

Minister intervenes in water charges

JINJA

By Agnes Nantambi

The Minister for Water and Environment, Sam Cheptoris, has directed the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) in Buwenge sub-county, Jinja district to prevail over the price at which residents are sold tap water. While commissioning the Kagoma Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Jinja district, Cheptoris observed that water for the poor must be reduced to sh50 per jerrycan in order to promote its usage. The directive followed complaints by the residents that they buy water from the public stand taps at sh100 and sometimes, sh200.

This water is meant to benefit these people and hiking its cost means chasing them away because it will be unaffordable," he said. Cheptoris warned Buwenge residents against having

many children, which could lead to water stress, giving the example of his father who had 15 wives and could not manage to take care of them. He revealed that the Government is committed to extending water to everybody to eliminate cases of cholera, bilharzia and other related diseases. He also warned the residents against cultivating up to the river banks, saying water sources must be protected. The manager of Water and Sanitation Development Facility-East (WSDF-E), Paul Kato, said the project was designed to benefit a population of 23,000 people by 2030, covering 20 villages.

They include Kagoma Central, Kagoma-Makoti, Magamaga East, Magamaga West, Muguluka East, Bulagala, Igombe and Namalere South. Others are Namalere Central, Buwenge-Buwolomera, Buwolomera-Kagoma, Kyerinda South,

Igombe-Bulagala, Kayira, Igombe-Buise, Buwambidhi and Namale Central. The project was funded by the European Union, Austrian



Cheptoris (right) and officials from NWSC commissioning the Kagoma Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Jinja district recently. Photo by Agnes Nantambi

NEWS GO ROUND

Feed children for better PLE grades

The speaker of Namutumba district, Emmanuel Maganda, has issued a directive to all headteachers and political leaders in the district to sensitise parents on the need to provide feeding for their children while at school. Maganda said if the campaign is embraced, it could improve academic performance in the district. He said the district is known for its low grades in national examinations, such as Primary Leaving Examinations, due to negligence of some parents. He made the remarks while addressing councillors of Ivukula sub-county during a meeting at which they approved their 2017/2018 budget worth sh102.5m. "It is a shame for our district to be ranked among the worst. We need to solve the problem without waiting for the President to tell us what to do," Maganda advised.

two new Ecosan toilets and two guard houses. Kato noted that the project covers five trading centres of Magamaga, Igombe, Muguluka East, Muguluka West and Kagoma central. The chairperson of Buwenge sub-county, Sunday Bazibu Stephen, applauded the Government for the project, saying it will save women from moving long distances in search of water.

The Jinja district resident district commissioner, Vincent Kamugisha, warned parents who refuse to take their children to school, now that they have water.

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE WATER PROJECT

James Kigemye, leader
We want the price of water to be reduced, so that many people can embrace this project because, currently, people have gone back to open wells.

Fred Nsaba, LC1 chairperson of Magamaga
We feel our villages are now safer from rapists who usually wait for women at the well.

Fred Munyegera, chairperson of Muguluka
This will help in promoting school retention.

Development Co-operation and KFW-funded. It has a 33km distribution network, 200 consumer connections, 10 public stand posts,

BY NOEL MUHANGI

The people of Buwenge sub-county, Kagoma county, Jinja district have celebrated this year's Martyrs Day in style after the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government handed them a fully completed sh2.4b water supply and sanitation system to energize their trek to Namugongo shrines. Water and Sanitation Development Facility-East (WSDF-E) an implementing arm of the ministry of water and environment handed over the system last week at Magamaga village. While at the handover ceremony, the water and environment minister, Sam Cheptoris, said that government secured funds from the European Union (Austrian Development Agency) and Germany government (KFW) to supply a projected water demand of 554.7m3 a day for a total population of 22,901 by 2030.

Cheptoris said that the system supplies water to the 20 villages of; Kagoma Central, Kagoma-Makota, Magamaga, Magamaga East, Magamaga West, Muguluka East, Bulagala, Igombe, Namalere South, Namalere Central, Buwenge, Buwolomera, Buwolomera-Kagoma.

