

Kasese District Local Government
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STATE OF THE DISTRICT AFFAIRS REPORT

FY 2019/2020

SEPTEMBER 2019

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON'S STATE OF THE DISTRICT AFFAIRS REPORT FY 2018/19 - ON 6th SEPTEMBER 2019

- The District Speaker;
- The Honourable Members of Parliament;
- The Resident District Commissioner
- The Vice chairperson;
- The Deputy Speaker;
- Hon members of the District Executive Committee;
- Hon members of the District Council;
- The Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu representative;
- The FDC District Chairperson;
- The NRM District Chairperson;
- The Chief Administrative Officer and the entire Civil Service;
- Members of Statutory Boards and Commissions;
- Development partners;
- All invited guests;
- The members of the press;
- Ladies and gentlemen

Hon Speaker,

Preamble

The Local Governments Act, 1997 as amended, part III, Section 13 (5) and Rule 10 (1) of the Model roles of Procedure for the District Councils; state that, "...the district chairperson shall make a report to Council on the state of affairs of the district, at least once a year". I am, therefore, performing this function in line with these legal provisions.

Hon Speaker,

Over the years, Kasese has registered tremendous developments in areas of education, health, production, water provision, road network, urban and rural electrification, trade and commerce, power generation, mineral extraction, tourism, urbanization, entertainment industry, faith growth and development etc. The leaders and the entire people of Kasese deserve special recognition.

I take the opportunity to appreciate Council and the technical team for working within the five-year development plan, the Capacity Building Plan and the budget Framework Paper approved for the Financial Year 2019/2020.

The commendable implementation of activities as depicted in this state of affairs of the district is indicative of the cooperation and harmony of the politicians, civil servants of this district and the Kasese district community at large.

Hon Speaker, the financial year 2018/2019, has been another period of successes. But allow me to summarize the Plans and successes for FYs 2019/20 and 2018/19 respectively and ask this honourable Council to refer to the annexes for related details. Some of these successes are especially in the key strategic areas of Finance, Education and Sports, Health, Works, Production and Marketing, Natural resources and Community Based Services

REVENUE PERFORMANCE AND PLANS FY 2018/19 and 2019/20

REVENUE PLAN FOR 2019/20

A total of Ushs. 74,008,326,000 has been projected as total revenue for the FY 2019/20 compared to Ushs. 68,900,555,000 during the FY 2018/19 representing a 7.4% increase in the revenue forecast.

1.0 FINANCE : The table below shows our Approved budget for 2019/20 and the revenue performance in the FY 2018/2019 as at end of June 2019

Revenue Performance and Plans by source

<i>Uganda Shillings Thousands</i>	Current Budget Performance		
	Approved Budget for FY 2018/19	Cumulative Receipts by End of the FY 2018/19	Approved Budget for FY 2019/20
Locally Raised Revenues	1,616,615	795,178	1,620,462
Discretionary Government Transfers	6,892,351	6,892,351	6,810,500
Conditional Government Transfers	49,567,440	49,561,314	50,859,577
Other Government Transfers	7,925,547	4,028,251	9,436,201
External Financing	2,898,601	1,712,922	5,281,587
Grand Total	68,900,555	62,990,016	74,008,326

REVENUE PERFORMANCE

Revenue performance per sector against the budget in the previous FY

<i>Uganda Shillings Thousands</i>	Approved Budget for FY 2018/19	Cumulative Receipts by End of the FY 2018/19	Approved Budget for FY 2019/20
Administration	6,887,155	6,870,274	6,587,174
Finance	1,554,853	950,190	1,560,142
Statutory Bodies	1,205,676	1,089,614	1,512,951
Production and Marketing	2,702,343	2,065,774	4,156,525
Health	13,895,024	13,277,834	15,571,233
Education	33,021,019	31,824,363	32,679,430
Roads and Engineering	4,973,373	3,853,999	3,593,537
Water	953,262	713,261	717,047
Natural Resources	919,504	309,486	2,215,452
Community Based Services	2,081,845	1,512,485	2,583,278
Planning	554,199	421,720	2,525,483
Internal Audit	152,303	101,014	152,736

