

Growing Resilience Together



Mid-Year Impact Report

January – June 2026

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■ COSMA: Building Stronger Communities from Within

Communities are at the heart of everything COSMA does. We work alongside rural households, farmers and local institutions to strengthen livelihoods, expand educational opportunities and build resilience against the growing challenges of poverty and climate change. Rather than delivering solutions to communities, we invest in the people, relationships and local systems that enable communities to lead their own development.

Vision

We envision prosperous, self-reliant rural communities across Uganda.

Mission

To empower rural households in Uganda to achieve sustainable livelihoods and improved education outcomes through community-led agriculture, economic empowerment, and education initiatives.

Six Months of Community Action

- 💧 **11** Village Cooperatives strengthened
- 💧 **233** Farmers equipped with improved climate-smart agricultural knowledge
- 💧 **156** Farmers received personalized farm advisory support
- 💧 **5** Demonstration gardens established
- 💧 **19** Children supported through education sponsorship
- 💧 **12** Vulnerable households supported through home follow-up visits
- 💧 **5** School monitoring visits conducted
- 💧 **1** Strategic partnership established with AFAP.
- 💧 **73** Farmers trained in financial literacy
- 💧 **6** Revolving savings & credit groups.



COSMA staff member Judith with children supported by COSMA at KV Rockside Primary School, Vvunza, during a school monitoring visit.

Beyond the Numbers

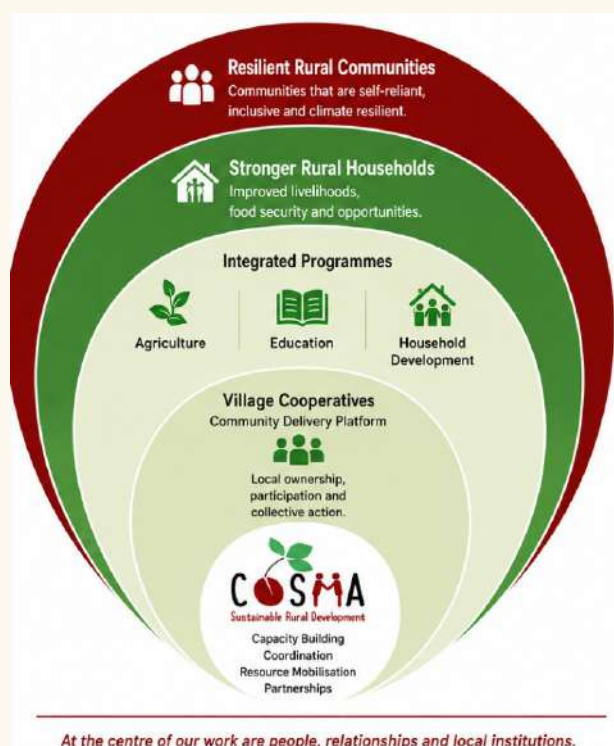
Behind every statistic is a family building a more secure future. During the first half of 2026, COSMA focused on strengthening the community systems that make lasting change possible. We supported farmers to improve agricultural practices, kept vulnerable children in school and strengthened the Village Cooperatives that connect families to opportunities.

■ Village Cooperatives: The Heart of COSMA's Approach

Village Cooperatives are the foundation of COSMA's community-driven approach. More than groups of farmers, they are trusted community platforms where people organize, learn, save, solve shared challenges and access bundled services that improve their lives.

Through these cooperatives, farmers receive training, share knowledge, strengthen their livelihoods and identify vulnerable households in need of additional support. By bringing agriculture, livelihoods and education together, Village Cooperatives enable communities to take an active role in shaping their own development.

How COSMA Creates Impact



Members of Kafumu Twezimbe Village Cooperative from Kalububbu Village during one of their weekly meetings.

Beyond Farming

Village Cooperatives are helping communities strengthen local leadership and community philanthropy, promote savings, support vulnerable families and create opportunities that improve household well-being. These trusted community structures also enable COSMA to identify and support children at risk of dropping out of school, ensuring that development extends beyond the farm to the entire family.

