



Makerere to turn garbage into bio-gas

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MAKERERE University is to recycle garbage collected in Kampala and nearby urban centres into bio-gas, officials have announced.

The biogas project is part of the \$25.7m (about sh51.7b) funding from the Swedish government International Development Agency (Sida).

The research for the project has been going on for the last four years and is now in the final stages at the Kabanyolo Agricultural Training Centre, under the faculty of agriculture.

The garbage will also be used to make animal feeds and fertilisers under the same programme, said Prof. Samuel Kyamanywa, the faculty dean.

"Setting up the production centre has kicked off. We are now working on commercialising garbage products," Kyamanywa said.

He noted that production would start in two years, adding that the faculty would work in collaboration with Kampala City Council (KCC).

Kyamanywa made the disclosure after the vice chancellor, Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba, and the Swedish ambassador, Andres Johnson, signed a funding agreement to bolster research at the university on Thursday.

"Recycling garbage will rid urban areas of stench," Kyamanywa added.

Kamanda Batarigaya, the primary education state minister, witnessed the signing ceremony on behalf of the Ministry of Education.

Batarigaya hailed foreign agencies for supporting education institutions in Uganda and President Yoweri Museveni for supporting scientists.

Baryamureeba noted that the university will earn additional revenue and avert budget deficits through commercialising bio-gas.

According to Michael Mudanye, the KCC solid waste engineer, Kampala city generates about 1,500 tonnes of garbage a day.

The Swedish envoy emphasised the role of scientific research and quality education in promoting economic development.

"Uganda is facing tremendous challenges, arising from the rapidly increasing population. People wonder how to get quality education and jobs. Increasing funds for scientific research can solve most of these problems," Johnson said.

This article can be found on-line at: <http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/13/710813>