



**FEATURE STORY | PG.26**

## BUNYANGABU EMERGES TOP PERFORMER IN TOORO SUB-REGION PLE

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# TUSIIME CHRISTOPHER

## CHIEF EDITOR

Dear Reader,



Welcome to the 24th edition of our weekly Rwenzori Times newsletter. This week's edition reflects a region with clear gains and some challenges that require collective effort to address.

Leading the headlines is Bunyangabu District's rise as the best performer in the Tooro sub-region in the 2025 PLE results. This achievement shows what is possible when leadership is firm, schools are well supervised, teachers are present, and parents take responsibility for learning. The steady growth in top grades and the reduction of poor outcomes offer a practical lesson for districts striving to improve education standards.

In Kasese District, 92 percent pass rate—the strongest in five years—signals steady recovery and renewed confidence in public education particularly in promoting access for girls. However, the persistent number of ungraded candidates across the sub-region, especially in Bundibugyo and Kyegegwa, highlights the cost of unresolved challenges such as

absenteeism, teacher strikes, and weak community engagement that have direct impact on the learners' performance.

For Kabarole, we take a look at how the malnutrition rate of 38 percent exposes a contradiction in a food-producing region and threatens both health and learning outcomes. At the same time, initiatives in climate-smart agriculture, inclusive education in refugee-hosting communities, and youth employment programs offer pathways toward resilience and shared growth.

The message from this edition is clear: progress is achievable, but it must be protected, expanded, and sustained. Leadership, accountability, and community action will determine whether these gains become lasting transformation.

**KABUGHO  
SHARON**

*Editor*



**AINGANIZA  
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# 2025 PLE SPOTLIGHT: KYENJOJO'S STRIVE FOR PROGRESS AMIDST PERSISTENT CHALLENGES



*UNEB Officials inspect the papers at Kiddudu Primary School.*

*Johnson Atuhaire- Communications Officer, Kyenjojo District*

The Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB) has released the 2025 Primary Leaving Examination (PLE) results, a pivotal moment for over 817,000 pupils who sat the exams across 15,388 centres nationwide.

The official release took place at State House, Nakasero, on January 30th, 2026, attracting strong public attention from students, parents, educators, policymakers, and media.

Across Uganda, the 2025 PLE results show a notable improvement in academic performance compared to previous years, particularly at the Division One level, indicating that more students have qualified to progress to secondary education. Observers have welcomed the rise in top grades, signalling better learning outcomes in certain subjects.

However, UNEB also highlighted persistent issues, including widespread examination malpractice. Some districts



*Pupils at Nyantungo Primary School prepare to sit for an SST Examination.*

saw results withheld for several candidates, underscoring ongoing challenges in safeguarding the integrity of national exams.

Despite improvements in overall performance, exam irregularities have been a major talking point. UNEB confirmed that results for several candidates in districts such as Kisoro, Kampala, and Mukono were withheld due to suspected malpractice. In response, the Board and security committees are conducting investigations to determine appropriate actions, including hearings for affected pupils.

Despite improvements in overall performance, exam irregularities

have been a major talking point. UNEB confirmed that results for several candidates in districts such as Kisoro, Kampala and Mukono were withheld due to suspected malpractice. In response, the Board and security committees are conducting investigations to determine appropriate actions, including hearings for affected pupils.

In an encouraging development, Kyenjojo District has emerged as a notable success story in the 2025 PLE cycle. According to UNEB officials, no cases of examination malpractice were reported from Kyenjojo—a significant turnaround from previous years when the district had been among those with malpractice



concerns. It should be noted that in the PLE 2024 alone, results of 355 pupils were withheld by UNEB over cheating and examination malpractices, many of whom had to resit the exams in 2025.

UNEB's Executive Director, Dan Odongo, specifically acknowledged the "great change of heart" in Kyenjojo, attributing this positive outcome to strong district leadership and decisive action taken by the Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Masereka Amis Auman, and LC V Chairperson, Hon. Gilbert Rubaihayo, in 2024. A tough decision to interdict head teachers who had been suspected of involvement in examination malpractice, a decision that shaped the destiny of the district.

"When the results of 2024 were

released, the CAO took very stern measures against the headteachers of schools that perpetuated this vice. Although they went to court, he stood firm together with his LC V Chair, whom they also threatened not to vote", he remarked. "Because of that stern action, no single malpractice case has come from Kyenjojo this year", Odongo said. This leadership appears to have fostered a culture of integrity, ensuring that students sit exams in a fair environment free from collusion or undue influence.

