

BUNYORO POST

District Communicators'
Newsletter

Date 12th December 2025

Weekly Edition

VOL. 03



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Ndagano Faridah

Editor's Note

Editor-in-Chief

Bunyoro Post Magazine

Tel: +256 777410031

Email: bunyoropost@gmail.com

Dear Esteemed Readers, It is with great pleasure that we present to you the fourth edition of The Bunyoro Post, a publication dedicated to chronicling the progress, opportunities, and voices of our dynamic region.

This edition comes at a significant moment, following the recent visit of His Excellency President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni to Bunyoro. We provide an in-depth analysis of the rally, capturing the atmosphere and, most importantly, detailing the specific pledges made to accelerate development in our communities. We remain committed to following these promises and reporting on their implementation for the benefit of all.

Beyond the political landscape, we explore the serene and economic potential of our natural treasures. Journey with us to the majestic Murchison Falls National Park, where we spotlight the growing niche of bird watching—a testament to the diverse tourism opportunities waiting to be fully harnessed.

Furthermore, this issue delves into the transformative multi-billion education projects underway, which promise to reshape the academic future of our youth. We also examine the government's renewed vigour in the fight against corruption, a critical undertaking for ensuring that resources truly serve the people.

As ever, The Bunyoro Post strives

to be your trusted platform for news, insight, and celebration. To achieve this, we actively seek your contributions. We invite articles, opinion pieces, photographs, and stories that reflect the triumphs, challenges, and unique culture of Bunyoro. Let your voice be heard.

Finally, for businesses and organizations looking to connect with our engaged readership, we wish to offer a polite reminder of the available advertising spaces within our magazine. Partner with us to tell your story and grow your reach across the region.

Thank you for your continued readership and support. Together, let us continue to tell the Bunyoro story.

KEY CONTRIBUTORS

Faridah Ndagano

Communication Officer, Kikuube District

Alex Tumuhimbise

Communication officer, Hoima district

Brian Atuhura

Communication Officer, Masindi District

Hannington Tibaijuka

Communications Officer, Buliisa District

Vincent Muganzi

Communications Officer Kibaale District

George Gulyetonda

Communication Officer, Kagadi District

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

President Museveni Pledges Southern Bunyoro Industrial Hub Ahead of 2026 Elections

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer - Kibaale

President Yoweri Museveni has pledged to establish the Southern Bunyoro Industrial Hub, unveiling the promise during a National Resistance Movement (NRM) campaign rally at Buyanja Secondary School playground in Kibaale Town Council, Kibaale District.

Addressing a large crowd ahead of the January 2026 presidential election, the long-serving leader outlined the NRM's seven-pillar manifesto, highlighting peace, social development, wealth creation, and job creation as core priorities.

Museveni urged voters to adopt the government's four-acre model for commercial agriculture, citing success stories from beneficiaries of the Parish Development Model (PDM) and the structured farming approach.

"Embrace the four-acre model; it is the sure way to transform your households," he told the

gathering.

The president repeatedly called for peace, describing it as the foundation for development. "Without peace, nothing moves. Let all stakeholders – politicians, religious leaders, cultural leaders, and citizens – promote peace in this country," he said.

Kibaale District NRM Chairperson Fred Matovu praised Museveni for infrastructure and social investments in the area. He noted that most Sub Counties have schools that are government-aided, road networks have expanded dramatically, and safe water coverage stands at 71 per cent – achievements he attributed directly to presidential support and government programmes.

The rally drew high-profile NRM figures, including Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja, Speaker of Parliament Anita Among, and Finance Minister Matia Kasaija, among other senior party

officials and cabinet members.

In his closing remarks, President Museveni directed district leaders to identify and secure large tracts of land for the proposed Industrial Park citing it needed at least a square mile. He revealed that the Kazo–Mpara–Kyegegwa–Hapuyo–Karuguuza road has been included in the national workplan and will be constructed by a Chinese company.

Museveni tasked Prime Minister Nabbanja with following up on grievances of residents affected by forest reserve demarcations in the district. He also encouraged youth and voters to embrace vocational skilling, arguing that the informal and technical sectors are now creating more jobs than traditional formal employment.

The Kibaale rally forms part of Museveni's nationwide campaign trail as the NRM seeks to retain power in the 2026 general elections.



