



Fostering Innovations for Uganda's Transformational Development

 **6TH-7TH**
October |  **9:00 - 5:00**
AM PM | YUSUF LULE CENTRAL
TEACHING FACILITY
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

For Immediate Release:

Monday, 02nd October 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Youth and Innovation Expo 2023

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Makerere University are elated to announce the **Youth and Innovation Expo 2023**. The Expo is to be held under the theme “**Fostering Innovation for Uganda’s Transformational Development**” in an effort to showcase outstanding youth innovations and youth enterprise.

The Youth and Innovation Expo 2023 will be held on 6th and 7th October 2023 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Yusuf Lule, Central Teaching Facility, Makerere University.

The Youth and Innovation Expo 2023 is being sponsored by MTN Uganda and Start Hub Africa as the curator for all the knowledge sessions in the two-day Expo.

A brief overview

In 2020, the President of Uganda H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni launched the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility (Y4BF). The programme was developed by UNDP to address the development challenge of youth unemployment in Uganda.

Y4BF was designed to respond to the effects of COVID-19 and beyond by driving social and economic transformation. This facility has been implemented through the combination of innovation, creating jobs and fostering entrepreneurship by supporting access to an integrated mix of finance products, business management skills and market access to young women and men entrepreneurs and youth-owned micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).



Makerere University, being the oldest and biggest University in Uganda, is uniquely positioned to be a hub of many youth innovations through end-of-year course research projects. Together with UNDP, Makerere will showcase a number of youth innovations and youth start-ups which have successfully made the transition from research to commercial enterprises.

Through this exhibition, we also hope to create viable forward and backward linkages that will facilitate the creation of jobs and foster entrepreneurship by supporting access to an integrated mix of finance products, business management skills and market access to young women and men entrepreneurs and youth-owned MSMEs.

Since its humble beginning in 1922, Makerere University has been able to transform communities and societies through its wealth of human capital, numerous research outcomes and technological innovations that have served Uganda, East Africa, Africa and the world at large. On the 25th and 26th of August 2023, we hope to showcase and exhibit the great strides Makerere and her alumni have taken towards Innovations and Enterprise over the last 100 years.

What to expect

The Youth and Innovation Expo 2023 will bring on board a number of activations from its sponsors, Makerere@100 partners, University Internal and External partners such as MTN Uganda, Stanbic Uganda, Bank of Uganda, Absa Bank, Bank of Uganda, Parliament of Uganda, DFCU Bank, Centenary Group, Standard Chartered Bank to mention but a few.

We have also curated a very engaging program for the two-day Youth and Innovation Expo, the program, directed by Mr. Maurice Mugisha will include an opening ceremony and a panel which will be held under the theme, “Creating opportunities for Uganda’s Young People: Moving from rhetoric to action” and five master classes.

The Masterclasses are well-curated knowledge sessions aimed at equipping both students and innovators with the necessary skills and hands-on knowledge for the journey of an innovator and the journey to employment for a student.

The Masterclasses will be held under the following themes;

1. Youth and Climate action: Opportunities for youth engagement in climate action.
2. The job market of the future: The skills and innovations needed in an unpredictable world.
3. Monetizing your innovation: The journey to your 100th customer.



4. Career paths: The best career path is not always a linear one

5. Fit for finance: Experiences from unlocking finance for youth enterprise and innovation.

These master classes will all be taking place in the Yusuf Lule, Central Teaching Facility. Please visit https://100.mak.ac.ug/mak_event/the-youth-and-innovation-expo-2023/ to view the program for the different scheduled master classes.

The line-up of activations for the Expo includes an Art exhibition, a fashion show curated by Axarya Trends and the Margret Trowel School of Fine Art, a medical camp, Food vendor stalls, exhibitions from all ten colleges of the University and other University institutions to mention but a few.

The two-day event will consist of a very comprehensive, insightful, and engaging program with curated performances from the School of Performing Arts and Film, a showcase of student innovations, exhibitions of Innovations turned enterprises from the Youth4Business program led by UNDP to mention but a few.

The Guest of Honour for the exhibition will be **Rt. Hon. Thomas Tayebwa**, the Deputy Speaker of Parliament.

The Youth and Innovation Expo 2023, conference program and master classes will broadcast live on all our social media platforms and various media platforms among the nation's leading daily. For more information, please visit <https://100.mak.ac.ug/> on any of our social media platforms. For any inquiries, please contact:

For any inquiries, please contact:

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