

**2008 Director's Message**

**Transforming Lives  
through Development**

**At this year's Advisory Board Meeting,** David Acker, associate dean for academic and global programs, Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences remarked, "for the Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods to bring about true transformation in the lives of our constituents, we will need to continue to do development, learn from development, and teach development."

Through our enterprising partners in Uganda and the unselfish dedication of our management team, CSRL program activities continued to transform lives in many ways this year.

Here are few confirming quotes from targeted farm families in Uganda and others involved in CSRL program activities.



*Mark Westgate, Iowa State professor of agronomy, was named director of Iowa State University's Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL) in 2009.*

**Mohamed Mpaabe**, member of Twesekilala farmer group: "I used to have debts and hunger. My children never used to go to school. I used to cook on three stones. I used to sleep in a tanuru, pile of bricks. Now I have an improved stove, I sleep in a good house. My children are all in school. We eat three times a day. I was even able to go abroad (Kenya)."

**Stephen Twinomujuni**, Rural Development Extensionist for Nawanende farmer group: "My children used to drop out of school because there was no money to pay the mandatory school fees. Now some of my children have even completed Teacher Training College. There has been a change, a transformation in my household in terms of food related problems and income."



*Members of the CSRL team from VEDCO, Makerere University, and Iowa State University who attended the Strategic Planning Workshop in Jinja, Uganda in March 2009. Outcomes of the Workshop and related planning meetings will form the basis for implementing Phase II programs in Uganda.*

**Jackson Nteba**, Ugandan service learning program participant: “There is empowerment on my part. I am transformed. I learned that I can use available resources in the area where I am and survive.”

**Elizabeth Hoffman**, Iowa State University executive vice president and provost, after visiting Uganda this summer: “I see families making choices for themselves and moving away from the expectation that some of their children will die to a confidence and sense of hope and even an empowerment to help their neighbors.”

**David Beckmann**, president of Bread for the World and member of the CSRL Advisory Board: “I am struck by how lessons learned from CSRL have influenced the university at large in such a significant way.” Iowa State University President **Gregory Geoffroy** agreed. “CSRL is a treasured resource for the true global vision.”

The Center itself is undergoing a transformation to accommodate program expansion and promote global experiences for Iowa State students. Each major CSRL program area is led by an associate director with international experience and who is very well respected in the area. Leadership in engineering and technology as well as human nutrition and health will be added soon. The new organizational structure is designed to foster linkages among program areas to ensure relevance, leverage resources and increase impact.

For more information about our plans for the future, CSRL organizational structure and members of our management team, visit [www.srl.ag.iastate.edu/about/organization.html](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu/about/organization.html)

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2008 Progress Report

## Agricultural Training Methods and Production

### The Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

*approach helps farmers in developing countries learn to provide for themselves and their families **now**, and build assets for **future generations**.*



*The CSRL program uses a farmer-to-farmer approach, training farmers who provide volunteer extension services to members of their groups and beyond.*

CSRL program activities benefit small and medium landholder farmers in Kamuli district, Uganda, who are producing for home consumption and the market. CSRL also targets groups of disadvantaged persons (those living with AIDS, elderly, disabled and widows), primary schools and vulnerable segments of the rural population (women, lactating pregnant mothers and children under 5 years old).

CSRL uses a farmer-to-farmer approach to teach agricultural production methods to groups of farmers who are then responsible for voluntarily sharing what they have learned with assigned farmer groups and others.

The trained farmers specializing in agriculture and livestock production are referred to as Rural Development Extensionists (RDEs); those focusing on nutrition and health are called Community Nutrition and Health Workers (CNHWs).

Currently, there are 40 RDEs (43 percent women) and 31 CNHWs (68 percent women) in the CSRL program. Each RDE and CNHW provides training services for up to four farmer groups. There are 63 groups (total membership of 1,023 farmers, 74 percent women, from 800 households) working directly with Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) and CSRL. Another 32 groups (313 members) work indirectly with the program.

CSRL works in three sub-counties—Namasagali, Butansi and Bugulumbya, which total more than 32,000 people. CSRL currently benefits about 7,500 people, more than 20 percent of the population.