Kiryandongo District Launches UGX 1.1 Billion School Infrastructure Projects

By Emmanuel Murungi, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo District

The Kiryandongo District Local Government has unveiled a visionary initiative worth UGX 1.117 billion dedicated to upgrading school infrastructure. This ambitious project aims to create a more enriching learning environment for pupils across the district.

The initiative encompasses the construction of critical facilities at various primary schools, including:

Bweyale Public Primary School: A new two-classroom block.

Kaduku Primary School: A two-classroom block complete with an office and storage.

Namilyango Primary School: A four-classroom block and a ten-stance latrine.

Ndabulye Primary School: A five-stance latrine.

Mboira Primary School: A two-classroom block with an office and storage.

Alarotinga Primary School: A staff house.

During the inspiring launch event held at Bweyale Public School, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Deo Kabugo emphasized the necessity for timely and high-quality construction. He made it clear that in Kiryandongo, excellence is non-negotiable, urging contractors to strictly adhere to the established quality standards and specifications. Kabugo also called upon head teachers to prioritize the maintenance of school infrastructure in their planning and budgeting efforts.

District Chairperson Edith Aliguma Adyeri passionately encouraged parents to boost their agricultural productivity to secure food for their homes and support the vital school feeding program.

"Parents, I urge you to contribute food for your children as part of the school feeding initiative. This will not only support their well-being but also ensure they remain engaged and focused on their studies," she declared.

The challenge of school infrastructure in Kiryandongo is significant, particularly given the growing enrollment of both national and refugee learners. Currently, the District's average classroom-to-pupil ratio stands at an alarming 1:84, far surpassing the recommended ratio of 1:53. In some cases, such as Bweyale Public Primary School, the ratio climbs to an overwhelming 1:114, underscoring the urgent need for these infrastructure improvements.

Through this strategic investment in education, Kiryandongo is not just building classrooms; it is laying the foundation for a brighter future for its children.

The Government of Uganda has unveiled a new phase in its fight against corruption, anchored on a proposed National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) for the period 2025–2031 and backed by increased funding and digital reforms.



RDC Dan Muganga holding the hoe together with the District Chairperson during the ground breaking of the construction of a two class rooms bock at Bweyale Public primary school

Gov't Steps Up Fight Against Corruption With New National Strategy

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer – Masindi



Commissioner for Ethics in the Office of the President Moses Makumbi (front row center), posing for a group photo with stakeholders after the meeting

Speaking during a consultative meeting held in the Masindi District Council chambers on Thursday, Moses Makumbi, the Commissioner for Ethics in the Office of the President under the Directorate for Ethics and Integrity, reported a decline in corruption tendencies among public officers, attributing it in part to the introduction of the digital asset declaration system.

According to Makumbi, the system has significantly narrowed the space for illicit wealth accumulation.

"The new digital asset declaration platform has made it

increasingly difficult for officials to hide or acquire illicit assets," he said, noting that enhanced transparency and traceability were beginning to yield results.

Makumbi also revealed that government has substantially increased funding to Anti-Corruption Agencies from UGX 60.6 billion in 2024 to UGX 88 billion in 2025. He described this as a deliberate step aimed at consolidating and strengthening the national fight against graft.

"This increased allocation is a major milestone in government's anti-corruption efforts," he added, emphasizing that adequate resourcing is critical

for investigations, prosecutions and public education.

The consultative meeting in Masindi is part of a nationwide process to gather input from stakeholders on the draft NACS 2025–2031, which will guide Uganda's anti-corruption agenda for the next six years. Makumbi stressed the importance of political commitment at all levels if the strategy is to be effective.

"We must reinforce political will from local governments up to the central government," he said. "Without coordinated commitment from leaders at every level, even the best

strategies will remain on paper.”

Opening the engagement, Assistant RDC Patrick Asimwe warned that denial is one of the biggest enablers of corruption in Uganda. He urged leaders to confront the problem head-on rather than dismissing or minimizing it.

“Denial remains one of the biggest drivers of corruption,” Asimwe said. “As leaders, we must acknowledge the problem and address it directly instead of downplaying its impact on service delivery.”

During plenary discussions, participants proposed several reforms they believe should be embedded in the new national strategy. Key among them was the need to guarantee the independence of Anti-Corruption Agencies to enhance their efficiency and credibility.

Stakeholders also called for a review of how District Service Commission members are appointed, suggesting that appointments be made directly by the central government to reduce local interference and

patronage.

Improving the welfare of public servants emerged as another priority. Participants argued that enhancing salaries for all public officers could reduce vulnerability to corruption and lessen the temptation to solicit or accept bribes.

