



# BUNYORO POST

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## "WAKE UP OR FACE CLIMATE WRATH": MINISTER NAMUYANGU SOUNDS ALARM IN BUNYORO

### *Inside Stories*

**BoU Urges Saving Culture as Over 600 Attend Masindi Engagement**

Pg 5

**Buliisa Farmers Tipped to Access Over UGX 2 Billion Agricultural Credit**

Pg 7

**Hoima District Commissions UGX 650 Million Projects to Boost Health and Education**

Pg 9



**Ndagano Faridah**

# Editor's Note

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**D**ear Valued Readers, Welcome to the monthly edition of the Bunyoro Post – your trusted monthly window into the heartbeat of the Bunyoro sub-region. This is our May 2026 edition, and as always, we are honoured to bring you stories that matter.

This month's edition is rich with developments that speak directly to the future of our region. We lead with an urgent environmental call to action from Minister Janipher Namuyangu, whose stark warning to Bunyoro residents on climate change set the tone for a month defined by both progress and accountability.

We also shine a light on the significant financial milestones recorded across our districts – from Masindi's landmark UGX 99 billion budget anchored by a new general hospital, to Kikuube's UGX 40.6 billion plan and Kiryandongo's bold industrial vision. Alongside these, we chronicle

the installation of 600 rainwater tanks bringing relief to over 100,000 residents, new school infrastructure investments across multiple districts, and the generous donation of life-saving medical equipment by Rotary clubs to Hoima health facilities.

We also welcome the newly sworn-in district leadership in both Masindi and Kiryandongo, and take a moment to appreciate a hidden gem of our region's history – the Nyabyeya Polish Refugee Settlement.

These stories, and many more, reflect the resilience and ambition that continue to define the people of Bunyoro.

As we grow this platform, we remain deeply grateful for your readership, your feedback, and your trust. This publication exists because of you and for you. **Happy reading.**

## KEY CONTRIBUTORS

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

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# “WAKE UP OR FACE CLIMATE WRATH”: Minister Namuyangu Sounds Alarm In Bunyoro

By Muganzi Vincent – Communications Officer, Kibaale



Group members pose with their new sewing machines

What began as a routine handover of government-procured items at Kibaale District Headquarters became an urgent call to action on the environment. Janipher Namuyangu, Minister of State for Bunyoro Affairs, delivered 180 iron sheets and 15 sewing machines to local beneficiaries – and a stark warning: Bunyoro is running out of time.

Addressing district leaders, technical staff, community groups and school representatives, Namuyangu condemned what she called “rampant, uncoordinated and illegal destruction of the environment” across the sub-region. She highlighted escalating climate impacts – floods, prolonged droughts, crop failures and rapid loss of forest cover – and urged immediate remedial action.

“Residents of Bunyoro must wake up and

conserve the environment,” Namuyangu said. “If we continue this path, we shall face the full wrath of climate change. Government will not turn a blind eye to the damage or to the perpetrators.” She reminded officials to fully implement the Presidential Directive on environmental protection.

The handover, part of the Office of the Prime Minister’s Bunyoro Affairs portfolio for the 2025/2026 financial year, aims to support community development, youth empowerment and institutional resilience. Two primary schools – Bubamba (80 iron sheets) and Kyanyi (100 iron sheets) – received roofing materials to improve learning environments and reduce the need for temporary structures that drive tree cutting.

Fifteen youth and women’s tailoring groups from Kibaale Town Council

and surrounding sub-counties each received a sewing machine. Beneficiary groups include Rukindo Tailoring Youth Group, God's Grace Tailoring, Mukama Murungi Youth Tailoring, Jesus Cares, Hamugamba, Lina Fashion Designers, Kakenzi Fashion and several others. The initiative seeks to provide alternative livelihoods that lessen pressure on forest-based incomes such as charcoal burning and unregulated timber harvesting.

Namuyangu stressed that development interventions will falter in a degraded environment. "Cutting down forests without replanting, encroaching on

wetlands, and burning vegetation recklessly will only worsen our suffering," she warned.

District leaders acknowledged the challenge of balancing livelihoods with conservation and pledged to work with the Ministry of Bunyoro Affairs to ensure responsible use of the support and stronger environmental protection.

As the ceremony closed, the minister's message remained clear: development and environmental stewardship must go hand in hand – act now to protect Bunyoro, or face consequences no aid can undo.



Minister Namuyangu (middle) handing over iron sheets to headteachers from different schools in Bunyoro

# BoU Urges Saving Culture as Over 600 Attend Masindi Engagement

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi

**M**ore than 600 people in Masindi District participated in a two-day engagement with the Bank of Uganda aimed at deepening public understanding of the central bank's role in the country's socio-economic transformation.

The meeting was held in April at Country Inn hotel, under the theme, "Understanding the Role of Bank of Uganda in the Socioeconomic Transformation of Uganda," attracted district leaders, religious leaders, private sector players, financial institutions, students and members of the public.

Presiding over the closing session, the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Uganda, Augustus Nuwagaba, emphasized the need for leaders and residents to cultivate a strong savings culture. He noted that increased savings would enable the government to mobilize more resources, ultimately leading to lower lending rates by financial institutions and improved access to credit.

Professor Nuwagaba also highlighted the positive impact of tourism on the Ugandan economy, explaining that the increased inflow of foreign currency from international visitors has helped



Prof Augustus Nuwagaba, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Uganda (seated center), pictured with district and religious leaders after the engagement at the Country Inn Hotel.

strengthen the Ugandan shilling.

Speaking at the same event, Buruli County Member of Parliament, Hon. Almi Ronald Akugizibwe, commended the central bank for maintaining low inflation, currently estimated at about 2.8 percent. He also appealed to the bank to support Kijunjubwa Health Centre III with infrastructure as part of its corporate social responsibility.

Representing the District Chairperson, the District Female Councilor Evalyne Ayebele called on the Bank of Uganda to intensify public awareness about its loan products, noting that many commercial banks dominate the market with high interest loans, leaving central bank supported facilities underutilized.

During a presentation, Dorothy Namarome outlined the Agricultural Credit Facility (ACF), which offers financing of up to UGX 5.1 billion at an interest rate of 12 percent, with a grace period of up to eight years.

Another official, Immaculate Nakato, educated participants on Treasury bills and bonds, describing them as secure government securities available to both individuals and institutions. She encouraged residents to invest in them, noting that they provide reliable returns while supporting national development.

Nakato explained that through such instruments, the government borrows from the public to finance major investments, while investors earn profits and benefit from improved public services.

The Bank of Uganda is set to mark 60 years of operation this year, with celebrations expected around August.

