Gulu University Announces Second Cohort of TAGDev 2.0 Program Scholars for the 2025/26 Academic Year



<u>Gulu University</u> is proud to announce the selection of its second cohort of scholars under the <u>TAGDev 2.0 program</u> – a transformative initiative in partnership with the Regional University Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and <u>Mastercard Foundation</u>. This milestone reflects the university's commitment to nurturing leaders, entrepreneurs and changemakers through experiential learning.

Rooted in its values of professionalism, integrity, effectiveness, accountability, teamwork, gender responsiveness and inclusivity, Gulu University offers a dynamic environment that supports both personal and professional development for its diverse scholars.

Selection process

Following a competitive application process launched in February 2025, the TAGDev 2.0 program received a total of 1,317 applications. After an extensive 5-stage selection process coordinated by RUFORUM, 30 outstanding candidates were awarded scholarships.

The second cohort embodies diversity and equity:

- 70% are women, reinforcing the programs commitment to gender equality
- 30% are men, ensuring that the 'boy-child' is not left behind
- 30% are refugees, guaranteeing support for marginalized communities
- 20% are differently abled, underlining a strong focus on inclusion

Below is a table listing the selected scholars

S/N	Full Names	Gender	Program
1	Makembe Ben Damascus	Male	Bachelor of Business Administration
2	John Ayiki	Male	Bachelor of Business Administration
3	Haddy Lapwoch	Female	Bachelor of Business Administration
4	Atim Flavia Gladys	Female	Bachelor of Business Administration
5	Winnie Angel Acen	Female	Bachelor of Business Administration
6	Alimocan Rose Mary	Female	Bachelor of Business Education
7	Doreen Atwongire	Female	Bachelor of Business Education
8	Kangume Scovia	Female	Bachelor of Business Education
9	Mujawimana Phiona	Female	Bachelor of Business Education
10	Chris Oyaro	Male	BSc. Agriculture
11	Naachu Christine	Female	BSc. Agriculture
12	Fiona Oyella	Female	BSc. Agriculture
13	Harriet Alaroker	Female	BSc. Biosystems Engineering
14	Kuyu Isaac	Male	BSc. Biosystems Engineering
15	Dwoki Mogga Emmanuel Sokiri	Male	BSc. Food Bioscience and Agribusiness
16	Nashibah Nakaweesi	Female	Bachelor of Business Education
17	Cossy Atuhaire	Female	BSc. Food Bioscience and Agribusiness
18	Matlida Aling	Female	BSc. Food Bioscience and Agribusiness
19	Prisca Akullu	Female	BSc. Food Bioscience and Agribusiness
20	Akullo Moreen	Female	BSc. Food Bioscience and Agribusiness
21	Clement Pitia	Male	MSc. Agri Enterprises Development
22	Hairat Naava	Female	MSc. Agri Enterprises Development
23	Nabbumba Emilly	Female	MSc. Agri Enterprises Development
24	Akello Stella Josephine	Female	MSc. Agronomy
25	Jafari viga Jafari	Male	MSc. Agronomy
26	Aidah Birungi Zawedde	Female	MSc. Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management
27	NAKABIRI ASIA	Female	MSc. Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management

			MSc. Food Security and Community
28	Emmanuel Taban Odia	Male	Nutrition
			MSc. Food Security and Community
29	Havugarurema Theogene	Male	Nutrition
			MSc. Food Security and Community
30	Winnie Ajalo	Female	Nutrition

About RUFORUM and TAGDev

RUFORUM, established in 2004, is a network of 175 universities across 40 African countries which collaborates globally with other university networks, development partners, policymakers, and leaders to leverage synergies and work towards shared objectives in delivering science solutions for development, human capital development, and institutional reform in the African Higher Agricultural Education (HAE) system. RUFORUM recognizes youth as the driving force behind change and are leading the charge for a better Africa. Launched in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, the TAGDev 2.0 (Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's Growth and Development), a scale-up to TAGDev 1.0 is a 10-year (2023–2033) program being implemented in 12 African universities, namely:

African University (Zimbabwe

- 1. Egerton University (Kenya)
- 2. Gulu University (Uganda)
- 3. Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi)
- 4. Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (Morocco)
- 5. National University of Agriculture Benin
- 6. Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda)
- 7. University of Bamenda (Cameroon)
- 8. University of Eldoret (Kenya)
- 9. University of Cape Coast (Ghana)
- 10. University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria)
- 11. University of Free State (South Africa)

TAGDev 2.0 is designed to:

- Expand equal work opportunities for young women and men in the agricultural sector
- Improve climate adaptive agricultural production and productivity with a focus on value chains
- Strengthening the quality of higher agricultural education outcomes in training, research and innovation.

Why it matters

TAGDev 2.0 is more than just a scholarship – it is a viable platform working towards transforming Africa's higher education landscape. By promoting equity, inclusion, innovation, and leadership, it empowers youth facing barriers to education, poverty, displacement, and climate vulnerability. Through its involvement, Gulu University is cultivating a new generation of scientists, entrepreneurs, and leaders poised to contribute to Africa's sustainable development agenda.

To learn more about the TAGDev program at Gulu University, follow the social media handles below:

- TAGDev 2.0 Website: https://tagdevgu.com/
- TAGDev 2.0 linkedIn page: https://www.linkedin.com/company/105106662/
- TAGDev 2.0 Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573730770647
- TAGDev2.0 YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDzwuGj4g9jHDZKiKCd2utg