The DIGITAL AGENDA Insights

Monthly Newsletter

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DIGITAL WALLET

Digital ID No: N100101C

Balance: $1,245

Recent Transaction: Grocery Purchase – Facial and Iris ID Verified

✔ Payment Successful

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Tech Should Serve Not Control

Welcome to The Digital Agenda Insights *monthly newsletter*

Every nation now speaks the language of Digital IDs and Central Bank Digital Currencies. Biometrics has become the new proof of existence.

All this is being advanced under the banners of convenience and security. However, we must pause and ask: what are we trading away in this grand digital promise?

When money and identity merge into data streams controlled from a central point, what becomes of human freedom? What happens when access to your own livelihood can be programmed, limited, or frozen at the click of a button, not because of fraud, but perhaps because of your beliefs, views, choices, or your "carbon score"?

At the Digital Agenda Forum, we are not against innovation, we are against blindness. Progress without reflection is not advancement; it is surrender.

We stand at the crossroads where innovation meets integrity. Our call is simple: celebrate technologies that uplift human dignity, and question those that quietly erode it. Convenience should never come at the cost of control, and efficiency should never silence autonomy.

This is a call for consciousness, a reminder that the human being must never be reduced to a programmable node in someone else's system.

As CBDCs rise alongside Digital IDs, we must decide whose future we are building. Is it one that empowers individuals, or one that controls them.

OUR CORE VALUES

S
Stewardship

P
Purpose

A
Authenticity

D
Dignity

The future is unfolding in real time. Let us make sure it remains human.

If this resonates with you, walk with us.

Lilian Agaba Nabwebale

For the Digital Agenda Forum

Tech Should Serve Not Control

CYBERSECURITY!

Liberty Cannot Be Achieved With Invisible Shackles:
CBDCs and CYBERSECURITY

One might wonder why governments are pushing the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) agenda, wanting to phase cash out of the financial system. They claim it will be easier and more convenient.

However, the one central database they plan to create provokes black hat hackers to take their chances, and if successful, they will be a force to reckon with, using it for blackmail, bringing down individuals, among other things. After this information is obtained, retrieving it is very difficult, and what was meant to be the dream life turns into a nightmare.

The purpose of technology is to serve, not to control. By phasing out cash, the spontaneous shopping spree or buying roadside Rolex is shackled, removing an aspect of liberty. This is a call to the governments to look past the shortcuts and find long-term innovations that will not cause humanity to be at the mercy of technology. We are our own threat, not technology.

No system is ever 100% secure. Every person in cybersecurity has one goal in mind: to protect the information. Putting all eggs in one basket has never been a solution. I advise those pushing the CBDC agenda to reconsider, as cash has never been an issue.

By **Abaasa Peace Ella**
Cyber Security Analyst

Have You Watched This Podcast Yet?

DIGITAL ID & CBDC Trap: Why you should resist them

Watch the video and Share it widely at
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYQsXTUxc3g

DIGITAL ID & CBDC TRAP: Why you should resist them

The **Digital Agenda Forum** joins the **Circle of Life - *Beyond the Story*** segment to expose who is driving the global push for Digital ID and Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), and why.

THE PAINTED FUTURE: The Day the NIN Fails

In Uganda today, the National Identification Number (NIN) has become more than just a personal identifier. It is now the individual's Tax ID, while for companies and businesses, the Company and Business registration number serves as the Tax ID. Note that no company can be registered in Uganda without including the NINs of all owners and directors. Passport and driving licences carry the NIN. One cannot register land, get a SIM card and get a bank account without the NIN. The courts have also taken it a notch higher. No affidavits without a NIN and a physical copy of the National ID. This has created a single, highly exposed master key linking individuals, businesses, government services, and financial systems.

Let us paint a possible scenario here:

It is a typical Tuesday in Kampala. A sophisticated cybercriminal group, or perhaps a hostile state actor, identifies a vulnerability in the core database at the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA). They steal data and manipulate it.

Within the first hour:
Financial Chaos: Bank accounts linked to manipulated NINs are frozen. Fraudulent loans are applied for and granted. High-net-worth individuals find their assets transferred. The banking system triggers an emergency freeze on all transactions involving "verified" NINs, grinding commerce to a halt.

Communication Blackout: Telecom companies, unable to verify the NINs against the corrupted central database, automatically suspend millions of SIM cards considered "invalid." Mobile money, a lifeline for the economy, ceases to function. Personal and business communication is severed.

