



Biovision
Africa
Trust

Improving Livelihoods Sustainably



Annual Report 2024

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

APP	Agroecology Promotion Programme
ARSO	African Organisation for Standardisation
ASBPP	African Seed and Biotechnology Programme Platform
ASTGS	Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy
BMZ	German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
BvAT	Biovision Africa Trust
BVF	Biovision Foundation for ecological development
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CLO	Country Lead Organization
COVID – 19	Coronavirus disease
CSC	Continental Steering Committee
ECCAS	Economic Community for Central African States
ECHO	ECHO community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EOA-I	Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative
EAOPS	East African Organic Products Standard
ESA	Ecological Sustainable Agriculture
EU	European Union
DREA	Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
FCP	Farmer Communication Programme
FFA	Farmer Field Assistant
FFO	Farmer Field Officer
FiBL	Research Institute of Organic Agriculture
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
Icipe	International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology

IKEAF	IKEA Foundation
KALRO	Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization
KBC	Kenya Broadcasting Corporation
KCOA	Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Africa
KHEA	Knowledge Hub for Eastern Africa
LDF	Louis Dreyfus Foundation
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MOALFC	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives
MT	Master Trainers
NOAP	National Organic Agriculture Policy
NOGAMU	National Organic Agriculture Movement of Uganda
ROAM	Rwanda Organic Agriculture Movement
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
RECs	Regional Economic Committees
RAC	Regenerative Agriculture Conference
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SAT	Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SFA	Smart Farmer Africa
SGL	Standard Group Limited
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SSNC	Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
TBC	Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation
ToToF	Training of Teams of Facilitators
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNFSS	UN Food Systems Summit
WFD	World Food Day

FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



“
...we count the success of the interventions made not by numbers of people reached, but by the systemic changes achieved...
”

T rue to its mission, in the year 2024 Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) scaled efforts in strengthening food systems in Africa, by building resilience for all stakeholders through knowledge creation and awareness, markets systems development, and policy advocacy. Much of the achievements were compounded by fruitful collaborations with like-minded partners. The efforts have multiplied impact of existing projects, and birthed new projects, taking a life of their own as seeds of development in different communities, that sprout leading to improved livelihoods, food secure families and conducive environments for the practice of agroecology, enhancing food security.

BvAT's active role as a light bearer for a revolution from conventional to agroecological transition in agriculture, has undoubtedly charted paths for different governments to promote agroecology among their farming communities, by encapsulating this conviction in their policies and strategies. These are some of the fruits of the efforts invested through training, knowledge co-creation and sharing, resource facilitation and policy advocacy. As we close the year, we count the success of the interventions made not by numbers of people reached, but by the systemic changes achieved, in the practice of

empowered farmers, their increased productivity and resilience, and the reinforced urgency of policy makers and other stakeholders to shift to a more sustainable approach to food production.

We acknowledge the support accorded us by our esteemed donors, Biovision Foundation, the European Union, Louise Dreyfus Foundation, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC), Limmat Foundation administering grant by Häni Family. We also take this opportunity, to appreciate our partners in research particularly the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe), the Kenya Agricultural Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), the various county governments with whom we have worked closely, the media, the civil society organizations, and all development organizations with whom we share the noble cause to make Africa food secure.

We do not take for granted the farming communities, whose unrelenting quest to produce sufficient food for all, makes it possible to embrace new technologies and approaches advanced by research and knowledge co-creation. Our concerted efforts have brought us thus far!

Ms. Anna A. Onyango

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



“ We have made significant impact locally, regionally and continentally, reaching over 11 million people with information on agroecological practices, trained 17, 000 farmers on AE technologies and practices and supported over 100 farmers to acquire certification for organic markets.

The year 2024 marked the closure of our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan period with great achievements. We set out to intensify impact in four priority areas, namely; Dissemination and uptake of agroecology (AE)/ ecological organic agriculture (EOA) targeted at smallholder farmers, value chain and market development targeted at the private sector, an enabling policy and institutional environment targeted largely at policymakers, and operational and financial sustainability of BVAT as a Pan African organisation.

The milestones achieved towards these goals through successful implementation of various programmes are commendable. We have made significant impact locally, regionally and continentally, reaching over 11 million people with information on agroecological practices, trained 17, 000 farmers on AE technologies and practices and supported over 100 farmers to acquire certification for organic markets.

In the year, we have been actively involved in the mainstreaming of agroecology through policy advocacy and supported both county and national governments in development of agroecological policies and strategies. Our organization is recognized for its contribution in the development

of the Second National Investment Plan (NAIP II 2024-2029) for implementation of the Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS 2019-2029), and the development of agroecology policies and strategies for Kakamega, Murang'a and Makueni Counties. These efforts reflect our commitment to advocate for an enabling environment for the adoption of agroecology and in effect resilient livelihoods.

Efforts in fundraising and resource mobilization have also borne fruits in diversifying interventions and widening our scope, through newly designed projects including the Agroecology Promotion Programme (APP), the Louis Dreyfus Foundation (LDF) project - Enhancing food and nutrition, market linkages and resilient livelihoods for smallholder farmers through agroecology in Kitui and Nakuru Counties of Kenya, the East Africa Organic Product Standard (EAOPS) - Strengthening Regional Trade through East African Organic Products Standard), the O-Farms II Project -Accelerating circular enterprises to design out food waste in East Africa, and the Native Plants for Environment and People (Native PEP) project - Strengthening livelihood security and environmental health in selected regions in Kenya and Tanzania affected by rangeland degradation, deforestation, and

invasive alien trees. These new projects launched in the year 2024, herald remarkable organizational growth and progress towards realization of our mission to alleviate poverty and improve the livelihoods of rural communities in Africa.

I thank our Board of Trustees, for its unwavering support in giving direction and keeping the organization focused on its goals. To our strategic partners – the donors, the national and county governments, research community, the development

organizations and farmers, we pulled together for a shift in our food systems, and the progress is evident. We will not relent in this course; encouraged by the results achieved in the year 2024, we have the impetus to scale our interventions and intensify impact. I deeply thank all the staff of Biovision Africa Trust, for striving to sustainably improve the health and prosperity of people in Africa while conserving the environment with ecological organic agriculture (EOA) as a basis for all life.

Dr. David Amudavi (PhD)

OUR FOOTPRINT IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2024 was a pivotal one for BvAT, marking the successful culmination of our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. Amidst a continental movement towards sustainable food systems, BvAT solidified its position as a leading advocate for agroecology, driving tangible progress in improving farmer livelihoods, market development, and policy reform. The work was strategically designed to align with high-level frameworks like the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), translating continental goals into grassroots impact.

This period was characterized by both landmark opportunities and significant challenges. The launch of Kenya's National Agroecology Strategy for Food Systems Transformation (2024-2033) provided a powerful sign of progress, validating BvAT's mission and creating fertile ground to scale interventions. Concurrently, the organization navigated a challenging global funding landscape that necessitated agility and strategic foresight. In response, BvAT intensified its resource mobilization efforts, guided by a robust new strategy that successfully diversified funding base and secured new projects, ensuring our financial resilience and programmatic continuity.

This external adaptability was mirrored by significant internal strengthening. BvAT achieved remarkable milestones in building more agile operational systems, developing a comprehensive Knowledge Management strategy, and institutionalizing a Gender Committee to deepen the commitment to equity and inclusion. As the strategic period concludes, BvAT emerges a stronger, more resilient organization, having recorded significant achievements against the targets.

Programmatic Highlights and Impact

BvAT's impact in 2024 was delivered through the three core programmes: the Farmer Communication Programme (FCP), the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture (KCOA-KHEA), and the Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOA-I), each contributing to BvAT's overarching goals.

BvAT's primary objective is to empower smallholder farmers with the knowledge and skills to thrive. In 2024, the programmatic reach was extensive, with awareness campaigns reaching over 30 million people with vital information on agroecological practices. This was complemented by deep, hands-on capacity building, with programmes directly training 35,208 farmers. This knowledge was further expanded by a network of about 3,500 community-based champions (multipliers and farmer ambassadors) whom we equipped to drive peer-to-peer learning.

The success of this approach is evident in the remarkable adoption rates observed. An evaluation of the FCP revealed that the proportion of farmers in Kenya practising organic farming surged from 46.8% to 94.5% following programme interventions. This transition translated into tangible gains, with farmers reporting increased crop yields, improved household incomes, and a significant reduction in the use of harmful chemical inputs.

BvAT believes that sustainable farming must be economically viable. In reporting period, BvAT actively worked to build a vibrant organic marketplace by fostering consumer demand and strengthening value chains. The organization supported the establishment and strengthening of 140 markets

and facilitated the certification of 46 farmer groups through the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) of certification, empowering over 850 farmers to access premium markets. By reaching an estimated 30 million consumers with awareness campaigns, BvAT helped create the market pull necessary to reward farmers for their commitment to sustainable production.

To ensure the long-term success of agroecology, BvAT focused on creating an enabling policy environment. Over the last 12 months, BvAT convened or participated in 102 multistakeholder forums, bringing together 1,119 stakeholders to shape agricultural policy. Advocacy efforts contributed directly to the development of 23 policies, plans, and strategies supporting agroecology. A landmark achievement was the launch of the National Ecological Organic Agriculture Strategy (NEOAS) in Tanzania. At the sub-national level, BvAT actively supported the development of agroecology policies in five Kenyan counties and formalized partnerships through Memoranda of Understanding to translate policy into practice.

Organizational and Financial Sustainability

BvAT's programmatic success was underpinned by a strong commitment to operational excellence and financial stewardship. Human capital base expanded

to 53 staff members, and a strategic management restructuring was implemented to enhance leadership capacity, efficiency and streamline oversight.

