

...have resorted to sleeping in the bush," Ajok, who has lived

that his men provided security to the youth that carried out the evictions.

Eng. Lagoro Gwari's estate.

"We went to witness the opening of the boundaries. The exercise

than 40 people have recorded statements with the Police and the suspect will appear in court soon.

Landslide victims get decent homes

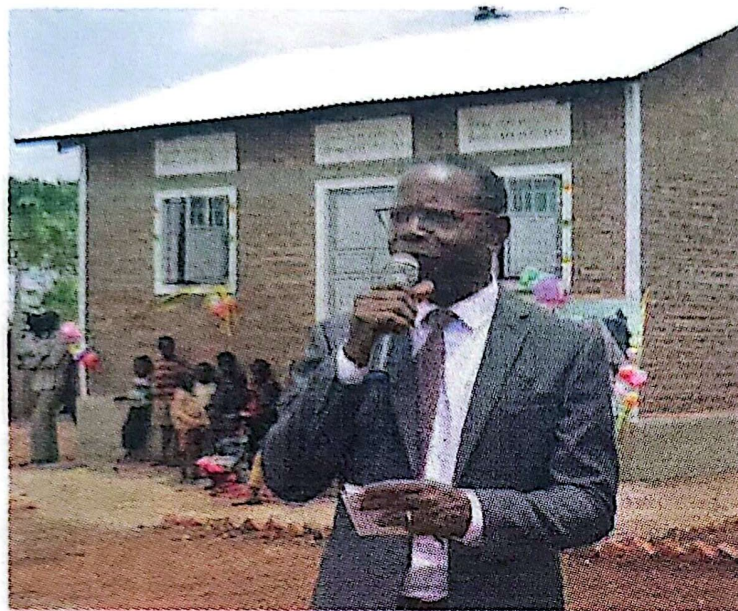
KIRYANDONGO

By Stella Naigino

In 2010, Bududa district was hit by landslides which left many people dead and others displaced. The Government, under the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) swung into action to try and resettle the survivors.

Later, the survivors were transferred to Kiryandongo district in Bunyoro sub-region for resettlement. But at the inception of the resettlement programme, only 110 houses had been built, leaving other victims with no option but to use tents and poles to make shelters for themselves.

Goreti Alimo, one of the victims, said when the Government resettled them, they were given poles and tents to use and put up



Mabala in front of a house built for landslide victims in Bunyoro. Photo by Stella Naigino

shelter for themselves, which exposed them to harsh weather.

"Whenever it rained, we

would stand the whole night while holding the poles so as to keep the tents in place,"

Alimo said.

She added that after some times termites started eating the poles and the structure they had constructed eventually collapsed. However, they constructed an alternative one.

"With time, the tents developed holes and mosquitoes started biting us. Malaria became a normal disease among the landslide victims," Alimo said.

For five years, Alimo and her other landslide victims had been living under such conditions.

Today, Alimo is one of 36 landslide victims who have received decent housing from Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with Koica and MTN. The houses were handed over on Friday.

According to Leticia Kiyingi, the acting director Habitat for Humanity, every year they build 36 houses for

Bududa landslide victims. In total, they have built 127 houses since 2012.

She said they do this because "everyone deserves a place to call home, where they can go and find peace while resting".

Samuel Mabala, the commissioner for human settlement, encouraged the beneficiaries to take good care of their houses and maintain hygiene in order to keep diseases at bay.

He also asked them to settle and develop themselves. "Come up with groups and make co-operatives so that you can help each other prosper financially," Mabala said.

Ernest Kiiza, the state minister for Bunyoro affairs, encouraged them not to worry about the land titles, but rather work hard to develop the area.