



United Republic of  
Tanzania



**HEET**  
HIGHER EDUCATION FOR  
ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION



Sokoine University  
of Agriculture

# HEET

Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project



**“Ardhi ni Hazina”**



**Prof. Raphael T. Chibunda**  
Vice Chancellor of Sokoine University  
of Agriculture

## A message from the Vice Chancellor

The University has a special plan for the construction of new infrastructure in the Edward Moringe and Mizengo Pinda Campus through the Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project (HEET). In this Project, the University has been allocated a total of 73.6 billion Tanzanian shillings for the construction and repair of various infrastructures.

Through this project we will also improve the curriculum, purchase equipment and facilitate training for our employees. Through this project, the University will build 11 buildings for learning and teaching.

We will build 6 new buildings in the Edward moringe campus and two will be built in the Solomon Mahlangu campus and three buildings in the Mizengo Pinda campus.

These buildings include 3 hostels, three buildings for academic activities, Cafeteria building and 3 Laboratories and one building for promoting research and creativity in engineering fields. In addition, the expansion of the Mizengo Pinda campus continues with the construction and renovation of infrastructure to strengthen the learning and teaching environment.

Until October 2022, the University has spent 1.6 billion shillings for construction and renovation activities.



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**Prof. Amandus P. Muhairwa**  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
(Planning, Finance and Administration)



**A message from the  
Deputy Vice Chancellor  
(Planning, Finance and Administration)**

We are pleased to inform you that the SUA HEET Project Implementation Unit (PIU) is up and running with a team of specialists representing the key strategic components of the project. As we work towards improving the quality and relevance of higher education at SUA, we want to acknowledge and appreciate all the support we are receiving from the university community. We would like to emphasize that the success of the project depends on the collaboration and participation of all stakeholders. We are therefore grateful for the support we have received so far and urge all stakeholders to continue working with us to achieve our goals. Overall, the project activities apart from responding to the Project Development Objective (PDO) - are aligned to meet the strategic objectives set out in the SUA Corporate Strategic Plan (CSP) – 2021-2026 whose overall goal is to enable SUA provide a University knowledge that is responsive to the needs of national, regional and global development. We are committed to working towards this goal and will continue to rely on your support and collaboration.

As set out in the project investment Plan, SUA is implementing activities in the two Morogoro Campuses (Edward Moringe and Solomon Mahlangu Campus) and the Mizengo Pinda College Campus (MPCC) in Katavi. Stakeholders consulted in the campuses have expressed their delight and welcomed the project in their area. We look forward to the continued support and collaboration from the University community as well as the local communities that we are eager to serve. We are already receiving support from the local authorities and government institutions, and authorities, all in support of the project implementation.

Furthermore, continuous engagement with stakeholders, particularly the private sector and people from the industry has been ongoing as we embark in the review of curricula and development of new curricula that respond to labor market needs. Our team is open to receiving opinions and concerns from various stakeholders and is taking into consideration while implementing project activities. A system is in place for col-

lecting opinions, ideas, complaints and grievances concerning the project.

Academic departments at SUA are working on reviewing Curriculum and develop new curriculum to enhance the delivery of knowledge in order to produce graduates who meet the demand and standard of the current and future labour market. As part of this effort, SUA is conducting a systematic review of curricula in the various programs to ensure that they are relevant and align with the requirements of the labor market. This is done through needs assessment and tracer studies, which will guide the development of new degree programs and update existing degree programs to respond to the needs and requirements of the labor market. To ensure that the needs assessment and tracer studies are conducted effectively, SUA is consulting with stakeholders in the job market, including future employers, alumni, and other stakeholders. These consultations will help identify gaps in skills and knowledge that graduates need to be successful in the fourth industrial revolution.

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**Dr. Winfred B. Mbungu**  
Deputy Coordinator of the HEET  
Project



## A message from the Deputy Coordinator of the HEET Project

HEET project places a high emphasis on inclusive education and is taking steps to ensure that needs of people with special needs are considered in the design of buildings and infrastructure. Creating an environment that is accessible and inclusive for everyone is not only a legal requirement, but also an ethical and social responsibility, and it is a duty we have to fulfill. Creating an inclusive environment not only benefits those with special needs, but also promotes diversity, improves social integration and cohesion, and ultimately leads to a more equitable and just society. In line with this, the university is planning to implement several initiatives to enhance the capacity of staff to identify and support students with special needs.

