



2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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List of Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
BD	Broederlijk Delen
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDRN	Community Development Resource Network
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyl Trichloroethene
EC	Executive Committee
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GEF/UNDP	Global Environmental Facility/United Nations Development Program
ICRAF	International Centre for Research & Agro forestry
ICS	Internal Control Systems
KRC	Kabarole Resource & Research Centre
LCV	Local Council five
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries
MO	Member Organization
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NOGAMU	National Organic Agricultural Movement in Uganda
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use and Management
RANNET	Rwenzori Association of NGOs & Networks
RFPJ	Rwenzori Forum for Peace & Justice
RICNET	Rwenzori Information & Communication Network
TBG	Tooro Botanical Gardens
TOT	Training Of Trainers
UGOCERT	Uganda Organic Certification.

Executive Summary:

This report covers the period January to December 2006 giving an overview of progress of the Sustainable Agriculture Trainers Network (SATNET) programme implementation, new developments, lessons learnt and challenges during the year. 2006 was the first year of implementation of the SATNET Strategic plan 2006- 2008. Many of the lessons learnt during the external evaluation and strategic planning process in 2005 greatly contributed and informed the implementation strategy to meeting member organisations capacity needs.

At the start of the year, a comprehensive baseline survey was conducted to identify benchmarks for measuring progress and change at the end of 2008. A detailed baseline survey report can be accessed from the secretariat resource room and will be uploaded on the SATNET website www.satnet.org.ug. Using the findings of the baseline survey, both specific member organisations and general membership capacity building activities and events were organised.

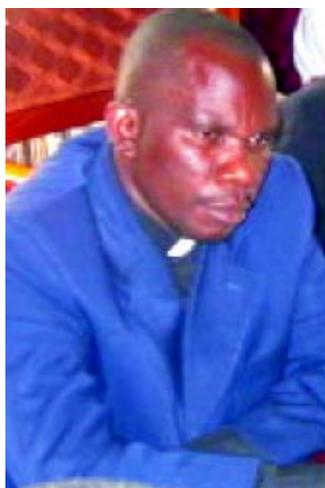
Through partnerships and collaborative initiatives with partners at regional and national level, SATNET member organisations and farmers in the region contributed to regional and national advocacy and lobbying activities. SATNET participated in the Rwenzori Civil Society Fair with a theme "**The Fruits of Togetherness**" and in the week long activities under the theme "**People Power, People Actions**" to mark 10 yrs of Kabarole Research and Resource Center (KRC) work with communities in the Rwenzori region.

At the national level, the maize farmers' campaign was launched and a national petition presented to the Speaker of Parliament calling on the Government to intervene and protect maize farmers against the impact of maize price volatility. Maize farmers from Kamwenge, Kasese, Kabarole and Kyenjojo mobilized themselves, signed and handed copies of their petitions to the LC V Chairpersons in their respective district for the attention of the district councils and proceeded to take part in the regional and national campaign activities.

SATNET and NOGAMU continued to participate in the campaign to promote the use of other alternatives to control Malaria as opposed to the Government proposed use of DDT.

At the secretariat level, many new developed happened through out the year. A new staff structure aimed at strengthening the secretariat capacity was designed, approved by the AGM and implemented by the Executive Committee. During the year four staff members left the organisation while four new staff joined the secretariat.

Message from the Chairman Executive Committee:



The year 2006 was yet a great and exciting one for all of us in SATNET. Importantly it marked the first year of the three year (2006-2008) Strategic Plan developed with participation and hard work by over 90% of the SATNET membership.

It is my sincere desire then to thank all the people who continually make our farmer empowerment process feasible and practical. The member organizations as usual were a great and strong force that made the grass root linkages very easy. We have seen the member organizations grow from strength to strength. This is the beginning point for growth of SATNET as an institution.

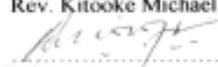
I would also like to thank all the members of our Sub Committees, the Executive Committee and Mr. Maurice Barnes-our advisor who unreservedly gives us his time and great wealth of knowledge. I would like to thank the members of staff for their technical guidance and implementation of the programme. In a special way our thanks go to our development partners who financed our programmes. The following remained central in the support of our work, with financial support as follows: HIVOS, Belgium Technical Cooperation (BTC), Broederlijk Delen, GEF/UNDP, Oxfam and of course the member organisations for the local contributions.

The development process in which we are engaged is one of the most liberating systems that is required in Africa today. Feasible development is a process which must focus first of all on empowering the individual to liberate him/herself and this is what we are actually succeeding in. The development of farmer owned and farmer managed cooperative societies is one way which is going to make agriculture meaningful for the small holder farmer. I want to commend the efforts of the staff and encourage them and all stakeholders in farmer empowerment to keep on.

One great challenge development actors usually face is the failure to keep processes moving. This could be caused by external influence or unstable political environment, and sometimes the lack of financial power to make things happen. We are grateful to the government of Uganda for the peaceful environment that we are currently working in, even though the recently enacted NGO bill was not the best we expected from the legislators.

I promise that the SATNET programme will continue to be farmer focused and farmer centered. For this to succeed, farmer empowerment in all stages of project implementation should remain central. Advocacy will remain high on the SATNET agenda as this is the only way the farmers voice can be heard and listened to.

Once again, I would like to thank every one for his/her contribution in the farmer empowerment process and appeal to us all not to despair.

Rev. Kitooke Michael

 Chairman SATNET

Part A:

Operating context: The Rwenzori Region

Geographical Location

SATNET operational area covers Kabarole, Kasese, Kyenjojo, Kamwenge and Bundibugyo districts that comprise the Rwenzori Region in Western Uganda. The region derives its name from the Rwenzori Mountains which is the highest mountain in Uganda with its highest peak at 5,110 m above sea level. Being a block mountain, it gives the area a fascinating scenery characterized by the snow-capped mountain tops, the Western arm of East African Albertine Rift Valley, the rolling hills and flatlands. The Rwenzori Region borders the Democratic Republic of Congo in the West, Mubende district in the East, Kibaale district in the North and Mbarara district in the South.

Population of the Region

The 2002 Uganda Population and Housing Population¹ census estimated the population of the Rwenzori Region to 1,730,826 with an estimated growth rate of 4.6% meaning the regions population is projected to reach 2,071,953 people by 2005. Bundibugyo is the least populated district and Kasese is the most populated district of the region.

Table 1 below shows population figures for the districts that make Rwenzori Region.

District	Total population	Male	Female
Bundibugyo	209,978	101,326	108,652
Kabarole	356,914	178,354	178,560
Kasese	523,033	252,792	270,241
Kamwenge	263,730	126,819	136,911
Kyenjojo	377,171	186,571	190,600
Regional total	1,730,826	845,862	884,964

Table 1: Population Spread in the 5 Districts of Rwenzori Region, Source: 2002 Uganda population and housing census

Climatic Conditions

The Rwenzori Region lies astride the equator and therefore it has an equatorial climate characterized by high rainfall totals and high temperature conditions. However, the terrain of the area has given the region varying climatic conditions ranging from temperate to semi arid. Some parts of Kabarole, Kasese and Bundibugyo, especially in the mountain areas, receive more than 2,250 mm as mean annual rainfall² while the low lands receive about 1,200mm as mean annual rainfall.

Part B:

Internal Organisation Information

SATNET Vision:

"A just, empowered, healthy, prosperous and gender responsive society managing her resources sustainably in a bio diverse environment".

SATNET Mission:

"To improve livelihoods of communities through a strong network that empowers member organisations to efficiently and effectively deliver services in the fields of Sustainable and Organic Agriculture and other related services for gender responsive sustainable development."

SATNET Objectives:

1. To create public awareness on sustainable agriculture and related fields.
2. To enhance capacity of member organizations to deliver quality services to the communities.
3. To enhance networking amongst its member organizations and other stakeholders.
4. To influence formulation and implementation of appropriate sustainable agricultural policies.
5. To widen the knowledge and information base in sustainable agriculture and other related areas through research.

The SATNET Membership in 2006:

The membership of SATNET is drawn from mainly sustainable agriculture training organisations operating in the Rwenzori region. The membership increased by four new members (3 full members and 1 associate) making the network membership 44 in 2006. The member organisations (MOs) have continued to support and commit to the network activities and growth. By the end of the year, 36 MOs had fully paid up their annual subscription fees for 2006. A full list of SATNET MO is attached to this report as Annex 1 providing the full and short names as used in this report.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2006:

The Annual General Assembly (AGM) is the supreme policy making body of the network made up of all member organisations. The AGM sits once a year to discuss and make policies for the network and to review and approve narrative and financial reports and work plans and budgets for the new operational year.

The 2006 AGM was held on the 31st March and attended by 38 MOs (2 representatives per MO: 1M and 1 F) and 12 Partners and Government representatives.

Key decisions of 2006 AGM are:

- Three new members BUDO, BELSCARD and NAFED were presented and admitted as full members into the network while KYEDFA was admitted as an associate member being an association of farmers in its own right.

- 2 MOs (Rural Integrated Development Agency (RIDA) and Kisomoro Tweyombeke Farmers Association) membership was terminated for failure to participate in any network activities and payment of subscription fees for 2 consecutively years as is stipulated in the network Constitution.
- The AGM received and discussed the narrative and audited financial report for the year ending 2005.
- Officially received and approved the strategic plan 2006- 2008 that was developed in September 2005 following the external review process.
- The AGM reviewed and approved the work plan and budget for the year 2006.

The Executive Committee in 2006

The Executive Committee (EC) met at least once every quarter to review quarterly reports, implementation issues and plans for next quarter. Different members of the EC performed various supportive and supervisory activities during the year. Members of the EC also act as chair persons of the different sub committees of the network to provide a direct linkage of the work and process of the sub committees to the EC meetings.

The table below shows in detail the Executive Committee members:

Name	Designation
Rev Kitooke Michael	Chairman
Mrs. Nyakana Mary	Vice Chairperson
Mr. Baita Francis	General Secretary
Mr. Maate Joseph	Treasurer
Mrs. Rukuba Grace	Representative Kabarole
Mr. Byamukama Leo	Representative Kamwenge
Mr. Mathina Bwambale	Representative Kasese
Mr. Isaac Mutabazi	Representative Bundibugyo
Rev. Kalyebala Stephen	Representative Kyenjojo

During the year, members of the Executive Committee participated in a number of activities to represent and promote the network activities.

