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Eng. Irene Batebe and Prof. Eria Hisali (Centre) with other officials and delegates from Ministries, Parliament, OWC and the Private Sector at the 2nd National Oil and Gas Symposium, 9th December 2021, CTF2 Auditorium, Makerere University.



2nd Oil & Gas Symposium: Govt. Develops National Local Content Policy

The Government of Uganda has drafted the National Local Content Policy in an effort to encourage participation of the private sector in the oil and gas exploration. This was revealed by the Minister of Energy and Mineral Development, Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa, during the second annual National Oil and Gas symposium held on December 9, 2021 in the CTF 2 Auditorium, Makerere University. The symposium was run under the theme “National Content and Sustainability of Uganda’s Oil and Gas Sector”.

The Minister, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Eng. Irene Batebe, said the government is engaged in skilling Ugandans because the oil and gas sector will create employment for the population directly, indirectly and

by induction. She said the government had strengthened vocational training as well as training of farmers and SMEs to ensure they can compete in the industry.

“We have partnered with the German Government, Stanbic Bank and African Development Bank to train our SMEs and

“...With this we hope to see more Ugandans participate in the (oil & gas) industry”

ensure they meet the environmental, health and safety standards required by the industry. With this we hope to see

more Ugandans participate in the industry,” the Minister said. Because the oil and gas industry is a capital intensive sector, the Minister revealed that they are working with the Ministry of Finance to start a Local Content development fund with the aim of providing seed capital to SMEs and farmers to enable them supply goods and services to the oil and gas industry.

The Minister said the MEMD is training suppliers in an effort to equip them with knowledge of the required standards which will enable them participate in the oil sector. She added that the ministry is undertaking additional work of intensive exploration and a second licensing round with two companies, one of which is Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), to run key projects such as developing oil fields and constructing supporting

infrastructure. "With this, we hope to discover additional oil wells that will sustain the infrastructure we are putting in place," she added.

In his remarks read for him Prof. Eria Hisali the Principal College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS), the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, emphasized that the Symposium is very timely as it will help the stakeholders to understand how to participate in the development of the oil sector.

"Investments have started to flow into the country and will increase for the next three years. This provides an opportunity for our businesses to make money and build capacity which can be used beyond Uganda," he said.

The Chief Coordinator of Operation Wealth Creation Gen. Caleb Akandwanaho who participated online in his opening remarks said, "In the next 5 years, over 10 billion Dollars will be invested in the Albertine region". He however asked pertinent questions "How are our food, security, logistics, engineering and consultancy companies prepared for the massive investment going to take place in the Albertine region?"

The investment in the region according to the Minister includes 14 fields under development, 6.4 billion barrels of oil and 5 billion cubic feet of gas.

The minister said the Ministry continues to support farmers' associations in the Albertine region through training in areas of market access and optimization and a needs assessment will be done to underscore if they can supply the pipeline food needs. Responding to the main challenge of access to affordable financing the Minister assured the stakeholders of the planned discussion with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development so that a Local Content Development Fund is set up in effort to reiterate Government's commitment in fostering local content and local participation.



The Principal CoBAMS, Prof. Eria Hisali represented the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe.

, the Chairperson for the Energy and Resources Committee of Parliament resounded the passing of the Oil and Gas bill saying when passed, the bill will offer opportunities to local suppliers. Dr. Otaala tasked the Ministry of Energy to expedite the proposal and process of the National Content Fund to allow Ugandans participate in the Oil and Gas sector by building skills and being able to financially stand on their own. He concluded by assuring the stakeholders of Parliament's support.

"Parliament will stand with the public by passing the necessary legislation which will allow Ugandans to participate in the oil

and gas sector and we want the development of the Pipeline to be in tandem with the development of the refinery," he said.

The symposium was attended by companies in the oil and gas sector, private sector, banking sector, security sector, academia, government ministries and SMEs.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa



The Permanent Secretary, Eng. Irene Batebe representing the Minister of Energy and Mineral Development, Hon. Ruth Nakabirwa at the 2nd National Oil and Gas Symposium.

Mak PIM CoE Acquires Modern Video Conferencing Facility & Furniture Worth USD 77,000



Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali commissions the IT equipment by writing on the smart board in the PIM CoE Conference Room, 4th October 2021, CTF2, Makerere University.

Makerere University Centre of Excellence in Public Investment Management (PIM CoE) on 4th October, 2021 launched an assortment of IT equipment and furniture worth USD 77,000 (approximately UGX 277million) funded by the World Bank in collaboration with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

The WB and FCDO supported the university with a grant of USD 810,000 to undertake a number of activities including training, research and capacity building at the School of Economics. Part of the capacity building is the procurement of IT equipment and furniture.

The equipment was commissioned by the Principal, College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS) Prof.

Eria Hisali on behalf of the University Management witnessed by representatives from the Government of Uganda and the World Bank online.

The equipment launched includes a state-of-the-art video conferencing facility theVivitek86" collaborative and interactive flat Novo touch screen that cost USD 34,000. On the screen, you can teach, split and have different people connected to it wirelessly. You can also demonstrate and annotate your presentation on this screen. The smart board has an inbuilt camera that can zoom in and reset videos at any time.

Other IT equipment launched include 12 Computers, 4 laptops, 2 LCD projectors, and an all-in-one printer scanner copier all procured at USD 27,000.

The centre also procured office furniture comprising 5 office desks and 5 office

tables, 40 training chairs and 20 training tables and a 20-seater boardroom table all worth USD 16,000.

Launching the equipment, Prof. Eria Hisali appreciated the support received from the World Bank, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and Uganda's Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. He emphasized that this should not be looked at as the end but rather, an ongoing process of strengthening the collaborations for the mutual benefit of all the participating institutions.

Dr. Hisali reported that the university has made progress in terms of inputs into this exercise of establishing the Centre of Excellence and had started taking huge steps away from looking at inputs to focusing on certain outputs and outcomes.



The PI, Prof. Edward Bbaale (L) speaks during the unveiling of procured equipment

In terms of outputs, the Principal said, there were ongoing studies and efforts to integrate PIM into the curriculum of the university, initiate a new master’s program in investment and economic modelling as well as the training and capacity building that has been undertaken both for staff and officials from other areas of government.

The Principal said, the Makerere has all it takes in terms of staff capacity to undertake studies and was now focused on making the PIM CoE more vibrant and planning for its sustainability.

“The challenge we want to focus on now is to go beyond the outputs we have and even ones that we have conceptualized up to this point. We need to continue to develop this as a very vibrant centre of excellence, a centre that speaks to its name, actualizes research in other areas as well as contributes to computation of certain key parameters like the shadow prices

etc. But all these issues speak to one important subject of sustainability of our centre beyond the current support being given by the bank and they are going to be a number of ways we want to look at this. In our previous engagement, we started discussions with the bank on the possibility of additional support but we will also be looking at other avenues of

and a college scheme to support small studies that the centre can benefit from. The Principal Investigator PIM CoE Prof. Edward Bbaale who is also Dean School of Economics described the day’s event as remarkable in the history of the school as well as the PIM CoE and extended gratitude to the World Bank, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and the Government of Uganda for the support.