In this digital age, the use of technology in higher education has become crucial to ensure educational equity, cope with unforeseen disasters and enhance quality of services. To this end, SUA has developed a plan to ensure that teaching/learning as well as core administrative functions are delivered via digital platforms. We are determined to develop an enterprise system that will integrate core university

operations to include admission, examinations, financial, administration, planning, procurement, and student management. We understand that the success of this initiative is dependent on robust ICT infrastructure. We are therefore pleased to inform you that the SUA is committed to investing in ICT infrastructure to ensure that we have a reliable working environment. However, achieving an adequate level of ICT connectivity is often challenging for institutions like SUA due to a lack of resources and technological expertise required to revamp the situation and establish a reliable working ICT environment. On the other hand, SUA realizes that, despite the challenges, investment in ICT infrastructure is a priority.

The investments will help to enhance the ICT infrastructure at SUA, thereby improving our connectivity and enabling us to leverage the full potential of technology in education, research, and innovation. It will also help us to interact more productively with the labour market and the global economy, including industry. We believe that this initiative will have a significant impact on the quality of edu-

cation and research at SUA and make us more competitive in the global market. We remain committed to providing our students with the best possible education and research opportunities, and investing in ICT infrastructure is a critical step towards achieving this goal.

SUA is planning to expand and increase its enrolment capacity to meet the growing demand of prospective students year after year. However, this expansion creates several challenges, including the availability of qualified academic staff and an efficient higher education management and leadership system. In order to address these challenges, the university is taking steps to build the capacity of academic staff and university leadership. This is imperative in order to competently lead and manage, effectively implement reform, and initiate the transformation. To achieve this, several activities have been earmarked, including the provision of funds to facilitate the training of university faculty at MSc and PhD levels. A total of 41 academic staff have been given scholarships to pursue MSc and PhDs. Most of the staff have been enrolled in various uni-

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versities in Tanzania, in the region and in Europe and the rest continue to register. Many other staff are going to benefit from short-term training and internships that intend to increase their skills and knowledge. We believe, investing in the training and development of academic staff is a wise decision for SUA. This will not only equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to lead and manage the university effectively, but it will also contribute to the development of research capacity and the production of new knowledge.

We understand that this expansion will bring about changes and challenges, but we are confident that with the support of the entire SUA community, we can achieve our goals and provide quality education to our students. As you are aware, universities are essential contributors to economic development and growth, and play a significant role in producing knowledge, skills, research, and innovations that are elements needed to energize the economy. In addition to producing graduates that are necessary for the labor market, universities conduct research and incubate scientific and technological innovations that promote real and sustained economic growth and social development. However, in Tanzania, the link between universities and the private sector/industry is still weak. There is therefore a great need to create a strong interface between universities and the productive sector that requires skills and knowledge of graduates in their enterprises to increase productivity. To address this challenge, SUA is working on strengthening its links with the private sector and engage relevant industry professionals in the design and delivery of education in priority programs. This is critical for ensuring that the education produced at the university is of high quality and relevance to the job market. To achieve this, an advisory commit-

tee has been set up to support the review and update of program curricula, advice on applied research and innovation activities, including facilitating transfer of technology across industry to faculties, and support outreach to the private sector for functional partnerships.

We believe that by strengthening our links with the private sector, we will be able to produce graduates who are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the needs of the job market. This will not only benefit the students, but also contribute to the growth and development of the economy. We are committed to ensuring that the education produced at SUA is of the highest quality and relevance, and we believe that this initiative is a step in the right direction. SUA is planning to provide training to strengthen the management capacity of university leaders in strategic management, organizational marketing, and other areas as catalysts for transformational and sustainable development of the university. This training is aimed at equipping our leaders with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively manage the growth and development of the university in the face of the challenges that come with expansion. We recognize the importance of learning from institutions that have had success in some strategic areas, and as such, our leaders

will have the opportunity to participate in tours and learning visits to these institutions. This will provide them with firsthand experience and knowledge on how to successfully implement strategies that have worked for other universities.

