

Keep abreast with new developments in the commercial forestry sector



UTGA NEWS

10th October 2014

No.30

PINE SEED ON SALE

UTGA has high quality F2 Pine seed from Brazil in stock. For those who are interested, please contact the UTGA Secretariat.
Price: UGX 2,200,000

UN CLIMATE SUMMIT

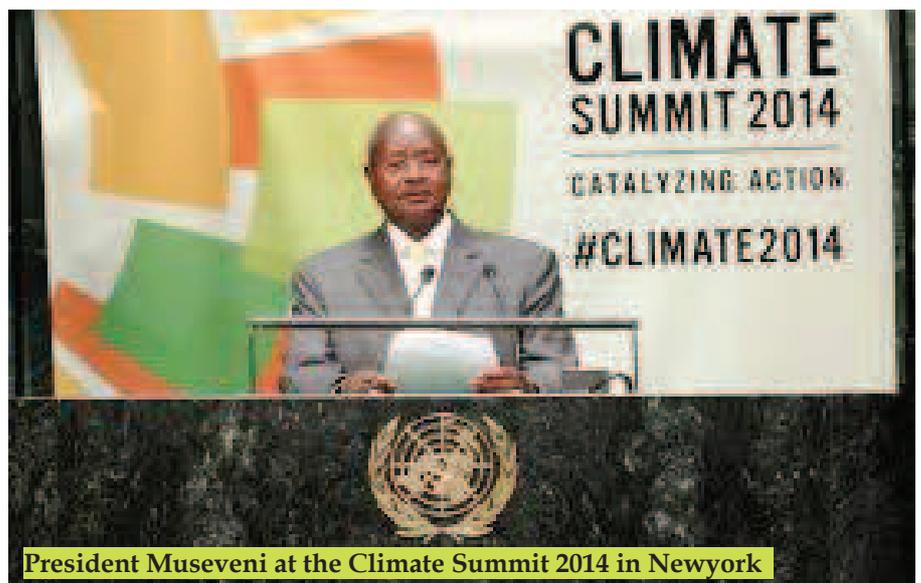
Forests are essential to our future. More than 1.6 billion people depend on them for food, water, fuel, medicines, traditional

cultures and livelihoods. Forests also support up to 80% of terrestrial biodiversity and play a vital role in safeguarding the climate by naturally sequestering carbon. Yet, each year an average of 13 million hectares of forest disappear, often with devastating impacts on communities and indigenous peoples. The conversion of forests for the production of commodities – such as soy, palm oil, beef and paper – accounts for roughly half of global deforestation. Infrastructure, urban expansion, energy, mining and fuel wood collection also contribute in varying degrees.

We share the vision of slowing, halting, and reversing global forest loss while simultaneously enhancing food security for all.

Reducing emissions from deforestation and increasing forest restoration will be extremely important in limiting global warming to 2°C. Forests represent one of the largest, most cost-effective

Uganda joins other countries on New York Declaration on Forests



President Museveni at the Climate Summit 2014 in Newyork

climate solutions available today. Action to conserve, sustainably manage and restore forests can contribute to economic growth, poverty alleviation, rule of law, food security, climate resilience and

biodiversity conservation. It can help secure respect for the rights of forest dependent indigenous peoples, while promoting their participation and that of local communities in decision-making. With our varying mandates, capabilities, and circumstances, collec-

tively we commit to doing our part to achieve the following outcomes in partnership, including by ensuring that strong, large-scale economic incentives are in place commensurate with the size of the challenge:

- At least halve the rate of loss of natural forests globally by 2020 and strive to end natural forest loss by 2030.
- Support and help meet the private-sector goal of eliminating deforestation from the production of agricultural commodities such as palm oil, soy, paper and beef products by

Uganda has committed itself to rehabilitate 1.5 million ha of forest by 2020 which may include establishment of up to 200,000ha of plantations

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Like most matters involving an Ebola epidemic, chronicling its first horrifying infection is not an easy endeavor. But even in circumstances in which details are hard to come by, certain similarities have emerged.

The first contact often occurs in remote, rural communities where a victim handles an infected animal carcass and things quickly progress downward from there.

Ebola onset

One outbreak in Ivory Coast was sparked when an ethnologist touched an infected, dead chimpanzee. In Gabon and the Republic of Congo, scientists have linked several outbreaks to extensive deaths of forest chimpanzees and gorillas. And in this most current outbreak of Ebola in West Africa which has been called "out of control" and has claimed at least 481 lives in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, is also believed to have begun in a remote location in the town of Gueckedou.