According to the minister, the other villages that have received water are; Kyerinda, Kyerinda South, Igombe-Bulagala, Kailira, Igombe-Busige, Buwambidhi and Namale Central. He further said that the system will pump water from two production boreholes yielding 5m3 per hour and 25m3 per hour. The minister, who on every given occasion preaches the NRM ideology, told

Kagoma Gets 2.4b Water, Sanitation Scheme



Eng. Kato Paul (l) explains to Cheptoris and Kavutse project details

Kagoma residents that President Yoweri Museveni thanked them for supporting the ruling party.

"We are implementing the NRM Manifesto of extending clean and piped water to every village in the country and this time our president prioritized Kagoma," Cheptoris said.

He however, advised residents to concentrate on developmental projects instead of divisive politics that have left them struggling with poverty.

"We are fighting hunger and poverty as our enemy number one and that is why as government we have availed water in your home-

steads so that children can attend school and women stop walking long distances looking for water," Cheptoris said.

He blasted men who only concentrate on mounting their wives and producing kids they don't educate and feed.

"The water we have given you is for a certain population but the problem with you is that you produce too many children. Many people put pressure on the limited resources we have, and that's why our farms are cut to pave way for farming and selling charcoal. In the end we have experiencing prolonged droughts

floods, hailstorms and we are suffering from many water-borne diseases like diarrhea and typhoid," Cheptoris stressed.

He contested sh200,000 connection fees set by National Water and Sewerage Corporation which he said is too high and not favouring the poor.

Eng. Dominic Kavutse, commissioner urban water supply, said that once people have basic infrastructure, expansion can be easy in the near future.

He appealed to the residents to approach the water office for connection and pay so that the system can be operated and maintained.

limited," Kato clarified. Kato heaped praises on the European Union, Austrian Development Cooperation, Germany government and KFW that have always availed funds to WSDF-E to fulfill their mandate.

The branch manager said that WSDF-E is constructing a fecal sludge system in Kamuli district to improve sanitation levels in the region.

"Toilet coverage is almost 100% in Kagoma County and I urge leaders to continue sensitizing locals to use toilet facilities," Kato appealed.

He noted that his branch has designed 22 more water and sanitation systems but their funding level is very low to support the implementation.

He further revealed that 400 Small Towns and Rural Growth Centres in the Eastern region have also been identified but there is no money to extend water to these areas.

Vincent Kamugisha, Resident District Commissioner, said that he is proud to work with the hard-working staff of water and environment ministry.

Benard Kabangira, NWSC Jinja branch manager, said that over 30 people out of 15,000 have been connected since the entity received the system from the ministry last year in December. Betty Namusoke, secretary for health and education, Buwenge Sub-County, expressed happiness on behalf of her people for receiving clean piped water though she appealed for expansion to other areas.

Fred Nsaba, LC1 chairperson, Magamaga village, thanked the NRM govern-

"I encourage all people to extend water to their homes and stop the scenario of women and children trekking distances looking for water.

You need to have water in your homes so that children can have time to read books and become engineers like us," Kavutse advised.

Kavutse noted that the ministry has been constructing water supply and sanitation systems in Jinja for along time.

"We constructed the major water system in Jinja in 1956 and now we have extended water to Iganga-Tirinyi and Mayuge and the people near Njeru, Iganga have clean water, too.

Relatedly, the ministry constructed Buwenge water supply and sanitation system in 2003," Kavutse revealed.

He added that the ministry has on-going projects in Izuru, Busede, Namagera which the minister will soon commission.

"Our aim is to supply 100% water supply and sanitation services so that people know how to reward the NRM in 2021," Kavutse said. Eng. Paul Kato, WSDF-E manager, said that Kagoma applied for water like any other water stressed area and it ranked highly.

"We would have loved to do more connections but we realized we had to overhaul the whole system to serve

Gov't Flags off Sh30b Koboko Water, Sanitation Project

The ministry of water and environment has begun construction of Ug30.9billion Koboko water supply and sanitation system in a bid to improve the life and health of over 109,211 people. Studio Galli Ingegneria (SGI) is the consultant supervising Zhongao Overseas Construction Engineering Co. Ltd. Water Management and Development Project (WMDDP) is overseeing implementation of the World Bank funded project which will contribute to the water supply coverage of Koboko district which is now at 51%.

