



# BUNYORO POST

District Communicators'  
Newsletter

Date June 2026

Monthly Edition

VOL. 19



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**Ndagano Faridah**

# Editor's Note

**Editor-in-Chief**

**Bunyoro Post Magazine**

**Tel: +256 777410031**

**Email: bunyoropost@gmail.com**



**W**elcome to the June 2026 edition of Bunyoro Post. This edition highlights the continued transformation of the Bunyoro sub-region through government investments, improved public service delivery, and community-driven development initiatives.

Our cover story features the pass-out of newly recruited Police officers in Masindi, where President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni urged graduates to uphold discipline, integrity, and professionalism in protecting lives and property. The event reflects Government's commitment to strengthening national security institutions.

We also report on the launch of the UGX 58 billion upgrade of Masindi General Hospital, which will expand specialized healthcare services, alongside the completion of a UGX 939 million water project in Kibaale District that is improving access to clean and safe water.

Agriculture remains the backbone of the region's economy. This edition covers the Masindi Agri-Business Expo, climate-smart farming, improved honey production, water harvesting technologies, and sustainable fisheries initiatives aimed at increasing productivity and household incomes.

Readers will also find stories on youth empowerment, leadership, accountability, and community participation, showcasing the positive impact of government programmes across the region.

We thank all District Communication Officers and contributors for documenting these milestones and encourage continued submission of development stories, photographs, and human-interest features.

Thank you for reading Bunyoro Post. We hope this edition informs and inspires as we continue building a stronger, more prosperous, and resilient Bunyoro.

## KEY CONTRIBUTORS

**Faridah Ndagano**

*Communication Officer, Kikuube District*

**Hannington Tibaijuka**

*Communications Officer, Bullisa District*

**Vincent Muganzi**

*Communications Officer Kibaale District*

**Alex Tumuhimbise**

*Communication officer, Hoima district*

**Emmanuel Murungi,**

*Communication Officer, Kiryandongo District*

**Thank you for your unwavering support. Together, let's continue to chronicle the rise of Bunyoro**

**Brian Atuhura**

*Communication Officer, Masindi District*

**George Gulyetonda**

*Communication Officer, Kagadi District*

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# MASINDI: Museveni Urges New Police Officers to Uphold Integrity and Professionalism

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District*



Some of the immigration officers at the parade

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni has challenged more than 10,000 newly trained Police Constables and Immigration Officers to uphold integrity, discipline, and professionalism, saying these values are critical to effective law enforcement and national development.

Speaking at the pass-out ceremony held at the Police Training School, Kabalye, in Masindi District, the President urged the recruits to safeguard their health, reject corruption, and dedicate themselves to serving the country with honesty.

“Don’t play around with your health.

Avoid alcohol, women, and everything that can destroy your health. Keep yourself healthy through discipline,” President Museveni said.

The ceremony marked the graduation of 9,952 Probationer Police Constables after 11 months of training at Kabalye and Ikafe Police Training Schools, as well as 65 Immigration Officers who completed a four-month induction course.

Training was conducted under the theme, “Collaborative Training Geared Towards People-Centred Service for Socio-Economic Transformation.”

The President described corruption as one of the greatest obstacles to Uganda's development and urged the officers to resist any temptation to misuse public office.

"Nobody should influence you into corruption because corruption undermines government programmes such as the Parish Development Model, healthcare services, and many others," he said.

Museveni also encouraged the officers to embrace modern policing methods, including the use of police canine units and the expanding Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) camera network, to strengthen crime prevention and investigations.

Minister of Internal Affairs Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu congratulated the graduates and called on them to serve with integrity, noting that peace and security remain essential for economic growth and national prosperity.

Inspector General of Police Abas Byakagaba said the recruitment significantly strengthens the Uganda Police Force, with the new officers increasing its establishment by nearly a quarter.

He noted that although the force has grown, Uganda's police-to-population ratio remains below the international benchmark, underscoring the need for continued recruitment and deployment.

Byakagaba added that the new officers will play a key role in expanding the government's sub-county policing model, improving community security, and enhancing access to policing services across the country.

The graduates are expected to reinforce crime prevention efforts, strengthen public confidence in law enforcement, and support Uganda's socio-economic transformation through professional and people-centred policing.



