

A LEGACY TAKING ROOT

A VIEWING GUIDE to the SHORT FILM

INVESTMENTS IN FOOD SYSTEMS can have transformational impacts on improving food security and livelihoods, and increasing women's leadership and household incomes, which have far-reaching impacts on families and communities.



MEET GLADYS OCIDA

In this film, we are welcomed into the world of Gladys Ocida. Ten years ago, Gladys had to rely on precarious day labour to be able to purchase food to feed her family.

Through a project implemented by a Canadian Foodgrains Bank member and local partner in Kucwiny, Uganda, Gladys was equipped with knowledge and resources to increase her agricultural production and save for her future.

Now, five years after the conclusion of the project, we see her thriving farm and the legacy she is building for her children and community.

GDP growth
originating in
agriculture
is at least twice as
effective
as GDP growth
originating
outside of
agriculture.¹



If women farmers
had the same access
to resources
as men, their
yields would
increase by
20-30%.²



WHO WE MEET IN THE FILM



GLADYS OCIDA

Farmer

Gladys farms with her husband Dickson in Uganda. She was one of 3,602 individuals who participated in a food security project running from 2012 to 2019.



DICKSON OYIROWTH

Farmer, husband

Dickson joined the project with his wife Gladys, learning new farming techniques that have helped their family to have a diverse and reliable food supply, grow their savings, and invest in the future for their children, and extended family.



SAM RUPINY

Former program manager, Church of Uganda

Sam worked with the community during the project, and is pleased to see that Gladys' family, among so many others, have sustained year-round access to food, maintained kitchen gardens that boost nutritional outcomes, and have built up their assets.



MICHAEL OKURA

Peer farmer, trainee

Michael is one of several village residents who learned new farming, agroforestry, and bee-keeping techniques from Gladys.



PEACE WEKIRA

Self-help group chair

Peace leads the local village savings and loan group (also known as a self-help group). Community women meet weekly to connect, discuss their business ventures and farm progress, and contribute to a shared fund that offers loans and emergency grants to group members.



ERICK ABEDKANE

Local government official

Erick is a friend and colleague to Gladys, and is an elected official at the sub-county level, working on community mobilization, development, and empowerment.



Watch online at foodgrainsbank.ca/legacy-taking-root



WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE FILM



Through the project, Gladys learned about and adopted improved farming methods, planted trees on her land, and started keeping bees. Her yields improved, food diversity increased, and she now grows enough food to feed her family throughout the year and to sell at the market. Not only this, but her beekeeping contributes to improved biodiversity and provides an additional stream of revenue through the sale of honey and beeswax.

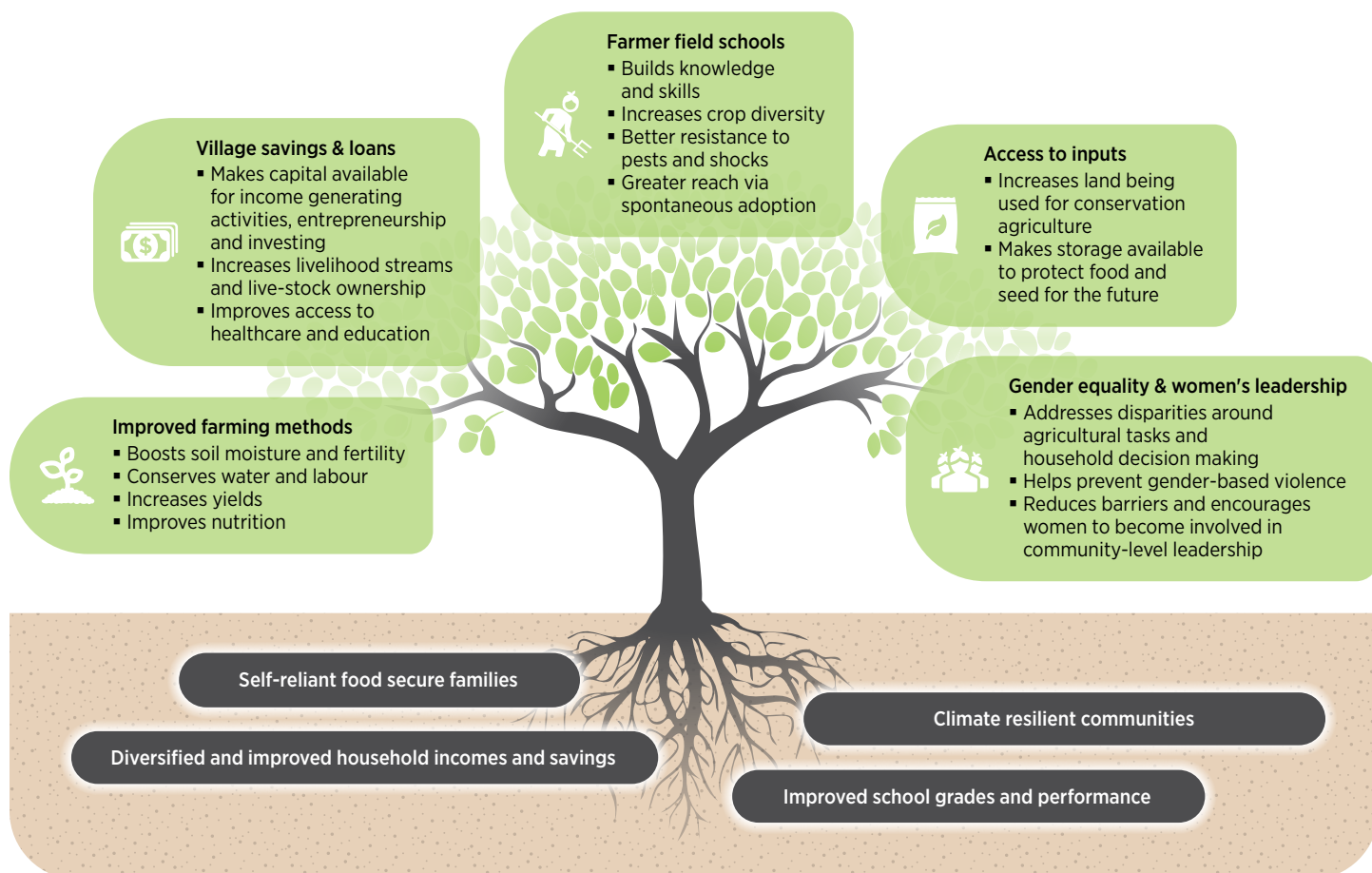
Encouraged by her results, Gladys began sharing her knowledge with peer farmers and advocating for her community at the local government level.

