

ignite!

INSTALLATION MAGAZINE



Incoming President
Maximilia Byenkya
2025-2026

MAY 2025

Rotary 
Club of Kitante

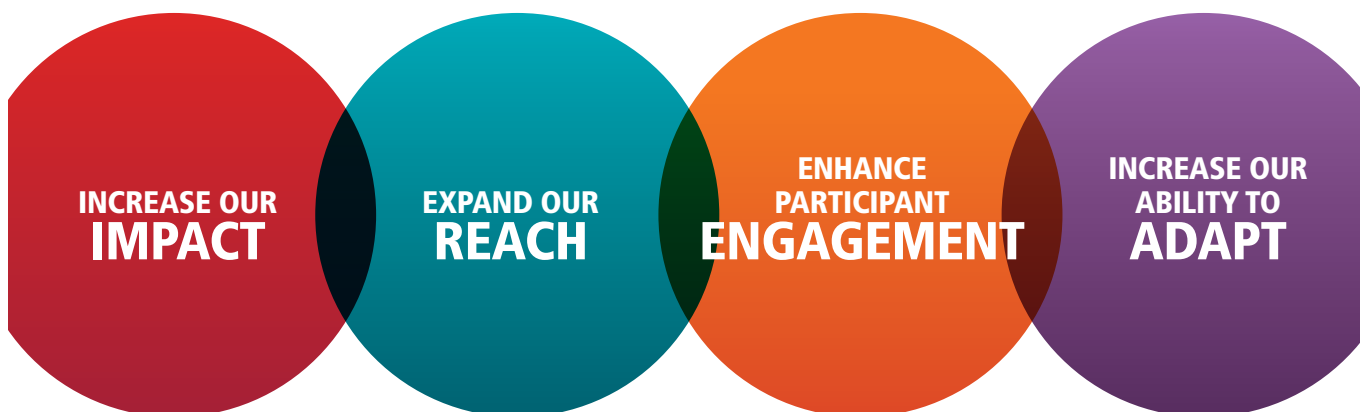


The ROTARY ACTION PLAN



TOGETHER WE SEE A WORLD
 WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION
 TO **CREATE** LASTING
CHANGE ACROSS THE GLOBE
 IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES

As we work together to build a stronger world, **Rotary’s Action Plan — our strategic plan — is leading our organization to form more meaningful connections and make a more sustainable difference through service.** Using the plan’s four priorities as a guide, we’re fulfilling the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation: creating healthy clubs, providing engaging experiences for all, and uniting people to take action with us to create lasting change.



INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy
- Focus our programs and offerings
- Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact

EXPAND OUR REACH

- Grow and diversify our membership and participation
- Create new ways for participants to experience Rotary
- Increase club flexibility and appeal
- Build understanding of our impact and brand

ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Support clubs to better engage their members
- Improve understanding and support for individual participants
- Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection
- Provide learning opportunities for leadership development and skill building

INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks
- Streamline governance, structure, and processes
- Foster more diverse perspectives in decision making

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Uniting for Good: A Roadmap to Rotary's Future

MÁRIO CÉSAR MARTINS DE CAMARGO
President, Rotary International

Rotary's greatest strength lies not in its history, projects, or global reach, but in its members – a dedicated team of volunteers. As President-Elect, I am more convinced than ever that a collective focus on membership is vital for securing Rotary's future.

Our roadmap to membership growth and revitalization is built upon three key pillars: Innovation, Continuity, and Partnership.

Innovation: The world is constantly evolving, and Rotary must adapt. Innovation means embracing change, welcoming new voices, and engaging individuals of all ages seeking purpose and connection. We must explore flexible models like satellite clubs, cause-based clubs, enterprise clubs, and passport clubs to attract a diverse audience beyond traditional frameworks. Future Rotary members are out there; we need to meet them where they are.

Continuity: Healthy districts share a critical feature: consistent, united leadership. Governors who build on their predecessors' efforts ensure seamless continuation of programs and strategies. While annual leadership transitions present a unique challenge, we must avoid fragmenting our efforts and instead build a legacy of collaboration for future leaders.

Partnership: Our success in polio eradication taught us the power of collaboration. Partnerships with organizations like the Gates Foundation, WHO, and UNICEF were instrumental in the global effort. We should apply this lesson to membership growth by partnering with business associations, professional organizations, and academic institutions. This helps us attract quality members and embrace diversity, eliminating the false dilemma of quantity versus quality.

Ultimately, all our achievements depend on our members. Membership growth is not just about numbers; it's about renewing our collective strength. To hedge against aging clubs, we need constant admission of new members. More members mean greater capacity for service and more resources for our communities. Succession planning is critical; clubs either grow or dwindle. We must make recruitment and retention a core value passed down through generations.

Rotary members are people of action. We don't wait for change; we make it happen. We unite for good – this is our presidential message for 2025-26. In a world often divided, Rotary stands as a beacon of unity, bringing together people of all backgrounds for a shared purpose: to do good in the world.

Rotary inspires us to be better people, to serve others, and to create a lasting impact. As you focus on growing Rotary in your districts, remember the investment made in equipping you with the tools to lead effectively. Our return on this investment will be measured in the new members we welcome, the innovative clubs we create, and the lives we change through service.

Don't forget one of Rotary's greatest joys: making friends around the world and having fun together. Let's embrace this journey of growth, service, and connection. Let's build a Rotary that unites for good and ensures a brighter future for all.



Let's Unite For Good

GEOFFREY KITAKULE
District Governor Elect

Dear Rotarians and Rotaractors, as we look forward to Rotary year 2025-26, we embrace a timeless concept: unity in our efforts to do good.

In today's fast-paced and often divided world, it's easy to get lost in the noise and feel disconnected. But there's one truth that we can all agree on—when we come together, we have the power to create positive change. As Rotarians, together, we possess the unique ability to inspire change, uplift one another, and create a ripple effect of kindness and compassion in our world.

The first key to uniting for good is recognizing that we are all connected by a shared purpose. We want to live in a world where kindness, compassion, and opportunity are accessible to everyone. A world where inequality is challenged, where environmental sustainability is a priority, and where peace and love triumph over conflict and division. This is the vision that can drive us, but it can't be achieved alone. It requires each of us to come together, to contribute our unique talents, perspectives, and ideas. The most significant accomplishments have arisen not from individual efforts but from collective action. When people unite, they become a force that can overcome even the greatest challenges. Whether it's fighting against injustice, reducing poverty, or caring for our environment, the path to progress is paved with unity.

In our diverse Rotary community, we each bring different experiences, backgrounds, vocations and perspectives. This diversity is our strength. By coming together and embracing our differences, we can innovate solutions that make a difference in the communities we serve. Let us remember that when we unite for a common purpose, we amplify our voices, resources and in the process enhance our impact.

Each of us has causes they care about most deeply under our seven areas of focus. Now imagine the possibilities when we join hands—when we share our time, talents, experiences and resources. Together, we can plant trees to avert climate change, run to get rid

of cancer in our society, fundraise to save our children from malaria, support our schools to improve basic education, advocate for the vulnerable and promote peace, rally people to donate blood, and promote economic empowerment, enable access to water and improved health for our mothers, and most important save our future generations from Polio. The good we do for others reflects back on us, creating a community where everyone feels valued. commitment

I know that uniting to do good isn't always easy. It requires, forgiveness, empathy, and understanding. We may face obstacles, disagreements, or differing opinions or tribal or religious cultures or even support different football teams for that matter. But it's crucial that we approach these challenges with open hearts and minds. By engaging in constructive engagements and seeking common ground, to create long lasting partnerships.

Let us also not forget the power of small actions. Every kind word, every helping hand, every shilling donated to the foundation can spark positivity and hope. You don't have to wait for a grand event or significant moment to take action. Each one of us can make a contribution and together, those small actions can lead to extraordinary outcomes.

I urge you all to think about how you can contribute to this cause. Let us commit to working together to create a better future for ourselves and for generations to come. The road ahead may not always be smooth, but with unity, we can navigate any obstacle and spread goodness far and wide. And let us invite others to share in this goodness to grow our membership for it's the foundation that starts it all. With more members we shall together create a world where kindness prevails over hate, where understanding triumphs ignorance, and where our communities will thrive.

So, let us unite for good. Let's put aside what separates us and focus on what can bring us together. Together we can—and we will—make a difference.



Message to RC Kitante

CAROLINE MBOIJANA
Assistant Governor Elect

With humility, I embrace the role of Assistant Governor to support RC Kitante as it continues to grow and contribute to the Rotary fraternity. I will begin my role as though I were a member of the club, first learning about and familiarising myself with it while listening to the stories shared. This approach will provide insights that highlight the club's successes, as well as candidly revealing their frustrations and challenges.

My overarching goal is to support the President in leading the club to the best of her ability, ensuring she leaves a legacy for which she will be remembered and contributing to transforming the club into something even stronger than it is now. RC Kitante is a vibrant club and has performed well to have seven prospects in its pipeline who are likely to join by the 1st of July, increasing the club's membership from 54 to 61 members. Working in tandem with the President and her Directors, we shall grow club membership as the core pillar of the club.