Other than Koboko district, WMDDP is implementing similar projects in the towns of Butaleja, Busolwe, Kumi-Nyero-Ngora, Busia municipality, Rukungiri municipality, Pallisa, Budaka-Kadama-Tirinyi-Kibuku. Hon. Sam Cheptoris, water and environment minister, revealed at the ground-breaking ceremony in Koboko district that the people of Koboko have a basic human right to access clean and safe water as stipulated by

Article 29 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda. "Given clean water we can save time, labour and money which can be invested in productive activities to generate income and reduce poverty," Cheptoris said.

He added, "Sanitation reduces water borne diseases so that expenditure on treatment can be saved and invested in productive activities which reduces poverty." The man from Kapchorwa said that he descended to Koboko to implement the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Manifesto.

"I am always on the move to ensure we give people what we promise and as long as we extend the service then we do not need to change leadership," Cheptoris said. He added, "We are implementing a policy that every village must have a safe water source and subsequently clean piped water" The minister passionately told Koboko residents how President Yoweri Museveni is a performer who should be rewarded with a massive

his dearest Ego. So the only way you can make your man stick around is to make him believe he is a hero while with you, men want this to the maximum and once he knows that he is your hero, he will feel a man, he will feel entitled to help you and feel entitled to protect his territory from other would be Heroes. You return his phone calls Ladies, you'd be sur-



The contractor, engineers and beneficiaries join Cheptoris to lay a pipe in the ground

percentage in the 2021 presidential elections. "I have seen good roads and now we are ground-breaking Sh30b water and sanitation project. I represent Kapchorwa municipality and I don't have such a good water project yet we give 95% of votes to the NRM yet Koboko gives about 56%. Come 2020 Koboko people should give NRM at least 89% of the votes," Cheptoris said. Cheptoris applauded World Bank for financing the project and also called upon the leadership of Koboko district to provide the necessary

support towards the implementation. He warned residents against the alarming rate of tree-cutting and environmental degradation. "We need to be sensitive about reduction of greenhouse emissions as well as putting in place strategies for combating the already existing impacts of climate change like floods, drought and landslides," Cheptoris warned. The minister further called upon all the stakeholders to join hands with Koboko district leadership in protecting the environment by

water and sanitation committee whose major roles and responsibilities are in the areas of community engagement for project work. Florence Ajonye, deputy mayor, Koboko district, said that they had a mini scheme operating under the municipality but the population had overwhelmed the supply.

"On behalf of women I welcome the project which will benefit everybody and end domestic violence that has been affecting us," Ajonye said.

Eng. Joshua Ssenengo said that water reaching homes will be clean but the users have a duty to clean the containers.

Muto Stephen, deputy district chairperson, said that the project will address the challenge of high iron content and scarcity. Elizabeth Ayume, Resident District Commissioner, said that the project is in line with Vision 2040.

Baba-diri Margaret, woman Member of Parliament, urged the district leadership to develop a sewerage system so that people can stop using pit latrines. (By Noel Muhangi)

planting trees, conserving and protecting the already abused wetlands.

Cheptoris tasked the contractor to carry out the water works according to the designs and ensure timely implementation of the project without compromising the quality of works.

Eng. Richard Matua, who represented the permanent secretary, Alfred Okot Okidi, said that water will be pumped from River Kochi which is in Nyarabu village, Midia sub-county.

He added that the project has a main reservoir tank of capacity 700m3, its total transmission main is 9,326km and total distribution is 41.48km.

"After construction, the project will be handed over to National Water and Sewerage Corporation which will work with management to train the community on the operation and maintenance of sanitation facilities" Matua said.

He added that the project has a component of sanitation and 2 public water-borne toilets. He revealed that the project has formed and trained the

Be That Woman To



Lirima Gravity Flow Scheme Wins Museveni Eastern Votes

BY NOEL MUHANGI

Over 200,000 residents in the three Eastern districts of Manafwa, Mbale and Tororo have vowed to re-ward president Yoweri Museveni with massive support should he consider to contest in the subsequent presidential elections. The social covenant between residents of 13 parishes in Manafwa district, 2 parishes in Mbale district, 6 parishes in Tororo district and all their top leaders was reached last week during the site handover of Lirima Gravity Flow Scheme at Molo sub-county in Manafwa district.

