



BUNYORO POST

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Editor's Note

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Dear Valued Readers, Welcome to the 15th edition of the Bunyoro Post Magazine. As we mark this milestone, we are delighted to bring you a rich collection of stories that vividly reflect the ongoing development and transformation of our beloved Bunyoro region. In this issue, we feature Maj. Asiimwe's timely call for embracing food crop diversification to build agricultural resilience and food security. We also highlight the arrival of new health staff poised to strengthen healthcare delivery across our communities. Another highlight is the Uganda Wildlife Authority's (UWA) multimillion contribution supporting communities in Buliisa, alongside the impressive progress of the Tilenga project. Additionally, we report on the gazetting of 110 acres

for agro-processing, a significant step towards industrial growth and economic empowerment. These stories, and many more, capture the spirit of progress defining our region today. The Bunyoro Post remains committed to delivering insightful, balanced, and impactful journalism that informs and inspires. Your engagement fuels our mission. We warmly encourage our readers, community leaders, and stakeholders to contribute articles, stories, opinions, and feedback. Share your perspectives on the issues that matter most to Bunyoro. Together, we can continue amplifying the voices and achievements of our people. Thank you for your unwavering support. Enjoy this edition! Warm regards

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

Masindi District Trains Over 80 New Staff on Public Service Regulations

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer, Masindi



One of the CDOs taking oath

More than 80 newly appointed staff of Masindi District have undergone an orientation on the Public Service Standing Orders, aimed at equipping them with knowledge of the conduct and regulations governing public servants.

While delivering his keynote address, the Chief Administrative Officer of Masindi District, Samuel Ruhweza Kaija, urged the new officers to strictly adhere to the government laws and regulations that guide public service.

Kaija cautioned the staff against

violating standing orders, emphasizing that discipline and professionalism are key requirements for all public servants.

“You should desist from infringing on the standing orders. The District Service Commission that appointed you can also disappoint you if your conduct demeans public service,” he warned.

The orientation session focused on guiding the new employees on ethical conduct, responsibilities, and expectations within the public service, as well as strengthening accountability in the delivery of government services.

Speaking on behalf of the District Chairperson, the Secretary for Production, Geoffrey Kiiza Bigabwa, also cautioned the officers against engaging in misconduct that could undermine service delivery.

He encouraged them to maintain integrity, commitment, and professionalism while executing their duties, noting that public servants play a crucial role in ensuring that government programs and services

effectively reach communities.



Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija sharing his insights during his keynote address

Kibaale District Council Approves Transfer of 110 Acres for Agro-Processing Facilities

By Muganzi Vincent, Communication Officer- Kibaale



Kibaale District Council in a recent session where councillors approved availing 110 acres of prime land in Mugarama Sub-County to the UIA for agro-processing facilities

In an extraordinary sitting of the Kibaale District Council held on 12th March 2026, councillors unanimously approved the transfer of management of 110 acres of prime district land in Mugarama Sub County to the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) for the

establishment of agro processing facilities. The motion, formally moved by Hon. Gerald Bategeka, Secretary for Education & Health and Leader of Government Business, marks a major step toward unlocking the district's long awaited economic potential through

large scale investment in value addition.

The decision followed rigorous internal processes and close collaboration with the UIA. The motion invoked Section 35 of the Local Government Act (Cap 138), which designates the District Council as the planning authority.

Through a letter, the Uganda Investment Authority expressed strong support for the initiative, reaffirming its commitment to promoting investment across the country. The authority outlined a clear roadmap for developing the site once the land is fully regularised under freehold tenure. Earlier, on 28 November 2025, the District Technical Planning Committee had endorsed the transfer, citing UIA's superior technical and financial capacity to transform the land into a modern agro industrial hub. The District Executive Committee (DEC) later echoed this position, formally recommending approval by the full council.

Hon. Bategeka's motion captured the entire chain of events:

"Having diligently assessed the matter, the Executive Committee hereby recommends that Kibaale District Council approves the transfer of management of Kibaale district land to the Uganda Investment Authority for the establishment of agro processing facilities."

The UIA's accompanying guidance detailed the procedural steps required to complete the transfer, ensuring transparency and compliance.

