

www.savingearthafrica.org



iElevate

Report 2021





Background and Introduction

Saving Earth Africa is an organization focused on creating an environment worth living in today, and for future generations. In simple terms, we look forward to leveraging our global influence and knowledge on Environmental Quality Management, Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development Goals, to create a cleaner and healthier environment across Uganda.

Cognizant of the fact that industrialization, manufacturing and infrastructural development are three of the biggest drivers of economies, the environment, which is, and continues to be the home of these sectors, is one thing we should always consider. We highly acknowledge that whereas development in various sectors is necessary, our environment should never be the price we have to pay for it. If development is occurring at the expense of the ecosystem; putting the well-being of the future generations in harm's way, that would on every front, defeat the whole purpose of development. Therefore, we find ourselves between a rock and a hard place; where we have to develop, but also ensure that we don't damage the environment and/or ecosystem.

With a keen interest in SDG 6; "Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all", Saving Earth Africa is working in close partnership with Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation (LVRLAC) on a project to curb down the pollution entering Lake Victoria.

In light of the situation – environmental damage, Miss Elizabeth Ngabire deemed it fit to coin the iElevate Campaign, one which brings together young people between the ages of 5 and 35 to provide solutions for social, economic development, sustainability and environmental issues. Some of the challenges the campaign seeks to shine a light on include youth inclusion, mindset change for young Africans towards environmental protection and sustainable development and economic development.



Through the campaign, we also hope to achieve a change of mindset amongst the target age groups. We realize that if conversations about environmental and socio-economic transformation are amplified, a change in human behavior as regards to the interaction with the environment can change for the better.

The iElevate Campaign will be activated majorly in education institutions with a keen interest in kindergarten, primary secondary and universities. We believe that since schools are conduits of knowledge and that they have an effect on one's behavior and mindset. That's why in a bid to change mindsets, we are using schools as a major ingredient.

On November 5, 2021, in partnership with LVRLAC, UWEC, Entebbe Municipal Council, the Kenyan High Commission, the Tanzanian High Commission, Akright Projects, Youth Go Green, Smart Youth Network, KUUNDA Construction Ltd, Bravo Shoes, The Scholar Media – Kenya, Ehaga Bioenergy, and Ecomak Recyclers, the iElevate Campaign was officially launched.

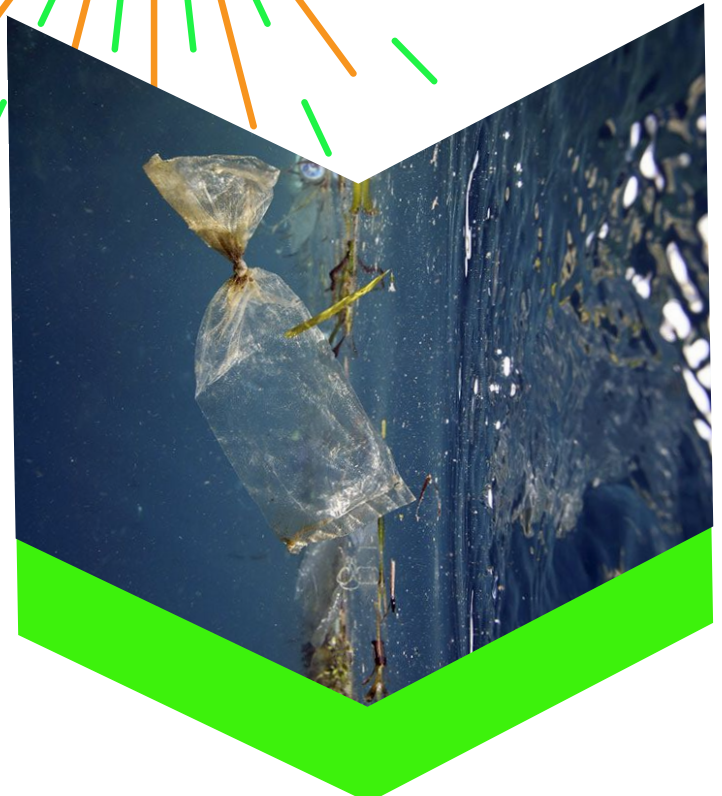
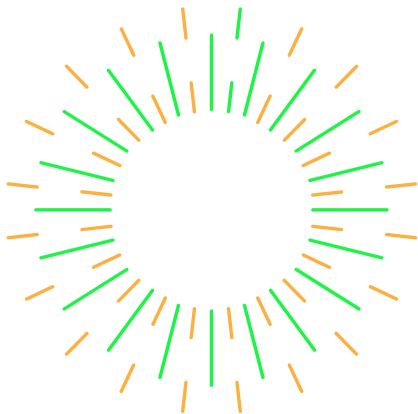
Event Proceedings

iElevate

Guests and representatives from both local and international entities arrived; the Lord Mayor for Entebbe Municipal council, Representatives from the Kenyan and Tanzanian High commissions, the Managing Director Akright projects, Mr. Anatori Kamugisha attended as the guest of honor. The Regional project officer for LVRLAC Mr. Ssebuliba Mercy and Mr. Yesigye Brian, the Managing Director – Bravo Shoes attended in person. A six-man delegation from KUUNDA Construction Ltd, led by Mr. Ampurira Bless was also in attendance. Counsel Kituuma Magala Esq was also a notable figure in the house. The Regional coordinator Saving earth Africa Mr. Solomon Ayebare, Miss Evaline Alum, Miss Gorret Womugisa, Mr. Survival Arineitwe, Mr. Haward Mwesigwa, Miss Belinda Nalubowa, Miss Doline Asasira, Mr. Brian Mugalu and 57 iElevate ambassadors were among the team accompanying the President iElevate. The event was hosted at UWEC – Entebbe zoo, at the floating conference center.

The essence of having the event hosted at the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre (UWEC) in Africa was to further highlight the relevance of Lake Victoria to the iElevate campaign. The essence of partnering with UWEC and also having the launch hosted there was to emphasize the relationship between our national parks and protections of the natural habitats of the wild animals, the Uganda tourism sector and the environment.