The following table gives a summary on these various activities:

Partner	Purpose/result of the partners meeting.
HIVOS	To discuss HIVOS and SATNET partnership and support to the SATNET strategic plan 2006-2008 with a grant of 80,000 euros per year.
Broederlijk Delen (BD)	SATNET as the legal holder of the PIMS P programme held discussion meetings with BD and the PIMSAP partners. The EC also discussed modalities for possible SATNET support by BD effective 2007.
PELUM	The Chair of SATNET was elected Vice Chair of PELUM Uganda. PELUM conducted a number of trainings in which EC members participated.
RANNET	As a network of NGOs and Networks in the region, SATNET is represented by the Chairman on the RANNET board. During the year, the EC represented SATNET in policy meetings and discussions while the staff participated in activity implementation.
NOGAMU	SATNET EC participated in a number of NOGAMU organised meetings on behalf of the network. EC members participated in the AGM, NEMA organised public hearing among others. The SATNET EC General Secretary is a member of the NOGAMU central committee as Western Region Representative.
SNV	The EC consulted SNV to study the secretariat staff structure at beginning of 2006 and propose recommendations for a restructuring exercise. SNV advisors presented a report used as a basis in developing the new structure by the EC.
CONCERN Uganda	To discuss SATNET participation in the Rwenzori Region HIV/AIDS Mainstreaming Programme 2006- 2007.
Oxfam	To discuss and sign MOU of SATNET involvement in the national maize farmers Campaign.
VSO	To discuss current and future volunteer placements and the EU- VSO capacity building support for SATNET and RFPJ.

The Sub- Committees in 2006:

The sub committees of SATNET (Training, Communication and Advocacy, Research and Marketing) immensely contributed to the implementation process through their quarterly meetings and progress reviews.

The Training Sub Committee completed the training guides' development process. The developed materials were distributed to select MOs for field testing and consultation on appropriateness and relevance of the content to the members training information needs. The following were the members of the training sub committee in 2006: **Mutabazi K Isaac, Agaba Astaluzi, Masereka Simplisio, Salya B John.**

The Marketing Sub Committee conducted monitoring visits to MOs promoting marketing initiatives to study the impact of the emerging cooperatives and companies among the SATNET membership. The business forum/ reflection meeting during the year proposed that both the cooperative and company model be adopted and promoted as a basis for learning. The following were the members of the sub committee in 2006: **Baita Francis, Kyako Jane, Bidodo Ben, Tumwesigye Paulina**

The Communication Sub Committee spearheaded the production of the quarterly SATNET Newsletter, development of the SATNET website and the development of a communications manual for the network. The members of the Sub committee were: **Maate Joseph, Mwesige Peter, Musoki Nancy, Wekesa David, Apuuli Police.**

The Research sub committee conducted a research needs assessment and proposals for Members of this committee were: **Bwambale Mathina, Namulindwa Florence, Agonza Peter, Masereka Emmanuel, Tibara Rusia.**

The valuable input of the sub committees greatly informed the secretariat planning and implementation process. SATNET is grateful for the valuable time and energy invested in this process by all the trainers and the member organisations that have supported the trainers to play this role.

The Internal Planning Process:

In 2005, the EC commissioned an external evaluation to establish the impact of the SATNET 2003-2005 capacity building programme. This process captured suggestions for improvement and new ideas to include in the future programme as recommended by MOs, partners and stakeholders through the strategic plan 2006- 2008 development process.

The work plans for 2006 was developed from the strategic plan, discussed and approved by the AGM. On a quarterly basis, work plans and budgets were presented, discussed and approved by the Executive Committee meetings.

At the end of the year, a reflection meeting attended by 33 MOs highlighted the following key emerging issues for immediate follow up: The need to review the SATNET training methodology and the relationship between SATNET and the marketing initiatives developed by MOs. The reflection meeting discussed the progress report 2006 and the proposed work plan for 2007.

On a weekly basis, staff conducted meetings to update each other on progress of programme implementation a strategy that worked well supporting shared learning, reflection, and timely information sharing.

Part C:

Summary of Programme Activity Implementation in 2006.

Capacity Building and Organizational Development for MOs: The Baseline Survey Report Summary

A baseline survey was conducted to collect baseline information at the start of the capacity building programme 2006-2008. The results of the survey are to be used by SATNET and MOs to identify, design and implement viable programme activities to improve the quality of lives for communities in the Rwenzori Region.

The baseline was designed to collect data at farmers/ community and MO level to be able to measure qualitative and quantitative change at both levels at the end of the project.

Considering the importance of this exercise in monitoring and result tracking, a strategy to build the capacity of staff and MO trainers to design baseline survey tools, conduct the study and analyse data was adopted.

A total of MOs 26 representing a percentage of 59.1% of total SATNET MOs (9 - Kasese district, 8 - Kabarole, 4 - Kyenjojo, 3 - Kamwenge and 2 - Bundibugyo district) participated.

The table following show all the MOs that participated in the training and data collection exercise.

SATNET MOs that participated in the survey:

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS	Year of Formation
KABAROLE DISTRICT	
1. Kabarole Bee keepers Association	1991
2. Bamugisa Farmers Demonstration and Training Centre	2001
3. Kyakahinda Bee keeping Community	2002
4. Toro Herbal Medicine Research Centre.	2000
5. Bukuku Extension Link in Sustainable Commercial Agriculture for Rural Development	2003
6. Kibota Widows and Widowers Association	1986
7. Nyabubare Foundation for Rural Development	1993
8. Western Rift Valley Ecological Farm Institute	2001
KASESE DISTRICT	
9. Gender and Development Association	2000
10. Kiima Foods	1995
11. New Eden Development Group	2001
12. Mutiba Foundation for Agriculture and Community Service	1994
13. Rwenzori Herbal and Environment Activist Association	1998
14. Ikongo Rural Development Association	1995
15. Karughe Farmers Partnership	1989
16. Bukonzo East Training Team	2001
17. Kyempara Farmers' Wild Life and Environment Protection Association.	1991
KAMWENGE DISTRICT	
18. Catholic Women Association	1991
19. Kamwenge Sustainable Organic Farmers Association	2003
20. Community Sustainable Initiative Link	2001
BUNDIBUGYO DISTRICT	
21. North Rwenzori Rural Agriculture Community Link	1997
22. Bundibugyo Agro Producers and Sellers Association.	1998
KYENJOJO DISTRICT	
23. Kyenjojo District Farmers Association	2006
24. Agriculture Development Programme	1998
25. Bugaki Development Organisation	2004
26. Rural Reconstruction Movement –Kyaka	1998

The survey report highlighted the following key issues:

61 % of the respondents indicated that lack of information storage and dissemination systems as major information need while 11.5% of the total number of respondents highlighted the need for translated and simplified information of all forms.

The provision of information is therefore a high priority activity for SATNET during this programme phase.

In 2006, SATNET started discussions with stakeholders working to improve information access in the region. Under the umbrella of RICNET (Rwenzori Information and Communication Network), SATNET is tasked to provide agricultural related information while benefiting from information on other thematic areas contributed and provided by other players in the region.

The survey also established that 61.5% of the respondent MOs don't have a qualified accountant to keep books of accounts. It was established that books of accounts are kept by either a members of the Executive Committee mainly the treasurer or the chairperson or a volunteer trainer.

It was also established that 64% of the farmers don't keep farm records. 27% of the respondents were found to keep basic record books. This poses a challenge to monitoring and result tracking/ accurate capture of changes in incomes at farmer level.

A capacity needs assessment in 2006 also confirmed this as 20 MOs expressed the need for capacity development in financial management and record keeping and an initial training has been conducted in 2006.

The survey also establish that 92.3% of the MO trainers interviewed offer capacity building services as hired resource persons to other organizations/ institutions mainly Kabarole Research and Resources Center (KRC) Micro Finance and Sustainable Production Programmes, the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) programme- Kabarole and Kibaale districts, Private Sector Foundation and the District Local Governments among others. A trainer's register detailing the trainers in the network, their areas of specialization and expertise will be produced in 2007.

The survey established that of 88.3% of the farmers interviewed market individually. Only 4.6% of the respondents are collectively marketing. Through the emerging farmer's cooperatives and business initiatives, SATNET projects to transform this reality and increase the number of farmers collectively marketing by end 2008.



Musoki Nancy of NORRACOL receives her certificate at the end of the workshop.

The baseline survey findings were used as a basis for planning, programme implementation and progress monitoring in 2006. An action paper will be developed summarizing the report and shared with MOs to collectively draw a road map to addressing the highlighted issues.

Training of Trainers (TOT): TOT in Financial management

The TOT targeted MOs that requested for the training. 17 Trainers and 3 staff (12 male, 8 female) participated in aimed to building skills and improve practice on record keeping, financial management and reporting. The TOT covered introduction to accounting, preparation of balance sheet and income statements, the books of prime entry and posting to ledgers.

A follow up visit four months after the training to 6 MOs (KYEFA, KYEDIFA, MUTIIBA Foundation, KFEWPA, KADIFA and KUOFA) revealed these MOs had greatly improved their financial record management systems and introduced cash analysis books, requisitions, payment vouchers and receipt books. Hands on technical support and a follow up TOT will be held in 2007 to review progress, challenges so far and improve the knowledge and skills among the trainers.

TOT in Data collection and Analysis for Result Monitoring and Evaluation:

During the external evaluation of the SATNET programme 2005, the lack of base line data as a basis of measuring progress at secretariat and MO level. The TOT for secretariat staff and MO trainers focused on how to design, administer survey tools and analyse the data using the SATNET Strategic Plan as a case study.

26 trainers (16 male, 10 female) participated in the training aimed to develop and field test the base line survey tools with farmer's communities in Bugoye and Bwera in Kasese district. Refined tools were then developed and used by the trainers and staff to collect the data and final report has been produced.

The 26 trainers administered the questionnaire and held focus group discussions with a total of 752 farmers and staff administered the questionnaire at the 26 MO level.

