

# ubuntu

October Edition 2026 . Vol 1. ——— magazine

## From Service To Opportunity

Building livelihoods,  
Growing people,  
Strengthening communities



#CreateLastingImpact  
#EachOneEngageForImpact



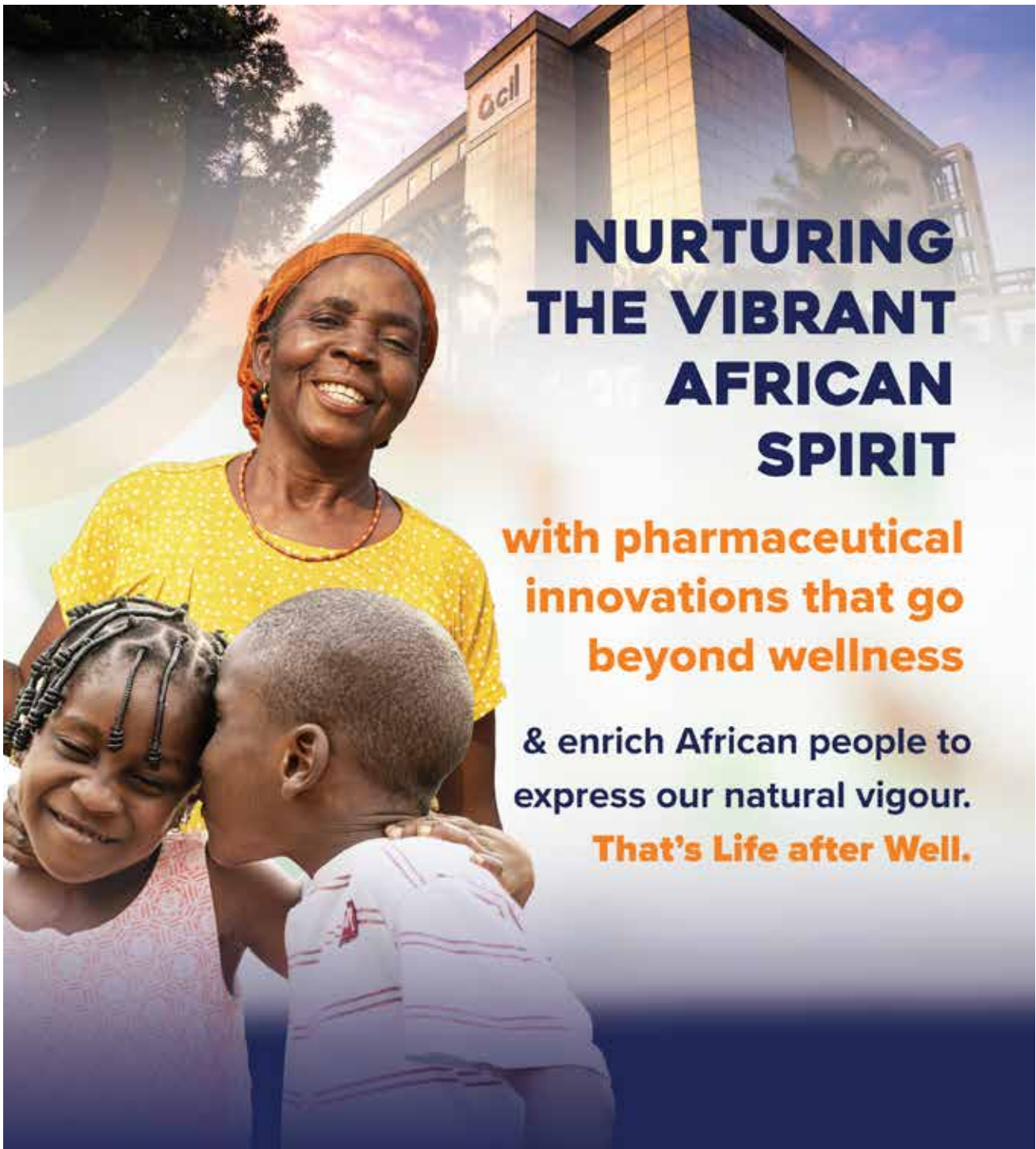
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**Ubuntu Magazine WhatsApp Channel**  
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### For:

- Article submissions
- Advertising enquiries
- Feedback
- Partnership opportunities
- Impact around the district and the Ubuntu magazine

# Editorial guidelines

Ubuntu Magazine is the official publication of Rotary District 9214, serving Rotarians, Rotaractors, partners, and communities across Uganda, Tanzania and beyond.

## Ubuntu Magazines serves to:

- Celebrate the impact of Rotary service.
- Share inspiring stories of members and communities.
- Promote learning, innovation and leadership development.
- Preserve the history and achievements of District 9214.
- Provide a platform for meaningful conversations around service, fun, impact and community transformation.

## The Magazine prioritises:

- Authentic storytelling over activity reporting.
- Impact over statistics alone.
- Diverse voices across Uganda, Tanzania and beyond.
- Ethical, accurate and respectful writing.

All submissions are subject to editorial review, editing and approval to maintain quality, consistency and alignment with Rotary values.

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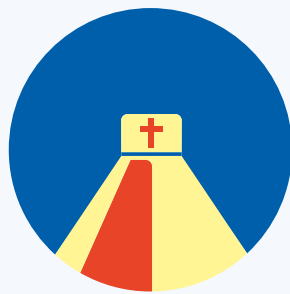
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# What Comes Next



In July, we launched Ubuntu Magazine with a simple conviction: that service deserves to be remembered, not merely reported.

In August, we explored why people choose to belong, recognising that strong organisations are built not only through membership, but through connection, purpose and shared values.

In September, we reflected on what we leave behind, examining how education, mentorship and opportunity shape futures far beyond our own lifetime.

This October, those conversations converge. Because every story of impact, belonging and legacy ultimately leads to a single question:

**What happens when service creates opportunity?**

Across this issue, we see the answer. We see communities gaining access

to clean water, young mothers acquiring skills and markets, youth learning trades that lead to employment, students discovering future careers, and communities mobilising around health, education and economic resilience.

At first glance, these may appear to be different stories. They are not. They are all stories of people moving from dependence to possibility, from challenge to opportunity, and from intervention to empowerment.

That distinction matters.

The most enduring form of service is not one that solves a problem for a moment. It is one that creates the conditions for people and communities to thrive long after the project or program is completed.

This edition also reminds us that development is not measured by economic indicators alone. Strong communities are built through

education, health, trust, leadership, partnership and opportunity working together. Prosperity is most sustainable when it is inclusive, dignified and locally owned.

As Ubuntu Magazine enters its fourth issue, our purpose remains unchanged. We will continue to document not simply what Rotary does, but what changes because Rotary shows up. We will continue to amplify ideas, preserve lessons and showcase examples that others can learn from across District 9214 and beyond.

Because service creates impact.

But opportunity creates lasting change.

**Catherine Nayesiga**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

Ubuntu Magazine  
Rotary Year 2026-2027



# Rotary Leadership Voices

# 99.9 percent is not 100 percent



Aminu Ahmed Tudun-Wada knows what polio takes from a child. He contracted the disease as a young boy in Kano, Nigeria, and was left paralyzed.

Decades later, when Nigeria was struggling to eradicate polio, Aminu decided that he would use his experience to help protect other children.

He brought together polio survivors and began going door to door, talking with parents about vaccination. The survivors told their stories. They showed families the effects of polio.

And they urged parents to make sure their children never had to go through the same experience.

By 2021, the Polio Survivors Group that Aminu founded had grown to more than 400 members.

Their work helped Nigeria reach

a milestone that once seemed impossible: In 2020, the World Health Organization certified Nigeria, and the entire African region, free of wild poliovirus.

I think about people like Aminu whenever we talk about ending polio. Eradication is about children who will never know what it means to lose the ability to walk. It is about parents who will never have to watch a healthy child become paralyzed by a disease that vaccines can prevent.

And it is about making sure the people who remember polio become the last generation that does. Rotary has been part of this fight for more than four decades. Together with our partners, we have helped vaccinate more than 3 billion children, contributed more than \$3 billion to the global effort, and reduced cases of wild poliovirus by 99.9 percent.

But 99.9 percent is not 100 percent. Wild poliovirus remains endemic in

Afghanistan and Pakistan. As long as it circulates anywhere, children everywhere remain at risk. And even after wild poliovirus disappears from a country, we must maintain strong immunization and surveillance systems

so the virus cannot find a way back. Aminu could have looked at his own experience and asked, “Why me?” Instead, he asked a different question: “How can I make sure this does not happen to another child?”

That is the spirit we need now. The final mile of any journey can be the hardest. But we have walked too far, worked too hard, and protected too many children to stop here.

Let us remember why we began. Let us listen to those who have experienced polio. Let us be the generation that creates lasting impact and ensures no one ever experiences polio again.

## Olayinka Yinka Hakeem Babalola

President, Rotary International



# The Welding Torch That Built Two Futures

My Family of Rotary District 9214

There is something special about writing to the family that raised me in Rotary. Wherever I travel across our Zone, I carry your spirit with me, and I am proud to see you living your motto, Each One Engage for Impact. Somewhere here in Uganda, a young man with limited opportunities was given the chance to learn welding. Through a Global Grant partnership between clubs in Canada and Uganda, young people were trained to manufacture wheelchairs for children living with disabilities. Some travelled to Canada for specialised training and came home with skills to start enterprises of their own.

Think about what that means. A child gains mobility and independence. A young person gains a trade, a livelihood and hope. One project, two

futures transformed.

This is the beauty of Economic and Community Development, which we celebrate this October. So, let me ask: are our projects creating opportunities that will keep changing lives long after we leave? A borehole needs resources for maintenance. A health centre needs families who can afford its services. Children need parents with steady incomes. Economic empowerment is the foundation on which all our service stands, and it grows strongest when communities own the solutions.

As we enter the second quarter, I thank every club for a strong start. Now let us build on it: enter your goals, move at least one economic development initiative into action, and document your impact. Your stories inspire others to act.

And now, the invitation closest to my heart. From 26 to 28 November 2026, the 7th All Africa Zone Institute comes home to Kampala, at Speke Resort Munyonyo, under the theme "Africa Rising, Grow to Serve". The continent's Rotary leadership is gathering on our doorstep, and District 9214, you are the hosts. Let us welcome Africa in numbers and with pride. Registration closes on 31st October, so please register and pay today, and bring your club leaders with you.

Let me return to that young welder. The torch was only a tool; the true investment was in human potential. Together, let us create opportunities that last.

## Emmanuel Katongole

Rotary International Director, Zone 22

# From Service to Sustainable Impact



Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors and Friends of Rotary,

Welcome to the second quarter of the Rotary year 2026-2027. We have travelled a remarkable road together over these first three months, and as we turn the page into October, I want to begin with a simple word of thanks. Thank you for showing up, for serving, and for proving again and again that Rotary in District 9214 is alive, energetic and deeply rooted in the communities we serve.

October is Economic and Community Development Month, and there could be no better reflection of the Ubuntu spirit that gives this magazine its name. I am because we are. When a young person learns a skill, when a woman grows her small business, when a village gains access to clean water or a reliable market, it is not one life that changes; it is an entire community that rises. This month, I invite every club to look closely at the people around you and ask one question: what can we build together that will still be standing long after we are gone? Sustainable livelihoods,

savings groups, vocational training and local enterprise are not side projects. They are the foundation on which healthy, peaceful and prosperous communities stand.

