District Communicators' News Letter

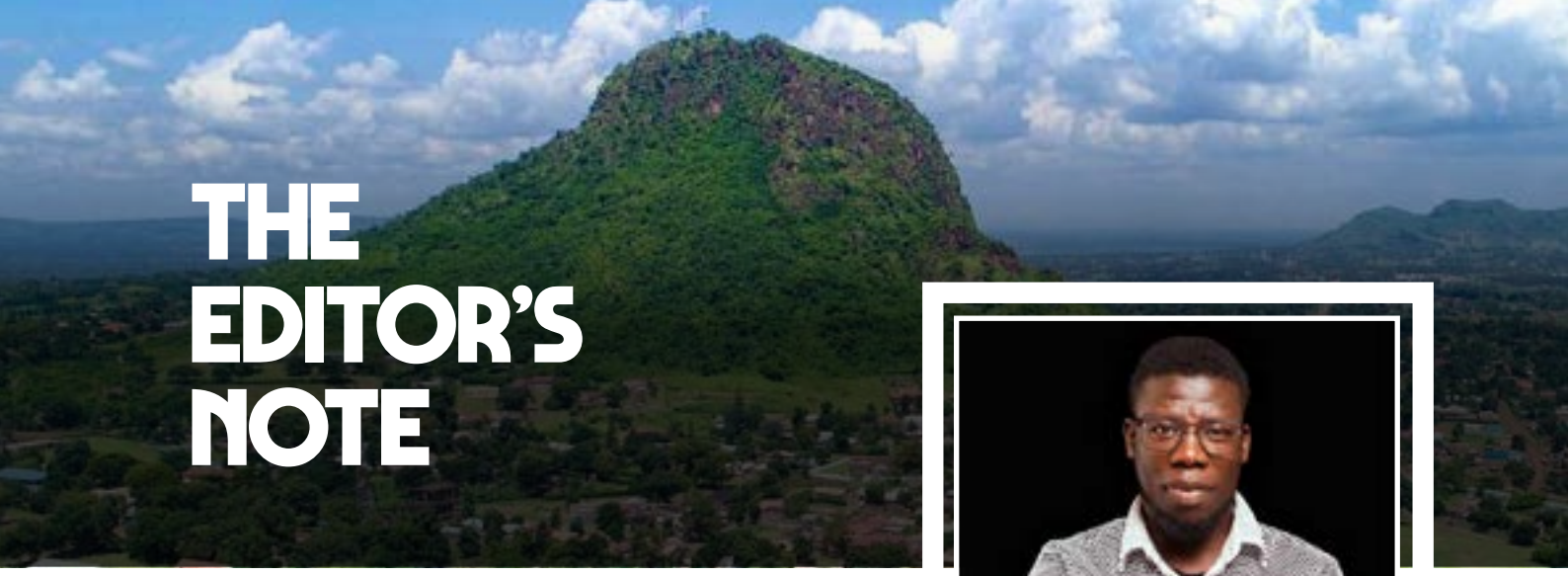
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KIBUKU: Five New Motorcycles to Ease Vaccine Delivery and Health Outreaches



THE EDITOR'S NOTE



Mangeni Moses
Chief Editor
Bukedi Post

Welcome to this month's edition of Bukedi Post, where we spotlight the people, ideas and public initiatives shaping communities across the Bukedi sub-region.

Health leads this issue. Kibuku receives five new motorcycles for vaccine delivery and hosts the national fight against postpartum haemorrhage, Busia welcomes 140 new Community Health Extension Workers, and Butebo's Prime Minister visit brings a pledge for more doctors.

We also feature inclusion and leadership in Busia and Tororo, alongside livelihood stories: Parish Development Model training in Kibuku, beetles against the parthenium weed and 800 new beehives in Pallisa, poultry and fish-trading skills in Busia, and safe water for Butebo.

Together, these stories show that sustainable development is driven by citizens and institutions working together to solve local challenges.

We thank our district communication officers, contributors and readers for making Bukedi Post a platform for authentic community storytelling. We hope this edition informs, inspires and celebrates the resilience of our people.

