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CATERPILLAR



SECOND EDITION NOVEMBER 2021 - JANUARY 2022



elcome to our second issue of the Uganda Road Fund Focus Newsletter. Despite COVID-19 disruptions, the Roads subsector did a good job last year. The National road network in good to fair condition was 96.6% for paved and 81.7% for unpaved roads, this was above the NDP III targets of 85% and 80% respectively by the end of FY 2020/21. The approved budget for URF for FY2020/21 was UGX 512.175bn of which 502.737 bn was released which represents 98.2%.

Our key focus this year is sustainable road maintenance for development. We are making strides towards sustainable road maintenance. Our sustainable road maintenance game plan involves but is not limited to promoting the use of low-cost sealing to save on the use of gravel; encouraging the use of roads gangs for

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

routine maintenance of roads as opposed to machines; funding research into alternative means of maintenance; cultivating a culture of responsible road use in Uganda; encouraging responsive communities that follow-up each quarterly release and financing axle load control operations on roads. As a one-off, some formerly difficult areas on the network to maintain especially hilly areas were paved under our special roads projects.

One of Uganda's top National assets is the road network ,valued at \$7.5b. The road network is growing rapidly but the maintenance budget is only 40% of requirements. Routine maintenance remains so critical, we don't want to wake up and we have totally lost the engine of economic growth and social service provision. We are currently exploring local solutions to preserve the road network so that we don't lose it completely. We continue to advocate for increased road maintenance funding through engagement with Parliament and MOFPED.

I thank development partners and sister agencies for partnerships enhancing road sustainability.

We received overwhelming readers' feedback about our inaugural issue. Please keep the feedback coming.

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Dr Eng Andrew Naimanye, Executive Director.

### BACKGROUND

The Uganda Road Fund (URF) was established in 2008 by an Act of Parliament (URF Act, 2008). Its purpose is to finance routine and periodic maintenance of public roads in the country. It started operations in January 2010. The Fund derives its mandate from section 6 of the URF Act 2008. URF has a mandate to provide adequate and stable financing to maintain the 80,000km public roads in Uganda, principally from road user charges (RUCs).

#### VISION

To provide Adequate, Reliable, Timely and Sustainable financing for road maintenance for a safe and efficient network.

#### **MISSION**

To provide effective and sustainable financing of maintenance for public roads, build partnerships with stakeholders and serve with integrity

#### **CORE VALUES**

- Prudence
- $\cdot$  Transparency
- Integrity
- Value

#### MANDATE

To Collect Road User Charges (RUCs) and manage the funds so collected to finance road maintenance programmes.



