



# 2022 EXPLORER NEWS ROUND UP

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR YEAR 2022

Congratulations upon coming to the end of 2022 and starting a New Year 2023. Explorer News continues to bring you News and Beyond to keep you informed, educated and entertained. This round up provides a brief of the several events that dominated the media in 2022.



The Explorer News would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in 2022. It has been a pleasure serving you throughout the year. We wish you a Happy 2023 as we strive to inform you better.

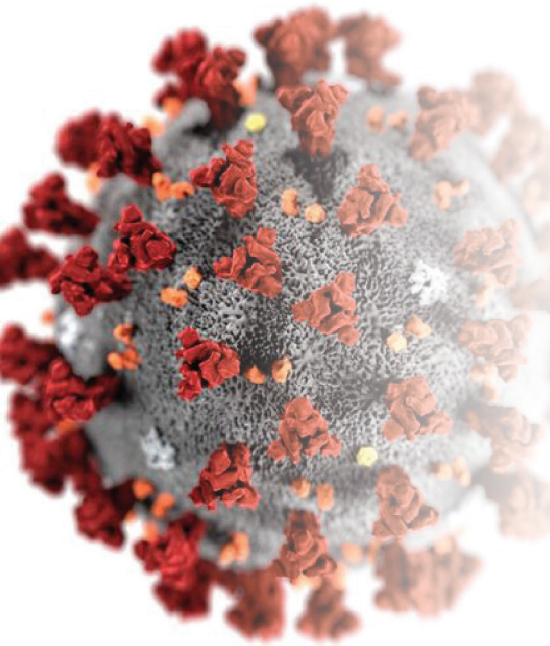
This time of year is when we take stock of the prior year's happenings and attempt to forecast the trends and events that could manifest themselves

in the upcoming year. A lot happened and more is going to happen in 2023. As you plan for the New Year, What are you going to do for your nation in 2023? We know we're all eager to make New Year's resolutions, so allow me to remind us of John F. Kennedy's famous quote, "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country." What effect will you have

on this nation during the next 12 months? 2022 has been a year of rapid change and transformation in the different spheres in the country.

The Explorer team, would like to wish you our readers a very Happy New Year.

Editor's Note  
<https://explorer.co.ug/>  
[explorernews82@gmail.com](mailto:explorernews82@gmail.com)



# The Covid-19 Omicron Variant

2022 began on lighter note with the reopening of the economy after two years of lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. COVID restrictions and testing, the Omicron variant and the impacts of the pandemic on the country's healthcare system, schools and businesses were eased and economy started its steady path to recovery. Uganda had registered her first case on December 7, 2021. Cases however increased due to the December festival travels

from Urban to rural centres. Ministry of Health worked hard to ensure that Ugandans get vaccinated and also the SOPs are maintained to control further spread.

Following the reduced cases of Covid-19 and the Presidential directives to reopen the economy and the Schools, by end of January the schools reopened to students ending the world's longest school disruption due to Covid-19 Pandemic.



## Karamoja Insecurity and cattle rustling

At the beginning of the year, there were increased cases of cattle rustling in Karamoja sub-region where several

households lost their livestock to rustlers suspected to be coming from Turkana Kenya and South Sudan.

UPDF launched an operation "Usalama Kwa wote" aimed at disarming the rustlers.

# The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ordered Uganda to pay \$325 Million to DR Congo as war reparations



On February 9th 2022, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in Hague passed a judgement ordering Uganda to pay \$325 million equivalent to Shs 1.14 trillion to DR Congo as war reparations. The ruling followed DRC's petition to ICJ against Uganda in 2005 seeking compensation for the 1998 to 2003 armed conflict in Kisangani Eastern DRC.

## President Museveni launches the Parish Development Model (PDM)

*"During the recently concluded elections, we promised you that the 2021-2026 term is going to be a Kisanja for creating wealth, jobs and incomes for all Ugandans,"*  
President YK. Museveni



In February 2022, the President of Uganda launched the Parish Development Model (PDM) in Kibuuku district. PDM is a multi-sectorial strategy aimed at creating socio-economic transformation by moving 39% households out of subsistence economy into the money economy using the Parish as the epicentre for development.

