



L-R: Ms. Rose Gamwera, Secretary General ULGA; Mr. Ben Kumumanya, PS. MoLG and Dr. Arthur Bainomugisha, Executive Director ACODE in a group photo with award winners at the launch of the 8th Local Government Councils Scorecard Report FY 2018/19 at Hotel Africana in Kampala on 10th March 2020

1.0 Introduction

This brief was developed from the scorecard report titled, “*The Local Government Councils Scorecard FY 2018/19. The Next Big Steps: Consolidating Gains of Decentralisation and Repositioning the Local Government Sector in Uganda.*” The brief provides key highlights of the performance of elected leaders and Council of Mbarara District Local Government during the FY 2018/19.

1.1 Brief about the District

Mbarara district is located in southwestern Uganda; bordered by Ibanda district to the north, Kiruhura district to the east, Isingiro district to the southeast, Ntungamo district to the southwest, Sheema district to the west and Buhweju district to the northwest. The district has 11 sub counties, 6 divisions, 61 parishes, 22 wards and 757 villages. The district population was estimated at 390,700 people in 2019 (UBOS, 2019).

1.2 The Local Government Councils Scorecard Initiative (LGCSCI)

The main building blocks in LGCSCI are the principles and core responsibilities of Local Governments as set out in Chapter 11 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, the Local Governments Act (CAP 243) under Section 10 (c), (d) and (e). The scorecard comprises of five parameters based on the core responsibilities of the local government Councils, District Chairpersons, Speakers and Individual Councillors. These are classified into five categories: Financial management and oversight; Political functions and representation; Legislation and related functions; Development planning and constituency servicing and Monitoring service delivery. The parameters are broken down into quantitative and qualitative indicators. Separate scorecards are produced for the Chairperson, Speaker, individual Councillors, and the District Council as a whole.

The major rationale of the LGCSCI is to induce elected political leaders and representative organs to deliver on their electoral promises,

improve public service delivery, ensure accountability and promote good governance through periodic assessments.

1.3 Methodology

The FY 2018/19 LGCSCI assessment used face-to-face structured interviews, civic engagement meetings, documentary review, key informant interviews, field visits and photography to collect the relevant data. The assessment was conducted between July to September 2019. A total of 35 elected leaders (33 District Councillors, Chairperson and Speaker of Council) and Council were assessed.

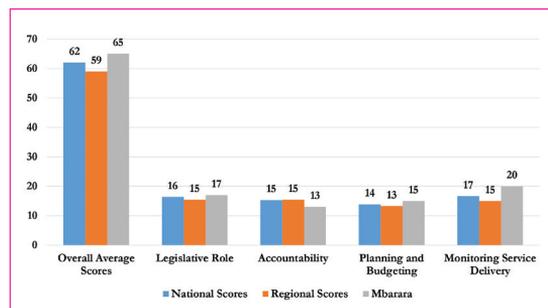
2.0 Results of the Assessment

This section highlights the performance of Council, Chairperson, Speaker and Councillors of Mbarara District Local Government during the FY 2018/19.

2.1 Performance of Mbarara District Council

The assessment of the district council was based on: ability to fulfill the legislative mandate; political and administrative accountability; planning and budgeting and monitoring service delivery. The district council scored 65 out of 100 points. This score put the district council in the 17th position among the 35 councils covered by the assessment. This performance was higher than the regional and national averages at 59 and 62 points respectively. The best performance registered by council was under the parameter of planning and budgeting where council scored 15 out of 20 points. This score was also higher than both the national and regional averages which were at 14 out of 20 points and 13 out of 20 points respectively. The next best performed parameter was the legislative role where council garnered 17 out of 25 points; two points higher than the regional average and one point higher than the national average. Under monitoring service delivery, council obtained relatively good performance with 20 out of 30 points. This score was much higher than both the national and regional averages of 17 and 15 points respectively. The worst performance was registered under the accountability to citizens where the district council earned 13 out of the 25 points which was lower than the regional and national average where the

Figure 1: Performance of Mbarara District Council on Key Parameters Relative to National and Regional Average Performances



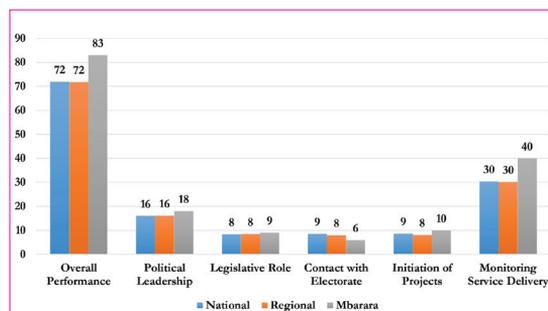
Source: Local Government Councils Scorecard Assessment FY 2018/19

average score was 15 points. Figure 1 and Table 1 present further details of summary of the performance of Mbarara District Council.

