

Ugandans urged on farming methods

BY GODFREY LUGAAJU

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Italian senator, Alfredo Mantica, has urged youth to embrace agriculture as a business venture.

Mantica, who has since returned to Italy, was in the country on an evaluation mission of a catalogue of projects such as Skilling Youth for Employment in Agribusiness (SKY) which is a five-year project being implemented by AVSI Foundation.

"There is need to bridge the unemployment gap in terms of skilling and our target is the youth. We want them to start looking at agriculture as a business venture and not as punishment," said Mantica while presiding over a meeting at AgroMax, one of the programmes run by SKY in Gayaza. The project aims to enhance sustainable creation of employment for youth in the agribusiness sub-sector in more than 22 districts located in the four farming zones of Lake Kyoga, Elgon, Lake Victoria Crescent, South Western Uganda and the Lango Sub-region.

Ritah Nalutaaya, who emerged the best candidate for the SKY training programme was full of praises for Avis Foundation.

"I acquired 1,200 coffee seedlings while I was still training. I have since established four acres of coffee at Kyampisi farm," she says.