Yet beyond the paperwork lies the real significance of the council's decision. The 110 acre site in Mugarama is expected to evolve into a vibrant agro processing

hub, one that could fundamentally reshape Kibaale's economic landscape.

By enabling local processing of crops such as maize, beans, bananas, coffee, and oilseeds, the hub will allow farmers to earn more from their produce instead of selling raw commodities at low prices. This shift to value addition is projected to reduce post harvest losses, stabilise markets, and create reliable demand for farmers' harvests.

The hub is also expected to become a major employer in the region. From machine operators and quality control technicians to transporters, suppliers, and service providers, hundreds of direct and indirect jobs are anticipated. Young people, in particular, stand to benefit from exposure to modern agro industrial technologies, gaining skills that can anchor long term careers in agribusiness.

With improved infrastructure, roads, power, water, and industrial utilities, private investors are likely to follow, establishing factories, packaging plants, and storage facilities. This increased business activity will expand the district's revenue base, enabling better funding for schools, health centres, and community services. Farmer cooperatives, too, are expected to grow stronger as they organise to supply raw materials to the processing plants.

In essence, the agro processing hub positions Kibaale as a rising economic player in western Uganda, linking local farmers to regional and national markets and integrating the district into Uganda's broader industrialisation agenda.

Masindi Parish Chiefs Urged to Accelerate Parish Action Plans under PDM

By Brian Atuhura, Communication officer - Masindi



A team of Parish Chiefs, SAS, CDOs and Town Clerks attending the training on Parish Action Plans

Parish Chiefs in Masindi District have been urged to hasten the development of Parish Action Plans following new changes in the implementation of the Parish Development Model (PDM).

The Parish Action Plans are intended to capture comprehensive service delivery data at the grassroots level over a five-year period, in alignment with the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV).

Government has recently refocused efforts on ensuring that service delivery reaches communities at the lowest administrative levels, with emphasis on programs that directly improve the livelihoods of local residents.

The call was made by the Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer for Masindi District, Musa Kyamiza, while addressing Parish Chiefs, Senior

Assistant Secretaries, Community Development Officers, and Town Clerks during a training session held at the district headquarters on Friday last week.

Kyamiza emphasized the critical role of Parish Chiefs in the successful implementation of PDM, noting that timely preparation of Parish Action Plans will enable government to effectively identify community needs and plan interventions accordingly.

During the training, the District Population Officer, Gerald Komugisa, stressed the importance of collecting accurate and comprehensive data on all services within each parish.

He explained that proper data collection has now become a key assessment area in the implementation of the Parish Development Model, warning that failure to gather the required

information could attract disciplinary action.

Komugisa further encouraged parish leaders to work closely with local stakeholders to ensure that reliable data is generated to guide development planning and service delivery at the grassroots level.



Kibaale District Empowers Farmers with M-Cash Training

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer-Kibaale



Stakeholders attending the M-Cash system training

Kibaale district, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), has launched a training program for stakeholders on the M-Cash E-Voucher system, aimed at enhancing access to agricultural inputs for farmers under the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project (UCSATP).

The training is part of efforts to promote

climate-smart agriculture and improve productivity among farmers. Through the M-Cash system, farmers can access subsidized inputs, including fertilizers, pesticides, and veterinary drugs, with the government covering 80% of the costs. This significantly reduces the financial burden on farmers, enabling them to increase their yields and incomes.

“The programme equips farmers with modern farming technologies, quality inputs, and knowledge to improve production and incomes,” said Enid Kaahwa, Program Lead for the initiative in Kibaale. The M-Cash system represents a new intervention under the Climate Smart Agriculture programme, strengthening financial inclusion in agriculture while promoting increased productivity through digital solutions.

Farmers in Kibaale and surrounding districts can now apply for inputs by contributing only 20% of the total cost, with the government covering the remaining 80%. This initiative also provides training in modern farming practices, aiming to reduce transport costs and counterfeit inputs. The system reduces transport costs and ensures access to verified inputs.

The benefits of the M-Cash system are numerous. Farmers can access quality inputs, improve their yields, and increase their incomes. The system also promotes climate-smart agriculture, enabling farmers to adapt to climate change and improve their resilience. Additionally, the initiative supports women and youth farmers, providing them with opportunities to access inputs and markets.

