

## Youth and Education for Sustainability Camp 2014 (KENYA)

**THEME “EMPOWERING YOUTH TO EXPLORE THEIR POTENTIAL IN ACCELERATING EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY BEYOND 2014”**

*April 13th And 18th 2014*

**BUMA Fish & Integrated Farm**, a stakeholder at RCE Kakamega Western and Kenya Youth Network for Sustainable Development, hosted a Youth Workshop in Kakamega, Kenya. The objective was to provide a forum for young people to learn and share practical best practices with a focus on sustainable local livelihoods.

The workshop was officiated by **Dr. Gordon Nguka** (*National Chairman & Coordinator - RCE Kakamega Western*) assisted by **Ombajo Misava Edward** - *Contact Person*. The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) officially opened the workshop.



The 5 days Youth Camp brought together 41 participants between 15 and 35 and a few adults from Grassroots Innovation, an NGO in Uganda. Participants were youth from primary school, high school, tertiary and Universities, Local leaders and the Community. Facilitators were from Kenya Youth Network for Sustainable Development (KYNSD) and African Youth Initiative for Climate Change (AYICC).

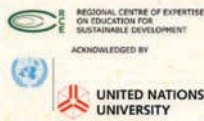
To deliver the workshop, we used a pragmatic approach. The venue was on the Farm and accommodation in camping tents. On arrival, youth had to pitch their tents.

**Day 1** The older participants from Kenya and Uganda took time to exchange views on the issues facing Youth and Sustainability. After which they joined the Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof. Egara Kabaji of Masinde Muliro University, for the tour of the Farm, and the official opening of the workshop. In his remarks he emphasised on the need for enhanced partnerships for the University and the Community to promote alleviate poverty in the region.

**Day 2** *CSR Day*. Youth took a walk through the village to the local school where they planted 100 trees. They were joined by students and parents from the school.



## REGIONAL CENTRE FOR EXPERTISE - KAKAMEGA WESTERN



Indigenous Knowledge where we had the local leader Hon. Khamasi (former MP) talking to the youth about the Culture that has sustained the 'Isukha People'. The topic was crowned by a local dance known as "Sukuti". Youth indulged themselves in the dance and even drumming.

**Day 3** *The 'Shamba' (Farm) Day.* Youth had the opportunity to experience life on the Farm. The highlight was fish harvesting. Youth were trained on ALL about fish. Suddenly it became a beehive of activity around fish preparation. We ALL became fishmongers!

**Day 4** *Sustainability Policies.* Youth were informed on The Pan African Youth strategy on learning for sustainability so they are aware and be part of the implementation process. The National Authority for

Campaigns against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (Nacada), an authority spoke to the youth about the dangers of involving themselves in destructive behaviour.

*Finally, Forest Excursion, Kakamega forest.* An important point was around the forest sustaining the community and supporting biodiversity. A learning that was greatly appreciated even by the locals



**Day 5** *Inspirations Day* - Issa Wabuyabo our life skills facilitator had developed life skill and habits concepts that enhanced the training Programs. He was able to help youth utilize activities to teach these concepts that help them be responsible for the results of their own actions.

The workshop was officially closed By the Cabinet Minister of Environment and Agriculture Kakamega County Mrs Peninah Mukabane.

### *Some reflections*

They had Fun on the Farm and networked • Took charge of Personal development • Learnt fish farming • Experience with the community (greening of school) • The forest excursion – appreciating the role of nature as resource, cultural heritage and need for conservation • Colleagues from Grass roots innovation - Uganda to duplicate the training and train youth in Eastern Uganda • Mandera County has requested for help for the larger youth community in their County.

.....and now the Community and the Youth are asking for the 2015 youth camp!