Closing the engagement, Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Musa Kyamiza commended the initiative, saying it will help bridge the information gap between the central bank and the public it serves.



Participants attending the Bank of Uganda town hall meeting at the Country Inn Hotel

# Buliisa Farmers Tipped to Access Over UGX 2 Billion Agricultural Credit

*By Hannington Tibaijuka, Communication Officer- Buliisa*

The Bank of Uganda has launched an Agricultural Credit Facility (ACF) worth more than UGX 2 billion to support small and medium-scale farmers and businesses in Buliisa District.

The facility was unveiled during a one-day stakeholder engagement at the Buliisa District Resource Centre, attended by hundreds of farmers and traders. Bank of Uganda officials said the programme targets enterprises that were badly hit by the COVID-19 lockdowns, especially those involved in commercial crop and livestock production.

The initiative falls under the Small Business Recovery Fund (SBRF),

launched by Government in 2021 to help rural businesses recover from pandemic-related financial distress.

Mr Edward Mugerwa, Director of the Administered Funds Department at the Bank of Uganda, told participants that the ACF comes with a three-year grace period to enable farmers to revive and expand operations. He encouraged them to focus on commercial agriculture, agro-processing and value addition.

Ms Dorothy Namarome Muinda, Team Leader in the same department, urged district leaders to step up sensitisation so that organised farmer groups can access the full UGX 2 billion. She added that the facility can also provide working

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Mr Edward Mugerwa Director Administered Funds Department BOU addressing stakeholders

capital of up to UGX 500 million for grain trading and other value-adding agricultural projects.

Buliisa District Production and Marketing Officer Mr Wycliff Katulinde said the district leads Bunyoro Sub-region in cassava, sweet oranges and watermelon production. However, poor post-harvest handling and lack of value addition have resulted in heavy losses and low market prices. He called on farmers to use the credit to construct standard cassava drying racks, improve flour quality and reduce spoilage of perishable fruits.

The engagement was opened by the Resident District Commissioner, who commended the NRM Government for the economic recovery programmes. District Chairperson Mr Fred Lukumu challenged farmers to take advantage of the affordable credit to boost productivity.

Chief Administrative Officer Prof. Dr Cls. Levi Musinguzi Bahemuka emphasised that access to credit and value addition are essential for job creation and local economic growth.



Ms. Dorothy Namarome Muinda, Team Leader of the Administered Funds Department at the Bank of Uganda (BOU), addressing stakeholders in Buliisa.

# Hoima District Commissions UGX 650 Million Projects to Boost Health and Education

By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer- Hoima

Hoima District Local Government has commissioned five infrastructure projects worth exactly UGX 650 million to improve health and education services across the district.

The projects were officially handed over on 14 April 2026 in a ceremony led by Deputy Resident District Commissioner Christopher Aine, District Chairman Uthuman Mugisha Kadiri, members of the District Executive Committee, and senior technical staff. The Chief Administrative Officer was represented by Senior Assistant Secretary Stephen Mwesigwa Rwamukaga.

The commissioned projects are:

- Staff quarters at Kiseke Health Centre II in Kitoba Sub-county,

constructed by LUBRA Contractors at UGX 220 million under the District Discretionary Equalization Grant (DDEG).

- A three-classroom block at Kapapi Primary School in Kapapi Sub-county, built by Basingo Construction Company at UGX 177 million.
- A lined pit latrine at Kigorobya Town Council Market, constructed by Bisoge Enterprise at UGX 21 million.
- A two-classroom block at Bukona Primary School in Kisukuma Sub-county, built by Basingo Construction Company at UGX 120 million.
- A two-classroom block at Kitemba Primary School, constructed by Muda Construction



Minister Jenipher Namuyangu joins Hoima District leaders to distribute iron sheets and sewing machines, to community members during a ceremony at the district headquarters

Company at UGX 112 million.

District Chairman Uthuman Mugisha Kadiri said the projects are part of a deliberate effort to enhance service delivery.

“We are focusing on creating better learning environments through more classrooms, latrine facilities, safe water, and the recruitment of additional teachers,” he noted.

While commissioning the facilities, Deputy RDC Aine Christopher commended the district leadership for prioritising local needs. He urged schools to utilise the new infrastructure to raise

academic standards and address high dropout rates.

Aine also highlighted government initiatives such as the Parish Development Model (PDM) aimed at improving livelihoods.

Patrick Nyendwoha, Head Teacher of Kapapi Primary School, welcomed the new classroom block, saying it brings huge relief to the school, which currently has 1,438 pupils.

Stephen Mwesigwa Rwamukaga, representing the CAO, called on beneficiaries to maintain structures properly for long-term benefit.

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## Gov't to Introduce E-recruitment System to Curb Corruption in Public Service Hiring

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer - Masindi*



Hon. Dr. Florence Asimwe, Masindi District Woman MP, commemorates Women's Day by planting a tree seedling

The Government has announced plans to roll out an electronic recruitment system aimed at eliminating corruption and extortion in the hiring of civil servants.

The revelation was made by the Minister of State for Public Service, Hon. Mary Grace Mugasa, while officiating as Chief Guest at the belated International Women's Day celebrations in Masindi District, held at Karujubu Primary school.

Mugasa said the move is intended to enhance transparency, fairness and efficiency in public service recruitment, following widespread complaints of bribery and fraud targeting job seekers.

She noted that many applicants have lost money to unscrupulous individuals promising them jobs that never materialize.

"The E-recruitment system will ensure a clear and accountable process where merit prevails," she emphasized.

The Minister also revealed that government is working to enhance salaries for various leaders and public servants, including Local Council One officials, Resident District Commissioners, District Chairpersons, and teachers, particularly those teaching arts subjects, starting in the next financial year.

She further encouraged women to actively participate in government programs and invest wisely as a way of improving household incomes and reducing domestic violence.

At the same event, the Masindi District Woman Member of Parliament, Hon. Dr. Florence Asiimwe, urged women to form Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCOs) to benefit from initiatives such as the Uganda

Women Entrepreneurship Programme, Emyooga program and the Parish Development Model.

Dr. Asiimwe also revealed that she had secured bursaries for several needy children and called on fellow leaders to support education initiatives targeting vulnerable communities.

Representing the District Chairperson, Salama Kanguse commended men for supporting women in income generating activities and praised government efforts, led by His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, in promoting women's empowerment and leadership.

Meanwhile, the District Women Council Chairperson, Sarah Gonzaga, said the council is conducting training sessions on parenting and entrepreneurship to help women improve their livelihoods.

The event was held recently under the theme: "Reflecting on the past, strengthening the present and shaping the future of Women's agenda in Uganda".



