

THE WAVE

ISSUE 01 | JULY 2025

**GEOFFREY
MARTIN
KITAKULE**

District Governor
2025 - 2026

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

*"We must align ourselves
with purpose, not just
Rotary's purpose but a
higher one, the calling to
be servants of Hope".*

- Governor GK





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Passing the Flame

Editor's Note

Making Unite For Good More Than a Slogan

After a year of seeing magic around us and doing things in a magical way under the leadership of now Immediate Past District Governor Anne Nkutu, it's time to come together—as one united force—and carry the magical spirit forward by continuing to do good. Unite for Good is not just our slogan; it's our shared commitment.

This year, this season, in our country Uganda, we deserve this call to action more than ever—because in just a few months, we shall head to the polls to choose the political leaders of our nation. If this isn't the time to ensure we Unite for Good, then I don't know when it shall be.

And in Rotary space, Governor Geoffrey Martin Kitakule has taken the reins of District 9213 with the energy and tenacity captured in his personal motto—Ride or Die. It's a call to action that transcends comfort zones and invites every Rotarian to show up, stay the course, and be unwavering in their dedication to service.

This issue of The WAVE therefore introduces to you the Governor and his dynamic leadership team—

the team he will ride with for the next 12 months.

And in our focus also is the month of July—the month when Rotary not only changes leadership but also turns its full attention to the pressing issues of Maternal and Child Health. This is the foundation of strong families and thriving communities. When well handled, matters of maternal and child health give a country confidence in its future—a healthy, vibrant future.

In this edition, therefore, you will find stories of Rotarians saving mothers and children in some sampled districts of Kampala, Kitgum, Tororo, Kalangala, Mpigi, Manafwa, Wakiso, Kalungu, and Kaliro districts through Global Grant activities. This showcase of Rotary's commitment to improving lives—regardless of political affiliation or any other status of the beneficiaries—reminds us why we serve, and why you, who is reading this, should be part of us.

We also spotlight a Rotary water engineer—an alumnus of the Rotary scholarship, another testament to the goodness Rotary does out there.

As we look ahead, we also take a



moment to spotlight the future leaders emerging within our Rotary family—those who will carry the torch forward with new perspectives and an unwavering spirit of volunteerism. Their profiles remind us that Rotary is not static—it evolves with each new generation.

To every reader, thank you for picking up this first edition. May it challenge you, inform you, and most of all, remind you that in Rotary, we unite not just in structure, but in service, heart, and the shared journey of doing good. From here on, every page will be a record of our shared impact.

Let's ride this year together—for good, for life

Sheila Naturinda
RC Kampala Central
Chair - Editorial Committee

EDITORIAL TEAM



Helen Nanteza Kawesa
RC Kampala Ssesse Islands



Esther Mwambu
RC Kampala South



Innocent Ndawula
RC Kampala South



Peter Nyanzi
RC Kampala-Naalya



Tony Mushoborozi
Friend of Rotary



Victoria Awori
RC Lira Metropolitan



Robert Walakira
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RI President's Message

Cari amici,

Two weeks ago, I was in my living room playing with my grandchildren. A few days later, I was on a plane to Calgary, suddenly carrying the responsibility of leading this incredible organization. Life comes fast, but so often, it brings us exactly where we're meant to be.

We begin this year with a clear message: Unite for Good. It is a simple phrase, but a powerful one. Because behind every successful Rotary effort, every act of service, every new member welcomed, every global challenge met – there are two things that matter most: friendship and trust.

This is how we build strong clubs. It's how we create meaningful partnerships and transform global problems into local solutions. It's also how we lead—not through titles or applause, but with humility, humanity, and heart. But let me be honest with you—this kind of leadership is not always easy. We're human and yes, we make mistakes. We sometimes disagree, but in Rotary, we are called to

something greater. Let us reflect on the full vision of Rotary:

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

That last part is essential, because transformation doesn't start with strategy. It starts with character and the way we treat one another. It starts with how we listen, how we support, and how we serve.

This year, I ask you to lead with that spirit. To grow Rotary through relationships. To make your clubs more welcoming, more flexible, more open to new ideas. To think big—but also to think beyond one year. Our term is short, but our impact can be lasting if we plan and act with continuity and vision.

Let us remember our key priorities: membership, polio, and peace. We are closer than ever to ending polio. We cannot stop now. We must keep the promise we made to the children of the world. And as for peace—Rotary

has been building it for over a century. Every clean water system, every youth exchange, every maternal health project is a step toward peace.

I joined Rotary as a young professional, eager to help but terrified of public speaking. My fellow Rotarians believed in me and encouraged me to take on new roles, and in doing so, Rotary changed my life. It gave me courage and purpose, but above all, it gave me you: my friends, my team, my family around the world.

So now, my friends... take out your dreams tucked away in a drawer, especially those you thought were too big or bold to achieve. Let's bring them into the light. Let's Unite for Good—for our clubs, our communities, and our world. And let's make this a year not only of service, but of joy, of connection, and of love.

With gratitude and affection,

Francesco Arezzo
President, Rotary
International, 2025-26





District Governor's Message

Let's Get To Work !

Dear Rotarians and Rotaractors

Welcome to the New Rotary year where we shall Unite to do Good.

If we are to achieve the goals set out for this Rotary year we need to Show up. Showing up matters. It shows that you care. It tells that you are in Rotary not for recognition, not for reward, but because something inside you refuses to sit back without doing your part to make our communities better.

But let me be honest with you—this won't be easy but with God on our side we shall prevail. Volunteering is a lot of work. It will involve early mornings and late nights. We shall be lifting more than we thought we could. We shall do things no one else notices but with great impact on communities. They will not be glamorous but it will also be fun and meaningful.

And I'll tell you this: no great change has ever come without people like you—ordinary Rotarians willing to put in extraordinary effort. It is indeed Service above Self as we unite and take action to create lasting change in our communities, and in ourselves.

As a Rotarian or Rotaractor, you are the backbone of this mission. You are the energy behind every step forward. And your work will matter. Every hand lent, and every moment given—it all matters. You may not always see the results right away, but someone out there will feel the impact of what you've done. And as we do this let us invite more people to join us, each one of us bring one.

So let's commit—not just to show up, but to dig deep and give to the Foundation To give this everything we've got. To unite and support each other. To push through

the fatigue. And to remind ourselves, again and again, why we are Rotarians: because we are People of Action and we believe that change is possible, and that it starts with us.

Let's get out there. Let's work hard. Let us also tell the World what we are doing, let us show it on our social media handles with hashtags #Unite4good9213, #D9213RotaryCares, #RotaryEyamba. And let's leave no doubt—we showed up, we gave it our all, and we made a difference.

Let us be the Ride or Die Rotarians this year !

Let's get to work!
#Unite4good9213

Geoffrey Martin Kitakule
District Governor 2025-2026
Rotary International
District 9213

Mission Ride or Die!

By Rtn Innocent Ndawula

GEOFFREY KITAKULE AT A GLANCE

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CAREER SUMMARY

A highly accomplished, multidisciplinary professional with extensive experience in finance, telecom, business development, and operations across Africa. A dynamic leader in Rotary International, celebrated for organizing large-scale fundraising initiatives and pioneering digital transformation events during COVID-19. Recognized for strategic vision, cross-sectoral leadership, and a deep commitment to community service.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Member, Rotary Club of Kampala South
- Former President, Rotary Club of Kampala South (2016/17)
- Achieved Presidential Citation, top awards in Family of Rotary, Community Service & Youth Engagement
- Hosted RI President John Germ
- Uganda Country Funds Coordinator
- Assistant Governor, Clubs: Kampala North, Natete, Makindye West, 7 Hills, Bweyogerere Central, E-Club Uganda Global
- New Club Advisor, Rotary Clubs of Maisha & Upper Kololo (chartered in record 6 months with 70+ members)
- Chair, Oscar & Friends Jazz Series (raised UGX 40M+)
- Chair, Mengo Blood Bank Jazz Concerts featuring Hugh Masekela, Kirk Whallum, Isaiah Katumwa (raised over USD 200,000)
- Chair, 1st & 2nd Rotary Peace Concerts (raised over USD 1M, global participation incl. RI President Jennifer Jones)
- Chair, 1st Virtual District 9211 Conference (DCA95) & 98th DCA for D9213/D9214 in Mbarara
- District Treasurer, D9213 (2023/2024)
- Board Member, Women in Rotary Fellowship, Mengo Rotary Blood Bank
- Major Donor, Rotary Foundation
- Attendee at multiple Rotary International Conventions and Zone Institutes



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Group Head, Strategic Operations – Letshego Group (Pan-Africa)
- Oversaw operations in 11 African countries from HQ in Uganda
- Member, Management Committee
- Former Chief Executive Officer – Letshego Uganda (11 years)
- Elevated company into a top-tier non-deposit microfinance institution

PREVIOUS ROLES:

- Investment Manager, NSSF Uganda
- Corporate Finance Specialist, East African Development Bank (EADB)
- Market Analyst & Planning Manager, MTN Uganda
- Management Associate (Global Capital Markets), Citibank New York
- Corporate Credit Analyst, Allied Bank (now Bank of Africa)
- Business Analyst, UMACIS Consulting (now BDO)
- Systems Analyst, New Vision
- Lecturer, Makerere University & MUBS (MBA Program)
- Consultant to: World Bank, IFC, DFID & private clients

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

- Board of Trustees, Airtel Mobile Commerce Uganda
- Board Member, Letshego Ghana, Kenya, Uganda
- Former Chair, Letshego Microfinance Bank

- Rwanda
- Former Board Member, Letshego Nigeria & Tanzania
- Director, AK Communications, St. James S.S. Jinja, GKFOODS, GKENVIRO LOGISTICS

EDUCATION

- MBA (Finance) – University of Maryland (R.H. Smith Business School), USA
- ATLASF Fellow (Leadership & Advanced Skills)
- MSc Computer Science (Distinction) – The Queen’s University Belfast, UK
- Howard Johnstone Prize for Excellence
- ODA Scholarship Fellow
- Master of Laws (IT & Telecom Law) – University of Strathclyde, UK
- Bachelor of Statistics (First Class) – Makerere

University, Uganda

EXECUTIVE TRAINING:

- Project Finance – Harvard Business School
- Pension Fund Management – Wharton Business School
- Strategic Marketing & Management – Various Institutions

COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Director, Kitakule Foundation
- Kitakule Foundation Built a Community Library & Children’s Clinic in Busesa, Bugweri District (ancestral home)

INTERESTS

- Smooth Jazz enthusiast
- Avid Arsenal Football Club supporter

“Geoffrey is a born leader!”

