



**MAKING
UGANDA
THE BEST**



BUKEDI SUB-REGION STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ACCELERATED WEALTH CREATION (2024-2040)



PROGRESS REPORT 2024-2025

BY

BUKEDI DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM LIMITED

AND

PRODUCTIVITY ACCELERATION BUREAU

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**SOME OF THE WORKS OF H.E. GEN. YOWERI KAGUTA
TIBUHABURWA MUSEVENI TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE BUKEDI SUB REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR
ACCELERATED WEALTH CREATION WHICH HE LAUNCHED
ON THE 22ND AUGUST 2024**



**The memorable photo of H.E. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta
Tibuhaburwa Museveni launching the Bukedi Strategic Plan
for Accelerated Wealth Creation on the 22nd of August 2024**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bukedi Sub-Region Strategic Plan for Wealth Creation (2024–2040) is a transformative roadmap aimed at accelerating inclusive economic growth, reducing poverty to below 5%, and elevating average household incomes to UGX 30 million annually by 2040 through prioritized value chains: coffee, cocoa, poultry, and fish farming. Launched by H.E. President Yoweri Museveni on August 22, 2024. The plan addresses the region's socio-economic challenges, including 58.3% subsistence farming, a GDP per capita of USD 135 (far below Uganda's USD 1,185), and high food insecurity, by modernizing agriculture, enhancing value addition, and strengthening market linkages.

In its inaugural year (2024–2025), significant milestones were achieved under the Bukedi Development Consortium Limited (BUDECO), established as the implementing body with STI-OP oversight. Key accomplishments include: stakeholder engagements with political, technical, religious, and cultural leaders; farmer outreach and profiling of eight model farmers; dissemination via Bukedi Breakfast Meetings and weekly online forums reaching ~1,000 participants; and establishment of a seedling multiplication center at DATIC in Iki-Iki, Budaka, distributing over 20,000+ coffee and over 6,000 cocoa seedlings. Additionally, 100 Butebo ghetto youth underwent mindset transformation and Kibalo-based enterprise analysis to foster entrepreneurship.

In October 2025, a survey across seven districts (Tororo, Busia, Pallisa, Kibuku, Butaleja, Butebo, Budaka) revealed growing awareness (38.8% of respondents) and household engagement: coffee (14% average participation, led by Tororo at 22%); cocoa

(15%, led by Butaleja at 20%); poultry (16%, led by Busia at 22%); and fish (6%, led by Butaleja at 13%). Acreage commitments showed upward trends, with coffee and cocoa dominating (e.g., Tororo: 587 acres each), and post-2024 establishments rising notably for cocoa (up to 95% in Butebo/Kibuku). Districts like Tororo and Busia demonstrated strongest diversification.

For Year 2 (2025–2026), priorities include expanding sensitization, scaling seedling distribution to 45 million units (targeting 10,000 acres/district), mass farmer training, land aggregation, market linkages, and infrastructure upgrades, budgeted at UGX 177 billion under Phase 1 (2024–2030) and UGX 50 billion for second year of implementation.

BUDECO on behalf of Bukedi sub region requests the following; fulfillment of the President's annual UGX 50 billion pledge for 15 years; procurement of coffee/cocoa seedlings (for UGX 9–67 million/acre yields); provision of earth-moving equipment for fish ponds; and ensure fingerling and fish feed supplies (Tilapia, Catfish, etc.) to boost adoption and sustainability. These efforts position Bukedi for a socio-economic leap, aligning with NDP III and leveraging science, technology, and innovation for resilient prosperity.

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1.0 BACKGROUND

The Bukedi Strategic Development Plan is a transformative and comprehensive roadmap designed to accelerate inclusive economic growth, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable development in Bukedi sub-region. Recognizing the region's vast agricultural potential and the need for economic diversification, the plan focuses on prioritized value chains, including **Coffee, Cocoa, Poultry, and Fish Farming**. These value chains were scientifically selected based on their potential to drive economic transformation, improve household incomes, and create employment opportunities for the region's growing population.

This presents an ambitious but well researched roadmap designed to elevate household incomes to Ugx 30 million or more per year by 2040. By leveraging the region's competitive advantages in agriculture, the plan aims at modernizing farming practices, enhancing value addition, and strengthening market linkages. This will increase agricultural productivity, value addition, market access, profitability and position Bukedi as a key player in Uganda's agricultural export sector.

The goal is to reduce household subsistence to less than 5% in the Bukedi subregion and raise annual household income to UGX 30 million per year. The subregion's development has been planned several times nationally. Under the NDP III, it was planned to benefit from various enterprises, such as cotton, cassava and rice, all of which cannot help the region move out of the "nkolera kida kyonka" syndrome, which keeps the subregion among the poorest in Uganda.

2.0 BUKEDI SUBREGION SOCIO-ECONOMETRICS

Bukedi region's socio-economic landscape is predominantly characterized by widespread subsistence farming where the proportion of households in subsistence farming is 58.3% growing crops such as cassava, millet, soybeans and maize for food while rice, fruits and cotton as key cash crops. Despite having fertile land, the region grapples with social economic challenges like low productivity, inadequate processing facilities and poor infrastructure, which limit value addition and constrain average household incomes.

The estimated GDP per capita of the sub region is \$135, which is significantly lower than Uganda's national GDP per capita of \$1,185 (UBOS 2024) characterised by high prevalence of food insecurity and high poverty rates which demands a strategic shift to commercial agriculture. The initiative aims at addressing these challenges by transitioning households into the money economy through high-value crops like cocoa and coffee, with a key focus on developing robust value chains and improving processing infrastructure to boost household incomes to at least UGX 30 million annually by 2040.

3.0 BUKEDI SUB REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Productivity Acceleration Bureau of STI-OP together with the Bukedi Think-Tank conducted the following surveys; PDM Performance, Household Livelihood status, Bukedi Indigenous Innovators, status of ginneries, government development programs and Private sector performance.

The following groups participated: NRM Leaders, LC1, Parish Chiefs, SACCO chairpersons, PDCs, Sub County Chiefs, CDOs, LC5s, CAOs, RDCs, DPOs, DCOs, DCDOs, MPs, Political Leaders, Faith Based Leaders and academia. These engagements collectively led to development of the Bukedi Strategic plan with the following strategic objectives:

- (1) Increase the number of households commercially engaged in cocoa value chain to at least 75% by 2040
- (2) Increase the number of households commercially engaged in poultry value chain to at least 75% by 2040
- (3) Increase the number of households commercially engaged in the Coffee value chain to at least 75% by 2040.
- (4) Develop a foundry for development of specialised human capital for Bukedi Sub Region.
- (5) Develop an ecosystem that enrolls households in Bukedi to benefit from the green economy.
- (6) Increase the number of youths and women engaged in commercial agro- value chains to at least 50% by 2040.

- (7) Increase the number of households engaged in the Pathogen Economy Industrial Value Chain.
- (8) Develop a system that amplifies the value addition of minerals within the sub region.

4.0. ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE THE LAUNCH OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN (2024 TO DATE)

4.1 Launch of Bukedi Strategic Plan for Wealth Creation

This strategic plan was launched by H.E. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on the 22nd August 2024. This was during the gracing of the thanksgiving ceremony of the Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation – Office of the President, Hon. Dr. Monica Musenero Masanza at Petete Primary School, Butebo District. The President affirmed the launch by signing on the memorial strategic plan symbol witnessed by the Vice President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Jessica Rose Alupo and Hon. Dr. Monica Musenero Masanza.

4.2 Establishment and Operationalization of BUDECO

4.2.1 Establishment

The Bukedi Development Consortium Limited (BUDECO) was established as the main implementing body for the Bukedi Sub-Region Strategic Plan (2024–2040). Formed under the guidance of the Science, Technology and Innovation - Office of the President (STI-OP) through its Productivity Acceleration Bureau, BUDECO is governed by a Board composed of members from Bukedi Subregion with H.E. President Yoweri Museveni as the Patron. The consortium

coordinates, monitors, and delivers development initiatives across the sub-region; its mandate includes implementing the strategic plan, mobilizing resources from government, private sector, and development partners, and ensuring effective collaboration among stakeholders.

Vision: *A united and prosperous Bukedi with an average household income of UGX 30 million by 2040 per year.*

Mission: *To empower the people of Bukedi to achieve a socio-economic leap through unity, hard work, science, technology, and innovation, based on scientifically prioritized value chains.*

4.2.2 Operationalization

BUDECO's success depends on unified implementation of its strategic plan and clear communication among stakeholders. The 2025-2029 period was identified as a critical window to industrialize agriculture and establish factories through district specialization. Consequently, BUDECO has established an official web-platform (<https://budeco.go.ug/>) and several social media platforms to support the dissemination and coordination of information. BUDECO is run by a total of 10 staff members who have voluntarily taken up the role of running day to day activities of the secretariat since its inception. The secretariat offices are housed at the District Agricultural Training and Information Centre (DATIC) in Iki-Iki Town Council, Budaka district. BUDECO is partnering with NONDA and National Coffee Research Institute (NACORI) to produce high quality seedlings.



Figure 1 Stakeholder discussion at DATIC in Iki-Iki town Council

5. BUDECO MILESTONES

5.1 Online Community Meetings

BUDECO has held over 30 online meetings with key stakeholders from the region who include Political, technical, religious and cultural leaders to discuss the implementation, progress and emerging priorities under the *Bukedi Sub-Region Strategic Plan for Accelerated Wealth Creation (2024–2040)*. A total of about 1500 people have been reached through this activity.

