



Ministry of Education & Sports

PRESS STATEMENT ON THE WSU NATIONAL SKILLS COMPETITIONS WEEK

Introduction:

Government in partnership with the Development Partners, Employers and the Private Sector are implementing the reforms that are provided for in the Technical Vocational Education & Training (TVET) policy of 2019 to turn around the perception, interests, quality and relevance of TVET. The TVET policy calls for popularize TVET among young people so that they are attracted, and the embrace TVET as a sure approach to self-employment, creativity, and innovation for sustainability. It's is well known that a skilled youth has high chances of obtaining a gainful employment hence reducing the barriers of unemployment. TVET is a key contribution towards National Development and improved economy hence the need to popularize TVET. One of the strategies identified by the TVET stakeholders for popularizing TVET is National Skills Competitions.

The National Skills Competitions.

In 2018, TVET stakeholders gathered at Lugogo ^{UMA} ~~Nakawa~~ at the stewardship of the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports

launched the first national skills competitions for youths. It was intended to among others unleash the potential of young people in creativity, innovation as well as enhancing their skills in different trades/disciplines in accordance with global occupational standards.

The National skills competitions are also a preparatory programme for TVET competitors to participate in the WorldSkills Africa Regional and the WorldSkills International Competitions. This year, the WorldSkills African Regional Skills competitions will be taking place in Namibia from 28th March to 4th April, 2022 and WorldSkills International Skills Competitions will take place in Shanghai –China between 12th -17th October, 2022.

In preparations for these great events, Uganda will hold its National Skills Competitions from 2nd to 4th February, 2022 at Nakawa Vocational Training College as a main venue. Other satellite venues will be at Mulago School of nursing and Midwifery for the Health trades, at Uganda Institute of Allied Health and Management Science – Mulago for Medical Laboratory and at Jinja Institute of Hotel & Tourism for Cooking. The participants of these national competitions are result of four regional competitions which took place last year 2021.

Skills Competition Trades:

The youth will compete in the following trades; Midwifery, Nursing, Clinical Medicine, Laboratory Technology, Pharmacy, Woodwork/Carpentry & Joinery, Bricklaying & Concrete Practice, Hairdressing, Plumbing & Heating, Agro-processing, Agro-machinery fabrication, Fashion & Design, Restaurant Services, Cookery, Electrical Installation, Painting & Decoration, Automobile Mechanics and welding.

The National Competitions have attracted a total of 92 young people from 55 TVET institutions of which 55 are male and 37 are female participants in the competitions. The best participants will be awarded with medals and other appropriate prizes at the climax of the competitions.

Skills Exhibitions

During the week of competitions there will be exhibitions from partners of WSU and MoES from both the Private and Public sector; TVET institutions. The exhibitions will be intended to showcase the products, services and talents of these partners, starting 2nd to 4th February 2022 at Nakawa Vocational College.

Skills Forum:

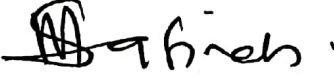
During the skills ~~competitions~~ ^{Competitions Forum} week, there will also be a skills forum. The skills forum will take place on Friday, 4th February, 2022 starting at 8:00am. The Skills forum will be guided by the theme “Skills Competitions: a means for creating opportunities and connecting societies – the foundation for socio-economic transformation”. During the same skills forum, stakeholders in the TVET system will deliberate on other topics such as, “The Power of Skills: Shaping and Defining our World” and the “Public Private Partnerships in creating a vibrant TVET system.” The output of the forum will provide direction to current and future policy and program in Skills training and development

A Call to stakeholders

We call upon all stakeholders from the industry, business and enterprises, the youth, education development partners, other ministries and government agencies, TVET training providers, the media fraternity and individuals to turn up in big numbers and support the noble cause of skills agenda through this National Skills competitions.

Appreciation:

As I conclude, on behalf of Ministry of Education and Sports and on my own behalf, I convey my sincere appreciation to partners and individuals who have contributed to the National Skills Competition right from the regional levels. These include Education Development Partners like Belgium, Ireland, Korea, UNESCO, World Bank among others, Employers, Ministry Agencies and Department like UNMEB, UBTEB and DIT, TVET Institutions and individuals. Your contributions are highly appreciated. Thank you so much.

For 
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Ketty Lamaro
(Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education and Sports)