# Kafu Tourist Stopover Project Gains Momentum as Feasibility Study Nears Completion

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi

Plans to develop Kafu into a major tourist stopover have moved a step closer after the Central Government and Masindi District received a draft feasibility study for the multi-billion shilling project.

The study, prepared by E. Marriet Consultants Limited, was presented to district leaders, development partners and the media at Masindi district headquarters last Friday. It outlines a modern, integrated facility aimed at boosting tourism and local economic growth in the Bunyoro sub-region.

According to the draft, the proposed Kafu Tourist Stopover Center will occupy roughly four acres (about 1.6 hectares) and include a motel, a tourist museum, a fuel station, a monument to Omukama

Kabalega, an information center, a restaurant, parking, a children's play area, a mini taxi park, landscaped green spaces and upgraded market stalls.

Masindi Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija said Masindi was one of only two districts whose tourism proposals advanced to this stage after rigorous central government evaluation.

Once the feasibility study is approved, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development will advertise the project under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement to attract investors, he added. Uganda's PPP Unit typically requires completed feasibility and procurement plans before issuing adverts for investor



interest.

District Tourism Officer Riita Karungi said the concept originated from her initial proposal to district authorities, then progressed through the National Planning Authority and the Ministry of Finance to the feasibility stage. Masindi District Chairperson Cosmas Byaruhanga described the development as the long-held realization of a strategic tourism hub that will raise the district's profile.

Hon. Aled Ronald Akugizibwe, MP for Buruuli County, urged stakeholders to back the initiative and consider

expanding land allocation beyond the current four acres to accommodate small businesses and future growth.

The initiative taps into an existing tourism corridor: Masindi serves as a gateway to major attractions in western and northwestern Uganda, including Budongo Forest and Murchison Falls National Park.

If implemented through a well-structured PPP, the Kafu stopover could improve traveler experience, capture more tourism revenue locally and create jobs along the supply chain.

## Kibaale District Approves UGX 33.6 Bn Budget as 2021-2026 Council Bids Farewell

*By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer, Kibaale District*



LCV Muhonge (red tie) receiving a certificate of appreciation from Katotoroma John (CAO)

**K**ibaale District Council has approved a UGX 33.6 billion budget for the 2026/2027 financial year, marking the final session of the 2021-2026 council.

The historic sitting, chaired by Speaker Hon. Peter Lugumba, blended fiscal planning with emotional farewells as councillors reflected on five years of service while laying foundations for

their successors.

Hon. Businge Charles, Chairperson of the Finance, Planning, Administration and Investment Committee, presented the consolidated budget estimates, which were unanimously approved.

Education and Sports received the largest share at UGX 11.36 billion, including over UGX 1.8 billion for salary enhancements for primary and secondary teachers. The Health Department was allocated UGX 6.21 billion, with UGX 190 million earmarked for Phase One of a new maternity ward at the district hospital and continued support for HIV/AIDS programmes through Baylor International.

Other key allocations include UGX 6.69 billion for Administration, UGX 461 million for Finance, UGX 729 million for Statutory Bodies, and nearly UGX 2.7 billion for Works and Technical Services. The latter will fund the 16km Bukonda-Rweega road and construction of five shallow wells in sub-counties including Matala and Bwamiramira.

Speaker Lugumba praised the outgoing council for its dedication amid challenges. “The dedication you have exhibited is nothing short of selfless,” he said. Councillors received certificates

of appreciation in recognition of their service.

District Chairperson Godfrey Muhonge Kasanga commended the Speaker’s leadership and highlighted improved local revenue collection during the term. He urged residents to embrace the “Bulungi Bwansi” community self-help campaign, noting that the budget alone cannot meet all needs.

“Given our limited resources, we must adopt a positive attitude towards volunteerism,” Kasanga said. He encouraged unsuccessful election candidates not to give up, adding: “There are many ways to serve Kibaale outside this hall.”

Chief Administrative Officer John Katotoroma credited the council’s “tranquility, mentorship and vision” for steady progress. Assistant RDC Godfrey Asiimwe called for full repayment of Parish Development Model funds to ensure sustainability.

As the council exited the chamber, it left behind a clear financial roadmap, stronger revenue streams and renewed focus on education and maternal health. The new council inherits both opportunity and high expectations.

# Kibaale District Cracks Down On Wetland and Forest Encroachers

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer, Kibaale District

**K**ibaale District has issued a firm ultimatum to stop illegal encroachment on wetlands and forest reserves.

Speaking at the District Council hall as the 2025/26 financial year ended, Assistant Resident District Commissioner Godfrey Asiimwe delivered a strong warning tied to the NRM's 2026-2031 environmental protection agenda and a fresh Presidential directive on wetlands.

Asiimwe said the time for gentle reminders is over. He linked rising cases of wildlife attacks on residents directly to human encroachment. "Nature does not attack unless it is cornered," he told stakeholders, local leaders and citizens. By clearing forests and draining swamps for gardens and homes, people are invading animal habitats and triggering conflict, he warned.

The Assistant RDC also highlighted the economic cost. Kibaale's wetlands and forests drive tourism revenue, regulate climate for reliable agriculture, and support local services. Every acre lost, he said, amounts to economic sabotage against the district and future generations.

The message was clear: the grace period has expired. Encroachers—whether farmers with hoes in the swamps or leaders who look the other way—will face the full force of the law.

Asiimwe called for community policing of the environment. He urged residents to report violators and become the "eyes and ears" of government enforcement.

The NRM manifesto places environmental protection at the heart of national development. In Kibaale, Asiimwe made it clear the district will not wait. The wetlands and forests are not open land for taking; they are the district's lungs. Protecting them is no longer optional—it is urgent.

As the session ended, the message left no room for doubt: Kibaale has drawn the line. Those who cross it will answer to the law.



Godfrey Asiimwe (Ass. RDC Kibaale)

# Kibaale District Rolls Out New Tools to Transform Agricultural Extension Services

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer, Kibaale District

**K**ibaale District is modernising its agricultural extension services with practical new tools and stronger staff support.

During the monthly planning meeting at the District Council Hall, District Production Officer Hassan Matovu unveiled two key initiatives aimed at improving farmer productivity and incomes.

Matovu first presented a state-of-the-art soil testing kit that delivers quick, accurate field results. For years, many

farmers in Kibaale have planted without proper soil data, leading to low yields caused by undetected acidity and nutrient deficiencies.

“This kit will help us diagnose soil problems quickly and accurately,” Matovu told extension workers, sector heads and representatives from all 14 lower local governments. Farmers will finally know what their soil needs and what it doesn’t.”