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KIBUKU: Five New Motorcycles to Ease Vaccine Delivery and Health Outreaches

By Mariam Kataike, Communication Officer- Kibuku



Center; the CAO, RDC, LCV, DEC and Health team paraded behind the motorcycles.

Health workers in Kibuku District now have five new motorcycles to reach patients and deliver vaccines across a district where some sub-counties have no health facility at all.

The motorcycles, supplied by the Ministry of Health to the district Health Department, came with helmets, gloves and some spare parts. They will go to the in-charges of Health Centre IIIs and to the district's cold chain technician. They will be used for vaccination outreaches, urgent transport of vaccines and follow-up of patients.

The need is clear from the district's map. Kibuku has 17 health facilities, including private not-for-profit facilities, serving 17 sub-counties and five town councils. Kenkebu Health Centre II alone serves an entire sub-county as well as villages on the border with Budaka District.

Chief Administrative Officer

Roseline Luhoni Adongo described the motorcycles as long overdue. Transport for lower-level health facilities is key to better services, she said, because their coverage areas are wide and some sub-counties have no facility. The motorcycles will make outreaches possible and easier to manage.

District Chairperson Hajji Muhamad Nakeba warned the recipients that the motorcycles are not personal property. "They are not for giving to your sons to learn to ride or use as transport to school," he said, noting that government property is often given to relatives and friends who do not serve the community.

He told riders without permits to obtain them, warned against vandalism, and urged in-charges to plan and budget for servicing and repairs so the motorcycles last.

Deputy Resident District Commissioner John Basalirwa officiated at the handover. He credited District Health Officer Godfrey Buyinza with the district's multi-pronged fight against malaria, combining indoor residual spraying, mosquito net distribution and door-to-door testing and treatment, work he said the motorcycles will support.

He urged the recipients to keep the motorcycles in good condition and use them only for their intended purpose, then closed the event with a test ride.

BUSIA: Albinism Union Arrives To Challenge Myths That Keep Many In Hiding

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia District

Many men, women and children with albinism in Busia District remain hidden because of stigma and discrimination, according to Henry Wakodo, the District Councillor representing Persons with Disabilities. Fear of rejection, he said, has left some reluctant to speak out or demand services from government.

A new organisation now aims to change that. The Source of the Nile Union of Persons with Albinism has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Busia District Local Government and is set to begin work across the district's 20 administrative units. Its entry was



Stakeholders with members of the Source of the Nile Union of Persons with Albinism after the inception meeting at Busia District headquarters

announced at a stakeholders' meeting on 8 October 2026.

The Union's Director, Mr Peter Ogik, described what persons with albinism face in some communities. Some people still believe the myth that killing a person with albinism brings wealth, he said, which exposes them to insecurity and discrimination. Some parents abandon children born with albinism, while other families break down or reject them. Communities often offer little support, leaving children and adults vulnerable to neglect, isolation and limited opportunities.

The Union's stated vision is "a strong society where persons with albinism are aware of their rights, able to protect them, and fully integrated in all aspects of life." It plans to raise awareness of rights, encourage self-advocacy and support participation in education, health, economic activity and community life. It will also link persons with vitiligo to the National Organisation of People with Vitiligo for support and advocacy.

Senior Probation and Social Welfare Officer Raphael Osacha said the Union would give persons with albinism a platform to organise, share experiences, access information and demand services as a recognised group.

Mr Wakodo urged stakeholders to dispel the myths surrounding albinism and to promote awareness of human rights and

inclusion.

Principal Human Resource Officer Daniel Madaba, representing the Chief Administrative Officer, pledged the district's full support. He said the district would work to ensure inclusion in service delivery and create opportunities for persons with albinism when they come forward for support.

For the Union, the first task will be reaching those Mr Wakodo described: people with albinism who have so far stayed out of sight.

Busia Gets 140 New Community Health Workers Ready To Serve

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia DLG

Every parish in Busia District now has two trained Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWs) to support health promotion, disease prevention, referrals and basic health services close to households. What they do not yet have is a government salary.

