

A MAKERERE SYMPOSIUM ON NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN RESPONDING TO AFRICA'S
PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS



For Immediate Release:

Thursday, 27th March 2023

Press Briefing: Makerere University hosts a Symposium on the role of Universities in National Development.

Makerere University is elated to announce a **Symposium on the role of Universities in national development** dubbed **“Discussing the Role of Universities in Responding to Africa’s Problems and Development Needs,”** as a part of her strategic plan 2020/21-2024/25 which aims to transform Makerere into a research-led and knowledge-based university by championing the drive to offer practical solutions to the ever-changing needs of a dynamic Uganda, East Africa and Africa.

The symposium is scheduled for **Thursday, 30th March 2023**, starting at **8:00 am to 5:00 am**, at Makerere University, Freedom Square.

We are thrilled to be hosting such a symposium that will bring forth intellectual discourse on the pivotal role of not only Makerere University but all universities at a time like this where Uganda doesn’t have any established research University that provides the necessary link between a nation’s scientific and academic system and the ever-changing developmental needs of its people.

Makerere University’s Strategic Plan for 2020/21-2024/25, under the theme, **“Optimizing her potential as a knowledge hub,”** is the background from which the University Council decided to organize and host all institutions of higher learning, renowned academicians and researchers, Development partners, Government institutions, Private sector firms, Industrialists, Research organizations to mention but a few.

The main objective of the Symposium is to **“explore meaningful ways Universities and Institutions of higher learning can contribute to national development.”**

The Symposium will achieve four objectives:

1. Connect high-level decision-makers with universities, academicians and researchers, to shape practical and teachable solutions for Africa’s problems and Development Needs that can be integrated into university study syllabuses
2. Create a platform for accountability for institutions of higher learning, high-level decision makers, industry practitioners, development partners, and youth leaders to check on the implementation of policy outcomes from the symposium.
3. Facilitate dialogue towards championing research-led agenda among universities and securing buy-in from Government institutions, development partners and donors.
4. Avail a networking platform that will create sustainable linkages and partnerships between high-level decision-makers, donors, researchers, industrialists and universities.

This event will be a closed meeting for invited guests only. All proceedings will be aired live on the Makerere University social media platforms.

For more information, please visit <https://100.mak.ac.ug> or any of our social media platforms.