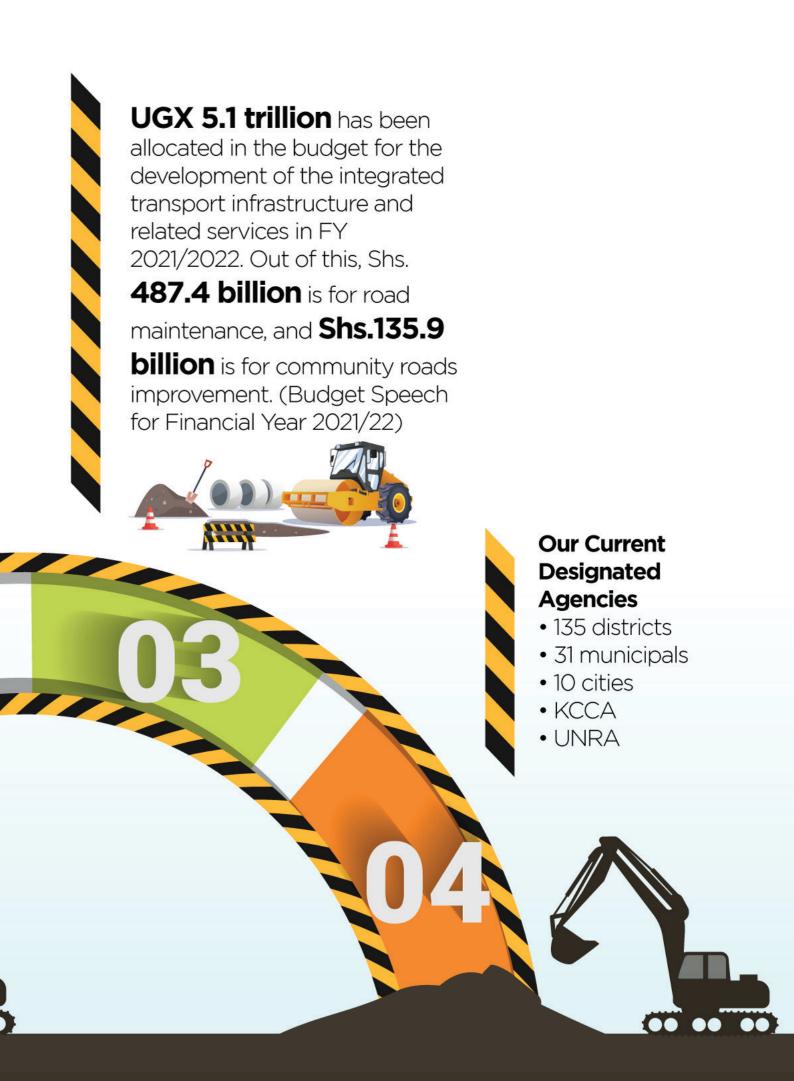
## ROAD SUB-SECTOR BY THE NUMBERS





Road transport is the most dominant mode, carrying **96.5% and 95%** of freight cargo and passenger traffic.

The total national paved road network has increased by **41%** from **3,800** kilometres in 2016 to **5,400** kilometres today. (Budget Speech for Financial Year 2021/22)





## UGX 200M RUBANDA DISTRICT EMERGENCY ROAD WORKS COMMENCE

On 5th January 2022, emergency works on Rwondo-Kabisha-Mukisa-Nyakatare Road under the URF emergency Fund were launched. The 11.8km road is in Rwondo Shebeya, Rubanda East Constituency. The project will be supervised by Rubanda District Local Government and funded by Uganda Road Fund. A total of UGX10bn is allocated annually by Uganda Road Fund to cover emergency interventions on the DUCAR network to address the most serious proven disruptions to the road network connectivity.URF emergency funding for repairs enables the road network to remain motorable after destruction as a result of climate change among other issues.

## URF BOARD CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABLE ROAD MAINTENANCE

URF Board chair , Simon Madraru ;URF ED, Dr Eng Andrew Naimanye and UNRA Board Chairman, Hon. Fred Jachan Omach met on December 1 at URF office to discuss sustainable road Maintenance. Sustainable road infrastructure development planning is so critical now with inadequate funding.





## UGANDA ROAD FUND REPRESENTED AT THE FIRST INTEGRATED TRANSPORT WORKSHOP

Uganda Road Fund team led by URF Board Chairman attended the 1st Annual Integrated Transport Infrastructure and services (ITIS) Program Workshop on the 27th of January, 2022.



The Ministry of Works and Transport organised the workshop to review the sector's performance under the National Development Plan (NDP) III. ITIS report tracks the performance (Physical and Financial) in implementing the planned annual program outputs and the extent and direction of movement towards the program's annual results targets. The workshop was held under the theme, "Securing our Future by Optimizing Transport Assets Performance"



## A MILESTONE FOR AFRICA ENGINEERING FRATERNITY

Dr. Eng. Andrew Naimanye, Executive Director of Uganda Road Fund was made a Fellow of the UK Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) after a rigorous qualification process this year in January 2022. Dr. Naimanye who is a registered Engineer in Uganda and also a UK Chartered Engineer, becomes the youngest ICE Fellow on the African continent, which has only 60 Fellows.

The Fellowship is the highest and most senior grade of membership awarded by ICE. The remarkable accolade is a testament to Dr Naimanye's significant contribution to Civil Engineering in both Uganda and UK as well as his achievements as a leader; and he now carries the Royal Charter post-nominals of CEng, FICE.

Dr. Naimanye holds a PhD in Transport Economics, a Master's Degree in Transport Planning and a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering; all



obtained from the University of Leeds (UK). He had his high school education at King's College Budo.

The ICE founded in 1818 is the world's oldest and pre-eminent professional engineering qualifying body with 90,000 members in 150 countries.

## WORLD AIDS DAY URF ENGAGES STAFF ON HIV/AIDS

Uganda Road Fund marked the World Aids Day with a staff talk on HIV/AIDs at the office and wearing the solidarity ribbon. According to Uganda AIDS Commission, there are 1.4m People living with HIV and there are 22,000 AIDS deaths in Uganda. URF ED, Dr Eng Andrew Naimanye shared about HIV/AIDS in the 1990s and encouraged staff to always test for their HIV status. Dr Haruna Nsubuga from Medical Hub Nakasero, talked to staff about HIV/AIDS transmission, treatment and prevention. Dr Haruma reminded staff that there is still life and can live a productive positive life.