This month also brings us to a milestone worth celebrating: our First 100 Days. Our host, the Rotary Club of Nsangi, has prepared a wonderful joint fellowship for the entire district, and I cannot wait to see every one of you there. Come with your club, come with your friends, and come ready to celebrate what we have achieved and to recharge for the journey ahead. Fellowship is the fuel of service, and this is our moment to refuel together.

On 24th October, the world marks World Polio Day. We are closer than ever to a polio-free world, and that is no accident; it is the result of decades of Rotarians who refused to give up. I call on every club to wear purple, speak loudly, give generously and tell the story of End Polio Now in your communities. The finish line is in sight, and history will remember those who carried us across it. Please also note that early bird

registration for the 102nd DCA closes on 31st October. I warmly invite every member to register and complete payment before the deadline. Do not wait; secure your place now and join us for what promises to be an unforgettable gathering of ideas, inspiration and fellowship.

Finally, I want to share something personal. Visiting your clubs over these last couple of months has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. I have sat in your meetings, walked through your project sites and listened to the people whose lives you have touched. I have come away inspired every single time. Your creativity, your commitment and your quiet generosity remind me why Rotary matters, and why it will continue to matter for generations to come.

Let us make this second quarter even greater than the first.

Together, we rise.

## Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira

District Governor, Rotary District 9214 (2026-2027)

# Happy Community Economic Development Month.



One thing my journey across Tanzania and Uganda continues to teach me is that **youth are full of ideas, ambition, and the desire to create something meaningful but too often, the opportunity to turn that potential into reality is the missing link.**

I have met my fellow youth building businesses, developing innovations, acquiring new skills, and finding solutions to challenges in their communities. Their stories have strengthened my belief that one of our greatest forms of service we can offer to people is not simply support, but a platform to create.

This is why **Community Economic Development** resonates so strongly with me this October.

As Rotarians and Rotaractors, we have the networks, skills, platforms, and leadership to help the youth become active drivers of local economic growth. I am encouraged to see clubs already taking this responsibility seriously.

The Rotaract Club of Kasanga, among many others, is already demonstrating this through its Entrepreneurship for Peace programme, supporting

youth within their club and beyond to develop entrepreneurial solutions to challenges in their communities. This reminds us that when youth are given the space and support to create, they can become part of the solution.

And economic opportunity can also be a **pathway to peace**. When youth have meaningful opportunities to learn, earn, innovate, and build, they have a greater stake in building stable and thriving communities.

But talent alone is not enough. Youth need access to knowledge, mentorship, finance, markets, networks, and partnerships that can turn potential into sustainable livelihoods.

I therefore encourage every club to ask: **What are we doing to help youth in our communities create economic opportunities for themselves and others?**

This month, I challenge every club to **identify at least one economic opportunity it can create, strengthen, or connect youth to.** Let us strengthen partnerships that connect our communities to capital, markets, expertise, skills, and

opportunity.

Let us move beyond simply addressing needs to building capacity. Let us move from doing for communities to building with them. Because when one youth gains a skill, a livelihood becomes possible. When an entrepreneur gains access to a market, a business can grow. And when youth are empowered to create solutions, they can become employers, innovators, and community leaders.

As we continue **Creating Lasting Impact**, let us remember that economic development is not only about what we give it is about what we help people build.

**Youth are not just beneficiaries of economic development. We are drivers of it.**

This October, let us use Rotaract to create platforms for our youth to learn, connect, innovate, and build sustainable futures.

**Together, let us continue Creating Lasting Impact.**

## Beatha Malauri

District Rotaract Representative 2026-2027  
Rotary International District 9214



# 102nd District Conference and Assembly.

**All roads lead to Jinja**



# 102<sup>nd</sup> District Conference

All roads  
lead to  
**Jinja**



22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> April  
2027

Scan the  
code to  
register



<https://dca102.rotaryd9214.org/>

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EACH ONE,  
ENGAGE FOR  
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# 102<sup>nd</sup> District Conference

## Accommodation Guide

**19th - 25th  
April 2027**



For any queries contact:  
IP Beatrice Tinka  
+256 772 676502



## Proposed Accommodation Guidelines and Report of assessed accommodation Hotel Facilities in Jinja.

Greetings! To ensure a seamless, transparent and flexible accommodation experience for all delegates, below are the Accommodation guidelines of the 102nd DCA in Jinja from April 23–25, 2027.

1. **Accreditation Model:** The committee will not reserve or manage bookings directly; instead, we have a vetted list of accredited facilities across distinct pricing tiers to give delegates full autonomy over their choices, except when called upon to coordinate special arrangements.
2. **Standardized Listing Information:** To ensure transparency and ease of decision-making, each accredited property in the listing is published with the following detailed parameters:
  - Hotel Name
  - Booking Code
  - Physical Location
  - Distance from the DCA Conference Venue
  - Hotel Capacity (total room availability)
  - Negotiated DCA Rates. Please note that some facilities retained the rack rates.
  - Contact Persons.
3. **Direct Delegate Booking and Negotiated Rates:** All Delegates will book directly with accredited properties using customized DCA booking codes to access negotiated rates.
4. **Tiered option:** The listing includes a tiered option matrix of High-End hotels with full-service amenities, Mid-Range facilities and Budget-Friendly & Guest Houses.



**5. Reservations:** Bookings and Reservations are made with payment.

**6. Payment Methods:** Payment policies vary across host facilities. Most hotels accept cash and Mobile Money (including MoMoPay merchant codes). Card Payments: Visa and MasterCard are accepted at most mid-range and top-tier facilities, whereas American Express (Amex) is accepted by a select few high-end properties.

**7. Room Occupancy, Breakfast, & Extra Guest Terms:** Negotiated rates generally cover room occupancy and breakfast, wifi. Delegates planning to share a room with a second person must engage the hotel directly regarding extra-person charges depending on the hotel's policy. Most high end hotels have extra amenities such as Swimming pool, Gym, Bar, Restaurant, Spa.

**8. Transportation:** Hotel Transfers & Shuttle Rates: Airport or local hotel-to-venue transfers are not included in the standard room rates. Delegates needing hotel

transport must agree on rates and arrange transfers directly with their host hotel.

**9. Exclusive Amenities (Spa, Wellness & Massages):** Secondary services such as spa treatments, massages, laundry and specialized leisure amenities are billed individually and are the sole responsibility of the guest.

**10. Airbnb's & Short-Term Rentals;**

- While Airbnbs are a growing accommodation preference, they will not be catalogued within the official conference hotel roster. They are fragmented, have different hosts, do not offer standardized pricing, vary in capacities and are dispersed geographically. It is difficult to secure group rates or manage centralized bookings.
- The Accommodation Committee Chair maintains an established local network of trusted Airbnb hosts in Jinja and will handle individual requests and recommendations on a case-by-case basis.

**Accommodation Chair**  
Rtn. Beatrice Tinka  
0772676502



## **Jinja Nile Resort** **Code: DCA102JNR**

### **ROOMS**

#### **Capacity: 125 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- (Garden View): \$140
- Single (River View): \$160
- Double/Twin Garden View: \$160
- Double/Twin River View: \$180 /
- Executive: \$320

Plot M130,  
Kimaka Road

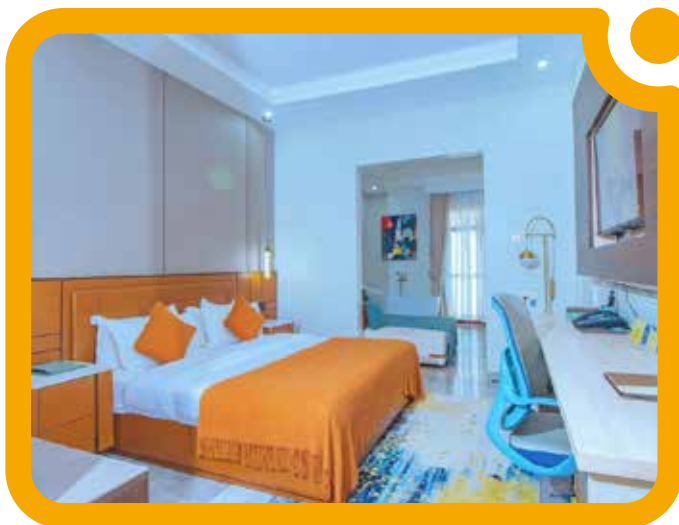
Distance from  
Venue 6.5Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

#### **Contact person:**

Sarah Alungat  
+256 772 414608  
resug@madahotels.com  
salesug@madahotels.com



## **Alison Hotel** **Code: DCA102AH**

### **ROOMS**

#### **Capacity: 14 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Single: \$120
- Deluxe: \$140
- Executive: \$180
- Twin: \$200

Plot 5  
Martin Road

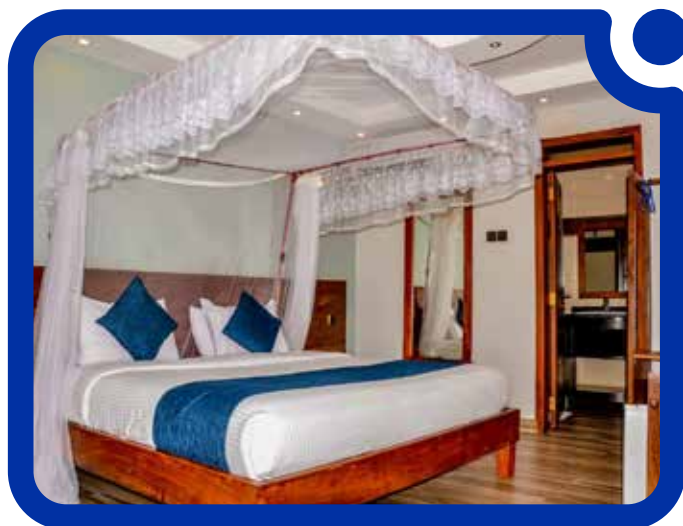
Distance from  
Venue 2.2Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

#### **Contact person:**

Musa Kabugo  
+256 776 515603  
marketing@alisonhotels.com



## Nile Village Hotel

**Code:** DCA102NVH

### ROOMS

#### Capacity: 125 Rooms

DCA Rates:

- Single: UGX 300,000
- Deluxe Single: UGX 400,000
- Deluxe Double: UGX 450,000
- Exec Single: UGX 500,000
- Exec Double: UGX 550,000

Plot 48/49  
Kiira Road

Distance from  
Venue 1.5Km



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BOOK**

#### Contact person:

Irene Kasigwa  
+256 788 241690  
+256 752 380961  
reservations@nilevillagehotel.com



## Source of the Nile Hotel

**Code:** DCA102SNH

### ROOMS

#### Capacity: 45 Rooms

DCA Rates:

- Single: UGX 302,000
- Deluxe: UGX 382,000
- Executive: UGX 402,000

Plot 31-37  
Bridge Street

Distance from  
Venue 3Km



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BOOK**

#### Contact person:

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+256 744 215105  
+256 772 521560  
s.najjuka@sourceofthenilehotel.ug



## The Orchid Grand Hotel

**Code:** DCA102TOGH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 35 Rooms**  
(20 Reserved for DCA Delegates)

DCA Rates:

