

IBANDA

The permanent secretary for the local government ministry, Ben Kumumanya has urged people of Ibanda to embrace Community Agricultural Infrastructure Programme (CAIIP) so as to eradicate rural poverty by enhancing commercialisation of agriculture.

Kumumanya was on Monday launching three coffee hurler processing machines in the sub-counties of Kashangura, Kicuzi and Rukiri in Ibanda district. The three sub-counties are part of the 68 sub-counties in 31 districts where CAIP phase three has been implemented. CAIP-3 is a follow-on project to two existing projects of CAIP-1 and CAIP-2. The project consists of three components, namely, rural infrastructure improvement, community mobilisation and project management. The project is funded by the African Development Bank.

The Ibanda chief administrative officer Robert Abenaitwe, urged farmers to harvest quality coffee that meets international standards.

"Uganda is losing the international coffee market because many farmers harvest unready coffee. However, with such inanities from the government, we ensure that the coffee we produce is of quality," he said.

Mary Bashongoka, the Ibanda deputy resident district commissioner, asked farmers to produce enough coffee to meet the demand of the hurlers.

Aggrey Mushabe, the Kagongo division chairperson, requested that the farmers be connected directly to the markets outside the country, to avoid being cheated by middlemen.

Other districts where the same project has been implemented are Buhweju, Bundibugyo, Bushenyi, Hoima, Ibanda, Isingiro, Kabale, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kanungu, Kasese, Kiruhura, Kisoro, Kyegegwa, Masindi, Mbarara, Mitooma, Ntoroko, Ntungamo, Rubirizi, Rukungiri, Sheema, Luwero, Nakaseke, Apac, Kole, Oyam, Bugiri, Busia, Mayuge and Namayingo.