

🏆 SAG-SEED WINNER 2016 🏆

YICEUganda provides rural smallholder farmers in Uganda with flexible farm loans, inputs and training services to reduce hunger and poverty. With its network of local farm agents, YICEUganda facilitates farmers' access to bundled agricultural services at various levels of the farming value chain.



YICEUganda, Uganda

BUSINESS MODEL

Farmers purchase a USD 0.30 annual subscription to be a member of a small farming group, receiving farming tips and training in addition to flexible loans with favourable terms. Thirty percent of the loans are given to the farmers as farm inputs and seventy percent in cash.

The groups also receive training on savings, forming savings groups to ensure a sustainable income source. Mobile phone technology is used to relay agricultural information and collect loan repayments.

ENTERPRISE FAST FACTS:

Location	Kampala, Uganda
Year founded	2011
Sector	Sustainable Agriculture
Product/Service	Agricultural training and loans

CONTACT

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Social impacts:

- Raising incomes of 1,500 smallholder farmers by 30 % through improved productivity and access to market information by 2017, up from 632 smallholder farmers so far.
- Increasing employment opportunities for 30 women and youth: so far YICE provides 11 women and four youth loan officers with a stable monthly income.

Environmental impacts:

- Supporting sustainable agriculture in the community by training farmers in practices such as crop rotation, mulching and water management.
- Piloting a water harvesting project with five farmers.

Economic impacts:

- Strengthening the local agro-economy by improving farm productivity and yields by up to 150 %, and increasing the number of farmers with knowledge of good agricultural practices.
- Promoting financial inclusion for rural smallholder farmers leading to increased productivity.

YICEUganda supports the local farming economy with microloans, savings groups and actionable training.

Scaling up activities:

- Expand microloan capacity up to USD 30,000 per year to enlarge the farmer network and increase the impact of training, on-farm advice and farm productivity.
- Increase training for both staff and beneficiaries, especially in improved farming practices, environmental conservation and savings and investment.
- Triple the enterprise's USD 500 monthly revenue by 2017.



Partnership

YICEUganda enterprise is hosted by the **Youth Initiative for Community Empowerment**. It provides support, infrastructure, brand and staff mentoring toward the enterprise.

Kiva Microfunds provides an online network of lenders to fund YICEUganda's farmer microloans. Kiva also relays guidance on client vetting and loan management and repayment.

AgroMarket Day's mobile application serves YICEUganda to disseminate actionable farming tips and market prices to the farmers.



The 2016 SAG-SEED Awards in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda are supported by SWITCH-Africa Green, which is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union.

About SEED

SEED is a global partnership for action on sustainable development that was founded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. SEED is based on the understanding that the promotion of social and environmental enterprises is pivotal to a world of flourishing communities where entrepreneurship drives sustainable development. The 2016 SAG-SEED Awards in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda are part of the multi-country project "Promoting Eco-Entrepreneurship in Africa" implemented by SEED under SWITCH-Africa Green (SAG). SAG is implemented by UNEP with the assistance of the European Union. Other project partners in SAG are UNDP and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

www.seed.uno/sag

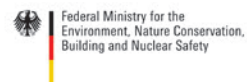
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