The commonality between numerous outbreaks of Ebola, scientists say, is growing human activity and deforestation in previously untouched forests, bringing

EBOLA

Deforestation shares blame for epidemic



Large parts of primary natural forests are disappearing in Africa to pave way for agriculture and settlements

humans into closer contact with rare disease strains viral enough to precipitate an epidemic.

Rate of deforestation

Such a conclusion is particularly troublesome for West Africa, which has never before experienced an Ebola outbreak like this one, and is reported to have one of the world's highest rates of regional deforestation. The Guinea rainforest has been ravaged by deforestation and has shrunk to less than one-fifth of its original size. In Liberia, more than half of the forests have been sold off to logging companies, according to press reports. And Sierra Leone is "seriously threatened" by deforestation, according to Chatham House's Illegal Logging Portal. "There are no longer any frontier forests in West Africa for future generations to

What other people are saying

Deforestation is a factor in Ebola outbreaks
Robert Ddamulira. Energy Coordinator, WWF Regional Office for Africa (ROA)

Could be true! Ceaser Kimbugwe PO Environmental Alert

Yes; Deforestation in Yumbe District in 2012 increased wild game contact with humans and their crops and some people were reported to have been killed by the wild animals and seed management was at stake as animals ate all that had been reserved in the gardens. Children could only go to school with accompaniment of at least 4strong men or else miss school. If we decide to stay in the former animal houses, then what do we expect?

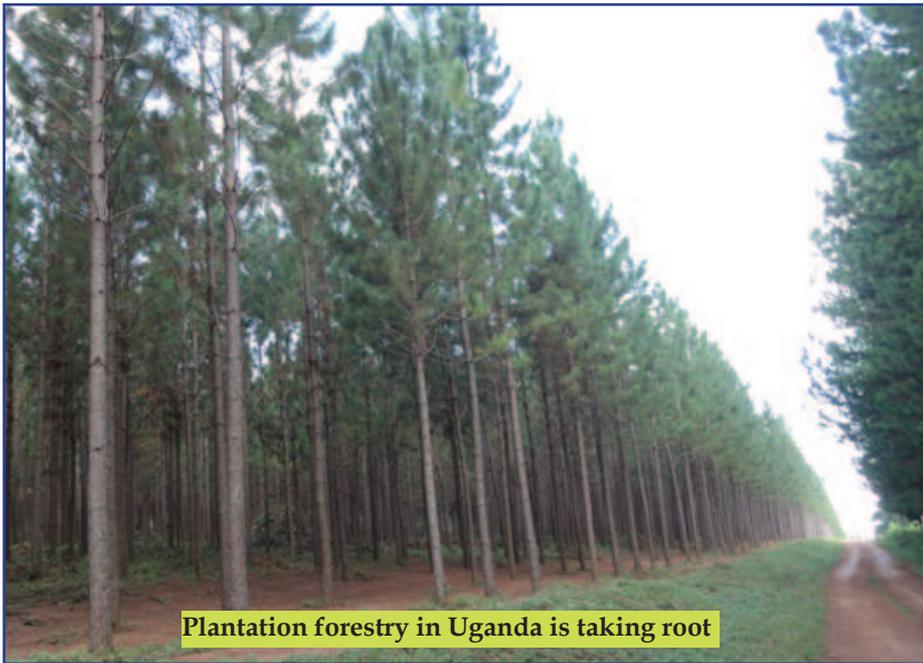
Kaaya Christine Coordinator Natural Resources Management and Gender VEDCO

Effect of deforestation

"The increase in Ebola outbreaks since 1994 is frequently associated with drastic changes in forest ecosystems in tropical Africa," wrote researchers in a 2012 study in the *Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research*. "Extensive deforestation and human activities in the depth of the forests may have promoted direct or indirect contact between humans and a natural reservoir of the virus."

XIV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS

FORESTS & PEOPLE: INVESTING IN A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



Plantation forestry in Uganda is taking root

South Africa in collaboration with the Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) will host the XIV World Forestry Congress in Durban from 7-11 September 2015.

The World Forestry Congress is the largest and most significant gathering of the world's forestry sector. Held every 6 years, it will be the first time the Congress is hosted in Africa.

It will bring together the global forestry community to review and analyse the key issues and to share ways of addressing them.

