

Makerere University's faculty of law gets 4billion for research

Writes Peterson Tumwebaze.

The Makerere University Faculty of Law is carrying out a research project on how to enhance democratic governance constitutionalism and human rights in Uganda.

The research which began in 2006 is worth UGX 4 billion and is supported by NORAD as part of the university's Institutional Development Programme (IDP). It aims to improve knowledge about international, regional and national standards of good governance, constitutional and human rights.

Ronald Naluwairo, the principal investigator explains that the project is using the case study of Rtd. Col. Dr. Kizza Besigye and the 22 others who were arrested in 2006 under the allegations of treason to analyse the Right to a speedy trial at the Uganda Human Rights Commission.

An extra effort has been invested in the understanding of Buganda's quest for a federal status and the right to self determination.

Further still, the faculty of law with support from Ford Foundation has invested UGX 9 billion shillings in the quest to understand governance, globalization and the implementation of economic, social, and cultural rights in Uganda. According to Dr. Christopher Mbazira, findings of this research project have already been circulated via several HURIPED working papers including – the problematique of Economic, social and cultural rights in a Globalised Uganda, protection of the right to health care of women living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda.

While trying to evaluate the relationship between human rights and governance, researchers at faculty of law are looking at how decentralized governance and human rights can be intertwined so as to promote justice at the local level.