



The Republic of Uganda
Ministry of Education and Sports

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

AND TECHNICAL
ASSESSMENT BOARD

ment for Employable Skills"



JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER 2025

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**HON. JANET
KATAAHA MUSEVENI**

First Lady and Minister of
Education and Sports



**HON. JC
MUYINGO**

State Minister for Higher Education



**HON. DR. JOYCE
MORIKU KADUCU**

State Minister for Primary Education



**HON. PETER
OGWANG**

State Minister for
Sports



**DR. KEDRACE
TURYAGENDA**

Permanent Secretary



**DR. JANE
EGAU OKOU**

Under Secretary

VISION

Quality
Education
and Sports
for all

MISSION

To provide for
technical support,
guide, coordinate,
regulate and promote
the delivery of quality
Education and Sports
to all persons in
Uganda, for national
intergration,
individual and national
development.

EDITOR'S NOTE



Dear Readers,

Welcome to this edition of the Ministry of Education and Sports Newsletter. In these pages, we share key updates, ongoing projects, and important activities taking place across the education and sports sectors.

Our goal is to keep you informed about the progress being made, the challenges we are addressing, and the work being done to improve learning and sports opportunities for all learners in Uganda.

Thank you for taking time to read and stay engaged with our work.

Warm regards

Patrick Emmanuel Muinda



UVTAB 2024 RESULTS - 91% OF TVET CANDIDATES ATTAIN WORKFORCE-READY SKILLS

The Ministry of Education and Sports released the results of the November/December 2024 assessments conducted by the Uganda Vocational and Technical Assessment Board (UVTAB), marking a major milestone for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Uganda.

Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Education and Sports,

Hon. Janet Museveni, the State Minister for Higher Education, Hon. Dr. John C. Muyingo, announced the results at the National Skills Assessment Centre, Kyambogo. The event brought together leaders from government, education, and industry to celebrate progress in equipping young Ugandans with employable skills.

A total of 31,890 candidates were assessed across 573 centers. Of these, 91% demonstrated the required competencies, with 26,680 candidates successfully completing their assessments. 40% earned Distinctions, while 32% achieved Credits, reflecting strong alignment between training programs and industry needs.



TVET Council Chairperson Mrs. Allen Kagina congratulated graduates, stressing that proper registration and regulation of artisans and technicians will strengthen service quality across industries.

The outstanding performance signals strong progress in Uganda's drive to reduce youth unemployment, close skills gaps, and support national economic growth. With continued collaboration between government, training institutions, and industry, TVET remains a key pathway for preparing Ugandan youth for local and global job markets.

Hon. Museveni reaffirmed the government's commitment to modernizing TVET and ensuring that training responds to the demands of today's job market. She emphasized ongoing investment in workshops and laboratories to promote hands-on learning and real-world skills.

Permanent Secretary Dr. Kedrace Turyagyenda noted that improving training facilities and continuously skilling trainers remains a priority, while UVTAB Board Chairperson Prof. Dorothy Okello highlighted reforms under the new **TVET Act 2025**, which formally recognizes both formal and informal skills acquisition.





FOUNDATION STONE LAID FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION HEADQUARTERS

The Government of Uganda has taken a remarkable step towards strengthening the country's higher education sector with the laying of the foundation stone for the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) Main Building.

Officiating the ceremony, the First Lady and minister of Education and Sports Hon, Janet Museveni noted that the project is aligned with the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) and directly contributes to

the Human Capital Development Programme, one of the government's key priorities.

The new headquarters will provide the NCHE with a modern home, enabling the Council to operate more effectively in its regulatory, advisory, and developmental roles. It will also serve as a hub for research, policy guidance, and quality assurance in Uganda's higher education sector.



According to the Ministry of Education and Sports, the project fits into the Ministry's Infrastructure Plan (2025/26–2029/30), which seeks to modernize facilities to meet the demands of a rapidly growing education sector.

The NCHE, established by an Act of Parliament in 2001, plays a central role in overseeing higher education institutions across the country. Its mandate includes ensuring quality standards, accrediting institutions and programmes, advising government on policy, and promoting the development of higher education in line with international standards.



With the new building, the Council is expected to deliver on its mission more efficiently, providing a conducive environment for innovation, collaboration, and effective regulation of Uganda's expanding higher education landscape.

Working Together for a Better Future: A Message to Arts and Humanities Teachers

On the 21st of June 2025, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni met with leaders of the Arts and Humanities teachers to directly address their concerns about low pay and the ongoing industrial action. He appreciated their willingness to engage in dialogue, and commend their dedication to education despite the challenges they face.