*A Community Nutrition and Health Worker (CNHW) checks the height of a student at a primary school in Kamuli district.*

## **Agricultural Training Methods and Production**

### Rural Development Extensionists Training

- Crop production, post harvest handling, farming as a business
- Sustainable agricultural practices and livestock management
- Natural resource management, land rights and gender relations
- Farmer to farmer extension and group management
- Gender relations and basic nutrition

### Community Nutrition and Health Workers Training

- Community nutrition assessment, growth monitoring and hygiene
- Breastfeeding, diet, nutrition and managing malnutrition
- First aid and nutrition information for individuals with AIDS
- Crop diversity and livestock production

CSRL equips RDEs and CNHWs with tool kits to provide volunteer training and outreach services to groups and community members. For just \$290, you can provide a tool kit for one of our farmer volunteers. Your donation will make a difference in the lives of many farmers and their families. Make an online gift at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Food Security, Nutrition *and* Health

### The Key to Sustainable Rural Livelihoods

Meet Daudi Mpoya. He is now four years old. When Daudi was two, he weighed just 8 kg (17.6 lbs), was swollen all over and had wounds on his lips and head. “I took him to the hospital until I had no money left, and they were not able to assist him,” said William Mpoya, Daudi’s father. “I had given up and left it to God.”

Two years ago, William Mpoya was unable to produce enough maize to feed his family. He did not know the proper growing techniques and had to buy what little maize he could afford. It wasn’t enough. His family was malnourished and in poor health.

Then Mpoya received training from CSRL-supported Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) staff in Kamuli. “When CSRL and VEDCO arrived they told me all Daudi really needed was food. I did not



*Four-year-old Daudi Mpoya overcame severe protein energy malnutrition after his parents learned to supplement his meals with a flour mixture fortified with amaranth seed.*

believe them because I had lost a daughter in the same way,” Mpoya said. But after being fed a flour mixture fortified with amaranth seed for just one month, his son Daudi gained 4 kg (8.8 lbs). Now he is a happy, healthy boy weighing 24 kg (52.8 lbs).

After Daudi was cured, people started coming to Mpoya, who became a trained Community Nutrition and Health Worker (CNHW), when their children were sick. He advises them on what to feed their children to avoid the problems Daudi had. Mpoya now successfully grows maize, amaranth, cassava, papayas and a variety of vegetables, providing his family nourishing meals three times daily. “I have acquired knowledge that I will continue to use to train other farmers,” Mpoya said.



*Haroon Sseguya (left), Iowa State University Ph.D. student in sustainable agriculture and sociology, conducts an evaluation session with farmers to assess CSRL program activities.*

## **Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation Measures Progress Toward Establishing Sustainable Food Security, Adequate Nutrition and Improved Health**

CSRL uses Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) methods to learn how farmers participating in CSRL activities are progressing in relation to program objectives.

A multi-institutional team of local farmers, faculty from Makerere University, VEDCO program officers, CSRL's program manager and community PM&E committee members recently facilitated an evaluation of the CSRL program, which began in 2004. It covered:

- Performance of the program in terms of its effectiveness and efficiency (economic conversion of resources into results)
- Impact of the program on rural livelihoods
- Development of new program partnerships

Preliminary results from the evaluation were discussed during a stakeholders workshop in mid-February 2009 involving community members, local government officials and organizations involved in health, AIDS, water, sanitation, education, agriculture and microcredit. This information and “lessons learned” through the evaluation will be used to guide planning and implementation of CSRL's programs for the next five years.

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## 2008 Progress Report

# VEDCO and Makerere University

## Partner Capacity Strengthening

After a brisk morning in October harvesting corn in Stanhope, Iowa, U.S.A., Henry Kizito Musoke, executive director, VEDCO, Uganda, joined his hosts and fellow farmers at the Suburban Restaurant in Gilbert, Iowa for lunch and conversation. Seeking local farmer views on who they favored to win the U.S. presidential race, Angie Hunt, reporter for KCCI News Channel 8 television, received a thought-provoking international perspective from Musoke who said, "I believe the United States must seek to elect a president who is able to effectively address hunger and promote world peace." Musoke's commentary was featured on Channel 8 news that evening.

CSRL supported Musoke's travel to Iowa in October to visit with the directors of Iowa commodity groups, tour Iowa farms and attend the World Food Prize Norman E. Borlaug International Symposium. Such activities help our Uganda partners build their capacity to lead in-country programs.