BvAT's focused resource mobilization strategy yielded significant results, leading to the establishment of over 40 new strategic relationships with key partners like Porticus, the McKnight Foundation, and IFAD. BvAT submitted 15 funding proposals and successfully secured funding for new, multi-year projects that will carry the mission forward.

Financially, BvAT managed a total expenditure of USD 3.64 million. BvAT is proud to report that the annual audit, conducted by Ernst & Young, resulted in an Unqualified Opinion, the highest possible assurance of financial stewardship.

A Vision for the Future

As BvAT closes the 2021-2024 chapter, the organization looks to the future with confidence and a renewed sense of purpose. The achievements of this past year serve as a strong foundation for the next Strategic Plan (2025-2028). BvAT extends its deepest gratitude to the Board of Trustees, the dedicated staff, funding partners, and, most importantly, the farming communities served. Together, all will continue to advance the ecological transformation of Africa's food systems, working towards our vision of a food-secure continent with healthy people living in a healthy environment.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Amid a growing continental movement towards sustainable food systems, Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) is at the forefront of championing agroecology as a transformative solution for Africa. Our work is strategically designed to improve farmer livelihoods, develop equitable markets, and advocate for supportive policies, directly contributing to high-level frameworks such as the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and Kenya's national food security agenda.

The year 2024 was a pivotal one, marking the culmination of our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. It was a year defined by both landmark opportunities and significant challenges. A key promising development was the launch of Kenya's National Agroecology Strategy for Food Systems Transformation (2024-2033), a policy framework designed to ensure food security, build climate resilience, and promote social inclusion. This national validation of agroecological principles created fertile ground for BvAT to amplify its mission of disseminating vital information and scaling up its impact across rural communities.

Concurrently, 2024 presented formidable headwinds as the development sector navigated a landscape of dwindling donor funding. When key partners face resource constraints, the ripple effect necessitated adjustments to our project implementation. In response, BvAT demonstrated remarkable agility and

foresight. We intensified our resource mobilization activities, guided by a robust new strategy. These efforts bore fruit by year's end, securing three new projects that successfully diversified our funding base and bolstered our financial resilience.

This external adaptability was mirrored by significant internal strengthening. Grounded in our core values, we achieved remarkable milestones in building more agile and effective operational systems. Key among these was the development of a comprehensive Knowledge Management strategy, positioning BvAT as a center of excellence in agroecology information. Furthermore, we institutionalized a dedicated Gender Committee to deepen our commitment to equity and inclusion throughout our organization and programs.

As the 2021-2024 strategic period concludes, BvAT emerges stronger, having recorded significant achievements against our targets. We continue to leverage our extensive networks and partnerships to advance the ecological transformation of Africa's food systems, proving that even in a challenging environment, our commitment to creating a food-secure continent remains unwavering.

2.0 OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Our work is inspired and underpinned by our vision, mission, and core values.

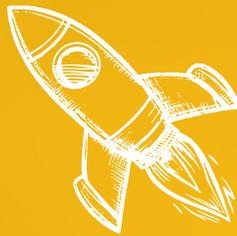
Vision:

A food-secure African continent with healthy people living in a healthy environment.



Mission:

To alleviate poverty and improve the livelihoods of rural communities in Africa by disseminating relevant information and building the capacity of farmers and partners for the ecological transformation of African agriculture and food systems.



Goal:

To sustainably improve the health and prosperity of people in Africa while conserving the environment, with agroecology (AE) and ecological organic agriculture (EOA) as the basis for all life.



Core Values:

- Environmental Stewardship
- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Gender Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
- Accountability and Transparency
- Integrity



3.0 BvAT'S DELIVERY MODEL - FROM STRATEGY TO IMPACT

BvAT's delivery model is defined by its dynamism and a holistic, multi-level approach. BvAT work spans the entire agricultural ecosystem, from grassroots engagement that empowers smallholder farmers to high-level advocacy with policy influencers and decision-makers. This strategy allows us to drive change from the ground up and the top down, ensuring that practical innovations are supported by an enabling policy environment.

BvAT's interventions are organized around six thematic pillars key for promoting agroecology: building farmer resilience, developing sustainable markets, strengthening partner institutions, and advancing supportive policy and research. To achieve this, we employ a set of core operational approaches across all our programmes.

CORE OPERATIONAL APPROACHES

- Multi-channel communication, recognizing that no single channel can reach everyone. Therefore, BvAT uses an integrated mix of communication tools, including print media, radio broadcasts, short videos, digital platforms, and face-to-face extension services, to disseminate knowledge widely and effectively.
- Multi-stakeholder engagement through building collaborative platforms that bring together diverse actors to co-create and implement solutions by including farmer communities, government partners, research institutions, and private sector players.
- Partner implementation through trusted partners is a cornerstone of our continental reach. BvAT has developed efficient grants and partnership management system to effectively empower local organizations, ensuring that interventions are contextually relevant and locally owned.
- BvAT's work is underpinned by a strong Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system that tracks programmatic effectiveness. Organization-wide performance is overseen by the BvAT Strategic Plan Steering Committee (BSSC), which periodically reviews progress against key performance indicators, ensuring accountability and continuous improvement.

4.0 OUR PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

In 2024, our strategic objectives were executed through three primary programmes: the Farmer Communication Programme (FCP), the Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOA-I), and the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture (KCOA).



BvAT extension officer trains a farmer on Bokashi technology in Bungoma County, Kenya

4.1 THE FARMER COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME

Operating in Kenya and Tanzania, the FCP is dedicated to the capacity building of smallholder farmers and other value chain actors. The programme's effectiveness is driven by its innovative Integrated Communication & Capacity Development (ICCD) approach, a systemic strategy designed

to broaden our reach and deepen the adoption of ecological farming practices.

The ICCD model (figure 1) unfolds in three deliberate phases:

- Phase 1 aims at securing buy-in by establishing a strong foundation and gaining the support of government leadership at the county and national levels, thus ensuring FCP work aligns with local development priorities.

- Phase 2 Co-creating strategy through inclusive, participatory processes involving farmers representatives and other stakeholders. FCP co-designs county-specific communication plans for promoting agroecology.
- Phase 3 The co-created plans are executed through FCP’s established channels: *The Organic Farmer (TOF) Magazine*, its Tanzanian counterpart *Mkulima Mbunifu (MkM)*, TOF Radio, the Infonet-Biovision online platform, and direct Farmer Outreach activities.

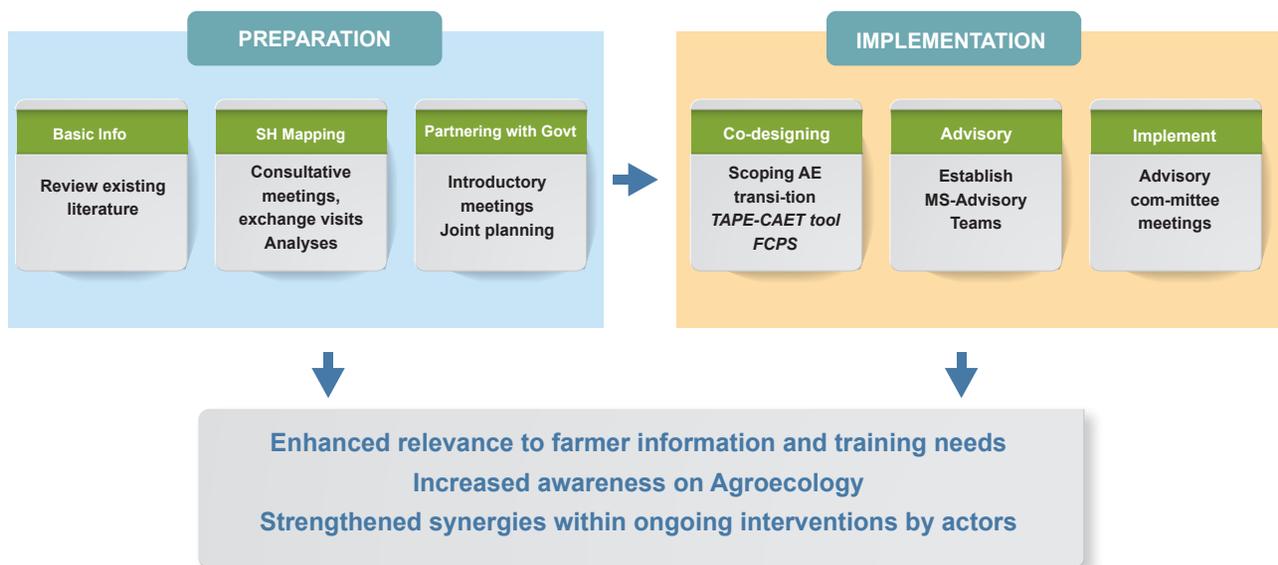


Figure 1: The ICCD Model

A key component of this model is the establishment of Advisory Committees, which review the quality and relevance of disseminated information and link the programme to valuable networks. By end of 2024, 10 active committees had been established across Kenya and one national committee in Tanzania. The FCP’s face-to-face training deepens knowledge through workshops, on-farm demonstrations, field days, and exchange visits, ensuring farmers receive hands-on, practical support.

4.2 KNOWLEDGE CENTRE FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE (KCOA)

BvAT serves as the lead coordinating agency for the Knowledge Hub for East African (KHEA) of the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture and Agroecology in Africa (KCOA) project. BvAT’s goal through KHEA is to firmly integrate organic agriculture

into the national agricultural systems of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Madagascar.

