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Kadama Livestock Market Opens to Enhance Farmers' Incomes and Regional Trade

THE EDITORS NOTE

This edition documents key initiatives driving development and good governance in Busia and Bugwe Kingdom. From the UPDF-led reforms enhancing fisheries management to cultural dialogues addressing gender-based violence, the stories highlight the government's commitment to community empowerment and sustainable progress.

The African Scouts Day commemoration illustrates the role of youth in promoting leadership, civic responsibility, and environmental stewardship.

We aim to inform and engage our readers on programs that strengthen family, community, and local governance structures. Bukedi Post continues to spotlight collaborative efforts that advance social cohesion, responsible citizenship, and inclusive development across the region.

Enjoy your reading



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Kadama Livestock Market Opens to Enhance Farmers' Incomes and Regional Trade

By Mangeni Moses Communication Officer Busia -DLG

Kibuku District has commissioned a modern Shs592 million livestock market in Kadama Town Council, a move expected to boost trade, improve farmer incomes, and streamline business operations in the area.

The facility, funded under the Local Economic Growth Support (LEGS) Programme with support from the Islamic Development Bank's Lives and Livelihood Fund in partnership with the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Local Government, is now fully operational. The programme is being implemented in 17 districts across the country, including Kibuku.

Located about 200 metres off the Mbale road near Kadama Town Council headquarters, the market is designed to provide a safe, organized, and accessible trading environment for livestock farmers and traders. It operates twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays, and deals in cattle, goats, sheep, poultry, and turkeys. Traders from neighbouring districts such as Namutumba, Butaleja, Budaka,

and Pallisa converge at the facility, alongside local residents, to buy and sell livestock.

Speaking at the commissioning on March 15, 2026, Minister of Local Government, Hon. Raphael Magezi, said the government remains committed to investing in infrastructure that improves livelihoods and promotes economic growth.

"This market is a clear demonstration of government's commitment to empowering local communities through strategic investments that enhance trade and household incomes," Hon. Magezi said.

The new market has already eased congestion in Kadama trading centre, where roadside vending and unregulated trading previously disrupted transport and business activities.

The market is equipped with modern facilities, including a veterinary office, cattle crush,



Side view of the Kadama Livestock Market, showing entry for cattle and the veterinary Offices.

loading and offloading ramps, poultry cages, VIP latrines, a breastfeeding shelter, an eatery, and a reliable water system. It is fully fenced to ensure security and proper management, making it one of the most advanced livestock markets in the Bukedi sub-region.

Traders are urged to take advantage of the facility by forming a Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (SACCO) to strengthen their financial capacity. Organising themselves into a SACCO will help grow businesses and access

more funding opportunities.

Authorities also called on the community to respect cultural considerations linked to the project's funding, particularly by adhering to guidelines that prohibit pork slaughter at the livestock market complements other government-supported projects in Kibuku, all aimed at improving productivity, enhancing value addition, and reducing poverty across the district

Kibuku District Launches Major Road Rehabilitation to Boost Trade and Connectivity

By Kataike Mariam Communication Officer Kibuku -DLG

Kibuku District has launched a major road rehabilitation programme aimed at improving transport, boosting trade, and enhancing market access for farmers and businesses.

The initiative, spearheaded by the district's Works Department in partnership with the National Seed Oil Project (NSOP), will see the construction and rehabilitation of key community access roads valued at Shs1.36 billion. The works will focus on five priority roads, including Kadama-Kabeweri-Kakutu, Buseta-Bugiri-Kasasira, and Talisuna-Bukyera-Waibi-Kabusule, among others.

Speaking at the launch on March 16, 2026, the Resident District Commissioner Musiho Samuel called for community cooperation and peaceful engagement throughout the project.



RDC Musiho Samuel launching Kadama-Kabeweri-Kakutu district feeder Road



RDC Musiho Samuel launching Talisuna-Bukyera-Waibi-Kabusule a community access Road-6km

"This project is for the benefit of all of us. There will be no compensation, but I urge residents to support the works and use the established channels to resolve any concerns," Musiho said.