MOs Capacity Development Support:

SATNET supported trainers from 6 MOs to participate in trainings that further enhance the skill and knowledge of their organisations and the whole network in total as elaborated in the table below:

Name of trainer	Member organisation	Area of skills building
1. Agaba Astaluzi	Karughe Famers Partnership - Kasese	Diploma in Animal Production and Management – Arapai Agricultural College.
2. Rev Nason Baluku	New Eden Development Group - Kasese	BS (Community Leadership)- Uganda Christian University- Mukono.
3. David Wekesa	Technology for rural animal Power- Kamwenge	International Colloquium on Working Equines organised in Ethiopia.
4. Thembo Charles	Kiima Foods- Kasese	Diploma in Democracy and Development – Uganda Martyrs University
5. Kunihira Annet	Western Rift Valley Ecological Farm Institute – Kabarole	Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture, Rural development and Environmental Management.

As a strategy for sharing information, learning and accountability to the network, the supported trainers have been asked to produce profiles and progress articles that will be profiled in every issue of SATNET news in 2007.

Centers of Excellence Support to MOs:

Tooro Herbal Medicine and Research Center (THEMERC) received the center of excellence fund to support 2 trainers' capacity building and practical training at Banakaroli Brothers St Luke Ganda Traditional Medical Clinical Research Center in Masaka, Central region.

THEMERC trainers contributed articles in the SATNET news highlighting their key learning's especially and had this to say in their report back:

"Indeed the technology in processing and producing herbal drugs is constantly changing. As a result of this training, we at THEMERC have improved the quality of two of our products mainly the cough mixtures and herbal soaps. The feedback is already very good from the patients and we shall continue to improve our technology as time goes on.

We were challenged by the way they preserve the environment and are also planning to copy some ideas. We also plan to set up a green house to dry the leaves. We also learnt how they manage their patients and keep records of their patients and this information is going to be helpful to us as we plan to set up our own treatment center in future.

Bamugisa Farmers Training and Demonstration Center located in Bubwika Kibiito Sub County received the center of excellence support to introduce water harvesting technologies on their demonstration center and community. Four trainers and 12 representatives of the affiliate farmer groups participated in the training. In a report back after the training in November, the trainers said:

During this practical training we constructed 1 water jar and 1 Ferro water tank to ease the water availability problems and we shall be able to harvest and preserve rain water for the animals and other demonstration units.

Using our skills, we shall continue to construct jars at the homes of the trainers who avail materials and will make our services available to other farmers in our community at a fee to generate local income to sustain our group.

Facilitate Trainers participate in exposure visits

In 2006, SATNET organised and conducted an exposure study visit for 10 trainers to ICRAF Nairobi project to learn and share experiences on enhancing community livelihoods around protected areas. This exposure targeted mainly the SATNET MOs participating in the Rwenzori Mountains National Park conservation project in Kasese district supported by GEF/UNDP.

A team of 8 trainers also participated in an exposure visit to Mwanza Rural Housing Project (MRHP) to learn about the utilization of coffee and rice husks for energy conservation. This study visit focused KIWED, COSIL, RRM-K and NORRACOL who are promoting rice production. It is expected that these trainers will develop the technology considering the vast availability of the rice husks in Mahyoro, Kyaka, Bundibugyo and Kabarole.

This learning visit was timely as it contributed to an on going discussion on how to promote environment conservation in rice growing areas where large areas of land have to be cleared of tree for rice production. This will also provide an alternative energy source to save the already few trees that remain standing when large areas are cleared for commercial crop as shown in the picture below:



The impact of commercial crop production on the environment can no longer be ignored. We need to explore and find technologies to protect the environment.

Documentation and Information Dissemination



SATNET produced a number of publications in 2006 as a strategy to improve and enhance knowledge exchange, information and experience sharing. These include:

- ❖ The SATNET Annual report 2005 (400 copies).
- ❖ The SATNET news letter (4 issues @ 300 copies).
- ❖ The Family medicine handbook (reprint 500 copies).
- ❖ Malaria control using locally available alternatives instead of the proposed DDT spraying (1,300 copies)
- ❖ The Maize sub sector: research study report (100 copies).
- ❖ Akaseseka Ake Bye' Bikusa: Emithwalire Ye' bilhaghiro omo Bikuhi (300 copies).
- ❖ Ebicooli Omu Uganda: Emikoorre Mubigufu. (600 copies).
- ❖ The Cob, the Hoe and the Shilling: a documentary for the maize campaign.
- ❖ Stickers to promote alternatives Malaria control approaches as opposed to DDT (1,000 copies).
- ❖ The SATNET year planner 2007 (1,000 copies).

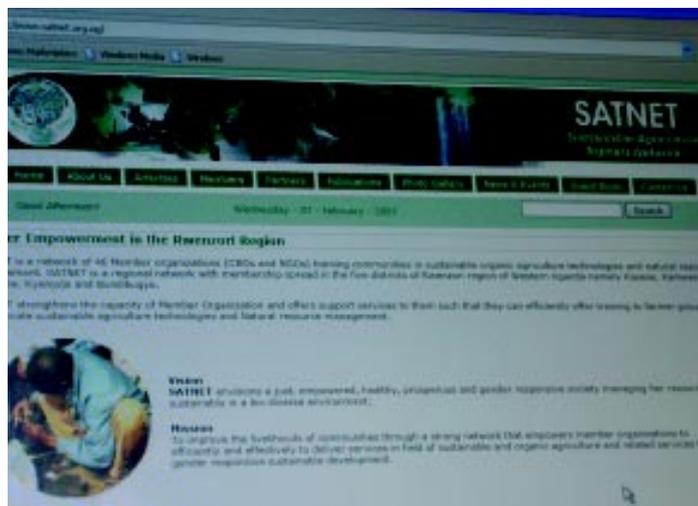
The process to develop the SATNET training guides by the training sub committee progressed very well in the year and the first drafts were produced and distributed for pre testing to the selected MOs. Feedback will be used to improve and produce the final training materials.

The secretariat also purchased and distributed a copy of the **International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM) Training Manual** and the **Dictionary of Participatory Tools and Techniques** produced by CDRN to all MOs.

During the year, emphasis was out to provide translated information. In all the issues of the newsletter key articles were translated into Rotooro and Lukonzo. Due to the high costs for translation services, the secretariat was not in position to produce all the required materials.

Development of the SATNET website

The SATNET website was designed unveiled for MO comments and input during the annual reflection meeting held in Kasese in November 2006. The website www.satnet.org.ug is to provide information about the network programmes, activities and publications, Rwenzori regional development and the MO activities and programmes. The official launch of the website is planned for the AGM in 2007.



Supporting the Development of Marketing Initiatives in the Rwenzori Region:

The year 2006 saw an increase in marketing initiatives developing in the Rwenzori region. The farmer organisations continued to grow in terms of numbers, institutional capacity and operational establishment to manage the businesses. The number of processed products and value addition technologies improved and increased in number and scope across the membership. SATNET provided specific training and technical support to all the MO promoting marketing initiatives.. The table below highlights the progress and new developments by the end of 2006.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
1. Rural Reconstruction Movement- Kyaka	<p>1. Kibuye Organic Coop Society Ltd (KOCSSL) Contact person: Kisembo Victor Located:Kyegegwa S/C Kyenjojo District</p>	<p>1. Started process to Registered as a cooperative society dealing in beans & maize has a membership of 56</p> <p>2. Started Store construction with support from KRC SPP programme.</p> <p>3. Purchased 28 Tarpaulins from Uganda Grain Traders to improve maize and beans quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Registration process of the Cooperative society at national level certificate number 7156. Membership is 55(although only 35 are fully paid up). Produced draft 1 business plan 2006-2008 and still under review. Construction of a 50 tons capacity Store completed. In 2006, members individually sold beans and maize because the store was not complete. Target to produce 112 tons during the March-April '07 season.
	<p>2. Kamukamu Farmers & Traders Cooperative Society Ltd Contact person: Mr. Nyendwoha Ngangi c/o RRMK, Box 8, Kyegegwa.</p>	<p>1. Made up of 30 members and initiated Registration of cooperative society at National level. Cooperative to deal primarily in maize & beans but plan to include rice in future.</p> <p>2. Initiated process of a store construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Membership increased to 37 (16M, 21F), 36 paid up shares at a cost of 10,000/= each Registered at national level Certificate no. 7265 Produced and sold collectively 3000kg of beans at 600/= in 1st season of 2006. Draft business plan 2006- 2008 under review. Currently renting a store although plans are under way for construction of their own store.
	<p>3. Green Garden Cooperative Society</p>	<p>Farmers' mobilization and training by RRM-K and SATNET staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cooperative was formed in 2006 and has 80 registered members. The Cooperative has started registration process at national level. The cooperative plans to process juice & jam from pineapples. RRM- K has shares in the cooperative. The cooperative is linked with Kyegegwa Peoples Micro Finance Cooperative Society with 256 members.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
2. Kyempara Farmers Wildlife and Environment Protection Association.	<p>4. Kyempara Oil Milling Cooperative Society. Located in Bwera Town - Kasese District. Contact person : Mr. Yona Kule</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Started process of developing business plan with her 180 members. 2. Initiated process of registration at national level. 3. Developed a proposal for funding from the French Embassy Small Grants Programme. 4. Started construction of processing plant with support from KRC SP programme, Hivos & their local contribution 5. Became a member of Bukonzo Organics 6. Organised training and exposure visits for her trainers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership is 185 (90 female & 95 male) 150 of whom have bought one share each. • Plant installation completed. Officially launched the processing plant during the KRC 10 Anniversary celebration week. • Received funding from the French Embassy and KRC, installed machinery and started Producing sun flower oil (over 800 litres processed and sold at 2200/= per litres to restaurants & the local community around Bwera Township. • At the start of processing, the cooperative had in store 29 tons of sun flower raw material purchased from members/share holders at 3000/= per kilo • Recruited and trained 5 people to manage the business. • Acquired a truck to facilitate transportation of raw materials & finished products.
Bukonzo East Training Team (BETT).	<p>5. Bukonzo organic Cooperative Society: (proposing to change name to Bukonzo Farmers Marketing Association) Location: C/O BETT Kyarumba sub county Kasese District</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In process of registration of the Cooperative with 34 members producing Coffee, poultry & Bee products & maize. 2. Access financial credit from Bukonzo Joint Credit & Savings Micro Finance. 3. Started Plans to separate poultry & Bee products marketing. 4. Is a Member of Bukonzo Organics 5. Marketed coffee through Bakwanye Trading co. & Bwera town / Kasindi market for Poultry products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership currently 78 members/ share holders. • Over 500 farmers are selling coffee through the association. • Still operating as a CBO and affiliated to Bukonzo Joint Micro- finance a registered cooperative. • Collectively sold 39 tons of coffee (22 tons wet processed & 17 tons sun dried hulled coffee) in 2006 at a price of 3500 per kilo for wet processed & 2400 for sun dried coffee). • Store construction almost completed. • Farmers given dividends at the end of the year in form of farm tools in the presence of the LCV Chairman Kasese District
6. Alpine Honey Producers		<p>As a farmers group, produced honey and sold it to Bunyangabo Bee keeping community (BBC).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total membership of 78 share holders and still operating as a CBO registered at District level. • Collected 3.2 tons of honey at 2000/= & sold at 2200/=, 80kg Bee wax at 3000/= & sold at 3500/=, Propolis 10kg at 5000/= & sold at 7000/= during 2006. • Store/office construction completed in 2006.
7. Kyamakungu growers cooperative society ltd		<p>Farmers selling individually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered at national level (registration number 3147) and has a Membership of 62 (all paid up share holders). • Started process of developing a business Plan to collectively marketing in 2007. • Plan to become members of Bukonzo Organics.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
Catholic Womens Association – CWA Kamwenge	<p>8. Kamwenge Catholic women Produce Dealers Association. Contact person: Mrs. Edurida Ntwirenabo Located in Kamwenge Town council</p>	<p>1. Production and marketing of maize & beans at a hired store in town. 2. Membership of 54 and use membership fee to run the business. 3. Buy & store produce from other farmers using their local resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7700kgs were collectively produced by members of CWA & an additional 5800kg purchased using association membership fee. Price received for maize was 320. When they had purchased it between 250-300 per kg Membership is 53 (20 people intend to join at next meeting). By end of 2006, the group had collected and stored 8,500kg of beans. Savings of profits and capital is 1.5m by the end 2006.
Community Sustainable Initiatives Link (COSIL)	<p>9. Mahyoro Tweekambe Cooperative Society Located in Mahyoro -Kamwenge District Contact person: Rev. Kitooke Michael</p>	<p>1. Started process of registration with a membership of 50 farmers dealing in production and marketing of unprocessed rice. 2. With support from KRC/SPP, Horizont 3000, McKnight Foundation the Cooperative trained farmers in quality management and started construction of stores.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now registered at national level as a cooperative dealing in marketing & micro finance. The cooperative has 80 paid up members. A draft business plan (still under review). Procured and installed two rice hulling machines, a sealing machine to start packing rice in 2007. Have formed 4 producer organizations to manage production & marketing of rice Farmers access soft loans and crop finance from the micro finance association.
KIIMA FOODS Located in Kyondo-Kasese District	<p>10. Kyondo Cooperative Society Ltd Contact person: Baita Francis & Muhindo Richard</p>	<p>1. Started process of registration of a cooperative dealing in production & marketing of coffee & Soya bean with a membership of 40. 2. Joined Bukonzo Organics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered at sub county level Promoting coffee production & marketing. In 2006, the cooperative sold 1300 Kgs of wet processed coffee at 3000/= to Rwenzori Finest Coffee Company. Soya sold individually. Current membership is 60 members and a draft business plan under review.
Mutiba Foundation	<p>11. Mutiba Foundation Farmers Cooperative society Contact person: Mr. Mutiiba Erisa Located in Munkunyu Sub County Kasese District</p>	<p>1. In the process of registering the cooperative society dealing in production of Soya bean and coffee with a membership of 40. 2. Member of Bukonzo Organics 3. Nominated a marketing committee to over see the business affairs. 4. Store construction complete.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered at sub county level as Mutiba Foundation Farmers Cooperative society to deal in production of Soya bean and coffee-wet processed. There are 175 members in the cooperative Sold 12 tons of wet processed coffee at 3300/= in 2006 and project to increase production to 20 tons next season. Main market is Rwenzori coffee company.
Green Home	<p>12. Nyabirongo Marketing Association Located in Kisinga sub county Kasese District</p>	<p>Originally three groups operating under one CBO. The groups elected a Marketing Committee to manage their affairs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group has 80 members Deal in production and marketing of coffee and vanilla. In 2006, the group collectively sold 890kg of sun dried processed coffee at 2300/= and 400kg wet processed coffee and 4500/= . Started discussion for a business plan.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
	13. Nsenyi marketing association.	Farmers started holding initial meetings to discuss collective marketing possibilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group has 36 members who produced and marketed 180kg sun dried and 50 wet processed coffee collectively. The group targets to increase production in 2007.
	14. Kandaba Kinyankoko Mufa Marketing association	As above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has 80 members who collectively sold 620kg sun dried processed coffee at 2300/= and 400kg wet processed coffee at and 4500/=.
North Rwenzori Rural Agriculture Community Link (NORRACOL)	15. NORRACOL Located in Bundibugyo District-Bundibugyo Town Council Contact Person Mutabazi Wilson	1. The MO promoted production, marketing of rice and acquired a rice huller with support from Oxfam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rice huller was installed and farmers pay a small fee. Incomes received individually through collective bargaining has stimulated and encouraged farmers to form an association. (through collective bargaining, farmers received 1400-1500/= per kilo during last season 2006).
SATNET, PIMSAP and NOGAMU	15. Bukonzo Organics (BO) (A consortium of BETT, KIIMA FOODS, Green Home, Mutiba Foundation Kyempara Farmers (KFEVWPA)-all in Bukonzo county, Ikongo Has applied to join.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> BO is promoting production and marketing of coffee, fruits, and vanilla. Internal control system (ICS) designed and local inspectors trained to implement the ICS. The MOs started the process of establishing and organizing primary cooperative societies. BO translated the cooperative by laws into Lhukonzo (Local language) for use by the local organic inspectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A governing body instituted; Organic corporation committee (COC) headed by KIIMA FOODS as the legal Holder of the consortium. BO got financial support from Kwataniza for a solar system for lighting and the French Embassy for development of the ICS manual and running of the office activities The consortium employed a coordinator who is a full time worker ICS manual is being translated in the local language (Lhukonzo) BO strategic planning process to begin in First Quarter 2007.
Joint Effort to Save the Environment (JESE) Located in Kihura Sub County- Kyenjojo District	16. Kirindameni Farmers Group	1. Group composed of 15 members producing maize and beans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership increased to 28 by end 2006 and registered as a CBO at district level.
	17. Kisegenyi Marketing Group	Farmer's mobilization activities in 2005 only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group has 30 members/ farmers producing maize and beans. The group still in the stages of formation and has already registered at the sub county
	18. Kabuworera Marketing Group	As above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has 30 members producing maize and beans. The group still in the stages of formation and is registered at District level.
	19. Kawuruju Mahasa Marketing Group	As above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has 25 members producing maize and beans. Group in the stages of formation and is registered at District level.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
Traction for Rural Animal Power (TRAP)	20. Kamuhokya Farmers Marketing Association Location: Kamwenge District Kahunge sub county	1. The group operating as a CBO is made up of 21 farmers dealing in production of maize and beans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to lack of resources to train and for crop finance, trainers were unable to mobilize farmers to collectively market together in 2006.
Kymbogo Farmers Association (KYEFA)	21. Kyarusozi Agriculture Production Marketing Group Located in Kyarusozi sub county Kyenjojo District	1. The group initiated process of establishment as cooperative to deal in production of maize and beans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to lack of resources trainers are unable to continue technical support to farmers to collectively market.
Abanya Rwenzori Mountaineering association (AMA)	22. Rwenzori Tulibaghuma Farmers Marketing Association The group is located in Bukuku sub county- Kabarole District	1. The group registered at the District level as a marketing CBO with membership of 50 farmers. 2. The group activities affected by the passion collar rot disease that affected production of passion fruits in the mountain area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group switched to production of other food crops like garlic and Irish potatoes. • The group was also faced with the management challenges especially after the promoting MO relocated/ focused on Bundibugyo District.
	23. Bundimulangye Multi Purpose Cooperative Society Located in Bundibugyo District	1. The group has 30 members promoting production and marketing of cocoa, rice and vanilla.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group is processing registration started at national level to Producing and marketing cocoa as the main product
	24. Kasithu Multipurpose Cooperative Society Located in Bundibugyo District	Initial stages of formation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group has 30 members who are collectively selling coca as the main product • The group has a micro finance component which is supporting marketing where members access credit at a low interest rates
	25. Bughendera Multi Purpose Cooperative society Located in Bundibugyo District	Initial stages of formation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group is registered at national level • The group is made up of 500 members producing and marketing coffee, barley and collectively purchasing farm tools. • The group works with a micro finance association where members are accessing soft loans.
Bee keeping groups	26. Rwenzori Bee Keepers Company	1. The proposed company to compose BBC, KBA, Nyabubare foundation and KARUDEC. Adraft MoA & AoA drawn and initial discussions held.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the different established and management structures of the initial member organizations, the process of negotiation and compromise has hampered the development of the company.

Mo promoting marketing initiative	Name of marketing initiative	Status at end of 2005	Developments in 2006
Karughe Farmers Partnerships (KFP)	27. Karughe Farmers Partnerships (KFP) Located in Bwera sub county-District	1. Set up a company limited by guarantee with out share capital to specialize in fruit drying and juice processing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KFP processed 712.5 litres of juice realizing an income of 3,562,500/=. • Juice sold to local communities in Bwera town and at exhibitions. • KFP is currently sourcing for resources to purchase bigger processing equipment to meet the growing demand.
Bamugisa Farmers demonstration & training centre(BDFTC)	28. BDFTC Located in Kibito sub county Kabarole District	1. By learning from others and after training of key trainers, the middle level farmers group started mobilization of farmers in Kibito Sub County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group started processing and marketing of juice and wines. In 2006, the group produced 58 litres of passion fruit juice & 60 litres of wine earning an income of 1, 290,000/=.
	29. Kibito Maize Marketing Growers Association Located in Kibito, Kabarole District	Initial mobilization activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group collectively sold 8000kg of maize at 250/= in 2006 and has started the consultative process to register the business as a legal entity.
Ikongo Rural Development Association	30. Ikongo Rural Farmers Marketing and Processing Association. Located in Bwera Sub County-Kasese District	Initial mobilization activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group has 135 members and collectively sold 4000kg of sun dried processed coffee at 2300/= while on the open market it was 1900/= in 2006. • The group is linked to Ikongo micro finance which provided a loan of 7.5million. • Main market for Coffee is to Bakwanye Trading Company.
RHIVA	31. Green World Agro Company LTD Located in Kisinga Sub County-Kasese District	1. Initial mobilization activities of farmer groups to grow citronella grass.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group is made up of 35 members. • Produce 4-5 litres of citronella oil last season. • Group to resume the soap making business after registration as a legal entity in 2007.

