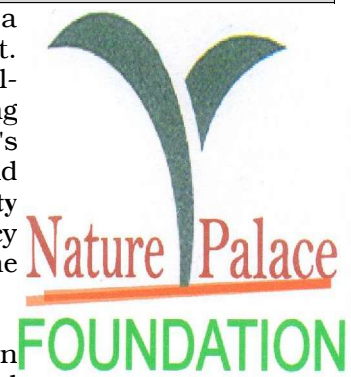


Background:

Nature Palace Foundation (NPF) was founded in the year 2000 as a Civil Society Organization with initial operations in Wakiso District. NPF is a not-for-profit Community-Development and Human Well-being-focused organization that operates on the principle of blending Conservation with Development. This stems from the organization's mission (**Making Sustainable Development Functional at the grass-roots**) and our vision (**being a Midpoint for Sustainable Development and Community Evolution**). NPF is a member of Wakiso Environmental CSOs Advocacy Coalition (WECAC) and represents Civil Society Organizations on the Local Environmental Committee (LEC) of Kasanje Sub-county.



NPF established Nature Palace Botanical Garden (NPBG) in 2001 in Wakiso District to promote conservation of plant species, with special emphasis on those that are very essential to the welfare of poor communities in terms of known medicinal values. In 2005, Nature Palace Botanical garden was registered as a participant in the world-wide implementation of the *International Agenda in support of plant conservation, Environmental Awareness and Sustainable Development* coordinated by Botanical Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) based in UK.

Our Vision and Mission:

Vision: *To be a midpoint for Sustainable Integrated Development and community Evolution resulting into empowered Communities with Sustainable Livelihoods.*

Mission Statement: *Nature Palace foundation is a not-for-profit Community-Development and Human-well-being focused organization working towards making Sustainable Development functional at the grassroots community level by transforming traditional survivalist tendencies into those that make optimal and sustainable use of Natural Resources.*

NPF is involved in the conservation as well as promotion of Traditional Medicinal Plants. One of our projects, **Poverty Alleviation and Health Care Promotion through conservation (PHPC) project** supported under the **Investing in Nature Program** implemented by BGCI – aims at strengthening community collaboration through joint strategic planning with a focus of cultivating essential medicinal plants for income and health promotion at household level. This projects involves Training in various aspects of Medicinal plants, their propagation and multiplication as well as awareness creation. Some of the Species under this project include the following.



Rosmarinus spp



Lavender



Prunus Africana



Aloe Felix



Some of the now rare Indigenous medicinal Plants under our Conservation program

Other Programs and Projects:

- **Nature Palace Botanical Garden** - In-Situ and Ex-situ Conservation, Species Collection and Seed Banking;
- **Sustainable Development/Environment Resource Centre** – Resource Materials for reference as well as centre-based Training;
- **Propagation Technology Training and Production Unit.**
- **Sustainable Agriculture Demonstrations;**
- **Eco-tourism Centre/Leisure park.**

Future Programs:

- **Development of National list of Threatened Plants**
- **Integrated Conservation and Community Empowerment for sustainable management of Mabamba Bay Wetland system** – Mabamba is a designated Wetland of International Importance - the only swamp close to Kampala (Uganda's capital) where one can easily find the globally-threatened Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*). This project aims at promoting and advocating for community members' benefit from this important resource.
- **Schools Environment Project:** The project involves facilitating the establishment of Wakiso District Schools Environment Education & Advocacy Network, Greening of Schools Environments and organisation of Environmental Competitions and Awards.

**For more information, please contact The Executive Director, Nature Palace Foundation
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