2.2 Performance of the District Chairperson

Hon. J.B. Bamukuraki, the District Chairperson of Mbarara District Local Government scored 83 out of 100 points, an improvement of 24 points from the previous assessment. With 83 points Hon. JB Bamukuraki was ranked the 5th best chairperson of the 33 Chairpersons covered by this assessment. Hon. Bamukuraki who is a member of the ruling NRM party was serving his first term as a district chairperson. The Chairperson's best performance was under the parameter of initiation of projects where he scored all the points unlike his counterparts who scored an average of 8 out of 10 points at regional and 9 out of 10 points at the national level. He also registered an outstanding performance on the parameter of political leadership by scoring 18 out of the 20 points. Like the previous assessment,

Figure 2: Performance of Mbarara District Chairperson on Key Parameters Relative to National and Regional Average Performances



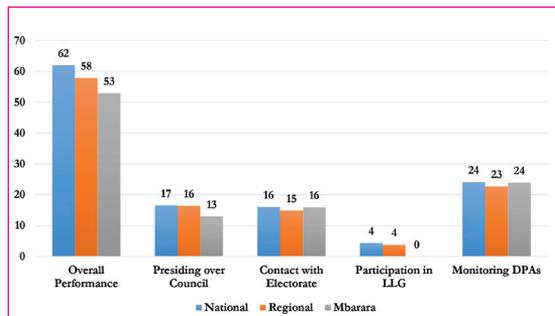
Source: Local Government Councils Scorecard Assessment FY 2018/19

Chairman Bamaturaki scored highly under the parameter of monitoring development priority areas. In the year under review he earned 40 points out of the 45 points and this was quite high compared to the regional and national averages which were just at 30 points. On legislative role, Hon. Bamaturaki scored 9 out of the 10 points. This was slightly higher than both the national and regional averages by one point. Also, the District Chairperson scored 6 out of 10 points, a score lower than the regional (8) and national (9) averages. Table 2 presents a summary of the Chairperson’s performance.

2.3 Performance of the Speaker of Council

Hon. Baram Ndyaguma was the speaker of council of Mbarara District Local Government Council. He is a member of the ruling NRM party and was serving his first term as a political leader at Mbarara district. Hon. Ndyaguma scored 53 out of 100 points a decline of four (4) points compared to the previous assessment in FY 2016/17. The Speaker’s score is below the national average score of 62 points and the regional average of 58 points. His best performance like in the previous assessment was on contact with electorate where he scored 16 out of 20 points. With regard to monitoring development priority areas, he scored 24 out of 45 points, which was slightly more than the national average score on monitoring at 23 points. On presiding over council, the speaker was scored 13 out of 25 points. The speaker however scored zero on participation in lower local governments. Table 3 presents a summary of the speaker’s performance.

Figure 3: Speaker of Council’s Performance on Key Parameters Relative to National and Regional Average Performances

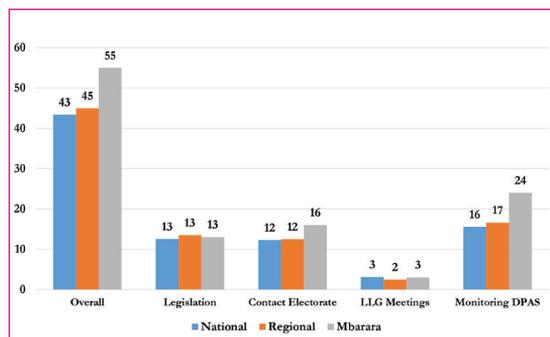


Source: Local Government Councils Scorecard Assessment FY 2018/19

2.4 Performance of Mbarara District Councillors

Overall, the performance of the District Councillors was above average with an average score of 55 out of 100 points. This is an improvement of 15 points compared to the FY 2016/17 assessment. Results also show that the average score for Mbarara District is above the national and regional performance at 43 and 45 points respectively. Councillors registered good performance on contact with the electorate with a score 16 out 20 points just like in the previous assessment. This is partly because councillors were always with their electorate as most of them stay in these localities. The councillors’ performance on the monitoring of development priority areas was an average of 24 out of 45 points. On the legislation, they obtained 13 out of 25 points. This was the same average score at both the national and regional levels. However, they performed poorly on attending council meetings at the lower local government (LLG) council level. Table 4 further presents a summary of the performance for all district councillors.

