

**Betty Ajambo**  
**Mahono Mahalabani Farmer Field School, Busia, Uganda<sup>i</sup>**

**Anne: Has this process allowed you to do things that you did not do before?**

**Betty:** Of course the answer is yes. Before I had an email address I could not communicate and share ideas with learners from other countries. I would only share with whom I see every day but now I can share with learners from Kenya, Tanzania even the facilitators. I am now able to surf the internet and look for information, before I did not know that there was information on the internet which I could get that could assist me plus my group in whatever activity we are doing.

**Anne: What sort of things did you find interesting?**

**Betty:** Now for example on the side of Marketing. Of course, for us we just know that with our maize when the middleman come we just sell but we didn't know that we could pool together our maize as a group and maybe have better bargaining power thereby we can sell our maize at a higher price avoiding this exploiting middleman. So that when I learnt this though the LLL services my mind is now open to see problems. Before it was as if my mind was in one place because I could not share ideas with people who were not near me but now when I read from different people I get new ideas and this helps me to see the problems that I used not to see before. You know sometimes you can know, think, things are forever whatever you do and you do not even try to look for solutions! But now, with these LLL services, my mind is opened. Things I used to see as unchangeable I can now see them as challenges and together with my group we can sit down and try to see how we can solve them.

**Anne: How easy is it for you to log onto the LLL service?**

**Betty:** First of all it is not easy because we have only one internet café in Busia and of course many people want to use it. So sometime you can go and there are many people you have to wait. Also, of course, I don't stay in town. I stay in the village so travelling to town after discussing with my group and going to the internet café and then of course travelling back you find that it is not all that easy. If the internet could be nearer the farmers than in town then they only need raise funds for the internet and not transport costs as well. It would even be better if farmers were organised and could own and run internet cafes, of course with start up capital. Maybe if they could get assistance from somewhere to start it up then they can run it by themselves.

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<sup>i</sup> Interviewed by Anne Dennig on October 21 2004 at the LLL Assessment Workshop in Kakamega, Kenya after three months of using the LLL service.