Trade, Industry and Local Development	0	0	153,337
Grand Total	68,900,555	62,990,016	74,008,326
<i>o/w: Wage:</i>	<i>39,465,584</i>	<i>39,465,584</i>	<i>41,288,327</i>
<i>Non-Wage Reccurent:</i>	<i>15,462,266</i>	<i>12,771,962</i>	<i>21,157,301</i>
<i>Domestic Devt:</i>	<i>11,074,104</i>	<i>9,039,548</i>	<i>6,281,110</i>
<i>External Financing:</i>	<i>2,898,601</i>	<i>1,712,922</i>	<i>5,281,587</i>

By the end of June 2019, the district had realized 91% of her approved budget for the FY 2018/19 as total revenue shares. Local revenue contributed 1.3% of the total receipts, discretionary government transfers 10.9%, and conditional government transfers 78.7%, other government transfers 6.4% while donor disbursements accounted for 2.7% of the district receipts. Of the total funds released and disbursed to the district, 100% were uploaded onto the Treasury Single Account as release allocations to departments. During the period under review a total of Ushs. 62,990,016,000 of the funds uploaded was spent by the different departments at the district and LLGs leaving unspent balances of Ushs. 1,285,719,000. The unspent balances was a result of delays in payments to contractors and external financing for donor interventions across the district

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PREVIOUS FY

With these funds, we have been able to deliver the following services:

2.0 EDUCATION AND SPORTS: Mr. Speaker Sir, we have registered a number of successes in the Education Sector including:

- Procurement of a four wheel double cabin pick up to be procured for the department to enhance the education monitoring and supervision mandate across the district;
- Completion of a 3 classroom block at Kajwenge P/S in Kisinga Town council Latrine stances construction-5 at St. Alozious P/S in Isango S/c
- Supply construction and installation of a 10,000 ltr water tank at St. Theresa Girls Secondary school in Kisinga TC
- Payment of retention for the completed works at various institutions
- Paid salaries for all teachers in primary, secondary and tertiary levels
- Completion of a 3 classroom block at Kajwenge primary school
- Undertook monitoring and supervision of primary schools across the district
- Transferred all funds under UPE and USE to beneficiary schools across the district
- Construction of a 4- twin staff house at Mbata P/S in Bwesumbu Sub County;
- Construction of two classrooms at each of the primary schools of Kyamuduma in Mahango, Nysisango in Bugoye,
- Construction of 4 classrooms at Mirami in Karambi Sub County;
- 144 dual desks to the primary schools of Katebe and Kamabwe in Maliba, Kanyughunyu in Kisinga, Buhathiro in Ihandiro Sub County and Kibuga in Karusandara Sub County
- Construction of phase two of Nyakatonzi Seed Secondary school in Nyakatonzi Sub County to include a library, an ICT laboratory, electricity connections, a staff house for head teacher and deputy, 2 unit teachers houses, 2 unit external kitchen, furniture for the multi-purpose science laboratory, furniture for administration, furniture for library, furniture for ICT laboratory, a water harvest system and establishment playground;
- Five stance latrines at Karusandara SDA in Karusandara, Ngome in Kyondo, St. Alozious Isango in Isango

3.0 HEALTH SECTOR: Despite other Implementation challenges, we have managed to:

- All contract and health workers salaries were paid
- Monitoring and supervision of 23 health facilities across the district,
- Upgrading of Kyempara and Nyakimasi HC IIs to HC IIIs
- One office vehicle repaired and serviced at the head quarters
- Introduction of the Rotavirus vaccine in the 85 static units
- Routine sensitization meetings in cholera prone areas,
- Rehabilitation of the District Health Officer's office at the district headquarters
- Transfers to health facilities across the district
- Construct of a maternity ward at Nyamirami HC IV
- Training of peer educators in HIV/AIDS prevention
- Sensitization meetings on EBOLA outbreak
- One emergency relief Ebola screening point constructed at Bwera
- Delivered the minimum health care package to wanainchi which includes routine immunization, drug deliveries and recruitment of basic staff for health facilities.