5.2. Farmers' Engagements

Extensive farmer engagements across the Sub-region aimed at strengthening collaboration with local farmers, collecting on-ground data, and promoting awareness of the region's prioritized value chains have been conducted and still ongoing.

5.3 Profiling of Model farmers

A total of eight model farmers were profiled from different districts, each demonstrating best practices in farm management, resource utilization, and enterprise diversification.



Figure 2 Profiling of Model farmers

5.4 Strategic Plan Dissemination through Bukedi Breakfast Meetings

Bukedi breakfast meetings were organized to disseminate the Bukedi Strategic Plan. The meeting constituted STI-OP representatives, local leaders, Academia, business professionals and farmers. Additionally, weekly online community development meetings have brought together about a thousand people with expertise in the prioritised value chains, including practicing farmers, agro input suppliers, relevant private sector and associated Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).



Figure 3 Shows some of the members who attended the breakfast meeting at Imperial Hotel sharing a group photo moment



Figure 4 Showing strategic Plan Dissemination through Bukedi Breakfast Meetings

5.5 Seed Multiplication and Distribution Network

The BUDECO Secretariat in collaboration with key stakeholders, established a coffee and cocoa seedling multiplication site at DATIC in Iki-Iki, Budaka district. The facility serves as a central hub for private large-scale seedling production and distribution, farmer technical support across the Subregion. Over 20,000 coffee seedlings and 6,000 Cocoa seedlings have so far been sold to farmers in the subregion. Additionally, 60,000 coffee seedlings were supplied to the Tieng- Adhola Development Association in partnership with MAAIF. Bukedi seed multiplication and distribution centre for cocoa and coffee.



Figure 5 showing farmers receiving seedlings at DATIC seed Multiplication and Distribution hub

5.6. BUDECO extension and technical support outreaches

On top of the mass farmers engagements, BUDECO team conducts farmers visits daily. This is intended to provide technical guidance on planting, weeding, irrigating, among others. Over 587 farms have been supported through this activity. These are mainly coffee and cocoa farms. A few poultry and fish farms have been visited due to the demand.

5.7. The Fish Farming in swamps demonstration and support centre at Limoto



Figure 6 Limoto Fish Pond Project

The president has immensely contributed to the development of the fish value chain in Bukedi which is one of the value chains prioritized by the strategic plan by expanding the Limoto Fish Farm and establishing a technical team to offer both equipment and technical support to the Bukedi communities. Bukedi fish farmers can now get support in constructing earthen ponds supported by State house at Limoto farm.

5.8. The Presidential Zonal Industrial Skilling hub in Kibuku District



The President through the Youth and Women skilling program established the Bukedi Zonal Industrial Skilling Hub to equip Bukedi youth and women with production skills especially those

adding value to the priority value chains and services to support the livelihoods of Bukedi. This will support the strategic plan by introducing agriculture production and value addition skills for the youth especially in the priority value chains.

5.9. Other Government Programs

The Government has designed a number of programs that support the Bukedi Strategic Plan for Accelerated Wealth Creation. These include PDM, Emayooga, Youth livelihood among others. These programs have supported the households with start up capital for the priority enterprises and infrastructure.

6. SURVEY OF THE IMPACT OF PRIORITIZED VALUE CHAINS

A survey was done in October 2025 to assess the commodities prioritized in the Bukedi Strategic plan.

6.1 Methodology

6.1.1 Method of data collection

A field survey of commodity value chains in the subregion was undertaken in October 2025. The seven districts of Bukedi subregion were surveyed to establish the status of awareness of farmers about the Bukedi Strategic plan and the status of adoption of the prioritized commodities.

6.1.2 Tool used

A questionnaire was used to collect data from the farmers in the following aspects:

- (i) Awareness of the Bukedi Strategic Plan 2024 - 2040
- (ii) The types and varieties of commodities grown
- (iii) Acreage used for commodities grown
- (iv) Year of establishment of the farm
- (iv) Quantities of commodities per season
- (v) Level of value addition of commodities
- (vi) Markets where farmers sell their produce
- (vii) Challenges experienced by the farmers

6.1.3 Sampling of Respondents

Simple random sampling technique was used to select respondents who participated in the survey.

6.2 Survey Outcomes/Findings

6.2.1 Level of Awareness about the Bukedi Strategic Plan

Awareness of the Bukedi Strategic Plan has been growing at a steady pace, with 38.8% of respondents reporting knowledge of the plan one year after its launch. This indicates a moderate but positive trend in the dissemination of information across the region. Among those who were aware of the plan, Kibuku and Budaka districts recorded the highest levels of awareness, each accounting for 25% of informed respondents. Butaleja District followed with 19%, while Butebo registered 16%. Awareness levels were comparatively lower in Pallisa (7%), Busia (5%), and Tororo (3%). These figures suggest that awareness is not evenly distributed, with some districts showing stronger engagement with the strategic plan than others.

Respondents reported learning about the Bukedi Strategic Plan through various communication channels. The most common source was **media platforms**, cited by **31.1%** of respondents, followed by **BUDECO outreaches (21.7%)**, **local leaders (16%)**, and **online meetings (13.2%)**. Other sources included **friends (9.4%)**, the **strategic plan launch (8%)**, and **workshops (0.9%)**.

While current communication and outreach efforts have made notable progress, the findings suggest that **further awareness and**

sensitization initiatives are needed to reach a broader audience, particularly in districts with lower levels of familiarity. Strengthening community-level engagement, expanding media coverage, and leveraging local leadership structures could enhance the visibility and understanding of the Bukedi Strategic Plan across the subregion.

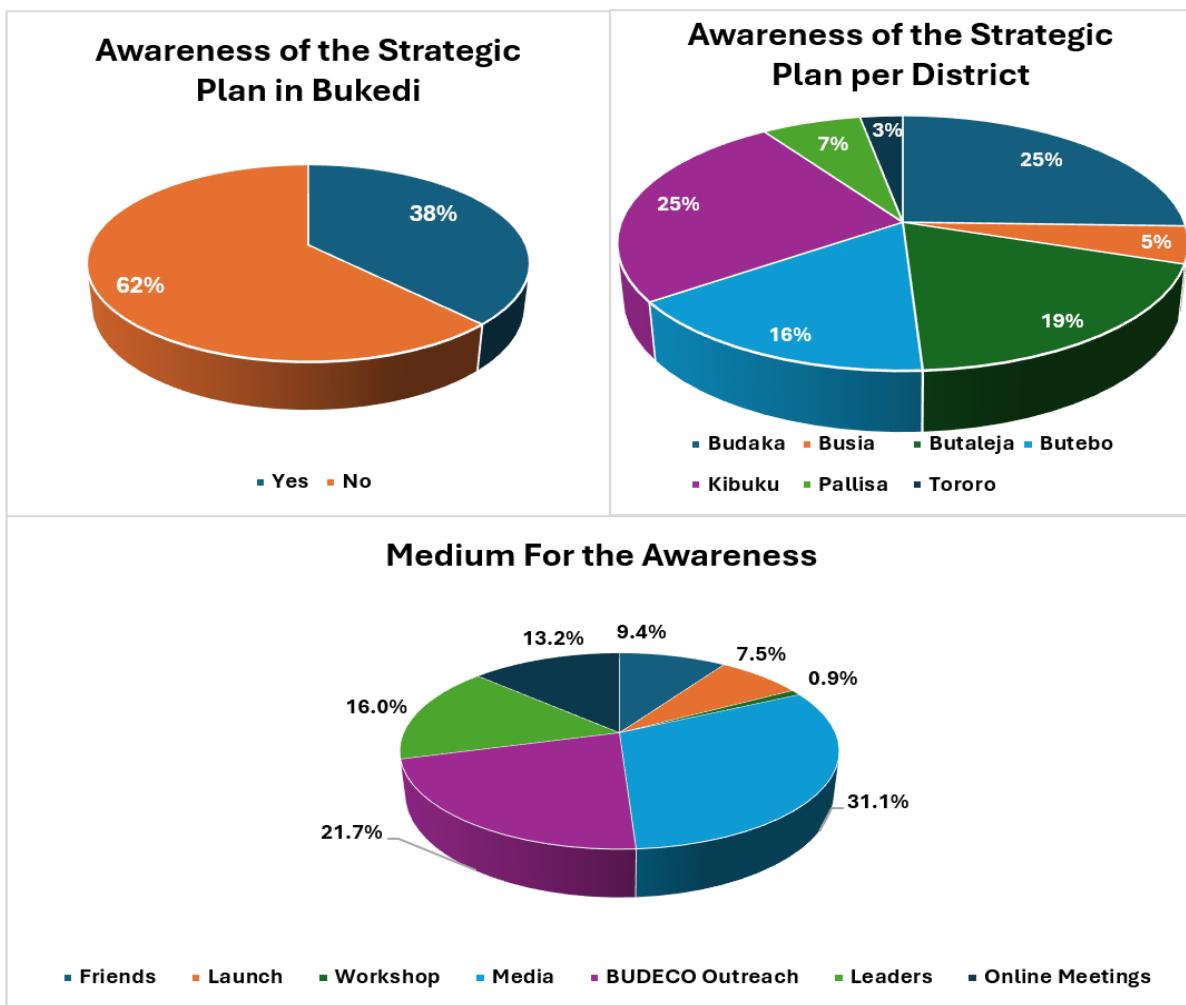


Figure 7 provides a representative visual summary of the awareness levels and communication channels about the Bukedi strategic plan.

