



SSEZIBWA JOURNAL

Greater Mukono District Communication Officers' Newsletter

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PRESIDENTIAL SKILLING GRADUATES ORIENTED ON STARTUP FUNDS TO BUILD YOUTH EMPLOYERS

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Feature Stories

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Editors Note

Dear Reader and Esteemed Partners,

welcome you to the twelfth edition of the Ssezibwa Journal as we continue to share stories that highlight progress, accountability, and transformation within our communities.

This edition reflects the strong commitment of our district leadership to improving service delivery and governance. From the Chief Administrative Officer's call for greater accountability to the launch of Mukono's first Water Board aimed at strengthening institutional oversight, the message is clear: effective leadership and responsible management remain at the heart of development.

We also bring you inspiring stories of economic empowerment and innovation. Women in Buikwe have successfully transformed an UGX 8 million UWEP fund into a thriving dairy enterprise, while local farmers are embracing small-scale irrigation

and improved goat production techniques to boost productivity and household incomes. Youth empowerment continues to take center stage, with Presidential Skilling graduates oriented on startup funds to build sustainable businesses and create employment opportunities.

Additionally, this issue highlights efforts to strengthen tax compliance, improve project implementation through CDO training, and promote organized urban growth through the Nakisunga DAAP rollout.

As always, the Ssezibwa Journal remains committed to informing, inspiring, and connecting our communities through accurate and impactful storytelling.

Thank you for your continued readership and support.

For God and My Country



Bridging Community Through Service Delivery: The State and Progress of Government Project in Kayunga, Buvuma, Buikwe and Mukono.

Informing Today. Transforming Tomorrow



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PRESIDENTIAL SKILLING GRADUATES IN MUKONO ORIENTED ON STARTUP FUNDS TO BUILD YOUTH EMPLOYERS

Wasswa Zebio, Communication Officer, Buvuma District



Some of Commercial officers in Greater Mukono, Team from state House together with students of Mengo Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub after their engagement.

Finalists from the Mengo Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub have been oriented on new startup capital guidelines ahead of receiving funds to launch their businesses, a move aimed at turning skilled youth into job creators.

The engagement, held at the Mukono District Headquarters on Friday, February 20th, 2026, brought together beneficiaries from Mukono district, Buikwe, Buvuma, Mukono Municipality, Lugazi Municipality, and Njeru who recently completed a six-month vocational training.

District leaders and officials from the State House addressed the finalists on how the funds will be accessed, managed, and

repaid.

While addressing the media, Daniel Koojo, a representative from State House and member of the National Steering Committee for the Presidential Industrial Hubs, said that the program targets unskilled youth aged 19 to 35.



“This program is fully funded by President Yoweri Museveni through State House. The only requirements for enrollment are a valid National ID and being between 19 and 35 years of age,” Koojo said.

He added that training is free for six months and that beneficiaries will receive startup capital not exceeding UGX 1.5 million, offered as a loan repayable within two years at six percent interest per annum.

Koojo revealed that over UGX 8 billion has been allocated to districts and municipalities, with each receiving UGX 50 million annually to support graduates.

Mukono District Commercial Officer Beatrice Owembabazi urged the youth to start small, work together, and embrace a

saving culture to ensure business growth.

Officials emphasized that the initiative is part of government efforts to equip youth with practical skills such as carpentry, welding, hairdressing, and shoemaking and to strengthen enterprise development across the region.



Ms Owembabazi Beatrice, The District Commercial Officer for Mukono District



Mr. Koojo Daniel, a representative from State House and member of the National Steering Committee for the Presidential Industrial Hubs.



BUIKWE WOMEN TRANSFORM UGX 8 MILLION UWEP FUND INTO THRIVING DAIRY ENTERPRISE

Mutegubya Timothy, Communication Officer, Buikwe District



A team from the district showing the produced yogurt.

Women in Buikwe district are celebrating remarkable progress after benefiting from the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Program (UWEP), by turning a modest government fund into a growing dairy and value-addition business.

A monitoring team from the district recently assessed groups that received UWEP funding last year and found impressive results. Among the standout beneficiaries was the Akwata Empola Dairy Women Group in Buikwe sub-county, which received UGX 8 million.



Yogurt after produced and sealed

According to group representatives, the members invested the funds in three cows and began dairy farming. They later expanded into value addition to increase their earnings.

The group now collects milk to produce yogurt, bakes cookies, and processes coffee into powder thus diversifying their income sources and strengthening their financial stability.

They praised the Government of Uganda for supporting women entrepreneurs and appealed for additional funding to grow their operations further.