The UCSATP is a six-year project implemented by MAAIF and its agencies, with the goal of increasing productivity, market access, and resilience of select value chains in the project area. The project is supported by the World Bank and targets 3.9 million people directly and 9.5 million indirectly.

The training program is expected to empower thousands of farmers in Kibaale and beyond, improving food security and livelihoods. As the district continues to roll out the M-Cash system, farmers are optimistic about the positive impact it will have on their lives. “This initiative is a game-changer for us,” said a local farmer. “We can now access quality inputs and improve our yields, which will improve our incomes and livelihoods.”

The Kibaale district government is committed to supporting farmers and promoting climate-smart agriculture, as it is employing efforts tirelessly to ensure that farmers have access to the inputs they need to improve their productivity and incomes, with the M-Cash system, farmers in Kibaale are poised to take advantage of new opportunities and improve their lives.

Bunyoro–Kitara Kingdom Conducts Two–Day Oversight Visit to Tilenga Oil Project

By Bunyoro Post Editor

The Bunyoro–Kitara Kingdom recently conducted a significant two-day field visit to key facilities of the Tilenga oil project in the Albertine Graben region, underscoring the Kingdom’s active engagement in overseeing one of Uganda’s flagship upstream oil developments.

Led by senior officials, the delegation toured critical project components, including rig operations at Pad 2, ongoing construction at the Central Processing Facility (CPF), the industrial area encompassing the Drilling Support Base (DSB), Construction Support Base (CSB), and additional Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) activities. The visit extended to scenic and strategic viewpoints such as the Butiaba Escarpment and the Kasuruban Contract Area, providing a comprehensive perspective on both operational and environmental aspects of the development.

The Tilenga project, operated by TotalEnergies EP Uganda in partnership with the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) and others, targets production from six fields in the Lake Albert basin. It involves drilling approximately 400 wells across 29 locations, with peak output projected at around 190,000 barrels of oil per day processed through the CPF. As of early 2026, the project has made strong progress: drilling has surpassed the minimum well count required for first oil (exceeding 170–187 wells

reported in oversight visits), overall completion stands above 60% (with some components advancing faster), and civil, mechanical, and infrastructure works continue intensively.

Recent supervisory inspections by the Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU), including a visit by Executive Director Ernest Rubondo, confirmed that Tilenga has met and exceeded first oil prerequisites ahead of schedule in several areas. Government and industry stakeholders maintain a firm target for first oil in July 2026, with exports via the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) expected to commence shortly thereafter, potentially in late 2026. This positions the country to join Africa’s growing oil producers and generate substantial revenue for national and regional development.

The Bunyoro–Kitara Kingdom’s involvement reflects its historical and cultural stake in the resource-rich Bunyoro sub-region. Past engagements, such as earlier site tours hosted by TotalEnergies, have focused on community benefits, national content (local employment and contracts), livelihood restoration, and environmental safeguards. This latest visit highlights continued collaboration between traditional institutions, government regulators, and international operators to ensure transparent, inclusive, and sustainable resource exploitation that benefits host

communities.

As Uganda edges closer to its long-awaited entry into commercial oil production, initiatives like this Kingdom-led oversight demonstrate growing

local agency in shaping the future of the sector. The Bunyoro Post Magazine will continue monitoring these developments as they unfold toward first oil and beyond.

Bunyoro Students Engage in Mentorship Program to Build Leadership and Life Skills

By Bunyoro Post Editor



Students from across Bunyoro took part in a mentorship programme on Saturday aimed at strengthening moral values, leadership, domestic responsibility and practical life skills, organisers said.

The event, held at St Gabriel's Secondary School in Masindi district, was organised by the Omugo Development Foundation and led by its chief executive, Princess Daphine Kabatalesa.

Kabatalesa said the foundation

rolled out the campaign to schools in response to what it sees as declining moral standards among children, and that a team of experienced mentors – including teachers, counsellors and university volunteers – was selected to run sessions.

“This initiative was designed to help children and youth build strong moral foundations and practical skills,” Kabatalesa said. “We targeted schools so we can reach young people where they are and support them to make

positive life choices.”