The newly graduated Probationer Police Constables showcasing karate skills to President Museveni at their pass-out

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# 23 Masindi Pupils Honored for Outstanding Performance at National Athletics Championships

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi*



The District leaders posing for a group photo with best athletes of Masindi at the headquarters

**M**asindi District has recognized 23 primary school pupils who proudly represented the district at the recently concluded National Athletics championships held in Tororo Municipality.

The young athletes were honored for their outstanding performance and dedication after competing against more than 4,000 participants from across the country. Among the district's top performers was Kasifa Odaru, a pupil of St. Mary's Kyatiri primary school, who secured the 81st position nationally, while Prisca Anerwoth of Marongo primary school finished in the 156th position.

The strong performance contributed to Masindi District being ranked 33rd out of 171 Districts, Cities and Municipalities that participated in the national competition.

In recognition of their achievements, the athletes received scholastic materials including mathematical sets, exercise books, pens, and basins as a token of appreciation and encouragement to continue excelling both in sports and academics.

Speaking during the awarding ceremony held at the district headquarters, Masindi District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi reaffirmed the district leadership's commitment to revitalizing

the education sector. He called upon parents, teachers, local leaders, and other stakeholders to work together to improve academic performance and restore the district's educational standards.

"We must unite our efforts and ensure that learners are provided with the support and opportunities they need to excel academically and in co-curricular activities," Wobusobozi said.

The ceremony was held alongside a meeting of head teachers attended by education officials, technocrats, and district leaders.

Addressing the gathering, the District Secretary for Social Services, William Mwambu, said the district leadership would strengthen school monitoring mechanisms to ensure that all schools provide a conducive learning environment for learners.

He noted that regular supervision and support would be key in improving both academic performance and overall school management across the district.

District Council Speaker Bright Tibigambwa, pledged continued

collaboration with the District Executive Committee and technical staff to restore Masindi's reputation for academic execution.

"We are determined to work together and ensure that our schools regain their former glory through improved performance and effective leadership," he said.

Meanwhile, the Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Musa Kyamiza, challenged head teachers to develop and implement practical school improvement plans aimed at enhancing learning outcomes.

He further encouraged school administrators to prioritize environmental cleanliness and establish income generating projects that can supplement school resources and improve livelihoods within their communities.

The recognition of the young athletes highlighted the district's growing commitment to nurturing talent while simultaneously strengthening efforts to improve education standards and learner performance across Masindi.



The District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi, handing over a certificate of recognition to one of the athletes

# KIBAALE: 25 Youth Begin Skills Training Journey Under Government Skilling Programme

*By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer – Kibaale District*

**T**wenty-five young people from Kibaale District have been selected to join the sixth cohort of trainees at the Bunyoro Industrial Skilling Hub in Masindi District, giving them an opportunity to acquire practical skills for employment and self-reliance.

The trainees were flagged off at Kibaale District headquarters during a ceremony attended by district leaders, parents, and security officials, who encouraged them to take full advantage of the government's industrial skilling programme.

Resident District Commissioner Stephen Byaruhanga Mfashingabo described the opportunity as a life-changing investment in the future of young people

and urged the beneficiaries to remain disciplined throughout their training.

"You have been given an opportunity that thousands of young people across the country are still waiting for. Use it well to transform your life and improve the wellbeing of your families," he said.

The District Internal Security Officer also challenged the learners to uphold discipline, commitment, and integrity, reminding them that success at the skilling hub depends not only on technical ability but also on good character.

The Bunyoro Industrial Skilling Hub offers free vocational training in a range of trades, including welding, carpentry, tailoring, mechanics, hairdressing,



RDC Stephen Byaruhanga (in white shirt and tie) addresses the sixth cohort of Kibaale District youth before they departed for vocational training at the Bunyoro Industrial Skilling Hub

bakery, and other practical skills that equip young people for employment and entrepreneurship.

Parents and community leaders welcomed the initiative, expressing hope that the training will enable the learners to secure sustainable livelihoods and contribute to the socio-economic development of their communities.

District officials noted that the programme continues to expand opportunities for young people by equipping them with marketable skills that respond to the demands of Uganda's growing economy.

