

UNESCO and College of Architecture and Engineering Rainwater Harvesting Programme in Makueni County

Date and time:

Thu, 2015-01-29 11:54

Location / Venue:

Makueni County

The UNESCO/UNI TWIN, in collaboration with College of Architecture and Engineering (UON), hosted a UN Joint programme on 26th January 2015 to Film and Interview the beneficiaries of the Water Harvesting Project in Tulimani Location, Makueni County.



Hon. Adelina Mwau the Deputy Governor of Makueni County drawing water from underground tank, Eng. Prof. Gitau (Left) looking

The occasion was graced by Hon. Adelina Mwau the Deputy Governor of Makueni County. The Deputy Governor noted that the county has been very impressed with the innovations used in the Project and they hope to build on the research and technologies used for replication of the models in other areas of the county. Her sentiments were echoed by Hon. Dr. Andrew Mulwa, Minister for Health and Water who indicated that his ministry is tasked with finding a solution to the long standing issue of water scarcity in the County.

Speaking during the introduction of the projects Prof. Judith Bahemuka UNESCO/UNI TWIN chair reiterated that this were pilot projects which aimed to see the impact created when innovations are shared in three different levels; i.e. Individual, Community and Organized groups.

Speaking in one of the project beneficiary's home, Prof. Gitau the project engineer explained to the visitors how the rain water harvesting systems were constructed. He indicated that the rain water harvesting systems were cheap and simple to construct. He added that several local artisans have been trained on how to construct the underground Ferro-cement tanks.

UNESCO Regional Office Programme specialist, Gender & Science Dr. Alice Ochanda expressed her happiness on the transformation that has been witnessed since inception of the project. She noted that since construction of a water tank for the school, pupils have been relieved of the duty of carrying water from home to school thus, this should help them concentrate on their studies besides being guaranteed of clean and safe drinking water. She also noted the importance of the project to the Kenyan woman from water scarce areas as it is considered a woman's duty to provide water in a many households.