That is how Rotarian David Isingoma Kahwa describes Geoffrey Martin Kitakule in two words. Dig further in the Rotary community and Williams Kasozi says “when he commits to doing something, he does it fulltime.”

Shem Nnaggenda Nsubuga says Kitakule is a man that “supports whoever he works with in excess” while Charles Odaga is in awe of the “vision, generosity, and kind heart” of the man.

Peter Masaba, a friend, describes Kitakule as “a silent doer, not a noise maker.” His niece Bathsheba Victoria Kabubi defines Kitakule as a “mentor, protector, father figure.”

“He is always looking out for who to support and help. No wonder he joined Rotary,” Sarah Kitakule, his sister, caps off.



The character of the man leads credence to the saying “charity starts at home.”

Kitakule grew up in Busesa, a small town in Bugweri District, which neighbours Iganga. His childhood was punctuated with questions on how he would make a difference for his people.

Once he watched a mother get off a bicycle. She held onto her baby tight with a small cloth trying to save its life. She screamed for help but by the time people came to her aid, it was too late and the baby passed on.

Ironically, she had ridden for hours to get to the health centre but was late. These scenarios are commonplace as many people get sick with curable diseases like malaria and pneumonia.

Seeking change

For Kitakule, the incidents became so unbearable that he took a path to change everything. Those who know him from his childhood say Kitakule was not the loudest or most noticeable child. He was just curious and spent most of his time playing soccer and absorbing life’s lesson’s quietly.

His father Abiathur Kitakule, a Railway Executive who was in charge of the Uganda Railway Station in Jinja, and a prominent trade unionist taught him that success was more than survival. It was about making a difference

His mother, a teacher, taught him to always put God first in all did and that education could unlock

opportunities.

“My dad emphasized education and not just for the sake of it but as a means of making a difference in your life and to get out of a struggling environment. My parents worked hard to see that I went to the best schools.”

Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa, a past Rotary District Governor was Kitakule year mate at Makerere says he was “bright and dedicated to his education,” which he saw as a tool to make a difference in people’s lives.

“He was very intelligent, meticulous, organised, structured, and exceedingly reliable,” says Nsibirwa.

Masaba says; “Geoffrey is one of the only people I know in this town who has four degrees and all of them are in different disciplines.”

Kitakule, armed with degrees in Statistics, Computer Science, Business, and Law, joined some of the most prominent organisations both abroad and in Uganda including Citibank, MTN, NSSF, and East African Development Bank. The journey equipped him with skills to tackle some of the issues he witnessed as a child.

Helping hand

The challenges of life faced by his people were clear; school going children lacked textbooks, families needed support, the healthcare system was broken, so through the Kitakule Family Foundation, they established the Hope Children’s Clinic thereby creating more space for healing in this region.



Yokonia Kebba, a nurse at Hope Clinic says that “since many of us in Busoga are sugarcane growers, we find ourselves planting sugarcane all the way to the steps of our houses hence the high prevalence of Malaria in the area. But in private settings the medication is very expensive and when we reach out to the government hospitals, mostly there are no drugs.”

Yusuf Maganda, the LC1 Busesa, confirms that “treating a child in a private centre could cost about Shs200,000 and more” while his counterpart from Nawangisa Steven Katandi says “a Health Centre III is meant to serve one sub county but ends up serving up to three.”

Maganda adds that when the “Kitakule Foundation saw this, they decided to put their own health centre. We thought it was just for the people in Busesa but it is welcoming people from all neighbouring communities.”

This has helped the area have medical help “at a subsidized price as you pay just Shs10,000 and the child gets all the treatment he or she needs until they get better,” Kebba says.

The Kitakule family, whose aforementioned belief in having a deep rooted commitment to education cannot be overstated, wanted to extend the same opportunities beyond their home into the community so this led to the creation of a community library.

It is not just a place for books but a bridge to a world of knowledge that had long been out of reach.

Gertrude Nalugo, the librarian at the facility says “the children could not afford the expensive education.

Schools asked for particular text books for candidates. This library helps as children are able to come and read here at no cost.”

Understanding the barrier to digital access, Kitakule Foundation took it a step further by turning the library into a connection hub providing free Internet access and a computer training centre thereby ensuring that students and community members could develop digital skills and access global opportunities.

“In this entire area, there was no way for people, young and old, to access internet.

But now the kids struck gold as they can search for whatever they do not know here,” Nalugo shares.

Some might wonder why Kitakule does what he does and what keeps him pushing forward refusing to stop.

“Life is not about having things but about how you have to touch other people’s lives,” Kitakule says.

“When you go back and look at what you have done and see what impact it has had on people’s lives you get satisfaction,” Kitakule confesses.

Rotarian William Kasozi says it is “his desire to see people do better”.

Growing impact

In 2008, things aligned further for Kitakule when he stepped into a leadership role at Letshego Uganda. Masaba says this put him on the boards of Letshego in Uganda, Ghana, Kenya, and Tanzania hence moving “from being a Ugandan professional to actually an African professional.”



One of his boldest moves was distributing 6,000 books to struggling schools but it came with a defining moment when a young boy later approached him clutching a donated book.

“He walked up to me and told me that with this book ‘I’ll be able to read and one day become a doctor’. This shows that what we do can actually make dreams come true,” Kitakule recounts.

With renewed purpose, Kitakule expanded Letshego Uganda’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives to include financial literacy programmes. His goal was to create a ripple effect where education inspires entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship drives prosperity.

While Letshego and the Kitakule Foundation’s corporate social responsibility projects were making an impact, they could only reach thousands yet the need was for hundreds of thousands. That is when Kitakule made a decision to rejoin Rotary, an international organisation dedicated to service above self.

“He joined Rotary courtesy of my introduction,” Nsubuga shares.

Rotary’s champion

Kitakule says they had “seen how we can actually break the cycle of suffering, break the cycle of poverty, and impact communities forever” as programmes like literacy drives and microloans schemes flourished as his efforts combined with those of his Rotary network.

“Like in Uganda we have over 200 clubs. Through that structure we can actually reach different communities and have an impact. It has given us a platform to restructure and reach millions of people,” Kitakule says.

But not everybody shared his vision as critics questioned his methods; doubting how his philanthropy and business could co-exist. Kitakule, however, remains steadfast drawing strength from his mother’s wisdom to be known by “your good works”.

“She also taught me one thing. Every night after dinner, before we went to sleep, she would play a song that says that whenever there’s a situation that comes and affects you, make sure you stay confident, stay calm, and stay with God.

“That song keeps me going. As long as I am being good, as long as I am impacting lives, it keeps me going,” Kitakule shares.

Over a decade into these initiatives with fellow Rotarians, they have lifted thousands, schools have seen improved performance, families have started small businesses, and entire communities have begun to thrive.

“His footprints are everywhere in terms of success,” Nsubuga says while Francis Xavier Sentamu, a past Rotary District Governor says “I know what a wonderful year the Rotary Club of Kampala South had under his leadership.”

“The wonderful projects made and of course the milestone thing was hosting the president of Rotary



International president John Germ and his wife Judy on Monday February 27, 2017.” The day was graced by the then Rotary International President Nominee Sam Owori (RIP) and several Rotary dignitaries.

With Kitakule elected the Rotary District Governor, Nsubuga believes “what we are getting is someone who is going to bring all that experience, all the success to Rotary.”

“He has put in time and effort. When he served as president Rotary Club of Kampala South, he was the best that year and served as a fundraiser partnering with luminaries like the late Hugh Masekela to fundraise for the blood bank.”

Nsibirwa adds that “when the Rotary International Director Emmanuel Katongole was looking for a person to work with in starting the Rotary Peace Concert, he (Kitakule) was the first person he went to and he did a stellar job for two to three years.”

Support from within

Despite these achievements, skeptics still asked why he diverted resources and Kitakule answered by asking “if success doesn’t include others is it truly success?”

This, Kahwa who says Kitakule was born for the District Governor role believes, is “already a gesture



that he is one of those people who is not looking at himself but at the community." A "community" that "is in great hands," according to Kabubi.

Kitakule continues to inspire through rotary's mentorship programmes ensuring the next generation of leaders is equipped to uplift their communities. He is building a legacy of impact by mentoring young leaders.

"When you do things and touch communities, you realise that our greatest achievement is not what we do but how we inspire others so their lives change forever," Kitakule speaks of his intuition.

For this reason, his niece Camilla Mukungu, says "we cannot imagine anyone more deserving. The most hard working, intelligent, and intentional man that I know and we know that you are going to smash it in this role."

Further family support comes from his sister Sarah who says; "I know that God will give you the wisdom and the intelligence, the resources and people to

rally around you in what you are doing as the DG and I know that you will not let us down so I just want to wish you all the best."

His brother Dr. Moses Mwesigwa believes that Kitakule's "footsteps are led by God to make you a blessing to others" while his daughter Elizabeth and son Timothy Mukisa wish him "an excellent and fulfilling year."

Kitakule's journey has been about turning challenges into opportunities and now as District Governor, he is set to scale the impact further by bringing more resources and hope to more communities as he works with individuals who share his vision and purpose.