The intervention comes in response to long standing transport challenges caused by the area's sandy soils and heavy rains, which have damaged road surfaces, created large potholes, and washed away culverts. The poor road network has, for years, disrupted movement of goods and limited farmers' access to markets.

The works will mainly involve raising lowlying sections, improving drainage systems, and grading roads to ensure durability.

The engineers are focusing on critical improvement works to make these roads passable throughout the year and completion is expected by June 2026. Road users are urged to exercise caution during construction to prevent accidents.

The project is being implemented under NSOP, a government initiative designed to support rural farmers through improved

infrastructure, access to quality oilseed inputs such as sunflower, groundnuts, simsim, and soya, and farmer training. Officials say Kibuku was prioritised due to its high potential in oilseed production, which has been hindered by poor road connectivity.

Leaders, including Members of Parliament and the District Chairperson, have already monitored the selected road sections and approved the works under the 2025/2026 financial year. The roads will be upgraded using force account mechanisation, with funding from a government grant.

The district will also undertake tree planting along the roads through the Environment and Natural Resources Department to restore vegetation and provide shade.

The RDC officially commissioned the works, marking the start of construction expected to improve livelihoods and drive local economic growth.

OPM Supports St. Faustine Church with 150 Iron Sheets to Complete Roofing in Pallisa

By Akello Priscilla Communication Officer Pallisa -DLG

The Government of Uganda, through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), has delivered 150 iron sheets to support the completion of roofing works at St. Faustine Catholic Church in Nagule Parish, Pallisa District, boosting efforts to provide a safe and conducive place of worship for the Christian community.

The iron sheets were handed over following a request by church leaders seeking government support to complete the long-pending construction of the worship facility. Officials say the intervention reflects government's continued commitment to supporting community institutions and improving social services at the grassroots.

Speaking during the handover, Assistant Inventory Management Officer Omaidio David confirmed that the materials were received by the district on March 6, 2026, and allocated specifically for the church project. "These iron sheets were delivered to the district last week and are meant to support the roofing of the church so that believers can



Rdc Dhikhusooka Majid in the middle in a pink shirt and church representative Kasajja Johnson in blue coat

worship in a safe and conducive environment,” he said.

He emphasized that all government support is channelled through district authorities to ensure transparency and accountability in the distribution process.

The Resident District Commissioner of Pallisa District, Mr. Dhikhusooka Majid, who officiated the handover on behalf of the State Minister for Teso Affairs, urged proper utilization of the materials. “These iron sheets must be used for the intended purpose. Anyone who attempts to misuse them will face the law,” he warned, adding that his office will work closely with security agencies to monitor their usage.

Receiving the donation, church representative Kasajja Johnson expressed gratitude to the government for responding to their appeal. “We thank the President and the Government of Uganda for this support. It will help us complete the roofing of the House of God,” he said.

Community members welcomed the support, noting it will shield worshippers from harsh weather and improve their prayer experience.

Officials say the intervention strengthens collaboration between government and faith-based institutions in promoting community development and social well-being.

As One Ministries Launches Integrated Development Programs to Transform Livelihoods in Pallisa

By Akello Priscilla Communication Officer Pallisa-DLG

As One Ministries Uganda has officially launched a multi-sector development initiative in Pallisa District, targeting improvements in education, health care, agriculture, and vocational skills to uplift community livelihoods.

The programme, which is already operational with a school and health

unit in place, marks a significant step toward sustainable community transformation. The official launch on March 13, 2026, followed an inception meeting that brought together district leaders, technical staff, and community stakeholders.

Speaking at the meeting, Founder and Executive Director Henry Lwumbwe said the initiative is rooted in empowering local communities to drive their own development.

“Our goal is to create programs that not only serve communities but also empower them to sustain development initiatives in the long term,” Lwumbwe said.

Operating under the motto

“Ugandans Empowering Ugandans,” the organization focuses on a holistic approach that integrates education, health services, agricultural training, and skills development. This model ensures both immediate impact and long-term sustainability.