6.2.2 Household engagement in prioritized value chains

The extent of household participation in the four prioritized value chains coffee, cocoa, poultry, and fish in the surveyed districts were analysed to establish the impact of the strategic plan in the one year of operation.

(a) Coffee Farming

Household participation in coffee production was highest in **Tororo District**, with **22% households** engaged in the value chain. **Budaka District** followed with **17% households**, while **Busia** and **Butebo** each recorded **14% households**. Both **Kibuku** and **Butaleja** districts had **11% households**, and **Pallisa District** registered the lowest number with **10% households**. This distribution indicates that Tororo and Budaka are the leading areas for coffee farming within the surveyed region.

(b) Cocoa Farming

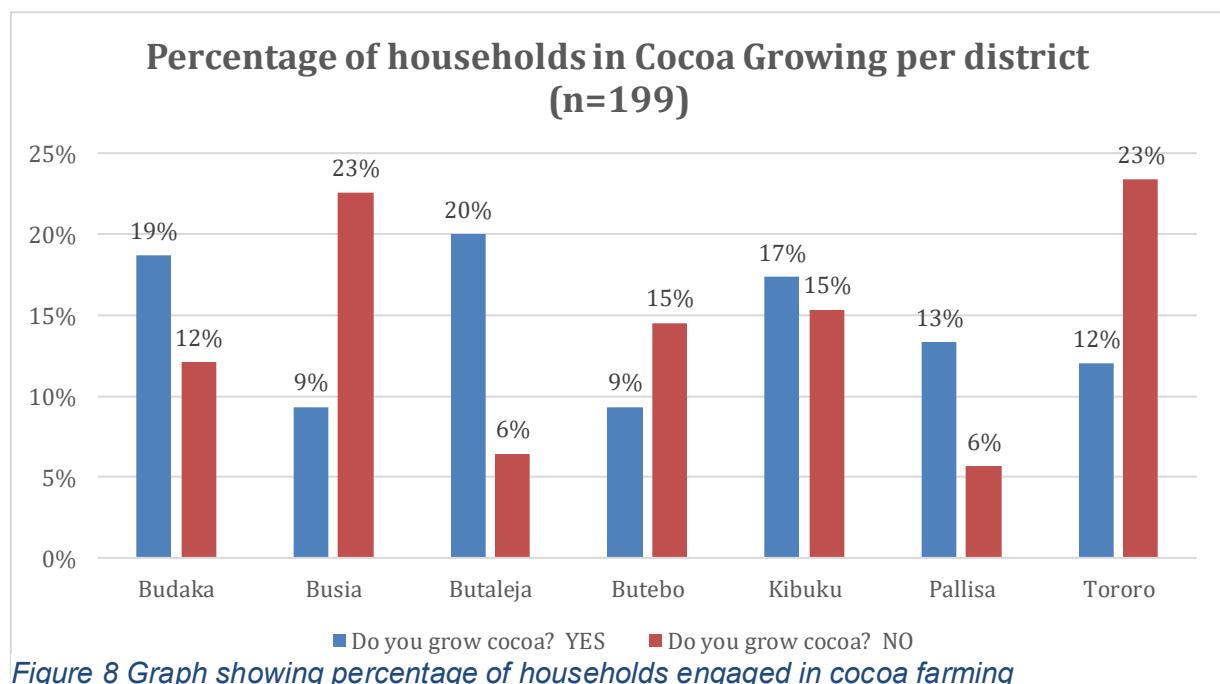
Cocoa farming was most prominent in **Butaleja District**, which reported **20% participating households**. **Budaka** followed closely with **19%**, while **Kibuku** recorded **17%**. **Pallisa** accounted for **13% cocoa farmers**, **Tororo** had **12%**, lastly **Busia and Butebo** registered the least with **9%**. The high participation in Butaleja and Budaka suggests favorable conditions and established market linkages for cocoa production in these areas.

(c) Poultry Farming

Engagement in poultry production was highest in **Busia District**, with **22 households** actively involved. This was followed by **Tororo** with **18**, and both **Butaleja** and **Kibuku** with **16** each. **Budaka** and **Butebo** districts each recorded **13 poultry farmers**, while **Pallisa** had the fewest at **11**. Poultry farming appears to be more evenly distributed across the districts compared to other value chains.

(d) Fish Farming

Participation in fish farming was led by Butaleja with 13%, followed by Kibuku with 10%, Tororo followed closely with 7%, while Budaka, Butebo and Pallisa registered 3%, 3% and 6% respectively. These figures suggest that fish farming is an emerging enterprise in the region, particularly in districts with suitable aquatic resources such as Tororo and Busia.



Percentage of Coffee Growing Households per district (n=210)

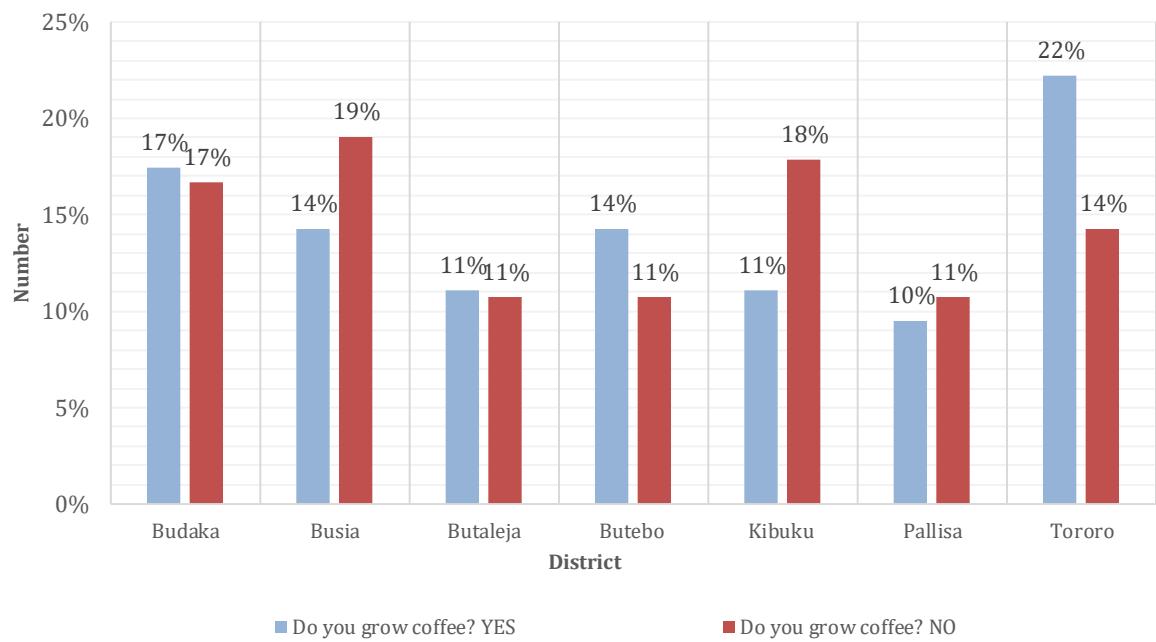


Figure 10 Graph showing percentage of households engaged in coffee farming

Percentage of households in Poultry Farming per district (n=197)

