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KABAROLE DISTRICT MOVES TO SPLIT BURAHYA COUNTY INTO THREE CONSTITUENCIES

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**Rwenzori
Times** 

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TUSIIME CHRISTOPHER

CHIEF EDITOR

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the 29th edition of Rwenzori Times. In this week's edition, we highlight key developments across the Rwenzori sub-region, reflecting ongoing efforts to strengthen governance, improve service delivery, and support local development.

For instance, in Kabarole District, leaders have recommended the splitting of Burahya County into three constituencies: Burahya North, Burahya Central, and Burahya South. The proposal, if approved by the relevant national authorities, is expected to improve representation, bring government services closer to communities, and strengthen advocacy for social services such as health facilities and infrastructure in the rapidly growing area.

Public health also takes centre stage in this edition. Health officials in Fort Portal City have adopted an integrated step-by-step mandatory testing approach for patients visiting health facilities. Under the new framework, patients will routinely be screened for conditions such as malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, diabetes, and hypertension. The initiative is intended to improve early detection of diseases, strengthen prevention efforts, and enhance the overall quality of healthcare delivery. In the education sector, stakeholders in

Kitagwenda District have raised concern over rising alcoholism among some teachers and school heads, warning that the vice is undermining professionalism and negatively affecting academic performance in several schools.

Meanwhile, Bunyangabu District is poised for further transformation after being selected to benefit from Phase II of the Local Economic Growth Support (LEGS) Project. The programme is expected to invest in critical infrastructure such as community access roads, markets, water for production, and agro-processing facilities to boost local economies.

Elsewhere, Kasese District has begun construction of the 8.5-kilometre Byapa-Kahokya-Mughete road, a project expected to improve transport, ease movement of goods and people, and enhance access to essential services for surrounding communities.

We wish you a nice read.

KABUGHO SHARON

Editor



AINGANIZA STEPHEN

Editor

TOP UPE PERFORMERS IN KITAGWENDA DISTRICT REWARDED WITH SCHOLASTIC MATERIALS



Kitagwenda District Vice Chairperson Mr Ashaba Peter, giving his remarks

By Tumwiine David, Acting Communications Officer- Kitagwenda

Top-performing pupils from Universal Primary Education (UPE) schools in Kitagwenda District who excelled in the 2025 Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) have been rewarded with scholastic materials to support their transition to secondary education.

The awarding ceremony took place on Thursday, February 26th, 2026, at the Kitagwenda District Headquarters and was organized by the Kitagwenda Development

Think Tank (KIDETT), a group of professionals originally from Kitagwenda who now work in different sectors but remain committed to contributing to the



Kitagwenda District DEO Mr Sedas Asimwe



Kitagwenda District ARDC Mr Nabasa Phillip giving remarks

development of their home district.

KIDETT focuses on promoting development in Kitagwenda District, with special emphasis on improving education, reducing school dropout rates, and supporting community initiatives such as access to safe water.

As part of its annual initiative, the organization recognizes and rewards the best-performing pupils from UPE schools. In the 2025 academic year, KIDETT rewarded

pupils who scored Aggregate 8 and below in the PLE, provided they studied in UPE/ public schools.

During the ceremony, Bwengye Kenneth, a member of

KIDETT and Procurement Manager at the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA), represented the KIDETT Chairperson, Prof. Rose Namara. He congratulated the beneficiaries for their outstanding performance and encouraged them to remain focused on their academic goals.

“I congratulate all of you upon completing Primary Seven and emerging as the best in the whole district. You have the capacity to



Beneficiaries of the scholastic materials



The Best Performers were rewarded with Mattresses, Counter Books, pens, mathematical sets, Pencils, Sanitary towels (for girls), among other items

reach wherever you want to be if you remain focused, committed, and disciplined,” Bwengye said. Quoting from the biblical book of Songs of Solomon (chapters 2:7, 3:5, and 8:4), he advised the pupils to avoid rushing into romantic relationships while still young and in school. He urged them to guard their hearts against temptations that could derail their educational journey and instead remain focused on completing their studies.

The award ceremony was attended by the pupils, their parents, head teachers of the best-performing schools, and top district leaders.

Kitagwenda District Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Dalili R.K. Moses, commended KIDETT members for their dedication to the development of their home district. “When I first received a call from one of the KIDETT members, I was skeptical because I know what most think tanks are like. But for KIDETT, you are exceptional,” Dalili said. “Thank you for loving your homeland and for the initiatives



Beneficiaries



Bwengye Kenneth of KIDETT (Right) seated with Kitagwenda District Leadership at the award giving ceremony.

you are undertaking to improve the livelihoods of the people in this district. I have read about the tangible things you have already done.”

Dalili reaffirmed the district’s commitment to working closely with KIDETT in advancing development initiatives.

“As a district, we are committed to cooperating with you in your initiatives. Government cannot do everything alone. We need key partners like you, and we shall support you whenever you need our input,” he added.

The Kitagwenda District Education Officer, Mr. Asiimwe Sedas, encouraged parents to enroll the beneficiaries in schools within the district to increase their chances

of benefiting from government-sponsored higher education opportunities.

“I encourage parents to take these children to schools within Kitagwenda. This will widen their opportunities to receive government sponsorship in the future,” Sedas said.

He explained that Kitagwenda District receives seven slots annually for students to study in public universities under the district quota system. However, beneficiaries must be born in the district, study there, and complete their Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) within the district. “We have good schools here. Please take advantage of



Bwengye Kenneth of KIDETT giving his remarks

them and educate these children from within the district,” he added.

Sedas also urged the pupils to remain committed to their education and complete all levels of schooling.

“If you do not complete Senior Four, Senior Six, or graduate with a certificate, diploma, or degree, we cannot say you completed school; we say you dropped out. I encourage all of you to stay in school and complete your studies,” he said.

The Assistant Resident District Commissioner, Mr. Nabasa Phillip, applauded KIDETT for complementing government efforts aimed at keeping children in school. “The NRM government has provided funding to support children’s education, but sometimes the lack of other scholastic

materials forces some pupils to drop out. KIDETT has stepped in to bridge that gap,” Nabasa said.

He encouraged the beneficiaries to take good care of the materials and make the most of the opportunity. “The future is yours. Protect these materials, make good use of them. I see future Members of Parliament, ministers, doctors, teachers, engineers, and pilots among you. You have the potential. Use these materials well, and one day you will give testimonies,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Kitagwenda District Vice Chairperson, Mr. Ashaba Peter, called on sub-counties with poor academic performance to improve their results.

“The distribution of First Grades is uneven. Some sub-counties and town councils are performing very well, while others are performing poorly, and this must change,” Ashaba said.

He urged the district leadership to take deliberate measures to improve academic performance across all lower local governments. “We must look for ways to ensure every sub-county and every school contributes to the production of First Grades,” he added.

HEALTH OFFICIALS ADOPT INTEGRATED STEP-BY-STEP MANDATORY TESTING FOR PATIENTS TO STRENGTHEN DISEASE CONTROL



The Team Reviewing Data on their Mobile Phones and Tablets.

By Stephen Ainganiza, Senior Communication Officer, Fort Portal City

Fort Portal City Health officials in Fort Portal City, alongside their development partners, have agreed to implement an integration of services at the Outpatient Department (OPD) and outreach programs. This initiative will also incorporate the adaptation of digital or electronic registration for clients, marking a significant step towards modernizing healthcare in the region.