■ Building Climate Resilience, One Farm at a Time

For many farming households in Ssembabule District, climate change is no longer a distant concern – it is a daily reality. Unpredictable rainfall, declining soil fertility and rising production costs continue to threaten food security and household incomes.

Working alongside Village Cooperatives, COSMA focused on practical solutions that help farmers adapt with confidence. Through training, agricultural financing, on-farm agronomic support and strategic partnerships, COSMA strengthened the farmers' knowledge and capacity to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices that improve productivity despite the increasingly erratic rainfall and prolonged dry spells.

In early 2026, COSMA recorded the 2025 Season B maize harvest, in which 46 farmers received 246 kg of high-quality maize seed. Collectively, the farmers harvested 19,720 kg of maize. Of this, 2,850 kg was returned to COSMA and sold at UGX 1,100/kg, generating UGX 3,135,000. The proceeds contributed to the revolving fund used to provide agricultural inputs to other farmers during the 2026 Season A production cycle.

Highlights from January – June 2026

»» Partnerships Developed for Greater Impact

COSMA's partnership with AFAP expanded access to technical expertise and strengthened agricultural support services for farmers. The collaboration also laid the foundation for future initiatives, including trade credit guarantees and improved access to quality agricultural inputs.



A facilitator from AFAP teaching farmers about DK improved maize seeds from Bayer

>> Better Decisions through Soil Testing

Through COSMA's partnership with AFAP, 20 farmers were trained in soil testing using both the wet chemistry and Virtual Agronomist Digital Assessment methods. Going forward, farmers supported by COSMA will have access to soil testing services, enabling more informed decisions on soil fertility management and fertilizer application. This will result into improved productivity, reduced input costs, and more sustainable farming practices.



An AFAP facilitator conducts a soil test during a soil testing training session in Buyongo Village.

>> Learning through Demonstration Farms

Five demonstration gardens were established as practical learning spaces where farmers could observe improved farming practices and apply lessons on their own farms. These demonstration plots *demonstrated maize farming using improved fast-growing seed varieties and high-quality fertilizers.



Mr. Mugema Joseph, one of the hosts of COSMA demonstration plots in season A of 2026 showcases his maize garden

>> Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices Strengthened

233 farmers were trained and supported in climate-smart agriculture practices that enhance productivity and strengthen resilience to changing weather conditions. They were also introduced to improved and certified agro-inputs from reputable manufacturers to reduce farm losses due to use of counterfeit agro-inputs.



A Photographic comparison of a garden that used climate-smart agriculture practices (in the background) and one that used conventional practices in Nakasenyi Village during Season A of 2026.

>> Expanding Access to Quality Agricultural Inputs

During Season A of 2026, COSMA distributed 200 kilograms of high quality maize seeds, and 1,750 kilograms of coffee fertilizers to farmers on deferred payment basis. This improved farmers' access to quality inputs and supporting increased farm productivity.



Ms. Nakalawa Jane Rose, one of the farmers who received improved seeds and fertilizers in seson A of 2026 showcases his maize garden.

■ Keeping Children in School

For COSMA, strengthening livelihoods and supporting education go hand in hand. As families become more resilient, they are better able to keep their children in school and invest in their future. Through Village Cooperatives, communities also identify vulnerable children early and connect them to timely support before they are forced to drop out of school.

During the first half of 2026, COSMA continued working with families, schools and Village Cooperatives to ensure that vulnerable children remained on their educational journey. During the first half of the year, COSMA supported 19 children through its education sponsorship programme, comprising 10 girls and 9 boys. The programme also conducted 12 home follow-up visits and 5 school monitoring visits to support and track beneficiaries' progress.

Case study: **A Community That Refused to Let Her Drop Out: Justine's Story**

After years of raising her two children alone due to spousal abandonment, Harriet feared history would repeat itself. Poverty had already forced her eldest son to leave school, and when illness left her unable to work, her daughter Justine Namawanda faced the same risk.

