

# ICT Clubs in Uganda

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Students of Iganga Secondary School demonstrate their skills in computer maintenance during launch of their school's ICT Club in April 2019.



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## 23 more ICT Clubs launched in 2019.

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## Message of the RCDF director to ICT Clubs.

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## ICT Clubs unleash their creative and innovative power across the country.

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## Kudos to Bishop Kivengere Girls and Lira Town College ICT Clubs for Excelling

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## A profile of an ICT Club alumni.

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# 23 More ICT Clubs Country-Wide!

This effectively brings the number of UCC Supported ICT Clubs in secondary schools to 43, having launched 20 of them earlier in 2018!

As was the case last year, this time around, each club received two Samsung Tablets donated by UCC. Bundle will be loaded free for three months. UCC branded T Shirts were also received by the clubs.

Quite unique this time was the digitalized message of the UCC Director and in-charge of Rural Communication Development Fund (RCDF), Mr. Nyombi Thembo.

## The New ICT Clubs, 2019

Name of Institution	District	Region
Butsibo Secondary School	Sheema	West
Nyabiteete Secondary School	Rukungiri	West
Nyakiyumbu Secondary School	Kasese	West
Wekomire Secondary School	Kyegegwa	West
Vision Secondary School	Kisoro	West
Kambuga Secondary school	Kanungu	West
Trinity College Nabbingo	Wakiso	Central
Mubende Light Secondary School	Mubende	Central
St. Elizabeth Girls School, Mityana	Mityana	Central
Semuto Secondary School	Nakaseke	Central
St Henrys College Kitovu	Masaka	Central
Seeta college	Mukono	Central
Apac Senior Secondary	Apac	North
Sir Samuel Baker Secondary School	Gulu	North
Kitgum High School	Kitgum	North
Pallisa Secondary School	Pallisa	North
Nyangilia Secondary School	Koboko	North
Dzaipi Secondary School	Adjumani	North
Bududa Secondary School	Bududa	East
Bukedea Comprehensive Academy	Bukedea	East
Soroti Secondary School	Soroti	East
Rock High School	Tororo	East
Iganga Girls	Iganga	East



**Message of Director of Rural Communications Development Fund (RCDF), Hon. Nyombi Thembo (in the above picture) He had a strong message for all the ICT clubs during the launch.**

I am happy to be interacting with you. As RCDF, we are excited to be working with you. Especially working with schools because we know we are touching the hearts and minds of our young people. Of course, when you touch the hearts and minds of young people, we know that we are reaching up the teachers who are the souls of the country. So when we touch the teachers and the students, in our view; in our philosophy as RCDF and UCC, we know that we have touched everybody.



*Students of the ICT Club of Vision S.S., Kisoro watch as they listen to communication of the RCDF chief during launch of their club.*

# Message of Director of RCDF Continued

Schools are very important because our mandate is to reach out to the underserved. Because the problems are too big and the resources are not enough, we had to optimize, balancing, reaching out to the underserved but of course reaching out to the critical mass that we should reach. So in our view, in our philosophy, we thought that going to the schools would be reaching out to the underserved through that critical point where we have the bulk of our young people. So we took the schools, especially the secondary schools as our entry point to the underserved areas.

So, for us when we come to a school, we are not only providing the hardware, we are not only providing the computer lab but we are using a school as an entry point to the underserved area.

That's why in the past, eight years or so, we have been able to reach one thousand and thirty secondary schools, covering now almost ninety percent of all government schools in the country, with at least a basic lab. And note my word: a basic lab. I know that the infrastructure that we have put up in most of these schools may not be enough. Ours is to put up a proof of concept, a blue print that actually ICT can work, that ICT is very important in schools. We are happy that because of our intervention, ICT is now an examinable subject at O and A level. We are happy to be part of this journey.

We are happy to be part of this revolution. And we are willing to continue collaborating with the schools. We want to build most of our intervention from school level.

However, we have been facing a lot of problems with the ICT Laboratories. As you must be aware, most of these schools could not sustain the labs. Small maintenance issues left most of these labs dysfunctional - not working. Some of the schools did not see the importance of ICT. They left them to decay. One time I visited one of the districts where I found my friend the ICT teacher had gone away with the key of the ICT lab and he spent about two months absent. Here is a forty computer lab, the children craving to get knowledge of ICT but my good friend the teacher had gone on live with the key. The lab was locked. That showed that the appreciation of ICT was somehow inadequate in some of the institutions.



