

Supplementary material to “The role of civil society networks in catalyzing agroecological transitions in Uganda,” by Charles L. Tumuhe, Denis Katusiime, David Ssekamatte, Joshua Muloi, Keiron Audain, Hannah Kamau, Gonzalo A. R. Molina, & Ronald Byaruhanga, published in 2026 in the *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 15(2), <https://doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2026.152.004>

Supplementary Material 3A. Overview of Documents and Thematic Coverage

Doc #	Title	Year	Type	Capacity Building	Research & Innovation	Advocacy & Livelihoods	Climate
1	PELUM Uganda Annual Report	2022	Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Review of Agricultural Policies (sustainable agriculture focus)	2010	Policy Review	✓	✓	✓	✗
3	Enhancing SSF Livelihoods via Indigenous Climate Adaptation	2010	Research Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Indigenous Foods in Uganda	2011	Research Report	✓	✓	✓	(✓)*
5	Policy Brief on Farmers' Entrepreneurship	2011	Policy Brief	✓	✗	✓	✗
6	KCOA 4th Networking Meeting Report	2022	Workshop Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	PELUM Uganda Annual Report	2023	Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	AWOLA Stories of Change (1st Cohort)	2023	Case Story Booklet	✓	✗	✓	(✓)*
9	PELUM Uganda Bulletin (Jul–Sept)	2024	Bulletin	✓	✗	✓	(✓)*
10	PELUM Budget Advocacy Record	2019	Advocacy Summary	✗	✗	✓	✗
11	Open Letter on Constitutional Amendment	2018	Advocacy Letter	✗	✗	✓	✗
12	National Organic Agriculture Policy	2019	Government Policy	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Farmers' Entrepreneurship Policy Brief	2011	Policy Brief	✓	✗	✓	✗
14	SSF Access to Markets Policy Analysis	2012	Policy Analysis	✓	✓	✓	✗

Doc #	Title	Year	Type	Capacity Building	Research & Innovation	Advocacy & Livelihoods	Climate
15	PELUM@20 Reflection Report	2015	Institutional Report	✓	✓	✓	(✓)*
16	Guide to Budget Process	2016	Educational Guide	✓	✗	✓	✗
17	PELUM Uganda Bulletin – Issue #001	2023	Bulletin	✓	✗	✓	(✓)*
18	PELUM Uganda Strategic Plan	2023	Strategic Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	PELUM Uganda Bulletin – Issue #002	2023	Bulletin	✓	✓	✓	(✓)*
20	PELUM Uganda Bulletin – Issue #003	2024	Bulletin	✓	✓	✓	(✓)*
21	KCOA Networking Meeting Documentation	2022	Workshop Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	National Organic Agricultural Policy (final draft)	2019	Government Policy	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Policy Brief on Farmer Entrepreneurship (2011, duplicate for clarity)	2011	Policy Brief	✓	✗	✓	✗
24	National Cooperative Policy – Popular Version	2013	Policy Summary	✓	✗	✓	✗
25	Climate Resilient Agro-Ecosystems Model (CRAEM) Facilitator’s Guide	2016	Facilitator’s Guide	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Enhancing Smallholder Farmers’ Adaptation to Climate Change through Sustainable Agriculture	2012	Research and Practice Report	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	The National Climate Change Bill – Emerging Issues and Recommendations	2017	Legal Policy Brief / Advocacy Paper	✓	✓	✓	✓

(✓)* indicates indirect mention or relevance to the theme, without explicit reference

“✓” indicates meaningful content under the respective theme

“✗” indicates no relevant content under the respective theme

Supplementary Material 3B. Flagship Capacity Building Initiatives

Initiative	Description	Target Group	Reported Outcomes
Agroecological Entrepreneurs Bootcamp (2024)	Training in branding, packaging, food safety, and market planning	Youth and farmer groups	Improved business plans; prototype products tested
AWOLA Mentorship Programme (Cohort 1)	One-year mentorship for emerging female leaders in agroecology	Women in CSOs	Increased confidence, leadership skills, and visibility in advocacy
Institutional Monitoring & Refresher Training	Navision training, strategy reviews, and biannual performance assessments	PELUM member organizations	Better systems compliance, though only 27% of members reached
Farmer Exchanges & Seed Fairs (2022–2024)	Knowledge-sharing at regional and national events	Smallholder farmers	Expanded awareness of indigenous seed systems and local markets