4.0 WORKS: Under Uganda Road Fund, the district has managed to complete the following projects during the period under review:

- Periodic maintenance: Completion for gravelling Karambi-Customs road 4km in Karambi Sub County;
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Maliba-Kihyo-Kitswamba road 8km in Maliba Sub County;
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Kinyamaseke-Muruti road 11.5km in Munkunyu and Nyakatonzi Sub Counties;
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Maliba-Isule road 6km in Maliba Sub County;
- Routine mechanized: Grading Kihara-Kapoko road 2.8km in Rukoki Sub County;
- Routine mechanized: Grading Muhokya-Kahendero road 2.8km in Muhokya Sub County;
- Routine mechanized: Grading Kyarumba-Kitabona road 5.1km in Kyarumba Sub County;
- Construct 2nd phase for the construction of Kyoho bridge on Bwesumbu Sub County;
- Construct one Arch bridge at Rutokye Mini Irrigation Scheme in Muhokya Sub County;
- Construct 2nd phase of the District Administration Block at the district headquarters;
- Labor based road maintenance: maintain 309.9km of feeder roads across the district
- A total of 150.5km of urban roads maintained in the 6 urban councils of Kinyamaseke, Mpondwe Lhubiriha, Kisinga, Rugendabara-Kikongo, Katwe Kabatoro and Hima.
- A total of 312 km of community access roads in rural sub counties to be maintained across the district
- Maintain the district road unit comprising graders, rollers, vibrators, dumb trucks etc
- A total of 245.8km of community access roads were maintained in the 24 rural sub counties across the district.
- 206.9km of feeder roads were maintained using labor based road gangs across the district;

5.0 WATER: I am happy to report to you Mr. Speaker and Honorable Councillors that we continue to prioritize the provision of water across the district. During the FY 2018/19, we implemented a number of water projects including:

- Repair 20 non function boreholes in the sub counties of Kitswamba, Karusandara, Maliba, Bugoye, Rukoki, L. Katwe, Munkunyu and Nyakatonzi using water grant and donor funds;
- Construction of Nyamusule-Mbulamasi- Rwebitooke Gravity Flow Scheme in Mahango and Muhokya Sub Counties;
- Construction of phase one of Kyamiza gravity flow scheme in Muhokya Sub County;
- Construction of phase one of Kaswa Gravity Flow Scheme in Bwesumbu Sub County;
- Construction of Mbunga – Nyakazinga Mini Gravity Flow Scheme in Kilembe Sub County;
- Construction of phase 2 of Ibuga- Bigando Solar Powered Water supply system in Kitswamba Sub County

- 22 villages across in the Sub Counties of Bwesumbu, Kitswamba, Mahango, Kilembe and Muhokya to be triggered on sanitation and hygiene;
- Nine water user committees to be formed and trained in the Sub Counties of Bwesumbu, Kitswamba, Mahango, Kilembe and Muhokya;
- Undertake support supervision for the second phase of the rehabilitation of Mubuku Irrigation Scheme in Nyamwamba Division Kasese Municipality

6.0 **PRODUCTION AND MARKETING:** The sector is central to the achievement of the medium target of a lower middle income status by 2020 and the Uganda Vision 2040.

The major thrust of the government reduction of poverty campaign rotates around the Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) Programme which performed thus:

- 1,746kgs of cassava graters were supplied to farmers across the district;
- Established apple trials in 5 Sub counties, which are doing well showing that we can produce apple fruits in Kasese. In addition, 186,435 and 390,000 seedlings of mangoes and apples were supplied to organized farmers across the District
- For food security and wealth creation, we have so far supplied maize seed, bean seed,, tissue culture bananas, mango seedlings, and orange seedlings
- 35,400Kgs of Maize seedlings have been supplied to organized farmers across the district
- 10,568,000 coffee seedlings and 970,000 of cocoa seedlings were also supplied to all organized farmers across the District
- 35,400kgs of beans were given to farmers across the district
- 174,684 orange seedlings and 28,360 seedlings of passion fruits were also given to farmers
- 8,400 Chicks and chick feeds (20,160 Kgs starter and 16,500 Kgs growers mash) were supplied to different farmers across the district
- 59,640 fish fry and 3,829 Kgs of fish feeds were supplied to various fish farmers across the district
- 250 Pigs were also given to farmers across the district

