



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SPORTS

EXPANSION OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR 1986-TODATE



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

The Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Sports, Dr Hon. Jessica Alupo, State Ministers, the Permanent Secretary and all members of Staff of the the Ministry of Education Science, Technology and Sports warmly Congratulate the president of the republic of Uganda, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the Vice President, the Prime Minister, members of Parliament and all citizens of Uganda as we jointly celebrate 30 years of NRM.

We are committed to boosting and improving the Education Sector by improving Education standards And providing an education for all.



H. E. GEN. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI,
The President of the Republic of Uganda



DR. RTD. MAJOR ROSE JESCA ALUPO,
Minister for Education & Sports



HON. PROF. SANDY STEPHENS TICKODRI TOGBOA
State Minister for Higher Education



HON. DR. JOHN CHRYSTOM MUYINGO
State Minister for Primary Education



HON. CHARLES BAKABULINDI
Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports



DR. ROSE NASSALI LUKWAGO
Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports

By Stella Naigino

The education sector has greatly expanded thanks to the government. At that time parents were experiencing challenges with paying school fees where only children for the rich were going to school. However, government came up with a wonderful improvement in the field of Education.

Universal primary and secondary education

From 1986 to 2015, enrollment in Primary and Secondary Schools has risen from 124,000 to over 8 million students respectively. This has been achieved through the Government introducing free Universal Primary Education (UPE) in 1997 and Universal Secondary Education (USE) in 2007. Upon the introduction of UPE, its major requirement was that each family takes 4 of their children to school, two of which had to be girls.

Under this programme, there have been strategies of ensuring child friendly School programmes introduced in 2001. It aims at promoting girls' education in a friendly school and home environment at the sub county, district and national levels. This program is co-ordinated by the gender desk of the MoES. Daniel Nkaada the commissioner for basic education at the Ministry of education notes that another is on ensuring on provision of safe water and sanitation to schools, provision of washrooms for girls, urinals for boys, and latrines with priority for girls and special emphasis on separation from boys' facilities. "In this, about 642 child (girl) friendly primary schools, including promotion of

interactive methodologies have benefited approximately 145,500 girls and 259,000 boys," he says.

"The Promotion of Girl's Education (PGE) scheme was also launched and the government called upon all Ugandans to come together to facilitate girl child retention and performance at the Primary level of education. The Equity in The Classroom (EIC) program was also introduced aiming at facilitating equal participation of girls and boys in the classroom," he says.

He adds that as a result of this, girls' enrolment in primary schools has increased to date. After the government realizing that some of the children could not continue with secondary education, it introduced USE in 2007. This has greatly showed Ugandans the relevancy of education which most Ugandans have embraced.

Quality Education

Quality Education especially at Primary level remains a challenge. However, Government has continued to invest in recruitment, training and re-training of teachers, increasing their salaries and setting up a fund through their teachers SACCOs for their further personal development. In addition more schools have been constructed and expansion of old ones has been undertaken, purchase and distribution of textbooks has been an on-going programme. Government appeals to parents especially to support its effort by providing lunch for children. This will reduce on absenteeism and poor performance.

Builds more universities

Still In 1986, there was only one university (Makerere) in Uganda with about 5,400 graduates. Today there are 10 public Universities and 30 Private Universities producing almost 150,000 graduates in various disciplines every year.

One major achievement has been the construction of Muni University and Soroti



Muni University Lecture Rooms

University using savings from Tax payers money. Government appreciates the role of private investors in supplementing its effort to provide quality higher education, which has attracted many students especially from the East African region to study in Ugandan Universities. Government continues to implement the affirmative action policy of 1990 which aims to increase the number of female students in Universities.

Improved Curriculum programs

To increase the competitive advantage of Ugandan students within the region, the East African region and beyond, Government has undertaken several curricular reviews at Primary, Secondary, TVET and universities with the aim of equipping learners with knowledge and skills to enable them access the world of work. Government places emphasis on the teaching of science subjects which has been made compulsory at

'O' level. In addition, Government is lending out money to students who have not qualified for sponsorship and all this aims at increasing resources required to spur industrial growth and development. Government has there fore invested in the construction and expansion of secondary school, TVET Schools and teacher education Institutions as well as in public Universities with the support of loans from NDB, World Bank, BTC, Islamic Development Banks and JICA.

ADB has constructed and refurbished 60 centres of excellency.

World Bank has constructed and expanded 650 secondary schools. Islamic Bank so far has constructed 25 Technical Institutions and all this is with in a period of 5 years.

Student's loan scheme

After the government realizing that education is very relevant for all, it introduced the student's loan scheme. It wanted to ensure equal opportunities for all Ugandans to attain higher education through the introduction of a Students' Loan Scheme for higher education. Higher education in Uganda was originally free covering tuition and living allowance but the growth of student numbers has meant that the government of Uganda can no longer afford to pay tuition and personal needs for all the students that qualify to join tertiary/ higher institutions. It has overtime offered bursaries to highly qualifying students at higher institutions but with the growth in student numbers due to UPE and USE support from the Government, many qualifying students have missed the chance to join universities and other tertiary institutions on government assistance.

BITVET

George Mwesigye Shillingi the principal lugogo vocational training institute says previously there is a stereo type in our society that places the award of a degree as a sole



Secondary school students ready for classes



USE Students in a Science Practical Class