The programme included hands-on lessons in local Kinyoro cooking and agriculture alongside training in baking, weaving, hygiene, meal preparation and proper gardening. Evers Kahwa, deputy principal of Bulera Core Primary Teachers’ College in Hoima, said the combination of life-skills training and guidance was intended to help students address everyday challenges such as self-protection and decision-making.

“For every parent out there, you should prioritise togetherness and honesty among children,” Kahwa told participants. “Children should be honest, enjoy living together and have empathy for others. Bringing them together also helps us identify challenges they face and support them to overcome these.”

Speakers also raised concerns about youths seen engaging in risky behaviours. Hillary Bisoborwa highlighted cases of underage drinking and smoking in

public places, urging parents to take a more active role in supervision.

In partnership with Makerere University’s Edu-Senga mentors, the foundation also emphasised science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), particularly among girls. Ruth Kyobutungyi from Makerere said the collaboration seeks to promote STEM as an interdisciplinary, application-focused approach that encourages research and experimentation.

“We are mentoring and supporting girls to take up sciences, with emphasis on research, experimentation and understanding the laws of the physical world,” she said.

Organisers said they plan to extend the programme to more schools across the kingdom to broaden its reach and deepen its impact on youth development.

Kibaale’s Grassroot Transformation Accelerates as District Strengthens PDM Accountability and Local Economic Investment

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer-Kibaale

At Kibaale District Headquarters, the usually calm compound stirred with a sense of purpose, Parish Chiefs, Town Agents, and SACCO Chairpersons filed into the hall clipboards in hand, determination in their stride. They had gathered for a one day training that would reinforce the backbone of one of Uganda’s most

ambitious development strategies: the Parish Development Model (PDM).

For a district working tirelessly to transition 27% of households from subsistence farming into the money economy, this was more than a workshop. It was a reaffirmation of Kibaale’s commitment to transparency, efficiency, and



Attendees fully engaged during the session

grassroots empowerment.

Few districts in Uganda can match Kibaale's PDM performance. According to district records, Kibaale has received UGX 20,414,320,432 and successfully disbursed UGX 20,393,000,000 a remarkable 99.9% disbursement rate. Only UGX 20,546,492 remains in balance.

This funding has reached 20,393 beneficiaries across all 57 gazetted parishes, reflecting a district-wide mobilization effort that spans; 12 sub-counties, 2 town councils, 325 villages, 2 constituencies.

Inclusivity remains a cornerstone of the program. Youth account for 30.8% of beneficiaries, while middle aged women follow closely at 29%, middle aged men at 21.9%, PWD 8%, elderly 10.4%, demonstrating the district's commitment to empowering groups central to household economic transformation.

Matovu Hassan PDM Focal-persons sensitizing the participants

The workshop zeroed in on two critical components of the Parish Revolving Fund (PRF): efficient loan disbursement and Transparent Recovery and

Repayment, thus ensuring that funds reach beneficiaries promptly so they can begin production without delay and strengthening systems that guarantee the revolving nature of the fund allowing more households to benefit over time.

As one facilitator emphasized, this training is part of the "Whole of Government" approach, ensuring that frontline officers uphold the highest standards of financial stewardship.

Kibaale's enterprise portfolio under PDM is as diverse as it is expansive. The district's beneficiaries are engaged in a wide range of enterprises, including:

Enterprise	Beneficiaries
Coffee	6,970
Piggery	3,986
Poultry	2,581
Goats	2,369
Maize	1,345
Bananas	737
Beans	186
Cassava	114

Tomatoes	103
Onions	103
Fish	60
Dairy cattle	33
Beef cattle	30
Pineapples	23

These numbers tell a story of a district whose economic base is expanding rapidly from livestock to horticulture to staple crops. Behind the enterprise boom in the district is a growing network of agro processing facilities that are strengthening value addition and market access. Among these Cooperative & Matching Grant Facilities are; Mugarama Coffee Growers & Produce Cooperative, Mugarama Tugende Mumaiso SACCO, Kyebando Twesiime SACCO, Nyamarunda United Traders Cooperative, Kibaale SMU and Private Agro Processors that are spread in the entire district. These facilities form the backbone of Kibaale’s emerging rural industrialization ecosystem.