PIM CoE Interim Manager Dr. Willy Kagarura presents project achievements

Prof. Bbaale said the World Bank and FCDO extended a grant of USD 810,000 to establish the centre of excellence as a response to the fact that so much of public investments were going to waste. He reported that for every dollar that was being invested, only

ensuring that the activities of the centre continue”, Dr. Hisali explained. He said the university has resources from the Government of Uganda through the Research and Innovations Fund (Mak-RIF)

38 cents or less was realized meaning 60% was lost. As a result, Prof. Bbaale said many strategies were designed to make sure that when government invests, public resources will gain the



Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali addresses participants before commissioning the equipment

maximum out of a very dollar invested. One of the interventions according to the PI was to build capacity on a sustainable basis in a premier institution like Makerere University thus the establishment of the PIM CoE to undertake training in public investment management.

Prof. Bbaale explained that public investment management goes beyond financial analysis of projects to the complex economic analysis of projects.

The Professor said, the computations that are involved in the economic analysis of projects are not only very complicated but also lacking, due to limited capacity in government and universities.

He added that the ongoing intervention is to make sure that this work can be done not only by staff but also graduate students equipped with the required knowledge.

He said the World Bank and

FCDO grant has been used for training staff and other stakeholders in impact evaluation methodologies and public investment management and many are lined up including university staff capacity building training slated for November in Ghana.

“What we have done today is one of those things the grant has enabled us to fulfill. We have acquired one of the newest video conferencing facilities at Makerere University that will go a long way in facilitating online learning, online

conferencing and online research which is open to be used by the university community.

The World Bank in collaboration with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office has also facilitated us to buy laptops and computers and we have been able to furnish an office with an interim manager. We have a conference table and chairs for training participants and Wi-Fi-enabled projectors which do not need to physically connect to the laptop, but can pick the information on the laptop and project” Prof. Bbaale reported.

The Interim Manager PIM CoE Dr. Willy Rwamparagi Kagarura said, the project aim is to establish a centre of excellence as a training facility that can contribute towards strengthening public investment management in the country.

“Out of the USD 810,000, around USD 626,000 (77.3%) has been disbursed. Strategically, this was to sustainably build Capacity in PIM by addressing three areas namely training, research and advising government all aimed at improving returns on public investments.



Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali (C), Prof. Edward Bbaale (2nd L), Dr. Willy Kagarura (R) and other officials inspect some of the procured furniture



Interim PIM CoE Manager Dr. Willy Kagarura (L) unveils some of the procured equipment at the PIM CoE as Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali (R) witnesses

We targeted to a PIM Centre of Excellence with a pool of experts both physically and structurally. We want to build capacity at the CoE and School of Economics. We are developing Curriculum and training materials to make this a reality. We are to train technical staff at the Ministries, Departments and Agencies and Local Governments, then we have an outreach program where we are doing research and studies after which mainstream PIM into University Economics Curriculum”, Dr. Kagarura said.

Besides the acquisition of the IT equipment and furniture, Dr. Kagarura said the centre has moved fast and trained 37 members comprising staff, students and government officials in impact evaluation methodologies, and drafted the Strategic Plan ready for validation and final print.

Using local curriculum, Dr. Kagarura reported that the centre has trained 45 MDA staff in the first process of a project cycle on how to develop a concept, profile and how to put it in the

Integrated Bank of Projects.

The centre according to manager has also trained 10 lecturers to increase capacity for long-term PIM training, drafted the curriculum in Masters of Economic Investment and Modelling submitted to University Senate for approval and onward submission to NCHE.

Dr. Kagarura further said the centre conducted two impact evaluations on Luweero Rural Development Program and on how the improved stoves affect the welfare of people while that final draft of the study on impact of Covid-19 on public investments was awaiting final comments before validation.

As a matter of preparation, Kagarura said 3 members are scheduled to attend training in Mbale in the Financial Analysis Module of PIAR (Economic Analysis due 10th – 23rd October) while at the beginning (8th Nov – 3rd Dec 2021) 4 core staff will be attending a Training of Trainers in Ghana.

The interim manager hailed the World

Bank and FCDO for the funding saying, the startup grant has created a capacity building asset for the country which should be nursed to maturity.

Kagarura however noted that in order to nurture a sustainable capacity building framework or institutional arrangement for the country and the region, there is need for increased capacity among trainers through TOTs whose outputs will be in the areas of capacity building, research and outreach and Advisory Services.

The other need he said, is to lift capacity at the centre to professional levels both in project management professional and impact evaluation so as to completely cover the project cycle.

The centre he also said needs support and to be fully popularized and to work with government so that its collection of tuition from participants is appreciated.

Written by Jane Anyango



The Project PI-Dr. Anthony Tibaingana (Centre in white shirt) and part of the research team with some of the over 70 Somali refugees attending a three month-long training in entrepreneurship at Lubiri High School, Kampala after the first class on 25th October 2021.

Mak to Transform Refugee Communities through Entrepreneurship Training

A group of over 70 Somali refugees have today 25th October, 2021 started a three month-long training in entrepreneurship skills. The training, which took place at Lubiri High School is being conducted by Dr. Anthony Tibaingana, a Lecturer in the College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS).

Dr. Tibaingana is a beneficiary of the Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund (Mak-RIF). His research project is titled; Integrating refugees into Economic Activities through Mobile Entrepreneurship Skilling.

Speaking during the opening, Ms. Halima Muhammed, a refugee working with Norwegian Refugee Commission encouraged the participants to pursue their dreams of becoming successful at the businesses that they wish to start. She reminded them that they are the ones responsible for building Somalia and the skills they will get throughout

the duration of the training will go a long way in helping them develop their communities. She hastened to add that customer care was key in running any business.

Dr. Tibaingana said the aim of the project is to skill refugees and aid their integration into the economy. It is hoped that this training will enable the refugees to contribute to the economic development of Uganda through paying taxes, increasing household incomes and creating employment for others.

The participants learnt that entrepreneurship in simple terms refers to seeing an opportunity and turning it into a business or enterprise. It is envisaged that at the end of the training, the refugees will know the different sources of business ideas, discuss different types of business, start a business, know where to get customers, run a successful business as well as know where to get capital investment. The participants learnt that

for one to start a business, they need to identify a need. The training, was participatory in nature which allowed various people to share their ideas. The trainees shared their business ideas such as, having a sporting line, sale of Camel milk and Events Management among others.

The participants learnt that starting a business is taking a risk and therefore one needs to be ready as the bigger the risk, the bigger the return on investment and vice versa. "Do not promise your client what you can not provide because no customer likes being told a lie," Dr. Tibaingana cautioned, adding that "the location of your business should be strategic."

The trainees also learnt that there are three types of business ownership and therefore they need not do it alone. They can own businesses as individuals, partners and co-operatives. If a business is owned by partners or co-operatives, this allows for huge capital investments

as well as spreads out the risk of the investment. The researcher also shared with them a checklist of the must-haves before starting a business, these included money/resources, Market and manpower among other things. One of the participants, Ali Muhammed hopes that he can start a successful business after this training.

