



NRM Confirms Primary Elections for July 17th, Urges Peace, Unity, and Grassroots Empowerment

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In the Heart of Uganda

"A single bracelet does not jingle,"
In the warmth of Uganda's embrace,
Where every smile tells a story,
And every heart finds its place.
From the shores of Lake Victoria's
gleam,
To the peaks that touch the sky,
In this land of vibrant colors,
True hospitality runs high.

The aroma of matoke fills the air,
With spices that dance upon the
tongue,
In loving communities we gather,
Where songs of joy are sung.
With generous souls who share
their bread,
And laughter that echoes through
the night,
In Uganda, we find our rhythm,
A symphony of pure delight.

No place like Uganda, a treasure to
behold,
East or West, its spirit shines bright,
Where every heart beats with
kindness,
And dreams take wing in the light.
Here, love flows like the Nile's gentle
stream,
Binding us in a tapestry so grand,
A place where every soul is
cherished,
In this beautiful, beloved land.

So come, wander through our
valleys,
And feel the warmth of our
embrace,
For in Uganda, we are united,
In our beauty, our hearts, our grace.
Together we thrive in this vibrant
home,
With love that knows no end,
In the heart of Uganda, we find our
peace,
Amongst family, community, and
friends



Editor's Note

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And just like that we're back with our second edition!

The flame that was lit last week in Mityana during our Communications Officers Retreat is still burning and it's spreading. Your overwhelming feedback from the first edition was encouraging, affirming, and beautifully energizing. We are committed: the stories will keep coming, week by week, from every region. Thank you for reading and thank you for believing.

This week's edition is rich. Here's a glimpse of what awaits:

In Mubende, a UGX 500 million Youth Skilling Centre is under construction, offering young people hope, skills, and a future.

From Nakaseke, justice comes closer to the people as the Deputy Chief Justice commissions a new Justice Centre that houses the Court, Police, and ODPP under one roof.

In Luwero, the long-stalled 100-bed hospital block is back on track, thanks to a UGX 1.2 billion government injection and the boots-on-the-ground work of the UPDF Engineering Brigade.

Kyankwanzi tells the powerful story of Lawrence Kakooza, a farmer thriving through solar-powered irrigation, proving that agriculture with the right support can transform lives.

If your district isn't featured, reach out to your District Communication Officer or better still, send us a story! Every voice matters.

So yes, this is the part where I say get your cup of strong Ugandan coffee, settle in, and enjoy the read.

Because these stories? They are more than news they are evidence that transformation is happening, one district at a time.

Let's keep the flame alive.

Happy Reading,

Mugeere Emmanuel
Editor-In-Chief



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Thank You

NRM Confirms Primary Elections for July 17th, Urges Peace, Unity, and Grassroots Empowerment

The National Resistance Movement (NRM) Electoral Commission has reaffirmed that the party's primary elections for Members of Parliament will go ahead as scheduled on Thursday, 17th July 2025, in all 72,000 villages across the country.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, 15th July 2025, the NRM Electoral Commission Chairperson, Dr. Tanga Odoi, dismissed rumors of a postponement, emphasizing that the elections will proceed without delay.

“There were rumours circulating that elections had been delayed, but I want to clarify that elections for Members of Parliament will take place tomorrow, Thursday, without fail. All candidates must adhere to the guidelines issued by the Commission,” said Dr. Odoi.

On polling day, voters are expected to report to their designated polling venues by 10:00 AM for roll-call verification, with voting conducted between 12:00 noon and 2:00 PM by lining up behind a candidate's poster or representative.

NRM Secretary General, Rt. Hon. Richard Todwong, reiterated that only individuals whose names appear in the official village register will be permitted to vote, warning against attempts to manipulate the process.

“Every village will have its updated

register by Thursday morning. No one outside that register will vote. Candidates must prepare accordingly,” Todwong stated.

He condemned the use of divisive tactics such as tribal, religious, or financial influence, calling them contrary to the values of the party.

“We are receiving worrying reports about candidates exploiting religious and tribal identities or using money to influence voters. This must stop. The NRM is a party of unity, and we expect civility and mutual respect from all our members,” Todwong warned.

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the NRM National Chairman, has continuously called for peaceful, orderly, and purpose-driven elections. This was in May, 2025 while personally overseeing the grassroots verification and voting process in Rwakitura Cell, Kiruhura District.

“This process is vital to ensuring free and fair elections within our party. I urge you to support our NRM flag bearers, not just in these internal elections, but also in the upcoming general elections,” President Museveni said.

The President said that NRM's political strength and emphasized the importance of young people participating actively in shaping the party's future.

“This is not just a political exercise; it's a democratic responsibility. Let us uphold peace, respect the rules, and allow the will of the people to prevail,” Dr. Odoi concluded, echoing the President's

consistent message of integrity, order, and economic transformation.

After the votes are cast, the presiding officer at each polling venue will

publicly announce the results and issue a Declaration of Results Form, to be signed by all candidates' representatives.