Under this new framework, every client visiting the health facility will undergo screening and testing for a range of critical health issues, including Tuberculosis, diabetes, hypertension, malaria, and HIV. Additionally, mothers seeking antenatal care and immunizations will be screened for cervical cancer and other sexually transmitted infections such as syphilis and gonorrhoea.

This decision was made during a recent one-day performance



A Section Of Participants Pose in a Photo After the Review Meeting.

review meeting focused on key health indicators, including malaria and HIV, held at the East Division Hall in Central Division. The review aimed to promote data-driven decision-making among stakeholders, analyze disease trends, exchange best practices in case management, and evaluate the accuracy of health data reporting.

During the meeting, it was noted that the malaria positivity rate at the OPD in some facilities remains alarmingly high, exceeding 45%. Furthermore, the July to December quarter reported 283 new HIV infections, with 267 clients successfully linked to care.

Among the facilities recognized for their exemplary performance were Kiguma Health Center III, Bukuuku HC IV in North Division,

and Kagote in Central Division, which demonstrated effective reporting and an increased number of patients served.

Madam Annet Kabahenda, the Assistant City Health Officer in charge of Maternal Health, emphasized the meeting's objective: to enhance healthcare systems through periodic reviews and data-driven planning. She highlighted the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to review data, share achievements and challenges, and devise strategies to improve service delivery.

Kabahenda urged facility in-charges, both in government and private sectors, to intensify their efforts to achieve targets, positioning Fort Portal City as

a top-performing institution nationally.

Dr Kaweesi Francisco, in charge of Kataraka Health Center IV, called for timely submission of weekly, monthly, and quarterly reports, noting that the last quarter's reporting rate stood at only 50%. This shortfall negatively impacts Fort Portal City's standing in national assessments. "I urge you as health workers to ensure early and improved submission of reports and integration of services at OPD to increase attendance," Dr Kaweesi stated.

He expressed confidence that improved screening and integration of services would enable Fort Portal

City to rank among the top ten performers in health care.

Dr Lydia Kwaje from Baylor emphasized the need for accountability and self-assessment among health facility in-charges.

"As health workers and supervisors, we must reflect on our performance and embrace digitalization in patient care," she urged.

The meeting concluded with the formulation of an action plan to guide health sector partners and technocrats in enhancing service delivery.

KEY ACTION POINTS

- Bi-weekly sharing of reports and certification of prenatal and maternal deaths.
- Mandatory testing for all malaria suspects to reduce positivity rates.
- Implementation of indoor residual spraying in schools and hospitals to combat mosquito breeding.
- Enhanced health education on the use of treated mosquito nets.
- Strict adherence to health and sanitation measures by health educators and inspectors.
- Integration of antenatal care with routine services.
- Prioritization of client satisfaction and customer care at facility levels, utilizing QR codes for feedback.
- Encouragement of male involvement in antenatal care to address sexually transmitted diseases.
- Mandatory HIV testing for all pregnant women, with

immediate enrollment in ART for those testing positive.

- 24/7 availability of laboratory personnel to prevent service delays.
- Increased supervision of outreach activities to boost immunization rates among children.

- Mainstreaming HIV testing in all outreach programs and identifying hotspots for targeted interventions.
- Provision of three-month drug supplies for clients in HIV care.

Overall, health facility in-charges were urged to focus on improving health indicators to ensure better outcomes for the community.

HEALTH COMMUNICATORS IN TOORO SUB-REGION TRAINED ON EFFECTIVE HIV MESSAGING AND PREVENTION INNOVATIONS

Baingana Samuel, Communication Officer, Kyegegwa

Health communicators and media practitioners from across the Tooro sub-region have been oriented on effective HIV communication and the latest HIV prevention interventions during a one-day meeting organized by the Uganda AIDS Commission (UAC).

The orientation meeting was held on Thursday, March 12th, 2026, at Nyaika Hotel in Fort Portal City. It brought together People Living with HIV coordinators, HIV focal

persons, Health educators, and presenters from various media houses representing the districts of Kyegegwa, Kabarole, Ntoroko, Kasese, Bunyangabu, Kamwenge, Kyenjojo, Kitagwenda, Bundibugyo, and Fort Portal City.

The meeting aimed at strengthening HIV communication efforts in the region by equipping participants with accurate information and practical skills for engaging communities through mass media and other platforms.

During the session, participants



Head of communication and advocacy UAC Ms. Joanita Kemigisha presenting the Radio Facilitators guide

were briefed on the current HIV situation in Uganda and specifically within the Tooro sub-region. The discussions highlighted the importance of coordinated communication strategies to increase awareness, reduce stigma, and promote prevention, testing, and treatment services.

Participants were also trained on how to facilitate impactful radio and television talk shows on HIV-related issues. The training focused on effective messaging, responsible reporting, and engaging audiences in meaningful discussions that encourage positive health-seeking

behaviour.

The meeting further provided a platform for participants to share their experiences in delivering HIV-related messages within their respective communities and media platforms. This exchange helped identify challenges, best practices, and opportunities for improving HIV communication.

In addition, the Uganda AIDS Commission introduced participants to approved HIV communication messages intended to guide public engagement



Group photo of participants.

and ensure consistency in the information disseminated across the region.

Participants also received information on the long-acting injection for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), a new HIV prevention option designed to provide extended protection for individuals at risk of HIV infection.

