

EAGC, Busitema University partner to boost agribusiness in East Africa

By Joseph Omollo

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David Mutazindwa, EAGC Board Chairperson (third from left), and Busitema University Vice Chancellor Prof Paul Waako (to his right) sign the MoU at the university boardroom on March 11, 2025. PHOTO/JOSEPH OMOLLO

Activ

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The Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) and Uganda's Busitema University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance agribusiness prospects in the region.

The partnership will facilitate agribusiness expos, with the first scheduled for August at the university's Arapai campus. The event will feature crop and livestock demonstration units, a machinery display, and business-to-business interactions.

Farmers and stakeholders will receive training on new technologies, capacity building, and access to industry knowledge.

The initiative aims to foster innovation, sustainability, and knowledge exchange in the agricultural sector.

Under the theme "Fostering wealth creation, resilience, and sustainable agriculture through agribusiness and innovation," the expo will bring together key players from agro-inputs, machinery, agribusiness, insurance, manufacturing, trade, and export sectors.

David Mutazindwa, chairperson of EAGC's board of directors, said the partnership would facilitate meaningful dialogue between stakeholders and clients, leading to demand-driven products tailored to farmers' needs.

“We are excited to embark on this transformative journey with Busitema University,” Mutazindwa said. “Our goal is to unlock the full potential of the agribusiness sector in the region by promoting sustainability, innovation, and economic prosperity.”

He emphasized that the expo would enable farmers to directly interact with seed producers and machine manufacturers, helping them differentiate between genuine and counterfeit agricultural inputs.

“This expo is expected to attract hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of farmers from Uganda and neighboring countries such as South Sudan and Kenya,” he added.

The partnership also includes apprenticeship opportunities and placements for students pursuing agribusiness-related courses.

Busitema University Vice-Chancellor Prof Paul Waako welcomed the collaboration, saying it would strengthen academic excellence and community engagement.

“Through hosting the regional Agribusiness Expo and facilitating collaborative initiatives, we are confident in making a lasting impact on the agricultural sector while promoting the university's innovations,” Waako said.

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