The club has done amazing and impactful work in the Kymwokya community. I will support their ambition to apply for a Global Grant that will enable them to adopt a village in the same community where they will deliver on the Rotary areas of focus. Increased giving to The Foundation remains an ambition of the club, with the acknowledgement that they will perform better in the coming year. We shall work together to implement innovative approaches to grow their contributions. In a drive to ensure club sustainability, I will collaborate with the club to strengthen its existing governance structures so that the benefits may be realised by embedding systems that enable efficient delivery to the underserved.

Most importantly, in the coming year, I look forward to working and providing counsel where I can, being open to learning from the Club, which can only make me a better Assistant Governor, and having fun with the club, celebrating success and together working through the hurdles that will no doubt cause discomfort in a bid to derail the club's vision.

RC Kitante, I look forward to the next 12 months of learning, growing and serving our community.



Message from the Outgoing President

RONALD TUSIIME

President, Rotary Club of Kitante 2024-2025

Dear Kitmates, Distinguished Guests, and Fellow Rotarians,

As my term as President of the Rotary Club of Kitante ends, I stand before you filled with immense gratitude and pride. Three years ago, when then-President Peter Kasedde humorously suggested I would lead this club, I doubted my readiness. Today, I look back at a journey that has been nothing short of MAGICAL for me, for our club, and for the communities we serve.

A Journey of Unity and Service

From the start of the year, Kitmates have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to Rotary's ideals and the Club's goals. When I proposed making our installation ceremony open to all, you responded with unparalleled generosity, covering the entire budget yourselves. That moment set the tone for the year, and we proved that Rotary is not just about meetings or Kimeeza, but about generosity, action and impact.

Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick reminded us at the start of the year that "The Magic of Rotary lies in fostering a sense of belonging." This year, we embodied that magic of inclusion. Our meetings have been graced, not only by Rotarians, Rotaractors, and renowned personalities, but also by the very people we are serving in the community. In the process, our club grew to over 60 members, with more mentees on their way to full induction before the end of this Rotary year.

As a club, we rallied behind District programmes, fundraisers, conferences and global initiatives, and Rotarians like Aggrey Kagonyera, Jackie Namara, and Robert Semakula proudly carried the RC Kitante flag beyond club and borders, while Carol Ntegeka's selfless generosity made her our first Major Donor as a club. Rtn Raymond Kalema has quickly become a household name in several clubs across District 9213 because of his consistent ambassadorial visits and networking prowess.

Celebrating Our Achievements

Together, we:

- ✦ Secured a \$35,000 global grant in partnership with RC Kampala and Rotaract Club of Kampala Central.
- ✦ Treated 450 patients at our 3rd annual medical camp in Kamwokya
- ✦ Launched the second cohort of the Boy Child Uplifting Programme training 20 youth in "purple collar" skills and advanced the WASH project at KCC Primary School.
- Drafted an ambitious "Adopt-a-Village" initiative for Kamwokya that we hope will be a testament to our commitment to the community we call home.
- ✦ Maintained our financial support to the Annual Fund and Polio Plus fund of the Rotary Foundation, reinforcing our commitment to Rotary's global missions.
- ✦ Revamped our social media presence and amplified our impact.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Helen Keller



Top and bottom left: The launch of the WASH Club and champions at the KCCA Primary School, Kamwokya.
Bottom right: Bakery project with Rotary Club of Kampala, Rotary Club of Voorst, Rotaract of Kampala City and DDF District 1560 and Biss Bakery

Gratitude and Challenge

To my Board and Club Officers: Your dedication was the backbone of our success. Even when challenges arose, you persevered. As Nelson Mandela once said, *"It always seems impossible until it's done."* Together, we did it.

To every Kitmate: Our greatest strength was you: the volunteers who gave time, resources, and passion to turn plans into reality. You proved that Rotary's spirit thrives when we prioritize people over pomp and show. Whether through mentorship, fundraising, or service, you lived our motto: "Service Above Self."

Passing the Torch

As I hand over the reins to President Maximillia Byenkya and her Board, I do so with confidence. The foundation is strong, the vision is clear, and the magic of Rotary is alive in Kitante. To the new team: May you lead with courage, innovate with purpose, and remember President Urchick's call to make our clubs "simply irresistible." Thank you for the honor of serving you. Now, let's cheer for the next team as they write Kitante's next chapter!

Incoming President

Maximilia Byenkya

2025-2026



Unite For Good: Building Stronger Communities Through Service

MAXIMILIA BYENKYA
President 2025-2026

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, Distinguished Guests, and Valued Partners,

It is both an honor and a privilege to assume the role of President of the Rotary Club of Kitante. As we gather today to mark this significant transition, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the trust you have placed in me to lead our club into the year ahead.

The Rotary International theme for 2025-2026, "Unite For Good," resonates deeply with me. In a world often divided by differences, Rotary stands as a beacon of unity, demonstrating how people from diverse backgrounds can come together with shared purpose. This theme challenges us to strengthen our bonds, expand our partnerships, and amplify our collective impact through unified action. As the renowned humanitarian and Rotary advocate Paul Harris once said, "The foundation of Rotary is friendship, and in friendship there is harmony, and in harmony there is power to do good."

Our club has a history of community service in Kamwokya. Through the dedicated efforts of past leadership, club members and partners, we have established meaningful projects that continue to touch lives – in disease prevention and treatment, economic empowerment, environment and basic education and literacy. I extend my sincere appreciation to our immediate past president and board for their steadfast leadership, which has positioned our club for continued success.

As we look toward the horizon of possibilities, I am particularly excited about deepening our impact in Kamwokya through the "Adopt-a-Village" model. This comprehensive approach aligns perfectly with Rotary's commitment to sustainable community development. Rather than implementing isolated projects, we will engage with community leaders, understand local needs, and develop integrated solutions that address challenges in health, education, economic opportunity, and environmental sustainability. This model has proven effective across Uganda and throughout Africa,

fostering community ownership and lasting change. For our club to thrive in the coming year, I invite each member (and to you all) to reflect on three personal commitments:

First, rediscover your passion for service. What inspired you to join Rotary? What causes speak to your heart? By reconnecting with these motivations, we infuse our service with genuine purpose and joy.

Second, strengthen our fellowship. The bonds we build with one another are the foundation of our effectiveness. I encourage each of you to participate actively in club meetings, social events, and service projects, forging meaningful connections that enrich our Rotary experience.

Third, be ambassadors of Rotary in your daily lives. Share our stories of impact, invite potential members to experience our fellowship, and exemplify the values of integrity, diversity, and ethical leadership in all your endeavours.

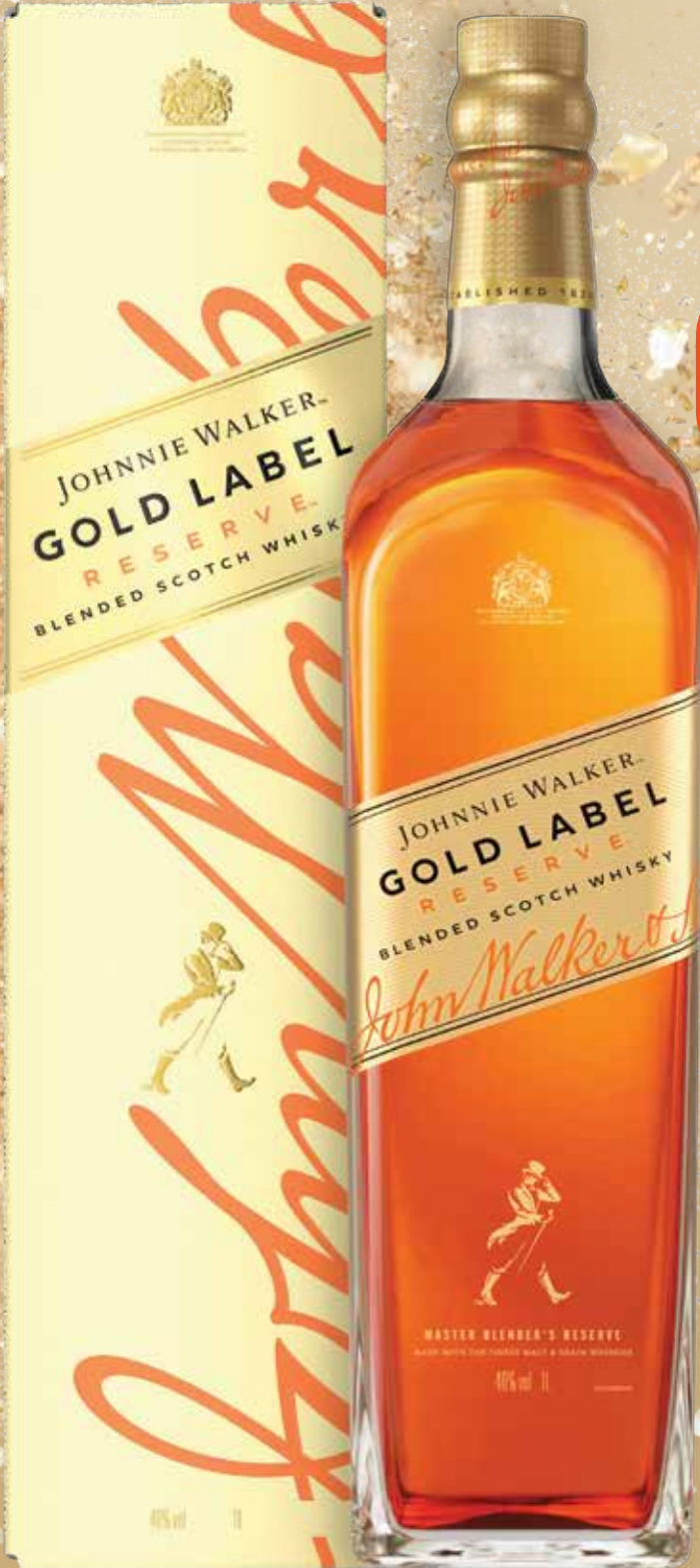
I stand before you today, committed to the responsibility of leadership, but confident in our collective ability to meet the challenges ahead. I invite all members, friends and partners to bring their passions, expertise, ideas, resources, and enthusiasm as we forge ahead into a year of service and growth. Each of you has something valuable to contribute, and together, we will accomplish extraordinary things. I affirm that together, we will make a difference as we Unite For Good.