The district also distributed 10 honey settlement tanks to local beekeepers.



Kibaale district Extension staff observe the new equipment during the engagement

Poor post-harvest handling has long reduced honey quality and market value. The new tanks will enable producers to remove impurities and meet commercial standards, boosting prices and livelihoods.

“These tanks will help our farmers

produce cleaner, higher-quality honey,” Matovu said.

Before sector reports began, Matovu thanked the extension team for their tireless work in remote villages.

“Your dedication and long days in the field do not go unnoticed,” he said,

drawing quiet appreciation from staff who rarely hear such recognition.

Participants then reviewed progress across key areas: veterinary disease surveillance and vaccination, entomology pest monitoring, crop demonstration gardens and seed distribution, aquaculture fish pond management, vermin control, and climate-smart interventions under the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project.

The meeting ended with five clear priorities for the coming month:

- Strengthen farmer support systems
- Improve data-driven decision

making

- Enhance coordination across sectors
- Promote climate-smart practices
- Ensure new tools reach farmers who need them most

As the session closed, participants left with renewed focus. The soil testing kit and honey tanks mark a shift from guesswork to science-based farming. For Kibaale's farmers, the changes promise healthier soils, better harvests and steadier incomes. For extension workers, they signal greater support and visibility in the district's agricultural transformation.

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## KIBAALE: Two Schools, Two Paths To Progress

*By Muganzi Vincent, District Communications Officer – Kibaale*



The completed 2-Classroom block at Kyanyi Primary School

**M**UGARAMA SUB-COUNTY, Kibaale – Two government primary schools in the hills of Mugarama Sub County are illustrating different challenges – and different opportunities – as the district steps up

infrastructure investments and calls for stronger community engagement to secure the future of rural education.

At Kyanyi Primary School, which currently enrolls 964 learners, long-

standing classroom congestion is being addressed with a UGX 116 million construction project. Contractors have begun work on a new block that will add two modern classrooms, an administrative office, a secure store, and a 10,000 litre rainwater harvesting tank to improve hygiene and sanitation. The project is expected to significantly ease pressure on teaching spaces and improve the learning environment.

“This comes at a critical juncture,” said Headteacher Emmanuel Birungi, describing the new block as a “sanctuary” for pupils and staff. “It will undoubtedly boost academic performance by saving learners from the hardships they’ve encountered daily.”

District officials view the expansion as an important step in supporting schools with rising enrollment. Inspector Andrew Kisembo, representing the District



Security, Political and Technical District staff pose share a photo moment after the meeting at Kyanyi P/s

Education Office, praised the investment and urged the school community to maximize the new facilities’ impact.

“Put these structures to good use,” he said, noting the school’s continuing growth.

A short distance away, Kyengabi Primary School is experiencing a different, but resolvable, challenge: declining pupil numbers. Enrollment has fallen from more than 300 learners to 214, with Primary Six currently hosting only two pupils. The decline has prompted renewed outreach efforts from district authorities and appeals for stronger local involvement.

“Low numbers present an opportunity for a focused turnaround,” said

Headteacher Julius Bagwa. The district has responded with a UGX 110 million rehabilitation project for Kyengabi, scheduled for completion by May 2026. The upgrade will provide two classrooms, an office, and a 10,000 litre water tank – infrastructure intended to make the school more attractive and functional for learners and families.

Deputy District Internal Security Officer Kenneth Kirungi urged local leaders and residents to join enrollment drives and community mobilization to restore Kyengabi’s vibrancy.

“We must intensify enrollment drives if this school is to thrive,” he said, calling for coordinated local action to match the district’s investment.

The site visits also highlighted the district's insistence on accountability in public works. Hon. Godfrey Sempira, Secretary for Works, warned that contractors who miss site meetings or fail to engage with progress reviews risk being blacklisted from future government contracts – a measure meant to protect public investment and ensure timely completion.

District leaders emphasized that while improved infrastructure is a key enabler, it must be paired with sustained community engagement and targeted support to address social issues such as girl child retention. Headteacher Birungi called for interventions to reduce

dropout rates among girls, and officials pledged to work with community stakeholders to keep learners in school.

As construction continues at both Kyanyi and Kyengabi, the prevailing message from Kibaale District is one of optimism and shared responsibility: with new facilities, accountable contractors, and active community participation, both schools can move toward stronger, more resilient futures.

Parents, leaders, and local influencers have been urged to seize this moment to support learners and make the most of the investments being delivered to their communities.

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## **KIKUUBE: 861 Farmers Benefit from Tree Seedlings under the IFPA-CD – World Bank Project**

*By Ndagano Faridah, Communication Officer- Kikuube*

**K**ikuube District, host to the Kyangwali Refugee Settlement, is intensifying efforts to restore its environment through large-scale tree planting, as pressure on natural resources continues to grow.

Uganda hosts the largest refugee population in Africa and the third largest globally, and Kikuube is one of the frontline districts feeling the impact. The presence of over 150,000 refugees in Kyangwali has increased demand for firewood, timber and land, leading to extensive use of forests and mounting environmental pressure.

In response, the Government of Uganda, with funding from the World Bank, is implementing the Investing

in Forests and Protected Areas for Climate Smart Development (IFPA-CD) Project. The project seeks to enhance tree cover, promote sustainable forest management, and improve livelihoods through climate-smart practices.

“The project is not only about planting trees, it is about securing our future,” a district official said during today’s monitoring exercise. We are restoring degraded areas, improving household incomes, and ensuring that both host communities and refugees can live in a healthy environment.”

In Kikuube, the project is active in three subcounties – Kiziranfumbi, Bugambe and Buhimba – where 861 farmers have already benefited from tree seedlings.

Buhimba leads with 496 beneficiaries, followed by Bugambe with 211 and Kiziranfumbi with 154.

Though the six-year project started late in Kikuube due to COVID-19 disruptions, it has quickly gained momentum. Farmers have established woodlots and integrated trees with crops and livestock, adopting agroforestry as a sustainable farming model.

The seedlings supplied include high-value timber species such as Mahogany, Muzule, Albizia and Musizi, as well as coffee, cocoa and fruit trees aimed at boosting household nutrition and income.

Beyond inputs, the project provides continuous technical guidance to farmers, working alongside district technical officers to ensure proper

planting, management and survival of the trees.

Today, district officials conducted a field monitoring visit to assess progress in the three subcounties. They interacted with beneficiaries, inspected woodlots, and commended farmers for embracing the project.

“We are impressed by the commitment of our farmers,” one leader noted. “The trees we plant today will provide timber, poles, fuelwood, fruits, and income for families, while protecting our forests for generations to come.”

