



KASESE DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE RIVER MUBUKU FLOODING INCIDENT IMPACTING
VILLAGES IN KARUSANDARA SUB COUNTY AND WINDSTROM DAMGE IN KYARUMBA
TOWN COUNCIL AND SUB COUNTY

1st APRIL, 2026,

FINAL DRAFT UPDATED



Compiled by the District Disaster Management Committee
3rd April, 2026

MUBUKU RIVER FLOODING-KARUSANDARA SUB COUNTYN

Preamble:

On Sunday, April 1, 2026, Kasese District experienced Significantly heavy downpour in Rwenzori Mountain National Park, beginning around 03:30 a.m. and lasting for approximately 6 hours. The prolonged rainfall saturated the vegetation and bogs, releasing large volumes of water into the valleys of River Mubuku. As a result, the river overflowed its banks, at Kabaka, and Nkoko Distributary points causing significant damage to crops and livestock in Karusandara Sub-county. The overflow from River Mubuku has affected 5 villages of Kabuga, Nyabubale, Kabaka, Kibuga, and Kivengenyi In Karusandara sub county.

Summary

S/N	DISASTER EFFECT	MAGNITUDE
	Cause of the disaster	Heavy rains uphill- Rwenzori mountain National Park
	Rivers flooded	Mubuku
	Sub counties affected	Karusandara and Mubuku Town council
	Villages/Parish affected	Kabuga, Kabaka, Kivengenyi, Kyangerere, Ngando, Nyabubale, Kikoga, and Kyalanga
	# Households affected	160
	# people affected	812
	# of Households Internally displaced	4
	# of people Internally displaced	16
	# of IDP camps established	0 (Displaced families were encouraged to go to the relatives or seek hostage in the neighborhood)
	Name of IDP camps	No IDP established, yet
	# of crop fields affected (Acres)	250Acres
	Crops affected	Maize, Yarms, Beans, and Banana Plantation
	Livestock/Poultry affected	Goats, Birds
	# of schools affected	0
	Name of school(s) affected	Karusandara P/S
	# of classrooms affected	2
	# of worship places destroyed	0
	# of houses destroyed	0
	# of health facilities affected	0
	# injured	0
	# dead	0

Triggers to the occurrence of the floods on river Mubuku.

Flooding along River Mubuku, particularly the event on April 1, 2026, is attributed to a combination of natural and human-induced factors. Which include among others;

- Accumulation of silt, debris, and erosion materials at the Distributary points (Nkoko, and Kabaka Rivers) which reduce the river's carrying capacity, making it prone to overflowing even with moderate increases in water volume.
- The alpine bogs and vegetation in the Rwenzori Mountains act as natural water storage systems. However, they were fully saturated with the heavy downpour, cause a release of large volumes of water into valley systems, particularly the River Mubuku catchment.
- The Rwenzori Mountains have steep slopes which facilitate fast surface runoff. Rainwater quickly drains into tributaries of River Mubuku, increasing flow velocity and water volume in a short period.
- Human settlements and agricultural activities close to the riverbanks increase vulnerability to flooding and reduce the natural buffer zones.

Immediate interventions taken;

- Conducted a rapid onsite assessment.
- Supported the Evacuation of the critically affected persons.
- Provided Psychosocial support to the affected families, through the Community Based Services Sector
- Identified risky areas and community members sensitized

Lifesaving needs/ support needed

- Essential support - provision of relief aid-Food and Non Food items to support the affected families.
- Provision of Beddings families whose houses were submerged.

Medium to Long-term

- Desilt river channels and clear debris particularly at a point where the main river-Mubuku forms distributaries (Nkoko, and Kabaka), to improve flow capacity
- Strengthen community-based early warning systems using weather forecasts, river gauges, and mobile alerts
- Regularly conduct community sensitization on flood risks, evacuation plans, and safe zones
- Riverbank stabilization using gabions, vegetation buffers, and reinforced embankments
- Refresher training for Village Disaster management committees (VDMC)
- Develop community contingency plans and stock emergency supplies
- Rehabilitate degraded wetlands and riparian zones to enhance water absorption and slow runoff.
- Relocate high-risk settlements from flood-prone areas through voluntary, planned resettlement programs.
- Enforce regulations to prevent new developments in high-risk flood zones.

