

Ecweru urges youth to join fish farming

TORORO

By Faustine Odeke

Disaster preparedness minister Musa Ecweru has appealed to the youth to embrace cage fish farming in order to fight unemployment and poverty.

Ecweru said most youths who have gone to school are looking for white collar jobs while others have focused on destructive activities than productive ones.

The minister made the call after leading a team of youths from Teso on an exposure visit to Geossey fish farm in Tororo and Busia districts. The youth were under Teso Action Against Poverty (TAAP), an organisation whose goal is to end poverty in Teso sub-region.

Geossey is a youth-managed organisation involved in the supply and production of fish feeds, fingerlings, pond construction and cage fish farming in eastern Uganda.

The organisation has its

feed production unit in Oriyoi village, Tororo district. It has also established fish ponds in Agururu, Tororo municipality and fish cages at Majanji landing site on the shores of Lake Victoria in Busia district.

Ecweru proposed a partnership between TAAP and Geossey, where Geossey will train the youth in Teso in modern fish farming practices.

"We are going to enjoy the expertise of Geossey to train our youth to exploit Lake Kyoga and its tributaries for fish farming," Ecweru said.

The executive director of Geossey, Georwell Emanu, said their aim is to become the leading suppliers of fish products and inputs in East Africa. He said they have over 50 fish cages at Majanji and over 100 fish ponds, including breeding ponds at Agururu swamp in Tororo.

"By January we shall be supplying 28 tonnes of fresh fish to Busia market per month," Emanu said.



Emanu (holding net) explaining fish farming to Ecweru (right) in Tororo. Photo by Faustine Odeke