During the first half of 2026, COSMA worked with families, schools and Village Cooperatives to help vulnerable children stay on their educational journey. Through its education sponsorship programme, 19 children—10 girls and 9 boys—received support, complemented by 12 home follow-up visits and 5 school monitoring visits to track their progress and well-being.

Today, Justine is in Primary Six – a reminder that when communities stand together, one timely intervention can change the course of a child's future.

"I watched one child leave school because we had no choice. I never imagined my daughter would be given the chance to stay. That hope means everything to our family." — **Harriet Nassimbwa, Parent**



Photo 1: Sponsored child Justine Namawanda with her mother, Harriet, at their home during a home visit.



Photo 2: COSMA staff member Judith conducts a mentorship session with sponsored children at KV Rockside Primary School. Justine attends this school and is seated at the extreme left.

■ Strengthening COSMA for Greater Impact

Creating lasting change requires a strong and continually improving organization. During the first half of 2026, COSMA strengthened the systems and partnerships needed to better serve rural communities and prepare for future growth.

Institutional Strengthening Highlights

- **Strengthened strategic partnerships** through collaboration with AFAP and private sector actors to expand technical support, quality inputs and market linkages for farmers.
- **Enhanced communication and visibility** through a revamped website and more strategic engagement to better showcase COSMA's impact and learning.
- **Redesigned key programs for sustainability**, including the Enterprise-to-Education (E2E) model and Agro-Input and Advisory Hub, creating pathways for stronger household livelihoods, farmer support and earned income generation.
- **Strengthened technical capacity** through the engagement of a Visiting Agronomist and organizational development support to enhance program quality, systems and institutional growth.
- **Improved organizational systems** by strengthening MEAL, strategic planning, resource mobilization and impact measurement.
- **Attended the 2026 CLI Community Convening** organized by the Issroff Family Foundation in Naivasha – Kenya, bringing together leaders of organizations from across East and Southern Africa for peer learning and networking.



COSMA and Rescue Mission for Street Life leaders with Alex Wasswa Lusiba – the Resident Consultant (wearing glasses) following the 2024 Collaborative Learning Initiative (CLI) facilitated by the Isroff Family Foundation.

■ Challenges and Learning

The prolonged dry season affected crop performance and household incomes across many farming communities, reinforcing the need for climate-smart agriculture and improved water management.

Growing demand for agricultural and education support also continued to outpace available resources. These experiences strengthened COSMA's commitment to building resilient livelihoods through strong Village Cooperatives, strategic partnerships and sustainable community-led solutions.

Building on What We've Learned

The first half of 2026 reinforced two important lessons:

1. *Lasting change happens when communities have the confidence, structures and resources to lead their own development.*
2. *When families have stronger livelihoods, they are better positioned to invest in education, health and the overall wellbeing of their children.*

This learning is shaping COSMA's next phase of growth.

July – December 2026 Priorities

- Pilot the Enterprise-to-Education (E2E) Model.
- Establish an Agro-Inputs and Advisory Hub to increase farmer access to practical extension services and technical support.
- Expand climate-smart agriculture through Village Cooperatives.
- Strengthen partnerships that enable community-led development.
- Continue improving monitoring, learning and accountability systems.



■ Our Partners and Supporters

The progress highlighted in this report has been made possible through the commitment of our communities, funders, partners and supporters who share COSMA's vision of resilient rural communities.

We sincerely appreciate our funding partners and education sponsors for investing in our programmes, AFAP and other technical partners for strengthening our agricultural programmes, and the Village Cooperatives, local leaders, schools and community volunteers whose dedication continues to make community-led development possible.

Partner With Us

The progress shared in this report reflects what is possible when communities, development partners and local institutions work together around a shared vision.

As COSMA continues expanding opportunities for rural households, we welcome partnerships that strengthen resilient livelihoods, improve educational outcomes for vulnerable children and empower communities to shape their own future.



Building Self-reliant Rural Communities in Uganda



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