



BUKEDI POST

03rd - 10th Feb 2026 Weekly Publication Vol 09



Acting District Inspector of Schools, Wandera Robert after release of PLE results 2025.

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Budaka District Records 85.4% PLE Pass Rate, Ranks First in Bukedi Region

THE EDITORS NOTE

This edition of Bukedi Volume Nine highlights steady government-led progress across the region. From Tororo's renewed municipal leadership to strengthened community – government collaboration in Butebo, service delivery remains a priority.

Health care receives a boost through Pallisa Hospital improvements and Busia's fourth cycle of medical supplies. Climate-smart agriculture under UC-SATIP is raising farmer incomes, while Budaka's strong PLE performance and Busia's transformation story reflect sustained investment in people-centered development.

Happy reading.

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Budaka District Records 85.4% PLE Pass Rate, Ranks First in Bukedi Region

By Iliotu Grace Opio Communication Officer Budaka-LG

Budaka District has registered a strong performance in the 2025 Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE), recording an overall pass rate of 85.4 percent and emerging first best in the Bukedi Region.

The results were formally presented on February 3, 2026, during a Senior Management Meeting held at the Budaka District Boardroom. The briefing was delivered by the Acting District

Inspector of Schools, Wandera Robert, who outlined key performance trends, achievements, and areas requiring improvement.

"A total of 5,454 candidates sat for the examinations from 72 primary schools across 67 sitting centres. Boys slightly outnumbered girls, accounting for 50.6 percent, while girls represented 49.4 percent of the total candidates," Wandera said.

Key performance highlights of the performance are show below:

THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PLE RESULTS FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS

Year	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3	DIV 4	Div U	DivX
2025	243	1713	1507	1136	742	46
2024	279	1780	1781	900	1044	66
2023	242	1401	1481	936	1189	49
2022	347	1831	1166	1032	1191	96
2020	219	1757	1351	898	880	45
2019	163	1596	1151	851	861	45
2018	171	1598	1172	884	640	51
2017	157	1662	1162	862	789	71
2016	180	1301	1008	883	1058	66
2015	133	139	1177	782	990	91

He reported that boys outperformed girls overall across all divisions, particularly in English and Social Studies, while girls performed better in Mathematics and Science, reflecting balanced academic strengths among learners in the district.

Wandera highlighted significant progress in other key areas like the number of ungraded candidates dropped sharply from 1,044 in 2024 to 742 in 2025, while absenteeism declined from 66 to 46 candidates, indicating improved learner retention and examination participation.

Corner Stone Primary School emerged as the best-performing school, with 36 out of 39 candidates passing in Division One. In contrast, Wairagala Primary School registered the weakest performance, recording no Division One candidates and only one in Division Two.

Wandera attributed the poor performance at Wairagala Primary School to socio-economic and environmental challenges, including the school's proximity to swamps, limited parental support, inadequate meals, shortage of scholastic materials, and low staffing levels.

To address performance gaps, the

Education Department recommended targeted resource reallocation, focused inspections for schools with high ungraded rates, benchmarking through headteacher mentorship forums, parent sensitization on school meals, increased remedial classes, and splitting large classes to improve teacher pupil ratios.

Results of 63 candidates from Idudi (56) and Bulangira (7) Primary Schools were withheld by UNEB. The affected schools will appear before the Examination Security Committee on dates to be communicated.



Corner stone primary school Budaka

TORORO: New Town Clerk Pledges to Transform Municipality into A Competitive, Service-Oriented Urban Authority

By Okello Matthew, Communications Officer – Tororo LG.

Tororo Municipal Town Clerk Ayub Kisubi has pledged to transform Tororo into a competitive and serviceoriented urban authorityas he assumes office.

Kisubi, whom the Ministry of Local Government transferred from Kisoro Municipality, made the pledge during a handover ceremony at the Municipal Council Chambers, where he received office from his predecessor, Moses Lorika onFebruary 02, 2026.

The ceremony drew Tororo Municipality Mayor Keneth Orono Nyapidi and Tororo DistrictResident District Commissioner (RDC) Sadiq Bategana, among other leaders.

Addressing stakeholders,Kisubi outlined his priorities of strengthening service delivery, promoting staff discipline, and ensuring effective implementation of government programmes.

“I will work closely with political leaders,



technical staff, and the community to improve efficiency and position Tororo as a competitive urban centre,” Kisubi said.

RDC Sadiq Bategana welcomed the new Town Clerk and directed him to fast-track key government interventions, particularly the utilization of the UGX 1 billion road fund for the current financial year, which remains pending before the District Roads Committee.

“We must ensure timely use of government resources to improve road infrastructure and support urban development,” Bategana said.