MESSAGE

During our discussion, I reflected on a time of great national hardship the war period when we prioritized feeding the soldiers on guard duty to ensure our collective safety. That spirit of teamwork carried us through. Today, we must apply the same spirit to secure the well-being of our teachers.

Our journey toward fair remuneration started years ago with a significant milestone. The payment of Shs 3.5 million to the Chief Justice, making him the highest public earner. This was not just about salary it marked the beginning of deliberate, structured efforts to build a more sustainable and equitable pay system across government sectors.

We can and must do the same for Arts and Humanities teachers. We discussed practical, long-term solutions such as constructing teacher housing and ensuring that teachers' children can study for free. These are meaningful steps that ease financial burdens and restore dignity to the profession. Additionally, we reaffirmed our commitment to the phased 25% salary increment that began earlier.

I urged the teachers to return to class and to partner with the government in building a better education system. I am pleased to share that they agreed and will resume teaching and begin marking UNEB assessments starting tomorrow. This decision is a testament to their patriotism and sense of duty.

During our recent Inter-Ministerial meeting, we included teacher representatives in discussions around salary harmonization. Together, we reviewed two options for salary enhancement: a four-year phased increase beginning next year, and a faster three-year plan with more substantial initial raises. Both proposals aim to address disparities while staying within the nation's financial capabilities.

Let us acknowledge that while we are not yet where we aspire to be, the progress we have made is real. We understand the validity of your concerns, and we are listening. Many of your fellow educated Ugandans are currently unemployed. That is why the opportunity to serve though underpaid today remains a valuable platform for impact and growth.



UGANDA LEADS REGIONAL INTEGRATION WITH LAUNCH OF HIGHER EDUCATION MILESTONE

Uganda has reinforced its role as a leader in regional academic integration by hosting the inaugural Regional Ministerial Conference on the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) Common Higher Education Area from September 9–11, 2025. The event, held at Speke Resort Munyonyo under the theme “Enhancing Regional Integration through Harmonized Higher Education Systems for Sustainable Development in East Africa,” brought together ministers of higher education, heads of national quality assurance agencies, university leaders, student representatives, and private-sector stakeholders from all eight East African Community (EAC) Partner States.

In his opening address, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni underscored the centrality of educational integration to socio-economic transformation, regional stability, and market expansion. “Only when our people are equipped to produce and trade in wider markets will prosperity be sustained,” he stated. Uganda’s First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Janet Kataaha Museveni, reflected on the 2017 EAC declaration of a



Common Higher Education Area and urged partner states to demonstrate tangible progress in making the region competitive and responsive to industry and youth aspirations.

The three-day conference concluded with key commitments aimed at operationalizing the Common Higher Education Area by 2030, including the mutual recognition of qualifications by 2027 and streamlined mobility for students, staff, and researchers across the region. Participants agreed to align national policies, legislation, and accreditation systems with regional frameworks such as the East African Qualifications Framework for Higher Education, the Regional Quality Assurance Framework, and the EAC Credit Accumulation and Transfer System. Plans were also made to strengthen the regional database of accredited institutions, promote sustainable financing for higher education, and expand digital infrastructure for cross-border learning

and research collaboration. Stakeholders acknowledged ongoing challenges, including underfunding, infrastructural deficits, regulatory disparities, and digital divides, while Rwanda was confirmed as host of the next ministerial conference in 2027.

By hosting this event, Uganda has positioned itself at the forefront of the regional higher-education agenda. With the IUCEA headquartered in Kampala, the country continues to coordinate



inter-university cooperation across the EAC and support the harmonization of standards and systems. For the region's more than 300 million citizens, the emergence of a Common Higher Education Area promises greater ease of student movement across borders, enhanced employability through recognized regional credentials, and stronger collaboration between higher-education institutions and the private sector to drive research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

The conference marked an important milestone, but sustained political will,

resource mobilization, infrastructural investment, and digital transformation will be crucial for the Common Higher Education Area to achieve its full potential. As Minister Janet Kataaha Museveni emphasized, higher education must evolve from "an ivory tower of ideas" into a solution engine for the socio-economic challenges of East Africa. Uganda's hosting of the first regional ministerial conference thus signals a new phase for East African higher education, where harmonized standards, mobility, and regional collaboration are moving from aspiration to implementation.

