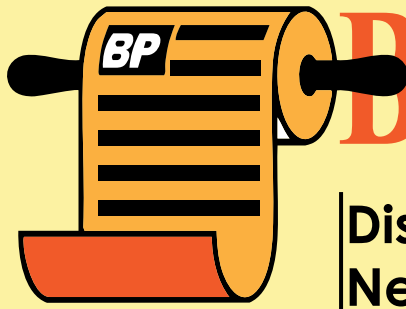




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Ndagano Faridah

Editor's Note

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The August edition of the Bunyoro Post brings you stories that capture the progress, challenges and opportunities shaping communities across Bunyoro.

This edition highlights developments in education, health, agriculture, infrastructure, governance and environmental conservation, while also examining issues that require collective action. From improved health services and investments in schools to road maintenance, farmer support and community initiatives, the stories demonstrate the important role of local leadership and citizens in driving development.

We also highlight emerging concerns, including pressure on the Murchison Falls ecosystem and the growing challenge of unclaimed bodies at Kiryandongo

General Hospital, reminding us that development must go hand in hand with environmental protection, public health and human dignity.

We invite government institutions, community leaders and other stakeholders to continue sharing timely, accurate and compelling stories about projects, innovations, achievements and challenges in their communities.

As always, our focus is on telling the Bunyoro story through the experiences of the people, institutions and leaders driving change. We hope this edition informs, inspires and encourages continued participation in the development of our communities

Your contributions help us tell the Bunyoro story from the grassroots.

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KIRYANDONGO: Stakeholders Seek Review of Kiba Dam Over Murchison Falls Environmental Risks

By Kiryandongo District Communication Office



District stakeholders at the ESIA consultative meeting at Kiryandongo District headquarters

Stakeholders in Kiryandongo District have called for a comprehensive review of the proposed 400-megawatt Kiba Hydropower Project, warning that its location along the Victoria Nile could add pressure to the already heavily developed Murchison Falls Conservation Area.

The concerns were raised during an Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) stakeholder engagement meeting held at Kiryandongo District headquarters on August 12, 2026.

The meeting was told that the Ministry

of Energy and Mineral Development proposed the Kiba project to help meet Uganda's growing electricity demand. However, stakeholders questioned whether the proposed location was appropriate given the number of major developments already within or around the conservation area.

Kiryandongo District Senior Environment Officer Joel Mwambu said Murchison Falls was facing growing pressure from the 600MW Karuma Hydropower Project, the Tilenga oil project, the modern Karuma Bridge and the proposed Kiba dam.

He warned that assessing the Kiba project in isolation could overlook the cumulative effects of multiple large-scale developments on biodiversity and the ecological integrity of the conservation area.

Mwambu urged government to explore alternative locations or water sources that could provide the required electricity capacity while reducing pressure on the ecosystem.

Stakeholders also called for lessons from the Karuma project to inform planning for Kiba. District Senior Labour Officer Jackie Achola said Karuma left social challenges, including teenage pregnancies and child-headed families, and urged planners to strengthen safeguards against similar effects.

District Vice Chairperson Peace Salama said the district supports development but warned that infrastructure projects should not undermine communities,

wildlife or the environment.

She urged authorities to ensure that the ESIA is used to guide decision-making rather than treated as a formality, with concerns raised by communities and technical officers reflected in the final assessment.

Stakeholders said the assessment should examine the project's potential effects on the environment, families, employment, health, education and community welfare. They also called for enforceable and adequately funded mitigation measures and meaningful involvement of affected communities throughout the project cycle.

The consultation has renewed the debate over how Uganda can expand electricity generation while protecting Murchison Falls, an ecological and tourism asset whose natural systems cannot easily be replaced.



Map showing the proposed site for the 400 MW Kiba hydro power project

BULIISA: District, FHADI Partner to Improve Health Services for Fishing Communities

By Buliisa District Communication Office

Buliisa District has partnered with the Fish Folk Health and Development Initiative (FHADI) to strengthen healthcare services for fishing communities, amid concerns over poor health indicators and limited access to essential services at landing sites along Lake Albert.

The partnership was announced during a stakeholder dialogue held at Buliisa District Resource Centre on August 20, 2026, under the theme “Fisheries Community Health Strengthening and Empowerment.” The meeting brought together health workers, fisheries officials, Beach Management Unit leaders, local council representatives and civil society organisations.