The District Inspector of Schools (DIS), Kyenjojo, Mr. Innocent Niyonzima, also attributed this to the strict supervision and security by UNEB officials during the PLE examinations. He also applauded the Chief Administrative Officer for the

stern action against headteachers of the affected schools in 2024, which action kicked out the vice this year. Concern however is on the poor performance in the 2025 exams, in which the district had 218 pupils in Division 1, 2,753 pupils in Division 2, 1,958 in Division 3, 1,442 in Division 4, an alarming 2,034 in Division U, and 71 in Division X. The DIS however attributes this on the industrial action of teachers, as pupils sat for these papers only one week after the strike had been called off. Pupils had very little time with their teachers for guidance and revision. He also

attributes this to the tight security protocols schools were subjected to, in a bid to curb the rampant malpractices, which brought about anxiety and fear in the pupils. He is, however, optimistic about a better performance this year.

For the community of parents, educators, and learners in Kyenjojo, this achievement reinforces the importance of discipline, cooperation, and ethical conduct setting a positive example for other districts facing similar challenges.



**PLE RESULTS ARE RELEASED**  
BY: MAMA JANET K. MUSEVENI  
1<sup>st</sup> Lady & Minister of Education & Sports

**FRIDAY 30 JAN. 2026**

**THEME 2025**  
Embracing Security and Holistic Assessment of Learners in a dynamic environment

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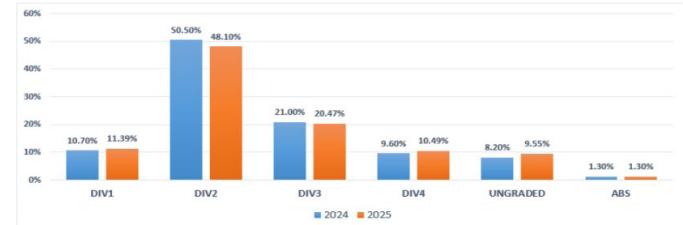
**STATEMENT OF RELEASE: 2025 PRIMARY LEAVING EXAMINATION (PLE) RESULTS**

**Table 5: Candidates' overall Performance by Divisional Grades**

DIV	2025			2024				
	NO.	CUM.	%	CUM%	NO.	CUM.	%	CUM%
1	91,990	91,990	11.39	11.39	84,301	84,301	10.7	10.7
2	388,293	480,283	48.10	59.49	397,589	481,890	50.5	61.2
3	165,226	645,509	20.47	79.96	165,284	647,174	21.0	82.2
4	84,724	730,233	10.49	90.45	75,556	722,730	9.6	91.8
U	77,080	807,313	9.55	100.00	64,251	786,981	8.2	100.00
ABSENT	10,570			1.3	10,463			1.3

Table 5 above indicates that more candidates passed in Division 1 in 2025 than in 2024, an increase of 7,689. In terms of numbers, more candidates (7,503) passed the 2025 PLE compared to 2024.

**Figure 6 below presents the information in Table 5 above.**  
Figure 6: Bar Graph of Percentages





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# BUNDIBUGYO: DEO CALLS FOR URGENT ACTION AFTER PLE PERFORMANCE DROPS

*By Mbabazi Sylvia- Communication Officer- Bundibugyo District.*

Following the recent release of the 2025 Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) results by the Ministry of Education and Sports, the District Education Officer, Mr Byamukama John, released the district's general performance report in which a decline in performance was recorded for the 2025 results compared to previous years.

While addressing the media at Bundibugyo District Headquarters, the DEO was very concerned about the high number of candidates who scored Division U and Division X.

He said that even though Bundibugyo managed to score 75.5% national wide, the number of learners that scored Division U were 1,295, which is an issue that cannot be underestimated but rather requires an urgent call for action to investigate and obtain the exact cause to pave ways for improvement within other proceeding UNEB exams.

He attributed this decline to several



*The District Education Officer addressing the media about the 2025 PLE results.*

issues, ranging from the teachers' industrial action strike that occurred within third term at a time where these learners needed their teachers' support most, absenteeism a vice amongst most learners especially where they are influenced by parents to provide labor during cocoa harvest days a situation that greatly reduces on their levels of concentration in class among other factors.

Out of 5,424 candidates that were

successfully registered to do these exams, 312 scored Division 1, 1,792 scored Division 2, 996 scored Division 3, and 887 scored Division 4, whereas 1,295 scored Division U (ungraded) and 142 scored Division X.