Supplementary Material 3C. Selected Research and Innovation Projects Led or Facilitated by PELUM Uganda

Project / Innovation	Focus Area	Collaborators	Reported Outcomes
Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS)	Organic certification and local market access	NOGAMU, KCOA, CSOs	Improved smallholder access to organic markets, reduced certification costs
Community Seed Banks	Seed sovereignty and biodiversity	RUCID, JESE, Bioversity Int'l	Strengthened access to local seed, preservation of indigenous varieties
Biochar Application Pilot	Soil health, climate adaptation	Let's Change My Village, Eco-Agric	Enhanced water retention and reduced fertiliser dependence in pilot farms
Agroecological Entrepreneurship Research	Youth innovation and value addition	AWOLA participants, PELUM staff	Business models created for goat milk, honey, and herbal teas
Market Access Study (2012)	SSF taxation and market barriers	ESAFF, SEATINI	Used to advocate for tax reform and improved market infrastructure
KCOA Evidence Sharing Platforms	Traditional knowledge and farmer innovation	GIZ, KCOA regional hubs	Cross-country documentation of agroecological knowledge

Supplementary Material 3D. Collaborative Highlights

Network / Platform	Purpose	Collaborators	Outcomes/Impact
KCOA (Uganda Hub)	Agroecology knowledge exchange across Africa	GIZ, Biovision, PELUM EA & partners	Annual learning events, evidence sharing reports
AFSA	Continental food sovereignty advocacy	PELUM Africa members, NGOs	Campaigns on GMO regulation, land justice
RAAP – Rwenzori Platform	Regional agroecology coordination	JESE, KRC, MAAIF, Academia	Joint planning, territorial seed & food systems
Indigenous Seed and Food Fairs	Local innovation, learning, and farmer-to-farmer linkages	COSIL, IDP, RUCID, AFSA	Seed banks launched, local by-laws supported
Agroecology Week of Action	National and district-level learning and visibility	Youth & women-led initiatives	Media exposure, documentation, and youth mobilisation

Supplementary Material 3E. Timeline of Key Advocacy Events and Outcomes (2010–2024)

Year	Advocacy Focus	Event/Activity	Outcome
2010	Policy review	Analysis of agroecology policies	Recommendations on agroecology policy alignment and decentralisation
2011	Farmer entrepreneurship	Policy brief on youth and smallholder enterprise support	Raised policy gaps in farmer business development
2019	Budget advocacy	Budget submissions and CSO dialogue	Increased attention to agroecology in district agriculture plans
2022	GMO and seed systems	Indigenous Seed and Food Fairs	Amplified traditional seed discourse; community seed banks supported
2023	Climate justice	Participation in the Africa Climate Week	Contributed to adaptation and resilience sessions
2024	Land rights	Land Awareness Week & district petitions	Formal petitions submitted; policy engagement with the Ministry of Lands
2024	Territorial food systems	Launch of RAAP in Rwenzori	Coordinated action on seed, markets, and agroecological transition

Supplementary Material F: Examples of Climate Resilience Strategies and Campaigns

Campaign	Description
Indigenous Seed and Food Fairs	Held in regions such as Abarilela and Rwenzori, these events promoted climate-resilient crops, seed diversity, and local food systems as responses to climate uncertainty.
Land Awareness Week and Petition Delivery (2024)	Climate framing was integrated into advocacy on land governance, calling for protecting agricultural land threatened by large-scale land acquisition and extractive industries.
Participation in Africa Climate Week (2023)	PELUM Uganda contributed to high-level dialogues on locally led adaptation, climate finance equity, and agroecology as a climate pathway.
CRAEM Rollout and Piloting (2014–2016)	Piloted by PELUM Uganda and three member organisations in Gulu, Nakapiripirit, and Ngora, the CRAEM model trained farmers on climate risks, agroecological solutions, and off-farm resilience strategies. The approach focused on sustainability without handouts, using Indigenous knowledge, and integrating practices such as integrated pest management, seed sovereignty, and community action planning.