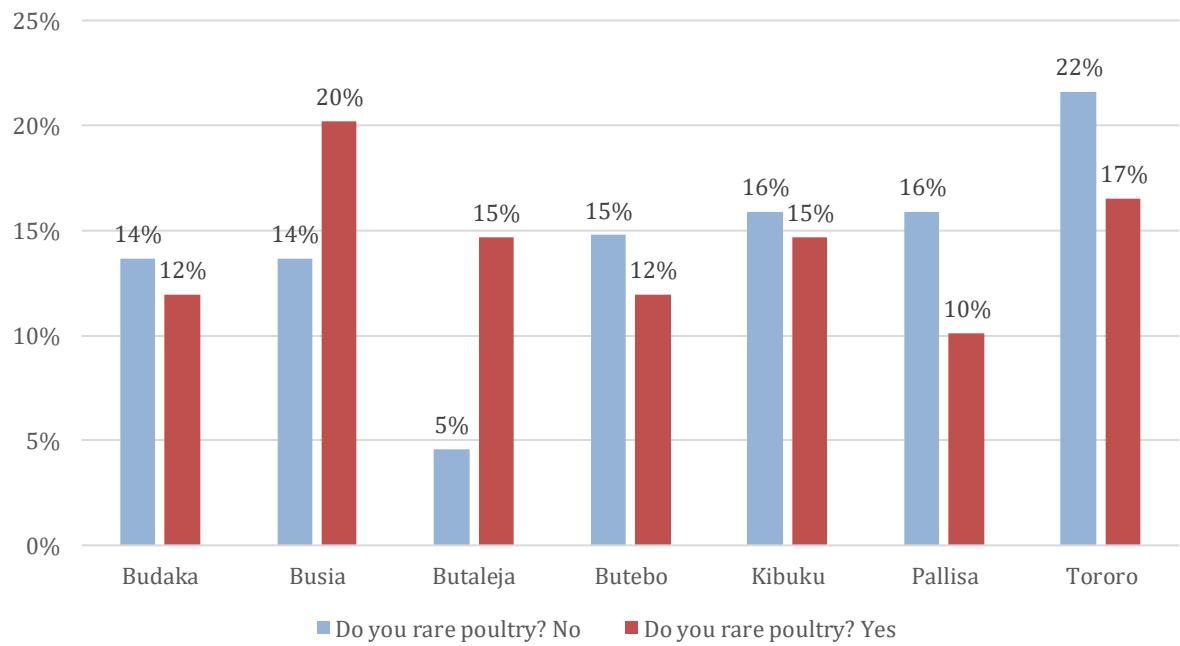


Figure 9 Graph showing percentage of households engaged in poultry farming

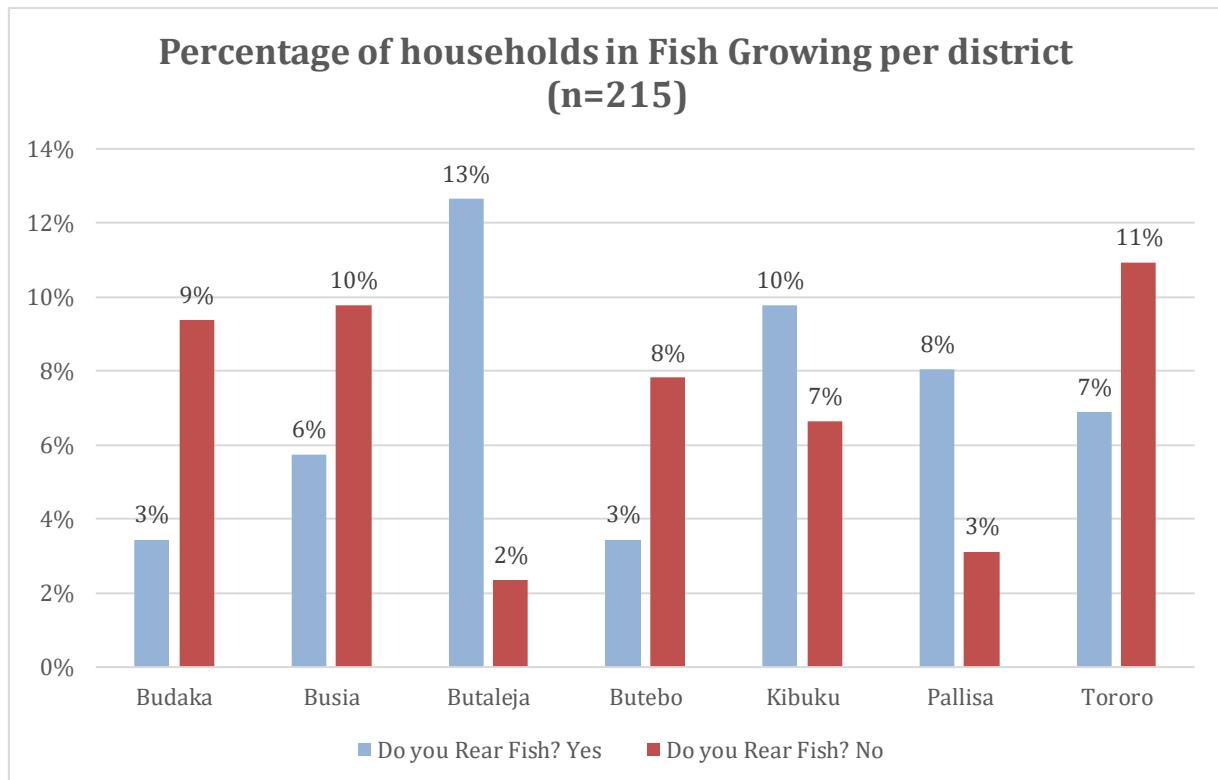


Figure 11 Graph showing percentage of households engaged in fish farming

Overall, **Tororo District** demonstrated the highest engagement across multiple value chains, indicating its strong agricultural diversification and active participation in both crop and livestock enterprises. **Busia District** also featured prominently in all four value chains, reflecting a dynamic farming community. The relatively lower participation in **Pallisa** and **Butaleja** may point to limited resource availability or a focus on non-priority value chains. The data highlights variations in engagement levels, reflecting the differing agricultural strengths and livelihood priorities of each district.

6.2.3 Acreage committed to the prioritized value chains

From the graph, it is evident that coffee remains the leading crop in acreage commitment, with most farmers allocating larger portions of their land to coffee compared to cocoa. This trend aligns



Figure 12 shows variations in Engagement levels of Agriculture.

with national priorities that promote coffee as a key export commodity. However, cocoa acreage is equally high, suggesting rising awareness of its profitability and resilience in changing market conditions.

Figure 14 show variations in awareness and participation across districts, with some regions demonstrating a stronger response to sensitization campaigns where Tororo registered the highest acres with 587 for coffee and 587 for cocoa, followed by Busia with 480 acres for coffee and 525 acres for cocoa, followed by Kibuku with 330 acres for coffee and 321 acres for cocoa, and lastly Budaka with 242 acres for coffee and 274 acres for cocoa.

On the other hand, areas with limited response demonstrate a lower response to sensitization campaigns where Butaleje registered the highest acres with 167 for coffee and 278 for cocoa, followed by Butebo with 136 for coffee and 148 for cocoa and Pallisa had the least with, 143 for coffee and 114 for cocoa emphasizing the need for targeted awareness interventions.

The engagement levels across the districts indicates growing participation in the BUDECO-led system for registering acreage devoted to coffee and cocoa. The data illustrates how the initiative is fostering increased commitment to priority value chains, particularly among farmers who have embraced the structured approach to land registration.

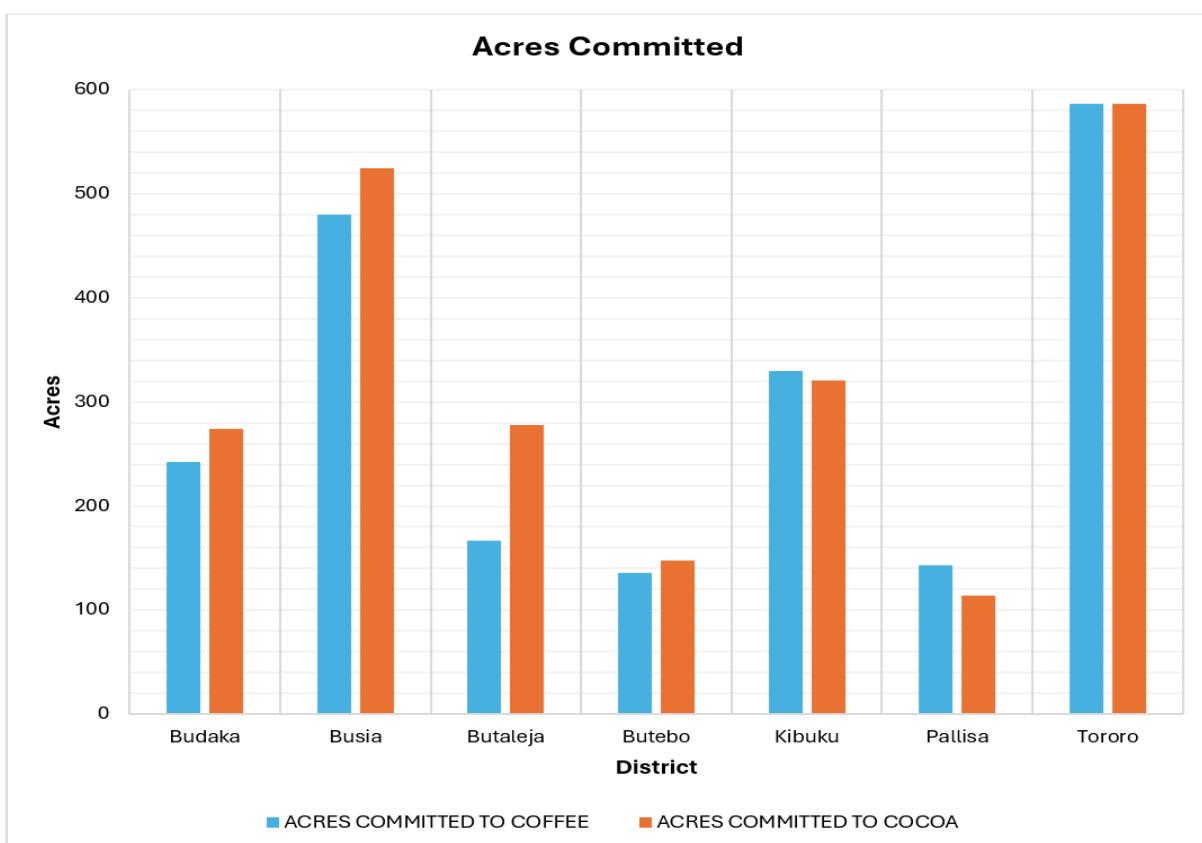


Figure 13 provides a summary of acres committed to coffee and cocoa value chains in the seven districts

Overall, the data reflect **positive momentum toward structured agricultural engagement**. The upward trajectory in both awareness and land registration demonstrates that the BUDECO system is achieving its intended outcomes—enhancing traceability, planning, and productivity within the coffee and cocoa value chains. Continued community sensitization and digital recordkeeping will further strengthen participation and ensure equitable benefits across districts.