*Henry Kizito Musoke (right), VEDCO Executive Director, spent a morning harvesting corn in Stanhope, Iowa, U.S.A., with Tilford Teig and his son Russell Teig (left) in October.*

When visiting with Kirk Leeds, chief executive officer of the Iowa Soybean Association, Musoke said, "The greatest value of an organized association in Uganda would be to boost production through sharing resources." Leeds discussed ways VEDCO could help farmers finance efforts to increase production and develop awareness through public relations activities.

## VEDCO and Makerere University— Partner Capacity Strengthening



*Iowa State University President Gregory Geoffroy (left) with Kizito Musoke (center), VEDCO Executive Director, and Mateete Bekunda (right), former dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Makerere University.*

Program successes achieved to date reflect the highly productive partnerships between CSRL and its two key Ugandan Organizations: Volunteer Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) and Makerere University. These organizations understand the local people, their needs, and their communities. We work together with our Uganda

partners to design and implement effective and sustainable programs for food and nutrition security. One aspect of this relationship is strengthening the capacity of our Uganda partners to lead in-country programs.

### 2008 Highlights

- The nutrition program initiated in Kamuli in 2005 has been mainstreamed in VEDCO's strategic plan since 2007
- VEDCO staff has benefited from CSRL's efforts to enhance monitoring and evaluation of program activities
- Many VEDCO staff have participated in professional development opportunities in accounting, monitoring and evaluation, and a rights-based approach to program training
- VEDCO executive director visited with leaders in Iowa's commodity groups and attended World Food Prize events
- Facilitated by CSRL, VEDCO received \$767,575 for a ACDI/VOCA post-conflict food security program (Lira District)
- Approximately 15 students and faculty from Makerere were involved in CSRL research, service learning, academic degree programs or other learning activities in the U.S. or Uganda

To learn more about our partnerships with VEDCO and Makerere University, visit [www.srl.ag.iastate.edu/work/partners.html](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu/work/partners.html)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Public Health Promotion

**Hand-washing with soap** is the single most important means to prevent the spread of serious infections, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Most people living in the United States have access to clean water, making hand-washing a simple, task.

But would you wash your hands as often if, like Stephen Batwaula, his wife Kirabira Scovia and their children, you didn't really understand the correlation between clean hands and health? Or if you didn't have a convenient washing method?

"Before we started working with CSRL, I would describe myself as



*Use of a 'tip tap' water dispenser for hand-washing helps farmers and their families lead healthier lives.*

having very low income with limited food. We ate twice a day. Our hygiene and sanitation was also poor. Like we never used to wash our hands after using the latrine and we fell ill frequently," Kirabira Scovia said.

After receiving training through the CSRL program, Scovia and her family use a 'tip-tap' water dispenser for hand-washing, a dish rack to keep utensils clean, latrines that have been properly dug and rubbish pits built according to recommendations.

"In summary I can say that I got so many things—improved sanitation, food security, agricultural trade and livestock production," Scovia said.

## Public Health Promotion



*A total of 3,949 people from 1,043 households and 2,400 pupils from four primary schools in Kamuli district access safe water from eight boreholes (deep wells) commissioned by CSRL.*

Ready access to safe water from boreholes (deep wells) coupled with instruction for establishing tip tap water dispensers are central to CSRL's programs that promote proper hygiene and sanitation practices to help families maintain healthier and more productive lives. Additional efforts in the community include teaching the importance of school-health, immunizations, personal reproductive health and development of life skills.

### 2008 Highlights

- Drilled two new boreholes in Kiwungu parish providing safe water for the primary school and adjacent community
- VEDCO and the School of Public Health in Makerere University Medical School initiated collaborative efforts to promote CSRL related health and nutrition initiatives
- In partnership with Des Moines University Medical School students, CSRL developed "school health" activities for Community Nutrition and Health Workers (CNHWs) and staff of rural health centers in Kamuli
- CSRL facilitated VEDCO's involvement in the two-year CHES Project (Community Health Ecosystem Support), funded by Intel Corporation, for innovation with digital communications technologies in Kamuli focused on CNHW training and outreach. Two other Ugandan organizations are participating in this project, UgaBYTES and Uganda Development Services (Kamuli telecenter)

Would you like to help more people in Kamuli gain access to safe water? Donate to the water projects fund now at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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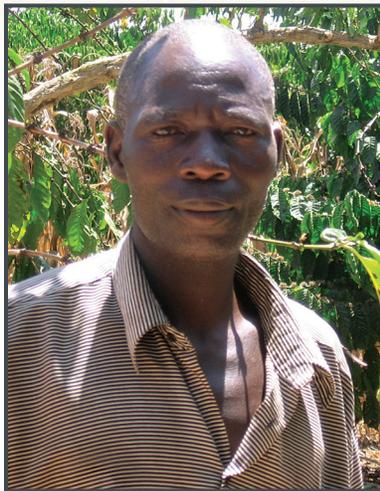
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## 2008 Progress Report