Challenges

- Inadequate inputs in relation to farmers expectations especially for cocoa and apple seedlings
- Lack of transport means and fuel for on spot and sustainable supervision to enable timely coordination with other stake holders especially for the OWC commanders.
- Farmers' slow learning and adaption levels (farming not yet taken as a business). Farmers' mind-set is still based on subsistence farming not focused on good agronomic practices
- Failure of the youth to engage in agricultural production
- Terrain- hilly and hard to reach areas
- Lack of facilitation for extension officers
- Prolonged dry spells and unreliable rain patterns

Under Livestock health and Marketing

- 15 boran bulls were procured and supplied to cattle farmers in cooperatives
- 2,000 one day old chicks were delivered to the beneficiaries

Under Fisheries regulation

- 2 tank fish farming demonstrations were established in Kyondo and Kisinga sub counties
- 50,000 Fish fry procured and supplied to farmers in the sub counties Kilembe, Maliba, Bugoye and Kisinga
- One fibre glass boat repaired at Katunguru landing site

Under Agriculture

- One study tour conducted for members of the production and natural resources committee of council for innovation
- One motor vehicle collected from the centre

- Payment for retention for Katholhu and Kacungiro min irrigation schemes
- Construction of phase II mini-irrigation scheme on R. Kyanzi
- Committees sensitized on management of environmental safeguards
- Payment of staff salaries at the district headquarters
- 2 water pumps procured with assorted equipment and installed on tanks for fish farming
- 6,000 catfish fingerlings and 1,000kg of fish feeds procured and supplied to demonstration farmers
- 2,000kg of fish feeds procured and supplied to demonstration farmers
- Dissemination of information on survival of OWC inputs, soil erosion control, nutrition bylaws and discussion of vanilla ordinance
- Farmers trained in sustainable land management
- Offered technical backstopping to farmers
- Child health days conducted in 20 health units under UMFSNP

7.0 NATURAL RESOURCES

Tree cover increase

- With support from the Ministry of Water and Environment, the district tree nursery and community tree nurseries the district has supported establishment of 45 ha of trees on bare hills and watersheds in the villages of Ihani, Kikokera, Bunyangoni and Rwakingi in Maliba and Bugoye sub counties and other areas across the district.
- 48kms of CAAIP roads have been planted with 12,000 tree seedlings and this will help secure the road reserve. The trees are both indigenous and exotic, agro forestry and commercial hence will contribute to conservation and income generation.
- The district has surveyed Nyabirongo Local Forest Reserve in Kisinga Town Council and Kiburara land in Kisinga Sub County. Forestry extension services to private tree farmers is ongoing.

Energy access

- In collaboration with UMEME and Kilembe Investment Limited a total of 28,650 households (21%) have access to grid electricity
- In collaboration with WWF Uganda Country Office and Kiima Foods solar based rural electrification has increased to 7% (10,100 households) with access to solar lanterns and solar home systems for lighting
- In collaboration with WWF Uganda Country Office and Kiima Foods, 30% (37,500 households) access and utilize Improved cook stoves

Environmental awareness

- Community environment awareness meetings and radio talk shows have been held to increase environmental awareness across the district.

Security of land tenure

- The district has supported Wanainchi in land registration. A total of 150 Certificates of Customary Ownership were issued across the district during the past year.

Physical planning

- The district has a functional physical planning committee which ensures orderly physical planning including avoiding issuance of titles in gazetted and/or public lands.

8.0 COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

Children & Youth Services

- 612 youths across the district trained in enterprise management
- 114 youth groups across the district supported with Youth Livelihood funds

- More than 150 self-help-groups have been supported with various livelihoods interventions. These included youth under the Youth Livelihood Funds in income-generating activities, elderly and groups of PWDS

Gender Mainstreaming- Women empowerment Program

- 135 Leaders of all LLGs sensitized about the Uganda Women entrepreneurship program at the district Headquarters
- 29 LLGs have been supported with funds for desk and filed appraisal of UWEP applications
- 64 women groups in all 29 LLGs were due for support by end of June in the FY 2017/18