This research is part of Makerere University's core business of teaching, research and outreach. "This time we are taking the university to the vulnerable communities. These skills will enable them to make a life for themselves," Dr. Tibaingana said. The researchers have worked with some community organizations such as Somalia Youth Action Organization (SOYA) in conducting the training. More trainings will be carried out in Kawempe, Makindye, Lungujja, Nakawa and Mengo.

Uganda is one of the largest refugee-hosting nations in the world, with over 1,400,000 refugees. The vast influx of refugees is due to several factors in Uganda's neighboring countries, especially war and violence in South



Dr. Tibaingana walks through his class during the first day of training on 25th October 2021

Sudan, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as well as associated economic crisis and political instability in the region. Uganda has relatively 'friendly' policies that provide rights to the refugees, such as rights to education, work, private property, healthcare and other basic social services. To this end, Makerere University, through her outreach programs is supporting government programs to offer the Somali refugee community an opportunity to be entrepreneurs, both here in Uganda and

back home in Somalia.

The Research Team

1. Dr. Anthony Tibaingana; Principal Investigator, Lecturer Department of Marketing and Management
2. Dr. Faisal Buyinza; Senior Lecturer, Department of Economic Theory and Analysis
3. Ms. Hanifa Nantale, Assistant Lecturer and PhD Student, CoBAMS
4. Ms. Betty Tuhaise, Assistant Lecturer and PhD Student, CoBAMS
5. Mr. Ronny Mulongo, Manager, Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU)
6. Ms. Cathy Twongyeirwe; Business woman.

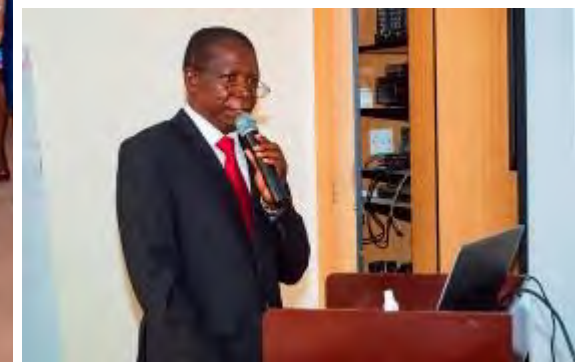
Written by Betty Kyakuwa



The trainees shared their business ideas such as, having a sporting line, sale of Camel milk and Events Management among others.

Ms. Geraldine Ssali, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives and the Project PI, Assoc. Prof. Peter Turyakira (center) take group photo with workshop participants and guests.

[Insert] Prof Peter Turyakira presenting his research findings to the guests present.



Government encouraged to provide tax exemptions and incentives to SMEs

The research findings of the project titled “Embracing Social Entrepreneurship as a catalyst to sustainable business growth in Uganda” were disseminated on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at the CoBAMS Conference Room at the School of Business. The purpose of the study was to examine social entrepreneurship as a strategy that could promote sustainable business growth in Uganda.

Assoc. Prof. Peter Turyakira, the Principal Investigator of the project shared findings which revealed that social entrepreneurship is perceived as a business strategy that is intended to solve community-based problems while making some profits to sustain business activities. He also noted that according to their study, women are more likely to get involved in voluntary activities than men; while men and women differ in the nature of social enterprises that they initiate.

While presenting his research, Assoc. Prof. Turyakira shared that social entrepreneurship significantly affects

sustainable business growth. However, the high cost of operating a business significantly constrains sustainable social enterprises’ growth in Uganda.

The study recommended that the government of Uganda build a financial spectrum that could enable social entrepreneurs access grants for incubation. The study also recommended the provision of preferential funding to social enterprises as well as the provision of tax exemptions, incentives and an enabling legal and regulatory framework to further encourage the establishment and growth of MSMEs.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Cooperatives, Ms. Geraldine Ssali, commended the team upon bringing to light findings that show the importance of social entrepreneurship to our country. She further stressed the importance of having courses and curriculums that focus on skills that are relevant for use in the workplace with entrepreneurship and business being at the forefront of all. Ms. Ssali discouraged members present from

cocooning themselves to employment only, because there are no jobs. Rather, she encouraged them to start their own businesses and to use their jobs to get capital to invest into their businesses.

In his remarks at the dissemination workshop, the Principal of CoBAMS, Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali congratulated the study team upon their achievement and encouraged them to publish their findings in an international journal and integrate them into the teaching curriculum.

Dr. Eric Nzibonera, speaking on behalf of Assoc. Prof. Godfrey Akileng, the Dean School of Business, CoBAMS, congratulated the principal investigator and research team for the good work done. “As a school we are happy that the team has managed to attract funding for this research and also do the work” he said, “These research findings are very critical because they address issues of job creation and issues of sustainable growth of SMEs, because there is no country that can grow without small and medium businesses.”



Photo Credit: Bonny Seruga

Ms. Geraldine Ssali stressed the importance of having courses and curriculums that focus on skills that are relevant for use in the workplace

Makerere University Research and Innovation Fund (Mak-RIF).

Speaking on behalf of Prof. William Bazeyo, the chairperson of Mak-RIF, Dr. John Mutenyo (representative of the research grant management committee) expressed his gratitude to the Government of Uganda for providing the funding to this research and other projects in the University that fall in line with the National Development Plan (NDP) III. Dr. Mutenyo commended the Government for the continued funding to research despite the challenges brought about by the COVID pandemic.

Written by Mark Rujumba

The “Embracing Social Entrepreneurship as a catalyst to sustainable business

growth in Uganda” project was funded by the Government of Uganda through the



Photo Credit- Mark Rujumba

The Guest of Honour-Hon. Amos Lugoloobi (4th R), Prof. Ben Kireyera (C), Prof. Eria Hisali (3rd R), Dr. James Wokadala (2nd R) and Dr. Godfrey Akileng (R) with Speakers and Delegates at the Annual Statistics Day Symposium

Statisticians Urged to Digitalise Data Analysis

The School of Statistics and Planning has been urged to embrace digitalisation of data analysis as a way of modernising national statistical systems to support sociocultural development in Africa.

The call was made by Prof. Ben Kiregyera, a senior statistician and researcher, during a symposium to mark the Africa Statistics Day held 18th November 2021 at

Makerere University.

The symposium was organised by the School of Statistics and Planning in partnership with Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS) and the Uganda Statistics Society (USS), under the theme “Modernizing National Statistical Systems to support sociocultural development in Africa.”

The keynote speaker, Prof. Kiregyera

pointed that there is a lot of delay and laxity in collection and delivering real time data to the public by the responsible bodies which jeopardises the work of other bodies that use this same data e.g. the Central Bank and other institutions.

He believes this can be addressed in various ways like scaling up of Statistics advocacy, statistical literacy, extending frontiers to the traditional, national



Photo Credit: Mark Rujumba

The Keynote Speaker, Prof. Ben Kiregyera

college had created a unit specifically for data management, in its infancy as young as 3 years, intending to support agencies in data analysis.