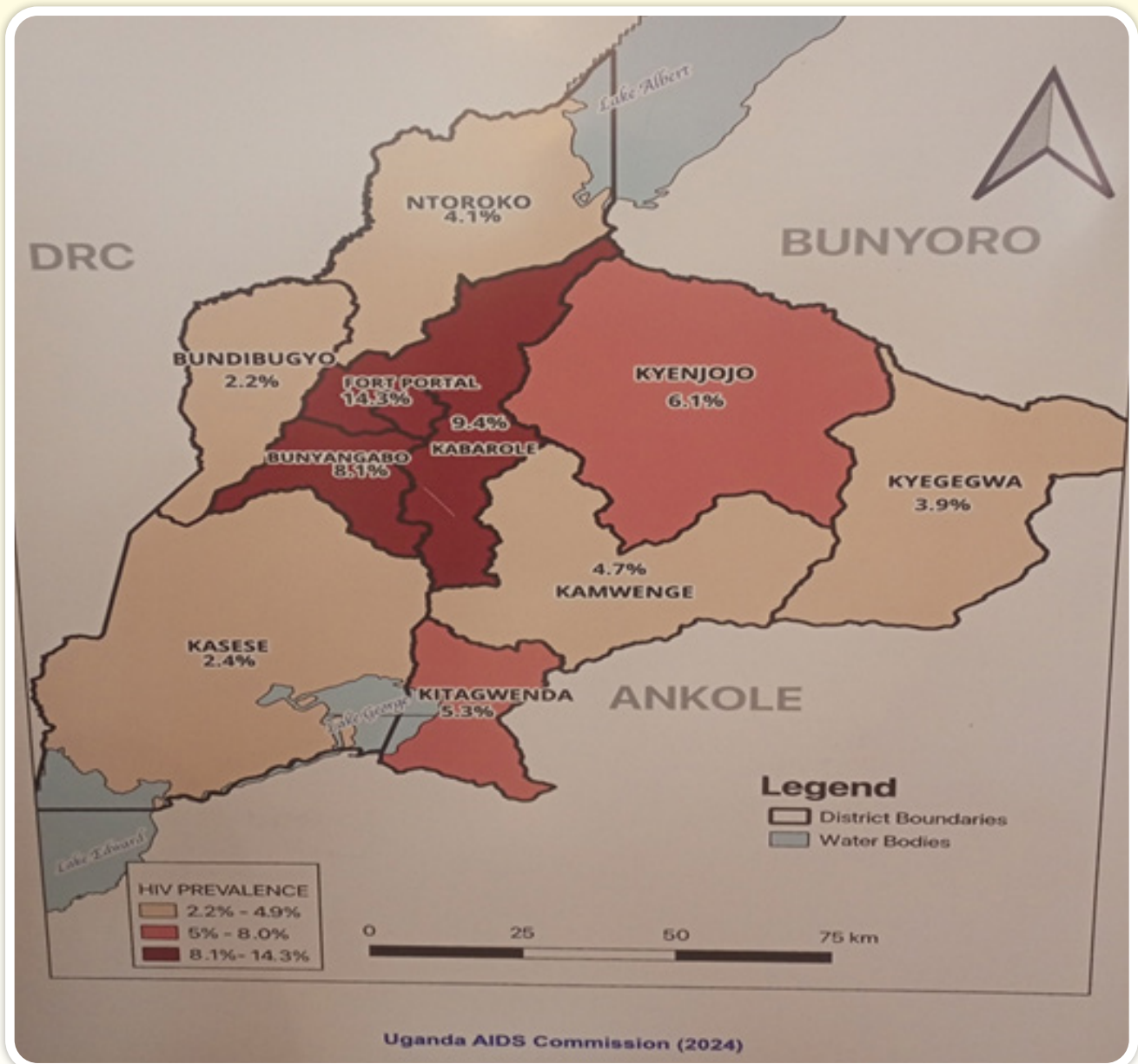
The orientation is part of ongoing efforts by Uganda AIDS Commission to strengthen partnerships

with health educators, community leaders, and the media in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Through such engagements, stakeholders are expected to play a critical role in promoting accurate



Hon. Betty Mujungu the Deputy City Mayor Fort Portal giving opening remarks



HIV Prevalence by districts (14-49) in Tooro sub region

HIV information and supporting Uganda’s efforts toward ending HIV/AIDS as a public health threat.

Hon. Betty Mujungu, Deputy City Mayor of Fort Portal, officially opened the meeting, expressing her concern over the continued high prevalence of HIV in the region. She emphasized the need for a rebranding of HIV messages, urging all stakeholders to ensure

that their communication efforts reach every segment of the population without leaving anyone behind. Hon Mujungu’s call for inclusive messaging underscored the importance of making HIV-related information accessible to all members of the community, regardless of their background or social status.

CITY AUTHORITIES DIRECT IMMEDIATE INSTALLATION OF GARBAGE BINS FOR BUSINESSES



The Fort Portal City Town Clerk Mr Ambrose Ocen Addressing the staff.

Stephen Ainganiza, Senior Communications Officer, Fort Portal City

Authorities in Fort Portal City have mandated that businesses and commercial establishments immediately install authorized garbage bins to combat improper waste disposal, street littering, and clogged drainage system or face legal repercussions.

This decision comes in response to growing concerns from the Fort Portal City Council Management regarding the lack of waste disposal facilities in numerous businesses, which has significantly contributed to littering throughout the city.

In a letter dated March 5, 2026, addressed to all business operators and copied to the Resident City Commissioner of Fort Portal, the City Mayor, division town clerks, division mayors, and city police commanders, Fort Portal City Town Clerk Mr Ocen Ambrose emphasized the necessity for shopkeepers, business owners, and supermarket proprietors to acquire and properly utilize litter and garbage bins without delay.

According to Ugandan law and public health regulations, all businesses are mandated to provide

litter and garbage bins and ensure that waste is disposed of properly on a daily basis. This initiative aims to maintain a clean, healthy, and enjoyable environment for both residents and visitors, restoring the city’s reputation as “Fort Portal, the Cleanest Town” in Uganda.



The Garbage Bins Needed to be Installed by Business Owners at their Premises.

Mr. Ambrose has set a compliance deadline of March 14, 2026, stating that enforcement actions will commence on March 16, 2026. The city council will conduct inspections, and any businesses found operating without the required waste disposal facilities or

failing to meet basic public health standards will face closure and fines in accordance with the law.

This proactive measure underscores the city’s commitment to environmental sustainability and public health, ensuring that Fort Portal remains a welcoming destination for all especially the foreign tourists.

KABAROLE DISTRICT MOVES TO SPLIT BURAHYA COUNTY INTO THREE CONSTITUENCIES

Mpamizo Evalist, Ag District Communications Officer, Kabarole

The Kabarole District Council has passed a motion recommending the splitting of Burahya County into three constituencies, a

move leaders say will improve representation and service delivery.

The motion was presented before the council on Thursday,



Kabarole district council passed the motion to split Burahya County on Thursday last week.

March 12th, 2026, at the district headquarters in Kitumba by John Amanyire Kasweta, the male councillor representing Hakibale Sub- County.

While presenting the motion, Kasweta said the move is in line with the 1995 Constitution of Uganda, as amended, and the Local Government Act Cap 138. He explained that the proposal seeks to recommend constituency demarcation within Kabarole District to enhance local governance, improve service delivery and ensure equitable resource allocation without altering the existing district boundaries.

Kasweta told councillors that Burahya County currently covers a wide geographical area with a growing population, which has made effective representation increasingly difficult. He noted that similar constituency splits have already been implemented in neighboring districts including Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, Kamwenge and Bundibugyo, saying the changes have improved representation and brought services closer to the people.

Kasweta therefore asked the council to approve and recommend to Parliament, the Ministry of Local Government and the Electoral Commission the demarcation



of Burahya County into three constituencies namely Burahya South, Burahya Central and Burahya North.

According to the proposal, Burahya South would comprise Kasenda Town Council, Kasenda Sub-County, Ruteete Sub-County, Kiiko Town Council and Busoro Town Council; Burahya Central would include Mugusu Town Council, Mugusu Sub-County, Karangura Sub-County, Kicwamba Sub-County and Harugongo Sub-County.

Meanwhile, Burahya North would be formed by Rwengaju Sub County, Hakibale Sub County and Kabende Sub-County together with Kijura and Kibasi town councils. The motion was seconded

by Gideon Ruta, the male councillor for Kasenda Sub-County, and Grace Ahumuza, the district female youth councillor.

Gideon Ruta supported the proposal, saying the division of the county would improve representation of the people and ensure government programmes reach communities more effectively. “Three smaller constituencies will bring parliamentary oversight, project monitoring, and community voice much closer to the people, in full conformity with the decentralization principle enshrined in both the Constitution and the Local Governments Act (Cap 243),” Ruta emphasized.

Grace Ahumuza, the female

youth councillor, also backed the motion, noting that the creation of additional constituencies would create more leadership opportunities and strengthen service delivery in the district.

Kyorampe Stella, the district Vice Chairperson, explained that currently, Burahya constituency of over 230,000 people relies on Health Centre IV (Ruteete HCIV). “Splitting Burahya County into three constituencies will therefore

trigger advocacy and funding for at least two additional HCIVs, bringing emergency obstetric care, minor theatre services, and comprehensive primary healthcare closer to remote parishes,” she remarked.