FHADI Executive Director Simon Ayebale said fisherfolk remain among the most vulnerable communities despite their contribution to Uganda’s economy. He warned that inadequate attention to their health could increase disease and infection rates in fishing communities.

He said the nature of fishing, including mobility and working patterns around landing sites, exposes fisherfolk to several health risks, including HIV/AIDS and other infections.

Deputy Resident District Commissioner Silvesta Tumukurate commended FHADI for addressing what he described as a critical gap in health service delivery. He said government was committed to ensuring that fishing communities are



not left behind and called for stronger collaboration among stakeholders to improve health services at landing sites.

District Fisheries Officer Phillip Ngongaha linked the health of fisherfolk directly to the performance of the fishing economy.

“When a fisherman is sick, there is no fishing. When there is no fishing, there is no income and no fish for the market,” he said, emphasising that improving fisherfolk health is also an investment in fisheries development.

Representing the District Health Officer, District Health Educator Robert Mugabe said health indicators at landing sites remain poor compared with other parts of the district. He cited high HIV prevalence, low latrine coverage and poor health-seeking behaviour among

some fishing communities.

Mugabe said the District Health Office would work with FHADI to integrate outreach services and bring healthcare closer to fishing communities.

Participants identified limited access to clean water and sanitation, inadequate health facilities, stigma and insufficient targeted health information as some of the major challenges facing fisherfolk.

District leaders said stronger collaboration with development partners will be critical in addressing these gaps and improving the health and productivity of communities whose livelihoods depend heavily on Lake Albert.

BULIISA: Shs30m Incubator to Help Farmers Tap Oil and Gas Poultry Market

By Tibaijuka Hannington Communication Officer- Buliisa District



Buliisa District has invested Shs30 million in a modern egg incubator to help local poultry farmers produce quality chicks and position themselves to supply the growing food market created by oil and gas activities in the Albertine Graben.

The automatic incubator, procured by the District Production Department under the Production and Marketing Grant (PMG) for the 2025/26 financial year, has a capacity of 1,056 eggs and is being operated as a community hatchery at the farm of model farmer

Asinguza Norah in Kihuuha Cell, Biiso Town Council.

District Production Officer Wycliffe Katulinde said the facility addresses a longstanding challenge that has forced farmers to travel to Kampala and Masindi to purchase chicks at higher costs.

He said farmers can bring as few as 10 fertilised eggs or up to 100 eggs to the hatchery and receive chicks after 21 days at a small service fee, reducing production costs and increasing access to quality chicks.

The initiative will particularly support youth and women's groups engaged in poultry enterprises under the Parish Development Model.

District Agriculture Officer Doreen Babihemaiso said the Production Department will train farmer groups in egg selection, hatchery management, brooding and disease control to improve hatchability and chick survival.

She said the district's goal is to establish a complete poultry value chain that enables farmers to meet the quality and quantity requirements of the oil and gas sector.

Buliisa is one of the host districts for the Tilenga and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) projects, which have created increased demand for food supplies, including poultry products, from hotels, workers' camps and other businesses.

Chief Administrative Officer Prof. Dr Csl Levi Musinguzi Bahemuka described the investment as timely, saying the district must position local communities to participate in the oil economy through production and value addition.

Resident District Commissioner Longino Bahebwa Byagagaire urged farmers to embrace commercial poultry farming and organise themselves into groups to take advantage of emerging markets.

The district's first batch of chicks has already been hatched, demonstrating the operationalisation of the community hatchery.

District officials said the facility will reduce farmers' dependence on distant suppliers, create employment and increase household incomes while strengthening Buliisa's participation in the local supply chains emerging around the oil and gas industry.



1st batch of newly hatched chicks from the Biiso Hatchery

KIKUUBE: 74 Bicycles to Boost Village-Level Nutrition Screening

By Faridah Ndagano, Communication Officer- Kikuube

Kikuube District has handed over 74 bicycles to Village Health Teams (VHTs) to strengthen nutrition screening and referral services for children and pregnant women at village level.

The bicycles, procured with support from the Government of Uganda in partnership with UNICEF, are intended to improve the mobility of VHTs as the district decentralises nutrition screening and takes services closer to communities, particularly those in hard-to-reach areas.

Speaking during the handover, District Health Officer Dr Andrew Mugisha said the intervention will enable VHTs to identify malnutrition cases earlier and refer affected children and pregnant women to health facilities for appropriate management.

