



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024



43RD TAREHE SITA ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS HELD AT BUSEESA GROUNDS, BUGWERI DISTRICT



13TH TAREHE SITA CELEBRATIONS THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST



LAUNCH OF PLEA BARGAIN CAMP AT UG. UPPER PRISON, LUZIRA

WISDOM CORNER:



"The biggest challenge to Africa's development is not in lack of resources, but rather, in the lack of leadership and vision."

HE. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

"While we breathe, we hope. And where we are met with cynicism and doubts and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people: Yes, we can."

Barrack Obama

"Real freedom must include economic security. People must be assured of the right to work and to live decently."

Julius Nyerere

"The strongest democracies flourish from frequent and lively debate, but they endure when people of every background and belief find a way to set aside smaller differences in service of a greater purpose."

Barrack Obama

"I am not African because I was born in Africa, but because Africa was born in me."

Kwame Nkrumah

"Unity will not make us rich, but it can make it difficult for Africa and the African peoples to be disregarded and humiliated. And it will, therefore, increase the effectiveness of all of us, as we endeavour to negotiate our way in the world of today and tomorrow."

Julius Nyerere

"Innovation and entrepreneurship are the driving forces behind economic development. Let us embrace them and create opportunities for all."

HE. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

"It is necessary to ensure our future development and prosperity by enhancing the productivity of our agriculture and by processing the raw materials so produced."

Julius Nyerere

"Action without thought is empty. Thought without action is blind."

Kwame Nkrumah



FRANK BAINE MAYANJA

**SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS
(DEPUTY DIRECTOR - CORPORATE AFFAIRS
AND PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER)**

Welcome to the February 2024 Edition of the Uganda Prisons Service Monthly Newsletter.

This issue highlights on: Tarehe Sita Anniversary celebrations, Launch of Plea bargain camp, National Transitional Justice Symposium, On spot inspection of CGP working tour, Intermediate command and staff course, the maize hydroponics initiative, Memory Lane, among others.

Enjoy.

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UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE
MONTHLY STATISTICS SUMMARY
February, 2024

1. PRISONERS

1.1. Population Change

Table 1: February, 2024 Average Population of Prisoners

Categories	Jan-24			Feb-24			(%) Change
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Convicts:	38,020	1,745	39,765	38,470	1,801	40,271	1.3
Remands:	35,239	1,697	36,936	34,286	1,738	36,024	-2.5
Debtors:	375	105	480	398	119	517	7.7
Total:	73,634	3,547	77,181	73,154	3,658	76,812	-0.5
Percentage (%)	95.4	4.6	100.0	95.2	4.8	100.0	
Approved Capacity			20,996			20,996	
Occupancy Rate (%)			367.6			365.8	

1.2. Percentage composition of remands, convicts and debtors

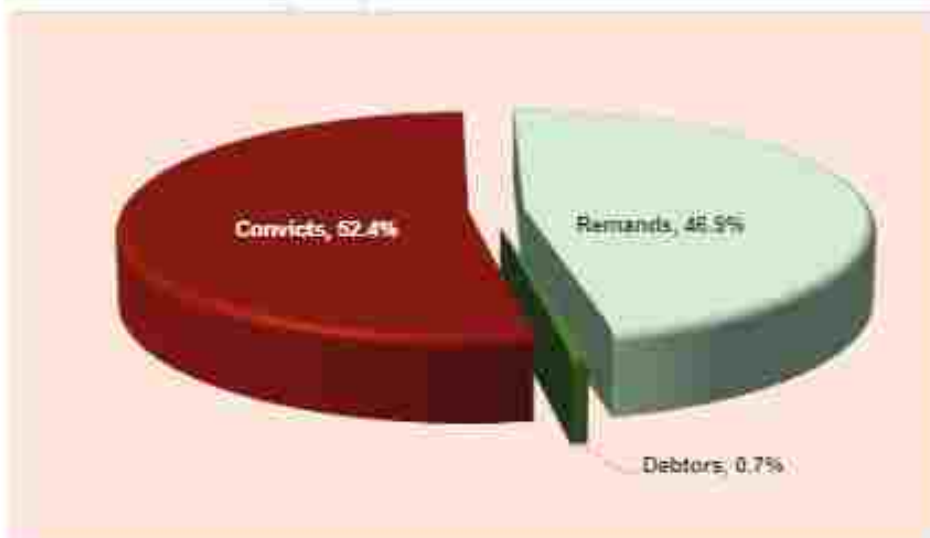


Figure 1: Composition of Prisons population

1.3. Monthly Population Trend of Prisoners between July, 2023 and February, 2024.



Figure 2: Trend of prisoners' population growth for the period between July, 2023 and February, 2024.

1.4. Population Composition Trends for Convicts, Remands, and Debtors for the period between July, 2023 and February, 2024.

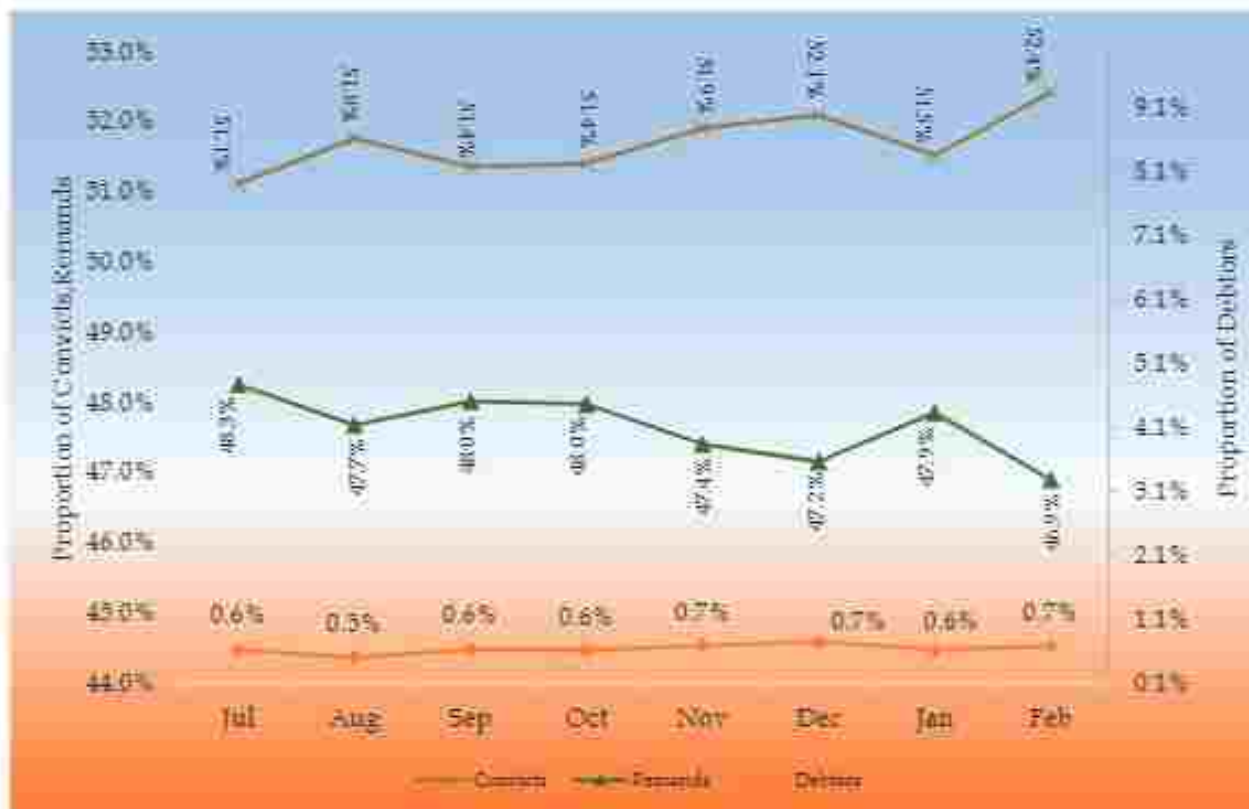


Figure 3: Monthly composition trends of convicts, remands, and debtors.

2. STAFFING POSITION

2.1 Staff Strength

Table 2: February, 2024 Staff Strength.