Figure 4: Performance of Mbarara District Councillors on Key Parameters Relative to National and Regional Average Performances



Source: Local Government Councils Scorecard Assessment FY 2018/19

3.0 Critical Factors Affecting Performance

3.1 Factors Enabling Performance

- **Good working relations between political and technical teams.** The council worked as a team with the technical staff in monitoring service delivered in the district. This was very evident in the Chairperson’s

communication/ reports especially in technical meetings that are always held every Monday morning to plan and review the district service delivery issues.

- **Learning visit.** The Council had learning visit to Buhweju district to benchmark on the projects of agriculture especially on planting of tea in the hilly areas of Buhweju. This acted as motivating factor to spur development in the district.
- **Capacity building conducted by ACODE:** There was induction / training of the entire council conducted by ACODE on the roles and responsibilities of councillors, debating in council, reporting lines and monitoring among other things which equipped councillors with some skills to conduct business in council, the district and their electoral areas.
- **Most Councillors are resident in their electoral areas:** Councillors had permanent residences in their respective sub counties; which enabled citizens to regularly interact with them and raise issues affecting them, particularly those related to service delivery.

3.2 Factors Hindering Performance

- **Lack of a substantive clerk to council:** The Clerk to Council was not recording the minutes well. In some cases the first name of the councillor was recorded. There was also lack of detail in the minutes and so it was difficult to follow through the debates.
- **Laxity among Councillors:** Majority of councillors did not produce at least 2 copies of monitoring reports for all the service delivery points. This was partly attributed to laxity of councillors and lack of appreciation of the importance of monitoring service delivery.
- **High expectations of local political leaders:** Some of the political leaders joined politics with high expectations which were not meet. Therefore, most councillors invest a lot of time and energies in their private businesses instead of the duties of a councillor.
- **Failure to attend LLG councils:** A number of the councillors were not able to attend the lower local governments with claims that they were not invited or collision in schedules of meetings at various levels.

- **Poor record keeping and reporting:** It was noted that most of the councillors did not have adequate documentation of monitoring, meetings held in the communities and other activities undertaken by virtue of their offices as councillors at the district. This was because of a poor documentation and record keeping culture. For instance there was no evidence that 26 out the 35 councillors had monitored Functional Adult Literacy.
- **Failure to use skills acquired out of council to inform Council Decisions:** There was no evidence that councillors had used their other skills in the previous trades to guide and inform council decisions. As such 30 out of 35 councillors covered by the assessment did not score a mark on this indicator.
- **Failure to debate issues of service delivery:** The results show that 20 out 35 councillors attended council but either did not attend at least 4 times or those that attended up to 4 times did not debate on issues concerning the delivery of services in their constituencies.

4.0

Recommendations

- The Council should introduce a mandatory requirement for councillors to produce individual monitoring reports to committees and council.
- The district council should identify new sources of local revenue to increase funds that can be allocated for the facilitation of council operations and monitoring service delivery.
- All political leaders should endeavor to keep records of their activities through the use of diaries and personal files.
- The District Executive Committee should involve district councillors in monitoring and supervision visits.
- The district council should plan and budget for political monitoring activities for councillors across the entire district.
- The district council should appropriate funds for continuous capacity building of political leaders especially on developing and presenting motions, monitoring, document and record keeping.

Table 1: Mbarara District Council Performance FY2018/19

Performance		Legislation										Accountability					Planning and Budgeting				Monitoring Service Delivery									
Year	Score	Rules of Procedure	Membership to ULGA	Committees of Council	Motions Passed by the Council	Ordinances	Conflict Resolution Initiatives	Public Hearings	Legislative Resources	Petitions	Capacity Building	Sub Total	Fiscal Accountability	Political Accountability	Administrative Accountability	Involvement of CSO	Principles of Accountability	Sub Total	Plans, Vision and Mission	District Budget	Local Revenue	Sub Total	Education	Health	Water	Roads	Agriculture	FAL	ENR	Sub Total
District	2016/17	100	2	2	3	3	1	2	4	2	3	25	4	8	8	2	3	25	5	4	11	20	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	30
	2018/19	65	2	2	3	3	1	0	3	1	1	17	3	3	5	2	0	13	5	4	6	15	3	3	4	2	2	2	4	20
Average		51	2	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	16	3	5	5	2	0	15	5	4	5	14	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	17