As the sixth cohort embarks on its training, leaders have expressed confidence that the beneficiaries will return with valuable knowledge and practical skills capable of creating jobs, supporting household incomes, and inspiring other young people to pursue vocational training.

The programme remains one of government's key interventions aimed at reducing youth unemployment, promoting self-employment, and building a skilled workforce to drive local economic transformation in Kibaale District and the wider Bunyoro Sub-region.

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## Kikuube District Moves to End Illegal Fishing as Communities Embrace Sustainable Practices

*By Faridah Ndagano, Communication Officer- Kikuube*

Fishing communities along the shores of Nkondo-Kabwoya are turning a new page as Kikuube District rolls out a push against illegal fishing methods and environmental degradation on the lake.

In a joint effort with the District Fisheries Officer and security agencies, Resident District Commissioner Afande Angalia Godwin engaged local fishers to harmonize the formation and operations of Landing Site Fisheries Management Committees. The committees are now up and running and are tasked with enforcing regulations and restoring order at the landing sites.

Their mandate covers the most pressing threats to the lake's health which include;

- Use of illegal fishing lights and gear
- Sand mining in the lake
- Fishing in breeding grounds
- The Construction of permanent structures within 200 metres of the shoreline

Speaking after the engagement, RDC Angalia Godwin said the initiative is about protecting livelihoods, not stopping fishing.

"Fishing remains a legitimate source of livelihood for our people, but it must be done responsibly and within the law," he said. "Our goal is to protect fish stocks and preserve the ecological integrity of our lakes so that both present and future generations can benefit. Sustainable fisheries are built on

discipline, conservation, and responsible stewardship, not exploitation.”

The move aligns with government efforts to streamline and regulate the fisheries sector. By putting communities at the center of management, Kikuube District is strengthening local ownership

and ensuring regulations are applied consistently on the ground.

Local leaders in Nkondo–Kabwoya have welcomed the approach, noting that the committees provide a clear channel for dialogue between fishers, authorities, and conservation efforts.



## MASINDI: District Council Approves Executive Reshuffle to Strengthen Leadership

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer - Masindi*

**M**asindi District Council has approved changes to the District Executive Committee (DEC) and the District Service Commission in a move aimed at strengthening leadership and enhancing service delivery.

The changes were unanimously endorsed during a council meeting held at the district headquarters on

Thursday, barely a month after the district’s current political leadership assumed office.

District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi presented the new appointments, saying the adjustments were intended to improve the effectiveness of district leadership.

Under the new arrangement, Bright Mugume was appointed District Vice



The District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi, reading the changes on DEC members

Chairperson, replacing Cleophas Bigirwa. Wobusobozi told council that the change was necessitated by academic qualification requirements for the position.

Council also approved the appointment of Simon Byaruhanga as Secretary for Finance, while Neldar Asaba was redesignated Secretary for Production as part of the restructuring of the executive committee.

The meeting further endorsed new appointments to the District Service Commission. Adolf Kato was approved as the new Chairperson, succeeding Benjamin Byarugaba, whose term of office expired, while Kaahwa Sharif Juma was appointed to represent the Urban Authority on the commission, replacing Swaib Kyamanywa.

Addressing councillors after the approvals, NRM District Chairperson

Kabakumba Labwoni Masiko called on political and technical leaders to work together in promoting peace, unity, and cooperation as the foundation for improved service delivery.

She urged leaders to put the interests of residents first, noting that effective collaboration between elected leaders and technical staff is essential for accelerating development across Masindi District.

The approved changes took immediate effect and are expected to strengthen the district's leadership structures as the new administration implements its development agenda and delivers services to the people.

# KIBAALE: Modern Honey Processing Technology Boosts Beekeepers' Incomes

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer – Kibaale District

Beekeepers in Kibaale District are set to produce cleaner, higher-quality honey and access better markets following the distribution of modern honey settling tanks to outstanding farmer groups and model farmers.

The equipment, handed over by the District Production Department on June 24, 2026, forms part of the district's efforts to commercialise apiculture through improved post-harvest handling, value addition, and quality assurance.

