agira (C), the plant manager, Nile Breweries Limited, hands to Mr Peter Owor Minor (2nd R), the programmes coordinament Association (MTCEA). The agreement is aimed to prows) to make crafts as a way for people to earn a living. Nile to MTCEA for recycling. [Denis Edema, Monitor]



NGOs told to reveal funders

Learning the hard way. District officials say they have learnt from past experiences of being cheated by quack organisations.

BY DENIS EDEMA

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BUTALEJA. Butaleja District is to halt operations of Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) which do not reveal their sponsors.

"Any organisation that seeks to operate here must produce an operational license, and supporting documents such as a certificate of registration. Above all, we must be able to know how long they have been operating and who their funders are," said the deputy chief administrative officer, Ms Ssonny Mugoya.

Ms Mugoya made the revelation during last week's launch of a rice project by NGO, Build Me, funded by the International Fertiliser Development Centre. The project is ongoing

"We have learnt from that disappointment. Butaleja is no longer going to have an open gate for NGOs to come and be granted permission to operate as was the case before,"

BETTY NAMUNYOLE, DISTRICT WOMAN COUNCILLOR

in south western, northern and eastern Uganda.

According to the executive director of Build Me, Mr Deo Bwire, the organisation is set to support over 200 rice farmers in Butalejja District in improving farming methods, post-harvest handling, quality control, marketing and linking them up with financial institutions.

Ms Mugoya said the district council had resolved to take the drastic

step after it was realised that some of the NGOs had become liabilities to the community.

District woman councillor Betty Namunyole, said an NGO known as African Heritage, had recently fleeced about Shs18 million from unsuspecting parents under the guise of helping them place their children in vocational schools for courses like tailoring, brick laying and mechanics.

Ms Namunyole said that parents were made to pay Shs45,000 for each of the 400 children as far back as February, but the directors of the NGO closed shop and left the district. She said they have since switched off their known phones.

"We have learnt from that disappointment. Butaleja is no longer going to have an open gate for NGOs to come and be granted permission to operate as was the case before," she said.