Before the launch of iElevate, an essay competition titled SEA IDEATHON was conducted with Haward Mwesigwa (Law Student at Makerere University) emerged victorious while Khainza Miriam and Ninsiima Melissa came in 2nd and 3rd respectively. Patrick Wabuteya, Tashobya Emmanuel and Lindah Lindsey were also part of the top performers during the competition.



Event Proceedings

iElevate

Right from the Mayor, to the representatives from the Kenyan and Tanzanian Governments, the message was clear. The importance and significance of Lake Victoria to the region was clearly articulated. The lake is a source of food – fish –, employment, tourism, transport, habitat for wildlife, source of water, to mention but just a few. Any efforts geared towards protecting the lake were highly welcome and appreciated. The Kenyan and Tanzanian embassies pledged support and backing on this front.

The Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Corporation (LVRLAC), through Mr. Sebuliba Mercy Steven, the Regional Projects officer, emphasized the importance of such a campaign. With the iElevate Campaign looking to bring together young people for such a cause, this could check on the pollution entering the lake especially with the installment of iElevate bins where solid waste can be collected in various places within the region. With over 300 Municipal Councils being signatories to LVRLAC, it was noted that the partnership between LVRLAC and Saving Earth Africa was going to be a quintessential element in achieving proper solid waste management in the Lake Victoria Basin Region. He further highlighted the importance of proper solid waste management, which rubber-stamped our partnerships with companies such as Ecomak Recyclers, Ehega Bioenergy and KUUNDA Construction Ltd.

The message from the Executive Director, UWEC sought to shine a light on the relationship between nature and wildlife tourism. With over 22 million jobs being linked to ecotourism on a global scale, the Executive Director stopped at nothing in emphasizing the need to protect nature. He further added that once people realize that they could earn even more from tourism when nature is conserved/protected, this could in the long run lead to the realization of a motivated society in as far as protecting nature is concerned. The E.D. then applauded Miss Elizabeth Ngabire for coming up with a brilliant idea such as the iElevate Campaign and called on all the other parties to show full support of the campaign.



The C.E.O Akright Projects, Dr. Anatori Kamugisha drummed up support for the campaign. He took us through the story of how founded the largest gated community in Uganda Akright City. Asserting that the development of Akright City is premised on the same three principles on which Singapore was developed – Green, Clean, organized – Dr. Kamugisha praised the young minds iElevate for leading young Ugandans who are looking into growing the country and even more importantly through sustainable solutions. He pledged support and backing to the organization since its foundation was marked with principles of environmental conservation and socio-economic transformation by offering Land for the iElevate Innovation Hub.

The iElevate President, Ms. Elizabeth Ngabire then gave Her remarks emphasizing on environmental conservation: “Friends, we have achieved a major milestone upon launching his campaign, but the task ahead is even bigger. We cannot do this without support from all stakeholders. Therefore, we call on all Governments, Corporate societies & all Agencies of interest in the affected countries to be our close allies on this front. WHEN YOU PROTECT YOUR ENVIRONMENT YOU PROTECT YOURSELF” and the campaign was launched by Dr. Anatoli Kamugisha the guest of honor.

What's Next For iElevate

1. Developing an iElevate Innovation Hub. (Please see attached brief)
2. There is need to ensure that there is proper solid waste management within the Lake Victoria Basin Region. This shall be done through the iElevate Campaign that will majorly focus on sensitization, waste collection and change of behavior.
3. The message of environmental conservation shall be amplified since so little is still known or even practiced in that regard.
4. An influential young membership club for iElevate shall be created. It will help to tackle different components of our agenda, with keen interest on behavioral change especially about disposal of plastics and buveeras.
5. Having engaged various companies across the country on the issue of installation of bins made from the recycled plastics collected from the Lake Victoria, or before they find their way into the lake, we shall also venture into manufacturing of smaller bins for domestic use. These will be sold, and revenues generated will be used to cater for iElevate Campaign activities.
6. We shall engage local and international climate change organizations in order to source funding which will be used to improve on the recycling technology and equipment.

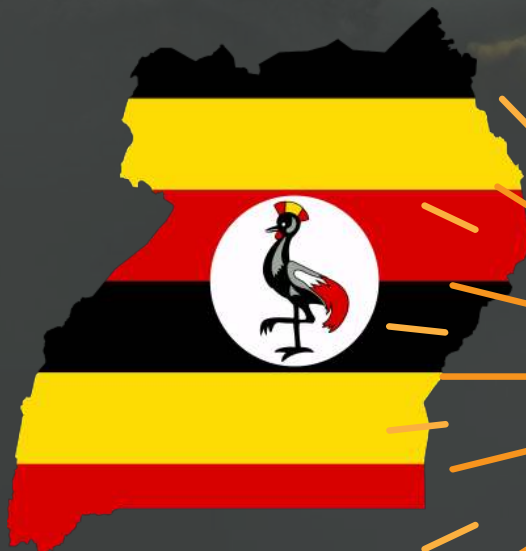


Conclusion

With over 75% of the 1.3 billion people in Africa being below the age of 35, it means they are the major stakeholders and their voices should be heard. There is need for them to unite under several umbrellas such as the iElevate Campaign. Through unity, their ideas and views can be well amplified.

