

Busia road unit has no fuel

BUSIA

Egessa Hajusu

Busia district is grappling with road maintenance despite having a new road unit.

According to Ogoola Pajapian, the Busia district acting engineer, the recently acquired road unit is idle because the district has no money for fuel.

He said the district received a wheel loader and a grader and is waiting for two dump trucks, a roller and water bowser.

Ogoola said they have been able to maintain only one out of the 70 district roads.

"We would have achieved a lot, but due to fuel shortage, we are now concentrating on sub-county roads and the wheel loader has not been used yet."

The district, Ogoola said, has 526 kilometres of roads noting that at a rate of one kilometre per day, his department can maintain all the 70 district roads in a period of two years if the fuel allocation is increased.

He said all the 70 district roads have outlived their maintenance span and they need rehabilitation.

The chief administrative officer, Walter Iriama, said the road network is in a bad shape because in spite of the



Busia's wheel loader has never been used due to lack of fuel. Photo by Egessa Hajusu

new equipment the resource envelope has remained the same.

"We have the road equipment but the budget for fuel has remained the same. If the budget is revised and we get more fuel, it will enable us do more work," Iriama said.

He appealed to the

The equipment has not been used since it was delivered.

Government to increase fuel allocation, saying this will help the district to maintain most of the roads that have been opened.

Iriama also appealed to the community to keep away the animals from roads, saying they destroy bridges and culverts.