“We have centralised nutrition screening to the village level. That is why we have given VHTs bicycles to ease their movement. This will help us improve nutritional screening, improve referral services, and ensure we capture as many children and pregnant mothers who are malnourished,” he said.



District Chairperson Paddy Kisembo commended VHTs for their voluntary contribution to community health and thanked the Government and UNICEF for supporting the district with the bicycles.

He said the bicycles would ease movement, particularly in areas where health workers face challenges reaching households, but cautioned VHTs against misusing the equipment.

“These bicycles are meant to support assessment work and to help in carrying patients where necessary. I urge all VHTs to put them to proper use and not to use them for carrying water or firewood,” Kisembo said.

District Secretary for Social Services

Lydia Kabahemba said the intervention would help reduce delays in identifying and referring malnutrition cases, contributing to improved maternal and child health outcomes.

District officials said strengthening the capacity and mobility of VHTs will enable communities to detect nutrition problems earlier and ensure vulnerable mothers and children receive timely care.

The handover is part of the district’s efforts to strengthen community-based health services and improve access to essential nutrition interventions at household level.

KIKUUBE: Leaders Warn Against Large Gatherings as Ebola Risk Persists Across DRC Border

By Faridah Ndagano, Communication Officer – Kikuube District



District Chairperson Hon Paddy Kisembo together with RDC Angalia Godwin, DHO Mugisa Andrew, officials from WHO, MOH, Care and District Stakeholders after the Meeting

Kikuube District leaders have warned against organising large public gatherings in the lake-shore areas bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), saying increased cross-border movement could complicate efforts to maintain vigilance against Ebola.

The warning was issued during a feedback meeting at the district headquarters following a three-day inter-agency support supervision exercise conducted in 27 health facilities across Kikuube District.

District Chairperson Paddy Kitembo said authorities had received information about plans to organise an unauthorised music concert in Buhuka, an area close to the DRC border, which could attract people from across the lake.

He said the district would engage communities in Buhuka and other lake-shore areas to sensitise residents on the health risks associated with large gatherings and the importance of following public health guidance.

Uganda declared its Ebola outbreak over on July 28, 2026, after completing the required 42-day period without a new confirmed locally transmitted case. However, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that Uganda remains at risk of imported cases and reintroduction of the virus because transmission is still ongoing in neighbouring DRC.

Kikuube Resident District Commissioner Godwin Kasigwa said the declaration of Uganda as Ebola-free should not lead to complacency among residents or health workers.

He noted that the district's proximity to the DRC makes continued surveillance, community awareness and preparedness particularly important.

Uganda recorded 20 confirmed Ebola cases and two deaths during the 2026 outbreak, with 15 cases linked to importation and five secondary cases. WHO has continued to emphasise the risk of cross-border transmission because of ongoing movement between Uganda and DRC.

Kitembo also challenged health workers to remain committed to their duties, saying sustained vigilance at health facilities is essential for early detection and response to any suspected cases.

The inter-agency supervision exercise was conducted by Kikuube District Local Government in partnership with the Ministry of Health, WHO and implementing partners, with support from CARE International.

District leaders said continued community sensitisation, disease surveillance and health-facility preparedness will remain critical to protecting Kikuube's border communities from imported health threats.

KIKUUBE: Road Maintenance Projects to Improve Access to Markets and Services

By Faridah Ndagano, Communication Officer – Kikuube District



District Vice Chairperson Hon. Opio Vicent Alpha and Speaker Hon. Deo Karubanga launching new road works to enhance local connectivity

Kikuube District has launched routine mechanised maintenance works on three key feeder roads, a move expected to improve transport, support agricultural trade and ease access to essential services in communities across the district.

The projects, covering a combined 22.6 kilometres, were launched in Kabwooya, Kiziranfumbi and Buhimba sub-counties under the Financial Year 2025/2026 road maintenance programme.

The roads being worked on are the 9.6-kilometre Kabwooya-Maya road, the 7-kilometre Kicunda-Bulimya road and the 6-kilometre Kisiha-Musaiijjamukuru road.

District Engineer Emmy Arinaitwe said the works are being implemented under

the Road Rehabilitation Development Grant and will take six months to complete.

She said the maintenance programme will include bush clearing, culvert installation, spot grading, heavy grading and other general road works to keep the roads motorable throughout the year.