However, he congratulated all candidates who performed well within these exams, parents, teachers, and well-wishers for the support they offered to these learners. He praised Ntandi Integrated SDA Primary School for scoring 84 first grades out of 85 pupils, whereas Burambagira Primary School, which is a government-aided school, scored 84 first grades out of 156 pupils. He added that these schools are not only leading in Bundibugyo,

but they were also ranked among the best performing schools in the country.

Mr Byamukama added that, unlike other years where Bundibugyo was getting serious examination malpractice allegations that led to withholding and cancellation of results, there were a few cases that were reported. He disclosed that results of 34 candidates of Bundinyama Primary School are still on hold and his office is yet to confirm with UNEB to ascertain the exact cause.

He concluded by urging all stakeholders and parents to continue supporting education within the district for better results.

## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: THE PATH TO CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE IN KABAROLE

*By Stephen Ainganiza -Communication Officer, Kabarole District*

**I**n a world increasingly affected by climate change, the call for sustainable agricultural practices has never been more urgent. During the quarterly review meeting for the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation

Project (UCSATP), Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of Kabarole, Mr Nzeimaana Arthur, urged local leaders to engage with their communities in adopting climate-smart agricultural practices.



*Participants in the meeting of the Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project.*

Held on Thursday, the meeting aimed to assess the progress of the UCSATP, identify challenges, and share best practices. Mr. Nzeimaana emphasized the importance of grassroots involvement.

*“This Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project is designed to transform the lives of Ugandans, but it’s not meant for the poor,” he said.*

He called on Community Development Officers (CDOs) and Agriculture Extension Workers to actively screen farmers and align them with suitable agricultural enterprises. This proactive approach is essential for ensuring that the benefits of the project reach those who are ready and willing to invest in their future.

Mr Musinguzi Solomon, the UCSATP Focal Person Kabarole, elaborated on the project’s ambitious six-year vision, which aims to increase productivity, enhance market access, and build resilience among selected value chains in the region.

He noted that the project is designed for active farmers who are prepared to co-fund 20% of the costs, with the government contributing the 80%. “If we team up, the district can harness the project’s potential to drive sustainable development and climate resilience,” he said.

This collaborative spirit is crucial for the project’s success, as it fosters a sense of ownership among participants.

The Assistant Resident District Commissioner, Mr Asaba Frank, stressed that the time for political



*CDOs, Agriculture Extension Workers, Sub-County Chiefs, and DEC in a meeting.*

manoeuvring has passed.

***“It’s now time to concentrate and focus on development projects like Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation and the Parish Development Model,” he asserted.***

His call to action highlighted the need for CDOs, agriculture extension staff, and political leaders to double their efforts in mobilizing and sensitizing the community about existing government programs.

Sunday Simon, an agriculture officer from Karangura Sub County, suggested that integrating the UCSATP with other programs could amplify its impact.

“If we utilize every opportunity and platform to talk about the project, its impact will be amazing,” he remarked.

This holistic approach to community

engagement can lead to significant advancements in agricultural practices and overall economic development.

The meeting marked a pivotal moment in the journey toward achieving the project’s goals and making a lasting impact on the lives of Kabarole’s residents. As Uganda strives to attain a middle-income economy, the commitment to climate-smart agriculture becomes increasingly vital.

The participants resolved to continue environmental screening of climate-smart projects, including roads, valley dams, irrigation sites, and integrated district laboratories, while also focusing on farmer mobilization, sensitization, and group registration for E-Voucher enrolment.

In conclusion, the call to action from

Kabarole's leadership serves as a reminder that sustainable agricultural practices are not just a necessity but an opportunity for transformation. By working together, communities can build resilience against climate change, enhance productivity, and ultimately uplift the lives of their

residents. The future of agriculture in Kabarole is bright, and with continued dedication, the benefits of climate-smart practices can be realized for generations to come.

These are the highlights of the proposed activities of the project:

### Proposed Sites for Road Chokes

1.	Katoma-Bwabya road connecting Rwengaju subcounty, Kidubuli Health center III to Rwengaju Subcounty.
2.	Buzinda swamp connecting to Rwengaju subcounty and central division of Fort Portal city.
3.	Mbagani -Kirere road
4.	Ruteete- Mituuli road
5.	Kahangi- Mbagani road
6.	Busanga- Myeri- Kagagona road
7.	Kyogya- Busanga swamp links Mugusu S/C to north division
8.	River Mahoma connecting Kyanyaitemba to Mukatika linking Kabarole to Bunyangabu.
9.	River Mahamo along Kamigani -Kiyombya access link
10.	River Mukumiri link to Nyakitokoli Health center III.
11.	Nyakitokoli P/S access for bridging river Mukumiri
12.	Mahyoro P/S access for bridging and opening
13.	Mahoma bridge on Magunga- Bukorakole access
14.	Nyansimbi swamp linking Hakibaale S/C TO Kibasi T/C for bridging.
15.	Kyarwagonya bridge linking Hakibale S/C to Kibasi T/C
16.	Kyamasongi – Busoro access with rock cropping linking Kirere to Kabegira
17.	Kitangira – Kahondo swamp linking Kyakagusa market and Kicwamba to Bwanika and Buhara.
18.	Kanyatete access for sand and stone removal and spot graveling.
19.	Kyakaigo – Harugongo road linking Kicwamba to Kiburara and Nyabukaara.
20.	Nyantaboma- Buzinda connecting to Kidubuli –Rwenganju.