*Students of the ICT Club of Apac S.S., Apac watch as they listen to communication of the RCDF chief during launch of their club.*

From then on, we introduced retooling teachers. We've been retooling teachers to make our heads of these institutions to appreciate and understand this intervention we are trying to make. There's a lot of improvement should say, but again we thought, "let us have an intervention where we shall put the running of these labs more in the hands of these students themselves. That's when we evolved this idea of forming ICT Clubs. In fact from this financial year onwards, we shall not collaborate with any school in as far as the computer lab is concerned when the school has no ICT lab. That's condition number one. You must of course have space and second, you must have a functional ICT Lab.

What we are doing now in our partnership with KAWA is to make sure that we do a proof of concept. Last year we did 20 clubs. we shall do another 23 or so and perhaps another 30 next year. But get it from me that we feel every school should have an ICT Club if you are to collaborate with us. We believe that if these labs are in the hands of students, these small maintenance problems can be handled by trying to develop a monitoring software that will be able to monitor remotely all these school labs where we should be able to collaborate with you online ... you can call us.

# Message of Director of RCDF Continued

**“...we feel every school should have an ICT Club if you are to collaborate with us.”**

*Director Hon. Nyombi Thembo*

You're being linked to universities where some of these small problems can be trouble-shoot. We believe this will go a long way to improve the sustainability of this project.

So I wish you well as we partner with KAWA. Take whatever they are sharing with you very seriously. And take ICT very seriously because, as the saying goes, IT is the in thing of today and tomorrow.

## LAUNCH OF THE ICT CLUBS, 2019 IN PICTURES



*Bududa SS, Bududa*



*Rock High - Tororo*



*Vision S.S., Kisoro*



*Vision S.S., Kisoro*



*Nyanglia S.S., Koboko*



*Nyanglia S.S., Koboko*



*St. Elizabeth Girls, Mityana*



# LAUNCH OF THE ICT CLUBS, 2019 IN PICTURES



*Nyabiteete S.S., Rukungiri*

*Kambuga S.S, Kanungu*



*Kambuga S.S., Kanungu*

*Nyakiyumbu S.S, Kasese*



*Nyakiyumbu S.S., Kasese*



*Butsibo S.S., Sheema*



*Apac S.S, Apac*

# LAUNCH OF THE ICT CLUBS, 2019 IN PICTURES



*Sir Samuel Baker, Kitgum*



*Kambuga S.S., Kanungu*

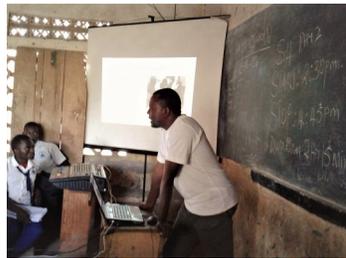
*Nyakiyumbu S.S, Kasese*



*Kitgum High, Kitgum*



*Dzaipi S.S., Adjumani*



*Mubende Light S.S, Mubende*

# LAUNCH OF THE ICT CLUBS, 2019 IN PICTURES



*Wekomire S.S., Kegegwa*



*Iganga S.S., Iganga*



*St. Henry's College, Ktovu*



*Trinity College, Nabbingo*



*Seeta College, Mukono*

*Semuto S.S., Nakaseke*

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## ICT Club Learners go Creative and Innovative

We are delighted to share that several of the first 20 ICT Clubs launched in 2018 answered our call and took the challenge of taking their learning experiences to innovative and problem solving experiences as well as lab maintenance.

### Dabani Girls', Busia



ICT Club learners of Dabani Girls in Busia demonstrate their skills in designing brochures and certificates for the first time.

20 of them are also actively involved in computer repair and maintenance with the guide of their teachers.



