

# UJAMAA EMPOWERMENT NETWORK. ANNUAL REPORT 2025.

Empowering Women. Strengthening Communities. Sustaining the Future.



## Message from the Executive Director.

Dear Partners and Supporters,

It is my honor to present the Ujamaa Empowerment Network Annual Report for 2025. This year marked an important milestone in our journey of empowering women and strengthening vulnerable communities across Uganda. Despite the ongoing challenges faced by rural households especially women farmers, Ujamaa remained committed to creating practical and sustainable solutions that improve livelihoods, dignity and environmental sustainability.

Our work continues to be guided by a simple but powerful belief: when women are empowered, families become more secure, communities grow stronger and future generations thrive. Throughout 2025, we implemented projects that improved access to safe water, promoted sustainable agriculture, strengthened climate resilience and enhanced menstrual health for girls and women.

At the same time, we focused on strengthening the institutional capacity of the organization to ensure long-term sustainability and greater impact. These achievements would not have been possible without the trust, partnership and generous support of our donors and partners.

On behalf of the entire Ujamaa team and the communities we serve, I extend our deepest appreciation. We look forward to expanding our impact in 2026 and continuing this important journey together.

Sincerely,

Akampurira Micheal

**Executive Director**



## About Ujamaa Empowerment Network.

Ujamaa Empowerment Network (Ujamaa) is a community-based non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting food security, increasing household income and advancing environmental sustainability in Uganda. Ujamaa was founded on the belief that empowering women is one of the most effective and sustainable ways to transform communities. Women especially those in rural areas play a central role in food production, family welfare and community stability yet they often face barriers such as limited access to knowledge, resources and opportunities.

Ujamaa works directly with rural and marginalized women, particularly those engaged in agriculture, to equip them with skills, knowledge and resources that enable them to improve their livelihoods and build resilience. Through training, community engagement and partnerships, Ujamaa helps women strengthen their economic independence, improve food production and contribute to environmental conservation.

Our work is rooted in community participation, sustainability and long-term empowerment. We focus on creating solutions that are practical, locally relevant and capable of delivering lasting impact.

## Our Approach.

Ujamaa uses a **participatory, rights-based and gender-transformative approach**, ensuring that women not only benefit from development but lead the change. Our work is grounded in strong community engagement, evidence-based programming and collaborative partnerships with government agencies, civil society, private sector actors and international donors.

## **Project achievements and impact in 2025.**

### **Improving Access to Safe Water in Ngora District.**

Access to safe and clean water remains a major challenge for many rural communities in Uganda, contributing to poor health outcomes and limiting productivity, particularly for women and children who often bear the burden of collecting water. In response to this challenge, Ujamaa Empowerment Network implemented a water quality testing project in Ngora District, Eastern Uganda.

This initiative involved assessing community water sources to determine their safety and suitability for human consumption. The findings revealed the urgent need for improved water infrastructure in the community. Based on the results of this assessment, Ujamaa developed plans to construct two boreholes in 2026. These boreholes will provide safe drinking water and significantly reduce the risks associated with contaminated water, including waterborne diseases.

This project represents an important step toward improving community health, reducing the burden on women and children and enhancing overall quality of life.



***Water Engineer collecting water samples for Testing in Kobwin Subcounty, Opot town Council, Ngora district.***

## **Promoting Climate Action and Sustainable Livelihoods through Agroforestry.**

Climate change continues to pose a serious threat to rural livelihoods, particularly for smallholder farmers who depend on natural resources. To address this challenge, Ujamaa Empowerment Network implemented an agroforestry project in Ngora District in partnership with Teso Youth Network.

Through this initiative, Ujamaa distributed 1,480 tree seedlings to 150 rural farmers and three schools. These trees will contribute to environmental restoration, improve soil fertility, and enhance climate resilience. Agroforestry also provides long-term economic benefits, as trees can serve as sources of fruit, fuel, and income.

Farmers and schools were also sensitized on the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable land management practices. By integrating trees into farming systems, communities are better equipped to adapt to climate change while improving their livelihoods.

