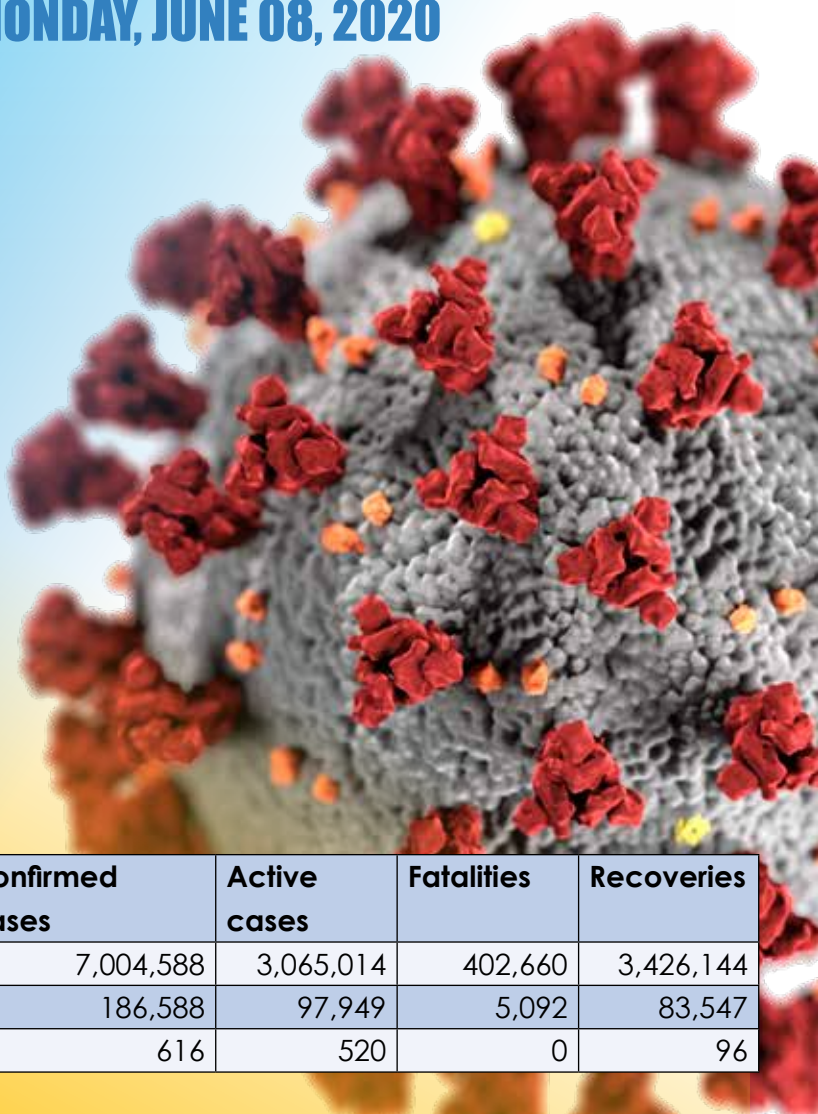




UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

COVID_19 INFORMATION SERIES NO. 26 (2020)

MONDAY, JUNE 08, 2020



	Confirmed cases	Active cases	Fatalities	Recoveries
Globally	7,004,588	3,065,014	402,660	3,426,144
Africa	186,588	97,949	5,092	83,547
Uganda	616	520	0	96

NATIONAL NEWS ROUNDUP

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IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON UGANDA'S IMPORT BILL





THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020: BUDGET SPEECH

- What are your expectations in the national budget 2020?



TUESDAY, JUNE 09, 2020: NATIONAL HEROES DAY

- We remember the sacrifice of all patriots who lost their lives during the bush war 1981-1986 and all those who continue to labour so that their efforts do not die in vain.



9 JUNE
HAPPY HEROES DAY



THE KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN THE PAST WEEK



- The Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda Rt. Hon, Ruhakana Rugunda is self isolating after his driver and one of his handlers tested positive for COVID-19
- Four (04) employees of KCCA tested positive for the virus throwing the city authority staffers in panic. A section of the KCCA employees have since been advised to self-isolate.
- The World Health Organization revised its advisory on use of masks to control the spread of the virus, among others emphasizing the use of a three-layer instead of a two-layer mask. It also advised that masks should be used in environments where social distancing cannot be easily adhered.