The Congress - the first to be held in Africa - is inclusive of people from all countries, regions and sectors, whether they belong to a government organization, NGO, private company, scientific or professional body, a forestry society, or simply have a personal interest in attending. The broad participation and inclusive discussion on forestry issues will facilitate their mainstreaming in global agendas on sustainable development as

well as building new partnerships.

The Congress welcomes the participation of people from all countries, regions and sectors, whether representatives of government or non-governmental organizations, private companies, academia scientific or professional



WFC2015
XIV World Forestry Congress

bodies, forestry associations, local practitioners, or simply those who have a personal interest.

The Congress programme will be professionally and culturally rewarding, with a variety

of sessions, events and dialogue, to ensure that all participants are engaged in defining a vision and strategies for the sustainable future of forests and forestry. Forests are essential to life on our planet, mitigating and adapting to climate change, ensuring adequate supply of fresh water, enhancing biodiversity and providing sustainable incomes and livelihoods, including food security. But they face unprecedented and unrelenting pressures.

PAYMENT OF ANNUAL FEES

The Secretariat is very grateful to all the members who have paid their Annual Subscription fees for 2014 and arrears. This is to kindly remind all those that have not yet paid to do so. Payments for arrears can be received in installments. Payments to meet the financial liabilities for the current year plus those who have arrears can be made at the:

1. Office

A receipt is availed immediately.

2. By Direct Debit to the Bank

Account, a receipt is written after confirmation with the bank and scanned to the Payee.

3. Mobile money

Charges for withdrawing must be included in the amount sent, a receipt is written and scanned and sent to the Payee.

4. Collection of payment

A call/email may be made to the secretariat for Members in and around Kampala. UTGA Staff will pick the payment from agreed location and a receipt availed immediately.

Payment of the Annual fees is highly appreciated and allows for the efficient running of the Secretariat, facilitating and supporting UTGA activities.

Be informed that the Association currently provides the following services directly to its Members:-

- Forest Valuation, a paid for service at cost;
- Specific needs-training required and requested by Members;
- Technical forest visits to Members plantation to offer onsite advice;
- Direct lobbying on aspects that touch on commercial forestry
- Importation of specialised forest tools and equipment that may not be in Uganda.
- Importation of improved, high quality seed



Quality seed and cuttings add value to planting material



Training courses add value to growers, communities, SPGS & UTGA

Undoubtedly, generating more value from forests is a vision most Ugandan tree growers would want to realise. Value-addition practices are key to the future of sustainable forestry because they enable companies to advance economically by doing more with less. Value addition starts with the seed and continues to the finished product. There is an opportunity to significantly add value to Uganda's forestry sector. Many in the forestry sector may not know what value addition means.

Value addition

For most tree growers, value addition means transforming a tree into timber, timber products, poles, and so on. At each stage of processing, the value of products from the tree increases. Once, the value of the product is raised, it becomes more competi-

Value addition redefined

tive at the market. To these tree growers, value addition is limited to high value wood products such as furniture, flooring or specialized paneling. Yet value addition means more than value added wood products, It includes the value that is added to planting material, forests, forest products, environment, employees and communities.

From the above, it means Commercial tree growers in Uganda are doing more to the economy, society and environment.



Plantation forestry in Uganda is taking root



Adding value to plantations by pruning



Sawing adds value to logs



Adding value to plantations by thinning



Adding value to poles by grading

Deforestation to blame for Ebola epidemic

exploit," researcher Jim Gockowski, who co-authored a study tracking Guinea's deforestation, has said.