The political side was led by John Musila, chairperson LC5 Manafwa district, Kasozi Sulaiman Chief Administrative Officer, Namoo Alfred Mark Molo sub-county chief, John Emiliat chairperson LC3, Joel Musisi deputy CAO Tororo district, Kyeiyune Senyonjo RDC Manafwa district, and Obure Joseph chairperson LC3 Merikiti sub-county. Over 121,680 Manafwa residents hail from the 6 sub-counties of Sibanga, Bugobero, Buwagogo, Butiro, Bubutu and Bumbo. Their



Eng. Sentumbwe(2nd Right) gives the contractor project details



Political leaders at Molo sub-county

chairperson LC5 Manafwa, the three water officers in the benefitting districts will implement the project successfully.

“Our water officers will work with the ministry to sensitize the population on land issues to ensure there are no hurdles,” said Musilla.

He said that in 1970s the African Union signed a charter and ADB has carried on our forefathers’ vision to enable Ugandans to enjoy the fruits.

He however urged members of parliament to pass laws that will remove Value Added Tax (VAT) on water arguing that water on the Ugandan market is the most expensive in the region.

Eng. Ahmed Sentumbwe who represented the permanent secretary said that the contractor was picked after a thorough exercise that involved the ministry staff to travel to China for verification.

Sentumbwe expects a consultant to be on the ground but he said that in the

meantime it is the ministry and districts’ technical teams supervising the project.

He added that the project caters for proper sanitation and environment protection.

Sentumbwe requested communities to assist the ministry on land issues to avoid any delays and enable his team to complete works in only 12 months’ time.

Andrew Mbiro, ADB head of water and environment portfolio, said that apparently the bank extends support to about 5 programmes in the water and sanitation sector.

Mbiro added that the bank will fund more proposals from government of Uganda to enable the country to attain sustainable development goals.

“We want to see that if you implement a water project it addresses gender issues so that young girls are saved from walking long distance looking for water. He appealed to the contractor to offer jobs to fresh graduates, and sort out any land-related issues before starting construction.

Mbiro also tasked government to utilize funds in time so that there is no scenario where balances are remitted back to ADB.



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

parishes are; Bumatoola, Kimaluli, Butta, Bulako, Bugangabo, Bunefule, Bugobelo, Burnasokho, Bubulo, Bubwaya, Bumatananda, Bumagambo, Bumuyonga, Bumaolya, Buteteya, and Bunanyama.

In Mbale district, over 8,000 residents come from the two sub counties of Bukiende and Busu and hail from the two parishes of Bumutsopa and Bunambutye.

There are also over 50,000 people from Molo and Merikit sub counties and Molo, Tuba, Kipangar, Apokor, Maliri and Merikit parishes in Tororo district. The ministry of water and environment's department of rural water and sanitation handed over Lirima Gravity Flow Scheme Phase 2 to Beijing Union Construction Company after government secured Ugshs15bn from African Development Bank and Ugshs3.8bn from government of Uganda.

The ministry expects about 173,360 to 200,000 both domestic population and non-domestic population to benefit upon completion of the construction of the water project. Politicians almost turned the site handover function into a political campaign rally for President Yoweri Museveni and used the

opportunity to remind residents that the ministry used the president's guidance, wise leadership and good diplomatic relationship to secure billions of shillings from the African Development Bank.

Kyeyune Senyonjo, RDC Manafwa district, commented the NRM government led by President Yoweri Museveni for fulfilling its promises in Eastern Uganda especially Manafwa, Tororo and Mbale.

Senyonjo said that president Museveni has the Elgon region at heart and that is why he rewarded them with positions of full minister for water and environment (Sam Cheptoris) and State minister for environment (Mary Goretti Kitutu) and also went ahead to give them a water project worth Ugshs18bn.

"When our president re-members us all the time, it means that all of us should also remember him when he comes back in 2021," said Senyonjo.

The RDC however decried destruction of river banks and urged Manafwa district leadership to sensitize the population to stop cultivating along river banks. Namao Alfred Mark, Molo sub-county chief, said that his people highly embrace the project and will reward the NRM government in the

2021 general elections.

"We do not resist government programmes and that is why we have complied by giving you land for the office block and we shall always support NRM government interventions. I pledge total support and I will be at the forefront of mobilizing people to offer more free land," said Namao.