THE STATE OF THE NATION 2020: President Museveni remains buoyant on the performance of the economy



- On June 04, 2020, President Museveni delivered this year's state of the nation address 2020.
- He singled out three (03) key factors that are crucial to achieving a sound economy and are a linchpin of the NRM government i.e building an independent, integrated and self-sustaining national economy, cooperation with other African countries and following an economic strategy of a mixed economy.
- H.E the president informed the country that after 78 days in lockdown, Uganda is still steadily coping with the virus in addition to other key bottlenecks such as floods, the landslides, the rising lake water levels, the floating islands and the desert locusts.
- He also underlined that Uganda's agricultural production has increased, and in addition to availing food to the population, it earns USD 2,005 million in exports.
- He encouraged Ugandans to be innovative through manufacturing to further reduce the country's import bill, which according to him, now stands at USD 7 billion. He stressed that COVID-19, by blocking the channels of dependency and collapsing the economy of leisure and pleasure, was an eye opener for the country to curtail the importation of products that would be otherwise manufactured locally.

Between the lines: For the months of March and April 2020, Uganda's key agricultural exports have earned a total of USD 132.4 million in foreign exchange

- Coffee – USD 82.8 million
- Fish – USD 21.8 million
- Maize – USD 16.5 million
- Tea – USD 11.3 million

DID YOU KNOW?

Article 101 (1) of the Uganda Constitution states that: "The President shall, at the beginning of each session of parliament, deliver to parliament an address on the state of the nation."

Normally, the presidential state of the nation address precedes the national budget speech.

This year's address by president Museveni is the last in his official political term of office as we race to the 2021 general presidential and parliamentary elections.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPENS UP... But many city travellers still left stranded

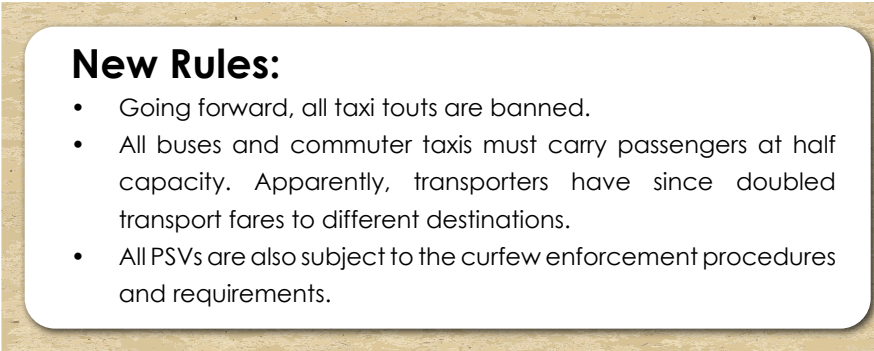
- After more than two months of lockdown, the government finally opened public transport effective June 04, 2020 to enable citizens resume work. However, for all the border districts, they have to wait a little longer, at least for another 21 days.
- 'Snake-like' traffic jams have since taken over the Kampala metropolitan roads, more so with the earlier easing of private vehicles and the rush hour to keep on the right side of the evening curfew beginning at 7:00pm.
- A shortage of passenger carrying vehicles has left many travellers stranded on the roads with some even spending nights in taxi parks.
- Kampala City Council Authority



(KCCA) and the ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) have used the opportunity of the hitherto extended lockdown to put together a grand plan of revolutionizing the city transport system.

- All passenger service vehicles must now pre-register with both KCCA and MoWT before they commence operations. All PSVs must thereafter strictly follow and adhere to the route chart issued by the authorities.
- Owing to the surging number of stranded travellers, the Minister for Kampala, Hon. Betty Amongi granted a three-day waiver for non-registered motorists offering to take passengers upcountry. The waiver expires today.
- All motorists are strongly advised to adhere to sanitary protocols including hand washing facilities and ensuring that all boarding passengers put on masks.





- Going forward, all taxi touts are banned.
- All buses and commuter taxis must carry passengers at half capacity. Apparently, transporters have since doubled transport fares to different destinations.
- All PSVs are also subject to the curfew enforcement procedures and requirements.

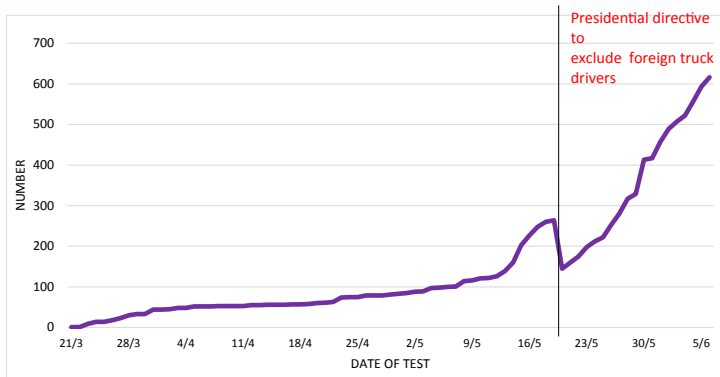
THE LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE...

