

National News

From humble village beginnings to academic excellence, Simon Mungudit aims to impact Uganda's petroleum sector.

BY JANE NAFULA

When Simon Mungudit arrived at Makerere University in 2021 to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Geoscience and Production, he was determined to make the most of the opportunity he had earned.

Four years later, he graduated with a CGPA of 4.76, emerging as Makerere University's best performing male science student, and one of the top achievers from the College of Natural Sciences (CoNAS) at the institution's 76th Graduation Ceremony.

Mungudit's journey began in Akuru Bridge Village, Nyaravur Sub-county, Nebbi District, where his childhood was shaped by constant movement.

His father, Mr. Thomas Owor, an officer with the Uganda Wildlife Authority, was frequently transferred across different conservation stations, meaning Mungudit's classrooms changed just as often.

"I studied primary while staying with my father at his workstation; wherever he was transferred, that is where I went to school," Mungudit recalls.

Despite the frequent relocations, his academic promise shone early.

At Karuma Primary School, he scored

From financial struggles to Makerere's top male scientist



Simon Mungudit at his graduation at Makerere University recently. PHOTO/ COURTESY

12 aggregates in the Primary Leaving Examinations, an achievement that paved the way for his admission to St Daniel Comboni's College in Nebbi, where he studied from 2015 to 2018.

At this stage, petroleum was not yet part of his dream career.

"I was more interested in electrical engineering; but during A-Level, I started developing an interest in petroleum," he says.

That curiosity would soon change the course of his life.

After Senior Four, Mungudit applied for the TotalEnergies EP Uganda A-Level Scholarship, a well-known programme in his region.

The scholarship covers tuition, scholastic materials, pocket money, and medical insurance.

"They cover everything; they even prepare you before you join school. It is like having another parent. That support changed my life," he shares.

For the Mungudit family, the scholarship came at a crucial moment.

"Education has always been important to us, but financially it was not easy, especially A-Level in a good school," Mr. Owor says. "When he received scholarships for the Advanced Level and university, it relieved a heavy burden. It gave us hope and stability."

His mother, Ms. Lily Grace Obewun, reflects on the silent concerns many parents carry about their children's education.

"Before the scholarship, I worried about how we would sustain his education," she says. "When he received it, I felt hope. It was as if someone had stepped in to support our child's future."

At A-Level, Simon studied Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics. His strong performance earned him government sponsorship to pursue Petroleum Geoscience and Production at Makerere University.

University life

University life brought both opportunity and challenge.

As the coursework intensified, particularly in areas like reservoir engineering, Simon relied on teamwork and discipline to navigate the programme's demands.

"It needed teamwork and serious discussion; it is not a course you can manage alone," he says.

Throughout the four years, his study group became a lifeline, along with the support of committed lecturers who guided him through the complexities of the petroleum value chain.

Beyond the classroom, Mungudit gained hands-on experience through internships with TotalEnergies EP Uganda and the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC).

The practical exposure

ABOUT MUNGUDIT

Background

Hometown: Akuru Bridge Village, Nyaravur Sub County, Nebbi District

Primary School: Karuma Primary School – scored 12 aggregates in PLE

Secondary School: St Daniel Comboni's College, Nebbi (2015–2018)

Scholarships: TotalEnergies EP Uganda A-Level Scholarship; Government sponsorship for university

University: Makerere University, BSc Petroleum Geoscience and Production (2021–2025)

it is even more thrilling to think about what the future holds for me, for those around me, and for the young people who hope to follow a similar path," he says.

Emerging as the best performing male science student and the top student in Petroleum Geoscience was an unexpected and humbling triumph for Simon.

"I'm eager to join the sector, learn from experienced professionals, and make a meaningful contribution," he says.

With Uganda's energy sector poised for significant growth, Mungudit sees his future intertwined with national development.

"The sector is still growing; being part of it means contributing to national progress," he says.

His ultimate dream is to build a career in the petroleum industry and give back to the ecosystem that helped nurture his journey.

Mungudit also emphasises the value of mentorship and guidance.

"Without the support from my lecturers, my study group, and the internships, I would not have been able to understand the practical and theoretical aspects of the field. It is not just about grades; it is about preparing to contribute meaningfully to Uganda's energy sector," he shares.

He urges other students, especially those from remote areas like Nebbi, to seize opportunities and remain committed.

