

Burayou gets Japan-funded water treatment facility Featured

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Addis Ababa August 06/2016 The town of Burayou in the regional state of Oromia has inaugurated a water treatment facility fully funded by the Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots and Human Security Projects (GGP).

The Simple Type Water Treatment System is an innovative, cost-effective and environmentally-friendly water treatment facility.

The 96,479 USD project is expected to benefit 15,000 nearby residents by providing clean water, according to the Japanese Ambassador to Ethiopia Kazuhiro Suzuki.

Local officials said the project would help improve the shortage of water in the town.

The new water treatment technology transforms muddy and unsafe water into clean and safe water by using a special type of powder invented by a Japanese SME named Poly-Glu Social Business Co. Ltd.

“I hope that this project will here in Burayou town is going to the model case success story here in Ethiopia,” Ambassador Suzuki said at the project inaugural event.

The low-investment scheme can be expanded to other parts of the country to supply clean water to communities.

Kanetoshi Oda, Chairperson and CEO of Poly-Glu Social Business Co. Ltd demonstrated the facility's water purification procedures with flocculent powder called poly glu.

He expressed his interest to work with research institutes in Ethiopia to produce water purifying chemicals from coffee beans.

State Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity Kebede Gerba on the occasion praised the project as exemplary since it helps in easy utilization of water resources without huge investment.

Many rivers are flowing without serving the community, Kebede said, indicating the significance of the small scale project which promotes the use of the country's water resources both in rural and urban areas.

Burayou Town Mayor Dhaba Ginfessa said the town administration is working with stakeholders to supply residents with clean water.

So far 25,000 of the town's residents are getting safe drinking water, the Mayor said.

The Japanese project has made great success in rural and urban communities in Bangladesh, India, Tanzania and Somalia, and the company is seeking for opportunities to bring their success to Ethiopia.

It was indicated that Japan will continue providing such supports to grassroots communities for economic development as well as the improvement of life style.

<http://www.ena.gov.et/en/index.php/social/item/1766-burayou-gets-japan-funded-water-treatment-facility>