District Production Officer Hassan Matovu said the initiative is the result of continuous field monitoring and technical support aimed at helping beekeepers transition from traditional production methods to modern, market-oriented enterprises.

"For many years, poor post-harvest handling has affected the quality and

competitiveness of our honey. These settling tanks will enable farmers to produce cleaner honey that meets market standards and attracts better prices," he said.

Unlike traditional processing methods that often leave impurities in honey, the stainless-steel settling tanks use gravity to separate wax particles and other debris, producing cleaner and more refined honey suitable for premium markets.

The equipment was distributed to selected beekeeping associations and model farmers from across Kibaale District who have demonstrated commitment to improved production practices and are expected to serve as demonstration centres for other farmers.

Matovu urged beneficiaries to embrace



District Entomologist Robert Mukasa trains beneficiary farmers on proper use of modern honey processing equipment and improved post-harvest handling practices

beekeeping as a commercial enterprise by maintaining high production standards, strengthening farmer groups, and ensuring the equipment is properly managed for the benefit of all members.

He noted that increasing both the quantity and quality of honey would position Kibaale as a leading producer of premium honey while attracting additional government support for the sector.

District Entomologist Robert Mukasa  
*By Brian Atundira, Communications Officer - Masindi*

also encouraged farmers to adopt modern beekeeping technologies and adhere to recommended harvesting and processing practices to improve productivity and profitability.

With growing demand for organic honey in Uganda and the wider region, district leaders believe the investment will strengthen household incomes, create employment opportunities, and establish Kibaale as a competitive player in the country's expanding apiculture industry.

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## Kikuube District Imposes Border Restrictions to Prevent Ebola

*By Ndagano Faridah, Communication Officer- Kikuube*



L-R) CAO Edward Musingye, RDC Angalia Godwin, DHO Dr. Asaba Gerald, and the OC join members of the EVD Task Force Committee for a group photo after a strategic meeting at the District headquarters

**K**ikuube District authorities have tightened border controls along Lake Albert following confirmation of an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) case linked to the district.

The district Ebola Task Force, chaired by key leaders including

Chief Administrative Officer Canon Edward Musingye, Resident District Commissioner Afande Angalia Godwin, and District Health Officer Dr Asaba Gerald, met at the district headquarters on May 25, 2026, and resolved to ban arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) through key entry points.

The measures specifically target Sebagoro and Nsonga landing sites, which have been closed to all entry and exit movements until further notice. All border markets around the lake areas have also been temporarily shut to prevent congestion and reduce the risk of transmission.

Kikuube, located in mid-western Uganda and sharing a porous border with the DRC across Lake Albert, is considered at high risk due to cross-border movement.

By Brian Atuhura, Communications officer, Masindi District  
The Ministry of Health has so far confirmed seven EVD cases in Uganda. One of the confirmed cases involves a taxi driver from the Kikuube area who transported the index patient from Nsonga and was later treated at Mulago Hospital.

To strengthen preparedness, the district

has activated three isolation centres: Kasonga treatment unit, Sebagoro isolation centre, and the Kikuube isolation unit.

District leaders urged residents to observe strict preventive measures. These include frequent handwashing with soap and running water, avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, steering clear of contact with sick persons or bodies, and immediately reporting suspected cases to the nearest health facility or the district hotline.

“Ugandans can defeat Ebola through prevention and early reporting,” the task force emphasised.

The district said it will continue to update the public on the evolving situation as national efforts to contain the outbreak continue.

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## MASINDI: Gov't Launches UGX 58 Bn Upgrade of Masindi Hospital Ahead of AFCON 2027

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District*



The Prime Minister (seated centre), posing for a group photo with leaders and health workers at Masindi General Hospital during the ground breaking ceremony

The Government has launched the UGX 58 billion expansion and rehabilitation of Masindi General Hospital in a major investment aimed at improving healthcare services and strengthening the Bunyoro Sub-region's preparedness for the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja officiated at the groundbreaking ceremony held at the hospital, describing the project as a significant step towards improving access to quality healthcare for residents while preparing the region to host international visitors during the continental tournament.

"The groundbreaking ceremony reflects government's commitment to strengthening health infrastructure and improving access to quality healthcare services for the people of Masindi and Uganda," Nabbanja said.

