



Our joy is to “see” families producing their own food.

- 9. Initiate and maintain crop irrigation systems.
- 10. Improve knowledge and skills through community trainings.

“UDO projects are stemmed from the idea that indigenous practices can be harnessed/ improved to create sustainable development and.... that indigenous knowledge has unique, easy to transfer and apply properties that need to be preserved if ultimate development is to be achieved.”

Results of our work:

Since inception UDO has achieved the following outputs (cumulative data as from 1978 to Jan 2013)

The No. of sand dams built:	1,528
No. of pipelines built:	2
No of water tanks built	8561
No of Rock Catchments built:	3
Length of terraces dug:	1,722,179
No. of trees planted:	934,726
No. Demonstration farms maintained:	73
No of tree nurseries established:	76
No. of seed banks:	64
No. of Protected Forests:	3

OUTCOMES

Our outcome evaluation to date shows that community groups have:

- Decreased distance to get water (one way) from average of 11kms to 2.6kms.
- Decreased time to get water from an average of 6.2 hours to 54min.
- Increased number of farmers planting trees, digging standard terraces, planting indigenous drought resistant crops, using manure and practicing zero-grazing.
- Increased the variety and the yield of foods being produced.

“Join us as we support and enable communities in the arid and semi arid lands to improve their livelihoods through our Holistic Project Approach (HPA)”

Our contacts

Utooni Development Organization

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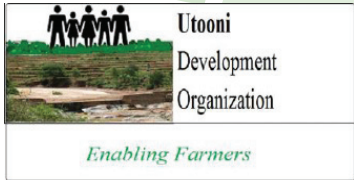
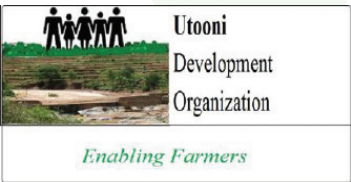
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HISTORY

Utooni Development Organization (UDO) was started in 2002 and registered as an NGO by the late Joshua Mukusya in 2005. The organization is built on the early work of Utooni Development Project, an indigenous self help group formed by Joshua and six families in 1978.

VISION

To build peaceful, healthy and happy inter-linked self sufficient communities through justified sustainable development.

MISSION

Utooni Development Organization (UDO) supports disadvantaged communities in the arid and semi arid lands (ASALs) to transform their environment in a sustainable manner; enabling farmers to improve water supplies, food production, income and health through inter-community education, peace and justice.

PHILOSOPHY

UDO neither imposes solutions nor takes a specific solution-based approach to our work. Five basic principles guide our work.

Community Engagement

Community registered self help groups request assistance from UDO; defines their own problems and priorities; provide resources and take ownership.



Community Empowerment (community priorities guide us!)

Power comes from listening to the people and acting according to their stated needs. Power comes from within the group, the individual, and from supporting and encouraging each other:

Community Cooperation (Mwethya)

Mwethya, meaning a group working together on a common task, is a traditional of the Kamba community. Community groups exchange visits to share ideas, experiences, expertise, and other resources.

Community resources (Nothing comes for Free!)

Community groups have knowledge, labor, and materials that they contribute to the good of all. The cumulative knowledge of the people contains almost all the knowledge necessary to create a productive community.

Community Sustainability

Community groups plan for the future and commit to long term maintenance and sustainability.

OUR CORE VALUES

Cooperation | Team Work | Honesty | Courage

ACTIVITIES

Utooni Development Organization supports self help groups to;

1. Construct sand dams



What are sand dams?

Sand dams are reinforced concrete walls built on a rock bed across seasonal rivers to capture and hold water under the sand over a rainy season. The composition of water to sand in a sand dam is 2:3 (40% and 60%)

“Sand dams change the lives of people by providing water for their needs. They change the environment by restoring and enhancing it!”

2. Construct Rock catchment/reservoirs



3. Construct water tanks (Ferro-Water tanks)



4. Construct water pipelines

5. Plant trees/ Afforestation including conservation of endangered species



“The community groups decide what types of trees they want for different uses and how many seedlings to plant for their needs. The group provides the site, labor and maintenance. UDO provides drought resistant seeds, plastic sleeves, and pesticides”

6. Conserve soil through terracing,

7. Improve food production using drought resistant crops and animal husbandry