

MTAC holds first graduation in Mbale

By Samuel Sanya

There were tears of joy and ululations when the Government-run Management, Training and Advisory Centre (MTAC) held its first graduation in the eastern town of Mbale.

A total of 225 students from MTAC centres in Mbale and Pader, many of whom are already employed, graduated with diplomas and certificates in

various courses such as records management, accounting and finance, entrepreneurship and computing and information systems.

Presiding over the ceremony, trade state minister Michael Werikhe commended MTAC for starting courses in areas such as baking, hair dressing, shoe-making and candle-making which teach practical skills, which he said is urgently needed to alleviate youth

unemployment.

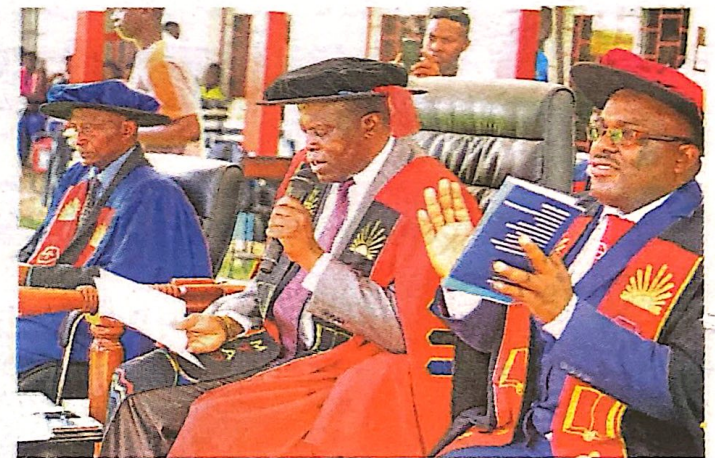
"Despite having a large, educated youthful population, Uganda still suffers a skills deficit, which Government aims to address through the skilling Uganda project. We want to have graduates who are job creators and not job seekers," Werikhe said.

Karanzi Nabeta, the acting executive director of MTAC, noted that enrollment at the Mbale campus had risen from

14 students in 2011, when the centre opened, to over 200 in 2017 as the training centre vocationalised its courses to impart students with practical skills such as leather works.

He urged the graduates to be ethical in all their dealings.

Mugaba Mohammed, the Mbale resident centre co-ordinator, urged the students to use their skills to create jobs and fight poverty in their communities.



(Right to left) Karanzi, Werikhe and Dr George Tumwesigye, the former MTAC executive director