“We have been able to run courses in computer management and impact evaluation that attracted over 60 students from various parts of the world,” he said. Responding to the Principal, the Minister of State for Planning, Hon. Amos Lugoloobi, who was the guest of honor noted that over the years there has been a gap in dissemination of the service to the public and if such future plans are fulfilled then the college will have played a very big role in developing the economy of this country.

systems through embracing the new data sources that include telecom data, E-commerce, Web crawling, Social Media and GIS.

Countries in the East Africa that have since migrated digitally in terms of data analysis include Rwanda that uses tabs which are assembled within the country by university students as well as Kenya.

The Professor pointed out that the demand for data analysts in America is higher than that of statisticians something that should push all the statisticians to embrace new skills to increase their competence in a very fast changing world

that doesn't need manual work but digital. This he said can be achieved through building new data sources, capacity building in data science as well as producing more data scientists.

Speaking at the opening the symposium, the Principal of the College of Business and Management Sciences, Prof. Eria Hisali said the college intends to launch an initiative dubbed the “The policy Lab series.” Witch will attract dignitaries especially policy makers from Parliament, cabinet, senior civil servants and academia to meetings to address various issues affecting the economy of the country. Prof. Hisali added that the

The Dean of the School of Statistics and Planning, Dr. James Wokadala, thanked his staff for their continued contribution to training statisticians in the country. Dr. Wokadala called upon statisticians to be aggressive, proactive and vigilant to fill any gap in the economy even when they are not called upon. The School of Statistics and Planning has been in existence since 1968 and has so far and trained over 2,200 undergraduate students with 5 programmes and 9 post graduate programmes with 3,030 students, the Dean noted.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa



Photo Credit: Mark Rujumba

Minister of State for Planning, Hon. Amos Lugoloobi (C) with Principal CoBAMS-Prof. Eria Hisali (L) and Dean SSP-Dr. James Wokadala (R).



Photo Credit- Mark Rujumba

The DVCFA-Dr. Josephine Nabukenya (8th L-Red scarf) and Principal CoBAMS-Dr. Eria Hisali (9th L) with Deans and newly oriented staff after the induction exercise on 2nd November 2021, School of Business, Makerere University.

CoBAMS Holds Orientation for New Staff Members

Staff of the College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS) have been called upon to play their part to ensure that the college's strategic objectives are achieved. The call was made by the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Finance and Administration DVC (F&A), Assoc. Prof. Josephine Nabukenya, during the orientation of new members of staff on 2nd November, 2021.

Assoc. Prof. Nabukenya commended the College management, led by the Principal, Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali, on holding an orientation for new staff, saying other colleges needed to emulate this. "It is a good endeavor to familiarize the new members with the college plans, culture and work ethic. It also helps them feel welcome and secure. CoBAMS is moving to great heights," she said.

The DVC (F&A) also trained staff on the use of the Electronic Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS), which the university is implementing. The system, the first of its kind will see the elimination of paper files. It allows for staff to request for promotions and leave online, enter their work plans for a week, as well as conduct staff appraisals. The platform is a bank for

all staff biodata. It is a one-stop centre for all Human Resources needs. The Research and Development of the e-HRMS was fully funded by the Government of Uganda through Makerere University's Research and Innovations Fund (Mak-RIF).

Assoc. Prof. Nakukenya said the university was developing a student records system which will soon be rolled out. It is hoped that the system will address the challenges of issuance of transcripts.

Assoc. Prof. Hisali on his part shared with the members, some of whom recently joined university service while others were recently transferred to CoBAMS, the mission of the college; "Service to society through provision of effective practice-oriented learning and research". The college, he said, aspires to be the best at the university and eventually on the continent. He encouraged all staff to play a role in contributing to the realization of the college's ambitions. He warned the staff against cliques and called for hard work, saying, "Hard work will be incentivized while there will be sanctions for non-performers."

He shared with the new members the college's strategic direction which includes;

strengthening quality assurance, enhancing staff capacity, establishing foundations for financial sustainability, getting new linkages, infrastructure expansion, improving the work and learning environment and strengthening the research and dissemination infrastructure system.

Assoc. Prof. Hisali informed the new members that decision making at the colleges is done by committees. The college has got the Administrative Board, Academic Board, Quality Assurance Committee, Establishments and Appointments Board. The committees are mainly comprised of Deans and Heads of Departments.

The staff were also trained on Managing time and work load. The Deputy Principal, Assoc. Prof. Bruno Lule Yawe, shared with the team that we cannot manage time but rather manage ourselves so that we utilize the time we have effectively. He shared some skills to help staff manage themselves, which include; being organized, prioritizing, setting goals, strong communication skills, effective planning, delegating and handling stress in a positive way.

The team was also privileged to hear from the Director of the Directorate of Human

Resources, Dr. Davis Malowa, who oriented the staff on the employment policies and systems such as confirmation of employment, promotions, staff development and what benefits accrue from each of these steps. Members learnt that the new employment regulations require an employee who has worked for an organization for more than 10 years to give his employer 3-months' notice of resignation, failure of which will lead to penalties.

The area of research and publications was handled by Prof. Bbaale Edward, the Dean of the School of Economics. He emphasized that for one to create new knowledge through

research, they must know the existing knowledge. Research, he said, is used to create new knowledge, visibility for the university and academic growth. He encouraged the staff to create a balance between teaching, research and supervision.

The Dean of the School of Business, Dr. Akileng Godfrey, shared the work ethic and values staff should have.

Employees with a strong work ethic exhibit a particular set of values and behaviors, he said. These characteristics make them stand out as highly coveted team members and praise-worthy employees. Some of these

qualities include; Reliability, Dedication, Discipline, Productivity, Cooperation, Integrity, Responsibility and Professionalism. He called on staff to practice good customer care, saying "A person can forget the words you said and the help you offered to them but they will never forget how you made them feel." While concluding his submission, Dr. Akileng emphasized that "customer care is not a department, it is the attitude." He called on all staff to ensure they offer the best customer experiences to our clients the students.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa

Dr. Allen Kabagenyi Inducted as a UNAS Fellow

Dr. Allen Kabagenyi, a Lecturer in the Department of Population Studies, College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS) has today October 29, 2021 been inducted as a fellow of the Uganda National Academy of Sciences (UNAS) in the category of Physical Sciences. The induction took place during the 2021 Annual Scientific Conference under the theme Uganda's Health: Transcending Sectors, Looking to the Future.

