. He became the role model and practice disaster risk reduction interventions land in his farmlands and even put water holding channels in most of his lands, he learnt how to make nursery beds of agro forest trees, he planted trees around his home, in his gardens, and was earning an income from operating nursery beds where he would sell trees seedlings to other members in the community to combat disasters induced by climate change. He too championed a credit and saving group for members. His exemplary leadership has sustained his group.

He has implemented disaster risk reduction interventions in form of making water holding channels in his lands, planted trees around his home and in his gardens and he has become a role model in Muyebe community. He received training on disaster risk reduction interventions, he was an elected the chairman of the group, he received equipment's for making water holding channels on behalf of the community, he too received tree seedlings to plant in his gardens and around his homestead in a bid to mitigate disaster risks in his area.

His attitude towards environment has changed positively, he has practiced proper environmental management practices, his gardens are safe because they are protected against floods and soil erosion etc., his livelihood and income has improved with improved food security in his home, his home is protected against wind due to the planted trees around his homestead, and he earns an income from the sale of tree seedlings among others unlike before.

Mr. Johnson Banaga feels very happy and is grateful to BRUCI for the skills gained and improved knowledge on disaster management since his lands are now secured from floods and soil erosion among others. His homestead is also secure against disaster events like winds which has been destroying most homes.

Johnson said ***“Since I started implementing BRUCI interventions like digging water holding trenches which has controlled flooding around my gardens and I can now harvest my crops”***



Figure 3: Johnson in his garden.