Lastly, but not least, we would like to emphasize that the success of this project greatly depends on the active collaboration and participation of all stakeholders. This includes not only the SUA staff and students, but also the wider community, private sector, and government agencies. We urge all stakeholders to actively engage with the HEET Implementation Unit in all project activities, including providing feedback and suggestions for improvement. Your support and input will be critical in ensuring that the project meets its objectives and contributes towards the development of the country. We encourage you to follow our updates on the progress of the project through our newsletters, social media platforms, and other communication channels. We will continue to provide updates on the various activities and initiatives that are being implemented as part of the project.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you towards the success of the HEET project at SUA



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**Prof. John Jeckoniah**  
Leader of the Gender aspect of the HEET Project.

## A message from the Gender Leader in the HEET Project.

Sokoine University of Agriculture recognizes the importance of promoting gender equality, inclusivity and safe environment free from all forms of gender based violence (GBV) in fulfilling all its core business activities (Teaching, research, consultancy and community services). In line to the university commitment on promoting gender equality; HEET project also emphasis strongly on the importance of attaining gender equality and to eliminate all forms of discrimination. Therefore, in the course of implementing HEET project SUA will: Strengthen the capacity of Gender Unit/Desk, Establish Social Counseling Unit to help students with

social problems and Develop/review institutional policies and mechanisms for addressing GBV, Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH), and HIV/AIDS among students and staff. The gender component of the HEET project has started implementing activities that aim to increase the capacity of students and staff on gender issues and pre preparing the GBV from happening. The activities that has been implemented (some are ongoing) include: preparation of institutional guidelines and policies for gender equality including such as: SUA Anti-Sexual Harassment policy, review of SUA gender policy (2012), sensitization of students and staff on gender

issues and GBV, training of the trainer (ToT) for gender focal person's (GFP) to students and staff. Other activities that will be implemented by the gender component of the HEET project include: to develop affirmative action plans to address sexual harassment for students & staff, to develop outreach programs to sensitize female and community on STEM and dispel misconceptions, work with other components to ensure any new infrastructure accommodates the needs of female students and faculty and establishing students gender clubs and establishment of gender desk to support implementation of gender activities in all university campuses.



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**Dr. Jamal J. Athuman**

Curricula Review and Development Leader for  
HEET Project



## A message from the Curricula Review and Development Leader for HEET Project

Over the years, the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) has produced graduates in areas of Forestry, Crop Sciences, Animal Science, Aquaculture, Veterinary Medicine, Food Processing, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Extension, Biotechnology and Laboratory Sciences and other related areas. However, some of our stakeholders have been expressing some concerns about our graduates. The main shortfalls relate to inadequacy of business and entrepreneurial skills, limited practical skills, inadequacy in management and production skills and inadequacy of soft skills related to interpersonal and communication skills, and team spirit. Though the Higher education for economic transformation (HEET) project, SUA aspires to update and modernize its existing undergraduate and postgraduate curricula and develop new ones by aligning them to labour market needs and with and dynamic era of technology changes, the alignment of curricula needs to be dynamic, taking

into account changing landscapes in industrial growth and associated skill needs. This dynamism is essential as it helps to ensure that graduates have requisite academic competencies to be employed in the private sector, including venturing into self-engagement in agribusiness and allied disciplines. This would be of utmost importance given the increasing un-employability of university graduates across the globe. The need to review curricula is in line with the University Corporate Strategic plan of 2016-2021 in a bid to address emerging issues of innovation, economic development and labour market relevance. It is expected that SUA will add up to 40 new degree programmes and modernize its existing 116 academic programs within priority areas. Therefore, efforts towards linking the curricula with industrial needs, coupled with strategic placement of students in the industry and innovative course delivery are fundamental in enabling SUA graduates to be game changers in national socio-economic development. The alignment of training programmes needs to be augmented and enriched by promoting innovative pedagogies and engagement of

experts seated in the industry. SUA is focusing to advance in the provision of online, blended and Open Distance Learning (ODL) by creating a conducive environment to enable development and access of content for students who are in one way or another not able to be on campus. Introduction of innovative pedagogical methodologies is an important aspect and this will require that academic staff undergo training to equip them with innovative approaches to student learning. This will involve assessment of staff's capacity, preparation and conducting of workshops and training events with the help of internal and external experts.



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**Dr. Kadege G Fue**  
HEET Project Educational Technology and Digital  
Infrastructure Component Leader.