iElevate Ambassadors

SERUBEGA GERALD EMMANUEL	MUNANIRA DEOGRATIUS
RITAH NSIMIRE	NTABAZI RAYMOND JAMES
NICODEMUS AHEEBWA	DANIEL TUSIIMUKYE
KEBIRUNGI SCOVIA	DAVIS ORISHABA
KYOSABA FORTUNATE	ANGIDA RACHEAL
NOBERT TURIHOHABWE	ANGELLA ESTHER JANE
LYDIA NAKAZZI SANYU	FRED MAJWALA
NORAH NAMUBIRU	BRIAN ONENCHAN
BRIDGET AKAMPURIRA	MWESIGWA PAUL
TURYASHEMERERWA CYPRIAN	LYNETTE OWOMUHANGI
KAMYA VINCENT	LAKWO DENIS
IMELDA NAKYEYUNE	MAKERO PETER
NAKIWALA PROSSY	ZAMU NABISUBI
NUELLA JOSEPHINE	ATUGONZA MOREEN DOREEN
CHRISTPHER MUDIJI KALOMBO	MPIRIRWE ISAIH
MUGABI JESSY	ARUHO BRIAN
EMOJONG STEPHEN	NAJUNA EDGAR
OTENGE JOEL ANDREW	TUGUME JETHRO
EDWONGO DAVID	AINEAMAANI MARK
ESTHER ANN	ATWINE DEREK
AGWANG MARIAM PEACE	MUKAMA ALEX
LINA KASIBANTE	ABASA JOAN
IVAN OKWARE	NABIMARA PAUL
COLLINE OYELLA	AJUNA GERALD
SANYU MAUREEN	ASIIMWE MARIA
MWIJUKYE RODGERS	SIMON BOL



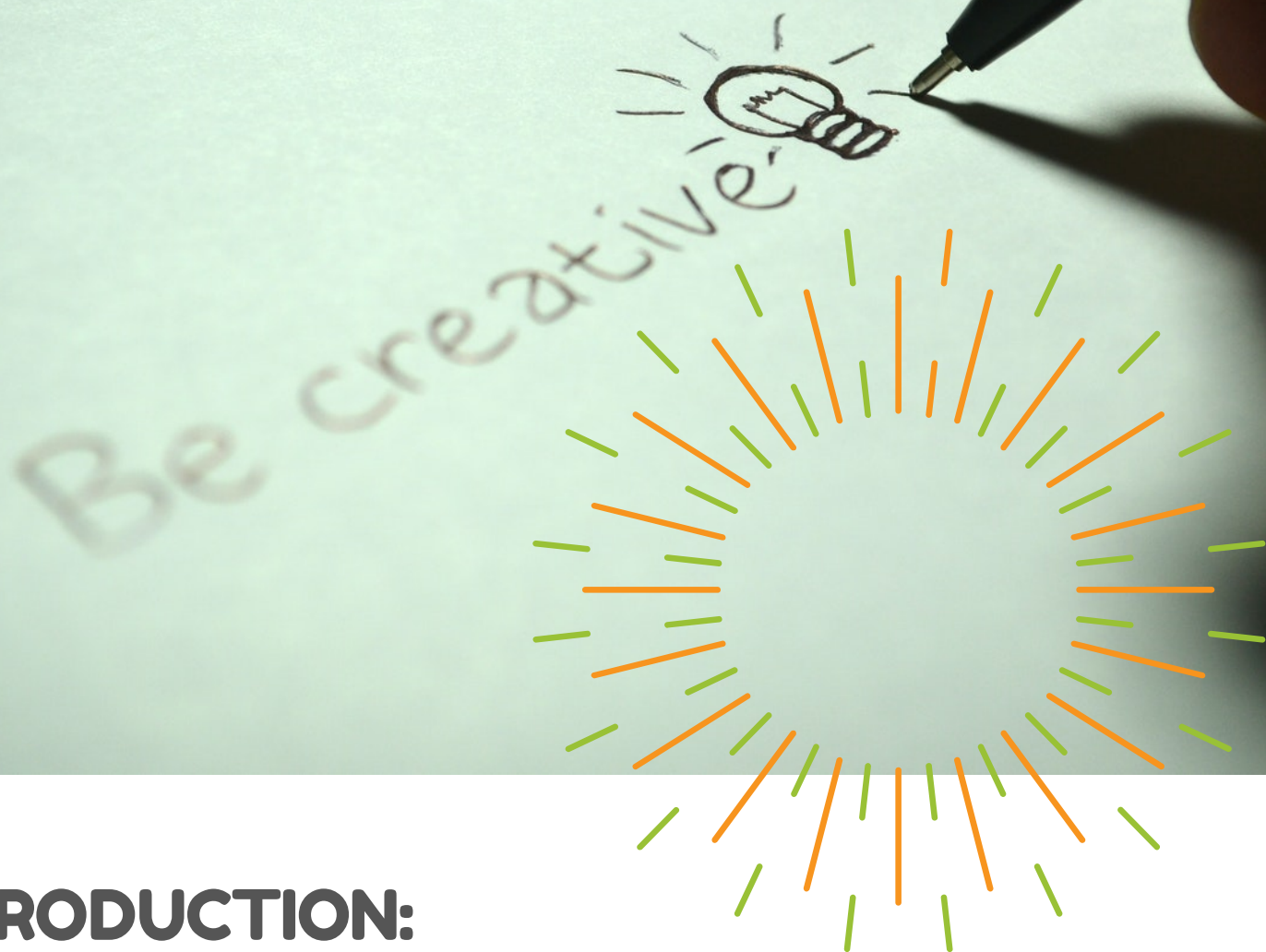
The



iElevate Innovation HUB



iElevate



INTRODUCTION:

The innovation Hubs will be setup in the four regions of Uganda with property being provided by the local municipal councils To showcase learning and exchange, transfer, and cooperation to develop closer-to-market activities across Uganda for young people. This will be further replicated across the region and in other countries across Africa. With our partners we have created an Innovation Hub Network. It represents both individuals and organisations which champion research and innovation – enterprises, and higher education and research organisations who embody best-in-class principles of promoting development and entrepreneurial competitiveness.

iElevate is fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem around these research assets to realize significant gain. Since the next wave of economic growth globally is being led by innovation and entrepreneurship, this is a key economic driver and will be a major part of developing Uganda.

One important element of this entrepreneurial ecosystem is the encouragement of faculty/student research driven entrepreneurship. It is envisioned that the iELEVATE Innovation Hub will act as a catalyst to: create a fertile environment for young entrepreneurs to grow; accelerate product development from the laboratory to the marketplace; increase connectivity between the University and Vocational training entrepreneurial communities to build global venture investment opportunities; and, provide entrepreneurial learning and mentoring initiatives.

