

# World Youth Day

supplement

Saturday Monitor  
www.monitor.co.ug

Peace

## Govt programmes guarantee peaceful youth, says minister

**Commitment.** Government says it is committed to creating a productive youth population.

BY DERRICK WANDERA  
editorial@ug.nationmedia.com

As Uganda today joins the rest of the world to celebrate the International Youth Day under the theme, "Youth Building Peace," government has reiterated its commitment towards creating income generating projects for the youth as a way of ensuring peace and harmony in the country.

State minister for Youth and Children Affairs Florence Nakiwala Kiyingi told journalists in Kampala on Thursday that when youth have jobs, it is difficult for them to be lured into dubious activities by some people with selfish agendas.

"When the youth are unemployed, they get used easily by anyone who wants to push their agenda. They will always be busy and that is why we are making sure every youth is having something to do as government," she said.

"For us to see the youth peaceful, we need to create more jobs. That is why our theme for the day is 'Youth building Peace' and this can be achieved when the youth have something at hand to show," Ms Nakiwala added.

In a bid to improve on the youth income and livelihood, the minister said government introduced the Youth Livelihood Fund and this has been supplemented with the Youth Capital Venture Fund.

"The Youth Capital Venture Fund allows easier access to the fund as groups or individual youths. This is a good move to see that every youth has an opportunity to get something to do," said Ms Nakiwala.

The minister also said emphasis has been on rural youth development through the National Agricultural Advisory Services (Naads)



State minister for Youth Florence Nakiwala Kiyingi



Government says through its programmes such as the Youth Livelihood Fund, many youths are overcoming poverty and becoming self-reliant. PHOTO BY RACHEL MABALA

programme, observing that 68 per cent of the rural youth are poor.

The minister says in order to supplement the Naads programme, government is now giving heifers to the youth who excel in entrepreneurship.

"We know that there are young

people in the villages there who have been doing so well in the area of agriculture. But also we have come to learn that 68 per cent of the youth in the country side are poor because of lack of funding and different support. We have introduced more programmes

through Naads to see that the youth in the rural areas are catered for as well," she said.

Youth Day celebrations will be held at Bubukwanga Primary School in Bundibugyo District and will be presided over by President Museveni.

**"We have come to learn that 68 per cent of the youth in the country side are poor because of lack of funding and different support. We have introduced 1 more programmes through Naads to see that the youth in the rural areas are catered for as well."**

**State minister for Youth Florence Nakiwala Kiyingi**

**EDUCATE!**

### Educate! Giving Youth the Tools to Solve Poverty

Did you know? Six to seven billion youth will go through secondary school in Africa between today and 2100. Unfortunately, in many cases schools fail to teach these youth the skills they need to find employment or make a decent living after they graduate.

Educate! is an organization working to change this reality. Educate! develops young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa to give youth the skills they need to solve poverty for themselves and their communities. Educate!'s innovative model provides youth with skills training in leadership, entrepreneurship, and workforce readiness along with mentorship so students learn to start real businesses at school. Last year, Educate! worked with over 14,000 scholars in nearly 400 schools across Uganda! This year Educate! is working with over 500 schools across the country.

**Educate!'s Model**

- Skills Training
- Leadership Training
- Entrepreneurship Training
- Workforce Readiness
- Mentorship

**Impact**

- 21st Century Skills
- Leadership Initiative
- Small Business Creation
- Improved Livelihoods

**Educate!'s Impact**

Educate!'s model has been proven to lead to higher incomes and more job creation for program graduates. A randomized controlled trial—the gold standard in impact evaluation—found that:

- Educate! graduates DOUBLE their incomes!
- Graduates are 64% more likely to start businesses
- Graduates are 123% more likely to launch a community project, showing an increase in leadership and community engagement.
- 94% of Educate! graduates now run a business, hold a job, or attend university
- Female Educate! graduates are 152% more likely than their female peers to own a business, and they increase their income by 120%

**Success Stories**

**Pauline**  
When she was an Educate! Scholar, Pauline developed a successful notebook-making business. Pauline began producing her notebooks with recycled paper to cut the cost of manufacturing, which allowed her to lower the price of the notebooks so that lower-income students could afford to buy them. Now, Pauline's goal is to expand her business throughout Uganda, starting in Eastern Uganda, where she has witnessed families struggle to afford school supplies. Pauline just won 1.3 million Ugandan Shillings (\$400) at the annual Green Business Competition held by the International Labor Organization!

**Priscilla**  
After graduating from the Educate! Experience, Priscilla launched a peanut butter business. In the beginning, when she had meager funds, she had to grind her peanuts using a mortar and pestle, which was exhausting work. Over time, she generated enough income to afford a grinding machine worth more than 2 million shillings! Now, with the profits from her business Priscilla is able to support herself and pay a portion of her university tuition.

**Bosco**  
Bosco makes the most of any opportunity. As an Educate! Scholar in Lira, Bosco rose to a leadership role at his school, acting as a liaison between the student body and the administration. Not only did he excel as a leader, but Bosco became a driven and resourceful businessman by launching a banana plantation. Now, his plantation has grown and he earns enough profit to pay for his room and board at university, pay school fees for nine primary school students in his village, and help school drop-outs identify income sources to support their education. He has also become a farming consultant, supplying banana suckers to over 50 farmers in his region.