The IFPA-CD project is expected to significantly increase tree cover in Kikuube, reduce pressure on natural forests, and strengthen climate resilience in one of Uganda’s key refugee-hosting districts.

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## **Kikuube Council Unanimously Approves UGX 40.6bn Budget as Councilors Bid Farewell**

*By Ndagano Faridah, Communication Officer- Kikuube*



The Kikuube District Council unanimously approved a UGX 40.6 billion budget and Annual Work Plan for the 2026/2027 financial year during its final sitting on Wednesday, May 7, 2026, a meeting that also served as a farewell to councilors completing their five-year term.

The new budget represents a UGX 6.9 billion rise from last year's UGX 33.7 billion, following additional funding from the central government. The budget motion was tabled by Hon. Nyakahara Zulia Mbalirwa, Secretary for Finance, Planning and Investment.

Council also approved the District Development Plan IV in line with Sections 36 and 37 of the Local Government Act, and endorsed the USMID Project Investment Development Plan, a prerequisite for receiving support from the Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development program.

Several committee recommendations were adopted. The Finance Committee set the property tax rate at 5% of ratable value, payable annually. The Production and Natural Resources Committee directed the district to develop an eco-tourism master plan aimed at leveraging opportunities from the transfer of Bugoma Central Forest Reserve to the Uganda Wildlife Authority, with the objective of expanding the local revenue base. The Works and Engineering Committee passed proposed road construction projects for the coming year.

The Social Services Committee proposed a district health insurance scheme, but Chief Administrative Officer Canon Edward Musingye cautioned that

the district may not be able to run such a scheme due to budget constraints. He advised interested staff to form an association, identify a provider, and contribute toward the initiative.

The sitting also marked the end of the councilors' five-year kisanja. Councilors received certificates of service in recognition of their roles in legislation, oversight, and community mobilization. District Speaker Hon. Christopher Nkalu expressed gratitude to technical officers and stakeholders and led a moment of silence for leaders who died during the term, including former LC5 chair Hon. Peter Banura and other local officials.

Acting District Chairperson Hon. Opio Vicent Alpha paid tribute to Banura as a "gallant son of Kikuube," urging unity as the district mourned and transitioned. The meeting closed with Resident District Commissioner Angalia Godwin Kasigwa presiding over the presentation of certificates.

Kikuube now awaits the election of a new District Chairperson as it moves into the next five-year term.



# Kiryandongo Authorities Intensify Inspections of School Infrastructure Projects

By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo



District leaders and technical staff inspecting a two class room block with an office being constructed at Kaduku Primary school

Leaders in Kiryandongo District have conducted a comprehensive monitoring exercise to assess the progress of ongoing school infrastructure projects valued at UGX 1.117 billion, aimed at improving learning conditions across the district.

The projects, which were officially launched in December 2025, cover a range of critical developments in several primary schools. Among the works inspected was the construction of a two-classroom block at Bweyale Public Primary School, and another two-classroom block complete with an office and store at Kaduku Primary

School.

At Namilyango Primary School, the district is constructing four classrooms alongside a ten-stance latrine, while Ndabulye Primary School is benefitting from a five-stance latrine to improve sanitation standards. Additional works include a two-classroom block with an office and store at Mboira Primary School and the construction of a staff house at Alarotinga Primary School.

The monitoring exercise brought together key district leaders, including the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), the District Chairperson, the Chief

Administrative Officer (CAO), members of the District Executive Committee, and technical officers. The team assessed construction quality, adherence to project timelines, and overall progress at each site.

During the inspection, district authorities emphasized the importance of future-proofing school infrastructure. They recommended that all classroom constructions across the district incorporate provisions for electricity connection, regardless of their current proximity to the national power grid. Officials noted that access to electricity would support modern teaching methods, improve administrative efficiency, and enhance the overall learning environment.

Leaders expressed satisfaction with the general progress of the projects, noting that the investments are expected to significantly reduce classroom congestion, improve sanitation facilities, and provide better accommodation for teachers. They also reiterated the district's commitment to ensuring value for money and timely completion of all works.

The infrastructure development initiative forms part of broader efforts by Kiryandongo District Local Government to strengthen the education sector and create a more conducive learning environment for pupils across the district.

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## **Kiryandongo Commissions New Infrastructure to Enhance Health Service Delivery**

*By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo*



Kiryandongo District officials interact with a health worker prior to the commissioning of the partitioned surgical ward at Kiryandongo General Hospital

**K**iryandongo District authorities have commissioned a number of health infrastructure projects aimed at improving safe and effective medical waste management as well as enhancing service delivery across health facilities in the district.

The commissioned infrastructure includes combustion chambers constructed at a cost of UGX 45 million at Karuma Health Centre II, Kiroko Health Centre II and Diima Health Centre III. The facilities are expected to strengthen the management and disposal of hazardous medical waste generated at health centres.

District officials noted that proper medical waste management is critical in preventing the spread of infections and ensuring a clean and safe environment for both health workers and patients.

In addition, two-stance VIP latrines with bathing shelters valued at 30 million shillings were commissioned at Apodorwa Health Centre IIs to improve sanitation and hygiene standards at the facilities.

The district also commissioned solar power installations worth UGX 45 million at Karuma, Tecwa and Kitwara Health Centre IIs. The solar systems are expected to improve lighting and support the operation of essential medical equipment, especially during power outages.

Speaking during the commissioning exercise, Edith Aliguma Adyeri the District chairman emphasized the importance of reliable electricity in enhancing

health service delivery, particularly in maternity wards and emergency care units where uninterrupted power supply is essential.

Authorities further launched the partitioning of the surgical ward at Kiryandongo General Hospital at a cost of UGX 40 million. The partitioning project is intended to enhance patient privacy and promote gender-inclusive healthcare services within the hospital.

The district also launched the installation of prepaid electricity meters at Kiryandongo General Hospital staff quarters as part of measures aimed at improving electricity management and reducing unnecessary power consumption at the facility.

Dr. Godfrey Kitembo the medical superintendent of the hospital said the prepaid metering system will help the hospital economize electricity usage and minimize operational costs associated with power bills.

The projects commissioned and launched have been funded by the Government of Uganda through the Primary Health Care Grant, which supports the improvement of health infrastructure and delivery of quality healthcare services across the country.

District leaders commended the government for their continued support towards strengthening healthcare systems in Kiryandongo and pledged to ensure proper maintenance and utilization of the newly commissioned facilities for the benefit of the community.

