



District Roads Committee members during the field inspection of Namengo-Tademer-Bagidadi Road in Budaka District

Feature Story | Pg. 03

Budaka District Reviews Road Works, Reports Steady Progress in Infrastructure Development

THE EDITORS NOTE

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the third edition of Bukedi Post! We are excited to continue our mission of delivering stories that not only inform but also inspire action. In this edition, we highlight initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods, enhancing service delivery, and promoting inclusive development across the region. Our goal is to share impactful stories that spark change and offer a deeper understanding of the efforts driving progress in our communities.

This issue covers a diverse range of stories, including:

- Budaka District Reviews Road Works, Reports Steady Progress in Infrastructure Development
- UCC Drives Rural Digital Inclusion by Equipping Nanyoni Households with Tablets and Solar Power
- District Leadership Boosts Agricultural Extension Services with Motorcycle Handover
- Ministry of Works, Police Urge Behavior Change as Road Safety Week Reaches Tororo
- Stakeholders Strengthen PLHIV Leadership to Boost HIV/AIDS Integration in Busia

We believe that these stories reflect the commitment of local leaders, communities, and organizations working together to drive positive change. From infrastructure improvements to rural digital inclusion and enhanced healthcare initiatives, each of these stories highlights the power of collaboration in building stronger, more resilient communities.

We encourage you to read through these stories, reflect on the progress being made, and consider how we, together, can contribute to the growth and development of the Bukedi region. Your feedback and engagement continue to inspire us to share even more stories of hope, progress, and positive change.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's keep working together to build a better future for all.

Warm regards,

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Budaka District Reviews Road Works, Reports Steady Progress in Infrastructure Development

By Grace Iliotu Opio, Communication Officer, Budaka DLG

Budaka District leaders reported steady progress in road infrastructure development, noting that most district roads are now motorable, during the Quarterly District Roads Committee Meeting. The meeting reviewed ongoing construction works and reaffirmed the government's commitment to improving connectivity and service delivery across the district.

The meeting, which was held on December 11, 2025, brought together Members of Parliament for the Budaka and Iki-Iki constituencies, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Resident District Commissioner, the District Engineer, and other key stakeholders. Discussions focused on implementation progress, emerging challenges, and planning for the next financial year.

The Chairperson of the District Roads Committee, Mr. Pajje Emmanuel, informed stakeholders that road construction works in the district have reached about 70 percent completion. He noted that major roads, including the Kameruka-Iki-Iki road and the Namengo-Tademeri-Bagidadi road, are at the final stages of completion.

"Works on the Naboa-Namusita-Kadenghe road will commence next, while other roads will be addressed as resources are released in the FY2025/2026 budget," Pajje said.

Pajje said gravelling and shaping of the Iki-Iki road is pending, although most sub-county roads have already been completed. He attributed damage on some roads to heavy rains and limited drainage offshoots, as well as blockages caused by community activities. He called for increased community sensitization and stronger environmental conservation measures, including tree planting along road corridors and in swampy areas.

During a field inspection of the Namengo-Tademeri-Bagidadi road, the Member of Parliament for Budaka Constituency, Hon. Arthur WaakoMboizi, urged the Engineering Department to ensure that all roads have approved designs, coordinates, and proper pegging to support accountability and smooth handover.

"Proper planning and environmental protection are essential for sustainable infrastructure," Wakko said.

Member of Parliament for Iki-Iki Constituency, Hon. Robert Kasolo, called for the protection and responsible use of government road equipment. He warned that misuse could undermine progress, stressing the need for disciplined management to sustain the district's development gains.



Hon.Arthur WaakoMboizi reacting to issues of roads during the District Roads Committee meeting



Hon. Kasolo Robert reacting to the issue of Roads during the District Roads Committee meeting.

District Leadership Boosts Agricultural Extension Services with Motorcycle Handover

By Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia DLG

District leaders handed over five brand-new motorcycles to frontline agricultural extension staff to improve service delivery and support government-led rural development. The motorcycles will boost mobility across the district's wide terrain, enabling timely veterinary response, regular farm visits, and practical crop advisory services where they are needed most.

The beneficiaries included veterinary officers from Buyanga, Sikuda, and Dabani sub-counties, alongside crop specialists from Buhehe and Masinya.

District Chairperson Mugeni Stephen Wasike and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Lubuuka David officiated the handover, targeting faster outreach to farmers in remote communities under the Parish Development Model.

Wasike praised the production department for prioritizing staff welfare and results while speaking at the event on December 08, 2025. He also noted the long distances extension workers cover daily to serve farmers.

"We've taken care of your needs, and now with these motorcycles, I hope to see a real improvement in your availability and service delivery," Wasike said.

