

BSF FARMER RECRUITMENT DRIVE & TRAINING

POST-EVENT REPORT

Friday, June 5th, 2026

VENUE:

Nawiri Organics Agroecology Center of Excellence

(Sinendet, Njoro, Nakuru County)

Submitted to:

Association of Insect Farmers & Its Products (AIFIP)

1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The BSF Recruitment Drive was organized in alignment with AIFIP's strategic goal of expanding its membership base while professionalizing the Black Soldier Fly (BSF) value chain in Kenya.

Nawiri Organics, through its Agroecology Centre of Excellence, implemented this training leveraging on its practical experience in circular agroecological systems centered on the BSF technology.

The key objectives of the training were:

- To recruit and on-board new members into AIFIP
- To build farmer capacity in BSF production and lifecycle management
- To demonstrate the economic and environmental benefits of BSF technology
- To promote circular agricultural practices for improved farm productivity and sustainability
- To sensitize farmers on value addition opportunities including BSF protein and organic fertilizer production

2. PARTICIPANT PROFILE

A total of **67 participants** attended the training. The participants included:

- Smallholder BSF, livestock and poultry farmers from Njoro, Subukia, Kuresoi South, Bahati and Gilgil sub-counties areas seeking alternative feed solutions;
- Youth agripreneurs interested in insect farming;
- Lare, Mauche, and Mau-Narok Ward Livestock Officers; and
- Agroecology practitioners transitioning to circular farming systems.

The turnout reflected strong interest in BSF technology and sustainable agriculture practices.

3. TRAINING CONTENT & ACTIVITIES

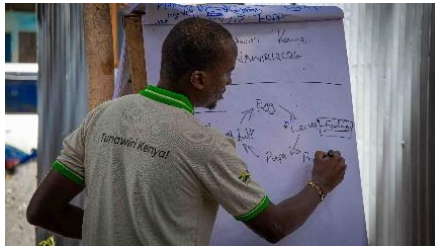
The training was delivered through a combination of theoretical sessions, practical demonstrations, interactive discussions and farm tour, ensuring a comprehensive and participatory learning experience.

3.1 Theoretical Training Sessions

Participants were trained on:

- Introduction to Black Soldier Fly (BSF) technology;
- BSF lifecycle management (egg, larva, prepupa, pupa, adult stages);
- Substrate selection and organic waste management;
- BSF production systems and infrastructure design;
- Use and fortification of BSF frass into high-quality organic fertilizer; and

- Economic benefits of BSF farming.



3.2 AIFIP Sensitization & Membership Mobilization

In collaboration with the AIFIP Secretariat, participants were sensitized on the role and mandate of AIFIP where membership benefits were clearly outlined, including networking, market access, and technical support. Participants were guided on the registration process with strong interest in joining AIFIP significantly high among participants.



3.3 Round Table Discussion: Challenges & Opportunities in BSF Farming

A key highlight of the training was an interactive round table discussion session, which brought together participants, successful BSF farmers, and representatives from the AIFIP Secretariat.

The session aimed to provide real-world insights and foster open dialogue within the BSF ecosystem.

Key features of the session included:

- Experience sharing by successful BSF farmers, highlighting practical journeys, business models, and lessons learned;
- Discussion on key challenges facing BSF farmers, including access to quality substrates, Market access and pricing of BSF products and technical knowledge gaps; and
- Exploration of opportunities in the BSF value chain, including growing demand for alternative protein in animal feed, organic fertilizer production using BSF frass, waste management partnerships and value addition and product diversification.

Participants were also given the opportunity to ask questions directly to experienced BSF practitioners, seek clarification on AIFIP membership processes, benefits, and expectations and engage with AIFIP representatives on how the Association supports farmers

This session significantly enhanced participant understanding by bridging the gap between theory and real-world application.



3.4 Practical Demonstrations & Farm Tour

Participants were taken through hands-on demonstrations at the Nawiri Organics farm, including:

- Live BSF production units and colony management;
- Organic waste conversion into larvae protein;
- Integration of BSF into a circular farm system; and
- Organic fertilizer production using BSF frass and Bokashi technology.



