

# BURULI VOTERS DEMAND URGENT ACTION ON ELECTRICITY, ROADS, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE

## MASINDI

By Yosam Guwaki

Residents of Buruli county in Masindi district have asked their next legislator to address pressing issues, including access to electricity, water scarcity, road deterioration and agricultural challenges.

Despite being one of the largest counties in Masindi with two town councils and six sub-counties, Buruli has never had a health centre IV.

The county's extensive road network, mostly maintained by the local government with limited funds, is in poor condition, prompting calls for central government support.

Many sub-counties also lack secondary schools, forcing numerous learners to leave their education at primary level.

Farmers in Buruli have suffered significant losses over the past two years due to the persistent stringer weed, yet government intervention remains absent. Residents also report that most villages are not connected to the national power grid.

"Electricity is largely limited to major roads, leaving most villages in darkness," said Muhammad



**Ronald Aled, MP, Buruli county**

Lukumu of Kimina village.

He emphasised the need for power to support value-added facilities and urged leaders to lobby the central government to take over the maintenance of roads beyond the district's capacity.

Kanaginagi Ateenyi, a farmer, expressed frustration over the lack of action on the stringer weed, calling on the next MP to bring the issue to national attention.

Gerald Muhumuza of Kijunjubwa Village highlighted the urgent need for a health centre IV to provide essential medical services.

Seven candidates are vying for the Buruli parliamentary seat. Incumbent Ronald Aled Akugizibwe



**Zacheaus Mwetegya, an independent candidate**

(NRM) said his previous term focused on education, including the establishment of three seed schools.

For the upcoming term, he intends to prioritise water and electricity projects, particularly in Kimengo and Kijunjubwa sub-counties, as well as to upgrade Kyatiri Health Centre III.

Independent candidate Julius Mugisa promised to be a more effective voice for Buruli, focusing on improving health infrastructure, roads, constructing health centres in under-served sub-counties, enhancing academic standards and expanding access to electricity.

Patrick Ongei of the Democratic Front plans to educate voters

on land rights to combat land grabbing and address poor service delivery, injustices and ineffective representation.

Zacheaus Mwetegya, an independent, aims to increase household incomes by forming a constituency SACCOS contributing sh5m monthly, encouraging members to save sh5,000 each.

He also proposed a "half-acre model" for farmers with limited land, along with projects in poultry, piggery and banana cultivation.

Mwetegya committed to raising the stringer weed issue in Parliament to attract the agriculture minister's attention.

Ismail Nyakoojo, another independent candidate, plans to push for central government support to repair impassable roads, recover lost land and establish a health centre IV in Buruli.

Fred Barongo, also an independent, pledged to combat extortion in health centres, ensure adequate medical supplies and staff, and advocate regular government-led road maintenance.

Frederick Banage (Forum for Democratic Change) promised to fulfil the MP role effectively, ensuring constituents benefit fully from government programmes.