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Trainers during the practical business planning training October 2006



Group work during the coffee quality training in September.



Some of the different value addition technologies and products promoted by the business initiatives in the region.



The PIMSAP Project: External Evaluation Findings and Recommendations:

PIMSAP (Programme Implementation Marketing of Sustainable Agriculture Products) started in 2002 with funding from Broederlijk Delen (BD) to develop the marketing capacities of three Broederlijk Delen (BD) partners: SATNET based in the Rwenzori Region, Rural Communities in Development (RUCID) operating in Mityana, Mubende and Kiboga districts and Kyera Farm Training Centre (KFTC), a farm school in Mbarara district with an extension program in Bushenyi and Ntungamo Districts. The project is managed by a steering committee composed of representatives from each of the consortium member. The project is implemented by a team of two local staff and a BD development worker.

BD commissioned an external evaluation to study the impact of the 5 year project that ends at end of 2007 and generate recommendations from stakeholders for a way forward. The evaluation highlighted that PIMSAP played a major role in supporting/ developing marketing associations, training of marketing officers and trainers based in different organisations in the Rwenzori region and establishment of the Uganda Organic Standard (UOS) and the Uganda Certification Company (UGOCERT). This in the long run is expected to reduce the costs for organic certification for farmers in Uganda. Developing these standards took a lot of time and energy in the first 3 years of the project. PIMSAP was able to develop the concept of organic marketing through a network of local NGOs supporting primary cooperatives (Bukonzo Organics) which will later form a secondary cooperative / Union. Through Bukonzo Organics, PIMSAP has gone ahead to establish an Internal Control System (ICS), through developing an ICS Manual and training of local inspectors; to reduce on the cost of external inspection in bid to enable the small-holder farmers attain group certification.

The greatest impact of the project has been with the farmers groups supported by SATNET although these primary societies the SATNET MOs have established do not fall under SATNET membership. There is growing need for SATNET to reflect on the future relationship between the network and the business initiatives promoted by the MOs.

The evaluation however noted that the programme did not adequately address the need for market information and access for the farmers in all the project areas. The programme also achieved considerably more impact with SATNET MOs as compared to the other consortium members' operational areas due to structural and implementation modalities.

A detailed evaluation report produced by the external evaluator is available on request from the PIMSAP and SATNET offices. Following the presentation of the report, the consortium members and stakeholders embarked on discussing the recommendations and the future of the programme. In the first quarter of 2007, Consultation with stakeholders will continue to brain storm on the different options for the future of PIMSAP.



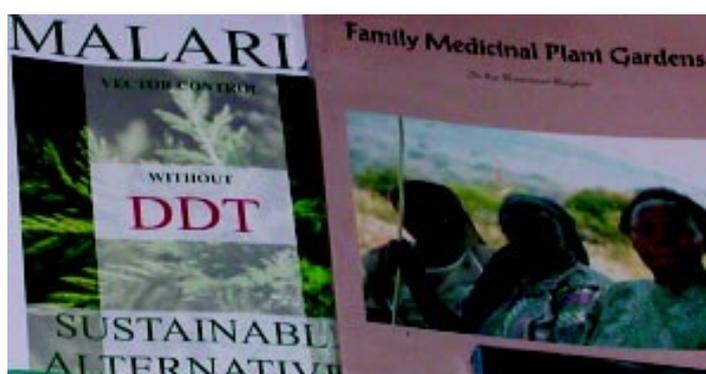
Participants attend a practical session of farm inspection on the fields of an organic farmer in March 2006.

Lobby and Advocacy Activities in 2006:

Lobbying for alternatives to Malaria control as opposed to the proposed DDT re introduction

In 2006, the campaign opposing the re-introduction of DDT in the fight against Malaria continued. The campaign focused on documenting and highlighting the locally available alternatives considering the impact of the proposed DDT use on the environment, agricultural export, incomes and livelihoods. SATNET focused on moving the campaign a step further to the national level following the intensive campaign in the Rwenzori region in 2005. Through working with the National organic agriculture Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU), SATNET contributed resources and information to the national campaign.

Specifically, SATNET produced 1,300 copies of the Hand book: **Sustainable Alternatives in the Control of Malaria** (this information was collected and compiled through workshops and research with herbal practitioners workshops organised in the Rwenzori region), 1,000 posters and 1,000 stickers and 1,000 (a simplified version of the handbook).



SATNET working with traditional herbalists and healers compiled and produced numerous publications highlighting locally available alternatives used by communities in the fight against malaria.

These publications were distributed to members of Parliament, Ministry of Health, district councilors in the Rwenzori region and a wide cross section of stakeholders nationwide.

SATNET worked with NOGAMU to mobilize and coordinate the organic sector business community to meet with the Presidents, Ministry of Trade and Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Export Promotions Board among others to hold discussions and present their position to the proposed introduction of DDT. A copy of the exporters' letter to the president of Uganda was published in the media as an "open letter to the President" for public information. However no official response has been received to date.

In the last quarter of 2006, the National Environment Authority (NEMA) organised a public hearing to listen to public views and reaction to the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report produced by the consultant.

The organic sector stakeholder's presentation to NEMA highlighted the following key concerns:

- ❖ The organic sector stakeholders commend NEMA's efforts to have this public hearing although would suggest NEMA in future makes efforts to publish its reports and allocate sufficient time for discussion and consultation with the wider public.
- ❖ The organic sector stakeholders recognizes that malaria is a serious epidemic with serious health, social and economic consequences and must be handled with care using acceptable and non-harmful means for a sustainable and everlasting solutions.
- ❖ The organic sector stakeholders note with concern that although the EIA is proposing Indoor Residual Spraying of DDT, there is no guarantee that DDT will not leak into the environment and agricultural produce. **If DDT is not found safe for outdoor spraying, what is the logic of the claim that spraying inside houses is safe when**

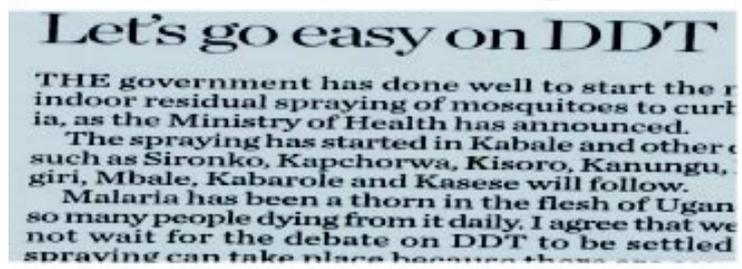
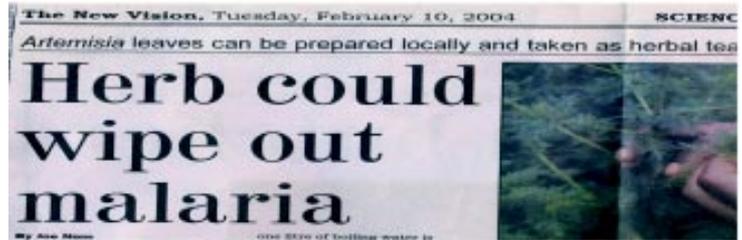
indoor pollution in many cases has more serious consequences than outdoor pollution? This is in reaction to section 1.9.1 where the EIA notes that DDT is a choice for IRS because it maintains its toxicity for several months.

- ❖ Interestingly, it was also noted that table 12 about mitigating scenarios states that “IRS is technically an indoor procedure. Therefore, chances of DDT contamination in the outside environment in quantities that adversely affect crops and fish are non-existent.” The biggest question if this is feasible?
- ❖ The EIA report notes that the houses in the targeted districts are mainly mud and pole and that “These houses are usually used for storage of agricultural produce, such as coffee, before it is sold. When spraying, the inhabitants will be required to shield or remove the produce to protect it from pesticide contamination. Food shall be removed from rooms to be sprayed and preferably secured and covered under polythene sheets. Spray dust must be swept and appropriately buried to reduce any chances of contamination. Separate food stores will be encouraged and facilitated in collaboration with MAAIF”. ?
- ❖ In light of the above and other concerns, the organic sector stakeholders recommend that:
- ❖ While recognizing that DDT might be effective in controlling malaria, the EIA does not give enough sufficient arguments and practical means about how to avoid contamination of food and environment.
- ❖ The stakeholders recommended an alternative and independent study be conducted focusing on vector control strategies specific to the Ugandan conditions.

NEMA is still expected to analyse all the public input and reactions to the EIA report and come up with an independent opinion in the first quarter of 2007.

The proposed IRS debate in the press intensified in the second quarter after the open letter publication and the public hearing.

Below are clips of the debate as they appeared in the national and regional print media.



The Maize Farmers Advocacy Campaign:

In October 2005, Oxfam GB in Uganda in partnership with SATNET in Western Uganda and Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) operating in the Central and Eastern Uganda commissioned a national study to establish **The Impact of Maize Price Fluctuations on the Producer Household in Uganda**.

Why maize?

- Contributed to 10% of the value of agricultural exports in 2004 (MFPED, 2005).
- Uses 46% of all cereal growing land (IITA, 2004) & ranked second after bananas in area cultivated (MAAIF, 1999).
- Important source of carbohydrates and incomes to farmers, traders.
- Source of livestock feed & industrial and seed requirements (Mungereza, 1998).