The 140 CHEWs passed out on 8 October 2026 at Musanya Gardens after a six-month course in basic health, supported by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF. Two were selected from each of the district's 70 parishes.

The training, led by Dr Emmery Mbaha, combined classroom instruction with practical work. Dr Mbaha said the trainees were deployed to 33 health facilities across the district for a supervised practicum, where close monitoring helped them turn classroom knowledge into service at facility and community level.

District Health Officer Dr Mathias Panyako Wabwire said the health sector is still operating with thin staffing, and the CHEWs would provide valuable support at parish level. They will complement Village Health Teams (VHTs), improving access to services and strengthening the first point of contact between communities and the health system.

Assistant RDC Hamida Kaganira, the guest of honour, who represented RDC Hajira Namagogwe, congratulated the new workers. She noted that they are not yet fully enrolled



Asst RDC Hamida Kaganira, speaking to CHEWs during the pass out ceremony

on the government payroll, and urged them to join government programmes such as Emyooga, the Parish Development Model, the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme and the Youth Livelihood Programme. She encouraged them to start income-generating activities to sustain themselves while they serve their communities.

Principal Human Resource Officer Daniel Madaba, representing Chief Administrative Officer Apollo Bernard Opolot, took the CHEWs through the code of conduct, including the correct communication channels, grievance procedures and professional conduct. He warned that careless behaviour at health facilities could embarrass both the workers and the institutions they represent.

The ceremony was attended by District Vice Chairperson Florence Nakwanga, Secretary for Health Patrick Okuku, health facility in-charges, health inspectors and assistants, and other stakeholders.

The CHEWs now carry a mandate to bring services closer to people and support overstretched facilities. How long they can sustain that work without regular pay is a question the district and the Ministry of Health will need to answer.

BUSIA: New Women Council Chairperson Makes Children With Sickle Cell Her First Priority

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia DLG

Children living with sickle cell disease and their families will be the first focus of Busia District's new Women Council leadership. Ms Esther Chosen Makanga announced the programme after she and her executive were sworn in on Friday 23 October 2026.

The initiative will focus on improving support for affected children and their families, Ms Makanga said. She also called for unity among women leaders as they begin their term.

Chief Administrative Officer Apollo Bernard Opolot administered the oath at Chango Macho Hall, at the district headquarters. Busia District Woman Member of Parliament Janet Hope Webby Anyango was guest of honour.

The ceremony marked the formal start of a five-year term for the executive, which is expected



Members of Women Council pose with the District Woman Member of Parliament, Anyango Janet Hope Webby (Centre in blue) after the swearing ceremony at the district headquarters.

to lead the mobilisation, empowerment and development of women across the district.

Ms Makanga takes over an office that has been held in a caretaker capacity by Ms Olivia Tibaise since the death of the former chairperson, Ms Florence Taaka, in a road accident.

Ms Anyango urged the new leaders to embrace unity, uphold good morals and work together towards economic transformation. She cautioned against petty conflicts, saying division does not improve household welfare, while collective effort can strengthen livelihoods.

She reminded them that they will answer to voters at the end of their term, and encouraged them to use their time in office to deliver tangible benefits to women and families.

Mr Opolot said the executive's mandate is centred on empowering and mobilising women for development, and stressed the importance of coordinated leadership in advancing programmes that respond to women's needs at community level.

District Chairperson John Charles Namayindi called on the women leaders to be impactful in the communities they represent, and pledged the district leadership's support for their work.

The executive's first test will be whether the sickle cell programme reaches the children and families it is meant for, and whether the unity its leaders called for holds over the five years ahead.



Left: Ms. Makanga Esther Chosen, District Woman Chairperson, Right: Manyi Gorreti hands over instruments of power to Ms. Esther Chosen Makanga the new District Women chair-person

BUTEBO: Prime Minister, Pledges To Push For More Doctors

By Musa Tavuga, Communication Officer – Butebo

Patients in Butebo District will not see a private wing at their district health facility, after Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja rejected the proposal during a visit to the district. Public health services, she said, should be strengthened for the benefit of ordinary Ugandans.