## A message from the HEET Project Educational Technology and Digital Infrastructure Component Leader.

The digitalisation of the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) is an essential step towards bridging the gap between the university and the Tanzanian public so as to increase access to education and knowledge for all. SUA is looking to achieve the following through HEET project digitalization component: Access to education; Improved Learning Experience; Increased Research Opportunities; Enhanced Collaboration; and Increased Efficiency.

SUA implements its strategic plan by using funds from the HEET project by ensuring that its internet and Local area network are hugely improved by supplying Wi-Fi access to all the buildings. Also, SUA is upgrading all the information systems to ensure that they are fully integrated through University Electronic Service Bus in which every system will exchange information with each other and build good data redundant systems that do not have data duplication. SUA will establish a single sign-on system for all systems

including access to Wi-Fi services across the university. SUA will also improve its power backup system ensuring that all devices providing internet are well-powered to make internet 24\*7 available. SUA will also improve and integrate its e-learning system which would put the e-learning system interoperable with other systems. In order to utilize well the e-learning systems, SUA is developing a policy to guide the provision of online education by ensuring that instructors use the e-learning system on daily basis including conducting online tests and assessments for students. SUA will also build a modern Multimedia facility for Edward Moringe Campus and integrate it into the Audio-visual room at

Mazimbu and Katavi campuses. Academic staff will be trained in online content development, instructional design and interactive learning techniques. They will then develop online courses that would be available for students and others will be open to the public for outreach and extension activities. Most of the technical staff will be trained on issues related to ICT security, Server management and Database optimization. SUA is also developing policies to safeguard issues related to ICT, IC strategy, ICT security, ICT infrastructure, Business Continuity and Disaster recovery among others.



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## SUA embodies economic reform project through Higher Education (HEET)b



Sokoine University of Agriculture through the Vice Chancellor Prof. Raphael Chibunda and Secretary General Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Dr. Francis Michael have signed the Agreement for the implementation of the Economic Reform Project through Higher Education {Heet} on Sunday May 19, 2022 at the NACTVET Conference Hall in Dar es Salaam.

The HEET project is a five-year program implemented by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) in collaboration with the World Bank for the purpose of improv-

ing and bringing about change in higher education in Tanzania.

The purpose of the HEET project is to increase enrollment and improve the quality and labor market relevance of degree programs in priority disciplines of 18 selected universities and public institutions while improving the governance and management of the higher education system.

The project will invest in infrastructure for modern and effective teaching and research, and for high-level training for Lecturers, Researchers, and Managers needed by universities.



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## Launch of Higher Education for Economic Change (HEET) Project



*Minister of Education, Science and Technology Prof. Adolf Mkenda speaking at the HEET Project Launch event.*

The Tanzanian government has promised to educate overseas university lecturers from Sokoine University of Agriculture with the aim of helping them in delivering quality education and adapting to the international labour market.

The statement was made on September 13th, 2022 by the Minister of Education Science and Technology, Prof. Adolf Mkenda during the launch of the HEET Project aimed at improving education in the country by sending lecturers to study in different countries where it is expected to benefit 14 universities in the country.

"This project is huge and unique as it inspires to push Tanzania on the issue of education as well as improvements in college infrastructure includ-

ing teaching and learning curricula", said Prof. Mkenda.

Also giving instructions to the HEET Project Managers, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dr. Francis Michael urged them to ensure proper

oversight of the implementation of the project as well as funds to be used in accordance with the intended objectives and said that if there is a trick being done to disrupt the implementation, all parties will be taken to justice.

HEET Project Manager from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Dr. Winfred Mbungu said SUA will benefit in seven areas including construction and renovation of old buildings, scholarships for staff for both long and short-term courses, increasing SUA's capacity in terms of internal revenue as well as the project will benefit people with special needs, to mention few of them.

The HEET project which is implemented for five years from 2021-2026 was launched in Dar es Salaam under the presence of the World Bank, Ministry of Finance, Vice-Chancellors (Higher Education and Health Institutions), Project Coordinators from beneficiary institutions as well as Representatives of those who received funding.



