**Back Ground**

*Industry, Society, Education and Skills* are four pillars that need to be well-connected for Uganda to achieve the house-hold, national and regional development goals that are set out in its *National Development Plan (NDP)*. In line with the overarching goals of the NDP, *the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP II 2004-2015)* aims at equitable, accessible, affordable and quality delivery to Ugandans, of those education and training aspects, that are most critical to poverty reduction. The Education Sector is currently experiencing an upsurge in outputs from the *Universal Primary Education (UPE)* and *Universal Secondary Education (USE)* programmes, resulting in an increasing demand for higher education opportunities from the country’s generally young population.

*Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTVET)* sub-sector suffered from general neglect and stigma for a long while, being viewed as providing undesirable ‘blue-collar work’ meant for academic failures. The sub-sector has however, gained increasing prominence over the last decade, with the realization that the country’s plans for industrial development will require a well-qualified spectrum of mid-level BTVET cadres from all regions of Uganda.

The Government of Uganda (GOU), represented by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MOFPED) has secured long-term loan funds from:

1. **OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)**
2. **Islamic Development Bank (IDB)**
3. **Saudi Fund for Development (SFD)**
4. **Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED)**

The Government is now in the process of establishing **14 new Technical Institutes, rehabilitation and expansion of two UTCs and one NTC** in the whole country. The *Executing Agency (EA)* for the three projects is the *Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES)*, through a *Project Coordination Unit (PCU)* established in January 2011 to manage project activities.

**Vocational Education (VE)Project financed with**

This project reinforces Ugandan national goals of increasing the number of existing Technical Institutions and of providing additional equipment and facilities at existing technical colleges. A long-term loan worth **US$ 22.95 million** secured from *The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)*, and declared effective on 5th July 2010 will finance the *Vocational Education (VE) Project* under the country’s education sector. The GOU is providing
| **support from The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)** | counterpart funding, worth approximately 10% of the project budget.  
Under the VE Project, **nine (9) new Technical Institutes** shall be constructed and equipped, specializing in six courses selected from the following: Building and Concrete Practice, Carpentry and Joinery, Electrical Installation and Fitting, Welding and Metal Fabrication, Motor Vehicle Mechanics, Agriculture, Plumbing/Pipe Fitting, Painting and Decoration, Home Economics/Tailoring and Petroleum Technology.  
The nine districts to benefit from the project shall include the following: **Amuria, Hoima, Kamuli, Masaka-Lwengo, Mukono, Nakasongola, Namutumba, Pader and Yumbe**. The project objectives shall be achieved through the following operational components.  
1. Design and Supervision Services  
2. Civil Works  
3. Purchase and Installation of Equipment  
4. Training and Technical Assistance  
5. Project Coordination and Management |
| **Uganda National Education Support=-10987654321’(UNES) Project financed with support from Islamic Development Bank (IDB)** | The objective of the project is to support the Education Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2008-2015 by;  
a. Improving access to quality education through the expansion and rehabilitation of existing Ugandan Technical Colleges (UTCs) and National Teacher College (NTC) in post conflict areas  
b. Providing facilities for students to learn technical skills and  
c. Improving the quality and relevance of teaching of the Technical and Teacher colleges.  
The total approved long-term loan secured from **Islamic Development Bank (IDB)** for this project was **ID 8.66 million**, equivalent to approximately **US$ 13.57 million**, plus a Technical Assistance Facility of **US$ 230,000**, corresponding to 90% of the total project cost. The Government of Uganda counterpart financing was estimated at **US$ 1.473 million** (or 10% of project cost).  
The project scope includes;  
1. Improving access and quality of UTCs through; Rehabilitation and expansion of two UTCs (Elgon and Lira), Supply of furniture, equipment, tools and textbooks, Curriculum development, Skills development and Provision of ICT equipment.  
2. Improving access and quality to teacher education sub-sector through; Expansion and rehabilitation of one national Teachers’ College (Unyama), Supply of furniture, equipment, tools and textbooks, Training of teachers and Provision of ICT equipment and transport. |
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<th>Vocational Education and Training (VET) Project financed with support from The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD)</th>
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| The overall aim of the project is to support key priorities of the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP II) in tandem with the National Development Plan (NDP), targeting expanded access to quality Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (BTVET).

The total approved loan is worth **Saudi Riyals 45 million**, approximately **US$ 12 million** secured from **The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD)** to finance the **Vocational Education and Training (VET) Project** under the country’s education sector. The GOU is providing counterpart funding, worth approximately 10% of the project budget.

Under the project, **five (5) new Technical Institutes** shall be constructed and equipped, specializing in six courses selected from the following: Building and Concrete Practice, Carpentry and Joinery, Electrical Installation and Fitting, Welding and Metal Fabrication, Motor Vehicle Mechanics, Agriculture, Plumbing/Pipe Fitting, Painting and Decoration, and Home Economics/Tailoring. Five districts will benefit from the project and these are; **Adjumani, Bukedea, Kiboga, Kyenjojo and Lyantonde**. The project objectives will be achieved through the following operational components.

1. Civil Works
2. Supply of furniture, equipment, tools and textbooks
3. Design and Construction Supervision