- Single: UGX 200,000
- Deluxe: UGX 250,000

Plot 54B  
Kiira Road

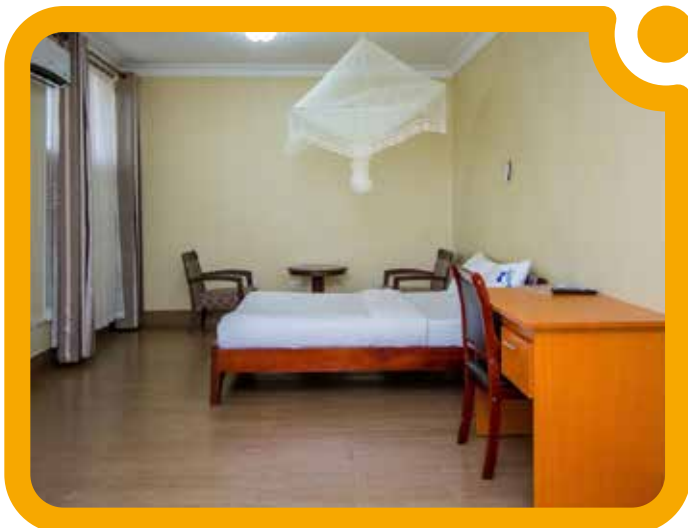
Distance from  
Venue 2.5Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

### Contact person:

Barbra  
+256 753 777300  
+256 774 682162  
theorchirdgrand@gmail.com



## Pearl on the Nile Hotel

**Code:** DCA102PNH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 37 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- UGX 270,000 (All categories)

Plot 12A  
Kiira Road

Distance from  
Venue 1.7Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

### Contact person:

+256 394 506994  
+256 782 242527  
info@pearlonthenilehotel.com



## Two Friends Guest House

**Code:** DCA102TFGH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 20 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Standard: \$97
- Standard Twin: \$110
- Deluxe Single: \$128
- Deluxe Twin: \$142
- Exec Deluxe Single: \$165
- Exec Double: \$190 Extra person \$35

Plot 5  
ackson Crescent

Distance from  
Venue 1.8Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

### Contact person:

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+256 783 160804  
+256 701 783233  
post@2friendsjinja.com



## Source of the Nile Suites

**Code:** DCA102SNS

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 20 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Boutique Single: UGX 150,000
- Boutique Double: UGX 200,000
- Deluxe Single: UGX 250,000
- Deluxe Twin: UGX 300,000

Plot 1  
Bridge Street

Distance from  
Venue 3.2Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

### Contact person:

Balayo Jonan  
+256 786 721293  
+256 750 094668



## Source Garden Hotel

**Code:** DCA102SGH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 79 Rooms**

RACK Rates:

- Single: UGX 120,000
- Deluxe: 150,000
- Twin: UGX 150,000
- Double Twins / Executive UGX 170,000

Bridge Street,  
Jinja

Distance from  
Venue 2.1Km



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

**Contact person:**

Alvin

+56 758 958332

sourcegardenhoteljinja@gmail.com



## Savvy Villa Hotel

**Code:** DCA102SVH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 26 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Single: UGX 80,000
- Twin: UGX 100,000

Plot 33A  
Kiira Road

Distance from  
Venue 2.1Km

**Cash & MoMo Pay Only**



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

**Contact person:**

Julia

+256 772 093600



## Tourist Bay Hotel

Code: DCA102TBH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 29 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Ordinary: UGX 42,000
- Standard Single: UGX 62,000
- Deluxe: UGX 82,000
- Double/Twin: UGX 152,000

Plot 18F  
Kiira Road

Distance from  
Venue 2.3Km



CALL TO  
BOOK

**Contact person:**

John Ngobi  
+256 774 796457



## Spark Africa Hotel

Code: DCA102SAH

### ROOMS

**Capacity: 22 Rooms**

DCA Rates:

- Standard Rooms: UGX 175,000
- SINGLE 100,000

Kimaka Road

Distance from  
Venue 1.3Km



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BOOK

**Contact person:**

Gerald Musasizi  
+256 751 108562  
+256 783 108562





## Chel and Vade Hotel

### ROOMS

#### Capacity: 19 Rooms

RACK Rates:

- Standard Rooms: UGX 120,000
- Deluxe 150,000
- Addition Person UGX 50,000

Victoria Lane  
Plot 11

Distance from  
Venue 2.1Km



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BOOK

#### Contact person:

Mirembe  
+256 706 038548



# 102<sup>nd</sup> District Conference

**Rotary**  
District 9214



**Rotaract**  
District 9214



EACH ONE,  
ENGAGE FOR  
IMPACT



# 102<sup>nd</sup> District Conference

## Transportation Guide



**23rd  
Aug  
2026**

- KAMPALA TO JINJA
- JINJA TO KAMPALA
- AIRPORT TRANSFERS

For any queries contact:  
PAG Hannigton Segirinya  
+256 772 366751

Terms And Conditions Apply



## Shuttle of 40 people

UGX

**80,000**

Per person - One way



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Hive Luxury Rides  
Rtn. Brian Seruyigo  
+256 772 715324



## Wish

UGX

**350,000**

One way



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## Alphard

UGX

**400,000**

One way



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## Eclass 213

UGX

**700,000**

One way



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## Mercedes GLE

UGX

800,000

One way



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Rtn. Brian Seruyigo  
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## V8 Land Cruiser

UGX

1,000,000

One way



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+256 772 715324



## Range Rover

UGX

**1,200,000**

One way



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Rtn. Brian Seruyigo  
+256 772 715324



## Airport transfers to Kampala

UGX

**150,000**

One way - 3/4 persons



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+256 772 715324



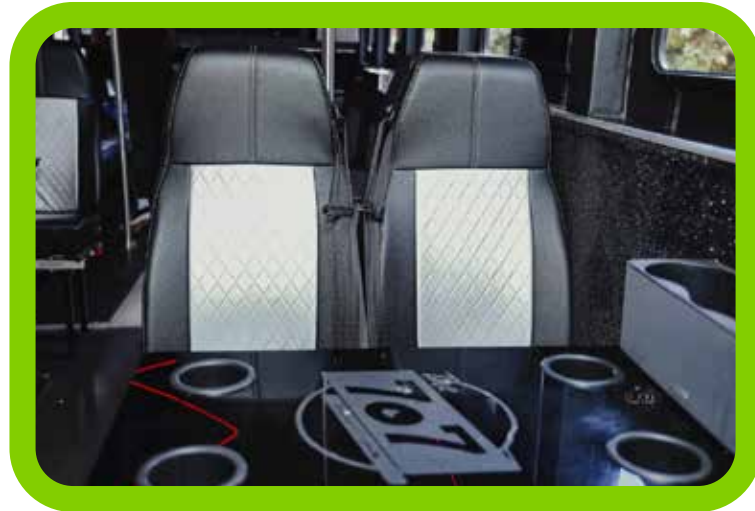
## 707 Party Bus

UGX

3,500,000

### What to expect:

Enjoy the experience with a professional DJ, dedicated driver, and waiter/waitress on board. Guests are welcome to bring their own drinks, but food is not permitted on the vehicle.



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BOOK

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Elsie  
+256 757 600600





## Double Decker Bus

UGX

**40,000**

Per person - one way

The bus comes fully equipped with music and an onboard bar for an unforgettable experience.

**60 people per bus**



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BOOK**

**Contact person:**

Sam Sendiwala  
+256 773 259771



## Service Provider One

USD  
**1,500**

One way

**Seats:**

12 seater

**Baggage:**

10 kg

**Airstrip:**

Lands in Kakira

**Departure time:**

Subject to agreement  
by both parties.



**CALL TO  
BOOK**

**Contact person:**

Anthony Njoroge  
+256 776 786546



## Service Provider Two

USD  
**220**

**Airstrip:**

Entebbe - Jinja

**Departure time:**

Subject to agreement  
by both parties.



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BOOK**

**Contact person:**

Sheila Busingye  
Asante Aviation  
+256 782 315377



## MV Brovad

UGX

**200,000**

one way

**60 people**



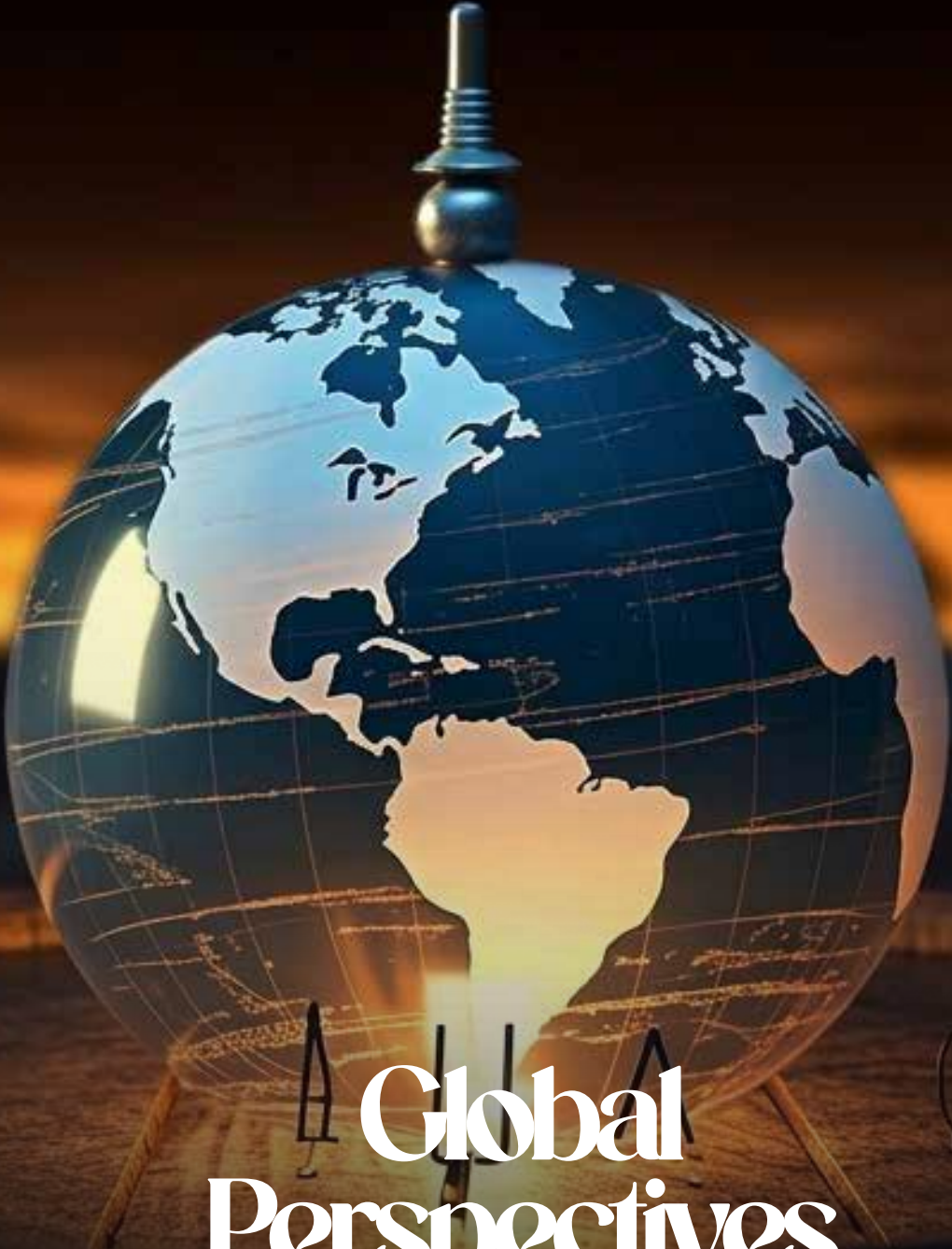
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# A Global Perspectives

# Three Cleaning Hours That Could Save Trillions: The Economics of a Clean Uganda



Poor sanitation costs Uganda more each year than the entire health budget. The monthly National Cleaning Day may be one of the best-value investments the country has made.