Dr. Kabagenyi is a demographer/ Population scientist with over ten years of working experience in population and reproductive health, specifically maternal health, focusing on family planning, HIV/Aids, fertility and related reproductive health issues. Allen is a member of the Ministry of Health Maternal and Child Health Technical Working Group and the National Demographic Dividend Steering Committee. She recently led the development of an Operations Manual for integrating Gender and Demographic Dividends into National Plans, Policies and Programmes for African countries. She was also a Lead Editor of The Roadmap for Harnessing Uganda's Demographic Dividend Report. Dr. Kabagenyi has led multiple

research projects, published widely, and mentors students at both Masters and PhD levels. She is a KISH Fellow and an academic



Dr. Allen Kabagenyi, Department of Population Studies, College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS), Makerere University.

affiliate of the University of Michigan. She is a Fellow of Wolfson College, University of Cambridge and a Policy Communication Fellow of Population Reference Bureau (PRB). Dr. Kabagenyi was the 2019 winner in Demography top 40 under 40 for exceptional work awarded by Vision Media Group; 2017 award winner of the 120 Under 40: The New Generation of Family Planning Leaders, awarded by Bill and Gates Foundation and Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health. She was also the 2017 American Psychological Foundation (APF), Henry P. David Reproductive Health award winner. Currently, she is leading efforts to establish a Research Ethics Committee at CoBAMS. She is the Principal Investigator of; "Accelerating Covid-19 Vaccine Acceptance

and Uptake in Uganda: Snapshot Study" and "Adolescent Motherhood, Vulnerability Assessment and Newborn care practices, in Eastern Uganda (AMNEP)".

Quoting Sir Isaac Newton, in her acceptance speech, Dr. Kabagenyi was grateful to God and went on to thank her nominators, mentors, colleagues, family and friends for supporting her, saying "We stand tall on shoulders of Giants". She said becoming a fellow of the distinguished UNAS has inspired her to commit to contribute to the wealth of knowledge. She affirmed her commitment to foster the values of UNAS.

About UNAS

The Uganda National Academy of Sciences is an independent, non-profit, non-political, and membership-based service organization. UNAS was created to provide credible, balanced, and evidence-driven advice to the nation on matters of science and development. UNAS draws its membership from the Fellowship of the Academy who are recognized for their lifetime achievements in the sciences and humanities. Fellows are active contributors to the national and international academic community. The UNAS Fellowship is composed of scholars from disciplines including the natural and social sciences, as well as the arts and humanities—all of whom have been selected through a rigorous vetting process.

Researchers Trained on New Methodologies of Improving Customer Water bill Payment Behaviour



EfD-Mak Director Prof. Edward Bbaale (Seated Right) and some of the participants pose for a group photo with the facilitator Dr. David Fuente (On screen) after the training on 14th October 2021, CTF2, Makerere University

Over 40 Makerere University researchers from the School of Economics were on 14th October, 2021 trained on new methodologies of information treatment into improving Water bills payments in Uganda and other countries.

The training held virtually and physically was organized and hosted by the Environment for Development Initiative (EfD-Mak) Centre.

The seminar was facilitated by Dr. David Fuente from the School of Earth, Ocean and Environment, University of South Carolina USA.

Dr. David Fuente delivering his presentation online.

Dr. Fuente presented a number of studies conducted in different countries including Kenya and Ethiopia under the theme, “Testing information treatments to

improve the Financial sustainability of water utilities”. The studies according to Dr. Fuente are premised on the Global water sanitation and infrastructure challenge and the Sustainable Development Goal on provision of safe and affordable water sanitation for all by 2030.

He said policy makers face the challenge of raising water prices and improving customer bill payment behaviour noting that both are politically difficult.

“Water infrastructure is capital intensive, but largely out of public view. Improving customer awareness of the capital intensity of water supply and sanitation service delivery may increase customer perception of, “fair” water prices, however, mode of information treatment likely matters and further research is needed”, the facilitator said.

Some of the Lecturers that attended the training.

Dr. David Fuente explained that customer arrears are a chronic problem in the water and sanitation sector in the global South which undermines utilities financial stability.

“Arrears undermine utilities financial stability. For example, in South Africa, households owed municipal governments 40 billion Rand (about 4 billion USD). In Kampala Uganda, 57% of residential customers accounts have arrears while in Nairobi Kenya, 60% of customers have arrears”, he cited.

Despite the challenge, Dr. Fuente observed that, very limited work on why customers do not pay their bills and common assumptions may be wrong and lead to substantial policy mistakes.

A section of participants that attended the seminar.

“Simple, low-cost information treatments



Dr. David Fuente delivering his presentation online.

may improve customer behavior, but evidence is needed and are likely to be panacea. Policy makers need to think carefully about deploying multiple, well targeted policy instruments to improve customer payment behavior”, he stated.

Dr. Fuente provided insights from a series of literature and studies from Kenya, Ethiopia and South Africa that examined customer perceptions of, “fair” water prices and information treatments to improve customer bill payment behaviour.

The studies sought to address whether information treatments can improve customer bill payments and which treatments are more effective at improving customer bill payment. The general information treatment interventions discussed to improve bill payment included hard threats of disconnection for non-payment, soft encouragement that informs tenants, simple payment reminders and routine billing information, use of subsidies, sanctions, moral suasion.

Another section of

participants that attended the training.

The goals of these studies were to reduce arrears and bill-nonpayment to improve the financial stability of utilities; Boost the agency’s financial position to cater for its investments and to increase the social welfare from the agency’s investments.

In Uganda Dr. Fuente said there is proposal that is competing for Sida funds titled, “Using information treatments to improve water bill payments under the National Water and Sewerage Corporation”.



A section of participants listens to proceedings during the training

The Director EfD-Mak Centre Prof. Edward Bbaale said, such a study is practical and primary on how to create a shock in the perceptions of people so that they can start responding to paying their bills.

Prof. Edward Bbaale (standing) delivers the welcome remarks.

Prof. Bbaale said this training was important not only to the country and researchers, based on reason that these are new techniques of analysis that researchers at the EfD-Mak centre needed to pick up and get interested to undertake similar studies.

The Director expressed the need for water agencies to have financial stability to give a good service noting that what is being proposed is to make sure that financial stability of water agencies is improved.

Prof. Bbaale shared that water supply is capital intensive and requires a lot of money to lay pipes and maintain the treatment plants and yet customers comparatively pay less. He said, to supply clean water, expand the reach and maintain constant water supply, water supply agencies require substantial resources.

A section of male participants listens to

proceedings during the training.

He noted that the National Water and Sewerage Corporation of Uganda is constrained by resources to maintain their supply and pipes and at the same time lack enough resources to reach the unserved areas.

“There is no study yet in Uganda that is trying to utilize the methodologies learnt into analyzing how to improve water bill payments in Uganda despite the common knowledge that many customers have payment arrears.

I am hopeful that the proposed study in Uganda will win the Sida grant and will go a long way in informing NWSC and government on how to improve water bill payments. And, if this study is implemented, it will be a great opportunity for us to see what findings come forth and what recommendations are put forward for government to improve water bill payment”. Prof. Bbaale stated.

Prof. Edward Bbaale appreciated that water supply agencies require substantial resources to fulfill their mandate.

Participants speak on the training

Dr. Oryem John Bosco, a Lecturer in the School of Economics described the training as a good collaboration and chance for researchers to understand what is going on with other researchers.

“And in this case, understanding what research is going on in terms of utility payments and challenges that communities

ensure that public utilities get the desired revenue that can make them operate without too much financial constraints”,

Dr. Oryem commended.