6.2.4 Average number of acres, pens and ponds per household

The sampled cumulative acreage devoted to Bukedi sub-region's priority agro value chains, reveals a consistent upward trajectory in land utilization. These signals deepening programmatic influence on agricultural modernization, productivity gains, and enhanced farmer engagement across the sub-region. The figure 15, 16, 17 and 18 provide a visual summary of the acreage covered by the two crop value chains and number of ponds in fish and number of poultry pens in the Bukedi region.

- (a) **Acreage of Cocoa per household:** Busia district leads with 2.5 acres, followed by Budaka (2.4 acres), Tororo (2.0 acres) Kibuku (2.0 acres), Butebo (1.9 acres), Butaleja (1.8 acres), Pallisa (1.7 acres).
- (b) **Acreage of Coffee per household:** Tororo district leads with 2.2 acres, followed by Pallisa (1.5 acres), Budaka (1.3 acres), Butebo (1.1 acres), Busia (1.1 acres), Butaleja (0.8 acres), Kibuku (0.7 acres).
- (c) **Poultry Pens per household:** Budaka and Busia records the highest number with 1.4, followed by Tororo (1.1), Pallisa (1.0), Butebo (0.8), Butaleja (0.8), and Kibuku (0.5).

(d) **Fish Ponds per household:** Butaleja dominates with 2.68, followed by Pallisa (2.55), Kibuku (0.26), Butebo (0.12), Busia (0.09), Tororo (0.03), and Budaka (0.00).

These patterns reveal distinct regional strengths: coffee and poultry thrive in northern and western districts, while cocoa and fish farming show stronger uptake in central and southern areas. The results affirm the strategic plan's alignment with local potential and highlight clear opportunities for targeted intervention—particularly to boost fish farming in Budaka and expand cocoa in Butebo through enhanced extension services, input access, and infrastructure development.