## Proposed Sites for Valley Tanks

Nyakabira Farm in Bulyambuzi- Harugongo S/C
Masongora farm in Kabende
Mpinga Muhenda Farm in Harugongo
Kabagambe Frank farm in Magunga Mugusu
Kakyoma Erisa farm in Hakibaale
Nkwasibwe Denis farm in Kasenda
Joan Gava In Rwengaju
Frank Niwagaba in Kakunwa-Harugongo
Rwengaju Mwikya farm in Rwengaju
Kabigambwa Farm in Rugando in Kibasi T/C.

# KASESE DISTRICT RECORDS 92% PLE PASS RATE, BEST PERFORMANCE IN FIVE YEARS

*By Sharon Kabugho- Communication Officer- Kasese District.*

Kasese District Local Government officially released Primary Leaving Examination (PLE) results at Kasese Polytechnic on February 5th, 2026, with an overall pass rate of 92 percent, marking Kasese District's strongest performance in five years.

A total of 13,078 pupils sat for the

2025 PLE across government-aided and private primary schools, marking a steady increase in candidature and participation. For thousands of families, the results represent hope, access to secondary education, relief from poverty cycles, and proof that investment in basic education can yield results.

Female candidates accounted for



*Edward Kasagara, Chief Administrative Officer of Kasese, addressing headteachers.*

53 percent of all candidates and slightly outperformed their male counterparts overall. Education officials say this reflects the impact of sustained advocacy for girl-child education, particularly in rural communities where dropout rates were once high.

More than 7,800 learners attained Division One and Two combined, positioning them competitively for secondary education placement. Private schools continued to dominate Division One results, contributing 33 percent of top-grade scores, while government-aided schools showed strength in the middle divisions, a sign of broad-based improvement rather than elite success alone.

Despite the positive headline numbers, district leaders were candid about lingering weaknesses. Addressing stakeholders, Kasese District Chairperson Hon. Muhindi Elphazi Bukombi expressed concern over the 909 candidates who remained ungraded, referring to it “a preventable failure.”

He announced plans to personally visit the worst-performing schools, alongside members of the district executive, to engage parents, teachers, and local leaders in recovery strategies.

***“This is not about blame. It is about accountability and collective responsibility,” Hon Bukombi stated.***



*District Chairperson addressing Kasese Headteachers at Kasese Polytechnic.*

Bukombi also renewed calls for hard-to-reach allowances for teachers in Kasese's difficult terrain, warning that delayed submissions at technical levels continue to deny teachers critical motivation; a gap he linked directly to performance disparities between schools.

Schools such as Buwatha Primary School, Kyaminyawandi, and Kanyampara SDA emerged as top government-aided performers, producing high proportions of Division One candidates. In the private sector, Global Vine, Ibanda Progressive, and Ndongo Baptist schools led the pack.

Yet the contrast with underperforming schools many in Busongora North was stark. High

numbers of ungraded results were concentrated in communities grappling with poverty, child labour, weak school management, and long walking distances to school.

District Education Officer Thabugha Ernest challenged headteachers to reclaim their role as community leaders and public ambassadors for their schools. He urged stronger parent engagement, better supervision, and resource mobilization at school level, noting that academic success increasingly depends on partnerships beyond the classroom.

Faith-based organizations were singled out for praise, with district leaders crediting them for improving discipline, infrastructure, and learner retention in some of the most



*Deputy RDC Joshua Katunda officially released the PLE results.*

underserved areas.

The five-year trend shows a steady rise in pass rates from 73 percent in 2020 to 92 percent in 2025, underscoring progress at the district level. But education officials caution that without addressing systemic issues such as teacher motivation, school feeding programs, infrastructure

shortages, and community conflict, gains may stall.