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

JOHNNIE



**UGANDA
BREWERIES**



THE TASTE OF
CELEBRATION
IS
POURED
IN
GOLD



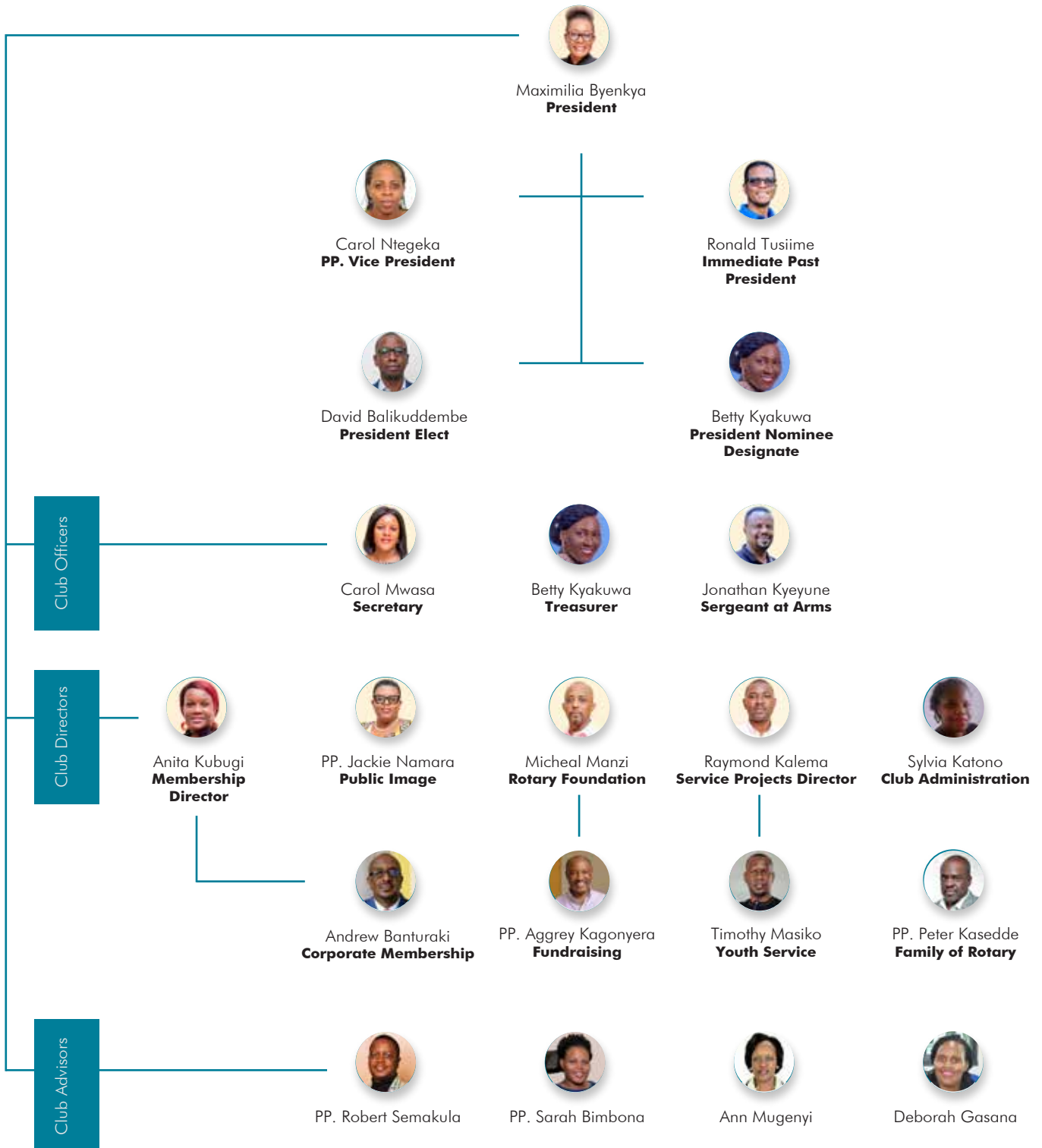
KEEP WALKING



WALKER

EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IS HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.
STRICTLY NOT FOR SALE TO PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS. PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

2025/26 Board Members and Club Officers





YOUR PROJECT PLANNING EXPERTS

70+ COUNTRIES



80+ LANGUAGES



500+ MEMBERS



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CADRE OF TECHNICAL ADVISERS

is a network of Rotary members with professional expertise in Rotary's areas of focus and financial auditing who work to strengthen the impact of Rotary Foundation global grants and projects.

CADRE MEMBERS CAN ASSIST WITH:

- Project planning and implementation guidance
- Community assessment design
- Sustainability elements
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Area of focus questions
- Financial management practices



WORK WITH ROTARY EXPERTS

Consult a Rotary expert for assistance with your service project. Connect with members of **The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers** and **Rotary Action Groups** through your **District Resource Network**. Each group of Rotary experts can help your project succeed. Find out more about what each group offers.

CADRE OF TECHNICAL ADVISERS

WHO THEY ARE

Cadre members are Rotarians around the world who have professional experience and expertise in Rotary's areas of focus or financial auditing. Cadre members receive online and in-person training from Foundation staff and guidance and oversight from Rotary staff and Cadre leadership.

HOW THEY CAN HELP

- ▶ Advising Rotary members who are planning or working on Rotary Foundation grant projects, especially on topics like community assessments, sustainability, and financial management.
- ▶ Establishing monitoring and evaluation plans that safeguard Foundation funds, reviewing global grant applications, and evaluating projects on behalf of The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees.

ROTARY ACTION GROUPS

Rotary Action Groups are independent, Rotary-affiliated organizations whose members have expertise in a particular subject that may include or relate to one of Rotary's areas of focus.

- ▶ Advising about how to conduct community assessments.
- ▶ Making recommendations about how to involve community stakeholders.
- ▶ Giving advice about preparing a project plan and budget.
- ▶ Guiding the creation of a monitoring and evaluation plan.
- ▶ Offering direction on identifying partners and funding resources.
- ▶ Gathering and distributing resources and the best practices on a specific topic.

DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL SERVICE CHAIR

WHO THEY ARE



District international service chairs encourage dialogue about international service and motivate clubs to get involved in international service and plan higher quality, sustainable projects and grants.



Manage and connect clubs with regional coalitions of experts (**District Resource Networks**) to serve as project mentors. Recruit and leverage local TRF Cadre and Rotary Action Group members to join the **District Resource Network**.

HOW THEY CAN HELP

- ▶ Connecting clubs with the District Resource Network of local subject matter and project experts.
- ▶ Identifying resources to support clubs with their service goals, projects, or global grants.
- ▶ Helping clubs find international project partners.
- ▶ Publicizing success stories and promoting the best practices.

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On Your Side

Club Member Directory

- ↻ Anne Abeja
- ↻ Caroline Adeke Okabale
- ↻ Semmy Angeyo
- ↻ Lydia Asimwe
- ↻ Aggie Asimwe Konde
- ↻ Rebecca Bagenda
- ↻ Andrew Baguma Amone
- ↻ David Balikuddembe
- ↻ Andrew Banturaki
- ↻ Sarah Bimbona
- ↻ David Birungi
- ↻ Anna Bitature Mugenyi
- ↻ Henry Byabazaire
- ↻ Maximilia Byenkya
- ↻ Haruna Damba
- ↻ Deborah Gasana
- ↻ Emmy Hashakimana
- ↻ Dear Jeanne
- ↻ Aggrey Kagonyera
- ↻ Harriet Kajubi
- ↻ Raymond Kalema
- ↻ Christopher Kaliisa
- ↻ Rebecca Kamwine
- ↻ Stella Kamyá
- ↻ Barbara Kanyana Kamugisha
- ↻ Peter Kasedde
- ↻ Liz Kastiro
- ↻ Sylvia Katono
- ↻ Aggie Kiguzi
- ↻ Irene Kituyi
- ↻ Anitah Kubugi
- ↻ Betty Kyakuwa
- ↻ Jonathan Kyeyune
- ↻ Harriet Magala
- ↻ Michael Manzi
- ↻ Timothy Masiko
- ↻ Ada Mugenyi
- ↻ Gerald Muhanguzi
- ↻ Edward Musinguzi
- ↻ Divine Nabaweesi
- ↻ Joan Nabwire
- ↻ Sumin Namaganda
- ↻ Jackie Namara Rukare
- ↻ Omar Ndangiza
- ↻ Carol Ntegeka
- ↻ Amelo Oluka Ejalu
- ↻ Rebecca Onyango
- ↻ Muganga Patricia
- ↻ Rukundo Roger
- ↻ Timothy Sabiti
- ↻ Robert Ssemakula
- ↻ Peter Tumusiime
- ↻ Ronald Tusiime
- ↻ Eric Wampande

Honorary Member

- ↻ Kwame Ejalu



Serving Beyond My Club - The Technical vs Emotional Support AG

ROBERT SSEMAKULA

Assistant Governor in D2913 twice

I had been a Rotarian for less than 5 years when I was called upon to be an Assistant Governor by then DGE Edward Kakembo of district 9213. It was also less than 2 years after I had been a Rotary president for RC Kitante. And then again by then DGE Ann Nkutu. Unlike most people, I love exploring totally unknown situations. Isn't that what adventure is?