Within the first day:
Legal & Property Gridlock: The Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) and Ministry of Lands stop all registrations. No registration can continue on the Company register because now the owners of the company nolonger match the details in the NIN. A person's legitimate attempt to sell a property is blocked because their NIN now shows discrepancies. Court cases are adjourned as affidavits and identities are called into question.

Government Services Collapse: Tax records at the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) are scrambled. Genuine taxpayers are flagged for evasion based on corrupted data. Access to essential services, from health programs to pension funds, is denied.

Identity Theft on an Industrial Scale: The hackers now possess the master key to every Ugandan's digital life. They can create synthetic identities, obtain passports, and commit fraud with an unparalleled level of "verified" authenticity.

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Within the first week:

Social Panic and Public Unrest: Citizens rush to banks, mobile money agents, and government offices demanding explanations. Rumors of frozen accounts and identity theft spread rapidly via social media. Trust in institutions collapses.

Supply Chain Disruption: Businesses reliant on mobile payments or digital verification cannot operate. Supermarkets, fuel stations, and hospitals experience severe shortages.

International Fallout: Foreign investors and aid organizations freeze projects. Visa and travel systems relying on NIN verification halt, affecting international mobility.

Within the first month:

Economic Recession: With commerce, banking, taxation, and investment frozen, Uganda's economy suffers a sharp contraction. SMEs collapse, unemployment spikes, and inflation rises as confidence in the currency erodes.

Political Pressure: Government faces extreme scrutiny and pressure to restore order and accountability. Public trust is severely damaged.

The single point of failure has failed. The nation's digital transformation has become its digital downfall.

Exposing a central identifier like the NIN on visible documents (passports, driving licences, taxi IDs, printed cards) is a huge privacy and security leverage point for attackers.

THE GREATEST BLUNDER

By making the NIN a universal key, making it the Tax ID, putting it on passports and driving licences, tying it on SIM cards, and bank accounts, affidavits, land and in all other public services has created the ultimate blender of identities:

1. **All Eggs in One Basket** where one compromised NIN threatens bank accounts, company ownership, land titles, and tax records.
2. **Identity Multiplication Nightmare** Hackers can manipulate linked records to appear legitimate across multiple institutions.
3. **Systemic Gridlock:** Any NIN discrepancy freezes company registration, property transfers, court cases, and financial transactions.
4. **Privacy Disaster:** Exposure of a single NIN anywhere now exposes a person's entire financial, legal, corporate life and private life.

Uganda, in pursuit of efficiency, has inadvertently turned the NIN into a digital skeleton key, the single point of failure that blends and exposes everything.

We will not dwell on solutions here, because the answer is simply to do the opposite of this.

*By **Digital Agenda Forum***

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WHAT GOVERNMENTS MEAN WHEN THEY TALK OF A DIGITAL ID!

By Digital Agenda Forum

A **digital ID can be anything used to identify you digitally.**

A Digital ID can be anything used to identify you digitally — a PIN, a code, a password, your fingerprint, your face, or your eye scan.

But when **governments talk about giving every citizen a Digital ID,** they usually mean something much bigger. They mean a **full digital file of a person**, which can include:

- Your basic information — name, date of birth, where you were born, where you live, your parents' names, and what you do.
- Your biometrics — facial scan, fingerprints, and iris scan.
- Your tax details and the businesses registered under your name.
- Your land and property — plots of land, houses, rentals, and any property registered in your name.
- Your bank details — bank accounts and mobile money accounts.
- Your SIM card and phone details.
- Your travel history — passport details, flights taken, and places you go.
- Your beliefs — your religion, political leanings or affiliations.
- Your health information — including vaccination records and hospital visits.
- Your behaviour — things like your financial habits, traffic behaviour, and legal records.
- Your carbon score — how much carbon you produce through the food you eat, the car you drive, and the energy or fuel you use.

In simple terms, a **Digital ID** becomes **one big file** that can hold almost everything about a person — who you are, what you do, what you believe, where you go, how you behave, and even what you own.

The Fallacy of *Uniqueness* Promised by the Digital ID

I often sit on bodabodas, those small motorcycle taxis we use in Uganda, and sometimes strike up a conversation with the rider. One day, a rider shared a story that left me nodding at life's strange ways. His brother, far from home, sent him to pick something from the house. When he arrived, the brother's wife, in a nightdress, invited him to the bedroom, and a secret affair began—one that eventually produced a child.

