Facts about Amity – Makerere University, e-VBAB Project

Background

At the Pan-African Parliament held in Johannesburg on 16 September 2004 His Excellency Dr. A.P. J. Abdul Kalam, President of India offered to set up a Pan-African Network to be based on Satellite and Optical Fiber cable technologies with the aim of providing services in Tele-Medicine, Tele-Education and VVIP Diplomatic Communication to 53 member states of the African Union

The Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the 29th of May 2006 to participate in the implementation of the Project.

The project required the African continent to be divided into five regions and one country in each region was to be the regional centre. The regional centre would be provided with facilities to broadcast lectures to the other countries in the region in addition to receiving lectures from India.

Makerere University, represented by the Faculty of Computing and Informatics Technology submitted and eventually emerged the winner of the bid to host the Regional University Centre (RUC) for the project. As a result of this successful bidding, Makerere University received the required equipment to support the project in June 2008. The equipment was used to construct a state-of-the-art Regional E-learning Centre that comprises an E-learning Video Conference room and E- learning Content Development Lab. The Government of Uganda also selected Makerere University Faculty of Computing and Informatics Technology as the National e-learning Centre to provide access and support to the students recruited by the Indian Universities.

Tele-Education
Five Universities in India were selected to participate in the provision of Tele-education to African Countries. The six universities are:
1. Amity University, Uttar Pradesh
2. The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)
3. The University of Madras (UNOM)
4. Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS)
5. Delhi University, New Delhi.

In 2009 Makerere University represented by the College of Computing and Information Sciences signed MoUs with two universities and these are; one with Amity University and the second with IGNOU to kick start Phase one of the Pan African E-Network project. This initial MoU was for 5 years which ended in 2015. It was extended for 2 more years up to 2017 when the last graduation was held.

The current running MOU between Amity University and Makerere University College of Computing and Information Sciences

The aforementioned MoU was negotiated in the year 2018 and is renewable after five years. The primary goal of this partnership was to espouse online

teaching and learning as well as offering degree and post graduate degree programmes at affordable tuition fees rates devoid of functional fees. Under this MoU, we are excited to churn out 185 as per the demographics in the graduation booklets.

EVBAB Network Project

During India-Africa Forum summit (IAFS-III) held in New Delhi in October 2015, Government of India announced the technological upgradation and extension of the Pan Africa e-Network project under which tele-education and tele-medicine services were successfully implemented in 48 countries in Africa including Uganda.

The technological upgradation and extension of the PAeNP is known as e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati Network (e-VBAB Network Project). Tele-education and Tele-medicine services from India shall be offered to African countries through a specifically developed web-based platform hosting two separate tele-education and tele-medicine portals.

In 2018, Government of Uganda and the Government of India signed an MoU geared towards the implementation of the e-Vidybharati and e-Aarogyabharati (e-VBAB) project in Uganda. To promote the activities, of this project Makerere university was chosen to serve as a regional centre to advance Tele – education in East African region. Hence, the College of Computing and Information Sciences and the e-VBAB project signed an MoU in 2019 for five years, still running until the end of 2024.

The e-VBAB Network Project set up an e- Learning Center center at the college of computing and information sciences well equipped for use with a modern video conferencing laboratory forming phase 2 with two programmes.
   1) Amity –Makerere University MoU
   2) e-Vidybharati and e-Aarogyabharati (e-VBAB) Makerere project

Under both the e-VBAB project and the MoU between Amity and Makerere University several students were enrolled for various courses offered by Amity university, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Dr. D.Y Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune- DPU, Munipal University -MAHE, JSS Academy of Higher education and Research (JSS-AHER) and Indira Ghandi National Open University (IGNOU).The universities offer a number of programs including tourism management, French, Business Management, physical science engineering , IT, Financial literacy, Human Resource, Business analytics.

Under the e-VBAB project, 1346 students were enrolled on 100% scholarship since 2020 to-date while under the Makerere -Amity university MoU, a total of 754 students were admitted under partial scholarship of up to 70% since 2018 across ten intakes.

The virtual graduation ceremony for the cohort of students who enrolled for programs offered by the mentioned universities were held for different groups since 2019 in India. A total of 381 students from Uganda were awarded Masters, PGD and Ordinary Diploma qualifications. However , for this graduation, there are three universities
   1) DPU
   2) JSS HR
   3) Amity University. Other universities had students but they delayed to submit the lists

Graduation Statistics Makerere- Amity &the e-VBAB Projects

A total of 339 students have graduated under both   Amity- Makerere MoU and (e-VBAB) project as shown below.

Graduation statistics under Makerere-Amity university since 2018

Year	Number of graduands
2019	20
2020	83
2021	57
2022	25
Total	**185**

Graduation statistics from the (e-VBAB) project since 2020

Year	University	No of Graduands
2021	Amity	20
	JSS	03
2022	Amity	93
	DPU	33
	JSS AHER	05
Sub-Total		**154**

NB: The numbers would be more/ higher but three Universities did not submit the lists. **138** were able to clear for this Degree Award Ceremony . The Award ceremony is to celebrate this milestone.

Admission Statistics Makerere- Amity & the e-VBAB Projects

A total of 2,100 students have been enrolled under both   Amity- Makerere MoU and (e-VBAB) project**.** Of these, 1346 students were enrolled on 100% scholarship under the e-VBAB project since 2020 to-date, spread across 28 Indian universities. Under the Makerere -Amity university MoU, a total of 754 students were admitted under partial scholarship of up to 70% since 2018 across ten intakes as shown in the tables below:

Admission statistics Makerere- e-VBAB project since 2020

Intake/year	No. of students enrolled
July 2020	308
January 2021	427
July 2022	919
Total admission	**1346**

Admission statistics Makerere- Amity MoU since 2018

Intake/year	No. of students enrolled
July 2018	142
January 2019	160
July 2019	161
January 2020	177
July 2020	08
January 2021	08
July 2021	30
January 2022	17
July 2022	18
January 2023	39
Total Admission	**754**