If approved by the relevant national authorities, the proposal could see Burahya County represented by three Members of Parliament instead of the current single constituency representative.

KABAROLE DISTRICT TABLES SHS29BN BUDGET DRAFT FOR 2026/2027 FINANCIAL YEAR

Mpamizo Evalist, Ag District Communications Officer, Kabarole

Kabarole District Council has tabled a proposed budget of Shs29.7 billion for the 2026/2027 financial year, representing a reduction of Shs 2 billion from the Shs31.1 billion approved for the 2025/2026 financial year.

The budget estimates were presented to the council on Thursday, March 12th, 2026, by the district Chairperson, Dr Richard Rwabuhinga, during a council

sitting at the district headquarters in Kitumba. Rwabuhinga said the district expects to raise the funds from local revenue and central government transfers.

“The district anticipates raising its funds from locally raised revenues shs1billion, Discretionary government transfers shs5.8billion, Conditional government transfers shs21.9billion, other government transfers shs617.2million, and external financing shs378.2million,” Rwabuhinga said.



Dr. Rwabuhinga Richard, the district chairperson Kabarole, laid the budget estimates before the council on Thursday last week.

He noted that once realized, the funds will support service delivery across key sectors including health, education, production, works and technical services.

According to the Rwabuhinga, a significant portion of the budget will be directed towards the completion of the district headquarters in Busoro Sub country.

He said Shs1.2billion has since been allocated towards the construction of the new district headquarters in the FY 2026/2027, and 200million

towards the completion of Kijura and Mugusu Town council headquarters with each unit allocated Shs100 million.

“Note that the estimated cost for the entire district headquarters project is Sh7.3billion. We have so far used Sh2billion and require a total of sh5.3billion to have it completed. The allocation of Sh1.2 billion in the next financial year will leave a financing gap that needs more lobbying if the building is to be completed,” Rwabuhinga said.

He added that an additional

Shs100 million has been allocated to the planning department to facilitate research, capacity building and effective operations of the department in the 2026/2027 financial year.

Rwabuhinga further revealed that health, the department expects to receive Shs6.2billion in the financial year 2026/2027. Of this, Shs5.7billion is recurrent wage and non-wage while Shs518 million is development. Under development budget, the department intends to undertake construction of a two-stance latrine at Kitule and Iruhura Health Centre IIIs, construction of a placenta pit at Mugusu HCIII, extension of power and water to Nsorro HCIII.

According to Rwabuhinga under

Education, the department has been allocated Shs9.037 billion of which shs8.67billion is recurrent and shs358 million development under the school's facilities grant which will be used to fund extra works at Kicwamba seed secondary school to have the school fully completed and operationalized.

In the production and marketing department, the district chairperson said the department expects to receive Shs1.98 billion, while in Community-Based services, the department has been allocated Shs311 million.

A total of Shs 1billion will be allocated to road maintenance and Shs 441 million under the Uganda Road Fund.

ALCOHOLISM AMONG TEACHERS WORRIES EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS IN KITAGWENDA

By Tumwiine David, Acting Communications Officer, Kitagwenda District

Education Stakeholders in Kitagwenda District are greatly concerned about increased alcoholism among school heads and teachers in government-aided schools, saying

the vice is negatively affecting academic performance in several schools across the district.

The concern was raised during the dissemination of the 2025



Kitagwenda District Leadership during the Stakeholders meeting

Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) and Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) results at a District Education Forum held at Kitagwenda district headquarters. The meeting attracted different education stakeholders, including Head Teachers of Primary and Secondary teachers from both public and private education Institutions, Heads of Public Technical schools and Institutions, Political Leadership at District and Sub-County Leadership, Town Clerks and Sub-County Chiefs, Education Department Staff, Chairpersons of Schools Management Committees, Parents and Teachers Associations, and Boards of Governors, among others. The Education Stakeholders cited alcoholism amongst the Teaching

staff and some head teachers, including weak supervision on the part of some head teachers, as major contributors to poor academic performance in public primary schools. The stakeholders alleged that some teachers report to school late and while drunk, and in worst scenarios, others miss lessons due to drunkenness.

The Chairperson of the School Management Committee of Kengeya Primary School in Buhanda Sub-County criticized the Kitagwenda District Education and Human Resource Departments for transferring drunkard head teachers to other schools instead of administering disciplinary action on them as provided for in the Public Service Standing Orders. “The Education department and Human Resource Departments keep on



Awarding Certificates to the best-performing schools

transferring these drunkards from one to school to another. Such Head Teachers and teachers should be dismissed to protect the future of our children.”

Mr Turyamureba Ndibarema Patrick, the Mayor of Kitagwenda Town Council and the Kitagwenda District NRM Vice Chairperson, appreciated the Chief Administrative Officer for the transformation across all sectors and departments in the District during his 6 months as CAO.

He appealed to all stakeholders to take a keen interest in fulfilling their roles to help raise educational standards in the district. “I encourage all of you here to play your respective roles. Your active involvement, good political

environment ushered in by the NRM government, and active technical team led by the CAO will take Kitagwenda to Higher Heights,” Mr Turyamureba said.

The Kitagwenda District Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Dalili RK Moses, said disciplining public officers follows a well-laid-out disciplinary procedure, as spelt out in established public service standing orders.

“If we are to dismiss or discipline teachers over alcoholism, we follow clear procedures and guidelines,” Dalili said.

Dalili condemned alcohol abuse among teachers, noting that it undermines professionalism and negatively affects learners’



Education stakeholders during the meeting

outcomes.

“Excessive consumption of alcohol weakens teachers and makes them unable to effectively perform their Teaching roles. We must uphold professionalism in our schools if we are to improve academic standards,” he added.

He called on all parents and local leaders to properly document and report such cases, so that appropriate disciplinary action can be taken against implicated staff.

The Kitagwenda Resident District Commissioner, Byarugaba Isiah Kanyamahane, appealed for greater accountability and compelled parents and community leaders to actively monitor school operations.

“Please report to the Sub-County Town Council or District authorities

on cases of alcoholism among teachers and other government employees,” he stated.

According to him, these drunkards breach the ethical code of conduct of public employees and undermine government efforts to provide effective service delivery. “Please always report those culprits to the relevant offices. Their names can be submitted to the District Service Commission so that disciplinary measures can be undertaken in accordance with the law,” Kanyamahane said.

The Ceremony of Dissemination of the 2025 Academic Year UNEB results 2025 for PLE and UCE concluded with awarding Certificates of Appreciation to the Best Performing Schools.

BUNYANGABU POISED FOR MAJOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT WITH PHASE II OF LEGS PROJECT SUPPORT



Kagera market in Kyamukube town council enables farmers to sell their produce in a clean and organized place.

Christopher Tusiime, Communication Officer, Bunyangabu District

Bunyangabu District has been selected among the 55 districts across Uganda to benefit from the second phase of the Local Economic Growth Support (LEGS) Project, a multi-million-dollar development initiative aimed at boosting local economic infrastructure and improving livelihoods.

The LEGS Project is implemented

by the Ministry of Local Government with financial support from the Islamic Development Bank and the Lives and Livelihoods Fund. The programme focuses on strengthening local economic development through investments in infrastructure such as community access roads, markets, water for production, and agro-processing facilities.