As Kasese celebrates improved results, the message from education leaders, appreciates partners who have supported improving education standards in the district, like Ripple Foundation, UNICEF, Enabel, among others, for their efforts.

## KYELEGWA DISTRICT REGISTERS INCREASE IN PLE CANDIDATES FOR 2025, SHOWS MIXED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

*By Baingana Samuel- Communication Officer, Kyegegwa District.*

Kyegegwa District Local Government has reported a notable increase in the

number of candidates who sat for the 2025 Primary Leaving Examination (PLE), although



academic performance across various divisions shows a mixed outcome compared to the previous year.

According to Mr. Kiiza Goden, the District Inspector of Schools, a total of 6,147 candidates, comprising 2,913 males and 3,234 females, were registered for the 2025 PLE. This marks an increase of 294 candidates from the 5,852 registered in 2024.

In 2025, the district had 93 UNEB-registered centres eligible to register candidates and 81 UNEB examination seating centres. The Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB) officially released the PLE results on January 30, 2026. Of the 6,147 candidates registered, 6,136 results (99.8%)

were successfully processed, while results for 11 candidates\ remain pending. The district is awaiting official communication from UNEB regarding the status of these results.

#### **Performance Breakdown**

The examination performance for Kyegegwa District candidates indicates that the majority of students were placed in Division Two, followed by Division Three. A total of 340 candidates (5.5%) achieved Division One, while 3,148 candidates (51.3%) passed in Division Two. In Division Three, 1,351 candidates (22.0%) were placed, and 699 candidates (11.4%) achieved Division Four.

Notably, 516 candidates (8.4%) were ungraded, and 82 candidates (1.3%)

were marked as absent during the examinations.

### **Comparative Performance with 2024 Results**

In comparison with the 2024 PLE results, Kyeggegw District witnessed a decline in top-grade performance in 2025. The percentage of candidates passing in Divisions One to Three decreased from 88.1% in 2024 to 78.8% in 2025—a decline of 9.3%. Similarly, the overall percentage of candidates passing in Divisions One to Four dropped from 94.5% in 2024 to 90.2% in 2025.

However, the district experienced a notable increase in the percentage of candidates placed in Division Four, which rose to 8.4% from 4.3% in 2024. This shift suggests a movement towards lower divisions for some learners, reflecting potential challenges in learner preparedness.

### **Improvements in Examination Management**

Despite the decline in high-grade performance, the district demonstrated significant improvements in the management of the PLE. In 2025, only 0.2% of candidates had their results withheld, a sharp contrast to 5.6% (332 candidates) in 2024. Furthermore, only one school had

results withheld in 2025, compared to six schools the previous year.

District officials attribute this improvement to enhanced security measures during the conduct of the examinations, ensuring full compliance with UNEB regulations and mitigating malpractice.

### **Factors Influencing Performance**

Several factors were identified as contributing to the district's performance in the 2025 PLE. Education officials noted that improved school inspection and monitoring, coupled with the continuity of teaching and learning during periods of teacher industrial action, played a key role in supporting candidate preparation.

Additionally, the district benefited from ongoing professional development initiatives such as the School Teacher Innovating for Results (STIR) program, which focused on enhancing the skills of educators. Improved school leadership and better teacher attendance further contributed to more effective syllabus coverage and learner readiness.

While examination management has seen considerable progress, district education officials have called for renewed attention to the quality of instruction and increased learner

support. They emphasized that addressing these areas will be crucial in improving future performance, particularly in the higher divisions.

### Looking Ahead

Kyegegwa District remains committed to enhancing its educational outcomes. Continued focus on quality instruction, teacher development, and the improvement

of learning environments is expected to further uplift performance in subsequent examinations. The district education department is optimistic that with sustained efforts and collaboration among all stakeholders, learners will be better positioned to perform at higher academic levels in the future.

Division	DIV.1		DIV.2		DIV.3		DIV.4		DIV.U		DIV. X		TOTAL	
Gender	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers	201	103	1541	1607	609	742	309	390	202	314	40	42	2902	3234
Grade Total	340		3148		1351		699		516		82		6136	
Percentages	5.5%		51.3%		22.0%		11.4%		8.4%		1.3%			

### Comparison with 2024 Results

Division	DIV.1	DIV.2	DIV.3	DIV.4	DIV.U	DIV. X	TOTAL
Number	440	3458	956	355	240	71	5520
Percentages	8.0%	62.6%	17.3%	6.4%	4.3%	1.3%	

# TACKLING MALNUTRITION IN KABAROLE: LEADERS CALL FOR URGENT ACTION AS MALNUTRITION HITS 38%

By Stephen Ainganiza-Kabarole District Communication Officer

The Kabarole District Nutrition Coordination Committee (DNCC)

convened with development partners at the Kitumba district headquarters to address a



*Chairperson DNCC Mr Kisembo Brian, indicating the malnutrition status as members read the data in the books.*

**pressing issue: the overcrowding of government health facilities due to rising rates of malnutrition and non-communicable diseases (NCDs).**

This meeting, held in the district chairperson's boardroom, highlighted the urgent need for collaborative action to combat these challenges that are affecting the health and well-being of the community.

