

UBTEB, industries partner on skilling lecturers, students

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KAMPALA. The Uganda Business and Technical Examinations Board (UBTEB) has partnered with various industrial players to ensure appropriate skilling of students in vocational and business institutions.

The partnership, which started with conducting a training for assessors, lecturers and tutors in different industrial sub-sectors, is aimed at raising the quality of skills and build capacities between training providers and industry players.

Speaking at the Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MUZARDI), one of the training centres on Friday, the UBTEB manager for vocational education, Ms Nasaza Jalia, said they are investing in training lecturers who will in turn train their students to be competent in industrial skills.

Under the programme, students will be exposed to practical training at various industrial centres or fields. "The purpose of these trainings is to raise the level of quality of skills provision and build capacities between training providers and industry players, this slogan of saying half-baked students, unemployed students is going to stop," Ms Nasaza said.

New curriculum

The ministry said the move is aimed at ensuring the implementation of the new curriculum, which focusses on competence-based education and training.

The Ministry of Education and Sports allocated Shs1.5 billion to train assessors from Business Technical Vocational Education and Training (BTJET) institutions with their partner technical institutes.

A total of 118 assessors from 20 BTJET institutions are undergoing a two-week training, which includes visiting industries ahead of the implementation of the new curriculum for 18 new training programmes.

The new curriculum will start in February focusing on key areas of manufacturing and construction, agriculture and oil and gas.

LOOKING BACK

Speaking at a training for assessors at Ntinda Vocational Training Institute last week, the permanent secretary in ministry of Education, Mr Alex Kakooza, said: "We have changed the curriculum. Our assessment shall be more competence-based."