At the global level there has been a 7% increase in the number of confirmed cases to a tune of 7,004,588 infected persons, 13% of which have succumbed to corona virus related deaths. The global recovery rate also increased by 24%. In the same period, Uganda had a 44% increase in the number of confirmed cases, 50% increase in number of active cases and a 14% increase in number of recoveries. To date, Uganda has not registered any COVID-19 related death.

Uganda's COVID-19 curve

Figure 1 shows that despite the revision in number of confirmed cases since May 20, 2020 (excluding foreign positive cases), the COVID-19 curve has remained on an upward rise. This among others can be attributed to the steady increase in the prevalence of COVID-19 positive cases among quarantined contacts to truck drivers as observed in the last couple weeks.

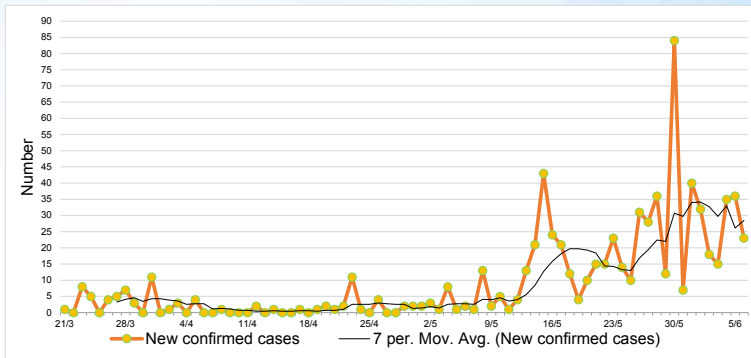
Figure 1: Trend of cumulative confirmed cases



From the figure, out of 100,402 tests so far conducted in Uganda, there have been 616 confirmed cases for COVID-19. **513 positive cases** have so far been averted ever since H.E the president gave an order not to allow into the country any truck drivers that test positive.

The number of COVID-19 confirmed cases per day has steadily increased in the month of May and peaked at 84 cases in a single day on May 30, 2020. On June 06, 2020, 2,494 tests were conducted and confirmed 70 positives, 47 of which were foreigners.

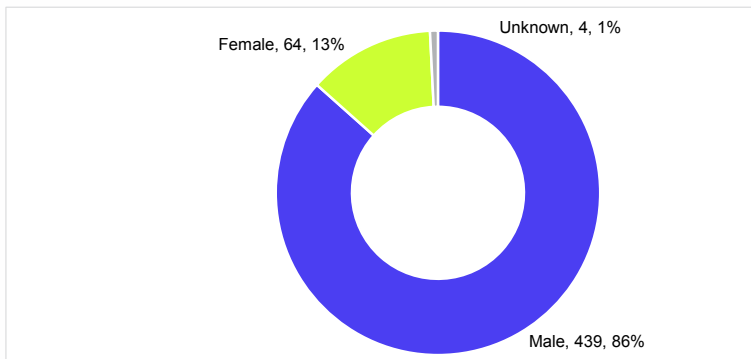
Figure 2: Distribution of Confirmed Cases on a daily basis



DESCRIPTION OF THE CONFIRMED CASES

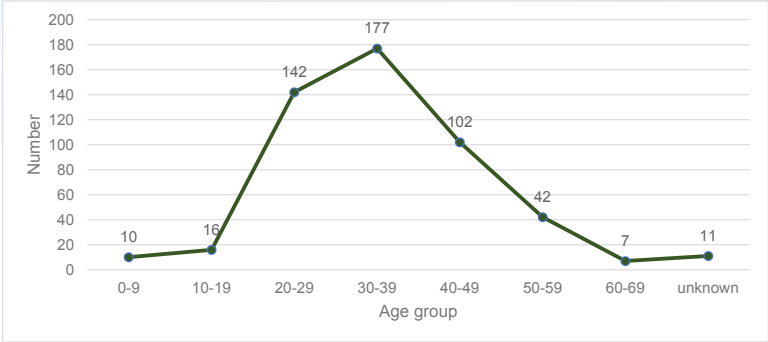
As of June 02, 2020, 86% of the confirmed cases were male. This can be attributed to the fact that the majority are truck drivers who are dominated by Men.

