

## UMI COURSE

# UMI pioneers new transport course

By Andrew Masinde

**M**anaging transport and logistics in many organisations and institutions in Uganda has always been a challenge. Close to 50% of their budgets, according to expert estimates go to fleet-related issues that include acquisition of vehicles as assets, operational and maintenance costs in terms of fuel, and servicing vehicles.

This in one way or the other affects performance since most of the funds meant for other projects are spent on transport. Because of that, organisations started looking at how best they can minimise such expenses so as to maximise profits.

However, there seemed to be no solutions. It is with this background that Uganda Management Institute (UMI) sought to introduce the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) course.



Transportation should be priority for all institutions. Photo by Ronald Kijambu

Paul Wanume, the CILT course manager, says the course will help solve the problem many organisations are facing in running their transport services.

He explains that in the course they are to impart skills and knowledge on how one can manage fleet assets.

Wanume stresses that when you look at the balance sheets of many

organisations, over 70% of the fixed assets are in vehicles, so how can they be managed? How do they acquire them? All these skills will be acquired during the course.

Wanume adds that the course is the first of its kind in Uganda and, above all, it is an international qualification, which is recognised worldwide. "The course provides

professionals with skills, knowledge and change of attitude in transport and logistics management. UMI is privileged to be the only institution that has been accredited to offer CILT. It is also the only one that is positioned to go beyond the borders of Uganda," he says.

Wanume stresses that the institution is well-endowed in terms of facilities and resources to conduct the course.

"We have enough lecturers, many of them are at the level of fellows in CILT and others are members of the CILT. We also have a policy of outsourcing associate consultants, whom we have been partnering with in our collaboration strategy to ensure that we offer the best service to our clients," Wanume says.

He adds that logistics and transport is part and parcel of every organisation.

Be it in the private or public sector, they all have transport as a function, so the training in CILT may not be like other professions in terms of training job-seekers.

"People who are skilled and

innovative can create their own jobs after the training. You can start your own company that manages transport," he advises.

### Stages of course

Wanume says CILT will have three different levels, namely, international certificate in transport and logistics, international diploma in logistics and transport and then advanced diploma in logistics and transport.

"The public should come and get the training. Let them come and get the skills and knowledge that would give them an upper hand in terms of managing their transport and logistics. But also reducing on the cost so that they maximise their profits," he notes.

### Who qualifies?

Wanume says the course will be for those who would wish to switch to transport and logistics as a profession.

It will include those with a bachelor's degree in transport and logistics.



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