The Prime Minister also pledged to advocate for more wage funding so that the district can recruit and retain medical doctors and other critical health workers. Improving staffing, she said, is essential if people are to receive timely, quality care.

Ms Nabbanja was in Butebo for a thanksgiving ceremony for Dr Monica Musenero's appointment as Minister of Energy and Mineral Development. During the visit she met district leaders, farmers, health workers and beneficiaries of government programmes.

She commended the district for its performance in implementing the Parish Development Model (PDM), describing Butebo as a good example of service delivery and community development in Bukedi. She singled out progress in the health sector and urged leaders to keep prioritising quality, accessible care.

The Prime Minister praised Dr Musenero for supporting the construction of a mini-industrial park in the district, which she described as an important step towards value addition, industrialisation and job creation in the region. She said she would like to replicate the model in her own area.

She also met fish and coffee farmers, praising them for taking up government programmes and encouraging them to keep investing in production, value addition and commercial agriculture to raise household incomes.

Looking beyond Butebo, Ms Nabbanja pledged government support for implementing and financing the Bukedi Strategic Plan, saying a coordinated regional strategy is critical to accelerating economic transformation across the sub-region.

Leaders and residents said the visit was a chance to highlight



both the district's achievements and its challenges. The test now is whether the pledges, on doctors' wages and on the regional plan, translate into funding and recruitment.

Kibuku District Hosts National Fight Against Bleeding After Childbirth

By Mariam Kataike, Communication Officer- Kibuku

Kibuku District should have 119 midwives. It has 41. That gap, described by District Vice Chairperson Bashir Nangheje, framed the national commemoration of the fight againstpostpartumhaemorrhage (PPH), held at Kobolwa Primary School playground on 5 October 2026.

PPH is excessive bleeding after childbirth, a condition that has claimed the lives of many mothers. The day is dedicated to ending it.

Mr Nangheje said the shortage of midwives is the result of an

inadequate wage bill. He added that seven of the district's 18 sub-counties have no health facility, and that Kibuku has only one Health Centre IV and no hospital. He called on the Government to close the gap and reduce the number of mothers who must be referred elsewhere.

Opening the event, the LCI Chairperson of Kobolwa raised the same concerns, noting that a Health Centre IV is the highest level of care in the district. He said the area is also short of water, and that even the health centre lacks a reliable water source.

A coalition of partners is working on the problem, including Amref, SAY Plus, Bulamu Health Care, Naguru Teenage Centre, UNFPA and the Ministry of Health. They have trained midwives to detect and manage PPH and run community sensitisation to encourage antenatal care.

Mr Patrick Kagurusi, Country Manager of Amref Uganda, promised lasting change in Kibuku. Filling midwife posts, he said, is now essential, because no mother should die while bringing new life into the world.

The National PPH Champion, Mrs Charlotte Kainerugaba, thanked midwives and health workers for their work. She said even the best hospitals and medical services go to waste if mothers do not visit them, and that men have a role to play. Families that do not plan for nutrition, medical bills and antenatal care, she said, place a heavy strain on mothers.



(From left) Mrs Charlotte Keinerugaba, Hon. Kinobere Herbert MP Kibuku constitueny, the Woman MP Silyvia Katooko Damba and UNFP Representative and the DHO receiving a computer as part of reporting tools.

Kibuku District Woman Member of Parliament Sylvia Damba Katooko explained some of the causes of PPH: poor diet leading to anaemia, teenage pregnancies before a girl's body is ready, and hasty deliveries. She called for efforts to reduce poverty and keep girls in school. While such deaths are rare in developed countries, she said, in Kibuku they remain a reality. She thanked midwives for always being on call despite their thin numbers.

The event closed with the signing of the obstetric haemorrhage implementation framework and the launch of a toll-free line for health emergencies. Mothers and families in Kibuku can call 0800 707 888.



