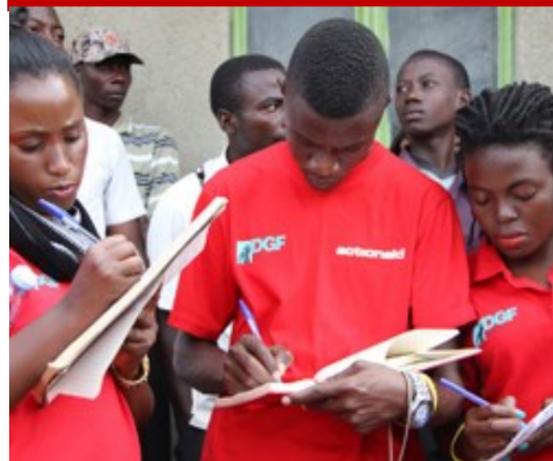


## On the road with the caravan-Day Eight



In Rubirizi yesterday, the residents were urged to be wise and guard their votes well. If they must sell off their votes, the cost should be better health facilities, quality education and jobs for the youths. With just two days left for the caravan to end its journey in western Uganda, we ask you to mobilize your friends and family to say no to vote buying!

### When the Caravan reached Rubirizi;



Part of the caravan crew documents cases of voter bribery in Rubirizi yesterday.

Residents of Katerera, Ndekye and Nyakasharu are tired of the poor roads, Education and health systems in their locality. The quality of education drops by the day while the health centers have become death traps. This is attributed to the escalating levels of abuse of office and theft of public funds by political and technical officials of Rubirizi District.

Just like in all other districts where the Caravan has been, the Rubirizi residents pointed to the recent National Resistance Movement Party primaries that were marred with massive voter bribery and vote rigging.

At the first stop over in the district( Ndekye town), Wilberforce Tumukunde, 65 stated that the political aspirants were openly buying off votes.

“Each vote went for as little as UGX 5000/= . This means that the contestants were paying UGX 1000/= for each of the five years that they will spend in office. Its unfortunate that our people accepted the money because they are poor but also ignorant about the power of their votes”, he said.



While at the caravan rally, the women decried the limping health sector that they termed as a death trap

The residents went ahead to name and shame the Incumbent Member of Parliament, Benjamin Buturo, accusing him for spear heading the vote buying campaign in the recent NRM primaries.

Similar sentiment were echoed at the Main Rally which was held in Katerera Town. Speaker after speaker named and shamed a one Hattwib Katoto for allegedly being the number one vote buyer in the area. Katoto is accused of buying off votes with sugar, salt, crude waragi and money in order to defeat his main rival, Mohammed Kato in the recent primaries.

According to Sheikh Hassan Bwambale, an Imam at a local mosque, Katoto moved around with sacks of sugar, salt, soap and paid out UGX 10000/= for every vote cast in his favor.

“Let us be wise and alert. Your vote is very important, that is why they are buying it off. Only sell it off in exchange for better health services, better education for our children and better jobs”, he urged.

The Residents also blamed President Museveni for paying off local musicians with lots of money to sing at his campaign rallies, arguing that the money should have been channeled towards improving the limping health system.



Children, the future of this country joined the caravan. Their cry is quality education.



Kabasomi Esther, 56 lamented about lack of drugs in the health centers .

The western leg of the anti-corruption caravan has so far traversed Kabale, Kanungu, Kihhihi, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Rubirizi and heads to Kasese today.

Remember that a vote sold is a service denied. Rally your friends and family to reject vote buying this election season.

### Quote of the day!

“Each vote went for as little as UGX5000/= . This means that the contestants were paying UGX 1000/= for each of the five years that they will be in office”-Mzee Wilberforce Tumukunde



### Schedule for the day

The Caravan is on the Road to Kasese. While there, its expected to pass by the Congo/ Uganda boarder for a road side event and a major rally in Kasese town.

All ActionAid staff, representatives from the civil society, embedded journalists and local artists on board are in good health, warming up for the final rallies in Kasese and Kaba-lore respectively.