4. KEY OUTCOMES & ACHIEVEMENTS

- i. 67 farmers successfully trained on BSF technology and circular agriculture.
- ii. Highly interactive knowledge exchange through the round table discussion.
- iii. Improved understanding of real-world BSF challenges and solutions.
- iv. Strong interest in AIFIP membership, with active engagement during Q&A sessions.
- v. Enhanced confidence among participants to adopt BSF farming.
- vi. Strengthened collaboration between Nawiri Organics, AIFIP, and local farmers.

5. PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Feedback from participants indicated:

- High appreciation for the round table discussion, especially hearing from experienced BSF farmers;
- Increased clarity on practical challenges and how to overcome them;
- Positive response to direct engagement with the AIFIP Secretariat; and
- Strong interest in continued learning, mentorship, and membership enrolment.

6. INCLUSIVITY & SOCIAL IMPACT

The training also highlighted the importance of inclusive participation in the BSF value chain. Notably, the event was attended by a differently abled BSF farmer actively engaged in BSF production, whose participation provided powerful insight into the accessibility and adaptability of BSF farming.

Key takeaways include:

- **BSF farming as an inclusive livelihood opportunity:** The enterprise can be adapted to suit individuals with different physical abilities, making it a viable income-generating activity for people living with disabilities.
- **Inspiration and peer learning:** The participation of the differently abled farmer served as a motivation to other attendees, demonstrating that BSF farming is practical and achievable across diverse groups.
- **Need for targeted capacity building:** There is a clear opportunity to intentionally incorporate and support people living with disabilities through tailored training, mentorship, and resource provision.
- **Alignment with social inclusion goals:** Integrating persons living with disabilities into BSF farming contributes to equitable economic participation and strengthens community resilience.

Nawiri Organics remains committed to promoting inclusive agroecological innovations that ensure no one is left behind in accessing opportunities within the BSF value chain.



- *Stephen Hinga...a visually impaired BSF farmer participating in the round table discussion*

7. CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

- Limited time to cover all technical areas in depth;
- High participant interest requiring more extended engagement; and
- Need for follow-up structures to support adoption of BSF farming by smallholder farmers.

8. WAY FORWARD

Following the successful execution of the BSF Farmer Recruitment Drive and Training, Nawiri Organics was tasked with providing post-training support to ensure sustained impact and continuity.

The agreed way forward includes:

- **Farmer Follow-Up and Engagement:** Nawiri Organics will actively follow up with all participating farmers to assess their level of interest and readiness to adopt BSF farming.
- **AIFIP Membership Mobilization:** Targeted support will be provided to interested participants to facilitate their registration into the Association of Insect Farmers & Its Products (AIFIP), ensuring increased membership uptake.
- **Technical Support and Capacity Building:** Nawiri Organics will continue offering technical guidance to farmers on establishment of BSF units, substrate sourcing and management, lifecycle management and harvesting as well as value addition and product utilization.
- **Mentorship and Practical Implementation:** Farmers will be supported through mentorship and hands-on guidance to transition from training to actual adoption of BSF farming as a viable enterprise.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Progress tracking mechanisms will be established to monitor adoption rates, membership registration, and overall impact among the trained farmers.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the outcomes of the training, the following recommendations are proposed:

- Organize follow-up training sessions for advanced BSF production.
- Establish a structured mentorship and extension support program.
- Strengthen AIFIP membership registration support post-training.
- Scale similar recruitment drives to other regions in Nakuru County.
- Promote inclusivity through targeted capacity building for differently-abled persons.
- Develop training materials and manuals for continued learning.

10. CONCLUSION

The BSF Farmer Recruitment Drive was successfully executed, achieving its objectives of farmer training, sensitization, and AIFIP membership mobilization.

Beyond technical training, the event fostered interactive learning, stakeholder engagement, and inclusive participation, as demonstrated through the round table discussions and involvement of diverse participants, including persons living with disabilities.

The strong turnout of 67 participants, high engagement levels, and clear interest in BSF farming and AIFIP membership underscore the growing demand for sustainable, circular agricultural solutions.

With a clear follow-up strategy in place, Nawiri Organics is well-positioned to ensure continued farmer support, increased AIFIP membership, and long-term impact in strengthening the BSF value chain.

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