**Nakayenze Mercy Prossy :**  
"Thanks to the ICT Club, I can now open the system unit and clean the inner part of a computer. I finally show what the CPU looks like. I used to think that since it is the brain of the computer, it is very big but it's very tiny. I didn't know. ICT has

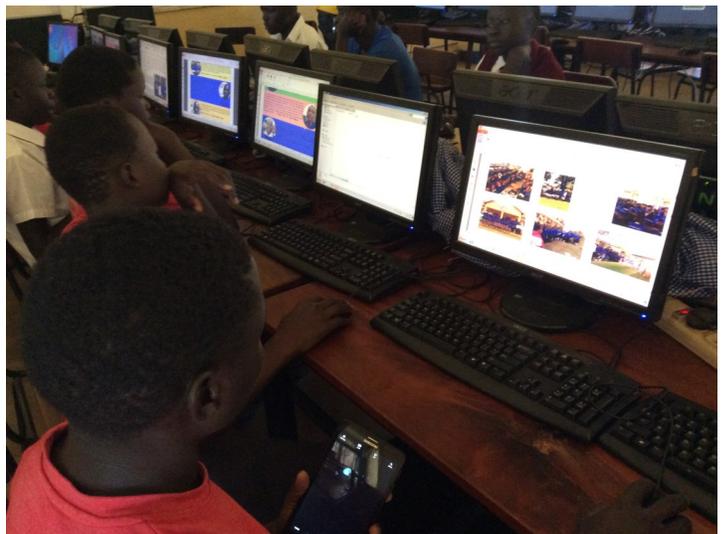
really changed my life. I can also design a business card, invitation card and a calendar. I can also design wedding cards. You know people like wedding in December. So since I can design wedding cards, I can make money.

"When I was in senior one, that was before I joined this club, we could just wait for the teachers to come and we did not know anything. But through ICT Club, we were taught how to connect computers, how I can connect a mouse to the CPU, how I can connect the printer... So, I can also connect a computer and it starts working. I am so grateful about the ICT Club."

### Mbale S.S.



**May Phiona:** We have been teaching fellow students in the lower classes how to use computers programs like MS. Word, MS. Excel and so forth. We also shared with them how to care for the machines. We have been encouraging them to take care of the machines in our absence.



Students of Gulu high read the ICT Club Bulletin on their lab computers' desktops. Quite a nice idea to let more students have access to content .

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Masaka S.S.S., Masaka



*Students of Masaka SS demonstrating their skills in computer maintenance and repair.*

With the help of the UCC donated tablets, a team of the ICT Club members researched and gathered information they need on how to do cable networking. They already have the necessary types of cables for networking.

Three club members took lead to demonstrate their skills in networking and managing password hardware.

They also developed plans to make a drone. They have did ground work in form of gathering information on how to make a drone. Other plans: developing a school website and a social media

***A Member of ICT Club of Masaka:*** Personally, I am happy with UCC because as they inform us, we are also giving them information. I did not know that in this world, you can create opportunity from places that are not well off. I have learnt that in a place like Nyendo (a slum area in Masaka) I can come up with something that is innovative and that the place becomes good. I hope to come with something very innovative. I reside in Masaka but I have to go to Masaka and see how to come up with something creative and innovative. I would like to encourage those of you who stay in places like Nyendo and those slum areas like in Kampala, just know that you have opportunity to do great things there.

## Mbarara High, Mbarara,

The ICT Club of Mbarara High School has a number of teams. Each of them has tasked itself with a specific learning project. For purposes of the support visit, the learners organized themselves to exhibit their projects, conducted by their chairperson, Asimwe Mervin, S5. The following were the teams that exhibited:

***The Multitude Technologies***, composed of S3 students, ***Movest*** composed of S5 Students, ***Nobo*** by an S3 Student

***The Weaverbird Project by the Multitude Technologies Team.***

Four members of the team came up with a gadget that can detect an intruder or trespasser and sets off an alarm, hence the name of the bird that makes alarm once they sense danger in their midst.

According to the Multi Technologies Team, they came up with the idea when a stranger walked in their dormitory unnoticed. The system works with help of a combination of springs, switches and infrared light together with a pressure board hidden where intruders are likely to step. Once pressure is exacted on the pressure board, the light goes off and gets back on only when the pressure is off. The blinking of the light therefore alerts one of the presence of something or person.

According to the team, the gadget is easy to build and its materials are easily available, it is also easy to maintain. It is environmentally friendly and very cheap in terms of energy consumption.

They however said an intruder can easily dismantle it once discovered. They are therefore thinking of ways of making the product even better.

They are nevertheless thinking of creating more and experimenting with it at their respective homes over the forth coming school holidays.