UNICEF AND KOICA LAUNCH PHASE II OF CLIMATE RESILIENT WASH PROGRAMME IN KARAMOJA



UNICEF, with support from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), has launched the second phase of its “Climate Resilient WASH in Institutions” programme in Uganda’s Karamoja sub-region. The official launch took place yesterday at the Ministry of Education and Sports offices in Kampala, marking the start of a five-year, US\$10 million initiative aimed at upgrading water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in schools and health facilities across all nine districts of Karamoja.

Karamoja has long faced severe WASH challenges due to persistent water scarcity, long distances to water points, and harsh climatic conditions. UNICEF Uganda notes that nearly one in ten Ugandans still practice open defecation, and two-thirds of households do not regularly wash with soap, underscoring the urgency for intervention.



During Phase I, implemented between 2018 and 2023, UNICEF and KOICA supported a WASH in Schools programme that benefited 100 schools in Karamoja. The programme provided 65,016 pupils, including 29,586 girls, with access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. It supplied 19,062 adolescent girls with menstrual hygiene products, helping to improve school attendance. Overall school enrolment increased by 44 percent, with girls' enrolment rising by 38 percent, while student diarrhoea rates dropped from 15 percent to 10 percent. These outcomes were achieved through inclusive WASH interventions, gender-sensitive facility designs, community engagement, and capacity building for local hand pump mechanics and school management committees.



Phase II expands the programme's reach and scope. It will target 50 additional schools and 15 healthcare facilities, introducing climate-resilient WASH infrastructure such as solar-powered water supply systems, groundwater monitoring, wastewater management, and facilities designed to withstand droughts, floods, and other climate shocks. The programme will also strengthen institutional operations and maintenance systems to ensure sustainability and community

ownership. Water facilities will allow sharing between schools, health centres, and nearby communities, maximizing benefits beyond institutional settings. KOICA Country Director Jihee Ahn emphasized that this approach will foster sustainable, community-wide impact.

In her remarks, Dr. Kedrace R. Turyagyenda, Permanent Secretary of MoES, affirmed the ministry's commitment, stating, **“This programme is not merely about**

infrastructure; it is about equity, resilience, and dignity by giving every child in Karamoja the chance to learn and thrive in a safe, healthy environment.” UNICEF Representative Dr. Robin Nandy highlighted WASH’s multi-sectoral importance, noting that handwashing and proper hygiene reduce diarrhoea and pneumonia, which remain leading causes of child mortality, and that WASH is intrinsically linked to education, health, nutrition, water, and climate action.

Improved WASH infrastructure directly benefits students, particularly girls, by

reducing school absences, protecting health, and enhancing dignity. Health facilities gain access to clean water, functioning latrines, and hygiene services that enable effective infection prevention and control. Climate-resilient infrastructure, coupled with water-sharing designs and behavior change initiatives, enhances community resilience and sustainability. The programme also contributes to Uganda’s national and international commitments under SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5

(gender equality), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), and SDG 13 (climate action).

Despite these gains, challenges remain. Sustained behavior change in handwashing and sanitation practices maintenance of WASH infrastructure, and inclusion of gender and disability-sensitive designs are critical for long-term success. The remoteness and harsh climate of Karamoja further complicate service delivery. The launch of Phase II underscores UNICEF and KOICA’s intensified commitment to addressing WASH gaps in Uganda’s most vulnerable region. By investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, linking schools, health centers, and communities, and strengthening sustainability systems, the programme promises to improve health, education, and dignity for children in Karamoja, many of whom face long treks for water, frequent illness, and missed learning opportunities.





LEARNERS TAKE LEAD IN ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION THROUGH MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA

King's College Budo came alive as the five-day National Secondary Schools Music, Dance and Drama (MDD) Festival officially opened under the theme "Greening Schools, Environmental Protection and Our Responsibility."

The festival, which attracted 29 Ugandan schools and a delegation of 890 students from Kenya, was officiated by State Minister for Higher Education, Hon. John Chrysostom Musingo. He emphasized the urgent need to involve young people in safeguarding the environment, noting that platforms like MDD provide an innovative way to nurture a spirit of responsibility,

collaboration, integration among learners.

"Restoring our environment is not only a government effort but a responsibility we all share. Through MDD, learners can creatively express and champion values of conservation while also building stronger bonds within the East

African community," Hon. Musingo said.

This year's festival was jointly hosted by King's College Budo, Trinity College Nabbingo, and Budo Secondary School. Participants used music, dance, poetry, and drama to spotlight challenges of deforestation, climate change, and waste management while offering practical solutions.