STAFF CATEGORY	GENDER		TOTAL
	Males	Females	
Uniformed	9,721	4,041	13,762
Senior officers	520	116	636
Principal officers	664	168	832
NCOs	8,537	3,757	12,294
Non-Uniformed	267	239	506
Senior officers	108	83	191
Junior officers	159	156	315
GRAND TOTAL	9,988	4,280	14,268
Percentage	70.0	30.0	100.0

2.2 Uniformed staff by Rank

Table 3: Uniformed staff by Rank

Rank	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
CGP	1	-	1
DCGP	1	-	1
ACGP	6	-	6
SCP	3	-	3
CP	15	5	20
ACP	16	6	22
SSP	41	7	48
SP	98	29	127
SASP	33	8	41
ASP	142	25	167
CASP	164	36	200
PO I	245	61	306
PO II	163	45	208
CPO	256	62	318
Ch/Wdr I	234	60	294
Ch/Wdr II	291	95	386
Ch/Wdr III	527	213	740
Sgt/Wdr	1,216	582	1,798
Cpl/Wdr	2,047	1,032	3,079
L/Cpl	680	319	999
Wdr	3,542	1,456	4,998
Total	9,721	4,041	13,762

Saturday, February 17th, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE AT JINJA MAGISTRATE COURT ON 15/02/2024

On Thursday, February 15th, 2024 at around 1000hrs, there was an attempted escape as 24 remand prisoners from Jinja Remand Prison were returning to court cells after a session. Two inmates, Muwanika Abel alias Abusale (27yrs) and Senora Ashiraf alias Vampire (25yrs), both facing charges of Aggravated Robbery, ran openly in handcuffs.

Prison sentries fired warning bullets to halt them in vain. In an attempt to disable them, Senora was shot in the leg while Muwanika Abel sustained a gunshot wound to the mouth as he tried to take cover.

The two were recaptured; Muwanika was rushed to Jinja Referral Hospital where he succumbed to mouth injuries. On the other hand, Senora Ashiraf was admitted to the prison sick bay with minor injuries and he will face additional charge of attempted escape.

Commendation goes to our staff for being vigilant and inmates are warned against unnecessary misconduct in attempting to escape from lawful custody.

Uganda Prisons Service is committed to maintaining the safety and security of the public in fulfilling its mandate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Baine Mayanja'.

FRANK BAINE MAYANJA

SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS

DEPUTY DIRECTOR CCA / SERVICE SPOKESPERSON



Monday, February 26th, 2024

PRESS BRIEFING

MONDAY PRESSER 26/2/2024

1. **RESPONSE TO THE RELOCATION OF LUZIRA GROUP OF PRISONS SPECULATION:**

Regarding recent speculations surrounding the relocation of the Luzira Group of Prisons, Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) clarifies that the matter is currently under ministerial deliberation. It is essential to note that UPS is not directly involved in this matter at present. Any inquiries or updates regarding this issue should be directed to the Minister of Internal Affairs, Attorney General, or the Office of the President/State House.

2. **HOAX RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT:**

The Uganda Prisons Service wishes to inform that there is no ongoing recruitment for staff at any level. All advertisements circulating on various platforms are hoaxes and should be disregarded. Anyone who accepts to be falsely extorted money does so at his or her own risk, and UPS is not to be blamed. Official documents must bear authority, dates of execution, and the date of writing. Government jobs are free of charge.

3. **HOMICIDE ARISING FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:**

UPS deeply regrets to inform the public about a tragic incident that occurred on Sunday, February 18th, 2024. Lance Corporal Warder Okori Alfred lost his life as a result of being stabbed to death by his wife, Police Constable Alowo Mercy, following domestic misunderstandings. UPS urges the media to raise awareness about managing emotions and promoting healthy relationships within the community.

4. CLARIFICATION ON PRISONERS' COMMUNICATION ACCORDING TO PRISONS' STANDING ORDERS PART II WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD:

UPS acknowledges concerns raised regarding prisoners' phone communication, clarifying that the circulated information is inaccurate. According to Uganda Prisons Service Standing Orders Part II, Chapter 38, Section 5(e), 'Prisoners may be allowed, under necessary supervision, to communicate with their family and friends at regular intervals by corresponding in writing and using, where available, telecommunication, electronic, digital, and other means'.

5. ILLEGAL DETENTION AND FORCEFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDER IMPOSED ON KARAMOJONG WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN:

UPS wishes to clarify that nobody has been admitted to prison as a prisoner without clearance from court. On February 15th 2024, a group of eighty eight (88) Karamojong Women and fifty four (54) kids were remanded to Luzira Women Prisons by City Hall Court.

On February 23rd 2024, they were produced to court and sentenced to community service to be done at their places of origin in Napak District.

Need to note that community service does not fall under the jurisdiction of UPS but a directorate at the Ministry of Internal Affairs headquarters. So, UPS is not responsible for the arresting and sentencing of the Karamojong women.



**FRANK MAYANJA BAINE
SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR CCA/SERVICE SPOKESPERSON**



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

43RD TAREHE SITA ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS HELD AT BUSEESA GROUNDS, BUGWERI DISTRICT



H.E. The president inspecting the parade during the 43rd Tarehe Sita Anniversary celebrations

During the 43rd Tarehe Sita Anniversary Celebrations held at Busesa Grounds, Bugweri District, President Yoweri Museveni, with the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Maama Janet Museveni, commended Ugandans for embracing the National Resistance Movement (NRM) ideals. The theme of the event was 'Celebrating the People's Struggle for Unity, Security, and Peace for Socio-economic Transformation,' where the strides made in Uganda's development under the NRM government were highlighted.

President Museveni praised the economic growth facilitated by the correct ideas of the NRM government. He emphasized the need to combat corruption for further progress and the importance of bolstering security measures. He acknowledged Uganda's strong army, police, prisons, intelligence services, and wildlife authority.

President Museveni emphasized Uganda's collaborative efforts with neighboring countries like Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo to address regional security challenges. He highlighted the

importance of leveraging technology, including electronic vehicle number plates, to enhance security and streamline investigations.

In his address, President Museveni paid tribute to the people of Busoga for their significant contribution to the NRA/M struggle, which paved the way for the current government. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by those who fought against the regime of Idi Amin and recognized the support received from allies like Tanzania and Mozambique during Uganda's liberation.



UPS Officers goose marching as they endure through the rain, a sign of utmost patriotism

Vice President Jessica Alupo reiterated the theme's call to safeguard peace, unity, stability, and democracy, emphasizing the importance of honoring the patriots who sacrificed their lives for Uganda's liberation.

Despite the heavy downpour, Uganda Prisons Service participated in the celebrations through a joint parade and band alongside the UPDF, Uganda Police Force, and Uganda Wildlife Authority.



High ranking officers from various African armed forces arriving at the event.



Deputy IGP Maj. Gen. Tumusiime-Katsigwa and Deputy CGP Samuel Akena share a light moment

DCGP Samuel Akena represented the Commissioner General of Prisons at the event, with other top and senior leadership members and Officers in Charge prisons from the Iganga administrative region in attendance. Mr. Frank Mayanja Baine, Senior Commissioner of Prisons, served as the Assistant Master of Ceremonies, adding to the organizational success of the event showcasing the commitment of Uganda Prisons Service to national celebrations and their dedication to upholding patriotism.



Not even the heavy downpour could break her resilience. Patriotism at its best!



The Army spokesperson Brig. Gen. Felix Kulaŋo and Prisons spokesperson, SCP Frank Baine co-moderated the function.

GALLERY



Members of the Prisons top and senior management at the function



The Prisons band persevered through the rain to produce a stellar performance at the celebrations



Parade underway in both slow and quick march



Service above self



HE. THE PRESIDENT HONOURS PRISONS OFFICERS WITH DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDALS



H.E. The president in a group photo with the medallists

During the Tarehe Sita Celebrations in Bugweri District, the President of the Republic of Uganda, HE Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, awarded Diamond Jubilee Medals to exemplary officers of the Uganda Prisons Service.

Mr. Ndori Leni, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (ACP), epitomizes leadership and dedication in the Uganda Prisons Service. With years spent as a senior trainer at the Prisons Academy and Training School, Lazara, and as Officer in Charge of various Prisons Units, his commitment to justice and rehabilitation is evident. Mr. Leni's influence extends beyond his official roles, advocating for reformative programs and the rights of offenders. His legacy of excellence inspires colleagues and transforms the institution, leaving an enduring impact on Uganda Prisons Service.



Mr. Alex Magola, Assistant Superintendent of Prisons (ASP): His commitment ensured safety and discipline within correctional facilities, setting a high standard of professionalism.



Mr. Justine Ieto Omadi, Agricultural Officer: Commended for transforming facilities into agricultural centers, Mr. Justine Ieto Omadi's initiatives promote self-sufficiency and rehabilitation among offenders.



Ms. Onzia Juliet, Asst. Nursing Officer: Recognized for compassionate care, Ms. Onzia Juliet upholds dignity and respect within the prison healthcare system through her dedication to providing quality services.



The late Joseph Okello, Principal Officer II (posthumously honored): Honored posthumously for courageous service, Joseph Okello's sacrifice exemplifies the highest ideals of duty within the Uganda Prisons Service.



13TH TAREHE SITA CELEBRATIONS THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST



H.E The president arrives for the thanks giving breakfast at Kololo ceremonial grounds

President Yoweri Museveni lauded the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) for its steadfast foundation and unwavering commitment to principles, during the 13th Tarehe Sita Thanksgiving breakfast held at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds on Thursday, February 29.