"We thank the government for this initiative. We request more funding to scale up our production. The current success stories are a shining example of women empowerment," group representatives said.

The group's progress highlights the positive impact of UWEP in improving household incomes and empowering women across Buikwe district.



Coffee produced



BUIKWE FARMER REAPS BIG FROM SMALL IRRIGATION SYSTEM

*Mutegubya Timothy, Communication Officer,
Buikwe District*

Rebecca Nakachwa, a farmer in Kasambya village, Buikwe district has had a high increase in production one year after receiving a micro-scale irrigation system.

Nakachwa said that the system, installed last year, has enabled her to move beyond reliance on rainfall and maintain consistent crop growth throughout the season.

The remarks were made during a field visit conducted by the Senior Agriculture Engineer, Joseph Tilandekula on February 25th, 2026.

Nakachwa added that currently, she is harvesting a high yield of tomatoes, a significant improvement compared to the previous seasons.

“This irrigation system has changed everything for me,” she said.

According to Nakachwa, before the installation, unpredictable weather often disrupted her planting schedule and reduced output. But with reliable access to water, she is now able to manage her crops more effectively and increase overall production.

Nakachwa’s experience highlights the impact of small-scale irrigation initiatives aimed at improving agricultural productivity. By ensuring steady water supply, such interventions are helping farmers strengthen food security and raise household incomes.



Tomato plantation for Nakachwa Rebecca



DEPUTY CDF INSPECTS LAKE VICTORIA OPERATIONS

Mutegubya Timothy, Communication Officer, Buikwe District



Meeting at the district headquarters with civil servants

The Deputy Chief of Defence Forces, Lt Gen Sam Okidingi, has met local leaders and civil servants in Buikwe district to discuss challenges affecting fishing communities on Lake Victoria.

During a meeting with district officials on February 26th, 2026, Lt Gen Okidingi focused on illegal fishing methods and unregulated access to the lake, which leaders said are threatening fish stocks and livelihoods.

“We are struggling with illegal fishing gear and people accessing the lake without

control,” the local leaders said.

He later visited the Kiyindi landing site, where fishermen and community members raised concerns about overpopulation, corruption, and monopolistic practices in the fishing sector.

“There is too much corruption and monopoly on the lake, and it is affecting ordinary fishermen,” community members said.

Residents also emphasized the need for sustainable fishing practices and stronger enforcement to protect dwindling fish stocks.

Lt Gen Okidingi said that the concerns raised would inform ongoing efforts to streamline operations and improve the management of resources on the lake.

The visit is part of wider efforts by security and local authorities to address illegal fishing and restore order on Lake Victoria, a key source of livelihood for Buvuma residents and those living around landing sites as well as islands.



Group photo after the meeting at the district



MUKONO LAUNCHES FIRST WATER BOARD TO BOOST GOVERNANCE

Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

Mukono district has established its first District Water Supply Services Board to strengthen oversight and improve management of rural water systems.

Speaking at the meeting held on Tuesday, February 24th, 2026, at the district headquarters, the District Water Officer, Eng. Denis Nadduli Zaake, outlined progress made in expanding access to safe water across the district.

He said that the department had prioritized community mobilization in Mpatta and Nagojje sub-counties and trained Water and Sanitation Committees in Mpunge, Katoogo, and Nakasuku to promote ownership of piped water systems.

Zaake cited the commissioning of projects

that were completed in the 2024/2025 financial year, ongoing Phase II works on the Ntunda–Kyabazaala Piped Water Supply System currently at 80 percent, drilling of three boreholes, rehabilitation of 18 hand pumps, and completion of the Bugombe Gravity Flow Scheme design report.

He also highlighted the procurement of a water quality meter and intensified sanitation campaigns in Koome, while acknowledging delayed funds, limited financing, land acquisition challenges, and lengthy procurement processes.

Representing the Chief Administrative Officer, Assistant CAO Fulatu Namboozo said the Board marks a significant milestone in strengthening governance and accountability in water management.



The District Water Officer, Eng. Denis Nadduli Zaake during the engagement at the District Headquarters at CAO's Boardroom



Senior Environmental Health Officer Stephen Alibu explained that the Board will procure Area Service Providers under government guidelines, monitor performance, approve work plans, and submit reports to district leadership.

District leaders, including Secretary for Works Hon. Robert Mwesigwa Ssentongo, Vice Chairperson Hon. Jorem Kabali Kimera, and Deputy Resident District Commissioner Moses Muyambi, called for

integrity and transparency.

Additionally, stakeholders nominated Ismail Ssekisambu, Nyombi Muhammad, and Nabbagala Esther as interim members.