Kibuku Woman MP Sylvia Damba Katooko displays the toll-free emergency number 0800 707 888, beside National PPH Champion Charlotte Kainerugaba

Kibuku: Few PDM Success Stories Prompt Training For 360 Before Next Payouts

By Mariam Kataike

Kibuku District has disbursed a large amount of money under the Parish Development Model (PDM), but few success stories can be told. Most beneficiaries are still struggling with their enterprises because of inadequate knowledge and poor choices, according to Chief Administrative Officer Roseline Luhoni Adongo.

To change that, 360 people have been trained before the next round of funding. They include Parish Development Committee members, sub-county chiefs, community-based facilitators and beneficiaries of the Parish Revolving Fund (PRF).

The training was organised by the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Finance, which brought in Enterprise Uganda to deliver it. Its aim was to prepare farmers to receive PRF money, sustain their businesses and make informed decisions.

Opening the training, Mrs Adongo said people often rush to get the money without preparing for how to use it. She pointed to farmers who keep indigenous livestock breeds that take long to mature and produce little milk, which she said keeps them working only for survival.

She urged participants to be the first to change their thinking and then share it with others. "The most needed resource is you," she said.

Enterprise Uganda's Teso Regional Manager took participants through the elements of mindset that push a person forward, hold them back or keep them static. Business, she said, should be seen as an opportunity for growth. No amount of starting capital is too small; it is poor planning that makes businesses fail.

In a practical session, farmers mapped how they spend a typical day. Many found that they spend only about six of 24 hours on productive or profitable work, and most of the rest on leisure and rest.

District Commercial Officer Samuel Otai said the next training will target the new leadership of SACCOs and Parish Development Committees on PRF inclusion before funds are released to the next group of beneficiaries.

PALLISA: District Rears Beetles To Fight Invasive Parthenium Weed

By Akello Priscilla, Communication Officer – Pallisa District

Sam Omoding had seen parthenium growing in his garden in Pallisa Town Council, but he did not realise the threat it posed. After a two-day training at the district headquarters, he says he now knows how to identify the weed and why it must be dealt with before it spreads.

Parthenium hysterophorus, also known as famine weed, is an invasive plant that spreads rapidly, competes with crops and other vegetation, and can harm agricultural productivity, biodiversity and livestock.

Pallisa is fighting back with insects. District Agriculture Officer Emmanuel Olebo said the district has set up a biological control unit where beetles are reared for release in areas affected by the weed.

"We need really to work together, sensitise our communities and solve this problem together," Mr Olebo said, urging farmers and extension workers to help researchers identify affected areas and contain the weed's spread.

The training, held on 24 and 25 August 2026, was run by the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO). It took farmers and extension workers through how to identify the weed, how it spreads and how to manage it, with a focus on biological control.

Stella Adumo Aropet, a Research Senior Technician at the National Agricultural Research Laboratories in Kawanda, explained why the weed is so hard to beat. Parthenium produces large quantities of seed that can remain viable in the soil for many years, so pulling out mature plants alone will not solve the problem. New plants keep emerging from seed already in the ground. Sustained, integrated control, including biological methods, is needed.

For extension workers, the training strengthens the support they can give farmers: helping them spot the weed early, understand control measures and report new infestations.

District Chairperson Ben Okiria

welcomed the training and called for such initiatives to reach more communities. Taking research directly to farmers, he said, helps them understand its value and adopt solutions to the problems they face. He pledged the district's support.

The training was conducted under the CAADP-XP4 programme, funded by the European Union and managed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), to move agricultural research and biological control technologies out of laboratories and into farming communities.

Because parthenium spreads across farm boundaries, no farmer can control it alone. Its containment in Pallisa will depend on collective action, early reporting and the beetles now being reared at the district.

Tororo Municipal Council Extends Kaparking Contract After Shs 12.2 Million Collection in One Month

By Okello Mathew, Communication Officer- Tororo Municipality



The Tororo Municipal Council Administration, Finance and Planning Committee has today resolved to extend the mandate of Kaparking Company, the firm undertaking street parking revenue collection in Tororo Town.