## A SPECIAL URF BOARD PROJECT

URF Board chair, Simon Madraru inspects tarmacking of the access road to Moyo general hospital

URF Board chair, Simon Madraru; URF ED, Dr Eng Andrew Naimanye URF Manager Internal Audit, Joseph Etiang inspected roads in Moyo on November 24, 2021. The access road to Moyo General Hospital plays a crucial role in enhancing trade, healthcare and agriculture. The project involves extended periodic maintenance of the road from gravel to bituminous standard in Moyo town council under URF special grant to town councils.



Caption (L-R): URF Manager Internal Audit, Joseph Etiang; URF Board chair, Simon Madraru & URF ED, Eng. Andrew Naimanye

## URF REACHED OUT TO SOME OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA MOST ENGAGING FANS

Our online community is growing fast.URF met some of the most engaging fans on Facebook and Twitter. URF thanked them for the tweets, likes, comments, and feedback. The fans are Olive Rwabwogo, Noble Isreal, Samuel Tenya, and An-drew Niwamanya.



## URF FUNDS MAINTAINANCE NORTHERN BYPASS TO KEEP IT IN A PERFECT CONDITION

### Kampala Northern by-pass expansion launched

Kampala Northern by-pass expansion was launched by Vice President Rtd. Maj. Jessica Alupo on Sunday, January 23, 2022. The Northern Corridor route links Uganda, DR Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, and South Sudan to the port of Mombasa. The second phase of the Kampala Northern By-pass Road project commenced in July 2014 and was financed through a EUR 40 million grant from the EU and a EUR 7.2 million concessional loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) along with Government of Uganda funding to the tune of EUR 124.7 million. The 22 kilometres bypass was opened to traffic on 1 October 2009 and URF has so far spent about UG 2bn on maintenance of the old Northern By-pass.



## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Uganda Road Fund had a fruitful meeting with the Chairman of the Kiruhura District Roads Committee,Hon.Wilson kajwengye, Member of Parliament for Nyabushozi County. Uganda Road Fund team was represented ED,Dr. Eng. Andrew Naimanye and Eng. Ronnie Namugera,Manager Policy and strategy.The meeting discussed maintenance of roads in Kiruhura which has the longest road network with a challenging terrain.



## **A CHAT WITH STAFF** MEET FREEDOM ARINAITWE, GRADUATE INTERN, COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT



When did you join URF?

I joined URF in August 2020.

### What is your view on the planned merger of Government Agencies?

I don't really buy the idea of merging the government agencies due

to the fact that these agencies were created for a purpose and they are serving that purpose, it will do more harm to the economy, these agencies are employing a lot of people, just imagine all those people will be on the street unemployed.

#### What do you like about URF?

The staff starting from the top management are so friendly, loving and caring, we are a family.

#### What do you hate about URF?

There is literally nothing I hate about the Fund.

#### What do you cherish most in life?

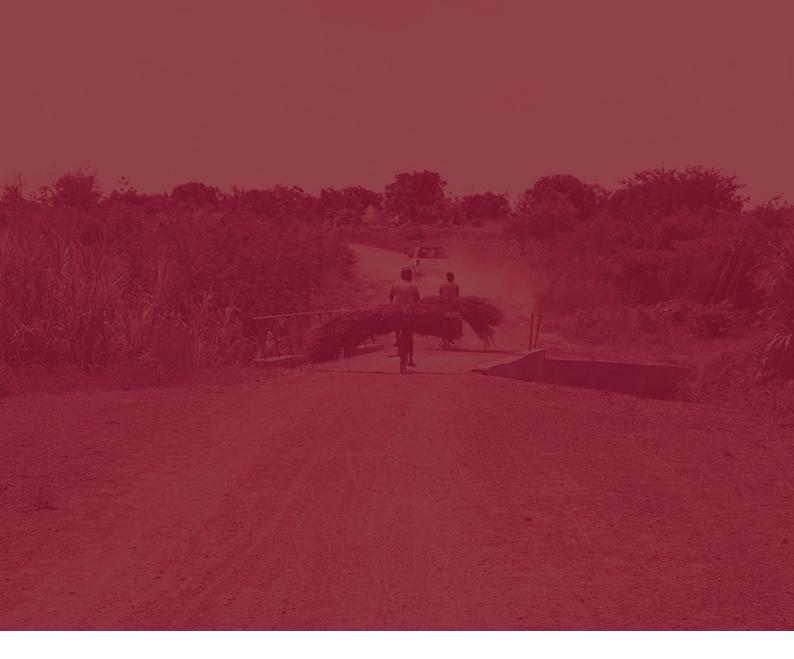
Peace of mind. Everyone chooses the life, they want to live that makes them happy.

#### What is your Favourite food?

Grilled chicken

#### What are your hobbies?

Traveling, listening to music, and cooking.



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