In addition, stakeholders urged that anti-corruption education be integrated into school curricula to help build a future generation that is intolerant of graft and more aware of ethical standards in public life.

The Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Musa Kyamiza, pressed for firm action against powerful individuals implicated in corruption. He argued that visible enforcement against high-profile suspects would send a strong signal that no one is above the law.

“If powerful individuals involved in corruption are arrested and prosecuted, it will serve as a strong deterrent,” Kyamiza said, adding that selective or weak enforcement undermines public confidence in the system.

Closing the session, the Chairperson for Social Services, Goodman B. Farouk, who represented the District Chairperson, pointed to capacity gaps among some leaders as another factor contributing to the persistence of corruption. He noted that certain supervisors of technical staff lack the academic grounding to fully understand key documents and procedures.

“Corruption persists partly because some leaders supervising technocrats are less academically equipped to understand key documents and processes,” he said. “These gaps create loopholes that can easily be exploited.”

The views gathered in Masindi will feed into the finalization of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2025–2031, which is expected to align legal, institutional and educational reforms with the government’s broader agenda of promoting integrity and accountability in public service.



Bird watching in Murchison Falls National Park

By Bunyoro Post Editor

Are you looking for Bird watching in Murchison Falls National Park Uganda?

With over 451 bird species, Murchison Falls national park is on the list of top places to visit for birding while on a safari in Uganda. The national park is positioned in the northwestern part of the country in the Masindi, Nwoya, Bulisa, and Kiryandingo districts. Murchison Falls national park is a protected area that was gazetted in 1952 to protect the different wildlife that was in the park as well as the vegetation.

As of today, Murchison Falls national park is a habitat for over 451 bird species of which some are migratory, endemic, and others common in the park. Birds of Murchison Falls national park can be seen during game drives, guided nature walks, boat cruise on the River

Nile, and even from your lodge. The national park comprises savannah vegetation where these birds have found food and comfortable homes.

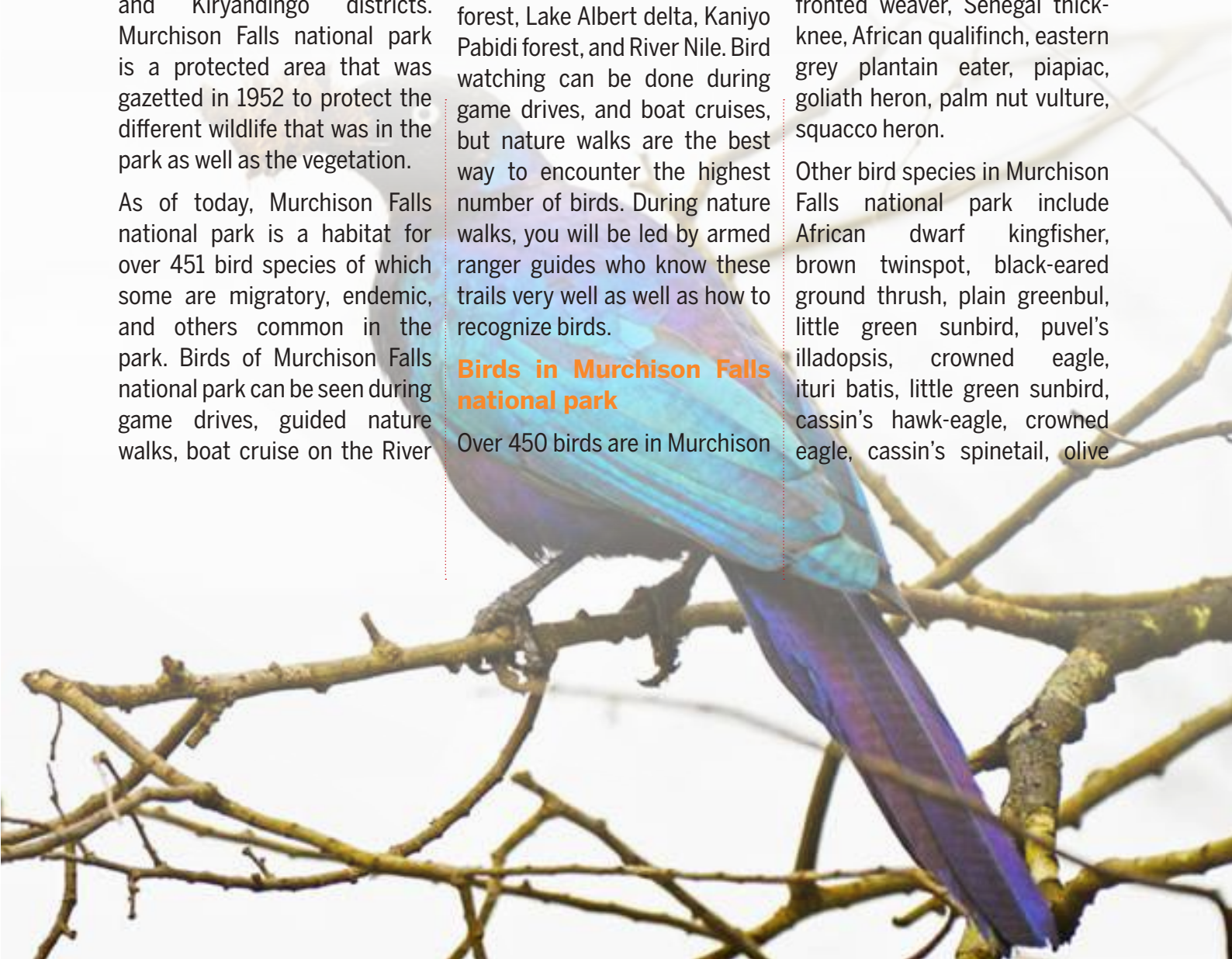
Bird watching in Murchison Falls national park is done in several places of the park where birds concentrate. Some of the birding spots in Murchison Falls National Park include Budongo forest, Lake Albert delta, Kaniyo Pabidi forest, and River Nile. Bird watching can be done during game drives, and boat cruises, but nature walks are the best way to encounter the highest number of birds. During nature walks, you will be led by armed ranger guides who know these trails very well as well as how to recognize birds.

