

## CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE:

# Harvesting Change Together

Harvest season is a time to celebrate the fruits of collective vision, wisdom, and work. In farming communities in Uganda, harvests are bringing in ever more abundance, thanks to a community-led agricultural program made possible through your support.

Farmers have come together to learn and implement modern agronomic practices, transforming their crop yields and laying a sustainable foundation for increasingly more productive land, livestock, and livelihoods.

Led by agricultural extension workers such as Edward, and delivered by community extension volunteers (CEVs), the multi-layered program teaches and supports climate-smart techniques for planting, fertilizing, mulching, agroforestry, and more.

Edward tells us how he supported coffee farmers who were struggling in Kitodha village in Bulesa Subcounty through every stage of the farming cycle. *“I provided coffee seedlings, trained them on how to plant, pruning, weeding, post-harvest handling and currently, they are reaping.”*

When he visits farms during the planting and harvest seasons, Edward sees exciting evidence

of success. *“There has been a great improvement in the quality and quantity of harvest. **We are now at 75% from 50%.**”*

Every gain is driven by the shared dedication of farmers, their families, volunteers, and your dedicated support to improving food security throughout the community.

(Continued on next page)

*David, son of local farmer, Uganda*



## Agricultural practices transforming food security in Uganda



**Agroforestry** integrates trees with crops. Tree roots cycle nutrients, making soil more productive.



**Small-scale irrigation** compensates for dry spells, improving yields and letting farmers grow crops year-round.



**Greenhouse farming** also enables all-year growing. It protects crops from weather and pests.



**Water and soil conservation** reduces soil erosion and increases soil fertility.



**Organic pesticides** made using local materials are an affordable, eco-friendly alternative to chemical pesticides.

David is a local farmer, pastor, and father of seven children, one of whom is in Kinvia's Child Ambassador program. Determined to be a change maker, he also signed on to contribute to as a volunteer. (*David's son David, pictured on page 1*)

He paints a picture of the complicated reality local farmers face: Prices offered for produce are low. Commercial fertilizer is too expensive. Pests can be voracious—parasitic Striga weed and armyworm devastate entire maize crops. Mole rats devour cassava and potatoes from family gardens. Plants shrivel in extended dry periods caused by climate change, resulting in poor harvests.

**But with the support of the Kinvia family, David and his fellow farmers in the community have gained crucial tools and know-how to help them address each challenge.**

David received CEV training in modern agronomic practices as well as in methods for engaging with and teaching community members. Today, he shares his newfound knowledge in formal community trainings, in village meetings, while visiting farms, and even when engaging with his parishioners in church.

The community has pulled together to evolve and complement their traditional practices with ones

designed for our changing climate. Instead of burning the remains of harvested crops, farmers are repurposing the remnants as mulch. This maintains warm soil moisture which creates climate change resilience, while also reducing wastage. Those who raise animals and birds are using droppings to create manure, an economical and resourceful fertilizer that brings higher crop yields. Farmers are planting drought-resistant varieties for greater food security. They are making their own organic pesticides using leaves, flowers, red pepper, and other locally available natural ingredients.

They're practicing agroforestry by planting trees among crops. This land management practice ushers in numerous lasting benefits, from healthy, nutrient-rich soil to shade and shelter for animals—whose dung, in turn, further enriches the soil. With agroforestry, David notes, *"A farmer is able to have firewood, feed animals, and harvest crops from the same garden."*

**When communities lead change, strengths build upon strengths. You can see it in the crops and fields, where sustainable food systems are taking root for future generations.**

It's also flourishing close to homes, as householders who attended trainings on how to create kitchen gardens are now growing fresh vegetables that enrich their family meals. Children alongside their parents are planting and reaping, learning to prepare food, and benefiting from the goodness of the earth.

**It is thanks to supporters like you that farmers and families in communities like Edward's and David's can continue to learn and practice locally beneficial agricultural practices. Thank you for accompanying them as they harvest lasting, nourishing change.**





FROM SOWING TO HARVESTING:

# Your Gifts Help Communities Flourish

Harvest season has always been a time of leveraging the strengths of community. It may be children helping their parents pull chard from the garden. Or fellow farmers hauling bags of raw coffee beans. Or it might be you—continuing the support that enables communities to reap the benefits of what was sown.

