The Minister of Water and Environment, Hon. Sam Cheptoris, has commissioned a number of water supply and sanitation facilities in Kabarole district.

The project components are; Kiko Water Supply Offices, a sanitation facility-public toilet, twin water tanks, water quality research labs- stationed and mobile labs, and the Ministry’s regional offices.

A number of Kabarole district Parliamentarians and local council leaders witnessed the commissioning and also monitored the construction of Karago Town Council Piped Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme Phase II in Kabarole district.

The Minister is grateful to Kabarole district leadership for donating 4 acres of land to the Ministry where the newly commissioned office and science lab facilities are.

“I want to thank the people of Tooro and leaders of Kabarole district for being supportive and donating land for construction of the Ministry offices,” Hon. Sam Cheptoris appreciated before adding, “today we have commissioned Kiko Water Supply offices, public toilet, water tanks, mobile lab, regional offices and all this has been possible because of the land and support the people of Kabarole have given us.”

He noted that the Government policy regarding water supply is to ensure provision and access of safe and clean piped water. “The Government policy is to ensure that every village has a safe water source. It’s our responsibility to make sure that people use and drink safe and clean piped water.”

He warned that lack of clean piped water will automatically put people’s health at risk of getting diseases. “When you have clean piped water, you avoid a number of diseases like; bilharzia, dysentery, cholera, malaria.”
He also applauded communities for their role in proper management of water supply systems.

The Minister made a directive that “water at public stand points should be sold to the public at UGX 50 a jerrycan” and nobody should sell it at a price more than that or else s/he “will face arrest.”

The two storage buildings; inclusive of Ministry of Water and Environment administration offices and water quality research and science lab was an initiative supported by the Multinational Lake Edward and Albert Integrated Fisheries and Water Resources Management II (LEAF II) Project.

LEAF phase II is a “regional project supporting Uganda and D.R. Congo on the management of the trans-boundary water resources. Through the national component of LEAF 11, we had an idea of coming up with a national regional office based now in Fort Portal,” said Florence Grace Adong-Director Water Resources Management.

“We got a budget loan of over Ugshs2 Bn from the African Development Bank to which Government partially funded approximately 20%. We are highly grateful to the district for providing land,” confirmed Eng. Steven Ogwete, LEAF 11 Coordinator.

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