

[HOME](#)


Aufpreis ab Zürich
nur CHF **99.-**

Aufpreis pro Strecke auf ausgesuchten Flügen.
Lim. Platzzahl, zeitl. begrenzt. Änderungen vorbehalten.

swiss Swiss International Air Lines
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



Uganda: Swisscontact Set to Impart Vocational Skills On 1,000 Youth

Al Mahdi Ssenkibirwa and Steven Otago

21 October 2009

Swisscontact is to equip 1,000 youth with entrepreneurship skills in trades of their choice as part of efforts to empower them to make a living.

Mr Hans Hess, the president of the non governmental organisation, says Ugandan youth have the potential to salvage the country's agriculture-based economy but they lack adequate training.

"This is part of the programme we started this year and we are optimistic that training the youth in trades of their choice within their localities and environments will to increase their business competitiveness," he said.

Swisscontact launched its programmes in Uganda in 1997 and has over the years extended market oriented vocational training to 14,000 youth in fish farming, fish pond making, tailoring and carpentry. The NGO, which operates in over 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe recently marked 50 years of existence with a cocktail party.

Mr Hess says their focus since January this year has been on establishing a coffee training school that will encourage people to grow more coffee and consume its products .

Agriculture employs over 80 percent of the Uganda's population and generates 90 percent of export earnings. Coffee is the main export crop, with tea, coffee and cotton also raking in millions of dollars each year.

Mr Hess said his organisation will help market locally produced agricultural products if they are readily available in surplus.

"Many people focus on production but forget warehousing and distribution. You have fantastic soils here. Everything grows here and as Swisscontact we are ready to get markets for these products," he told Daily Monitor.

Youth constitute 55 percent of the country's total population but for years they have been grappling with high unemployment levels.

Statistics indicate that 390,000 youth join the labour market annually but only 113,000 are absorbed into the formal sector, leaving the rest to join the informal sector.

A recent Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) report indicates that the size of the working population is expected to increase from 14 million in 2007 to 17 million in 2011. This is an indication of additional jobs that need to be created given the current stock of jobs.

In 2006, the 70 percent of the working population was engaged in Agriculture and Fisheries and was mainly self-employed.

Copyright © 2009 The Monitor. All rights reserved. Distributed by AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com).

AllAfrica - All the Time

[Ticket South Africa](#)

Tariffs of 540 airlines compared. Book now with low price guarantee!



[Cape Town 2010 Pvt Villa](#)

Privacy of 5 Star Luxury Villa for Soccer 2010 Accomodation, SA

Google-Anzeigen