The board is being formed in line with guidelines from the Ministry of Water and Environment to improve sustainable water service delivery.



The Senior Environmental Health Officer for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, Stephen Alibu during the engagement.



Representing the Chief Administrative Officer, Ms. Namboozo Fulatu, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer addressing the Members



MUKONO CAMPAIGN TARGETS IMPROVED TAX COMPLIANCE

Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

Mukono District Local Government, with support from the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area–Urban Development Program, has intensified a wide sensitization campaign aimed at improving tax compliance and strengthening local revenue education and mobilization across Kyampisi, Nama, and Nakisunga sub-counties.

The sensitization engagements, held from February 3rd to 10th, 2026, brought together traders, business owners, local leaders, politicians, and security personnel to strengthen tax compliance and improve transparency in revenue administration.



Yasini Muwanga, the district finance officer, said that improved revenue collection is critical to service delivery and infrastructure development.

“Improved financial management enhances accountability and ensures sustainable revenue growth,” he said.

Participants were guided on major revenue sources, including local service tax, local hotel tax, trading licenses, property tax, and liquor licenses.

Officials also explained payment procedures through the Uganda

Revenue Authority’s Integrated Revenue Administration System (IRAS) and dispute resolution mechanisms under sub-county and district committees.

Charles Luyoooyo, representing the Nama sub-county chief, underscored the importance of taxation.

“Taxation is the backbone of local government operations,” Luyoooyo said.

In Kyampisi, sub-county Chief Harriet Namatovu cited visible improvements linked to stronger revenue mobilization.

She pointed to culvert installations, construction of latrines at the sub-county headquarters, and processing of land leases and titles in Mbaliga and Tonto.

Mukono district, which comprises 11 sub-counties, five town councils, and 88 parishes, relies heavily on locally generated revenue to complement central government funding. Officials say sustained sensitization will boost compliance, strengthen accountability, and translate into better public services across communities.



MUKONO DISTRICT LEADERS, CONTRACTORS ASSESS READINESS FOR NTENJERU ROAD UPGRADE



Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

Mukono District Local Government has held a meeting with contractors and consultants to assess preparedness for Phase II of upgrading the 10.5-kilometer Ntenjeru–Rubule Road to bituminous standard.

The meeting, chaired by Chief Administrative Officer Henry Ddamba at the district headquarters on February 20th, 2026, brought together China Railway No. 5 Engineering Group, supervising consultant Hersun Consultant Ltd., Ecoserv Ltd., and district technical leaders.

Ddamba said the district had entered a critical implementation stage following the contract signing on December 10th, 2025.

“The purpose of this meeting was to assess our level of preparedness to commence works. Since signing the agreement, we are expected to transition from planning to implementation. We have reviewed progress and agreed on key steps to ensure smooth commencement,” he said.

He said that the official project launch is expected in early April 2026.



The Chief Administrative Officer of Mukono, Mr Ddamba Henry Addressing contractors and consultant ahead of Ntenjeru Bule 10.5Km Second phase



“We want to begin with a formal launch, and early April provides adequate time for full mobilization of equipment, personnel, and resources. As a district, we shall continue to support contractors to ensure readiness,” Ddamba added.

Ddamba described the project as a major boost to local economic growth.

“This road is a major input toward economic empowerment for communities along it. We expect improved trade, increased

productivity, and easier transportation. We encourage residents to prepare to benefit from improved access to markets and services,” he emphasized.

Contractors reported that surveys, drainage studies, and mobilization works are underway. Once completed, the upgraded road is expected to improve connectivity, ease transport, and strengthen trade within the Mukono district.



Eng. Moses Muyonjo Kisémbó from China Railway No. 5 Engineering Group addressing the members.



Some of the District Technical Team with Contractors during the meeting



BUIKWE GOAT FARMERS GAIN VITAL SKILLS TO BOOST PRODUCTION

Mutegubya Timothy, Communication Officer, Buikwe District

Goat farmers in Buweela village, Binga parish, have received practical training from a veterinary team from the Buikwe district local government with the aim to improve livestock management and increase household incomes.

During the visit on February 23rd, 2026, the veterinary officers trained farmers on proper goat rearing practices, focusing on feeding, breeding, and disease control.

The hands-on sessions were designed to equip farmers with the knowledge needed to raise healthier animals and improve productivity.