During a scoping meeting held



Mr Baker Akampurira, the Deputy CAO Bunyangabu, welcomed the second phase of the LEGS project.

at the Bunyangabu District Headquarters on Wednesday, March 4th, 2026, Ms. Banyenzaki Mayie, Principal Inspector at the Ministry of Local Government, noted that the first phase of the LEGS Project concluded on December 31, 2025. Bunyangabu District was among the 17 local governments that benefited from that initial phase.

She explained that the district's strong performance during the first phase influenced the decision to include it in the second phase of the programme.

"Given the district's performance during the first phase, it was considered important for Bunyangabu to consolidate the gains already made," Ms Banyenzaki

said.

She added that the second phase of the project will focus on addressing local development priorities while aligning with national frameworks

such as Uganda Vision 2040, the Fourth National Development

Plan, the government's 10-fold development strategy, and district development plans.

Among the key objectives of the new phase is reducing the local economic infrastructure deficit by 30 percent by 2030. This will involve expanding community access roads, improving agro-processing and bulking facilities, and strengthening other infrastructure that supports production and trade.

Ms Banyenzaki also noted that the programme will prioritise water-stressed areas by expanding access to water for both production and domestic use. In addition, the project will revitalise existing agro-processing facilities and support organised farmer groups to access



Rwimi rice processing plant has enabled farmers to add value to their produce and fetch more income.

affordable financing to enhance productivity.

Speaking during the meeting, Bunyangabu Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Mr Baker Akampurira, welcomed the development and thanked the Ministry of Local Government and its partners for selecting the district for the second phase.

“We are very ready and eager to implement the next phase of this programme. Where we did not perform as expected during the first phase, we shall certainly improve,” Mr Akampurira said.

During the first phase of the LEGS Project, Bunyangabu

District implemented several key infrastructure projects aimed at supporting local economic development. These included the construction of the Bunaiga–Masibwe Gravity Flow Scheme Phase III, valued at Shs 857 million, which now provides clean water to residents of Bughumba and Bunaiga parishes in Kateebwa Sub-county.

Other completed projects include the construction and equipping of the Rwimi Rice Processing Factory at a cost of Shs 539 million; the construction of Kagera Market in Kyamukube Town Council valued at Shs 421 million; and the development of market infrastructure at Nyamiseke in

Kiyombya Sub-county costing Shs 96 million.

The district also rehabilitated key transport infrastructure to ease the movement of goods and people.

These projects included the rehabilitation of the Kahondo–Bubwika Yerya Bridge and 2.1 kilometres of road at a cost of Shs 665 million; the construction of the Mahumbuli 2-kilometre Community Access Road with a bridge valued at Shs 490 million; the rehabilitation of the Kanyansi–Bukiika–Kinyankende 4-kilometre road at Shs 436 million; and the rehabilitation of the Nyamiseke–

Mahoma Road (5.4 kilometres) at Shs 298 million.

Most of the projects are already complete and in use by communities. The only remaining facility awaiting official commissioning is the Gatyanga Coffee Processing Plant in Rwimi Town Council, valued at Shs 490 million.

These investments have helped farmers add value to their agricultural products, improved access to markets, schools and health facilities, and expanded access to safe and clean water for communities across the district.

KITAGWENDA: SCHOOL HEADS CONSENT MOU TO SCALE UP UNEB PERFORMANCE RESULTS

By Tumwiine David, Acting Communications Officer- Kitagwenda District

All heads of government-aided primary and secondary schools in Kitagwenda District have been directed to prepare performance improvement plans and sign performance agreements in March 2026 as part of efforts to improve academic performance.

The directive was issued by Kitagwenda District Chief Administrative Officer Mr Dalili RK Moses, during an education stakeholders' meeting at the district headquarters.

Mr Dalili said the district must devise means to improve academic performance, especially in Primary



The Kitagwenda District Vice Chairperson Mr Ashaba Peter, giving his Remarks

Leaving Examinations (PLE). “As a district, we must take deliberate steps to improve our academic performance,” he said.

Dalili recalled that when he assumed office, the district leadership set a target of producing 300 First Grades in PLE. Although the goal appeared ambitious at the time due to disruptions in learning caused by industrial action, the

district managed to surpass the target.

“I feel we can do better. This year, we must target to get 400 First grades, or each public primary school should get at least 5 first grades,” he stated.

He directed all government-aided schools to develop clear performance improvement plans and ensure that school leaders commit themselves to measurable targets.

“We can achieve this by preparing performance improvement Plans and sign Performance agreements. I direct Town Clerks, and Sub County Chiefs to work with the Education Department, and ensure this is done with in next week,” Dalili added.



The Kitagwenda District Vice Chairperson Mr Ashaba Peter, giving his Remarks



The Education Stakeholders during the function

He directed Town Clerks and Sub-county Chiefs to work with the District Education Department to ensure the exercise is completed within one week.

“Every government-aided school is required to prepare a clear performance improvement plan, and the head teachers should sign performance agreements. The preparation of these plans should be participatory and involve School Management Committees, head teachers, classroom teachers, and parents or their representatives, such as PTA committees,” he said.

While commenting on the directive, Kitagwenda District Education Officer Asimwe Sedas, said the performance agreements will serve as accountability tools to ensure all stakeholders commit themselves to

measurable academic targets.

“We are doing this for the good of the district. Every year, public Officers are supposed to sign a performance agreement to ensure improvement and continuity of effective service delivery,” Asimwe said.

“We want to inculcate a culture of responsibility and teamwork. When everyone plays their role effectively, we shall see better results, and we shall all be happy,” he added.

He noted that the district’s minimum target is for every public primary school to produce at least five First Grades, with progressive improvement in the coming years.

“This is achievable if the key four pillars play their roles well: the

learners, the teachers, the parents, and the government. Teachers should be dedicated, parents should support their children, children should be disciplined and committed to learning and staying in school, while school leaders should strengthen supervision,” Asiimwe urged.

The move follows concerns about the district’s recent examination performance. In the 2025 PLE results, Kitagwenda District recorded 337 first grades across all schools, a figure the district education leader says must



The RDC Mr Byarugaba Isaiyah Kanyamahane giving his speech

improve.

During the Stakeholders meeting, the Kitagwenda Vice District Chairperson, Peter Ashaba, welcomed the initiative of signing performance agreements by every school and described it as a timely intervention to strengthen



Awarding of the best-performing schools with certificates. In Picture the Head Teacher of Maria Junior School, Buryansungwe, which got the Best Pupil with 4 aggregates and all Pupils in Division 1.

academic standards.

“This is a timely intervention. If schools take these performance improvement plans seriously and all stakeholders commit themselves to ensuring that they are implemented, a lot will be achieved, and we shall definitely see improvement in our results,” Ashaba said.

He urged head teachers and classroom teachers to embrace

the directive positively, adding that district leadership is ready to provide the necessary support to ensure success.

The Heads of Education Institutions are expected to work with the Sub-county chiefs and town Clerks to finalize their performance improvement plans, sign the Performance Improvement Agreements and submit them with in the provided timelines.

COOPERATORS IN KABAROLE TIPPED ON THE BENEFITS OF COOPERATIVES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mpamizo Evalist, Ag District Communications Officer, Kabarole

Cooperators in Kabarole District have been encouraged to embrace cooperative principles and structures as a key pathway for strengthening community development and improving livelihoods.