At 7 o'clock on the last Saturday of every month, something unusual happens in Uganda. Pedestrians, taxis, buses and boda-bodas fall silent. And across the entire country, from Kisenyi to Kitgum, from Busia to Kisoro, citizens pick up brooms, hoes and rakes. Some of my colleagues in the business community have asked me whether a central banker should be worried about the three hours of lost trading every month. My answer is yes, I have done the arithmetic. And the arithmetic says Uganda cannot afford not to clean.

## What the Government has set in motion

The Government has declared the last Saturday of every month a mandatory National Cleaning Day, requiring all Ugandans to take part in community cleanups to improve sanitation and prevent disease outbreaks. The first exercise was launched by Vice President Jessica Alupo in Kisenyi, Kampala, beginning a monthly campaign running from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. that covers homes, roads, schools, health facilities and markets. The initiative also rests on firm legal ground. Article 39 of the Constitution guarantees every Ugandan the right to a clean and healthy environment and places a duty on citizens to protect it.

We have now completed three of these exercises. It is time to ask the question an economist must always ask. "What is the return on this investment?"

## The hidden tax we all pay

Poor environmental health is a tax that never appears on your URA assessment, yet every household

pays it. It comes as a clinic bill, out of pocket health expenditure, a day off work, a child sent home from school, and in the worst cases, a small coffin. The Prime Minister, citing Ministry of Health reports, noted that about 33 children die every day from diseases caused by poor sanitation and hygiene, and that 75% of diseases in the country spread because of poor sanitation and hygiene. Think about that figure for a moment. Thirty three children a day is more than one every hour, around the clock, every day of the year.

Now consider the national bill. A cost of inaction study by the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) found that Uganda loses UGX 5,853 billion (about USD 1.55 billion) annually due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene, equivalent to 2.9% of GDP in 2023/24.

Let me put UGX 5.85 trillion in terms every reader can feel:

- It is roughly UGX 488 billion a month, or about UGX 16 billion every single day.
- For a population of roughly 46 million, it is about UGX 127,000 per Ugandan per year, more than many rural families spend on school fees for a child.
- Most strikingly, it is larger than the entire health budget. The health sector was allocated UGX 5.23 trillion for FY 2026/27 out of a national budget of UGX 84.39 trillion.

In other words, dirt costs us more than the whole of what we spend on hospitals, medicines and health workers combined, which is certainly worth worrying about.

## Where the money leaks

The EPRC breaks this loss down. Premature deaths are the largest component at about UGX 3.2 trillion, followed by healthcare costs at UGX 1.5 trillion, with productivity losses and time lost accessing facilities at about half a trillion each.

Malaria deserves very special mention, because blocked drainage channels, discarded containers and stagnant water are ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Researchers estimated the societal cost of malaria treatment in Uganda at \$577 million in 2021, and found that a single malaria case cost the poorest households 26% of their monthly per capita consumption, against only 8% for the richest. Disease, in short, is a regressive tax. It falls hardest on those least able to pay.

## The fiscal case: every shilling counts double

From a fiscal perspective, the timing of this initiative could not be better. External donor funding to the health sector fell from UGX 2.3 trillion in 2022 to UGX 1.3 trillion in 2025. Meanwhile, of the approved FY 2026/27 budget, UGX 37.23 trillion is statutory expenditure covering debt servicing, wages, pensions and other legally mandated obligations. The fiscal space for new spending is tight. When fiscal space is tight, prevention is not a luxury. It is the cheapest financing strategy available. The global evidence is also compelling. A WHO study calculated that every US\$1 invested in sanitation returned US\$5.50 in lower health costs, higher productivity and fewer premature deaths. Few investments in any portfolio, anywhere in the world,

deliver a return like that.

Consider some illustrative scenarios. If sustained cleaning, together with better waste management and hygiene habits, reduced WASH related losses by just 10%, Uganda would save about UGX 585 billion a year. That is more than half of what the Government allocated, UGX 1.013 trillion, to expand access to safe water and sanitation this financial year. At a 20% reduction, the saving would exceed UGX 1.17 trillion, enough to pay for that entire water and sanitation allocation. Even trimming the UGX 1.5 trillion healthcare cost component by a tenth frees up UGX 150 billion for medicines, immunization or health workers.

These are not official projections, they are simple arithmetic to show the scale of what is at stake. But they make one point clear, small percentage gains against a very large loss produce very large savings.

#### **But what about the three hours of closed shops?**

This is a fair concern, and as a central banker I take it seriously. Traders, transporters and market vendors do forgo business on a Saturday morning. However, even a generous estimate of the output lost during those three hours is a fraction of the roughly UGX 488 billion that poor sanitation drains from our economy every month. And much of that trade is not lost at all, it is deferred to later in the day.

More importantly, a healthy workforce is a productive workforce. A trader who does not lose a week to typhoid, a mother who does not spend her savings on a child's cholera treatment, a farmer who does not miss the planting season to malaria, these are the gains that do not show up on a Saturday morning, but show up in our growth figures, our household savings and, ultimately, in price stability.

#### **Why this matters for the macroeconomy**

Health shocks are economic shocks. When disease strikes a household, it depletes savings, forces the sale of assets, and reduces spending on everything else. When it strikes a nation, it reduces labour supply, lowers productivity and diverts public money from investment to emergency response. Cholera outbreaks can also disrupt markets, tourism and trade.

Uganda is preparing to host the continent. The Prime Minister has urged Hoima residents to take waste management seriously as the city gears up for increased activity ahead of AFCON 2027. Clean cities attract visitors, investors and conferences. Dirty ones definitely send them elsewhere.

#### **From a campaign to a culture**

The real dividend will not come from three hours a month. It will come from what those three hours teach us to do the other 717 hours. The

Government expects the exercise to raise awareness, strengthen civic responsibility, improve waste management, reduce sanitation related diseases, lower household healthcare costs and contribute to national productivity.

To lock in these gains, I would urge three things. First, local governments invest in regular garbage collection so that what is swept on Saturday is not dumped on Monday. Second, businesses see sanitation as an opportunity, from waste recycling to affordable latrines and third, every household treat handwashing, safe water storage and clean compounds as daily habits, not monthly events.

#### **The bottom line**

The balance sheet is clear. On one side, three hours a month. On the other, trillions of shillings, thousands of lives, and a healthier, more productive nation. As an economist, I cannot think of a better trade.

So on the last Saturday of this month, I will be out with my broom. I hope to see you there. It may be the most profitable three hours you spend all month.

---

*The writer is Deputy Governor of the Bank of Uganda. The views expressed are personal.*

## **Professor Augustus Nuwagaba**

Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda

A close-up photograph of a dark-skinned hand holding a bright red heart. The hand is positioned in the lower half of the frame, with the palm facing up. The heart is a vibrant red color and has a slightly textured surface. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of green and yellow light spots, suggesting an outdoor setting with foliage. The overall mood is warm and caring.

# At the Heart of District 9214



# THE GOVERNOR'S TRAIL

**August/September 2026**

The Governor's visits are more than a celebration of club achievements; they trace the journey of Rotarians identifying problems, working with people, and co-creating practical solutions to every challenge. From a home for abandoned babies to water projects serving tens of thousands, the Governor's visits offer a glimpse into what Rotary looks like when people choose to give financial resources, expertise and skills and time to serve others.

# The Trail By The Numbers



**45,000+**

people reached through three boreholes commissioned



**22,000+**

people benefiting from spring wells



**100+**

visually impaired children supported



**2**

New clubs chartered in the month



**40M**

UGX approximate value of the 12 Braille machines



**3**

sewing machines handed to livelihood programme graduates

**31**

new members added to Rotary service



**\$15,000 +**

Donated to the Rotary Foundation

In Kisoro, the Governor's Trail began with some of the youngest and most vulnerable people—abandoned babies and children whose mothers died during childbirth. Together with Potter's Village and Medical Crisis Center Kisoro, Rotary Club of Kisoro is working to provide them with care, protection and a place to call home. By providing medical shelter, infant nutrition, and transitional care Rotarians are demonstrating that every life matters.



### When Clean Water and Sanitation Changes Everything

For people that have no access to clean water, a Rotary project gives back in multiple ways. More time for parenting, safety for children and fewer water-borne diseases. The Rotary clubs of Nsangi, Mengo and Nkumba prioritized water. A new borehole handle means clean water for more than 45,000 people and the renovation of a historical spring well and construction of a new one brings nature's fresh water daily to 22,000 residents. RC Mbarara East, on the other hand, is focusing on improving hygiene in schools by constructing incinerators that ensure safe waste disposal.



#### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

1 spring well \ 3 boreholes \ 3,000 families \ 45,000+ people \ 3 villages



### HEALTHCARE THAT PREPARES: THE ROTARY PROJECTS PROTECTING MOTHERS, CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES

RC Nalumunye Heights: Mama Kits, oxygen cylinder and equipment for Nakawuka Health Centre III  
RC Mbarara: Support for neonatal care at Buzibwera Health Centre IV  
RC Ishaka: Charter launch of its first Safe Motherhood Project  
RC Medical Stars: Visiting the National Medical Stores warehouse to align medical professionals directly with national medicine distribution networks and delivering a large-scale community health camp  
RC Rubaga Lake View: Supporting VHTs with bicycles to strengthen healthcare outreach

#### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Saving high-risk newborns, preventing maternal and neonatal complications during delivery, increasing availability of quality health services in communities.

### Removing the Barriers to Learning

#### Education: Not every child starts from the same place

Some children cannot see. It is not a desk they need. When schools are overcrowded or collapsing, learners will need more than textbooks. And for those that are finishing school, a certificate may open the door, but relevant skills are what create income. Across the Governor's Trail, Rotary clubs are responding to different barriers that stand between children and opportunity.

- RC Buziga: 12 Braille machines worth approximately UGX 40 million for more than 100 visually impaired children
- RC Kabale City: Scholastic support and rehabilitation at Makanga Primary School
- RC Akright City: Classroom renovation at Kabulamuliro Primary School
- RC Kabale Central: Supporting rehabilitation of Kigezi High School Primary
- RC Rubaga Lakeview: Classroom construction at Buyiga Secondary School
- RC Bwebajja: Equipping St Benedict Technical School
- RC Kabale: Education Fund which supports students from the most vulnerable families every year



#### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Overhauling rural school infrastructure, supporting financial literacy for vulnerable young people and equipping facilities with technical equipment is turning skills into sustainable income for entire communities.

## **LIVELIHOODS AND STABLE FUTURES**

### **Skills That Become Livelihoods**

RC Muyenga Tankhill: A sewing machine can look like a piece of equipment. For someone trained to use it, it can be the beginning of an income, a business and greater independence. The three sewing machines handed over to vulnerable youth creates new possibilities for the graduates of the skills development programme.



RC Lubowa: Providing financial literacy training for young mothers at Mildmay Uganda, especially those in single parenting or those re-entering the workforce creates household stability and breaks cycles of poverty.

## **More Members Means More Possibility.**

Behind every Rotary project are people who give their time, skills, networks and resources. Membership growth isn't simply about gathering, it increases a club's capacity to respond more effectively to community needs.

Collectively, Medical Stars, Muyenga Breeze, Kabale City, Mbarara inducted 34 new members while RC Bushenyi and RC Masaka City birthed RC Ishaka. The charter of RC Kigo Central equally added more hands to Rotary service which translates into greater reach and impact in communities.