Chief Administrative Officer Lubuuka David urged accountability and responsible use of the assets.

"Be available whenever farmers need you, and keep these motorcycles in top condition; they're tools for progress," Lubuuka said, adding that beneficiaries must always carry valid permits while on duty.

Production Officer Dr. Barasa Patrick explained that government financing made the initiative possible. The

motorcycles were procured using the Extension Grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries, and Fisheries. This initiative reaffirms national commitment to strengthening agricultural extension at the grassroots.

The intervention will shorten response times, improve farmer confidence, and translate public investment into productivity gains. Government is directly enabling knowledge transfer, animal health protection, and climate-smart farming practices, reinforcing inclusive growth and food security across communities by equipping extension workers. The move answers who benefits, what was delivered, when and where it happened, why it matters, and how implementation supports sustainable livelihoods through coordinated planning, monitoring, transparency, and community participation districtwide aligned with national development priorities



CAO shares with the beneficiaries



CAO shares with the benefi CAO hands over the Motorcycle keys to one of the Beneficiaries of the 5 new motorcycles

Ministry of Works, Police Urge Behavior Change as Road Safety Week Reaches Tororo

By the Editorial team

The Ministry of Works and Transport has extended its Road Safety Week activities to Tororo District, engaging local leaders, transport operators, and security agencies in a joint effort to reduce road accidents that continue to claim lives in the district.

The Ministry held the sensitization meeting at Rock Classic Hotel on December 11, 2025, focusing on promoting safer road behavior and strengthening collaboration between government institutions and road users, under the theme “Safe Vehicles for a Safe Uganda.”

Apollo Kaswangu, representing the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Works and Transport, identified reckless riding and driving, poor vehicle maintenance, and disregard for traffic rules as key causes of road crashes, urging transporters to take personal responsibility for safety.

“Road safety starts with individual choices. Government is improving infrastructure and policies, but without discipline and compliance from road users, lives will continue to be lost,” Kaswangu said.

Tororo Woman Member of Parliament

Sarah Achieng Opendi called for discipline and professionalism on all sides.

“Road safety requires discipline from drivers, riders, pedestrians, and enforcement officers alike. When everyone plays their role responsibly, we can significantly reduce accidents,” Opendi said.

Officials inspected the Tororo–Mbale Road, one of the district’s most dangerous sections, where zebra crossings have been installed to enhance pedestrian safety.

Uganda Police Force illustrated the dangers of unsafe practices observed

on the roads, particularly among motorcycle riders. According to recent police data, at least one person dies every month in Tororo due to road crashes, while 14 people lose their lives daily nationwide, amounting to over 5,000 deaths annually. December records the highest fatalities due to increased travel and risky behavior.

Transport operators are required to carry valid permits, maintain roadworthy vehicles, and strictly observe traffic regulations under the Road Safety Week interventions. The Ministry says these measures are intended to promote behavior change, protect lives, and build a culture of responsible road use across Uganda.



Stakeholders inspecting the Tororo-Mbale road

UCC Drives Rural Digital Inclusion by Equipping Nanyoni Households with Tablets and Solar Power

By: Moses Mangeni, Communication Officer, Busia DLC

Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) has distributed free tablets and solar panels to more than 200 households in Nanyoni village, Buyanga Sub-county, Busia District to close the rural digital divide and support government-led development initiatives.

The intervention targets communities with limited electricity and connectivity, enabling residents to access

agricultural information, financial services, education content, and health tips. Government officials say the project supports national digitization efforts and empowers rural households to improve livelihoods through technology.

Buyanga Sub-county Chairperson Erima Joseph Mulimi welcomed the initiative, describing it as proof of government commitment to practical development. He revealed that he actively uses his tablet for e-learning and agricultural advisory services, including videos on crop rotation, pest control, and market prices for coffee and soybeans.

“Government is walking the talk. It is one thing to promote digitization, but another to provide the tools, I encourage all beneficiaries to use these gadgets fully because this is the future,” Mulimi said.

UCC team led by Bruno Bakahika



visited Nanyoni to assess usage gaps and guide beneficiaries on advanced applications. The team met residents at Nanyoni Primary School, where Bakahika demonstrated online banking, e-marketplaces, and digital health information. "You've kept these devices in good condition and put them to work. Now go further. Sell your coffee online, reduce transport costs, avoid road risks, and grow your businesses. These tablets are for building your future," Bakahika said.

During the needs assessment meeting, beneficiaries shared experiences of using the devices for farming decisions, communication, and learning, as UCC prepares to conduct structured trainings to enhance effective and safe usage in line with project objectives.