The iELEVATE Innovation Hub will have to accelerate Projects further than the currently innovation centres within the region . This will be needed to lower risk so that the Projects are more likely to attract local and international venture investors and management, or potential licensees.

Much of the research will occur at the the iELEVATE Innovation Hub facilities but where appropriate prototyping and other aspects of product development may be contracted to third parties. Funds may be used to support expert consultants or to perform market studies. The Centre may utilize the resources and capability of the Government or army facilities to produce prototype devices.

With the iELEVATE Innovation Hub most optimistic view, we can create over 300 new innovative and high growth companies in Uganda over the next five years that will bring in higher annual revenue growth and lead to more than 15000 new high-paying jobs and in turn employ over 300000 young people across the country.

iElevate Innovation



The Challenge

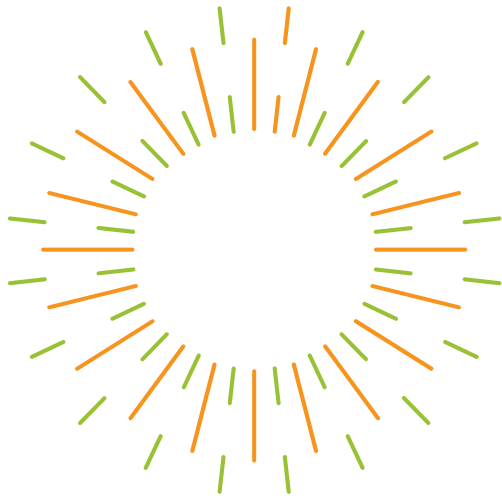
Uganda and Africa in general is moving forward slowly and with different speed from the older economic models to a newer one where young entrepreneurs are creating new value for markets that drive the development of new products and services, which will enable new industries to generate economic growth which results in high-paying jobs. Analyzing both feasibility studies and the scientific researches to approve that growth-focused entrepreneurs are the primary drivers of economic growth in any regional context. This is a critical economic issue in Uganda (and the world in general), as youth unemployment rates are much higher than other respective average national rates, which has led to some social unrest. It is evident that there is an opportunity for young entrepreneurs, who are more aware of global trends and innovation than their parents and grandparents, to lead their country into new economic models. But this is only possible if people change their mindset and cultural behavior and find their own answers in the form of innovation for the existing market problems.

What will the iElevate Innovation Hub Cover:

The services available through the iELEVATE Innovation Hub allow any business to access the latest knowledge, expertise, and technology for testing and experimenting with digital innovations relevant to its products, processes, and/or business models. iELEVATE Innovation Hub provides connections to investors, facilitate access to the financing for digital transformations, and help to connect users and suppliers of digital innovations across the value chain. We will also foster synergies between digital and other key enabling technologies (such as biotech, nanotechnologies, and advanced materials). These services are of particular relevance to companies currently at a relatively low level of digitisation that do not have the resources and/or personnel to address the digitisation challenge.

iElevate

Innovation



The portfolio of activities covers:

- Test before invest: experimentation with new software and hardware digital technologies to understand new opportunities and return on investments, also including demonstration facilities and piloting
- Skills and training to make the most of digital innovations: train-the-trainer programmes, boot-camps, traineeships, exchange of curricula and training material
- Support to investment funding: feasibility studies, developing business plans, incubation and acceleration programmes
- An innovation ecosystem and networking opportunities through marketplaces and brokerage activities.

At the iELEVATE Innovation Hub, we will champion :

Data analytics,
complex
simulation and
modelling

Machine vision

Predictive
maintenance

Industrial
internet of
things (IoT)

Advanced and
smart materials

Reverse
engineering
and locally
fabricated
Machinery

Innovation in a
circular
economy

Digital
marketing

Factory and
process
automation

Design &
engineering for
additive
materials

The



**Winning
Essay
SEA-IDEATHON**





**Mr. Howard
Mwesigwa**

Biography

My name is Howard Mwesigwa and I am a Legal Scholar at Makerere University, with an asphalt inclination to Environmental Law & Policy. Currently, I serve in two portfolios that speak profoundly, to the aspirations of the iElevate Campaign. Firstly, I serve as the SDGs Global Youth Ambassador (Uganda) and my advocacy among others encapsulates SDG 4 on Education and SDG 13 on Climate Action in light of the UN Agenda 2030. Secondly, I serve as the Campaigns Manager at the Youth Arts Movement Uganda (Y.A.M.U). The Campaigns we undertake at Y.A.M.U speak to Safe Mobility through safe and clean cities.

Leveraging Education as an Engine for a Clean & Safe Environment

My interest in Education as the engine for a sustainable clean environment sprouts from the undeniable recognition that education plays a pivotal role in the shaping of human mindsets and in turn, human behavior. Unfortunately, ignorance among the mainstream populace has contributed significantly to the residual adamancy across the demographic divide, when it comes to matters ancillary to the realization of a clean and safe environment.

How then, does education affect the environment?

First and foremost, it's imperative to realize that the absence of education is manifestly a recipe for ignorance, which denies individuals knowledge of the detrimental effect their actions have on the environment, generally.

Secondly, in light of the research done by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex to draw a nexus between Education and the Environment in 2011, it was empirically established that when it comes to the environment, education acutely affects our actions and general conduct. That study had a sample space of 40,000 UK households, and of those, 60% of those that understood the modalities of realizing a clean environment confessed to have had some education, at different levels, on matters tangential to a clean Environment.

It ultimately follows that if education is to have a revolutionary effect on the environment, it must be tailor-made to pursue certain corrective measures within society, in a bid to cause the pendulum of change to oscillate towards a clean and safe environment. These measures could peradventure, include firstly, edifying the mainstream populace about the detrimental effect human behavior has had and can have on the environment if deliberate steps are not taken to harmonize and reconcile it with the pursuit of a safe and clean environment.