## **The Joy of Rotary Service with Rotaractors**

"There is a special joy in serving alongside Rotaractors—their energy, creativity, passion, and willingness to turn ideas into action remind us that service is not simply about what we give, but about the lives we touch together. Rotaractors bring a fresh perspective to Rotary. They challenge us to think differently, embrace innovation, and connect service with the aspirations of young people and our communities. Whether planting a tree, supporting a health initiative, mentoring a young person, or simply standing together for a cause, every act of service becomes a celebration of fellowship. The greatest joy comes when we see that service creates friendships, friendships create communities, and communities create lasting impact. To every Rotaractor, never underestimate the power of your passion and your hands. Your energy is the heartbeat of tomorrow's service." -District 9214 Governor, Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira

## **PARTNERSHIPS: ROTARY DOESN'T WORK ALONE**

Every Rotarian knows someone who eventually becomes a partner. School staff, local council leaders, nurses in health facilities, government agencies, law enforcement, foundations, businesses and community organisations are always invited to collaborate to tackle problems that require more minds, more resources and more solutions.

- RC Mbarara Ranchers working with Government on staff houses
- RC Lubowa working with Pride Bank on financial literacy and Mildmay Uganda on young mothers
- RC Muyenga Tankhill working with Einstein Rise Foundation
- RC Kisoro working with Potter's Village and Medical Crisis Center Kisoro
- RC Buziga's long-term partnership with CEVIC



## **AT THE CORE OF ROTARY IS BUILDING GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP**

### **Home Hospitality with the Minister**

Some of Rotary's most meaningful moments happen away from the meeting room. During the Governor's visit, the Rotary Club of Mengo hosted a warm home hospitality with the Minister for Education and Sports, creating an opportunity for fellowship, conversation and reflection on service.

The gathering also recognised the Minister's contribution to the club and to The Rotary Foundation, while celebrating RC Mengo's continued commitment to service and giving. It was a reminder that relationships, generosity and fellowship are part of what sustains Rotary's work in communities.

## **Honouring a Legacy of Unity and Service**

The Governor's Trail was also a moment to pause and honour the passing of His Majesty the King of Tooro, Oyo Nyimba Iguru Rukidi Kabamba IV, a cultural institution whose legacy has touched generations. For Rotary, community is about more than projects; it is also about relationships, identity, dignity and the values that hold communities together. The tribute recognised the King's place in the life of the people of Tooro and reflected on the enduring values of unity, service and pride that connect communities and inspire generations to contribute to the greater good.



# District News and Upcoming activities



## Rotary Cancer Run 2026: Beyond the Numbers

More than 100,000 people ran, walked, rallied and gave. Together, they helped the **15th Rotary Cancer Run raise UGX 5.62 billion**, pushing the campaign beyond its UGX 5 billion target and taking Uganda another step towards a long-awaited cancer treatment centre at St. Francis Hospital, Nsambya.

Held under the theme **"Ggwanga Mujje,"** the 2026 Run mobilised over 100,000 participants in Kampala, across Uganda and in towns worldwide. Government leaders, Parliament, corporate partners, Rotarians, Rotaractors, health workers, families and cancer advocates united around a shared purpose: expanding access to cancer prevention, early detection and treatment.

The Chairperson of the Uganda Rotary Cancer Programme, PDG Stephen Mwanje, credited the milestone to public confidence, transparent leadership and committed partners like the Parliament of Uganda who contributed UGX 3 billion shortly before the Run, bringing its cumulative support over 15 years to UGX 10.2 billion. This achievement brings specialised cancer care closer to reality. Once completed, the Nsambya centre will strengthen treatment capacity, including advanced radiotherapy services, and ease the pressure created by Uganda's shortage of radiotherapy equipment. It offers renewed hope to patients, caregivers and families affected by cancer.

Minister of Health Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, commended Rotary and participating Ugandans, reaffirming Government's commitment to stronger collaboration on prevention, healthier lifestyles, regular screening and treatment. Chief Runner and Rotary Foundation Trustee Tusu Tusubira, described the Run as a powerful expression of solidarity that also promotes fitness and awareness.

The journey continues. The superstructure is expected to be completed by December 2027, after which the facility must be equipped. Required equipment is valued at approximately USD 12.5 million. Incoming 2027 Run Chairperson Rtn Samuel Ngabwaki announced a UGX 10 billion fundraising target for completing and equipping the centre.

Beyond Nsambya, Rotary plans regional cancer treatment centres in Arua and Kasese taking specialised care closer to communities and sustaining a national movement of action, partnership and hope for generations ahead.

The Rotary Cancer Run has therefore evolved from an annual fundraising event into a national movement for cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and hope.

Rotary Uganda remains committed to working with Government, Parliament, corporate partners, health institutions, communities and Ugandans everywhere to Create Lasting Impact in the fight against cancer.



## 102<sup>nd</sup> District Conference and Assembly Activation





# World Polio Day 2026: Where Do We Stand?



# Polio in 2026: Where Do We Stand?

When Rotary launched PolioPlus in 1985, polio paralyzed about 1,000 children every day. Today we are closer to ending it than ever, but not yet finished. For District 9214, which covers Uganda and Tanzania, 2026 has been a year of real wins and clear warnings.

## The global picture

Wild poliovirus now survives in only two countries. Afghanistan has recorded 25 wild polio cases so far this year and Pakistan four, and the two remain the only countries where wild poliovirus transmission continues. Sewage testing shows the virus is more widespread than the case count suggests: Afghanistan has recorded 76 positive environmental samples this year and Pakistan 128.

The global target has shifted. The world is now working towards certifying wild poliovirus eradication by 2027 and eliminating type 2 vaccine-derived poliovirus by 2029.

## What this means for Africa

Our continent was certified free of wild poliovirus in 2020, after four years without a wild case, but vaccine-derived strains continue to circulate. These strains appear when too few children are immunized: in under-immunized communities, the weakened virus in the oral vaccine can circulate for a long time and change until it can cause paralysis again. The lesson is simple. Where every child is vaccinated, this cannot happen.

The trend in Africa is encouraging. The continent recorded 183 polio detections between January and July 2026, a 33% decline from 2024, and 142 million children received at least one dose of polio vaccine across 17 African countries in that period.

Uganda: an outbreak stopped before it paralyzed a child

Uganda has one of the year's best stories. In May 2024, a surveillance officer collecting a routine sewage sample at the Doko treatment plant in Mbale City found what laboratory tests confirmed as circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2. There were no human cases, but the virus was present and linked to strains circulating beyond Uganda's borders. The country responded with vaccination campaigns and stronger surveillance, and in May 2026 an independent assessment confirmed Uganda had met all WHO standards to formally close the outbreak.

The work is not over. A recent study found surveillance performance in Uganda is generally strong, but with gaps in timely notification and differences between regions; on average only 63.4% of districts met the target for detecting acute flaccid paralysis cases. A surveillance system is only as strong as the weakest district.

## Tanzania: acting fast and at scale

Tanzania has shown the same urgency. In March 2026 the government launched a campaign in the Lake Zone targeting over 6.7

million children after vaccine-derived poliovirus was detected through environmental surveillance. From 27 to 30 August, the third round of Phase II of the novel oral polio vaccine campaign reached 6,991,461 children under 10 across eight regions, exceeding the national target. The next round is close: in both Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, a second round is scheduled for 29 September to 2 October 2026.

## Our priorities this Rotary year

1. Keep immunity high. Every child under five should complete routine polio doses, and every campaign round should reach every eligible child, including those in border, island, fishing and urban informal communities.
2. Strengthen surveillance. Environmental sampling caught Uganda's outbreak early. Community reporting of sudden weakness in children makes that system complete.
3. Protect the funding. Global resources are tighter. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is planning for an adjusted 2026 budget of US\$786 million, 30% less than originally planned. Rotary's commitment matters more than ever: Rotary continues to raise \$50 million each year, with every dollar matched by two more from the Gates Foundation.
4. Speak up. Misinformation and vaccine hesitancy are as dangerous as the virus. Rotarians are trusted voices in our communities.

## What communities can do

- Vaccinate every child, every time. Welcome vaccinators, and bring children forward in every round, even if they were vaccinated before. Extra doses are safe and build stronger protection.

- Report sudden weakness. Any child under 15 who suddenly becomes floppy or weak in a limb should be taken to the nearest health facility at once. Early reports trigger early response.

- Mobilise. Churches, mosques, schools, markets, boda boda stages and local leaders can spread accurate information during campaign weeks.

- Join Purple Saturday. Clubs can run awareness talks, fellowship talks and community vaccination support from 1 October, building up to World Polio Day on 24 October, when clubs come together in their corridors. Report every activity on Rotary's project platform and on the district form.

- Give. Every contribution to PolioPlus is tripled through the Gates Foundation match. A club gift, a fellowship collection or a personal donation all count.

## Closing

Uganda has shown that a single sewage sample, taken by one diligent officer, can protect an entire nation. Tanzania has shown that millions of children can be reached in four days. The tools work. What remains is our will to finish. We are this close. Let us end polio, together.

**Rotarian Miriam Nangonzi Kyeyune**

Rotary Club of Bwebajja  
District Polio Plus Chair, Rotary District 9214

# END POLIO NOW OUTREACH IN MABAWA WARD, TANGA CITY

A total of 120 children under the age of five were successfully vaccinated against polio during a joint community outreach at Mabawa Ward.

The morning sun had barely cleared the horizon when Dr. William Mwengee, the National PolioPlus Coordinator, gathered his team at Kwanjeka Health Centre. Armed with vaccine cooler boxes, the Rotary Club of Tanga joined forces with local health workers and a passionate group of Rotaractors. These young volunteers lent their vibrant energy to the critical mission of ensuring no vulnerable child was left unprotected.



For years, Dr. Mwengee has been a driving force in Tanzania's fight for polio eradication. Mabawa Ward, with its bustling streets and tucked-away homesteads, presented a common challenge: many busy parents found it difficult to make the trip to the central clinic. Under Dr. Mwengee's expert leadership, the strategy was to bridge this gap by taking the life-saving drops directly to their doorsteps.

To unify the team and boost morale, every volunteer and health worker was equipped with branded gear. Dressed in bright Rotary T-shirts featuring the "End Polio Now" logo, matching caps, and carrying dedicated bags and pens, the field teams created a highly visible, professional presence in the neighbourhood.

Dividing into small, dynamic teams, the Rotarians, healthcare professionals, and eager Rotaractors fanned out across the area. The air filled with the rhythmic sound of megaphones as the young volunteers called out to families. At the first few houses, hesitant faces peered through doorways. However, the gentle guidance of the Mabawa Area Chairman and the Kwanjeka nurses quickly turned doubt into warmth. Mothers brought out their infants, and health workers administered the two vital drops into the mouths of the children, marking their pinkies with purple ink—a badge of protection and pride.



To keep energy high during the demanding day, refreshments were provided not only to the hardworking teams but also to the clients and parents who were present at the vaccination points.

By late afternoon, the teams were exhausted but inspired. Reaching the milestone of 120 protected children brought a deep sense of accomplishment as they walked back to Kwanjeka Health Centre. Guided by Dr. Mwengee's leadership and fuelled by Rotaract volunteerism, the Tanga Rotary family demonstrated that global eradication is achieved one community, and one child, at a time.

