

Karamoja schools benefit from USSSA

By Gabriel Esiku

In a groundbreaking move to professionalise and standardise school sports across the country, the Uganda Secondary Schools Sports Association (USSSA) extended its capacity-building training program to the Karamoja region for the first time.

The week-long training, held from February 15 to 20, 2026, at Abim Secondary School in Abim District, brought together 325 participants, including teachers and students from Amudat, Nakapiripirit, Nabilatuk, Moroto, Napak, Kotido, Kabong, Karenga, and Abim districts.

Over five days, participants received practical and theoretical training in Football Refereeing, Netball

Umpiring, Football Coaching, Volleyball, Athletics, and Media management.

Kenneth Ocola, deputy headteacher of Abim SS, hailed the program as a major milestone for sports in the region.

"The impact has already been visible," Ocola said. "We have seen a reduction in riots and violence during school games, increased student participation, and greater confidence among students in officiating roles. Schools are now becoming more self-sufficient with trained personnel in sports management."

Patrick Okanya, USSSA National Capacity Building Coordinator, highlighted the program's role in promoting fair play and reducing conflicts during competitions.

PHOTO BY GABRIEL ESIKU



Participants undergo hands-on training in first aid techniques