Kaparking Company was contracted by the Municipal Council to collect street parking, offloading and loading fees. The company was given the month of September for piloting the program.

In its first month of operation, the company collected 12.2 million shillings, a figure slightly above the previous collections registered by the municipality.

During a presentation to the committee today, an officer from Kaparking expressed optimism that the company will perform even better in the coming months.

The Tororo Municipality Town Clerk, Mr. Alikwan Ayub Kisubi, requested the committee to consider giving the company more time and proposed a three-month extension to allow for close monitoring of its performance before a final decision on either termination or full approval.

The Town Clerk commended the company for employing local people and for helping the municipality generate a vital database that will support planning in other departments.

The proposal was unanimously supported by the committee. The Secretary for Administration, Finance and Planning, Ms. Josephine Aketch, also supported the extension, describing the first month as productive.

However, the company reported a challenge of over 29 million shillings in outstanding debts from clients who have not yet remitted payment. With support from the municipality, the company will now embark on enforcement to recover the unpaid funds.

The Mayor of Tororo Municipality, Mr. Benerd Ochieng, expressed concern over the 29 million shillings uncollected debt, noting the need for improved efficiency to meet expected targets. He emphasized that increased local revenue collection will enable the municipality to undertake various development activities.

The Mayor reiterated his commitment to light up every part of Tororo Municipality and ensure all roads are motorable within his five-year term, as a way of thanking the electorate.

Kaparking Company will now continue collecting street parking fees for all vehicles parking in Tororo Town, with charges varying according to vehicle category. Residents and motorists have been urged to comply.

TORORO: Taxi Operators To Elect Their Own Park Leaders After Complaints Of Outside Control

By Okello Mathew, Communication Officer, Tororo Municipal Council

Taxi drivers, conductors and touts at Tororo Municipal Taxi Park will elect their own leaders on 25 November 2026, after complaints that people who do not work in the park had taken over its management.

Tororo Municipal Council launched the election roadmap at the taxi park at a meeting with drivers, touts and conductors, who welcomed the programme.

Municipal Town Clerk Ayub Alikwan Kisubi said the elections had been directed by the Minister of Local Government at a recent baraza. The directive followed a petition from a member of the park who complained of poor management caused by the involvement of non-taxi operators in its leadership.

In line with that directive, Mr Kisubi said, only people who work in the



Building Tomorrow regional cordinator Ms Nakafeero handing over laptops and tablets to the Deputy CAO, Mr Areu Simon Peter

park will take part in electing its new leadership.

Under the roadmap, eligible voters were to register from 19 to 23 October 2026. The draft voters' register will be displayed from 26 to 30 October and updated from 2 to 6 November. The final register will be displayed from 9 to 13 November, and candidates will be nominated from 16 to 18 November. Voting is set for 25 November at the Mayor's Garden.

Operators will elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, general treasurer, defence secretary, secretary for mobilisation, park supervisor, welfare officer and senior adviser.

Mr Kisubi has set up a committee to oversee the exercise, chaired by Deputy Town Clerk Okoth Kitong. Mr Kitong assured park workers that the elections would be free and fair, and said only drivers and recognised touts and conductors with valid permits would be allowed to participate.

While welcoming the elections, operators asked the council to deal with problems they face daily at the park, including inadequate security lighting and poor hygiene in the toilets. Whoever wins on 25 November will be expected to press for those improvements on their behalf.

UCSATP Gives Pallisa Beekeeping a Buzz with 800 New Beehives

By Akello Priscilla, Communication Officer- Pallisa

The beekeeping sector in Pallisa District has received a significant boost following the handover of 800 beehives to four farmer groups under the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project (UCSATP) on 6 October 2026 at Agule Town Council Headquarters.

The intervention is aimed at increasing agricultural production and productivity, improving market access, strengthening farmers' resilience to climate change and creating opportunities for increased household incomes.