## About the Author

**Dr. William Mwengee** is a Tanzanian public health expert with 38 years of experience in government and international health service. He served 15 years in government and 23 years with the World Health Organization (WHO), where he held roles including Surveillance Officer and Immunization Team Lead. His work has focused on immunization, disease surveillance, outbreak response, and the control of vaccine-preventable diseases. A member of the Rotary Club of Tanga for 20 years and a Past President, he currently serves as Rotary International's National PolioPlus Chair for Tanzania for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Rotary years.

## Rotarian Dr. William Mwengee

Rotary Club of Tanga  
Rotary International Special  
Representative for Tanzania



## The District 9214 End Polio Launch hosted Rotary Club of Bwebajja



## Rotary District 9214 | World Polio Day, Saturday 24 October 2026

### Purple Saturday 2026: Club Planning FAQ

#### 1. What is Purple Saturday?

It is District 9214's World Polio Day Project. Throughout October, clubs across Uganda and Tanzania run activities that raise awareness, funds and visibility for Rotary's commitment to ending polio, building up to Saturday 24 October 2026, when all clubs come together for the joint Purple Saturday celebration.

#### 2. Why does our club need to take part if polio seems far from us?

Polio still circulates in parts of the world, and as long as it exists anywhere, every child is at risk. Rotary has led the global eradication effort since 1985, and World Polio Day is our most visible moment to show the public that the job is not finished.

#### 3. Does everything happen on 24 October?

No. It happens in two phases:

- 1 to 23 October (club phase): each club runs its own activities in its community.
- 24 October (corridor phase): all clubs in the same corridor come together for one joint activity, hosted and coordinated within that corridor.

#### 4. What activities can our club run from 1 October?

Choose what suits your capacity and community, for example:

- Polio talks during club weekly meeting, with guest speakers from the health sector
- Community vaccination drives, in partnership with local health authorities
- Awareness talks in schools, markets, churches, mosques and workplaces
- Radio and TV talk shows
- Fundraising fellowships, dinners or sports days

#### 5. When should we start planning?

Now. Confirm your October activities, lead person and budget before the end of September so you are ready to start on 1 October. Secure partners and permissions early, and plan your club's participation in the joint 24 October event alongside your October programme.

#### 6. How do we raise money, and where does it go?

Collect contributions from members, friends, partners and the public, then give through The Rotary Foundation to the PolioPlus Fund. Every eligible contribution is matched by the Gates Foundation, which multiplies your club's impact. Record donations accurately so members receive proper credit.

#### 7. Can we work with non-Rotary partners?

Yes, and you should. Engage local health offices, schools, religious and cultural leaders, media houses and corporate partners. For any vaccination activity, always work with and under the direction of the relevant health authorities.

#### 8. What branding should we use?

Use official End Polio Now materials and the Rotary brand guidelines. Wear purple, Yellow, Red and White use the district hashtags provided, and ensure banners, flyers and T-shirts carry the correct logos. Contact the District Public Image team if you need artwork or guidance.

#### 9. How do we tell our story?

Assign one member to capture quality photos and short videos at every activity, not only on 24 October. Collect a few quotes, post on club and district platforms, tag the district pages and use the shared hashtags so all activity across the month appears together.

#### 10. How do we report our activities?

Every club report in two places:

- **Rotary's Project Center:** log each activity so it is recorded on Rotary's global platform and counts towards the district's record.
- **District Google Form:** complete the form that the district will share, covering the activity held, date, people reached, vaccinations supported (if any), funds raised, partners involved, and three to five of your best photos.

Report each activity within 48 Hours of holding it. Clubs that report fully help the district tell one strong, credible story of our polio work in 2026.

For support, contact your Assistant Governor, District Polio Committee, District TRF fundraising committee and the District Public Image Chair.

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# When Rotary Learning Changes How We Serve



The 33rd Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Undergraduate Class in Masaka shows that leadership development is not just about gaining a certificate, it can change how Rotarians view their clubs, their roles and how they evolve as leaders.

## THE DECISION TO TAKE RLI OUT OF KAMPALA

When District Governor Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira made the number of Rotarians graduating from RLI one of the measurable district goals for 2026/27, it sent a clear message: learning and leadership development are not side activities. They are part of the district's agenda.

For years, Rotarians in Western Uganda who wanted to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute had to travel to Kampala. With the support of RLI H/M PAG Andrew Muguluma and then Country Chair Apollo Ampumwize, the District 9214 Learning Team took RLI to Mbarara. Building on the evidence of the Action year, in the Impact year, the learning team reached Greater Masaka. The idea was simple: if Rotarians have to travel long distances to

access learning, bring the learning closer to them. Decentralizing learning did not lower the quality of the experience. The challenge was to retain the discussion, interaction and depth that make RLI different from a conventional training session.

## 23 graduates. 8 Rotary and Rotaract clubs. Seeing Rotary through Different Lens

On Saturday, 20 September 2026, 23 Rotarians and Rotaractors graduated from the 33rd RLI Undergraduate Class, following sessions held in August and September. The class brought together participants from Rotary Clubs of Masaka, Masaka City, Kyotera, Lukaya, Lyantonde Metropolitan and Kalangala Sese Islands, alongside Rotaract Masaka and Rotaract Lyantonde.

The most important story is what happened to the way participants thought about Rotary. People began questioning what they thought they already knew.

## SOMETHING INTERESTING HAPPENED AT RLI

Ask participants what they enjoyed about RLI and the answers tell an important story.

They described the facilitation as "fantastic" and participatory. They appreciated the icebreakers, the knowledgeable and lively facilitators, and modules they found applicable not only to Rotary but also to everyday life.

Strong attendance and active participation were also highlighted. **"I THOUGHT I KNEW ROTARY..."** Rotarians don't arrive at RLI as blank pages.

They come with years of professional experience, Rotary experience, opinions, assumptions and stories about how things work. The

facilitator's job, therefore, is not simply to stand at the front of the room and provide answers.

The real learning happens through discussion, questioning, reflection and learning from one another. In Masaka, several participants realised that their understanding of Rotary was not as complete as they had assumed. That realisation opened the door to deeper learning. *"RLI does not only teach us something new. Sometimes, it helps us discover that something we thought we already knew deserves another look."*

## THREE IDEAS THAT MADE PARTICIPANTS THINK AGAIN

### 1. Membership Doesn't Automatically Create Engagement

One assumption was that people who join Rotary have already made their decision and therefore should naturally understand why they are there. The RLI conversations challenged that idea. Joining is one thing. Feeling that you belong, understanding your purpose and finding meaningful ways to participate are another. Clubs have a role to play in helping members find that connection.

### 2. Giving To The Rotary Foundation Is A Choice

The Rotary Foundation also

prompted reflection. Some participants had understood annual giving as something every Rotarian was required to do. The discussions helped clarify the distinction: Foundation giving is voluntary, but it enables Rotary to fund much of the work it undertakes in communities. The lesson was not simply about giving. It was about understanding why we give and what that giving makes possible.

### 3. A Strategic Plan Should Not Sit On A Shelf

Strategic planning produced another shift. For some participants, a Strategic Plan had largely been seen as a document a Rotary club was expected to have. RLI presented it differently. The plan should shape what the club actually does. It should influence the priorities a club chooses, where it directs its resources and energy, and ultimately the impact it wants to create.

## WHAT RLI REALLY GIVES YOU

RLI creates space to stop, question, listen and rethink. It allows Rotarians to examine ideas they may have accepted simply because they have heard them repeatedly or because they have been in Rotary for a long time. That is learning too.

## The People Behind the Masaka Class

The Masaka programme was





facilitated by:

**Rtn Eric Byenkya** — Team Leader, RLI  
Uganda

**Rtn Walter Nyero**

**Rtn Stephen Kevin Mugabi**

**Rtn Simon Peter Lubega**

**Rtn Elizabeth Kintu** — Country  
Learning Team Leader Uganda

**Rtn Jacqueline Namutaawe**  
supported programme  
administration.

The programme also benefited from the continued support of Rtn Andrew Kigumba Muguluma, who has coordinated RLI learning beyond Kampala.

At graduation, certificates were presented by PAG Eric Byenkya and Elizabeth Kintu on behalf of District 9214.

#### WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

Mbarara showed th at taking RLI outside Kampala was possible.

Masaka is beginning to show what could happen when we bring leadership development closer to Rotarians. The value of RLI will not be measured only by how many people graduate. It will be measured by what they do differently when they return to their clubs.

#### WITH APPRECIATION

Special appreciation goes to **District Governor Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira, Country Chair Yusuf Kigoye** and the Country Office for the support that made the Masaka programme possible. Appreciation also goes to Impact President Sotius Ssegawa, President of Rotary Club of Masaka, for hosting the programme at Hotel Next; PAG Marie Nalubowa for mobilisation; and the RLI leadership, facilitators, administrative team and every participant who gave their time to make the 33rd Undergraduate Class possible.

## Rotarian Elizabeth Kintu

Rotary Club of Lubowa,  
Learning Team Leader, Uganda

# Read to Rise Campaign Connects Students to Career Opportunities and Mentorship



Students at St Mark's College Namagoma had an opportunity to look beyond the classroom and explore possibilities for their future during the District Career and Pathway Fair held on Saturday, 26 September 2026. Bringing together learners, Rotarians and professionals from diverse fields, the fair offered guidance on educational choices, career opportunities and the skills needed to navigate life after



secondary school.

The event graced by Chief Guest, Ms. Mary Harriet Ajilong, Commissioner for Guidance and Counselling at the Ministry of Education and Sports, marked the climax of District 9214's Read to Rise Campaign during Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy Month.

Rotarians, alongside Corridor Basic Education and Literacy (BEL) and Scholarships Champions, joined students for a day dedicated to

mentorship, guidance and informed decision-making, reflecting Rotary's commitment to empowering young people through education.

District Governor Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira, who also serves as a director of St Mark's College Namagoma, thanked Rotarians for their selfless service and dedication to basic education and literacy, one of Rotary's seven areas of focus. He commended the fair as an important initiative in helping students understand the pathways available after secondary school and encouraged learners to ask questions, engage with the facilitators and seek clear direction towards their aspirations.

District Scholarships Chair Florence Malinga reinforced the message, appreciating the support extended



to the Read to Rise Campaign and urging students to make the most of the knowledge and experiences

shared by the facilitators.

At the heart of the fair was the contribution of Rotarians and Rotaractors who shared their professional expertise, helping learners connect their interests and classroom knowledge with potential careers. Keynote speaker Rtn. Lillian Nalwoga Baliruno of RC Bwebajja delivered an inspiring presentation on The Power of Social Intelligence, emphasising the importance of interpersonal skills in personal and professional success.

Students also engaged with professionals from a wide range of sectors. Rtn. Benjamin Bwanika of RC Garuga explored Statistics, Data Science and Analytics, while Rtn. Judith Nyongereza of RC Bwebajja guided learners through Law, Governance and Public Policy. Rtn. Joseph Lwevuzi of RC Namasuba addressed Information and Communication Technology, and Rtn. Subira Muwanga of RC Nsangi discussed Business, Management and Entrepreneurship.

Additional sessions covered Environment, Construction and Real Estate, facilitated by Rtn. Derrick Jjunju of the Rotaract Club of Kampala South; Medicine, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, led by Rtn. Francis Matovu of RC Entebbe Stars; Supply Chain, Procurement and Logistics, presented by Rtn. Julius Kaweesi of

RC Garuga; Industrial Art, Design and Creative Industries, facilitated by Rtn. Jackline Kyomukama of RC Muyenga Bukasa; and Oil and Gas, presented by Rtn. Moses Ronald Oteng of RC Nalumunye.

