

Capacity building enhance dissemination and adoption of weather and climate information at community

Most farmers practicing farming relied mainly on indigenous knowledge to predict rainfall for their agricultural practices. This makes it difficult for the farmers to get better yields and income, because the weather keeps changing and some indicators for indigenous knowledge are not reliable. Farmers survive on farming and when they don't predict the season very well of course their crops and livestock cannot survive.

Mary, is a member of savings group, and a mother of 4 children living in Yumbe district, said she lost all her crops in the previous season. She further described the previous situation "Before I used to plant my crops basing on the anticipation that the rains will come on soon and then pray to God such that the seasons move the way I anticipated". She added on that "this made farming a puzzle to me since at times the rains would fail to come and the planted crops would dry up and make the season a miserable one. This was majorly because of the use of traditional methods of forecasting weather that is completely baseless and misleading".

World Vision Uganda, trained district officials on the importance and dissemination of weather and climate information. Joyce, Senior Agricultural Officer in Yumbe started organizing trainings for us the farmers in savings group.



A farmer practices mulching in vegetable garden in Yumbe

"During the agricultural training sessions, Joyce, senior agricultural extension officer brought us some trainers on weather forecast. They trained us on various aspects of retaining water in the soil. We were advised to dig trenches to control running water in our gardens, plant early maturing crops, use quality seeds, cover gardens with dry grass to retain water. We were also provided with information on seasonal forecasts for SOND 2019. This helped us to know scientifically when we would receive rains or not, and in the exact quantities which helped us to cultivate and prepare earlier

before the season. We were also advised to plant trees on the slopes of the hills to help control soil erosion by reducing the speed of running water and also acting as wind breakers."