

Use power for development – Seninde

WAKISO

By Job Nantaklika

The Minister of State for Primary Education, Rosemary Seninde, has advised the people of Mende sub-county in Wakiso district to use the electricity in their area for development. Seninde made the remarks during a consultative meeting on the implementation of the rural electrification projects in Wakiso district at the sub-county headquarters on Tuesday.

"When your villages are connected to the power grid, do not use the electricity for lighting only. Use it to improve your livelihoods and add on your earnings. For instance, start up small factories for value addition for agricultural produce in your area," the minister advised.

Seninde said President Yoweri Museveni had pledged to connect rural areas in Uganda onto the national grid and now he is implementing those promises.

She warned politicians against politicising the programme, saying the project is to benefit everyone and not a particular group of people.

The minister cautioned residents against unscrupulous individuals who will want to extort money from the public during the implementation of the project, saying the project is fully paid for.

Seninde asked the residents to co-operate with the contractor (Steg



Seninde (front centre) with some of Wakiso district and Rural Electrification Agency staff after the consultative meeting at the district headquarters on Tuesday. Photo by Job Nantaklika

International Services) given the fact that there is no compensation.

The deputy general manager of Steg International Services, Jamil Korked, said the project will start in January next year and is expected to take 15

months.

The project engineer from the Rural Electrification Agency, Chris Katende, said the project has been allocated a budget of \$8m (about sh29.1b) from the International Development Bank.

Katende, however, appealed to the contractors to minimise damages during the project implementation phase.

The areas to be served are Banda A village, Banda B, Banda Primary

"Use the power to improve your livelihoods. For instance, start up small factories for value addition for agricultural produce in your area." Seninde

School, Banda trading centre, Wakiso Hill SS, Mende trading centre, Banda Health Centre II, Mende Health Centre III and Serinya village.

The Mende sub-county LC3 chairperson, Fred Bukenya, hailed President Museveni for fulfilling his promises.

"When the project is completed, it will be the first time for villages in Wakiso to be lit up," he said.

Bukenya, however, called upon the central government to give more funds to the lower local government, saying there is almost no service delivery due to limited funds.