Mr. Peter Babyenda the Policy Engagement Specialist in charge of coordinating the Inclusive Green Economy (IGE) training program who is also a PhD student thanked EfD-Mak center for organizing the wonderful training.

“The presentation is new to us, and it touches on of the key issue-water, where we have so many

problems. I heard there is a proposal for Uganda which I am so interested in and can't wait to see how this study goes. I am interested in the findings and to learn more on the methodologies”, Mr. Babyenda stated.

Written by Jane Anyango



Prof. Edward Bbaale (standing) delivers the welcome remarks

face in paying water bills is a good study which links with the SDGs and the national development goals.

So understanding why payments delay and what can make people pay their water bills is a very good innovation. From this training and the proposed Uganda study,



A section of participants that attended the training

the facilitator is intending to craft messages to the water consumers to



School of Business Staff undertake Capacity Building

In a bid to keep abreast with the changing trends in the business sector, staff of the School of Business, College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS), led by the Dean Dr. Akileng Godfrey on November 3, 2021 spent the day interacting with players in the private sector. The staff undertook the capacity building as part of their continuous professional development.

The staff heard from Mr. Kakande Robert, the MD of Finca Uganda who shared an analysis of the performance of the financial sector in Uganda. The participants learnt that despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the banks saw an increase in cash deposits by 20% and a decline in the loan portfolios by 14%. This was attributed to the decline in trade, owing to the travel restrictions. This was also compounded by the fact that Ugandans are generally a risk averse population. Many people, about 49%, borrow from informal lenders such as friends, family and investment groups. It was noted that only 11% of the population keep their money in banks. About 43% keep money in saving groups, 27% keep it at home while 23% keep it on mobile

phones.

This, Mr. Kakande said calls for a national financial inclusion strategy. Some of the emerging and contemporary issues in the financial sector include digitization. The world is growing exponentially, which calls for new ways of doing things. The development of the internet, artificial Intelligence, Internet of things has forced banks to digitize all their services. This Mr. Kakande said, has helped improve customer experiences and reduce the number of people transacting in the banking hall. Today, Uganda has 28 million mobile phone users, 12.1 million internet users and 3.6 million social media users. This means the financial sector also has got to evolve and meet the demands of these customers. This has seen the development of online banking, bank to phone transactions, which have greatly improved the financial sector.

The participants learnt that Bank of Uganda, had issued new regulations for commercial banks, in an effort to secure depositors money. This, Mr. Kakande called the BASEI 11 Capital Accord Framework. Commercial banks are now

required to have operating capital of Shs150 billion up from Shs25 billion, while tier 4 institutions such microfinance institutions are required to have capital of Shs5billion up from Shs500 million. BOU has also set out to regulate the Mobile Money business which is being run by the telecommunication companies.

Another emerging issue is Bancassurance. This is a relationship between a bank and an insurance company that is aimed at offering insurance products or insurance benefits to the bank's customers. In this partnership, bank staff and tellers become the point of sale and point of contact for the customer. Agency banking is another contemporary trend that the financial institutions have adopted. This has also been done in an effort to extend the bank to the clients.

On the issue of high interest rates charged by the banks, Mr. Kakande said, this is because the credit risk among the population is high. The emergence of Infrastructure bonds is something the financial sector players also have to look at in the future.



Mr. Kakande Robert, MD Finca Uganda shares an analysis of the performance of the financial sector in Uganda

seamless while the ambiance must be good. She shared with the team, the 4 aspects of managing services

Managing customer relationships

Managing service quality

Managing service productivity

Managing staff and positioning services

Mrs. Ngulumi concluded by saying that in the service industry, the customer does not buy a product, they buy the experience, so give them the best experience.

Other topics discussed included the International Financial Reporting Standards and the role of the private sector in public sector procurement.

The staff also got an opportunity to interact with Mrs. Immaculate Ngulumi, the Marketing Manager of Centenary Bank. She shared how the service industry has been able to attract and retain clients. Mrs. Ngulumi said that because service is not a tangible product, the service providers

have to appeal to the emotions of people. This, she said calls for investment in 3 Ps (People, processes and physical evidence). The people/staff, she said, have to be well trained, motivated and treated well, so that they can pass on this positivity to the clients. The processes have to be quick and

The Dean School of Business, Dr. Godfrey Akileng thanked the participants for attending and the facilitators for making time to share with his team.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa

School of Statistics & Planning Launches Research Seminar Room

The School of Statistics and Planning, College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS) has today November 9, 2021, launched its research seminar room. The Room, 105 was recently renovated and equipped with funding from Supporting Early-Career Academics Project (SECA Project.) The project is funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The project grant, awarded by the Directorate of Research and Graduate Training (DRGT), was received by Dr. Allen Kabagenyi as a post-doctoral fellow. The grant required that the fellow mentor a graduate researcher but also allowed for infrastructure development.



Director DRGT-Prof. Buyinza Mukadasi (L) and Dr. Allen Kabagenyi (R) during the launch of the Research Seminar Room at the School of Statistics and Planning, CoBAMS

The room, previously in a bad state was rehabilitated, painted, furnished, an overhead projector fixed and burglar-proofed.

Dr. Allen Kabagenyi thanked the Directorate of Graduate Research and Training for awarding her the fellowship and supporting her research. Dr.



Seated L-R: Dr. Stephen Wandera, Prof. Buyinza Mukadasi, Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali and Dr. James Wokadala with Dr. Allen Kabagenyi (Rear 3rd R) and staff from the School of Statistics and Planning at the launch.

Kabagenyi's post-doctoral research is looking at Adolescent motherhood, vulnerability Assessment and newborn care practices in Eastern Uganda.

The Director DRGT, Prof. Buyinza Mukasasi, who graced the occasion called on staff to mentor and support one another, saying this will help in the growth of the School. "If we each mentor someone, we ensure succession," he said. "Work as a team if you want to grow and prosper at your job."

The Principal of CoBAMS, Assoc. Prof. Eria Hisali, congratulated the research team upon winning the grant which has enabled the School attain the milestone. He thanked the team for allowing to use part of the grant to renovate the college facilities. "This is a good example of operationalizing our Motto-We Build for the Future," he said.

He challenged the staff of the School of Statistics and Planning to start carrying out regular seminar series so that the room is put to good use. "Once we institutionalize seminar series, this will be a stepping stone for Working Paper

series," Prof. Hisali said. He called for an increase in publications in the college.

Responding to Dr. James Wokadala's concern on staff promotions, the Principal assured the staff that the college leadership was working with the University Management to ensure affirmative action for promotions in CoBAMS. In his remarks, the Dean, School of Statistics and Planning, Dr. Wokadala, thanked the Principal for his

continued support in form of seed capital to staff for research. He appealed for continued renovation of the old structures and a new structure. He congratulated Dr. Kabagenyi upon winning the grant which has enabled the establishment of the Seminar Room.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa



Dr. Allen Kabagenyi speaks during the launch



Prof. Edward Bbaale Delivers Professorial Inaugural Lecture

Makerere University has inaugurated Professor Edward Bbaale as it marks 100 Years of existence at an event held, under a theme, Rethinking Growth in Africa, Firms and the Business Environment Quality.

