

Korean envoy mobilises for 'Bulungi Bwansi' to improve lives

By Vision Reporter

The government of South Korea is to partner with Uganda in supporting village-based initiatives aimed at improving the lives of people living in rural areas through community effort in the spirit of self-help.

According to the Korean Ambassador, Park Jong-Dae, the efforts are geared at improving home based incomes rural community infrastructure, proper sanitation and hygiene through self-help, diligence and co-operation of the communities.

According to the ambassador, empowerment of leadership at the grassroot level will be so crucial in changing the mindset of the community, to focus more on their own capacity and potential to develop themselves and their areas than relying only on external support.

During a project assessment

ON THE GROUND

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tour last week, Park, while inspecting some of the model villages in the sub-county of Kyanamukaka in Masaka district said Korea, 40 years ago, went through a worse experience of poverty and famine, but the community efforts through co-operation and self-determination have made South Korea what it is today.

He said Uganda is blessed

with a conducive climate, central position in the region, endowed with food varieties and fertile soils that, if well harnessed, can make Uganda a source of regional livelihood and, therefore, empowering its farmers and encouraging them to engage in commercial farming.

Through the campaign code named *Saemaul-Udong* or village movement, community members work together in the like in the system of *bulungi bwansi*.

According to the vice-president's deputy principal private secretary, Vincent Musubire, the campaign, which started in Kyanamukaka, with support of the Vice-President, will now be piloted in all the eight districts of greater Masaka.

Similar efforts are being piloted in areas of Kabarole and soon Mbale and Soroti where a fruit factory is set to be opened in Soroti municipality.



Park Jong-Dae (second-right) being shown one of the undertakings of the Saemul-Udong projects of home grown vegetables in house trash