

National water to make 60,000 new connections in 2026/27

By Sarah Nabakoosa

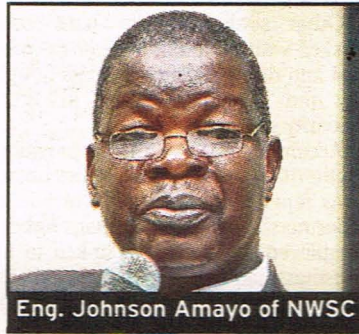
The National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) has unveiled plans to install 60,000 new water connections in the 2026/27 financial year as part of a wider expansion drive aimed at strengthening access to safe and reliable water services across the country.

The commitment was presented during an engagement between the parliamentary committee on environment and natural resources and officials from the environment ministry at Mésitil Hotel in Kampala.

The committee, chaired by Herbert Edmund Ariko (Soroti City East MP), met the ministry delegation led by environment state minister Beatrice Anywar to review the sector performance, budgets and planned investments.

Eng. Johnson Amayo, the deputy managing director for technical services at NWSC, said the planned 60,000 connections form part of the Service Coverage Acceleration Project, a programme designed to fast-track network expansion in both established and newly gazetted towns.

For the 2026/27 financial year, NWSC also plans to extend 963km of water mains nationwide and construct 2,000 public standpipes. In addition,



Eng. Johnson Amayo of NWSC



Ariko: Committee chairperson

CURRENT YEAR PERFORMANCE

For the ongoing 2025/26 financial year, National Water had set targets of laying 250km of water mains, installing 60,000 new connections and constructing 2,000 public standpipes, alongside implementing water supply stabilisation interventions in various operational areas.

Performance updates presented to the committee indicate that 211km of water mains have so far been laid. The corporation has installed

30,054 new water connections and completed 1,227 public standpipes.

Water supply stabilisation works are also being implemented across several NWSC service areas to enhance reliability.

While acknowledging the progress, MPs sought clarification on funding flows, implementation timelines and the corporation's capacity to meet annual targets within the approved budget framework.

the corporation intends to implement mini-water supply schemes in water-stressed towns including Bukedea,

Kakumiro, Kaberamaido, Nakawuka, Kitgum, Apac and Nebbi.

Eng. Amayo said the investments

are structured to address the growing demand driven by urbanisation and population growth, while stabilising supply in areas that experience intermittent service.

EXPANDING NATIONAL FOOTPRINT

NWSC's operational footprint continues to grow. By the end of last year, the utility reported an annual turnover of sh649b. It currently operates in 287 towns, serving an estimated 20.3 million people.

The corporation manages 1,034,873 water connections and 30,539 sewer connections nationwide. It also reported an 80% customer satisfaction index, reflecting improved service delivery metrics in recent years.

The expansion into additional towns has required significant capital investment.

Speaking after the engagement, MP Ariko underscored the importance of ensuring that planned expansions translate into measurable outcomes.

"The plan to make 60,000 new connections is significant, particularly as the corporation expands into more towns," Ariko said.

"Our responsibility is to ensure that budget allocations are efficiently utilised and that service delivery improves in tandem with infrastructure growth."