Supplementary Material 3G: Summary of the Most Commonly Reported Challenges, along with Strategies PELUM Uganda is Using to Address Them

Challenge Area	Key Challenge	PELUM Uganda Strategy
Weak Extension Systems and Limited Technical Reach	Few trained agroecological extension workers deliver inconsistent messages to farmers, especially in remote areas.	Develop district agroecology hubs, implement Training of Trainers (TOT) models, and harmonize farmer training through KCOA hub networks.
Underfunding of Climate and Agroecological Programming	Agroecology receives limited national budget allocation; donor support is fragmented.	Engage in budget advocacy (e.g. 2019–2020 submissions); partner with AFSA to influence African-level agroecology policies.
Limited Documentation and Knowledge Management	Program innovations and farmer practices are poorly documented and scattered, limiting learning and accountability.	Expand M&E tools (e.g. Navision, KoboToolbox); produce learning outputs like AWOLA stories and KCOA documentation.
Fragmented Policy Environment	Agroecology is weakly integrated into national policies; climate, land, agriculture, and education policies are misaligned.	Support RAAP and other advocacy platforms; work with MAAIF to embed organic/agroecology into national policies and standards (e.g. NOAP). Fast-track the passing of the National Agroecology Strategy.
Uneven Geographic and Member Engagement	Disparities in participation and resource access among districts and member organisations.	Introduce biannual institutional performance monitoring; deliver refresher training and expand support to under-represented members. Rotate PELUM meetings.
Youth and Gender Inclusion: Still Emerging	Despite some dedicated programs, youth and women often lack meaningful roles in leadership and decision-making.	Incorporate leadership development, gender equity frameworks, and youth-specific forums during agroecology weeks and seed fairs.

Supplementary Material 3H: Thematic Framework for Assessing the Role of PELUM Uganda in Agroecological Transformation

Theme	Sub-Themes	Key Indicators	Evidence Sources	Analytic Purpose	Best Practices	Key Gaps	Recommendations
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training and workshops -Mentorship programs - Farmer exchanges - Institutional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number and type of trainings - Target audience - Follow-up mechanisms - Adoption outcomes 	Annual Reports, AWOLA booklet, Bulletins, Strategic Plan, Staff interviews	Assess knowledge transmission and sustainability	TOT models (KCOA), AWOLA, Peer exchanges	Limited follow-up, uneven reach, fragmented materials	Institutionalize follow-up, develop trainer pools, and create a training portal
Research & Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmer-led innovation - PGS - Seed banks - Knowledge documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research themes - Type of innovation -Documentation presence - Policy use 	Research reports, Seed fair docs, KCOA records, Interviews	Understand local innovation processes	Seed fairs, PGS validation, KoboToolbox use	Weak documentation, limited synthesis, and few research links	Build a documentation system, partner with universities, and publish briefs
Networking & Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Platforms (RAAP, AFSA) - Member coordination - Peer learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event types/frequency - Partnership strength - Member engagement 	Reports, WhatsApp chats, Workshops, Interviews	Analyze network effectiveness	RAAP, AFSA, WhatsApp comms, member forums	Inconsistent participation, limited feedback loops, Kampala bias	Rotate events, quarterly feedback, and small grants for engagement
Advocacy & Livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land rights - GMO regulation - Budget reform - Food sovereignty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy statements - Petitions - Member feedback 	Advocacy docs, Group chats, Interviews	Evaluate advocacy impact	Budget submissions, local by-laws, AFSA alignment	Weak feedback to members, limited media use, uneven policy impact	Visualize wins, train in local advocacy, and engage district officials
Climate Change Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate framing - Adaptation strategies - Campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate messaging - Adaptation practices - Shifts in discourse 	Strategic Plan, Climate Week reports, Bulletins, Interviews	Track the evolution of climate programming.	Agroecology is framed as adaptation, strategic integration, and climate events	Climate is seen as donor-led, with weak integration into general projects	Embed climate lens across programs, use local narratives, and train staff
Cross-Cutting Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender - Youth - Equity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion metrics - Targeted programs 	Case studies, Training reports,	Examine the integration of equity	AWOLA, youth bootcamps, gender panels	Limited youth/women	Develop equity checklists, support

Theme	Sub-Themes	Key Indicators	Evidence Sources	Analytic Purpose	Best Practices	Key Gaps	Recommendations
		- Equity framing in initiatives	Strategic Plan, Interviews			leadership, equity is not consistent	youth projects, and elevate champions
Institutional Learning & Gaps	- Follow-up - Coordination - Monitoring & Evaluation - Feedback	- Interview reflections - Reporting trends - Documentation practices	Interviews, WhatsApp threads, M&E reports	Identify learning loops and bottlenecks	Use of Navision, KoboToolbox, performance tools	Irregular reporting, scattered learning, project-based M&E	Create MEL unit, issue annual learning reports, digitize memory