"Where you come from should not limit your dreams. With hard work, mentorship, and opportunities



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PIG SUPPLY AND PROVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES – UGANDA & TANZANIA (CROSS-BORDER) REFERENCE NO.00000908

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This EOI replaces and supersedes the previously 2025 downward country-specific EOIs (Ref: REG-00000908 for Tanzania and REG-00000907 for Uganda). Due to a technical revision in the EACOP project execution strategy, the scope is now consolidated into a single cross-border requirement. Applicants must demonstrate capability to deliver services seamlessly across the entire Uganda-Tanzania EACOP pipeline corridor.

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable International/Local companies or qualified joint ventures to express their interest in the provision of Pig Supply and Support Services for the operational phase of the EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried and cross-border 24 inches pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Mwanza District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 290km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania. In Uganda the pipeline has 2 pumping stations along its length. In Tanzania, the pipeline has 4 pumping stations and 2 pressure reduction stations along its length before terminating in a Marine Terminal at Tanga. Piggings activities will be performed across the full EACOP pipeline corridor and must ensure operational continuity from Uganda to Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE (SPECIFICATIONS)

EACOP LTD seeks to identify qualified pigging service providers capable of:

- Supplying all required pigging products for the entire cross-border EACOP pipeline system and
- Providing local technical support, refurbishment, maintenance and operational services in both Uganda and Tanzania.

The selected entity must demonstrate integrated cross-border operational capability.

Mandatory Cross-Border Requirement: Applicants MUST demonstrate either:

- Legal registration and operational presence in both Uganda and Tanzania OR
- Formal Declaration of Intent to form a Joint Venture/Consortium clearly defined country-specific scope and responsibilities.

Failure to demonstrate compliant cross-border capability will result in disqualification.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

During the start-up and operations phase of the EACOP asset, Pigging operations are required to ensure pipeline integrity and flow assurance, including: Removal of wax deposits, Removal of debris and foreign materials, Removal of accumulated water, Support during start-up and steady-state operations. Services are divided into two main components:

A. PIG PRODUCT SUPPLY (24-inch)

Supply of pigging equipment for use across the Uganda-Tanzania EACOP pipeline corridor, including:

- Pipe type required: Bi-directional (B-D) pigs and Foam pigs
- B-D pigs must include replaceable components such as: Polyurethane guide discs, Seal discs, Spacer discs, Tracker, Bumper nose, Jet function (where required), Brushes and magnets.

Pigging Pools: Supply of pools to facilitate pig launching and retrieval from barrels.

- Refurbishment:** Replace damaged components locally and return pigs to operational readiness.
- Snagging & Disposal:** Dispose of irreparable pigs in accordance with EACOP HSE requirements.
- Technical Support:** Provide on-call technical support for: Stuck pig scenarios, Abnormal pigging events, Troubleshooting and diagnostics.
- Training:** Deliver On-site operational training, Refresher training & Technical advisory sessions.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Interested International/Local companies or joint ventures expressing their interest must provide:

- Brief description of experience, expertise, and capacity to deliver the required scope of services.
 - Minimum five (5) years' proven experience in pig manufacturing, pigging support services or both.
 - Demonstrated experience on cross-border or long-distance pipeline systems.
 - Evidence of similar projects undertaken in oil & gas operations.
 - Availability of qualified engineering and technical personnel.
- Valid regulatory licenses in both countries (attach copy).
 - Tanzania: Valid Business License; Certificate of Incorporation and Membership documents; Proof of Registration on the National Supplier Database (NSD) maintained by the Petroleum Authority of Uganda; Valid Uganda Revenue Authority registration and tax clearance; Statement of Compliance with the Petroleum (Refining, Conversion, Transmission and midstream storage) - National Content Regulations (2016).
 - For Joint Ventures: Formal Declaration of Intent to form a Joint Venture/Consortium clearly defining country-specific scope & responsibilities.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years and a Bank reference letter demonstrating financial strength to support operational continuity.
- Evidence of a Quality, Health, Safety and Environment (QHSE) Management system, organization and processes in compliance with applicable local and industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Human Rights and Compliance policies.

Companies or organizations which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to procurement@eacop.com (max. email size 20MB) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 27th March 2026. Email subject shall be: REG-00000908 Pig Supply and Support Services.

Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in the English language.

In his own words, It needed teamwork and serious discussion; it is not a course you can manage alone. – Simon Mungudit

4.76
MUNGUDIT'S
CGPA