

Wakiso residents get piped water

WAKISO

By Cindy Aaca and Cecilia Okoth

For the past 10 years, Mohammed Lujinji, a resident of Busukuma division in Nansana municipality, Wakiso district had been wrestling with fellow residents to get water from the single borehole that served the whole community. "It was a nightmare and on top of queuing for long hours, a 20 litre jerrycan of water went for sh500 and up to sh1,000 during the dry season," he said.

Ronald Mutebi, the LC3 chairperson of Busukuma division, said residents woke up as early as 3:00am and often queued at the borehole until midnight.

However, Lujinji and Mutebi yesterday had a reason to smile after the Ministry of Water and Environment commissioned a sh9.5b piped water supply system in Namulonge-Kiwenda.

Eng. Paul Kato, the manager water and sanitation development facility central, said the water system, constructed over a period of 12 months, was designed to serve a population of up to 40,000 people.

The system that comprises two pump stations, three production boreholes, two storage tanks and 32km of distribution pipelines, was funded by the Government and the African Development Bank. So far, 600 private connections have been made in 14 villages.

Eng Richard Matua, the assistant commissioner urban water and sewerage department at the water ministry, encouraged residents to get connected to piped water, since the cost was not much. "Whereas people were paying sh500 for a 20-litre jerrycan of water, you will now buy piped water at sh100. The water is safe and will save you from waterborne diseases," he said. Matua appealed to residents to protect the newly acquired assets against vandalism.