The beneficiary groups are Bukedi Beekeepers Association from Kasodo Sub-county, Morukokume Agroforestry Project, Osiepai West Beekeeping Project, and Aberu Kuju Moru Outgrowers Association. Three of the groups are from Agule Town Council, while Bukedi Beekeepers Association is from



Deputy RDC Nakussi Assa and District Chairperson Hon. Okiria Ben handing over beehives to beneficiaries

Kasodo Sub-county.

Speaking during the handover, Madam Nalapa Martha, Principal Entomologist, said UCSATP is being implemented in 69 districts across the country, with the insect value chain among the areas supported under the project.

She urged beneficiaries to treat the beehives as an income-generating opportunity and adhere to the required standard operating procedures to ensure the production of quality honey.

Madam Nalapa said beneficiaries would receive hands-on training in beekeeping, encouraging them to put the knowledge into practice and use the beehives for their intended purpose. She also urged them to take advantage of honey and other bee products as sources of income and maintain close contact with technical personnel for guidance and support.

The District Chairperson, Hon. Okiria Ben, noted that climate change is real and called on beneficiaries to make good use of the government intervention to improve their incomes and livelihoods.

He urged the farmers to properly manage the beehives and take beekeeping seriously so that the investment translates into increased household income and improved welfare.

The Deputy Resident District Commissioner, Hajjati Nakussi Assa, encouraged beneficiaries to create a favourable environment for bees by planting trees and flowers to provide forage. She also urged the groups not to miss the training sessions, noting that technical personnel would return

to monitor the progress and use of the beehives.

With 800 beehives now in the hands of organized farmer groups, the intervention provides an opportunity for farmers to diversify their livelihoods while adapting to the effects of climate change.

The beneficiaries have been encouraged to protect the investment, apply the skills gained through training and work closely with technical officers to ensure that the beehives translate into quality honey, stronger market opportunities, increased household incomes and improved livelihoods

AMREF Health Outreach Brings Essential Services Closer to Young People in Butebo

By Tavuga Musa, Communication Officer, Butebo District

Adolescents and community members in Butebo District are benefiting from expanded access to essential health services following health outreach activities supported by AMREF in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Butebo District Health Office.

The outreach programme, funded by UNFPA under Say Plus, provides services including immunisation, family planning, laboratory testing, deworming, condom distribution, counselling and sexual and reproductive health information.

During a monitoring visit to Kauchru community outreach and Bwase Village in Kabwangasi Town Council, health workers engaged residents and placed particular emphasis on reaching young people aged 10 to 24.

The programme is helping adolescents and young people access accurate health information, counselling and youth-friendly services within their communities. Participants said continued access to such services is important in helping them make informed health decisions and remain focused on their education.

AMREF Project Officer Moses Iyereget and Dr Nabwire Justine, Head of Outreaches at the Ministry of Health, emphasised the need for stronger community mobilisation to ensure more young people know about and



use available health services.

They also encouraged health workers and community structures to create safe, youth-friendly spaces where adolescents can seek information, counselling and appropriate services without fear or stigma.

Butebo District officials welcomed the continued partnership, saying the outreach services are helping bring preventive and promotive healthcare closer to communities.

The partners called for sustained support, stronger youth participation and continued community mobilisation to expand access to essential health services across the district.

Busia Leaders Promote Poultry Farming as Path to Higher Household Incomes

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer Busia

Residents of Majanji Sub-county have been encouraged to invest in poultry farming and other income-generating activities as a way of improving household incomes and reducing poverty.

The call was made during an economic transformation tour which happened on September 13, 2026, led by Hon. Amb. Barbra Nekesa, NRM National Treasurer, at Hajjat Hadija's poultry farm in Bulwande B Village.

Nekesa urged households to use their available resources for productive investments rather than non-essential spending. She encouraged beneficiaries of government programmes such as the Parish Development Model (PDM) and Emyooga to invest the funds in enterprises that can generate sustainable income.

Hon. Julius Maganda, MP for Samia Bugwe South and State Minister



Hon.Amb Nekesa Barbra, Isaac Muwanguzi, District NRM (yellow Shirt) and Namayindi John Charles, District Chairperson touring Hadijah's farm

for Transport, highlighted local chicken farming as an affordable enterprise that can be started with limited capital and technical knowledge.