Launching the works in Kabwooya, Senior Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Abitekaniza Kiva Francis commended residents for supporting government development projects and urged them to continue working with local authorities to ensure the interventions benefit communities.

District LCV Chairperson Paddy Kisembo asked residents to remain patient as

government implements development projects across the district, saying improved roads would contribute to better service delivery and economic activity.

Residents said poor road conditions, particularly during rainy seasons, have made it difficult for farmers and traders to transport produce to markets and for communities to access health facilities and other essential services.

The Resident District Commissioner, while launching the works in Buhimba, urged residents to protect the roads

once completed and use them to strengthen links between producers and markets.

District leaders said the maintenance programme will reduce transport challenges, improve movement of agricultural produce and strengthen access to health centres, schools and trading centres.

They called for cooperation between communities, contractors and district authorities to ensure the roads are properly maintained and remain useful to residents throughout the year.

KIRYANDONGO: Unclaimed Bodies Put Pressure on Hospital Mortuary

By Emmanuel Murungi, Communication Officer -Kiryandongo



Kiryandongo District leaders discussions about unclaimed bodies at the hospital mortuary

Seven unclaimed bodies, some already decomposing, are occupying space in the mortuary of Kiryandongo General Hospital, prompting district leaders to demand urgent action to address what they

describe as a growing public-health, financial and humanitarian concern.

The issue came to the fore during an emergency meeting held at the district headquarters on August 4,

2026, bringing together district leaders, security officials, health workers and local government administrators to find a lasting solution to the accumulation of unclaimed bodies at the hospital.

The bodies are recovered by police from different parts of the district following deaths resulting from accidents, illnesses and other circumstances. In some cases, relatives cannot be identified, while in others, families fail to claim the deceased.

Bweyale Town Clerk Lydia Tusabe said the burden also comes with a financial cost to local governments, with about Shs160,000 required to transport and bury each unclaimed body at the public cemetery.

Beyond the cost, prolonged storage of decomposing bodies creates an unpleasant environment at the hospital and raises concerns about sanitation and public health.

Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Denis Dacan called for stronger coordination between lower local governments to ensure bodies are buried promptly after the necessary procedures.

He urged town clerks and sub-county chiefs to develop permanent mechanisms for handling unclaimed bodies rather than responding to the problem only when mortuaries become congested.



Section of Kiryandongo General Hospital that hosts the mortuary

District Police Commander Stephen Ojok raised concerns about the risks faced by police officers who retrieve bodies whose causes of death are unknown. He proposed that medical personnel

accompany police to scenes where bodies are discovered to conduct appropriate examinations and reduce unnecessary transportation of bodies to the hospital.

Ojok also called for village leaders and landlords to maintain proper records of residents, saying accurate registration would help police trace relatives of deceased persons.

Kiryandongo General Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr Kitembo Godfrey said management of unclaimed bodies should not be left to the hospital alone. He proposed that the district establish a prequalified burial service provider to handle such cases promptly and ensure dignified burials.

By Brian Atuhura, Communications officer- Masindi District Chairperson Nelson Osaga directed lower local governments to take responsibility for bodies recovered within their jurisdictions and organise timely burials.

He also challenged Bweyale Town Council to operationalise its public cemetery to improve management of unclaimed bodies in the urban area.

District leaders attributed the growing challenge to rapid population growth, high population mobility, inadequate resident registration, poverty and limited funding for emergency burials.

They agreed that stronger coordination among police, health facilities, local governments, landlords and communities, together with dedicated burial funding and operational public cemeteries, will be critical to restoring dignity to the deceased while protecting public health.

MASINDI: 91 New Staff Inducted into Public Service

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District



The new staff attending one of the induction sessions

Ninety-one newly recruited employees of Masindi District Local Government have completed a five-day induction programme aimed at equipping them with the knowledge, skills and values required to effectively serve in Uganda's Public Service.

The induction, conducted by Civil Service College Uganda at Masindi District headquarters, was designed to help the new employees understand government structures, their responsibilities and the legal and policy framework governing public service.

The programme covered public service ethics, organisational culture, adaptation to the work environment and compliance with the Public Service Standing Orders, 2021. Participants were also equipped with knowledge intended to promote a performance-oriented culture and strengthen their understanding of public service values.