During family gatherings, people often ask why the child looks like him, and he just denies it. The brother even went for a DNA test, which came back positive, unsurprisingly, since they are brothers. To this day, only he and the mother know the secret.

Stories like this happen in our communities, and life continues. Sometimes, a household in your village will have one person who looks nothing like the rest, but instead resembles your own family yet they carry that family's name as if nothing is amiss.

We have also seen children whose DNA resembles an uncle, a brother, or that suspiciously familiar distant cousin. Not because of a secret affair, but simply due to biological overlap.

For years, we have been told biometrics are the pinnacle of unique identity and security. Yet in the real world, small children unlock their parents' phones with their own fingerprints or faces, as though Apple and Samsung never received the memo about uniqueness. It is not hard to imagine that, before long, siblings might be unlocking each other's digital wallets with the same casual ease.

When I see our governments pushing Digital IDs and promising unique identification, I wink a little. Fingerprints were once considered unique, then disproved. Facial recognition repeatedly produces mistaken identities. Now iris scans are introduced with confident claims of uniqueness.

Isn't this a touch of ambition? A quiet attempt to keep playing God with a straight face? Have we paused, even briefly, to consult the One who says He has counted the very hairs on our head (Matthew 10:30)? Each individual strand, mind you, not merely scanned in 4K resolution.

Yet here we are, nodding along as governments introduce this brave new language of Biometrics for Security.

I would argue we should not rush into wholesale decisions, especially when we tamper with the tax register by making the National Identification Number (NIN) the Tax Number. Cross-referencing with the National ID database may be reasonable, but making it the primary key in both NIRA and URA is risky. Even a minor glitch in the NIRA database could bring the entire tax register to a halt.

To assume that Digital Wallets under the Central Bank Digital Currency will be secure simply because they are tied to a Digital ID seems, at best, a promise written in sand. This so-called technological certainty may, in reality, prove to be one of the greatest fallacies of our time. Of course, if our caution falls on deaf ears, let the show go on.

*By **Lilian Agaba Nabwebale***
Information Scientist

THROUGH THE EYES OF PROPHECY: The Rise of Digital Control

The world is moving fast, not just in terms of gadgets and apps, but also in the way money and identity are being redesigned. It is not enough that you have a smartphone; now your money and even your face are going digital too.

In the United Kingdom, a new project called the Digital Pound Lab was launched as part of a plan to build a cashless society where money exists only in digital form, controlled by central banks. Alongside that, the UK also rolled out a nationwide digital ID system, a tool designed to track and verify people using biometric data and online credentials.

Even here in Uganda, during the recent national ID renewal exercise, NIRA began collecting fresh biometric data; fingerprints, facial scans, claiming it was necessary for accuracy and better service delivery. But one would wonder if this could be a subtle digital identity rollout. Because, if digital IDs are the backbone of centralized financial systems, Uganda's biometric push might not be as independent as it appears.

To many, this all looks like

progress, an entrance into modernity and efficiency. But for those who have been following global patterns, the question is whether this is truly about convenience, or about control.

At the Digital Agenda Forum, we believe technology should serve people, not the other way around. Fortunately, there are still thinkers, leaders, and ordinary citizens who continue to ask the same questions we do about where the world is heading. Among those voices is Prophet Elvis Mbonye, who earlier this

year, on 7th January, prophesied of a global financial strategy that would begin in the United Kingdom and expand to other regions. According to his words, the strategy would use digital currencies and identity systems to exert control over populations, all in the name of innovation and security.

Just one week later, the UK launched the Digital Pound Lab and announced its nationwide digital ID rollout. The Prophet had also named Kenya, Nigeria, and Ghana as the next in line and, indeed, those countries are now in discussions with global financial institutions about integrating digital finance and identity systems.

> If every financial move you make depends on a system you don't control, what happens when that system decides to stop working for you? What happens when you are in bad books with those who control the system?

From his point of view, what may appear to be progress is a system designed to monitor, restrict, and cut off human freedom. Or as he called it, a system from hell not intended for convenience or security but to subject many to bondage. After all, if every

financial move you make depends on a system you don't control, what happens when that system decides to stop working for you? What happens when you are in bad books with those who control the system?

We have already seen examples elsewhere. In Thailand, over three million bank accounts were frozen overnight. In Vietnam and the Philippines, the same has happened all in the name of digital security. Even in countries praised for their digital governance, the fragility of these systems cant be hidden. In Estonia, a hacker accessed biometric data from nearly 300,000 citizens, and in the UK, a supplier of digital ID cards used by major organizations was hacked. Centralizing sensitive data sounds efficient in words but practically it is like putting all your eggs in one big basket hanging by the thread.