The head of Kenya's delegation, William Sugut, commended Uganda for the warm reception and noted that cultural exchanges like this strengthen regional ties and inspire young people to think beyond borders in addressing global issues.



As the performances unfolded, it became clear that beyond competition, the festival is a call to action, reminding the region that the fight against environmental degradation begins with equipping learners with the knowledge, creativity, and passion to restore and protect their planet.



UGANDA'S SCHOOLS TURN GREEN WITH NEHEMIAH INITIATIVE

Across Uganda, dusty schoolyards are transforming into lush green spaces as students take climate action into their own hands. The Nehemiah Initiative/ Greening Schools Project, launched in October 2022 by First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, is reshaping how schools teach and live environmental stewardship.

Backed by UNDP, the Ministry of Education and Sports, the Ministry of Water and Environment, and the National Forestry Authority, the programme now spans over 50 schools in five regions. From Kabale's hills to Mukono's bustling classrooms, learners are rolling up their sleeves constructing nurseries, planting seeds, and watering thousands of seedlings daily.



“It’s no longer just theory,” one teacher in Mityana explained. “Students see biology and agriculture come alive in their own hands.” At St. Joseph College Layibi in Gulu, Derrick, a student, proudly shared: “I have learnt weeding, potting, mulching, and nurturing a plant from seed to tree.”

The impact reaches far beyond the classroom. Schools in Luweero are sharing excess seedlings with neighbors, while communities in Kyenjojo and Kyankwanzi

are adopting the greening wave. Local leaders have begun designating green zones and supporting seedling distribution, inspired by what students have achieved. More than a tree-planting campaign, the Nehemiah Initiative is growing a generation of leaders who see conservation as their mission. With every nursery bed and shaded compound, Uganda’s schools are planting not just trees—but the seeds of a greener, more sustainable future.



UHPAB RELEASES FIRST RESULTS UNDER NEW LAW

On September 26th, 2025, the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) marked a historic milestone with the release of the first series of assessment results by the Uganda Health Professions Assessment Board (UHPAB), conducted under the newly enacted Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Act No. 3 of 2025.

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, officiated at the event, congratulating the Board for successfully overseeing examinations in a new regulatory environment. The assessment followed the merger of the Uganda Allied Health Examinations Board and the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Examinations Board into UHPAB—an institutional reform

under the Rationalization of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) programme aimed at improving efficiency and eliminating duplication.

A total of 77,593 candidates sat for the June 2025 assessments across 200 TVET Health Assessment Centers countrywide. Of these, 12,570 were final semester candidates, with 9,204 at Certificate level and 3,366 at Diploma level. The results revealed an encouraging 96.6% pass rate among Diploma candidates and an 84.6% pass rate for Certificate candidates. Female candidates represented 65.3% of the total candidature, reflecting the strong participation of women in the health professions.



While praising the overall success, both the Minister and UHPAB leadership acknowledged challenges, particularly in Certificate-level pharmacy programs where high failure rates were recorded due to limited practicum exposure and inadequate supervision. The Ministry pledged to address these gaps by enhancing inspection, ensuring training facilities meet required standards, and strengthening partnerships between training institutions and practicum sites.

The Minister further cautioned against the trend of trainees pursuing advanced studies without formal study leave, urging the development of flexible study programs to accommodate upgrading professionals. She emphasized that the Government would not hesitate to close institutions that compromise standards, reaffirming the commitment to safeguarding the quality of training and assessment.

The operationalization of the TVET Act has already demonstrated tangible progress. With the establishment of the TVET Council, alignment of curricula development, and strengthened assessment systems, Uganda's health training framework is steadily positioning itself to produce a workforce that meets both national and international demands.



In her closing remarks, the Minister encouraged successful candidates to serve patients with professionalism, dignity, and compassion, while continuing to learn and improve the quality of healthcare services. She thanked parents, guardians, training providers, and development partners for their critical support in sustaining the education and health sectors. The release of these results not only symbolizes the success of recent reforms but also lays a firm foundation for Uganda's journey towards a skilled, competent, and globally competitive workforce.





HUAWEI LAUNCHES 2025–2026 ICT COMPETITION TO NURTURE UGANDA'S DIGITAL TALENT

Huawei Technologies Uganda launched the 2025–2026 Huawei ICT Competition, a nationwide initiative designed to nurture local technology talent and strengthen collaboration between academia and industry.

The launch took place at State House Nakasero and was officiated by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Janet Kataaha Museveni.