This is achieved through a collaborative, partner-driven model where Country Implementing Partners (CIPs) lead in-country activities. The project focuses on three interconnected action fields:

1. Knowledge management by assembling, validating, and tailoring knowledge products for local contexts.
2. Capacity building and dissemination by sharing knowledge through diverse media channels and targeted training.
3. Market development and networking by connecting producers to markets and fostering a vibrant network of agroecology stakeholders.

A hallmark of the KCOA is its innovative cascade training model. The trained regional Master Trainers, train and equip country-level Multipliers

(such as extension agents, innovator farmers, and entrepreneurs). The Multipliers, in turn, train site trainers at the community level, who cascade the knowledge directly to thousands of farmers. This leveraged approach ensures deep penetration and sustainable knowledge transfer across the region.

4.3 ECOLOGICAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE – INITIATIVE (EOA-I)

The EOA-Initiative (EOA-I) was formed in response to the African Union Heads of State and Government's call for the promotion of organic farming in Africa. Through support from SDC, and collaboration with partners, a Central Steering Committee (CSC), was formed and mandated to provide guidance, oversight, and decision-making for the EOA Initiative's operations in Africa. The CSC also advocates for the EOA agenda and bridges the gap between the EOA Secretariat and the African Union Commission (AUC), ensuring alignment with continental strategies.

The initiative has been implemented in Africa since 2012 first on a pilot basis in six countries, namely Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Nigeria and Zambia. The rollout has risen to eight (8) countries – four in Eastern Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania) and four in West Africa (Mali,

Nigeria, Benin, and Senegal), with an overall goal of mainstreaming ecological agriculture into national agricultural production systems, plans and policies.

The EOA Phase II came to an end in September 2024 after a successful implementation for four years since 2019. The initial phase covered 2019-2023 but was extended to 2024 to cover pending activities in the 9 countries of implementation.

EOA-I's main goal is to scale up ecologically and organically sound strategies and practices through institutional capacity development, scientific innovations, market participation, public policies and programs, outreach and communication, efficient coordination, networking and partnerships in Africa. It is implemented under three main pillars: Research, training and extension; information and communication; value chain and market development. EOA-I is implemented through Country Lead Organizations, and under each CLO, are pillar implementing partners. EOA-I Country Lead Implementing Partners per country are as follows: KOAN (Kenya), PELUM Uganda (Uganda), TOAM (Tanzania), ROAM (Rwanda), Institute for Sustainable Development (Ethiopia), NOAN (Nigeria), CNCR (Senegal), FENAB (Mali) and OBEPAB (Benin). Each of these has pillar implementing partners within their country.

5.0 ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS STRATEGIC IMPACT AREAS

In 2024, BvAT significantly advanced its mission of promoting ecological transformation in African agriculture and food systems. As a leading advocate for agroecology and sustainable agriculture, the organisation not only deepened its reach among smallholder farmers, but also supported growth in organic trade and markets, strengthened its influence in policy, research, and continental networks. The following are its key achievements in the year, focusing on its 5 main strategic impact areas:

5.1 RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

BvAT dedicated its efforts to enhancing the resilient livelihoods of smallholder farmers by facilitating the widespread adoption of agroecology. Through the core programmes – FCP, EOA and KCOA-KHEA, BvAT implemented a multi-faceted strategy of awareness creation, capacity building, and knowledge dissemination. The collective efforts have yielded significant results in equipping farmers with the skills and knowledge needed to build sustainable, productive, and profitable agricultural enterprises. The foundation of agroecological transition lies in accessible, relevant, and co-created knowledge by smallholder farmers and other actors. BvAT programmes work synergistically to reach millions of stakeholders with information, provide targeted training, and build a network of community champions to scale its impact. BvAT's ultimate goal is to translate knowledge into tangible improvements in

farm productivity, farmer incomes, and environmental health. Evaluations from BvAT's core programmes demonstrate significant progress in on-farm adoption and livelihood enhancement.

The following is a summary of BvAT's combined achievements, presented around strategic key performance indicators for resilient livelihoods.

5.1.1 Increasing awareness on AE/EOA practices

Collectively, BvAT's programmes reached 30,323,262 people with information on AE/EOA. This extensive outreach was made possible through close collaboration with media houses and strategic use of diverse communication channels. The Farmer Communication Programme reached over 2 million listeners through targeted radio broadcasts on stations like Coro FM, Ingo FM, and Mutongoi FM, and an additional 72,000 readers through its quarterly TOF Magazine. The KCOA-KHEA programme engaged stakeholders through high-profile events, such as the *Nane Nane* exhibition in Tanzania which attracted over 256 attendees to the agroecology corridor.



BvAT's field officer trains a women farmer group on composting in Busia County, Kenya

5.1.2 Training farmers on AE/EOA Practices

Across the three BvAT programmes, a total of 35,208 farmers were directly trained on AE/EOA practices. These trainings are delivered through distinct, effective models tailored to community needs. The Farmer Communication Programme trained 27,594 farmers since the start of its strategic plan period, utilizing the participatory Integrated Community-led

Co-creation and Dissemination (ICCD) approach. The KCOA-KHEA programme trained 5,230 farmers across five Eastern Africa countries using a cascaded approach through local multipliers. The EOA Initiative trained 16,701 farmers, successfully concluding its farmer training under the Training of Trainers and Farmers (ToToFs) model in September 2024.



35,208

farmers trained Across the three BvAT programmes

27,594

farmers trained through Farmer Communication Programme

5,230

farmers trained through the KCOA-KHEA programme

16,701

farmers trained through The EOA Initiative



Mr. Moses Igwalang, a consumer of TOF radio programmes, from Busia County

5.1.3 Disseminating knowledge products

BvAT has empowered a network of 3,473 champions who actively promote agroecology within their communities, ensuring sustainable, farmer-to-farmer knowledge dissemination. The KCOA-KHEA programme trained 1,742 multipliers who are equipped to train other farmers. The FCP trained 145 The Organic Farmer Ambassadors (TOFAs). The EOA Initiative has supported 1,530 champions through various partner-led, farmer-to-farmer models.

5.1.4 Developing and disseminating AE/EOA knowledge products

A total of 376 knowledge products were developed in 2024 and disseminated across BvAT's programmes. This added to accumulated achievement of 1898 knowledge products since the start of the strategic

phase. These products, including magazines, radio programmes, digital datasheets, and validated manuals, were guided by a holistic approach (4-H) covering animal, human, plant, and environmental health. FCP produced a total of 146 knowledge products consisting of radio broadcasts and podcasts, TOF magazines, and Infonet-Biovision datasheets. The KCOA-KHEA programme validated 117 knowledge products on its digital platform. The EOA Initiative exceeded its target by validating 55 different EOA technologies and practices over its 2019-2023 phase.

5.1.5 Farmer households improving productivity

Farmers adopting AE/EOA practices saw significant gains in farm productivity. Evaluations by BvAT have consistently indicated increased production among farmers who are transitioning from conventional to

agroecological systems. For instance, an evaluation done under the FCP showed that 84% of farmers had reported increased crop yields. This growth is attributed to practices that enhance soil health and biodiversity, leading to sustainably increased yields.

5.1.6 Farmer households increasing incomes

Positive changes in household livelihoods have been strongly reported. A mid-term evaluation of farmers directly reached through the FCP channels found that 96.3% of farmers in Kenya and 99% in Tanzania reported improved productivity and incomes through adoption of organic practices. The EOA Initiative evaluation further corroborates this, showing that household consumption of organic products, a proxy for disposable income and food security, increased significantly, reaching 42% against a target of 20%.

5.1.7 Reducing use of harmful chemical-based inputs

A critical behavioural shift away from reliance on synthetic inputs was observed. The FCP mid-term evaluation confirmed that the adoption of organic

farming practices led to a reduction in the use of synthetic chemical-based fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides among participating farmers. This transition contributes directly to improved soil health, biodiversity, and farmer well-being.

5.1.8 Adopting AE/EOA practices

BvAT programmes have successfully influenced a remarkable rate of adoption of AE/EOA practices. The EOA Initiative reported that an additional 7,378 farmers adopted EOA practices by the end of its second phase, bringing the cumulative total to 11,694 farmers (88.9% of the target). These farmers have converted 86% of their agricultural land to organic management. The FCP mid-term evaluation revealed a dramatic shift in farming practices. Before the programme, 46.8% of farmers in Kenya practiced organic farming; this figure rose to 94.5% following FCP's interventions.

The table below provide a summary of achievements by key performance indicators providing programmes contribution.

Table 1: Achievements in capacity building and farmer training

RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS		FCP	KCOA	EOA	BvAT Total
	SP¹ Target	6,582,400	17,023,000	10,015,000	33,620,400
<i># of people (f/m, youth) reached through awareness creation on AE/EOA per channel used</i>	2024 Achievement	3,705,423	3,902,673	3,726,913	11,335,009
	Achievement Cumulatively	6,562,481	15,019,435	8,741,346	30,323,262
	Overall progress (%)	99.7%	88.2%	87.3%	90.2%
<i># of farmers (f/m, age) trained on AE/EOA</i>	SP Target	17,600	8,000	18,000	43,600
	Annual progress	14,297	5,230	13,174	19,933
	Achievement Cumulatively	27,594	5,230	16,701	35,208
	Overall progress (%)	157%	65.4%	92.7%	80.7%

1 SP – BvAT Strategic Plan

RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS	FCP	KCOA	EOA	BvAT Total	
# of champions (farmers, extension agents, and other value chain actors) who promote AE/EOA	SP Target	200	2,060	2,000	4,260
	Annual progress	170	1773	1,530	3,473
	Achievement Cumulatively	170	1,773	1,530	3,473
	Overall progress (%)	74.5%	86.06%	76.5%	81.5%



BvAT extension officers in Machakos County train farmers on AE practices at a demo farm during an open field day.