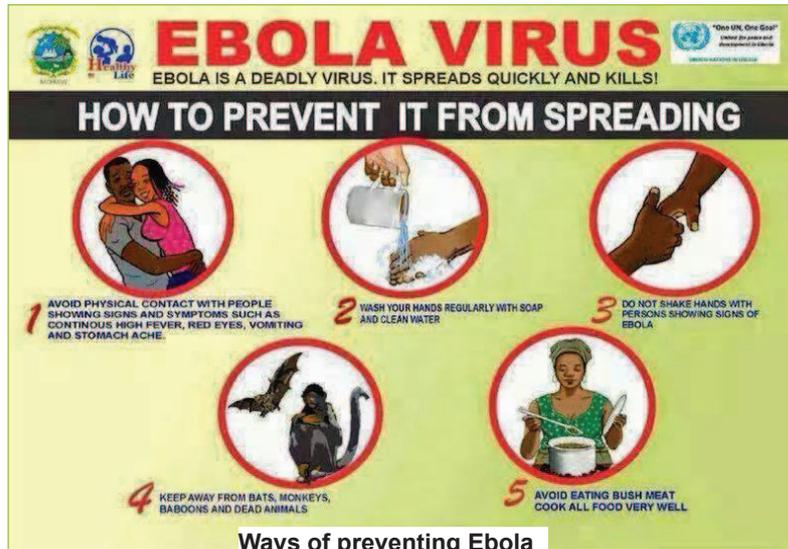
Implications for Ebola

What does that mean for Ebola? Quite a lot. For one, it may bring people and wildlife into closer contact than before. And it also means a lot more bats, thought to carry Ebola, may pervade some communities. Some, however, contend the bats have always been a part of life in the southeast Guinea forests, and blaming bats isn't accurate. One of those researchers is Melissa Leach, the director of the Institute of Development Science, who disagrees with what she calls the standard "outbreak narrative." "This assumes once extensive forests in which bats lived, separately from humans, have undergone progressive deforestation under the influence of population growth, land use, and climate change," wrote Melissa Leach. "As bat habitats have fragmented and as people have moved into once-pristine forest areas, so human-bat contact has increased, making viral spillover more likely. While that sounds plausible, however, such a linear narrative is hard to apply convincingly to southeast Guinea."

Mining

Indeed, other human activities

a veterinary epidemiologist and Ebola expert working with EcoHealth Alliance. "There are lots of instances of human activities driving spillovers and outbreaks. While some of these things may be cultural traditions that have persisted for a long time, some of them are activities that are relatively newer, but intensifying." As those activities intensify, so, it seems, do the outbreaks of Ebola. *This article is adopted from the Washington Post and edited for the UTGA readership*



Ways of preventing Ebola

may share equal blame. Researchers behind the article in the Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research found deforested regions where locals hunted, dug for gold and farmed were most susceptible to an outbreak. The findings landed upon some dismal conclusions: The activities locals depend on the most are also what puts them at the most risk of contracting Ebola. Mining, for one, "has become a big livelihood activity across the regions Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea as of the last couple of decades," says Melissa Leach. That not only means mining deeper in the forests, but also "immense movement: people going seasonally in and out of mines, coming in and out, young people coming from all over the country." The burgeoning migratory behavior has also possibly played a role in the quick escalation of the current outbreak, which hopped from the forested villages of southeast Guinea to the western capital of Conakry. According to Jonathan Epstein,

Advisory

All UTGA Members are informed that by flashing your Membership card at Hangzhou Agro Chemicals (U) Ltd, you qualify for an automatic discount on all purchases of chemicals once you are a UTGA Member.

Hangzhou Agro Chemicals (U) Ltd is located on Plot 56/58, 7th Street Industrial Area, Tel: 0414-252295

SULKY FOR HIRE



UTGA has a sully at the office that members can hire at a small fee. The sully is used extensively in the skidding or extraction of wood/thinning from the interior of the plantation to a collection point. Those who are interested can call 0785-343564

Corporate Governance training for UTGA Board

UTGA organised a 2-day retreat and training for the Board and Board Committees. This took place on 25th and 26th September 2014 at the Lake Heights Hotel in Entebbe. The training was facilitated by the Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda (ICGU). This was part of the Association's work plan for the Bridging period, resulting from a need to transform UTGA into an enterprise that upholds international best practices in corporate governance by 2020.

The training was also aimed at promoting excellence in corporate



Members of the Board and committees at the retreat

governance principles and practices and intended to help the Members realise their responsibilities, powers and oversight functions plus their contribution to strategy formulation and implementation.

The training also covered ethical conduct and Board evaluation.



UTGA Chairman Baker Akantambira closes the retreat

New Appointments

Lwanga Mwangala

has been appointed as the Programme Officer - Marketing for UTGA effective 1st October 2014. Among the many things Lwanga will do, include helping UTGA to create new wood markets, penetration of old markets and linking UTGA Members to these markets. He will also participate in the forward and backward flow of information between players in the industry, test, research, negotiate and engage in the process that will ensure optimal value to UTGA Members.



TEAK SEED ON SALE

UTGA has high quality teak seed in stock. For those who are interested, please contact the Secretariat.

Price: UGX 60,000 per Kg

ADVERTISING RATES FOR UTGA NEWS

UTGA News is now running adverts at cost-friendly rates. Reach hundreds of individuals, groups and companies in and of various fields and professions.