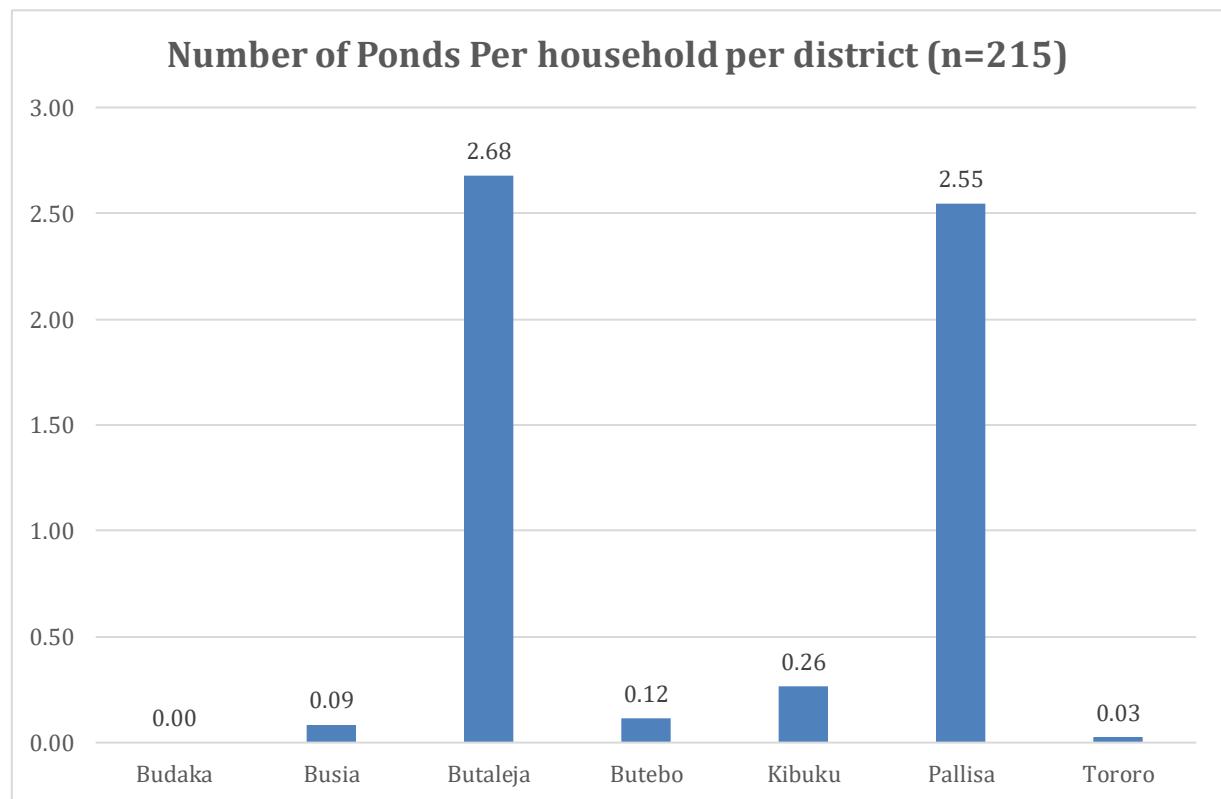


Figure 14 Graph showing number of fish ponds per household per district

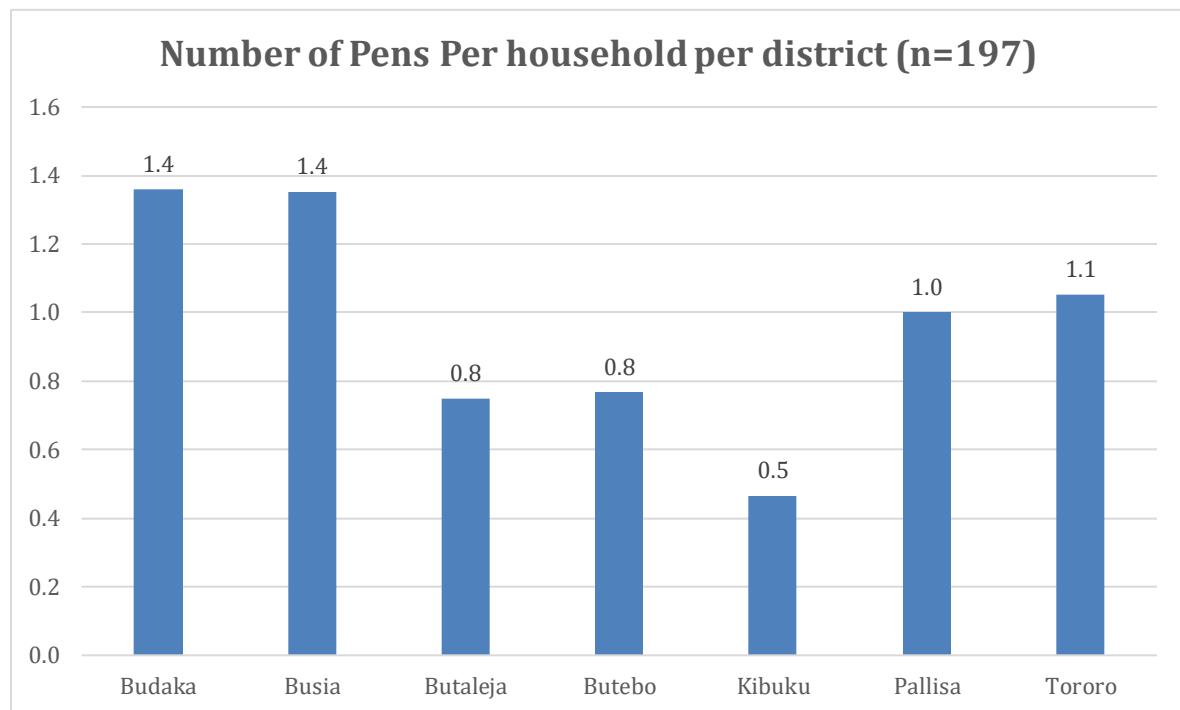


Figure 16 Graph showing number of poultry pens per household per district

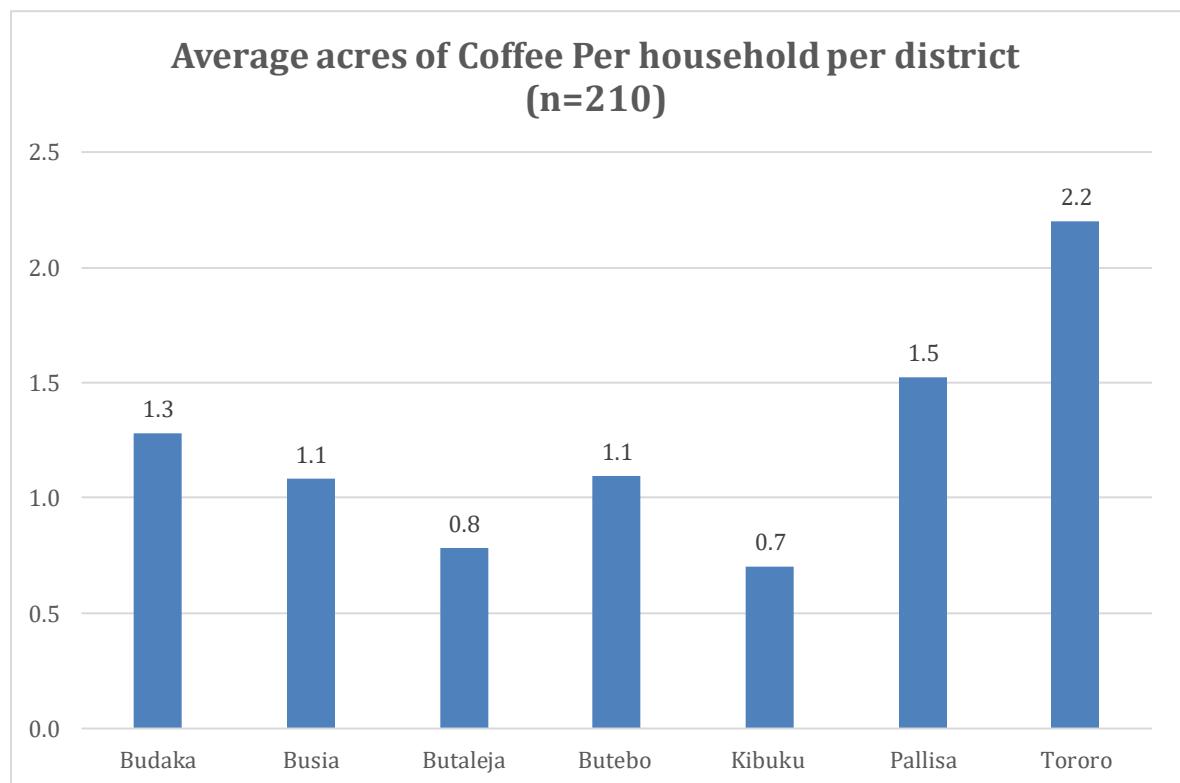


Figure 15 Graph showing number of Average coffee acres per household per district

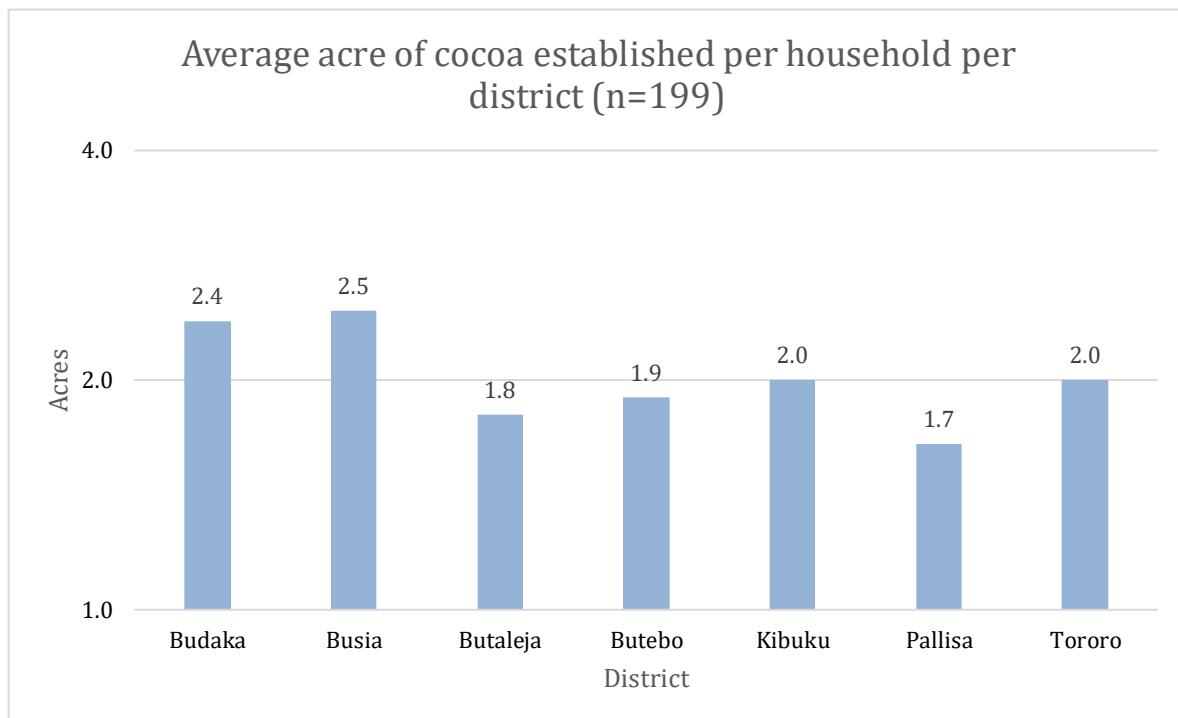


Figure 17 Graph showing number of Average coffee acres per household per district

6.2.5 Year of establishment of the sampled value chains

This shows the relationship between the number of enterprises in existence before and the number of enterprises established after the launch of the strategic plan to determine the impact of the plan.

(e) Coffee: The distribution of the sampled value chains by year of establishment shows that the majority of enterprises were founded before 2024, with a noticeable rise after 2024 having Budaka leading with 36%, followed by Pallisa with 33% each, then Butebo at 22%, Kibuku at 21%, Tororo at 11%, Busia at 11% and lastly Butaleja with 0%.

(f) Cocoa: The distribution of the sampled value chains by year of establishment shows that the majority of enterprises were founded after 2024 having Butebo and Kibuku leading with

95%, followed by Budaka at 86%, Busia at 71%, Pallisa at 70%, Tororo at 67% and lastly Butaleja at 13%.

(g) **Poultry:** The distribution of the sampled value chains by year of establishment shows that the majority of enterprises were founded before 2024, with a noticeable rise after 2024 having Tororo leading at 33%, followed by Pallisa at 27%, Kibuku at 25%, Butebo and Budaka at 23%, and lastly Butaleja at 13%.

(h) **Fish:** The distribution of the sampled value chains by year of establishment shows that the majority of enterprises were founded before 2024, with a noticeable rise after 2024 having Butebo leading at 58%, followed by Pallisa at 21%, Budaka at 9%, Kibuku at 7%, Tororo at 6%, Busia and Butaleja at 0%.

This reflects growing interest and investment in agricultural value chains, likely influenced by targeted sensitization

Percentage of Poultry Farms Established Before and After the Strategic Plan Launch (n=109)

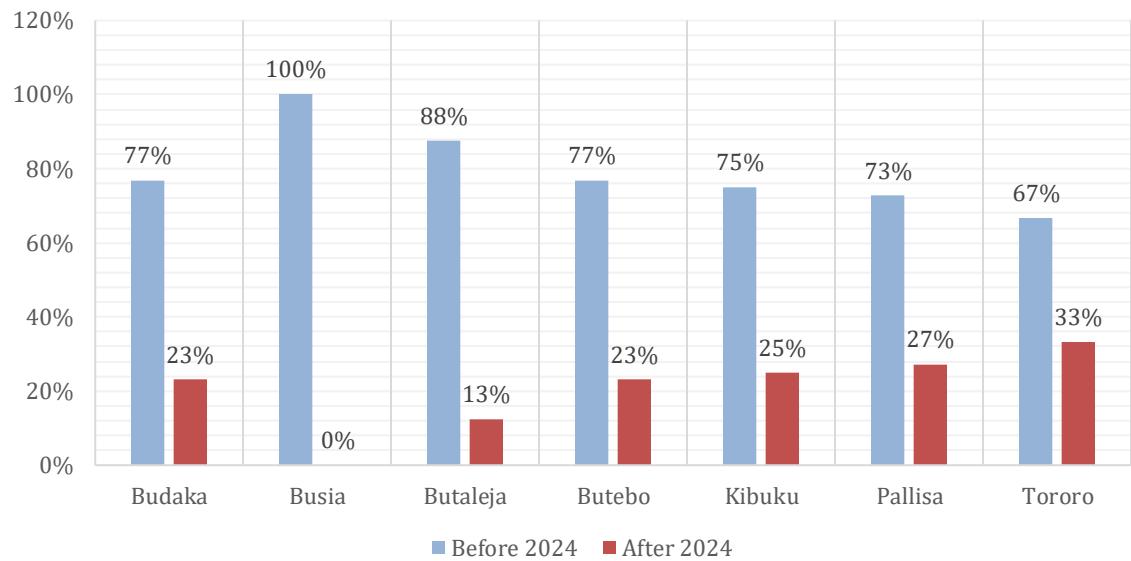


Figure 19 Graph showing household poultry farms established per district

Percentage of Fish Farms Established Before and After the Strategic Plan Launch (n=87)