5.2 MARKETS & TRADE

Building resilient livelihoods through agroecology requires not only productive farms but also robust and accessible markets. Biovision Africa Trust is committed to developing a vibrant organic marketplace by fostering consumer demand, strengthening value chains, and empowering farmers to meet market

standards through accessible certification. BvAT's integrated approach ensures that the transition to sustainable practices is both environmentally sound and economically rewarding for smallholder farmers.

During 2024, BvAT's efforts in building dynamic markets and trade yielded significant results across the following key areas:



Tumaini farmer group from Machakos County during a learning visit to The Organic Farmers Market at Karen, Nairobi. The group was undergoing PGS training for Organic certification.

5.2.1 Farmers facilitated and acquiring certification (e.g., PGS)

To build consumer trust and unlock market opportunities, BvAT significantly advanced the adoption of Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) as a credible, farmer-centric alternative to costly third-party certification. Cumulatively, BvAT programmes successfully facilitated the certification of 46 PGS groups in 2024. EOA-I established 32 groups across nine countries, while the KCOA-KHEA programme supported 14 groups. Cumulatively by end of 2024, BvAT had supported 841 farmers to acquire various certifications for organic markets.

5.2.2 Strengthening and establishing markets for organic products

BvAT programmes have collectively supported **140 markets** for organic products in 2024, significantly exceeding strategic target. This support moves beyond the farm gate to actively connect producers

with consumers and value chain actors. BvAT achieved this by facilitating farmer participation in strategic platforms such as national exhibitions, symposia, and conferences. A prime example is the *Nane Nane* National Farmers Exhibition in Tanzania, where the KCOA-KHEA programme supported the Agroecology Consortium Corridor, showcasing organic innovations to over 256 attendees. Looking ahead, BvAT is poised to further strengthen regional trade through the newly launched GIZ-funded project on the East African Organic Product Standard (EAOPS), which will enhance market integration across Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania.

5.2.3 Reaching consumers through awareness campaigns

A thriving organic market is driven by informed and conscious consumers. Through a multi-channel communication strategy, BvAT has reached an estimated **30,323,262 consumers** in 2024, raising awareness of the health, safety, and environmental benefits of agroecology and organic food. BvAT's

communication channels, including widely broadcasted radio and TV programs Through the Organic Farmer (TOF) Radio, farmer caravans, and popular publications like *The Organic Farmer* (TOF) and *Mkulima Mbunifu* (MkM) magazines, have been vital in this effort. By educating the public on food safety and nutrition, BvAT actively created the market pull necessary to sustain the growth of the organic sector.

5.2.4 Volume share of certified & non-certified organic products traded

While comprehensive data on traded volumes is an emerging area of focus, key indicators from BvAT programmes point to a substantial increase in the

production and circulation of organic goods. The EOA Initiative’s final evaluation revealed a 39% increase in production volumes for participating farmers, demonstrating a greater supply of organic products entering local economies. This increase in supply is matched by growing demand, as evidenced by a 33% average increase in household expenditure on AE/EOA products across nine countries. This shows that more organic food is being both grown and consumed, reflecting a vibrant and expanding market at the community level.

Table 2 below provides a summary of achievements by programmes and indicators under the strategic priority of markets and trade.



Joseph Kariuki, a farmer beneficiary of BvAT’s outreach, at his organic tomato farm in Nyandarua County. He sells his farm produce to urban markets through an online platform.

Table 2: Summary of achievements on markets and trade

INDICATOR	Quarters/ Targets	FCP	KCOA	EOA	TOTAL
<i># of farmers (f/m, age) who have been facilitated and acquired (or in the process of) certification e.g., PGS, Kilimo Hai, 3rd Party Certification, etc</i>	SP Target	30	300	500	830
	Annual progress	0	310	305	615
	Achievement Cumulatively	21	310	510	841
	Overall progress (%)	70%	103%	102%	101.3%
<i># of markets for organic products supported</i>	SP Target	20	12	70	102
	Annual progress	-	-	119	119
	Achievement Cumulatively	15	6	119	140
	Overall progress (%)	75%	50%	142%	137%
<i># of consumers reached through awareness campaigns</i>	SP Target	4,000,000	15,000,000	10,000,000	29,000,000
	Annual progress	3,705,423	3,902,673	3,726,913	11,335,009
	Achievement Cumulatively	6,562,481	15,019,435	8,741,346	30,323,262
	Overall progress (%)	164%	100%	87.4%	104.5%

5.3 POLICY & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For agroecology to achieve scale and lasting impact, it must be embedded within supportive policy frameworks and championed by capable institutions. Biovision Africa Trust played a pivotal role in creating this enabling environment, engaging with stakeholders from the community level to continental bodies to advocate for, develop, and implement policies that support sustainable food systems. BvAT’s work in 2024 has significantly advanced the agroecology agenda, strengthening the institutions that drive change and influencing the policies that govern agricultural landscapes.

BvAT key achievements in this strategic area are detailed below.

5.3.1 Supporting institutions to acquire advocacy and lobby capacity

In 2024, BvAT strengthened the institutional architecture for agroecology by fostering collaborative platforms and empowering partners. The Farmer Communication Programme established 10 county-based farmer communication advisory committees in Kenya. These committees serve as crucial mechanisms for co-creating local solutions and directly influencing county-level agricultural planning. At regional and continental levels, BvAT continued to build the capacity of Country Implementing Partners (CIPs) and Country Lead Organizations (CLOs), equipping them to effectively engage in national policy dialogues and advocate for the agroecology movement.

5.3.2 Convening and participating in multistakeholder forums for AE/EOA policy changes

BvAT convened and participated in 102 multistakeholder forums in 2024. This demonstrates BvAT's deep commitment to shaping the discourse on sustainable agriculture. Our engagement spans all levels, from facilitating county-level co-design workshops under the FCP to participating in high-level international events. Notable engagements included the 6th National Agroecology Actors' Symposium (NAAS) in Uganda, the Partners for Change (P4C) Conference to inform the post-Malabo agenda, and the African Fertilizer & Soil Health Summit, where BvAT actively advocated for agroecological solutions.

5.3.3 Participating in advocacy and lobby forums

A total of 1,119 stakeholders participated in the advocacy forums and policy events supported by BvAT, reflecting a broad-based and inclusive approach to policy development. These participants included senior government officials, farmer representatives, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, and private sector actors. By bringing these diverse voices to the table, BvAT ensures that policy processes are enriched by a wide range of perspectives and experiences, leading to more robust and effective outcomes.



Kakamega County Climate Smart Agriculture Multistakeholder Platform Meeting Participants at Grand Turaco Hotel.

5.3.4 Developing policies, programmes, plans, and strategies for AE/EOA

BvAT advocacy efforts have directly contributed to the development and mainstreaming of 23 policies, plans, and strategies supporting agroecology. A landmark achievement in 2024 was the official launch of the National Ecological Organic Agriculture Strategy (NEOAS) in Tanzania, a culmination of

dedicated advocacy by the EOA Initiative and its partners. Progress was also made with Uganda having reached the final stages of approving its national agroecology strategy and Rwanda having initiated its development process. At the sub-national level, the FCP actively supported the development of agroecology policies in four Kenyan counties namely Nakuru, Makueni, Kakamega, and Bungoma.

5.3.5 Implementing AE/EOA policies, programmes, plans, and strategies

Critically, policy wins translated into tangible action on the ground. The EOA Initiative reported 18 EOA-related programs implemented as a direct result of successful policy integration across partner countries. At the local level, implementation is visible through

FCP's formal collaboration with county governments. For instance, BvAT signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Makueni County and supported 7 Agricultural Training Centres (ATCs) across Kenya to establish agroecology demonstration farms, turning policy into practical learning opportunities for thousands of farmers.



Dr. David Amudavi, the BvAT Executive Director with The Makueni Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr., During the BvAT-Makueni County Govt MoU Signing.

5.3.6 Budgetary allocation to AE/EOA by governments and other funding institutions

While specific government budgetary allocation percentages for agroecology are not yet systematically tracked, the significant increase in policy development and government engagement served as a powerful leading indicator of future financial commitment. The growing interest from county governments in Kenya to develop agroecology

policies, and the advancement of national strategies in countries like Tanzania and Uganda, are creating the necessary political will and formal structures that precede and justify public investment in sustainable agriculture.

The table below provides a summary of achievements by key indicators.

Table 3: Achievements of policy advocacy and institutional development activities

INDICATOR	Quarters/ Targets	FCP	KCOA	EOA	TOTAL
<i># of multistakeholder forums convened/participated in for AE/EOA policy changes and lobby</i>	SP Target	10	10	15	35
	Annual progress	13	3	74	93
	Achievement Cumulatively	18	10	74	102
	Overall progress (%)	180%	100%	133%	294%
<i># of stakeholders who participated in advocacy and lobby forums, meetings, workshops, etc.</i>	SP Target	200	100	800	1,100
	Annual progress	331	62	600	993
	Achievement Cumulatively	331	62	726	1,119
	Overall progress (%)	165%	62%	91%	101.7%
<i># of policies, programmes, plans, strategies, at sub-national, national, regional, and continental mainstreamed/developed to support AE/EOA</i>	SP Target	-	-	-	25
	Annual progress	0	0	23	23
	Achievement Cumulatively	-	-	23	23
	Overall progress (%)	-	-	92%	92%

5.4 STRENGTHENING RESEARCH

BvAT supports applied and participatory research that provides credible data for ecological organic agriculture. Through initiatives like the EOA-I, BvAT collaborates with research institutions to develop, test, and scale sustainable farming practices.

