

# Construction site buries builders in Mukono town

By Henry Nsubuga

About 10 people were feared dead after the foundation of a construction site in Mukono town collapsed, burying a number of builders yesterday afternoon.

The incident happened in Mukono town next to Bank of Africa at a construction site belonging to a one Wilson Mukiibi Muzzanganda.

Residents, who were later joined by the Police, fought hard to rescue the builders. However, only four workers of the 15, who are suspected to have been buried were found alive. Police took the four people, to Mukono International Health Centre in critical condition.

The bodies of two workers had been retrieved by press time, according to Police. But more people were believed to be still trapped underground and the Police was trying to rescue them.

Police identified the survivors as Sumayiya Nakawooya, a resident of Kisaasi-Bbuta in Kampala; Charles Mayega from Mbalala in Nama sub-county, Maliki Basaalirwa of Seeta and Moses Ssentongo from Kabembe village in Kyampisi sub-county, Mukono district.

One of the deceased was identified as Fred Kizito of Wantoni village in Mukono central division.

The criminal investigations officer at Mukono division Police, Ibrah Batasi, said they were liaising with Police headquarters in Kampala to get an excavator to help in retrieving all the site workers.

Mukono municipality deputy mayor, Jamada Kajoba, together with other councillors, promised to put the site engineer and the municipality engineer to task over what exactly happened.

Yosuf Adad, who was among the workers at the site, said one part of the foundation started collapsing the day before, but yesterday morning, the site engineer ordered them to remove the soil and continue with the work.

"Some of our colleagues refused, fearing that the walls were falling anytime and we would be buried. However, some of us continued working," said Adad.

Adad said Nakawooya is a student at Uganda Technical College, Kicwamba. Yesterday was her first day at the site.

Survivors said the engineer fled on seeing the structure collapse.