Mr Kisembo Brian, the DNCC Chairperson, opened the meeting with a revelation, saying the region is grappling with a malnutrition rate of 38%. This alarming statistic is not just a number; it represents real lives affected by obesity, diabetes,

hypertension, and other serious health conditions. "The majority of patients overcrowding our health facilities are those with obesity," Mr. Kisembo stated.

The consequences of malnutrition extend beyond individual health. Mr. Kisembo expressed concern over its impact on academic performance among school children and the rise of gender-based violence within families.

***"Malnutrition increases anemia in mothers, Gender-Based Violence, and HIV prevalence," he noted.***

Despite the Tooro region being a food basket, the paradox of malnutrition persists, highlighting



*DNCC Members and Development Partners in their quarterly Nutrition coordination meeting.*

the need for immediate and effective interventions.

The meeting concluded with a unified call for action. Mr. Kisembo urged all partners to collaborate and mobilize the community around good feeding practices.

“We need to integrate the government program of the Parish Development Model (PDM) and the Uganda Climate Smart Agriculture Project to drive change,” he asserted.

This collaboration is crucial for empowering communities with the knowledge and resources necessary to improve their nutritional status.

To effectively tackle malnutrition, the DNCC proposed several key strategies. First, strengthening the functionality of the sub county nutrition committees is essential.

By improving quarterly indicators of malnutrition and enhancing training for these committees, the region can better address the ongoing challenges. Engaging parents and school leaders in school feeding programs was also identified as a vital step in promoting better nutrition among children.

Mr Binta Robert, the District Planner, emphasized the importance of understanding local development plans at Sub County and town council before implementing interventions.

**“Development is affected at the household level,” he explained.**

He noted that issues like gender-based violence must be addressed to foster a supportive environment for children’s education and well-

being.

Stephen Birungi, the Senior Assistant Secretary, called for a grassroots approach.

*"We need to mobilize parents and school administrators to improve feeding practices," he urged.*

In light of these discussions, it was resolved that the Chief Administrative Officer should convene an urgent coordination meeting by the end of March. This meeting will bring together all district-operating partners to map out their areas of operation and interventions, ensuring that efforts are not duplicated and that all partners are aligned in their objectives.

### **Take Action Now!**

The time for action is now. The health and future of Kabarole's children depend on our collective efforts to combat malnutrition and promote good nutrition practices. Whether you are a community leader, a health worker, or a concerned citizen, your

involvement is crucial.

**Educate Yourself and Others:** Learn about the importance of nutrition and share this knowledge with your community. Host workshops or discussions to raise awareness.

### **Ways to take action:**

- **Support Local Initiatives:** Get involved with local nutrition committees or health programs. Your participation can make a significant difference.
- **Advocate for Change:** Encourage local leaders and development partners to prioritize nutrition initiatives and ensure they are effectively implemented.
- **Promote Healthy Practices:** Share information on good feeding practices and the benefits of a balanced diet within your family and community.

Together, we can create a healthier future for Kabarole District. Let's take action today to ensure that no child goes hungry and that every family has access to the nutrition they need to thrive.

*"We need to integrate the government program of the Parish Development Model (PDM) and the Uganda Climate Smart Agriculture Project to drive change," Mr. Kisembo asserted*

# KAMWENGE: OVER 90 TEACHERS TRAINED TO DELIVER INCLUSIVE EDUCATION TO REFUGEE-HOSTING COMMUNITIES



CAO, DEO OPM UNHCR, SAVE representatives & other partners pose for a group photo with the teachers.

*By Joy Kiiza- Senior IT Officer, Kamwenge District.*

The Education Local Expertise Centre Uganda (ELECU) has successfully concluded a three-day orientation for newly recruited teachers aimed at strengthening inclusive

education in refugee-hosting communities in Kamwenge District.