Numbers



200,000

Treatment at private centres can cost about Shs200, 000



10,000

Treatment at Hope Clinic Busesa costs Shs10, 000



6,000

Career defining books distributed by Kitakule at Letshego



2008

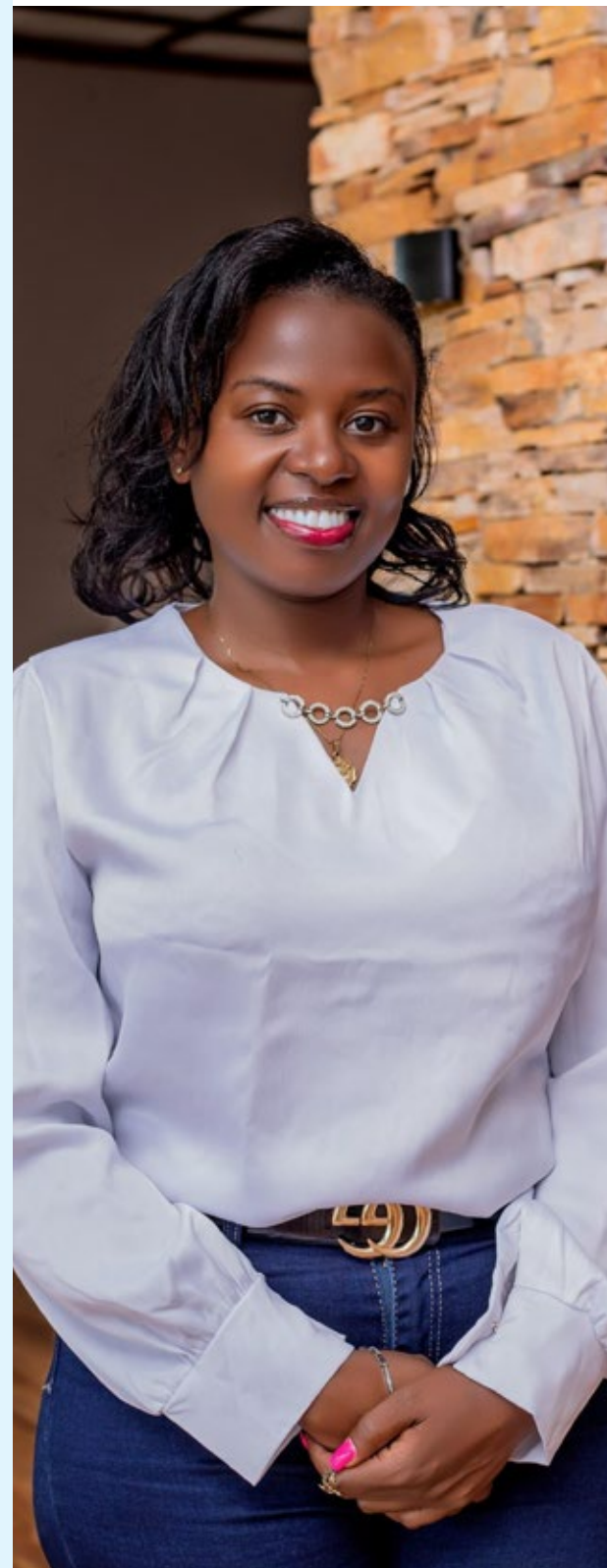
Year he stepped into leadership at Letshego



200

Over 200 rotary clubs in Uganda

MEET 'ABI': THE NEW FACE OF ROTARACT LEADERSHIP



Nahabwe Abesage is the new leader – the Governor of Young people – of the Rotaract fraternity in the district. Abi, as she is fondly called across the board, is a self-driven, organized, and cheerful young lady with a passion for service and leadership. She is known for her integrity, reliability, and ambition. To Rotaract, she brings a lot of energy and great professionalism.

Her academic background includes a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology and Computing from Kyambogo University, along with secondary and primary education from Bweranyangi Girls' Secondary School and Nyakihita Day & Boarding Primary School, respectively.

Professionally, she has held key roles such as Operations Manager at Elite International Consultants Ltd and Customer Relations Manager at World of Inspiration Uganda.

Her Rotaract journey began on 14th May 2019 when she was inducted into the Rotaract Club of Nangabo. Since then, she has grown through the ranks, serving in several leadership roles at the club level including Public Image Chair, Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Club Trainer. Beyond her club, she has been instrumental at the district level, serving as Deputy District Trainer, Assistant District Rotaract Representative (ADRR), and Dean of Assistant District Rotaract Representatives.

Her dedication and impact to serving the less privileged were recognized when she was awarded as the Outstanding District Official in previous years of service. Abis's leadership style is grounded in service, responsibility, and the empowerment of others. She believes in leading by example and consistently brings creativity and commitment to all Rotaract initiatives. Her favourite quote, "Be the leader you wish to see," not only captures her ethos but also inspires those she leads to rise and take charge of creating positive change.



District Officers 2025-2026 Directory

LEADERSHIP



District Governor
Geoffrey Martin Kitakule
RC Kampala South



Vice District Governor
Xavier Sentamu
RC Kiwatule



Executive Assistant to District Governor
Allen Nambakire
RC Kampala South



Immediate Past District Governor
Anne Nkutu
RC Kampala Naalya



District Governor Elect
Gerald Obai
RC Gulu



District Governor Nominee
Fabian Kasi
RC Kiwatule

ADVISORS



TRF Mobilizations
Stephen Mwanje
RC Mukono



Government Relations & Basic Education
Mike Sebalu
RC Bukoto



Strategy
Rosetti Nabumba
RC Mukono



Major Gifts, Peace Initiatives & Fundraising
Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa
RC Kampala



International Service and Partnerships
Francis Tusubira
RC Kampala North



Youth Empowerment
Edward Kakembo Nsubuga
RC Kampala Sesse Islands

ROTARACT LEADERSHIP



District Rotaract Representative
Abesage Nahabwe (Abbie)
RAC Nangabo



Rotaract Transitions
Emmanuel Lukeera
RC Kampala



District Executive Secretary
Douglas Ssebaduka
RAC Kampala City



PIME
William Kusemererwa
RAC Kaihura



District Rotaract Learning Facilitator
Simeo Ssebukulu
RAC Kampala North Musical



Lieutenant District Rotaract Representative
Eunika Kainembabazi
RAC Kasangati



District Conference Chair
Derrick Kabuye
RAC Kampala South

PIME



Chair
Flavia Serugo
RC Kampala Naalya



Vice Chair
Julie Kamuzze
RC Kasangati



Chair
Peter Mukuru
RC Kampala South



Vice
Flavia Nabasa
RC Kampala Central



Chair
Diana Atim
RC Saturday E-Jazz



Vice Chair
Irene Tinka
RAC Naguru

STRATEGY

ROTARY ACTION PLAN

DISTRICT SECRETARIAT



Executive Secretary
Kaziro Kyambadde
RC Kampala East



Vice
Peter Dhamuzungu
RC Bugiri



Lieutenant Governor
Catherine Barasa
RC Kampala Platinum



Vice Lieutenant Governor
Joel Niwamanya
RC Kampala Metropolitan



Treasurer
Timothy Basiima
RC Kampala Day Break



IT Support
Faridah Nankya
RC Kampala Impala



Finance and Admin
Beatrice Ngabirano
Country Office

DISTRICT LEARNING



Chair
Anne Nkuutu
RC Kampala Naalya



Vice
Fredrick Kitakule
RC Kila Day Break



Assistant
Charles Mwanje
RC Kampala North

MEMBERSHIP



Chair-Membership/New Club development
Paul Nampala
RC Kasangati



Membership Engagement
Medi Lutaaya
RC Kira



Member Attraction
Dan Kiguli
RC Gayaza



Family of Rotary
Herbert Muhumuza
RC Kampala North



Rotary Action Groups
Connie Magomu
RC Sonde



Rotary Fellowships
Dorcus Tusubira
RC Sunrise



Corporate membership
Mohammed Kiggundu
RC Nakawa



Rotary Community Corps
Mazima Robert
RC Buloba



E-clubs Development/Coordinator
Mark Asimwe
RC Saturday E Jazz



Diversity Equity & Inclusion
Mariam Mutalaga
RC Namugongo



District Alumni
Patience Asimwe
Rac Naguru

DISTRICT CONFERENCE



Chair
Charles Odaga
RC Kampala South



Secretary
Emily Mbabazi
RC Kampala Sunrise



Treasurer
Paul Muwanga
RC Kampala South



Fundraising
Olive Lumonya
RC Kampala North



Governors Banquet
Joseph Baroraho
RC Kampala South

GOVERNANCE & ETHICS



Chair
Costant Othieno Mayende
RC Ntinda



Vice Chair
Irene Namuli
RC Kampala South



Council on Legislation Representative
John Ndamira Magezi
RC Kampala North



Chair Rotary Uganda
Fabian Kasi
RC Kiwatule

NEW GENERATIONS/YOUTH



Chair
Andrew Muwumba
RC Bweyogere Central



Protection Officer
Joan Nanyonjo
RC Metropolitan



Interact
Phillip Wamala
RC Kasangati



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
Blessings Owomugisha
RC Kampala South



Youth Exchange
Kimberly Kasana
RC Kampala Maisha

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Chair
Marion Natukunda
RC Kiwatule



Vice Chair
Richard Kalungi
RC Kampala South

AREA OF FOCUS CHAMPIONS



Environment
Francis Wangi
RC Kila Central



Peace & Conflict Prevention
Samuel Herbert Nsubuga
RC Kampala



Disease Prevention & Treatment
Aubrey Agaba
RC Morning Tide



Coordinator Little Hearts
James Serugo
RC Kampala



Economic Empowerment
Joan Nyanzi
RC Bugolobi Morning Tide



WASH
Accram Nsubuga
RC Kampla Life stars



WASH
Sophie Bamwoyeraki
RC Kasangati

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION/GRANT MANAGEMENT



Chair Foundation
John Magezi Ndamira
RC Kampala North



Chair Grants
Emmy Kwesiga
RC Kampala Central



District Grants
Milton Tusingwire
RC Kabarole



Global Grants
David Kintu
RC Kampala Ssese Islands



Qualification
Richard Mayebo
RC Kampala South



Vice Qualification
Satish Guna
RC Kampala Maisha



Stewardship
Priscilla Nakiboneka
RC Kampala North



Grants Monitoring
James Nkooka
RC Bweyogerere Namboole



Grants Training Advisor
Nelson Kabwama
RC Kampala Ssese Islands



Grants Support
Peter Isabirye
RC Source of the Nile



Grants coordinator Rotaracts/
Area Support officer
Jacob Ssendawula
RC Kampala Arch