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Mbarara High, Mbarara



*The team of young minds and teachers behind the innovative learning projects of ICT Club of Mbarara High School, Mbarara*

One of the team leaders said the project has taught him to be innovative and learn to identify and utilize available materials which are often taken for granted.

They hope to exhibit it in other forums.

“I learnt that I should always be creative with the little things that I have because they make help a lot just like the ordinary things we used in this project.”

**Keyboard Keys App by Movest Group:** Using the tablets donated by UCC, the Movest team of students made an android application that can teach students and other computer users how to use the key board. It bares notes on keyboards – its definition and how it functions. It also bares well labeled image of the key-board, showing the different keys and their functions. The learners also programed a voice facility which gives option of listening to instructions.

**Instructional Video in Computer Studies.** This is the second project undertaken by the Movest Group. Three of them were involved:

- Nimusiima Vision S5
- Nowembabazi Honest S5
- Kamukama Modern S5

By the time of the support visit, the group had gone a long length in creating an instructional video on mail merging. They intent to create more instructional videos.

According to the team, they would first think through ideas then they would brainstorm on the options tabled. Once they agreed on something they took up role, each according to what he can do best.

According to the team, the instructional video adds value because it eases a teacher’s burden of showing learners what to do. The learners are able to learn even without the teacher.

Their biggest challenge was downloading the necessary software and then converting it to suit the tablets. It was a time consuming process and requires a lot of effort from the learners.

They also had challenge of a conducive environment to do their recordings. They have identified a quiet room to do the recording. They were advised to consider making the room sound proof using available materials like card boards and egg trays.

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Mbarara High, Mbarara

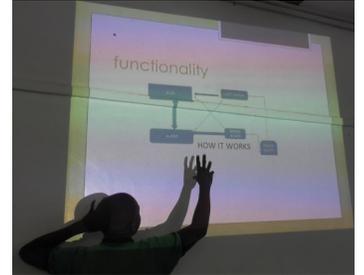


The mind behind NOBO displays his logo on screen of a tablet.

### NOBO – An Online Notice Board

The NOBO creator observed that since the beginning of time, “man has had to innovative and survive”. He observed that with time, communication technology has grown to heights which man could not conceive in the earlier years. NOBO is an acronym for Notice Board. The idea behind the project is to create an online platform (notice board) where students from different places can connect, interact and share ideas to promote ICT in Uganda. His main goal is to create a platform where everyone can learn what they need to know about ICT. By the time of the visit he had taken about four weeks to create NOBO. He sees a future where the site will be available to all schools in Uganda.

→  
The pair behind the Weaverbird Security System project with their product. Notice the item on the floor which is actually a switch.



LEFT: A close up of the security system developed by learners of ICT Club of Mbarara High. ABOVE: They explain how the gadget works with aid of a graphic illustration.



Team of Multitude Technologies (ABOVE) display their digital instructional video on a tablet and (BELOW) getting it ready for demonstration.



# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## St. John S.S. Nadere



*ICT Club members of St. John S.S.S Nadere view their school's website that that developed*

### SELECT TESTIMONIES OF ST. JOHN S.S., NADERA ICT CLUB MEMBERS

**Nakyezi Latisha, S2:** “We installed software. Some computers here were not networked. W requested the school administration to buy for us new cables. So, after buying the new cables, we reconnected and networked all the computers. We learned many things then: how to connect the computers; we opened the monitor and we saw everything – the RAM, the hard disk, the CPU, and we were able to learn more things about the computers.”

**Kiwesi Bonny Evans, S4:** “We also unlocked some accounts that were personalized by persons we don't know. We unlocked them without help of any software but by help of control panel in the administrator account. Now every computer is fine and is ready for use.”

“We also learnt how to connect the CPUs and the monitors. We also learnt about cables like VGA, USB cables and we also learned about the RAM in the CPU...”

**Nabuno Brenda, S3, Treasurer:** There are many new

The ICT Club of St. John's S.S., Nadere has about 20 of its members actively involved in **computer repair and maintenance**. They were able to demonstrate their skills in the activity.

The Club also has a number of students engaged in on-going learning project activities:

**Design and development of a school website** by two students, Francis Clement and Mugaga Emanuel.

**An online networking platform for learning purposes by the ICT Club members.** It is being developed by one student, Kiwesi Bonny Evans, S4. He gave it a brand name, **Inkchart**.

things that you get to learnt from this club. Like our friend: he came up with an idea of a website for this school. I our school didn't have one. Now I also think that I can make a website for the school.