Themed "How can I repay the Lord for all His benefits to me?", the event served as a platform for President Museveni to address the significance of integrity within the army. Highlighting the importance of ideology and spirituality, Gen. Museveni emphasized the blend of traditional beliefs and religion that have shaped the ethos of the UPDF.

"Our ideology was a mixture of our traditional beliefs here and religion. In our traditions, we despise treachery, we don't even believe in cowardly attacks, and when we came to religion, we found many teachings similar to our traditions," noted President Museveni.

Reflecting on historical challenges, President Museveni recounted instances where the UPDF rejected shortcuts and maintained a commitment to

such as the assassination of individuals, highlighting the UPDF's dedication to principled and ethical conduct.



H.E The president in a group photo with the guests

honor and integrity. He cited the rejection of ideas. The Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs, Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja, echoed sentiments of gratitude, emphasizing the importance of collective responsibility in advancing the nation's defense mission. He commended President Museveni for exemplifying values that have contributed to the UPDF's success throughout its history.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), Gen. Wilson Mbasu Mbudi, underscored the annual thanksgiving as a moment of divine reflection, marking the apex of Tarehe Sita activities. He acknowledged UPDF's achievements and its role as a force for peace and security in the region.

Guest speaker Mrs. Patience Rwabwogo, a Senior Pastor at Covenant Nations Church, hailed the UPDF as a highly professional army committed to education, training, and international standards. She commended UPDF's role as a regional peacekeeper, emphasizing Uganda's pride in its armed forces.

Among the attendees were Commissioner General of Prisons Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, his deputy Samuel Akana, along with members of the UPS top and senior management.



Mrs. Patience Rwabwogo, a Senior Pastor at Covenant Nations Church, delivers a sermon



Former IGP Gen. (rtd) Eale Kayihura and CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija share a light moment at the function

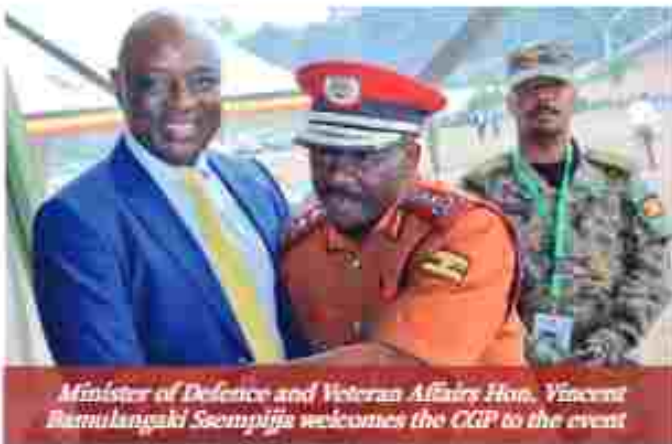
GALLERY



Government officials, attending guests, service chiefs and officers observe the national anthem at the opening of the thanksgiving



Senior officers of UPS and UPDF officers observe the national anthem



Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Hon. Vincent Bamulanyaki Szempija welcomes the CGP to the event



DCGP Mr. Samuel Akana and DCDF Gen Peter Elwelu engage in a light chat



Members of the prisons top leadership at the event



HIS LORDSHIP CHIEF JUSTICE OWINY DOLLO LAUNCHES PLEA BARGAIN CAMP AT UG. UPPER PRISON, LUZIRA



The chief justice of Uganda, His Lordship Alfonso Chigamony Owiny Dollo, other justices, senior prisons officers and human rights defenders in a group photo at UG. Prisons upper

In a move towards expeditious and effective administration of justice, His Lordship Alfonso Chigamony Owiny Dollo, the Chief Justice of Uganda, inaugurated the Plea Bargain Camp at UG. Prison Upper, Luzira. The ceremony was marked by collaboration, and the shared commitment to transform Uganda's legal landscape.

Addressing the audience, Chief Justice Owiny Dollo commended the open-door policy of the top leadership of Uganda Prisons Service, stressing the importance of collaboration between the judiciary and Uganda Prison Service in promoting access to justice. The Chief Justice shed light on Uganda's plea bargaining journey, emphasizing its significance in addressing resource constraints and case backlogs in developing countries.

The initiative, supported by Pepperdine University of the USA, plays a crucial role in justice reform. Pepperdine University collaborates with the Ugandan judiciary, providing training and legal representation for accused individuals. This meaningful partnership aims to create a fair and efficient legal system.

Encouraging inmates to consider plea bargaining if they accept responsibility for their crimes, Chief Justice Dollo highlighted the potential

for achieving peace through this process. He urged importance of leveraging technology, including electronic vehicle number plates, to enhance security and streamline investigations.

In his address, President Museveni paid tribute to the people of Busoga for their significant contribution to the NRA/M struggle, which paved the way for the current government. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by those who fought against the regime of Idi Amin and recognized the support received from allies like Tanzania and Mozambique during Uganda's liberation.



The camp launch underway

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, expressed appreciation for Chief Justice Dollo's leadership in promoting plea bargain initiatives. Drawing parallels with traditional African conflict resolution methods, she emphasized the role of remorse and forgiveness in paving the way for reintegration.

Hon. Lady Justice Abodo applauded inmates for exercising their constitutional right to participate in plea bargaining. Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, she highlighted the success of the program and underlined the importance of fair punishment based on evidence, considering the rights of victims. The DPP urged prosecutors to handle case files diligently, maintaining a balance between justice and compassion.



Legal counsels engage inmates in a plea bargain session

Speaking on behalf of the Commissioner General of Prisons, Mr. Jacob Kivumbi, Commissioner of Prisons (Custodial Services), emphasized the Plea Bargain Camp's importance in fostering a more efficient and fair justice system. He noted that the initiative aligns with their commitment to ensure justice is served promptly while considering the rights and circumstances of the accused.

Plea bargaining holds immense significance in the legal realm as it encourages cooperation between the prosecution and defense. Defendants opting for plea agreements may receive more lenient sentences in exchange for admitting guilt, thereby saving valuable court resources.

During the camp, inmates were provided with an opportunity to present their cases, engaging in prosecution and defense sessions. This hands-on approach allows for a thorough examination of circumstances surrounding each case, facilitating informed decisions by both parties. The Plea Bargain Camp stands as a beacon of hope for a more accessible, efficient, and compassionate justice system in Uganda.



The camp helped inmates advance their knowledge on plea bargain procedures



Plea bargain camps will further foster a more efficient and fair justice system

NATIONAL TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM, KAMPALA 2024



Minister of Justice And Constitutional Affairs, Hon. Norbert Mao, former Attorney General Fred Rujumu, the chairperson of the Inter Religious Council of Uganda, Justice Ogola and other delegates attending the symposium

Uganda's pursuit of transitional justice took center stage as the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, alongside various partners, organized a National Symposium on Uganda's Transitional Justice Policy. Held from February 20th to 21st, 2024, in Kampala, the symposium focused on the theme of "National Healing: Building Consensus and Giving Life Back to Those Affected by Conflict."

During the symposium, stakeholders deliberated on key milestones, challenges, and future prospects in Uganda's journey toward transitional justice. The implementation of the Transitional Justice Policy, adopted in June 2019 after extensive development and consideration, underscores Uganda's commitment to accountability and reconciliation.

Hon. Norbert Mao, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, delivered a keynote address emphasizing the imperative for reforms to safeguard Uganda's future. He passionately advocated for national healing, unity, consensus, and restoration as crucial elements in healing the wounds of past conflicts for a resilient and harmonious



The symposium in progress

Uganda. Hon. Mao applauded the collaborative efforts of youth, civil society, academia, and government agencies in advancing transitional justice, stressing the significance of partnerships in fostering an inclusive approach to justice.

Furthermore, in a significant development toward unveiling the truths of the past, the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS) conducted nationwide consultations on traditional justice mechanisms. This move demonstrates Uganda's commitment to inclusivity and comprehensive justice.



Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Robert Mao highlighted on the significance of partnerships in fostering an inclusive approach to justice.

The National Symposium witnessed the active participation of key figures from various sectors, including the Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons, Mr. Samuel Akena. Representing the Uganda Prisons Service, which brought valuable insights and perspectives to the discussions, highlighting the crucial role of prisons in the transitional justice process.



DCGP Mr. Samuel Akena and ACGP Milton Tiyo at the symposium

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, expressed appreciation for Chief Justice Dollo's leadership in promoting plea bargain initiatives. Drawing parallels with traditional African conflict resolution methods, she emphasized the role of remorse and forgiveness in paving the way for reintegration.

Hon. Lady Justice Abodo applauded inmates for exercising their constitutional right to participate in plea bargaining. Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, she highlighted the success of the program and underlined the importance of fair punishment based on evidence, considering the rights of victims. The DPP urged prosecutors to handle case files diligently, maintaining a balance between justice and compassion.

