



**BUMBURA (DISCOVER) MALIBA ORGANIZATION
P. O BOX 267, KASESE – UGANDA.**

March 20, 2023

REPORT ON THE AGROFORESTRY TOUR
CONDUCTED ON 17/03/2023 IN KARUSANDARA SUB COUNTY, KARU
FARM.



BY
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Agroforestry Tour conducted on 17/03/2023 in Karusandara Sub County, 300 ACRES KARU FARM.

Introduction

It is a rewarding and better practice to share knowledge through site learning that exposes learners to different practices and crating change of mind. This activity was organized by Bumbura Maliba a local community based organization under the leadership of Bwambale Robert. The agroforestry tour was organized for the local area leaders in different sectors who included councilors and local council chairpersons, Teachers, women representatives, Church and student leaders. who represent other people and have a wide range of conveying the message/information acquired about agroforestry.

With continued support of Bumbura Maliba in the past years and to date by the farmers in participating in many profitable activities in the communities of Maliba. The support has always been in form of capacity building (training and workshops on environmental protection, agroforestry, health, economic development, information sharing, exchange visits, community sensitizations on Health Issues, identifying and guiding PWDs among others as well as written materials/tools for easy understanding of the different activities and practices including translated books in local language. (Ebirimwa ne Syonyinyi syo Mughaso Omo Uganda)

This activity came at a right time when Maliba Communities are in Tree planting Project and to the right people where our environment is being degraded by local people (anthropogenic activities) and other natural disasters. This contributes a lot to saving/protecting the environment by engaging the leaders on ensuring that they can reach out to their communities and share the knowledge and information about tree planting and crop growing on one piece of land (agroforestry).

Bumbura Maliba being the host, represented by the coordinator – Robert, at the beginning of the tour, introduced the program /activity to the participants and highlighted the purpose/objectives of the tour. Participants wished to remain at the farm learning as they saw net innovations they wanted to deeply understand. They enjoyed the trip and the warm welcome.

Overall Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To share knowledge and practical tips of agroforestry on a large scale farming.
Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To expose leaders (Local Council, Church Leaders, Teachers, Student leaders and women representatives then Bumbura farmers) to agroforestry (tree planting and crop growing on the same piece of land) and practices carried out;• To share knowledge, experiences and information on agroforestry;• To bring back home the shared knowledge, experiences and information and share with people represented in Maliba communities.

The Host farm and Facilitator

The farm that hosted participants is “karu Agroforestry Farm” commonly known as Dembe’s farm located in Karusandara Sub County, Kasese District about 13 - 15 Km away from the main road in Kasese Fort Portal Road, western Uganda.

Dembe’s farm is seated on 300 acres of land with different projects including trees integrated with crops (mostly indigenous and fruit trees), fish farming, poultry, coffee plantations, vegetable growing



and apiary (beekeeping) and natural forestry with varieties of Wild animals. All the 300 acres of land are fully utilized.

Mr. Dembe Godfrey is the appropriator of the farm, but works with a team and over 40 casual paid workers who carry

out different farm activities.

He welcomed the team (participants) who were eagerly anxious to learn and hear different experiences and knowledge and skills of management of the farm.

Mr. Dembe (host) and his colleague Mr. Yona Matte (farm supervisor) asked participants to air out their expectations and most of the expectations were similarly listed including farm management practices, agronomic practices, type of local trees on the farm, medicinal trees planted on the farm, challenges, other projects carried out and why and successes registered and how he got all that huge land as a person.

Participants were taken around divided in two groups and two site supervisors to different sites/subprojects on the farm including coffee plantation that is integrated with trees, bananas and vegetables, to an orange garden, and other fruit trees.



Activity achievements

- Knowledge shared;

The tour being practical, there was interactions (questions and answers) as well as participatory in nature with a deep understanding of farm practices on agroforestry. This assured that knowledge, information and different skills were shared thus the major objective achieved.

Knowledge on indigenous trees and herbs, on the crops grown and other projects seen on the farm was shared.



- Skills and farm practices explained;

Different skills on different agroforestry practices were explained and acquired. The fact that participants are farmers in their communities, it was very easy for them to pick and understand the explanations and guidance given during the tour. Including the agronomic practices, conservation of soil and considerations during tree planting. He told us that he no longer looks for money going here and there but now Money is looking for him when is there in his farm. This was true and witnessed.

Challenges

- Among the challenges faced, the road was poor and caused delays when the vehicle got stuck for some time. However, participants were able to push the mini bus out of the mud.



- Another challenge was the change in the weather (heavy rains) that rained on the members during the walk to the farm. This was not much but somehow disturbed the learning/tour.

It is important to note that challenges did not stop the exercise. They were minor and the activity was successfully carried out.

Special Thanks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special gratitude is given to the people who made sure this tour is of successful. • The host Mr. Dembe Godfrey for giving us the chance to learn from his farm and the knowledge shared, the meals we enjoyed and the fruits we were given to take to our families, the medicinal plants he allowed us to harvest and take to our homes. • The participants for the time and accepting to participate. • The office of the Chairperson local council 111, Maliba Town Council for giving us good people. • Organizers of Bumbura Maliba for the successful trip/tour (Robert and team). 	
General recommendations and feedback from participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous training of leaders (people’s representatives) in agroforestry and related activities such as soil conservation and identification of trees that can be integrated with crops to remind them of what they saw and put them into practices. Further trainings would increase protection of environment. • A recommendation of tree planting exercise guided by Bumbura maliba as an initiative in Maliba town council villages that leaders can make follow ups on. Leaders proposed to plant more trees in their communities if they’re provided. • A special training or tour on medicinal identification (trees and herbs) be considered in future by farmers and herbalists who treat with natural medicines in Maliba, as those who went there saw many herbal trees but time was not enough. • Exchange visits and tours should continue to help leaders remember (it should not be one) and should go to other communities. • Next time a good number of women farmer leaders be considered for the same.
Conclusion	The tour that aimed at sharing knowledge on agroforestry by leaders in Karusandara sub county was successfully carried out. Participants were very happy to get exposed to the agroforestry Karu farm where they learnt lots new practices and skills as well as experiences.
Photos attached	(See photos on the last pages).



Participants having a Group Photo



Participants settling on arrival to get ready for the tour



Participants walking around the farm as they learn



Participants are having Lunch



Participants were taken to the orange garden and told to pick some orange fruits



Learning about coffee mixed with trees and banana plants



Learning about chili/pepper in the farm

End.