

Authorities call for cooperation ahead of installation of irrigation equipment

Authorities in Kazo district have called for cooperation between farmers and irrigation equipment suppliers under the government's micro-scale irrigation program (MSI).

The call was made during a one-day dissemination workshop that took place today at Compassion hall in Kazo town council in Kazo district which was aimed at sharing progress of the MSI program

Speaking as the program focal person, Innocent Tumwijukye, the Senior Agricultural Engineer revealed that we are in the second phase of the program following completion of phase one activities like raising awareness and registration of farmers, farm visits and installation of demo sites.

Tumwijukye added that 1,313 farmers were reached, where 641 farmers expressed interest in the program, 169 farm visits were conducted and 52 farmers responded by paying commitment fee of UGX 1m. In addition, 2 demo sites were completed and they are fully functional.

He revealed that the district will install equipment for 20 farmers after signing contracts with the irrigation equipment suppliers.

Speaking during the workshop, Rev Samuel Mugisha Katugunda, the district LC V Chairman asked the technical staff to work closely with the beneficiary farmers to ensure there is regular supervision of the irrigation equipment to ensure it is well maintained.

In his closing remarks, Tumukurate Silvester, the deputy RDC asked the leaders to ensure that the environment is well protected amidst all these activities so that humans can continue to co-exist with other species in the ecosystem.

The Micro-scale Irrigation Program is part of the Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfer Reform Program (IFTRP) and is supported by the World Bank through the Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfer Program (UgIFT). The Program supports farmers to purchase and use individual irrigation equipment whereby the cost of the equipment is co-financed by the farmer and the government.

By Racheal Nuwahereza-District Communications Officer.