



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

**REMARKS BY THE MAKERERE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS
FUND REPRESENTATIVE**

DR. JOSEPHINE NABUKENYA

**DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE KISH SYSTEM-KICKING SEXUAL
HARRASSMENT OUT OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
AT COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES**

TIME: 8:30-11:00 am EAT

- **Thank you Government of the Republic of Uganda-Our Donor for the continued support to Makerere University and other Higher Institutions of Learning**
- **The Makerere University Management represented by the Makerere University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe**
- **The Project Principal Investigator, Prof. Grace Bantebya**
- **The Research Project Team**
- **Project Stakeholders here present**

- **Colleagues from the Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund Grants Management Committee and Secretariat (Many of which are also logged in online-Zoom)**
- **Makerere University fraternity here present**
- **Other key stakeholders including the Private Sector and NGOs who have joined us today**
- **Distinguished Guests Ladies and Gentlemen**

On behalf of Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund commonly referred to as Mak-RIF, and specifically on behalf of Prof. William Bazeyo the Chairperson Mak-RIF Grants Management Committee, we welcome you to this launch of **the KISH System-efforts towards kicking sexual harassment out of Higher Education Institutions.**

Thank you all for honouring the invitation to this engagement amidst the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic threat. I warmly welcome the researchers and innovators in this room given that it is because of their creative efforts that we are all here this morning. Dear researchers and innovators, your presence in this engagement is a clear justification of your commitment to the work you are all doing and we must recognize you.

In a special way, allow me to take this opportunity to thank the Government of the Republic of Uganda for the continued support to Makerere University which support has even enabled us to engage other higher education institutions. We treasure the existing relationship with the Government of the republic of Uganda. We pledge our very best to realise systems, products, approaches and inform policy for better livelihoods among others.

Makerere University received Uganda shillings 30 billion only to support research and innovations at Makerere University in Financial Year 1 (2019-2020). For Financial Year 2 (2020-2021), we have also already received Uganda shillings 15 billion only towards the same cause. The Government of the Republic of Uganda has pledged continued support to Makerere University and for this we are sincerely grateful. It is through such generosity that we are all able to contribute to Uganda's development and growth. It is such joint efforts in escalating the work we are all doing including conducting research and later translating the research findings into products, approaches and policies that have enormously contributed to Makerere University's high ranking in research. With the fact that we all benefit from such efforts, we need to better strategize so that we place ourselves in a better position to attract and benefit from more funding from our Government but also other donors.

Ladies and gentlemen, you will all agree with me that it is very important for us to kick sexual harassment out of not only Makerere University but all higher education institutions so that we can achieve a lot more as higher education institutions. Allow me to stress the fact that sexual harassment comes in with so much destruction not only on the affected human beings but the community at large. If the sexually harassed does not end up with unwanted pregnancies, they can contract diseases, lose focus and lose

dignity among other effects. At the same time, those sexually harassing others equally face the challenges of either losing a job, contracting diseases, losing respect, dignity, self-esteem, focus among others. Why should we expose ourselves to such challenges which are avoidable? It is for these reasons and many more that we are grateful to Prof. Grace Bantebya and her team for working hard to put together a system to further aid our efforts to kick sexual harassment out of Higher Education Institutions. Sexual harassment derails our efforts to 'Build for the Future' let us all join efforts to say NO to this vice.

Dear participants, as we teach, carry out research and innovate, let us instill in the students, faculty and communities we engage with the ability to be able to think without the box in order to address Ugandan, African and global community development challenges. We have thought within then outside the box, and now is the time for us to think without the box given circumstances. Let us also join efforts to further look out for partners to write and submit winning proposals for additional funding to support the work we have started and are yet to start.

Once again, ladies and gentlemen, thank you for honouring this invitation. I am looking forward to fully utilizing the KISH system within Makerere University and beyond.

Thank you.

'We Build for the Future' 'For God and My Country'

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