Rotaract TRF
Rukia Nakiwala
RAC Kawempe



Rotaract Grants
Emmanuel Oketcho
RAC Kawempe



Rotaract Qualification
stewardship
Aloysie Tumukunde
RAC Nansana



Annual Fund Officer
Joyce Sadoori
RC Upper Kololo



Polio Officer
Ronald Mulindwa
RC Kampala Metropolitan



Endowment & Major Gifts
Chair
Kenneth Kiiza
RC Kampala Springs



Vice - Endowment &
Major Gifts - Northern
and West
Anne Hope Anguyo
RC Arua



Vice - Endowment &
Major Gifts - Eastern
Chetan K. Sangani
RC Jinja Metro



Paul Harris Society Chair
Gloria Katuuku
RC Bukoto



Corporate Partnerships
Juliet Janat Kariisa
RC Kibuli



RPC Host Area Co-
ordinator/ Alumni
Margaret Okello
RC Kampala Naguru



Rotary Peace Fellowships
Daphine Nafula
RC Kampala East



Vocational Training
Teams
Beila Bashabe
RC Bugolobi



District Scholarships
Mary Kiconco
RC Kampala City

Chair
Samuel Ngambwaki
RC Kampala Morning Stars

Webmaster
Noah Nyabwana
RC Kampala

Media Relations
David Sempala
RC Acacia Sunset

Editor Newsletter
Sheila Naturinda
RC Kla Central

Branding Officer
Hilda Kengoma Khamasi
RC Upper Kololo

Social Media Team Lead
Yonna Tukundane
RC Upper Kololo

Vice Social Media Team Lead
Raymond Kavuma
RAC Lubowa

Rotary Year Documentation Officer
Esther Mwambu
RC Kampala South

SPECIAL PROJECTS LIASON INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Chair
Ronald Kawadwa
RC Kasangati

Chair, International Service/ Partnerships
Fredrick Mubiru
RC Kololo

Inter Country Committee Chair
Helen Nanteza Kawesa
RC Kla Ssesse Islands

RI Convention
Lillian Ntuulo Joloba
RC Kira

Friendship Exchange Chair
Reagan Amany
RC Metropolitan

OUR GOALS 2025-26 AT A GLANCE

Purpose	Unite for Good <i>Inspire Serve and create lasting impact supported by a strong Rotary public image</i>			
Action	Increase our Impact	Expand Our Reach	Enhance Participant Engagement	Increase our Ability to Adapt
Key Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger and impactful projects Collaboration and Strategic Partnerships Embed a culture of Giving and recognition 100% Projects on SPC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell People of Action stories on all media platforms, Partnerships that amplify our brand Attract youth and professionals Leverage events and alumni networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage Interesting fellowships Celebrate achievements Create a FOR environment Leadership Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster a culture of learning and innovation. Strong Governance structures Encourage new club formats, fellowships, RAGS Encourage new ways of Recognition and celebration
Annual Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TRF Giving: \$ 1MTRF Utilisation: \$5M Non Global Grants – \$2.5M 100% Clubs Giving to TRF 100% Grant Reporting 70% Grant Qualification 100% participation in Polio Initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 760 Net new members 15 New clubs 100% Brand compliance 100% online presence Impactful stories in the media 450 RYLA Participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50%Rotarian train in RLC 100% club participation FOR 80% Membership retention 100% RI - District Dues payment 100% Club Participation DISCON Alumni engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Governance Assessment for Clubs Utilisation of RI Online tools 100% Rotarians have RCC accounts
Foundational enablers	RI Values Learning Accountability Collaboration Documentation			

Rotaract
District 9213

DISTRICT GOALS 2025/2026

01 INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Contribute a minimum of 30,000 USD to TRF
- Plant at least 5000 trees through clubs and during REI
- Conduct at least 4 TRF and Grants Qualification trainings at Cluster levels
- Support atleast 20 clubs to qualify and apply for Global Grants
- Conduct at least one Major TRF Giving recognition event at the District level
- Support at least 20 clubs carry out Project Impact assessment targeting 5 Clubs per region

02 EXPAND OUR REACH

- Achieve at least 1000 net gain in membership of new Rotaractors
- Charter at least 10 new Rotaract Clubs
- Support and Charter at least 20 new Interact clubs
- Conduct atleast One Rotaract Project show case and Corporate Partners Exhibition Event
- On Board atleast 5 new Sustainable Corporate Members at the District level
- Support clubs to have atleast 100 corporate members at club levels and 100 Honary members
- Publish atleast one District story in the Rotary Magazine
- Have atleast 100 main stream media appearances at club and District level
- Back up all District information at the District website as a one stop centre
- Support atleast 60 Rotaractors Transition to Rotary

03 ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Conduct atleast 2 membership satisfaction surveys at District level
- Achieve 300 Rotaract attendance at 101st DISCON
- Host a successful Rotaract festival to celebrate Rotaract Impact during the Rotaract Week
- Support atleast 15 clubs to host alumni fellowship
- Hold atleast one Alumni Fellowship at the District level
- Hold One Rotaract Business and Career summit at District level
- Support all clubs to have 100% reporting
- Retain 100% of all Rotaract clubs and atleast 98% of the Rotaractors
- Carry out 2 successful Health clubs status survey at district level

04 INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- 100% Payment of District and RI Dues by the clubs
- Organize Four Projects trainings at Cluster levels
- Carry Out an Elevate Rotaract Impact assessment training at the District
- Recognize Outstanding Rotaract Clubs every Quarter
- Support atleast 70% of the clubs to successfully register with URSB
- Support all Clubs to Have a President elect declared and Updated on MY-Rotary by end of First Quarter

AVERAGE CLUB GOALS 2025/2026

01 INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Contribute atleast 300 USD to TRF
- Plant atleast 250 trees
- Conduct one Joint TRF/Grants training with other clubs
- Qualify and apply for Global grants
- Support atleast one member become a PHF
- Carry out one Project impact assessment

02 EXPAND OUR REACH

- Add atleast 10 new club members
- Support and Co-mentor atleast one new Rotaract Club
- Support and co-mentor atleast one new interact club
- Induct atleast one corporate and Honary member
- Publish atleast one Rotaract story in main stream media
- Develop a club data base back up system for vital club records
- Support atleast one member to transition to Rotary

03 ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Conduct atleast one membership satisfaction survey
- Representation at 101st Discon
- Representation at the Rotaract festival
- Hold atleast one Alumni fellowship
- Representation at the Rotaract Business and Career summit
- 100% reporting every month
- Retain atleast 98% club members
- Carry out a health club status survey

04 INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Pay District and RI dues promptly
- Organize atleast one joint project training
- Carry out training of members on Elevate Rotaract
- Recognize outstanding club members and partners
- Fully register with URSB
- Declare a President elect by first quarter of the Rotary year

ROTARACT DISTRICT 9213 TEAM RY 2025/2026					
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1	District Rotaract Representative	Abesage Nahabwe	Nangabo	779214820	abbiebleessed@gmail.com
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17	Qualification & Stewardship Chair	Aloysie Tumukunde	Nansana	773220659	talloysie@gmail.com
18	Grants Chair	Emmanuel Oketcho	Kawempe	782722789	oketch0e5@gmal.com
19	Public Image Chair	David Atuhairwe	Kampala Ssesse Islands	704901847	davidatuhairwe01@gmail.com
20	Deputy Public Image Chair	Natumanya Evas	Kabarole	789223697	evasntumanya355@gmail.com
21	Membership Growth ,Extension & Experience Chair	Ssekuuma Pafra	Bweyogerere Namboole	706247655	leonpafra@gmail.com
22	Projects Chair	Clare Umutesi Ahebwa	Kampala North	704583136	ahebwaclare@gmail.com
23	Family of Rotaract Chair	Kamukama Matia	Makindye	706432098	mathiaskamukama@gmail.com
24	PLD Chair	Caroline Bavuga	Kampala North	702850072	bavugacarolyne@gmail.com
25	DRR's News Letter Editor	Louis Kironde	Kitante	789414729	louiskawalya@gmail.com
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30	District Strategic Planning Chair	Alex Muwanguzi	Njeru	701 081448	alexmuwnguzi4@gmail.com
31	District Coorporate membership Chair	Cynthia Aweko	Bweyogerere Namboole	701435585	awekojoy78@gmail.com
32	REI Chair	Jjumba Quraish	Cape Munyonyo	770837904	wasswaq07@gmail.com
33	Cancer Run Chair	Atukunda Barungi	Makerere University	701507355	atukundabarungi@gmail.com
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55	Western Cluster 3	Tusiime Geoffrey	Kaihura	779437015	tusiimegeofrey15@gmail.com

AGS LIST RY 2025-26 DIRECTORY

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EASTERN AREA 2	Alex Ojambo	Jinja	256 752 753 443	denisaojiambo@gmail.com
Iganga, Bugiri, Bugiri Municipality				
EASTERN AREA 3	Prossy Balaba	Iganga	256 752 635 207	balabaprossy123@gmail.com
Jinja, Source of the Nile, Jinja City, Satellite Greater Kamuli				
EASTERN AREA 4	Josephine Bichachi	Jinja	256 758 069 908	bichachijose@gmail.com
Busia, Busia Borderline, Tororo				
EASTERN AREA 5	Akongo Angela	Tororo	256 772 417 744	opioangella@yahoo.com
Mbale, Tororo Sam-Owori, Ngora				
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Serere, Kumi, Bukedea				
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NORTHERN AREA 2	David Labeja	Gulu City	256 772 714 976	dlabeja@gmail.com
Gulu, Kitgum, Kigumba				
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Gulu City, Adjumani, Arua Eco City				
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Koboko, Arua, Yumbe				
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Kampala Early Bird, Bujuuko-Kireka, Acacia-Sunset-Kampala				
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Fabian Kasi: A Life Led with Purpose, On and Off the Rotary Path

Taking on the role of MD at Centenary Bank was a major turning point in his life. “It allowed me to lead with purpose, especially in driving financial inclusion across Uganda.”