The call was made by Christine Kengonzi, the Principal Commercial Officer for Kabarole, while training the interim executive committee of the Nyakitokoli Solar Plant

Saving and Credit Association at Hamabale Trading Centre in Karangura Sub-County.

During the engagement, Kengonzi emphasized that transforming community-based initiatives into registered cooperatives helps improve governance, accountability, and access to opportunities such as government support programs, financial services.

She explained that cooperatives provide a strong framework for



Kabarole district officials and the Solar plant committee members during the project visit.

communities to mobilize resources, collectively manage projects, and create sustainable economic opportunities.

“When communities organize themselves into cooperatives, they strengthen their voice, build trust among members, and create structures that support long-term development,” Kengonzi said.

Kengonzi urged the interim leadership of the Nyakitokoli Solar Plant Saving and Credit Association to formally transition into a cooperative development. She noted that such a transition would enable the association to operate

within recognized cooperative structures and benefit from the support provided by the district commercial office.

She also reminded the leaders to strictly follow the core principles and values of cooperatives, including democratic leadership, voluntary membership, transparency, and collective participation in decision-making. According to her, adherence to these principles ensures sustainability and protects members’ interests.

She further explained that well-managed cooperatives are able to mobilize savings, provide affordable financial services to members,



and support income-generating activities within communities. Speaking during the same meeting, Stella Kahunde, the Principal Assistant Secretary and focal person for the solar plant project, commended the interim executive committee for their efforts in managing and sustaining the solar power plant. She noted that the solar plant has played an important role in improving access to electricity within the community. Kahunde emphasized that the continued success of the project depends on strong leadership practices, particularly transparency and accountability in the management of the plant. “The leadership must ensure that all operations are transparent and

accountable so that the project achieves the purpose for which it was established,” she said.

She also cautioned the committee against illegal electricity connections, warning that such practices can undermine the sustainability of the project. Kahunde encouraged the leadership to establish strict and punitive measures against illegal connectors in order to protect the solar plant and ensure fair access to services for registered members.

The chairperson of the interim executive committee, Erisa Kihuku, said the solar plant has already made a significant impact on the livelihoods of people in the area. According to Kihuku, access to reliable solar power has helped

boost small businesses such as shops, salons, and phone charging stations, thereby improving household incomes in the community.

He revealed that since its establishment, the Nyakitokoli Solar Plant Saving and Credit Association has registered about 150 members, demonstrating growing interest and trust from the community. Kihuku noted that the association is committed to strengthening its structures and ensuring the solar plant continues to benefit residents of Nyakitokoli and the surrounding areas.

The training is part of ongoing

efforts by the district commercial office to promote cooperative development across Kabarole. Officials believe that empowering community groups with knowledge about cooperative governance will help them manage shared projects more effectively.

With the continued support of district leaders and active participation of community members, initiatives such as the Nyakitokoli Solar Plant are expected to play a critical role in expanding access to energy, strengthening savings culture, and promoting economic growth at the grassroots level.

FORT PORTAL CITY ENHANCES WORKFORCE WITH NEW RECRUITS TO BOOST SERVICE DELIVERY

By Stephen Ainganiza, Senior Communication Officer, Fort Portal City

Fort Portal City has successfully recruited 45 new employees and 17 staff promoted, bolstering its existing workforce. These new recruits, who underwent a rigorous interview process in February 2026, have already been assigned

to their respective roles and are actively executing their duties.

On Wednesday, City Town Clerk Mr. Ambrose Ocen organized a familiarization meeting for the new and old staff at the main hall of Kyebambe Girls Secondary School. During this gathering, he



The Fort Portal City Council Staff in a Familiarization meeting on Wednesday.

introduced several key positions filled by the new employees, including the City Health Officer, City Education Officer, City Planner, Senior Engineers, City Physical Planner, Senior Legal Officer, Senior Lands Surveyor, City Natural Resources Officer, City Production Officer, Senior building control Officer, Senior Architecture, Principal accountant, Principal Human Resources Officer (City Service Commission), Senior Tourism Officer, and Senior Communications Officer, among others.

Mr. Ocen highlighted that many existing employees had also received promotions, emphasizing that these changes are intended to enhance service delivery and overall performance within the city. "After this recruitment, the city is now

well organized. I implore the staff to work hard and committedly to offer quality service to our people, now that we've built a strong team," he stated.

He further stressed the importance of maintaining high standards, saying, "We're expected to perform excellently, there are no excuses! We need a clean and organized city! The enforcement officers must begin implementing the plan to organize the city, with a priority on garbage collection and waste management."

Reflecting on the city's recent performance, Mr. Ocen noted that Fort Portal improved its ranking in the national assessment, moving from position 106 to 37. He attributed this progress to the recent recruitment of medical professionals, explaining that



The Head Teacher Kyebambe Girls Expresses Her Concerns.

assessors evaluate the number of patients treated by doctors. “Now that we have the doctors, we’re poised for even greater success,” he remarked.

However, Mr. Ocen acknowledged that challenges remain, particularly in the areas of education and health. He pointed out the need for additional funding to recruit more health workers and teachers for secondary schools.

“We are advocating for this, and next week I will submit a proposal to the ministry requesting the necessary funding to enable us bridge the gap,” he added.

Mr. Ocen also addressed the appeals submitted by several teachers and head teachers following mass transfers that took

place at the beginning of the 2026 academic year. He emphasized that the transfers were executed in good faith and in accordance with established guidelines, aimed at improving performance and service delivery within the education sector.

He explained that the policy mandates the transfer of teachers who have served at a particular station for five years. This measure is designed to prevent stagnation, as some educators had remained in the same position for as long as 27 years, which can adversely affect both performance and service quality. Mr. Ocen reassured the staff that there is no need for concern when being reassigned to a different station.

In response to the appeals, he announced that a committee will



The staff being introduced.

review cases that may warrant reconsideration, such as those involving health issues or schools with a significant gender imbalance. For teachers who refuse to accept their transfers and opt to resign, their positions will be promptly advertised and filled.

Mr. Akora Patrick, head teacher of Kahinju Secondary School, raised concerns about understaffing in secondary schools. He noted that his school, with over 1,500 students, has only 25 teachers on government payroll, while the remainder are privately arranged. He highlighted that many parents are opposed to paying PTA fees, complicating the funding situation. In response, Mr. Ocen acknowledged the wage gap issue in secondary schools and pledged to submit a request to the Ministry for further support.

Madam Namanya Rose, head teacher of Kyebambe Girls Secondary School, urged the public to embrace both traditional government schools and private institutions in Tooro to ensure that children receive a quality education. She recounted an incident where head teachers were stuck at Link Bus Park as they were traveling to Kampala for selection. The delays were due to overcrowding caused by parents and students traveling to Central region to study from there yet we have good schools here.

As Fort Portal City moves forward with its recruitment and organizational efforts, the focus remains on enhancing service delivery and ensuring that the community's educational and health needs are met effectively.

KASESE DISTRICT BEGINS CONSTRUCTION OF 8.5KM BYAPA-KAHOKYA-MUGHETE ROAD



RDC launching the Kahokya road construction project.