Gladys is seen as a role model in her village, where she continues to participate in a weekly savings and loans group with other women. Investing in this way allows her income and those of her neighbours to be leveraged for the financing of local businesses and to access essential services such as healthcare. Through her savings, she has purchased two motorbikes that she rents out for income, she pays for her children's school fees, and she has an emergency fund, so that she won't need to sell off assets in response to a shock.

The change she has experienced is palpable as we see her sitting down to a meal with her family, laughing without fear of the future. Gladys' story shows how a small seed of investment can grow deep roots; not just temporarily making a difference in the life of an individual, but setting it on an entirely new path – a path that sets the course for others to follow and invites them to walk along it together.



APPROACHES, OUTCOMES AND THE LASTING IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT



PRIORITIZE INVESTING IN RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS



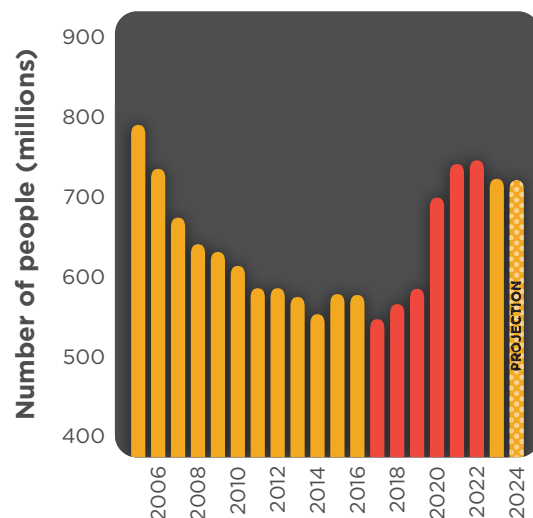
Today, one in 11 people globally experience hunger, and more than 2.3 billion struggle to access adequate food regularly. The world hasn't seen hunger this severe since the early 2000s. With the significant decreases in global foreign aid by major donor countries, lives are already being lost—and millions more are at risk.

The need to build more resilient food systems couldn't be more urgent.

Effective investments in resilient food systems will improve food security, expand income-earning opportunities, increase capacity for adaptation to climate change, protect biodiversity, and support improved gender equality. Now is the time to act!

Your Voice is Needed

- Go to foodgrainsbank.ca/postcard to send a message of support to elected officials!
- Go to foodgrainsbank.ca/online-letter to build your personalized letter and let your member of Parliament know you support continued investments to build resilient food systems within Canada's aid budget.
- Invite family and friends to your own screening of *A Legacy Taking Root!* Contact us at foodjustice@foodgrainsbank.ca for support or to invite a speaker!
- Learn more and share on social media to spread awareness about why Canadian aid is important. Don't forget to tag your MP and @foodgrains!



Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger

MEMBERS: ADRA Canada • Alongside Hope (formerly The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund) • Canadian Baptist Ministries • Canadian Lutheran World Relief • The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada • Development and Peace—Caritas Canada • ERDO - Emergency Relief & Development Overseas (Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada) • Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada • Mennonite Central Committee Canada • Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada • Presbyterian World Service & Development • The Salvation Army • Tearfund Canada • The United Church of Canada • World Renew



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SOURCES

1. The World Bank, 2007. World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, Washington DC: 6.
2. FAO, Women in Agriculture: Closing the gap for Development, March 2011

