

# AN ANALYSIS OF THE POLICY GAPS, BARRIERS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE, AGROECOLOGY, AND PEASANT RIGHTS IN UGANDA



Eastern and Southern Africa  
Small Scale Farmers' Forum

**ESAFF - UGANDA**

*Amplifying  
Small-scale  
Farmers'  
Voices*



Southern and Eastern Africa



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## Abbreviations and Synonyms

<b>EACOP:</b>	<b>East African Crude Oil Pipeline</b>
<b>ESAFF:</b>	<b>Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Framers' Forum</b>
<b>FAO:</b>	<b>Food and Agriculture Organization</b>
<b>FMSS:</b>	<b>Farmer Managed Seed Systems</b>
<b>GDP:</b>	<b>Growth Domestic Product</b>
<b>ICT:</b>	<b>Information Communication Technology</b>
<b>LVC:</b>	<b>La Via Campesina</b>
<b>NAES:</b>	<b>National Agriculture Extension Strategy</b>
<b>NCCP:</b>	<b>National Climate Change Policy</b>
<b>NEMA:</b>	<b>National Environment Management Authority</b>
<b>NFA:</b>	<b>National Forestry Authority</b>
<b>NAOP:</b>	<b>National Organic Agriculture Policy</b>
<b>PAPs:</b>	<b>Project Affected Persons</b>
<b>PGS:</b>	<b>Participatory Guarantee System</b>
<b>SDGs:</b>	<b>Sustainable Development Goals</b>

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## About ESAFF Uganda and Acknowledgement

Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) was formed during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 held South Africa. This was in an effort to create a forum to bring together small-scale farmers into a social movement to influence favourable agriculture policies and practices at global, continental, regional, national, and grass root levels.

ESAFF Uganda became operational in 2008 and has since become the largest small-scale farmer-led advocacy movement in Uganda. ESAFF Uganda works to enhance the SSF's ability to make informed decisions and participate meaningfully in development processes. ESAFF Uganda currently has a membership of 12,588 small-scale farmer community organisations in 54 districts, representing over 765,560 individual small-scale farmers, of whom 67 percent are women. ESAFF Uganda is also part of a bigger network of small-scale farmers in 15 other countries in Eastern and Southern Africa.

ESAFF Uganda is also part of La Via Campesina (LVC), which is the largest peasant movement in the world, representing over 200 million peasants in 80 countries.

ESAFF Uganda is grateful and acknowledges the financial and technical support from La Via Campesina (LVC) towards the development of this study. The views expressed in this study are for small-scale farmers in Uganda.

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## Executive Summary

Uganda possesses favorable conditions for agriculture, with a warm climate, fertile land, and ample rainfall. Agriculture has long been the backbone of Uganda's economy, contributing significantly to socioeconomic development. Despite 80% of the land being arable, only 35% is cultivated. Challenges such as limited resources, inadequate infrastructure, and climate change impact peasant small-scale farmers, who constitute the majority of the agricultural workforce. The decline in agricultural output poses a threat to Uganda's economy, as evidenced by a 4% decrease in GDP from Agriculture in 2017.

However, the country faces natural disasters like mudslides, landslides, and floods, particularly in mountainous areas, locusts invasion the one affected Teso Sub region and part of Karamoja while a 25.5% urbanization rate and economic expansion strain urban infrastructure and land resources, especially impacting poorer farming communities. Economic growth contributes to deforestation, pollution, and unsustainable water use, with floods affecting over 170,000 Kampala residents in the recent past. Droughts that are exacerbated by rising temperatures result in human and livestock casualties and crop failures.

Peasant agroecology is practiced by over 70% of Ugandans, yet smallholders, constituting 37.5% of the population are below the poverty line and face food insecurity. Peasant agroecology, focusing on sustainability, incorporates practices like seed exchange, sharing and diversified cropping for climate resilient and sustainable farming, aiming not only to alleviate hunger but also foster environmental sustainability, social equity, and economic resilience. The exploration of peasant rights underscores their entitlements, including life, integrity, liberty, security, land, and seed. Despite UN declarations and recognition of food sovereignty, peasant rights abuses are increasing, necessitating comprehensive policy reforms to achieve climate justice and protect peasants from forceful land evictions, land grabbing, and conflicts in land tenure systems. The call for state fulfillment of obligations in land allocation, promotion of agroecological production, and enabling peasants to acquire freehold titles highlights the urgency of addressing these issues.

The study conducted by ESAFF Uganda aimed to analyze policy gaps and barriers related to climate justice, peasant agroecology, and peasant rights in Uganda. Through desk research and consultations with small-scale farmers and stakeholders, the study identifies opportunities within existing policies. The ultimate goal of the study is to provide strategic policy recommendations for up scaling agroecology, achieving climate justice, and safeguarding peasant rights in Uganda

The study scrutinized five policy frameworks proposed for Uganda by ESAFF and other

stakeholders in agroecology, focusing on climate justice, agroecology, and peasant rights. Analyzed policies encompass the National Organic Agriculture Policy, National Agriculture Policy, National Agriculture Extension Strategy, National Climate Change Policy, and National Seed Policy. Climate justice, emphasizing equitable burden-sharing in climate change, is hindered by unreliable meteorological data and inadequate communication channels. The National Agriculture Policy lacks explicit climate justice considerations and agroecological elements. The National Climate Change Policy lacks specificity on climate-smart agriculture and renewable energy. The National Agriculture Extension Strategy faces coordination challenges, with gaps in climate information dissemination.

The National Seed Policy emphasizes formal seed systems, neglecting Farmer managed Seed system one of the agroecological approach, though it has a mention of the informal seed sector. The National Organic Agriculture Policy aligns with agroecology but lacks a regulation and effective implementation mechanisms. Peasant agroecology faces challenges in extension services, technology development, adoption, and coordination. Agroecology and peasant rights are insufficiently addressed in policies, particularly in the National Seed Policy. The study suggests mainstreaming agroecology into government policy frameworks related this sector, addressing implementation gaps, and ensuring inclusivity in climate change adaptation measures.

