



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY



UNVEILING UGANDA'S HIDDEN GEM

There are a thousand reasons for calling the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) of Makerere University a hidden gem of Uganda. IDI is a National Referral Centre for complicated HIV/AIDS cases. IDI cares for 300,000 people infected with HIV (almost 30% of the national population infected with HIV) in Uganda. The Research Program is behind research scholarly programs to capacitate African scientists in conceiving, conducting and disseminating much needed evidence for health policy reviews. The Health Systems Strengthening Department is the bedrock for field implementation activities at IDI.

McKinnel Knowledge Centre (MKC)

The US\$ 6 million state of the art building situated in the lush green eastern part of Makerere University is an art piece on its own, housing 1750 Ugandan employees. It is abuzz with trainees walking in and out on a daily basis and boasts of an alumni of 35,750 health workers who have gone through its doors.

The Global Health Security Program, situated at MKC is on the look out for health security threats and outbreaks of emerging/re-emerging infectious diseases like Ebola, SARS, Yellow Fever and Marburg viral diseases.

Most amazing is the 'Friends' concept at the core of its values. 'Friends' are HIV-affected and infected persons who voluntarily participate in HIV research, prevention and care for sustainable gains (Citizen Science). You will also not miss sighting adolescents and other key populations at McKinnel, who seek and find appropriate educative content and counseling on HIV/AIDS.

"The work IDI does in providing advanced and specialized courses in the management of HIV and related infectious diseases using a comprehensive blend of learning that includes classroom – based training, clinic and community immersion is timely and holistic,"
Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, Prime Minister of Uganda

Academy for Health Innovation, Uganda (A4HI).

Drones, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, 3D printing, robotics and block chain and advanced data analytics (Big Data' technologies); the major ingredients of the fourth industrial revolution (4IR) are at the A4HI.

African Centre of Excellence in BioInformatics & Data Intensive Sciences(ACE).

The ACE is one of its kind. It is a bioinformatics and genomics node synthesizing large volumes of health data that cannot be handled with conventional computing capacities and methodologies. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning capacities are also new additions at ACE, to lead the next generation e-Science work at Makerere University.

IDI Kasangati Centre of Excellence in HIV Prevention:

There is a unique concept of 'Preventing HIV through Positives' (PtP). Through PtP, IDI promotes positive attitudes towards awareness of your HIV status, linkage to treatment if tested HIV-infected, protecting discordant partners, mother to child transmission of HIV and preventing the onset of opportunistic infections. IDI Kasangati is home to PtP.

IDI Adult Infectious Diseases Clinic, Mulago Hospital Complex

The Prevention, Care & Treatment (PCT) Program specializes in managing unique and complicated HIV and other infectious diseases. Key Populations like HIV-discordant couples, non-disclosing couples, female sex workers, people who inject with drugs, men who have sex with men, chronic HIV, ageing adults and HIV positive pregnant women. The PCT program is hinged on IDI's Research Program with its enablers; the IDI accredited Core Laboratory and its Health Systems Strengthening Department. Many scholars have been born from this institution to fuel problem-solving, critical reasoning, and in-depth thinking in Africa. With 22 masters in medical specialties, 5 PhD scholars, 5 clinical fellows, 3 post-doctoral clinical researchers and 756 peer-reviewed publications from IDI, Makerere University ranking in Africa has improved.

In a nut shell, the Infectious Diseases Institute is Uganda's precious stone.