Support to Disabled and Elderly

- 24 PWDs groups across the district have been supported with Funds for medical rehabilitation
- 4 PWDS groups supported with funds to start Income Generating activities (IGA)
- 1200 FAL learners in the LLGs of Kitholhu, Karambi, Isango, Mpondwe-Lhubiriha, Bwera, Ihandiro, Katwe-Kabatooro, Nyakiyumbu, Munkunyu, Kisinag, Kyondo, Kyarumba, L. Katwe, Muhokya have been trained

Hon Speaker and Councilors

10.0: RECRUITMENT:

A total number of 160 new staff were recruited as at end of August 2019 and these included among key sectors as listed below;

Health; 40 medical staff have been recruited and these include 25 Mid-wives, 12 Health Information Assistants, 01 Cold Chain Technician, 01 Radiographer, 01 Dental Attendant

Under Production and Marketing; 17 extensional staff have been recruited these included among others 08 Assistant Animal Husbandry Officers, 02 Assistant Fisheries Officers, 07 Assistant Agriculture Officers;

Under Tradition Service: 103 Traditional Civil servants have been recruited which include among others; Town clerks, town agents and parish chiefs for the newly created Town councils, 03 Planners, 02 Human Resource Officers, 03 Assistant Records Officers, 13 Town Agents, 05 Community Dev't Officers, 03 Senior Assistants Secretaries, 06 Senior Accounts Assistants, 45 Parish Chiefs, 08 Accounts Assistants, 02 Senior Internal Auditors, 01 Assistant Inventory Management Officer, 01 Communications Officer and 12 office attendants

10.1: PROMOTION OF STAFF IN SERVICE

A total number of 142 staff were also promoted to different positions depending of their levels of experience and qualifications in the FY 2017/18, these included;

34 Primary Head Teachers, 36 Deputy Head Teachers, 12 Community Dev't Officers, 6 Senior Assistant Secretaries, 1 Assistant District Health Officer (maternal), 1 Health Educator, 2 Medical Officers (special grade), 46 Senior Education Officers(ongoing), 2 Town Clerks and 2 Personal Secretaries

Honorable members present, as a result of this massive recruitment in key sectors, the district staffing levels have increased from 71% in 2018 to 78% as of today.

However the biggest challenge facing service delivery is rampant death of staff. As of today, 11 employees majority being teachers have died and 10 over are reported to be bed ridden.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2018/19

Hon. Speaker, the following are some of the projects we plan to undertake this FY 2019/20

Under the Education Sector:

- Renovation of the DEO's Office at the district Headquarters
- Routine monitoring and supervision mandate across the district;
- One office vehicle repaired and serviced at the head quarters
- A 2 classroom block constructed each at Karusandara SDA P/S in Karusandara S/c and Kamuruli P/S in Kisinga S/C,
- A 3 classroom block constructed at Kabatunda P/S in Kyabarungira S/C,
- A 2 Class room block rehabilitated at Karambi P/S in Karambi s/c
- Three 5-stance latrines constructed at the P/S of St. Alyosious Isango, Kyapa and Ngome p/s in Lake Katwe and Kyondo respectively
- Supply of 3-seater lower age desks to primary schools Kinyabisiki and Bweyale respectively
- Retention for Nyakatonzi Seed SS
- Undertake monitoring of SNE facilities across the district

You will note Mr. Speaker that Council had approved the construction of both Isango and Nyakatonzi Seed SS. However the Ministry of Education and Sport issued new guidelines to completion of only projects already running (Nyakatonzi) before we embark on new ones (Isango) which was supposed to begin in this current running year. The district IPF for education sector development was cut by almost half, however, the district has already written to the Ministry of Education and Sports on the harmonization of this matter.