For me the main reason I joined (the club) is because I offer ICT in my studies and I hope to create my own programs.

**Namwazi Racheal, S3:** “What has encouraged me to join this club is that it is interesting and I have learnt more and even my parents are very proud of me because I can now use computers. What also make me happy is that I am able to help students out there in order to make the work of the computer and I urge people out there that everybody can and a computer is very interesting”



*An ICT Club member of St. John S.S.S Nadere demonstrates his skill in computer maintenance*

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## St. Mary's College, Rushoroza, Kabale



*The Online learning platform*

### ***On-Line Learning Platform for Teachers and Students***

Five students of senior five are developing an online digital learning. According to the project's team leader, Ayebare Newton S5 Science, the platform will be used by teachers and students for teaching and learning purpose. Once completed, each student will have a password protected account with his/her photo and other details. Student will be able to access it from anywhere else once the site is uploaded on World Wide Web. A chat box will also be available at departmental level.

The platform is divided into administrative, students and teachers' platform. It is also further divided according to departments.

Past paper will also be uploaded an access by the students and teachers.

### ***On-Line Library Management Platform.***

This project also involves five students. It is being developed to hold records of all the books in the school's library. It also hold records of all students, teachers and other members of staff, the books each one borrowed and returned.

According to the students, the platform is still offline and yet to be shared with the librarian.



*The Online Library Management Platform*



*The Device Identification Board under development*

### ***Developing a Device Identification Board***

Five students are engaged in this project. They have acquired a board and some of the parts to be mounted and displayed. Another team of students have decided to variously experiment on trying making different utilities using discarded parts of computers and other accessories and gadgets. They have already experimented on making a laser detector for security purposes.

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Bishop Kivengere Girls, Kabale



*The ICT Club of Kivengere Girls School share progress of their apps development and skill in 2018.*

They set up broad areas of concerns for them to address as a club. These concerns were presented in a web form. Some of the areas of concern include: clean water and sanitation, land, agriculture, health, peace and justice, inequality, decent work, life below water, industry, innovation and infrastructure, quality education, health, women concerns.

By the time of the support visit, the club learners had formed teams to tackle certain areas of concern:

**First Doctor Application** – a team of five girls working on an application to determine elimination of barriers to service delivery in health between doctors and patients in the communities around the school. They have identified several areas in their locality that do not have proper access to health services.

**Harmonious Mobile Application** - A second team of five students created an application to address all forms of segregation or discrimination in communities. Some of the specific issues on which platforms have been created include, challenges of Albinos, etc. The application also has links for inquiry and sharing of ideas.

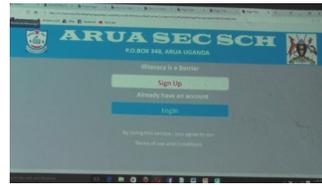
The Club has enlisted for **Technovation Apps Development Challenge for Girls 2019** and maintained their fit of 2018, having emerged the second best in the regional challenge.

Two girls have each thought of a new project idea which they hope to develop in 2019 when school resumes in February:

**Sweep Clean Project:** One girl's idea of setting up a project addressing need to keep our environment clean.

**Promoting Youth Talent:** A second girls apps based idea to help young people to realize their talent

## Arua S.S., Arua



A key project of Arua SS's ICT club is the development of a dynamic and interactive website for their school. Teacher and alumni are able to sign up and create accounts. They have created space for question banks and notes. The participating learners in the website development said that they have learnt the value of team work to achieve a common objective. The club members also shared an ongoing project of making a school calendar.