# Alleged abduction and Torture of Opposition Actors

At the beginning of February 2022, news of a one Samuel Masereka the NUP Mobilizer for Kasese district was paraded at the NUP secretariat by the party leaders before the

## The signing of the Oil Final Investment Decision (FID)

On February 2nd 2022, the Final Investment Decision (FID) was signed between the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) on behalf of the government of Uganda, Total Energies EP Uganda, CNOOC Uganda Limited, and the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) to develop the Tilenga and Kingfisher oil fields in Hoima as well as the EACOP.

media accusing the state of kidnap and torture.

The same torture claims of the opposition activist Kakwenza Rukiirabashaija also made rounds on

## Bobi Wine Urges European Parliament Not to Fund Ugandan Government

In February 2022, Robert Kyagulanyi a.k.a Bobi Wine was hosted by the European Union Parliament where he asked the different funders to block their aid alleging that the Ugandan government uses the same funds to abduct and torture dissents. At the same event, Bobi Wine requested the EU member states to sanction the different government officials and ban them from traveling to their countries.

different social media platforms. He eventually fled the Country and went into exile in Germany claiming his life was in danger.

## The signing of the agreement between the government of Uganda and Italian coffee firm, Uganda Vinci Coffee Company Limited

In February 2022, the Ministry of finance officials on behalf of the Government of Uganda signed a coffee deal with Uganda Vinci Coffee Company Limited an Italian firm. The agreement gave monopoly and exclusive rights to the exportation of Ugandan coffee.





## The Reopening of the Uganda-Rwanda border

In March 2022, the Uganda-Rwanda border was re-opened for both trade and passenger movements. The reopening came after two years of closure due to strained diplomatic relations between the two countries.

## Some shocking Death of Prominent Leaders in 2022

2022 saw the demise of several important pillars and prominent leaders in the country. These included; Dr. Emmanuel Tumusiime Mutebile, Bank of Uganda Governor died January 23, 2022, Fr. Simon Lokodo Uganda's former Ethics Minister died on January 29, 2022. Speaker of Parliament Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanya died on March 20th 2022, Emorimor Papa Augustine Osuban Lemukol died February 5, 2022, DJ Alex Ndawula died June 6, 2022,

Gen Elly Tumwine died August 25, 2022 and Hon. Patrick Okabe who perished in a road accident with the wife on December 19, 2022 among others. May their Souls continue to Rest in Peace.

## KUNGA Political campaign

The opposition NUP party initiated a new political strategy dubbed "KUNGA" to mobilize their supporters from the different parts of the country for civil disobedience.

Under KUNGA, several protests were organized in the different major cities and urban centres such as Jinja, Mukono, Kamuli, Kamwokya, among others.

## Kabaka Ronald Mwenda Mutebi Sickness and allegations of suspected Poisoning

In April 2022, a video and photos circulating on

different media platforms emerged showing the Kabaka of Buganda in a state that suggested he was in extreme poor health.

Some opposition politicians and media bloggers claimed he was poisoned. However, the Katikiro refuted claims noting that the Kabaka was battling with severe allergy.

## The purchase of the UGX 2.1Bn official cars for the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Parliament

In June 2022, the Parliamentary commission approved 2.1B UGX to be spent on the procurement of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker official vehicles. The funds were released and the said vehicles were procured. This caused a heated debated amongst the public as to whether this was the right decision.

## Arts teachers strike across the country.

On 15th June 2022, Teachers under UNATU staged an Industrial action citing discriminatory salary enhancement and Government failure to honour the collective bargaining agreement signed in 2018. Arts teachers under UNATU launched a strike in July following the presidential directive to enhance salaries of the science teachers. This was not welcomed by the arts teachers across the country who demanded a similar pay rise.

## The passing and signing of the Computer Misuse (amendment) Act

In July 2022, the Computer misuse (amendment) Bill was tabled by Kampala Central Member of Parliament Hon. Muhammad Nseroko as a private member bill. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary committee on ICT and was later passed by Parliament.

The bill was later enacted into law by the President in October 2022. The legislation prescribes punitive measures for

sending or sharing false, malicious, and unsolicited information online.

## Allegations of human trafficking and illegal harvest of body Organs

The months of July, August and September Uganda's mainstream and social media was full of allegations of increased human trafficking or trafficking in persons and illegal body organs harvest. Most of the alleged victims are Uganda immigrant workers in the Middle East.

In response, Parliament enacted a Law to regulate the human organ donation and transplantation in Uganda.