In his farewell remarks, Moses Lorika thanked the people of Tororo Municipality for their cooperation

during his more than three years in office. He praised the municipal technical staff for teamwork, solidarity, and timely reporting, which enabled smooth service delivery.

Mayor Keneth Orono Nyapidi urged the new Town Clerk to close existing service delivery gaps, including improving staff punctuality and responsiveness, to enhance efficiency and public trust.

The leadership transition reinforces government’s commitment to accountable governance, continuity, and improved urban service delivery. Leaders encouraged residents and stakeholders to support the new Town Clerk as Tororo Municipality advances its development agenda

BUTEBO: Deputy RDC Pledges Community-Government Collaboration During Handover of Kachuru Seed Secondary School

By Tavuga Musa, Communications Officer, Butebo-LG

Deputy RDC Nantongo Carol has pledged to strengthen collaboration with the community to drive development and enhance service delivery in Butebo District. She commended residents for their active support of government programs and highlighted the district’s strong backing of H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, who secured 76.6% of votes in the recent elections.

The remarks were made during the technical handover of Kachuru Seed Secondary School, held on January 3rd, 2026, at the school premises in Kachuru Sub-county. The handover marked a significant milestone in Butebo District’s education development agenda, with the Deputy RDC officially receiving the modern facilities on behalf of the government and local community.

Kachuru Seed Secondary School comprises three two-classroom blocks, an administration block, an ICT and library block, a multipurpose hall, teachers' houses with kitchens, lined pit latrines for staff and students, a sports field, rainwater harvesting systems, and completed general compound works, providing a conducive environment for teaching and learning.

"I urge the community to continue working closely with the government to promote development, ensure proper use of the facilities, and strengthen service delivery across the district," Nantongo said.

The project, implemented at a cost of UGX 705,315,775 by GALI Technical Services, reflects government commitment to improving access to quality secondary education and creating a conducive learning environment.

The Chief Administration Officer (CAO), Namulondo Tappy, thanked the government for prioritizing education, emphasizing the importance

of community ownership and maintenance of the new facilities to ensure sustainability.

"We appreciate the government for delivering this long-awaited school. We call on residents to protect the infrastructure and help improve education standards in our area," Namulondo said.

District Chairperson Mr. Okurut James highlighted other government projects in Kachuru Sub-county, including health, water, and road infrastructure, and encouraged continued support for government programs and development initiatives.

Residents welcomed the new school, describing it as a transformative project that will expand secondary education access and improve learning outcomes. The technical handover represents a significant step toward strengthening education infrastructure, fostering community engagement, and promoting government accountability and service delivery in Butebo District.



Stakeholders pause for a photo moment during the handover.



UC-SATIP Drives Climate-Smart Agriculture and Farmer Incomes in Pallisa

By Akello Priscilla, Communications Officer – Pallisa District LG

Pallisa District has recorded strong progress in implementing the Uganda Climate Smart Agricultural Transformation Project (UC-SATIP), with most activities planned for the third quarter of FY 2024/2025 completed by end of March 2025.

The District Production Officer (DPO), Dr. Okwalinga Michael, revealed that the project is being implemented across all

21 Lower Local Governments, focusing on priority value chains including crops, livestock, fisheries, and beneficial insects to improve productivity, household incomes, and food security. He was speaking during an interview held on February 06, 2026

“The project is transforming agriculture through climatesmart practices while improving household incomes and

food security across the district,” Dr. Okwalinga said.

The Production Department prioritized community sensitisation during the quarter, conducting climate-smart agriculture awareness activities in 90 parishes. The engagements improved farmers’ understanding of sustainable production methods and strengthened community ownership of the project.

The district trained 120 crop value chain groups (1,800 farmers) in proper agronomic practices, 45 livestock groups in five sub-counties in modern dairy management, and 12 fisheries groups in four subcounties in aquaculture management. In addition, 194 mixed value chain groups received training in farmer institutional development from Community Development Officers and extension workers, supported by continuous technical supervision from production staff.

On governance and accountability, the district established grievance redress and management committees at district and sub-county levels to address community concerns.

The district also held one review and planning meeting and facilitated internal audits to verify physical accountability. To strengthen learning and exposure, 54 participants including political leaders, technical staff, and farmers undertook an exchange visit to Tifea Farm in Serere, where they gained practical skills in modern dairy farm management.

Strategic investments progressed, including the submission of two screening reports to MAAIF for a proposed district laboratory site and road chokes, securing a land title for the laboratory site, and procuring office supplies for the District Project Coordination Office.

