Over 100 vulnerable youth in Kamuli get skills

By Vision Reporter

It was an emotional moment in Kamuli district when over 100 vulnerable youth, mostly girls, received certificates after undergoing training in hairdressing, tailoring and catering. The youth, including teenage mothers, were trained under the Restoring Hope Vocational Training programme funded by Iowa State University in the US.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony in Kamuli Municipality recently, the project co-ordinator, Linda Kasiri, said most of the girls had lost hope of ever attaining a skill, but with support from donors, they were trained and can now start income-generating projects.

"These are not just skills. They are tools of dignity, of independence and of power," she said.

The guest of honour was Juliet Mukyala, the chairperson of the Kamuli District's Hairdressers' Association, who encouraged the youth not to lose hope.

"I left a teaching job and started my salon with just sh500,000, but today, I am successful. You can also make it," she said.

Mukyala challenged the graduates to maintain discipline and integrity as they join the business and employment world.

"Whatever you do, wherever you go, carry yourself with dignity. People may forget what you said, but not how you behave."

Two beneficiaries of the training in catering, Joyce Alaka and Viola Naigaga, who were trained in catering, hailed the project leaders for their skills. "It is never too late to chase your goals," Naigaga said.

Macrice Kaahwa, a former watchman who completed a catering course, said: "Today, I stand tall, not as a guard, but as a chef."

The youth were thrilled to learn that the certificates they received had been approved by the Directorate of Industrial Training.



Project leaders joined the youth to cut a cake during the graduation ceremony in Kamuli municipality recently

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