NRM PRIMARIES FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(Constituency MPs & District Woman Representatives to Parliament)



4 DAYS TO GO



PLEASE NOTE

- The timeline of activities is as follows: Voters converge at the Venue by 10:00am, reading of names in the Voters Register goes up to 11:45am and polling starts at 12:00pm and ends at 2:00pm.
- Criss-crossing of lines by voters after counting of votes has started is **NOT** Allowed.

Polling Date



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www.nrm.ug

Construction of Youth Skilling Centre Sparks Hope in Mubende

By Josephine Nnabbaale, Communication Officer – Mubende DLG

Mubende, Uganda – A state-of-the-art Youth Skilling Centre is underconstruction in Kirume Cell, Kirume Ward, Kasambya Town Council, bringing renewed hope to hundreds of unemployed young people in Mubende District.



One of the lined pit latrines under construction at the Youth Skilling Centre site

The project, valued at 500 million Ugandan shillings, is aimed at addressing the high rates of youth unemployment by equipping young people with marketable vocational skills. Once completed, the centre is expected to offer free training in trades such as electrical installation, carpentry, plumbing, tailoring, welding, and motor vehicle mechanics.

The facility will include a modern administration block, a two-classroom

block for specialized sessions, a three-classroom block for larger groups, three lined pit latrines for sanitation, and perimeter fencing for security. Construction work began earlier this year, with the foundation and structural works already well underway.

“This centre is a dream come true for our youth. It will give them the skills they need to create jobs for themselves and others,” said Hon. Ayebare Eunice Aisha, Chairperson

of the Education and Health Committee in Mubende District.

Local leaders and residents have welcomed the development with optimism. Nalongo Abisse Hilda, Speaker of Kasambya Town Council, noted that the initiative will help keep the youth productively engaged and reduce the risks associated with idleness and joblessness. “Parents are hopeful that this centre will keep their children off the streets and involved in meaningful training,” she said.

Tebuseke Vincent, Chairman of Ndeeba Village, praised the government for the initiative. “The centre will offer free training that will impart vital skills and help reduce unemployment in the area. We thank the government for prioritizing the youth,” he remarked.

The construction process has already achieved several milestones, including the laying of the foundation and raising of classroom block walls. Roofing work has commenced, and the construction of the sanitation facilities is progressing alongside the

main structures. Contractors have committed to completing the works within the next few weeks.

Once operational, the Youth Skilling Centre will provide a curriculum tailored to the local job market, blending classroom instruction with hands-on practical experience. The program is expected to empower young people with the competencies they need to either secure employment or start their own businesses.

District leaders believe the project will have lasting effects on both the economy and society. By producing a skilled workforce, the centre is anticipated to boost local development and promote self-reliance among youth. It is also expected to transform social dynamics by nurturing responsible, productive citizens.

As the buildings continue to take shape, so does the vision for a future where young people in Mubende are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to shape their own destinies.



Buganda Region ICOLEW Learning Centre Commissioned with New Pit Latrine

By Mayengo Godfrey, Communication Officer, Mityana District



Caroline Namazzi Senior Community development officer/coordinator ICOLEW

Banda Town Council, Mityana District – The Buganda Region ICOLEW (Integrated Community Learning for Wealth Creation) Centre marked a major milestone this week with the official commissioning of a new five-stance pit latrine. The event also included a monitoring tour of ongoing activities at the increasingly vibrant skills training and literacy hub.

The ceremony, officiated by Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Joseph Drake Mukiibi, brought together local leaders, trainers, and learners in

celebration of the centre's progress and impact.

In his remarks, Sseruwagi Godfrey, LCIII Chairperson of Banda Town Council, reflected on the humble beginnings of the facility:

“The community bought one and a half inches of land using 25% of the funds allocated to the LC. At the time, I was secretary on the local council executive,” he shared.

“We wanted a place to hold parish

meetings and conduct community immunization sessions. It was a sign of our commitment to development.”

He called on leaders at all levels to support the center’s transformation into a full-fledged technical training institute to serve the wider Mityana District.

Carol Namazzi, Senior Community Development Officer in charge of Gender and Coordinator of ICOLEW, explained that the program replaced the earlier Functional Adult Literacy (FAL) initiative.

“We now have over 150 students acquiring practical skills in tailoring, hairdressing, basic literacy, and more,” she said.

She also highlighted the support of DVV International, which has provided materials and equipment, including a television set to enhance learning.

Namazzi noted that Mityana District was chosen to host the Buganda Regional ICOLEW Centre, covering over 26 districts. A proposal has already been submitted to the GROW program for further expansion.

“If we secure funding, we plan to construct more buildings, as the current structure cannot accommodate all learners who are forced to study in shifts,” she added.

However, she identified key challenges, including lack of electricity and absence of computers at the facility.

David Muzira, District Community Development Officer, emphasized the life-changing potential of adult

education:

“We want to ensure that people who came here unable to read and write can now do so confidently. This center is changing lives,” he said.

He added that through collaboration with the Ministry of Gender and DIT, plans are underway to establish a qualifications framework that enables learners to sit exams, earn certificates, and eventually graduate to higher levels.