Figure 3: Sex Distribution of Confirmed Cases



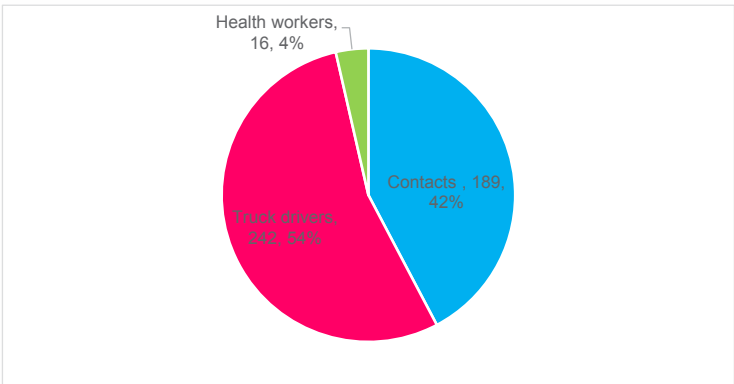
Unlike the other countries, Uganda's age distribution of the confirmed cases is bell shaped. Majority of the confirmed cases are in the age group of 20 to 39 years.

Figure 4: Age Distribution of Confirmed Cases (as of June 02, 2020)



Of the confirmed cases since 20th May to 6th June 2020, half are truck drivers (54%) while 42% are direct contacts to truck drivers as seen in figure 5. The last week saw health workers getting infected and the number has increased to 16 following the mandatory directive to test all health workers who are in contact with COVID-19 cases. Security officers are also at an increased risk of exposure to COVID-19, two cases were recorded in the last week.

Figure 5: Distribution of Confirmed Cases (20th May to 6th June, 2020)



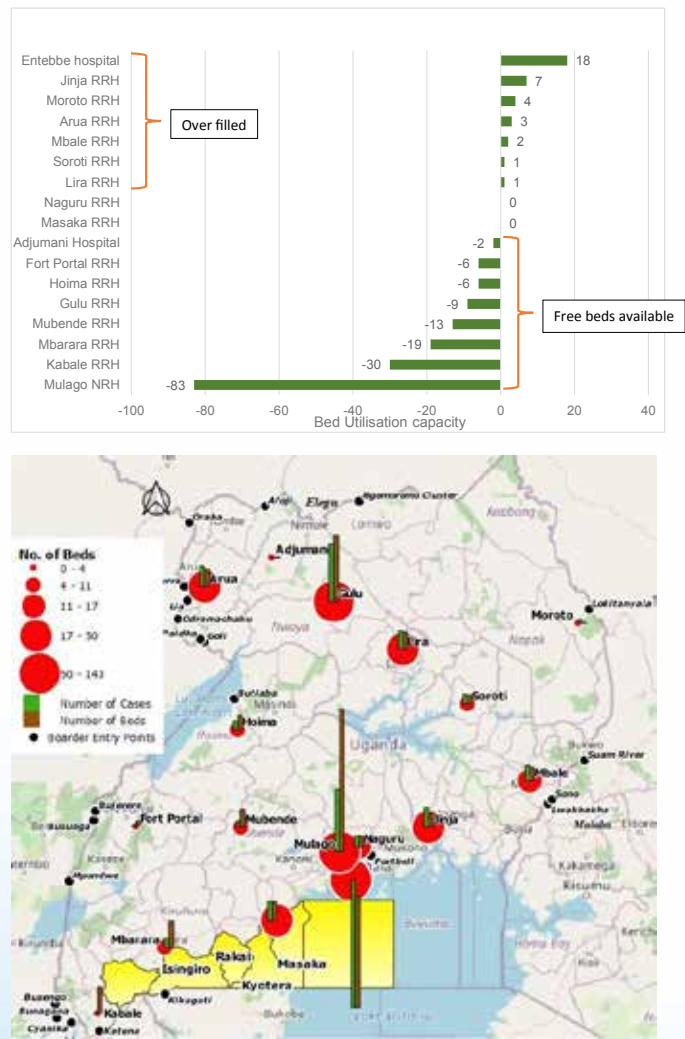
BED CAPACITY OF ISOLATION UNITS

According to the Ministry of Health, Uganda so far has seventeen (17) designated health facilities that have been empowered to manage COVID-19 confirmed cases. **Figure 6** shows their performance in terms of bed capacity. Seven of these hospitals have more patients admitted compared to the allocated beds. Entebbe Hospital is operating beyond the planned capacity

with 18 patients. Others like Mulago national referral hospital are operating below their planned capacity of 83 free beds. Three of these hospitals do not have any COVID-19 patients i.e Kabale and Fort Portal Regional referral hospitals as well as Adjumani Hospital.