And here are my key surprises:

One, there is really no formula for becoming an AG. Some people are acquainted with the DGE, others have a great service record and others are just passionate. I was none of the above. All I had was curiosity. I had a yearning to know other clubs intimately. Being an AG, I figured, would force me to. And so I sneaked around my appointed clubs before introducing myself as incoming AG. This gave me freedom to get the down low and to profile the clubs before they did me. I loved the strangeness. Like a tourist.

The second surprise is this. Unlike conventional knowledge that all clubs are unique, I found them to be nearly identical. All clubs have the exact same challenges and ambitions. In fact, this year I travelled to Oregon, USA on a friendship exchange and visited many more clubs from what I thought was a totally different culture, separated by 3,000 miles and nearly a full day of sunlight. But no. When I approached the AGs and presidents in different clubs wherever I go, they reflect the very same issues in all clubs.

What differs, is the people. It's the people that have unique lenses about any issues, based on their personal world view and life experiences. Rotarians are amateurs at charity. There is no such thing as a professional Rotarian. They may be professionals outside Rotary. But, Rotary is a nicely innocent assembly of simple human beings united by a yearning for organised charity and camaraderie in service.

This leads me to my final surprise.

After two years as AG, I've been surprised to watch two distinct approaches to the role of Assistant Governor.

Either: one can be an Emotional support AG
Or: they can be a technical AG.

Most AGs choose to be technical. They demand a reference letter at appointment that clarifies what is expected of them. This is usually to guide their allocated clubs to craft and deliver performance objectives aligned to the district goals. This is how they assist the DG to have a productive year. It requires organisational and management skills. And

collaboration with the clubs. It's a mechanical approach.

However, because I found that the only difference in clubs was the human beings and their unique minds, I chose to be a different sort of AG.

I became the emotional support AG. From my own previous experience as a club president, I had gone through moments of loneliness. After the initial burst of energy around a new board inauguration and the installation, the volunteers that Rotarians are can be distracted by life.

The president can sometimes be left to really have to carry their Rotarians because you achieve results through others. But the exciting fundraising activities and club socials, club members tend to switch off regularly. But the president has no on/off ramp. This is where as AG, I thought I would lift the presidents.

So, as AG, I became close to presidents. I summoned my skills as a life coach to them. I treated them as humans, not as presidents. I opened and expanded their minds, helping them to dig deep and find that extra positivity, that extra ounce of energy. I constantly showed them that the challenges in their clubs are everywhere. And that it is well. I mediated in interpersonal clashes, which were usually due to miscommunication rather than malice. Managing volunteers is known to even the highly trained professionals in their organisations outside Rotary.

As a result, I quietly saved a club from total collapse due to infighting. I also lifted another president who simply overwhelmed by academic work while working and serving Rotary simultaneously. Another president had family issues. Another was frustrated by lack of responsiveness of their members etc. Other presidents taught me things. One was a coach themselves and super motivated. I even felt irrelevant to them. Another was super organised, they didn't need me at all. They lifted me.

In the end, I not only never lost a club on my watch, I actually exceeded most technical goals as well. Quietly! I've enjoyed the adventure. The surprises have made me attracted to serving again in the future. That's why I am happy to report I became an honorary member to most of my clubs. I'm happily entangled because being AG has opened my mind to the beauty of emotional management. Being AG is a super way to immerse yourself with the human side of Rotary service.



Your one-stop quality Events Partner!



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Events Venue



Corporate Events



Themed Decor



Parasols & Cocktail Setups





Serving Rotary Beyond My Club - Managing DCAs and DISCON Rotary Events

AGGREY KAGONYERA

Assistant Governor, Zone 13 District 9213

Events Management is my passion. I have been fortunate to manage Rotary events beyond my club. I often get asked how I do what I do and what drives me. Its passion that drives me, I love what I do and to get paid to do what you love for an organization that you hold so dear to your heart, is simply a blessing I don't take for granted and long may it continue.

I have been fortunate to manage Rotary events starting with the 93rd District Conference and Assembly in Entebbe which was Governor Ken Mugisha's DISCON ably chaired by Rtn David Kasingwire. Like all big events, it involved careful planning, coordination, and attention to detail to ensure a successful experience for all Rotarians who attended. Being my first Rotary event to organise soon after joining Rotary as a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Kitante, I took the tried and tested structured approach to managing such events.

The Success of the 93rd DCA opened the Rotary door for us. We have since supported various DCA Chairs namely MD Jane Kabugo in Munyonyo to deliver the famous Bubbles against the backdrop of COVID19, DG Geoffrey Kitakule to pull off the first Upcountry 98th DISCON in Mbarara, Rtn Robert Kiggundu for the 99th DISCON in Munyonyo and more recently Rtn Henry Rugamba for DISCON100 in Jinja. Our attention now turns to Inspire, Serve and Impact for DISCON 101 from 16th to 18th April 2026 in Entebbe.

Together with the DISCON Chair, we define the purpose. It is always a celebration of the year that has been and passing on the torch to the next Rotary year's officials. Each District Governor and their DCA/DISCON have different goals, My role as the Event Manager is to help them clarify their goals of the upcoming DISCON event and differentiate it from those before it. This clarity gives it its uniqueness because by and large the Rotary objectives do not change. For several Rotary events I have been fortunate to work on, all rotate around fundraising like the Africa Peace Concert 1&3 at Speke Resort Munyonyo and Nsambya Gardens. The other Rotary events I have worked on are centred around awareness and recognition like The Rotary Foundation Dinner and lastly community service like Health Camps.

When planning for Rotary events I have at the back of my mind the awareness that the target audience is the same comprising of Rotarians, community members, guest speakers, therefore I try to ensure delivery of the event is different to avoid monotony.

In Event Planning, Budgeting is important. Being a service organization I am usually hired by a committee set up to execute an event at the lowest possible cost. The Rotary event organizers always have one objective. To deliver a world class event on a shoe-string budget. What that means is that you are always in constant discussions with mainly the Event Chair and Treasurer to try and deliver beyond what the resources can pay for on the prevailing market prices. It therefore becomes a delicate balance between your own company reputation and managing high Rotary expectations. The end result is that since the wider Rotarian community are never privy to the Treasurer's spreadsheet budget cuts, you end up sacrificing your business, profitably and reputation protection on the altar of "We are Rotary, we don't have Budget.

In Rotary we have interesting timelines. I have been fortunate to work on 6 DISCONs and counting, On all of them we have two years sometimes more, a timeline that includes all milestones, from initial planning to post-event follow-up. On the commercial side however, I have worked on bigger and more complex events in a 6 month timeline. Working with volunteers however is different. Like I mentioned, we plan our events over two years, meeting every single week online and physical. Little wonder then that my colleagues in the events profession cannot understand what we meet to discuss over two years! I have come to appreciate that is how Rotary volunteers work.

DCA Locations have changed over the years. We have been involved with events in Munyonyo, Mbarara, Jinja, Arusha, Dar es Salaam so that we provide Rotarians a variety in venues events that are accessible and suited the needs of the Rotary attendees. These events often double as a break, a holiday, some time off, therefore we rarely go the same venue back-to-back.

Coordination and staffing of my team is important. I ensure I assemble a team with defined roles that meet the high demands and expectations of my demanding but well-intentioned Rotarians. Team Legends always comprises of a staff responsible for logistics, communications, finance, and managing the many Rotary sponsors and their varied expectations without offending anyone.

We work with Rotarians who manage and supervise us. Not only are the Rotarians our bosses, they also engage other Rotarians and community members to assist us with the event execution.

I find the Rotary communication strategy very powerful. Coming from a communication background, the utilization of Rotary networks, social media, email newsletters, and local media to promote the events is very powerful and achieves instant results. More times than not, Rotary events are oversubscribed because of this effective communication strategy.

We are hired to provide technical set-up, we ensure necessary audio-visual equipment is available and tested prior to the event. Our mandate does not stop there. Working with the organizers we carry out program development. We develop a clear agenda that includes sessions, speakers, and breakout discussions. We assist organisers to invite keynote speakers and ensure they are briefed on the audience and theme of the event.

To all the venues we have staged events we propose cultural considerations, By incorporating local traditions and customs we make the event more inclusive and engaging. In Mbarara, we had the Western Nite while recently in Jinja, the Eastern night treated us to Rolex, Kadodi and Malewa.

