



OUTREACH

FOOD SECURITY: OVERCOMING DROUGHT.



BEFORE: Nulu, pondering on whether her seeds will grow to her expectations in fear of the recent drought that hit her village October 2011- January 2012.

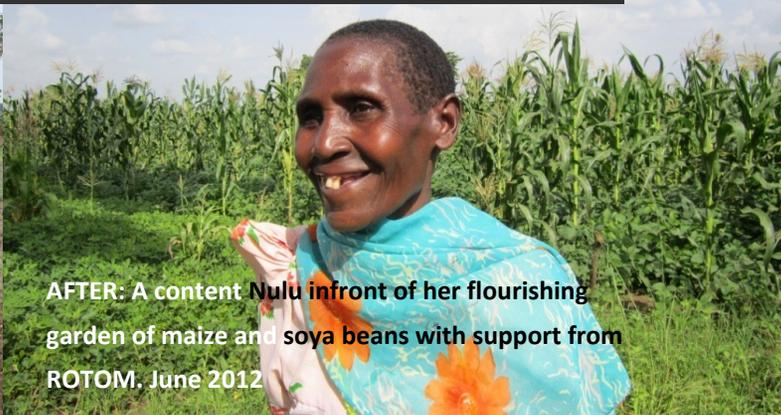
INSET: Nulu at her house in Iganga.

Nulu Namulondo is a 68 year old widow and grandmother of 2 little girls aged 6 and 7 years who were abandoned by her children. She lives in Namalembe, Iganga district in Eastern Uganda. Nulu was one of the many victims of the severe drought that hit this region late last year causing much starvation and malnutrition in the area.

In addition to being a widow, living in nerve wracking poverty, with poor housing, deteriorating health and the daily struggle to provide single handedly for her little grandchildren, Nulu was not prepared for the impact of this disaster. She and her household entirely depend on agriculture for their livelihood but the drought destroyed her hope for providing for them. She was looking to well wishers for support.

Lastone Mutooto, 79years of age is also another victim hit hard by the drought, loosing over 3 acres of maize, and rice as a result. The ROTOM team, through contact persons from Namalembe elders group, based in Iganga District, a group he is part of approached a miserable Lastone in January of this year at his home in Namalembe. He had no hope of ever recovering from this blow or any idea of how he was going to feed his family of 11 (eleven). However, this changed after Nulu & Lastone became beneficiaries of the food security project established by ROTOM in the area.

“I am so excited. I will have a huge harvest this time. I am happy about the results of the maize and soya bean I planted. I now have hope that I will get enough money to send my grandchildren to school and also buy some medicine...” Says Nulu up on our recent visit in June 2012.



AFTER: A content Nulu in front of her flourishing garden of maize and soya beans with support from ROTOM. June 2012

Through our friends and partners in the USA, Germany and Uganda, ROTOM managed to raise support for victims of this disastrous drought. 900 households with older persons received emergency food relief in form of 25Kgs each of nutritious maize meal. However, a more sustainable approach was established where 80 older persons’ households were identified for support. 40 of these carefully selected households who have the capacity in terms of labor and land to produce food were given seeds (maize, cassava cuttings, and soya bean), fertilizer, and support to plough their gardens. The remaining 40 households however are of older persons who are extremely vulnerable, sick or bedridden with no caretakers who cannot do anything for themselves. These will benefit from the harvest of the other able 40 households. Each of the 40 able older person’s households (Nulu and Lastone being among these) have access to about 2 acres of land where they planted the seeds provided.

ROTOM commends all her partners, staff and friends who contributed to bringing back the smile on these seniors’ faces.



Before (inset) Jan 2012 & AFTER: An ecstatic Lastone in his new garden of maize and soya bean with support from ROTOM, June 2012 .

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ROTOM VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS:

Simeon in his cabbage garden June 2012.



Simeon Serumpanise, 54 years is a member of the ROTOM village Volunteer committee. These committees work with ROTOM field staff to implement program activities at grassroots level in village. With support from ROTOM, Simeon also receives seeds, planting materials along with other benefits that have enabled him have great harvest over the seasons. Recently a small tractor was hired to help him plough his 2 acre piece of land which now has a promising harvest of over 3000 cabbages and maize. He has volunteered to grow cabbages for his fellow seniors, especially those who are very weak and sick and cant work on their own. Simeon's hard work and sacrifice has been a good example to other seniors in his village who now look up to him.



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**Weather patterns have changed
Nights are much colder
Give a gift of a warm blanket to a senior
this Christmas
For only \$20/CDN \$20/Euro15/UGX 50,000**

PROGRAM IMPACT UPDATES:

Christian growth: (MARK 16:15)



Senior Eunice from Namakwa village preaching to seniors of Nsambwe Village

Eighty three year old Senior Eunice (left) is one of the seniors who contribute to the program through spreading the gospel. Through peer to peer sharing of the gospel many seniors have come to know Christ.

Seniors' Health:

"I can now fit among men" was all senior Charles Kamaanyi could say after he was given an artificial limb with support from ROTOM. Charles suffered a serious accident which left him confined to crutches.

SENIOR SPONSORSHIP!

For only UGX 60,000, US\$ 30, Euro 25 or CDN \$30 a month, you can sponsor a senior in Uganda to:

- Hear a clear presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Participate in regular Christian support fellowship
- Receive Bi-weekly home visits from volunteer counselors.
- Receive free regular medical screening and treatment.
- Receive support to enable improvement in income and food security.
- Access safe and healthy water and housing.

Every year, as a sponsor, you will receive a photo, update report and two letters from the senior you sponsor.

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