Sub-county Chief Emojong Geoffrey emphasized accountability and responsible use. "These gifts are tools

for progress, not profit or harm," he warned. "Anyone who sells or misuses them will face the law. We must protect this opportunity for the entire community."

District officials attending the meeting reaffirmed local government support for the project. The gathering included the District Communication Officer representing the District Planner, who serves as the project focal person, alongside the Sub-county Chairperson, the head teacher of Nanyoni Primary School, sub-county staff, the GISO, and the village chairperson.

Leaders said the initiative strengthens communication for development by linking households to information, markets, and services, accelerating inclusive growth and government service delivery at the grassroots.



Left: Bruno Bakahika demonstrates to beneficiaries some of the apps on the tablet. Right: Chief Emojong Geoffrey addressing some of the beneficiaries

Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation Commissions Three Seed Secondary Schools to Advance Quality Education in Budaka District

By Grace Iliotu Opio, Communication Officer, Budaka DLG

The Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation has commissioned three government-funded Seed Secondary Schools in Budaka District, marking a major milestone in expanding access to quality secondary education and advancing government-led development.

The Principal Programs Officer at the Ministry, Mr. Mulomi Sam, represented the Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation, Hon. Dr. Monica Musenero, and presided over the ceremony held on December 4, 2025, at Kamonkoli Seed Secondary School and covered Mugiti, Kamonkoli, and Nansanga Seed Schools.

While commissioning the schools, Mr. Mulomi commended the government for investing in education infrastructure and assured stakeholders of value for money.

“All three sites we visited clearly demonstrate value for money, and this reflects the government’s commitment to improving education service delivery,” Muloni said.

He further thanked communities for embracing the schools by enrolling their children, noting that education remains the strongest foundation for a better future.



The Guest of Honour giving his remarks during the commissioning of the Seed Secondary Schools in Budaka District.

The event attracted key stakeholders, including the Resident District Commissioner (RDC), District Chairperson, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), heads of departments, sector heads, sub-county leaders, district councillors, boards of governors, head teachers, students, and community members.

Muloni acknowledged remaining gaps, including the need for electricity, fencing, security, and sickbays, which he said the government plans to address progressively. He cited Kamonkoli Seed Secondary School as an example of success, saying that the infrastructure has attracted high enrollment. The school now has 1,001 students, up from 250 in 2023.

Representing head teachers, Mr. Ochan Martin Luther praised the government for making education accessible and affordable. He further requested support to address staffing gaps, limited classrooms, electricity

shortages, and inadequate computers.

"These schools have opened opportunities for many children who would not have accessed secondary education," Ochan said.

Acting District Engineer Mr. Dida Sam reported that Kamonkoli Seed School cost UGX 1.9 billion, Nansanga UGX 3.2 billion, and Mugiti UGX 2.9 billion. He said each school sits on about six acres and includes ICT laboratories, science labs, libraries, staff houses, multipurpose halls, classroom blocks, and administration facilities.

District leaders, including the CAO's representative, the District Chairperson, and the RDC, praised the government for prioritizing Budaka District and urged communities to protect public assets, support school programs, and work together to sustain development gains through education.



Mr. Mulomi Sam the Principal Programs Officer Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation inspecting Kamonkoli Seed Secondary School with other stakeholders.



The Guest of Honour interacting with the Head teacher of Nansanga Seed Secondary School.



The Guest of Honour together with other stakeholders during the site inspection at Mugiti Seed Secondary School.



Stakeholders during the Commissioning at Kamonkoli Seed Secondary School.



District Roads Committee members during their meeting in the District Boardroom.

Stakeholders Strengthen PLHIV Leadership to Boost HIV/AIDS Integration in Busia

By Moses Mangeni , Communication Officer Busia

The National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda (NAFOPHANU), in partnership with the Center for Health, Human Rights and Development (CEHURD), held a multi-stakeholder engagement to strengthen the leadership and participation of People Living With HIV (PLHIV) in Busia District. The initiative gained momentum on 11 December 2025, when district authorities convened a high level dialogue as part of the national HIV/AIDS awareness activities observed every December

Speaking during the event, Lugolobi Sarah Kulabako, a representative from NAFOPHANU, noted that many PLHIV continue to face hardships such as food

insecurity and financial strain, which undermine treatment adherence.

“Consistent support systems are needed to keep affected individuals focused on their medication,” Lugolobi said.

The gathering was attended by PLHIV community leaders, technical health workers, cultural and religious leaders, political representatives, and implementing partners. The event was aimed at addressing challenges affecting HIV integration in health service delivery, such as funding gaps, misinformation, and barriers to treatment adherence.