# Livestock Breeding, Feeding and Health

**Before becoming involved** as a Rural Development Extensionist (RDE) in the CSRL program in 2005, Ben Musambira said his family's health, food security and income conditions were bad. They lacked access to improved crop varieties and knowledge about better farming methods. "We also lacked knowledge on nutrition," said Musambira. "We always consumed one type of food and did not have foods that provided correct nutrients for our family members."



*The CSRL livestock program helps farmers like Ben Musambira increase their access to animal source protein and earn needed income.*

Now Musambira and his family eat three meals a day and produce enough food to sell to others. They also eat a variety of foods. Including high-quality protein from eggs.

"I am keeping poultry (60 laying hens) and pigs and grow bananas and cassava. Every day I am able to sell one tray of eggs at UGX 5000 (about \$2.50)...From this I get cash that I use for my daily household needs," said Musambira. He also sells pigs. "The last boar I sold was at UGX 250,000 (about \$125). I am planning to replace the current breed with a different breed that grows faster, and I'm expanding my piggery unit."

Musambira is a visionary, dedicated and a dynamic RDE, who inspires many in this sub-county.

## Livestock Breeding, Feeding and Health



*A \$70 donation to this program will provide a farmer with a sow and a boar.*

Livestock represent a resource to produce meat and milk for families. Livestock also provide agricultural collateral to purchase school uniforms and pay school fees. Owning livestock can greatly improve living conditions for poor families. In 2008, CSRL laid the groundwork with VEDCO and Makerere University to provide livestock production

opportunities for about 50 families and develop more significant livestock education efforts in schools.

### 2008 Highlights

- Applied for and received a grant from The Monsanto Fund to place livestock in the hands of 100 farmers over two years
- Placed pigs at 18 farms
- Built several piggery structures including one at a school in the Kamuli district
- Helped organize and obtain a grant with Makerere University to develop feedstuffs for local farmers
- Generosity from a variety of donors continued to support the livestock program

A livestock program with goats, chickens and pigs offers many opportunities for families and schools. Growing the program to train farmers and find marketing opportunities is a priority.

A small donation makes a big difference to this program. Just \$70 will provide a farmer with a sow and a boar; \$10 will provide 5 chickens. Donate today at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Microfinance for Entrepreneurship

**Imagine having six children** and being able to feed them a meager meal of corn porridge, beans or sweet potatoes once each day. Imagine, if you can, having your children sent home from school consistently because you could not afford to pay the mandatory school fee.

That is how Mohamed Mpaabe (Rural Development Extensionist) and his family lived prior to receiving training and small loans through the



*Mohamed Mpaabe has been a Rural Development Extensionist (RDE) since 2004. Access to small loans through CSRL helped Mpaabe establish an income-producing banana plantation.*

CSRL program. "I had debts, hunger and my children were not properly schooled. My house was a *tanuru* (like a pile of bricks)," Mpaabe said.

Involved in the CSRL microfinance program since 2007, Mpaabe now grows an acre each of cassava and maize, has two cows, raises poultry and tends to his thriving enterprise of 660 banana plants.

Mpaabe received two small loans through the CSRL program. With the first loan of \$40, he planted 220 bananas. The second loan of \$80 paid for fertilizer (manure) and six chickens. "After I sold 36 bananas I was able to repair my house," Mpaabe said. Now he provides training and encouragement to other farmers to help them transform the lives of their families.



With income generated by a banana enterprise funded through a CSRL microfinance loan, Mohamed Mpaabe transformed his “tanuru” (pile of bricks) into a safe, welcoming home.

## Microfinance for Entrepreneurship

Farmers involved in the CSRL program, who have achieved household food security, are eligible to receive small loans so they can begin selling their produce, eggs or livestock. An average loan of \$115 and with an interest rate of 3 percent (a monthly payment of approximately \$3.45), allows many farmers to gain experience in the marketplace and build their assets.