The Parish Development Model is a flagship strategy under the NRM Manifesto (2021–2026) and the National Development Plan III. It was launched nationally in March 2022 and in Kibaale

shortly after by Hon. Matia Kasaija. The model emphasizes;

- Increased production
- Processing and value addition
- Market access
- Infrastructure development
- Service delivery at the grassroots

Kibaale’s strong performance reflects a district aligned with national priorities and committed to inclusive development.

As the training concluded, participants left with renewed clarity and confidence. The message was unmistakable; accountability is not just a requirement, it is the foundation of sustainable transformation.

With strong financial discipline, a diverse enterprise base, and a growing agro processing network, Kibaale is positioning itself as a model district for PDM implementation.

One participant captured the spirit of the day perfectly;

“We are not just managing funds; we are shaping the future of every household in our parishes.”

Kibaale Charts a Deliberate Path to Inclusive Growth as LEGS II Gets Underway

By Muganzi Vincent, Communication Officer – Kibaale



Kibaale District staff discussing projects under different Value Chains

Kibaale District has begun a deliberate march toward economic transformation as the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) launched inception and technical scoping for Phase II of the Local Economic Growth Support (LEGS II) Project at the District Council Hall.

The meeting—attended by political, technical and administrative leaders—marked more than a funding announcement. It set a framework for evidence-based, inclusive investments that build on LEGS I’s successes in 17 districts and expand support to 38 additional districts through partners including the Islamic Development Bank, the Lives and Livelihoods Fund and the OPEC Fund.

MoLG officials emphasised that LEGS II will focus on fit-for-purpose

interventions rooted in local realities.

“We are here to help select interventions that are not only viable but transformative for the people of Kibaale,” a ministry representative said.

Kibaale’s District Planning Unit presented a Situation Analysis from the District Development Plan, outlining persistent constraints and untapped opportunities. Participants used Multi-Criterion Decision Analysis to rank value chains—from agriculture to processing and market access—ensuring choices reflect potential for impact and sustainability.

Water, environment and agriculture emerged as priority value chains. Proposed water and environment investments include a piped water system in Nyamarwa Sub-County

(UGX 900 million), the Kasimbi Water Supply system for Kasimbi, Kyebando and Kayanja Sub-Counties (UGX 2.5 billion), solar-powered production wells (UGX 800 million), and irrigation schemes for Matala and Mugarama (combined UGX 900 million). Agricultural proposals include supplying tractors to cooperatives across several sub-counties to improve productivity and market readiness.

Gender and environmental safeguards featured prominently. The ministry introduced a Gender Diagnostic Tool to ensure women, youth, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups are central to project design,

while Environmental and Social Safeguards will screen investments to protect wetlands, forests and cultural sites.

Chief Administrative Officer John Katotoroma praised the initiative for complementing local development work. District Vice Chair Gerald Bategeka committed political support and lauded technical staff readiness to deliver LEGS II.

As leaders dispersed, one local official captured the mood: "Today we didn't just talk about money; we talked about a plan for our children's future."

Buliisa Welcomes UWA's Pledge of Over UGX 500m for Three Sub-counties

By Hannington Tibajjuka, Communication Officer, Buliisa



Mr. Kagoro Wilson, UWA Conservation Education Officer, speaks during a one-day symposium with local leaders at the Buliisa Resource Centre

Local leaders from Kigwera, Buliisa and Ngwedo sub counties welcomed news this week that the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) plans to disburse over UGX 500 million under its revenue sharing scheme to communities bordering Murchison Falls Protected Area (MFPA).

The announcement was made by Mr. Kagoro Wilson, Conservation Education Officer for the Murchison Falls Conservation Area, during a one day symposium organised by Buliisa Rural Development Organization (BIRUDO). The meeting brought together councillors from LCIs to sub county level to address persistent human wildlife conflict, particularly elephant incursions, and to discuss how UWA funds are being used.

“This year we intend to release over UGX 500 million to the three sub counties,” Mr. Kagoro told attendees. He said the latest allocation brings the total UWA revenue sharing paid to Buliisa District to UGX 2.09 billion since the programme began more than four years ago.