A notable decision was made on February 28th, as the Judges at the Trial Chamber IX addressed reparation for victims of former Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) Rebel Commander Dominic Ongwen. Acknowledging the magnitude of the atrocities and the vast number of victims, the Judges ruled for collective compensation. Notably, they recognized that Ongwen cannot afford to pay the victims and tasked the Trust Fund for Victims to cover the compensation costs. The ICC Registry has been ordered to initiate the identification and registration of victims for reparation in Northern Uganda within 30 days of the decision.

Accompanying Mr. Akena were; Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons (ACGP) Milton Tiyo, Director of Correctional Services, and Senior Commissioner of Prisons (SCP) Frank Baine, Deputy Director of Corporation and Corporate Affairs, who served as the moderator for the event.



SCP Frank Baine moderating interactions at the symposium

The National Transitional Justice Policy stands as an overarching framework of the Government of Uganda, designed to address the peace, justice, accountability, and reconciliation needs of past conflicts. It offers holistic interventions toward achieving lasting peace in the nation. As Uganda continues its journey toward transitional justice, these recent developments mark significant progress, showcasing the country's commitment to healing, accountability, and reconciliation in the aftermath of conflict.

CHAIRPERSON UNHCR ON INTER-CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNHCR AND UPS



Hon. Mariam Wangadya, the Chairperson of the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), in a group photo with participants of Prisons Inter-cordial Relationship course at PATS - Luzira

Hon. Mariam Wangadya, the Chairperson of the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), delivered a lecture to officers of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course at the Prisons Academy and Training School (PATS) in Luzira. The lecture, which took place on February 28th, 2024 was a significant effort to deepen understanding and awareness of human rights principles among prison personnel.

In her address, Hon. Mariam Wangadya highlighted the crucial role of the Uganda Human Rights Commission in safeguarding and promoting human rights across the nation. She emphasized the functions and responsibilities of the UHRC, shedding light on its role in ensuring that human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled in Uganda.

The lecture delved into key aspects of the Human Rights Enforcement Act, illuminating its importance in upholding the rights of all individuals within the country. Hon. Wangadya elaborated on the provisions of the Act, stressing its relevance to the daily operations of law enforcement agencies, including the Uganda Prisons Service.



Hon. Mariam Wangadya highlighted the crucial role of the UHRC in safeguarding and promoting human rights across the nation.

With a focus on human rights observations, Hon. Wangadya provided practical insights and guidance to the officers attending the course. Her expertise and experience in the field of human rights advocacy enriched the discourse, offering valuable perspectives on the intersection of human rights and criminal justice. The engagement served as a platform for meaningful dialogue and exchange, enabling participants to grasp the importance of integrating human rights considerations into their professional responsibilities.

In her closing remarks, Hon. Mariam Wangadya expressed her gratitude to the participants for their attentiveness and eagerness to learn. She reaffirmed the commitment of the Uganda Human Rights Commission to collaborate with law enforcement agencies in advancing a culture of respect for human rights across the nation.

The lecture concluded with a vibrant discussion session, allowing attendees to pose questions, share experiences, and seek clarification on pertinent issues related to human rights enforcement. The interactive nature of the session facilitated active participation and enhanced learning outcomes for all involved. The Uganda Human Rights Commission remains steadfast in its mission to champion human rights principles and ensure their effective implementation for the benefit of all Ugandans.

ON SPOT INSPECTION OF CAN. DR. J.O.R BYABASHAIJA WORKING TOUR OF EASTERN AND MID-EASTERN REGIONS: FOCUS ON PRODUCTION, PRODUCTIVITY AND REHABILITATION IN UPS



The CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija impressed with the bountiful sunflower harvest at UG. Prison farm Odina in Soroti District

The Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Omuhunde Rwashote Byabashaija, conducted a working tour of UG. Prison Farm Odina in Soroti District, Mid-Eastern region on February 15, 2024. He was accompanied by senior officers from the Uganda Prisons Service, including Mr. Wilson Magomu, SCP; Mr. Stephen Lugonda, CP; Mr. Kenneth Mugabirwe, CP; Mr. Simon Wansadha, CP; Mr. Jacob Kivumbi, CP; and Mr. Ronald Kalali, ACP.

During the tour, Dr. Byabashaija inspected the 200-acre sunflower plantation, which is part of the Food Security intervention program directed by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries. He expressed satisfaction with the bountiful harvest and aligned the Uganda Prisons Service's contribution with Uganda's overarching food security strategy.

Dr. Byabashaija highlighted that Uganda Prisons Service is engaged in commercial maize production as part of the same strategy, including

Aswa Ranch, Aloi-Ongom, Pingere, Awei, and Adjumani. During the tour, he emphasized the need for the establishment of small-scale irrigation schemes to mitigate the effects of drought and enhance overall agricultural infrastructure.



The CGP addressing staff of Odina Prisons

Addressing the staff of Odina Prisons Farm, Dr. Byabashaija emphasized the importance of discipline, loyalty, and hard work as pillars of success within the Uganda Prisons Service. He commended the team for maintaining high standards since 2022 and acknowledged their efforts in corrections and production, stressing their crucial role in the

service's positive trajectory. Dr. Byabashaija also emphasized financial literacy while addressing Officers In Charge Prisons of Mid-Eastern Region, urging them to embrace the newly introduced Human Resource initiatives. The tailored course catalogues align with the ranking system, offering dedicated officers opportunities for professional growth and career advancement.

During his tour of Mbale Main and Mbale Women Prisons, Dr. Byabashaija witnessed firsthand the innovative initiatives being implemented to foster rehabilitation and improve the well-being of inmates.



The OGP receives quarter guard parade on arrival at Mbale group of Prisons

A particular highlight of the tour was the visit to the Day Care section of Mbale Women Prison, where he observed the nurturing environment that supports crucial mother-child bonds and promotes child development. This initiative highlights the commitment of Uganda Prisons Service to holistic rehabilitation and the preservation of family ties.

During his address to the staff of Mbale Main and Mbale Women Prisons, Dr. Byabashaija emphasized the importance of improved welfare, professionalism, and discipline among prison personnel. He also announced exciting strides towards energy efficiency through the implementation of biogas technology, demonstrating a commitment to sustainable practices within the prison system. Dr. Byabashaija hosted Officers in Charge Prisons and their deputies from the Eastern region, outlining a vision for secure, just, and ethical prisons. His strategic objectives for the Uganda Prisons Service include providing safe, secure, and humane custodial services, rehabilitation and reintegration services for offenders, promoting access to justice,

enhancing prison production and productivity, and strengthening governance and accountability.



The OGP visits the Day care section at Mbale women's prison



The OGP talking to prisons officers at Mbale Prison. They shared some of the innovative initiatives being implemented to foster rehabilitation and improve the well-being of inmates.

Finally, the impact of Dr. Byabashaija's leadership was evident as inmates at Mbale Main Prison expressed their affirmation of the positive changes they have experienced under his tenure. Testimonials included praise for prompt feeding, improved meals, regular visitations, adherence to human rights principles, and effective administration.



The CGP - Can. Dr. Johnson Omuhunde Rwashote Byabeshaija, Mr. Rimali Gody, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (RPC - Eastern Region) and Ms. Maurveen Nissūma, Senior Superintendent of Prisons (D.C - Mbale Main Prison) walk through the Prison following his historical visit to Mbale Group of Prisons



The chief jailer Col. Dr. Johnson Byadashaija radiates joy in the flourishing fields of Odina Prisons Farm following an abundant 200-acre harvest of sunflower. This is a confirmation of the Food Security Intervention success by Uganda Prisons Service in fulfilling the presidential directives.

MECHANISATION TO BOOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN UPS



DCGP Samuel Akema officially commissions the newly procured agricultural machinery

In a significant move towards achieving national food and animal feeds security, on March 5, 2024, Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) officially commissioned a set of state-of-the-art agricultural machinery. This initiative follows a directive issued by His Excellency, The President, in 2022, instructing the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries to allocate 50,000 acres of land to UPS for the production of food and animal feeds.

The machinery, supplied by Uganda Engineering Solutions Limited, includes Twelve (12) HP 9502 Tafe Tractors, Twelve (12) Four Disc Balden Ploughs, Two (2) heavy-duty disc ploughs, Two (2) HP maize shellers, one (01) no-till seed planter, and two (2) 10-ton tipping tractor trailers.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony on behalf of the CGP, Mr. Samuel Akema, Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons, emphasized the importance of adhering to Presidential directives and assigned mandates as guided by the Prisons Act of 2006. He urged Officers in Charge to utilize the equipment efficiently, as entrusted by the President and the people of Uganda, to overcome famine in affected areas.



DCGP Samuel Akema hands over tractors to OC Aowu Prison farm 1

Mr. Robert Munanura, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons (Director Production and Engineering), expressed optimism about increased production with the new tractors. He affirmed the commitment to a continuous partnership with Engineering Solutions, aiming to transform Uganda Prisons into an Agricultural Mechanization destination.

However, Mr. Munanura also cautioned against the misuse of the machinery and highlighted plans to purchase additional equipment for the development of the Prisons leather industry, drawing inspiration from benchmark visits conducted in Italy.