### 2008 Livestock Program Highlights

- 55 farmers or farmer groups have accessed microfinance loans
- The loan portfolio grew to approximately \$10,000
- Repayment rate on or ahead of schedule is 95 percent
- A new farmer credit group was formed in Namasagali, a sub-county
- CSRL is striving to respond to farmer groups seeking larger loans by securing additional funding for the microfinance program

Your donation to the microfinance program will help more Ugandan farmers like Mohamed Mpaabe. His family emerged from daily hunger and living in a “tanuru” to a successful livelihood that is more sustainable. Donate now at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Production *for* Markets

**Ruth Makoba has a lot** to smile about. Her family's health has improved. Her marriage is stronger. And the interior of her home is now finished and features glass windows.

Through the CSRL program, Ruth and her husband have progressed from malnutrition and daily hunger to producing a variety of foods to keep their family well fed and healthy. Now they also generate income by selling crops and eggs in the marketplace.

"We used to be in bad condition," Makoba said. "We did not store food. There was not enough food. Now I stock food and many people are being directed to me to buy food."



*Ugandan farmer Ruth Makoba and her family produce bananas, cassava and eggs for neighbors to buy and to sell at market.*

Makoba said she and her husband enjoy working together. Through a VEDCO cost-sharing program supported by CSRL, they received poultry and now sell eggs. They have 150 birds in the brooder. They started with 50 banana plants; they now have 440 and continue to add more. They've also started a piggery unit and anticipate selling pigs for additional income. They just bought another acre of land and look forward to cultivating it together to produce more for the market to sustain their healthier and happier livelihood.



*Chickens and eggs are important sources of quality protein and also provide farmers with income-generating opportunities.*

## Production for Markets

Once farmers achieve food security, CSRL helps them increase production of specific crops or livestock for the market. Farmers are supported to form associations to access better markets, services, input supplies and mechanization. Currently, there are four parish-based farmer associations engaged in marketing bananas, groundnuts, orange flesh sweet potatoes and poultry.

### 2008 Highlights

- Helped 40 farmers in Namasagali Farmers Association (NAFA) acquire improved seeds and establish 40 acres of groundnuts
- 10 farmers established 15 acres of groundnuts using saved seed
- 20 farmers (16 women, four men) of Bugulumbya Development Farmers Association were supported with 4,000 roosters and 20 bags of feed
- The farmers cost shared 50 percent towards the procurement of the one-day old chicks and of groundnut seed
- Farmers were trained in market analysis and linked to buyers in markets outside of Kamuli

A small donation can make a big difference in this program. Just \$10 will provide a Ugandan farmer with 5 chickens. Donate today at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Service Learning School Garden Program

**When Makerere University student** Jackson Nteeba signed on for the 2008 CSRL Service Learning Program, he expected to be assigned a project and advised how to work on it. Instead, he was provided with “grounds for creativity and innovativeness on our part,” which he said has transformed his life.

“I am empowered in so many ways,” Nteeba said. “This has strengthened my social responsibility as a citizen and exposed me to community needs. I feel like I can and should do something for my community.”

“I have also come to really appreciate my coursework, and my love for agriculture has increased,” Nteeba said. “I now preach the gospel of agricultural service learning to other schools and institutions.”



*Students Jackson Nteeba (left), Makerere University, and Darin Van der Plas, Iowa State University, were part of the bi-national team participating in the 2008 service learning school garden program in Kamuli.*

Participation in multi-cultural projects has also been a real achievement for Nteeba. “I have come to realize that teamwork is important for capacity building. Nteeba said, “In this project, the spirit of teamwork is emphasized, interpersonal skills are built and we learn to find our way out of challenges as a group.”

View a video documentary about the service learning program at [www.srl.ag.iastate.edu](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu)

## Service Learning School Garden Program

School gardens established at selected primary schools in Kamuli serve as outdoor learning laboratories, provide a source of planting materials for children to take to their home gardens and enhance the nutritional and caloric value of the childrens' school lunches. In 2008, a bi-national team of 22 undergraduate students, faculty and professional staff from Iowa State University and Makerere University and VEDCO participated in the program.