## Armed Attacks on the different security installations

In July 2022, a gang of machete-wielding assailants attacked and hacked police officers who were manning a checkpoint at Kiwumpa Village in Luwero District.

Several other attacks in the different parts of the country such as Busika, Nankulabye, Kensington police posts as well as an

attack on security patrol in Kapeeka sub-county by unidentified assailants.

## The appointment of Norbert Mao as Minister of Justice and constitutional affairs



On July 21st 2022, President Museveni appointed Norbert Mao the President General of the Democratic Party (DP) as the Minister for Justice and Constitutional affairs. The DP party signed a working agreement with the government that saw Mao being appointed as a Minister.

The working agreement aimed at cooperation on issues of mutual interests between the two political parties especially in decision and policy making.



## The medals won by Ugandan athletes at the Commonwealth games 2022 in Birmingham UK

From July 28th to August 8th 2022, Ugandan athletes participated at the commonwealth games in Birmingham UK and won 5 medals. The athletes won 3 gold medals and 2 bronze medals which was a great performance for the Ugandan athletes in the history of commonwealth games. The medallists included Victor Kiplangat, Jacob Kiplimo, Peruth Chemutai and Teddy Nakimuli.

## Hunger in Karamoja Sub-region

In the months of July, August and September,



more than half a million of the population in the Karamoja sub-region faced critical food insecurity due to prolonged dry spells in the region.

In response, the government of Uganda through office of the Prime-Minister, offered over 1000 metric tons of relief food to the region which comprised of beans, rice and Posho.

## Floods across different parts of the country

According to reports from the Red Cross and media, flooding struck parts of Eastern Region from 27 April 2022. Affected areas included Amuria, Kapelebyong, Katakwi, Mbale, Pallisa, Bukedea

and Bulambuli Districts. Homes were damaged and several lives lost after heavy rains in the affected areas caused by the flash floods and landslides.

Heavy rains also took a toll in Bundibugyo District, where several people including children were reported missing after severe flooding struck in villages near Ntandi town on 02 September. Around 10 homes were filled with mud and the belongings of the residents destroyed or swept away.

The government of Uganda with support from other stakeholders offered relief in form of shelter items, food, and other basic needs.





## The COSASE probe on Uganda Airlines and Jeniffer Bamuturaki

Throughout the months of August, September and October, the media was awash with proceedings from the COSASE Probe which grilled the Uganda airline CEO Jennifer Bamuturaki over alleging that she lacked qualifications to run such a big national entity.

The CEO was also accused of approving salaries for top officials' way much beyond the stated salaries even when the

airline was making billions of losses.

The probing committee chaired by Hon. Joel Ssenyonyi took it to the media to expose the irregularities from the findings and some members of the general public requested that she be fired from the CEO position.



## Uganda Government Protests against EU decision to halt the EACOP Project

On 14th September 2022 The European Union Parliament in Brussels passed a joint motion for a resolution on violations of human rights in Uganda and Tanzania linked to investments in fossil fuels projects. They called upon the government of Uganda to halt the construction of the crude oil pipeline. This was contested by both the government and her development partners who carried out demonstrations in Uganda and in diaspora against the resolutions.



*“ACP-EU gives Uganda go-ahead to proceed with East African Crude Oil Pipeline project”*





## Ebola Outbreak in Uganda and public response to presidential directives

On 20 September 2022, the Ministry of Health in Uganda confirmed an outbreak of SVD in Mubende District, after one fatal case was confirmed. Cases of the virus infections rose in the two districts of Mubende and Kassanda which caused an alarm in the Country.

On 15th October 2022, the President of Uganda imposed a 21-day lockdown on the Mubende and Kassanda districts to contain the spread of the virus to other parts of the country.

## Government repatriates Ugandans stranded in different detention centres in UAE

In September 2022, the government of Uganda through Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social development and Uganda's embassy in UAE, started a process of repatriating Ugandan immigrant workers who were illegally staying in Dubai and other parts of UAE.

Since September up to date, over 700 Ugandans who were detained at the different deportation centres in UAE have been repatriated.



Muhoozi Kainerugaba  
@mkainerugaba

Haha! I love my Kenyan relatives. Constitution? Rule of law? You must be joking! For us there is only the Revolution and you will soon learn about it!

