Muyingo wants job-relevant youth training

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- Written by Zurah Nakabugo

State Minister for Higher Education John Chrysostom Muyingo has said Uganda's youth should be helped acquire proper skills to make them competitive on job market.

"We cannot overcome poverty in Uganda without empowering 80 per cent of the country's population who are young people below 35 years. All efforts and resources shall continue to be committed towards this cause and ensure that we also invite more partners to work with government," he said.



State Minister for Higher Education John Chrysostom Muyingo

Muyingo said this on May 9 during the launch of Computer Numerical Control (CNC) training project at Datamine Technical Business School in Kampala. The CNC aims at skilling the youth in computer technology.

The government, through Private Sector Foundation, donated Shs 769 million towards the building of the laboratory where the CNC machine will be stored, training of the trainers for the project and training of students.

The institute principal, Deo Nyanzi, said the machine will be used in training students to accurately cut and shape all kind of metal, plastics and wood by using computer commands.

"It has a lot of safe measures since it uses computer commands. CNC machines are electromechanical devices that manipulate machine shop tools using computer programming inputs," he said.

Muyingo said the government has set out a massive skilling programme for youth to help them acquire job skills and make them more productive in modern technology.

"As government, we are encouraged by the efforts towards turning Datamine Technical Business School into a CNC technicians and operators' certifying centre. In order to make our youths marketable, they need to be certified to levels that make them compete at the global scale," he said.

Gideon Badagawa, the executive director, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, advised the students to respect their jobs and all people at work.

The chairman of the institute's board, Michael Mwebe, said: "We appreciate the realisation of government and its local and international partners for engendering strategic partnerships in promotion of technical, business and vocational training in the country. We shall use this partnership to enhance the relevance of 'skilling Uganda' as a key deliverable for youth in Uganda'.

He said every year they graduate over 500 youths who are oriented to the requirements of the job market.