Table 2: Mbarara District Chairperson's Performance FY2018/19

Name	Identifiers			Performance		Political Leadership				Legislative Role			Contact with Electorate			Initiation of Projects				Monitoring Service Delivery												
	Gender	District	Political Party	Terms	2016/17	2018/19	Monitoring Admin	State of Affairs	Oversight Civil Servants	Commissions/Boards	Central Gov't	Sub Total	Council	Motions Executive	Bills by Executive	Sub Total	Meetings Electorate	Issues by Electorate	Sub Total	Projects Initiated	Communal Projects	NGOs	Sub Total	Agriculture	Health	Schools	Roads	Water Sources	FAL	Environment	Sub Total	
Tumusiime J.B. Bamaturaki	M	Mbarara	NRM	1	59	83	3	5	2	2	4	18	2	4	3	9	4	2	6	3	2	5	10	7	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	40
Average Score					62	72	2	4	2	3	2	16	2	5	2	9	4	4	8	3	1	5	9	5	5	5	5	4	2	3	29	

Table 3: Speaker of Council's Performance FY2018/19

Identifiers		Performance			Presiding over Council						Contact Electorate			LLG	Monitoring Service Delivery													
Name	Political Party	Constituency	District	Gender	Terms Served	2016/17	2018/19	% Change	Chairing Council	Rules of Procedure	Business Committee	Records Book	Record of Motions	Special Skills	Sub Total	Meetings	Electorate	Coordinating Centre	Sub Total	LLG	Health	Education	Agriculture	Water	Roads	FAL	Environment	Sub Total
Maximum Scores						100	100		3	9	3	2	3	5	25	11	9	9	20	10	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	45
Baram Ndyaguma Baram	NRM	Youth	Mbarara	M	1	57	53	-7	3	2	3	2	3	0	13	7	9	16	0	3	3	3	3	3	7	0	5	24
Average					2	57	62	18	3	7	2	2	2	0	17	8	8	16	4	4	5	4	3	4	4	1	3	24

Table 4: Mbarara District Councillors' Performance FY2018/19

Name	Political	Constituency	Gender	Terms Served	Performance			Legislation				Contact Electorate			LLG	Monitoring Service Delivery											
					2016/17	2018/2019	% Change	Plenary	Committee	Motion	Special Skills	Sub Total	Meeting	Electorate	Office	Sub County Meetings	Health	Education	Agriculture	Water	Roads	FAL	ENR	Sub Total			
Maximum Scores					100	100		8	8	5	4	25	11	9	20	10	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	45
Basil Bataringaya Rwankwere	NRM	Rubindi	M	1	43	83	93	8	8	5	0	21	10	5	15	4	7	7	7	7	4	4	4	4	4	43	
Patrick Tumuhimbise	NRM	Rwanyamahembe	M	1	45	81	80	8	8	5	1	22	10	9	19	10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	30	
Asaph Muhangi	NRM	Ndejja	M	2	43	78	81	8	8	5	1	22	10	9	19	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	33	
Godfrey Baryomunsi	NRM	Kakiika	M	2	46	75	63	8	8	5	1	22	10	9	19	0	3	7	5	7	7	7	7	0	5	34	
Jordan Musinguzi	NRM	Mwizi	M	1	51	74	45	8	8	5	0	21	10	9	19	0	5	7	3	7	7	7	7	0	5	34	
Tom Karuhanga	NRM	Bukiro	M	4	33	71	115	1	8	5	0	14	10	9	19	0	7	7	5	7	7	7	7	0	5	38	
Juliet Atuhaire Kamushana	NRM	Kamukuzi	F	3	34	70	106	8	8	5	1	22	10	9	19	4	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	4	25	
Venance Munankye	NRM	Kagongi	M	2	53	69	30	8	8	5	0	21	10	9	19	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	4	29	
Loy Mpumwire	NRM	Kagongi / Kashara	F	2	29	69	138	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	10	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	4	29	
Steven Barebire Natukunda	NRM	Rubaya	M	2	63	68	8	8	8	5	2	23	10	9	19	8	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	18
Alice Nakuya Mugisha	NRM	Ndejja/ Rugando	F	1	25	66	164	8	8	5	0	21	10	9	19	2	5	5	5	1	5	5	5	1	2	5	24

