Gertrude Kenyangi Kabusimbi represents Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment (SWAGEN), which was elected by all Civil Society Organizations in Africa to represent them as an observer on Forest Investment Program (FIP) Sub-committee. The organization works from Kampala, Uganda and its focus areas are Forest Conservation, Afforestation for Carbon sequestration, Promotion of Renewable Energy use at household level, and efficient use of water resources. In the area of climate change, SWAGEB works on environmental issues and the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

Under this program component the organization works with forest dependent communities, with women spearheading the process, to secure their rights to use and collaborative management of the natural forest resource and equitable sharing of benefits of conservation.

SWAGEN has signed a Collaborative Forest Management agreement with the National Forest Authority and represents Forest Dependent Communities on the REDD+ Working Group in Uganda. The organization was selected to implement the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility project (FCPF) of the World Bank.

SWAGEN is a member of several International Networks namely:
- More and Better (MaB)
- Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF)
- Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA)
- Mary Robinson Climate Justice (MRCJ)
- Global Environment Facility NGO Network
- Climate Change Evaluation Network
- UN Women’s Major Groups
- UN Farmers’ Major Groups

Gertrud graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) from Makerere University in 1985 and a few years down the road obtained an MA (Integrated Rural Development Planning). For a short period after her studies she held a white collar job with a bank as a credit officer before discovering that her calling was not in air-conditioned, pristine and sanitized work environments but with the people right at the grassroots getting her hands dirty. She therefore resigned her bank job and founded Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment (SWAGEN), a network of grassroots women Community Based Organizations, where she still serves as Executive Director.
She was democratically elected by Civil Society Organizations across the African continent to the position of Observer on the Climate Investment Fund – Forest Investment Program. She sums up her opinion of her “Observer Status” when she says, ‘Observers may be the weakest link in the CIF FIP but they are also the reservoir of strength for the whole Climate Change Control chain, for as the saying goes, the strength of a chain is in its weakest link. By opening up to the practitioners in form of Civil Society, CIF FIP has demonstrated its determination to defeat Climate Change.”

Ms. Kenyangi also serves as the East Africa Region CSO representative to the Civil Society Mechanism Coordinating Committee, for engagement with UN FAO’s Committee on Food Security. She spends her personal time either in quiet reflection or reading motivational books such as the Bible. Gertrude loves to dance to gospel tunes.