Roads and Engineering: using funds from the Uganda Road Fund, the district will undertake the following projects:

- Periodic maintenance: Completion for gravelling Karambi-Customs road 4km in Karambi Sub County;
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Maliba-Kihyo-Kitswamba road 8km in Maliba Sub County;
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Hima Kihyo Kithoma road 10km,
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Nyaruzigati KyapaKitabu road 14km,
- Periodic maintenance: Gravelling Maliba Isule road 6km,
- Roads in urban and community access roads for Periodic maintenance
- 309.9- 309.9km of selected feeder roads for routine maintenance
- Routine plant maintenance at the district headquarters
- Construct 3rd phase for the construction of Kyoho bridge on Bwesumbu Sub County;
- Construct 3rd phase of the District Administration Block at the district headquarters;
- Labor based road maintenance: maintain 309.9km of feeder roads across the district
- A total of 180.7km of urban roads maintained in the 6 urban councils of Kinyamaseke, Mpondwe Lhubiriha, Kisinga, Rugendabara-Kikongo, Katwe Kabatoro, Kyarumba, Mubuku, Ibanda-Kyanya and Hima..
- A total of 312 km of community access roads in rural sub counties to be maintained across the district
- Maintain the district road unit comprising graders, rollers, vibrators, dumb trucks etc

Water Sector. Mr. Speaker and Honorable Councilors, the district under take the following projects in the Water Sector.

- Repair 20 non function boreholes in the sub counties of Kitswamba, Karusandara, Maliba, Bugoye, Rukoki, L. Katwe, Munkunyu and Nyakatonzi using water grant and donor funds;
- Construction of Nyamusule-Mbulamasi- Rwebitooke Gravity Flow Scheme in Mahango and Muhokya Sub Counties;
- Construction of phase one of Kyamiza gravity flow scheme in Muhokya Sub County;

- Construction of phase III of Kaswa Gravity Flow Scheme in Bwesumbu Sub County;
- Construction of Mbunga – Nyakazinga Mini Gravity Flow Scheme in Kilembe Sub County;
- Retention for all the gravity flow schemes
- Feasibility studies on Bitere- Katooke Gravity Flow Scheme
- 22 villages across in the Sub Counties of Bwesumbu, Kitswamba, Mahango, Kilembe and Muhokya to be triggered on sanitation and hygiene;
- Nine water user committees to be formed and trained in the Sub Counties of Bwesumbu, Kitswamba, Mahango, Kilembe and Muhokya;
- Undertake support supervision for the second phase of the rehabilitation of Mubuku Irrigation Scheme in Nyamwamba Division Kasese Municipality;

Health: In line with the provision of a minimum health care package, the department will undertake the following projects during the FY 2019/20;

- Routine monitoring and support supervision visits to health facilities
- 5-Stance VIP latrine constructed at Nyamirami Health Centre IV
- Construction and Completion of Nyakimasi and Kyempara HC IIs in Isango and Bwera sub county
- Payment of retention for the completion of Kahokya HCII in Kahokya sub county
- Payment of retention for the construction of a placenta pit at Naymirami HCIV in Muhokya sub county

Production and Marketing

Crop

- Construction of 3rd phase of Katholhu min irrigation scheme in Nyakiyumbu Sub county.
- Construction of a Mini-Irrigation Scheme in Nkoko area
- Payment of retention for phase II Katholhu mini irrigation scheme.
- Procurement of two motorcycles for the department

Animal Husbandry

- Payment of balance for the Boran bulls supplied in 2018/19.
- Support to one farmers group in establishment of a small- scale hatchery for Kuroiler birds multiplication.
- Completion of 3 wooden crushes and water trough for spray race constructed under the OCHEA project.
- Establishment of 10 demonstration sites for pasture management and preservation
- Promotion of pasture multiplication among the selected model farmers
- Establishment of a small sized valley dam Support to youth farmer groups in establishment of a small scale hatchery for kuroiler birds
- Conduct disease surveillance for the common animal diseases
- Conduct animal vaccinations Office maintenance

Fisheries

- Procurement of fish feed mixer
- Renovation of a fish handling stall at Hamukungu landing site
- Support to 5 fish farming groups with pond harvesting seign nets
- Establishment of a demonstration for tank fish farming using solar driven water pump
- Support to one hatchery operator for multiplication of fish fry for pond establishment
- Conduct sensitization of fishing communities for sustainable fishing methods Conduct supervision of data collection
- Motor vehicle and motor cycle maintenance

11.0: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The District Technical Planning Committee identified **Poverty, Gender, Environment, HIV/AIDS, Nutrition, Disaster & Conflict and Energy** as crosscutting issues during the development of the second five year development plan. In addition, **high population growth**, which stands at 2.45% was also noted an issue of great concern.