Rotary events have challenged us to work on continuous improvement. We review and reflect after every Rotary event and this often ends in a thank you party. After holding a debrief meeting with the planning team to discuss what worked well and what could be improved.

All in all, managing a Rotary event is a complex but rewarding task that requires collaboration, creativity, and cultural sensitivity. By following a structured approach, Legend Events has managed create meaningful experiences that foster goodwill and strengthen connections within the Rotary community and beyond.

Finally allow me to congratulate President Maxi Byenkya, and wish her the best wishes for a fantastic year of Uniting for Good!

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In Uganda, CSquared is working to bring fast, reliable connectivity to Greater Kampala. We have built a vast **open-access** wholesale fiber network across **Greater Kampala area**, and have also established a strong **Metro WiFi** network to help achieve this vision.





Serving Rotary Beyond The Club

DEAR JEANNE

Communicator Extraordinaire

I have had to count and recount the years. It seems just like yesterday that I walked into the Rotary Club of Kitante. It has actually been seven years. I've had the privilege of being an active Rotarian, an experience that has enriched my life in immeasurable ways.

Being a Rotarian is about more than attending meetings; it's about leveraging the power of community to enact meaningful change, network, have fun, and learn. But the experience gets better and bigger with service beyond the club boundaries. Imagine multiplying the impact of service, the number of networks, the laughter and fun, as well as the learning opportunities.

Imagine a table of thousands of people from all walks of life with one similar motivation: service, fun, and networking. How much better can the Rotary experience get? For me, it has been more than service, fun, and networking. It has been about the learning—the platform to practice my craft at the same table with the eyes of prospective clients looking on.

I've had the privilege of being advised and mentored by the best in the industry: individuals I may never have met without Rotary. My knowledge in communication, marketing, branding, mobilization, and event planning has been enhanced by a blend of the best minds with years of experience, all advising and mentoring me to be the best. From being part of organizing more than three district conferences, four Rotary Cancer Runs, three Africa Peace Concerts, and several other events and projects under the umbrella of the Rotary Clubs of Uganda, I now boast an experience no job could ever provide—a network across the social divide. Name a craft, and I have someone on speed dial who is well-grounded in that field.

From the young Rotaractors to the retired Rotarians, I have served with doctors, engineers, marketers, communicators, DJs, salespeople, CEOs, CFOs, entrepreneurs—name any profession, and I will know someone with hands-on knowledge of their capabilities.

If I left out the fun and partying, I would be lying to you and myself. With service beyond the club comes the opportunity to have fun and party with a variety of Rotarians and Rotaractors. From my experience, there is no party like a party with the Rotaractors. I'm not talking about the fresh-out-of-university Rotaractors. I'm talking about the young corporates. Those individuals understand how to party in a

way that even we old souls cannot ignore. They understand fun in service, and that may be the reason why I can never forget organizing the District Conference in Naivasha (in fact, the team plans to go back and relive the experience).

My belief is that your Rotary Club is your home and the members are family. To experience the benefits of being a Rotarian beyond service to the community, you have to broaden your scope beyond the club. That's where the real networking happens; that's where the real business and social opportunities lie. When a family member calls you as a lawyer, you have to help them. You can't ask your family to pay you for help, right? But friends of your family members—that's another story.

The business opportunities that have opened up from meeting someone during service, or a Rotarian whose name you may not remember recommending you based on work you did during a project or even an interaction you had as you served the community together, have been remarkable. As I reflect on these years of service, I am filled with gratitude and a renewed commitment to Rotary's mission. By reaching beyond my club, I have embraced limitless opportunities for service and growth, and I pledge to continue contributing to this global family that transforms lives every day. Join me in enjoying the real rewards of being a Rotarian.



Finding Purpose Beyond the Club

JACKIE NAMARA RUKARE
Charter Member

You know how they say “jump in with both feet”? That’s exactly what I did with my Rotary service. What started as regular club meetings quickly evolved into something much bigger when I took on the role of Chair for PR for the Cancer Run in 2020/21.

Let me tell you, coordinating publicity for a major fundraising event at the height of COVID was no small feat! We had to completely reimagine how to generate excitement for virtual local and international runs for people used to the energy of gathering in-person. I remember staying up late brainstorming social media strategies with my team, trying to figure out how to create that same sense of community across the globe through screens. Despite the challenges, seeing participants from across world posting their run photos while sporting our branded masks and t-shirts made every late night worth it.

The relationships I built during the Cancer Run opened doors I hadn’t anticipated. Soon after, I was asked to serve as Chair of Publicity for the 97th District Conference in 2021/22. I still laugh thinking about how nervous I was before my first planning meeting! But my background in marketing came in handy as we crafted messages to rally Rotarians throughout the district to come to Naivasha.

One thing led to another, and before I knew it, I was serving as District Chair for Public Image in District 9213 for 2022/23. This role really stretched me. I remember working with a great team comprised of Sam Ngambwaki, Robert Sebuya, Michael Lubowa and David Sempala to help clubs doing amazing work but struggling to tell their story. Helping them develop simple yet effective ways to showcase their projects and seeing their pride when local media covered their initiatives – those moments are why I love this work.

The following year brought an unexpected opportunity when I was appointed Assistant Regional Public Image Coordinator for Districts 9213 and 9214, covering both Uganda and Tanzania from 2023-25. I must thank Sharmilla Bhatt, Fred Masadde and Dennis Jjuko who I can always count whenever I need their counsel. There’s something incredibly rewarding about mentoring others and watching them succeed.

My most recent adventure has been serving as Chair of Program for our 100th District Conference in 2024/25. Talk about pressure! Planning the centennial celebration has meant countless planning sessions and some heated debates about how to honour our past while looking forward.

We made it through to land a great DISCON100 under the leadership of “Le General” Henry Rugamba and our DG Anne Nkutu.

What I’ve learned through all this is that Rotary truly shines when we bring our true selves to service. My marketing background has found purpose in these roles in ways I never imagined when I first joined my club. The late-night calls with fellow committee members, the problem-solving on the fly when things don’t go as planned, and yes, even the occasional frustrations – they’ve all shaped me.

If you’re sitting in your club meetings wondering if there’s more to Rotary, let me encourage you to raise your hand when district and zone opportunities come up. Your professional skills – whether in accounting, education, medicine, technology or anything else – are needed beyond your club. Trust me, you’ll get back far more than you give. Some of my closest friendships now are with Rotarians I met through district work, people I would never have connected with otherwise.

So, what’s your special talent? Where might it take you in your Rotary journey? I’d love to hear where your path leads.



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The Presidential Line Up



Special Representative
of the District
Governor
Henry Rugamba



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Maximilia Byenkya
2025/26



President Nominee:
David Balikuddembe
2026/27



Betty Kyakuwa
President Nominee
Designate 2027/28



Ronald Tusiime
2024/25



Sarah Bimbona
2023/24



Carol Ntegeka
2022/23



Peter Kasedde
2021/22



Jackie Namara Rukare
2020/21



Robert Semakula
2019/20



Aggrey Kagonyera
2018/19



Charter President:
Alice Namuli Blazevic
2017/18

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- What is the name of the fictional wizarding school in the Harry Potter series?
- Who wrote the play Romeo and Juliet?
- What is the name of the first moon landing mission?
- What is the name of the process by which plants convert sunlight into energy?
- What is the name of the largest ocean on Earth?



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ANALYSIS OF THE TAX BILLS, 2025



PREAMBLE

It is that time of the year again where the annual budget is in play and the tax bills are presented to Parliament for approval. This is an annual ceremony in Uganda that often presents mixed reactions- first whether the bills will present tax relief to the tax burdened, second whether there is stability in tax regime that changes annually.

Stability is one of the three fundamentals for policymakers to consider when designing and implementing a good tax system, alongside simplicity and certainty. Together, these fundamentals make up the three overarching principles that policymakers should have in mind every time they consider a change to the tax system.

Many investors prefer a tax stable investment regime. However, Uganda's investment climate is riddled with annual tax changes that leave the entrepreneurs/investors uncertain of the next fiscal year's tax proposals.

Stability is a close cousin of certainty. The relevance of certainty is to enable taxpayers that are considering a decision to predict the impacts of that decision in the future or predict the changes that may occur so that they make business decisions based on these changes. 'Certainty' is equally about knowing what the answer to a given question ought to be; stability is about whether the current answer will still be correct in one, two- or ten-years' time.

Stability extends to the rates at which calculated values are taxed and the administrative practices surrounding that process in a way that certainty does not.

At **SM&Co.**, we would like to assuage these fears and give a detailed analysis of the tax bills, what they mean for the entrepreneur and how one can prepare for the tax changes.

Below, we detail the effects the proposed changes in Tax laws in Uganda have on your business. We shall particularly highlight the;

- a. Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025,
- b. Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025,
- c. Excise Duty (Amendment) Bill 2025,
- d. Tax Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill 2025,
- e. Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2025,
- f. Hides and Skins (export Duty) (Amendment) Bill 2025 and
- g. The External Trade (Amendment) Bill 2025.



Bujagali exemption extended

The Income tax exemption section is proposed to be amended to extend the exemption granted to Bujagali Hydro Power project up to 30th June 2032.