She explained that the hospital upgrade is part of a broader government programme to enhance health infrastructure across Bunyoro ahead of AFCON 2027, which Uganda will co-host with Kenya and Tanzania.

Under the programme, Hoima Regional Referral Hospital will also be upgraded, while Buseruka Health Centre III will be elevated to a Health Centre IV to strengthen emergency medical services during and beyond the tournament.

The Prime Minister revealed that government plans to invest a total of UGX 545.99 billion in AFCON-related

infrastructure across the Bunyoro Sub-region.

The investment package includes UGX 182.5 billion for the construction of a passenger terminal at Kabalega International Airport, UGX 101.1 billion for upgrading hotel infrastructure, UGX 91 billion for health facilities, UGX 95.5 billion for access roads around Hoima City Stadium, UGX 20.2 billion for upgrading King George IV Memorial Stadium in Masindi, UGX 18.6 billion for improving the Sir Tito Winyi Secondary School playground, and UGX 13.3 billion for upgrading Hoima Boma Grounds.

District leaders welcomed the investment, saying it will not only improve the quality of healthcare but also create opportunities for economic growth as Bunyoro prepares to host one of Africa's biggest sporting events.

Beyond AFCON 2027, the upgraded Masindi General Hospital is expected to enhance healthcare delivery for thousands of residents by expanding access to modern medical services and strengthening the district's capacity to respond to emergencies for years to come.



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# KIBAALE: New District Chairperson Unveils Vision for Accountable Leadership and Better Service Delivery

*By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer, Kibaale District*

**K**ibaale District has ushered in a new political leadership with a renewed commitment to accountability, improved service delivery, and inclusive development following the swearing-in of district leaders at the district headquarters.

The ceremony marked the beginning of a new five-year term, with Hon. Peter Lugumba sworn in as District Speaker, Hon. Gerald Bigirwa Bacwa as Deputy Speaker, and Hon. Eng. Godfrey Muhonge Kasanga assuming office as District Chairperson.

While the event formally constituted the district's political leadership, Chairperson Muhonge used his inaugural address to outline an ambitious agenda centred on good governance, education, transparency, and closer engagement with communities.

Describing leadership as a responsibility rather than a privilege, Muhonge pledged to build an administration guided by the values of prayer, peace, love, unity, and forgiveness, saying these principles would underpin efforts to transform Kibaale District.



LCV Muhonge (cream suit) receiving instruments of power from CAO Katototroma John

He challenged political leaders to embrace accountability and continuous learning, reminding councillors that public office demands discipline, sacrifice, and a commitment to improving the lives of citizens.

Education emerged as one of the administration's top priorities. Muhonge expressed concern over rising school dropout rates and called on leaders to work with parents and communities to ensure every child remains in school. He also pledged to lobby for more

government primary and secondary schools in underserved sub-counties, including Karama, Kyakazihire, Bubango, and Matala.

To strengthen accountability, the chairperson announced plans to install suggestion boxes in every sub-county and committed himself to regular field visits to monitor government programmes and receive feedback directly from residents.

“This term will not be led from the comfort of the office. I will be in the field with the people, listening, learning, and responding,” he said.

Muhonge also warned technical officers against absenteeism and poor performance, saying the Government Leadership Code of Conduct would be strictly enforced to improve efficiency and public confidence in local government services.

The ceremony also saw the presentation of the new District Executive Committee, completing the leadership team that will steer Kibaale’s development agenda

over the next five years.

With a strong emphasis on responsive leadership, quality education, and accountability, district leaders say the new administration is laying the foundation for accelerated socio-economic transformation and improved service delivery across Kibaale District.



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## Residents Demand Better Service Delivery as Anti-Corruption Caravan Reaches Masindi

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer -Masindi*

Residents of Masindi District have raised the concerns over poor service delivery, corruption, and delayed justice during a Citizens’ Caravan Baraza organized by the Inspectorate of Government (IG) and its partners at Boma grounds in Masindi Town.

The public accountability forum, held under the Anti-Corruption Caravan initiative, brought together officials from the Inspectorate of Government, Action Aid Uganda, the Anti-Corruption Coalition Uganda, the Office of the Auditor General, district leaders, and members of the public to discuss

challenges affecting service delivery and governance.