Birds in Murchison Falls national park

Over 450 birds are in Murchison

Falls national park and some of the birds to look out for include papyrus gonolek, silver bird, long-toed plover, pied kingfisher, yellow-billed stork, black-headed lawping, black-billed barbecuet, veracious dove, rock pratincole, standard winged nightjar, denham's bustard, blue-headed coucal, whistling cisticola, speckle fronted weaver, Senegal thick-knee, African qualifinch, eastern grey plantain eater, piapiac, goliath heron, palm nut vulture, squacco heron.

Other bird species in Murchison Falls national park include African dwarf kingfisher, brown twinspot, black-eared ground thrush, plain greenbul, little green sunbird, puvel's illadopsis, crowned eagle, ituri batis, little green sunbird, cassin's hawk-eagle, crowned eagle, cassin's spinetail, olive



breasted greenbul, yellow-footed flycatcher, white-thighed hornbill, yellow-crested woodpecker, sabine's spinetail, African jacana, yellow fronted tinkerbird, marital eagle,

How much is birding in Murchison Falls national park?

To have a birding exercise in Murchison Falls national park you must get a birding permit which is bought at the park headquarters. The birding permit fees include the fee for armed ranger guides who can lead you throughout the whole birding activity. Birding permits cost \$30 for foreign non-residents, \$25 for foreign residents, and UGX20,000 for East African citizens.

Travelers that are visiting Murchison Falls National Park for birding should note that the birding fee is not part of the park entrance. There they will have to pay the entrance fee of \$45 for foreign non-residents, \$35 for foreign residents, and UGX25,000 citizens of East

Africa.

The best time for birding in Murchison Falls national park

Birding in Murchison Falls National Park can be done at any time of the year however there are months that are better than the rest. The months from April to November are the best to visit Murchison Falls National Park for birding because that is the period when migratory birds are within the park. The dry months of December to February are also good for birding because there is plenty of food for birds in the park.

Birding in Murchison Falls National Park can be done in the rainy seasons of September, October, March, and April but there are lots of rain in the park, and these slow down the activity in case the trails are too muddy and slippery. During the rainy season, the vegetation is tall and thick with unclear views of the park animals.

Where to stay on a birding

safari in Murchison Falls National Park?

Birders planning to go birding in Murchison Falls National Park don't have to worry about where they will stay because the park has several accommodation facilities that are enough for tourists in the park. These accommodation facilities are found within different areas of the park and they range from budget to mid-range to luxury options with where to stay depending on your budget.