Dr. Okwalinga said UC-SATIP implementation in Pallisa remains on course, and the district remains committed to delivering sustainable, climate-resilient agricultural outcomes for farmers and communities



Dpo ,Dr Okwalinga Michael



Extension staff training the community

Busia District Receives Fourth Cycle of Medical Supplies to Strengthen Health Service Delivery

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia DLG

Busia District has received its fourth cycle of essential medical supplies from the National Medical Stores (NMS), strengthening health service delivery across the district, health authorities announced this week in Busia.

The consignment, delivered on January 30, 2026 will support government efforts to ensure continuous availability of medicines and critical health commodities in public health facilities, particularly at primary care level.

Confirming the delivery, the District Health Officer, Dr.Wabwire Mathias Panyako, said the supplies will be distributed to all government-aided health facilities to improve access to treatment and reduce medicine stock-outs.

"These supplies are a timely boost to our health system. They will strengthen service delivery and ensure that our communities receive essential medicines without interruption," Dr.Wabwire said.

He explained that although National Medical Stores ideally delivers supplies directly to health facilities, the current arrangement requires offloading at the district medical store, from where the district health team coordinates distribution to individual health centres based on need and consumption patterns.

Dr.Wabwire added that the district continues to strengthen the health system through routine monitoring, mentorship of health workers, and proper accountability of medical supplies. He noted that regular supply cycles from NMS enhance planning, improve trust in public health services, and support efficient service delivery.

Receiving the supplies, Ngobi Henry, the Cold Chain Officer and In-Charge of the District Medical Stores, assured residents of improved reliability of care at health facilities. He said the timely delivery will ensure that facilities are well stocked and prepared to serve patients.

Busia District currently operates one General Hospital, one Health Centre IV, fourteen Health Centre IIIs, and fourteen

Health Centre IIs, all government-aided, serving communities across the district and supporting universal health coverage goals under government policy frameworks. The initiative aligns with national health sector priorities for equitable service delivery countrywide sustainably.



Offloading of medical supplies at the District headquarters



NMS staff at the mosquito net stores gearing up to star deliveries

Busia District: A Journey of Identity, Leadership, and Transformation

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia- DLG

Map of Busia District in 2007



Busia District's journey to self-governance is a story shaped by history, resilience, and visionary leadership anchored in a shared cultural identity. Its administrative roots trace back to 1902, following the establishment of the Kenya-Uganda boundary by the colonial government, when Busia and Jinja were administered as one unit, with headquarters in Jinja.

Over the decades, Busia experienced several administrative realignments. In 1918, part of the area was placed under Mbale Central District, before being

transferred in 1921 to the then Budama District, headquartered in Tororo. Despite these changes, local leaders and elders remained steadfast in their desire for a district that could respond directly to the needs of its people.

In 1960, elders from Busia travelled to Entebbe to formally petition the Colonial Governor for the creation of Busia District. The demand was not immediately granted but it marked a turning point in the district's struggle for recognition.

"Our people wanted an administration that understood their identity and development priorities," one elder later recalled.

Busia was granted Sub-District status in 1974 and elevated to a full district in 1976, covering Samia Bugwe County with headquarters at Masafu. However, in 1981, the district was reduced again to a Sub-District, a move that intensified advocacy efforts. The renewed campaign was led by elders and political leaders, notably the late Mzee Chango Macho.

On 3rd March 1993, a delegation from Busia met H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni at State House Entebbe to present their case.

"The people of Busia demonstrated unity, patience, and a clear vision for development," President Museveni later noted, acknowledging the legitimacy of their demand.

Their efforts bore fruit on 20th March 1997 when Parliament passed legislation creating six new districts, including Busia. The district became operational on 1st July 1997 with ten administrative units nine sub-counties and one town council. The creation of Busia District brought services closer to the people and strengthened local governance.

The establishment of the district was strongly anchored in the cultural unity of the Basamia/Bagwe with the restoration of cultural institutions under the NRM government, Obwene'ngo Bwa Bugwe was established to promote unity and socio-economic development.

"Culture has remained a pillar for mobilising our people towards development," a cultural leader observed.

By the 1991 census, Busia's population stood at 287,697, supported by improved healthcare, immunisation, and nutrition. Agriculture remained the backbone of the economy, with cotton delivered to Dabani Ginnery alongside food crops such as cassava, millet, and

sorghum.

Local revenue performance has also improved. In 1992, Busia registered 15,135 taxpayers, generating UGX 61.7 million but with systems like IRAS, revenue collection has become more efficient, supporting service delivery.

Busia District stands as a symbol of what unity, strong leadership, and sustained government support can achieve in advancing inclusive and people centred development.



Busia boarder images





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