This initiative reflects Ujamaa's commitment to promoting climate-smart agriculture and ensuring environmental sustainability for future generations.



***Tree seedlings ready for distribution.***



***School children taking part in tree  
Planting.***

## **Advancing Menstrual Health and Dignity through HerPad Project.**

Menstrual health remains a major barrier to education and dignity for many girls in rural Uganda. Lack of access to sanitary products and menstrual health education often leads to school absenteeism, stigma and reduced confidence among girls.

In partnership with U-VOL Foundation, Ujamaa implemented HerPad Project in Luuka District to address this critical issue. Through this initiative, 260 schoolgirls and 23 women received training in menstrual hygiene management. Participants were equipped with knowledge about menstrual health and were trained to produce reusable sanitary pads using locally available materials.

Each participant was able to produce at least four reusable sanitary pads, providing a sustainable and affordable solution to menstrual hygiene challenges. This initiative not only improved menstrual health but also restored dignity and confidence among girls, enabling them to attend school regularly and participate fully in their education.

Additionally, the involvement of women in the training created opportunities for skills development and economic empowerment, as these skills will also be used to generate income.



***Training sessions on making reusable Sanitary pads.***

## **Strengthening Food Security through the Ujamaa Seed Project.**

Food insecurity remains a major challenge for many rural households. In response, Ujamaa Empowerment Network implemented the Ujamaa Seed Project to strengthen sustainable agriculture and improve household food production.

Through this project, 32 women received training in modern and sustainable agricultural practices, with a strong emphasis on organic farming methods in Mukongoro subcounty, Kumi district. Participants gained knowledge on soil management, sustainable farming techniques and climate-resilient agricultural practices.

These skills are enabling women to improve their agricultural productivity, enhance food security for their families and increase their potential to generate income. By empowering women farmers, Ujamaa is helping to build more resilient households and sustainable local food systems.



***Farmers being trained in making Organic Manure.***



***Ms. Opolot Judith one of the model farmers practicing organic farming in her garden.***

## **Non-Project related Activities.**

### **Strengthening Partnerships and Organizational Capacity.**

In addition to program implementation, Ujamaa made important progress in strengthening partnerships and organizational capacity during 2025. Collaboration with both international and local partners played a vital role in supporting program delivery and expanding impact.

Ujamaa worked closely with international partners including Icon Life Saver, U-VOL Foundation, and Dots.eco. These partnerships provided valuable technical support, financial resources and collaboration opportunities that enhanced program effectiveness.

At the local level, Ujamaa strengthened partnerships with Shine for Change, Somero Uganda, Teso Youth Network and Arrow Research Consult Limited. These organizations played an important role in facilitating community engagement, technical implementation and program coordination.

These partnerships have strengthened Ujamaa's ability to deliver high-quality programs and positioned the organization for continued growth and impact.

### **Organizational Growth and Institutional Development.**

During 2025, Ujamaa Empowerment Network also focused on strengthening its internal systems and institutional structures to support long-term sustainability. The organization improved its operational capacity, strengthened its governance framework, and enhanced its ability to design and implement impactful programs.

These efforts have increased Ujamaa's credibility and readiness to expand its programs and serve more communities in the future.

## **Looking Ahead to 2026.**

As Ujamaa enters 2026, the organization remains committed to expanding its programs and deepening its impact. Key priorities include the construction of boreholes to improve access to safe water, expansion of agroforestry initiatives, scaling menstrual health programs to reach more girls, and strengthening women's economic empowerment initiatives.

Ujamaa will also continue to strengthen partnerships and build institutional capacity to ensure sustainable growth and long-term impact.

## **Appreciation to Our Donors and Partners.**

All these achievements were made possible because of the generous support and partnership of our donors and partners. Your support is transforming lives by empowering women, strengthening food security, improving health, and promoting environmental sustainability.

Your investment is creating lasting change in the communities we serve.

We remain deeply grateful and look forward to continuing this partnership in 2026 and beyond.

## **Contact Information.**

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