In the year 2024, BvAT actively participated in the Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS) Scoping Study, which aimed to assess the role of FMSS in enhancing agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and resilience. The study was supported by the European Union (EU) through the DeSIRA-LIFT Initiative.

The first draft report of the study was validated during a stakeholder workshop held in Lusaka, Zambia, in October 2024, organized by the African Union Commission (AUC). The workshop brought together key regional and continental stakeholders to review and provide input into the draft report.

During the meeting, the FMSS Roadmap was developed under the leadership of the FMSS Cluster Lead. BvAT was subsequently engaged by seed experts and FMSS stakeholders to develop a universal definition of Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS), a key step towards harmonizing understanding and policy alignment across the continent.

Institutions represented at the validation meeting included the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, DeSIRA-LIFT, Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOAI), Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA), Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD) Africa, as well as seed specialists, legal experts, and other key stakeholders in the seed sector.

Through its active engagement and technical input, BvAT contributed significantly to advancing continental dialogue on Farmer Managed Seed Systems and positioned itself as a key partner in shaping policies and frameworks that support resilient, farmer-centered seed systems in Africa.

5.5 ORGANIZATIONAL AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

5.5.1 Human Resource

BvAT staff are the driving force behind BvAT's mission. In 2024, the Human Resources department focused on cultivating a high performing, engaged, and resilient team capable of advancing BvAT's strategic objectives. By aligning our people strategy with organizational goals, BvAT have strengthened its human capital, fostered a positive and inclusive workplace culture, and built the institutional frameworks necessary for sustainable growth and impact.

a) Strategic Workforce Planning and Organizational Design

In 2024, BvAT human capital base expanded to a total of 53 regular staff members, supported by three regular consultants and six interns. To enhance staff capacity and infuse fresh perspectives, BvAT successfully boarded nine new staff members, two regular consultants, and six interns across various programmatic and operational functions.

To enhance leadership capacity and streamline programmatic oversight, the Board of Trustees approved an interim senior management restructuring in March 2024. This strategic realignment created two pivotal roles:

- Head of Farmer Communication Programme and Support Functions (Finance & Administration)
- Head of Programmes (Ecological Organic Agriculture – EOA and Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture – KCOA)

b) Investing in staff by training and well-being

BvAT is committed to fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional growth. During 2024, BvAT invested in targeted professional development for six staff members in the critical areas of Monitoring and

Evaluation, Project Management, Taxation, Strategic Management and Leadership, and certification with the Institute of Human Resource Management (IHRM). These initiatives are central to BvAT's philosophy of ensuring the staff team is equipped with leading-edge skills to drive institutional effectiveness.

Recognizing that the team's well-being is paramount to organisational success, BvAT also organized dedicated staff wellness sessions focusing on mental health, underscoring their commitment to supporting a healthy and balanced work environment.

c) Strengthening our institutional framework

Significant progress was made in 2024 to fortify organisational policies, systems, and organizational capacity. These achievements provide a robust foundation for future work.

- BvAT developed a comprehensive Gender and Inclusion Policy with support from CatalystePlus (Canada). A gender focal person was appointed to champion the mainstreaming of these principles across all BvAT programs. All these measures were geared to fostering an inclusive culture.
- To enhance BvAT's visibility a new branding and communication strategy was developed to unify the messaging and amplify BvAT's impact and influence across all platforms.
- BvAT successfully completed its registration with the National Employment Authority, ensuring full compliance with national labour regulations.
- A Feedback and Complaint Response Mechanism for promoting accountability was developed to strengthen our accountability to stakeholders and enhance engagement.
- BvAT drafted Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Staff Training and Development to standardize the approach to capacity building. Additionally, a resource library was established to serve as a knowledge hub for staff.

- The process for developing the new BvAT Strategic Plan (2025–2028) was officially launched, setting a clear path for the next phase of organizational growth and innovation.

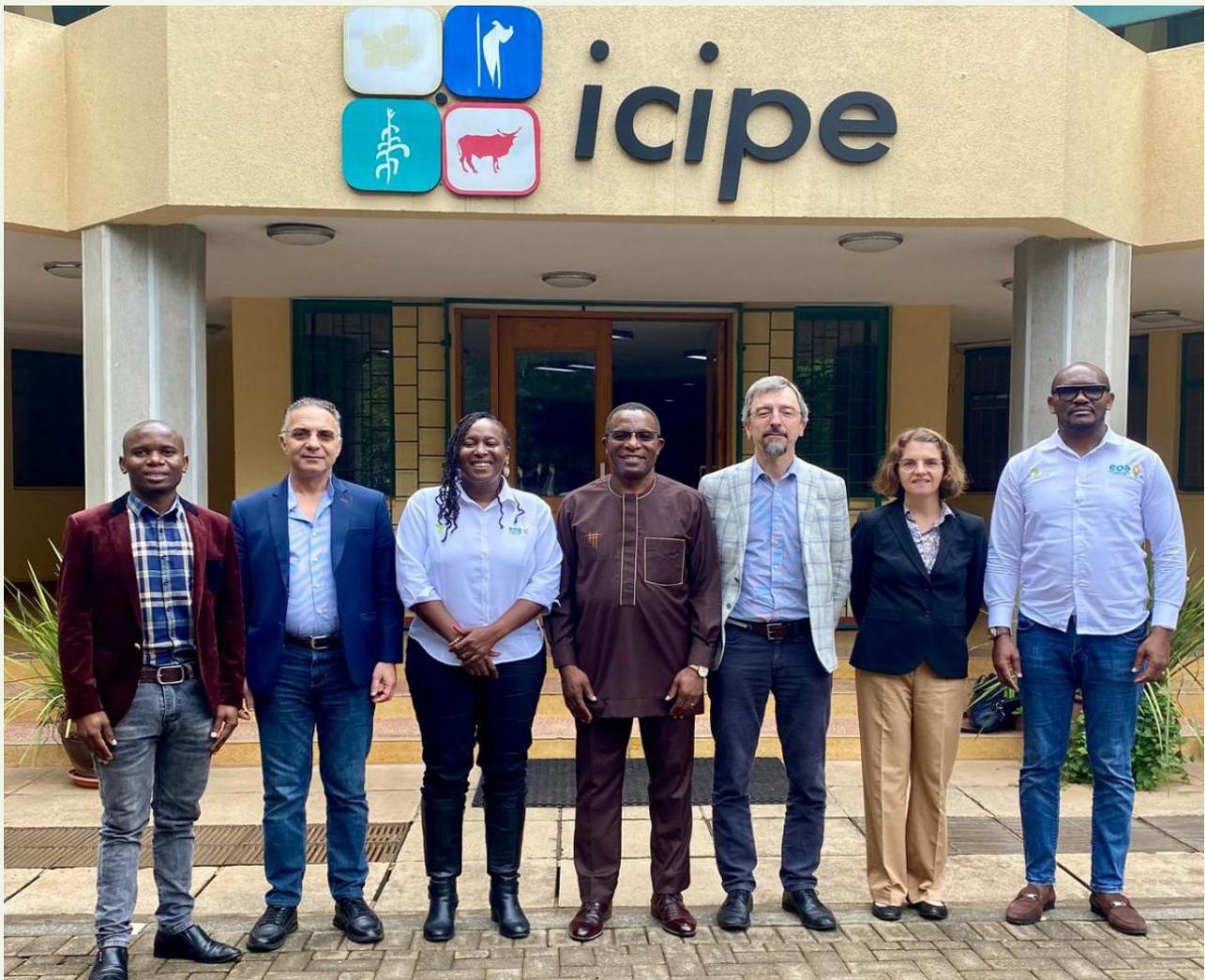
Navigating challenges and looking ahead

While 2024 was a year of significant achievement, BvAT also navigated several challenges inherent to a growing organization.

- The expansion of the staff team placed constraints on current office space, prompting

strategic considerations for future workspace solutions.

- The organization experienced delays in performance appraisal cycle and are actively working to streamline these processes to enhance efficiency and ensure timely, constructive feedback for staff development.
- The increasing tax burden on staff salaries remained an external pressure point for both employees and the organization’s financial planning.



BvAT team led by its Executive Director, Dr. David Amudavi hosted Mr. Christophe Larose of European Union and Mr. Lamine Mohamed of IFAD on 10th May 2024 on the icipe campus.

5.5.2 Resource Mobilization and Strategic Partnerships

In 2024, BvAT's resource mobilization efforts were strategically aligned to ensure organization's long-term financial sustainability and programmatic growth. The Resource Mobilization Unit was instrumental in diversifying funding portfolio, forging high-impact alliances, and building a robust project pipeline to advance our mission. The approach moved beyond traditional fundraising to cultivate strategic partnerships that amplify influence and secure the resources needed to scale BvAT's work in agroecology.

a) Building a foundation for sustainable growth

To create a systematic and institutionalized approach to fundraising, two key milestones were achieved. First, a comprehensive **Resource Mobilization Strategy** was developed, outlining a structured framework for donor mapping, proposal development, and partner engagement. This strategy is now actively guiding the Unit's operations and has been integrated into departmental workstreams to ensure a cohesive, organization-wide approach. Second, a fundraising and resource mobilization committee was established to provide strategic oversight and further embed fundraising as a core organizational function.



BvAT staff celebrate a trophy during the 2nd National Agroecology Symposium at The Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi.

b) Forging strategic alliances and expanding networks

A primary focus for 2024 was the strategic expansion of BvAT's partnership network. The Unit successfully established over 40 new relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders, including government agencies, international NGOs, bilateral development institutions, and philanthropic foundations.