To achieve the true corrective result intended, this undertaking dictates that the education system and its attendant curriculum be modified accordingly, to inculcate disciplines that seek to enlighten the new generation all the way from the primary, to the secondary and eventually to the tertiary level.

Finally, education can inform policy and regulations geared towards enforcing strict compliance with the national clean and safe environment aspirations. This ought to be backed by community-based outreach programmes to sensitize the masses on matters pertaining to proper waste disposal and management through for instance, the three eco-friendly 'Rs', Renewing, Reusing and Recycling

The



Speeches



iElevate



Dr. Anatoli Kamugisha CEO Akright Projects Ltd. Guest of Honor - iElevate Launch

All dignitaries present, members from the Diplomatic fraternity – Kenya & Tanzania, Officials from UWEC, Officials from the Entebbe Municipal Council, Officials from the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Corporation, members from the Corporate Business fraternity, Ladies and Gentlemen, I salute you all and welcome you to this honorable event.

My name is Dr. Kamugisha Anatori, the Managing Director Akright Projects. I am not only honored, but immensely privileged to be the Guest of Honor on this memorable event. I don't take it for granted that out of all the people you could have thought about, you zeroed down to my name, and found it fitting that I be your Guest of Honor. I thank the iElevate team and the iElevate president Madam Elizabeth Ngabire for this gesture and I promise, this is just the beginning of the development and growth journey I will walk with you.

When I first met these young people from iElevate, I was extremely excited. On finding out that their campaign is aimed at championing, elevating and backing young people's views geared towards achieving a positive socio-economic transformation, the eagerness to know more about them grew instantly. In this country, marked with many distractions especially within the youth, it is very rare to find a group of young people thinking about building and developing the societies in which they live. And to ice the cake, these young people have environmental sustainability at the core of their idea. A testament to this, is their partnership with LVRLAC to curb down the pollution into Lake Victoria. Members, these are very intelligent, ambitious and determined young people, and it's only logical that we, the older generation that is experienced, give them all the support and guidance they need.

When I was setting out to build Akright City, I faced very many challenges, many of which were financial and spiritual. I remember, I once went to a bank to seek a loan, but when I sold my idea to the manager, he told me it was a very good thing to dream but it was very DANGEROUS to day-dream. If my resolve had been a shaky one, I would have given up. Fortunately, I was charged and I knew that with the right mindset and determination, I was finally going to meet someone who could fully comprehend my idea and offer appropriate assistance. As time went by, I finally found my way to the World Bank and requested to meet the President of the entity. Being told that he only meets heads of state, my insistence had to come in handy. After several episodes of having back and forth deliberations, I was eventually allowed to meet him. I sold my idea, and to my excitement, it was appreciated. Through the World Bank, I received assistance from other local and international banks in East Africa.

In my attempt to build Akright City, I borrowed knowledge from Lee Kuan Yew, the man who built Singapore. The country/city's development was premised on three principles: Green, Clean and Organized. Yew understood that in order to have a city good enough to attract investors, it had to have good aesthetics. That is how he coined the green and clean aspects. He realized that Singapore needed to conserve nature and also keep clean at all times. In order to achieve a green scenery, trees had to be planted in selected areas in the country and also along roads. But who was going to plant these trees? The law breakers. Instead of incarcerating people, they could play a role in building the country, therefore lowering the development cost. Yew also developed stringent restrictions and laws against littering rubbish in the city. Whoever was found breaking this law would always end up in planting trees and cleaning the roads. When it came to organization, Lee Kuan developed Master Plan for the whole country. In order to achieve an organized city, there had to be apportioning in such a way that commercial, residential and industrial areas don't mix. He didn't want katogo in his country. Again, in order to achieve this with lowered costs, He used university students to come up with designs and plans for the city/country, which would later be implemented by able and established companies in the construction sector. Members, I neither added nor subtracted anything from Lee Kuan Yew's strategy. That is exactly how I built Akright City in Entebbe – Uganda. We invested in the planting of trees, something we still do to date.

Why am I saying all this? It's because I need you, the young people to understand that development, in its true sense cannot happen without these three principles being considered. It is now no longer a secret that today's development should not be at the expense of future generations. As young people who are taking a step to develop your societies, it is important that the environmental aspect is considered, and with much emphasis.

More so, as you embark on your journey, never tire when it comes to selling your idea. Shout. Market yourselves. Talk about it more often. It is only then, that you will meet people who will offer positive/constructive criticism, financial support and value-adding association. What you, the iElevate team, are doing, is what this country so much needs. How I wish everyone can listen to you and extend support.

As I conclude, I would like to re-affirm my association and support to the iElevate Campaign. On fronts where my support is relevant, count me in. I will be there for, and with you. I also implore all individuals, companies, diplomatic bodies such as embassies and all government agencies of appropriate capacity to extend their support to these young people. They are young, energetic, intelligent and focused. I believe they are ripe enough to start taking part in conversations tailored with socio-economic transformation. To the iElevate team, keep shining.

Thank you. May God bless you.
For God and My Country.



iElevate



Dr. James Musinguzi (PhD)
Executive Director
Uganda Wildlife Conservation
Education Centre (UWEC)

All Ambassadors present, Government Officials, the Saving Earth Africa Organization, iElevate Ambassadors, Representatives from the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation and all distinguished guests in your respective capacities, I salute you all.

It's an honor, a privilege, a challenge and a moment of flattery that I get to deliver this speech, on an occasion of such immense specialty – special in a sense that it is being spearheaded and fronted by young people, and most importantly, young women. This further highlights the fact that we indeed have raised a generation ready to take on the mantle in various spaces; leadership, influence, and most importantly, protecting nature. To everyone that rendered their unfailing efforts to ensure that this day is a success, Bravo! You indeed are an embodiment of what this country, region, continent and yes, world needs. Keep it up, the world is your oyster.