Representing the Chief Administrative Officer, Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Musa Kyamiza

urged the employees to apply the knowledge acquired during the training and familiarise themselves with public service regulations.

"Everything in the Public Service is guided by laws and regulations. This induction will help you understand your responsibilities and the standards expected of you," Kyamiza said.

While officially opening the training, District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi challenged the new employees to uphold integrity, transparency and accountability in the execution of their duties.

Wobusobozi cautioned them against corruption, reminding them that public service requires commitment to serving citizens professionally and ensuring that government resources are properly utilised.

He also encouraged the employees to pursue further education and professional development to strengthen their skills and improve their career prospects.



District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi, PACAO Musa Kyamiza, and PHRO Cyrus Opigo, with a team from Civil Service College Uganda, took a group photo with new employees at Masindi District headquarters during staff induction

The induction provided the newly recruited staff with a foundation for adapting to the Public Service and understanding the standards expected of them as they take up their respective responsibilities in Masindi District.

District officials said adherence to public service regulations, professionalism and continuous skills development will be critical in ensuring that the new employees contribute effectively to improved service delivery.

MASINDI: New Lions Club Takes Aim at School Dropout, Environmental Challenges

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer -Masindi

The newly launched Lions Club of Masindi has identified school dropout and environmental degradation among its priority areas, signalling a new community-led effort to support education, environmental conservation and other social causes in the district.

The club was officially launched by the national leadership of Lions Clubs

International during a ceremony at Masindi Kolping Hotel, where 24 members were inducted and installed as charter members.

Godfrey Bahemuka, the Masindi District Community Development Officer and newly installed club president, said the club was registered in June 2026 and plans to grow its membership to 30 by June next year.



Members of other Lions Clubs posing for a group photo with Masindi Lions Club members after successfully repainting the zebra crossing along Masindi-Kigumba highway at St. Edward's Primary School

He said the club's immediate priority is addressing school dropout by engaging parents and learners to promote the value of education. The club has already identified schools considered most affected by the challenge.

Beyond education, the club has begun implementing environmental initiatives. Members have planted 160 fruit and shade trees at Kabalye Juvenile Remand Home and Masindi District Local Government headquarters, while plans are underway to plant another 200 trees at four primary and secondary schools.

Each club member is also expected to plant 10 fruit trees and ensure they survive, a move Bahemuka said would make environmental conservation a personal responsibility for members.

The club has also intervened in road safety by repainting a zebra crossing at St Edward's Primary School along the busy Masindi-Kigumba road to improve safety for pupils crossing the highway.

Bahemuka said the club plans to organise an eye surgical camp in Masindi in February next year after identifying a significant need for eye care services in the district.

Immediate Past District Governor Lion Tush Natulinda, who officiated as chief guest, urged the new club to build strategic partnerships with government, schools, civil society organisations and other institutions to strengthen its capacity to serve communities.

Masindi Municipality MP Rogers Byamukama challenged the club to broaden its membership beyond public

servants by recruiting business people and other community members who can expand its resource base.

Bahemuka said the club will also undertake community sensitisation, mobilisation and counselling while supporting vulnerable groups.

The club's executive includes Bahemuka as president, Cyrus Opigo as first vice president, Clare Businge Wamara as second vice president, Stella Tumusiime as secretary and Moses Kalyegira as treasurer.

Members were briefed on their responsibilities during their induction, marking the beginning of the club's community service programme in Masindi.



Members of Masindi Lions Club, posing for a group photo after installing the club sign post

Masindi Records Gains in Immunisation, HIV and Maternal Health Services

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District Local Government

Masindi District has recorded improved performance in several key health indicators, with immunisation, HIV treatment, tuberculosis management and maternal health services meeting or surpassing national targets.

The gains are contained in the district's Annual Health Performance Report compiled by District Biostatistician Geoffrey Bagonza, which also highlights gaps in cervical cancer screening, antenatal care attendance and the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Immunisation was among the strongest performing areas, with both DPT1 and

DPT3 coverage reaching 100 per cent, exceeding the target of 99 per cent.

HIV treatment also performed above target, with Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) coverage standing at 99.6 per cent against a target of 95 per cent.

However, the district recorded 83 per cent in the elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV, below the 95 per cent target, indicating the need for stronger interventions to prevent new infections among children.

Tuberculosis case notification reached 201 cases per 100,000 population, exceeding the target of 172 cases. The report attributes the performance to



One of the community members raising a concern during a health education engagement at Kitanyata Health Centre III

improved case detection and reporting.