# Kiryandongo Leaders Commend Minister Namuyangu for Improved Service Delivery and Farmer Support

By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo



Hon. Namuyangu (L) handing over a dummy cheque to nursery bed operators in Kiryandongo District

Kiryandongo District leaders have hailed the contribution of Hon. Jennifer Namuyangu Kacha towards improving service delivery in the district and the wider Bunyoro sub-region during her tenure as State Minister for Bunyoro Affairs.

The praise was made during the handover of 1,000 hand hoes and a dummy cheque to farmers and nursery bed operators in Kiryandongo District, an initiative aimed at boosting agricultural productivity and supporting household livelihoods.

Speaking at the event, Edith Aliguma Adyeri commended the minister for championing government

programmes that directly benefit communities in the district.

Aliguma noted that through the minister's office, several community groups in Kiryandongo received financial and material support which contributed to socio-economic development. She explained that the district benefited from funding for micro projects, establishment of nursery beds, and provision of iron sheets to various institutions.

"We have received funds for micro projects, nursery bed establishment and material support in form of iron sheets for institutions," Aliguma said, adding that the interventions had strengthened

community initiatives and improved livelihoods among beneficiaries.

She further applauded the minister for maintaining close collaboration with district leaders and ensuring that government programmes reached the intended beneficiaries at the grassroots.

In her remarks, Namuyangu applauded the teamwork and cooperation exhibited by both the political and technical leadership in Kiryandongo during her time in office. She said the strong working relationship enabled smooth implementation of government programmes and delivery of services in line with the National Resistance Movement manifesto.

The minister emphasized that effective coordination between leaders and technical staff is essential for successful implementation of development programmes, noting that collective efforts had enabled government interventions to positively impact communities across the district and the wider Bunyoro sub-region.

Namuyangu also called upon district leaders to intensify monitoring and follow-up of community groups that have benefited from government support to ensure that the intended objectives are achieved.

She urged beneficiaries to properly utilize the support extended to them, especially agricultural inputs and funds provided for income-generating projects, saying sustainability of such initiatives depends on accountability and proper management.

The distribution of the hand hoes is expected to support farmers in improving agricultural production, particularly at a time when government continues to encourage commercial agriculture and household income enhancement as key drivers of rural development.

Leaders at the event reiterated their commitment to working together in implementing government programmes aimed at improving the welfare of residents in Kiryandongo District.

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## Masindi District Approves UGX 58 Bn Budget For New General Hospital

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer, Masindi District*

**M**asindi District Council has unanimously approved a UGX 99 billion budget for the 2026/2027 financial year – a dramatic increase from the initial UGX 35.4 billion projection.

The approval came during a council sitting held last Friday at the district headquarters, following additional funding released through the second budget call circular from the Ministry of Finance.

Presenting the revised estimates, Secretary for Finance Pamela Nyakato said the district's original indicative planning figure of UGX 35.4 billion rose sharply to UGX 99,006,682,000 after supplementary government allocations.

The standout allocation is UGX 58 billion earmarked for the construction of Masindi General Hospital, a flagship project expected to significantly

improve healthcare service delivery across the district and surrounding areas.

Other key provisions include UGX 525 million for tourism development to boost the local economy, UGX 100 million as a new planning grant, and UGX 81.1 million for health sector development under the conditional grant.

The budget also sets aside UGX 201.9 million for pension and gratuity payments and UGX 166.3 million to clear

outstanding salary arrears.

Council members welcomed the massive boost, describing it as a historic opportunity to fast-track development and transform service delivery in health, tourism and other priority sectors.

The approval marks a major milestone for Masindi, positioning the district for accelerated growth as the new General Hospital project takes centre stage in the coming financial year.

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## **Masindi Girls Trained as Youth Advocates to Boost Self-Reliance and Community Leadership**

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer, Masindi District*



Pamela Nyakato, the Masindi District Secretary for Finance, presents the budget estimates during a recent council meeting

**B**RAC has trained a cohort of adolescent girls as youth advocates under its Accelerating Impact for Young Women in Africa (AIM) program, aiming to build practical skills and foster proactive leadership among young women in Masindi District.

The trainees were introduced to district leaders during a stakeholder engagement at the district headquarters, where BRAC stressed the need to equip girls with tools for social empowerment, education, life skills and livelihood development.

“Participants have been equipped with knowledge in social empowerment, including life skills, education and livelihood development aimed at improving their incomes, particularly among school dropouts,” said Emmy Look Gesi, BRAC Programs Manager.

She urged district officials to support young people seeking guidance on government programs and to help them organize into groups to access initiatives such as Emyooga, the Youth Livelihood Program and the Parish Development Model.

Representing the District Chairperson,

Secretary for Production Geoffrey Kiiza Bigabwa called for collective action to mentor youth amid rising concerns about moral decline. He also warned about the risks posed by digital technology, saying misuse has contributed to negative behaviors and the spread of harmful information.

“The community must work together to guide young people and harness technology positively,” Bigabwa said.

District Community Development Officer Godfrey Bahemuka asked Sub-County Community Development Officers to link vulnerable girls to income-generating opportunities, reinforcing the program’s focus on practical pathways to self-reliance.

The AIM program seeks to give young women the skills, confidence and opportunities needed to improve livelihoods and make meaningful contributions to community development. BRAC officials said the trained youth advocates will play a central role in mobilizing peers and connecting them to services and economic programs across Masindi.

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## **Relief as 600 Rainwater Tanks Bring Clean Water to 100,000 People in Hoima and Kikuube**

*By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer – Hoima*

**M**ore than 100,000 residents in water-stressed communities around Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve in Hoima and Kikuube districts now have easier access to clean water following the installation of 600

rainwater harvesting tanks.

The project, funded by the World Bank through the Investing in Forests and Protected Areas for Climate-Smart Development (IFPA-CD) initiative, began

in 2021 and is set to end in June 2026. It targets villages in Kabale and Buseruka sub-counties in Hoima, and Kabwoya and Kyangwali in Kikuube.

Senior Warden Raymond Kato of Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve explained that the tanks are designed to reduce human-wildlife conflict. Previously, residents risked crocodile attacks while fetching water from Lake Albert or entered the reserve, sometimes turning to poaching.

“People were fetching water from the lake and reserve, exposing themselves to danger,” Kato said. “The tanks promote peaceful co-existence.”

The 5,000-litre and 10,000-litre tanks were distributed free to vulnerable households, schools, health centres, churches, and police posts. The initiative cost about 800 million shillings in this phase.

Beyond water, the project has supported beekeeping, formed resource users’ associations, and signed five regulated access agreements allowing communities to collect firewood, thatching grass, medicinal herbs, and black soil for housing on a controlled basis. New staff accommodation, including 20 junior rooms and a senior warden’s house, has also been built.

