

CSBAG showcases kalimagezi innovation to enhance public access to audit information



CSBAG ED Julius Mukunda during the presentation of Kalimagezi, at the Sensitization Workshop for OAG Stakeholder Engagement Focal Persons in Entebbe on 6th August 2025. Source (CSBAG)

“So far, 125 local government audit reports, 3 Value for Money reports, three thematic reports, and seven consolidated reports from the OAG have been uploaded onto Kalimagezi. Once the platform is fully developed, it will be rolled out to the public to enhance transparency and accountability.” ED CSBAG Julius Mukunda sai

CSBAG showcased the AI-powered innovation ‘Kalimagezi’, designed in partnership with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) and GIZ to revolutionise access to audit information and make it more accessible and understandable to the public.

This was at the high-level sensitization workshop for OAG’s Stakeholder Engagement Focal Persons held in Entebbe on 6th August 2025 under the theme “Strengthening Citizen-Centric Audit through Effective Stakeholder Engagement.” Organized by the OAG, the event attracted participants from across Uganda, including representatives from GIZ and regional focal persons from the Auditor General’s office.

Kalimagezi, named after the Luganda word meaning “the knowledgeable,” aims to bridge the gap between complex audit reports and citizen understanding. The platform translates technical audit findings into plain language, integrates AI-driven data visualization, and allows for real-time citizen feedback. It also serves as a centralized repository for current and historical audit reports.

The innovation comes at a time when citizens face challenges accessing and interpreting audit reports, and when implementation of audit recommendations remains limited.

“You find that ordinary citizens don’t understand the bulky audit reports, yet the content concerns them,” said Julius Mukunda, Executive Director of CSBAG. “We needed a tool that simplifies these findings, encourages feedback, and supports citizen participation in audit follow-up.”

So far, 125 local government audit reports, three Value for Money reports, three thematic reports, and seven consolidated reports from the OAG have been uploaded onto Kalimagezi. Mukunda noted that once the platform is fully developed, it will be rolled out to the public to enhance transparency and accountability.

Stakeholders at the workshop praised Kalimagezi as a timely solution. Some participants expressed hope that the platform could eventually be expanded to include simplified versions of the national budget.

Principal Auditor Martin Wamboza commended CSBAG for its leadership in citizen engagement and referenced just concluded regional audit dissemination engagements CSBAG held with local governments officials in all districts of Karamoja and West Nile.

“The Civil Society should promote more of these regional discussions on audit findings” Wamboza said. “The OAG has presence across the country, and citizen awareness must be sustained everywhere.”

However, concerns were raised about inconsistencies between audit information shared with citizens and what is presented in Parliament. Samuel Musana, Assistant Director for Stakeholder Engagement and Parliamentary Liaison at OAG, emphasized the need to align public-facing audit data with official parliamentary records, particularly the Treasury Memorandum.

“I look forward to using this tool, but I want to know how the information flow will be addressed together with what the masses have,” Musana said. “You find what is discussed in Parliament is missing and citizens don’t have that.”

In response, Mukunda urged the OAG to integrate the Treasury Memorandum directly into audit reports to improve public access and follow-up.

CSBAG reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening evidence-based advocacy, empowering communities to monitor public spending, and enhancing accountability at both national and sub-national levels. The organization also pledged to translate audit findings into multiple local languages and link audit outcomes to visible service delivery improvements. Kalimagezi is expected to play a pivotal role in transforming Uganda’s audit landscape—bringing transparency, simplicity, and citizen participation to the forefront of public financial oversight.