

## **Value Addition challenged by Lack of Capital- District Commercial Officer**

Lack of capital, unreliable electricity and water supply have been cited as the leading factors crippling value addition on agricultural products in Kazo district.

Aaron Muzahura, the district commercial officer made the remarks while speaking during the budget conference held today at Compassion hall.

Muzahura noted that the district has registered up to 98.4% success regarding the implementation of Parish Development Model, however, a high default rate is still crippling other government programs like Emyooga.

Speaking during the same event, Zirimenya Nsubuga, the Chief Administrative Officer noted that the budget conference is aimed at indicating priorities on what should be done in the next FY, solicit for stakeholders' views, identify gaps and what can be done to improve service delivery in the district.

Nsubuga added that the government focus is on human capital development including improved health care through empowering community health workers, upgrading health centres, construction of secondary school infrastructure, industrialization and improving household income.

He revealed that service delivery is hampered by inadequate funding, poor road infrastructure attributed to lack of district road unit, poor staff attendance to duty especially in schools, health centres and lower local governments.

Rev Samuel Mugisha Katugunda, the LC V chairman revealed that the district is challenged by low coverage of both electricity and water, low milk prices and external diseases which are affecting agricultural production.

Silvester Tumukurate, the deputy RDC noted that the purpose of the budget conference is to ensure proper resource allocation. He encouraged residents to protect the existing environment in addition to tree planting.

The Budget Conference was aimed at engaging with stakeholders for their input

towards the budget for FY 2024/2025 in accordance with Government Budget Cycle provision and Financial Management Act 2015.

It was graced by district councilors, sub-county chairpersons, religious leaders, heads of departments, development partners, representatives of CSOs, and technical staff among others.

**By Racheal Nuwahereza- District Communications Officer.**