As the Prophet also revealed, systems like these can collapse before they take root especially when they are exposed and dealt with in whatever way possible, even if that way is spiritual like in this case. Such warnings are not just fear-mongering, it is a move to uncover the hidden agendas behind the carefully crafted lies that draw victims to the same systems built for their destruction. Because if we are be honest, if cash disappears and every transaction must go through a government-controlled system, what

happens when it "fails" or when someone somewhere decides your access to basic needs and services should be "temporarily restricted"? Do you call customer care to get your freedom back?

It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of being "modern," thinking we will be left behind if we don't catch up with every digital trend that is the latest. But we forget that convenience has a cost, and that is our freedom for as long as we are dealing with globalists.

The call is to not reject technology but to know what it is for. It is supposed to make life easier, not dictate how we live. Before we surrender every part of our

identity, every chance we have at independence to systems we do not even understand, we should first ask whether those who build them truly value us as human beings or only see us as pawns in their game of control.

We are not experiments, we are not mere statistics, we are human beings with God-given dignity and freedom. So, yes, go ahead, use your apps, embrace technology but keep your eyes open. Because in a time where your every move can be tracked and every transaction is can be traced, can whoever this system is really working for be trusted? You are superior to technology. It was made to serve you, it is not your master.

By **Mariagoretti Batenga,**
Incorporator

RAISING RESPONSIBLE GENERATIONS IN THE DIGITAL ERA:

A Reflection on Modern Parenting and Professional Influence

In today's fast-paced and technologically driven world, one question demands our honest reflection: How are we raising our children? Are we nurturing them to become responsible, independent, and value-driven individuals, or are we unknowingly creating dependents who lack initiative and resilience, increasingly shaped by technology they do not fully understand?

As parents, guardians, and professionals, we serve as the first role models for the next generation. Our words may guide them, but our actions, including our relationship with technology, define what they become. The question we must ask ourselves is whether our conduct, both at home and in the workplace, sets a standard worth emulating. Do we demonstrate responsible technology use, or are we perpetually distracted by screens? Do we inspire the young ones to follow in our footsteps, or do they look at us and decide they never want to be like us?

In the pursuit of success and career advancement, many parents have unintentionally distanced themselves from their children, sometimes using digital devices as pacifiers or babysitters. While professional commitments are important, neglecting emotional presence at home for virtual engagements can leave children feeling unsupported and unguided. A thriving professional life must go hand in hand with active parenting and mentorship, which includes mindful management of our digital footprint.

This brings us to a critical intersection: the need to combine our influence with responsible technology. While transformative, technology introduces a profound dilemma. It promises convenience and efficiency, yet it risks producing a generation that depends heavily on systems rather than human creativity and critical thinking. As we embrace innovation, we must ensure that we remain human, driven by compassion, ethics, and empathy, rather than functioning mechanically in our daily routines. This means teaching children not just how to use technology, but when to use it, and, more importantly, when to set it aside to connect, create, and problem-solve

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in the analog world.

Equally important is the professional environment in which we operate. Increasingly, we see individuals in leadership positions who prioritize status and personal connections over service and performance. This culture of complacency, often aggravated by a blind faith in automated systems and data without context, undermines organizational values and erodes trust. The next generation observes these patterns. If we do not model accountability, professionalism, and responsible technology that serves people rather than controls them, we risk raising future leaders who value privilege over purpose.