## Gen. Muhoozi's controversial tweets about capturing Nairobi

On Monday October 3rd 2022, through his twitter handle, the then Lt. Gen. Muhoozi Keinerugaba and the former commander UPDF Land Forces (CLD) tweeted a series of controversial tweets where he threatened that it would take him and UPDF only two weeks to capture Nairobi something that threatened diplomatic relations between Kenya and Uganda.

However, H.E President YK Museveni in a formal statement apologized to Kenyans and government of Kenya on behalf of Ugandans saying the tweets were Muhoozi's personal opinion and not the position of UPDF.



*“One Moses Simbwa, a boda boda accident victim and renowned FDC activist from Jinja City”*

Besigye, and Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Mugisha Muntu, attended the Uganda Human Rights Accountability conference organized by the Kenya Human Rights Commission at Ufungano in Nairobi Kenya.

At the event, opposition leaders transported and paraded Boda Boda accident victims, Ugandans of natural disabilities as torture victims.

These accused Ugandan security forces of torturing civilians and demanded the International community to pressurize the Ugandan government in order to account for the human rights violations in the country.

## Uganda opposition politicians parade Boda Boda accident victims at Kenya Human Rights Commission conference in Nairobi

On November 17th 2022, Opposition leaders Bobi Wine, Col (Rtd) Kizza

## Government recovers over 250Bn shillings from corruption officials

The Inspector General of Government Betty Namisango Kamywa said that the Government of Uganda through different anti-corruption agencies, had recovered over 250bn shillings that had been lost in corruption.

The news spread over the media as an achievement on behalf of government and gave hope to many Ugandans that the government is doing a great job to curb the voice.



## Uganda launches first ever satellite into space station in Earth orbit

On November 7th 2022, the government of Uganda through

the Ministry of science, technology and innovation launched the first ever satellite into the Earth's orbit.

The Uganda Pearl AfricaSat-1 was launched from the America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). It was developed by a team of Ugandan engineers, Edgar Mujuni, Bonny Omara, and Derrick Tebusweke from the Kyushu Institute of Technology in Japan.

## President Museveni attends the US-Africa Leaders' Summit in Washington DC even after opposition fights against it



In a letter dated March 28, written by Senator Robert Menendez, chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (D-New Jersey), addressed to Biden and copied to Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, Menendez asked Biden to isolate Museveni from the summit, saying that his “disregard of basic democratic and human rights norms is inconsistent with U.S. values and foreign policy goals.” Despite Museveni’s “troubling track record,” he noted, Uganda “remains one of the top recipients

of U.S. foreign aid and security assistance.” Senator Robert was in collaboration with Uganda’s opposition to deter the President from attending the Leader’s Summit.

Nevertheless, President YK Museveni on December 13th to 15th 2022, attended the US-Africa Leaders’ Summit that was hosted in Washington DC by the US President Joe Biden. “The goal of the summit is rooted in a recognition that the continent is a global player and also will help

shape the future, not just for the continent but for the world,” Dana Banks

While on his way to Washington, Museveni had a one-day working visit in the UK where he met the different investors and UK government officials.

The President also addressed delegates and investors at the summit in Washington DC, where he appealed to the different potential investors to come and invest in the different sectors of the economy in Uganda.



## Operation shujaa against ADF

In November 2021, 1700 Ugandan troops were sent to the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri in Eastern DR Congo to overthrow the ADF. Several ADF terrorists including Commanders have been killed and others captured since the start of the operation as both forces conduct intelligence led operations to neutralize the group and their allied international supporters.

## UPDF Neutralizes ADF attacks in Ntoroko district

On December 13th 2022, suspected ADF rebels attacked Bweramule sub-county Ntoroko district. The attack displaced about 8,000 locals from the three sub-counties of Bweramule, Butungama and Kibuuku Town council.

However, UPDF retaliated by deploying heavily to

repulse the attack. By 14th December, situation had been contained and the locals started returning to their homesteads.

According to UPDF Spokesperson, The total number of ADF rebels captured alive since December 13 have increased from 15 to 22. Also, 22 guns and other ammunitions have been recovered and 26 ADF rebels have been shot dead.



# KEY INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

## **Senegal: Senegal Won Their First AFCON Championship After Defeating Egypt**

Monday, February 7, 2022 – Senegal won their first African Cup of Nations championship when they defeated Egypt in the final of the continental championship match on penalty kicks at Olembe Stadium in Yaounde, Cameroon.