The proposed recommendations emphasize the integration of guidelines and restrictions in the National Organic Agriculture Bill which under development (NAOB) to counter the negative impacts of Industrial (conventional) farming on the environment and public health. Continuous assessments of the NOAP are suggested for effectiveness, with small-scale farmers advocating for government support in subsidizing organic certification processes to promote inclusivity. Clear certification procedures and tailored legislation for organic farming are proposed, along with increased support, awareness campaigns, and research initiatives. The importance of incorporating local languages in NOAP materials is highlighted for better understanding and adoption at the grassroots level. Additionally, the integration of agroecology in the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) is recommended to address climate change comprehensively.

There's also a call for closing the human capacity gap in extension services, acknowledging agroecology education, and implementing effective communication strategies in the NCCP is emphasized. Specific laws to stop land fragmentation, detailed definitions for improved seeds and fertilizers, and subsidies for cottage industries are proposed. The need to sensitize cultural and religious leaders about women's

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peasant rights is stressed, alongside recommendations for the government to uphold commitments in agricultural education policies and the National Seed Policy. Ensuring alignment with agroecological principles, recognizing traditional knowledge, and enforcing sanctions against counterfeit seeds are highlighted in the National Seed Policy. A new agroecology policy is also proposed. The recruitment and retooling of extension workers, protection of peasants' initiatives, innovations and provision of farmer-friendly appropriate irrigation schemes are also recommended. The conclusion underscores the urgency of addressing the challenges faced by small-scale farmers, emphasizing their crucial role in global food production and the necessity for supportive policies to ensure a sustainable food system so that citizens are food secure and as well achieve climate justice.

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# 1. Background and Introduction

Uganda is endowed with a warm climate, ample fertile land, and regular rainfall, all of which provide one of the best environments for agricultural production in sub-Saharan Africa. Agriculture has, for several years, formed the backbone of Uganda's economy. Eighty percent of Uganda's land is arable, but only 35% is being cultivated. Agriculture has made significant contribution to Uganda's socioeconomic development through generation of household and national incomes; reduction of hunger; and growth in trade, investments, industrialization, economic diversification and job creation. However, real growth in the agricultural output has been steadily declining over the years, for instance, Uganda's GDP from Agriculture decreased by 4% from UGX 3,257.83 billion in the third quarter of 2017 to UGX 3,110.66 billion in the fourth quarter of 2017 while growth in GDP from food crops reduced from 5.3% in FY 2017/18 to 4.0% in 2018/19. In FY 2022/23, agriculture accounted for about 24% of GDP and 35% of export earnings. The UBOS estimates that about 68% of Uganda's working population is employed in agriculture.

The majority of these farmers are small-scale farmers who are among the poorest people in the world. Ironically and tragically, they are also the people who most often suffer from hunger; 37.5% of Uganda's population lives below the poverty line of 1.25 dollars per day (other sources draw that line at 1.80 dollars). Yet these farmers are an invaluable segment of the agricultural industry in Uganda and are responsible for food production as well as key cash crops exported for foreign exchange. However, they often face challenges due to limited resources, improper infrastructure, lack of capital, gender biases, or other socioeconomic factors. Climate change is now a big challenge to these farmers, as the increase in severe weather events and less predictable patterns can negatively impact harvests.

Climate justice is a concept rooted in the recognition that the impacts of climate change disproportionately affect vulnerable and marginalized communities, exacerbating existing social and economic inequalities. It emphasizes the ethical and moral responsibilities of addressing climate change, considering historical contributions to greenhouse gas emissions, and acknowledging the differential capacities of communities to adapt. Climate justice calls for fair and equitable solutions that prioritize the needs and rights of those most affected, often in low-income countries. As articulated by scholars and activists, it seeks to address not only the environmental aspects of climate change but also its social dimensions, advocating for inclusive policies that ensure the protection of human rights, promote sustainable development, and foster resilience in the face of climate-related challenges (Shi, 2016; Roberts and Parks, 2007; IPCC, 2014).

Climate justice and peasant rights are interconnected issues, particularly in the context of

smallholder farmers who often face significant challenges due to climate change. Smallholder farmers are often more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as erratic weather patterns, extreme events (droughts, floods), and temperature fluctuations. These factors can disrupt traditional agricultural practices and reduce crop yields. Climate change can exacerbate existing challenges related to land tenure for smallholder farmers, extreme weather events may lead to displacement, threatening the traditional lands and livelihoods of peasants. There are also wide reports of the negative impact of climate change on traditional food and seed systems and accessibility to resources such as seed, food water and low soil fertility. Yet, it is globally acknowledged that Smallholder farmers, especially in developing countries, often contribute minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions but bear a disproportionate burden of the impacts of climate change and yet they lack adaptive capacities due to low technical knowledge and lack of financial resources. In Uganda, smallholder farmers may face challenges in having their voices heard in policymaking processes related to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Ensuring the inclusion of peasant perspectives in decision-making is crucial for just and effective climate policies.

Agroecology is an integrative approach to agriculture now being embraced by farmers to counter climate change among other things. Agroecology emphasizes sustainable and ecologically sound practices, aiming to create resilient and productive agricultural systems while minimizing environmental impacts. Rooted in ecological principles, agroecology promotes the design and management of farming systems that mimic natural ecosystems, emphasizing biodiversity, soil health, and the conservation of resources. It encompasses a range of practices such as organic farming, agroforestry, crop diversification, and integrated pest management. Agroecology seeks to enhance the overall well-being of farming communities by fostering social and economic equity, reducing dependence on external inputs, and promoting local food sovereignty. Scholars and practitioners argue that agroecological methods not only contribute to environmental sustainability but also play a crucial role in addressing issues such as food security, climate change adaptation, and the resilience of agricultural systems (Altieri, 1995; Wezel et al., 2009; Gliessman, 2007).

Peasant agroecology supports life-enriching systems and opposes life-alienating systems. It offers solutions to the major environmental, social, economic, and political challenges we are facing today. It is a living practice as well as a science and a socio-political movement, built and fostered by people over thousands of years. Peasant agroecology deeply connects us with our relationships, our feelings towards others, and our natural environment. As such, it contributes to the



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creation of balanced societies embedded within a healthy world. Peasant agroecology is the study of farming and how our society is changing based on shared rights, traditions, and laws that protect farmers' and communities' freedom to choose and live their own lives.