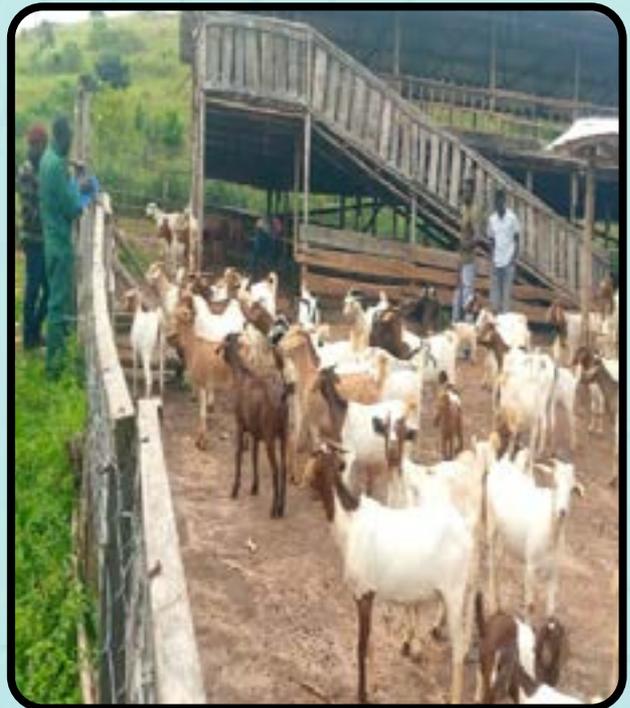
Farmers welcomed the training, saying it would make a significant difference in their work.

“This training has opened our eyes to better goat rearing practices,” a farmer said.

The farmers thanked the government for the support and called for more training sessions and continuous advisory services to help them sustain and expand their

projects.

The initiative is part of ongoing efforts by the district to strengthen livestock production, enhance food security, and reduce poverty in the area.



Training session in Buweela



One of the goats' farm in Buweela



MUKONO CDOS TRAIN TO STRENGTHEN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

Community Development Officers (CDOs) from Mukono district have completed a four-day benchmarking exercise in Soroti city aimed at strengthening environmental and social safeguards compliance under the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area Urban Development Program.

The February 10th–13th, 2026, engagement focused on improving coordination, institutional capacity, and adherence to safeguard requirements in development projects.

The delegation toured projects implemented under the Uganda Support to Municipal Infrastructure Development Program, including Soroti City Market and newly constructed urban roads.

While opening the session, Assistant

Deputy City Clerk Badru Ochieng welcomed the team and stressed teamwork and community involvement in service delivery.

He said Soroti's success is built on collaboration, transparency, and political support in mobilizing local revenue and building public trust.

Soroti City Community Development Officer Damali Asekenye said that integrating safeguards into projects protects both people and the environment.

“The benchmarking exercise focused on integrating environmental and social safeguards into project implementation. We ensure stakeholder engagement, environmental screening, and continuous community involvement to protect both the environment and the people,” she said.



Community Development Officers at Soroti Market.



Mukono District CDO Minisa Kirya Namukose said that Soroti was selected for its strong compliance record in donor-funded urban programs.

“Our officers have learned how to conduct environmental and social screening, prepare safeguard management plans, and integrate safeguards throughout the project cycle. These lessons will help ensure responsible and sustainable project implementation in Mukono district,” she said.

While closing the exercise, Soroti City Clerk Paul Batanda called for professionalism and strict adherence to guidelines.

“Community Development Officers play a critical role in ensuring project success. Your responsibility in engaging communities, ensuring transparency, and maintaining proper documentation determines whether development programs succeed or fail,” he said.



Soroti City Clerk, Mr. Paul Batanda addressing the CDO's of Mukono District.



Soroti City Clerk, Mr. Paul Batanda together with the CDO's from Mukono District Local Government after the benchmarking exercise.



MUKONO ROLLS OUT NAKISUNGA DAAP PROGRAM TO PROMOTE URBAN GROWTH

Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

Mukono District Local Government has launched the second roll-out of its Detailed Area Action Planning (DAAP) initiative in Nakisunga sub-county, with support from the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area–Urban Development Program (GKMA-UDP), to guide structured and sustainable urban growth.

The meeting conducted on February 19th, 2026, brought together political leaders, district physical planners, and community representatives to refine proposals on land use, infrastructure, settlement planning, and environmental protection. The plan aligns with national and regional development frameworks and seeks to strengthen community participation.

The LC III Chairperson, Mubarak Ssekikubo, urged local leaders to organize residents and keep proper records to improve access to government programs.

“Many government projects require land,” he said.

He encouraged residents to cooperate in providing land where necessary to support development initiatives.

The District Physical Planner, Amuza Kamoga, warned sub-county staff that funding under GKMA-UDP is performance-based and underperformance could reduce future allocations.

