

# Nebbi residents spend nights at water points

**NEBBI**

**By Benedict Okethwengu**

A water shortage has hit various parts of Nebbi district as the dry season reaches its climax. Many residents across the district now fetch water at night, when the water points are less congested.

Gilbert Ocan, a resident of Alwi sub-county, said women now spend nights at water points due to the overwhelming number of people fetching water.

“It has become more expensive to get water than food,” he said.

Ocan said the price of water has risen from sh500 to sh1,500 per 20-litre jerrycan.

According to Opio Opoki, the Nebbi district borehole

maintenance technician, safe water coverage in Nebbi stands at 74%, with about 619 boreholes, 74 shallow wells and 191 protected springs.

Restaurants, lodges and hotel owners across the district said the shortage of water has affected their businesses.

The manager of Broadway Hotel in Nebbi town said they buy a jerrycan of water at sh1,000.

Ocan urged the district to expedite the process of extending piped water supply system so that residents do not rely on hard-to-reach and expensive borehole water.

Denis Etonu, the area manager of National Water and Sewerage Corporation, said plans are underway to ensure 100% coverage in the district.