The study also aimed at identifying and making policy recommendations to lobby for Government appropriate intervention in the maize sector. The research report by a consultant Dr. Barnabas Kiiza of Department of Agricultural Economics, Makerere University was produced and shared at a national stakeholders' forum in April 2006. A copy of this report has been widely distributed in the region and copies are available on request from the SATNET offices and will soon be available at www.satnet.org.ug.

The study produced four policy briefs focusing on:

1. Maize farm price fluctuations
2. Improving maize quality
3. Collective marketing and
4. Regulatory frame work for the marketing of maize.

The policy briefs were translated into Lukonzo and Rutooro and distributed to farmers in the region.

SATNET organised regional stakeholders' symposia in Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kyenjojo and Kasese maize producing districts of the region.



The four symposia were attended by a total of 236 Farmers, traders, District leaders and policy makers to share the research findings, the policy recommendations and agree on the way forward for policy advocacy. At each of the symposia, farmers nominated representatives to spearhead the campaign at district and regional level. The selected district mobilization committees (refer to table below) took lead in mobilizing signatures of 1737 farmers to petition Government, conducted radio talk shows, organizing the regional and national launch.

District	Farmers Representative
Kamwenge	Mr. Wekesa David, Mrs. Edurida Ntwirenabo
Kabarole	Mr. Abel Ngomayondi Mr. Mugisa Deo
Kasese	Mr. Mathina Bwambale Mr. Kitembo Ivan
Kyenjojo	Mr. Mugweri Sam Mrs. Nyakaisiki Rose

On December 8th 2006, the farmers' campaign was launched starting at district level. 30 farmer representatives attended each of the district launches. The farmers met with the District LC V chairpersons, Councilors and production department staff to discuss the campaign and seek commitment to addressing the highlighted issues by the campaigns. Farmers also handed the officials a copy of the petition signed by 20,180 farmers in the region before proceeding to the regional and national launches held in Fort Portal and Kampala respectively.



The RDC Kabarole Mr. Ndiwa Chemasuet officiated at the regional launch. Right is Rev Citole Michael the Chairman SATNET.

40 farmers participated in the national launch activities which included a press conference and



Mr. Ngomayondi Abel presents the petition on behalf of the maize farmers to the Speaker of Parliament.



The Speaker of Parliament addressing the farmers.

match to parliament to hand over the farmers petition to The Right Hon, Edward Ssekandi the Speaker of Parliament.

Pictorial of the campaign



By the close of 2006, the farmer's representatives had received an invitation to appear before the Parliaments committee on Agriculture on 14th January to present the farmers views. The farmer's campaign will continue in all regions of Uganda in 2007.

Promoting Organic Agriculture in Uganda: Western Region Advocacy Activities:

Since 2004, NOGAMU nominated representatives to coordinate her activities in all the regions of Uganda. SATNET has since coordinated the organic sector promotions activities in the western region covering over 16 districts.

In March 2006, SATNET organised a regional meeting for western region members to map out a strategy of conducting and monitoring NOGAMU activities the region. The meeting attended by 30 members proposed the western region be clustered into three sub regions namely;

1. The South Western sub region
2. The Rwenzori sub region
3. The Bunyoro sub region.

Representatives from each of the sub regions will make up the Western region coordinating committee and be operational in 2007.

SATNET and the NOGAMU members in the different sub regions conducted radio programmes to inform the general public about NOGAMU training and marketing activities, the benefits of the organic sector to health, environment and economy, process for organic certification and the threat of the proposed DDT spraying to the organic export market. The radio programmes run on Kagadi Community Radio for the Runyoro speaking community, Radio west for the Rukiiga, Rutooro and Runyankole speaking community and Radio Grace FM targeting the Lukonzo speaking community in the region. A total of 16 radio programmes were conducted. Following the numerous learning's and reflection, this strategy is proposed to change in 2007 to either run pre recorded information sessions on different topics or concentrate on at least 2 radios but have a more consistent programme.

Following the recommendation (the meeting resolved to rotate NOGAMU day celebrations to all parts of the country) of the NOGAMU regional launch, the NOGAMU Day 2006 was held in Kyenjojo District.

The colorful day with a theme **“increasing incomes and improving livelihoods through adoption of organic agriculture in Uganda”** attracted over 30 exhibitors, farmers and stakeholders from 8 districts of western Uganda. The diversity of technologies, products and farmers initiatives exhibited are a clear indicator of increasing awareness and practice of organic farming in the region as illustrated in the following pictorial:



The exhibitions included agronomic practices, agro processing technologies, value addition and agro forestry among others.

Rwenzori Mountains National Park Conservation Project:

The 2 year project is being implemented by SATNET in collaboration with 9 MOs (mainly member organisations operating along the border of the Rwenzori Mountain National Park in Bukonzo County Kasese District. The project supported by GEF/SGP/UNDP aims to:

- Promote conservation and improving of the degraded soils on the mountain slope through planting of citronella grass on contour lines.
- Integration of agro forestry technologies and practices in farming systems
- Promote cultivation of medicinal plants for improved community health,
- Promote the use of Indigenous Knowledge in the Mountain Biodiversity Conservation and educating farmers how to collect and use indigenous knowledge.

The nine project partners are:

- BETT in Kyarumba S/county
- Kiima foods
- Rhiva
- Kasese Catholic Diocese
- Green Home in Kisinga S/County
- Mutiba Foundation in Munkunyu S/ County
- Ndongo United Herbalists in Nyakiyumbu S/County
- Karughe Farmers in Bwera S/County
- New Eden in Kasese Town Council.

Participants at the family medicinal plant growing garden.

Bio Gardens a new CBO in the project area is being supported to take lead in collecting, documentation and disseminating the indigenous Knowledge for community use. Bio Gardens plans to establish an Indigenous Knowledge Centre in Kasese District in 2007.

In 2006 the project implemented the following activities:

- Study Tour to ICRAF- Kenya to learn about agro forestry and conservation technologies. 17 Participants drawn from 10 MOs and SATNET Staff participated.
- Study Tour to the Rwenzori Mountain National Park involving trainers and farmers from partner organisation. The project partners are working closely with Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and the World Wild life Fund (WWF) to enhance collaboration and shared learning.
- Established a tree nursery at RHIVA to provide the planting material for communities bordering the Rwenzori Mountain National park.
- The pilot project partners each held two community dialogue meetings to seek support and commitment of the community to the project.
- The project conducted 6 Baseline studies with community elders from Karambi, Bwera, Kitholhu, Kyondo, Kisinga, Kilembe Sub Counties and Kasese Town Council to gain clear understanding of the indigenous practices and knowledge that is slowly but surely fading away. Bio Gardens to take the lead in collection and making available this information for community use.
- The Project trained 70 Farmers in Family Medicinal Plants growing from BETT, Mutiba Foundation and New Eden. Trainings in group dynamics, herbal plant propagation and marketing will be conducted in 2007.



The tree nursery by RHIVA

Networking and Partnerships in 2006:

HIVOS

HIVOS has supported the SATNET Capacity Building Programme since 2002 to date. In 2006, SATNET signed a new contract with HIVOS to support the 2006-2008 Capacity Building Programme developed from the three year SATNET strategic plan.

National Agriculture Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)

SATNET is a member of NOGAMU. SATNET is also the regional coordinating center for NOGAMU activities for western Uganda. SATNET working on behalf and with NOGAMU mobilized NOGAMU members in the region for planning and consultative meetings, training events, NOGAMU day among other joint activities.

PIMSAP (Programme Implementation Marketing of Sustainable Agriculture Products from Western Uganda)

SATNET is one of the three consortium members and the legal holder for the PIMSAP programme. SATNET and PIMSAP staff work together to train and support the developing marketing and agro processing initiatives in the region. SATNET participated in the PIMSAP evaluation and is involved in the discussions and planning for the way forward.

Kabarole Research and Resources Center (KRC)

KRC support and contribution over the years has contributed greatly to making SATNET what it is today. KRC supports many of the SATNET members in the region. During the 10 year of KRC work and interventions

in the region, a number of SATNET members who have developed and grown with KRC as exhibited during the "People Power, People Actions" exhibition.

Oxfam GB in Uganda

SATNET signed a memorandum of understanding with Oxfam 'Right to Be Heard Programme' to partner on issues of farmers advocacy. This partnership continued in 2006 specifically the maize farmer's advocacy campaign. SATNET, Oxfam worked with VEDCO in the maize campaign in the Central and Eastern region.

SATNET also participated in the Oxfam partner's forum in Uganda and shared experiences and views on the working of the partnership.

SNV (Netherlands Development Organisation- Rwenzori Portfolio)

SATNET continued to work closely with SNV specifically in enhancing SATNET Organisational and institutional capacity building. The SATNET Executive Committee consulted SNV to facilitate the secretariat structure review process and make recommendations for effective implementation of the SATNET strategic plan 2006-2008. This process was successfully completed and a new structure implemented in the first quarter of 2006.

Rwenzori Association of NGOs and Networks (RANNET)

RANNET has provided a platform for SATNET to network and partner with the regional and district networks and other NGOs on issues that affect and promote CSOs in the region

and beyond. RANNET is a unique platform for collective sharing, learning and actions.

RANNET organised the 2006 CSO fair with the theme “**The Fruits of Togetherness**” as a manifestation and a time for CSO to evaluate the results of collective action in the region.

Volunteer Services Organisation (VSO)

The partnership with VSO continued through 2006. SATNET received a VSO volunteer from India when Allan grey (another VSO) left the country at the end of a 2 yrs service contract with SATNET.

On the other hand, VSO worked with SATNET and Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ) to develop a project to the European Union for a grant to support the 2 networks institutional capacity building and as a part of the project starting in January 2007, SATNET will receive another volunteer Documentation and information Officer in 2007.

Uganda Certification Company (UGOCERT):

SATNET is a founder member and shareholder in UGOCERT a company providing organic certification services in Uganda. In 2006, Bukonzo organics trained local organic inspectors and plans to start the implementing the internal control system in 2007. UGOCERT has and will continue to support this process.

Concern Uganda

Concern Uganda started implementing an HIV/AIDS mainstreaming project with 13 partner organisations of Hivos and German Agro Action (GAA) working in the Rwenzori Region. SATNET is among the 13 partners of CONCERN in this project. This partnership

focuses on building the 13 organisations capacity and competences in HIV/AIDS mainstreaming. Concern organised a number of capacity building activities and will provide technical and financial support for internal mainstreaming activities.