Sharon Kabugho, Communication Officer, Kasese

Kasese District has officially launched construction works on the Byapa-Kahokya-Mughete Road, an 8.5-kilometre road project aimed at improving accessibility in Kahokya and Kitabu sub-counties.

The launch ceremony was held at Nyakabale Village in Kahokya Subcounty, presided over by the Resident District Commissioner,

Joe Walunsimbi.

The event was attended by the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), Lt. Joe Walunsimbi, District Internal Security Officer (DISO), Representative of the District Chairperson, Hon. Baluku Karim Kitembo, Technical team from the District and Kahokya Subcounty, Assistant Engineer Bwambale James, Senior Environmental



RDC addressing the residents.

Officer Kooli Augustine, Representative of the Chief Administrative Officer, Bitamazire Prunali, Local leaders, including LC I representatives and residents from Kahokya and Kitabu Subcounties.

According to Assistant Engineer Bwambale James, the road project, valued at approximately UGX 220 million, will involve the mobilization of machinery and workers, grading and shaping of the road, spot graveling, and installation of culverts and drainage channels.

Bwambale cautioned residents against activities that could damage the road infrastructure, such as digging too close to the road reserve or blocking drainage

channels. He advised residents to leave at least one metre from the road reserve when digging near the road and allow installation of drainage offshoots.

He also urged residents whose land may be affected by the construction works to sign consent forms to avoid future complaints during project implementation.

Senior Environmental Officer Kooli Augustine emphasized the need for community cooperation and environmental protection during the project. He informed residents that no compensation will be provided where the road passes through private land and encouraged them to sign consent

forms to allow smooth project implementation.

Kooli also advised residents to utilize runoff water from the mountains for agricultural production rather than blocking drainage systems. He warned against social conflicts and domestic violence that sometimes arise when external workers interact with local communities and urged residents to protect young girls from abuse.

He also revealed that tree planting activities will be undertaken along the road to protect soil and water systems and prevent damage to the road.

Representing the Chief

Administrative Officer, Bitamazire

Prunali, urged residents to appreciate the government for funding the project and called for cooperation with the district technical team during implementation.

Meanwhile, a representative of the district chairperson, Baluku Karim

Kisembo, encouraged residents to continue demanding services promised under the manifesto of the ruling National Resistance Movement and to cooperate with contractors.

He added that local youth may benefit from casual employment, particularly during the installation of culverts.

RDC Walunsimbi commended the district leadership and technical team for allocating resources to



Residents of Kahokya and Mughete attending the launch.

the project and urged residents to prioritize development.

He reiterated that the government does not compensate individuals for land affected by such development projects and urged residents to sign consent forms

to prevent disputes. He also announced that a local grievance-handling committee will be established to address complaints related to the project.

Local leaders welcomed the project, with Bakuhemba Augustine, representing the LC I Chairperson of Nyakabale, appreciating the district for fulfilling its promise to launch the road project.

Another resident, Amos Kimwerangwe, urged local leaders to enforce regulations to prevent activities that could damage the road.

However, some residents raised concerns over past compensation

promises dating back to 2005. District leaders clarified that compensation would not be provided for the project. Residents also raised issues regarding implementation of the Parish Development Model, alleging that multiple members from the same families benefit while others are left out.

District leaders said the concerns would be followed up through further community engagement.

The construction of the Byapa–Kahokya–Mughete Road is expected to improve transport and access to services in Kahokya and Kitabu subcounties once completed.

FORT PORTAL CITY TOWN CLERK GIVES ILLEGAL DEALERS, VENDORS ULTIMATUM TO VACATE CITY STREETS

By Stephen Ainganiza, Senior Communications Officer, Fort Portal City

Fort Portal City Town Clerk Mr Ocen Ambrose has issued an urgent directive mandating the immediate relocation of all illegal building

constructors, kiosk owners, and street vendors by March 15th, 2026, ahead of a planned enforcement operation.



Illegal Vending on Fort Portal Streets.

This decisive action aims to address the growing concern over unauthorized structures that jeopardize public safety and contribute to an unsanitary urban environment.

In a letter dated March 5th, 2026, Mr Ambrose instructed all vendors and kiosk operators conducting business illegally within the city to voluntarily remove their kiosks and relocate to designated markets or approved shops.

The directive was also communicated to the Resident City Commissioner, the City Mayor, division town clerks, division mayors, and city police commanders, emphasizing the urgency of compliance.

Fort Portal City has seen a surge in illegal constructions, which not only endanger lives but also create an unfriendly and unhygienic environment.

The letter highlights that timely cooperation will help safeguard the goods and properties of those affected. Failure to comply will lead to forceful removal operations by city authorities starting March 16, 2026, with costs incurred by the owners.

The initiative aims to promote an organized urban environment, reduce urban poverty, and mitigate social distress and crime.

The City Town Clerk directive serves as a final reminder for all affected parties to vacate



Vendors selling food on the streets of Fort Portal City.

the specified areas within the stipulated timeframe.

Ugandan laws, particularly the Physical Planning Act and the Local Government Act, govern the regulation of illegal structures, requiring compliance with approved plans and permits.

Unauthorized constructions are subject to removal, and vendors must operate within designated trading zones to ensure public health and safety. Compliance with these regulations is essential for fostering a safe and orderly city.

BUNDIBUGYO: DISTRICT LEADERS STAKE OUT PLAN TO REVERSE POOR PLE RESULTS

Mbabazi Sylvia, Communication Officer, Bundibugyo

Bundibugyo District leaders and education stakeholders convened at the former Bundibugyo Primary Teachers' College to implement strategies aimed at improving learning outcomes following the dismal Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) results, in which over 1,000 pupils scored Division Ungraded (U).

The meeting brought together

the district leadership, including the District Chairperson, Secretary for Social Services, Chief Administrative Officer, education department staff, Head Teachers, as well as representatives from Parents' Teachers Associations (PTAs) and School Management Committees (SMCs) from all government-aided schools.

Stakeholders collectively expressed concern over the poor performance and urged all parties



The District Chairperson addressing stakeholders

to take responsibility in monitoring teaching and learning, identifying challenges, and implementing practical solutions.

Special emphasis was placed on PTA and SMC chairpersons, who were called upon to actively support school management and ensure learners receive quality education.

Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Walakira Paul, reminded SMC members that their role extends beyond signing capitation grant documents. He encouraged them to supervise teachers, monitor

proper use of funds, and promote regular pupil attendance.

Mr. Walakira also challenged long-serving SMC members to step aside, citing that ineffective leadership has hindered school performance. He set March 30, 2026, as the deadline for schools with expired SMCs to submit lists of newly elected members for approval. He further questioned why private schools consistently outperform public schools despite having equally qualified staff, attributing the difference to poor management in public institutions.

District Chairperson, Mr.



The Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Walakira Paul addressing stakeholders

Tibakunirwa Robert, called for unity, stressing that this is not a time for blame but for collaborative action to improve education standards. He encouraged schools to hold regular meetings with parents to plan and implement strategies for school improvement.

District Education Officer, Mr. Byamukama John, presented the 2026 school circular, highlighting directives to prioritize academic performance, involve all stakeholders in school operations, curb teacher absenteeism and alcohol abuse, and enforce policies to improve pupil discipline.

Stakeholders also resolved to:

- Ensure children are properly fed while at school.
- Reward best-performing schools and sanction underperforming ones.
- Avoid transferring teachers without replacements.
- Enforce “go-back-to-school” bylaws to reduce pupil absenteeism.