ACGP Robert Mwanuzi hands over a tractor to OC Awei Prison farm

Mr. Med Mwiri, Sales and Marketing Manager at Uganda Engineering Solutions Limited, commended UPS for the strategic partnership, expressing gratitude to The President and the government for allowing them to operate in Uganda's growing economy. The company pledged to continue supporting UPS with quality products, personnel training, and maintenance services.

Mr. Amos Turyashaba, Commissioner of Prisons (Farms Management), provided background on the Food Security Strategy within UPS. He emphasized that the new equipment would streamline operations at Prisons farms, offering timely operations and skills development for personnel.

Out of the commissioned machinery, specific allocations were made, with four (4) handed over to Aswa I Prison Farms, another four (4) to Aswa II Prison farm, and individual units to Orom Tikua, Pingere, Awei, and one to (1) Ruimi Prison Farms, earmarked for seed multiplication.



ACGP Samuel Akosa test drives the newly acquired machinery



The newly acquired machinery will help improve on large scale agricultural production and effect modern farming practices



With the new machinery, Productivity and agricultural yielding is expected to improve across Prisons farms

INTERMEDIATE COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE ACTIVITIES



A prison officer demonstrates fire extinguishing skills acquired from the Intermediate Command and staff course.

In the Uganda Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course, prison officers received training, including fire fighting and mastering the use of fire extinguishers. These skills are vital for ensuring a swift and effective response to emergencies within correctional facilities. The opportunity provided by the Uganda Police Force for this training is deeply appreciated, as it equips officers with the tools and knowledge necessary to enhance safety and security within the prison environment. The officers further embarked on an illuminating journey to the Buganda Kingdom headquarters situated in Mengo, Kampala. This excursion offered them a unique opportunity to delve into the historical tapestry of the region, immersing themselves in the cultural richness preserved within the confines of Buganda's administrative heart. From exploring historical installations to delving into the treasures of the Buganda museum and Parliament, these officers gained invaluable insights into the vibrant heritage that defines this esteemed cultural entity.



The course equipped officers with fire skills that are vital for ensuring a swift and effective response to emergencies within correctional facilities.

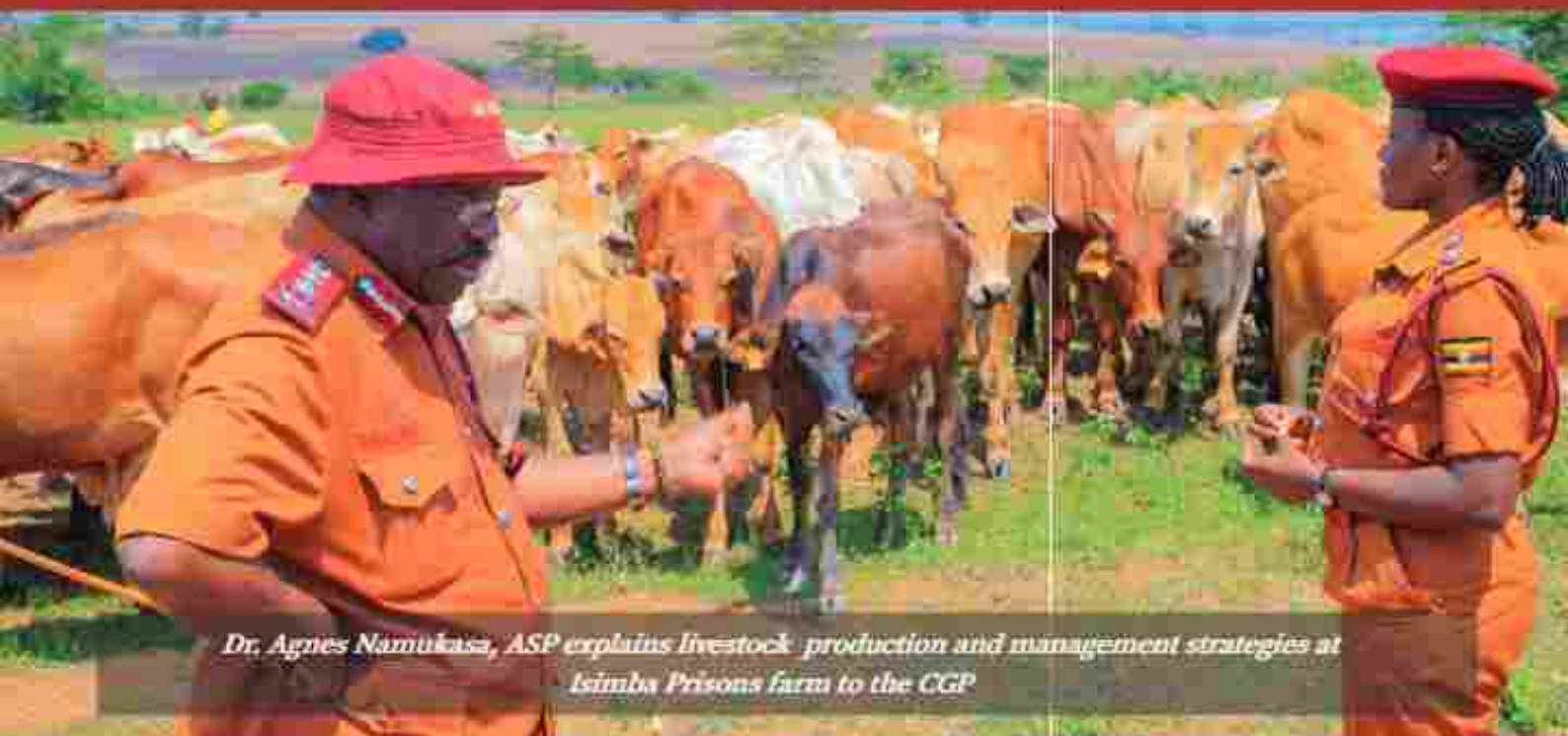


During their visit to Buganda kingdom's headquarters in Mengo, Prisons officers appreciated the historical richness the kingdom has preserved



Officers in a group photo in front of the Buganda parliament after their visit around the Kingdom's headquarters.

LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT AND TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATIONS (2023-2024)



Dr. Agnes Namukasa, ASP explains livestock production and management strategies at Isimba Prisons farms to the CGP

Uganda Prison Service (UPS) is making strides in livestock management. Guided by expert input from the division of Livestock Health, Production, and Entomology within the Prisons Farms Department, UPS has embarked on a journey aimed at enhancing animal production and health management strategies. This comprehensive report illuminates the multifaceted approach employed by UPS, which seamlessly integrates traditional practices with modern techniques to bolster agricultural ventures.

Current Status and Strategic Achievements

At the forefront of UPS's agricultural advancements is its substantial livestock portfolio. Currently, UPS proudly manages a diverse array of livestock, with a total herd comprising 2,150 cattle, 500 goats, and 550 sheep, predominantly engaged in a semi-intensive fattening program. This livestock management strategy is not just a testament to UPS's commitment to agricultural growth but also reflects a well-orchestrated effort to integrate livestock farming with sustainable agricultural practices. A key element of this strategy is the utilization of agricultural byproducts from crop production, thereby fostering a circular economy within the farming ecosystem.

Geographical Dispersion and Specialized Farming Practices

The scope of UPS's livestock management extends across several strategically located farms, each specializing in different aspects of animal husbandry:

Beef Cattle Management: Farms like Isimba, Lugore, Kiburara, Ragem, Adjumani, and Mutukula are pivotal in the production of beef cattle, adhering to practices that ensure quality and sustainability.



Livestock production and management has facilitated on the effective inmate rehabilitation program



The continued emphasis on good farming practices has facilitated consistent high yields from livestock farming

Dairy Production: Fortportal and various women's stations are central to dairy cattle farming, with a special focus on providing nutritional support to vulnerable groups such as pregnant mothers and children.



Piggery Operations: The piggery farms located in Ibuga and Jitja M are examples of UPS's diversification into other livestock sectors.

Goat and Sheep Rearing: In Ragem, Mutukula, Kiburara, Adjumani, and Tororo, goat and sheep farming is conducted, contributing significantly to the livestock diversity.



Canine Section: This unit provides essential technical support, highlighting the multifaceted nature of UPS's livestock operations.



The canine section has facilitated in conducting searches, detecting explosives and partaking canine sweeps, among others

With an eye on the future, UPS is dedicated to refining its livestock management systems. The goal is not only to expand the livestock numbers to at least 4,000 cattle, 2,000 goats, and 1,000 sheep but also to enhance the quality and efficiency of these farming operations. These targets are set with the intention of elevating UPS's role in the national agricultural sector, contributing significantly to both the economic and social fabric of the community it serves.

In the ensuing sections, this report will delve deeper into the specific activities, methodologies, and innovations being employed across the various UPS farms. From advancements in animal breeding techniques, such as synchronization and selective breeding, to the implementation of cutting-edge pasture management and silage production, this report aims to provide a holistic view of UPS's livestock management strategies, challenges faced, and the roadmap to achieving its ambitious targets.

