

Employers call for curriculum review

SHEEMA

By Chris Mugasha

Stakeholders in the private sector have asked higher institutions of learning to offer courses which are relevant to the current needs of the society and employers.

The stakeholders said there is a mismatch between what the institutions teach and what the employers in the private sector want.

They made the observations during a meeting of Kitagata Farm Institute and private partners of the institute, at Kitagata sub-county, Sheema district, on Friday.

“What the institutions teach is not what the employers want,” Nathan Kabahigi, the manager of Ruboona stock farm, said.

Emmy Kifaru, the director of Keirere Green Agency, said: “With the increasing effects of climate change, institutions should be teaching students how to carry out irrigation.”

Amon Kadameri, a skills advisor with Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI), said Uganda should stop following an education system that was designed by colonialists.

Kadameri urged the institutions to carry out market research to find out the skills which are needed so they can



Members from different agricultural companies touring an irrigation scheme at Kitagata Farm Institute in Sheema district. They asked the institute to teach courses which are demand-driven. Photo by Chris Mugasha

embark on teaching them.

He said it is unfortunate that some international companies are ferrying in foreign workers because institutions in Uganda are not offering the skills which are needed to get some jobs done.

“The rate of unemployment is still high because our institutions are teaching courses which are not demand-driven,” Kadameri noted.

The principal of Kitagata

“What the institutions teach is not what the employers want.” Kabahigi, Ruboona stock farm manager

Farm Institute, William Tukwatsibwe, called for early talent identification.

“Sometimes the education system forces students to

take careers which are not in line with their talents,” Tukwatsibwe said.

The stakeholders said a relevant curriculum can only

be achieved through regular reviewing by the education ministry, in collaboration with the institutions.

The stakeholders further asked institutions to engage students in more practical lessons.

The leaders of the institutions said much as they would want to engage students more in practical lessons, they do not have the materials and facilities to conduct them.