

World Vision extends piped water to Buikwe residents

BUIKWE

By Henry Nsubuga

Residents of Ngogwe sub-county in Buikwe district have a reason to smile, after receiving clean tap water worth sh1b from World Vision.

Pascal Freeman, the World Vision manager for Buikwe district, said they intend to extend clean water to about 5,000 households, but have so far handled 12% of the task.

Freeman said in the first phase, where sh700m was spent, they bought and installed equipment, which included a 160,000-litre capacity water tank, a water pump, solar panels and pipes.

"People have started taking clean water, which is in accessible places. Others now have piped water in their houses," Freeman said.

Paul Owesige, an engineer at World Vision said they have started on the second phase, which shall cost sh500m.

Owesige said in the second phase, they have constructed another borehole, which will pump water to boost the supply.

"The water pump in the first phase supplies 50,000 litres of water per hour, whereas in the second phase, the water supply will be 70,000 litres per hour. We aim at supplying the water to a distance of less than 500 metres from each household," Owesige said.

He added that the area will be connected to the national power grid. Owesige made



World Vision officials, leaders from Buikwe district and the residents launching piped water at Matala Church of Uganda. Photo by Henry Nsubuga

ON THE GROUND

Paul Owesige, the World Vision engineer, said they have started on the second phase, which is expected to cost sh300m.

the remarks on Friday, while launching the water project at Matala Church of Uganda. The function was presided over

by Stephen Ssekisawo, the area councillor, who stood in for the district chairperson, Mathias Kigongo.

Owesige said World Vision wants to reduce the cases of defilement and rape, which are rampant in the area, as a result of the long distances that women walk, looking for clean water.

Ssekisawo said Buikwe residents are lucky to have had the water challenge solved, which was a source of domestic violence in the communities.