Peasant rights encompass a range of socio-economic and land-related issues that impact the lives of small-scale farmers. Peasant rights generally refer to the set of social, economic, and cultural entitlements and protections afforded to small-scale farmers, commonly known as peasants. These rights aim to ensure the well-being, dignity, and sustainable livelihoods of individuals and communities engaged in agriculture, especially in rural and agrarian settings. Peasant rights encompass various aspects, including land tenure, access to resources, fair wages, social protections,

and the right to participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives. The recognition and protection of peasant rights are essential for promoting food security, rural development, and social justice in many societies.

Ugandan peasant or small-scale farmers are experiencing these challenges even in the presence of different policies in Uganda that are meant to protect the rights of small-scale farmers. On that note, ESAFF Uganda conducted a study on selected different policies in Uganda to analyze the gaps and barriers that have made these challenges persist among small-scale farming communities. The study also analyzed the opportunities in the current policies that small-scale farmers and other stakeholders can exploit to promote climate justice, peasant agroecology, and small-scale farmers' rights.

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## 1.1 Objectives

*This study had the following objectives:*

1. To analyze the policy gaps and barriers in the selected policies related to climate justice, peasant agroecology, and peasant rights.
2. To analyze strategic opportunities in the selected policies related to climate justice, agroecology, and peasant rights.
3. To present strategic policy recommendations for the up scaling of agroecology, the achievement of climate justice, and the protection of peasant rights.

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## 1.2 Methodology

In this study, desk research was used to collect and analyse information from available secondary sources, such as documents, reports, academic publications, and other materials. ESAFF Uganda organised a policy review exercise that involved small-scale farmers to map and analyse policies. Further consultation was also done with different stakeholders, like extension service providers and organisations that are working with small-scale farmers. The desk research examined key policies in Uganda that were selected by small-scale farmers.

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## 2. Context Analysis

### 2.1 Climate Justice

Uganda is at risk of natural disasters. The country experiences extreme weather events that lead to mudslides, landslides, and flooding, particularly in the country's mountainous regions and districts, such as Mbale and Bududa in the Mountain Elgon region. These events have increased for over 30 years. Flooding has become more frequent due to more intense rainfall. Over the past two decades, averages of 200 Ugandans have been affected each year. The increased intensity of heavy rains has led to greater impacts from floods and is causing more damage due to expanded infrastructure, human settlement, and the general development of the country. (WBG Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP,2020). Uganda was invaded by locusts in 2020 and twenty districts were affected which worsened food insecure region when they everything green visible and cost the government billions to control it. (FAO September 2020)

With an urbanisation rate of 25.5%<sup>1</sup>, increasing amounts of the population are living in urban areas, putting pressure on existing infrastructure as well as scarcely available land, a diminishing natural resource. As of 2017, 9.9 million people lived in urban areas of Uganda. This is projected to increase to 19.9 million by 2030 and 31.5 million by 2040, causing increased pressure on urban infrastructure and an increased likelihood of vulnerability for poorer and less resilient communities.

Economic growth and the expansion of industry have made it easier to take advantage of forest land, lakes for fisheries, inner-city development, and farmland. This has led to more trees being cut down, more fishing, worsening farmland and forest environments, pollution, and the unsustainable use of water resources. Flooding, particularly in low-lying areas of the country, presents the largest risk. According to the Kampala Flood Mapping Technical Report (World Bank, 2018), over 170,000 residents are regularly affected by flooding and the average annual cost of building damages caused by floods in Kampala is close to US\$50 million<sup>2</sup>.

Uganda experiences both flash floods and slow-onset floods, which are common in urban areas, low-lying areas, areas along river banks, and swamplands. Areas most prone to floods are the capital city, Kampala, as well as the northern and eastern areas of the country. Heavy rainfall in arid areas has led to flash flooding, causing infrastructure damage. Areas such as Gulu, Kisoro, Kabale, and Kasese Districts face large challenges in the rainy seasons as large areas of the district become impassable, often resulting in food shortages and inaccessibility to health facilities and schools due to the destruction of roads and bridges from flooding.

On Thursday, April 27th, 2023, the daily Express Newspaper reported that **"Hundreds of people in Kyanzuki ward, Bulembia division, Kasese, are stranded after the collapse of the Kyanzuki bridge**

**that was swept away by the flooded River Nyamwamba, cutting off the township from the rest of Kasese Municipality. The well-structured bridge constructed by Srilanka Hydro Power Company originally collapsed during the 2020 and 2021 floods that ravaged the district, and now the fresh disaster has affected the business community and schools, among other institutions in Kasese town. The heavy water waves have sunk some of the gabions constructed during the de-silting of the River Nyamwamba. In addition, crops and buildings were destroyed in Kyalhumba Sub-County due to heavy downpours."**

Droughts affected close to 2.4 million people between 2004 and 2013, and drought conditions in 2010 and 2011 caused an estimated loss and damage value of \$1.2 billion, equivalent to 7.5% of Uganda's 2010 gross domestic product. Increasing heat conditions in the country are further exacerbating this problem. Severe drought in Uganda can result in human and livestock deaths, and impacted areas are also experiencing reduced water tables, diminished water levels in major lakes, and crop failures. Rapid population growth is also putting additional strain on depleted water resources.

### 2.2 Peasant Agroecology in Uganda

Over 70% of Ugandans actively participate in peasant agroecology, cultivating more than 3.5 million family farms, a substantial portion of which belongs to some of the world's economically disadvantaged nations. Despite their crucial role in agriculture, these smallholders, constituting 37.5% of the population living below the \$1.25 poverty line, often grapple with food insecurity. Peasant agroecology, positioned as a fundamental way of life, addresses a spectrum of challenges encompassing environmental, social, economic, and political dimensions. By amalgamating age-old agricultural wisdom with contemporary advocacy for climate justice, it unequivocally rejects profit-centric reductionism, placing a paramount focus on sustenance.

