



CALL TO EARTH

Title: St. Theresa's Primary School and Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network Global Collaborate to Host the First Annual Forum in the Margin of the CNN Call to Earth Day on November 6th 2025, in Entebbe (Uganda).

Theme: *Go Green! Secure a Sustainable Future!*

Background

In Uganda, Agriculture being the backbone of the Economy, stands a test today due to the unpredictable climate factors. This is witnessed in altered frequency and amount of rainfall, prolonged droughts, pests and disease outbreaks, raising and failing water levels, storms, landslides, floating islands, among others. This has significantly affected agricultural production hence affecting the food basket and increased poverty rates. The heavy downpour of rainfall experienced in some parts of the country is primarily induced by climate change; thus resulting in soil erosion, leaching, high temperatures, droughts, wind erosion and loss of soil nutrients. Such changes have significantly reduced agricultural productivity, threatening the country's food basket and increasing poverty. (V Sridharan 2019). Climate change has been exacerbated as a result of environmental degradation leaving the communities more vulnerable to climate risk. (TT Nguyen 2023). To mitigate the situation, environmental sustainability must be prioritized through sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, waste management including recycling of plastic waste and forest management thus resulting in long-term well-being, resource security, and climate change mitigation and economic benefits. (GS Malhi 2021)

Rationale

In line with the CNN Call to Earth Day (CTED), the Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network Global (GCSAYN) and, approved Centers of Excellence (CoE), Primary and Secondary Schools, Universities and TVETs globally organized the first CTED in 2021 which was indeed very successful. The great interest and lessons from all CoEs triggered official launch of the "Green School Initiative" in 2022 as part of the strategic plan for the Children and Youth in Agriculture flagship program (CYA Program – GCSAYN). The "Green School Initiative" aims in promoting Environmental Education, Restoration and Conservation Practices in schools through tree planting and growing (fruits trees). The initiative was officially launched across nine GCSAYN countries; Cameroon (Yaoundé, Limbe and Kumba), India (Narasingh Choudhury Autonomous College) Ethiopia, Malawi, Uganda, Nigeria, Chad, and Kenya and Zimbabwe.



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This collaboration provides a timely opportunity to empower learners and students, foster community participation, and contribute to global efforts in combating climate change and environmental degradation “Call to Earth Day (CTED). Guard Your Green Space” is all about celebrating how people and cultures come together to protect the planet. This event will equally mark the **GCSAYN 1st Annual Forum (AF)** and shall be commemorated every year alongside the CNN CTED for more visibility and impact of all global efforts in enhancing environmental education (EE) within all CoEs.

Objectives:

1. To enhance biodiversity by encouraging local actions such as community clean-ups and eco-friendly practices.
2. To raise public awareness on the importance of a clean environment and promote proper waste management.
3. To inspire a model for adopting environmentally conscious lifestyles.
4. To promote sustainable land use and management practices that support long-term environmental health.

Participants/Target Audience

- Teachers and learners of St. Theresa’s primary school, Entebbe.
- Young people aged 10-30 years
- Approved centers of excellence in Uganda
- Women
- Persons with disabilities
- Development partners
- Line Ministries (Education, Environment, etc.)



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Table of Planned Activities

Key activities	Date/Timeframe	Description
Mobilizing and sensitizing of youths and learners at St. Theresa school	November 6 th 2025	Learners, students, youth, and women will actively participate in a clean-up exercise by removing and clearing plastics and other waste from the environment
Use of social media for creating awareness	Throughout the program	Activities will be recorded and shared on the schools social media platforms to educate the public and encourage wider participation in the call to earth day.
Tree planting exercise	November 6 th 2025	Planting trees within the school and community to promote biodiversity, protect ecosystems, and build a sustainable future

Expected Outcomes

1. Expansion of **Green Cover** in both urban and rural areas through tree planting and eco-restoration activities.
2. Intensified public awareness and understanding of the environmental impact of waste and the need for responsible waste handling.
3. Active involvement of young people in maintaining a pollution-free environment.
4. Strengthened public engagement and behavior change through continuous awareness

References:

- https://csaynglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Report_GCSAYN-Global-Launch- Call-To-Earth-Day_Nov-10_2021.pdf
- <https://csaynglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Activity-Report-GSI.pdf>
- <https://csaynglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CALL-TO-EARTH-DAY-2024.pdf>
- <https://csaynglobal.org/reports/>