Notable new engagements were initiated with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Lavazza Foundation, FAO, EU/IFAD, McKnight Foundation, Porticus, and the Center for Circular Economy in Coffee. These were not merely funding relationships but strategic alliances that have already resulted in collaborative concept development, invitations to high-level strategic dialogues, and significantly broader visibility for BvAT on key global platforms.

c) A strong project pipeline and funding success

BvAT's strategic groundwork translated into tangible results, with 15 funding proposals developed and submitted to a range of partners during the year. These efforts yielded significant success, with two proposals submitted to Porticus being approved and funded.

BvAT projects pipeline reflects growing ambition and regional leadership, with standout proposals including:

- Promoting Trade in Organic Products project using the EAOPS project submitted to GIZ.
- The Living Labs Biodiversity Conservation Project submitted to the EU.

- The AE4CLIMPACT proposal to the McKnight Foundation, aimed at evaluating agroecological practices for climate resilience.

A key highlight was securing funding from Porticus to host the 2nd Eastern Africa Agroecology Conference, reinforcing our role as a convener and knowledge leader in the region. Furthermore, proposals such as Scaling Agroecology in Africa (EOA-GAP) and Mainstreaming Agroecology Policy in Southern Africa received preliminary approval from IFAD, signaling a promising and robust pipeline for future impact and partnerships.

d) Enhancing brand equity and thought leadership

Resource mobilization is intrinsically linked to organizational visibility and brand strength. The Unit played a key role in implementing BvAT's Communication Strategy by coordinating participation in prominent national events. These platforms were leveraged to enhance institutional profile and strengthen donor engagement.

These efforts were publicly recognized through two prestigious awards:

- The Best Exhibition Trophy at the 2024 World Food Day event held at Kaimosi Agricultural Training Centre, Nandi County.
- A trophy for excellence during the Second National Agroecology Symposium held at The Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi.

These accolades are a powerful testament to BvAT's growing brand equity and the recognized position as a thought leader in the agroecology and sustainable development sectors.



BvAT wins the best exhibition trophy during the 2024 World Food Celebrations held at Kaimosi Agricultural Training College, Nandi County

5.5.3 Finance

Introduction

Biovision Africa Trust financial statements for the period ending 31st December 2024 were audited by Ernst and Young Certified Public accountants. The organization received Unqualified opinion on the financial statements. Details are represented in the table below:

Table 4: Biovision Africa Trust Statement of Comprehensive Income for the period ending 31st December 2024

Description	Notes	2024	2024	2023	2023
Income		Return on Equity (ROE)	137		135
Restricted income		USD	KES	USD	KES
Grant income	2	3,403,084	466,179,990	3,832,259	518,517,449
Interest income	3	4,858	665,484	2,894	391,583
		3,407,942	466,845,474	3,835,153	518,909,032
Unrestricted income					-
Overhead recoveries & other incomes	4	215,746	29,554,559	348,172	47,108,852
Total income		3,623,689	496,400,033	4,183,326	566,017,885
					-
Expenditure					-
Research and project activities	5	1,890,144	258,926,060	2,350,701	318,057,651
Personnel expenses	6	990,886	135,739,059	974,533	131,857,628
Travel cost	7	182,295	24,972,197	168,347	22,777,924
Project administration costs	8	145,488	19,929,988	160,051	21,655,454
General expenses	9	162,610	22,275,518	146,945	19,882,125
Audit & consultancy	10	32,661	4,474,157	34,576	4,678,249
Finance expenditure	11	3,858	528,495		-
		3,407,942	466,845,474	3,835,153	518,909,032
					-
BvAT Core Expenses	13	227,784	31,203,554	289,190	39,128,432
Total Expenditure		3,635,726	498,049,028	4,124,344	558,037,464
					-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		<u>(12,038)</u>	<u>(1,648,995)</u>	<u>58,982</u>	<u>7,980,421</u>

Table 5: Biovision Africa Trust Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024

Biovision Africa Trust

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2024

Description	Note	RETURN ON EQUITY (ROE)			
		2024 USD	127 KES	2023 USD	151 KES
Assets					
Non-current assets					-
Property and equipment	12	10,845	(1,483,936)	7,839	524,896
Project PPE		60,840	7,725,987	60,914	9,394,577
Total non-current assets		71,685	6,242,051	68,753	9,919,473
Current assets					-
Receivables from implementing partners	13	632,598	80,339,935	434,575	65,403,533
Receivables from Biovision Foundation	14	30,915	3,926,205	8,179	1,230,955
Other receivables and payments	15	144,874	18,399,037	238,522	35,897,585
Cash and cash equivalents	16	921,004	113,336,574	1,358,960	204,523,463
Total Current assets		1,729,391	216,001,751	2,040,236	307,055,536
Total Assets		1,801,077	222,243,802	2,108,989	316,975,009
Fund balance					-
Fund reserves	17	356,239	45,242,293	442,682	66,623,655
Total Non-current Liabilities		356,239	45,242,293	503,596	66,623,655
Current liabilities					-
Payables	18	249,369	31,669,918	339,664	51,119,426
Deferred income	19	1,106,161	140,482,477	1,236,746	186,130,320
Fundraising	20	28,468	3,615,385	28,982	4,361,836
Capital Fund - PPE Projects	11	60,840	7,726,727	60,914	9,167,615
Total Current liabilities		1,444,839	183,494,507	1,666,307	250,779,197
Total Liabilities		1,801,077	228,736,800	2,108,989	317,402,851

Project Expenses

BvAT spent about **3.64 US million dollars** in implementation of its projects in the financial year 2024. This was an 88% equivalent amount invested in the previous year of **USD. 4.1 million**.

The grants helped bring about visionary projects and drive change in Kenya, eastern and Western Africa through implementation of our three main programs: The Farmer Communication Program (FCP), the Knowledge Centre of Organic Agriculture (KCOA) and the Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) programs.

Revenue

BvAT received various grants within the financial year 2024 with the major contributors comprising of: SDC, GIZ and Biovision Foundation. In total BvAT registered revenue amounting to **USD. 3,407,942** with an additional core grant amounting to **USD. 215,746**. BvAT continues to actively resource for its CORE fund to enable the organization to support organizational and institutional growth.

Administrative Expenses

BvAT experienced a 3 % growth in the administrative expenses compared to the previous year 2023. The total administrative expense registered in FY 2024 USD. 1,136,374 equivalent to 31 % of BvAT's total expenses.

Financial Result

The Organization's Liquidity ratio has been realized at a positive 1.12, a slight drop from the Year 2023 which was recorded at 1.79. The organization's financial health continues to grow steadily to allow for increase in investment, savings, and payment of outstanding liabilities.

Outlook

BvAT looks to the future with confidence. The Board of Trustees and management are hopeful that the organization will grow its resources to support the implementation of projects and budget for financial period 2025, under the new strategic period 2025-2028. We would like to express our sincere thanks for the trust our loyal donors and development partners have placed in BvAT. Their contributions form the basis of our relevance in working towards our vision of 'A food secure African continent with healthy people living in a healthy environment and independence'. Our partners and donors' contributions enable us to engage sustainably in our priority programme areas critical to our goal of poverty alleviation and livelihood improvement in Kenya and other the African countries.

BvAT Financial Statement in graphics:

Figure 2: Funding received in the year 2024

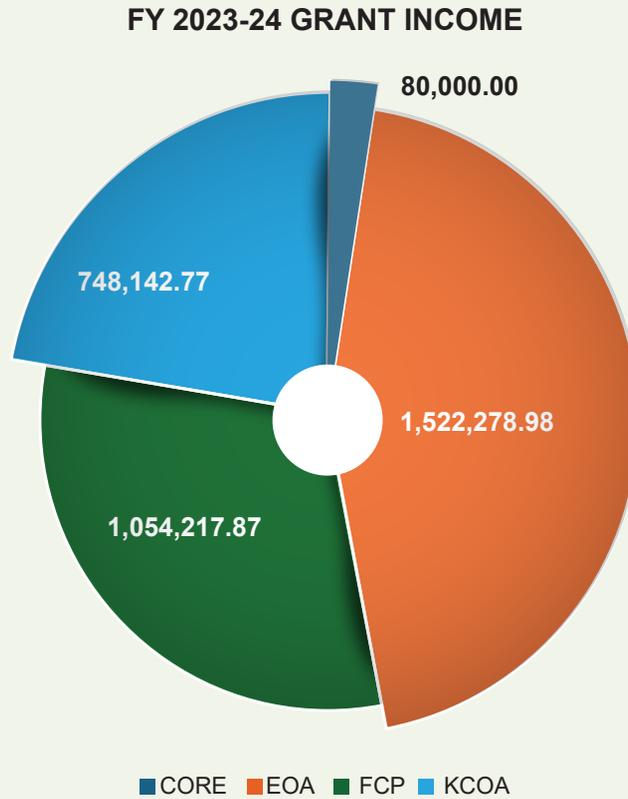


Figure 3: Funding received in 2023 & 2024

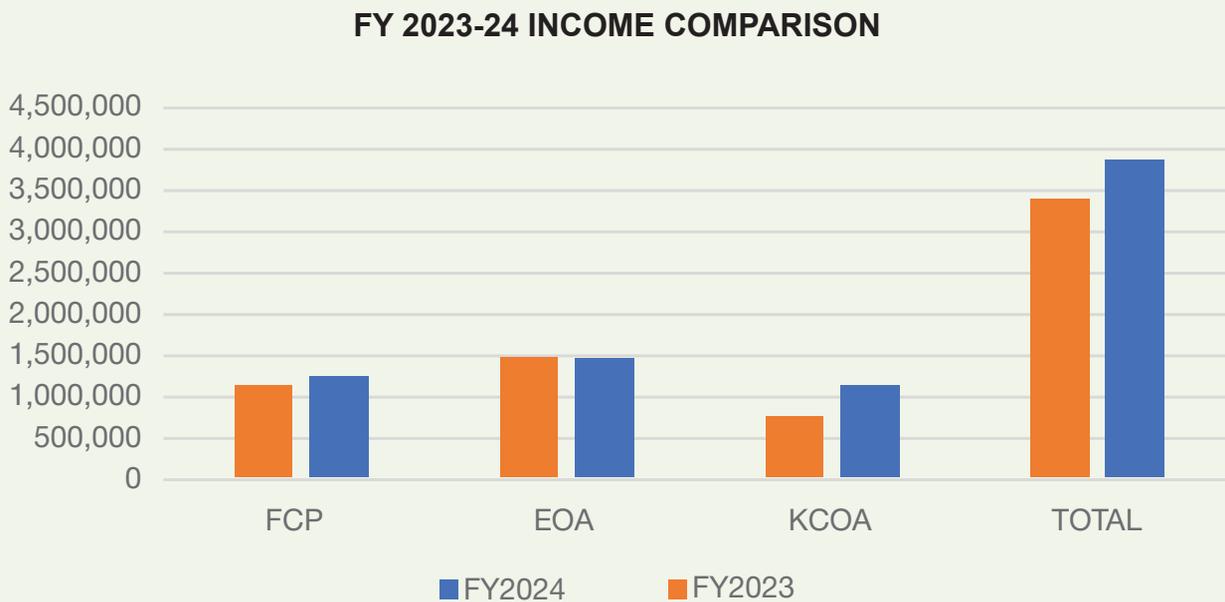
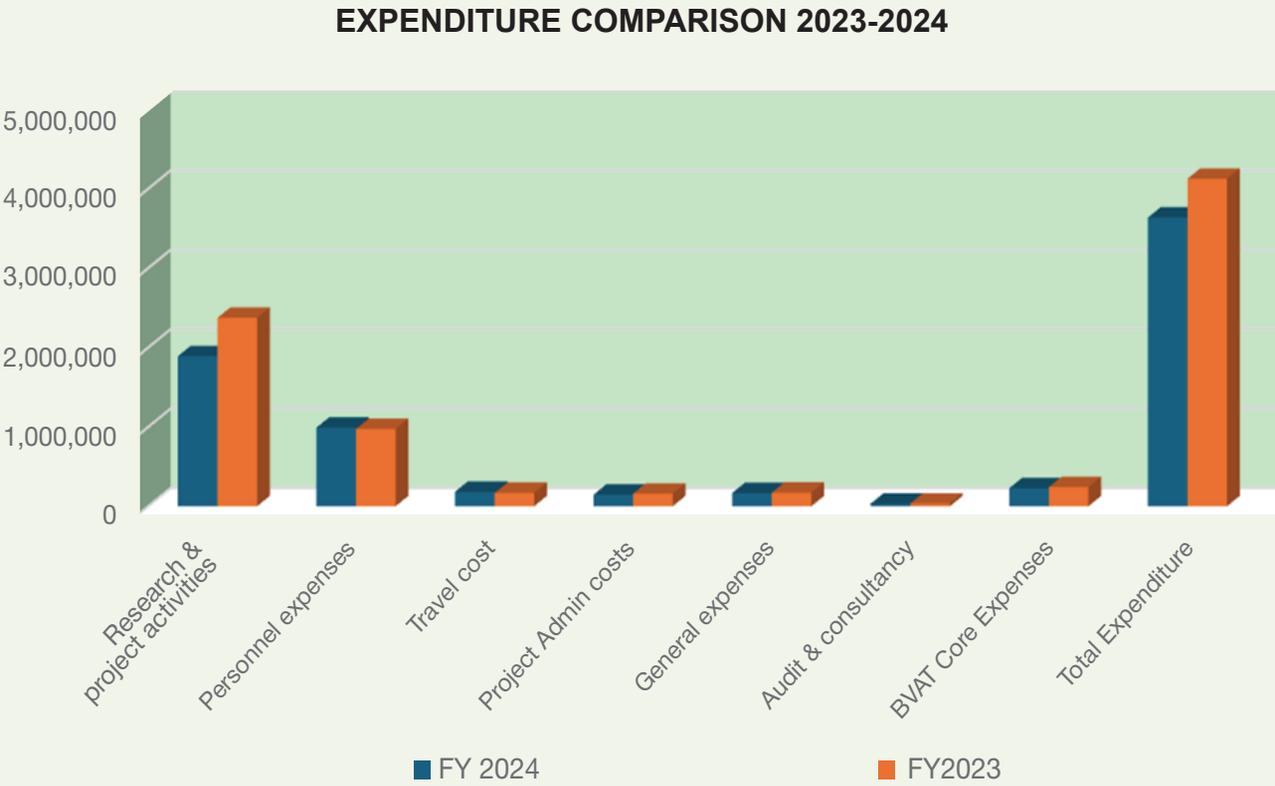


Figure 4: The expenditure movement between 2024 and 2023.



6. SUCCESS STORIES

Success Story 1:

From Farmhand to Hive Products Entrepreneur – The Inspiring Journey of Bernard Ojiambo

“That training changed everything. It opened my eyes to the potential of beekeeping. Now, I have a business of my own and I’m helping young people venture into agribusiness too”- Bernard Ojiambo



Bernard Ojiambo with one of his employees at his hive products shop in Busia — a symbol of how learning can transform lives.

When BvAT’s field officers first met **Bernard Ojiambo** in Busia, he was working as a farmhand earning a modest wage. During their interaction, they noticed he had a keen interest in sustainable farming. When a training opportunity arose at Baraka Agriculture College in Molo for **apiculture and sustainable agriculture**, the team did not hesitate to recommend him. The field officers were determined to help him improve his skills and transform his livelihood.

The experience was transformative. Armed with new knowledge and confidence, Bernard began supporting local farmers to set up beehives and manage colonies. His skill and passion soon earned him an invitation to share his story on **The Organic**

Farmer (TOF) Radio. From the radio appearance, Bernard reached thousands of listeners across the region, attracting more opportunities to **train farmers**, assist in hive setup, and guide them on **honey harvesting and processing at a fee**.

Today, Bernard is a successful **hive products entrepreneur** in Busia. He processes and markets a range of bee products, including honey, wax, and propolis. What began as a single training has blossomed into a growing agribusiness that has created employment for **six youths**, who has trained himself and now works alongside in hive management and honey processing.

Success Story 2:

Farmers Find Relief in New Composting Technology – Bokashi Fertilizer

In training on this technology, extensionists refer to BvAT's print (TOF Magazine) and digital platform, (Infonet Biovision), channels due to their credibility as validated resources on AE practices.



Beatrice Nabwire applies bokashi fertilizer on her farm in Khuhungu village, Busia County

Extension services especially in the Kenyan context, are increasingly on high demand. As farmers face challenges and opportunities alike, reliable extension support makes a huge difference in improving production. BvAT enhances government efforts in offering extension services through a multi-faceted approach, disseminating information especially on agroecological techniques, through mass targeted media such as print, digital, radio, as well as through face-to-face training. These channels of information dissemination complement each other, in reaching target beneficiaries, enabling adoption.

One such technology that has changed the way farmers treat their soil, is bokashi composting. Little known to most Kenyan local communities, albeit having huge potential among small holder farmers, bokashi technology is now gaining popularity as an

alternative biofertilizer, accessible locally, through recycling household and farm organic matter. This technology has drawn most farmers by its short maturity period of two weeks, compared to other compost manures, and its outstanding efficacy in improving yields on the farm.

In training on this technology, several extensionists have credited BvAT's print (TOF Magazine) and digital platform, (Infonet Biovision), as channels of reference due to their credibility as validated information resources on AE practices.

Beatrice Nabwire, a small-scale farmer from Khuhungu village in Busia County, is a beneficiary of these trainings, whose breakthrough in vegetable production began after learning and practicing use of bokashi fertilizer. "After a season of using bokashi

on my farm, the soil has improved, and the yield I harvested was three times what I used to harvest before, as a conventional farmer,” she explains. “I now use Bokashi throughout my farm from planting to topdressing. Even the texture of the soil has changed; it’s softer, more fertile, and farming is less costly,” she says.

Subsequently, through structured training of farmer groups and other extension agents from the Ministry of Agriculture and partner organizations, BvAT’s extension officers have scaled adoption of bokashi technology across counties, with farmers reporting increased production at lesser costs.



BvAT field officer Mr Alex Kajojo trains county extension staff in Kisii County of bokashi preparation

Success Story 3:

How Radio Transformed a Farmer's Life

"The farmer programs provide answers to the very challenges that we small farmers face every day. The presenters teach in a way that makes you understand. They even give us listeners a chance to call in and ask questions," — Moses Igwalang



For Moses Igwalang, the radio is as important as his jembe. Through Kilimo Hai, he's learned the secrets of healthy soil and better harvests, lessons that are turning his small farm into a thriving enterprise.

One quiet Monday morning, **Moses Igwalang** reached for his small radio, just as the clock struck ten. It was time for *Kilimo Hai*, a program supported by **Biovision Foundation**. What he did not know was that this single action would spark a transformation that would change his approach to farming.

Moses owns a **one-acre farm** that he inherited from his father. For years, he struggled to get good yields largely due to poor access to agricultural extension services caused by poor road networks and high costs of expert consultations. This made farming very frustrating for him. But everything changed when he began listening to practical, science-based techniques from *Kilimo Hai*.

One of the most impactful lessons Moses learned from *Kilimo Hai* was on **soil testing**. For years, he planted crops blindly, unaware of the soil's nutrient status before planting. The radio program opened his eyes to the importance of understanding his soils before planting.