Nutrition:

Adequate nutrition is an essential prerequisite for sustainable good health. Honorable members of this house, the critical role nutrition plays in health and development warrants greater commitment and investment in nutrition.

The biggest challenge of malnutrition in children 6-59 months is that of stunting. Based on WHO classification, the stunting prevalence in Kasese is critical at 49.6 percent children stunted; this is 16.6 percent points higher than national stunting average (33%). About 2.1 percent of the children aged below five years are wasted and 15.9 % are underweight. (Food and Nutrition Assessment Report 2013)

Climate Change, soil and water conservation measures.

The change in climate has resulted into occurrence of so many hazards including floods, mud slides, and prolonged dry spell. The dry spell more especially has affected food productivity in the district. Our people are spending a lot of money on food that comes from outside the district. Council should put a little more effort in this area. I earlier proposed that we should have tree planting days. This seems not to have worked. I will welcome the input of honourable members on how we can ensure tree planting takes shape in Kasese district.

The increased tree planting in addition to other soil and water conservation measures will help reduce the water run-offs and soil erosion especially from the hills. You will realize honourable members that the recently constructed road from Kikorongo to Kasese is under serious threat of destruction as a result of the run-offs. Council must find a workable solutions to these problems.

Land Conflicts

Kasese District remains prone to land conflicts. The major one that council needs to take interest in is the ongoing conflict in Kayanja area in Kitswamba Sub County pitying people who call themselves the indigenous Basongora and the people they allege are immigrants.

This conflict has been ongoing for a long time and information I get indicates that it is becoming worse. I am aware that the office of the Resident District Commissioner has been involved in resolving this problem. My proposal is that on the day council will discuss this speech, the RDC should be invited to brief this Council on efforts undertaken so far for council input.

IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR COUNCIL TO NOTE

1. Central Government Projects.

A number of Central Government Projects are going on with the district. The Hima Katunguru road is in final stages of completion, the Hima Kikongo stretch is also in the final stages of completion.

Mubuku Irrigation scheme phase II is progressing on well. The last time I checked, the progress of the works was at 65%. However the challenge of the management of land remains there. This honourable house is aware of our engagement with Nyakatonzi Cooperative Union that did not yield much. In addition to that the about 200acres that left and which are supposed to be managed by this council have also been hijacked by a company that was contracted to establish leadership structures.

The district executive sat and decided that the company be invited which was done but no decision has been reached about how this land should be distributed to the general public.

The process of constructing an electric fence to control problem animals has started in Rubirizi district. Soon the same shall be done in Kasese. This in addition to the new Uganda Wildlife Act will go a long way in ending the problems caused by problem animals.

Ebola remains prevalent across the boarder in the DRC. About a week ago we received another case of imported Ebola was handled at Bwera hospital. Unfortunately the victim did not survive. Honourable members this calls upon us to continue sensitizing the community about this problem.

The land problems between the district and the Uganda Prison Service remains unresolved majorly because of the less cooperation by the UPS. My suggestion is that this honourable council makes a resolution about how this matter should be concluded.

There is an ongoing construction of a water channel through the district land. Whereas other land owners were compensated, government decided that local governments and institutions of government should not be compensated.

The process of budgeting for the financial year 2020/2021 is about to commence. I invite this honourable council to look into the issue of how we can maintain the CAIP roads.

As you might be ware honourable members, the AGRILED program is slowly taking shape. The district has started receiving money to implement this program. I am calling upon the CAO office to ensure that the honourable members of this council are properly inducted on what their role in this program will be.

I am happy to inform you honourable members that even before AGRILED takes shape, the tourism sector continues to grow in the district with the emergence of new players. Elephant plains, Little Elephant, Kikorongo lodge among others continue to address the facilities problem of our tourism sector. Mr. Amos Wekesa recently introduced MV Kazinga which will be docking at Katwe. These will go a long way in promoting tourism as we continue to work towards maintaining our status as a tourism district. I have however learnt that UWA has not yet authorized this boat to commence operations. I propose that as a district we work with the owner to address that challenge and also secure our revenue interests as a district. I will also contact Mr. Wekesa to give the council members a ride on the boat.