Resident District Commissioner Majid Dhikusooka welcomed the initiative, emphasizing the importance of partnerships in accelerating development.

“We are blessed to have programs like AsOne Ministries starting here. When organizations work hand-in-hand with communities, it creates opportunities that can transform lives,” Dhikusooka said.

The 2025 impact across seven



RDC, Dhikusooka Majid addressing Stakeholders

districts included enrolling 3,812 students, training 33,800 farmers, serving over 52,000 patients, and equipping 786 vocational learners with practical skills. More than 91,000 lives were impacted through its programs.

The initiative will provide fully equipped learning facilities, including a computer lab, accessible health services, and farmer training in modern agricultural practices. Vocational training programs are also set to

equip youth with employable skills to enhance income generation.

The programme aligns with government efforts to improve service delivery and household incomes through community-based interventions. Continued collaboration to ensure the success of the initiative is needed by stakeholders to express optimism that the integrated approach will significantly improve living standards across the district.

Tororo Municipality Launches Road Works to Improve Urban Mobility

Okello Mathew, Communication Officer -Tororo Municipality

Tororo Municipality has launched a major road maintenance exercise targeting key roads across the municipality, a move aimed at improving transport, easing movement, and enhancing service delivery.

The works, flagged off by Town Clerk Ayub Kisubi on March 16, 2026 will be financed through a Shs1 billion road grant, complemented by additional funding from the Uganda Road Fund. The intervention will cover installation of culverts, opening of drainage channels, bush clearing, and grading of selected roads.

The exercise officially commenced at Juba Bridge in Bison Parish, Western Division, where culvert installation works are already underway to improve road accessibility and reduce travel time for residents and businesses.

Roads earmarked for maintenance include Nyangole, Kwapa Crescent, Olowo Otaba, Kwapa, Mission Road, Naleba, Majanga, and Agururu Lane, among others. The phased approach will see works conducted across different parishes to ensure efficiency and quality outcomes.

Kisubi emphasized the need for high standards and accountability in project execution.

“I urge the engineering team to deliver quality work that reflects value for money and meets the expectations of the people we serve,” Kisubi said.

He also called on the public to cooperate with the contractors and technical teams, noting that the works may temporarily disrupt traffic flow in some areas. Residents were further encouraged to monitor the progress of the projects to ensure transparency and proper implementation.

Municipal Engineer Francis Okema revealed that the road maintenance teams will systematically move from one parish to another to ensure timely completion, while Western Division Chairperson Al-Jamal Manyadi welcomed the initiative, expressing confidence that improved roads will enhance mobility and economic activity in the municipality.



The road under construction

Government Strengthens Student Welfare with Mental Health Committees in Busia Schools

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia -DLG

Government has launched a new initiative in Busia to establish guidance and counselling committees in all schools, aimed at strengthening mental health support and safeguarding the well-being of learners.

District leaders rolled out the programme during a one-day training for Senior Men and Senior Women teachers held at Chango Macho Hall on March 16, 2026, where education officials emphasized the urgent need to address psychosocial challenges affecting students in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Representing the Chief Administrative Officer, Principal Assistant Secretary Kayira Muhamud urged teachers to take a leading role in promoting mental wellness among learners and themselves.

“Teachers, you cannot give what you do not have, take mental health seriously,” he said, calling on educators to prioritize their own well-being in order to effectively support students.

He warned against financial stress among teachers, particularly excessive borrowing from money lenders and microfinance institutions, noting that such pressures can negatively impact mental health and performance in schools.

The initiative will see schools form dedicated committees to integrate mental health into daily learning environments. These committees will provide counselling services, conduct awareness sessions, and establish referral pathways for learners facing challenges such as abuse, neglect, early pregnancies, and child labour issues that were exacerbated during the pandemic.

The programme aligns with national recovery efforts and education policies that promote holistic development of learners.