He added that this is the project his sub-county had waited for long and people are happy that finally they have water.

Joel Musisi, deputy CAO Tororo district, said that it is a turning point in the history of Tororo district and promised all the support in mobilizing people to remain focused and truthful to the NRM government.

Kasozi Sulaiman thanked African Development Bank for extending funds to the 2 phases of the project which have all benefited his people.

"Economically our people won't be the same since they will get markets, jobs, all which will develop our economy," said Kasozi.

The chairperson added that the project will reduce water borne diseases, decongest hospitals and will give people time to trade, attend school and do farming and irrigation. "In African Traditional Society, (ATS), mothers and children

Energy for Rural Transformation Project III Water Component

Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Solar Photovoltaic Energy for Water Supply Schemes

Invitation for Bids

Date : 15th May 2017 | Project ID : P133312 | IFB No : MWE/SUPLS/16-17/00153/1/2

1. The Government of the Republic of Uganda has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) in various currencies towards the cost of the Energy for Rural Transformation Project III. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Packages for Water Supply Schemes.

2. The Government of the Republic of Uganda through its Ministry of Water and Environment now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Supply, Installation and Commissioning Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Packages for Water Supply Schemes in 2 lots as follows:

Lot 1: Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Five (5No.) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Packages for Water Supply Schemes in Buvuma, Namayumba, Buhunga, Irundu and Namwiwa located in the Districts of Buvuma, Wakiso, Rukungiri, Buyende and Kaliro respectively.

Lot 2: Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Seven (7No.) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Energy Packages for Water Supply Schemes in Orom, Minakulu, Dzaipi, Kotido, Kaperebyong, Kubala and Amudat located in the Districts of Kitgum, Maracha, Oyam, Kotido, Amuria, Arua and Amudat respectively.

International competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with the World Bank's (Bank) Single-Stage Bidding Procedure. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Head of Procurement and Disposal Unit, Ministry of Water and Environment, Plot 22/28 Portbell Road, Luzira, Email: jane.mekc@mwe.go.ug with a copy to alan.mugabi@mwe.go.ug

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$5.

250,000 (Two Hundred fifty Thousand Uganda Shillings only) or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency for all the LOTS

5. The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the Bank Standard Bidding Documents; Procurement of Plant design, Supply and Install.

6. Bids must be delivered to office of the Head of Procurement and Disposal Unit, Room 128 Ministry of Water and Environment, Plot 22/28 Portbell Road, Luzira, at or before 10:00 a.m. East African Standard time, on or before **26th June 2017** and must be accompanied by a bid security in form of a bank guarantee of:

i. Lot 1: US\$ 65,000,000 (Uganda Shillings Sixty-Five Million only) or its equivalent in a convertible currency.

ii. Lot 2: US\$ 95,000,000 (Uganda Shillings Ninety-Five Million only) or its equivalent in a convertible currency.

Details can be obtained at the address given in 3 above. Any bid that is delivered late shall be rejected.

7. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 10:10 a.m. at the Ministry of Water and Environment, Room 47, Old Boardroom, Plot 22/28, Old Portbell Road, Luzira.

8. The planned procurement schedule (subject to change) is as follows:

Activity	Date
Publish Bid Notice	15th May 2017
Pre-Bid Meeting	25th May 2017 (10:30 a.m.)
Bid Closing Date	26th June 2017
Evaluation process	31st August 2017
Display and Communication of Best Evaluated Bidder Notice	29th September 2017
Contract signature	23rd October 2017

WIDOW'S PERMANENT SECRETARY



UGANDA AIDS COMMISSION



Ibanda, Kiruhura to benefit from sh40b water project

IBANDA

By Agnes Nantambi and Lawrence Mucunguzi

Six sub-counties in Ibanda and Kiruhura district are slated to benefit from a sh40b piped water project.

The project, funded by the African Development Bank (ADB), is to be implemented by the water ministry under the rural water department.

Once completed, the project will benefit about 200,000 people.

Speaking during the commissioning of the project, the project co-ordinator, Engineer Stanley Watenga, said the project will be implemented in two phases with the first phase, benefitting Keihangara, Nsasi and Nyabuhikye sub-counties in Ibanda district. The second phase will benefit Kikyenyke, Igorora town council in Ibanda district and Kanoni sub-county in Kiruhura district.