Front page strip	60,000/=
Quarter page	100,000/=
Half page	200,000/=
Full page	300,000/=

BENEFITS/REASONS WHY TREE GROWERS SHOULD JOIN UTGA

1. Receive Members' discounts on improved high quality seed and genuine chemicals.
2. Support lobbying of GoU/NFA in critical aspects that afflict investors/growers.
3. Benefit from centralized timber trading as the trees mature (Thinning and logs).
4. Receive professional advice from teams of experienced Technical Advisors (TAs) and Programme Officers (POs).
5. Keep abreast of relevant information through regular newsletters, phone messages (SMS) and website.
6. Network with other growers at regular Forest Days held in each Cluster and other technical workshops and get-togethers.
7. Centralised purchase of specialist equipment and forestry tools some of which are not available in Uganda.
8. Have a voice to direct research and training needs.
9. Receive forestry training on critical areas to allow proper establishment, management harvesting and processing.

Uganda joins other countries on New York Declaration on Forests

no later than 2020, recognizing that many companies have even more ambitious targets.

- Significantly reduce deforestation derived from other economic sectors by 2020.

- Support alternatives to deforestation driven by basic needs (such as subsistence farming and reliance on fuel wood for energy) in ways that alleviate poverty and promote sustainable and equitable development.

- Restore 150 million hectares of degraded landscapes and forestlands by 2020 and significantly increase the rate of global restoration thereafter, which would restore at least an additional 200 million hectares by 2030.

- Include ambitious, quantitative forest conservation and restoration targets for 2030 in the post-2015 global development framework, as part of new international sustainable development goals.

- Agree in 2015 to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as part of a post-2020 global climate agreement, in accordance with internationally agreed rules and consistent with the goal of not exceeding 2°C warming.

- Provide support for the development and implementation of strategies to reduce forest emissions.

- Reward countries and jurisdictions that, by taking action, reduce forest emissions – particularly through public policies to scale-up payments for verified emission reductions and private-sector sourcing of commodities.

- Strengthen forest governance, transparency and the rule of law, while also empowering communities and recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples, especially those pertaining to their

lands and resources.

Achieving these outcomes could reduce emissions by 4.5-8.8 billion tons per year by 2030. By working in partnership, we can achieve these goals and chart a new course toward conserving, restoring, and managing healthy forests for the benefit of all.

We invite others to join us in committing to a world where people and forests grow together.

UN CLIMATE SUMMIT: WHO PROMISED WHAT

AFRICA

Ethiopia: President says the country will have zero net emissions by 2025.

Gabon: President Bongo Odimbo; “We have reduced the deforestation rate to 0.01% a year. 88% of Gabon is forested.”

Uganda and Congo: UNEP/IUCN-Ethiopia, DRC, Rep of Congo and Uganda pledge restore 30 million hectares of damaged forests by 2020.

Mozambique: will promote a low-carbon economy as a national priority.

EUROPE

European Union: Cut emissions by 40% by 2030 and aspire to cut emissions by 80 to 95% by 2050. Also provide 14 billion Euros of public climate finance to partners outside the EU over the next 7 years.

United Kingdom: Cut emissions by 80% by 2050 and will commit 4 billion Pounds of climate finance over five years.

Denmark: Reduce emissions by 40% in 2020 compared to 1990 levels. The country aims to be fossil free by 2050.

Ireland: Reduce greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050.

Norway: To contribute \$500 million per year through 2020 to combat climate change through the protection of forests.

Iceland: Committed to becoming an entirely fossil fuel-free economy.

Finland: Phasing out coal by 2025 & also contribute to the Green Climate Fund.

THE AMERICAS

United States: All federal agencies to begin factoring climate resilience into international development programs and investments. Deploying experts and technology to help vulnerable nations better prepare for weather-related disasters and plan for long-term threats. Chile: By 2025, 45% of Chile’s energy will be green.

UTGA News is a digital newsletter for the Uganda Timber Growers Association. It is published semimonthly (twice a month) to briefly summarize recent forestry-related publications, projects, activities, and news.

Do you have news, content, or ideas that you want to share in upcoming newsletters? Please send us your segments on articles and opinions on your organization, partnership, project, group, field stories, successes, challenges, fact sheets,

papers, books, guides, or other resources, upcoming or past events.

UTGA News is a great way to reach a wide audience of foresters, natural resource persons, practitioners, scientists and the public across the Uganda, East Africa and across the globe.

If you have friends (*of forestry*) or anyone you think will benefit if they receive UTGA News, please send their email addresses to dennisk@utga.ug.

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