“What is happening at the Mubende Hub can and should be replicated here in Mityana,” he said.

Jack Byaruhanga, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, reiterated the district’s unwavering support:

“We cannot ignore such a significant project. As a regional center, it will attract learners and visitors from far and wide,” he stated.

Byaruhanga also announced a new initiative: “We’ve received interest from a donor who wants to establish a demonstration vegetable garden. Once it’s set up, we expect households to replicate the practices at home,” he said.

RDC Joseph Drake Mukiibi expressed gratitude to both trainers and learners and commended the district for constructing the new latrine.

“Use it well to avoid diseases,” he advised. He urged parents to prioritize education and leverage the center as a tool for family transformation.

“If you missed the chance to go to school, give your children the

opportunity. This center can be a bridge to lifelong skills,” said Mukiibi.

He also encouraged learners to embrace savings culture:

“Start saving now using village banks. By the time you finish the course, you will have enough to invest in your business,” he urged.

Oliver Nassuuna, a 16-year-old learning hairdressing at the center, shared her journey:

“My mother couldn’t afford school fees. I was just at home until my friends who were studying here encouraged me to join,” she said.

“I told my mother I wanted to learn hairdressing, and she allowed me.”

She encouraged other girls who dropped out of school to seize the opportunity: “Come and acquire skills that can change your life.”

Stuart Monedde, Chairperson of the Regional Centre, highlighted the growing interest among youth but noted limited space as a major barrier.

“We urgently need government support to construct more buildings so we can accommodate more learners,” he appealed.



Deputy CAO Jack Byarunhanga left, RDC Drake Joseph Mukiibi center and LCIII Chairperson Godfrey Sseruwagi inspecting the latrine after commisioning it.

Deputy Chief Justice Commissions Nakaseke Justice Centre to Boost Access to Justice

By Emmanuel Mugeere, Communication Officer,, Nakaseke District



Deputy Chief Justice Hon. Dr. Flavian Zeija unveils the commemorative plaque during the official commissioning of the Nakaseke Justice Centre in Butalangu

The Deputy Chief Justice of Uganda, His Lordship Dr. Flavian Zeija, has officially commissioned the Nakaseke District Justice Centre, a major development aimed at decentralizing legal services and improving access to justice for rural communities.

Located in Butalangu Town Council, the newly constructed centre houses the Chief Magistrate's Court, Uganda Police Force, and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), streamlining justice delivery

under one roof.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony on Tuesday, Dr. Zeija said the centre reflects the Judiciary's ongoing commitment to extend justice closer to the people and to reduce the burden of long-distance travel for legal redress.

“This justice centre reflects our commitment to fairness, transparency, and efficiency in judicial service delivery,” Dr. Zeija stated. “It is a deliberate effort to ensure that even those in rural

Uganda enjoy the full benefits of the justice system.”

The facility features modern courtrooms, magistrates’ chambers, and administrative offices for judicial staff. It is expected to ease the case backlog in the Luweero Triangle region and improve coordination among justice sector institutions.

The ribbon-cutting event attracted local leaders, judicial officers, police representatives, and residents who welcomed the development as a turning point in the district’s legal infrastructure.

Local officials described the centre as a game-changer in improving legal awareness, supporting rule of law, and strengthening social order.

The Nakaseke Justice Centre is one of several justice hubs being rolled out across the country under the Judiciary’s

access to justice and infrastructure development programme.



Deputy Chief Justice Hon. Dr. Flavian Zeija officially commissioned the Nakaseke Justice Centre in Butalangu, Nakaseke District, in a ceremony that featured the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, symbolic tree planting, and a guided tour of the new judicial facility.

Government Injects UGX 1.2 Billion as UPDF Resumes Works on Luwero Hospital’s 100-Bed Block

By Abdul Mazinga – District Communications Officer, Luwero District

Construction of the long-awaited 100-bed block at Luwero Hospital has officially resumed, following the release of over UGX 1.2 billion by the Government of Uganda. The project, which had stalled due to funding delays, is now being implemented by the Uganda People’s Defence Forces (UPDF) Engineering Brigade. The resumption marks a significant step toward improving healthcare infrastructure and service delivery in Luwero District.

According to hospital and district officials, the delay had created a critical gap

in the hospital's capacity, leading to severe overcrowding, especially in the maternity and general wards. Patients were often forced to share beds or sleep on verandahs due to limited space. With renewed funding, construction activities will now focus on roofing the entire block, internal and external plastering, installation of windows and doors, and overall finishing works.

“We are grateful to the government for prioritizing this project,” said Dr. Bruno Oyuki, the Medical Superintendent of Luwero Hospital. “The additional funding and involvement of the UPDF Engineering Brigade give us confidence that the construction will be completed efficiently.”

The Resident District Commissioner, Mr. Richard Bwabye Ntulume, also welcomed the development,

describing it as a major boost to the district's health sector. “This block will transform service delivery at Luwero Hospital. We urge all stakeholders to support and monitor the works to ensure value for money,” he emphasized.