By connecting learners with experienced professionals, the Career and Pathway Fair gave practical expression to the Read to



Rise Campaign. Beyond providing information, it created meaningful opportunities for students to explore possibilities, ask questions and make informed decisions about their future. For District 9214, the initiative demonstrated how service through education can inspire confidence, broaden horizons and equip young people to pursue their aspirations with greater clarity and purpose.

## Rotarian Joseph Ssuuna

Rotary Club of Bwebajja  
BEL and Scholarships Champion, Entebbe Road Corridor,  
Ubuntu Editor

# Conflict Resolution Is Governance – The Rotary Way



“Conflict is not the opposite of Good governance — it is the test of it. Managed well, conflict sharpens accountability; left unattended, it becomes the quiet breach in every compliance framework.”

Ask any seasoned Rotarian/Rotactor what harms a club most, and the answer is rarely a failed project. It is unresolved conflict. A contested election, a treasurer's report no one can explain, a WhatsApp group formed in the dark — unchecked, these do not stay within the club. They erode trust, stall service projects, drive members away, and eventually reach the District Governor's desk. Unresolved conflict is not a personality issue. It is a governance risk.

The corrective already exists. The Four-Way Test — Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? — is Rotary's own diagnostic for handling disputes, not a plaque for the wall. Held to honestly, it settles most matters before they harden.

Almost every serious grievance traces to four sources: contested leadership and roles; communication breakdown, where decisions go unminuted; financial and grant disputes; and conduct or ethical issues. Boards should watch patterns, not one-off complaints. When two members raise the same concern independently, act — privately, on the record.

Just as important: a pathway already

exists. The Standard Rotary Club Constitution sets out mediation, arbitration, grievance committees, and appeal. Escalate one step at a time — private dialogue first, then club mediation, grievance committee, district, and only finally the RI Board. Use the ladder; do not invent one.

Discipline is legitimate only when due process is visible: a written complaint, an impartial assessor, a fair investigation, a hearing, and a reasoned written decision. Confidentiality, non-retaliation, and a right of appeal protect the member and the club alike.

For Rotactors, the ethos is identical. The same disputes, the same early signs, the same ladder apply. Habits formed young become the governance culture of tomorrow's Rotary.

Conflict is normal. Unresolved conflict is the problem. Let us train our boards in mediation, adopt a one-page grievance policy, and address issues early, in private, on the record. That is how we protect the brand, keep our members, and make Service Above Self real.

“The number one goal in resolving a conflict is to make sure both sides maintain their self-esteem.” Kofi Annan.

## Rotarian Ismael Mukasa

Rotary Club of Kajjansi  
District Chair, Governance and Compliance.  
District 9214 - Rotary Year 2026/2027

A close-up, artistic photograph of a camera lens. The lens is black with visible ridges and a textured grip ring. Inside the lens, a reflection of a globe is visible, showing continents and latitude/longitude lines. A vibrant rainbow is also reflected within the lens, creating a colorful arc. The background is a warm, out-of-focus orange and yellow light. The lens is resting on a surface that appears to be a map or a textured surface with some faint lines and colors.

# Rotaract Lens

# From Side Hustle to Main Business: A Doctor Finds His Calling in Design

Sometimes, the things that change our lives begin as nothing more than a way to pass time. For me, it started with a laptop, a few movies, and a software called Microsoft Publisher. When my aunt, Maama Tina, bought me a laptop, her dream was that I would become the first doctor in our family. So, my laptop was filled with medical notes, pharmacology, anatomy, and, of course, plenty of movies. But as time went on, the movies became boring. I needed something else to do.

I discovered Microsoft Publisher and started experimenting with it, designing posters for school-house parties. Around the same time, we had started the Rotaract Club of Kampala School of Health Sciences, where I served as Charter Secretary. Naturally, I had to communicate meeting dates, announcements, and other club activities. Being in Rotaract exposed me to publicity flyers from other clubs advertising their fellowships and events. I became curious about how they were made. I decided to try making my own, using the only design software I knew—Microsoft Publisher. Adobe software was expensive, and I simply could not afford it.

## From Job Hunting to Self-Tutoring

After completing my medical studies, I began looking for employment in the medical field. Unfortunately, opportunities were scarce. Some required licenses I did not yet have, while others offered very little



payments. I later got an opportunity to work at a clinic and I often visited my cousin who worked at a computer café to get movies. One day I discovered that his computer had Adobe software installed. Without telling anyone, instead of copying movies, I copied the software. I turned to YouTube, teaching myself how to use the applications. I watched tutorials, practiced, made mistakes, and kept improving.

## Earning UGX 5,000

My involvement in Rotary and Rotaract gave me an advantage. Public image being one of the major priorities of Rotary, and clubs constantly need flyers, event posters, banners, and other communication materials. I already had a network of

people who needed these services. I started small, designing flyers for different clubs at just UGX 5,000 per flyer. The money was little, but it was a starting point. Every design was an opportunity to learn, improve, and build a reputation.

## The Designer vs the Medical Practitioner

Designing part time I was still working at the clinic, trying to build a career in the medical field. However, I gradually realized that graphic design was beginning to earn me more than my clinic job. That was a turning point, and I started dedicating more time to design, learning new techniques, exploring other Adobe applications, and improving the quality of my work. As my skills improved, so did my prices and the clients I could serve.

What had started as simple flyers for school parties and Rotaract fellowships grew into a business serving more than ten Rotary and Rotaract clubs. Today, AdminBridge—Africa is an extension of my journey, bringing together graphic design, administration, social media management, and other professional support services under one business. And perhaps the most fulfilling part is the freedom it offers. I can work from home, serve clients in different places, and earn a living through skills I developed largely through practice and determination.

## Rotaractor Hudu Lubowa Mwanje

Rotaract Club of Seguku  
Charter President, Ubuntu Contributor

# A Tale From the Ground Up: How Rotaract Energy and Rotary Mentorship Build Leadership



Starting from Interact, I joined Rotaract out of a simple desire to give back. The Rotaract Club of Mbarara (“The Ranchers”) gave me the tools to serve and lead, but it was the partnership with Rotarians that truly accelerated my growth and shaped me.

## **The Power of Co-Creation**

We worked on many projects together: restocking a school library; installing water tanks, constructing sanitation facilities at Rwarire Primary School; donating blood and organizing cervical cancer screenings in Nyamitoboora. The fulfillment always came from jointly planning and bringing resources, time and effort to communities. Rotaractors were good at creative mobilization, while Rotarians provided strategic guidance, networks, and resources.

A standout moment for me was the Cancer Run 2026. Mobilizing community members and selling run kits wasn't just a personal achievement it was relationship building and shared mission with Rotarians to support cancer treatment at Nsambya Hospital. It showed me that “Service Above Self” is not a personal goal but what we build together.

Hands-on skills in hygiene products have prepared me for the world of work, from a fresh to a technical professional.

## **Skills Money Can't Buy**

In Rotaract I gained practical skills that no classroom could teach: communication, problem-solving, empathy, time management, teamwork, and resilience. I can lead meetings and rural outreach projects; from a shy man from Bweranyangi who preferred to sit at the back, I now lead initiatives and inspire others. Adopting Rotary's Four-Way Test as my personal and professional compass has transformed how I approach decisions in work, life and career.

## **Why Intentional Mentorship Matters**

Looking back, I realize that my journey was never just about giving back; it is also about becoming a better self. Transitioning into Rotary isn't just a change in title; it brings a new responsibility—when we actively mentor Rotaractors, co-design projects with them, and create clear pathways for them to join Rotary, we don't just strengthen our clubs—we transform our communities.

## **Rotarian Nduhura Sam**

Rotary Club of Mbarara Ranchers (Past Rotaractor)



kiswahili  
**Connect**

# Jinsi Kazi, Ujuzi na Msaada wa Jamii Unavyounda Fursa na Heshima Tanzania

Hapa kwetu Tanzania, kazi si kazi tu, na wala kazi si chanzo cha kipato tu. Bali kazi ni utambulisho wa mtu, kazi ni fahari, kazi ni uwezo wa kujitegemea na njia ya kuelekea maisha bora ya baadaye.

Hivi sasa, watu wanageuza azma yao kuwa fursa. Vijana wanajifunza ujuzi wa vitendo, akina mama wanabadilisha wazo dogo kuwa chanzo cha kipato kama vile vikoba, wakulima wanakubali mbinu mpya za uzalishaji na hata wahitimu wanapata uzoefu unaowawezesha kutumia maarifa yao katika kazi zao. Hivyo basi, nyuma ya kila fursa na mafanikio kuna simulizi za juhudi, ujasiri na uvumilivu.

Kipaji pekee mara nyingi huwa hakitoshi. Ila ujuzi hufungua milango ya fursa lakini pia msaada kutoka kwa jamii husaidia watu kuingia kupitia milango hiyo ya fursa. Vijana wanaoshiriki katika mafunzo ya ufundi, ujasiriamali, ujuzi wa kidijitali na matumizi ya akili mnemba (AI) na ushauri elekezi huwajengea uwezo, ujasiri na maarifa ya vitendo na kushiriki kikamilifu katika mzunguko wa uchumi wa sasa. Kwa kuwa watu hawasubiri tena fursa bali wanazitengeneza na kuzijenga wao wenyewe.

Watu wanapopata nafasi ya kufanya kazi, kujipatia kipato na



kuchangia katika jamii, hupata faida zaidi ya usalama wa kifedha. Kupitia kazi ama umiliki wa ujuzi flani inawasaidia kupata heshima katika jamii inayowazunguka, pamoja na kujiamini na uwezo wa kujitegemea. Maendeleo yao yanaweza kuimarisha familia zao na kuibua fursa mpya ndani ya jamii.

Kwa hiyo, jukumu letu si kutoa fursa pekee, bali kujenga nafasi kwa watu kupata ujuzi, kuimarisha mahusiano na mazingira wezeshi yatakayowasaidia watu kujitengenezea fursa zao wenyewe. Kwa sababu watu wanapowezeshwa kufanya kazi na wanapoungwa mkono na kuaminiwa, fursa huwa njia ya watu kupata heshima, na heshima ndio msingi wa maendeleo endelevu ya jamii.

## Rotaractor Rahma M. Nurdin

Rotaract Club of Alpha  
Rotaract District International Service Chair - 2026/27  
Swahili Exchange Officer

# Mbio za Mbuzi za Rotary 2026: Safari ya Burudani kwa Ajili ya Elimu

## Dar es Salaam, Septemba 2026

— Viwanja vya Posta Kijitonyama viligeuka kuwa uwanja wa burudani, mshikamano na kuchangia maendeleo ya elimu wakati Rotary Goat Races 2026 yalipofanyika Jumamosi, 19 Septemba 2026. Tukio hilo, lililoandaliwa na Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Oyster Bay, liliwakutanisha familia, marafiki, wafanyabiashara, wadau wa maendeleo na jamii kwa ujumla chini ya kaulimbiu ya mwaka huu, "Safari Adventure."

Kwa miaka 22, Mbio za Mbuzi za Rotary zimekuwa miongoni mwa matukio yanayotambulika jijini Dar es Salaam, yakichanganya burudani na dhamira ya kuchangisha fedha kwa ajili ya miradi ya kijamii. Mwaka huu, tukio lilifanyika katika eneo jipya na kubwa zaidi, likilenga kuongeza ushiriki wa jamii na kuimarisha mchango wake katika sekta ya elimu.