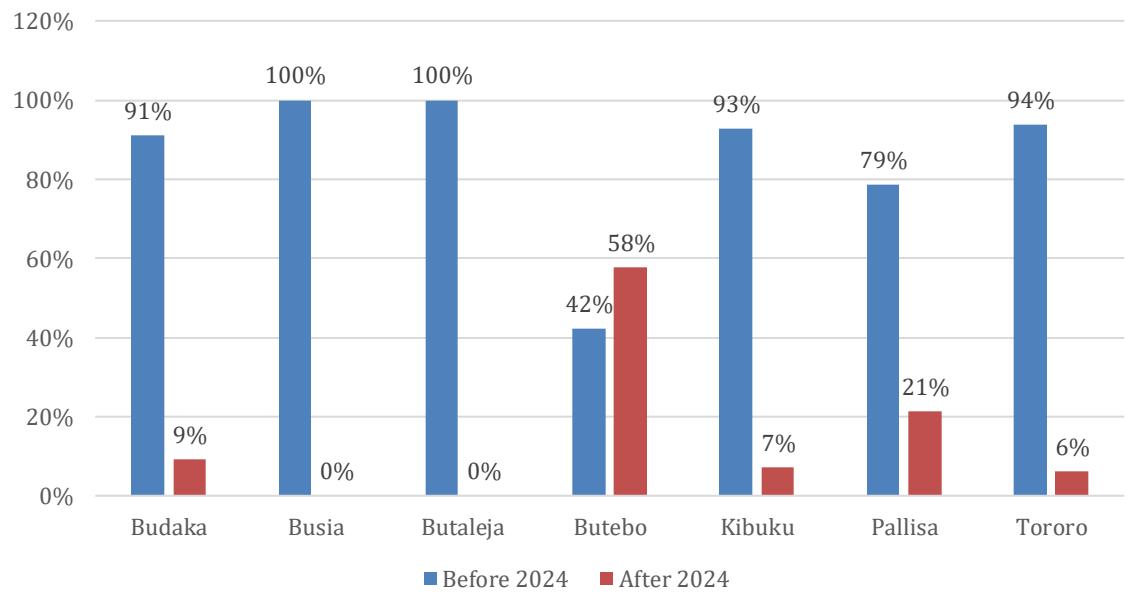


Figure 18 Graph showing household fish farms established per district

Percentage of Cocoa Farms Established Before and After the Strategic Plan Launch (n=95)

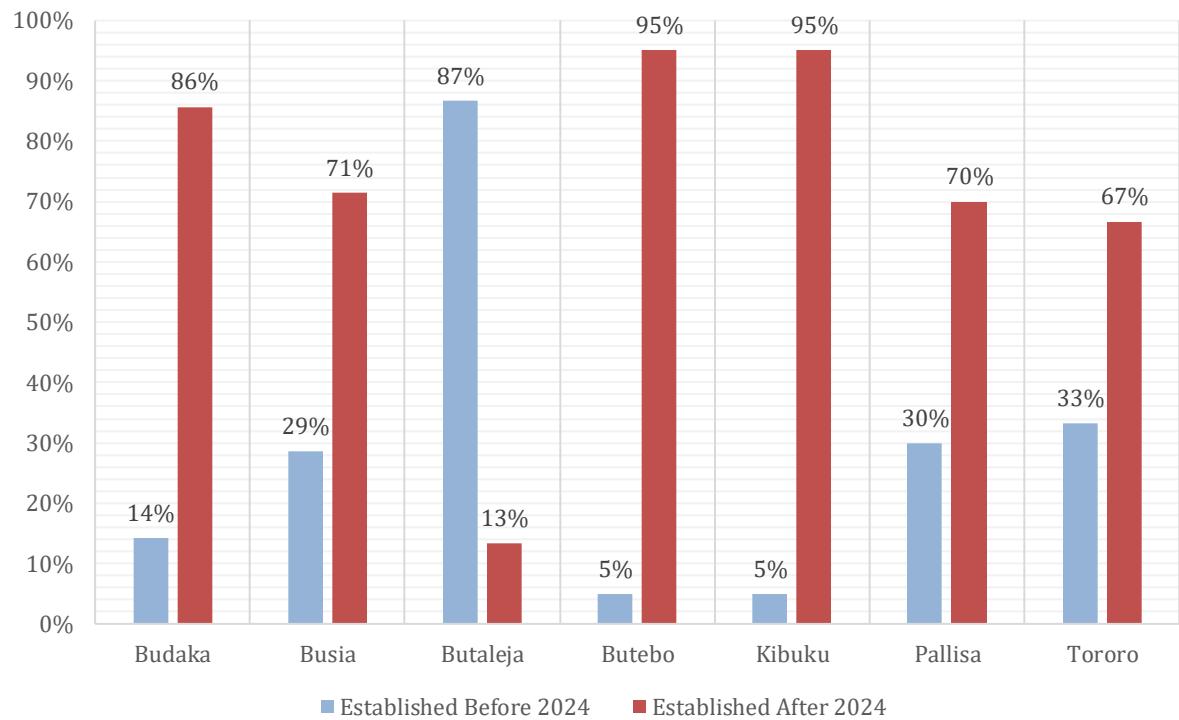


Figure 21 Graph showing household Cocoa farms established per district

Percentage of Coffee Farms Established Before and After the Strategic Plan Launch (n=126)

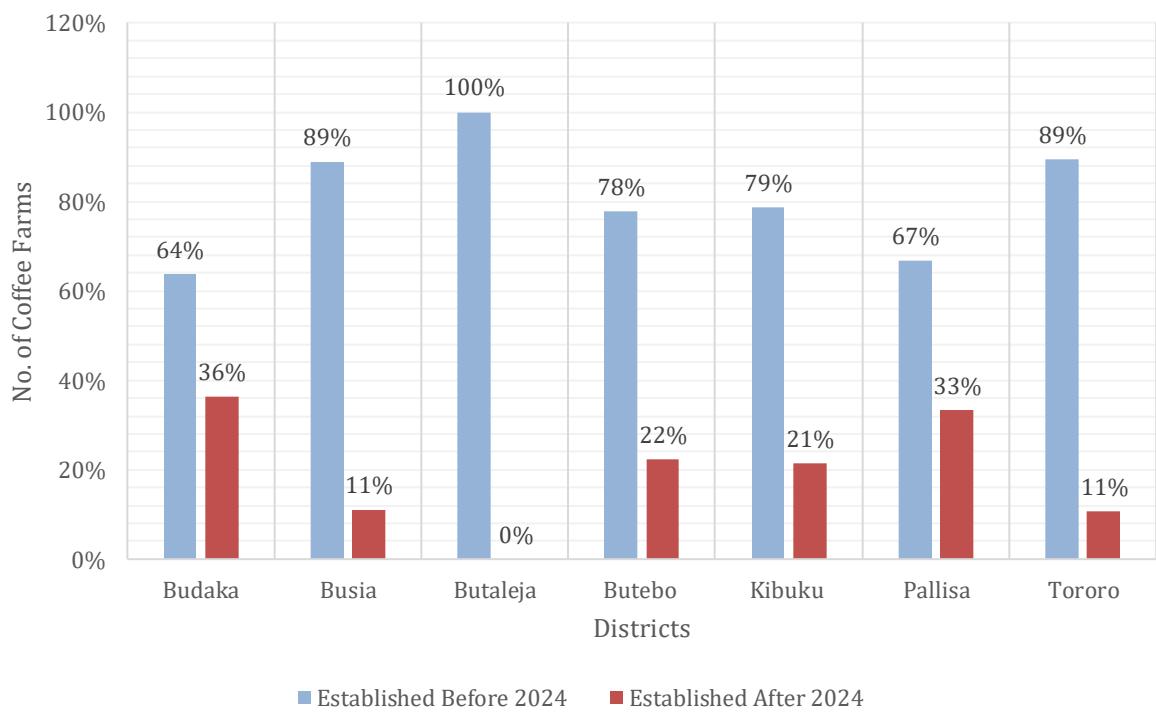


Figure 20 Graph showing household Coffee farms established per district

7.0 PRIORITIES FOR SECOND YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN (2025-2026)

As the Bukedi Sub-region Strategic Plan enters its second year (2025–2026) within Phase 1 (2024–2030), priorities center on consolidating foundational gains through intensified mobilization, skill-building, and resource deployment to propel the region toward commercial agriculture and innovation-led growth.

7.1 Planned Activities and Budget

The second year (2025-2026) of the Bukedi Sub-region Strategic Plan (2024–2040) implementation, aligned with the short-term Phase 1 (2024–2030), emphasizes foundational mobilization and capacity-building to accelerate wealth creation through prioritized value chains like coffee, cocoa, and poultry. The key activities to be undertaken include:

- (i) expanding district-level sensitization meetings such as those conducted in Busia (March 2025) and Budaka (April 2025) to engage farmers, leaders, and stakeholders in adopting the plan's science-driven blueprint; scaling up subsidized seedling multiplication and distribution for coffee and cocoa, targeting at least 10,000 acres per district via centers like the DATIC facility in Iki-Iki; conducting mass farmer training, extension worker capacity building, and virtual agronomy sessions (e.g., Zoom discussions in May and September 2025 with experts from Uganda Coffee Development Authority); developing a database of Bukedi elites for human capital leveraging; fostering land aggregation for modern farms (aiming for one per parish); establishing market linkages and

finance access through partnerships; and initiating basic infrastructure upgrades like road networks and transport hubs. These efforts build on first-year launches to reduce subsistence farming and promote regenerative practices across Tororo, Busia, Pallisa, Kibuku, Butaleja, Butebo, and Budaka.

(ii) Access to seedlings and Seed stock

The sub-region through BUDECO and other partners will focus on the production and distribution of seedlings and other seed stock. To achieve the 10,000 acres per district target, a total of 45,000,000 seedlings are needed at a survival rate of 70%.

8.0. BUDGET

Funding for second-year activities falls under Phase 1's total allocation of UGX 177 billion (USD 46.5 million), with targeted disbursements including UGX 15 billion for cocoa and coffee seedling distribution, UGX 15 billion for mass farmer training, UGX 7.5 billion for training of trainers and mobilization/sensitization, UGX 5 billion for extension worker training, and UGX 45 billion for road network upgrades. Additional resources support poultry inputs (UGX 20 billion) and monitoring frameworks (UGX 5 billion). Sources encompass government initiatives like the Parish Development Model (providing over UGX 125 billion cumulatively for inputs), development partners (e.g., NGOs and international aid), private sector investments, public-private partnerships, community savings groups, and innovative financing such as carbon credit trading. BUDECO coordinates allocations under the

Science, Technology and Innovation Office of the President (STI-OP) oversight, with quarterly reviews ensuring transparency and adaptive spending.