This expanded introduction provides a more detailed and comprehensive view of the Uganda

Prison Service's livestock management activities, setting the stage for a thorough exploration of the various aspects and achievements of their farming operations.



MISSION

"To deliver excellence in livestock health and development through the application of best practices, innovative solutions, and sustainable methodologies. We are committed to enhancing animal welfare, increasing productivity, and supporting the growth of the agricultural sector while maintaining ecological balance and enriching the lives of communities we serve."

VISION

"To be a leading model in sustainable livestock health and development, pioneering innovative practices and technologies that elevate animal welfare, enhance productivity, and contribute to the advancement of the agricultural sector, while fostering environmental stewardship and community wellbeing."

GOAL

"To establish and maintain a gold standard in livestock health and development, ensuring optimal animal welfare and productivity through sustainable practices, innovative techniques, and comprehensive community engagement, ultimately contributing to the resilience and growth of the agricultural sector."



Objectives for the Division of Livestock Health and Development

	Objective	Focus	ACTIVITIES
1	Enhance Livestock Production and Health Management	To improve the overall health and productivity of livestock through advanced health management practices, innovative breeding techniques, and effective disease control measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing improved breeding , • Adopting sustainable pasture management practices, • Establishing rigorous health monitoring and vaccination programs.
2	Implement Sustainable and Integrated Farm Management Systems	To develop and maintain sustainable farm management systems that integrate livestock rearing with crop production, utilizing agricultural byproducts efficiently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing integrated systems for using crop residues in livestock feeding (e.g., maize stover for silage), • Implementing eco-friendly waste management practices, • Enhancing water conservation techniques in farming operations.
3	Strengthen Capacity Building and Community Engagement	To build capacity among staff and community members through training and development programs in modern livestock farming techniques, ensuring knowledge transfer and skill development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting regular training sessions in poultry, piggery, dairy, and beef cattle management, • Promoting best practices in animal health and welfare, • Engaging community members in sustainable farming initiatives.
4	Expand Research, Innovation, and Collaborative Partnerships	To foster a culture of research and innovation in livestock health and development, and establish strong partnerships with research institutions, industry players, and government bodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborating with organizations like NARO, Makerere, Uganda Police Force, UVA for research, Training and development projects, • Exploring new livestock health technologies and practices, • Participating in joint initiatives for the advancement of the livestock sector.

Animal Health

This section provides a brief overview of the activities undertaken by the Division of Livestock Health and Development in the realm of animal health. These activities are foundational to ensuring the wellbeing, productivity, and sustainability of the livestock under the management of the Uganda Prisons Service.



Boran cattle enjoy a mollusc mineral block. These blocks supplement on their nutrient intake.



Animals pass through a treated deep crush as a parasite control practice measure

Key Activities in Animal Health

1. Disease Prevention and Control:

Regular Vaccination Programs: Implementation of comprehensive vaccination schedules to prevent common livestock diseases.

Disease Surveillance: Continuous monitoring for early detection of diseases, including routine health check-ups and diagnostic tests.

2. Parasite Management:

Tick Control Initiatives: Use of acaricides and implementation of anti-tick vaccine trials to combat tick-borne diseases.

Internal Parasite Control: Regular deworming and fecal examinations to manage internal parasites.

3. Nutritional Management:

Feed Quality Control: Ensuring the nutritional adequacy of feed through quality checks and balancing rations.

Supplementation Programs: Providing supplements during critical periods like drought, lactation, or growth phases.

4. Breeding Health Management:

Reproductive Health Monitoring: Regular assessments of reproductive health and

implementation of breeding programs: like synchronization and selective breeding.

Genetic Health Management: Maintaining genetic diversity and monitoring for hereditary health issues.



Livestock farming has improved on Prisons' productivity and resource utilisation

5. Veterinary Care and Treatment:

Access to Veterinary Services: Ensuring availability of veterinary care for treatment of illnesses and injuries.

Capacity Building in Veterinary Care: Training staff in basic veterinary practices and updating them on advanced care techniques.

6. Biosecurity Measures:

Implementation of Biosecurity Protocols: Establishing and maintaining strict biosecurity measures to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases within and between farms.

7. Animal Welfare Standards:

Welfare Assessment and Improvement: Regular assessment of animal living conditions and implementation of improvements to ensure high welfare standards.



8. Research and Development:

Participation in Research Projects: Collaborating with research institutions like NARO for studies in animal health and disease control.

Innovative Health Solutions: Exploring new technologies and practices in animal health care.



9. Record Keeping and Data Management:

Health Records Maintenance: Keeping detailed health records for all animals to monitor health trends and make informed management decisions.

10. Community Engagement and Education:

Outreach Programs: Conducting community outreach for education on animal health issues and practices.

Farmer Training Sessions: Organizing training sessions for local farmers on basic animal health care and disease prevention.



***Above:** Dr. Generous Bitunga, SP, conducting introductory training sessions on the best livestock management practices, a sign of corporate social responsibility with in UPS*

The activities under the animal health section demonstrate an approach to ensuring the health and well-being of livestock. These initiatives are crucial in maintaining high standards of animal health, which directly translates to improved productivity and sustainability of the livestock sector within the Uganda Prison Service.

Improved Feeding Through Advanced Pasture Management



Effective pasture management is crucial for enhancing the quality and availability of feed in livestock farming. This report discusses the advancements and techniques in pasture improvement, paddocking, establishing pasture gardens, pasture multiplication, and the production of hay and silage. These practices are essential for ensuring a consistent and nutritious feed supply, ultimately leading to healthier, more productive livestock.

Pasture Improvement

Objective: To enhance the nutritional value and growth rate of pasture land.

Techniques:

Soil testing and amendment to optimize pH and nutrient levels.

Selective planting of high-yield, nutrient-rich grasses and legumes.

Implementing rotational grazing to allow pasture recovery and prevent overgrazing.



Paddocking

Objective: To manage grazing more effectively and maintain the quality of pastures.

Approach:

Dividing larger fields into smaller paddocks to control grazing intensity.

Rotating livestock among paddocks to allow grass regrowth and reduce soil compaction.

Providing water sources and shade in each paddock for animal welfare.

Establishing Pasture Gardens

Objective: To create dedicated areas for intensive pasture cultivation.

Methodology:

Selecting suitable land parcels for pasture gardens.

Planting a variety of grasses and legumes to ensure a balanced diet for the livestock.

Regular maintenance, including weeding and controlled irrigation.

Pasture Multiplication

Objective: To increase the availability of high-quality pasture.

Strategies:

Propagating high-quality grasses and legumes through seed collection and sowing.

Utilizing techniques like split planting and root division for rapid multiplication.

Encouraging natural pasture regeneration through effective land management.

Pasture Harvesting and Production of Hay and Silage



Objective: To ensure a stable feed supply throughout the year, particularly in dry seasons.

Processes of Hay Production:

Cutting, drying, and baling grasses at the optimal time for maximum nutritional content.

Proper storage in a dry, protected environment to prevent spoilage and loss.



Hay is dried grass or legumes that are cut, dried, and baled for storage. It's a traditional method of preserving forage for animals. The drying process reduces moisture content, which helps prevent spoilage. Hay can be made from a variety of plants, including alfalfa, clover, timothy grass, and others. It's commonly fed to livestock during the winter or when fresh pasture isn't available. Hay is typically stored in bales and can be fed to animals as needed.

Silage Production:

Harvesting grasses and other forages at peak nutritional value.

Compacting and storing in an anaerobic environment (like silos) to promote fermentation and preserve feed quality.



Processes of Silage Production

Silage is fermented forage, typically made from grass, maize (corn), or other cereal crops. It's harvested while still green and chopped into small pieces, then packed tightly into airtight containers such as silos or wrapped in plastic to exclude oxygen. This anaerobic (without oxygen) environment allows lactic acid bacteria to ferment the sugars in the plant material, preserving it. Silage is often more nutritious than hay because the fermentation process helps retain vitamins and proteins. It's commonly used as feed for dairy cattle and other livestock.

Both hay and silage serve as important sources of nutrition for livestock, especially during times when fresh pasture is unavailable or in areas with harsh winters. The choice between hay and silage often depends on factors such as availability of equipment, climate, types of livestock, and nutritional requirements.

The implementation of these advanced pasture management techniques contributes significantly to improved livestock feeding.

By ensuring a steady supply of high-quality feed through efficient pasture improvement, paddocking, pasture gardens, pasture multiplication, and the production of hay and silage, livestock farmers can enhance animal health, increase productivity, and ensure the sustainability of their farming operations. Continuous monitoring, evaluation, and adaptation of these practices are key to addressing the dynamic challenges of livestock nutrition and pasture management.