Accommodation in Murchison Falls national park includes Chobe Safari Lodge, Paraa Safari Lodge, Nile Safari Lodge, Red Chilli Rest Camp, Nile Safari Lodge, Budongo Eco Lodge, Heritage Safari Lodge, Murchison River Lodge, Baker's Lodge, Twiga Safari Lodge, Sambiya River Lodge, Kabalega Wilderness Lodge, Amuika Safari Lodge, Parkside Safari Lodge, Boomu Womens Group Bandas, and Murchison Tree House among others.



Girls' Football Boosts Menstrual Hygiene and School Retention in Buliisa

By Hannington Tibaijuka, Communication officer - Buliisa District

An inter-primary schools girls' football tournament in Buliisa District has concluded with education and sports officials hailing the initiative for improving menstrual hygiene awareness and keeping adolescent girls in school.

Organized under the theme of using sport to promote menstrual health, the tournament brought together 15 primary schools from three sub-counties: Buliisa, Ngwedo and Kigwera. The final matches were hosted at Ndandamire Primary School in Kigwera Sub-county on Wednesday, 3 December 2025.

According to the Buliisa District Education Department, the main objective of the tournament was to "increase access to menstrual health and hygiene information for very young adolescents through football coaching," targeting both in-school and out-of-school girls.

The competition was organized and funded by the Community Relief and Development Foundation (CRIDEF), a local Community-Based Organization and a FIFA Foundation Community Programme supported partner operating in Buliisa District. CRIDEF currently works in 15 primary schools across the three sub-

counties of Buliisa, Ngwedo and Kigwera in lower Buliisa.

CRIDEF's Executive Director, Mr. Ahaisibwe Fredrick, said integrating menstrual health education into football activities is proving to be a powerful tool for improving school retention among girls.

"When adolescent girls are supported with knowledge and logistics on menstrual health and hygiene, their retention in schools is more guaranteed," Mr. Ahaisibwe said on the sidelines of the final. "Many young girls tend to drop out of school due to factors related to menstruation and their inability to effectively



Buliisa District Sports Officer Mr Muhumuza Geoffrey addresses pupils at Ndandamire Primary School, in Kigwera Sub County

handle their menses while in school.”

He added that by combining sports, life skills and menstrual hygiene support, CRIDEF aims to reduce stigma, build confidence and ensure that girls do not miss classes during their periods.

Presiding over the final matches, the Buliisa District Sports Officer, Mr. Muhumuza Geoffrey, commended CRIDEF for tackling what he described as “one of the most silent but critical factors” behind girls’ dropout rates in the district.

“Many young girls who had dropped out of school at the beginning of Term Three due to the long period of the teachers’ industrial action have resumed their studies, mainly because of the girls’ football coaching

activities introduced in schools by CRIDEF,” Mr. Muhumuza noted.

He urged CRIDEF to expand its interventions beyond the three sub-counties currently covered.

“I call on CRIDEF management to consider a district-wide approach by extending these activities to all remaining sub-counties,” he said, stressing that the impact on attendance, confidence and health awareness had already become visible in participating schools.

The tournament’s climax at Ndandamire Primary School featured tightly contested matches among the 15 participating schools. Kisomere Primary School from Ngwedo Sub-county emerged champions and lifted the tournament

trophy, while Waiga Primary School from Buliisa Sub-county finished as runners-up.

Teachers and local leaders who attended the event said the initiative has not only created a platform for nurturing girls’ talent in sports but also provided a safe space to discuss menstrual hygiene, access sanitary materials and challenge social taboos that keep girls away from class.

Buliisa District authorities say they hope to build on the success of this year’s tournament to make girls’ football and menstrual health education a regular feature in primary schools, as part of broader efforts to promote gender equality and improve education outcomes for adolescent girls.



District Sports Officer Handing over the Trophy to the winners



CRIDEF Executive Director addressing School children after the tournament.

Kibaale District Strengthens Partnership with CSOs to Promote Environmental Conservation

By Muganzi Vincent, Communications Officer Kibaale

Kibaale District Local Government has pledged to integrate Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) into its routine monitoring and evaluation framework, marking a major boost for collaborative environmental conservation efforts in the district.

The commitment was announced during a one-day stakeholder engagement held at the district headquarters, bringing together district

technical officers, political leaders, and more than a dozen CSOs working on natural resources and livelihoods.

Speaking at the meeting, Assistant Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Patrick Asiimwe praised the organisations for complementing government programmes and directed them to channel all progress reports through relevant district departments for better

coordination.

