

# NFA to give 10% of Nile forest reserve to residents

JINJA

By Donald Kirya

The National Forestry Authority (NFA) will give 10% of the Nile Bank Central Forest Reserve land to three associations in order to restore the environment and initiate ecotourism in Butagaya sub-county, Jinja district. According to Rannie Naguti, NFA's range manager for Kyoga region,

She said the three groups that will manage the forest land include Butagaya Community Development Association, Together We Can Association and Nile Bank Environment Conservation.

About 60 hectares of the 600 hectares of the forest reserve will be given to the groups.

She was speaking during the launch of the process of NFA's Collaborative Forest Management (CFM) at Buwala village in Butagaya sub-county, Jinja district on Saturday that was attended by over 100 residents.

Naguti said this was the first CFM process to be done in Busoga sub-region and urged residents to work together with NFA to preserve the forest reserves. She told the residents that the CFM process had nine procedures to follow and they had only completed three of the nine.

*"We hope to initiate beekeeping and pledge to protect the boundaries of the forest from land grabbers," Kasepiki*

"The nine basic steps for CFM include initiating the process, preparation of an application for CFM, official meeting between applicants and the responsible body, participatory analysis, negotiating and drafting a CFM plan, establishment and registration of a community institution," Naguti said.

She said other steps are negotiating and drafting the CFM agreement and plan, organising a final consultative meeting between the applicant and responsible body to review, finalise signing the CFM agreement and



Rannie Naguti (right) NFA's Range manager Kyoga region during the meeting with residents at Buwala village in Butagaya sub-county in Jinja on Saturday

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

### Steven Mulamba:

I want to plant trees so that I can conserve the environment and also engage in beekeeping to increase my family income.

### Monica Mawerere:

I am happy that NFA is going to give us 10% of the forest land and I hope to plant more trees and get firewood and herbal medicine.

### Samuel Zirintusa:

I request NFA to increase the percentage of land it is giving us because members from the three associations are many and each needs to benefit from the land.

### Prosy Nangobi:

I have been planting maize in the forest reserve but since the Government re-emphasised the need to plant more trees, I decided to reduce on growing maize and once I get more land, I will focus on planting trees for commercial purposes and also engage in beekeeping.

implementation of the CFM agreement and plan by the three associations.

Fred Kasepiki, the chairperson of Butagaya Community Development Association, said the three associations hoped to restore

the environment by planting trees for the provision of poles, timber and firewood to benefit members in the association, their families and the community at large.

Kasepiki said they will also initiate ecotourism to improve the livelihood of communities surrounding the Nile Bank Central Forest Reserve and the nation as a whole. "We hope to initiate beekeeping in the trees we shall plant and we pledge to protect the boundaries of the forest reserve from land grabbers," Kasepiki said.

Moses Ndasi, the chairperson of Nile Bank Environment Conservation, said his association had about 447 members and were planning to plant trees for commercial purposes.

Ndasi said members would also engage in beekeeping and fish farming. "These trees are important because they bring rain.

Last year, we were affected by drought due to the indiscriminate cutting of trees by residents in order to grow more food crops such as maize, but this time we are going to put more emphasis on planting trees for both environmental conservation and commercial purposes in order to earn a living," he said.

The resident district commissioner of Jinja, who was represented by Jackson Mugote, the Gombolola Internal Security Officer of Butagaya sub-county, urged residents in the various associations to desist from rumour-mongering.

He urged residents to follow the nine steps of CFM under

NFA so that they can manage the 60 hectares given to them.

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## BANK

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THE FOLLOWING WERE THE DEVE

Market Interest Rates as at	
Inter-bank weighted rate	
Overnight	
7-Day	
Call money rate (1-30 days maturity)	
91-day Treasury bill Annualised Yield	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
182-day Treasury bill Annualised Yield	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
364-day Treasury bill Annualised Yield	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
2-year Treasury bond Annualised Yield	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
5-year Treasury bond Annualised Yr	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
10-year Treasury bond Annualised	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
15-year Treasury bond Annualised	
(Primary Market)	
(Secondary Market)*	
Central Bank Rate	
Margin	
Rediscount rate	
Bank rate	

\*Weekly average indicative bid