Prof. Bbaale, who gave his lecturer on Dec 17, 2021, five months after his promotion called on the government to priorities industrialization if the country is to witness economic growth.

Professor Edward Bbaale has for the last decade centered his research on firms and African economies, with one part of it looking at the dynamics and economic roles of firms in bridging productivity, export and employment gaps in Africa. His other research puts into perspective the quality of business environment necessary for firms in Africa to flourish.

Prof. Bbaale said the industry has great potential of technological change, innovation, employment and skilling which can only be attained when the industrial sector is prioritized.

“The contribution of industrialization to GDP was rather higher in the 60s due to the volatile economic environment but following to what happened in the 1980s and 1990s,

we have had a decline in industrialization.

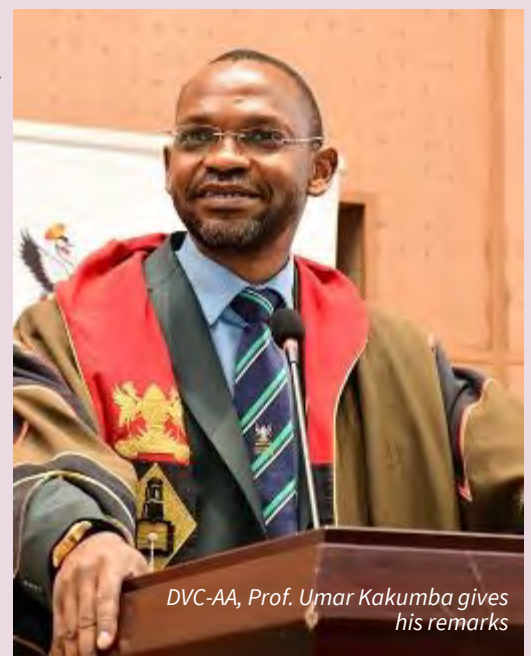
Uganda in the 1990s privatized most of the public enterprises at the urging of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Giving away control of key government parastatals to private individuals during the early days after Uganda had emerged from decades of political turmoil was a mistake, experts have said.

“We have seen a situation which I risk to call de-industrialization where the service sector has taken over industrial and agricultural sectors,” Prof. Bbaale said. “Despite this, majority of our population is employed in the agricultural sector yet it contributes the least. This means poverty can not be escaped unless something is done about agriculture because that is where most of our people are.”

Overall, industrial sector growth in Africa continues to lag behind GDP growth from approximately 17 percent in 1981 to 12 percent in 2020. In Uganda for example, the share of the manufacturing sector to GDP continuously experienced weaker growth with a marginal contribution of 4 percent in 1980 increasing to only 5 percent in 1990, and to 16 percent in 2020. This figure is still far below the 20% target specified in NDP III,

Prof. Bbaale said. “The implication for this is that the prudent macroeconomic policies though managed to increase GDP growth in Africa, they have not been sufficient enough to spur growth in the industrial sector which affects its potential for job creation,” Prof. Bbaale added.

“What is required of African economies to revive and sustain their growth, particularly in the industry sector is to refocus on the microeconomic policy environment where business firms operate.”



DVC-AA, Prof. Umar Kakumba gives his remarks



Prof. Eria Hisali, Principal CoBAMS.

celebrating 100 years of excellence with a milestone of over 90 professors.

Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, the Makerere Vice Chancellor noted that Makerere contributes 70% of the research in Uganda and 3% to the continent. He added that professors like Bbaale are expected to take the lead in the economical development of the country through their comprehensive research.

“I am glad to note that the inaugural lecture topic on “Rethinking Growth in Africa: Firms and the Business Environment Quality” is in line with the current global economic challenges arising due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Several business firms both local and international went into unprecedented decline. In Uganda, the informal sector has been greatly affected and livelihoods compromised,” the Vice Chancellor said.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs, Prof. Umar Kakumba, congratulated Prof. Bbaale upon Professorial Inaugural Lecture, saying it is a prestigious and highly regarded public talk by an appointed Professor in an academic institution.

Prof. Kakumba said Professor Bbaale’s inaugural lecture on “Rethinking Growth in Africa: Firms and the Business Environment Quality”, is very topical today and has provided very important knowledge.

“Professor Bbaale has ably demonstrated the

contribution of his academic exploits in economic development. Notably, his lecture is inline with the theme of the 3rd National Development Plan (NDP III), on “sustainable industrialisation for inclusive growth, employment and sustainable wealth creation”.”

Prof. Bbaale highlighted that overall industrial sector growth in Africa continues to fall behind GDP growth and that the manufacturing sector in Uganda has a marginal contribution to GDP at 16% as of 2020.

“He has argued for more focus on the microeconomic policy environment where business firms operate. This is expected to improve the success of the NDP III,” Prof. Kakumba said.

ABOUT PROF. BBAALE

Edward Bbaale is a Professor of Economics and holds a PhD in Economics, M.A. Economic Policy and Planning and B.A. Economics among other qualifications. He is currently the Dean of the School of Economics at Makerere University and the Director of EfD-Mak Centre which is part of the Global Network of Environmental Economics Research Centres supported by Sida. With support from Sida, Edward is the Lead Person at Makerere University for the Inclusive Green Economy (IGE) Capacity Development Program for Senior Civil Servants and Policy Makers. With support

Prof. Bbaale added that Firms in Africa are predominantly small (close to 58%) with few medium and large firms and only 23% of the firms engage in exporting.

In Africa, Firm-level Gross Job Creation Rate (GJCR) stands at 13 percent while Gross Job Destruction Rate (GJDR) stands at 6 percent.

Small firms have a low chance of surviving and growing into large scale firms that are more productive. Therefore; low aggregate industrial productivity in Africa is to a greater extent attributed to a large fraction of small firms. Even with more domestic firms, domestic capital accumulation remains too low to boost adequate growth, he said.

Prof. Bbaale, pointed out some of the constraints to the potential of firms to achieve fast growth as the unreliable power supply, huge transportation costs, corruption, poor tax structures and weak laws among others.

One of longest serving professors of Makerere University Prof. Eddy Sabiiti commended the great work done by Prof. Edward and attributed this kind of achievement to the formation of a committee in 2007 that was meant to guide and help the newly promoted professors on how to go about their journeys for the benefit of the society.

He adds that the chosen topic for the inauguration was relevant especially since it comes at a time when Makerere is



from the World Bank, Edward is the Principal Investigator of a Project intended to establish a Public Investment Management Centre of Excellence (PIM CoE) at Makerere University.