To avoid crowding and eventual transmission of the virus to the health workers, the ministry should plan on reallocating some of the confirmed cases from the over filled facilities to those with less or no cases admitted.

Figure 6: Case Management in Hospitals



COMPARISON OF COVID-19 CURVES IN THE EAC

Among East African Community states, Kenya ranks highest followed by South Sudan with the highest number of confirmed cases. Rwanda has the least number of confirmed cases. Somalia and Democratic Republic of Congo, which are close to East Africa, also have high confirmed cases. Uganda's curve is flat compared to the other countries.



KENYA



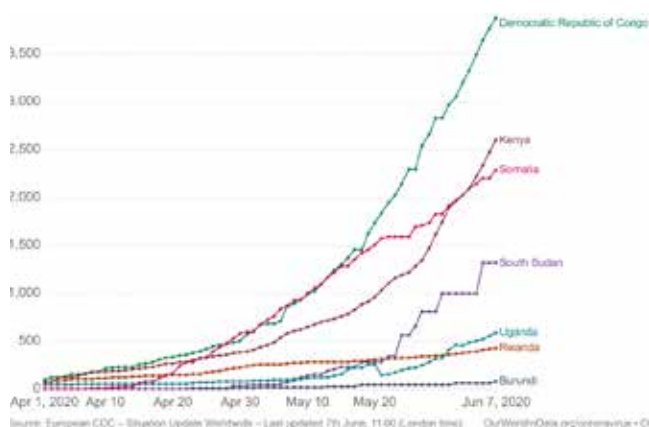
SOUTH SUDAN



RWANDA



Figure 7: Comparison across the EAC countries

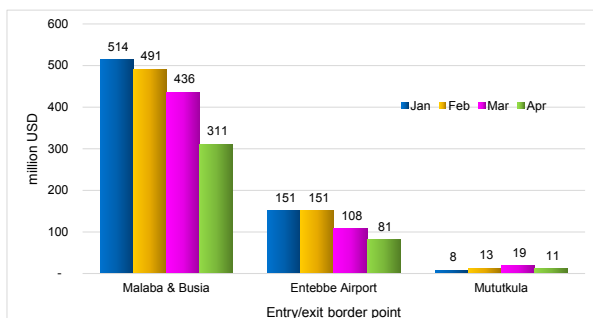


NOTE: Tanzania is excluded because it has not been reporting its official cases in a long time.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON UGANDA'S IMPORT BILL

This impact assessment on imports is based on only formal imports registered by the customs department of the Uganda Revenue Authority. **Figure 8** shows that at the traditionally top three-entry/exit points, the import bill has declined by about half for the period January to April 2020 at Malaba, Busia and Entebbe airport while a slight increase has been registered at the Mutukula border post. The greatest decrease was seen in April due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdown.

Figure 8: Total Import Bill, Jan-Apr in 2020



While the import bill has been reducing across the border posts, some have registered an increase even after the lockdown such as; Busunga, Mpondwe and Lwakhakha probably, as a result of truck drivers trying to avoid the long COVID-19 testing queues at the busy stations. (They go to Lwakhakha to avoid Busia and Malaba). In terms of ranking, Elegu border is 7th yet it has brought in the highest number of COVID-19 infections in Uganda.

Figure 9: Import Bill through 07 other Border Points, Jan-Apr 2020

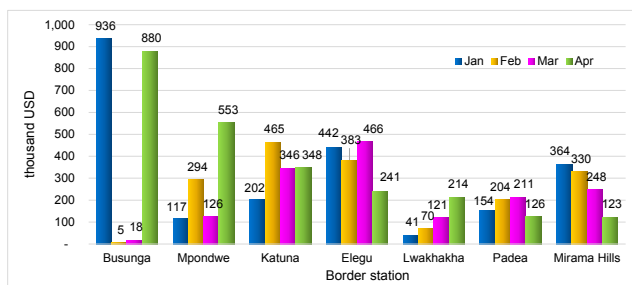
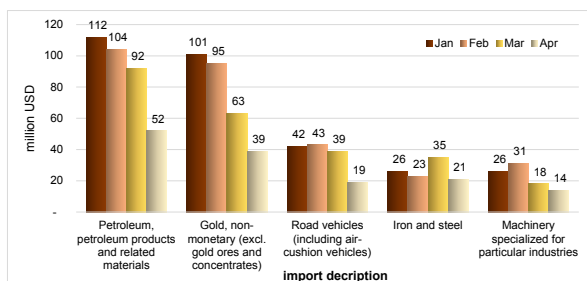


Figure 10 shows that the top import for Uganda over the January to April 2020 period is Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials. All the top five (05) commodities registered a gradual decline except for iron and steel which registered an increase in March before falling back to normal.

