



**UGANDA-GERMANY INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM
(24-26 July 2019)**

**MUNI-UNIVERSITY, Arua City, West Nile/Northern
Uganda**

Theme

**“Transformation through regional integration, investment and
Infrastructure development—Pan African peace building thru
Holistic development of Africa’s Upper Nile Valley (N Uganda,
NE DRC and S Sudan)”**

Venue

Muni University, Arua City, West Nile/Northern Uganda

National Organizing Committee (NOC)

MEDIA LAUNCH

KOLOLO, KAMAPLA

Date 12th June 2019

1.0 Preliminaries

On behalf of the University Council, Senate, Management, and the entire Muni University community, and on my own behalf, I take this rare opportunity to thank the Government of Uganda, the State House through Operation Wealth Creation (OWC-Convener), and Uganda Investments Authority (UIA) for choosing Muni University as host and Manager for this Historic Uganda-Germany Symposium scheduled to take place from 24-26th July 2019.

We are extremely honored by the level of trust and confidence placed on us as an institution to deliver this noble task. At the same time we are humbled by the eagerness and professional patriotism demonstrated by the German-Coordinator Prof. James Kajete, Members of the National Organizing Committee (NOC) chaired by Consul Dr. Robert Mwesigwa Rukaare; the Greater Northern Uganda Organizing Committee (ROC), Chaired by Mr. Taban Idro; Distinguished Elders and Youth Forum, and Muni University Organizing Committee (MUOC).

The Symposium Research Fellow Mr. George Piwang Jalobo, in the spirit of oneness and national building through forging Academia-private sector-government partnership has given tremendous support to the entire organizational process. We are very much indebted to him.

Permit me to straight away extend an invitation to all the Business Communities, Academia, Government Agencies, and the general public to come to Muni University for this historic event, and to participate in business to business networking workshops, showcases and exhibit your businesses, and conduct experiential learning.

2.0 Background

Muni University is the sixth Public University in Uganda. It was established by an Act of Parliament under statutory Instrument No. 31 of 2013 under Sections 22, 23, 24, 25 of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act (UOTIA), 2001 as amended.

It is located at Muni Hill in Arua City, in the West Nile sub region. As a body corporate with perpetual succession, MU is a land grant university with several land parcels (3600 acres) in the West Nile region offering diverse Research and Development, and investment opportunities.

The **Vision** of Muni University is “To be a model academic and professional university for transformation and development” and its **Mission** is “To provide quality education, generate knowledge, and promote innovations and community empowerment for transformation”. The Motto of Muni University is "**Transforming lives**" and the **Core Values** are Quality, Equity, Responsiveness, Professionalism, Innovativeness, Accountability and Honesty

2.1 Appreciation

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the Visitor, H.E. the President of Republic of Uganda, and First Lady, Hon. Minister of Education and Sports, Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development, and Ministry of Public Service.

The Chancellor of Muni University, who is an industrialist, The Rt. Hon. Dr. Eng. Eric T.S Adriko has provided excellent leadership in the entire process. We shall forever remain grateful to him for his solid support.

The Leadership and contributions from the University Governance represented by Mr. Gustavo Bwoch as chairperson and Mr. Tibrichu

Habib Amin-Vice Chairperson of University Council have continued to be advance and shape the preparations towards the symposium.

3.0 Why Muni University?

The Niche of the university is “to be an Entrepreneurial, Techno-science University with emphasis on Climate-Smart Agriculture (water, food security, and land use), energy, health, engineering, science, ICT, and education”.

The University opened its doors to students in 2014 and it is producing skilled ICT professionals already. Currently the University is running Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, Bachelor in Information System, Bachelor of Nursing Science, B. Sc with Education, Bachelor of Business Management and Entrepreneurship, and planning to launch programme of B.Sc (Agriculture).

MU has established an Investment Company that is planned to exploit the University investment opportunities directly in partnership with the private sector. This initiative will help to support government efforts in resource mobilization to promote the mandates of the university and actualize our initiative in promoting **the triple helix concept**.

The geographical location of MU in Arua, in respect to DRC, South Sudan, and CAR offers high comparative advantage for creating functional networks in Cross-border Academia-private sector-government partnerships. Therefore, Muni University presents geographical, functional, and pragmatic advantages that appeal more towards hosting and managing an investment symposium of this magnitude.

4.0 The Uganda-Germany Symposium objectives are as follows;

- To open and harness opportunities in investments, innovations, commercialization, business development and trade among Uganda, Africa-Germany, European Union (EU) Academia-Industry/Private Sector and Government Partnerships.
- To develop win-win-win Pan-African linkages and strategic collaboration among Ugandan, DRC, South Sudan's Universities (Academia), Industry/Private Sector and Government (Public Sector) Ministries, Agencies and Departments (MDAs); in Research and Development (R&D), Innovations, Commercialization, Entrepreneurships and Business Development.
- To enhance strategic collaboration between Ugandan/African Universities and German/European Union Universities and Academia-Industry/Private Sector-Government "Triple Helix" Partnerships arrangements for Entrepreneurship, technological Skills translation and transfer and jobs creation.
- To promote Pan-African peace building through regional and market integration, cross-border investment and business development through regional infrastructure development in Africa's Upper Nile Valley, viz. Northern Uganda, NE DRC and South Sudan.
- To promote investment and trade between Uganda/Africa-Germany/European Union (EU).

5.0 Expected Outcomes:

- (a) Increased private sector Networks,
- (b) Creation of new Partnerships,
- (c) attraction of New Industries/Businesses,
- (d) Increased Tax revenue,

- (e) Triggering Innovations,
- (f) Innovative joint curricula development,
- (g) Establishment of a Post-harvest Technology Centre (PHSTC) in MU and others;
- (h) Improved socio-economic status,
- (i) Creation of employment,
- (j) Regional integration in Africa's Upper Nile Valley.

6.0 Acknowledgement

We are grateful to GoU, OWC, UIA, MoFPED, H.E Dr. Robert M. Rukwaari, NOC team, Governing Councils and management of other universities in Uganda, South Sudan, and DRC, Local Government authorities in Northern Uganda, all committee members, Business Communities, our National, Regional and International partners, Sponsors, Media and General Public and all well-wishers.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY; TRANSFORMING LIVES