To begin with, wildlife and the whole tourism sector are very much reliant on the environment. Any threat to the environment – nature – is a threat to the tourism sector and wildlife in particular. It is therefore, not a coincidence that we are launching the iElevate Campaign here at UWEC. We appreciate and have a full comprehension of the depth of the relationship between wildlife and the environment. Any individual or organization that invests time and effort to protect the environment is an ally and its only logical that we partner with them in every way we can.

Uganda is one of the richest countries in Africa for biodiversity conservation. It is public knowledge that our country ranks second in Africa and thirteenth in the world when it comes to prevalence & variety of mammals; second for birds and seventh for higher plants. In the biodiversity and tourism space, this is a very strong statement. More so, Uganda is home to several species whose global range is mostly confined here in Uganda. Some of them include mountain gorillas, the Rothschild giraffe, Uganda mangabey and the Nahan's francolin. Therefore, when we partner with an organization such as Saving Earth Africa through the iElevate campaign, it's because we fully understand the goldmine it is fighting so much to protect.

It is prudent to note that two of the top five (40%) motivators for selecting vacation spots are ecotourism and nature. Wander lusters are always on the lookout for experiences which are reflective of the true essence of the places they are visiting. In simple terms, tourists want to visit places with unspoilt environments and thriving native wildlife. Unfortunately, over 75% of land environments, globally, have been severely altered by humans and species are facing extinction at up to 1000x the natural rate. Truly, a change in our human behavior when it comes to interaction with the environment, is requisite.

Nature and wildlife benefit a lot from the tourism sector, if it well managed and accorded the respect & consideration it so deserves. For instance, we can achieve increased community for conservation through tourism. In total, wildlife tourism, on a global scale, now supports well over 22 million jobs and contributes more than \$120 billion dollars to the global GDP. This growing interest in wildlife tourism and the economic benefits that come along with it can change community attitudes towards conservation. Once individuals and employees in the wildlife tourism space understand that conservation of nature comes with a few dollars, they can get motivated to even conserve and preserve it the more. A good example here is Cambodia where ecotourism is motivating communities to conserve critically endangered bird species like the giant ibis and the white-shouldered ibis. In this regard, training and employing locals as tour guides is an option that has been explored.

Furthermore, beyond changing mindsets, wildlife tourism creates sustainable livelihoods. This is evidenced in provision of jobs to locals as tour guides, cooks and housekeepers in the tourism sector. Most of these jobs come as alternatives income sources to environmentally destructive activities such as logging, slash-and-burn agriculture, quarrying or illegal hunting. In the long run, sustainable livelihoods are created in communities. This further vindicates the relationship between environmental conservation, wildlife tourism and socio-economic transformation.

From camping to beach lounging, tourism provides countless opportunities for individuals to learn about the natural world and experience it first-hand. This connection with nature is in itself a motivation to become interested in it, hence appreciating the need for its protection.

The links between wildlife tourism and nature are vast among which are prompting conservation policies & protected areas, financing conservation, aiding ecosystem monitoring, supporting habitat and ecosystem restoration, advancing green technologies & fueling innovation, to mention but just a few.

Another important component in the tourism cycle is water and we all know that Uganda is home to the largest freshwater lake on the African continent. Sadly, Lake Victoria is facing the challenge of pollution. Much of the waste entering the lake comes from markets, restaurants, industries, farms and other economic activities happening in the catchment area. It is therefore important that community engagements in as far as proper solid waste management take course. On this front, I would like to appreciate the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation that deemed it fit to partner with Saving earth Africa in order to curb down pollution entering the lake. With the commitment and steadfastness these young people have demonstrated, I am confident we can clean this lake.

As I conclude, I would like to call on every Ugandan, especially young people to rise to the occasion and take environmental protection seriously. I also appreciate Ms. Elizabeth Ngabire for coining such a clever idea that is the iElevate campaign. I am confident it will have a long-lasting impact not only here in Uganda, but also in other parts of the world. To the leaders and potential financiers around, render as much support as you can to these young people. What they are doing is in tandem with the very foundation on which sustainable development is premised.

Thank you, and may God bless you.
For God and My Country.



iElevate



**Mr. Sebuliba Mercy Stephen
Project Officer
Lake Victoria Region Local
Authorities Corporation (LVRLAC)**

The Guest of honor, Your excellencies the ambassadors present and the representatives, Distinguished guests, Partners in this programs, Our Host UWEC, Schools represented, Ladies and gentlemen I salute you all. Allow me to extend apologies from my Deputy Secretary General LVRLAC Uganda Chapter and the Chairman who have not been able to make it here today. We are in the process of having our Annual General Assembly as well as electing the new Executive for LVRLAC Uganda Chapter to take on the leadership for the next quinquennium at the end of this month. The preparations are in high gear that is why they have not been able to make it here.

Dear Delegates, Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Cooperation is a network of Local Governments (Counties, Districts, Cities, Municipalities, Divisions, Town Councils and Sub Counties) in Uganda Kenya and Tanzania, with prospective membership from Rwanda and Burundi, focusing to creating a joint platform for Local Authorities to work hand in hand with communities to ensure sustainable utilization of Lake Victoria resources.

Solid waste management takes a big proportion of the Municipal annual budgets. This affects other sectors and service delivery. With reference to the SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (Climate Action), 14 (life below water) and 15 (life on land), there is need to create more sensitization and unleash creative potential in the communities in regard to solid waste management.

Esteemed participants, LVRLAC working hand in hand with Community Based Public Health initiative initiated an inter local authorities schools environment competition which has seen a number of creative ideas emanating from school children in regard to solid waste management. This idea has been adopted by the partnership between Entebbe Municipality and Canterbury city school and the competitions are going on while exchanging ideas on waste management in line with climate change.