The UPDF Engineering Brigade has committed to adhering to strict timelines and maintaining high construction standards. The team has already mobilized personnel and materials on-site to accelerate progress. District leaders and hospital management have pledged to work closely with the brigade to ensure smooth coordination and oversight.

The community remains optimistic that the new block will ease congestion, improve patient care, and enhance health outcomes especially for maternal and child health services.



Dr. Bruno Oyuki oversees hospital operations as Medical Superintendent at Luwero Hospital

Ongoing construction of the 100-bed block at Luwero Hospital



From right: Farmer Kakooza Lawrence, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Enock Basudde, and District Agricultural Officer Hamidu Magoba during a visit to the farm

Kyankwanzi Farmer Reaps Big from Government Micro-Irrigation Program

By Nabukenya Christine, Communication Officer, Kyankwanzi District

A young farmer in Ntunda Town Council, Kyankwanzi District, is reaping big from his agricultural ventures, thanks to the Government of Uganda's micro-scale irrigation program implemented under the Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers (UGFIT) initiative, supported

by the World Bank.

Mr. Lawrence Kakooza, 33, has become a shining example of how government-supported agricultural programs can transform livelihoods. Once a small-time banana trader transporting produce from Isingiro to Kampala, Kakooza now manages an expansive commercial farm with bananas, coffee, maize, and fish backed by a reliable solar-powered irrigation system.

“I used to spend over two million shillings every month on fuel to power a water pump,” Kakooza shared during a field visit to his farm. “But ever since I got the solar-powered irrigation system from the government, I’ve cut those costs drastically. The savings have helped me expand production.”

Under the micro-irrigation program, farmers co-fund the installation of irrigation equipment, contributing 25% of the cost, while the government covers the remaining 75%. The initiative targets smallholder farmers in regions prone to drought and erratic rainfall—such as Kyankwanzi, which lies in Uganda’s cattle corridor.

Officials from Kyankwanzi District, including Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Enock Basudde and District Agricultural Officer Hamidu Magoba, recently visited Kakooza’s farm to monitor progress under the program.

They were impressed by the scale and impact of his work. Kakooza currently maintains: 25 acres of maize, 6 acres of coffee, 2 acres of bananas and a 6-foot fish pond fed by his private water source

Kakooza, who is married with six children, says his household income has improved significantly, allowing him to send all his children to private schools.

“Though I didn’t go far with my own education, all my children are in good schools,” he said proudly. “If I need UGX 1.5 million for school fees, I simply sell bananas from the plantation. On a good day, I can earn more than UGX 200,000 from banana sales alone.”

He further revealed that he no longer transports bananas to the market buyers come directly to his farm.

From humble beginnings in maize farming, Kakooza has grown his enterprise across district lines. He now

owns 50 acres of maize in neighboring Hoima District and estimates his income per harvest at UGX 42 million.

District officials hailed Kakooza as a role model for youth engagement in agriculture.

“His story is proof that with support and determination, agriculture can be a profitable business,” said DAO Magoba.

The UGFIT-supported irrigation model is designed to enhance food security and household incomes, especially in regions where climate change continues to disrupt traditional farming patterns. In Kyankwanzi, access to safe water and dependable irrigation remains a challenge in several sub-counties making such initiatives even more crucial.

As the dry season approaches, farmers like Kakooza now have a lifeline. The micro-scale irrigation system ensures that their crops thrive year-round boosting both productivity and profitability.

“This program has changed my life,” Kakooza said with a smile. “And I know it can do the same for many others.”



The water source where he pumps water from



Luwero District Boosts Education Sector with Renovation and Construction of Classroom Blocks

By Abdul Mazinga, District Communications Officer – Luwero

Luwero, Uganda – July 2025

Luwero District has completed the renovation of over 14 classroom blocks and the construction of 5 new classroom blocks across various schools under the 2024/2025 School Facilitation Grant (SFG) from the Central Government in bid to improve access to quality education.

The intervention is part of a broader national agenda to enhance the learning environment in underserved communities, with a focus on safety, accessibility, and academic performance.

According to District Education Officials, the renovated classrooms were previously in a state of disrepair—characterized by leaking roofs, cracked walls, and poor ventilation—posing serious risks to both learners and teachers. The renovation work included roofing, painting, flooring, and the replacement of windows and doors, transforming these spaces into safe and functional learning environments.

In addition to refurbishments, five brand-new classroom blocks were constructed to address overcrowding in schools where the pupil-to-



The newly constructed two-classroom block at St. Mugaga Kikungo Primary School, Luwero Sub-county, built under the 2024/2025 School Facilitation Grant

classroom ratio had reached critical levels. Some learners were previously forced to study under trees or in makeshift structures due to lack of space.

“This investment is a milestone for our district,” said Mrs. Florence Bbosa Sekitoleko, Luwero District Education Officer. “We are grateful to the central government for the support through the School Facilitation Grant. The improved facilities will create a safe and conducive learning environment and ultimately improve education outcomes in Luwero.”