Figure 10: Import Bill for the top 05 Imports, Jan-Apr 2020



DO NOT FORGET TO BOOST YOUR BODY IMMUNITY AGAINST COVID-19

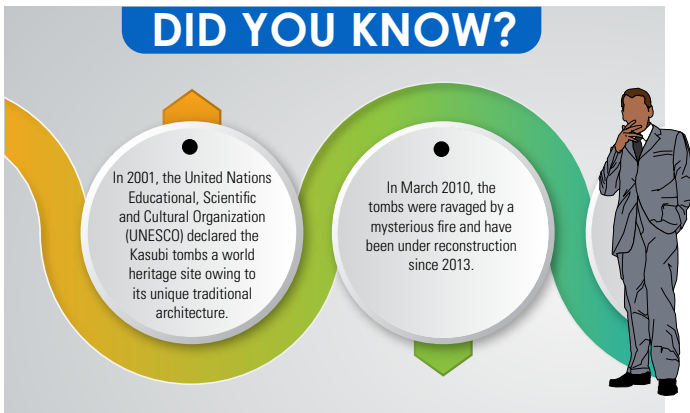
In addition to the precautionary and safety measures issued by the health and government authorities, the fight against COVID-19 requires stronger body immunity. Here below, we share with you the organic tropical solutions that can help you improve your immunity.

- Lemons
- Garlic
- Onions
- Ginger
- Red Pepper

IN OTHER NEWS

FIRE GUTS KASUBI TOMBS

- On Friday last week, fire gutted part of the cultural houses at the famous Kasubi Royal tombs causing damage to some property therein.
- The cultural house that was razed by fire is popularly known as “Bukyana” i.e the deity house for the ritual twins. The house is a minor distance away from “Muzibu Azaalampanga”, the main house and burial site for the four kings of Buganda.
- The Uganda police swung in action to put out the fire, which was later, described as minor and immediately, the force commenced investigations to ascertain the cause of the fire.



**GRAB OUR NEXT
BULLETIN ISSUE...**
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020



SEND US YOUR VIEWS:

On how we can improve our content for your enhanced reading experience / send us a well researched professional article (not exceeding 500 words) for publication.

- Ivan Mafigiri Kanyeheyo WhatsApp: 0711999902
Email: ikmafigiri@gmail.com
- Pamela Nabukhonzo Kakande WhatsApp: 0772303441
Email: nabukhonzo@gmail.com

UBOS COVID_19 TASKFORCE RESPONSE TEAMS

- Sarah Nakasinde- Tel: +256-772693022 (Kampala area)
- Nsiko Israel- Tel: +256-772617768, +256-711706093 (Entebbe area)

OUR LINK TO THE NATIONAL TASKFORCE

- Jackson Kadumye, Senior Communications Officer- Ministry of Health
Tel: +256-706877903, +256-774504252

THE NATIONAL RESPONSE CONTACTS

- Dr. Allan Muruta- +256-772460297
- Dr. Atek Kagirita - +256-782909153
- Toll free- 0800-100-066, 0800-203-033, 0800-303-033 & 919.

THE UBOS TASKFORCE ON COVID_19



- Edgar Mbahamiza – Chairperson +256-772485712
- Charles Walube- Secretary +256-772409146
- Stephen Baryahirwa – Member +256-772411067
- Sarah Nakasinde – Member +256-772693022
- Pamela N. Kakande – Member +256-772303441
- Israel Nsiko – Member +256-772617768
- Steven Kamukugize – Member +256-781419718
- Vincent Ssenono- Member +256-773312792
- Ivan K. Mafigiri- Member / Information Desk +256-711999902





This leaflet is a publication of the UBOS TASKFORCE ON COVID_19

UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Plot 9 Colville Street
P.O Box 7186, Kampala – Uganda
Tel: +256-414-706000
Fax: +256-414-237553
Email: ubos@ubos.org
Website: www.ubos.org
 :Uganda Bureau of Statistics
 :@StatisticsUg