Local voices confirm the impact. Fisherman Santo Oyer at Kyehoro

landing site said the tanks have ended dangerous lake trips. Resident Asaba Rodgers of Kaiso noted one tank now serves eight households, sparing them months of lake-water collection.

Kaiso B LCI chairperson Kumakech Demaya Geoffrey said the fishing village of over 3,000 people previously relied on a single borehole, making the tanks a welcome but insufficient relief.

At Kikuube Health Centre IV, in-charge Richard Kugonza said six tanks have restored sanitation for a catchment of 20,000 people. Head teacher Mbabazi Christopher of Kikuube Union Vision Secondary School reported seven tanks have freed 500 students from long borehole queues, improving attendance and performance.

Elderly resident Tibangaina Thereza, 76, of Nyakabale village, no longer walks five kilometres or buys water daily.

Hoima District’s safe water coverage rose from 74.29% in 2024 to 75.07% in 2025, while the Kikuube District Police Commander praised the project for cutting water costs for officers and families.

Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve, which borders Lake Albert and boasts Uganda’s highest density of Uganda kob, continues to benefit from reduced pressure and restocking efforts elsewhere.

# Rotary Clubs Donate UGX 190 Million Medical Equipment to Hoima District Health Facilities

By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer – Hoima

Rotary clubs working with partners have donated life saving medical equipment worth UGX 190 M to seven health facilities in Hoima District.

The different assortments of equipment were delivered and commissioned on 23rd April 2026 at a function held at Kigoroby Health Center for Four.

The essential and life saving equipment have been delivered to seven health facilities which include; Kigoroby Health Center Four, Kasomoro, Kibaire, Mparangasi, Kiseke, Mbaraara and Kibiro Health Centers.

Key among the donated equipment are incubators, an oxygen concentrator, adult and infant weighing scales, an infant warmer, neonatal digital weighing scales, delivery instruments and mattresses among others.

Hoima District Health Officer Dr Lawrence Tumusiime said the donated equipment will provide a lifeline for saving mothers and babies adding that more equipment is needed to serve the

growing population.

Hoima CAO Mr. Ssempala Emmanuel who is also a member of Rotary has commended fellow Rotarians for considering Hoima District for this noble cause.

Mr. Hillary Tumusiime the Secretary for social services who represented the District Chairman said that the donation has come at a right time when the district is faced with pressure and increasing demand for health services from even people from outside the district and the Democratic Republic of Congo. He said the district would continue to work and support development partners to uplift health services.

Mr. Xavier Ssentamu the Vice Governor of Rotarians in District 9213 said Rotary is implementing projects that have a direct benefit and impact on lives in communities. He has urged Hoima District to use donated equipment to service people equally to keep them in good shape.



Hoima District leaders and Members of different Rotary clubs from Hoima, Kampala and Waki-so commissioning the medical equipment at Kigoroby Health Center Four .

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# Uganda's Hidden World War II Secret: The Nyabyeya Polish Settlement

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi



This is the historic Polish Church

**N**estled on the edge of the vast Budongo Forest Reserve, about 30–35 kilometers from Masindi Town, lies a little known but historically rich landmark, the Nyabyeya Polish Refugee settlement. Established during World War II, the site once sheltered thousands of Polish exiles fleeing hardship in Europe.

## Historical Background

In 1942, the first group of nearly 500 Polish refugees arrived in Uganda after enduring deportation to Soviet Labour camps and a subsequent evacuation through Iran. By 1944, the Nyabyeya camp had grown into a sizeable settlement, hosting between 3,200 and 3,600 people mostly women, children

and elderly men.

## Life in the Settlement

To accommodate the refugees, the British colonial administration cleared sections of Budongo Forest and established a self-sufficient community. The settlement featured mud and thatch huts, a hospital, schools, a bakery, and even a power plant, transforming the forest edge into a vibrant, functioning village.

## Resettlement After the War

Following the end of the war, the camps were gradually closed starting in 1948. Most of the refugees were resettled in countries such as the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia, rather

than returning to a then communist controlled Poland.

### **Key Heritage Sites Today**

Today, the site is gazetted as a historic monument and continues to attract visitors from across Uganda and beyond.

At its heart stands the Our Lady Queen of Poland Catholic Church (St.Mary Nyabyeya), built between 1943 and 1945 almost entirely by Women refugees. The Church remains an active place of worship and a symbol of resilience.It features inscriptions in four languages, Polish, English, Latin, and Runyoro/ Kiswahili as well as the Polish coat of arms bearing the motto «Poloniae Semper Fidelis» (Poland Always Faithful). Inside, visitors find hand carved wooden pews and a striking figure of Jesus sculpted from a single tree trunk.

Nearby lies the Nyabyeya Polish cemetery,where between 44 and 60 refugees were laid to rest after succumbing to tropical diseases and other illnesses. The cemetery was restored in 2010 by Polish students, preserving the memory of those who died far from home.

### **Legacy and Modern Significance**

After the camp's closure, many of its original structures were repurposed to establish Nyabyeya Forestry College, Uganda's only forestry training institution, which continues to operate today.

Accessible by a roughly 45-minute drive from Masindi Town, the site is often included in tourist itineraries alongside chimpanzee tracking adventures in Budongo Forest, offering visitors a rare blend of natural beauty and poignant history.



This is a section of the cemetery where the Polish refugees were buried

# Kiryandongo District Bets Big on Industrial Future with UGX 48Bn Budget

*By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo*

**K**iryandongo District Council has approved a UGX 48.3 billion budget for the 2026/2027 financial year, vowing to transform the once rural, subsistence-farming area into a thriving industrial hub by 2040.

The budget, recently marks a 1.97% increase from the current year and places education and health at the heart of the district's transformation agenda.

Education receives the lion's share at UGX18.1 billion – mainly for teachers' salaries and school infrastructure – while health gets UGX 9.3 billion to upgrade facilities and improve service delivery. The production and marketing sector, key to shifting from subsistence farming to commercial agriculture, has been allocated UGX 2 billion.

District leaders say the funds will finance construction and rehabilitation of administration blocks, classrooms, staff houses, roads, VIP latrines, health centres, markets and water points – projects designed to boost education standards, healthcare access, sanitation and local economic activity.

The modest rise in resources comes from higher central government transfers, MDAs and development partners. However, revenue collection in the previous year painted a mixed picture: local revenue hit only 64% of target, central government transfers 75%, while donor funds exceeded expectations at 110%.

Council discussions highlighted persistent hurdles: chronic understaffing, low community participation in



Kiryandongo District council in session during the approval process of the Budget estimates for the FY 2026/2027

government programmes, and resistance to paying local taxes.