### 2008 Highlights

- Established new vegetable gardens, planted new propagation beds and helped maintain existing crops
- Helped teachers present agriculture, science, health and nutrition information
- Established poultry and piggery projects at three schools
- Drilled a deep water well to provide fresh water at the Kiwungu primary school
- Repaired a damaged portion of the Namasagali school roof
- Bi-national team projects helped the primary school children to:
  - enhance their plant propagation knowledge and increase access to planting materials
  - explore mushroom production and poultry keeping
  - learn about health and hygiene information and management
  - apply practices to enhance soil fertility for vegetables
- Graduate student-led research on:
  - Effectiveness of the program on knowledge transfer in pupils' home gardens
  - Iron intake and nutritional assessment of school children attending Namasagali primary school



*A pupil at Nakanyonyi Primary School demonstrates to other pupils how to water vegetable seedlings before transplanting the seedlings to a production bed.*

Help more students become involved in this service learning program by donating funds at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/CSRL](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/CSRL)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Natural Resource Management

**Most farmers in Iowa** will tell you that the time and money spent to plant trees as a wind break or to implement land management practices that minimize soil erosion were well worth the effort. Likewise, any urban dweller who planted a vegetable garden in their green space can attest to the value of mulching to maintain soil moisture.

Farmers in developing countries like Uganda, however, are just beginning to understand the value of such natural resource management practices and their beneficial impacts on sustainable agricultural production.

The sustainable rural livelihoods approach adopted by CSRL places significant emphasis on training farmers to preserve the natural resource base for future generations. Farmers participating in the CSRL program are encouraged to adopt agricultural practices that conserve soil and water resources and to rehabilitate the land where natural resources are depleted.



*Farmers in Uganda demonstrate the value of mulching to maintain moisture in the soil.*

CSRL engages farmers, local leaders and non-governmental organizations (NGO) partners to understand more about natural resource management and the consequences of resource depletion. Working together in this way, farmers are empowered to blend indigenous local and scientifically tested knowledge to develop effective conservation techniques.



60 percent of farmers participating in CSRL programs now use fuel-saving stoves.

## Natural Resource Management

### 2008 Highlights

- Helped farmer groups integrate fast-growing trees in their farming systems
  - Provided short-term benefits in the form of fire wood, building poles, fruits, fodder and medicines
  - Promoted the positive effects of improved micro-climate, soil and water conservation, and protection against strong winds
  - Enhanced farmers' knowledge and skills in agro-forestry
- Established a tree nursery producing over 10,000 fruit and multi-purpose seedlings
  - Provided more than 1,500 seedlings to farmers in the CSRL program from this nursery
  - Established an average of 30 trees on each Rural Development Extensionist (RDE) and Community Nutrition and Health Worker (CNHW) farm to use for demonstration training
- Conducted energy-saving technologies training on:
  - Techniques and benefits of wood-saving stove construction
  - How to save energy in the home
- Trained farmers in soil and water conservation practices; 10 have constructed soil conservation structures
- Conducted natural resources management awareness meetings with local leaders and partners

To contribute funds to help expand the natural resource management component of our program, please visit [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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## 2008 Progress Report

# Scholarly Research

**Conducting research to improve** food and nutritional security of small landholders—and sharing that knowledge—is an integral part of CSRL activities. One such collaborative research project seeks to enhance the nutritional value and marketability of common beans in Uganda and Rwanda. It is funded by a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Dry Grain Pulses Collaborative Research Support Program.

The project goals are to:

- Significantly improve yields and quality of four priority bean varieties
- Enhance nutritional value and marketability of beans
- Increase marketing and consumption of beans and value-added bean products

“This research will help meet the international community’s Millennium Development Goals of reducing hunger and poverty, since improved bean production, processing and consumption in Uganda and Rwanda can help address deteriorating food security there and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa,” said Robert Mazur, CSRL associate director for socioeconomic development and lead investigator of the project.

Co-investigators from Iowa State University include: Mark Westgate, CSRL director and professor, department of agronomy; Suzanne Hendrich, professor, department of food science and human nutrition; and Helen Jensen, professor, department of economics. Project partners in Uganda



Members of the 'bean-CRSP' Research team examine plots at the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) in Namulonge.

include scientists at Makerere University, the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI), and VEDCO. The Kigali Institute of Science and Technology in Rwanda also is a project partner. The project supports three master degree students at Makerere University, two doctorate degree students at Iowa State University, and four undergraduate students in Rwanda.