Through fundamental practices such as seed exchange, sharing, diversified cropping, and nutrient recycling, peasant agroecology ensures the cultivation of resilient and sustainable climate farming. The localised approach, substantiated by statistical data, minimises energy usage and emissions, thereby resisting dependency on agribusiness. Agricultural experts, as reported by the Monitor Magazine on December 14, 2022, posit that **"Agroecology could be the only way Uganda can be saved from the nightmares of hunger and climate change while boosting people's welfare and well-being."**

Professor Diana Nambatya, one of the experts cited and emphasised that, agroecology plays a pivotal

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1223543/urbanization-rate-in-africa-by-country/#:~:text=Urbanization%20in%20Africa%202021%2C%20by%20country&text=In%202021%2C%20Gabon%20had%20the,population%20living%20in%20urban%20areas.>

<sup>2</sup> <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/410661560796289323/pdf/Three-Foot-Under-The-Impact-of-Floods-on-Urban-Jobs-Connectivity-and-Infrastructure.pdf>

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role in conserving biodiversity and natural resources. It enhances resilience to climate change and addresses challenges associated with the control of peasants over agricultural and food systems, thereby empowering women. Notably, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Symposium on Agroecology in 2014 underscored the significance of agroecological practices in developing sustainable food systems, particularly for the well-being of small-scale farmers and consumers.

New scientific findings show that biofertilizers, agroforestry, and other practices that aren't used enough in agroecology are very important for making farming truly sustainable. The holistic embrace of peasant agroecology emerges not only as a means to alleviate hunger but as a comprehensive approach to fostering environmental sustainability, social equity, and economic resilience in Uganda's agrarian landscape.

### 2.3 Peasant Rights in Uganda

Peasants are people who engage in or seek to engage in small-scale agricultural production for subsistence or market. This can be done individually or as a group, depending on who relies significantly, though not necessarily exclusively, on family or household labour and other non-monetized ways of organising labour and who has a special dependency on and attachment to the lands. Peasants' rights are mandates or entitlements of peasants, and these include the right to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security, land, and seed, among others. The recognition of the right to seeds in the UN Declaration is central to the realisation of the human rights of peasants as well as of the entire world population.

La Via Campesina first promoted its concept of food sovereignty, an issue that is now central to its cause, at the World Food Summit in 1996. This new concept continued to develop and gather support over the years, and in 2001, about 200 civil society organisations came together at the World Forum on Food Sovereignty in Havana, Cuba, to define the term. To further its cause, beginning in 2001, La Via Campesina began working on a Declaration of Rights of Peasants—Women and Men. After several years of consultations, the Declaration was finalised in Seoul in 2009. Some key points included in this declaration were the right to land and territory, the right to seeds and traditional agricultural knowledge and practice, the freedom to determine the price and market for agricultural production, and the right to biological diversity.

On December 18, 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP). This declaration calls for peasants to be more than mere 'subjects of rights'. Instead, it recognises peasants and people in rural areas as fundamental actors in overcoming the crisis. This UN Declaration is a strategic instrument to strengthen the struggles and proposals of rural movements. The core of the Declaration centres on

the right to land, seeds, and biodiversity, as well as several 'collective rights' anchored in food sovereignty. Food sovereignty is the people's right to determine their food and agricultural systems and the right to produce and consume healthy and culturally appropriate food.

People working in rural areas are particularly vulnerable and suffer from hunger and poverty at higher rates than those in urban areas. As noted by the Advisory Committee, hunger is principally a problem for the rural population, with 80% of the world's hungry people living in rural areas. Furthermore, these hungry rural populations are the same populations that provide food to the rest of the world. 50% of the hungry are smallholder farmers, 20% are landless families working as tenant farmers or agricultural labourers, and 10% live from traditional fishing, hunting, and herding activities. Women, peasants, and rural workers are even more vulnerable, making up 70% of the world's hungry population.

In Uganda, there are increasing cases of peasant rights abuses, including forceful land evictions, land grabbing, and arbitrary arrests. The Project Affected Persons (PAPs) were forced to leave their homes and were not paid for a while, while the 1,443 km East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) was being built. The pipeline goes through wildlife areas, agricultural land, and water sources, which is an example of violating peasant rights. In the Teso sub-region, peasants have been deprived of the right to access, produce, and sell their agricultural products to the Soroti Fruit Factory. The government supplied citrus and mango seedlings to small-scale farmers in the region under the NAADs programme with the assurance of providing them with markets at the fruit factory.

Article 237(1) of the 1995 Constitution says that land belongs to the citizens of Uganda." But it is not clear how citizens can exercise this authority. So there is a need for the provision of this instrument for citizens to exercise it fully. Likewise, customary ownership is not formalised in the Land Act or the Land Policy, so implementation and enforcement mechanisms infringe on the rights of women to access, use, and control land. (Part B: Contemporary Land Policy Issues) The policy does not regulate cultural and religious practices on land and gender issues directly, so there is a need for a legal policy framework to regulate the customary tenure land system in Uganda.

Regardless of Articles 242 and 245 of the Constitution, there are no guidelines for the local government to enforce, "**Endows the state and the government with the power to limit undesirable land use in the interest of public welfare or orderly development without revoking ownership interests or rights.**" It therefore implies ineffective enforcement of laws and regulations with regard to land use, physical planning, the environment, and natural resources. We also noticed that the land policy does not cater to and regulate refugees on sustainable land use and management. Therefore, the state should follow rightful and legally

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recognised procedures in allocating land to investors and immigrants.

Conflicts in land tenure systems affect the rights of peasants. The land tenure system conflicts over ownership of the land. Some cultures and religions—for example, Muslims and Buganda culture—prohibit women from owning land. (Part B: Contemporary Land Policy Issues) and Page 24. The Mailo tenure is a peasant barrier to exercising their rights to land ownership and food. Examples: illegal evictions, land grabbing, and land fragmentation hinder development, lead to conflicts, and make it hard to conserve the environment. But the policy gives us the basis for the background of telling people the origin of the conflicts that are arising.

The Land Act prohibits the government from leasing out or alienating natural resources except by way of concession, license, or permit. We therefore demand the state fulfil its obligations of allocating investors land that is not in fragile ecosystems. And enable peasants to acquire freehold titles to enable us to exercise our rights, practice agroecological production of food systems, and achieve climate justice.

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## 3. Policy Analysis

The study analysed five (05) policy frameworks for Uganda as proposed by the ESAFF and other key stakeholders in agroecology. These policies include: The National Organic Agriculture Policy, the National Agriculture Policy, the National Agriculture Extension Strategy, the National Climate Change Policy, and the National Seed Policy. They were analysed in line with aspects of interest including; climate justice, agroecology, and peasant rights in Uganda. Only relevant policies to these aspects from the above list were considered and not all of them are cross cutting.