Maternal health indicators also showed mixed results. Health facility deliveries reached 76.7 per cent, surpassing the target of 68 per cent, while maternal death reviews achieved 100 per cent against a target of 80 per cent.

However, first antenatal care attendance stood at 86 per cent, below the 95 per cent target. Fourth ANC attendance reached the target of 50 per cent.

Cancer screening remains another area requiring improvement. Cervical cancer screening among women aged 15 to 49 years stood at 19 per cent, against a target of 24 per cent, while breast cancer screening reached 23 per cent.

The district recorded teenage

pregnancy prevalence of 20 per cent, better than the target threshold of 25 per cent, suggesting progress in addressing adolescent reproductive health challenges.

Overall, the report shows a district making significant progress in several areas while facing persistent gaps that require targeted interventions.

Health authorities have called for increased efforts to improve early antenatal care attendance, expand cervical cancer screening and strengthen interventions to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

The district's next challenge will be to sustain the gains already made while closing the remaining gaps to ensure more residents have access to quality preventive and curative health services.

MASINDI: Shs17.8m Motorcycles to Boost Health Outreach in Hard-to-Reach Areas

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District Local Government

Masindi District Local Government has handed over three new motorcycles worth Shs17.85 million to selected Health Centre IIs to strengthen community outreach and improve access to healthcare in hard-to-reach areas.

The motorcycles, each valued at Shs5.95 million, were handed over to facility in-charges during a ceremony held at Masindi District headquarters.

The beneficiaries are Kasenene Health Centre II, Kisalizi Health Centre II and

Kijenga Health Centre II, which previously lacked reliable means of transport for conducting community-based health activities.

Speaking during the handover, Deputy Resident District Commissioner Dhaala Sanon commended the district leadership for prioritising the health sector and urged the beneficiaries to use the motorcycles responsibly to expand healthcare services within their communities.

District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi



The Deputy RDC, Dhaala Sanon sitting on one of the motorcycles while commissioning them to the users

challenged the facility in-charges to maximise the new transport by intensifying community outreach, particularly in areas where residents face difficulties accessing health facilities.

Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija cautioned the beneficiaries against misuse and called for proper maintenance of the motorcycles to ensure they remain in service for a long time.

Representing the District Health Team, Assistant District Health Officer in charge of Environmental Health Patrick Baguma said the motorcycles

would strengthen supervision, disease surveillance, community mobilisation and delivery of outreach services.

He said improved mobility would enable health workers to reach more communities, conduct timely follow-ups and respond more effectively to emerging health concerns.

District officials said the investment will contribute to improved access to essential healthcare services by bringing preventive and community-based interventions closer to residents, particularly those living far from health facilities.

MASINDI: Shs700m Project to Boost Inclusive Education for Children with Visual Impairments

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District Local Government

The Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC), in partnership with the National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU), has launched a Shs700 million project aimed at improving access to inclusive education for children with visual impairments, with particular emphasis on girls.

The two-and-a-half-year project, dubbed “Strengthening Educational Inclusion for Girls and Women with Visual Impairments in Uganda,” was launched during an inception meeting at Masindi District headquarters.

The project, which started on July 20, 2026 and will run until December 31, 2028, is being implemented in Masindi, Masaka, Jinja and Nebbi districts,

selected based on reported cases of visual impairment.

USDC Head of Programmes John Mary Musinguzi said the organisation will identify children with visual impairments from two to three selected schools in each beneficiary district and provide them with assistive devices and learning materials.

The support will include Braille machines, Braille paper and white canes, intended to improve learners’ access to education and enhance their mobility and independence.

At least 500 children aged between three and 18 years are expected to directly benefit from the project. Of these, 350 will be girls and 150 boys. The



Stakeholders met for the official inception of the new USDC project

beneficiaries will include both children in school and those who are out of school.

The project will also support more than 300 parents and caregivers, 120 teachers and 10 women with visual impairments. The women will be supported to become advocates and champions for inclusive education in 10 targeted schools.

Musinguzi said NUDIPU's component will focus on empowering girls and women with visual impairments to participate in advocacy and decision-making processes within their communities.

Representing the District Chairperson, District Vice Chairperson Bright Mugume welcomed the initiative, saying it would complement the district's efforts to promote inclusive education and ensure that children with visual impairments have equal opportunities to access education and participate in community life.