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## Mizengo Pinda Katavi Campus staff participate in commenting on the implementation of the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) Project



*Mizengo Pinda College Principal, Prof. Josiah Katani (the first on the left) in a group photo with some of the campus staff during the Evaluation session in the implementation of the Project of Higher Education for Economic Reform (HEET).*

The staff of the Mizengo Pinda Katavi Campus (SUA) appreciated the process undertaken by the HEET Project for continuing to engage its stakeholders in commenting on the initial steps ahead of the implementation of the project.

They spoke during an evaluation session for the Staff to see what ideas they had before the starting of the Project that will be a driving force in improving, balancing and increasing efficiency in the goals expected by the World Bank.

Mizengo Pinda Campus Planning Officer Mr. Rasuli Idrissa Karokola provided further details about the project to raise awareness among the

Staff and see how to increase the means of communication between them by sharing information in a timely manner as the current project has started benefiting Staff by going to study.

Speaking during a gathering of feedback to the staff before the project started, Mr. Gabriel Mruma, an employee from the campus, explained that he would like to hear more details of the project in order to identify its position by the second phase once the first beneficiary phase is completed.

The staff also listed various ways that are positive for them to get real information whether directly or using other means such as email, phone, WhatsApp, link to websites that will be

able to reach all types of people even the non-academic due to the fact that executives often do not have a mechanism to access the internet regularly.

Mr. Karokola urged the Campus Staff to develop online access practices to get the university information posted as all the necessary information about the employee is quickly available there and even the project was placed there.

Also all employees regardless of whether they are executives or academics should develop a habit of wanting to know something that can be useful in their lives while at work.

Environmental Expert, Dr. Amina Hamad said that as the World Bank wants the project to take place, the engagement must be of high quality and in stages according to the specific groups planned in the sense of seeing each side expressing its views on the project whose main stakeholders include staff, students, residents around the project site and others.

The staff also appreciated the arrival of the project at Mizengo Pinda Campus and said it will be helpful to all in general due to the increasing infrastructure at the College, hence the students will be interested in coming to study, increasing community services for business and investment opportunities within the college but also enhancing capacity and efficiency once they benefit academically through the Project.

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## SUA begins implementation of Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project through Mizengo Pinda Katavi Campus



*Mizengo Pinda College Principal, Prof. Josiah Katani (second from left) showing the areas that need to be implemented for the HEET Project which is expected to start at the college.*

In implementing the HEET Project, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) through the Mizengo Pinda Campus in Katavi has conducted an Environmental and Social Assessment especially in terms of education improvements, increasing infrastructure and starting to implement the project to support student growth, improved environment and quality of education at the university.

Commenting on the project, Social Expert on the Project, Prof. David Mhando said that the project plans to do four things which are: the construction of Student Dormitory, Student Cafeteria, preparation of Model training farm as well as constructing Multipurpose Building for learning.

Prof. Mhando also said that in the project they have taken into account people who have special needs to benefit as the World Bank directs so, that they can also have the opportunity to develop themselves academically without any challenges.

HEET Project Environmental Specialist, Dr. Amina Hamad said that due to the objective of the Project for Universities, she visited the sites where the Project will take place at Mizengo Pinda Campus and they noted that nothing will stop the project implementation as the project assessments will be carried out at every stage.

On his part, Mizengo Pinda College Principal, Prof. Josiah Katani said that the outreach of the HEET Project will bring significant changes to the con-

struction activities at the campus leading to an increase in students as well as opening up the business opportunities both inside and outside the College.

Prof. Katani also noted that a large percentage of the campus staff have benefited from the project by going to study and therefore, the expectations for the quality of education are high upon the return of the instructors to work after graduation.

The students who participated in commenting on the project whose implementation has begun at the University said that the HEET Project will be beneficial to them for when the infrastructure is increased, their lives will change and they will avoid the costs of renting outside the College as the costs are higher than the costs of the indoor hostel.

Another benefit they talked about was the easy access to food as well as facilitating the transformation of the academic curriculum by adding essential items to the subjects or reducing the things that are challenging to the students that will lead to a quality and reliable education.



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## HEET Project to Organize a Poor Sensitivity Testing Exercise for SUA Students



Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) through the Special Needs Unit under the Universities Development to Economic Transformation Project (HEET) has organized a Poor Sensitivity Testing Exercise aimed at helping SUA community members especially students to identify the problem and its root cause and how to deal with it.