Implementation Budget for Second Year of Strategic Plan 2025-2026				
SN	Year two Planned Activity	Expected Output	Expected Outcome	Budget
01	Seedling multiplication and distribution	70,000 acres established	34,650,000 Kgs of green bean coffee 47,250,000Kgs of fermented cocoa beans	Ugx 45,000,000,000
02	Mobilisation and sensitization activities	Over 400,000 households mobilised	280,000 households engaged in the prioritized value chains	Ugx 5,000,000,000
Total				Ugx 50,000,000,000

Table 1 Implementation Budget for Second Year of Strategic Plan 2025-2026

9.0. ACHIEVEMENTS OF SECOND YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION (AUGUST 2025-AUGUST 2026) – AS OF 12TH NOV. 2025

9.1. Bukedi Leaders report dissemination and planning meeting

BUDECO in partnership with the Productivity Acceleration Bureau of the Science, Technology and Innovation - Office of the President held a Bukedi Leaders Report Dissemination and Planning Meeting on the 5th of November 2025. The meeting was attended by over 300 leaders including the CAOs, RDCs, LC Vs, technical departments leaders, faith leaders, development partners and other strategic leaders.

In addition to getting the progress report, the STI-OP presented the productivity status report of Bukedi Sub region as bench mark for prioritizing budget items into the FY2026/27 of the local government. The leaders were facilitated to identify activities of the strategic plan which they can contribute to.

Generally, all leaders agreed that the sub region has embraced the strategic plan and that each entity or partner should integrate the strategic plan activities in their annual plans to enable complementary efforts. Prioritized were the sensitization and training of communities on the priority enterprises of the prioritized value chains.



Figure 22 Bukedi leaders and development partners discussing the integration of strategic plan activities into their annual 2026-27 plan

9.2. Ghetto Youth Engagements

In November 2025, one hundred (100) Butebo Ghetto youth were brought together at Wash & Wills Hotel in Mbale town for intensive engagements aimed at empowering them through mindset transformation and practical skills development. The young people from various communities were made to reflect on their individual strengths, passions, and talents, and identify how these can be harnessed into productive and sustainable livelihood.

9.2.1 Mindset Transformation

Participants during the session were reminded to reflect on their past, present and the picture of their future. Most of the people were using flip chart papers and markers to illustrate what they wanted to be and the drawings were then placed on the wall. All of the participants were asked to describe their work, putting more emphasis on what they had struggled with before and what they wanted to accomplish in the future, which included such roles as teaching, music, family life, and entrepreneurship etc.

After these personal deliberations, the keynote speakers gave inspirational stories and one of the presenters told a remarkable story of how he started small in the ghetto and is now holding a high rank in a well-respected position he occupies. He also highlighted the possibility of change, using the examples of people who have managed to overcome circumstances and become the beacons of hope to the youth. These were stories that highlighted the fact that in spite of what one has been through before, change and progress can still be achieved with perseverance. Moreover, he

warned not to fall into poverty and false promises, as he requested the audience to ignore manipulation from other people, and violence. The focus was made on appreciating one's origins and aim to contribute to positive change, and the message of empowerment and resilience was promoted.



Figure 23 Showing participants attentive to the key note speakers during the inspiration session



Figure 24 Depicting one of the youths explaining his past, present and future

9.2.2. Enterprise Identification and Analysis (Kibalo)

The youth were guided to identify enterprises of their interest and grouped themselves according to the enterprise of choice.

They were then facilitated to identify the required inputs to implement their selected enterprises, this involved the use of the Kibalo tool to compute the total cost of inputs and the prospective income for the first one year of operation to determine whether the business is profitable or not.



Figure 25 showing a team doing kibalo for their selected enterprise



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SUMMARY OF 'KIBALO' FOR SUPPORTING DIFFERENT ENTERPRISES FOR YOUTH: THE CASE OF BUTEBO DISTRICT IN BUKEDI SUB-REGION RANKED FROM MOST PROFITABLE TO LEAST PROFITABLE

ENTERPRISE ANALYSIS

Rank	Enterprise Name	Input Cost / Year (Ugx)	Profit / Year (Ugx)	Profit / Million Invested (Ugx)
1	SALOON	33,035,333	12,882,333	389,956
2	PESTICIDE	178,990,000	66,505,000	371,557
3	MECHANIC	251,970,000	79,835,000	316,843
4	MUSIC	1,065,208,571	292,395,714	274,496
5	RICE HUSK-TRADERS	2,196,000,000	477,000,000	217,213
6	POULTRY TRADERS-	946,200,000	186,900,000	197,527
7	DRIVING	2,854,902,000	522,549,000	183,036
8	TOMATOES	11,360,000	1,820,000	160,211
9	CONSTRUCTION	547,324,000	86,338,000	157,746
10	G-NUT TRADERS	254,394,000	37,803,000	148,600
11	DIARY	9,670,000	1,330,000	137,539
12	WELDING	1,002,056,000	128,972,000	128,707
13	STATIONERY SHOP	101,956,895	-5,906,448	-57,931

NOTE: The calculations presented in this summary are an average of results from several groups of youth from **Butebo** District in Bukedi Sub Region. The results are a net profit with the assumption that all inputs into the primary production are paid including labor and land.

The characteristic column here is the Profit/Million investment. This column presents the net profit an enterprise earns for every One million, e.g. PDM loan invested in a



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particular enterprise. This status can change from region to region. The ranking can change depending on the enterprise being analyzed.

10.0. COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION ENGAGEMENTS

Over 200 community member including youth and women were on the 12th November 2025, at the 3 Days Hotel, in Butebo guided to identify enterprises of their interest and grouped themselves according to the enterprise of choice.

They were then facilitated to identify the required inputs to implement their selected enterprises, this involved the use of the Kibalo tool to compute the total cost of inputs and the prospective income for the first one year of operation to determine whether the business is profitable or not.

The key enterprises subjected to kibalo included coffee farm, saloon, trading, mechanics, metal fabrication



Figure 26 The Butebo Community Members in groups of enterprises for kibalo at 3 days Hotel

11.0. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

Bukedi sub region request for the following support;

a) Fulfilment of the annual UGX 50 billion Presidential Pledge towards implementation of Bukedi strategic plan 2024-2040

While meeting the leaders from all the 7 districts of Bukedi at Boma grounds in Butaleja, during the presidential PDM tour, H.E. The President pledged UGX 50 billion annually for 15 years to support the region's transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture. This pledge is directed towards scaling the priority value chains of cocoa, coffee, and poultry, which offer the highest potential to raise household incomes to at least UGX 30 million per year by 2040.

b) The need for coffee and cocoa seedlings

The transition of households in Bukedi from subsistence to commercial farming depends on the timely availability of quality cocoa and coffee seedlings. One acre of cocoa can generate up to UGX 67 million annually, while one acre of coffee can yield about UGX 9 million, making these crops the most profitable and sustainable for the region.

As perennial crops, cocoa and coffee take 2–3 years to mature, making early establishment critical for long-term household income. Phase 1 will therefore require a reliable supply of seedlings to support adoption at the household level.

c) The need for earth moving equipment for earthen fish ponds establishment

There is a growing need for earth-moving equipment like excavators and bulldozers to help in constructing fish ponds across Bukedi. These machines make pond construction faster, cheaper in the long run, and ensure proper pond design for better water control and fish growth. Access to such equipment will help more farmers start and expand fish farming in the subregion.

d) The need for fish stock/fingerlings

Fish farmers in Bukedi need a steady supply of good-quality fingerlings to stock their ponds. The demand for species like Tilapia, Catfish, Nile Perch and Miracap has increased as more ponds are being built. Having local hatcheries and reliable suppliers will make it easier for farmers to get healthy fingerlings, increase fish production, and improve household incomes and food security.

12.0. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- a) Special thanks go to **His Excellency, Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni** and the NRM government for the love and support to Bukedi Sub region especially towards the wealth creation.
- b) The Hon. Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, office of the President, Dr. Monica Musenero Masanza for her passion towards the development of Bakedi
- c) The Bukedi Parliamentary Caucus which has greatly supported the dissemination and resource mobilization towards the implementation of the strategic plan.
- d) Also, appreciation goes to the Dei Biopharma Limited that has identified Bukedi Sub region as a key partner in pathogen economy and has always supported activities of the strategic plan such as breakfast meetings.
- e) NUCAFE for supporting activities of the strategic plan such as breakfast meetings.
- f) Grate Lakes Industrial Institute which has supported activities of the strategic plan implementation
- g) Country Side Innovations Limited which has supported activities of the strategic plan implementation
- h) Nonda Commodities Limited which has supported the seed multiplication and distribution efforts starting with the Ikiki center.
- i) National Coffee Resources Research Institute which has supported the seed multiplication and distribution efforts starting with the Ikiki center.

- j) Grate Lakes Coffee Limited which has supported the sub region to develop a profile of the Bukedi coffee and establish processing facilities in the sub region.
- k) Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries which has supported extension and input supply for the priority agro value chains.
- l) The Local Governments of the districts of Bukedi sub region which have immensity supported the planning, reviewing and implementation of the strategic plan activities.