Name	Identifiers		Performance			Legislation				Contact Electorate			LLG	Monitoring Service Delivery										
	Political	Constituency	Gender	Terms Served	2016/17	2018/2019	% Change	Plenary	Committee	Motion	Special Skills	Sub Total		Meeting Electorate	Office	Sub Total	Sub County Meetings	Health	Education	Agriculture	Water	Roads	FAL	ENR
Maximum Scores					100	100		8	8	5	4	25	11	9	20	10	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	45
Prisca Rwakishajja Mulongo Muganzi	NRM	Nyakayojo	F	2	35	62	77	1	8	5	0	14	10	9	19	0	5	5	5	5	5	0	4	29
Jeninah Kyomuhendo	NRM	Youth	F	1	35	61	74	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	6	0	4	5	4	4	4	4	25
Donah Kyomugisha	NRM	Kakoba	F	1	43	60	40	8	0	5	0	13	10	9	19	0	5	5	4	5	0	4	4	28
Michael Mukiza	NRM	PWD	M	1	32	60	88	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	0	5	5	5	5	0	5	30	30
Jolly Kabwizi	NRM	PWD	F		23	60	161	3	0	2	0	5	10	9	19	10	5	5	5	0	6	0	5	26
Justine Kakyara	NRM	Bugamba	F	3	25	59	136	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	0	5	5	5	5	0	4	4	29
Joseline Kemirembe	NRM	Kakiika / Biharwe	F	2	31	58	87	1	8	5	0	14	6	9	15	4	5	5	0	5	0	5	0	25
Immaculate Muhandi	NRM	Rwanyamahembe/ Bubaare	F	1	43	58	35	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	0	4	4	5	5	5	0	5	28
MarkMugisha	NRM	Kashare	M	1	51	55	8	8	8	5	0	21	3	9	12	4	1	1	5	5	4	1	1	18
Annet Arinaitwe Bwongyenwa	NRM	Rubindi	F	3	62	55	-11	1	8	5	0	14	4	9	13	0	5	5	1	5	2	5	2	28
Annah Tinwakunda	NRM	Kamukuzi/Nyamitanga	F	2	63	54	-14	1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	10	5	5	1	0	1	1	1	14
Robert Bikye Arinanye	NRM	Bugamba	M		64	50	-22	8	8	5	0	21	7	5	12	0	5	5	0	1	0	1	1	17
Annah Kansime	NRM	Rugando	F	1	48	49	2	1	8	5	0	14	0	9	9	0	5	5	5	1	5	4	1	26
Pheny Natugumya Rutabanzibwa	NRM	Bubaare	M	1	25	47	88	1	8	0	0	9	8	9	17	0	5	5	1	4	4	0	2	21
Jennifer Baija	NRM	Rubaya	F	1		43		1	8	0	0	9	7	5	12	4	5	5	1	1	5	0	1	18
Merian Mutashwera	NRM	Older Persons	F	1	11	41	273	1	8	0	0	9	3	9	12	0	5	5	0	5	1	0	4	20
Erimya Jumba	NRM	Nyamitanga	M	4	48	40	-17	1	1	2	0	4	0	9	9	0	5	5	5	5	0	2	27	27
Deogratius Rukundo	NRM	Nyakayojo	M	1	65	39	-40	8	0	2	0	10	7	5	12	4	4	5	1	1	0	1	13	13
Julius Bwekwaso	NRM	Kakoba	M	1	56	38	-32	1	0	2	0	3	10	9	19	4	1	5	1	0	0	4	12	12
Ahmed Mulindwa	NRM	Biharwe	M	2	32	38	19	1	8	0	0	9	0	9	9	0	5	5	0	1	5	0	4	20
David Kaniga Muhanguzi	NRM	Workers	M	1		36		1	1	2	0	4	7	5	12	0	4	4	5	1	5	0	1	20
Patience Tugumisirize	NRM	Mwizi	F	1	53	35	-34	1	1	2	0	4	7	5	12	4	1	5	5	1	1	1	1	15
Jesca Mwijuka	NRM	Workers	F	1		34		1	8	2	0	11	10	9	19	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Twaha Bakawonga	NRM	Older Persons	M	1	11	6	-45	1	0	0	0	1	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average					41	55	56	4	6	3	0	13	8	8	16	3	4	5	4	3	4	1	3	24

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About ACODE: The Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) is an independent public policy research and advocacy Think Tank based in Uganda, working in the East and Southern Africa sub-regions on a wide range of public policy issues. Our core business is policy research and analysis, outreach and capacity building. Since it's founding 19 years ago, ACODE has emerged as one of the leading regional public policy think tanks in Sub-Saharan Africa. For the last 8 consecutive years, ACODE has been recognized among the Top-100 Think Tanks worldwide by the University of Pennsylvania's annual Global-Go-To Think Tank Index Reports.

About LGCSCI: The Local Government Councils Scorecard Initiative (LGCSCI) is a policy research and capacity building initiative implemented by ACODE and ULGA. The initiative is a strategic social accountability initiative that enables citizens to demand excellence of their local governments and enables local governments to respond effectively and efficiently to those demands with the aim of improving service delivery.

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