This was disclosed by the Coordinator of the Unit who is also the Lecturer in the Curriculum and Teaching Unit of the Central School of Education at SUA, Dr. Tabitha Lameck Lupeja while speaking to SUA Media (Solomon Mahlangu Campus) on the first day of the exercise.

Dr. Tabitha said that in order to achieve the exercise, the College has in-

vited a Health Expert from the Ministry who will be present for four days at the University to test the level of sensitivity and to provide advice to a person with Low Attention Disorder or who feels bad.

She said one of the problems that has been occurring especially for many students is the problem of sensitivity which severely affects a student's academic progress and causes him or her not to be able to learn as required. For this reason, it requires intensive care and attention to their learning.

Dr. Tabitha said when a person is diagnosed with hearing impairment, they will be provided with tools called Hearing Aids that will enhance their hearing rate or effectiveness where as for the hearing-impaired person, they will be given training which is Leap

Reading that will help them check for signs in the mouth and be able to learn. Peter John, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Organizations, Gender and Special Needs in the Student Government, SUASO, said their government is keen to see every student achieves their goals in academia regardless of their challenges.

Simba Issah, a Bachelor of Science in Education majoring in Chemistry and Biology who is among the victims of the problem, said the exercise is very helpful for them because after the examination they will be given hearing aids that will help them to hear better when they are in class as initially it was difficult to hear what is being uttered by the instructor during teaching hence failure to understand.

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## SUA through HEET project trains academics



*Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research and Consultancy)  
Prof. Maulid Mwatawala emphasizing something during the training*

Sokoine University of Agriculture through the Quality Assurance Unit and the HEET Project have facilitated five-days training to empower new academics at the level of assistant trainers and assistant academics so that they can have the means and capacity to work effectively.

Sokoine University of Agriculture through the Quality Control Unit and the HEET Project have facilitated five-days training to empower new academics at the level of tutorial assistants and assistant lecturers so that they can have the means and capacity to work effectively.

This was stated on the opening day of the training on January 09, 2023 by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academics, Research and Consultancy Prof. Maulid Mwatawala while representing the Vice-Chancellor as

the Guest of Honor at the opening of the five-days training at SUA (Edward Moringe Campus), the venue of the Institute for Academic Development.

Prof. Mwatawala said that the Management of the College is committed to seeing that academics have a good working environment and perform their duties easily when they are on campus. So, the training will help



them deal with various issues they will encounter at the University.

On other hand, Prof. Gration Rwegasira, Director of the Quality Assurance Unit, said the Unit felt the importance of this training for the new staff to enable them perform their duties at the required quality.

The Unit, which falls under the office of the Vice-Chancellor, has a lot of work to ensure that every service provided at the University is in line with the quality that was expected.

"We need SUA to continue being an excellent college but to be a work-based, human-centered college as well as compatible with current and future technology. We want the students who graduate from SUA to have the quality that is needed in the World", said Prof. Rwegasira.

The training will take place for five days, covering administrative issues, how to serve students and staff with special needs, SUA policies and rules as well as information technology matters.

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## Higher Education Project for Economic Change (HEET) source of relief in quality agriculture through Mizengo Pinda Campus (SUA) Katavi

Residents of Kibaoni Village at Kbaoni Ward in Katavi region have appealed to Sokoine University of Agriculture SUA to help them access Agricultural Education and seeds after the HEET Project showed an increase in

have been getting seeds from Zambia but they are also depending on Farm manager who is not sufficient for all, so the existence of the Campus and the Project will help them find relief in advice and education on agriculture such as seed planting, beekeeping and more

expertise.

According to the youths in the village, they have also said that many opportunities will arise even if they are not students, they will work during the implementation period of the project.

They added that immediately after the establishment of the university, construction and business activities have grown rapidly due to the interactions that have begun to appear and more will be when the Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project will be implemented inside and outside the Campus.

The Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project (HEET) was launched by the Minister of Education Science and Technology, Prof. Adolf Mkenda aiming at improving education and benefiting 14 universities. The launching was done on September 13, 2022 in Dar es Salaam where the Mizengo Pinda Campus (SUA)

Katavi was allocated US \$8 million.



Students and Trainers at Mizengo Pinda Campus in Katavi.

Speaking to SUA MEDIA during an assessment to see what residents expect once the project reaches them, the Owner of Farms and Settlements in the area Mr. Silas Damalu said that for him he sees a lot of relief coming from agricultural experts coming to work there as they will benefit from the knowledge which will be provided on agriculture unlike the current one.