Citizens' income tax exemption

There is a proposal to exempt the income of start-up business whose investment capital does not exceed 500 million shillings, established by a citizen after 1 July 2025 and where such business has not benefitted from the exemption and the business has filed an income tax and business information return.

This is a welcome provision for businesses that are to be established moving forward. However, questions on interpretation would arise on what sort of investment capital is envisioned?

The law should also take consideration of other business forms such as Sole Proprietorships or Partnerships where capital registration is not a requirement.

There may also be a need to simplify the filing of income tax and business information returns for small businesses that would like to take benefit of this exemption.

Roll over relief (exclusion of transfer to individuals)

The proposed law provides for the exemption of roll over relief from transfers of assets to individuals (*natural persons*). The Bill proposes that a transfer by individuals to corporations, after meeting the required conditions, would qualify for the roll over but the reverse which is a transfer from any person to an individual (*natural person*) is excluded from this relief.

VALUE ADDED TAX BILL



VAT on aggregate importation

The Bill proposes for a mandatory registration where an importer imports goods under separate consignments, but the aggregate of the importation would bring the importer under the mandatory registration threshold of UGX 150m annually.

The proposed law suggests a mandatory registration based on importation of goods and not sales.

This contradicts the current VAT law where registration is based on sales.

Public International Organisations

Public international organisations are those organisations listed in schedule 2 to the VAT Act where any VAT that is paid by these organisations is refundable by the government.

In essence, these organisations are not exempt, and any making supplied to them should charge VAT unless the service/good is exempt. However, any VAT paid by Public international organisation is refunded to them.

The proposal is to amend the list to include United Nations related Agencies and specialized agencies (*which is a blanket cover for all UN agencies*) and correcting the name of International Atomic Energy Agency.

Exempt supplies

a. Solar lanterns

The Bill contains a proposal to amend the exemptions list to remove the phrase “*composite lanterns*” and replace with the phrase “*solar lanterns*” under item 3(v) of the third Schedule.

Prior roll over was for only company to company transfers but the current proposal replaces the word company to a person. A person under the law is defined to include individuals, trusts, partnerships, listed institutions, retirement funds, a government and a political division of a government.

There is need for better punctuation by placing a comma after the phrase ‘other than an individual’ for the clause to have the meaning intended by the draftsman.

Digital services tax between associates

The Bill proposes to remove digital services tax from non-residents deriving income from providing digital services to an associate in Uganda. The non - resident shall however be subjected to withholding taxes for deriving income from Uganda. The definition of an associate under the tax laws would be applied.

The rate of digital tax is 5%. However, depending on the Double tax treaty agreement with the country and fulfilment of the anti-treaty shopping provisions, the rate of Withholding tax is 15%.

Listed institutions

A listed institution is exempt from income tax under the law. Listing an institution therefore means that the said institutions is exempted from any Income taxes in Uganda.

The 2nd Schedule provides for such listed institutions and the same is proposed to be amended to include International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

STAMP DUTY AMENDMENT BILL

The Stamp duty Bill proposes a NIL duty for Agreement or memorandum of Agreement, mortgage of a crop, mortgage deed where a mortgagor gives a power of attorney to collect rent or a lease of a property is deemed to give possession, where a collateral is auxiliary or additional by way of further assurance where the principal security is duly stamped.

This amendment is aimed at furthering financial inclusion through access to financing and reducing the expenses on obtaining finance.

The law also brings clarity that Agreements executed do not attract duty contrary to earlier communications where duty was required for all executed Agreements.

THE EXTERNAL TRADE BILL



Import of goods for home use

Infrastructure levy and import declaration fee

In 2018 the EAC Council of Ministers introduced the charge of an Infrastructure levy of 1.5% of the customs value of goods imported.

The Bill proposes two aspects.

- a. Domesticating the resolution by the EAC Council of Ministers for an infrastructure levy of 1.5% of the customs value of goods imported for home use subject to the exemptions in the East African Community Customs Management Act and
- b. Introducing an import declaration fee of 1% of the customs value for all goods imported for home use subject to the exemptions in the East African Community Customs Management Act.

These levies does not apply to goods which are subject to exemptions in the East African Community Common External Trade harmonised commodity description and coding system and exemptions under specialised operating framework with the Government of Uganda specified in the approved measures on import duty rates in East African Community Common External Tariff (EAC CET) and plant and machineries prescribed under Chapter 84 and 85 of the East African Community Common External Trade harmonised commodity description and coding system.

These levies are proposed in a bid to raise revenue to finance infrastructure and other government projects.

Export levy on wheat bran, cotton cake and maize bran

A USD 10 levy for each metric tonne consigned out of Uganda has been proposed to reduce on the export of wheat bran, cotton cake and maize bran.

Composite lanterns are often decorative and rely on a light source like an LED light or string of lights. A solar lantern is powered by the sun light and has its own solar panel and batteries to store and utilize solar energy.

There was an interpretation and implementation issue and the replacement with the phrase “Solar Lanterns” takes away the ambiguity.

b. Exemption for textiles.

The punctuation of clause 3 (ai) is being amended to create more clarity.

c. Billets

The supply of billets for further value addition in Uganda is deleted from the exemption list. A billet is a semi-finished metal product, typically of a solid length with a round or square cross-section, that is used as a raw material for further processing.

Billets are common starting points for making various metal products like bars, rods, wire and tubes.

d. Biomass pellets

The supply of biomass pellets has been added to the exemptions list.

Zero rated supplies

The supply of aircraft has been added to the list of zero-rated supplies. This is geared to increase the purchase of aircraft. The law previously allowed for leasing aircraft.

With the drive for Uganda to own more Airlines, this proposal is welcome.

HIDES AND SKINS (EXPORT DUTY) (AMENDMENT) BILL



The proposal is to repeal section 2 (3), section 4 and schedule 2 to the Act. The current law provides for exemptions of certain items from this levy. The proposal is to remove all exemptions of levies on export of hides and skins.

Consequently, any export of hides and skins from Uganda shall attract a levy. The rationale for the proposal is to discourage the export of raw hides and skins.

TAX PROCEDURES CODE BILL

Use of National IDs, Business Registration Numbers and TINs issued by foreign tax authorities.

The Bill proposes to use national identification numbers, business registration numbers and a tax identification number issued by a foreign tax authority as tax identification numbers.

The proposal is aimed at widening of the tax base. Many Ugandan nationals now have National IDs and the compliance through use of national IDs would increase this tax base.

The unique identifiers shall be stated on returns, notices and other communication or document furnished for purposes of tax law.

The Bill further proposes that the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) system is linked to the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) system to aid in tax compliance.

The proposal also prohibits the issuance of a business or municipal license to anyone who does not present a national ID or business registration numbers and TINs issued by foreign tax authorities where Uganda has a Tax treaty or agreement to exchange information.

The proposed Bill also prohibits the registration of any instrument required to pay duty under the law unless the person lodging such instrument presents a national ID or business registration numbers and TINs issued by foreign tax authorities where Uganda has a Tax treaty or agreement to exchange information.

The Bill proposes that the Minister shall make regulations for the procedure and requirements for registering and issuing registration numbers to non-individuals.

This provision would take effect on date appointed by the Minister by statutory instrument and not on 1 July as other tax proposals.

Waiver of interest and penalty on principal tax

The bill proposes to provide for the waiver of interest and penalty on any outstanding principal tax where the principal tax outstanding as at 30 June 2024 is paid by 30 June 2026. Further, the waiver is applicable on any part payment of the outstanding principal tax on pro rata basis.

This serves as a tax amnesty to allow for ease of compliance. There is need to align the waivers with the tax ledgers to realise the impact of the waiver.

Penal tax relating to non-compliance with Efris

The proposed bill provides for a penalty equal to double the amount of the tax due on the goods or services for a taxpayer who does not use the electronic fiscal device or e-receipts

and e-invoices for goods and services.

The current law was not clear as to whether penalties are applied per invoice or per day until the Tax Appeals Tribunal guided on the interpretation in the case of *Jazz Supermarket Vs URA* (TAT Application No. 115 of 2021) and *Embassy Supermarket (U) Ltd v URA* (TAT Application No.114 of 2021), where the Tribunal identified the ambiguity and held that the penalty can only be imposed per month and not per invoice.

The punitive measure is therefore aimed at clarity in the penalty to allow for tax compliance for taxpayers to use electronic devices for their business.

However, for high value transactions, the new penalty regime may be too excessive.

Creation of centralised payment gateway for betting

The Bill proposes a centralised payment gateway licensed by the Bank of Uganda for receipt of wagers and payment of winnings. The said payments gateway shall be linked to Uganda Revenue Authority electronic notice system.

The law proposes that the operators of Casino, gaming or betting activity may only receive wagers or money stacked or make payouts through payments service provider licensed by the bank of Uganda.

The Bill further proposes a penalty of double the gaming or withholding tax due or UGX 110,000,000 whichever is higher for non-compliance with the centralised payments gateway.

Non-compliance with Tax exemption conditions

The Bill proposes a personal liability for tax where an exempt taxpayer fails to meet the conditions of exemption.

The proposal further is aimed at controlling abuse of the exemptions granted to taxpayers. At all times or during the period of the exemption, the taxpayer should remain "exempt" in word and deed.