The meeting concluded with a strong commitment from all stakeholders to work together in reversing the district’s declining academic performance and ensuring quality education for all learners

KYENJOJO DISTRICT LAYS 55BN DRAFT BUDGET AND WORK PLANS FOR FY 2026/2027



The Chairperson LC V, Hon Gilbert Rubaihayo addresses council, accompanied by the CAO

By Atuhaire Johnson, Communication Officer, Kyenjojo

Kyenjojo District Council has officially received the draft budget and annual work plans for the Financial Year 2026/2027 during the plenary council sitting held at the district headquarters at Kasiina, Kyenjojo District. The Financial Year 2026/2027 will be guided under the theme, “Full Monetization of Uganda’s Economy Through: Commercial Agriculture,

Industrialization, Expanding and Broadening Services, Digital Transformation, and Market Access.”

Presiding over the sitting, the District Speaker, Hon Ronald Karamagi, welcomed council and honorable members and district heads of department to the session to discuss statutory planning, and to lay the district’s draft budget and work plans before



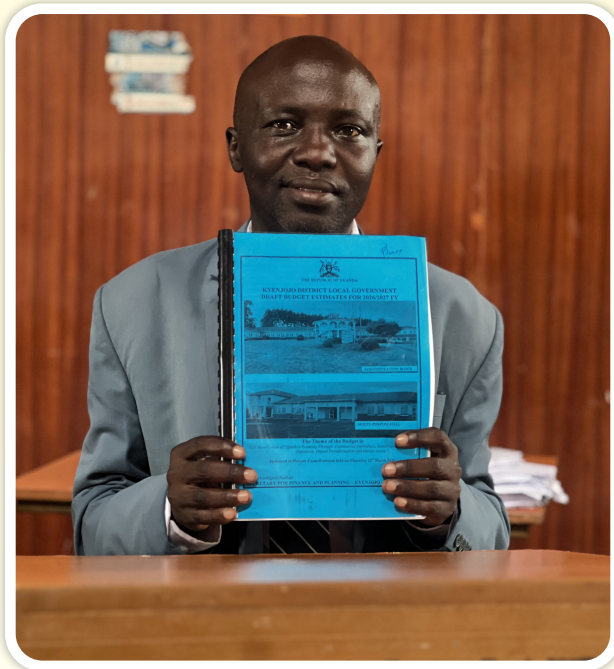
Council in session

council.

He thanked the District Chairperson, Hon Gilbert Rubaihayo, and Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Masereka Amis Asuman, for steering the district steadily and in the right direction. He also thanked the District Executive Committee (DEC) and heads of departments for coordinating the preparation of the statutory planning documents necessary for the budgeting process. “The laying of the draft budget enables the council to deliberate and plan for the district’s development priorities for the forthcoming financial year,” he remarked.

While presenting the draft budget estimates for financial year 2026/2027 that total to 55,098,420,845 UGX, the Secretary for Finance and Planning, Hon. Musinguzi Nathan informed council that the Fy 2026/2027 will be the second year of implementing the 4th National Development Plan (NDP IV), which is also the first plan to deliver the tenfold growth strategy, and the last plan to deliver the 2030 agenda for sustainable Development.

The major allocations of this budget will go to Education, taking 35.4%, with an allocation of 19,532,322,086 UGX, with an emphasis on promoting primary,



Hon Nathan Musinguzi, the Secretary Of Finance, presents the 2026/27 Budget Estimates

secondary, and skills development. Health takes up the second biggest allocation, with 13,366,814,542UGX constituting 24.3% of the budget. This is devoted to the provision of decentralized services of Primary Health care, that is, improving maternal and newborn child health, empowering the referral system with enough equipment to enable early diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable diseases. Production is allocated 3,657,924,144 UGX, representing a percentage of 6.6% of the district budget, to enable enterprise competitiveness, raise incomes of the poor by increasing productivity and market share for farmers

through innovations.

The fourth major expenditure is in Works and Technical services, another priority area for the next financial year, allocated 2,193,352,743 UGX, representing 4% of the total budget. This will help in periodic maintenance of selected roads, payment of road gangs, repairs, and servicing of road equipment. Investing in this sector will improve the quality of transport, energy, and ICT infrastructure to support productivity, enhancement, and industrialization.

It should be noted that the four major sectors of Education, Health, Production, and Works constitute 70.3% of the entire budget for the financial year 2026/2027, emphasizing the district's commitment to achieving its intended objectives.

An annual workplan was also laid out, and includes interventions focused on the strategic priorities of Agriculture and Production, Tourism development, Education and Skills development, Health and Social services, Infrastructure and community development, and Governance and Accountability. It also integrates cross-cutting issues, including nutrition, HIV,



Heads of Department attend the Council session

gender, youth and disability inclusion, climate resilience, and sustainability, in line with the National District Development Plan and Uganda Vision 2040.

Hon Nathan Musinguzi also presented the Annual Revenue Enhancement Plan, with the main objective to widen the revenue base and to have an updated revenue data bank.

The District Chairperson, Hon Gilbert Rubaihayo in his communication to the house, thanked the council and Kyenjojo District for overwhelmingly voting for President Museveni during the recently concluded elections. He also congratulated most of the

councilors who would be returning to the house after being voted back by the electorate, and wished well those who didn't make it back. He also informed the house of the good performance of the district in the recently released UCE Exams but was sad about the poor performance in the PLE exams. On a positive note, no exams were withheld, unlike the recent past scenarios. "Stringent measures have been put in place to ensure that our learners don't fail again," He remarked.

He also informed the house about the vacancy in the District Service Commission following the passing of Joyce Kwebiha, who had been serving as the commission's

chairperson. He informed the house that following the District Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March, and in fulfillment of its mandate under the Local Government Act Cap 243, Chapter 53, Subsection (2), nominated Mr. Bazarrabusa Fred, a member of DSC to be appointed as Chairperson, and Mrs. Komuhendo Margie Rest, a senior citizen, as a member of DSC.

The commission is a critical statutory body responsible for overseeing the recruitment and management of public servants at the district level, and urged the council to approve them and speed up replacing the vacant positions to ensure the commission continues functioning effectively. Council duly approved the nominated members of the commission.

Council also revisited special resolutions previously passed to honor two distinguished district leaders who recently passed away, Isidore Kakyomya Araali and Joyce Kwebiha.

Among the proposals discussed were plans to name a street in Kyarusozi Town Council after Hon. Kakyomya and a road in Kyenjojo Town Council after Hon. Kwebiha in recognition of their dedicated

service to the district.

In addition, the council's standing committee on education, health, and sanitation was tasked to consider the possibility of naming a structural building at Kyarusozi Seed Secondary School in honor of Hon. Kakyomya, following a request from his family.

The council observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the two leaders, acknowledging their contribution to district leadership and governance.

Council also awarded a certificate of service to Kaganzi Samuel, the Senior Assistant Secretary, Kyembogo Sub-County, for his outstanding contribution to council, during his time as Clerk to Council.

In his closing remarks, the Speaker applauded councillors for their commitment to serving their communities and emphasized that the draft budget provides a platform for continuity and sustainability in the district's development agenda.

Council is expected to continue reviewing the proposed budget and other statutory documents as part of preparations for the upcoming financial year.



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