## Arua Public, Arua



**FAR LEFT:** Display of a softcopy of a certificate developed using MS publisher, **ABOVE:** displaying a calendar prototype they developed **LEFT:** demonstrating how to maintain a computer

I would like to thank UCC for coming to help us in school, putting out school among the 20 that were selected. This school has for so long been participating in ICT activities but never to this extent. Today it has really made our name among those chosen. We have come up with some projects. We have come up with an app for promoting and selling goods. We however need help in it. - *Saidi, S3, ICT Club of Arua Public*

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Bishop Kivengere Girls, Kabale



*KAWA wishes to congratulate the ICT Club of Bishop Kivengere Girls' School, Kabale on beating the odds and emerging the Second Best in the Technovation Regional Challenge 2019.*

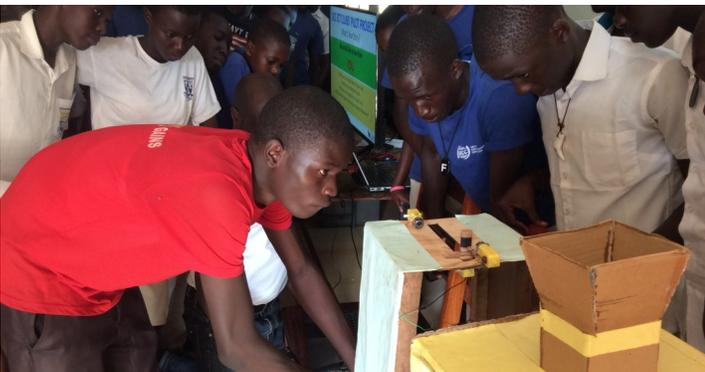
*Hard work, team work, dedication, sacrifice and resilience have paid off.*

*We wish to also thank the school administration and teachers who sacrificed their time and energy and worked hard with the girls to see them through.*



# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Lira Town College, Lira



Learners of ICT Club of Lira Town School and their teacher exhibit a prototype of a seed sorting machine that they developed

*A Winning Team of Lira Town School in a regional exhibition in Gulu in 2018.*

*KAWA congratulates them having emerged first runner-up in the regional robotics exhibition. We thank all the teachers and the school's leadership for creating an enabling environment for the students to strive and excel.*

The members of the clubs created a **seed sorting machine** using local materials. It was created to sort, wash and dry seeds. The members of the club exhibited their machine at an event in Gulu town where they emerged the second runner up, winning for themselves a certificate and robotic kits. It took them three weeks to create the machine.

The second project is creation of a **seed planting machine** that the inventors name Power X. The tool is able to create furrows, plant seeds in them and then cover it up.

The tool is made of cardboard as a prototype. They hope to make another one out of metals.

# PROFILING AN ICT CLUB ALUMNI

- Atwine Sabrina -

She was a member of ICT Club of Bishop Kivengere Girls School in Kabale and very passionate about ICT driven learning programs and projects. As a student, she has been a driving force in many of the successes of the ICT Club of her former school. Now serving as an ambassador of Technovation and based in Gulu, she shares a little bit of what it means to be at her position and how she helped her ICT Club win.



I am Atwine Sabrina, a Technovation ambassador. I am in my S6 vacation and a former member of the ICT Club of Bishop Kivengere Girls School, something I am so proud of because through this ICT club we managed to do so many things that have changed lives of many of us and actually to get more opportunities and explore our lives more and more.

While at high school, I took part in many competitions, science fair, even building project for primary schools to help them learn small ICT skills like how to use a mouse, what is a monitor... those small, small things. Of course having KAWA around us, giving us some resources helped us to move on. It helped me to keep on chasing the dream and even in my vacation, I decided I was not going to sit down but go ahead to help the ICT club, mentor them because it was my duty to sow and pass on as that which was planted in me.

So to me it's really a very great opportunity to have young girls and young people joining the innovation world and of course we really thank so much the people who support us. They helped us to get our potential that we wouldn't have realized without them.

I am so glad that the school where I studied and where there is an ICT Club emerged the second best out of the 21 participating teams. This means a lot to me because we really passed through a lot unlike the other teams which had a lot of mentors to support them. Though I stayed in Gulu, I would make small trips once in a month just to go and help them as they worked on their projects. Of course KAWA and UCC had offered us tablets which made it easy for them to process their applications, run them, test them and so on. So I did not get difficulties in getting resources as I mentored them. Although I have left the ICT club I still try to reach out to them.



**ATWINE.** LEFT: During regional technovation challenge 2019 RIGHT: With her ICT Club mates of Bishop Kivengere Girls School when she was still a student there. Sabrina has now been officially invited to the San Francisco Bay Area, California from August 12, 2019 through August 16, 2019 for the Technovation World Pitch Summit, where she will have the opportunity to witness the top teams from around the world present their app ideas to panel of judges and compete for scholarships.