Tooro Botanical Gardens (TBG)

The TBG is a new NGO located in the Center of Fort Portal town established as a center of excellence in growing and maintaining living collections of plants from the albertine rift valley region for conservation, scientific, educational, horticultural, medicinal and recreational purposes. SATNET and TBG have worked together to conduct trials on growing *Artemisia Annu*. SATNET staff will continue to participate in the development of TBG as it provides new opportunities to conduct research and develop technologies for sustainable agriculture promotion in the region and beyond. Plans are underway for SATNET and TBG seek collaboration with Mountains of the Moon University (MMU) a new university in the region to conduct research responding to issues raised by communities in the region.

Broederlijk Delen (BD)

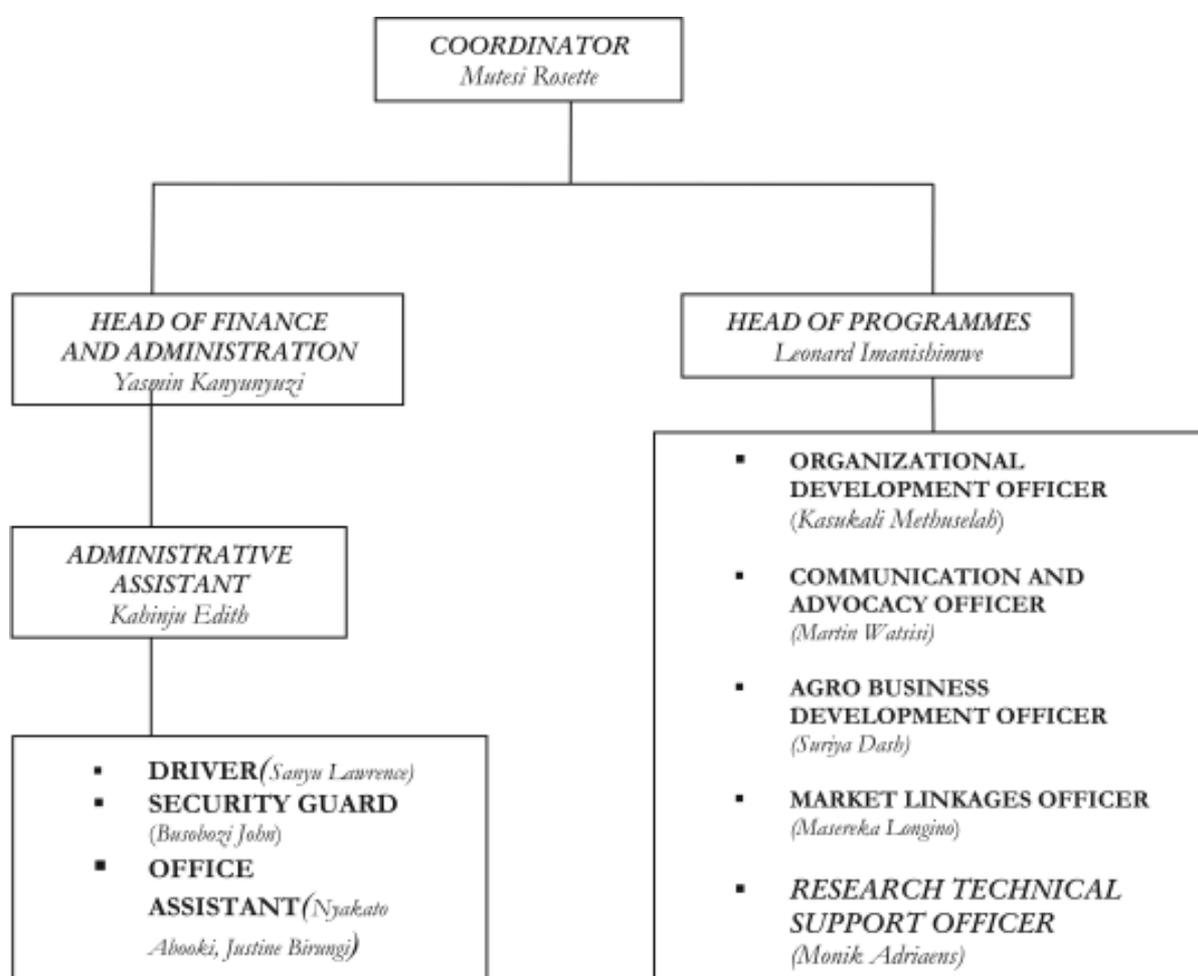
Broederlijk Delen has been in partnership with SATNET for the last five years supporting the PIMSAP project and the Herbal medicines development projects. Through BD SATNET has received development workers and volunteers.

In 2006, BD invited and supported two staff members to participate in the vice versa lantern campaign to fundraise for BD partners development activities in the South. SATNET staff and MOs (partners to BD) participated in a BD organised workshop on HIV/AIDS mainstreaming held in the Rwenzori region in November 2006.

INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AND GROWTH IN 2006:

Human resources:

Following the external evaluation and strategic planning process in 2006, the Executive Committee initiated a secretariat structure review process aimed at further strengthening the secretariat capacity to effectively implement the strategic plan. Following a number of reflection meetings and discussions involving MOs, staff, members of the Executive Committee and selected partners, a new staff structure was eventually developed and implemented by the Executive Committee. The new staff structure created a management team headed the Coordinator, the Technical staff team headed by the Head of Programmes and the Administrative team headed by the Head of Finance and Administration. The diagram below highlights the new staffing structure and the members of staff in each of the positions.



In the new staff structure, the Coordinator, the Head of Programmes and the Head of Finance and Administration constitute the management team which has been set up to improve the overall management and coordination of SATNET programmes as they have grown in scope over the past four years.

The technical wing is in charge of day to day implementation of programme activities while the Administrative wing of the organisation provides support and facilitation to all the staff. The new structure is envisaged to streamline integration in implementation. This structure is also expected to enhance staff capacity development and learning for improved efficiency and competence building.

Following the restructuring exercise, majority of the positions were filled through an internal recruitment process while the two newly created positions were advertised and suitable applicants recruited into the organisation. Four new members of staff (Leonard Imanishimwe, Watsisi Martin, Suriya Dash and Kahinju Edith) joined the organisation. Two volunteers Allan Grey a VSO volunteer successfully completed his two contracts and returned home in July while Joreon Weckhuysen a BD volunteer completed his one year internship at SATNET in February. Two staff members Sabuni Johnson the Agri Business Development Support Officer and Bwambale Phillip the Communication and Advocacy Officer left the organisation in March and July respectively. SATNET is grateful to these staff members for their skills, commitment and energy committed to the organisation and wish them well in their life Journeys.

During the year, a number of staff capacity building activity were implemented especially to ensure efficient staff performance in the new roles and responsibilities and to bring the new staff on board as quickly as possible. On average each staff member participated in three training activities minus the collective staff training and

team building activities. As a strategy to improve internal learning and sharing of skills, staff have introduced a staff capacity building day once a month at which occasion, each staff member will organise and conduct a training for the others.

Finance and Administration

In 2006, SATNET developed two proposals and signed long term contracts as follows;

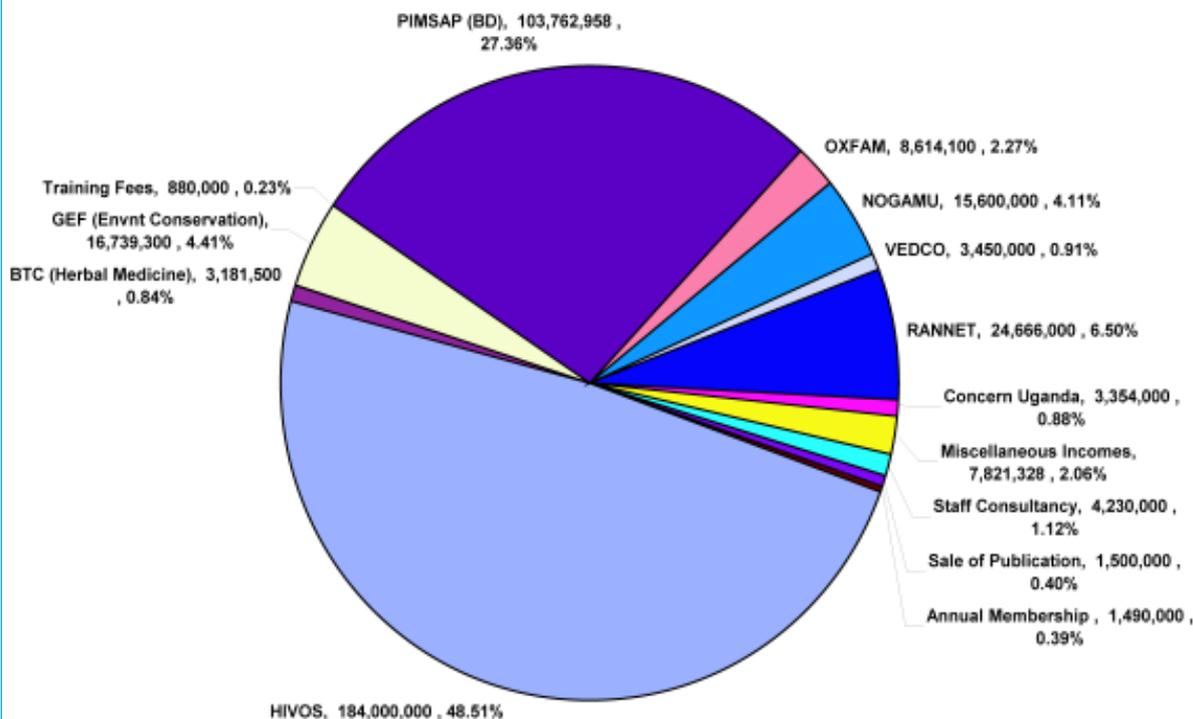
- ◆ HIVOS signed a three year contract to support the implementation of the SATNET Strategic Plan 2006-2008 with Euro 80,000 per year. SATNET and HIVOS also agreed on a set of indicators upon which the success of programme will be measured.
- ◆ SATNET signed a partnership agreement with VSO as one of the partners in the EU supported institutional capacity building programme for two VSO partners (SATNET and RFPJ) in the Rwenzori region. through this project to start in January 2007, VSO will provide volunteers and technical support to the two partners.