In the world of finance, he’s known for steering one of Uganda’s largest indigenous banks. In Rotary, he’s the District Governor Nominee Designate for District 9213. But in conversation, Fabian Kasi is simply... Fabian — a grounded, values-driven leader with a warm smile and an infectious sense of calm.

“I am a proud Ugandan,” he says, “a father, husband, Rotarian, and professional who has dedicated his life to service — in the community and in the financial sector.”

Currently the Managing Director of Centenary Bank Uganda, Fabian brings to Rotary more than three decades of experience in leadership and institution building. But for him, impact matters more than accolades. “Leadership isn’t about power,” he reflects. “It’s about creating value, empowering others to dream, and making space for them to succeed.”

Outside the boardroom, Fabian leans into life with gratitude and humour. “I enjoy a good laugh, quality time with family, and a bit of music — gospel and oldies especially,” he shares. He also takes time to walk, jog, and reflect. “Those are my moments to recharge,” he says.

His passion for mentorship is evident, especially when he speaks of young people. “Discipline, values, and patience — these never go out of style,” he advises.

“Talent may open doors, but character keeps you inside. Above all, serve. You grow by giving.”

Asked about his favourite pastime, he chuckles. “At informal events, I try to bring a little energy — sometimes even a dance move or two,” he laughs. “I’m also a football fan. Arsenal, to be specific!”

At home, Fabian finds solace in family. “My wife and children are my greatest support. They keep me grounded.” When he’s not in a Rotary meeting or mentoring young leaders, he’s likely at church or tucked away in a quiet corner with a book.

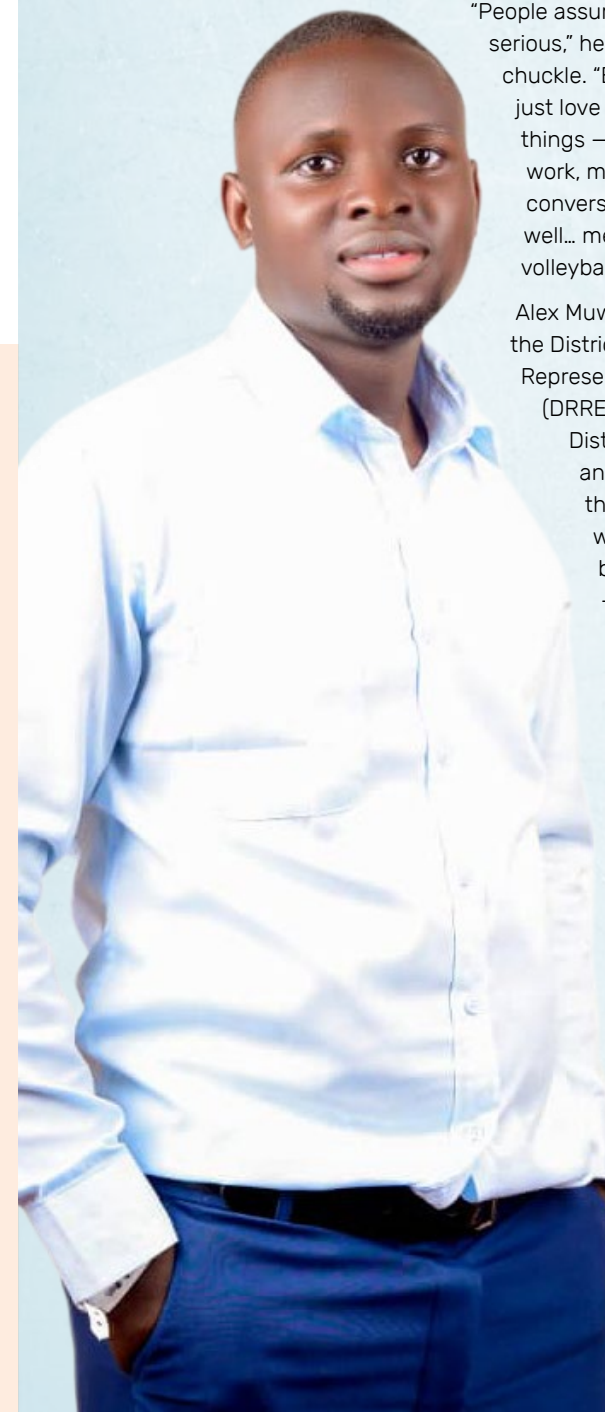
Taking on the role of MD at Centenary Bank was a major turning point in his life. “It allowed me to lead with purpose, especially in driving financial inclusion across Uganda.” Joining Rotary, however, brought his personal and professional missions into perfect harmony. “Rotary gave me a deeper meaning to my work. It’s service, but from the soul.”

And how did he take the news of being named Governor in 2027–2028? “With humility and gratitude,” he says. “It’s an honour, not a title. I’m committed to serving Rotary with the same values I live by daily.”

In Fabian Kasi, District 9213 has not just found a leader — but a true Rotarian. Purposeful. Grounded. And joyfully committed to making lives better.

From Njeru with a Purpose: Alex Muwanguzi’s Road to DRRE

It’s easy to imagine a sunny Saturday morning in Njeru, with the quiet buzz of weekend life in the background, and Alex Muwanguzi — Rotaractor, dreamer, doer — perched under a tree with a book in hand and a knowing smile that suggests he’s been up since dawn. That’s the kind of picture his words paint — purposeful, grounded, and quietly driven by service.



“People assume I’m always serious,” he says with a chuckle. “But really, I just love meaningful things — meaningful work, meaningful conversations, and, well... meaningful volleyball matches!”

Alex Muwanguzi is the District Rotaract Representative Elect (DRRE) for Rotary District 9213, and he wears the title like a well-earned backpack — full of experience, yet light with purpose. His Rotaract journey began at the Rotaract Club of Jinja Vocational Training Institute where he served as the Charter

President in 2018/2019.

“Those early days shaped me,” he reflects. “I learned that leadership is not about giving orders, but about creating systems, building trust, and never hiding behind excuses.”

From there, his resume reads like a Rotaract handbook in motion: Assistant District Rotaract Representative, Deputy M&E Chair, Qualification & Stewardship Chair, Membership Chair — and come 2025/2026, Strategic Planning Chair. “Each role sharpened me,” he says. “I never did it for the title — I did it because I believe service should be intentional.”

And what about career? “I am a Youth Programme Officer with St. Francis Health Care Services,” he shares. “And I run The Horn Computer Centre — my way of creating solutions and empowering digital access in my community.”

Alex did his share of education. “I am an Electrical Engineering instructor and ICT specialist,” But I am still learning — because growth doesn’t end at graduation.”

So, what does a leader like Alex dream about for Rotaract? “A Rotaract that doesn’t just do projects but builds movements,” he says. “Where members lead change — starting with themselves. I envision a networked, impactful Rotaract that outlives club terms.”

When not mapping out strategy or mentoring peers, Alex reads and takes on some adventures. “And if there’s a volleyball court nearby, best believe I’ll find it.” Alex sums up both the man and the mission in one quote. “We may not change the whole world in one day, but every act of service and kindness brings us one step closer.”

Rotaractor Alex Muwanguzi is not just building programmes — he’s building a legacy. Quietly. Consistently. Purposefully.

ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES

01	JULY Maternal & Child Health		07	JANUARY Vocational Service	
02	AUGUST Membership & New Club Development		08	FEBRUARY Peace Building & Conflict Prevention	
03	SEPTEMBER Basic Education & Literacy		09	MARCH Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	
04	OCTOBER Community Economic Development		10	APRIL Environment	
05	NOVEMBER The Rotary Foundation		11	MAY Youth Service	
06	DECEMBER Disease Prevention & Treatment		12	JUNE Rotary Fellowships	

Rotary Grants, a Journey of Hope and Opportunity

By Rtn Peter Isabirye

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) offers grants that support humanitarian projects, scholarships and Vocational Training Teams with a number of opportunities including:

- **District Grants!**

Fund small-scale, short-term projects addressing needs in our communities or abroad. They don't need to fall in any area of focus and have no long-term sustainability requirements. Each district chooses activities it will fund. These have of late been largely discarded by our current District 9213 for more impactful larger global grants.

- **Disaster Response Grants:**

These support disaster relief and recovery efforts through grants from the Rotary Disaster Response Fund. Affected districts can use these disaster response funds to launch their own projects or work with established relief organisations to help their communities recover. Affected areas may apply for a maximum grant of \$25,000 based on availability. The earthquake in Morocco was a recipient of such a grant. Likewise, the Kiteezi landfill disaster and Bududa landslide catastrophes also saw grant approvals for District 9213.

- **Programmes Of Scale Grants:**

These support Rotary member-led evidence-based programmes that have already demonstrated success. Scaling proven programmes will benefit more people and foster policy development and sustainable programmes. Each year, programmes of scale will support a competitive grant process resulting in one award of US\$2 million from The Rotary Foundation that is distributed over a three to five-year period to a club or district-sponsored programme showing success or readiness to expand to help more people in more places.

These grants must of necessity be sponsored by a qualified Club or District. These programmes are implemented with experienced partners who are also committed to long term success and sustainability.

D9213 is once again in contention for one of these grants to be decided at the up-coming RI Convention in Calgary, Canada.



- **Rotary Healthy Community Challenge:**

An invitation ONLY programme for target countries that provides larger, longer-term resources to implement large scale, high impact programmes to reduce severe disease and death from malaria, lower respiratory tract infections and diarrhea - the top killers of children under five years.

