

# Water, Sanitation Investment Plan Launched

Vice President Joseph N. Boakai has launched the Liberia Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Sector Investment and Capacity Plans with a call to increase access to safe water supply and sanitation to the people of Liberia. He also wants improved hygiene practices.

Speaking at the launching program Thursday, Vice President Boakai said if there is increase in access to safe water supply, it would contribute to improved human welfare, development and Liberia's long term sustainable growth.

The Liberian Vice President told the gathering that the issue surrounding water, sanitation and hygiene is urgent.

He recounted that 13 years ago, the world endorsed a package of

eight essential global development goals targeted for attainment by 2015.

"The hugely critical nature of the water and sanitation question is borne out by the fact that it finds expression in the majority of those eight meticulous crafted millennium development goals," he said.

However, the Vice President said it is disappointing that with less than three years to the delineated finish line of 2015 "we now reckon with the all-too clear evidence that the dream to meet the set targets has eluded us."

"We have to move to change our situation and take on the capacity to practically impact our people," the Vice President said.

For his part, Acting Public Works Minister Victor B. Smith said the main focus of the capacity development plan is to build capacity for service delivery against WASH Sector Strategic Plan, a poverty reduction strategy II and Vision 2030.

He added "in other words, the plan is the vehicle to drive needed investment in the sector; additionally, the plan is in line with the Liberia National Capacity Development Strategy, 2008/09."