Mitigation, infrastructure and compensation

The symposium focused on measures to reduce crop raids and attacks by problem animals and to ensure communities benefit from the park. UWA has already completed construction of about 125 kilometres of electric fencing in Buliisa, Nwoya and Oyam districts to deter elephants from moving into settlements, Mr. Kagoro said. The fence runs from the Nile banks through Ajigo to Beroya, Bugana and Waiga in Buliisa.

He thanked TotalEnergies for funding an additional 10 km of fencing from River Waiga to Waisoke village along the highway – a stretch officials say will better protect Kabolwa and

neighbouring communities. Mr. Kagoro also disclosed plans for a World Bank funded 50 km extension from Waisoke toward the escarpment.

“When these fences are complete, the aim is to push roaming elephants back into the protected area,” he said, adding that UWA is also reminding communities about its compensation guidelines for human and livestock losses caused by wildlife and explaining the claims process.

Promoting coexistence and local tourism

UWA urged residents to visit and enjoy Murchison Falls National Park themselves rather than leaving it to foreign tourists. Mr. Kagoro announced free entry days for the MFPA from Friday, 25 to Sunday, 27 September 2026, as part of efforts to involve local people in conservation benefits.

He also encouraged farmers to adopt elephant repellent crops such as red pepper, sunflower, garlic and tobacco, and to consider beekeeping; UWA will allow selected beekeepers to place hives inside park boundaries at no charge.

Community priorities and media engagement

Mr. Pawolyer M.P. Onenchan, BIRUDO’s executive director and symposium convener, thanked TotalEnergies for supporting the dialogue and community livelihood interventions that bridge relations between UWA and local residents.

Representing the district, Mr. Tumusiime Godfrey, District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, said Buliisa plans to channel UWA funds into at least two infrastructure projects per sub county

rather than solely funding individual livelihood activities, so the impact is more visible at community level.

Background

The UWA revenue sharing scheme channels a portion of park revenues to neighbouring local governments to

compensate for conservation costs and to incentivise wildlife protection. Human wildlife conflict remains a major challenge in districts adjacent to Murchison Falls, where expanding human settlements and agricultural land increase interactions with elephants and other wildlife.

New Classroom Block Construction Brings Hope to Mukabara Primary School

By Faridah Ndagano, Communication Officer- Kikuube



The District Ass RDC Isaac Twinematsiko together with the District Governor Hon Peter Banura , The Secretary for Finance Hon Nyakahara Zulia the DEO Mr Deogratias Byakagaba and the contractor while Launching the project

Relief and optimism filled Mukabara Primary School yesterday as district officials handed over a construction site for a new two-in-one classroom

block, a project aimed at easing severe congestion and improving learning conditions for its 741 pupils.

Assistant RDC Isaac Twinemasiko led the ceremony and formally handed the works to Carrington Enterprises Limited. The contractor will build the block over three months at a contract price of UGX 139 million; an additional allocation will bring the total to UGX 150 million when classroom desks are installed.

“Mukabara’s challenges are well documented – six pupils sharing a single desk has been common. We expect the contractor to follow the bill of quantities precisely and deliver quality workmanship,” Mr. Twinemasiko said, urging strict adherence to standards.

Mukabara, a government-aided school with 13 trained teachers located adjacent to Mukabara HCIII, has seen a steady rise in enrollment. Kikuube District Governor Peter Banura Araali welcomed the project as a timely, demand-driven intervention, noting the district must balance many competing requests across more than 74 primary schools.

District leaders called for close oversight. The district chairperson

asked school authorities and engineers to supervise the works to ensure value and sustainability, while Headteacher Imelda Katuhaise thanked officials for responding to the school’s long-standing plea and pledged improved pupil performance once learning spaces are decongested.

District Education Officer Deo Byakagaba said the new classroom could help lift this year’s results by creating a better learning environment. Deputy CAO Kakande Henry appealed to parents to continue supporting learners with basic needs such as meals and drinks to maximize the benefits of the improved facilities.

The Mukabara handover coincided with launches of rehabilitation works at Kibararu, Omugo Bisereko and Katanga primary schools, part of a broader push to upgrade education infrastructure across Kikuube.