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE PIONEERS MAIZE HYDROPONICS INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK FEEDING



The maize hydroponics Initiative has successfully been integrated at Isimba and Logole prisons farms

In a bid to ensure the well-being of livestock during dry seasons, the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) has embarked on a pioneering agricultural initiative centered on Maize Hydroponics. This innovative approach, spearheaded at Isimba and Logore Prisons Farms, aims to provide supplementary feeding for thriving calves, utilizing sustainable practices for optimal livestock management.

Maize Hydroponics, a soil-less farming technique, involves cultivating maize (corn) using nutrient-rich water solutions. This method ensures a consistent and nutritious food source for the calves, even in environments where traditional farming may be challenging due to water scarcity or arid conditions.

At the core of this initiative lies the empowerment of inmates through skill development, agricultural education, and positive engagement. By participating in Maize Hydroponics, inmates not only contribute to the well-being of the livestock but also acquire valuable skills that enhance their rehabilitation and future employability.

The benefits of Maize Hydroponics at Uganda Prison Farms are manifold. Firstly, it enables year-round feeding, ensuring optimal nutrition for

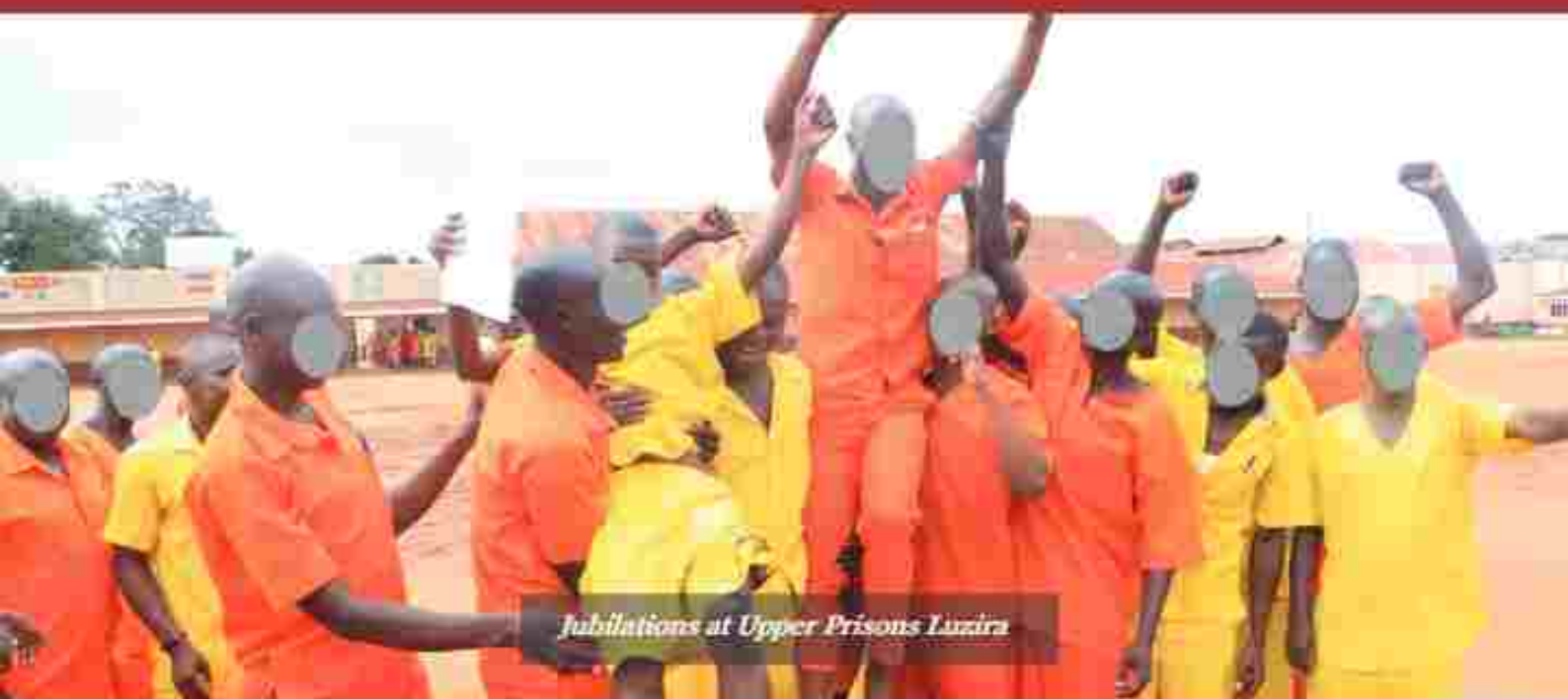
the calves regardless of seasonal fluctuations. Additionally, this method promotes water efficiency, conserving precious resources compared to traditional farming techniques. Moreover, Maize Hydroponics optimizes space utilization, allowing for sustainable farming practices even in limited areas.

By embracing Maize Hydroponics, the Uganda Prisons Service demonstrates its commitment to innovative and sustainable agricultural practices. This initiative not only ensures the welfare of livestock but also fosters the rehabilitation and skill development of inmates, ultimately contributing to the broader goals of sustainability and social responsibility. As UPS leads the charge in agricultural innovation, Maize Hydroponics emerges as a promising solution for ensuring food security and resilience in livestock management.



Ready hydroponics in trays

INMATES ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS AGAINST ALL ODDS IN UCE 2023



Jubilations at Upper Prisons Luzira

The Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) exam results for the year 2023 were released on February 15, 2024, by the Minister of Education and Sports, Hon Janet Museveni. The results showed a significant improvement in overall performance compared to the previous year. However, the struggle to pass science subjects continues to be a prominent issue, as less than 20% of candidates attained Credit pass levels: in Physics and Chemistry, with over 40% unable to pass.

Amidst this backdrop of national academic performance, a stirring narrative emerged from the walls of Uganda's correctional facilities. The Upper Prison Inmate School witnessed jubilation echoing through the corridors as 59 inmates, including 52 males and 7 females, received their UCE results. The breakdown revealed a commendable achievement, with 6 inmates attaining Division I, 14 Division II, 24 Division III, and 13 Division IV. Only one inmate failed, while another was absent.

Similarly, at UG. Prison Mbarara Main Secondary School, 15 inmates sat for the UCE, resulting in 4 achieving Division I, 2 Division II, 6 Division III, and 3 Division IV. Impressively, there were no failures or absences among the candidates.

Their achievements underscored the transformative power of inmate education, demonstrating that with dedication and perseverance, even the most daunting circumstances can be overcome.



Mr. Niwamanya Gilbert, the Headteacher of Upper Prisons Inmate School congratulates best performers

Mr. Niwamanya Gilbert, the Headteacher of Upper Prisons Inmate School, expressed profound gratitude to the prison administration for their unwavering commitment to education and rehabilitation. He commended the dedication of prison staff in fostering a positive learning environment within the facilities, emphasizing the importance of cooperation and support in prioritizing education, even amidst challenging circumstances.

ADHERING TO PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES TO REVITALISE COTTON PRODUCTION FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The launch of cotton production at Orom Ti Kau Prisons farm - Northern Uganda - 2017

Since its inception in 2016, Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) has been at the forefront of transforming the cotton production landscape in Uganda. With a visionary mandate from His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda, UPS has undertaken the ambitious task of contributing significantly to the national demand for raw materials in the textile industry. Through strategic planning and dedicated efforts, UPS has not only expanded cotton cultivation but also revolutionized seed multiplication, ensuring sustainability and growth in this vital sector of the economy.

Cotton production, often overlooked for its perceived low value, plays a pivotal role in Uganda's economic development. The multifaceted contributions of cotton cultivation extend far beyond the gates of prison farms, impacting industrial growth, employment opportunities, revenue generation, and foreign exchange earnings. As UPS looks ahead to 2025, the organization has set its sights on cultivating 10,000 acres of cotton, reaffirming its commitment to driving economic growth and self-sufficiency.

One of the key initiatives spearheaded by UPS is the partnership with the Cotton Development Organisation (CDO) to multiply BPA-2015A cotton seeds.



Expansive cotton fields of Amita Prisons farm in north eastern Uganda

This collaboration aims to bulk homegrown seeds and ensure their availability to cotton farmers nationwide. Through meticulous planning and execution, UPS has successfully conducted seed multiplication on 3,400 acres of prison farms across various regions like in; Orom Ti Kau, Amita, Loro, Erute, Adjumani, Ragem and Olia.

Furthermore, the viability tests conducted at Rukooki and Mubuku Prisons Farms have yielded promising results, with a maximum breeder's yield of 1300 kgs per acre. These seeds boast traits such as drought tolerance, quality lint, stable length, and high yield, making them invaluable assets for cotton farmers across the country.

The success of UPS's cotton production project is evident in its remarkable growth trajectory. Since 2016, cultivated acreage has expanded significantly,

reaching 5,145 acres in 2023—an impressive 27% increase from the previous year. This expansion not only demonstrates the project's resilience but also underscores UPS's strategic commitment to scaling up cotton production. Furthermore, the average annual output has experienced commendable growth, reflecting a 45% increase from 2017 to 2023. This upward trend highlights the dedication and perseverance of UPS in meeting the national demand for raw materials and driving economic growth within the textile industry.



