

those that put in place nutrition-focused programmes and

health of the soil and production with

US-Iran war to cause food shortages in Africa



Michael J. Ssali

Farmer's Say

In his address to the Likiiko (Buganda Parliament) at Mengo last Monday, the Katikkiro, Charles Peter Mayiga, put a lot of emphasis on farming as the key driver of development in Buganda.

However *Seeds of Gold* has always committed to share Mayiga's good ideas about farming with all the other communities outside Buganda and it is good to reflect on what he pointed out about the soil in Buganda being depleted and the need to replenish it all the time.

He urged the chiefs in the Lukiiko to go back to the people they represent and encourage them to keep livestock apart from growing crops so that they would get enough manure to increase agricultural production.

He said he was happy that last year Uganda earned billions of US Dollars from coffee.

"We have to understand that most of that coffee is grown in Buganda."

Elsewhere, world leaders have been warned about an eminent shortage of food, particularly in Africa and vulnerable communities unless the fighting between Iran and the US is halted immediately.

The warning was published in the Guardian on Labour's Day 2026 in an article authored by Lisa O'Carroll and Mathew Pearce.

It quotes the Chief Executive of the world's largest fertilizer company, Yara International, Svein, Tore Holsether, as saying, "The Iran war could have dramatic consequences, causing food shortages and price rises in some parts of Africa's poorest and most vulnerable communities." He went ahead to say, "Leaders need to guard against soaring prices and shortages of fertilizer causing a de facto global auction that

would leave the poorest countries, particularly in Africa, scrambling for supplies they can ill afford."

He went ahead to say that the most important thing they can do as fertilizer suppliers now is to raise the alarm on what they are seeing that there is a risk of a global auction on fertilizer that makes them unaffordable for those most vulnerable.

Yara International is a Norwegian multinational with plants in 60 countries and sales in 140.

He added, "Africa is actually well positioned to be a major food producer, not only for self-sufficiency, but even for exports to the rest of the world, but the reality is that they are massive food importers."

It is important to communicate the message about the danger of what potentially could happen before it is too late."