The new classroom blocks have been constructed at the following schools: St. Mugaga Kikungo, St. Dominic Savio Buvumu P/S, Al-Answar P/S,

Kkalwe P/S, and Kyetume SDA P/S.

Parents and school administrators have welcomed the improvements with enthusiasm. “Our children now sit in decent classrooms, protected from the rain and sun. This is a huge motivation for both learners and teachers,” said Ms. Sarah Nalule, a parent at one of the beneficiary schools.

During the official launch of a newly built two-classroom block at St. Mugaga Kikungo in Luwero Sub-county, Chairperson LCV Mr. Erasto Kibirango led district officials, teachers, and parents in celebrating the milestone. Pictured: R-L Chairperson LCV, Mr. Erasto Kibirango, leading the District officials and parents to launch the newly constructed classroom block

at St. Mugaga Kikungo.

Looking ahead, the Luwero District Local Government has committed to prioritizing education infrastructure in future budgets and ensuring regular maintenance of school facilities.

As the 2025 academic year unfolds, district leaders remain optimistic that the improved infrastructure will contribute to better academic performance and pupil retention, particularly in rural primary schools.



Left to right: LCV Chairperson Mr. Erasto Kibirango leads district officials and parents during the official launch of the newly constructed two-classroom block at St. Mugaga Kikungo Primary School, Luwero Sub-county





Beneficiaries listening to ACAO in the verification exercise

Mityana Leaders Urge PDM Beneficiaries to Invest Responsibly

By Mayengo Godfrey – Communication Officer, Mityana District

Mityana, Uganda – The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (ACAO) of Mityana District, Emmanuel Zirabamuzaale, has issued a strong caution to beneficiaries of the Parish Development Model (PDM), urging them to utilize the funds strictly in line with their approved business

proposals. He warned that any mismanagement or diversion of the funds would not be tolerated.

Speaking during a beneficiary verification exercise in Kikandwa Sub-county, Zirabamuzaale emphasized the need for accountability and purposeful investment.

“The money that is going to be given out should be used according to the business plans filled out not for unrelated or unproductive activities,” he stressed.

He extended appreciation to LC I Chairpersons for their efforts in beneficiary identification and warned against bribery in the selection process.

“If you were asked for money to be

selected, report it. No one should pay to benefit from government programs,” Zirabamuzaale asserted.

The ACAO also tasked LC I and LC II Chairpersons and Parish Chiefs with monitoring previous PDM beneficiaries from phases one to three, especially those who are yet to begin repayments.

“This is not ‘Kasiimo’ or a reward for voting President Museveni. It’s a revolving fund, and every beneficiary must refund the money with profits,” he clarified. “Phase one beneficiaries are expected to start repayments in October this year.”

He also called for responsible use of funds among all genders:

“Women should not divert this money into non-developmental activities, and men should not misuse the funds to marry additional wives. PDM is a tool for household transformation—politics aside.”

Zirabamuzaale further warned against fraudsters impersonating PDM agents:

“Be careful of bafere who call you

claiming they can help you access the money. Do not fall victim.”

Mukiibi Magala Stanely, the Senior Assistant Secretary (SAS) for Kikandwa Sub-county, confirmed that all eight parishes in the sub-county had successfully selected beneficiaries under the program. “All the selected beneficiaries have proper business plans and have been entered into the IFMS and WENDI systems,” he stated. He commended LC I Chairpersons for leading a fair and transparent selection process, noting that no discrimination based on political affiliation occurred. “We urge all beneficiaries to put the funds to proper use, in line with their approved proposals, to improve household incomes and support community development,” Mukiibi added.

Erisa Kabogoza, 58, a resident of Nakwaya, plans to invest in livestock and fish vending:

“I will buy a bull for UGX 700,000 and invest the rest in selling fish. As the bull grows, the fish business will sustain me. Later, I’ll sell the



ACAO Emmanuel Zirabamuzaale addressing PDM beneficiaries before getting the funds



ACAO Emmanuel Zirabamuzaale right with the parish chief verifying the beneficiaries on the list.

bull, buy a cow that can give milk, and reinvest. That way, I can repay the money and keep the business running.”

Toepista Nakachwa, 25, shared her plans for poultry farming:

“I’ll start with a few chicks and expand gradually using my business plan. I’m determined to make it work.”

Sulayiti Saiti Ssebunya, 70, from Nabiteete in Watuba Parish, intends to invest in coffee farming:

“I’ll use part of the money to buy fertilizers and the rest to start another small business so I can maintain cash flow.”

Ivan Kisakye, the Acting District Commercial Officer, provided an update on the funding across the district:

Phase One: UGX 8.004 billion disbursed to 8,004 households

Phase Two: UGX 7.5 billion disbursed to 7,500 households

Phase Three: UGX 7.5 billion set to be disbursed to another batch of 7,500 households

Launched in February 2022 by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni in Kibuku District, the Parish Development Model (PDM) is Uganda’s flagship initiative to transition 39% of the population from subsistence to the money economy.