These programmes focus on vulnerable populations and improve accessibility and quality of sustainable community health systems. For the first Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, the countries invited to participate are: Nigeria, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique. Each country submits one country -level application.

- **Global Grants:**

Fund large international humanitarian projects, scholarships and Vocational Training Teams that have sustainable, long-term, measurable results in one or more of the seven Areas of Focus (AOF) They range from US\$30,000 to US\$400,000.

The application asks about the grant's objectives, participants, sustainability, budget and financing. These grants must fall within Rotary global grants guidelines, and be technically feasible with an international partner from another country. Both host and international partners must be qualified to address this need.

Life Cycle of a Rotary Grant:

- DRAFT:**

Rotary members plan a project or scholarship and build their grant application on-line.
- AUTHORISATION:**

Club and District leaders review the application and authorise funding thus.
- SUBMITTED:**

Grant planners submit the application to the Rotary Foundation (TRF).
- APPROVED:**

If the grant is approved, the foundation issues payment.
- COMPLETION:**

Members carry out the project, reporting to The Rotary Foundation annually until work/studies are finished and the grant is closed.

District Qualification:

District leaders including the District Governor, District Governor Elect and District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair agree to follow stewardship requirements and sign a memorandum of understanding (M.O.U) with the Rotary Foundation committing the District to strict adherence to these laid down guidelines.

The District Governor causes to happen a District Grant’s Training Seminar. The District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair must mandatorily complete online learning plans in, ‘District Committee Basics’, ‘District Rotary Foundation Committee Intermediate’ and ‘Grant Management Seminar’. Subsequently all Clubs in the District are required to qualify following well laid out stipulated guidelines.

Global Grant Cycle:

- Pre-Application Stage:**

a) Carry out community assessments.

b) Obtain an application from the beneficiary community.

c) Choose an appropriate area of focus (out of seven).

d) Agree on a club grant committee (at least three people)

e) Club qualification.

f) Ensure no outstanding The Rotary Foundation reports, stewardship issues.

g) Club assembly approval to participate in global grants.

h) Identify an M & E focal person.

i) Confirm legality of stakeholders (cooperating organisations).

j) Define roles of host/ international partners (sign appropriate MoUs)
- Application Stage:**

1. Identify project risks, put in place mitigation measures.

2. Project goals in line with the AOF.

3. Declare possible conflict of interest, prepare a detailed budget.
4. Provide a grant funding plan. Undertake proper procurement processes.

5. Confirm long-term sustainability. Open project accounts with two or more signatories. (Each project must have a separate account).
- Implementation Stage:**

a) Grant funds can only be spent on what is in the grant applications strictly following The Rotary Foundation guidelines.

b) Authorisation must be sought for any changes of project scope, budget. Measurement of project outcomes is a requirement.

c) Project funds in excess of US\$ 1,000 must be returned to The Rotary Foundation or seek authorisation for use on other project related activities.

d) Any interest gained from disbursed funds must be sent to The Rotary Foundation .

e) If payment requirements are not met within six months of approval, the grant will be cancelled.

- Reporting Stage:**

Submit a progress report every 12 months from the time of receipt of grant funds.

Get a bank statement and close the project account after full utilisation of funds. The final report must be submitted two months after grant closure. Subsequently grant records must be kept for up to five years.

“Legacy is not leaving something for people. It is leaving something in people.”

GLOBAL GRANT APPLICATIONS:

These are done online in the Grants Centre using a standard template. Applications are accepted and approved throughout the Rotary year. Each Club must have a grants committee of three or more people.

Both host and international partners MUST be qualified. A Club with pending The Rotary Foundation grant reports or stewardship issues is ineligible to partake of global grants. Sponsoring clubs/Districts can take up to ten open grants at a time.

FUNDING OF GLOBAL GRANTS:

- Grant sponsors can use a combination of cash, District Designated Funds (DDF) cash, and donations from non-Rotary entities to fund a global grant.

The Rotary Foundation provides an 80% match for all DDF contributions. Cash contributions from Rotary and non-Rotary members is no longer matched by The Rotary Foundation .

Cash contributions cannot come from a cooperating organisation, vendor or project beneficiary.

Cash contributions sent directly to The Rotary Foundation must include a 5% processing fee.

Contributions tagged to global grants shouldn't be sent to The Rotary Foundation until the grant is approved. PHF recognition is only given for contributions sent to The Rotary Foundation not directly to the project account. Grant financing CANNOT be changed after the grant has been approved.

APPROVED GG FUNDING OF ACTIVITIES OR PROJECTS:

- Humanitarian projects (e.g., provision of safe water, support to education, economic empowerment etc.)

Scholarships at graduate level.

Vocational Training Teams (VTTs)

They must align with the The Rotary Foundation Mission, are sustainable, measurable with active participation of Rotary members.

- Comply with the laws of the country where projects are implemented, demonstrating sensitivity to traditions and cultures of the area.

They must align with one or more of the seven areas of focus.

ALL global grants must comply with the conflict-of-interest policy

INELIGIBLE FUNDING BY GLOBAL GRANTS:

- Activities already in progress or already completed before grant approval.

Purchase of land or buildings, fund raising activities.

New construction of any permanent structure except latrines, storage units, green houses, access roads, fences, and irrigation systems.

Renovations to complete partially constructed buildings, that have never been occupied or operational.

Activities primarily carried out by an organisation other than Rotary.

Transportation of vaccines especially across borders, National Immunisation Days. (NIDS), RYE, RYLA, RFE and other similar activities

Discrimination against any group of people or promotion of a particular political or religious viewpoint.

Anything creating financial liability for The Rotary Foundation or RI.

Anything that requires one to work without pay or employ under-age persons.

ALLOWABLE BUDGET ALLOCATION CEILINGS:

- Project management costs—up to 10% of the project budget.

Monitoring and Evaluation—up to 10% of the project budget.

Contingency-up to 10% of the project budget.

Project signage. No more than US\$ 1,000.

At least 15% of contributions to GGs need to come from outside the project country.

PARTICIPATION OF ROTARACT CLUBS:

- As of 1st July 2022, Rotaract Clubs can apply for GGs.

Rotaract Clubs applying for GGs must have partnered previously with a Rotary Club or District on a GG -funded project.

If one grant sponsor is a Rotaract Club, the other needs to be a Rotary Club or District.

Rotaract Clubs **MUST** be qualified to participate in GGs.

Peter ISABIRYE. Is a member of the DRFC for District 9213 and a member of the cadre of technical advisors of the Rotary Foundation in three areas of focus.

Passing the Flame: The Magic Lives On, as We Unite for Good

On 30th June 2025, at Hotel Africana, District Governor Anne Nkutu (2024/2025) ceremoniously handed over the chain and instruments of leadership to her successor, District Governor Geoffrey Martin Kitakule, in a vibrant and colourful ceremony. The event was graced by past, present, and future leaders of the District 9213 and 9214 Uganda, alongside Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends of Rotary.



How Rotary Revived a Dying Dream into a Life-Saving Hospital; saving Kyengera mothers.

By Tony Mushoborozi

In 2023, the Rotary Club of Kampala Central identified a struggling health facility in Kyengera, a heavily populated area 10km west of downtown Kampala. The facility, Mother of Mercy Hospital, had been established by Bannabikira Catholic Sisters in 2015, with the ambition of providing outpatient and inpatient services to a catchment population of about 285,400 people. The intention was to serve two busy markets, more than a dozen schools, a sprawling trading center and a population density of 2,537/km².

Unfortunately, in 2018, the primary funder of the project, McKillop Paul, died and left the nuns with the full responsibility of continuing the construction to completion plus furnishing of the hospital with equipment. In 2019, the Bannabikira Sisters regrouped and resumed work on the building project only for the Covid-19 pandemic to fall and grind everything to a halt.

The Rotary Club of Kampala saw a lot of potential in the project and wrote a proposal for a Global Grant. The unfinished facility sat in the heart of a densely populated area that did not have a government hospital. It was clear that people in this community

lacked easy access to essential medical services and the private clinics in the township were prohibitively expensive for most. Pregnant mothers had no choice but to entrust their deliveries to village birth attendants because they couldn't afford to travel far to seek medical treatment. The goal was to complete the construction, furnish the hospital with the biggest focus on the theatre.

In early 2023, having secured the funds through the help of the Rotary Club of Reading Matins, UK, Rotary Club of Kampala Central commenced works on the facility.



“Rotary funded the procurement of the construction materials for completion of pending construction works while the Bannabikira Sisters funded the labour costs. After a year of heavy works, the hospital finally started operations on 4th March 2024.

In July 2024 procurement of theatre equipment was effected. Some of the equipment that was procured included theatre equipment, anesthetic equipment, and many others. However, the theatre was not opened due to unforeseen huddles that took until early the following year to rectify,” says Maria Goreti Namuwulya, the hospital administrator.

On February 8th 2025, the first surgery took place at the hospital, delivering a bouncing baby girl by caesarian section. In the few months after the theatre opened, the theatre has been used to deliver a few dozen babies and to carry out minor surgeries like hernias and circumcisions, according to Sister Namuwulya.

The facility's current bed capacity is 65 as construction is still ongoing on in some of the upper floors and upon completion, the bed capacity will increase to 150 beds.

Nashim Namazzi is a member of the village health teams (VHT). She says that the hospital has been a breath of fresh air for the people of Kyengera, especially pregnant women. She says that prior to the hospital opening last year, most women had to travel a long distance to Nsangi, several kilometers westward, to find an affordable health facility or resort to village birth attendants.

“Mother of Mercy Hospital is a very good hospital that the community loves. It is not too cumbersome for us to convince expectant mothers to go for services because actually love to visit the hospital. They keep mentioning how professional the nurses are, particularly the fact that they are not rude unlike in other health centers. Many times, patients stay away from hospital because of rude medical personnel and thank God, this one is not like that. The staff are well trained and nice,” Namazzi says.

Namazzi is quick to add that patients report receiving inadequate medicines but otherwise, everything else is great. She says that having a good hospital in the community has made her work so easy because now the excuse of lack of transport has been eliminated. The VHT adds that this has reduced the neonatal and



newborn mortality rate and increased the survival rate of children under five.