Prior to that, Edward served as a Graduate Programmes Coordinator for the School of Economics from 2012 to 2013. He has very rich hands-on experience in economics research with a bias towards development microeconomics for enterprises and households. He was in 2017 awarded a post-doc scholarship by the Austrian

Agency for International Cooperation in Education & Research (OeAD-GmbH) to undertake research at the Vienna Institute of International Economic Studies (wiiw) in Vienna-Austria. He was in 2013 nominated as a Visiting Fellow for the Journal of African Economies, Department of Economics, University of Oxford, UK. He was in 2010 nominated for the Visiting Research Fellow Position at the Centre for Global Development in Washington D.C. USA. He

was in 2019 appointed a Chairperson of the Governing Council of Kampala Polytechnic-Mengo. He was in 2021 appointed a Member of the University Council at Muteesa I Royal



University. He was in 2021 appointed Member of the National Task Force on the Enhancement of Labour Productivity. He is an External Examiner at Kyambogo University, University of Malawi, University of Zambia, University of Namibia, National University of Lesotho, and University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He was an External Examiner at the University of Zimbabwe 2015/16-2019/2020. He is a Member of the Expanded Board of the

Uganda's National Planning Authority since 2015. He is a member of Senate of Makerere University and sits on the Admissions and Mature Age and Pre-entry Committees of Senate. He was a Chairperson of a Special Task Force that developed the Student Work and Employment Scheme Policy at Makerere University. He is a member of the African Economic Research Consortium Academic Advisory Board in Nairobi, Kenya. He is the Vice Chairperson of Makerere University Deans' Forum (MUDF). He is a member of the Scientific Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Young Economists Network (ECA-YEN).

Edward has authored over 40 papers and, published in peer reviewed journals. [Two of his papers were voted as Highly Commended Award Winners at Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2012 and 2019.](#) At national level, he has implemented a number of policy -relevant research projects with key Government Ministries and Agencies as well as the private sector.

Written by Betty Kyakuwa

School of Statistics and Planning receives ICT equipment worth \$500,000

The School of Statistics and Planning today received a consignment of ICT equipment worth \$500,000 from the East African Community. The purchase of the equipment was facilitated by funding from the World Bank to the East African Community.

The equipment was this morning received by Dr. JB Asimwe, the HoD of Planning and Applied Statistics, Mr David Kisitu, the Systems Administrator and Mr Frank Namugera from the Department of Planning and Applied Statistics.

The equipment includes 153 desktop computers, laptops, digital cameras, computer tables, power banks, UPS, cooling systems, security cameras, network

accessories and computer chairs among other things.

The equipment will go a long way in improving teaching and learning as the university moves to be a research led institution.



Mr. David Kisitu (L) and Mr. Frank Namugera (R) receiving the equipment at Central Teaching Facility II

Director EFD Global Network Assoc. Prof. Gunnar Kohlin Visits Mak



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (4th R), Director Efd Global Network Assoc. Prof. Gunnar Kohlin (4th L) and Principal CoBAMs-Prof. Eria Hisali (3rd L) with Swedish and Mak teams after the meeting in the Vice Chancellor's Office in CTF1 on 22nd November 2021.

A delegation of Swedish environmental economists on 22nd November 2021, visited Makerere University to discuss collaborative academic and research initiatives in environment and sustainable development.

The delegation was led by the Director Efd Global Network Assoc. Prof. Gunnar Kohlin from the University of Gothenburg.

The team paid a courtesy call on the office of the Director of Graduate Research and Training, the Office of the Vice Chancellor, Office of the Principal College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS). The team also held a meeting with Efd-Mak research fellows during which the Director, Efd-Mak Centre Prof. Edward Bbaale addressed the guests and participants virtually from Ghana.

The Swedish team was in Uganda to attend the three-day IGE cross-country National Policy Review and Training Workshop in Speke Resort Munyonyo Hotel, from

November 23-25, 2021.

The function is being organized by the Efd-Mak Centre, Uganda in collaboration with University of Gothenburg, as part of the activities of the Inclusive Green Economy (IGE) capacity building programme for senior civil servants and policy makers sponsored by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The purpose of the National Policy Review (NPR) training is to strengthen cross-country peer learning by conducting an analytical review of their neighboring country's NPR, and strengthen networks on Inclusive Green Economy in the region.

The visit by the Swedish team was also in preparation for the Efd Global Annual conference to be hosted by Efd-Mak-Centre at Makerere University next year 2022.

Prof. Gunnar met with the university top officials including the Director Graduate Research and Training Prof. Buyinza

Mukadasi, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, the Principal College of Business and Management Sciences Assoc. Professor Eria Hisali before meeting the Efd-Mak research fellows.

Prof. Gunnar Kohlin who was making his maiden visit to Uganda and Makerere University since the inception of the centre in 2019, commended the Efd-Mak Centre for being active and progressive in implementing the activities across the country including policy dialogues, training researchers and civil servants.

Prof. Gunnar appreciated the collaborative efforts between the School of Agricultural Sciences in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the School of Economics in the College of Business and Management Sciences for nurturing the Efd-Mak-Centre and implementing a number of activities.

In different meetings with university officials Prof. Gunnar discussed ideas of how to move



Assoc. Prof. Gunnar Kohlin (2nd L) and his team during their interaction with Prof. Buyinza Mukadasi.

the EfD research agenda forward.

“The clock is ticking and we have just started a decade to move the global Agenda 2030 and to deal with the implementation of the Paris Agreement to address many challenges such biodiversity loss, climate change, deforestation among others”

Prof. Gunnar emphasised the need for the academia to join the global efforts to implement the conventions and commitments. Academia in the past choose to stand aside and not actively join the policy discussions but now, given the urgency of the global challenges academia needs to be brought on board and commit to the implementation of national and international agreements.”

Prof. Gunnar said this can be done through intensification of research, building academic programs and forming multidisciplinary research teams to conduct joint research to effectively solve the problems.

Other strategies discussed include the development of short term and full-blown academic training programmes tailored to the country’s need, integrating short and long term training programs in the university curriculum,

having new standalone programs and expanding the needs assessment on what capacities are needed to deliver.

Prof. Gunnar and the university officials agreed on the need to institutionalize the EfD -Mak Centre beyond just being a project, bringing on board more international funding

Part of the institutionalization and sustainability efforts discussed included the move to engage government to take over the EfD initiative and streamlining it in the budgeting process, integrating the center activities within the university curriculum and research.

The other idea is integrating the center activities in the college and unit levels for instance formulating policy labs, and developing a student internship model and to equip students to be able to them conduct outreach and advocacy activities on environment in communities.

It was also suggested that besides international funding, there is need for university commitment to create and integrate the EfD initiatives into the university financial system so that the center is part and parcel of the university.

Researchers were also called upon to leverage institutional support from EfD secretariat to bring in more international funding to the university. Key priority areas of focus in the Swedish collaboration with Uganda according to Prof. Gunnar are Human Rights, democracy and rule of law, gender equality, and environment. Climate change, inclusive economic development, quality health and reproductive rights.

Prof. Gunnar applauded Makerere University for ensuring interdisciplinary approach in implementing the activities of the center saying, this EfD is not a project to take away but to build institutions saying, the Global hub was focusing on building capacity and ready to support this.

Written by Jane Anyango



Research Fellows pose for a group photo with the Swedish delegation after their interaction in the EfD-Mak Centre, Central Teaching Facility 2 (CTF2), Makerere University.