EXCISE DUTY BILL



Remission of tax

The Bill proposes a remission of excise duty paid on damaged, expired or obsolete goods.

The law proposes that one of the conditions for one to qualify for the remission, the application should be accompanied a report indicating the extent and cause of damage by a competent authority. This may present implantation challenges.

The taxpayer has the option to have this duty offset against any other tax liabilities.

Excise duty rates

a.	Soft Cap		
	Locally manufactured	UGX 55,000 per 1,000 sticks	UGX 65,000 per 1,000 sticks
	Imported	UGX 75,000 per 1,000 sticks	UGX 150,000 per 1,000 sticks
b.	Hinge Lid		
	Locally manufactured	UGX 80,000 per 1,000 sticks	UGX 90,000 per 1,000 sticks
	Imported	UGX 100,000 per 1,000 sticks	UGX 200,000 per 1,000 sticks
c.	Beer		
	Beer whose local raw material content, excluding water, is at least 75% by weight of its constituent	30% or UGX 650 per litre whichever is higher	30% or UGX 900 per litre, whichever is higher
d.	Fruit Juices		
	Fruit juice and vegetable juice, except juice made from at least 50% (formerly 30%) of pulp from fruit and vegetables locally grown in Partner State	12% or UGX 250 per litre whichever is higher	10% or UGX 250 per litre whichever is higher
e.	Fuel		
	Motor spirit (gasoline)	UGX 1,450 per litre	UGX 1,650 per litre
	Gas oil (automotive, light, amber for highspeed engines)	UGX 1,130 per litre	UGX 1,380 per litre
d.	Plastics		

The current law imposes excised duty of 2.5% or USD 70 per tonne, whichever is higher on Plastic products and plastic granules

The bill proposes to limit the duty 2.5% or USD 70 per tonne, whichever is higher on Sacks and bags of polymers of ethylene and other plastics under HS Codes 3923.21.00 and 3923.29.00 except vacuum packaging bags for food juices, tea and coffee sacks, and bags for direct use in the manufacture of sanitary pads.

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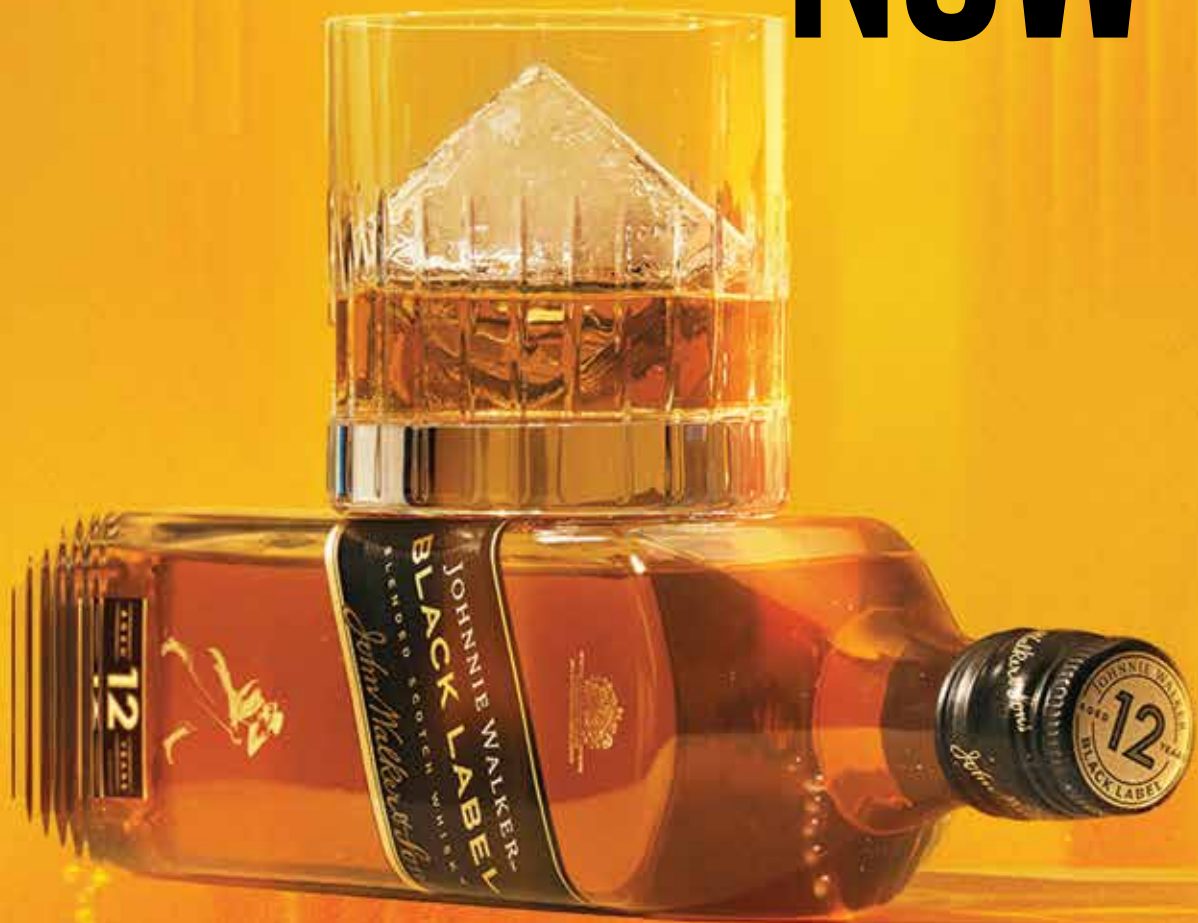
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- K9 (Canine)
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- Cash In Transit



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- Criminal Investigations
- External Deployment and Close Protection

Fact Card



Programs

All figures are as of 30 June 2024 and in U.S. dollars

PolioPlus

Since 1988, Rotary and our partners have immunized nearly 3 billion children against polio. As of June 2024, Rotary had committed more than \$2.6 billion to global polio eradication. We're still working to eliminate the wild poliovirus in the last two countries where it remains endemic and to ensure that it does not return elsewhere. **In 2023-24, program awards, including PolioPlus Partners grants, totaled \$146.3 million.**

Rotary Peace Centers

Each year, the Foundation supports the training of peace fellows at Rotary Peace Centers, where they earn master's degrees or professional development certificates. Since 2002-03, 1,800 fellows from more than 140 countries have participated. **In 2023-24, 92 fellows from 42 countries began their studies at the Rotary Peace Centers, and program awards for the fellows and centers totaled \$4.4 million.**

District grants

District grants support small-scale, short-term projects related to the Foundation's mission. **In 2023-24, the Foundation approved 485 district grants, and program awards totaled \$29.2 million.**

Global grants

Global grants fund large-scale international activities with sustainable, measurable results that support Rotary's areas of focus. Activities include humanitarian projects, scholarships, and vocational training teams. **In 2023-24, the Foundation approved 1,287 global grants, and program awards totaled \$72.1 million.**

Disaster response grants

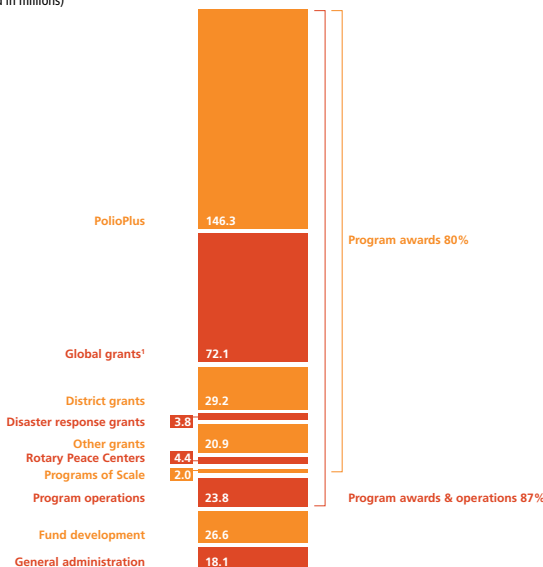
Rotary's disaster response grants support relief and recovery efforts in areas that have been affected by natural disasters within the past six months. **In 2023-24, the Foundation approved 106 disaster response grants, and program awards totaled \$3.8 million.**

Programs of Scale grants

Programs of Scale grants empower Rotary members to work with experienced partners to implement large-scale, high-impact projects over three to five years to benefit a large number of people. **Partners for Water Access and Better Harvest in India, which is designed to improve the livelihoods of over 60,000 rural farmers across four states in India through the implementation of sustainable agriculture and water management practices, was awarded the 2023-24 grant of \$2 million and was matched by \$4 million in funding from our partners.**

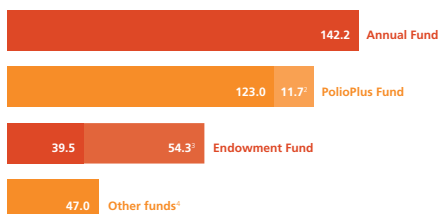
2023-24 TOTAL EXPENDITURES: US\$347.2 million

(rounded and in millions)



2023-24 TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: US\$417.7 million

(rounded and in millions)



¹ Net of returned funds and other adjustments
² Polio transfers
³ Total new commitments to the Endowment Fund
⁴ Includes cash contributions to global grants, the Disaster Response Fund, donor advised fund, and directed gifts.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

Contribution summary	2023-24	All-time contributions
Annual Fund	\$142.2 million	\$3.5 billion
Endowment Fund	\$39.5 million	\$568.7 million
PolioPlus Fund	\$123.0 million	\$2.3 billion
Other*	\$47.0 million	\$464.7 million
Total outright contributions	\$351.7 million	\$6.8 billion
Total new commitments to the Endowment Fund	\$54.3 million	\$982.6 million
Polio transfers**	\$11.7 million	-
Grand total	\$417.7 million	-
Program awards & operations	\$302.5 million	Since 1947: \$6.15 billion

Totals are rounded and in U.S. dollars.