## Vodacom Tanzania PLC

, kwa mwaka wa nne mfululizo, iliendelea kuwa Mdhadini Mkuu wa tukio hilo. Ushirikiano huo pia uliimarishwa kupitia makubaliano ya miaka mitatu kwa kipindi cha 2026–2028, ukiweka msingi wa kuendeleza

kwa pamoja mipango yenye manufaa kwa jamii.

Akizungumza kuhusu ushirikiano huo, Mkuu wa Masoko na Enablement wa Vodacom Tanzania,

**Joseph Sayi**, alisema kampuni hiyo inajivunia kuendelea kuunga mkono mpango ambao tayari umeleta matokeo katika jamii, ikiwemo kusaidia kuboresha miundombinu ya shule na kutoa ufadhili wa masomo kwa zaidi ya wanafunzi 350 wenye uhitaji katika taasisi za elimu ya juu na mafunzo ya ufundi stadi.

Kwa upande wa Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Oyster Bay, Rais wa Klabu kwa mwaka wa Rotary 2026/27,

**Paul Muhato**, alieleza kuwa Goat Races ni zaidi ya tukio la burudani. Ni fursa ya kuunganisha watu huku wakichangia jambo lenye manufaa kwa jamii.

Mwaka huu, juhudi za kuchangisha fedha zililenga kusaidia mipango mbalimbali ya elimu, ikiwemo ufadhili wa masomo kwa wanafunzi wenye uhitaji, kuboresha mazingira ya kujifunzia na kuimarisha huduma za

## maji, usafi na usafi wa mazingira (WASH) katika jamii.

Tukio hilo pia liliendelea kuonyesha nguvu ya ushirikiano kati ya Rotary, sekta binafsi na wadau wa jamii. Washirika wa kampuni, watoa huduma za vyakula na vinywaji, familia na marafiki wa Rotary, serikali za mitaa pamoja na wadau wengine walishiriki katika kulifanya tukio hilo kuwa jukwaa la pamoja la burudani na huduma kwa jamii.

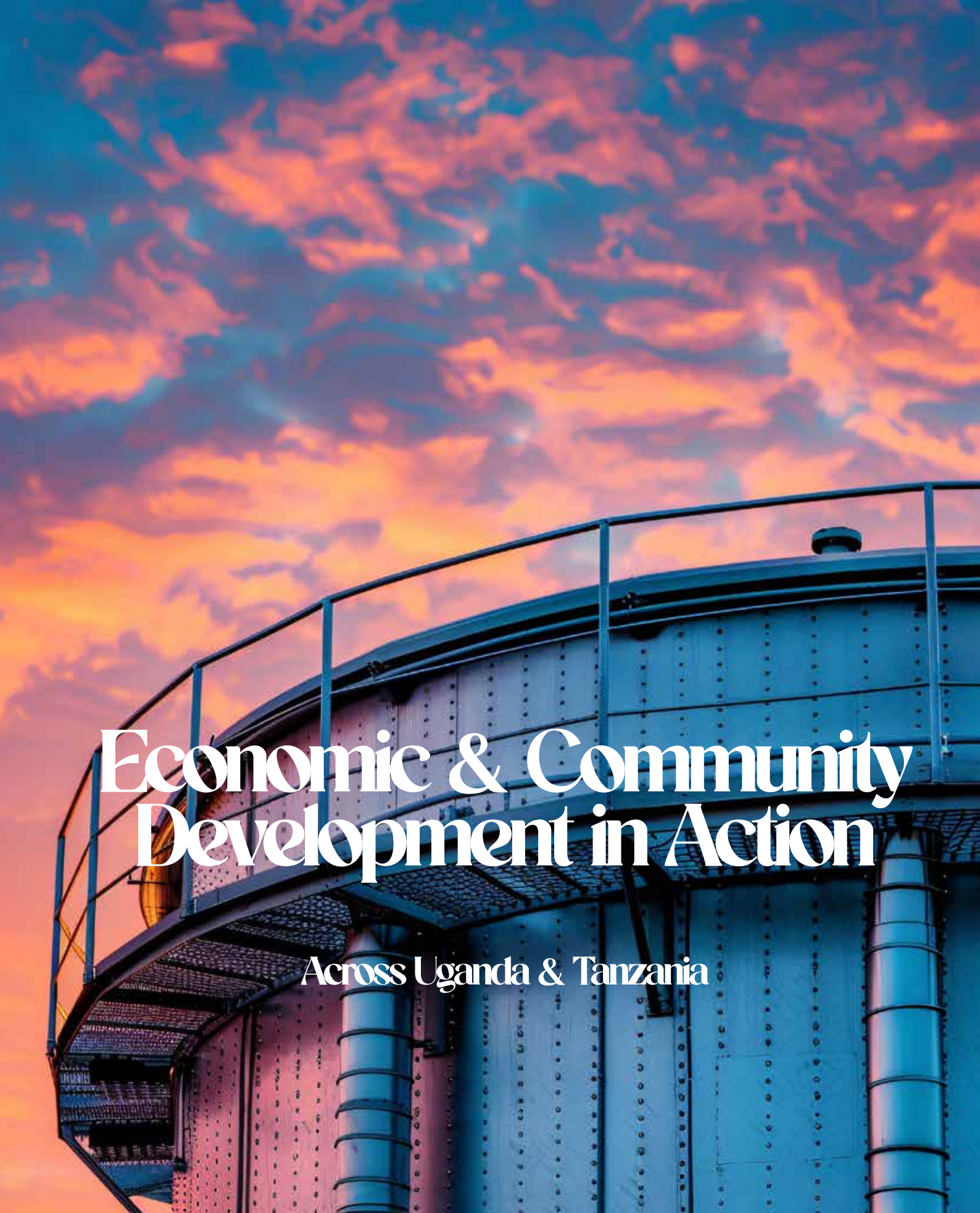
Kwa waandaaji, mafanikio ya Rotary Goat Races 2026 yanaendelea kujenga msingi wa kutumia matukio ya kijamii kama njia ya kuhamasisha ushiriki wa umma na kugeuza burudani kuwa rasilimali kwa ajili ya maendeleo.

Kwa kila tiketi iliyonunuliwa, kila ushirikiano uliotolewa na kila mchango uliotolewa, Goat Races 2026 iliendeleza ujumbe mmoja muhimu:

**burudani inaweza kuwa mwanzo wa mabadiliko, na elimu inaweza kuwa njia ya kujenga maisha bora kwa kizazi kijacho.**



## Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam Oysterbay



# Economic & Community Development in Action

Across Uganda & Tanzania

# GIVING HOPE TO YOUNG MOTHERS



For many young mothers, motherhood does not begin with a plan. It begins with a sudden responsibility, often accompanied by fear, stigma, interrupted education and an uncertain future. Many young, expecting mothers often feel that their life dreams are over as they lack skills to gain employment or income for their new families.

The Rotarians of Lubowa decided to do something to restore hope to these young mothers. At the heart of the Suubi Economic project is a simple but powerful conviction: charity sees the need, but meaningful action addresses the factors that created it.

Together, with several partners the club is equipping young mothers with practical skills in starting and managing small businesses, financial literacy, technical skills and marketing their finished products. These young mothers are supported under the charity arm of Mildmay Hospital which works with the local community council to identify them for antenatal, childbirth, postnatal care and newborn immunization services.

The good change is seen when the young mothers who previously depended on handouts from relatives or friends begin to make simple home-use products, sell them and earn regular income.

***"Every young mother deserves an opportunity to rebuild her confidence, acquire useful skills and pursue a dignified and productive future. Through this project, we***

***are committed to giving forty young mothers practical skills and opportunities that will transform their lives."*** - President Clare Byekwaso, Rotary Club of Lubowa

## Why the Ssuubi Project Stands Out

The Ssuubi project goes beyond training young mothers in practical skills. Club members and partners are also connecting these new entrepreneurial mothers to markets for the products they make, giving them the pathway to ready income and business expansion.

The project is also designed to reach beyond its first group of participants. Each mentored young mother is expected to train three other young mothers in her community, extending the impact of the programme and increasing the number of mothers with new skills to 160.

## Partnerships that work

The project brings together the Rotary Club of Lubowa, Mildmay Hospital, the Rotaract Clubs of Lubowa and Mildmay, with financial support from Pride Bank which has contributed UGX 17 million towards the project. This is part of the bank's commitment to responsible partnerships for creating sustainable opportunities in communities. The involvement of the Rotaract Clubs of Lubowa and Mildmay adds another important dimension. It demonstrates that young people themselves can be powerful agents of social transformation when given the opportunity to serve, mentor and create change within their communities.

***"The Suubi Project is an investment in families. When a young mother gains a skill, she gains a potential source of income. When she earns an income she becomes economically empowered and builds her ability to provide for her family and make decisions about their future."*** - District 9412 Governor Daniel Mukasa Ddamulira

The 40 young mothers have been equipped with skills in crochet sponges making, the next level is production and the Rotary Club of Lubowa has already secured market for the products with local downtown traders.

## Rotarian Juliet K. Mubi

Rotary Club of Lubowa  
Director Public Image

# FROM NETS TO WELDING: FORGING A NEW FUTURE FOR BUGIRI'S YOUNG FISHERMEN



In Bugiri-Bukasa, a fishing village in Kisubi Parish, the morning used to begin with the sound of boats pushing off into Lake Victoria, until the mornings fell silent.

When the government of Uganda tightened fishing regulations to conserve Lake Victoria, it saved the fish but left hundreds of youth stranded. Many were early school dropouts who depended on the lake. Fishing was all they knew. Overnight, they became unemployed. I often woke up in the mornings to find them under a tree shade leading to the lake.

As we prepared for the Impact year, RC Bwerenga, together with Rotary clubs in the Entebbe area—Entebbe Base, Entebbe, and Bwebajja, decided to plan a livelihoods project in the community for these unemployed youth.

## **Building a community response through multi-club collaboration**

The core Entebbe clubs invited 17 other Rotary clubs and 15 Rotaract clubs to discuss with the youth and local leaders, raise resources, and design a project that would create regular employment and income opportunities.

In early August the plan was ready. Instead of going to the lake, 15 young men went to a workshop. They picked up welding masks and safety gear and other tools bought by the Rotary clubs. In the workshop the youth will be trained for three months in welding and metal fabrication skills—how to make gates, windows, doors, and grills, products on high demand as Uganda's construction sector booms. Rotary identified a local fabrication business with qualified instructors, to deliver the training.

The project is part of the 10 Days of Double Impact campaign, that Rotary and Rotaract clubs across District 9214 are implementing through quick, high-impact projects.

***"Rotary did not come with a ready-made solution. We had to first understand the community need. The community did not ask for food or money. They asked for an alternative way to live." - Sylvia Nabakadde, President of the Rotary Club of Bwebajja***

## **Starting Without Walls**

Because a training facility could not be immediately constructed, Rotary engaged local leaders, who donated land for a future vocational centre. "We refused to wait. Partnering with an existing workshop allows the programme to start without delay", says President Nabakadde.

District Governor Nominee, Peter Kaggwa, calls it a model of community-focused service which demonstrates Rotary at its best—identifying an emerging challenge and forging a practical solution. For these youth, a gate they weld is more than a gate. It is school fees. It is rent. It is income for their families



Presidents Arthur Byara from RC Entebbe, Roger Sembeguya RC Entebbe Base, Sylvia Nabakadde RC Bwebajja, Patricia Mugabi, Jackie Batamuliza Rotaract Bwerenga launching the project during the 10 Days of Double Impact economic empowerment project launch.

## Rotarian Patricia Namutebi Mugabi

Rotary Club of Bwerenga  
President 2026 - 2027



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