...ired to sign yet ...ter agreement for another year.

...children and promote their education."

NiE is an initiative used world over ... *subject, but an exciting teaching tool because newspapers simulate the real world in the classroom environment.*

The newspapers have fresh ... family paper, the language is suitable for all age groups.

NiE has promoted the reading culture in schools. It has been observed that the poor reading culture ... leading to low grades.

Save the Children supports 143 schools in Karamoja (Nakap, Nakapiripirit, Moroto, Kotido), Gulu, Omoro and central region (Nakasongola, Luwero and Nakaseke districts)

Netherlands embassy boosts Harvest Money expo

By Geoffrey Mutegeki

Uganda's biggest agricultural event, the Harvest Money Expo, is back. It will be held at Namboole stadium from February 16 to 18.

It is another opportunity for farmers to meet experts and connect with big companies in the agriculture sector.

This year, the expo has attracted The Netherlands Embassy as one of the sponsors. The Netherlands is one of the world's leading producers of agricultural products.

The embassy is bringing on board a number of leading Dutch companies to exhibit at the expo which will be held under the theme *From your farm to the market.*

The embassy will also set up a 'Dutch village' at Namboole where all the Dutch companies will exhibit their products related to the agriculture sector.

According to Josephat Byaruhanga, the senior policy agribusiness and agriculture officers at the Netherlands embassy, about 20 Dutch companies from Uganda and the Netherlands will exhibit at the event.

"We want this expo to grow into one of the biggest agricultural events in East Africa. We are committed to that and will encourage farmers to come and acquire skills," Byaruhanga said.

This is the second edition of the expo which was launched last year. It is an event for farmers to get skills from agricultural experts and business connections from other exhibitors.

"It is an opportunity for farmers to get direct contact with Dutch companies that can offer business opportunities and link them to markets in Netherlands and vice versa," Byaruhanga said.

Farmers will also attend master classes on how to do international business with the experts from the Netherlands.

"We are anxious about the expo and having Ugandans do business with the Dutch, especially on agribusiness. We expect about 10 companies from The Netherlands to come with technology and equipment for exhibition," Byaruhanga said.

Some of the expected companies deal in animal feeds, agro-machinery, and dairy farming.

Stephen Bayite-Kasule, the economic diplomacy and agribusiness officer at the Netherlands Embassy, encourage Ugandans to embrace the expo because it offers great opportunities.

"This is a great opportunity for Ugandans since there will be free and direct interactions with the experts in one place. Farmers should utilise the opportunity," Kasule said.

Joshua Kato, the *Harvest Money* editor, said this year will have more exhibitors at the expo, but the entry fee will remain sh10,000 per person.

Several training sessions have been organised for farmers and those interested. Whoever will be interested in the training shall pay an extra sh10,000 per day, he explained.

"If one pays sh10,000 for the training, they will attend all the sessions lined up for that day," Kato said.

Interested farmers and exhibitors can book a stall by sending an email to *hme@newvision.co.ug* or call 0752007564 and 0784584846

More of these stories can be found on *www.newvision.co.ug <http://www.newvision.co.ug>*

The inaugural Vision Group's Harvest Money Expo was held in February last year at Namboole stadium.

The expo attracted a big number of exhibitors and people who are interested in or are engaged in agriculture. There were farming training sessions on selected enterprises including bananas, piggery, poultry, coffee, urban farming, tips on marketing, irrigation and water for development plus livestock management.



Vision Group chief executive officer Robert Kabushenga (left) and the Dutch ambassador to Uganda Henk Jan Bakker listen to Celia Kansiime, best farmer 2016, during a tour of her farm. Photo By Maria Wamala

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