Muhamud Kayira, Principal Assistant Secretary addressing senior teachers



Mr. Wandera James, Inspector of School in charge of special needs taking senior teachers in a counselling session

Teachers were also guided to utilize the 0.1 percent allocation for HIV mainstreaming to support prevention, awareness, and care activities within schools.

District Inspector of Schools Menya JJ Kennedy welcomed the initiative, describing it as a timely intervention that strengthens resilience among learners and communities.

Education authorities expect all government-aided schools in the district to establish and operationalize the committees within the current school term.

Leaders say the move will create safer, more supportive school environments and contribute to improved learning outcomes across the district

Busia District Joins Forces With Sauti 116 Helpline And Unicef To Combat Online Child Sexual Exploitation

By Moses Mangeni, communication officer, Busia DLG

Busia District Local Government has partnered with Sauti 116 Helpline, backed by UNICEF, to launch an online campaign against Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA)

to safeguard children from digital threats.

The initiative falls under UNICEF's ongoing "Elimination of Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse" project, which targets prevention, reporting, and response mechanisms across Uganda.

Busia District officials together with a joint team of officials from Sauti 116 Helpline and descended on urban secondary schools to kick off sensitization efforts. The activities began with a stakeholder meeting at the district headquarters on March 10, 2026 where knowledge was shared about the project and later, the Senior Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Oron Raphael Osacha and Okumu Charles, Ag.

Senior Education Officer led the team to Busia Secondary School and Dabani Girls Secondary School.

Students, teachers, and staff gathered for interactive sessions during this visit on recognizing OCSEA risks, reporting incidents, tracking perpetrators, and accessing swift response and referral services.

Batenga Faridah from Sauti 116 Helpline urged students to break the silence by calling all Sauti 116 or use the online platforms for confidential support in a bid to protect the future.

"Any form of online sexual abuse or harassment, be it unsolicited images, grooming chats, or threats must be reported



Batenga Faridah from Sauti 116 Helpline gives pens to some of the students at Buysia SS during the sensitisation meeting



Students of Dabani girls attending a session with an official from Sauti 116 during the sensitisation meeting at their school

immediately,” she emphasized.

Sanya Trevor Mangeni a form four student at Busia Secondary school who attended the training revealed that he is hopeful that project will be of help to the young people if they adhere to the trainings and acquired more knowledge on how to report the online child sexual exploitation and abuse. He confessed that there was need for more sensitisation to reach out to more

students.

The campaign equips schools with reporting toolkits, helpline contacts, and awareness materials, with plans to expand to more institutions. The partnership is a milestone in community driven child protection. It will draw attention to the seriousness of the issue of child sexual exploitation and abuse and encourage collective action to protect children online.

UPDF Leads Rapid Fisheries Governance Reform in Busia

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia- DLG

Busia District is set for a major fisheries governance overhaul after the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) Fisheries Management Committee, led by Deputy Chief of Defence Forces Lt. Gen. Samuel

Okiding launches transformative reforms.

Tasked directly by H.E. the President, Lt. Gen. Okiding announced a seven-day timeline on March 12, 2026 to fully implement new structures that will hand fisheries management back to local resource users.

The reforms include activating the UPDF Fisheries Management Committee (FMC), operationalizing the District Security Committee, forming the District Fisheries Management Committee, and establishing Sub-county and Landing Site Fisheries Management Committees.

"The core purpose is to return primary fisheries management



District Fisheries Officer addressing fisher folks at Maduwa

to the resource users, with UPDF providing unwavering support,” Lt. Gen. Okiding said.

He emphasized that this communityled model, reinforced by military discipline, will curb overfishing, boost compliance, and safeguard Lake Victoria’s resources.

District Fisheries Officer Egesa Eugene revealed that the reforms are expected to increase revenue collection, reduce illegal fishing, and empower

landing site communities that drive Busia’s economic vitality. Stakeholders welcomed the initiative, proposing measures to strengthen the local fishing sector and pledging swift action to meet the deadlines.

UPDF team further conducted a sensitization session at Maduwa Fish Landing Site on the new Fisheries Act, positioning Busia at the forefront of national fisheries renewal and promising more resilient livelihoods for fishing communities.