Ready cotton being loaded at Ug. Prison Farm Kaberamaido



Cotton recovering well at Ragem Prison farm in north western Uganda



Ready Cotton at Ug. Prison Farm Orom Ti-Kau



A blooming cotton seed. Cotton continues to be an important cash crop with in Uganda Prisons Service

Moreover, UPS's emphasis on seed multiplication addresses a critical need in the cotton farming sector. By ensuring the availability of high-quality, locally adapted seeds, UPS empowers cotton farmers to improve their productivity and resilience to environmental challenges. Viability tests conducted at various prison farms have showcased the potential of BPA-2015A cotton seeds, with a maximum breeder's yield of 1300 kgs per acre. These seeds exhibit traits essential for sustainable cotton cultivation, contributing to the long-term viability of the sector.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUYENGA'S SUPPORT FOR INMATE MOTHERS AT LUZIRA WOMEN PRISON

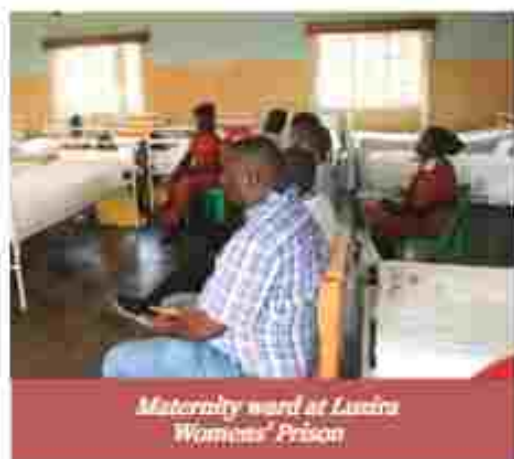


The Rotary club of Muyenga donated self help items to inmate mothers at Luzira

The Rotary Club of Muyenga, led by Rotarian Florence Malinga, recently visited Luzira Women's Prison to help inmate mothers. They brought care packages filled with essential items like sanitary equipment and food supplements. Their goal was to support these mothers and show them that they are not alone in their struggles.

Rotarian Malinga and her team showed kindness and empathy to the mothers at the prison. They understood the challenges these women faced and wanted to make their lives a little easier. The care packages they provided brought hope and gratitude to the mothers, reminding them that there are people who care about them.

The visit from the Rotary Club of Muyenga highlighted the importance of helping others in need. Through their gesture of compassion, they showed that even small acts of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life. Their visit brought smiles to the faces of the mothers at Luzira Women's Prison and showed the power of community support.



Maternity ward at Luzira Women's Prison

PUBLIC OPINION CORNER

Uganda Prisons Service: Nurturing Discipline, Performance, and Growth through Human Resource Investment

As a partner and participant in public service, throughout my extensive career, I've come to recognize a tendency among some public servants to conform to certain behaviors prevalent within the public service sector. However, this is not the case within the Uganda Prisons. At my last training session with these public servants, I could easily tell that a culture of excellence prevails in how they conduct themselves, and their attitude towards public service.

Within the broader public service framework, the Uganda Prisons Service distinguishes itself not only through its evident commitment to security and order, but also through its clear dedication to the comprehensive development of its personnel. During an interaction with the Public Relations Officer, Frank Baine, he said that the institution prioritizes capacity building of its workers because dealing with people and serving people requires continued growth. He added that he can proudly say that, "transformation of Uganda Prison Services of the past years lies in a strategic investment in human resource development, which has been instrumental in promoting discipline, enhancing performance, and driving sustainable growth within the institution.

The Uganda Prisons Service has recognized that its greatest asset is its people. To extract the full potential of its workforce, the service continuously implements training programs tailored to empower its teams and better serve the nation. From recent intakes of Cadet Assistant Superintendents of Prisons to Recruit Wardresses and Wardresses, the commitment to continuous learning and professional development is evident throughout the ranks.

One of the foundations of the Uganda Prisons Service's human resource strategy is its diverse course catalogue for human resource development. These courses not only equip personnel with essential skills but also instill values of integrity, professionalism, and compassion. Over the years, the Uganda Prisons Service has implemented a diverse range of programs aimed at empowering its teams and enhancing their capabilities. These initiatives include the Prisons Administration and Management course, which provides a comprehensive understanding of governance within correctional facilities.

Additionally, the Senior Command and Staff Course targets senior managers, ensuring strategic leadership and decision-making skills. Programs like Peace Building and Conflict Resolution equip personnel with crucial conflict management abilities, while specialized courses such as Safety and Security Operations ensure readiness in handling challenging situations. From basic cadre development to advanced leadership training, these programs show the service's commitment to continuous professional growth.

The Uganda Prisons Service exemplifies the principle of reaping what one sows. Their substantial investment in staff yields disciplined, high-performing personnel. Through fostering a culture of continuous learning and professionalism, they not only enhance operational effectiveness but also promote justice, security, and social inclusion. Uganda's progress is mirrored in the service's transformative approach, showcasing the power of strategic investments in human capital within public institutions. The Writer is an HR Specialist who has supported some of the training programs at Uganda Prison.

Ms. Dorcus Magoba,

Founder/CEO: Tabita Initiative Africa

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Ethical Intervention: A Guide for Prison Officers in Preventing Excessive Force

Do prison officers have a responsibility to intervene when a fellow officer loses emotional control or uses excessive force? The answer is obvious: Officers have an ethical, moral, and, in many cases, policy-driven reason to do so. Sadly, there are many examples around the world of prison officers not intervening when other officers lose their cool or use excessive force, leading to serious consequences, including death. But why is it that many officers do not intervene or attempt to de-escalate a situation when their colleagues are emotionally charged or using excessive force? Here are some reasons: fear, bias, lack of interest or concern, and not recognizing that they are empowered to act.

Appropriate and timely intervention can save a fellow officer and the department from personal and professional embarrassment, loss of public trust, and civil and criminal prosecution. In these situations, officers are either part of the problem or part of the solution. To be part of the solution, officers should always be ready to verbally de-escalate and physically intervene, regardless of rank or seniority. However, such intervention requires fortitude and both professional and personal courage.

While it is important to be aware of warning signs in other officers, it is equally important to be self-aware. Identifying ahead of time the signs that can indicate an officer is being triggered is critical. I refer to them as storm warnings. These "storm warnings" can include: loss of emotional or physical control, flushed face, a negative change in tone or demeanor, uncontrollable yelling or screaming, using profanity (offensive language), overly militaristic behavior, impatience, argumentative behavior, spitting while talking, moving in too close, rigid body language, making bogus and unrealistic threats, stammering or stuttering (speaking with difficulty), being physically abusive or aggressive, and being overly calm and cool (out of context for the situation).

HOW TO INTERVENE

Once storm-like behaviors are recognized, it is critical to act as quickly as is safely possible.

Call for backup. Depending on the situation, it could be exceedingly difficult to manage your fellow officer and the core event, thus requiring reinforcement. Move in slowly from an angle. If possible, identify yourself and softly touch the officer's shoulder, telling them that you have got it. Ask them to take a step back. Verbally reassure them that everything is okay. If they are in a high emotional state, it is best to get them as far away as possible from the core event. Distance can be your friend. The further the officer is moved away from the core event, the quicker de-escalation can occur. If touching the shoulder does not have the desired effect, here are two alternative approaches:

- A. Move in slowly and identify yourself. Softly contact the officer's elbow to escort them away from the core event.
- B. Move in slowly, identify yourself. Grab the back of the officer's duty belt and gently pull them back and away while maintaining physical contact.

NOTE: Be prepared for physical resistance. If the officer is physically violent, restraint techniques may be required to get things under control. Be aware that they may respond in anger or be assaultive.

AFTER THE EVENT:

Once the officer has calmed down, encourage self-accountability and recommend the officer self-reports to their immediate supervisor. It is always best if the supervisor hears about the incident from the officer involved first.

"#BeingEachOther'sKeeper as UPS family."

By NO.8813

Ch/Wdr III Drani John Patrick

DOWN THE MEMORY LANE



CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija in company of Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda, service chiefs and other government officials during the inauguration of the First Prison Council in 2006.

ORBITUARY

The Commissioner General of Prisons announces the deaths of fallen Comrades



**7306 Ch/Wdr II
Mwanja Moses**
Mid Eastern, Bukedea
Age: 46
D: 08/02/2024



**17392 L/Cpl
Nayebare Hope**
Kampala Extra, Kigo (W)
Age: 27
D: 03/02/2024



**15877 L/Cpl
Okori Wilfred**
South Eastern, SSU
Age: 32
D: 18/02/2024



**16422 L/Cpl
Busingye Josam Kelly**
Mid Northern, Loro
Age: 29
D: 18/02/2024



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