During the engagement, residents openly expressed frustration over a range of issues, particularly within the health sector. Several citizens accused some health workers at Masindi General Hospital of extorting money from patients and neglecting those seeking medical attention.

Others criticized the Inspectorate of

Government for failing to provide timely feedback on complaints and corruption cases previously reported by the public. Concerns were also raised against the judiciary and the police over delays in the administration of justice, especially in handling land-related disputes.

Speaking at the baraza, the Manager for Advocacy and Capacity Building at the Inspectorate of Government and leader of the Anti-Corruption



Citizens attending the Anti-Corruption caravan baraza at Boma grounds in Masindi Town

caravan team, Christine Lamwaka, acknowledged the concerns raised by residents and apologized for delays in providing feedback on issues reported during previous engagements.

She attributed the delays to a backlog of cases but assured the public that efforts were being made to improve responsiveness and ensure timely communication on matters reported to the Inspectorate.

Lamwaka noted that the Anti-Corruption caravan is being conducted across the Bunyoro Sub-Region with the

objective of promoting transparency, accountability, and improving service delivery in local governments.

“The caravan provides citizens with a platform to engage duty bearers directly, report corruption, and demand accountability from public institutions,” she said.

Masindi District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi challenged the Inspectorate of Government to take stronger action against individuals implicated in corruption practices, arguing that accountability institutions

must move beyond investigations and ensure offenders face appropriate repercussions.

“You have barked for a long time without biting; now it is time to bite,” Wobusobozi remarked, drawing applause from members of the public.

Masindi Municipal Mayor Rogers Amanyire welcomed the Anti-Corruption caravan, describing it as an important initiative that strengthens accountability among public officials and gives citizens an opportunity to voice their concerns.

He, however, emphasized the need for timely release of investigation findings, noting that prolonged delays can unfairly damage the reputations of individuals who are accused but later found innocent.

The Anti-Corruption caravan is part of ongoing efforts by the Inspectorate of Government and its partners to empower citizens to participate in the fight against corruption while promoting transparency and improving service delivery across the country.

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## **KIBAALE: UGX 939 Million Project Brings Safe Water to Matale Communities**

*By Muganzi Vincent, District Communications Officer – Kibaale District*



Buyanja East MP Hon. Emily Kugonza commissions the Hakasalaba Water Supply System in Matale Sub-county,

**R**esidents of Matale Sub-county in Kibaale District are expected to enjoy improved access to safe and reliable water following the

commissioning of the UGX 939.8 million Hakasalaba Water Supply System.

The solar-powered scheme, commissioned on June 2, 2026, is

expected to ease water shortages that have for years affected households, schools, and health facilities while improving sanitation and supporting local economic development.

Constructed over three financial years at a total cost of UGX 939,803,955, the project includes a high-yield production well, a 50,000-litre storage tank, a 1,820-metre transmission main, a 5,600-metre distribution network, 10 public standpipes, 30 yard taps, and a solar-powered pumping system designed to ensure reliable and affordable water supply.

Speaking at the commissioning, Buyanja East Member of Parliament Hon. Emily Kugonza described the project as a major investment in the wellbeing of communities and urged residents to embrace government programmes aimed at reducing poverty and improving household incomes.

District Vice Chairperson Hon. Gerald Bategeka, who represented the District Chairperson, encouraged residents to support development initiatives and safeguard public infrastructure for future generations.

District Water Officer Ben Sekuye said the new water scheme is expected to transform access to clean water in the area by reducing the time families

spend collecting water, improving hygiene and sanitation, and ensuring a more reliable supply for schools, health centres, and households.

Following commissioning, management of the scheme has been handed over to the Western Umbrella for Water and Sanitation, which will oversee operations, maintenance, customer connections, and water quality management to ensure sustainable service delivery.

Local leaders welcomed the investment, describing it as a catalyst for improved public health and economic growth. Matala Sub-county Chairperson Patrick Abigaba called for complementary investments such as rural electrification to further accelerate development, while NRM District Chairperson Fred Matovu encouraged residents to take advantage of improved services by investing in commercial agriculture.