Masindi District Tables Priorities in UGX 34.4 Bn Budget for 2026/2027 Financial Year

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer - Masindi

Masindi District Council has proposed a UGX 34.42 billion budget for the 2026/2027 financial year, a reduction from the current UGX 36 billion allocation as the district braces for tighter resources.

Finance Secretary Pamela Nyakato

presented the draft estimates at a council meeting, attributing the reduced resource envelope largely to poor performance in a national assessment by the Office of the Prime Minister. The proposal now goes to council approval.

The draft budget prioritizes recurrent

wages and core service delivery. Program Conditional Grant (Wage) is the largest line item at UGX 17.5 billion, while the District Unconditional Grant (Wage) receives UGX 2.6 billion. Non-wage allocations include UGX 6.4 billion for Program Conditional Grant (Non-Wage) and UGX 782.1 million for District Unconditional Grant (Non-Wage). Urban Unconditional Grant is set at UGX 109.9 million.

Development and locally sourced funds feature more modestly. Program Conditional Grant Development is allocated UGX 2.3 billion, with UGX 1.6 billion from locally raised revenue and a further UGX 88 million earmarked for locally raised revenue development.

The District Discretionary Equalization Grant stands at UGX 611 million, the Urban Discretionary Equalization Grant at UGX 131.5 million, and Transitional Conditional Grant Development at UGX 14.8 million. External financing is projected at UGX

805.9 million, and government transfers at UGX 1.2 billion.

Nyakato outlined strategic priorities designed to maximize impact amid constrained funding. The plan emphasizes household income growth via the Parish Development Model, investments in roads, health centers, schools, administrative offices and water services, and enhanced agricultural production through improved technologies and extension services.

She also pointed out measures to boost government efficiency, reduce corruption and wastage, strengthen community participation, and promote sustainable natural resource use and value-for-money in program implementation.

Council will now review the draft ahead of final approval.



The District Chairperson, Cosmas Byaruhanga responding to some issues raised during the council meeting

Kikuube Residents Encouraged to Embrace Crop Diversification to Address Food Shortages

By Faridah Ndgano, Communication Officer- Kikuube



From Left to Right RDC kikuube Angalia Godwin, District Governor Hon Peter Banura Araali, Maj Martha Asiimwe RDC secretariat head , SACAO Francis kiva and Ass RDC Ahaabwe Tobias posing for a photo moment after the meeting

Major Martha Asiimwe, head of the RDC Secretariat in the Office of the President, has urged Kikuube residents and leaders to prioritize food crops alongside the expanding sugarcane industry to avert worsening food shortages.

Speaking at a one-day Mobilisation for Socio-Economic Transformation engagement on Tuesday, March 17, Major Asiimwe called on district authorities to consider ordinances that would limit sugarcane cultivation to large landholders. She said the move would protect smallholders' ability

to grow food and strengthen local food security as the district rapidly pivots toward commercial sugarcane.

“As Kikuube prepares for major projects – including oil and gas production, a refinery and the Kabalega Airport – residents must diversify to ensure they can both feed their families and benefit from new opportunities,” Asiimwe said. She also thanked the district for its strong electoral support for the ruling NRM, where the President garnered 81.6% of the vote.

RDC Angalia Godwin Kasigwa

applauded voters for backing the NRM and updated participants on natural resource management, reporting that boundary demarcation around Bugooma Forest, Hoima Sugar and MZ Agencies has been completed. On wealth creation, the RDC reported district disbursements of UGX 8 billion to 8,989 beneficiaries; 2,970 members have benefited from Emyooga group funding, and 84 students are enrolled at the Presidential Industrial Hub.

District chairperson Peter Banura thanked technical teams and partners

for steady development gains and requested a “patriotic” training session in Kyankwazi for political and technical officers. District CAO Canon Edward Musingye noted Kikuube’s improvement in national assessments, rising from 146th to 84th place, and said officials are preparing a strategic FY 2026/27 budget to address remaining gaps.

The meeting drew senior district officials, political leaders, technocrats, youth representatives and community members.



Maj Martha Asiimwe addressing participants

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