

## Fertile Ground – Supporting women that feed the world!

ActionAid Australia has this month launched its Fertile Ground campaign - a campaign in response to a broken food system that again has us on the verge of a global food crisis that will push millions back into hunger.

Fertile Ground is about connecting Australians with farming communities in the developing world so that they can share experiences and learn together about some of the ways we can ensure a better food future for the world.

As the first step in this journey ActionAid is hosting an educational tour by Ugandan farmer Polly Apio.

**You're invited to meet and hear from Polly on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 5.30- 7.30 pm at the Bellingen Uniting Church**

Women farmers like Polly account for around 70% of farmers in the developing world – they grow more than 80% of the food in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Polly is a farmer on a plot of 10 acres where she grows enough food for her family and a little extra to sell. A leader in her village, she organised for other women in her community to combine resources in their farming meaning that they were much more productive. They even began a seed bank, meaning that the community were more resilient to food price rises, the increasing impacts of climate change and other risks of farming.

Polly will be speaking as she embarks on a tour of regional Australia to spread the message that sustainable farming can yield an alternative future, with less hungry people.

While in Australia, Polly will join ActionAid in urging Prime Minister Julia Gillard to use her position within the G20 group of the world's richest nations to be a champion for women family farmers.

Polly has seen and experienced the devastating effects of hunger first hand but brings good news about a better future!

And as a very special treat, catering for 50 people will be provided by Bellingen's own Ethiopian chef, Seifa Abayneh Wolde Emauel.



### Meet Polly Apio

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm**

**Bellingen Uniting Church**

**Waterfall Way, Bellingen**

**RSVP [nick@foodsovereigntyalliance.org](mailto:nick@foodsovereigntyalliance.org) by c.o.b Sun 27<sup>th</sup> June**