

JAPANESE TO BENCHMARK UGANDA ON CLIMATE CHANGE

BY FREDERICK KIWANUKA

Delegations of Japanese are set to come to Uganda to benchmark how local communities are fighting climate change challenges, the Japanese ambassador, Takuya Sasayama, has said.

Takuya said this on Tuesday while commissioning resilient and green infrastructure projects worth sh982m, whose construction was funded by the Japanese government to support the adaptation of vulnerable communities in Nakasongola to the negative impacts of climate change.

Takuya added that Japan, just like

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Community Road Empowerment (CORE), a Japanese global NGO, funded projects through the Japanese embassy in Uganda. These are expected to build resilience and foster equitable development among the vulnerable people of Nakasongola by improving accessibility, family incomes, and conserving the environment. They include a tree nursery bed at the district headquarters to raise 1,000,000 seedlings for reforestation, and a 1.5 million litres water detention pond to ensure a consistent water supply for livestock. Under the same programme, 50 Nakasongola residents were provided with skills in spot improvement of community access roads using technology called Do-nou.

Uganda, was facing climate change challenges like droughts and rising sea water levels.

The CORE project engineer,

Bruce Nuwagaba, said the 1.5 million litres water retention pond, constructed under the project, will help to secure water for livestock



Takuya (centre) with some of Nakasongola district leaders at the function on Tuesday

in the water-scarce district of Nakasongola. He added that the proposed nursery bed will help to conserve the environment, with over 90ha of forest to be restored.

The manager of CORE, Yuka Lwamura, said the decision to fund the project was reached after

realisation that Nakasongola was being exposed to harsh climate change impacts mainly caused by tree cutting for charcoal burning. Furthermore, the residents were buying seedlings from distant producers in Kampala and Luweero districts, which is not cost-effective.