

Uganda, China partner on farm skills

BY MUDANGHA KOLYANGHA

Ugandan government and its Chinese counterpart have agreed to partner in the promotion of agriculture skills and technological development in the country in order to empower farmers.

The agreement signed on a two-year basis is worth \$2.5m (Shs6b) to support small-scale farmers in Uganda.

State Minister for Agriculture, Christopher Kibazanga, who signed on behalf of Uganda, noted that government is committed to ensuring food security to the people of Uganda and more so to the farmers.

"This country is not supposed to import food and yet it's endowed with good natural resources. This will be an embarrassment to this country to embark on food importation," Kibazanga said.

The agreement marks the second phase of a partnership that was established in 2012 to make training and technical advice available to the Ugandan agriculture sector.

Carlos Watson, the head of the FAO delegation, said that this will help farmers in Uganda boost their production and promote the use of sustainable technologies. "This is quite commendable that the programme is in the right direction and farmers will greatly benefit from the project," he explained.