To build a responsible and sustainable future, we must return to the basics of integrity, balance, and mentorship. These principles must now extend into the digital realm. Raising children, and by extension shaping the next generation of leaders, goes beyond providing materially. It involves demonstrating good character, consistency, and a strong sense of responsibility in everything we do, from our interpersonal interactions to our management of information and technology.
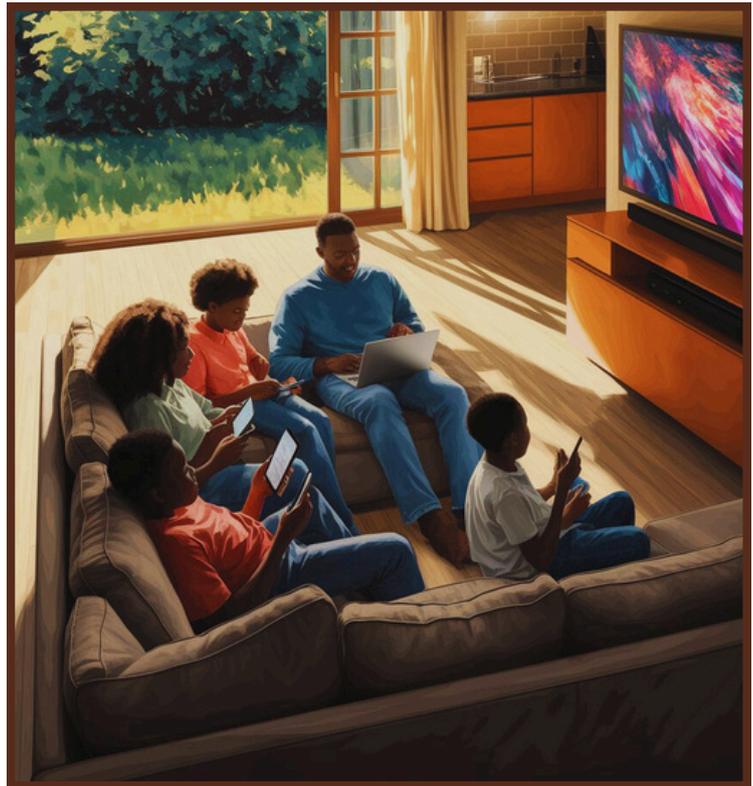
Ultimately, the greatest legacy we can leave is not wealth or titles, but values. These are the values that equip young people to lead with wisdom, empathy, and accountability in a world where technology is ever-present. Let us, therefore, commit ourselves to being better examples at home, at work, and in our digital lives. In this way, the generations to come can build upon a foundation of integrity, purpose, and responsible technology.

*By **Fatihi Katega***
Information Scientist
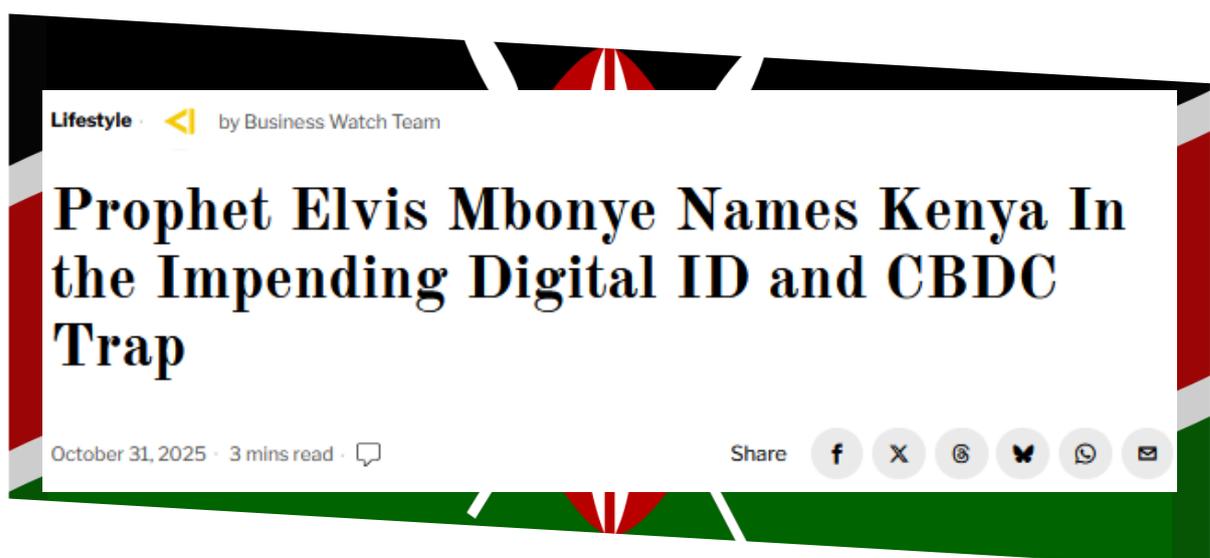
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In the Media

Digital ID and CBDC Lessons from the UK and Reflections for Uganda

By Nile Post Editor | Monday, October 27, 2025

https://nilepost.co.ug/opinions/297285/digital-id-and-cbdc-lessons-from-the-uk-and-reflections-for-uganda

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Prophet Elvis Mbonye Names Kenya In the Impending Digital ID and CBDC Trap

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