Under the Financial Inclusion pillar, each parish receives UGX 100 million per year, disbursed to organized enterprise groups as revolving funds. Beneficiaries must invest in approved agricultural or small business ventures and are required to refund the funds with interest.

As the PDM continues to roll out across the country, district leaders like ACAO Zirabamuzaale are urging transparency, discipline, and results-driven implementation to ensure the program achieves its intended impact of household-level economic empowerment.

Nakaseke General Hospital Honored with Prestigious UK “Antimicrobial Guardianship” Award

By Mugeere Emmanuel, Communication Officer, Nakaseke District



Nakaseke General Hospital Medical Superintendent, Dr. Bernard Okongo Bukare, presents the Antimicrobial Guardianship Award to members of the Hospital Board

Nakaseke General Hospital has been recognized with a prestigious Antimicrobial Guardian Award from the United Kingdom, in honor of its outstanding efforts in the global fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The award was presented under a UK-led antimicrobial stewardship initiative and celebrates Nakaseke’s role as a model center of excellence in Central Uganda. This milestone results from a collaborative project involving the Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH),

Nottingham Trent University (NTU), Buckinghamshire NHS Trust, and Uganda’s Ministry of Health.

Since 2023, Nakaseke General Hospital has played a pioneering role in training multidisciplinary healthcare professionals including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and environmental health officers in One Health principles and antimicrobial stewardship practices. These efforts have enhanced capacity to detect, monitor, and curb antimicrobial misuse, while promoting best practices in healthcare delivery.

Built in 1960 and renovated in 2015, Nakaseke General Hospital is a 200-bed facility serving Nakaseke District and neighboring communities. It has since evolved into a regional model, extending its knowledge and lessons learned to other institutions such as Entebbe Regional Referral Hospital and Gombe Hospital.

“This recognition is not only a win for Nakaseke but for the entire

country. It shows that Uganda can lead on critical global health issues like antimicrobial resistance,” said one health official familiar with the project.

The Antimicrobial Guardian award affirms Nakaseke’s central role in preserving antibiotic effectiveness and highlights it as a blueprint for sustainable, community-driven AMR control across the region and beyond.

Nakaseke: Hon. Alice Kaboyo Commissions Seventh House for Civilian Veteran

By Emmanuel Mugeere, Communication Officer, Nakaseke District



Hon. Alice Kaboyo with veteran NyindoMuluka and his family members standing in front of the new house built in his honor

On 12th July, 2025 in a moving ceremony held at Katalakamese, Butalangu Town Council, the State Minister for Luwero

Triangle and Rwenzori Region, Hon. Alice Kaboyo, officially handed over a newly constructed house to Mr. Nyindo Muluka, a civilian veteran of

the National Resistance Movement (NRM) liberation struggle. The house, built under the Ministry of Luwero-Rwenzori Affairs in the Office of the Prime Minister, marks the seventh in a series of homes commissioned to honor civilian veterans across the country.

Mr. Muluka, a former Muluka Chief during the Obote regime, joined the liberation effort and has since been recognized for his contribution to the struggle. Hon. Kaboyo emphasized the importance of remembering and compensating all those who played vital roles in the country's history.

"Our veterans deserve to live with dignity. This house is not just a shelter, but a symbol of appreciation for the sacrifices Mr. Muluka and many others made," she remarked during the ceremony.

The Minister also addressed the ongoing delay in Akasiimo (gratuity) payments, attributing the setbacks to unclear records of some veterans in Nakaseke. She assured residents that the verification committee is actively working to confirm all eligible beneficiaries so that they can receive their dues.

On matters of youth employment, Hon. Kaboyo acknowledged the challenges but urged children of veterans to organize themselves into associations and present their needs directly to the President. She noted that the soon-to-be-operational abattoir in the area could offer employment opportunities, particularly for youth from veteran

families.

"Government cannot employ everyone, but opportunities are there—especially if we work together. Let's focus on wealth creation, not just jobs," she said.

She commended community-led development efforts, highlighting the contribution of Hon. Kabuye Kyofatogabye, the State Minister for Kampala, who donated land for public use and recently gifted land to a veteran who had none, enabling construction of another house.

Hon. Kaboyo reaffirmed President Museveni's commitment to constructing homes for all uncompensated veterans and confirmed that the Akasiimo funds for 2024 have been planned to benefit beneficiaries in Nakaseke, Luwero, and Nakasongola.

"Veterans' welfare is a priority. The President has not forgotten them," she added, citing the President's recent pledge to equip Entebbe Grade B Hospital to better serve veteran health needs.

Hon. Kabuye Kyofatogabye, who joined the event, encouraged the children of veterans to carry on their parents' legacy by working hard, embracing peace, and supporting government programs such as the Parish Development Model (PDM). He praised youth leadership at parish levels and called for increased support for women and persons with disabilities.

Nakaseke RDC, Ms. Byabasajja

Rosemary, presented key district concerns, including livestock and coffee theft, rape cases, and land disputes. She commended the Ministry's support to more than 40 local groups and expressed appreciation for the two houses already completed in the district, including one recently handed over to the family of the late Dodoviko.