WIND STROM-KYARUMBA, KYARUMBA TOWN COUNCIL, AND KYARUMBA COUNTY

Preamble:

On April 1, 2026, Kyarumba Town Council, Kitabu, and Kyarumba Sub-County in Kasese District, were impacted by intense convective rainfall accompanied by gale-force winds affecting multiple villages, including Kisanga, Kanyatsi, Karwemera, Kayembe, Kakunyu, Kataleba, Milhando, Nyakeya, and Kyabaghema.

The meteorological event commenced at approximately 20:30 hours and persisted for about five hours, resulting in widespread structural damage to residential dwellings, sanitation facilities, and community infrastructure, alongside severe devastation to cassava and banana plantations.

The storm's destructive footprint spanned several vulnerable villages, exacerbating risks associated with localized topography and seasonal precipitation patterns.

Summary_Kyarumba Town Council

S/N	DISASTER EFFECT	MAGNITUDE
	Cause of the disaster	Windstorm
	Rivers flooded	No
	Sub counties affected	Kyarumba Town Council
	Villages/Parish affected	Kisanga, Kanyatsi, Karwemera, Kayembe, Kakunyu, and Kataleba
	# Households affected	615
	# people affected	2,460
	# of Households Internally displaced	0
	# of people Internally displaced	0
	# of IDP camps established	0 (Displaced families were encouraged to go to the relatives or seek hostage in the neighborhood)
	Name of IDP camps	No IDP established, yet
	# of crop fields affected (Acres)	700 Acres
	Crops affected	Banana Plantation
	Livestock/Poultry affected	Goats, Birds
	# of schools affected	2
	Name of school(s) affected	Kyarumba P/S, Mutanyana P/s
	# of classrooms affected	1 Library at Kyarumba P/s and a Dining shelter at Mutanyana P/s Blown off.
	# of worship places destroyed	0
	# of houses destroyed	0
	# of health facilities affected	01, Kyarumba HCIII
	# injured	0
	# dead	0

Business: 13 lockups (retail shops) in Kisinga Market were blown off leaving businesses at a standstill

Summary_Kyarumba Sub county

S/N	DISASTER EFFECT	MAGNITUDE
	Cause of the disaster	Windstorm
	Rivers flooded	No
	Sub counties affected	Kyarumba Sub County
	Villages/Parish affected	Milhando, Nyakeya, and Kyabaghema.
	# Households affected	134
	# people affected	960, Children (0–5 years), 284 with 178 Female and 106 males <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elderly: 14 ▪ Widows: 12 ▪ Persons with Disabilities (PWDs): 6
	# of Households Internally displaced	48
	# of people Internally displaced	285
	# of IDP camps established	1
	Name of IDP camps	Mihando Catholic Church
	# of crop fields affected (Acres)	20
	Crops affected	Jackfruits, Bananas, Beans, Coffee, Mangoes
	Livestock/Poultry affected	Birds
	# of schools affected	0
	Name of school(s) affected	Kihungu Primary School classroom block had its roof blown off. Learners are currently studying under trees (913 learners affected).
	# of classrooms affected	3
	# of worship places destroyed	0
	# of houses destroyed	33 Permanent (block) houses completely destroyed. 21 houses Damaged
	# of health facilities affected	01
	# injured	05 people sustained injuries, mainly on the head. 3 rushed to health centers and others 2 were found getting first aid in the neighbor homes that were not affected
	# dead	0

Triggers to the occurrence of the windstorm in Kyarumba Town Council and Kyarumba Sub county.

