



## VET Africa 4.0: Reducing Inequality and Enhancing Sustainability Through Skills Development

**Title of the study: VET Africa 4.0: reducing inequality and enhancing sustainability through skills development.**

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**Institutions:** Gulu University, University of Nottingham

### **Introduction**

This informed consent explains the study to you. After the study has been explained, any questions you may have are answered, and if you have decided to participate in the study, you will be asked to sign a consent, which you will be given a copy to keep. The study has been cleared by Gulu University Research Ethics Committee.

### **Provide a brief description of the sponsors of the research project**

The VET Africa 4.0 project is funded by the UK Economic Social Research Council's Global Challenges Research Fund in partnership with Gulu University, Witwatersrand University, Rhodes University South Africa, and the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

### **Purpose:**

The study seeks to explore current and future sustainable possibilities regarding Vocational Education and Training that can reduce inequality and enhance sustainability in Africa. The findings of this study will help to develop relationships and networks of practice among various stakeholders, develop a new theory for VET and inform policy and practice.

### **Procedures:**

Your participation in this study may involve participation in an activity such as an Interview, Focus Group or Roundtable. We will ask you permission to take notes and record the activity. We may also speak to you about a video recording.

### **Who will participate in the study?**

You have been chosen to participate in this study because you are involved in vocational education and training in Uganda.





Focus Groups will last for approximately 3 hours and each Focus Group will have 10 participants-12 participants, Roundtable events will last between 3 – 5 hours with up to approximately 20 participants, Interviews will last for approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

**Risks/discomforts:**

There is no foreseeable risk of harm or discomfort that will arise from your participation in this study. The only risk or discomfort will be the inconvenience in terms of time spent during the Focus Group, Interview or Roundtable.

**Benefits:**

Potential benefits include but are not limited to: improved networking and communication among VET actors; improved VET curriculum, processes and policy.

Research participants will get feedback on findings and progress of the study, and any new information that affects the study participants (including incidental findings) will be made available to research participants.

**Confidentiality:**

Your identity will not be revealed to anyone outside the Interview, Focus Group, Roundtable, and research team as we shall only use codes to identify participants. Information obtained will only be accessible by the research team. Soft copies of the data will be protected by password and hard copy files will be kept under lock and key. Confidential information will only be accessed by the principal investigator.

**Alternatives:**

You do not have to participate in this study if you are not interested. You will not lose any benefit in case of no participation.

**Cost:** There will not be any additional cost incurred as a result of participating in this study.

**Questions:** If you have any questions related to the study, as a research participant, you can contact the principal investigator, Dr. George Openjuru on telephone number 0776540009 or via email on [george.openjuru@gmail.com](mailto:george.openjuru@gmail.com)

**Statement of voluntariness:**

Participation in the research study is voluntary and you may join on your own free will. You have a right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.



If you have any issues pertaining to your rights and participation in the study, please contact the Chairperson, Gulu University Research Ethics Committee, Dr. Gerald Obai Tel: No., 0772305621; email: lekobai@yahoo.com/lekobai@gmail.com; or the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, on plot 6 Kimera road, Ntinda, Kampala on Tel 0414705500.

**Statement of consent**

..... has described to me what is going to be done, the risks, the benefits involved and my rights as a participant in this study. I understand that my decision to participate in this study will not affect me in any way. In the use of this information, my identity will be concealed. I am aware that I may withdraw at any time. I understand that by signing this form, I do not waive any of my legal rights but merely indicate that I have been informed about the research study in which I am voluntarily agreeing to participate. A copy of this form will be provided to me.

Name .....Signature/thumb print of the participant.....Date

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Name.....Signature of researcher.....Date.....

**This is a copy which is available to download from the project website: [www.vetafrica4-0.com](http://www.vetafrica4-0.com).  
If you decide to take part you will be given an Informed Consent Form relevant to the activity you are participating in.**