Nalule Christine, who's the councilor LCIII for Kyengera says that the hospital has made life easier for the people of Kyengera because it is easier to save lives in times of emergencies. Prior to the opening if the theatre, emergency cases had to be rushed to Lubaga or Nsambya hospitals which are hard to get to on gridlocked roads. Today, it takes mere minutes to get a patient to the new hospital.

“Mother of Mercy hospital is a great asset in the community because while it is fully equipped, it is also quite affordable compared to hospitals like Nsambya where we used to go for medical services. Today, we get all the needed services without spending much on transport,” she says.

Part of the Global Grant was spent on training 23 nurses, midwives, and other health care practitioners to use ultrasound scanning devices to diagnose abnormalities in pregnancies and other life-threatening conditions.

The hospital is an oasis of quiet and tranquility in the heart of crowded and noisy metropolitan area. The spacious grounds of about 8 acres makes this hospital a haven for patients, ideal for recuperation.





Clinics on Wheels: Rotary's Gift to Tororo

By Rtn Marcellina Athieno

The Rotary club of Tororo in partnership with that of Eugene Airport, (Oregon, United States) has implemented a maternal and child health care project in the rural communities of Tororo, Eastern Uganda. This project had as its main objective improving access to maternal and child health, and was designed into two phases.

In the first phase, 60 Village Health Teams and 59 Traditional Birth Attendants were trained in the mobilisation of mothers and infants to receive appropriate and timely care at the health facilities. Two midwives trained in the 3:3: 3-Ultrasound course at the Ernest Cook Ultrasound Research and Education Institute (ECURI) in Mengo Hospital. Drugs and medical equipment including two scanning machines, digital weighing scales, stethoscopes, blood pressure machines, temperature guns, foldable beds, assorted medicines and PPEs were also procured. In addition to these, four motorcycle ambulances and over 1,000 mosquito nets were also provided.

Additionally, regular service outreaches were conducted, and a tele-medicine consultancy programme between the Rural Health Team (RHT) clinicians and specialists from USA was launched. (What did this achieve?)

Phase Two

During the second phase, a mobile medical van – **clinic on wheels** – was procured, whose major purpose is to deliver medical services to communities in distant places through regular scheduled visits.

Challenges addressed -

1. Transportation of pregnant mothers to the health unit during labor. There was an increase in the number of mothers giving birth at the health units. This met the objective of curbing the number of home and roadside births.

2. Diagnosis of pregnancy and pregnancy-related complications in time. The government of Uganda recommends ultrasound scanning for every pregnant mother at least once. However, the cost of scanning and the long distances travelled to access the service in town makes this prohibitive and largely unaffordable. Through this project, the ultrasound scanning services were delivered at the doorsteps of expectant mothers at a low cost of Ushs 10,000 (US\$2.7).

3. In general, services were brought much nearer to the community. The clinic on wheels, which makes rounds

on a regular basis, brings with it a team of passionate medical practitioners, diagnostic equipment and medicines for the less privileged members of the rural communities.

4. Cervical cancer screening and thermocoagulation- The mobile clinic facilitates conducting of cervical cancer screening under acetic acid inspection as well as thermocoagulation of the precancerous lesion stage one and two in just under two minutes. This service was previously sought through long and difficult means.

5. Malaria prevention. The project provided nearly 2,500 long lasting treated mosquito

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH INITIATIVES

nets which were distributed to mothers who turned up for their first antenatal care visit. The intention was to prevent malaria infection during pregnancy. The mobile clinic is also equipped with premium Mama Kits that are issued to every expectant mother who turns up for the last antenatal visit in preparation for institutional delivery.

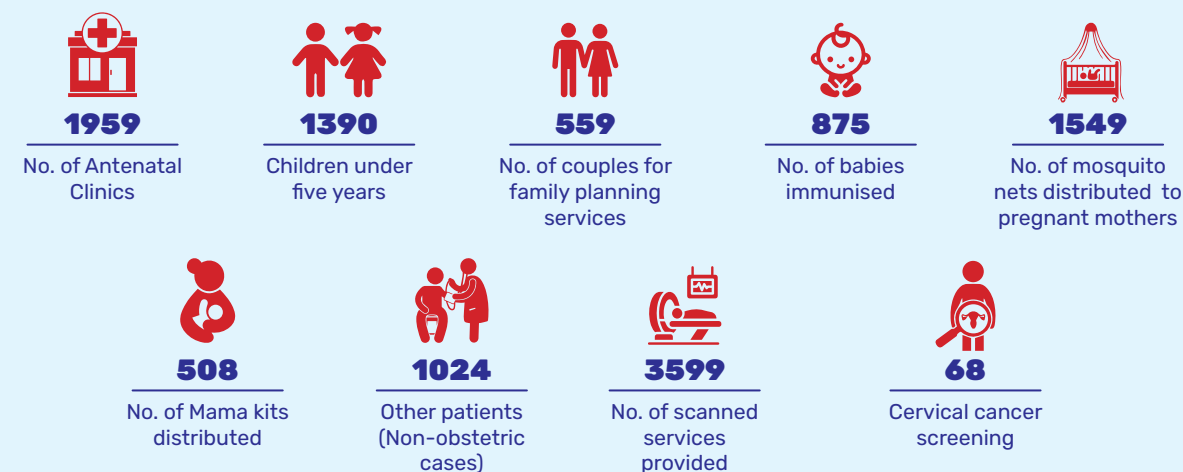
This project has changed the narrative of MCH services in Tororo. Mothers no longer have to walk long distances in search of antenatal or scanning services. The van has a solar unit that powers the equipment.

During the first quarter performance review meeting, Mr. Noah Okumu, the district secretary for health, said, "Never in my life, have I seen something like this. A

mother in Kirewa village (about 45 km from the town centre) no longer has to take a boda to come to Tororo town for scanning services because it is readily available in her neighborhood."

The table below summarises both phases of the project. The statistics are a true representation of the magical impact the project has had on Tororo.

Summary of Statistics



This brings the total number of people who have received care to **11,531**



MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH INITIATIVES

Project Challenges

- 1. Sustainability** This project provides services to a community that lives far below the poverty line. In its design, the recipients would pay a service fee, which goes into a collection centre and, in turn, finances the cost of running the project. The cost of running the project is, estimated at about Ushs 4 million per month, which is quite high. The fees collected from the community are about half of the total cost.

2. Poor terrain There are communities, which are almost completely inaccessible, and yet these are prioritised by the project. During the rainy season,

these communities are cut off and the team's efforts are frustrated.

3. Fuel and vehicle maintenance costs High fuel costs, vehicle wear and tear and the rugged roads of rural Uganda continuously affect the project costs.

4. Inadequate medical supplies and equipment. On several occasions, the mobile clinic has run out of essential medicines and other medical sundries.

5. Human resource constraints Qualified and competent medical practitioners are expensive to remunerate. The mobile clinic

employs one project manager, one radiographer, one midwife and a driver. More personnel is required, yet it is hard to maintain even those already enlisted, especially after the project funds run out.

6. Community awareness and participation. There is need to continuously mobilise communities, and to undertake public education and sensitisation through the media and community dialogue meetings. However, after the funded project life, this has become a challenge, and it impacts greatly on the patient turn up.

Support from the District Health Office

This project has been well received by the district leadership, because of the wide-reaching impact that it has had. Mr. Noah Okumu, the District Secretary for Health has been supportive from the onset and has attended all the quarterly performance review meetings and offered his guidance and support. The Assistant District Health Officer in charge of maternal and child health has joined the mobile medical van team during community outreaches on several occasions. This has resonated in the community's hearts and inspired them.



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How a partnership of six Rotary clubs is transforming maternal and child health services in rural Uganda.

By Nelson Kabwama

In the heart of Uganda, where access to quality maternal care is often limited by distance, infrastructure, and resources, a Rotary-led initiative is rewriting the story and saving lives.

Spearheaded by the **Rotary Club of Kampala Sseese Islands**, and backed by five local partners and the Rotary club of Waxhaw-Weddinton through **Global Grant #2239684**, the project titled “Improvement of Maternal, New-born and Child Health Services” is making a lasting impact across six districts: Kalangala, Mpigi, Manafwa, Wakiso, Kalungu, and Kaliro.

With a value of **USD 126,520 (approx. UGX 468 million)**, this bold intervention targets nine health centers that collectively serve more than **500,000** people annually, including over **100,000** expectant mothers in some of Uganda’s most under-served rural communities.



A Lifeline to Health Facilities

Eight of the nine health centers (seven public and one private) were equipped with essential maternal and child health equipment to support safe deliveries, newborn care, family planning, and C-sections. One of the most transformative investments was the refurbishment of the maternity ward at Butolo Health Centre III in Mpigi district, including the construction of a patient waiting shed, creating a more dignified and welcoming space for mothers.

In Kasanje HC III in Wakiso, a solar energy system worth UGX 21 million was installed to ensure continuous power supply; an especially critical asset for maternal health services during nighttime emergencies.

Empowering the Front-line

Quality healthcare depends not only on equipment but on the people delivering it. Sixty nurses and midwives from the supported health centers underwent comprehensive training and mentorship to refresh skills and adopt best practices in maternal, newborn, and child healthcare.

Training was extended to include equipment use, maintenance, and infection control, ensuring that the new tools translate into safer, more effective care.



Namwiwa HC III - Skills training for nurses

Clean Facilities, Healthy Futures

Sanitation is essential to safe delivery and recovery. The project invested UGX 47 million in PPE, disinfectants, detergents, and sanitation equipment, enhancing hygiene standards across all nine health centers. These improvements not only reduce infection risks but also increase community confidence in the healthcare system.

Real Impact, Real People

The numbers are inspiring:

7,669
Children under five

4,021
Mothers and expectant women

1,200
Breastfeeding mothers

1,500
Women of reproductive age

60
Trained health workers

All have directly benefited and counting.

