

...such as the Parish Development Model. RICE WESTNILE is also part-

for firewood now spending less time and energy collecting fuel.

that reduce pressure on forests and improve household livelihoods.

Other beneficiaries under this project are the youth who have been sensitised

exploited.

Budaka LC5 boss begins tenure with strong anti-graft message

BY MUDANGHA KOLYANGHA

BUDAKA. Budaka District's newly sworn-in LC5 chairperson, Mr Anthony Kateu, has begun his tenure with a bold warning against corruption, pledging to restore accountability and improve service delivery.

Speaking during his swearing-in ceremony held at the district headquarters on Thursday last week, Mr Kateu said fighting graft will be one of the top priorities of his administration.

He noted that the alleged extortion of money from job applicants by the dis-

trict service commission had dogged down the image of the district.

"This kind of alleged corruption, which has been witnessed in the district, had undermined and denied residents opportunities to get services or jobs," Mr Kateu said.

"Under my tenure, this kind of extortion from job applicants will not be tolerated and whoever will get involved, just get prepared for harsh consequences," he added.

Mr Kateu asked the District Service Commission officials to relocate to the district for easy monitoring of their activities.

"The people of Budaka deserve better. Public resources must serve the community and not individual interests," he said while addressing the local leaders, civil servants and residents who gathered for the event.

Mr Kateu also pledged to prioritise education, health, roads and household income in order to reduce the high levels of poverty in the district.

Mr Kateu unveiled his executive, which includes Tadeo Mauli (vice-chairperson and secretary for finance, planning and administration), Mr Robert Gawayia (secretary, community-based services), Ms Aisha Isimo (secretary works and tech-

nical services) and Mr Stephen Bumba (secretary for health and education).

Mr Kateu's swearing-in ceremony was presided over by Chief Magistrate Lydia Kambedha alongside another 42 councillors.

The swearing-in event was graced by LC5s chairpersons Charles Namayindi (Busia), Mr Mohammed Nakeba (Kibuku) and Mr Samuel Keddi (Butebo), who in their congratulation message urged the newly sworn leaders to work as a team.

The Iki-Iki County MP, Mr Abdu Swaibu Kampanya, challenged the new leaders to desist from in-fighting, saying it crip-

ples service delivery

"Let's get united and focus on service delivery. I am aware that people still have that election fever, but it is time to work for the people who have entrusted us with the mandate," Mr Kampanya said.

The new district speaker, Mr Timothy Mwayi, pledged to strengthen oversight roles in key sectors such as health, education, agriculture and road infrastructure to ensure effective service delivery.

Residents who attended the ceremony welcomed the anti-corruption message, expressing optimism that the district could witness positive change under the new administration.