This year's competition runs under the theme "Connection, Glory, Future" with the slogan "I. C. The Future." It forms part of Huawei's global program that challenges young people to excel in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, cybersecurity, and 5G.

The First Lady commended Huawei for its longstanding partnership with the Ministry of Education and Sports and reaffirmed the government's commitment to expanding opportunities for youth in the digital economy. **“We look forward to continued collaboration with Huawei to strengthen ICT education and prepare Uganda for leadership in the digital era,” she said.**

Huawei highlighted success stories from its Seeds for the Future program, through which 60 Ugandan students have travelled to China since 2016 to engage

with cutting-edge technologies. The launch also recognized Ugandan teams from Gulu University, Muni University, Kabale University, and Cavendish University, who recently won second place in the Cloud Track and Innovation Track at the 2024 -2025 global finals in Shenzhen, China.

The event celebrated Michelle Kapsanduy Chemutai, the first female instructor in Africa to earn the prestigious Huawei Certified ICT Expert (HCIE) certification in Internet Networks. The Chinese Ambassador to Uganda, Zhang Lizhong, praised Huawei for

bridging Uganda's digital skills gap through initiatives such as the ICT Academy, Digitruck, and Seeds for the Future.

Officials announced that the competition will provide participants with sponsored training in emerging technologies, internationally recognized Huawei certifications, exposure to real-world ICT projects, and career opportunities through internships and job placements.

National winners will represent Uganda at the African regional finals in South Africa and at the global finals in Shenzhen, China, scheduled for May 2026.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DISTRIBUTES MINI LABORATORIES TO SCHOOLS

In a bid to improve science performance in primary schools, the Ministry of Education and Sports, in collaboration with River Flow International (RFI), has distributed mini laboratories to 334 government-aided schools across 17 districts. The initiative, led by the Ministry's senior education officer for primary schools, Abbey Musoke, aims to promote science teaching through hands-on learning and practical exposure.

The 1st phase of the distribution of the mini laboratories was first rolled out in Financial Year 2021/2022 and it has already reached over 5,000 schools. The benefiting districts in this 4th phase include Pakwach, Kasanda, Kyotera, Abim, Mityana, Kapelebyong, Namayingo, and Kwania.

These mini laboratories carry internal human organ models, skeletons, microscopes, and practical science kits, tools that are expected to make science more engaging and understandable for learners, many of whom have struggled with science subjects due to the lack of practical resources.





Rolling out of this intervention is part of the Ministry's larger effort to improve national grades in science subjects, which learners have consistently underperformed compared to other subjects. Mr. Musoke noted that introducing practical science early in the education cycle builds confidence in learners and enhances performance in national exams.

These science kits as developed by River Flow International (RFI), include microscopes, magnifiers, models, a science cabinet, and safety tools like acid-resistant

metal cabinets and padlocks.

RFI innovations manager Annet Nabaasa said the kits were designed to support the curriculum through real-life illustrations of systems like blood circulation and reproduction. "Each science kit supports practical learning and brings science to life," she said.



The Ministry has pledged continued support for the program to ensure learners not only pass science but enjoy it. As Musoke emphasized that the Ministry is not just giving out equipment but rather investing in better science grades for Uganda's children."





209 STUDENTS AWARDED ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS TO PURSUE STEM STUDIES

Hon. Dr. John Chrysostom Muyingo, Minister of State for Higher Education, officially flagged off 209 Ugandan students who were awarded Algerian Government Scholarships to pursue studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Medicine. The ceremony was held at the ICT Innovation Hub in Nakawa, Kampala, and was attended by H.E. Amokrane Mourad, Ambassador of Algeria to Uganda.

During the event, Ambassador Mourad announced an increase in Uganda's





scholarship quota, raising it from 210 to 260 students, reflecting the growing bilateral educational cooperation between the two countries.

Dr. Musingo hailed the strengthening Uganda–Algeria partnership, emphasizing the importance of academic exchange and collaboration. He encouraged the students to embrace the opportunity with dedication and to represent Uganda with excellence on the international stage.

“This scholarship is not only a chance to acquire advanced knowledge and skills but also to showcase Uganda’s potential globally. I urge all recipients

to make the most of this opportunity,” Dr. Musingo remarked.

The students will pursue a wide range of programs, particularly in fields critical to national development, including medicine, engineering, and technology, which are essential for Uganda’s socio-economic growth.

The Ministry of Education and Sports continues to promote scholarship opportunities for Ugandan students to study both locally and abroad. Interested learners are encouraged to regularly visit the Ministry’s website for updated information on available scholarships and application procedures.



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