### 3.1 Climate Justice

Uganda, as a country, contributed less to the causes of climate change. We therefore call for climate justice because climate justice is a faction of environmental justice and focuses on the equitable distribution of the burdens of climate change and the efforts to mitigate them. Climate justice examines concepts such as equality, human rights, collective rights, and the historical responsibilities for climate change. This is done by relating the causes and effects of climate change to concepts of justice, particularly environmental justice and social justice.

The National Climate Change Policy has a goal **“to ensure a harmonized and coordinated approach towards a climate-resilient and low-carbon development path for sustainable development in Uganda”** emphasizes the importance of timely dissemination of climate information, particularly reliable meteorological data, to assist citizens in their agricultural planning. This policy encourages the use of renewable energy sources like solar, biomass, mini-hydro, geothermal, and wind as a measure for restoring climate justice have not been put in place.

Despite efforts by the National Metrological Authority, the current reliability of information from meteorological centers, often below 30% accuracy, creates a significant gap, hindering the provision of effective and dependable information to rural populations for enhancing agricultural resilience. To address this, the policy should articulate comprehensive plans that outline the establishment of robust communication channels. These plans should integrate modern technologies and community engagement strategies to ensure accurate and timely climate information reaches rural communities, thereby fostering agricultural resilience.

The NAES provides strategies and activities related to agriculture, extension services, and market trends. It also outlines activities related to climate change adaptation and mitigation technologies. The strategies and activities mentioned in the document focus on reviewing, developing, and disseminating climate change adaptation technologies, conducting regular coordination meetings, joint monitoring, and capacity-building trainings for staff from non-state actors, ministries, departments, and

agencies. It also provides a framework for addressing climate change in the agricultural sector, but it does not explicitly mention specific gaps in the policy related to climate change. The NAES does not also mention about dissemination of climate related information to farmers which is key for smallholder farmers.

On the other hand the National Agriculture Policy gives farmer institutions and organisations mandate to mobilise farmers for common objectives, the delivery of services, and policies that support agricultural development. However, this being the overarching policy in Agriculture, it should be the major entry point to reinforce a call on climate justice which is not mentioned in any of its 6 objectives. Also, in the policy terms of our interest such as agroecology, and peasant rights are not incorporated. During a review of this policy and its implementation strategy may propose their explicit integration and mainstreaming.

The NAP is not the only policy without the wordings the agroecology movement craves for. One of the main barriers to the National Seed Policy is the limited recognition and promotion of Farmer Managed Seed System which is agroecological in seed production and conservation. The policy focuses more on the formal seed system and the use of improved seed varieties, and inputs which may not be adapted to the changing climate conditions and doesn't harness indigenous knowledge and conventional farming systems though there are some mention of the informal seed which is not so exhaustive. This can limit the resilience of the seed sub-sector and the ability of smallholder farmers to cope with the impacts of climate change.

The Climate Change Policy also proposes the use of climate smart agriculture technologies to support seed multiplication and post harvest handling, however, it does not provide specific details on how these interventions will be implemented or how they will be integrated into the broader climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies of the country. The policy also does not provide clear guidance on how smallholder farmers, who are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, will be supported to adopt these technologies and practices. Also, the interest for the agroecology movement is to push for the agroecology agenda across all policies and this policy does not mention agroecology as a solution to climate change and preservation of culture and indigenous food systems.

The seed policy recognises the impacts of climate change on agricultural production, which include erratic rainfall, frequent droughts, floods, higher temperatures, and the occurrence of more destructive pests like locusts and diseases. The policy proposes actions to improve crops that will help farmers use climate-smart technologies more effectively to adapt to and lessen the negative



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effects of changing climates to make farming systems more resilient. It also highlights the need to promote the use of climate-smart technologies to support seed multiplication and post-harvest handling. And the National Climate Change Policy also has provisions for environmental protection measures, however gaps in the implementation, particularly with monitoring bodies like NEMA, NFA, and UIA, contribute to environmental degradation. Strengthening investment regulations and protocols and coordination is crucial to ensuring effective environmental protection. The Climate Change policy should outline specific monitoring and enforcement mechanisms, ensuring that bodies like NEMA, NFA, and UIA have clear mandates and resources to carry out their roles effectively. And there shouldn't be any political influence or state sabotage in the name of authority from above

The NAES tries to overcome the coordination gap above by highlighting the need for leveraging new and innovative approaches and technologies, especially ICT, for greater coverage, effectiveness, and efficiency in extension services, which could also be applicable to climate change policies. The NAES highlights key challenges to its implementation which rhyme with the issues that make it harder for climate change policies to be put into place in the agricultural sector. These challenges need to be the focus of any climate change related interventions which include lack of coordination and collaboration, narrow focused extension content and ineffective extension approaches. The NAES doesn't provide a clear structure on how they will get rid of the bottlenecks in coordination.

We also note an existing gap in the National Climate Change Policy about the absence of specific directives within the policy regarding district-level development plans and guidelines for recognizing go-and-no-go zones for investment at district levels that has resulted into environmental destruction by unguided investments. The National Climate Change Policy should include a framework for district-level development plans that identify environmentally sensitive zones and provide guidelines for sustainable investments.

Extension workers are key implementers of the National Climate Change Policy but they are predominantly promoting conventional agriculture methods laying a barrier to climate justice. Encouraging sustainable agroecology practices must be a key focus to align with climate change objectives. The National Climate Change Policy should explicitly incorporate guidelines and training programs for extension workers, emphasizing the adoption and promotion of sustainable and climate-smart farming practices. The current gap lies in the lack of specific directives within the policy that address the needed shift in extension approaches.

Though contingency plans for climate-resilient systems are in place, their lack of implementation poses a significant gap. The Climate Change Policy should outline clear mechanisms for implementing

and regularly updating contingency plans, with designated responsibilities and resource allocations. The identified gap lies in the current lack of emphasis on the practical implementation and monitoring of these resilience plans. Strengthening the execution of these plans, especially in health, floods, and drought, is essential for building resilience.

In the National Climate Change Policy, some of the steps that were supposed to be taken to encourage the use of renewable energy sources like solar, biomass, mini-hydro, geothermal, and wind have not been put in place. The steps that are less affected by climate change include making policies that support renewable energy, encouraging private investment, and advancing renewable energy technology. Integrating these strategies will not only fortify energy security but also significantly contribute to global climate change mitigation efforts. The policy should include specific action plans, timelines, and incentives for the adoption of renewable energy sources. The current gap is in the lack of concrete steps and initiatives outlined within the policy to promote and implement renewable energy solutions.