District leaders said strengthening access to assistive learning materials, supporting teachers and empowering families will help remove barriers that continue to limit the education and participation of children with visual impairments.

MASINDI: Wanyoto Urges New Staff to Drive Govt's Development Agenda

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District Local Government

The Minister of State for Public Service, Lydia Wanyoto, has urged 91 newly recruited Masindi District employees to embrace professionalism and use their positions to improve service delivery and contribute to Uganda's long-term development agenda.

Wanyoto said the new public servants have joined government at a critical time as the country implements the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) alongside the Tenfold Growth Strategy, which seeks to increase Uganda's Gross Domestic Product from Shs50 billion to Shs500 billion by 2040.

She made the remarks while officiating at the closing ceremony of a five-day induction training for the newly recruited staff held at Masindi District

headquarters.

Wanyoto said public sector transformation is among the 18 government programmes being implemented to build a healthy, skilled and knowledgeable population capable of driving productivity and economic growth.

She encouraged the new employees to view public service as an opportunity to contribute to national development rather than simply as a source of employment.

"I welcome you all into the Public Service of Uganda. You have come at a critical time when government is implementing the Fourth National Development Plan with the Tenfold Growth Strategy," Wanyoto said.



Minister of State for Public Service, Hon. Lydia Wanyoto (seated center) with District leadership and the newly inducted staff, posing for a group photo after the five day induction training

District Vice Chairperson Bright Mugume, who represented the District Chairperson, urged the new staff to uphold honesty, transparency and integrity in the execution of their duties.

Mugume said professionalism and accountability were essential to ensuring that public resources are properly utilised and that communities receive quality services.

Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Musa Kyamiza urged the employees to apply the knowledge acquired during the induction and

comply with the Public Service Standing Orders.

He said adherence to established rules and regulations would help the new staff conduct themselves professionally, protect public resources and build successful careers in the Public Service.

District leaders said the induction had equipped the new employees with the knowledge and values required to effectively execute their responsibilities and contribute to improved service delivery in Masindi District.

Oil and Gas Firms Support Environment, Health Services in Kikuube

By Ndagano Faridah Communication officer Kikuube District

Oil and gas companies operating in Kikuube have combined environmental conservation with community support, donating a solar power system to Nsozi Health Centre III and joining residents in tree planting and a clean-up exercise.

The activities were held on August 13, 2026, as Kikuube District joined the Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU) and Joint Venture Partners to commemorate the Joint Oil and Gas Sector World Environment Day.

The event was held under the theme, "Answering the Climate Call: Driving Responsible Resource Development," with stakeholders emphasising the need to balance petroleum development with environmental protection.

The solar system was donated to Nsozi Health Centre III by the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), while other activities included a cleaning exercise at Buhuka Flats and tree planting at Bugooma Primary School.

Kikuube Chief Administrative Officer Can. Edward Musingye commended the oil and gas companies for their support to the district, saying the solar donation would contribute to improving services at the health facility.

"On behalf of Kikuube District, I appreciate the oil and gas companies for making my work easy with all the support you are giving to the district," Musingye said.

He pledged that the district would



The District Chief Administrative officer Can. Edward Musingye addressing participants.

ensure the planted trees are protected and nurtured, wetlands conserved and agriculture sustained. He also asked the oil and gas companies to consider supporting the Environment and Natural Resources Department with a vehicle to facilitate monitoring activities.

Speaking on behalf of CNOOC President, Andrew Watuba said the event was particularly important to the company because it considers Kikuube its home.

He said the theme was a reminder that Uganda's petroleum development must go hand in hand with environmental protection.

Andrew Damba, representing TotalEnergies, thanked communities for accepting the oil and gas sector and urged residents to use natural resources sustainably.

PAU representative Dr Joseph Kobusheshe said the Joint Venture Partners chose Kikuube for this year's commemoration after similar events were held in Hoima, Kakumiro and Nwoya in 2023, 2024 and 2025 respectively.

He said the oil and gas sector was not only about exploration but also supporting communities.

Kikuube District Chairperson Paddy Kitembo welcomed the partners and thanked them for their continued support, including livelihood initiatives and the donation of fruit and other tree species.

Kitembo pledged continued cooperation between the district and the oil and gas sector in promoting environmental conservation and community development.

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