The Hakasalaba Water Supply System represents a significant milestone in Kibale District's efforts to expand access to safe water and modern rural infrastructure. District leaders believe the project will improve public health, reduce the burden of water collection on women and children, and provide a stronger foundation for socio-economic transformation in Matala Sub-county.



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# Kikuube District, CRS Hand Over 10,000-litre Tanks to Model Farmers

*By Ndagano Faridah, Communication Officer- Kikuube*

**F**ourteen model farmers in Kikuube District have received 10,000-litre water tanks from the district local government in partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), as a major agroforestry project comes to a close.

The handover, which took place last week, marked the successful completion of the Intensive Mixed Use of Agroforestry Systems on Household Plots project. It forms the third pillar of the World Bank-funded Investing in Forests and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development (IFPA-CD) programme, aimed at promoting climate-smart agriculture and improving livelihoods in refugee-hosting districts.

During the project's close-out meeting at the district headquarters, officials noted that 628 smallholder farmers across Bugambe, Buhimba, and Kiziranfumbi sub-counties integrated trees, crops, and livestock on their plots. The farmers established 727.8 hectares of agroforestry, achieving 94.5 per cent of the 770-hectare target.

The project supplied 213,093 seedlings of timber species such as Grevillea, Musizi,

and Mahogany, as well as fruit trees including mangoes and avocados. High-value crops like coffee and cocoa were also distributed to enhance household incomes.

In addition to seedlings, beneficiaries received beehives for income diversification, goats for nutrition and manure production, and water tanks for rainwater harvesting.

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Mr Kakande Henry, while handing over the tanks, commended CRS for the strong partnership. He said the model farmers would serve as demonstration sites for water conservation and agroforestry practices in their communities.

District Forestry Officer Mr Abitegeka Wilfred called for sustained efforts, assuring that the district would ensure the gains from the project continue beyond CRS's involvement.

The IFPA-CD project is funded by the World Bank and implemented by the Government of Uganda to strengthen sustainable forest management and climate-smart agriculture, particularly in refugee-hosting areas.

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# Seeds of Resilience: How UCSATP Is Transforming Farmer Groups in Kibaale

*By Muganzi Vincent, District Communications Officer – Kibaale District*



DVO Immaculate (centre) and veterinary team during community mobilisation and sensitization

**A**cross Kibaale District, farmer groups that had become inactive are finding new life under the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project (UCSATP), a government initiative that is strengthening farmer institutions, promoting climate-smart agriculture, and creating new opportunities for rural households.

Implemented by the Government of Uganda with support from the World Bank, UCSATP is helping farmers organise into stronger groups, improve productivity, and access matching grants, technical support, and better markets.

In the livestock sector, the district veterinary team has successfully revitalised four dairy farmer groups in

Kibaale and Nyamarunda town councils and Kyakazihiire Sub-county. The groups are now preparing to benefit from the project's matching grant arrangement, under which government finances 80 per cent of approved investments while farmers contribute the remaining 20 per cent.

The project is also introducing farmers to alternative enterprises capable of generating income while building resilience to climate change. In Matala-Kitengeeto, farmers are receiving training in beekeeping and black soldier fly production, with district technical staff guiding communities through group formation, enterprise development, and cooperative management.

Meanwhile, the fisheries subsector is expanding aquaculture through

the identification and assessment of suitable sites for community fish ponds in Matala Sub-county. Technical teams from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) are working closely with local farmer groups to prepare them for project support that is expected to boost fish production and household incomes.

Crop production is equally benefiting from the programme. In Nyamarwa Sub-county, agricultural extension workers are profiling farmers, raising awareness about UCSATP, and helping communities prepare to participate in climate-smart agricultural interventions.

To reach more communities, district production teams are using local radio programmes to educate farmers about

the project, eligibility requirements, and available opportunities, ensuring that even remote communities can access information.

The district is also strengthening accountability by validating farmer groups and inspecting agro-input dealers to ensure farmers access genuine seeds, fertilisers, and veterinary products.

As farmer groups regain confidence and embrace new technologies, UCSATP is doing more than supporting agriculture—it is rebuilding community institutions, promoting resilience, and equipping households with the knowledge and resources needed to adapt to climate change and improve their livelihoods.



