

Madhvani alumni tipped on success

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The Muljhibhai Madhvani foundation recently hosted its alumni to a one-day seminar on how to become an entrepreneur.

Paula Kyabaggu Mukama, a human resource consultant, spoke about the importance of writing an appealing CV and the dos and don'ts of interviews.

"A CV is an opportunity for one to market oneself and if not restricted by the number of pages to submit, write every strong point about yourself," she advised.

Mukama encouraged the participants to undertake extensive research on an organization before going for an interview. In addition, they should remember to dress appropriately, arrive on time, speak clearly, authoritatively and honestly.

Charles Ocici, the executive director of Enterprise Uganda, blamed the high rates of graduate unemployment on the narrow perspective Ugandans hold in regard to the value of education.

"Many Ugandans have the one-career mindset where they have been trained to go to school and then look for employment," he said.

"However, we go to school to broaden our career options and hence entrepreneurship comes in handy."

In Uganda, over three million people are jobless and another three million are underemployed.

As a solution, Ocici advised the alumni to use their talents, skills and hobbies as sources of business opportunities.

"Entrepreneurship is attitudinal and takes time to get it right and thereafter,

[there's need for] continuous nurturing to preserve what has been started," he said.

The function also doubled as a graduation ceremony for the Madhvani beneficiaries who graduated last year.

"Hosting this, our second graduation is a great milestone in the programme and we are glad to announce that since 2003, the foundation has sponsored the education of over 1,200 students," Jonathan Muwaganya, chairman of the foundation, said.

The Madhvani Foundation Alumni Association (MASS) is a voluntary organization made up of former beneficiaries of the scholarships scheme. The association was formally launched in July 2009 and aims to bring together all former students who have successfully completed their studies.

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