I want to salute the partners in the iElevate campaign for the initiative. This will further create personal responsibilities among the community stake holders as regards to solid waste management. LVRLAC is ready to provide its platform of more than 350 local authorities in the lake Victoria basin, in Uganda alone to such initiatives and more developmental programs in the lake basin. I therefore call upon other development partners to explore this interstate platform of Local Authorities leaders to promote advocacy and other sustainable development programs. As local authorities, we look forward to working more with other development partners through our LVRLAC Secretariat, in Entebbe and at KCCA Makindye Division for the Uganda Chapter.

Ladies and Gentle men, I once again wish to appreciate UWEC for hosting this memorable event and call upon all of us to support financially, in kind and other means. I further want to that our partners in the struggle. With SDF 17 (partnership for the goals) we shall succeed in reducing waste in the Lake Victoria basin.

Thank you for your attention.

For God and my Country



iElevate



Miss Elizabeth Ngabire President - iElevate Vice Guild President International University of East Africa

Ambassadors present, Government officials, the ED UWEC, the CEO Akright projects, representatives from the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities Corporation, my fellow young people and all distinguished guests in your respective capacities, I greet you all, and welcome you to this very important event. I thank you all for honoring our invitations and creating time to be with us on this day. It's a very humbling spectacle.

First of all, I would like to thank my team from Saving Earth Africa, starting from our Project Director Mr. Les Brown Okalebo, to the Regional Coordinator Mr. Solomon Ayebare, Regional Administrators; Ms. Evaline Alum, Mr. Survival Arinaitwe, Ms. Namubiru Maria, Ms. Belinda Nalubowa, Ms. Daphine Birungi, Ms. Gorret Womugisa, Ms. Doline Asasira, Mr. Howard Mwesigwa, Mr. Osikol Emmanuel, Mr. Brian Mugalu, Mr. Charles Iragaba and the entire iElevate Ambassadors Team. Without your concerted efforts and dedication, this day would have never happened. I am so humbled to be working with such a dedicated and efficient team. Needless to add, I thank you all for entrusting me with the leadership of the iElevate campaign.

Even if I am the iElevate President, I know for sure that without your input, it's all nothing. It is therefore my humble request that we all work together and walk in unison for I know that with unity, there is nothing that we want that will be beyond our reach. I can only pledge my humble leadership, but it's our combined effort that will propel us to greater horizons.

I would love to extend a vote of thanks to our partners; LVRLAC, Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre (UWEC), Ecomak Recyclers, Ehega Bioenergy, The Scholar Media – Kenya, KUUNDA Construction Limited, Akright Projects, Youth Go Green, ROKE Telkom, Bravo Shoes, Entebbe Municipal Council and Smart Youth Network. Without you, our efforts would not make much sense. Again, this emphasizes the need for and relevance of unity, especially when it comes to causes geared towards creating solutions to social and environmental problems. This gives me more confidence that we have a full comprehension of the necessity of a cause such as the iElevate Campaign.

Members, there is nothing we haven't heard; we haven't said, and yes, we haven't read about environmental protection. The question of the day is: With all this knowledge, why then have we stuck to practices that are reflective of environmental damage? In my own view, which I know is common to all of us, it is because of our behavior; our mindset – how we've been trained to think, behave and interact with the environment. In my tradition, when one is left handed, they are forced to use the right hand when it's time to eat. So barbaric, yet still prevalent in some communities. The eventuality of this, is that even when left-handed people grow up, they continue using the right hand to eat, even though they know using the left hand, which is their stronger one, is harmless.

Friends, you'll pardon my example, but there's no better way I could clearly begin unpacking what is entailed in the iElevate campaign. The iElevate campaign is one which targets specifically young people below the age of 35. The reason as to why we are targeting young minds is simple: Train a child and he'll grow up to be exactly that which you trained him/her to be. And, no offense, but it's hard to teach an old dog new tricks. This is not to mean that the older generation is dead and gone, but it's to express the easiness that comes with training young people to change their behaviors and mindsets.

The campaign seeks to champion young voices as regards to social but most importantly, environmental issues. In a world where environmental damage and the threats of a climate crisis keep increasing by the day, we find it prudent to realize a change in our behavior, especially the way we interact with the environment. Bearing in mind that 75% of the 1.3 billion people in Africa are below the age of 35, there isn't a better group to champion and amplify the message of mindset change, than the youths. This is why we are working in close association with youth-led organizations and companies on this iElevate front. This is why we are creating a network of young people – iElevate ambassadors across the African continent.

It is all because we fully understand that we, the young people are the major stakeholders on the continent. By using education institutions i.e. universities, high schools and primary schools as a major ingredient in this cause, we are confident that we shall capture the minds of very many young people. And most importantly, being conduits for knowledge, activating our campaign therein will have a major impact on their behavior and mindset. As I speak, it is already in the pipeline to activate the iElevate campaign in many schools across different regions of the country by working in close association with student leaders and in particular the Uganda National Students Association (UNSA).

We have already touched base with student leaders in various institutions, and the team from Kyambogo University can attest to that. Since schools are some of the major hotspots for solid waste generation, we know that the iElevate campaign, when activated in schools within the Lake Victoria catchment area, shall cause a sharp decrease in the waste from these schools that finds its way into the lake. Knowing that schools have a major impact on the mindsets and behavior of the whole social unit, the societies surrounding these schools and Lake Victoria shall also register a change in behavior, especially regarding solid waste management.

Through the iElevate campaign, we shall install iElevate bins in centers we deem major hotspots of waste generation. With systematic coordination and supervision, the waste will then be sorted after which recycling processes will ensue. This is why we are partnering with companies like Ehega Bioenergy and Ecomak Recyclers. And on the front of green construction, we are partnering with companies like KUUNDA Construction Limited. We are also backing and supporting projects tailored with waste management and recycling, in universities such as Kyambogo University where we are already in partnership with the Environmental Engineering and Management Association that is making plastic bricks. With support from our major partners – LVRLAC, we know we are going to be able to execute all these plans in over 300 municipal councils across the country. And this is just the beginning.