“Kibaale District is fully committed to environmental conservation and sustainable management of natural resources,” Asiimwe told participants. “We recognise the critical role CSOs play and we are ready to walk this journey together.”

CSO representatives showcased a range of interventions, including youth skilling initiatives, large-scale tree



CBOs representatives share a photo moment with district officials after the engagement

planting, distribution of improved seeds and farming inputs, and community sensitisation on sustainable land use.

Several organisations appealed to the district to formally adopt community groups they have formed to ensure continuity after project funding ends.

District Natural Resources Officer Animate Kashemire, who chaired the session, outlined three core objectives; reviewing ongoing CSO interventions, appreciating their contributions, and jointly identifying bottlenecks and solutions.

Kashemire stressed the urgency of strengthening

community participation in forest management, noting that deforestation and land conflicts remain the district's biggest environmental threats.

In a strong call to action, RDC Asiimwe urged the district council to fast-track the drafting and passing of environmental ordinances. “It is time for

“policyholders to stand firm and protect Mother Nature,” he said. “We owe it to our children and future generations to manage these resources sustainably.”

Participants welcomed the decision to include CSO

activities in official government monitoring exercises, describing it as a step toward greater transparency, accountability, and impact.

The engagement signals growing synergy between

Kibaale District authorities and civil society in tackling climate change, restoring degraded ecosystems, and safeguarding livelihoods dependent on natural resources.

Masindi Older Persons’ Leaders Trained in Will Writing to Curb Family Conflicts

By Brian Atuhura, Communications officer- Masindi



PACAO Musa Kyamiza (Extreme left standing), posing for a group photo with Older Persons Leaders after their training

Leaders for Older Persons in Masindi District have received specialized training in lawful will writing, in a bid to reduce the family conflicts and property disputes that frequently emerge after the death of a family head.

The one-day training was held on Friday at the Masindi District Headquarters and was facilitated by Counsel Hadijah

Mbabazi of Akugizibwe and Company Advocates. She underscored the importance of writing valid wills as a key step in protecting families from disagreements over property.

Counsel Mbabazi explained that for a will to be valid, it must be written when the testator or testatrix is of sound mind and acting of their own free will, without any form of coercion or

undue influence.

“A valid will must be signed by the person making it and witnessed by at least two people,” she said, adding that it is advisable to produce the will in multiple copies for safekeeping and ease of reference.

She further noted that every will should contain an introductory section clearly stating the writer’s name, address, age,

clan, religion and birth details. The main body of the document, she added, should spell out the person's marital status, biological children, dependants, guardians, heir or heirs, personal property, as well as any creditors and debtors.

Beyond legal guidance, the workshop also focused on ways to enhance the economic and physical well-being of older persons.

Representing the District Production Officer, Assistant Veterinary Officer Frederick Kyomya encouraged older persons to invest in manageable livestock enterprises such as goat rearing, piggery and poultry, which he said are well suited to their age and physical abilities.

"These enterprises require relatively little space and minimal physical effort, yet they can provide substantial income. This makes them ideal for the elderly who still want to remain

economically active," Kyomya said.

District Community Development Officer (DCDO) Godfrey Bahemuka urged older persons to take full advantage of government empowerment programmes designed to support them, including the Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment (SAGE) and the Social Economic Growth of Older Persons (SEGOP).

"These programmes are meant to improve the welfare of older persons. We encourage you not only to enroll but also to use the support wisely to improve your livelihoods," Bahemuka said.

On the health front, Acting Principal Nursing Officer at Masindi General Hospital, Kevin Nyambubi, advised the elderly to regularly monitor their weight and go for routine medical check-ups.

"Early detection of health problems can save lives. Regular

screening and monitoring of conditions such as hypertension, diabetes and obesity are crucial for older persons," Nyambubi noted.

Closing the session, Principal Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (PACAO) Musa Kyamiza called on participants to adopt healthier lifestyles. He encouraged them to engage in light physical exercises, maintain a balanced diet and avoid excessive consumption of oily foods and alcohol.

"Simple changes in daily habits can significantly improve your quality of life and extend your life span," Kyamiza said, urging the trained leaders to champion these messages among older persons in their communities.

The training is expected to enhance awareness about lawful will writing and promote better health and economic practices among the elderly in Masindi District.



Pictorial

Buliisa District in Pictures



Buliisa District Local Government Headquarters main office block



District Health Office Block Buliisa



District Education Office Block

President Museveni's Rally in Bunyoro



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

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