Participants also toured Hajjat Hadija's poultry farm, which has grown to about 3,800 birds. Her 1,000 laying hens produce approximately 35 trays of eggs daily, providing a regular source of income. She has also established three women's groups that she trains in poultry farming every Sunday.

Hadija's farm provides practical lessons in poultry housing, feeding, disease control and egg marketing, giving other farmers an opportunity to learn from an established enterprise.

Busia District Chairperson John Charles Namayindi commended Hadija for contributing to local economic development and encouraged residents to adopt similar ventures.

The leaders said increased investment in poultry and other household enterprises could help families generate income, improve livelihoods, create employment and strengthen local economic development.

The meeting brought together farmers, community members and local leaders as part of efforts to promote household-level economic transformation in Samia Bugwe South

EASSI Equips Busia Women Fish Traders with Skills to Grow Businesses and Incomes

By Moses Mangeni, communication Officer, Busia District

Women fish traders in Busia District are set to improve their businesses and household incomes after receiving training in fish handling, value addition, financial literacy and collective marketing.

The two-day training which occurred on September 17th, 2026, organised by the Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) in partnership with Busia District, brought together women traders from fish markets across the district and Busia Municipal Council.

The training focused on practical skills to help traders reduce losses, improve the quality of their products, and access better markets. Participants were



Participants pose for a group photograph with the Principal Assistant Secretary, Kayira Muhamud (in Suit) during the training

trained in proper fish hygiene and preservation, as well as value addition through smoking, drying and improved packaging.

Traders also received financial management skills, including the importance of recording income and expenses and saving part of their earnings. The Acting District Commercial Officer encouraged participants to save at least 20 percent of their income to strengthen their businesses and cope with financial challenges.

Busia District Commercial Officer Asiepet Joan Mary urged women to strengthen their cooperatives and SACCOs, saying collective action can improve their bargaining power and financial resilience.

The programme also trained selected women as trainers of trainers (TOTs). They will share the skills gained with other women traders in their respective markets, expanding the benefits of the programme.

Speaking at the close of the training, Mariam Babu, chairperson of the Busia Cross-Border Women Traders Cooperative, said the new skills would help women improve their businesses and contribute more to household incomes.

The initiative is part of EASSI's three-year project aimed at building inclusive and safe fisheries economies for young women, with a focus on strengthening their economic opportunities and participation in the fish trade.

GOAL Uganda to Improve Safe Water Access for Underserved Butebo Communities

By Tavuga Musa, Communication Officer, Butebo District

Communities in some of Butebo District's most underserved areas are set to benefit from improved access to safe and reliable water following the launch of a new WASH programme by GOAL Uganda.

The programme will target Kapyansi, Kabwanagasi and Kadokolene sub-counties, where water coverage remains among the lowest in the district.

As part of the intervention, GOAL Uganda plans to construct 15 new boreholes, rehabilitate 45 existing boreholes and install two community taps. The programme will also promote hygiene, strengthen the operation and maintenance of water facilities, improve coordination among WASH stakeholders and support emergency preparedness.

The interventions are expected to reduce the challenges faced by communities that travel long distances in search of water, while improving hygiene and helping



prevent water-related diseases.

Speaking during an entry meeting with district leaders, Butebo District Vice Chairperson Kagawa Sam welcomed the programme and pledged the district's cooperation.

The District Health Department also welcomed the intervention, emphasising the strong link between access to safe water and community health. Health Assistants and Health Inspectors will support supervision, monitoring and technical activities.

GOAL Uganda Team Leader Kabwanga Musa said the organisation's interventions are aimed at improving service delivery and supporting communities to access essential services in line with government policies.

District officials described the partnership as an important opportunity to improve livelihoods and urged communities to take part in protecting and maintaining the water facilities.

The programme brings together GOAL Uganda, district authorities and communities in a shared effort to improve water access, hygiene, public health and the sustainability of water services in Butebo.

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