**Theft of lightning conductors in Entebbe schools worries authorities [Uganda]**

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Written by URN

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Authorities in Entebbe municipality have decried the increasing theft of lightning conductors in government schools.

Lightning conductors are devices used on electric power systems to protect the insulation and conductors of the system from the effects of lightning.

The conductors prevent the flow of a lightning strike in a building where it is installed protecting it from damage. The conductors were installed in eleven primary and secondary schools in the municipality.

However, the conductors in Kigungu, Lugonjo and Manyago primary schools have been stolen leaving school children vulnerable to lightning.

Monica Sarah Nabirye, the assistant education officer in the municipality says that since the area is rocky and close to Lake Victoria, it is dangerous for schools to remain without lightening conductors.

Nabirye indicated that currently, all schools have been tasked to employ security guards to protect the conductors from theft. A lightning conductor costs a minimum of Shs 20 million.

The town clerk, Charles Magumba says that municipality has secured Shs 1.2 billion discretionary development and equalization grant to renovate schools and install lightning conductors in the affected schools.