He advised timber kiosk operators to



prepare for compliance with new planning standards and cautioned residents against keeping animals in town centers to promote organized urban growth.

Kamoga further noted that planned projects include a slaughter slab and a skilling hub in Kyetume, an emerging transport hub.

He added that once finalized, the physical plan will be presented to the community, followed by a reconnaissance survey and distribution of planning maps to guide village-level development.

District Physical Planner Patrick Balilonda urged residents to attend committee meetings and budget conferences to ensure community priorities are reflected in district plans.



The District Physical Planner, Kamoga Hamuza together with the District Team and some of the Leaders in Nakisunga sub county after the Detailed Area Action Planning (DAAP) initiative engagement.



MUKONO CAO DEMANDS ACCOUNTABILITY FOR IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

Kaddu Derrick, Communication Officer, Mukono District

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of Mukono district, Henry Ddamba, has intensified supervision in Kimenyedde and Nama sub-counties to strengthen accountability, improve service delivery, and boost local revenue collection.

Ddamba, accompanied by district technical officers, met political leaders, civil servants, headteachers, and health officials on February 17th, 2026, to assess performance and the management of public resources.

During the assessment meeting in Kimenyedde, LCIII Chairperson Hajji Juma Lubega Ssaalongo welcomed the visit, citing challenges including staff absenteeism, delayed services, low local revenue, and infrastructure gaps in schools and water access.

Ssaalongo, however, noted progress such as new latrines at Namakomo and Ntente primary schools and renovations at Galigatya UMEA Primary School.

While in Nama, the sub-county chief, Louis Nsubuga, raised concerns over limited Parish Development Model (PDM)

funding, low tax contributions from factories, inadequate school desks, lack of land titles for some health centres and slow recovery of youth livelihood and women entrepreneurship funds.

Addressing staff, Ddamba said that the supervision was aimed at strengthening performance and accountability.

“You are entrusted with financial, material, and human resources. Any failure or success in government programs begins with you as civil servants. I urge you to renew your commitment to serve the nation with integrity and accountability,” he said.

He noted that attendance to duty was not optional since staff were employed to deliver services to people, adding that accountability must begin with fulfilling their responsibilities.

Mukono district has been conducting routine support supervision to improve budget discipline, safeguard public assets, and enhance grassroots service delivery.





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“

Tea growing is one of the traditional and significant agricultural activity in Greater Mukono, a central region in Uganda known for its hilly terrain suitable for tea cultivation. It has remained a traditional hub for this cash crop, which contributes to the local economy and provides livelihoods for many households in the region.

KNOW YOUR LEADER

A LIFE OF SERVICE



Mr. Nviiri Mohammed Norman is a distinguished public health specialist, a down-to-earth leader, and a natural social charm.

Popularly known as Musawo Nviiri, his journey in health care began in the mid-2000s as a clinical officer and steadily grew into district-level leadership through commitment, skill, and service.

He currently serves as the District Health Educator for Buvuma district, where he spearheads key health programs. These include District Circumcision Focal Person, Village Health Team (VHT) District Coordinator, Condom Distribution Focal Person, and Continuous Quality Improvement Focal Person.

Musawo Mviiri's work directly touches communities and strengthens preventive and promotive health services across the district.

Born on December 4th, 1975, in Kiremeezi "A" village, Nazigo sub-county in Ntenjeru North, Kayunga district, Mr. Nviiri's education journey reflects determination and growth.

He completed his primary education at Namulanda Primary School in 1991, O' Level at Kira Secondary School in 1995, and A' Level at Kymbogo College School in 1998.

Mr. Nviiri later earned a Diploma in Clinical Medicine from Fort Portal School of Clinical Medicine in 2002.

In 2015, he attained a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Mountains of the Moon University in Fort Portal, followed by an Advanced Diploma in Health Promotion and Education from Mulago School of Allied Health Professionals in 2017.



Through HIV prevention initiatives, safe male circumcision, antenatal care, malaria control, and VHT coordination, Mr. Nviiri has saved lives and improved community health outcomes.

A passionate public health specialist, mentor, senior trainer, and role model, he continues to inspire health professionals in Buvuma and beyond.



Mr.Nviiri and his team analyzing health information data and preparation of public health trainings.



Mr.Nviiri Mohammed after attending a National Conference on Annual Communicable and non-Communicable Diseases recently at Munyonyo Common Wealth Resort Hotel.



Mr.Nviiri Mohammed a public health specialist engages VHTs on proper mosquito nets distribution and management in the entire district.



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