Many of the other projects as is shown in the diagram on the next page were on going from the previous year. As shown in the diagram showing income and expenditure on the next page, SATNET is the legal holder for PIMSAP and RANNET meaning that the funds for these two programmes are received by SATNET on behalf of PIMSAP and RANNET.

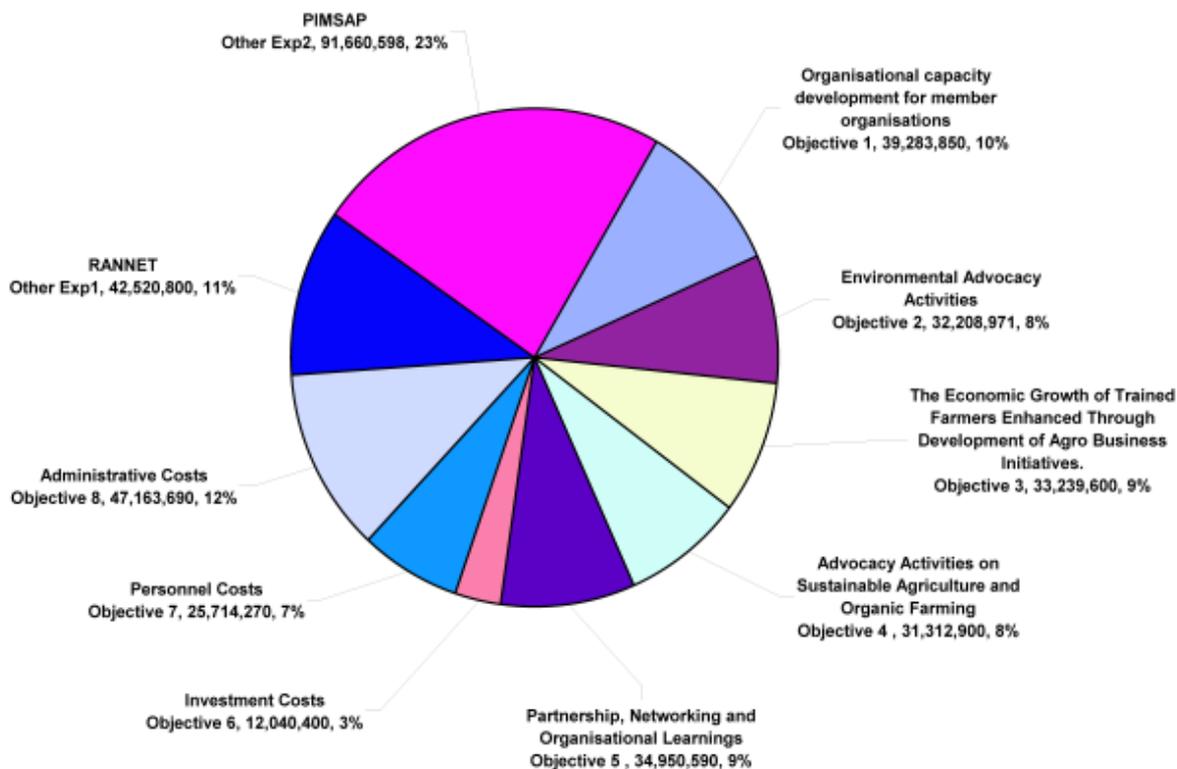
Assets and Investment in 2006:

Although SATNET did not have any major investment, the organisation purchased two computers, two laptops, one digital camera and voice recorder, a power point presentation beamer and office furniture for the new staff. The expenditure diagram on the next page gives an overview on the investment costs during the year.

Summary of Incomes in 2006



Summary of Expenditures in 2006



KEY CHALLENGES:

- I. Unfavorable Government Policies and Laws. The year 2006 saw the enactment of the NGO Registration 2006 Amendment Act. Despite petitions from Civil Society Organizations, the law which put restrictions on NGO activities was passed by Parliament. Government also continued to insist on the use of DDT for indoor Residue spraying despite the increasing public outcry, petition and production of information on locally available and environmentally friendly alternatives to control malaria. The lack of a government policy on organic agriculture continues to constrain promotion of organic agriculture.
- II. Lack of access to financial services and shrinking donor support to MOs. This is affecting MOs activity implementation and consequently has a bearing on the networks effectiveness and ability to meet her objectives.
- III. Increasing production vis-à-vis environmental protection. Of recent there has been a realization that the unbridled up scaling of particular crops like rice may pose a threat to the environment through bush clearing and deforestation.
- IV. Self sustainability remains a big challenge both for MOs and the Secretariat.
- V. SATNET and her Member Organizations have experienced tremendous growth and evolution. From small training organization, some have grown to complex entities with several business arms such as cooperatives, marketing associations and companies. In some cases, there is also a microfinance arm. While this is a positive development, it poses great challenges in terms of policy, legal frame work and linkages. SATNET is yet to develop a model on how it should related with these emerging entities that are not Members but are products of SATNET's and MO evolution and growth.
- VI. There is increasing demand for information on key issues on sustainable agriculture, marketing, organic pesticides and weather information.
- VII. There is also several emerging research needs yet the research systems appears to have broken down with no direct linkages between the research institutions and the farming communities. The linkage currently is weak and the feed back mechanism with the research institutions poor. Farmers' research needs include the drying of jeotropha trees used for vanilla growing, Banana Bacterial wilt disease, organic pests and disease control, Pineapple wilt disease and infertility in exotic goats.
- VIII. Out break of disasters like draught and diseases and lack of a disaster policy on disaster preparedness and management.

PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

- I. SATNET will continue to liaise and network with other stakeholders specifically RANNET, NOGAMU, National NGO Forum and other Civil Society Organizations to influence policies that affect agriculture, community livelihoods and natural resource management. This year, SATNET will develop an advocacy policy that will give direction to our lobbying and advocacy activities.
- II. SATNET can not achieve sustainable development if environment concerns are not given due attention. SATNET shall therefore continue to engage in environmental advocacy activities and promote dialogue among MOs, and stakeholders.
- III. SATNET plans to increase capacity support to marketing initiatives through training and development of business plans after thorough feasibility studies are conducted, encouraging collective marketing and linkage to micro finance associations.
- IV. Issues of self sustainability shall be a matter of high priority effective 2007. It has already been planned that a team of trainers to form a working committee to consult with MOs, partners and learn from other organisation to come up with feasible suggestions and a sustainability strategy effective 2007.
- V. During the annual reflection in November 2006, several issues came up and the Executive Committee has resolved that a study be conducted to look into SATNET's capacity building strategies in terms of the evolving MO training and capacity building needs. It is hoped that this study will be completed by September 2007.
- VI. SATNET has started in the process of dialoging and formulation of a Memorandum of Understanding with Mountains of the Moon University and Tooro Botanic Gardens to partner on issues of research and on farm demonstration to address the research problems.
- VII. SATNET has also initiated discussions with Rwenzori Information Centres Network (RIC-NET) to participate in the dialogue on access to information to farmers through the information centres to be set up in every county. SATNET will also up grading her website and use it to provide key links and access valuable information. Market information will effective this year be provided through SATNET news- a quarterly newsletter with emphasis placed on how to find market information from other sources.
- VIII. SATNET will take on Banana Bacterial Wilt disease as an advocacy issue by working in partnership with Local Governments and partners. This is planned to be done through the member organised sub county advocacy meetings.

SATNET Member Organisations 2006

KABAROLE DISTRICT:

1. Joint Effort To Save The Environment (JESE)
2. Foundation For Rural Development (FORUD)
3. Western Rift Valley Ecological Farm Institute (WREFI)
4. Bunyangabu Beekeeping Community (BBC)
5. Kabarole Beekeepers Association (KBA)
6. Kyakahinda Beekeeping Community (KBC)
7. Kabarole Integrated Women Effort In Development (KIWED)
8. Kiboota Widows And Widowers Association
9. Environment & Sustainable Agriculture Program (ESAP) Fort Portal Diocese
10. Tooro Herbal Medicine Research Centre (THEMERIC)
11. Bamugisa Farmers Demonstration And Training Centre (BFDTC)
12. Nyabubale Rural Development Project
13. Kabalore Research And Resource Centre (KRC) - Honorary Member
14. Kabarole District Farmers Association (KDFA) -
15. Kabarole United Organic Farmers Association (KUOFA)
16. Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA)
17. Bukuku Extension Link In Sustainable Commercial Agriculture For Rural Development (BELSCARD)

KASESE DISTRICT:

18. Kiima Foods
19. Karughe Farmers Partnership (KFP)
20. Kyempara Farmers Wild Life Environment Protection Association (KFWPEPA)
21. Mutiba Foundation For Agriculture & Community Service
22. Gender & Development Association (GEDA)
23. Green Home

24. Bukonzo East Training Team (BETT)
25. Catholic Diocese Of Kasese (CDOK)
26. Kagando Rural Development Community (KARUDEC)
27. New Eden Development Group- Kasese
28. Ikongo Rural Development Association
29. Rwenzori Herbal And Environmental Activists Association (RHIVA)

KAMWENGE DISTRICT:

30. Catholic Women Association (CWA)
31. Community Sustainable Initiatives Link (COSIL)
32. Technology For Rural Animal Power (TRAP)
33. Kamwenge Sustainable Organic Farmers Association (KASOFA)

KYENJOJO DISTRICT:

34. Agriculture Development Programme (ADP) Fort Portal Diocese
35. Kyembogo Farmers Association (KYEFA)
36. Rural Reconstruction Movement – Kyaka (RRM -K)
37. Kulika Charitable Trust— Kijwiga Training Center (KCT-K)
38. Development Foundation For Rural Areas (DEFORA)
39. Kyenjojo District Farmers Association (KYEDFA)
40. Bugaaki Development Association (BUDO)
41. Nyankwanzi Farmers Empowerment For Development (NAFED)

BUNDIBUGYO DISTRICT:

42. Bundibugyo Agro-Producers & Sellers Association (BASO)
43. North Rwenzori Rural Agriculture Community Link (NORRACOL)
44. Abanyarwenzori Mountaineering Association (AMA)