The initiative also strengthens health systems under the Ministry of Health’s existing structures, ensuring sustainability, government alignment, and long-term impact.

Rotary in Action, Communities Transformed

The implementing clubs include Kampala Sseese Islands, Kampala Metropolitan, Mbale Metropolitan, Kampala East, Bweyogerere-Namboole, and the E-Club of Uganda Global and this exemplifies what happens when Rotary connects across borders, uniting to meet urgent community needs.

From refurbished maternity wards to solar-powered clinics, trained health workers to cleaner delivery rooms, this project stands as a powerful testimony to one of Rotary’s core commitment: saving mothers and children.

Indeed, when clubs collaborate with heart and purpose, communities don’t just survive; they thrive.



Butolo - refurbished maternity ward



Nawaikoke Equipment Handover



Kalangala Equipment Handover 2

Rotary's Efforts to Dignify the Women of Kitgum During Child Birth

By Rtn Otto Ventorino

By 2017, the areas around Orom Sub-county in the eastern part of Kitgum District, bordering remote Karamoja and South Sudan, posted the worst maternal and child health statistics: high infant and maternal morbidity and mortality, low deliveries at health facility or in the care of trained health workers, and low attendance of ante-natal clinics by pregnant mothers, among others.

These sad statistics was a result of a combination of factors: the area had very few health facilities, the local population is scattered over a wide and remote area with difficult terrain for vehicular transport; the few health centres were poorly-equipped and staffed. Generally, the population lacked the basic health information and attitude that often engender positive health-seeking behaviors.

In 2017, the Rotary Club of Kitgum, with a global grant of USD182,227, embarked on a two-year project (Oct2017 – Apr 2019) to positively impact maternal and child health (MCH) in Orom Sub-county which had the highest maternal and infant mortality rates in the district. The project focused on mothers and under-fives in the parishes of Akurumo, Katwotwo, Kiteny, Lolita, Lolwa, and Okuti in Orom Sub-county.

The project constructed and equipped a 20-bed maternity waiting home, established an operational emergency ambulance service, built the capacity of sixty (60) traditional birth attendants (TBAs) & midwives, and an Emergency First Responder team was created in the project area. Modern equipment, including ultrasound machines, were installed at the



The training of health staff and provision of required equipment at the health centres have improved the quality of child-health services for the local communities.

health centre to improve diagnosis and monitoring. Community health education was integrated into the livelihood activities of the local people to promote behavior change. A safe water supply system was also set up to serve the health centre and the neighboring communities

More than six years after the project, its impact is clearly visible. "Pregnant mothers and other patients used to sit under those trees as they waited to be attended to. Now they sit conveniently in this waiting room that Rotary constructed and I think this has

Years later, the ambulance RC Kitgum repaired continues to help the health teams deliver integrated health services to remote communities in eastern Kitgum



The sonographer at Namokora HCIV conducts an abdominal ultrasound scan on a patient.



Pregnant mothers in the waiting area in the maternity room Rotary constructed at Orom HCIII

helped to attract more patients for medical service here because the improvement in the physical infrastructure has made the facility attractive to the local people so more of them come to seek help here," explains Simon Knox Okongo, the Clinical Officer in charge of Orom HCIII. In fact, part of what Rotary had built as a waiting room has been converted into an in-patient ward, enabling the health centre to admit patients that require close observation.

The ambulance that was repaired continues to help the centre transport emergencies and referrals and

reach out to communities with integrated health services. A midwife at Orom HCIII says the vehicle helps them reach out to families who would not have voluntarily sought health services from the facilities due to attitude and accessibility challenges. "The outreaches using this vehicle help us change attitudes and health-seeking behaviours of these remote communities," she adds.

At Namokora Health Centre IV in the remote east of the district where one of the ultrasound machines was donated, the sonographer reports that up to 1,227 obstetric scans and 2,301 echo scans were conducted in the period 2023-2024. The ultrasound is high-powered and has the capacity to scan even small parts, a service that is usually only found in big hospitals. Dr Emma Lucy, the medical doctor in charge of Namokora HCIV says the ultrasound enables them provide each pregnant mother at the ANC at least three scans before delivery, as required by the Ministry of Health guidelines. "Ultrasound scans help us detect the ante-natal and post-natal complications so that we prevent deaths of the mother or the child," says Dr Lucy Emma. She adds that the machine aids them to diagnose the conditions of women who have suffered or committed unsafe abortion benefit from these

"The TBAs that Rotary trained continue to be our unofficial frontline support workers. They are our midwives of first call and it is partly due to their efforts that we have not been receiving many cases of delivery complications because usually these TBAs encourage the pregnant mothers to go to the health facility early enough before labour sets in," says the Kitgum District Health Officer, Dr Henry Otto.

The number of pregnant mothers who deliver at Orom Health Centre III and mothers of newborns who attend post-natal clinics (PNCs) at the centre has risen in the recent years, a positive trend that the district health department attributes partly to the sensitization and mobilization roles the TBAs play in their respective communities.

"Trained TBAs are very effective health educators because the villagers trust them. We thank Rotary for the training because they are making more mothers and women seek professional help at the facilities, here or at the general hospital in Kitgum," says Dr Henry Otto.

The difference is like night and day. Where mothers once gave birth under trees, they now rest in clean maternity wards built with Rotary support. It's not just infrastructure—it's dignity restored.
— Dr. Henry Otto, Kitgum District Health Officer

Tackling the Global Water Crisis —One Scholar at a Time

By Rtn Mary Kiconco

The Rotary Foundation, in partnership with the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education in the Netherlands, has been at the forefront of addressing global water and sanitation challenges through academic empowerment. This collaboration offers annual scholarships to graduate students pursuing MSc studies in key water-related fields, including Water and Health, Water, Food and Energy, Water Resources and Ecosystems Health, and Water Hazards, Risks, and Climate.

By investing in education, this initiative not only builds technical capacity but also nurtures lasting professional and humanitarian connections between Rotarians and scholars around the world.

In this edition of the *WAVE*, we feature one such beneficiary—**Gerald Abak**, a Senior Water Officer at Uganda’s Ministry of Water and Environment. In a candid conversation, Gerald shares how the scholarship transformed his career, broadened his perspective, and deepened his commitment to solving water and sanitation challenges in Uganda and beyond.

What inspired you to apply for the Rotary IHE Delft Scholarship, and how did it impact your life and career?

Pursuing further studies had always been both a personal aspiration and a professional goal. My initial interest lay in

sustainable water management and hydrological systems within the broader field of water resources. However, in 2021, while serving with the Rotaract Club of Kampala Sseese Islands during a needs assessment at Mulabana Landing Site, I witnessed firsthand the severe water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) challenges facing landing sites and informal urban communities.

That experience was a turning point—it deepened my awareness of the urgent need for targeted WASH interventions in such vulnerable settings. Given that water and sanitation is one of

Rotary’s seven areas of focus, and after learning about the Rotary–IHE Delft Scholarship through the

IHE Delft website, I felt compelled to apply. The program’s strong emphasis on practical, real-world solutions to global water issues aligned perfectly with my growing passion for WASH.

Receiving the scholarship was a dream come true for me, and it has opened doors to a world-class education and also connected me to an international network of water professionals. Most importantly, it equipped me with the knowledge, skills, and perspective to contribute more meaningfully to Uganda’s water and sanitation programs—where such expertise is urgently needed.



VIP latrine constructed in Mulabana following my return (after scholarship), as President of Rot Kampala Sseese Islands

Can you share a specific experience or project you worked on during your time at IHE Delft, and how it has contributed to your current work in water management?

At IHE Delft, my research focused on developing a Python-based decision support tool to guide the selection of optimal wastewater treatment systems—balancing factors like cost, coverage, benefits, and potential end use. This was particularly relevant for decentralized and resource-constrained settings.

In addition to that, I participated in projects on urban drainage, sewerage design, and wastewater treatment planning. These experiences significantly sharpened my technical and analytical skills, and exposed me to advanced tools for environmental decision-making. Today, I draw on that foundation in my role at the Ministry of Water and Environment—especially in integrated water resources management. This includes water use planning, catchment-based water quality interventions, and industrial wastewater management. I’m currently applying GIS to map water use and develop a tool to support equitable water allocation, catchment-based water quality interventions, urban wastewater management (especially industrial wastewater).

How has being a Rotary alumnus impacted your professional network and opportunities, and how do you stay engaged with the Rotary community?

My professional space is now expanded, many more meaningful doors and opportunities in the water and environment sector are now open for me. Through the Scholarship, I connected with a global network of professionals, researchers, and development partners who share a passion for solving water and sanitation challenges. I am proud to have very good friends now beyond my space, from Brazil, Colombia, Nicaragua, Iran, the Netherlands, Mexico, the USA, Jamaica, India, Guatemala, among others.

What advice would you give to future applicants for the Rotary IHE Delft Scholarship, and what qualities do you think are essential for a successful applicant?

Dear Applicant, the first step for you is to prepare all the necessary documents and reach out to a local Rotary Club as early as possible. Given that the scholarship application process is both demanding and highly competitive, early preparation gives you a clear advantage over hundreds of applicants from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the



Americas. Beyond academic excellence, it will also be crucial for you, to demonstrate a genuine commitment to improving water, sanitation, and hygiene in your community—whether through your professional work or volunteer experience. Your background and goals should align closely with Rotary’s area of focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene.

In your view, what is the broader impact of the Rotary–IHE Delft Scholarship on global water and sanitation challenges? What message would you share with the global water community about its value?

More than 169 scholarships have been awarded since 2012 to young and mid-career professionals working in water and sanitation across the globe—this is already an impact because the young professionals are equipped with skills and knowledge practical skills, and international networks needed to design and implement sustainable water solutions.

By investing in education and leadership, the program is building a new generation of water experts who are deeply committed to resolving issues such as water scarcity, inadequate sanitation, and climate-related water risks. It is a powerful model of how global collaboration, driven by Rotary values, can make a tangible difference in communities worldwide.



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