### 3.2 Peasant Agroecology

The National Agriculture policy provides guidance to all agriculture and agriculture related sub-sector plans, policy frameworks and strategies existing and those to be formulated in future. The policy is derived from the need to achieve the national development objectives of increasing household incomes, food and nutrition security and employment as stipulated by the National Development Plan (NDP) in which agriculture is identified as one of the primary drivers of growth in the economy. The policy seeks to transform agriculture from peasantry/subsistence to commercial. The policy acknowledges that HIV/AIDS causes a decline in the supply of labour for agriculture production through illness, deaths, and time spent caring for sick relatives and other reaffirms ironies such as the high stunting rate among children aged 5 years, the majority of whom are amongst farming communities.

The NAS is supplemented by the National Agriculture Extension Strategy (NAES) which also emphasizes the importance of agricultural extension services and the agricultural sector, including crops, livestock, agro-forestry, fishing, and other related activities. It also highlights the need for a knowledge-driven agricultural revolution and the role of extension services in facilitating access to knowledge, information, and technologies for farmers and other value chain actors. It indirectly underscores the significance of sustainable and holistic agricultural practices through its focus on extension services, technology dissemination, and market trends. Agroecology, as a sustainable farming approach, aligns with the broader goals of the knowledge-driven agricultural revolution and the need for effective extension services to support farmers in adopting sustainable and environmentally friendly agricultural practices. The

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NAES does address challenges and constraints within the agricultural sector, particularly in the context of agricultural extension services. Some of these problems are making it hard for people to use new technologies and best practices, getting different groups of people to work together, not reaching enough people who can benefit from extensions, and only including limited information in extensions. Both policies push for the commercialization agenda, use of synthetic inputs and mechanization to maximize production to increase yields for small holder farmers.

Also, the National Agriculture Extension Strategy looks at adaptation technologies that are not user-friendly for small-scale farmers. Government could send messages direct to peasant farmers' phones and also subsidise the cost of smart phones for small-scale farmers, running radio advertisements in local languages, using visual aid and posters during training an intervention that will widen the adoption of technology in farming. The National Agriculture Extension Strategy highlights the challenges and constraints within the agricultural sector, particularly in the context of agricultural extension services. These problems include things that make it hard to use new technologies and best practices, different players not working together or coordinating, not reaching enough people who can benefit from extensions, content that is too narrowly focused, approaches that don't work, not allocating and planning budgets well, and not having easy access to cheap credit. Not enough coordination, limited coverage, and ineffective extension methods are some of the other things that might make it hard for agroecological principles and practices to be widely used in agriculture.

Such barriers are also reflected in the seed policy which recognizes limited access to information and knowledge about agroecology and its benefits, which can limit farmers' ability to adopt agroecological practices. It is also plausible that the policy may face resistance from some stakeholders who are more focused on industrial (conventional) farming practices and the use of chemical inputs, which can be detrimental to agroecological farming systems. These challenges could also be subdued by implementing the national agricultural education policy and strategy developed in 2006 aimed at promoting farming as a business and professionalism in agriculture, which has not been implemented.

It was also noted during the review that generally the service delivery to peasant agroecologists is also jeopardized by weak links between MAAIF and local governments due to the poor interpretation of the different roles of central and local governments. This has led to poor service delivery of extension services to smallholder farmers. There is a need for harmonization of duties within the Ministry, Departments, and Agencies. The different groups that provide extension services aren't working together or coordinating, and the extension systems are also not unified. This coupled with the low numbers of staff in extension within government

departments and local government means that smallholder farmers struggle to get access to extension services. In addition, there is inadequate budgetary allocation to support the recruitment and facilitation of extension workers in farming communities. The coordination bottleneck also comes out on the climate change policy whose goal of the policy is to ensure a harmonized and coordinated approach towards a climate resilient and low-carbon development path for sustainable development in Uganda.

On the other hand the NAS tends to indicate that organic farming cannot offer a long-term solution to Uganda's food production needs, and it therefore focuses on mechanization and modernization of agriculture. This is widely seen as intention to do away with conventional agriculture which in so doing becomes a barrier for the agroecology campaign.

This is also reflected in the National Climate Change Policy, 2015 which fails to explicitly recognize agroecology as a priority in addressing climate change. Agroecology, with its focus on sustainable and resilient agricultural practices, should be integrated to ensure a comprehensive approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The policy should explicitly acknowledge agroecology as a priority in climate change strategies, incorporating its principles into mitigation and adaptation plans. This recognition is essential to address the current gap in the policy's approach and ensure a holistic response to climate change through agroecological practices.

However, in the National Agriculture Extension Strategy, there is a narrow focus on extension content in agroecology. Most of the extension workers are trained in conventional agriculture, which limits the promotion of agroecology. And, while the policy does not directly mention gaps in agroecology, the challenges identified in the agricultural extension services section could potentially impact the promotion and adoption of agroecological practices. Gaps in knowledge dissemination, coordination, and coverage may hinder the effective implementation of agroecological principles and practices within the broader agricultural sector.

Some of these barriers area mentioned in the NOAP, barriers such as limited promotion, awareness, and inadequate research and development, extension services, and capacity are stated as major hinderances to the growth of organic agriculture. The NAOP should include provisions for increased support, awareness campaigns, and comprehensive research and development initiatives. The policy should outline concrete measures to overcome these barriers, such as targeted promotion efforts, widespread awareness campaigns, and robust research and development support. This inclusion is vital to address the identified barriers and foster the growth of organic agriculture.

There is insufficient awareness about the barriers to organic farming practices are outlined in the

National Organic Agriculture Policy. These barriers, including limited promotion, awareness, inadequate research and development, extension services, and capacity, pose significant challenges to the growth of organic agriculture. The lack of widespread understanding and promotion may hinder adoption, while insufficient research, extension services, and capacity can impede the sector's advancement, potentially limiting the overall success and expansion of organic agriculture envisaged by the policy. Yet, Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials for the National Organic Agriculture Policy are currently in English, restricting access for rural and less-educated small-scale farmers who form the majority of beneficiaries. The policy must prioritize producing materials in local languages to improve comprehension and adoption at the grassroots level. Explicit advocacy for the production of IEC materials in local languages is essential to address the current gap in information access and adoption.