## Scholarly Research

### 2008 CSRL Research Grants

- \$450,000 from the U.S. Agency for International Development—Dry Grain Pulses Collaborative Research Support Program to enhance nutritional value and marketability of common beans in Uganda and Rwanda. CSRL Associate Director Robert Mazur is lead investigator.
- \$100,000 from the Monsanto Fund to provide tools for the school gardens project and goats, pigs, feed and seed to grow additional feed for 100 households over a two-year period. CSRL Associate Director and Distinguished Professor, department of animal science, Max Rothschild is lead investigator.
- Norman Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) supports the research and training of three doctorate students. Robert Mazur is their mentor.
  - Richard Miiro, Lecturer and doctoral student from Makerere University: Governance and Partnerships in Producer Market Organizations in Uganda: Linking transferred training to organizational sustainability.
  - Haroon Sseguya, Iowa State University Sociology and Sustainable Agriculture: Impact of Social Capital on Food Security in Southeast Uganda.
  - Sheila Onzere, Iowa State University Sociology and Sustainable Agriculture: Organizational Innovation, Social Networks and Emerging Domestic Market Access: A Comparative Case Study of Small Scale Farmers in Uganda.



*Iowa State University recently received a \$100,000 grant from the Monsanto Fund to provide tools for the school gardens project, and goats and pigs to 100 households.*

Visit [www.srl.ag.iastate.edu](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu) to learn more about these research projects and their practical application to CSRL development efforts in Uganda.

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

**Center *for* Sustainable Rural Livelihoods**

[www.srl.ag.iastate.edu](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu) ▪ (515) 294-9237 ▪ [susrl@iastate.edu](mailto:susrl@iastate.edu)

## 2008 Progress Report Outreach

**When semi-retired filmmakers** Ned and Mary Cordery joined friends Chuck and Margo Woods for dinner in fall 2006, Ned mentioned he would like to make one more really good film before he “fell off (his) perch.” Chuck said, “I have just the subject! Do a documentary about ISU’s Center for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods program in Uganda.” Chuck and Margo have traveled to Uganda three times to witness progress and return “impressed and ever-more enthusiastic supporters.”

The four traveled to Uganda at their own expense and worked with CSRL and VEDCO staff to capture 25 hours of high-definition video footage to produce a 7-minute documentary “Transforming the World—School Garden Service Learning Program” and a 27-minute documentary “Together—An African Success.” These two documentaries help audiences understand why Iowa State University is involved in Africa. They also describe the primary CSRL program objectives, partnerships, impacts and hopes for the future.

Funded by a grant from ISU’s Professional and Scientific Council, CSRL Program Coordinator Catherine Adams is now taking these documentaries “Beyond the Big Screen” to promote, duplicate and disseminate them, as well as catalog and retool the raw video footage for use in classrooms and distance education programs.

View the films at [www.srl.ag.iastate.edu](http://www.srl.ag.iastate.edu) or on YouTube.



*Two documentaries about CSRL activities in Uganda produced by Ned (left) and Mary (right) Cordery with Chuck and Margo Woods premiered at Iowa State University on October 1, 2008 to an audience of more than 200 faculty, staff, students and donors.*



Mark Bryden, Iowa State University professor of engineering, and Robert Mazur, Iowa State University professor of sociology and CSRL associate director, discuss the Applied Methods in Sustainable Engineering and International Development program during the Africa Development and Learning Symposium on the Iowa State campus in April 2008.

## Outreach

Outreach activities ‘tell our story’ to the Iowa State University community and other academic institutions, foundations, corporations, legislators, donors, non-profit organizations and others with an interest in alleviating poverty and hunger. Raising program awareness helps us to:

- Unite with others to share lessons and leverage resources
- Attract students and faculty from Iowa State and other academic institutions to become involved in educational and research activities
- Influence policy impacting global hunger issues
- Increase funding through private donations and grants

## 2008 Highlights

- Released two documentary CSRL films
- CSRL and the Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences hosted the Africa Development and Learning Symposium, a gathering of people representing 11 organizations based in Iowa that are involved in development and education program activities in Africa
- The second annual symposium African Connection—Linking People to People and Bringing Ideas into Reality, was hosted by Engineers Without Borders, Iowa State Chapter, in November 2008
- Professor Eric Abbott shared CSRL lessons with 29 students through the Iowa State course: Technology: International Social and Human Issues (TSC 341)
- Students participating in the 2008 Service Learning program shared their experiences with the Iowa State community through several seminars and poster presentations

CSRL is funded almost entirely by gifts and grants from private citizens, foundations, organized groups, and Iowa State employees. You can help us continue our work by contributing today at [www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl](http://www.foundation.iastate.edu/csrl)

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