“Despite these challenges, we remain committed to prudent use of every shilling,” district officials said, urging stronger public sensitisation on tax compliance and greater citizen

involvement in monitoring projects.

With the 2040 vision now backed by concrete numbers, residents and leaders alike are watching closely to see whether this budget finally turns long-held dreams of industrialisation and improved livelihoods into reality.

## Kiryandongo District Bets Big on Industrial Future with UGX 48Bn Budget

*By Murungi Emmanuel, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo*



The technocrats attending the inception meeting

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## Masindi Mothers March Against the ‘Silent Killer’: Preeclampsia Awareness Campaign Sparks Urgent Action

*By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi*



The health workers walking around Masindi Town as Masindi marks the World Preeclampsia day

Scores of expectant mothers and health workers took to the streets yesterday in a powerful awareness walk at Masindi General Hospital as the district joined the world in marking World

Preeclampsia Day, shining a spotlight on a pregnancy condition that experts warn can kill without warning.

The vibrant campaign focused on educating communities about

preeclampsia – a dangerous high-blood-pressure disorder described by doctors as a “silent killer” if not caught and treated early.

Acting Executive Consultant for Masindi Hospital, Dr Rogers Musinguzi, told the gathering that the condition often strikes after five months of pregnancy and can quickly lead to severe complications, including death, if medical help is delayed.

“Severe headaches, blurred vision, swelling of the face, hands and legs, and intense abdominal pain are the major warning signs,” Dr Musinguzi said. He identified high-risk groups as first-time mothers, women with a family history of hypertension, those carrying twins, teenage girls under 20, and mothers above 35 years.

The good news, he stressed, is that preeclampsia is largely preventable through early and regular antenatal care, consistent blood-pressure monitoring, family support and timely check-ups.

Imarisha Dada Uganda representative Annet Birungi called for united action, urging health workers, families and communities to work together to protect every pregnant mother.

Senior Health Educator Michael Muddu, representing the District Health Officer, challenged health workers to uphold the highest standards of professionalism in maternal care and encouraged all pregnant women to attend antenatal clinics early and consistently.

Health officials used the event to distribute educational materials and drive home one clear message: early detection saves lives.

By turning the hospital grounds into a centre of hope and information, Masindi has sent a strong signal that no mother in the district should fall victim to a condition that can be detected and managed before it becomes deadly.



The Ag.Executive Consultant Dr.Rogers Musinguzi addressing expectant mothers at Masindi General Hospital

# Masindi's New Era: Tibigambwa Wins Tight Speaker Race, Pledges Leaders' Welfare Boost

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi

**M**asindi District on recently sworn in its new 2026–2031 council, capping the occasion with a closely contested Speaker election that ended in a decisive victory for Bright Tibigambwa.

The colourful ceremony at the district headquarters was presided over by Chief Magistrate His Worship Justine Olal, who also oversaw the vote. Out of 40 councilors, Tibigambwa (Miirya Sub-County Male Councilor) clinched 24 votes against 16 for his rival Simon Byaruhanga (Pakanyi Sub-County Male Councilor). Godfrey Wobugabe was elected Deputy Speaker unopposed.

Immediately after the inauguration, District Chairperson Patrick Wobusobozi

named his executive team: Cleophas Bigiirwa as Vice Chairperson, Neldar Asaba as Secretary for Finance, Bright Mugume as Secretary for Production, and William Mwambu as Secretary for Social Services. Sectoral committees were also constituted, with Noreen Tinka chairing Production, Nicholas Babwetera heading Social Services, and Dennis Tumwine leading Finance.

In his acceptance speech, the new Speaker promised to put councilors' welfare first. He announced plans to establish a leaders' SACCO that will give members access to affordable loans at low interest rates.

“We need to improve the welfare of leaders through initiatives such as a



The new District Chairperson, Patrick Wobusobozi taking oath

SACCO that can support councilors financially,” Tibigambwa said.

Chairperson Wobusobozi pledged seamless collaboration with the Speaker’s office to foster unity and deliver effective service to the people.

“I am committed to working hand in hand with the Speaker and council to ensure unity and proper service delivery for our people,” he said.

Outgoing Chairperson Cosmas Byaruhanga praised the previous council for its strong cooperation and notable progress in budget execution.

Meanwhile, Masindi NRM District Chairperson Kabakumba Labwoni Masiko urged the new team to fast-track the NRM manifesto while safeguarding peace and unity as the bedrock of development.

With a fresh council, a competitive leadership contest behind it, and a bold focus on both governance and personal welfare, Masindi’s new leadership has set an ambitious tone for the next five years. Residents now watch to see how quickly these pledges translate into real results on the ground.



The newly elected Council Speaker Bright Tibigambwa, conducting council meeting

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# New Dawn for Kiryandongo: Osaga Sworn In, Pledges Unity and Bold Development Push

*By Emmanuel Murungi, Communication Officer - Kiryandongo*

**N**elson Osaga was officially sworn in as Kiryandongo District Chairperson on May 15, 2026, vowing to heal post-election divisions and deliver tangible change to thousands of residents.

In a colourful ceremony at the district headquarters, Osaga took the oath of office administered by Magistrate His Worship Samson Abiti Loum. The magistrate urged the new leadership to uphold integrity, accountability and commitment to public service as enshrined in the Constitution and Local Government Act.

The event drew district leaders, civil servants, religious figures, political

supporters and residents from across sub-counties, who turned out in celebration with traditional dances and speeches of support.

In his inaugural address, Osaga described his election as a “collective victory” for development. He called for immediate unity and reconciliation, urging leaders and residents to set aside political differences and focus on the district’s future.

“We must work together – political leaders, technical staff and the people – to ensure services reach every corner,” he said.

Osaga outlined clear priorities:



Nelson Osaga while taking an oath as the District Chairperson of Kiryandongo

strengthening health services and education, upgrading road networks to boost market access, modernising agriculture with value addition to raise household incomes, and empowering the youth. He also promised tighter monitoring of government programmes and transparent use of public resources.

District leaders and religious figures who spoke during the ceremony welcomed the pledges, expressing confidence that Osaga's administration would tackle long-standing challenges in infrastructure, healthcare and livelihoods.

Residents echoed the optimism, hoping the new leadership would create jobs for young people and accelerate ongoing projects in water, education and farming.

Osaga assumes office as Kiryandongo continues rolling out key infrastructure initiatives aimed at improving lives across the district.

With unity as his cornerstone and development as his compass, the new chairperson has set an ambitious tone for the next five years. Many now wait to see how quickly words will turn into visible progress on the ground.





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