////// "Hon. Kaboyo's leadership has brought real change. We appeal for quicker veteran compensation to continue building on this progress," she said.

Engineer Brian Buhandu, representing NEC, the construction firm contracted for the project, confirmed that seven of the twelve planned houses have been completed and the remaining five are scheduled for handover next month.

////// "We thank the Office of the Prime Minister for this trust and remain committed to delivering quality structures," he said.

Hon. Kaboyo confirmed that under the current phase, completed houses have been handed over to the families of the Late Lwanyaga of Wakiso, Sam Luttamaguzi of Kikandwa in Nakaseke, Samuel Ssejemba of Mukono, the Late Peter Mpiima Kazimoto of Budaka, Esther Tumwiine of the Karuhanga family in Mbarara, Nyindo Muluka of Butalangu, and Dodoviko Lubowa Galimpitawa of Semuto Town. She noted that a total of twelve houses will be completed in this phase, reaffirming government's ongoing commitment to honoring and restoring dignity to Uganda's liberation heroes, particularly civilian veterans who made sacrifices during the struggle.



Community members gather at the handover ceremony of the newly constructed house for veteran Nyindo Muluka in Katale-Kamese, Butalangu Town Council, Nakaseke District



Hon. Alice Kaboyo with veteran Nyindo Muluka and his family members standing in front of the new house built in his honor.



State Minister Hon. Alice Kaboyo officially commissions the house by cutting the ribbon alongside veteran Nyindo Muluka and local leaders

REBDA Launches 3-Year Agricultural Transformation Program in Nakasongola



By Matwarwa Samuel, Communication Officer, Nakasongola District Local Government

Nakasongola – July 13, 2025

The Reign Business Development Agency (REBDA), under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), has officially launched a three-year agricultural transformation program in

Nakasongola District. The initiative is part of the broader National Oilseeds Project (NOSP), aimed at boosting agricultural productivity and improving rural livelihoods through demand-driven extension services.

The launch took place during a district-level entry meeting at the Production Hall, where REBDA outlined its multi-year commitment to delivering

agricultural services that focus on strengthening value chains, increasing access to certified seeds, promoting farming as a business, and improving rural infrastructure.

Nakasongola is one of 80 districts benefiting from the NOSP initiative. The district has already begun to see tangible benefits, including the construction of two community access roads supported by the project.

Speaking at the launch event, LCV Chairperson Rtd. Lt. Sam Kigula applauded the Government of Uganda and President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for prioritizing agriculture as a cornerstone of national development.

“Agriculture remains the country’s largest employer,” Kigula noted, “and we must drive our people from subsistence farming to a money economy.”

He emphasized the critical link between infrastructure development and agricultural productivity, urging agricultural officers to increase their visibility and engagement at the grassroots level. Kigula also issued a stern warning to government extension staff against running private consultations while on the government payroll.

“We cannot tolerate double standards. Government workers must commit fully to public service,” he said.

Addressing logistical challenges, Kigula called for all agricultural

equipment budget proposals to be submitted directly to his office. He expressed concern over inadequate mobility for veterinary officers, revealing that while five sub-counties are actively involved in the program, one still lacks a motorcycle for its extension staff.

He further encouraged technical officers to collaborate closely with political leaders, especially in the distribution of agricultural inputs.

“Joint accountability builds public trust and ensures no farmer is left behind,” he added.

On behalf of REBDA, the Team Leader underscored the agency’s commitment to transforming agriculture into a commercially viable enterprise.

“We aim to increase access to certified seeds, support regulated local seed production, promote agricultural insurance and financing, and facilitate access to machinery such as tractors,” the team leader said. “Strong stakeholder coordination is key to sustainability and farmer ownership.”

The government has injected significant resources into the NOSP, and both technical and political leaders were urged to maximize the program’s impact by playing their part in monitoring and implementation.

Nakasongola’s leadership pledged full support to ensure the successful rollout and long-term sustainability of the program.

Nakasongola: RISO Urges Stronger Teamwork and Intelligence Sharing Among Security Stakeholders

By Matwarwa Samuel – Communication Officer, Nakasongola District Local Government

Nakasongola – July 13, 2025

The Regional Internal Security Officer (RISO) for Greater Luwero, Mr. Edmond Kamanyire, has called for enhanced coordination, intelligence sharing, and proactive engagement among Sub-County leaders and security personnel in Nakasongola District to bolster peace and service delivery.



While addressing a cross-section of local government leaders including Sub-County Chiefs (SAS), LCIII Chairpersons, GISOs, and other district stakeholders, Mr. Kamanyire emphasized the urgent need to revamp and operationalize Sub-County Security Committees.

“Do you people hold Sub-County Security Committee meetings?” he asked pointedly, adding that the absence of these critical engagements was contributing to persistent security

lapses across the region.

The RISO expressed concern over weak communication lines between Sub-County staff and GISOs, noting that this gap hampers intelligence gathering and the swift handling of emerging threats.

