

Youth Service & Internship Programmes Provide Youth with Opportunities to gain Skills and Experience whilst serving their Community & Country

**A call to
Members of Parliament to
Support & Pass a Motion urging Government to
develop a Policy on National Youth Service and Internship**

**Harnessing the drive and creativity of Youth for Development; &
Supporting Youth to be more Employable and Enterprising**

*Participating in
an internship programme
opened doors for me.
I am now fully
employed as an ICT officer*

Fred Bbosa

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Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Youth Affairs (UPFYA)



Skills for Employability through Service & Quality Internships

Youth service and internship programmes that provide young people with work-like placements to enable them to become more employable whilst providing a service to their country and their community are running in many African countries. Including; South Africa, Lesotho, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya among others.

There is increasing evidence that such programmes are helping to address the problem of youth unemployment and assisting their participants to make the transition between education and the world of work.



In Uganda, there are positive examples: the Youthmap Internship Programme has provided opportunities to more than 150 young people and the positive outcomes they have achieved are very encouraging; and in KCCA a programme entitled 'i-serve' has recently commenced providing structured placements within various sections of the authority. Uganda Investment Authority is running similar programmes not forgetting the many such programmes being run by NGOs and other Agencies

Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Youth Affairs (UPFYA), together with the National Youth Council, has been advocating for such programmes and government has been listening. Their establishment is an objective in both NDP II and the National Action Plan on Youth Employment (NAPYE).

Also, the Great Lakes Region Heads of Government committed in July 2014 to such programmes being introduced by Member States.

A Policy On Youth Service & Internships Will Ensure;

- Well-designed and structured placements leading to positive outcomes for participants and host employers
- Youth are Supported to become more employable but also to be more enterprising: Job creators as well as better Job seekers, thus complementing existing government initiatives such as the Youth Livelihoods Programme
- Youth are Prepared to grasp the opportunities that will be created through the recently announced government programme to create five million Jobs in five years
- Harnessing the drive and creativity of young people to contribute effectively to national development
- Working in partnership with employers to build the next generation of a high quality work force and ensuring young Ugandans have the skills and experience to take their places in a growing economy.
- Young Ugandans are more competitive on the Job Market at Local and Regional level in view of the integration processes taking place to which Uganda is a party.



Let's work together to support the establishment of National Youth Service & Internship Programmes to address Youth unemployment, create responsible & active citizens.