The issue of Bwenda lodge is in final stages of being handled. The district executive agreed to a proposal by UWA of revenue sharing. What we have not yet agreed upon are the amounts. The district executive will continue updating council on this issue.

There is need for council to share with the Office of RDC about how we mutually work in harmony. Issues of interfering with council work as evidenced by the events in the cattle market in Bwera must be addressed.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

As I conclude, permit me to briefly re-emphasize our key development challenges and accordingly propose mitigations:

1.High population growth rate (population explosion) of 2.45% resulting into land fragmentation, loss of soil fertility, reduced production potential in the district, frequent tribal conflicts, resource waste on settling land-related conflicts as families struggle to utilize the available limited land resources for livelihood.

This challenge calls for intensified sensitization on soil and water conservation techniques such as terracing, mulching etc and preaching the ideals of co-existence, equity in resource distribution, fairness in job distribution etc.

2: Unpredictable weather patterns manifesting in prolonged droughts over the years in floods and landslides. This has periodically led to crop loss as farmers plan off season for failing to adequately plan their planting activities according to weather patterns.

As a mitigation, we are determined to providing water for production through mini irrigation schemes (e.g. Muhokya, Kitholhu, Katsungiro and Karusandara under save the children) besides Mubuku Irrigation scheme and constructing valley dam systems (e.g. Nyakatonzi and Ibuga). Establishing greenhouses is mitigation against harsh weather. Mini irrigation schemes on our rivers besides (Muhokya, Kanyampara) and valley dams (Nyakatonzi and Ibuga) in addition to Mubuku Irrigation Scheme. This financial year, we shall undertake a scheme in Hima Town Council.

3. Also frustrating development are the **thefts and hooliganism**. Families continue to fail to make decisions on income- generating ventures due to high levels of theft/ thuggery which loss of livestock, crops and household property. I assure the population that our effort to restore total security remain high on our agenda and appeal to all security organs to intensify the hunt for such criminals. I have heard politicians telling people that security can only be assured if they are the ones in office. I have always wondered whether the security agencies are letting us down in any way.

4. The question of **unskilled labour** can only be eliminated by skilling our population. It is therefore imperative that we encourage our youth to take advantage of facilities like the Kasese Youth Polytechnique. Kasese Polytechnic is currently undergoing serious structural improvement. I together with the leadership of the institution requested ERA to provide a 200KV transformer with has now been installed. We will need to consistently encourage our youths to join the institution for skilling.

5. Cases of cancer are on the rise within this district. Reports from cancer treatment centers in the country indicate that Kasese district has the highest number of victims in those centers. I am proposing that this council passes a resolution inviting the ministry of health to intervene. Secondly and in line with that there is need for council to enact an ordinance about the Sanga meat.

6. I would like to call upon Kilembe Investments Limited to pull up their socks. I have received various complaints especially from the business community in Mpondwe- Lhubiriha Town Council and other areas under the charge of Kilembe Investments about the constant unannounced power outages. This is hampering business in these areas and therefore undermining the government policy of rural electrification which is aimed at improving income generation in rural areas. There is therefore need for this council to take keen interest in this matter and find a solution in case the problem persists. Council should invite the Executive Director for an interaction.

CONCLUSION

1. In a bid to continue improving and perfecting service delivery to our people of this district, my political leadership and technical wing have put emphasis on Monitoring development/ capital projects across the district to assess and evaluate their performance visa versa quality service delivery
2. Development in the district has also been possible because of the collaboration and partnership with our development partners. Their list is endless. We are extremely grateful to all of them

Hon Speaker and Hon Councilors,

Once again, I warmly welcome you all to this Council, which marks the beginning of the fourth year of the implementation of our second 5 year District Development plan. The review of the DDP is around the corner and we must all prepare to participate in reviewing our strategic five year for improved service delivery in Kasese District.

Hon Speaker, I beg to move

For god and my country

Sibendire Bigogo Geoffrey
DISTRICT CHAIRMAN, KASESE