“There is no excuse for failure to share security-related information. GISOs must be fully in the loop. Their mandate is to detect, deter, and curtail subversive activities. That requires full support and collaboration,” he

emphasized.

Mr. Kamanyire instructed Sub-County Chiefs, Town Clerks, and the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) to ensure that GISOs have operational offices at the Sub-County headquarters and are adequately supported to execute their roles.

Turning to the growing concerns around land-related conflicts, he urged local leaders to be proactive and accessible to the communities they serve.

“These are not just disputes—they are time bombs. SAS and LCIII leaders must take on these matters with the seriousness they deserve. You are the first line of defense in maintaining order. You must know that you are working for the people,” he stated firmly.

On the issue of cattle theft, Mr. Kamanyire commended the joint efforts of security teams in tackling the problem but cautioned against complacency.

“The situation is being curtailed, but every stakeholder must remain alert and involved. Our work is not yet done.”

With the NRM primary elections scheduled for Thursday this week, Mr. Kamanyire urged Sub-County leadership to ensure thorough planning, risk assessment, and adequate logistical support to guarantee a peaceful and credible electoral process.

“Elections require preparation.

Think ahead, identify potential trouble spots, and ensure there is manpower on standby. We cannot afford lapses,” he cautioned.

In his closing remarks, the RISO lauded the collective efforts of security stakeholders in maintaining the district’s relative peace and reaffirmed his office’s commitment to upholding public safety and national security.

“Nakasongola remains one of the most stable districts, thanks to your vigilance and collaboration. Let’s build on that foundation,” he concluded.

The meeting underscored the pivotal role of local leadership in fostering a secure and well-governed community and highlighted renewed efforts to streamline security coordination at the grassroots level.

UGIFT-Funded Upgrade Elevates Banda Health Centre, Eases Rural Health Burden

By Nabukenya Christine, Communication Officer, Kyankwanzi

Banda Health Centre II, Banda Sub County in Kyankwanzi District was officially upgraded to a Health Centre III, offering a broader range of services to the



From left is the old OPD building for Banda Health centre II and a three-unit staff house constructed by Ireland AID in 2004.

residents. The development, supported under the Government of Uganda's Inter-Governmental Fiscal Transfer (UGIFT) program with funding from the World Bank, addresses long-standing gaps in access to quality healthcare for this pastoral community.

Before the upgrade, Banda residents faced great difficulty accessing medical services, especially under emergency situations. The nearest facilities Nyamiringa HCII (12 km away) and Kyankwanzi HCII (16 km away) only provided limited outpatient care. More serious cases had to travel up to 40 kilometers to Kiboga Hospital, a challenge for expectant mothers and critically ill patients.

“Many mothers gave birth on the way or sought care from private clinics due to the long distances and poor road conditions,” one local elder recalled. These circumstances made the upgrade not only a necessity but a lifeline for the people of Banda.

Established in 2004 with support from Ireland Aid, Banda Health Centre began with just two enrolled nurses Noah Muweebwa and Sylvia Nambu who lived in a three-unit staff house and operated from a modest outpatient department (OPD). For years, the facility offered only basic services: outpatient care, antenatal visits, immunization, health education, and emergency deliveries.

Recognizing the increasing demand for broader health services, the government

initiated an upgrade under the UGIFT initiative. The total investment of UGX 978 million included the construction of a fully equipped OPD, a maternity ward, a placenta pit, latrines, a staff house, and procurement of medical equipment.

The upgrade has enabled the facility to offer in-patient services, TB testing and treatment, cervical cancer screening, adolescent-friendly services, HIV testing and care, postnatal services, daily immunizations, family planning, and skilled maternity care.

“The number of patients has grown since the facility was upgraded,” said the health centre in-charge, pointing to increased outpatient visits and institutional deliveries.

Service utilization at Banda Health Centre III significantly improved across all key indicators following its upgrade. OPD attendance rose steadily, peaking at 979 in October–December 2024 before stabilizing above 475 in subsequent quarters, indicating increased trust and accessibility. Antenatal care (ANC) first visits also improved, with a notable spike to 67 in the second quarter.

Most remarkable was the surge in institutional deliveries from just 1 in October–December to 33 in April–June 2025 culminating in a total of 54 for the year. This sharp increase reflects the impact of enhanced infrastructure, recruitment of midwives, and the operationalization of the maternity ward.

“Our children are now immunized here and in outreach programs. This has greatly eased the burden for our families,” said the Parish Councilor during a recent monitoring visit.

Banda is the latest in a series of health centre upgrades in Kyankwanzi District. Previous upgrades include Kikolimbo and Mujunza HCs in 2018–2019, Sirimula HC in 2021–2022, and Kikoma HC in 2022–2023.

Despite the achievement, challenges remain. Dr. Serebe JB, the District Health Officer, highlighted recurrent flooding during the rainy season and water shortages, especially in the dry season, as pressing concerns. “Water supply is still not enough to meet the needs of the patients and staff, and the terrain makes some communities hard to reach,” he said.

Continued investment in water supply, flood mitigation, and community outreach will further consolidate the gains made and improve health outcomes across the district.



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