But, the National Seed Policy which recognises the importance of preserving and promoting traditional varieties and indigenous knowledge systems, which are often associated with agroecological farming practices. The policy also acknowledges the need to enhance the resilience of farming systems to climate change, which can be achieved through the adoption of climate-smart technologies and practices, including agroecology. However, the policy focuses more on the formal seed systems and the use of improved seed varieties, which may not be suitable for agroecological farming systems. This can limit the adoption of agroecological practices by smallholder farmers and communities that rely on traditional knowledge and practices for seed production and conservation. The National Seed Policy aims to promote the commercialization of agriculture, which can provide opportunities for farmers to increase their productivity and income through value addition and market-oriented production.

Agroecology is an approach to agriculture that looks at the whole picture and stresses how to combine the ecological, social, and economic aspects of farming systems. The National Seed Policy doesn't directly talk about the principles and practices of agroecology. In agroecology, different crop varieties that grow well in the area are encouraged, as are agroforestry, soil conservation, and other environmentally friendly methods that make farming systems more resistant to climate change and other environmental stresses. So, the policy should include agroecological ideas and methods to encourage seed systems that are long-lasting and strong and that are tailored to the needs and conditions of the area.

The other policy with relatively cognizant language in relation to agroecology is the National Organic Agriculture Policy (NOAP). Organic Agriculture is generally regarded as a farming system within the agroecology framework. The vision of the NOAP is "a sustainable and profitable Organic Agriculture sub-sector for national competitiveness. ***While its mission is "to guide and support investments in***

***the entire Organic Agriculture value chain for inclusiveness, enhanced livelihoods, production and environmental sustainability.***" This policy is therefore important for the advancement of agroecology. One of the major objectives of NOAP is to create an enabling environment for the advancement of the organic agriculture sub sector in Uganda.

The National Organic Agriculture Policy however, falls short in addressing measures to control conventional farming practices. It is imperative to incorporate guidelines or restrictions to mitigate the negative impacts of conventional methods on the environment and public health. The policy should explicitly outline regulatory measures and restrictions on conventional farming practices to safeguard environmental and public health concerns, bridging the current gap in addressing the adverse effects of conventional methods.

We also noted that the National Organic Agriculture Policy's strategies lack effective implementation and monitoring mechanisms which compromises success in promoting and sustaining organic agriculture practices. Without robust mechanisms for implementation, the intended benefits and objectives of the policy may not be fully realized. The absence of effective monitoring mechanisms makes it challenging to assess the impact of organic farming strategies over time and address any shortcomings or deviations from the intended goals. Consequently, the overall growth and success of organic agriculture, as envisioned by the policy, may be hindered, and the potential benefits for the environment, public health, and the agricultural sector may not be fully achieved. The policy should incorporate specific plans for implementation and monitoring, including designated responsibilities and evaluation criteria. Since there is a process of development the National Organic Bill we propose the inclusion of the above mentioned to bridge up this gap.

The National Agriculture Extension Strategy tries to address some of the above challenges by proposing the development irrigation guidelines for water for production, farm power and machinery, farm planning systems, soil and water management, post-harvest handling, and food processing into the extension services. If effectively implemented, this will ensure increased production and productivity, food security, and the alleviation of the effects of climate change. In support of resilient peasant economies and diversification, apiary management (bee keeping) should be included in the both NOAP and NAES because pollinators are very important for production and productivity and honey as a source of income, food and nutrition.

### 3.3 Agroecology and Peasant Rights

The National Agriculture Extension Strategy provides an enabling environment for the acquisition and provision of agricultural credits, which the farmers can use for the improved extension, thereby increasing agricultural production and productivity.



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There should be reduced interest rates on the agricultural credit given to small-scale farmers and the re-payment period increased. In the National Agriculture Extension Strategy, the decentralisation provision of agricultural extension services allows for the extension workers and services to reach the peasants in their farming communities. The demand-driven led extension services in the National Agriculture Extension Strategy ensure the provision of farmer-led approaches that promote climate justice and peasant agroecology.

The National Seed Policy recognises the importance of smallholder farmers, who are the majority of the farming population in Uganda, and their contribution to the seed sub-sector. The policy aims to promote the rights of smallholder farmers, including their right to access and use quality seed, their right to participate in decision-making processes, and their right to benefit from the seed sub-sector. The policy also recognizes the importance of traditional knowledge and practices in seed production and conservation and aims to promote their integration into the formal seed system. The policy further recognises the need to protect the intellectual property rights of smallholder farmers and local communities and to ensure that they benefit from the commercialization of their traditional knowledge and practices.

The National Seed Policy does not explicitly address the rights of peasants, who are the majority of smallholder farmers in Uganda. Peasants have specific rights related to land tenure, access to natural resources, and traditional knowledge and practices that are critical for their livelihoods and food security. Therefore, there is a need for the policy to explicitly recognise and integrate the rights of peasants in the seed sub-sector, including their right to access and use quality seed, their right to participate in decision-making processes, and their right to benefit from the seed sub-sector.

In the policy, there is a lack of recognition and protection of peasants' rights related to land tenure, access to natural resources, and traditional knowledge and practices. This can limit their ability to participate in the formal seed system and benefit from the seed sub-sector.

Another barrier faced by peasants is the limited access to credit and other financial services, which can hinder smallholder farmers' ability to invest in seed production and marketing. Finally, the lack of infrastructure, such as roads and storage facilities, can limit farmers' ability to access markets and store their produce, which can affect their income and food security. The National Seed Policy provides opportunities for farmers to access quality seeds that are adapted to local conditions and needs. It also promotes the use of gender-friendly technologies to support seed multiplication and post-harvest handling, which can benefit women and youth who play a pivotal role in the seed sub-sector but needs to strengthen its interventions on the issues regarding rights of smallholders identified above. The National Seed Policy

recognises the importance of preserving Uganda's heritage for current and future generations and promotes the conservation of traditional crop varieties and the protection of communities' intellectual property rights over their traditional varieties.