Fisheries Staff make a site assessment for pond construction with MAAIF team

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# MASINDI: Over 3,000 Farmers Gather for Agri-Business Expo to Boost Commercial Agriculture

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi District*

**M**ore than 3,000 smallholder farmers from the Bunyoro, Northern, and Central regions converged in Masindi District for the 14th Agri-Business Expo, where they acquired modern farming technologies, climate-smart practices, and market information aimed at improving productivity and household incomes.

Held at Kihonda Demonstration Centre in Labongo Sub-county, the two-day expo brought together more than 17 exhibitors showcasing innovations in agronomy, climate-smart agriculture, post-harvest handling, mechanisation, financial services, and quality agricultural inputs.

Organised under the theme, “Promoting Resilient Food Systems for Improved Household Incomes and Food Security,” the annual event provided farmers with an opportunity to learn from agricultural experts, interact with input suppliers, and explore market opportunities for their produce.

Speaking during the expo, Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) Programmes Manager Paul Ocuna said the organisation remains committed to supporting smallholder farmers through improved market access, capacity building, and access to finance.

He noted that although agriculture employs nearly 80 per cent of Uganda’s



A state-of-the-art tractor showcased at the Agri-Business Expo

population, its contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product remains relatively low, underscoring the need to transition from subsistence farming to commercially oriented agriculture.

Ocuna highlighted EAGC's grain business hubs, which provide farmers with certified agricultural inputs, technical advisory services, storage facilities, warehouse management, and market linkages to improve production and profitability.

Buruli County Member of Parliament Hon. Aled Ronald Akugizibwe commended EAGC and Masindi District for sustaining the annual expo and proposed that future editions be held in August to enable farmers to plant technologies and seed varieties acquired during the event under favourable weather conditions.

He also appealed for urgent interventions to combat the spread of striga weed, which continues to threaten maize production across the

region.

Masindi Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija described the expo as an important platform for accelerating agricultural transformation through technology adoption and knowledge sharing. He appealed to government to reduce the farmer co-funding requirement under the micro-scale irrigation programme to enable more farmers to invest in irrigation.

Closing the event, District Vice Chairperson Bright Mugume reaffirmed the district's commitment to strengthening its partnership with EAGC to expand the annual expo and reach more farmers.

The expo continues to play a vital role in promoting climate-smart agriculture, strengthening food security, and equipping farmers with the knowledge and technologies needed to transform agriculture into a profitable and sustainable enterprise.



Exhibitors proudly display their certificates of appreciation at the Farmers' Expo

# NRM's Kisembo Wins Kikuube District Chairperson Seat in Landslide Victory

By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo

National Resistance Movement (NRM) candidate Paddy Kisembo has been elected the new Chairperson of Kikuube District, defeating National Unity Platform (NUP) contender Phenekansi Timanyire in a decisive by-election held after the death of the previous officeholder.

According to results declared by returning officer Emmanuel Twine, Kisembo secured 26,612 votes, while Timanyire polled 8,712 votes, giving the NRM candidate a comfortable win.

The election was conducted following the death of district chairperson Peter Banura, who died in a road crash on April 4, 2026. Banura, the son of retired Major General Matayo Kyaligonza, was knocked down by a commuter taxi in Butyamba-Kamusunsi village in Kiziranfumbi Town Council along the

Hoima-Fort Portal highway.

The Electoral Commission reported that Kikuube District has 330 polling stations and 144,999 registered voters. A total of 36,211 ballot papers were counted, with 35,324 valid votes and 887 rejected ballots.

Kisembo's path to the seat followed internal party competition, where he initially lost the NRM primary to Philip Mbabazi Burnet, who is also the son of Gen. Matayo Kyaligonza, who polled 23,279 votes against Kisembo's 16,459.

However, the NRM Secretariat later replaced Mbabazi with Kisembo as the party flag bearer after Mbabazi reportedly failed to present the required academic documentation.



Kikuibe LCV Chairman Paddy Kisembo



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*Bunyoro Post is published by the District Communication Officers of Bunyoro Sub-Region.*

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