We are only starting with Uganda, but all this shall be done in countries that have an interest in the well-being of Lake Victoria; Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt all the way to the Mediterranean Sea. I implore every one of us to check out our website: www.savingearthafrica.org in order to know more about, and also keep up to speed with our activities. Friends, we have achieved a major milestone upon launching this campaign, but the task ahead is even bigger. We cannot do this without support from all stakeholders. Therefore, we call on all Governments, Corporate Societies & all Agencies of interest in the affected countries to be our close allies on this front. As I conclude, I thank everyone for coming and I hope that this event rubber-stamps our brotherhood/sisterhood in the sustainable development space.

For God and my country.

The



iElevate Ambassador Speeches



Miss. Angella Esther Jane
iElevate Ambassador

I elevate it!

Our environment, our habit, our home, our territory, our surrounding.

The only home to our habitat, our only hope without cost, segregation

The air; The earth's atmosphere in its complex volumes, weight and elements that sustains life in humans, plants and animals, facilitates combustion, controls temperatures- Oxygen, Hydrogen, carbon dioxide in its invisible interaction.

Why pollute it, take hold of its ecology; the trees, water bodies, atmosphere for they hold our axis.

The water; in its composition of hydrogen and oxygen with over 71% on earth surface, lubricant to man, plant and animals in oceans, air and clouds, rivers, ice, plants; lets strongly appeal to elevate its protection! for only 3% of water on earth is fresh, how much will it be in the next generation.

Land; in forms of 15% bare soil, 10% Grassland and 50% shrubs solid surface on which we live in. With its timelessness, it's there for generations to generations, factor of production, means of showing direction with its symbols and agents, Northings and Eastings we call them, I elevate it.

Flora and fauna in its complex, interconnected network ecology. Wow, what a beauty if we elevate and disaster if we destroy. Elephants, Blue whales, thread snake, water meal plant or redwood trees, and are in our mercy for conservation. The best time would have been yesterday and the last time is now, let's take an opportunity to eagerly and decisively elevate it.

It's our opportunity as the young generation to raise the axis to an impressive level., If it's not you in the space, time, event, occupation, voice, energy, who then can do it!, Lets elevate it.

It begins now!

Mr. Deogracious Munanura
iElevate Ambassador



I greet you in the name of our lord. I'm really so grateful for his mercy and grace that we are gathered here to launch the IELEVATE campaign because with Him all things are possible.

The chief guest, invited guests, ambassadors and all stakeholders, I would love to drive your attention towards the sustainability in regards to the environment. Sustainability is defined as the process of maintaining change in a balanced fashion, in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations. For many in the field, sustainability is defined through the following interconnected domains or pillars. These are the Environment, economic and social aspect.

Relating to the understanding of sustainability, first to the ambassadors, it will be our task to sensitize the masses, call upon investors to implement sustainability and magnetize resources to run the activities of the campaign. The resources are not only financial but mainly partners from media houses, human resource, industries utilizing resources and regulatory bodies. I believe this would be the best way to steward this campaign as the health of the environment is the responsibility of each and everyone and in case a mindset change to have inclusive participation in the environment conservation, the efforts would really be impactful. For instance, if each individual decided to dispose off their used bottles to the authorized deposition points, we wouldn't have to see any placed bottle dumped on our streets. If the government made use of gas fuels as the source of heating in homes affordable, the images of coal trucks would be history. Generally the conservation of the environment is not an individual call but rather each and everyone's responsibility to take part.

We young lads have a lot to appreciate and own and if we really admire something, the first step to attaining it is visualize it and claim its ownership. I believe we as ambassadors cherish to own a clean environment free from plastic pollution and all other forms of pollution. Therefore it's upon us to visualize that clean environment and claim its ownership and make efforts to own it. So, if I inquired from each of us here, what have we done to own the environment we have visualized?

Well, I'm so glad to have received an opportunity to share my idea about environment conservation with you. I will be so glad if each and every one of us put an effort to sustainably exploit the resources of environment. IELEVATE



iElevate

Mr. Brian Onenchan **iElevate Ambassador**

My name is Brian Onenchan, I am an Architectural Technician by profession and an iElevate Ambassador at Saving Earth Africa.

Environmental conservation is a concern for all; the young, old, employed and unemployed, with the young especially the youth being the key movers to this concern. The iElevate Campaign is a great avenue for the youth to champion this concern especially on the degradation and pollution on Lake Victoria and the environment at large. Lake Victoria being a major water body in the country faces a lot of pollution especially from plastic waste such as bottles and polythene bags, which not only affect the quality of water but also endanger aquatic life. Furthermore, extraction of natural resources such as sand and clay for construction purposes, also contributes greatly to the degradation and pollution on Lake Victoria.

As an Architectural Technician, I chose to become an iElevate Ambassador to advocate for building designs and construction techniques that make use of natural materials such as soil for production of compressed earth blocks as an alternative to clay bricks and concrete blocks. This will go a long way to reducing the degradation and pollution on Lake Victoria from extraction of sand and clay from the surrounding wetlands.

In regard to plastics, collection and recycling are inadequate to reduce on the continued pollution by plastics on Lake Victoria. Other biodegradable alternatives to plastics should be sought such as use of natural fibres like sisal and banana stems to produce packaging and carrier bags.

For a cleaner, healthier and better environment, we must change the way buildings are designed and built, and also how products are designed and manufactured and this is possible with the greater inclusion of the youth.

Thank you for listening!!



Contact Us

Miss Elizabeth Ngabire
AGA House, kamwokya mawanda road, 3rd floor, Kampala 256,
Uganda
+256759896478 , +256776933909 , +256704324533

iElevate AFRICA,
3rd Floor, AGA House, Kamwokya Mawanda Road,
Kampala, Uganda.
Email: info@ielevateafrica.com
Website: www.ielevateafrica.com
Phone: +256704324533, +256776933909

LAKE VICTORIA REGIONAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES CORPORATION

(LVRLAC)
Entebbe Municipal Council
Uganda
+256703825304/ +256783480403
info@lvrlac.org

iElevate