The National Agriculture Extension Strategy looks at providing market information to small-scale farmers, which will ensure access to markets for small-scale farmers' products. High Certification Costs for Small-Scale Farmers: While the NOAP recognises the certification of organic farmers, the associated high costs imposed by regulatory bodies hinder small-scale farmers' participation. To make organic certification accessible, the policy should include provisions for subsidising the certification process, particularly for small-scale farmers. And should be recognized as one way of producing produce and products which can access domestic and international markets.

While the National Organic Agriculture Policy (NOAP) recognizes the certification of organic farmers, the associated high costs imposed by regulatory bodies hinder small-scale farmers' participation and benefiting from the outcomes. To make organic certification accessible, the policy should include provisions for subsidizing the certification process, particularly for small-scale farmers. This will address the financial burden on small-scale farmers, promoting their active engagement in organic farming and ensuring inclusivity in the organic certification process. The NOAP should provide clear and detailed guidelines for certifying organic farmers. This would help streamline the complex certification process, making it more accessible and manageable for farmers. The absence of comprehensive guidelines hinders the certification process, and clear directives will ensure a smoother and more standardized approach, promoting broader participation in organic farming.

Regulatory bodies like UNBS are inadvertently creates barriers in the implementation of some policy recommendations as many are undermined. Engagements with these bodies should be held to ensure that regulations are supportive of organic farming without creating unnecessary obstacles and loopholes. Collaborative engagement with regulatory bodies is essential to align regulations with the goals of the NOAP, eliminating unintended barriers and fostering a supportive environment for organic farming practices.

The National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) supports community-based adaptation strategies, however, the insufficient number of extension workers impedes effective implementation. The existing ratio of 1 extension worker to 500 households is huge but not met, and the current statistics showed that there was 1:1900 by 2017. This hinders the provision of crucial information and services for climate resilience. Increasing the number of extension workers to meet the recommended ratio will enhance the implementation of community-based adaptation

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strategies, ensuring that vital climate information reaches rural communities for improved resilience. While the NCCP supports water availability for production through micro-irrigation schemes, the co-funding requirement poses a challenge, especially for smallholder farmers. The unequal burden of funding (25% for solar, 75% for petrol) exacerbates the accessibility issue, hindering the majority of farmers who contribute significantly to the agricultural sector. Reducing the cost of co-funding to 10% for smallholder farmers will promote more equitable access to micro-irrigation schemes, supporting sustainable water usage in agriculture and allowed to pay in instalments while using the irrigation facilities.

Inaccessible Insurance Agriculture Services for Small Farmers plus the bureaucracies involved makes the small holder farmers so prone to all risks in their business. While the NCCP outlines insurance schemes and low-interest credit facilities, the lack of stipulated guidelines makes the process difficult. Additionally, the focus on large-scale farmers due to collateral requirements excludes small-scale farmers, limiting the policy's impact. Providing clear and accessible guidelines for insurance schemes and relaxing collateral requirements will ensure that small-scale farmers can benefit from the outlined services, promoting inclusivity and enhancing the effectiveness of the policy.

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## 4. Summary Recommendations

- 1). Government should recruit and retool extension workers. Focus should be directed to closing the human capacity gap in extension services for effective implementation of government programs and support to small-scale farmers' promotion of agroecology. With only 1,800 extension workers against a target of 5,000, recruiting an additional 3,200 extension workers will be essential to increasing small-scale farmers' agricultural production and productivity as they will also be in position to give information to peasants i.e. market and weather information, among others.
- 2). Government should acknowledge the agroecology curriculum in the policy as a guiding course for extension workers and agricultural practitioners. Integrating agroecology education will serve as a mitigation strategy for climate change, equipping professionals with the knowledge needed to implement sustainable agricultural practices in line with climate change goals.
- 3). Government should restore and protect peasants' initiatives including Community Seed Banks (CSB), cooperatives so as to promote Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS). Farmer Managed Seed Systems should be incorporated into the National Seed Policy and defined in Agroecology Strategy because it gives more power to communities to manage and regulate agricultural production. This follows a weak enforcement of the policies, regulations, and standards that governs seeds systems in Uganda.
- 4). Government should subsidize the organic certification processes for small-scale farmers. Small-scale farmers affirm that with financial support extended to farmers across the country, there will be an ease on the certification burden on small-scale farmers, fostering greater participation in organic farming, promoting inclusivity and healthy food systems in Uganda. Similarly, government should also strengthen the national certification and regulation system to guarantee the quality of agro-inputs through a decentralization process so that the District Local Governments are also given the power to certify agro-inputs and other products.
- 5). Government should incorporate guidelines or restrictions in the new National Organic Agriculture Bill (NOAB) under development to mitigate the negative impacts of conventional farming on the environment and public health. Additionally, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) should implement continuous assessment mechanisms for the NOAB to gauge its effectiveness. There should be regular evaluations to allow adjustments and improvements, ensuring that the policy remains responsive to the evolving needs of small-scale farmers.
- 6). Government should strengthen investment regulations and protocols in the National Climate Change Policy for effective environmental protection. Clear and stringent regulations will ensure that investments align with environmental conservation goals, preventing unplanned and harmful activities. Additionally, government should pass a law regulating land fragmentations in the country.
- 7). Small-scale farmers recommend the production of key policy materials including the National Organic Agriculture Policy (NOAP) in local languages to enhance understanding and adoption at the grassroots level. By making information accessible in local languages, the policy will effectively reach small-scale farmers, empowering them with the knowledge needed for successful organic farming practices and effective implementation of the laws and policies.
- 8). There is need for government to provide cost-effective and farmer-friendly irrigation schemes in farming communities. Peasants should be provided with water harvesting equipment in order to access water for agricultural production. This will enable peasants to cope up with the impacts of climate change in the country.

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## 5. Conclusion

In conclusion, Ugandan small-scale farmers face a lot of challenges mentioned, but only a few, and yet they are made up of the vulnerable poor, so their conditions need immediate attention. However, the highlighted solutions must be governed country-wide and region-specifically. Because of the significant role that small-scale farmers play in global food production, supporting them through designing appropriate policies that advocate for them and support their interventions and linking them to markets would help ensure a stable and diverse food supply, contributing to global food security. This is especially important as the world's population continues to grow. Issues of peasants' agroecology need to be taken care of in the laws and policies governing states so as to enhance climate justice and food sovereignty.

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