

Piped water reduces open defecation

NAKAPIRIPIT

By Agnes Nantambi

Residents of Nakapiripit town council have said the new piped water system in the area has enhanced sanitation by reducing open defecation.

"This water came with conditionalties. Everybody had to first construct a pit-latrline before getting connected and this forced many to dig them," Lemukol Fabiano, a security official, said.

Speaking during the inspection of the progress of the water projects constructed under the Water and Sanitation Development Facility-East (WSDF-E), Lemukol said the project officials had sensitised the community against open defecation.

The project was funded by the European Union, Austrian Development Agency (ADC) and GIZ (a German development agency).

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ In Buyende, residents called for harmonisation of the tariffs on top of the stringent laws on sanitation.

"Now that these facilities are in place, the culture of open defecation will become history," he said.

Karamoja has a culture of open defecation which often results into diseases like cholera.

Lemkol stressed that Nakapiripit district had a big problem of water scarcity, with the town council having only two boreholes for all the six villages.

The project, which is managed by the Karamoja Umbrella of Water and Sanitation is about 99% complete, with residents already enjoying the water under the one-year testing



Fabiano Lemukol

period.

"Some people who paid have been connected to the system. Others will be connected later. If the Government continues providing services like these, there will be no cause for alarm in the community," he added.

During the inspection of the projects, the team of leaders and development partners visited another water scheme in Namalu (Nakapiripit), Ochoero (Kaberamaido district), Ochapa-chere (Ngora district) and Namutumba district.

Others visited are in Irundu (Buyende district) and in Kamuli district.

Residents happy

In Namutumba, the women lauded the Government and development partners for the project, while in Kaberemaido the residents called for expansion of their project to increase on the coverage.

In Buyende, the residents called for harmonisation of the tariffs on top of the stringent laws on sanitation to ensure that the constructed public toilet is well utilised by the locals.

Moses Hashakimaana, the coordinator of the project, said the water ministry is working hard to improve service delivery in small towns and rural growth centres through operation and maintenance.

RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT ON THE LAUNCH OF PIPED WATER PROJECTS

Jidder Nsiko, resident of Namutumba: Women were suffering because of water scarcity. We used to trek long distances to fetch water.



Juliet Ikemba, nurse at Ochoero Health Centre: As a health centre, we used to suffer a lot. We were sharing the only borehole in the town with the residents.



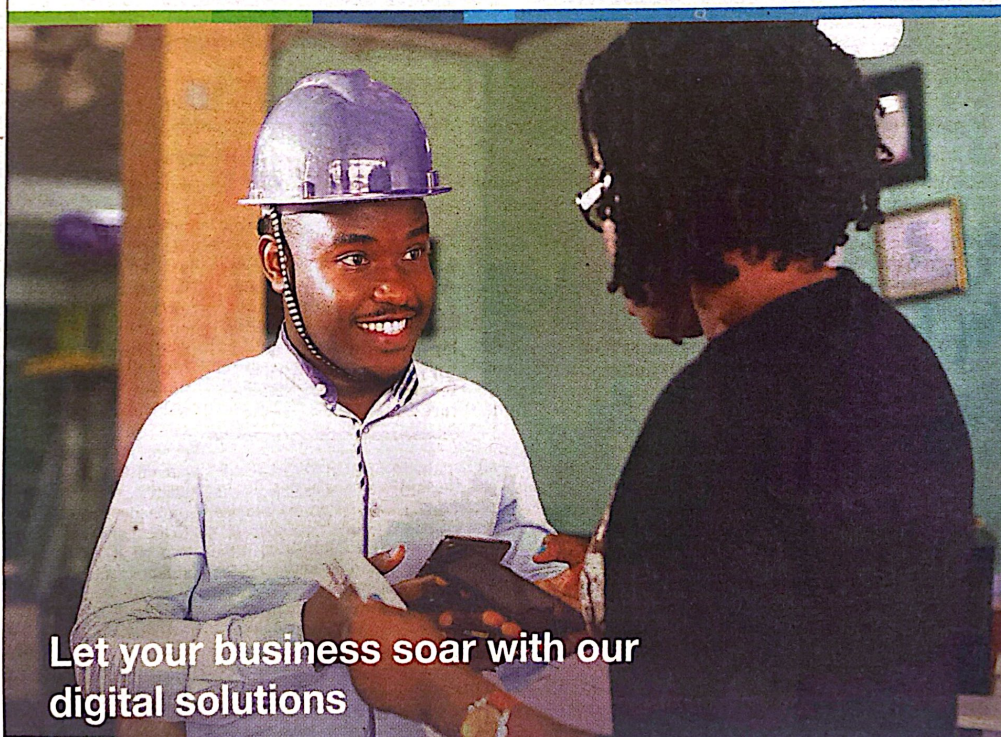
Elegu William, resident of Omotot village: We suffered a lot because of water scarcity. I am happy that this project was given to us.



Herman Ejock, senior assistant secretary Ochoero sub-county: The sub-county is working towards ensuring that by 2020, everybody is covered under the project. We need more tanks to store enough water.

Transaction Banking

Standard
Chartered



Let your business soar with our digital solutions