Mayende Lam, the District Health



Chairperson of PLHIV engaging some of the stakeholders during the engagement

Educator, noted the urgent need for sustained financing for integrated HIV as its integration remains a lifeline for communities, and that partnerships must be strengthened to maintain essential activities.

Attention was also drawn to inaccurate HIV information circulated by some local radio stations when CEHURD's

Sarah Akampulira urged the district to counter misinformation through structured communication.

On behalf of the District Health Officer, ADHO-EV Dick Wamaena called for continuous sensitization, stressing that all stakeholders must be equipped with accurate and up-to-date HIV/AIDS knowledge.

Government Boosts Rice Self-Sufficiency with New Aromatic Varieties Tested at Doho

By the Editorial Team

The National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) is accelerating efforts to boost rice production as scientists finalize testing of new locally developed aromatic rice varieties expected to reduce imports, increase farmer incomes, and protect the environment.

NARO is testing the new varieties at six sites nationwide, with the Doho Irrigation Scheme in Butaleja District serving as a key center for demonstrating sustainable and high-yield rice production under the Promotion of Sustainable Rice Development (Eco-PRiDe) Project.

The initiative responds to rising demand for aromatic rice, which Uganda largely meets through imports of basmati and supa rice, and aligns with government priorities to strengthen food security and commercial agriculture.

Dr. Jimmy Lamo, a rice breeder and Cereals Programme Leader at NARO, said the new varieties address persistent production challenges. He was speaking at the second Joint Technical Committee (JTC) meeting of the Eco-PRiDe Project held in Butaleja on December 11, 2025.

"Aromatic rice dominates the market, yet the varieties commonly grown locally are highly susceptible to disease and produce low yields. We have developed improved lines using resistant parent material, and we are now testing them under real farm conditions," Dr. Lamo said.

NARO's Buginyanya Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (BugiZARDI) hosted the meeting, which brought together researchers, policymakers, extension officers, and development partners to guide the final stages toward variety release.

Dr. Titus Alicai, Director of Research at the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) and National Project Coordinator for Eco-PRiDe, emphasizes that the government has placed environmental sustainability at the center of the project.

“Our goal is to raise rice production without harming the environment while improving rural incomes,” Dr. Alicai said.

Dr. Nasser Kasozi, Director of Research at BugiZARDI, said farmers have already adopted improved technologies, including better water management and rice–fish integration, as Uganda moves steadily toward a productive, competitive, and sustainable rice sector at Doho.



Ministry officials inspecting the rice at the Doho center

Mufti Warns Youth Against Political Exploitation, Urges Peaceful Civic Engagement Ahead of Elections

By the Editorial Team

The Mufti of Uganda, Sheikh Shaban Ramadhan Mubaje, has called on Muslim youth to uphold moral integrity, remain peaceful, and reject manipulation by self-seeking politicians as the country prepares for the forthcoming national elections.

Sheikh Mubaje made the remarks while closing the 6th Annual Muslim Youth Career Guidance and Counselling Seminar, organized by the Budaka District Muslim Youth Da’wah and Development Association and held at

Budaka Muslim Primary School sports grounds on December 15, 2025.

The mufti emphasized the central role of disciplined and values-driven youth in safeguarding national stability and advancing socio-economic development.

“This country needs morally upright and responsible youth for stability and development. Do not allow yourselves to be manipulated into violence by greedy politicians. Choose leaders

based on inclusive development programs, not ethnicity or religion,” Sheikh Mubaje said.

The seminar held under the theme “Empowering Youth in Socio-Economic Development” focused on equipping young people with practical skills, ethical values, and knowledge to enable them to participate meaningfully in Uganda’s development agenda.

Speaking on behalf of the youth, Muhamood Kaale, a student at the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU), and Hassan Nsenye, Chairperson of the Budaka District Muslim Youth Da’wah and Development Association, called for increased investment in youth-led initiatives.

“Young people have ideas, innovation, and energy, but they need structured support to translate them into sustainable development,” Kaale said.

Budaka Resident District Commissioner Haj Huzairu Kimbugwe urged the youth to remain disciplined and lawabiding, noting that national development thrives where young people respect leadership, institutions, and community values.

Dr. Sheikh Ahmad Hamid Wadenga and Sheikh Muzamir Hassan Kidandaire briefed participants on the state of Muslim affairs in the Eastern Region and Budaka District, respectively.

Sheikh Mubaje pledged Shs10 million to support Muslim youth programs and encouraged Imams to participate in ongoing SACCO initiatives ahead of a planned presidential pledge.

The seminar concluded with renewed calls for unity, peaceful civic participation, and sustained government and community investment in youth as drivers of Uganda’s socio-economic transformation.



Sheih Mubaje speaking to the youth at th event



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