* Cash contributions to global grants, directed gifts, and contributions to the donor advised fund.

** District Designated Fund transfers and the resulting World Fund match, affinity card royalties, and donor advised fund transfers to PolioPlus. Does not include a \$4.2 million transfer from the World Fund.

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BE CAREFUL: Supplements & Chronic Medication Don't Always Mix!

FILBERT RUTAGIRA

Operations Officer C&A Pharmacy

What You Need to Know About Interactions

Many people take supplements for better energy, stronger immunity, or general health support. While they offer great benefits, taking them alongside chronic medication can lead to unexpected effects.

Supplements may seem harmless, but if you're on long-term medication, they must be used consciously and carefully.

Even everyday vitamins, herbs, and minerals can interact with prescription drugs, either reducing their effectiveness or increasing the risk of side effects. Understanding these interactions helps you stay safe and get the most out of your treatment.

Common Drug–Supplement Interactions to Watch For

Calcium & Thyroid Medication (e.g., Levothyroxine): Calcium can block the absorption of thyroid medications, making them less effective. Always take them at least 4 hours apart to avoid this interaction.

Iron & Blood Pressure Medication (ACE inhibitors): Iron may interfere with how well blood pressure medications work. To avoid this, take your iron in the evening and your medication in the morning. **Vitamin K & Warfarin (blood thinner):** Vitamin K helps blood clot, which directly counters the effects of warfarin. Keep your vitamin K intake consistent, and always check with your doctor before adding any multivitamins or greens-heavy supplements.

If you're managing diabetes, pay special attention. Certain supplements can alter blood sugar levels, either too high or too low.

Berberine, bitter melon, chromium, and alpha-lipoic acid can enhance the blood sugar-lowering effect of medications, risking hypoglycemia. **Meanwhile, niacin (Vitamin B3), high-dose Vitamin C** may raise blood glucose, making your medications work harder.

Ginsengs: Both types of Panax ginseng may lower blood sugar levels in people with type 2 diabetes. However, in a few studies, it looked like Asian or Korean ginseng raised blood sugar levels; therefore, consult your doctor/pharmacist on which one best suits your condition

Pro Tip: Timing Makes a Difference: If your doctor has prescribed both a medication and a supplement, when you take each one matters just as much as what you're taking. Timing them correctly can prevent interactions and help both work effectively.

A helpful general guide: Take your prescription in the morning and your supplement in the evening, or vice versa, depending on your doctor's advice. This gives your body time to process each without interference.

Need Help Deciding What's Safe? Your health journey deserves support that's expert and personalized. Whether you're taking supplements, chronic medication, or both, the best results come from informed choices.

Visit C&A Pharmaceuticals for more information on drug–supplement interactions, one-on-one consultations, and safe supplement use tailored to your condition.

Visit our website or get in touch using the details below.



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Congratulatory Message!

Birungyi, Barata and Associates (BBA) Congratulates Ms. Maximilia Byenkya on the new role as the club president of the Rotary club of Kitante!

Birungyi, Barata and Associates (BBA) is a Legal and Tax consultancy firm located at Plot 14 Archer Road, Kololo, Kampala – Uganda. The Firm was established in 2003 and has over the years grown to be recognized by Local and International peers as well as International Legal ranking firms such as IFLR 1000, Chambers and Partners, Global Law Experts and ITR World Tax among others for its excellence in Tax and Legal Services.

The Firm aims at providing clients with the best advice, support and dedication in execution of assignments. The firm's Partners lead this team of professionals to provide a well-coordinated, thoroughly researched and high-quality results.

The Firm has carried out a number of consultancy assignments within Uganda for various ministries and government bodies, and outside Uganda for the EAC Secretariate, Trademark East Africa, GIZ, IFC, AFDB, the World Bank, Rwanda, Liberia, Nigeria and Malawi.

BBA's other areas of practice include; banking and finance, employment, immigration, land conveyancing, intellectual property, company secretarial services, energy, securities, construction, insurance, corporate and commercial advisory and alternative dispute resolution among others.

Once again, warmest congratulations and we wish you a successful and rewarding term, filled with achievement and positive impact on the club and its members.

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From Crisis to Care: How Strategic Partnership Transformed Healthcare for Kampala's Most Vulnerable Communities

CHARLES MUSOKE SSERUNJOGI
Program Manager

Adapted from the KCCC Impact report 2022-2024

When Vision Meets Action

In the heart of Kampala's Kamwokya district, a remarkable transformation has quietly unfolded—one that offers a powerful blueprint for sustainable healthcare improvement in underserved communities across East Africa.

The Challenge: A Health Center at Breaking Point

Just three years ago, the Kamwokya Christian Caring Community (KCCC) Health Centre faced a heartbreaking reality. Despite serving over 12,300 patients annually and employing 16 dedicated healthcare workers, the facility was failing the very community it sought to serve.

Pregnant women who attended antenatal care were reluctant to deliver at KCCC, instead seeking expensive alternatives they could barely afford. The reason? Critical equipment shortages meant the center had to refer over 20 babies for life-saving resuscitation services elsewhere within just two years. Many families simply couldn't afford these referrals. This equipment gap created a devastating cycle: low patient confidence led to reduced utilization, which in turn limited revenue needed for improvements.

The Intervention: Strategic Investment in Essential Equipment

In 2022, the Rotary Club of Kitante stepped in with a targeted approach. Rather than providing temporary aid, they conducted a comprehensive needs assessment and invested in 15 pieces of essential medical equipment—from oxygen concentrators to delivery beds, from microscopes to vital signs monitors.

The total intervention included:

- Life-saving equipment (oxygen concentrator, vital signs monitor)
- Maternal care essentials (delivery beds, emergency trolleys)
- Diagnostic tools (microscope, HB meter, blood pressure machines)
- Patient comfort and safety items (wheelchairs, hospital beds)

The Transformation: Numbers That Tell a Story

The results have been nothing short of extraordinary:

Maternal Health Breakthrough:

- Deliveries increased from 44 in 2022 to 168 in 2024—a 282% improvement
- First-time antenatal visits jumped from 136 to 451 over the same period
- Zero maternal or newborn deaths since the equipment was installed

Life-Saving Impact:

- 45 babies provided life-saving oxygen therapy
- 52 mothers received critical oxygen support
- 22 unconscious patients stabilized with immediate oxygen access
- 3,003 malaria tests conducted, with 1,026 positive cases properly diagnosed and treated

Operational Excellence:

- Clinic hours extended from 8 hours to 24/7 operation
- Patient satisfaction increased through reduced pain and faster service
- Medical staff efficiency improved with better diagnostic capabilities

The Sustainability Factor: A Model That Pays Forward

Perhaps most importantly, this intervention created a virtuous cycle. Improved services attracted more patients, generating increased revenue that now helps KCCC maintain its operations and plan for future improvements. The health center has moved from dependence to sustainability—a critical factor for long-term community impact.

Why This Model Works: Lessons for Future Partners

The KCCC transformation succeeds because it addresses several key factors simultaneously:

- Community-Centered Approach:* Equipment selection was based on actual community needs, not assumptions
- Quality Staff Foundation:* The center already had skilled personnel; they just needed proper tools
- Strategic Equipment Selection:* Focus on high-impact, essential items rather than high-tech solutions
- Measurable Outcomes:* Clear metrics demonstrate both health and financial impacts
- Local Ownership:* KCCC staff drive the daily operations and improvements

The Opportunity Ahead: Scaling Impact Across Uganda

KCCC's success story illuminates the enormous potential for similar transformations across the country, where countless health centers face identical challenges. The model is proven, replicable, and cost-effective.



For current and potential partners, this represents an opportunity to:

- Make measurable, immediate impact on maternal and child mortality
- Support sustainable healthcare improvements that continue long after initial investment
- Leverage existing healthcare infrastructure and skilled personnel
- Create ripple effects that benefit entire communities

Looking Forward: An Invitation to Transform Lives

The staff at KCCC extend their heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Kitante, recognizing that this partnership has fundamentally changed their ability to serve their community. But their story also serves as an inspiring invitation.

Across Uganda and throughout East Africa, hundreds of health centers with dedicated staff await similar opportunities to transform from basic facilities into centers of excellence. The blueprint exists. The need is documented. The impact is proven.

For organizations seeking meaningful partnerships that create lasting change, the KCCC model offers a path forward—one where strategic investment in essential healthcare equipment can literally save lives while building sustainable healthcare capacity in the communities that need it most.

The question isn't whether this model works—KCCC has proven that. The question is: which health center will be next?



Top: Education on menstrual health.

Bottom: Nurse listening to the baby's heartbeat during an antenatal visit

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