In Beardy's and Okemasis' Cree Nation in northern Saskatchewan, supporters like you made possible a community partnership with schools, in which children planted potatoes in May, harvesting them in September. As they tended to their plants in a greenhouse built through the generosity of the Kinvia family, these young students developed skills and confidence that will serve them well in their future careers.



Beardy's and Okemasis' Cree Nation

In other communities, learning and growth depend on access to entirely different gifts.

Judith, an 11-year-old student in Uganda, learned to make reusable sanitary pads in a safe space club offered through Kinvia's sexual and reproductive health program. With her new skills, she no longer worries about missing school due to lack of menstrual products.



Uganda

*"I am never ashamed, so I always feel safe,"* says Judith.

As in other stories of personal growth—of reaping what is sown—Judith gained a new sense of confidence and now shares her knowledge with others.

*"I was invited before other pupils so that I demonstrate how to make re-usable sanitary pads. I felt the uniqueness of being empowered,"* she says.



Uganda

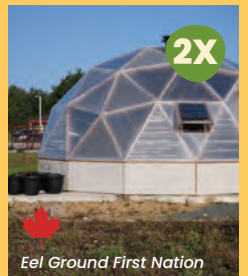
**When it comes to overcoming obstacles and achieving the incredible impacts, communities and community members truly know best. That's why our Best.Gift.Ever selections are developed in response to their requests—and why the gifts you purchase are so meaningful.**

## Give a Best.Gift.Ever Today

### Greenhouse Heater \$150

Greenhouses help to provide food year-round to communities and schools. With Canada's short growing season, especially in northern regions, greenhouses will help grow more food, to feed and

nourish more people. Your gift will outfit a greenhouse with a much-needed heater. Double your impact! This gift is matched 2X.



Eel Ground First Nation

### Vegetable Garden \$45

There's a source of income and food on the table all year long when families have the seeds, tools, and knowledge to grow vegetables in their rural community or urban home garden. Double your impact! This gift is matched 2X.



Ethiopia

### Chickens \$25

Three vaccinated chicks grow to produce 1,000 eggs a year, offering families a dependable source of food and income.



Uganda

### Greatest Need \$50

This has been a challenging year for the children and families we work with. Your gift will be put to work where it is most urgently required, giving food and nourishment to families and supporting programs for children who need it most.



Uganda



# Best.Gift.Ever.

**Help children and communities grow and thrive with a Best.Gift.Ever!**

When you give a Best.Gift.Ever, you're not just giving a gift, you're helping children, youth, and communities build stronger, healthier futures. **And for a limited time only, select gifts are matched!**

**Here's how you can make a lasting impact:**

## 1 Pick your gifts

From building greenhouses to help grow seedlings for gardens, to providing students with nutritious meals, to providing school-aged girls reusable sanitary pads, each gift creates lasting change.

## 2 Place your order

- 📄 Visit [bestgiftever.ca](https://bestgiftever.ca)
- ☎ Call 1-800-387-1221
- ✉ Mail using the order form enclosed

## 3 Make a lasting impact

Your generosity fuels progress where it's needed most and helps communities thrive.



**NOURISH THE NEXT GENERATION:**

# November is Make a Will Month

From seed to table to community development, the journey of growing food reminds us that thoughtful steps taken today can create wondrous impacts for generations to come.

In Alpacoma, Bolivia, the seed of an idea—that families could trade surplus food from their gardens—has blossomed into a vibrant, community-led initiative launched through your support and the dedication of local partners.

Now, fifteen families regularly take part in My Little Entrepreneur Fair, filling market stalls with fragrant, homegrown produce that they've sown and harvested. Besides generating extra income to help break cycles of poverty, they're learning key business and agriculture skills, serving more fruits and vegetables at home, and enriching family time by gardening and cooking with their children. The

important food and lifestyle skills these youth are acquiring will feed their futures and those of their children through all the years to come.

**Today is the perfect time to set in motion your own ripples of change. With November designated Make a Will Month, we invite you to create your will as a powerful, personal way to sow your values in fertile ground.**

Please visit our website to explore options for planned giving, or email Fawad Iqbal, Senior Manager, Leadership and Corporate Giving, at [fiqbal@kinvia.ca](mailto:fiqbal@kinvia.ca).

The care and generosity you commit to in these coming days will create a brighter, more nourishing tomorrow for generations of children and communities.



We welcome your comments and questions, and look forward to connecting with you.  
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**thrive!**  
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