The orientation, conducted from 3rd to 5th February 2026 at Nkoma Katalyeba Town Council Resource



*Madam Harriet Katusiime CAO Kamwenge delivering her remarks to the teachers.*

Centre in Rwamwanja, brought together 99 teachers recruited under the Building Resilient Inclusive Systems for Locally Led Education and Protection (ECHO RISE) Project

The training attracted key stakeholders and partners, including the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), UNHCR, USDC, Humanity & Inclusion, Save the Children, Katalemwa Cheshire Home, YARID, and technical officers from Kamwenge District Local Government. The partners emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts to strengthen education and child protection systems in refugee and host community settings.

While officiating at the opening

ceremony, the Chief Administrative Officer of Kamwenge District, Madam Harriet Katusiime, congratulated the teachers on their recruitment and urged them to nurture learners with strong values, good character, and a God-fearing spirit. She applauded ELECU and its partners, particularly UNHCR and Save the Children, for complementing government efforts to improve education service delivery in the district. She also noted that the teachers' contracts will run until February 2027.

Mr Kateba Phillip, the Education Consortium Manager at Save the Children Uganda, informed participants that all 99 teachers have contracts aligned with the government salary scale, running



*DEO Mr Barinitwe Stephen delivering words of wisdom to the teachers.*

up to 2027. He emphasized professionalism, respect for school leadership, and reminded the teachers that although recruited by ELECU, they remain under the supervision of the District Education Officer (DEO) and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

The District Inspector of Schools, Mr Nuwagaba Edson, commended ELECU for deploying teachers to schools in Kamwenge District and guided participants through key policy frameworks, including the Teachers' Scheme of Service, Teachers' Code of Conduct, the Education Act (2008), and the National Teachers' Policy.

He encouraged teachers to manage

expectations in refugee settlement contexts, remain resilient, and adapt teaching approaches to large class sizes ranging from 15 to over 200 learners. He further emphasized positive discipline, child protection, effective learner management, and teamwork despite resource constraints.

The District Education Officer, Mr Barinitwe Steven, praised ELECU and its implementing partners for transparency throughout the recruitment process and urged teachers to uphold the Teachers' Code of Conduct and professional standards at all times.

The orientation equipped the newly recruited teachers with practical skills, policy knowledge, and professional values necessary to

deliver inclusive, child-centred, and quality education to both refugee and host community learners in Kamwenge District.

The Education Local Expertise Centre Uganda (ELECU) has successfully conducted a three-day orientation for newly recruited teachers under the Building Resilient

Inclusive Systems for Locally Led Education and Protection (ECHO RISE) Project.

The orientation took place from 3rd to 5th February 2026 at Nkoma Katalyeba Town Council Resource Centre in Rwamwanja, Kamwenge District.

## BUNYANGABU EMERGES TOP PERFORMER IN TOORO SUB-REGION PLE



*By Christopher Tusiime- Communication Officer, Bunyangabu.*

**B**unyangabu District has emerged as the best-performing district in the Tooro Sub-region in the 2025 Primary Leaving Examinations

(PLE), according to results released on January 30, 2026.

An analysis of the results shows that the district registered 1,231

candidates in Division One, 2,259 in Division Two, and 283 in Division Three. Only 102 candidates fell in Division Four, 58 were ungraded (U), while 59 candidates were absent.

The performance marks a significant improvement compared to 2024, when out of 3,920 candidates who sat the examinations, only 856 obtained Division One.

At school level, Kibiito Primary School topped the district, with 112 candidates passing in Division One, representing 98 percent of its total candidature. The school was followed by St Mbaga Primary School with 37 pupils (97%), Excel Primary School with 52 pupils (96%), and Kabale Muslim Primary School, which registered 67 Division Ones, accounting for 92 percent of its candidates.

Gender-disaggregated results show a notable improvement among both girls and boys. A total of 674 girls passed in Division One in 2025, up from 440 in 2024. Among boys, the number rose from 414 in 2024 to 557 in 2025.

District leaders attribute the improved performance to regular school monitoring, improved teacher attendance, committed leadership, and strong parental support.

The Senior Education Officer, Mr

Patrick Ruyonga, says the district's next focus will be on strengthening support to schools to further increase the number of Division One candidates.

*"We call upon all stakeholders to join hands and work even harder to ensure that our performance remains the best," Mr Ruyonga said.*

Speaking to this publication, the Headteacher of Kibiito Primary School, Mr Elasto Kasoro, said the school's outstanding performance was a result of sustained teamwork and commitment.

Mr Kasoro attributed the success to dedicated staff, responsible parents, effective school management, an active Parents and Teachers Association (PTA), and positive engagement with the School Management Committee.

He also praised the district education department and the Chief Administrative Officer for consistent supervision.