Kasese's proximity to the Rwenzori Mountains funnels moist air, creating microclimates prone to violent storms and wind gusts that rip off roofs and flatten crops. High-altitude areas amplify wind speeds during these events.

Widespread deforestation and unsustainable farming in Kyarumba reduce soil stability and water absorption, intensifying wind damage and runoff that destroys plantations.

Immediate interventions taken;

- Conducted a rapid onsite assessment.
- Supported the Evacuation of the critically affected persons.
- Provided Psychosocial support to the affected families, through the Community Based Services Sector
- Identified risky areas and community members sensitized

Lifesaving needs/ support needed

- Provision of **emergency food relief**, including: **Posho, Beans** and other Nutritious foods for **children, breast feeding mothers, pregnant and elderly.**
- Tarpaulins for temporary shelter to families whose houses were blown off
- Clothing to the affected children.
- Support of a household kit to families whose items were damages.
- Medical attention for injured persons.
- Continued psychosocial support through community engagements.
- Provision of Mosquito nets and beddings to households whose structures were flooded
- Urgent rehabilitation or reconstruction of the damaged classroom blocks at **Kihungu Primary School**, a library at Kyarumba P/S, and a dining shelter at Mutanyana Sec. School.
- Provision of temporary learning spaces
- Provision of learning materials to the affected schools
- Prepositioning of essential supplies (Shelter Material, Moblets, Aquatabs)

Environmental Protection

- Tree planting initiatives on bare hills to reduce the impact of strong winds
- Promotion of environmental conservation measures

Other Request:

Provision of personal protective gears (Gum boots, Gloves, Umbrellas to the frontlines (DDMC, SDMC, and LCI Chairperson of the affected Villages), to support members during emergency rescue.

Appeal for Support - Request for urgent assistance from:

- Government agencies
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Religious institutions
- Development partners and well-wishers.

Incident Summary

The dual disasters on April 1, 2026; Mubuku River flooding in Karusandara Sub-County and windstorm in Kyarumba areas; affected 909 households and 4,232 individuals across 13 villages, damaging 970 acres of crops (primarily bananas, maize, beans), livestock, schools, and health facilities, with no fatalities but notable injuries and displacement.

Key Triggers

Flooding stemmed from upstream saturation in Rwenzori alpine bogs, silt accumulation reducing channel capacity, and rapid runoff on steep slopes, while windstorms were exacerbated by orographic effects, deforestation, and seasonal convection in the Rwenzori microclimate.

Response Effectiveness

Immediate actions, including rapid assessments, evacuations, and psychosocial support, mitigated casualties; however, gaps in IDP infrastructure and relief distribution highlight needs for enhanced early warning systems and prepositioned aid.

Decision and Planning Recommendations

- Prioritize desilting distributaries on River Mubuku, and Nyamwamba
- Riparian restoration.
- Community-based early warning integration with district gauges;
- Allocate resources for structural mitigations (e.g., embankments, windbreaks) and voluntary resettlement from high-risk zones to build resilience against recurrent Rwenzori hazards.
- Secure multi-stakeholder funding for medium-term recovery, targeting school rehabilitation and vulnerable groups (e.g., PWDs, elderly) to inform 2026/27 disaster budgeting

ANNEX 1: FIELD PHOTOES



Sharing with the affected people at kyabaghema



Some of the affected households for widows



The District Chairperson, Hon. Muhindi Eliphazi in Kabuga Village_Karusandara sub county, assessing vulnerability levels of the disaster affected households



Latrines were seen totally destroyed



Plantations were seen down and pose a big threat to food insecurity



Offering psychosocial message to the disaster victims



Children were met stranded and crying for food

Kabugho medrine 7 years old and a pupil at kihungu primary school(Photo withheld), survived the falling wall however sustained minor injury on her head



Kihungu Primary School
classroom block had its roof blown off. Learners are currently studying under trees



A dining shelter at Mutanywana Sec. School blown off