After conducting a soil test, Moses integrated organic manure to chemical fertilisers he was using. The result was a significant improvement in both productivity and income. He is now planning to shift completely to organic manure after drastically reducing chemical fertilisers.

Another episode challenged a habit he'd long taken for granted. The habit of **burning crop residues** after harvest. Like many farmers, Moses used to burn

maize stalks after harvest to clear his land. The radio program taught him that burning destroys vital soil nutrients.

Today, Moses uses crop residues for **mulching and composting**, practices that have made his soil richer and boosted his yields.

Through *Kilimo Hai*, Moses has since adopted **mixed farming**, growing maize, beans, cassava, and vegetables alongside livestock. The change is visible. His crops are healthier, his income is higher, and his family eats better.

Beyond his own farm, Moses' success has inspired his neighbors and friends, many of whom have begun testing their soils and composting their crop residue thus multiplying the impact of *Kilimo Hai farmer programs*.

Thanks to the support that we continue to receive from Biovision Foundation, radio has become a powerful tool for learning, empowerment, and transformation.

For farmers like Moses Igwalang, radio is not just entertainment, it is a classroom on air and a bridge to better farming.

Success Story 4:

TOF Magazine Opens a New World of Innovations for Violet Kageha

How innovative agroecological practices transformed a small farm in Kakamega County

"I used to think my land was too small to make a living. Now, I grow more, earn more, and waste nothing."-Violet Kageha



Violet Kageha's thriving arrowroot garden feeds her family and inspires other women farmers in Kakamega County.

In a quiet village in **Kakamega County**, **Violet Kageha** proudly shows visitors around her vibrant farm. Her farm is a testimony of what innovation, knowledge, and determination can achieve. Every corner of her small plot tells a story of transformation, from her lush **vertical gardens** of indigenous vegetables to a fishpond teeming with life.

Violet is one of the many farmers who have benefited from **BvAT's** initiatives promoting agroecological farming. Through exposure to techniques such as **mandala gardens**, **sunken beds**, and **cone gardens**, she has learned to maximize her small piece of land for multiple agribusiness ventures.

All this began when she came across The Organic Farmer (TOF) Magazine, a publication of BvAT, that features various technologies on agroecology, especially recycling of locally available resources, and ways of income diversification. Articles featured in TOF magazine on **income diversification** opened Violet's eyes to new possibilities. Along the edge of her farm lies a thriving **fishpond** stocked with 1,600 fish. She harvests every 6 months, earning an average of **Ksh 60,000 per cycle**. The remaining sections of her land are home to **dairy cows**, and **poultry** that work together in a closed-loop system of recycling and reuse. For instance, she rears vermiworms and is set to install a black soldier fly

unit, both technologies aimed at producing her own chicken feed and soil fertilizer. “I learnt about these technologies from various editions of The Organic Farmer Magazine; the information is featured in a way that is easy to implement in the farm” she says. By producing her own feed, Violet has been able to **scale up poultry production** sustainably. Her two dairy cows provide milk and manure, which she uses in a **biogas digester**, another innovation she learned about from TOF Magazine.

In addition to being a regular consumer of information disseminated through the magazines, Violet has benefitted immensely from training offered by BvAT

staff stationed at Kakamega, who occasionally hold field days at her farm, benefitting hundreds of other farmers from within her community, with practical based training.

With the income generated from her diversified farm, Violet has **built a permanent house** for her family and comfortably supports her children’s education. More importantly, her farm has become a **learning site** for other farmers eager to adopt similar technologies.

Success Story 5:

Agroecology Sowing the Seeds of Hope

How a young farmer has turned his fortunes around through agroecology



Francis Nyongesa's flourishing vegetable field showcases how knowledge and sustainable farming can transform livelihoods.

"I thank BvAT and SSNC for their support. I have learnt that farming does not have to be survival but rather empowerment." - Francis Nyongesa Ongaro

When **Francis Nyongesa Ongaro** looks across his thriving vegetable garden in **Nasira Ward, Busia County**, he still marvels at how far he's come. Just two years ago, his farm told a very different story; struggling with low crop yields, depleted soils, and frustrations!!!

As a member of the **Edama Youth Group**, Francis had long been passionate about farming, but poor yields made it hard to see a future in it. That changed in late 2022, when **BvAT** began training the **Edama Youth Group** on agroecology, a system that promotes harmony with nature, reduces chemical inputs, and improves both health and livelihoods.

Through the training, Francis learned how to make and use **Bokashi compost**, plant **cover crops**, and apply **organic pest control methods**. These practices, he says, brought his farm back to life. Living near a river, Francis struggled with soil erosion for years. Learning to plant **cover crops** changed that.

Today, his once-bare plots are green with **indigenous vegetables**. However, the transformation does not stop at his farm gate. Encouraged by his progress, Francis began sharing his new knowledge with others in his community. He has since trained several youth and women farmers on **Bokashi composting** and **agroecological soil management**.

Beyond the visible transformation of his farm, the most meaningful change for Francis is **financial**

stability. With steady harvests and a growing supply of vegetables, he now earns consistent income throughout the year.

Francis credits his success to the **Biovision Africa Trust** and its partner, the **Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)**, for empowering

youth like him with practical, sustainable solutions.

Today, Francis is part of a growing movement of **Kenyan youth reclaiming their future** through sustainable farming. He is a walking proof that with the right knowledge, even the most depleted soil can bloom again.

Success Story 6:

Women Discover the Power of Mushrooms



Members of COPROBIO group showcase part of the harvest from their mushroom farm

“It’s not about growing a new crop but cultivating a sustainable source of nutrition and income.” - COPROBIO

In the rolling hills of **Rwanda**, a group of 30 determined farmers, most of them women, have found a new path to prosperity and better nutrition. United under the **COPROBIO Cooperative**, these farmers have turned a simple idea into a thriving venture that’s changing lives.

Their turning point came when the group participated in training **on mushroom farming**, organized by the **Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Eastern Africa (KHEA)** through the **KCOA Project**. The session, delivered through **video-based learning**, opened their eyes to the untapped potential of mushrooms as a sustainable crop.

The videos showed how farmers elsewhere were growing mushrooms with minimal land and resources.

Inspired and motivated, the COPROBIO members decided to try it for themselves. What began as a small experiment quickly grew into a successful enterprise that now benefits both their households and the wider community.

Within months, the cooperative members were harvesting healthy mushrooms. Families began incorporating them into their diets, and soon after, surplus harvests were being sold locally thus creating an additional income stream.

Mushrooms are a **rich source of protein, fiber, and essential minerals**, making them a valuable addition to local diets. For these women, mushroom farming is a way to fight malnutrition and food insecurity in their community.

The success of COPROBIO is a shining example of how **knowledge sharing and collective effort** can lead to transformation. The group’s story also

highlights the potential of **digital learning tools**, such as video screenings, in spreading practical agricultural knowledge.

Today, COPROBIO's mushroom project continues to grow, attracting interest from neighboring communities eager to learn. The cooperative now plans to expand production and explore value

addition to products such as mushroom powder and packaged dried mushrooms.

Through their journey, these Rwandan farmers have proven that with the right knowledge and collective spirit, smallholder farmers can achieve big dreams. What started as a video training event has blossomed into a **model of resilience**.

Success Story 7:

Turning Challenges into Opportunities

How a Young Poultry Farmer has turned poultry farming into a profitable enterprise



*Cyrus Munene
attends to his poultry*

“BvAT gave me knowledge, and knowledge gave me income. I realized poultry farming can truly sustain a young person if done right.”- 29-year-old Cyrus Munene.

When **Cyrus Munene**, a 29-year-old resident of **Kiharu sub-county in Murang’a County**, completed his college education, job opportunities were scarce. But rather than waiting endlessly, he decided to create his own path.

In early 2024, Cyrus founded **WAMU Poultry Farm**, determined to make a living from poultry. But he had seen too many farmers in his community lose birds to diseases, predators, and poor management. He knew that without the right knowledge, he would face the same fate.

That’s when he turned to **Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT)** Muranga Outreach field staff. This became

the turning point for his enterprise.

With the knowledge he received, Cyrus started small, purchasing **100 improved Kienyeji chicks**. It wasn’t all smooth sailing. Early on, he battled **disease outbreaks and predators** like rats. But with guidance from BvAT’s field staff, he improved sanitation, followed vaccination protocols, and used simple, locally made remedies to curb losses. Within a few months, as his confidence grew, mortality rates dropped sharply.

One of his biggest challenges was the **rising cost of commercial feeds**. Through BvAT’s training, Cyrus learned to **formulate his own feed** using local ingredients and **Azolla** which is a highly nutritious water fern. He also began using **The Organic Farmer Magazine** and **Infonet-Biovision** as his sources for expert advice on feeding and disease control.

At just **five months**, his chickens were ready for market, weighing over **2 kilograms each**. Sold locally for **Ksh 1,000 to 1,500 per bird**, Cyrus earned a **profit margin of nearly 40%**.

Encouraged by his success, he scaled up his operations and now keeps **around 400 birds**.

Cyrus has diversified his business model and is now **brooding chicks** for one month and selling them at **Ksh 250 each**, while also marketing mature birds for meat production. He's even found a market

for **chicken manure**, selling it at **Ksh 300 per 10kg bag** to nearby farmers. Looking ahead, he plans to **set up a hatchery** to supply chicks and eggs while expanding his meat production enterprise.

Cyrus's journey is a powerful reminder of how access to knowledge and reliable extension services can transform lives. By combining determination with the right training, he has built a thriving agribusiness that sustains him.



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