Mr. Damalu added that farmers



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## HEET project to sponsor poor vision identification exercise for SUA students



The Special Needs Unit under the Universities Development to Economic Change Project (HEET) at Sokoine University of Agriculture has successfully reached out to SUA students in need of learning so that they can help them to identify their challenges of low vision.

This was disclosed by the Coordinator of the Unit who is also a Lecturer in the Curriculum and Teaching Unit of the Central School of Education at SUA, Dr. Tabitha Lameck Lupeja on Monday 23rd January, 2023 while addressing the Office of Communication and Marketing at Edward Moringe Campus on the first day of the opening of the exercise.

She said that the experts from the Ministry of Education have arrived to make the exercise possible and will deal with vision retention in terms of vision

that one has, left where they will use the visual remains to assess the students and be able to advise them on how to use the visual remains, they have in learning.

"We reported this poor vision testing exercise to students and we have been able to enroll 161 students at both campuses, namely Solomon Mahlangu Campus as well as Edward Moringe Main Campus", said Dr. Lupeja.

On the other side, Dean of students SUA, Ms. Hilda John said the exercise for students to test low vision will be conducted over the eight-days period to make students in need able to gain better recognition and see how they can be helped.

SUA student, Jane Pallangyo, who is among the victims of vision problems, said this exercise has been very important for them as it has been

able to help them free of charge. "Eyes are everything in terms of the profession especially in learning. This exercise will help us in raising the performance of our studies, e.g., if we study hardly because of low vision, I believe after this exercise and after being trained we will have the opportunity to study more seriously than before and for a long period of time. So, we are grateful for this project has reached our campus", said Jane Pallangyo.

The project through the Special Needs Unit at SUA has engaged in various exercises to identify people with special needs in learning. The project started with people with attention deficit disorder and so far, 62 students have had low attention tests and have been cared for, some of which received handles and others have been given hearing aids.

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## 18 billion HEET Project to Upgrade SUA Mizengo Pinda Campus Infrastructure



*Front view of the Campus Administration building at Mizengo Pinda in Katavi Region*

The management of SUA's Mizengo Pinda Campus in Katavi Region has thanked the Government for facilitating the availability of more than 18 billion shillings through the Higher Education for Economic Reform (HEET) project which is going to modernize the campus' infrastructure.

The thanks were expressed by College Principal, Prof. Josiah Katani while speaking to SUA MEDIA about the strategies and initiatives put in place through the project to improve the infrastructure of the new campus of Sokoine University of Agriculture at Mpimbwe Ward in Katavi Region.

"We are really continuing to thank the government by giving US \$8 million from HEET project, for us it

has been a joy because we are going to open our university to grow by putting in place the infrastructure that is necessary, the funds, which amount to 18 billion shillings, will construct students hostel with a capacity of 600 students, the Crossroads building that will house classrooms and laboratories carrying 2,500 to 3,000 trainees, construct a 300-seat food pantry at once as well as the purchase of a Wanafunzi Bus", said Prof. Katani.

The College principal said in addition to the facilities, the HEET project will also upgrade and develop a model farm as well as a bee farm and all these efforts are to enable the students of the campus to undertake practical training which is important in getting profes-

sionals specialized in these fields.

Prof. Katani said the completion of the building and infrastructure will make the campus and the College grow further and attract more students to study at Mizengo Pinda campus as it will have all the necessary elements needed for a student to learn.

Also, the College Principal praised the project for providing scholarships to his academics to study because many were tutors but after returning from study with Master's degrees, they become Assistant Lecturers.

"When these teachers leave school, they will now be able to teach those undergraduate courses but also diploma courses, so we as a college see it as a great achievement for us that is brought about by the HEET project", explained Prof. Katani.

Prof. Katani said they also commend the College for the way they are implementing the project with great involvement but it has also been providing training in various fields as they have received various teams coming in to take implementation feedback but also others to provide training on gender issues.

He said, it is a project of its kind that has touched every area, such as building the capacity of academics and students, but also providing them with infrastructure that enables smooth design as well as improving the curriculum services that are essential for teaching and learning.