Lt. Gen. Samuel Okiding (R) with some of the UPDF staff at Maduwa fish landing site

Stakeholders Chart Path For Cultural Preservation And GBV Elimination in Bugwe Kingdom

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia -DLG

The Obwen'engo Bwa Bugwe Kingdom, in partnership with the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, convened a landmark stakeholders' dialogue to safeguard cultural heritage while addressing gender-based violence (GBV). The initiative brought together clan leaders, community elders, local government officials, and development partners to chart a transformative path for the kingdom's sociocultural norms.

Opening the dialogue on March 12, 2026, at Obara House,

Obwen'engo Bwa Bugwe Prime Minister, Egesa Arafat, urged stakeholders to uphold the kingdom's vision of preserving Ugwu culture while promoting unity and strengthening family bonds.

"We must heed the kingdom's call," he emphasized, cautioning against imported practices that erode core family values and sow division.

Participants engaged in in-depth discussions on cultural mapping, identifying practices



Okumu Semu, Minister of Gender, Obwene'ngo Bwa Bugwe sensitising stakeholders on mapping out of cultural norms

that empower women and girls while respecting traditional values. The dialogue focused on harmonizing culture with modern development goals, ensuring that family cohesion, respect, and gender equity are embedded in all social norms.

Permanent Secretary of Obwen'engo Bwa Bugwe, Buluma Philmon, called on clan heads to lead by example, continuously sensitizing members on cultural expectations that eliminate GBV.

"Adjusting certain norms takes time; change is gradual. We must take one step at a time to ensure impactful transition," Bulumasaid.

Okumu Semu, Minister of Gender and District Community Development Officer, Busia

District Local Government, hailed the event as a pioneering initiative.

"This training marks the beginning of a transformative journey," he said, highlighting its role in embedding gender-sensitive practices across the kingdom.

The cultural leaders, District and Municipal officials, NGOs, traders, and representatives from education institutions emphasised that the dialogue set a blueprint for future engagements. Stakeholders committed to blending Bugwe's rich traditions with progressive norms, ensuring cultural preservation while fostering social cohesion and gender equity across the kingdom.



Some of the stakeholders who attended the dialogue meeting

Scouts in Busia Mobilize Youth for Sustainable Development and Civic Action

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia -DLG



Kiganira Hamida, ARDC, Masika Jaquiline Assistant ARDCs and the DISO, Kalo Godfrey during the badging ceremony

Hundreds of scouts from across the country converged at Buchicha Primary School for the National Commemoration of African Scouts Day, emphasizing youth leadership, community service, and sustainable development highlighting the government's role in supporting youth initiatives.

Resident District Commissioner and Scouts District Patron, Hagira Namagogwe, urged the scouts' leadership to work closely with district authorities and pledged full support for the smooth running of scouting activities.

"We are committed to providing

guidance and resources to ensure scouts thrive as leaders and community champions,” Namagogwe said.

The event held on March 13, 2026 featured colorful parades, skill demonstrations, cultural performances, and pre-event activities including tree planting led by Regional Scouts Coordinator Acira Ibra and District Executive Commissioner Otageti Caleb.

First Deputy National Scouts Chairperson, Nabudde Margret, delivered a keynote address calling on scouts to uphold integrity and serve as role models in their communities. She encouraged, and inspired the youth to contribute actively to peace and sustainable development.

“Be responsible leaders who uphold integrity, become role

models in your communities, and serve as ambassadors of hope amid our challenges,” Nabudde said.

Scouts District Commissioner, Asiepet Joan Mary, highlighted the scouts’ critical role in environmental conservation, youth empowerment, and community development.

“In Busia, where tourism and local governance thrive, let your actions inspire others; plant trees, mentor peers, and light the path to a brighter future,” Asiepet said.

The commemoration concluded with badge-awarding ceremonies and a communal feast, leaving participants energized to apply scouting principles in promoting civic responsibility, environmental stewardship, and leadership across Busia District.



Some of the scouts leaders at the parade



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