



President Museveni and the First Lady Janet Museveni with JonqKu Chol, the president and chairperson of Korea Eximbank at Iganga Technical Institute yesterday

**EXTENDED LOANS**

*The President thanked the South Korean government for the soft loan extended to Uganda*

By Charles Kakamwa and Moses Bikala

President Yoweri Museveni has urged Ugandans to emulate and embrace the Korean aspect of entrepreneurship to ensure continuous development.

"In 1962, Korea was at the same level of development with us, but has now developed because of entrepreneurship. The people who started Samsung are normal people like you. Whether they are from inside or from other countries, we must encourage them," he said.

Museveni observed that technical schools are crucial in the modern world and said China as a country is now the second biggest economy in the world, because of the highly skilled human resource that it possesses.

"Japan, Korea and China do not have a lot of natural resources, but because of the skilling of their human resource, they are developing faster. We must emphasize technical skills such that a combination of our abundant natural resources and human resource that is skilled, can develop our economy," he stressed.

He made the comments while commissioning five refurbished technical institutes in the country that have been supported by South Korea. The ceremony took place yesterday in Kigulu South constituency, Iganga district where the President was accompanied by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Janet Museveni.

The Education Development Project, which was financed through a loan of \$28.6m (about sh101.1b) from Korea's Exim Bank, has been going on for three years with the refurbishment, rehabilitation and equipping of five technical institutes of Arua, Kiryandongo, Mubende, Nyakatare and Iganga. The Iganga-based project, where the official commissioning ceremony was held for all the five institutes, is the biggest.

President Museveni thanked the South Korean government for the soft loan extended to the Government of Uganda and for equipping the technical institutes.

"The equipment in the technical institute is what should have been there. In the past, we used to use muscle and things like the hammer, but these are automated and these days, computers are being used for precision. All high technical schools should be using

# Museveni urges Ugandans to join technical schools

**FARMING**

*The President encouraged the people of Iganga to follow the four-acre model of planting coffee, fruits and food while carrying out poultry projects*

this type of equipment. Uganda cannot fail to get \$28m. It is a question of planning," he remarked.

On the issue of household income generation, the President encouraged the people of Iganga to follow the four-acre model of planting coffee, fruits, food and grass per acre respectively while carrying out poultry projects or piggery in their backyards. He added that if they heeded his advice, they would alienate poverty in their households.

He cautioned them against growing sugarcane on a small scale, saying that it was only profitable on a large scale. He also informed the people that the concerned government ministries were currently working on setting sugar prices instead of leaving the job to manufacturers who allegedly cheat farmers.

The First Lady and Minister of Education

and Sports, Janet Museveni, thanked the government of South Korea for partnering with the Government of Uganda to support the education sector in the country.

She was happy to note that the negative social perception that most Ugandans had about technical schools in the country has changed because of the Government's continued efforts to invest in schools.

"All over the world, instilling of employable skills and competences relevant to the labour market is very essential for transformation of economies and this explains why the Ministry of Education and Sports, with our partners in development, is investing heavily in technical education and training," she said.

She also revealed that Uganda has been able to save \$4m (about sh14.1b) on the project as a result of the pace of the project implementation and that the savings have been invested in other projects.

The Ambassador of South Korea to Uganda, Jong Dae Park, saluted the Government for its effort in the education sector and for supporting the project.

President Museveni toured the different sections in the institute that included machine and fitting, automotive, woodwork, plumbing and welding, fashion and design as well as computer departments.

He also held a meeting with the South Korean ambassador and his delegation. He encouraged the South Korean government to not only invest in schools, but also consider investing in other sectors like factories.