**“Ardhi ni Hazina”**

## SUA Mizengo Pinda Campus commends HEET Project for Encouraging Gender Focus on College



*Ms. Dorothea Clemence Kipangula, Assistant Instructor at SUA Mizengo Pinda Campus speaking to SUAMEDIA about the benefits of the training immediately after its completion at the College.*

Academics and Students at SUA Mizengo Pinda Campus in Katavi Region have commended the Higher Education for Economic Reform (HEET) project for facilitating and encouraging gender education in University Educational Institutions as it helps to make the College environment safe for all.

Speaking immediately after the training, Assistant Trainer at the Campus, Dorothea Clemence Kipangula said people often think gender is only about Man and Woman, but after the training she learned that gender goes a long way towards integrating people with disabilities and special needs.

"So as a teacher I have learned that even when I am teaching especially when it comes to a new group of students, I should take the time to identify them properly and find out which student needs special needs and how can

I teach them so that they can achieve what they expect right with others and achieve their dreams and goals in college", Ms. Dorothea explained.

She also said that the training has not only opened their eyes as teachers to navigate their responsibilities but also has impacted their normal lives and helped in building the College and the graduands coming from Mizengo Pinda Campus and SUA in general.

On her part, Mwalimu Neema Mwawadu said she was pleased with the Ministry's and College's initiative to establish a Gender Desk that would address all aspects of Sexual Harassment and Violence as well as providing proper education on these issues that, unchecked could affect the performance of responsibilities for teachers, students, other Staff and service providers at the University.

"This training will help me a lot in diverse ways: first of all, I teach both male and female students. So, during class hours, I will ensure that even in giving examples I don't give the one that can affect negatively some groups so that everyone learns peacefully and sees that they are valued", Ms. Grace explained.

On his part, the Vice Chairman of the Student Government (SUASO) at Mizengo Pinda Campus, Mr. Abihudi Saada, said they were very happy to receive the training, which described gender in its broadest terms, enabling them to know the mistakes they have been making as a result of their actions that they are doing consciously or unconsciously as errors and affecting the lives of others.

"We felt it was important to learn these issues because it will help us eliminate various conflicts between our Teachers and Students, Students and Staff as well as Students and Service Providers at the University and I will ensure that I take the lead in providing education to all my colleagues at our Mizengo Pinda Campus", explained Mr. Abihudi.

The Higher Education for Economic Reform (HEET) project has enabled experts and gender specialists to conduct capacity building training for Academics and Students at the Mizengo Pinda campus in Katavi Region to prepare them for the implementation of various Colleges, Ministry and Regional Policies and Guidelines in addressing all aspects of Gender thereby making educational institutions safe for all.

**“Ardhi ni Hazina”**

## SUA through HEET Project provides training for University graduates from 2007-2022

Sokoine University of Agriculture through Higher Education Project for Economic Reform (HEET) have provided training to some graduates as well as SUA staff on Data Collection for graduates of the University for the year 2007 to 2022 to identify the direction of The education provided and how to improve it.

Speaking at the conclusion of the two-day training that began on February 15-16, 2023, at Edward Moringe Campus in Morogoro Region, Assistant Coordinator of the HEET Project on the part of SUA Dr. Winfred Mbungu said their job is to produce people who are going to bring positive results from the level of the family, the community around them and the nation as a whole, so the exercise that will use the Internet (Online enumeration) to identify graduates who completed SUA in the past period will give them the direction to know where those graduates are and what production activities are they doing through what they got from SUA.

"Despite producing people who we believe are going to solve the problems of the people directly, especially in conducting research, the exercise will also make the information collectors good researchers only when they go to bring good results that will help improve the strategies of the University, especially in terms of curricula", said Dr. Mbungu.

On his part Dr. Jamal Jumanne Athumani, Coordinator of the SUA

Curriculum Facilitation Exercise in the HEET Project, said that the exercise will start on February 25, 2023 and will last for 21 days where they expect to reach 6000 graduates who graduated at SUA in the past years from 2007 to 2022.

He has explained that they realize that there are many graduates from SUA who have graduated from various courses, that is why they are doing this exercise to find out where they came from, where they are and where they are going.



*HEET SUA Assistant Project Coordinator Dr. Winfred Mbungu talking to the training participants (who are seen in the picture below)*



**“Ardhi ni Hazina”**



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# HEET



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