

Parliament Speaker launches four-million-tree-planting project

KAMULI

By Tom Gwebayanga

The Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga, has launched a four-million-tree-planting project aimed at preserving the environment and replacing the green cover along River Nile.

The project is expected to feature tree planting exercises in the compounds of primary and secondary schools, health centres and on the banks of River Nile in Namasagali, Kisozi, Balawoli and Kagumba sub-counties.

Kadaga, also the Woman MP for Kamuli District, launched the campaign at Kamuli Township Primary School on Tuesday, during celebrations to mark the World Environment Day.

Supported by volunteers, including National Water and Sewerage Corporation and non-governmental organisations Go Green and Golden Care Organisation, Kadaga called for a multi-stakeholder approach to saving the green cover



A Kamuli Township Primary School pupil being shown how to plant a tree. Photo by Tom Gwebayanga

along the Nile River in order to maintain its water table.

She urged the public to embrace the project that has embarked on distributing four million tree seedlings free of charge to the public

in Kamuli district.

She appealed to the public to co-operate, receive and plant the seedlings.

She was flanked by Kamuli Municipality MP Hajat Rehema Watongola,



EYE WITNESS

"A students organisation and I planted trees along Mbulamuti-Kamuli road. However, the locals uprooted all of them, saying it was a trick to grab their land," Kadaga said.

who uproot the trees on suspicion that it is a trick by Government to grab their land.

"A students organisation and I planted trees along Mbulamuti-Kamuli road. However, the locals uprooted all of them, saying it was a trick to grab their land. Such primitive acts must stop," Kadaga said.

Kategere said the water levels of River Nile need to be raised to reduce erosion, owing to the hydroelectric power dams which have been built on it, from Jinja through to Sudan and Egypt.

"That calls for planting more trees which translates to heavy rains and high water levels," Kategere said.

The Go Green co-ordinator, Loy Nandhego, said they are distributing tree seedlings which include gravellia, eucalyptus, musizi, calyandra, mahogany and live fences for schools and health centres. Global Care Organisation is distributing seedlings of fruits and citrus trees, including mangoes, tangerine, oranges and lemons.

LC5 chairperson Thomas Kategere and the state minister for Karamoja who is also Bugabula North MP, Moses Kizige.

"It is our duty to protect our natural resource, the River Nile, owing to its numerous uses," Kadaga said.

She lashed out at people