"We also greatly appreciate the LCV Chairperson, Mr James Ategeka Mugarama, who always financially supports our pre-mock examinations. These help to adequately prepare learners before the final exams," he added.



# BUNYANGABU DISTRICT

## 2025 PLE PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

And comparison with 2024 results by gender and division

### COMPARISON BETWEEN 2024 AND 2025 BY DIVISIONS

YEAR	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV U	DIV X	TOTAL
2024	856	2632	276	80	26	50	<b>3920</b>
2025	1231	2259	283	102	58	59	<b>3992</b>

### COMPARISON BETWEEN 2024 AND 2025 BY GENDER AND DIVISIONS

YEAR	GENDER	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4	DIV U	DIV X	TOTAL
2024	FEMALE	440	1417	151	45	12	30	<b>2095</b>
	MALE	416	1215	125	35	14	20	<b>1825</b>
2025	FEMALE	674	1227	150	53	31	33	<b>2168</b>
	MALE	557	1032	133	49	27	26	<b>1824</b>

### 10 BEST PRIMARY SCHOOLS THAT SCORED MORE DIVISION ONES

SN	SCHOOL NAME	NO. OF DIV ONES	PERCENT-AGE	LOCATION
1.	Kibiito Primary School	112	98%	Kibiito Town Council
2.	St Mbaga Primary School	37	97%	Nyakigumba Town Council
3.	Excel Primary School	52	96%	Rwimi Town Council
4.	Kabale Muslim PS	67	92%	Kibiito Sub County
5.	St. Johns Yerya PS	88	90%	Kibiito Town Council
6.	Bubwika Primary School	96	86%	Kibiito Town Council
7.	Rwimi Primary School	94	86%	Rwimi Town Council
8.	Busiita Primary School	78	85%	Nyakigumba Town Council
9.	Moset PS	18	78%	Kibiito Town Council
10.	Rwimi Parents PS	48	76%	Rwimi Town Council

Data obtained from the Education Department of Bunyangabu District Local Government

# NEW HOPE FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AS URDT ROLLS OUT SIYEP IN KAMWENGE



*Participants pose for a group photo with URDT Co-ordinator Madam Birabwa Joan.*

*By Joy Kiiza- Senior IT Officer, Kamwenge.*

**O**n 2nd November 2025, the Uganda Rural Development and Training (URDT) Institute convened district stakeholders, artisans, and agribusiness practitioners from Kamwenge District, alongside leaders and artisans from Rwamwanja Refugee Settlement, to reflect on lessons from previous interventions and officially introduce the Sustainable Inclusive

Youth Employment Pathways (SIYEP) Program. The engagement was held at the Kamwenge District Council Hall.

URDT Institute is implementing a five-year skilling program targeting 50,000 young women aged 18–35 across 20 districts and four refugee settlements. Implemented under the Young Africa Works Strategy, the SIYEP Program is designed



*CAO Madam Harriet & Hon Karungi Joseph, District Chairperson, Handing over startup tools to women entrepreneurs in Kamwenge.*

to prepare and transition young women into dignified, sustainable employment through inclusive, market-relevant, and quality skills development.

While addressing participants, Dr. Mwalimu Musheshe, Founder of URDT Institute and Chairperson of the Board, emphasized the critical role of district leaders, technocrats, artisans, and agribusiness practitioners as key partners in ensuring program ownership, quality delivery, and long-term sustainability. He reaffirmed URDT-I's commitment to sustained engagement in 24 districts and

four refugee settlements, and to strengthening partnerships with artisans and practitioners previously supported under earlier initiatives.

The meeting highlighted positive trends in youth employment and strong commitments from district technical staff to support program implementation, monitoring, and supervision. District officials further pledged to link participating young women to relevant government initiatives, including the Parish Development Model (PDM), Emoyaoga, and the Youth Livelihood Programme (YLP), to enhance access to financing and enterprise support.

The SIYEP Program will prioritize the mandatory integration of ICT in training through e-learning platforms and digital marketing. It will also focus on non-traditional and gender-non-defined occupations, value addition, design and technology, mindset change, and safeguarding mechanisms to ensure the safety, confidence, and empowerment of young women.

District Community Development Officer (DCDO), Madam Niyigira Molly Harriet, applauded URDT-I for its continued support and the

reintroduction of a transformative skilling program in the same localities.

The SIYEP Program is expected to further strengthen collaboration among artisans, engage local leaders and families, promote group formation and savings culture, and deepen partnerships with other development actors laying a strong foundation for inclusive and sustainable youth employment in Kamwenge District and beyond.



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