"We expect the first phase to be completed within 15 months," he said.

Watenga said as much as they have secured the funding for the first phase, which will cost about sh20b, funding for the second phase still lies in



Ibanda district and water ministry officials commissioning the water project recently. Photo by Agnes Nantambi

because of the inadequate resources, we could not intervene in time," Watenga added.

He said the project will be gravitating water from Nkekorogo river in Igorora town council to the treatment plant, before it is pumped into water reservoirs for storage and then supplied to the residents.

Alice Asimwe, the chief

water ministry for the project, saying it has come at the right time.

"I call upon our technical people to supervise this project and ensure that we get value for money," she said

Innocent Rugyeyo, the managing director of Block Technical Services, the firm contracted to undertake the works, said the construction

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Alice Asimwe, the chief administrative officer, applauded the ADB and the ministry for the project, saying it has come at the right time.

have been suffering from water scarcity.

WHAT RESIDENTS SAY



Emmanuel Kamugisha-Kikyenyke sub-county councillor: We welcome the project and we expect good work.



Melchiadis Kajwengye district chairperson: This has been overdue. The people in those areas have suffered because of



OPM offers food aid to fishermen

The Office of the Prime Minister, under the disaster ministry, has given aid of 600 bags of rice and 50 bags of beans to fishermen on the Sseese Islands. Julius Mukasa Opondo, the MP for Bujumba, said his area was hit by prolonged drought, which resulted in crop failure, leading to starvation. Caleb Tukaikiza, the Kalangala resident district commissioner, urged people to plant fast-growing crops to fight hunger. Norah Nakasi, 78, a resident of Mwena landing site, said people are starving due to the ban on catching immature fish.

Enact national grain policy - FAO

United Nations Agencies, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) have raised concern over losses

Innovations

Creative solutions to the challenges you face on your farm

Irrigation exhibitors reap from expo



Ministry of Water officials teaching on how to set up a valley tank for water for multipurpose use. Photo by Agnes Nantambi

By Agnes Nantambi

Exhibitors have started realising the benefits of showcasing their technologies during the recent Harvest Money expo.

The environment ministry, one of the exhibitors at the expo says it has started realising the fruits of participating in the expo.

"We were wondering how to demonstrate to rural farmers the new solar irrigation technologies that we had innovated.

But the expo helped us to reach, educate and demonstrate to each farmer who came to our stall. Right now we are overwhelmed with the number of calls seeking the supply of the new solar irrigation systems," explains James Seguya, a principal engineer in the ministry.

He says the Government supports the provision of water to rural communities even at household level.

"The farmers have a lot of potential, but they do not have information on what to do to improve yields. With such technologies, such people can transform agriculture," Seguya said. He added that the Government has come out to support small scale farmers.

"We can now ensure that you get water, which can support you in doing agricultural activities. Due to the information disseminated during the expo, many people are calling us on where they can find our technology," Seguya added.

He says solar water pumping expenditure is required only at its initial stage.

Seguya explains that the department is modifying designs for solar pumps to provide additional water for irrigation and wealth creation. Seguya said the Government has allocated money for around 130 solar irrigation pumps in rural areas in the next year's budget.

"With such technologies, people can transform agriculture

the commissioner of the rural water department, says water for irrigation is a great need for farmers to enhance productivity.

Eyatu, however, said many farmers are not adopting innovations promoting irrigation due to lack of information.

"As part of our mandate in the rural water department, we provide water for the rural communities most of them being farmers and we also provide extra water for macro irrigation as part of wealth creation.

"We are happy that we

provided a lot of information to rural communities during the expo. We provided literature on where farmers can get different types of pumps for solar," Eyatu explained.

He asserted that solar technology has been tested and proved to work effectively saying they have been running systems on solar for over 10 years providing water adequately.

Kennedy Wanyama, the marketing manager of Ennos Sunlight Pump, a partner company with the Ministry of Water explained that the pump manufactured for small scale farmers, can pump water from surface source to a distance of three kilometres. According to Wanyama, the pump can deliver 2,500 litres of water in one hour. It is a pump with a lifespan motor of 15 years with an electronic part that has bluetooth and a memory card which archives information.

It has three components that is e costs sh3.6m inclusive of the solar pump.

creation.