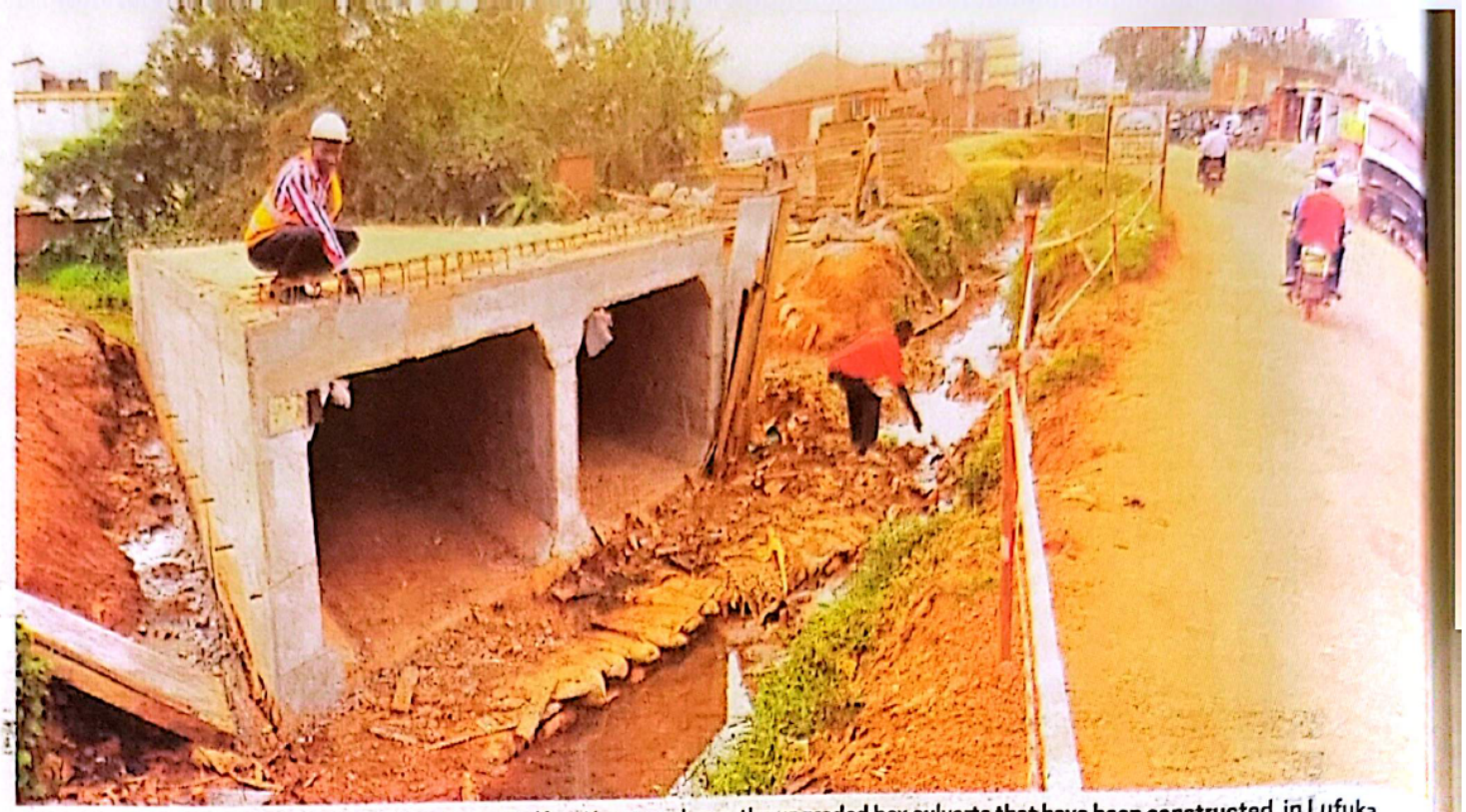


**Improved.** Abubaker Technical services engineer Godfrey Kyeyune shows the upgraded box culverts that have been constructed in Lufuka wetland on the Ndejje-Namasuba-Kitiko Road. PHOTO BY JOSEPH KIGGUNDU

# Construction of canals on Namasuba road to end floods

**Progress.** The Wakiso District engineer, Mr Sam Mwesigwa, says box culverts and 1,200mm diameter culverts have been installed in the swampy area.

BY JAMES KABENGWA
&JOSEPH KIGGUNDU
editorial@ug.nationmedia.com

**WAKISO.** The uncontrolled floods at Lufuka wetland off Entebbe road that have since become a death trap for many pedestrians during rainy seasons will be no more when the Shs23b Namasuba-Ndejje-Kitiko road is completed, officials have revealed.

Also affected during the rainy seasons are Namasuba business and residential areas, parts of Busabala, Ndejje-Kitiko, Bata-bata and Muko Investments.

The Wakiso District engineer, Mr Sam Mwesigwa, said the Lufuka section is being constructed after a thorough hydrological study.

Mr Mwegiswa said box culverts and 1,200mm diameter culverts have been installed in the swampy area.

"There have been a number of deaths and loss of property due to floods during rainy seasons since Lufuka is a wetland. The road initially had a poor drainage system hence the backflow and overflow of water," Mr Mwesigwa said.

He noted Abubaker Technical Services has been contracted to construct the road.

### Completion

Mr Godfrey Kyeyune of Abubaker Technical Services, who is overseeing the construction works, said upon completion late next year, the road's lifespan is estimated at 15 years.

"We have provided rock fill or French drainage under the road foundation and bedding to allow underground waters to flow. The road will be raised by 1.0 metre above the existing ground levels. It will also be widened to 12metres from 5 metres," Mr Kyeyune said.

For purposes of widening the road, authorities have requested residents to freely donate their land as there is no budget for compensation.

Although the road will put an end to floods in the area, Mr Kyeyune said there is need to redirect the drainage channel at Kaliddubi on the Busabala Road. "After directing the drainage system from Kampala -Entebbe Road near Muko Investments to Kaliddubi wetland and there is an urgent need to have a box culvert at the crossing section on Busabala Road to accommodate the volume of storm water into Lake Victoria which is the final destination," Mr Kyeyune advised.

Just like many areas countrywide, residents in Kampala and Wakiso have continued to encroach on wetlands in search of land for settlement and other economic activities.

Areas that have been encroached on and are prone to floods in Wakiso and Kampala districts include, Nateete, Bwaise, Kalerwe, and Nalukolongo, among others.

### Reducing traffic

The road is also expected to ease the heavy traffic on Kampala- Entebbe Road at the Zana junction.

"But with the construction of this new road, there will less traffic jam ," Seguku ward councillor Ahmed Ssekyanzi noted.

CamScanner