## **Kenya:**

General Elections were held in Kenya on Tuesday 9th August 2022 to elect the President, Governors, Senators, and Members of the National Assembly and the Members of county assemblies. In a highly contested election, William Ruto was voted and declared President of Kenya with 50.5% of the Vote. He defeated Raila Odinga who received 48.85% of the vote.

## **England:**

Queen Elizabeth II died September 8, 2022 She was Britain's longest-reigning monarch. Her death at 96 years drew to a close of Great Britain's second Elizabethan era, ushering in the reign of her son, King Charles III at age 73, making him the oldest person to ascend to the

British throne.

## **Argentina wins the World Cup Finals of 2022**

Argentina won the epic world cup finals against France in the final of 2022 on penalties after a 3-3 draw in Qatar considered one of the finest matches the famous tournament has ever produced. This was on 18th December, 2022. Argentina is one of the most successful teams in the tournament's history, having won three World Cups: in 1978, 1986 and 2022. Argentina has also been runner up three times: in 1930, 1990 and 2014. In 18 World Cup tournaments, Argentina has 47 victories in 88 matches.

## **Russia Launches Military Attack on Ukraine**

Thursday, February 24, 2022 – Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February, leading to global crises for both food and energy, as well as displacing millions of people. Russian troops begun an attack on Ukraine, with reports of troops crossing the border to the north and south, multiple explosions in the cities of Ukraine, including Kyiv, and Russia's President, Vladimir Putin, warned of bloodshed if Ukrainian forces do not lay down their arms.

Russia's offense, which they named a special military operation, came as world leaders attempted to avert catastrophe with a meeting of the United Nations

Security Council amid warnings that the biggest war in Europe since 1945 could start due to an invasion.



## **Inflation surges around the world**

Inflation has been unusually high in countries around the world in 2022. Price increases in the US, UK and many parts of the world which peaked at more than 9.1% in June, and at 11.1% in the UK in October. This has resulted in a cost-of-living crisis, with many families, even in some of the world's wealthiest nations, being forced to choose between eating or heating this winter.

## **The Omicron coronavirus variant spreads**

The Omicron variants were a highlight in the year 2022. The highly transmissible Omicron variant of COVID-19 spread around the world this year. Two Omicron "cousins" were named by the UK Health Security Agency, as the virus continued to mutate.

## **US Supreme Court overturns abortion rights**

In a controversial ruling on 24 June, the US Supreme Court revoked women's constitutional right to abortion, restoring the ability of individual states to determine a woman's reproductive rights in the United States, reversing half a century of court protection for this fundamental right.

Access to abortion is a right critical to guaranteeing a wide range of other human rights, including the rights to life and security of person, privacy, nondiscrimination, and freedom from cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, among others.

However, while the court has for now removed constitutional protection for access to abortion, the United States has

international human rights obligations to ensure it. These are embedded in international treaties ratified by the United States, and the right of access to safe and legal abortion is rooted in international human rights law.

## Record-breaking heat waves

Climate change has led to many record-breaking temperatures around the world. From runways melting to devastating wildfires, no country was safe from the extreme levels of heat experienced this year. The summer of 2022 produced Europe's worst drought in 500 years with two-thirds of the continent experiencing some sort of extreme heat warning. In China, factories were forced to shut down in August due to decreased water levels around the

Yangtze River basin, which curbed electricity generation at hydropower plants.

## Flooding in Pakistan

Flooding in Pakistan from June to August killed more than 1,391 people and caused an estimated \$30 billion in damage as houses, crops and key infrastructure were swept away.

## World population exceeds 8 billion

On 15 November 2022, the world surpassed 8 billion people. The world reached its first landmark of 1 billion people in 1803. Over 200 years later, on 15 November 2022, the world surpassed 8 billion people.

The growth rate, is expected to slow globally over the coming decades and more in high income countries. Slowing growth

rates in populous nations like China and the United States have caused some alarm, threatening to overturn their societies. Rising birth-rates in poorer nations threaten to strain systems that are already struggling.

The fertility rate has dropped globally; in high-income nations, the number of people under 65 is expected to decline in the coming years, the United Nations said. But the fertility rate has remained stubbornly high in poorer countries, where more women and girls lack access to sexual and reproductive health care, including contraception.

