

FIRST EDITION NEWSLETTER 2026



**Tropical Institute of
Development Innovations**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



We're turning "What if she could?" into "Now she can."

connecting young women to the skills, tools, confidence and opportunities they need to turn learning into competence, competence into livelihoods, and potential into possibility.

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Dr. Clet Wandui Masiga
Executive Director, TRIDI



The Department of People and Culture is at the heart of TRIDI's institutional growth, driving efforts to attract, develop and retain talent, strengthen staff welfare, promote a positive organizational culture, and ensure effective people management and administration across the Institute.

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FROM PROGRAMME TO PATHWAY



SIYEP's focus is shifting from counting activities and enrolment to tracking the full pathway from training to competence, market access and sustainable outcomes, with measurable evidence of what young people ultimately achieve.

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FROM CLASSROOM TO COMPETENCE



TRIDI's academic approach is shifting TVET from knowledge acquisition to real-world competence, equipping young people to turn learning into products, services and solutions through practical skills, innovation, industry feedback, digital competence and AI.

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CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT: BUILDING MORE THAN STRUCTURES



A building is only as strong as the skills behind it. At TRIDI, the Construction Department is helping young people turn practical skills into competence, confidence and pathways to work.

Construction is more than putting up walls or installing fittings. It is a sector built around precision, problem-solving, safety, craftsmanship and the ability to turn technical knowledge into something that works in the real world.

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BUILDING SKILLS, WEAVING LIVELIHOODS: FASHION, ART AND DESIGN AT TRIDI



What happens when practical skills meet creativity and silk? At TRIDI, Fashion, Art and Design is turning learning into market-ready skills while exploring new pathways for silk to enter Uganda's fashion and creative economy.

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FROM SKILLS TO SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE



Beyond training and skills competitions, TRIDI's National Business Incubation and Post-Competition Department is building the bridge from skills to enterprise, helping young women turn their competencies, ideas and products into sustainable economic opportunities.

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PR & COMMUNICATIONS: MAKING TRIDI'S WORK VISIBLE, UNDERSTANDABLE AND ACCOUNTABLE



From the field to the public, TRIDI's PR & Communications Department turns programme activities, evidence and experiences into stories that make the organisation's work visible, understandable and accountable to communities, partners and the wider public.

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WHAT IF SKILLS WERE THE BEGINNING, NOT THE END?



This quarter, TRIDI's SIYEP programme reached hundreds of young women and trained tutors across TVET institutions, strengthening the pathway from skills development to practical competence, market opportunities and sustainable livelihoods.

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SHE DIDN'T JUST TRAIN. SHE COMPETED



TRIDI's SIYEP skills competitions are giving young women opportunities to turn training into demonstrable competence, receive feedback, meet practical standards, and prepare their skills for the demands of the real-world market.

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NOT A SHOW. A TEST OF READINESS.



TRIDI's skills competition model goes beyond showcasing talent; it creates a practice, assessment, feedback and improvement pathway that brings TVET training closer to market standards and prepares young women for regional, national and global opportunities.

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WHEN THE COMMUNITY SAYS YES



TRIDI's community and gatekeeper engagements show that supporting young women into TVET requires more than recruitment; it requires dialogue with families, leaders and communities to address concerns around safety, household responsibilities, economic returns and sustained participation.

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FROM EIGHT TVETS TO A SYSTEM



TRIDI's June rollout across eight TVET institutions went beyond enrolment to strengthen the people, systems and tools needed for sustainable, inclusive and quality skills development, reaching 607 young women and training 161 tutors.

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THE PROGRAMME MOVES NORTH



In July, TRIDI's SIYEP programme expanded to Kalongo and Kilak Corner Technical Institutes, strengthening institutional capacity through tutor training, partnerships, scholarship systems and learner support while profiling 215 young women for pathways from training to work.

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A CLASSROOM IS NOT ENOUGH.



At NUYDC, TRIDI's SIYEP programme combined technical training with the support systems needed for meaningful participation, reaching 113 young women, training 16 instructors, providing SRH and menstrual hygiene support, and using participant feedback to identify and address gaps for improved programme delivery.

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"WHAT WILL I DO WITH THIS SKILL?"



At Amelo Technical Institute, TRIDI's SIYEP programme is strengthening skills development while confronting a critical question: how can training translate into real opportunities through access to equipment, confidence, self-employment and markets?

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BULEMEEZI: SCALE IS NOT JUST A NUMBER



At Bulemeezi Skills and Talent Development Centre, 242 young women were profiled and enrolled, highlighting strong demand for skills training while underscoring the need for adequate facilities, infrastructure and institutional capacity to support growing participation.

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FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE NEWSROOM



TRIDI's SIYEP model is strengthening TVET instruction by connecting classroom teaching with industry needs, gender inclusion, safeguarding, disability inclusion and the realities of a changing workplace.

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WHO TELLS THE SIYEP STORY?



SIYEP partners strengthened their communication skills to move beyond reporting activities and instead capture credible evidence, human stories and the real change programmes create.

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WHAT HAPPENS WHEN INNOVATION MEETS THE PUBLIC?



TRIDI's participation in the Kyampisi Agricultural Show brought its training and innovations closer to the community, demonstrating how skills can translate into employment, enterprise and market opportunities.

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INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY



TRIDI's International Youth Day story highlighted how science, technology, innovation and practical skills can equip young people to move beyond seeking jobs to creating value and opportunities.

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THE HARD TRUTH



SIYEP's growing success is revealing new demands, from infrastructure and equipment to market access, scheduling and mentorship, showing how field evidence can guide the next phase of investment and institutional support.

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WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



SIYEP's next chapter is about turning training into real opportunity by strengthening TVET institutions, instructors, young women, communities, industry, markets and partnerships toward its goal of equipping 258,000 young women with market-relevant skills by 2030.

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TRIDI HOSTS FIRST INSTITUTIONAL SKILLS COMPETITIONS



TRIDI's first Institutional Skills Competitions brought together more than 100 young women to test their practical abilities, build confidence and strengthen employability while creating pathways from institutional to regional and national skills competitions.

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FROM MULBERRY TO SILK: TRIDI'S KWEEN VISION TAKES SHAPE



TRIDI's Chepsukunya sericulture project in Kween is laying the foundation for an integrated silk industry, with more than 500 acres of mulberry, rearing infrastructure and a factory being developed toward silk-yarn production and wider local economic opportunities.

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TRIDI TESTS THE PATH FROM COCOONS TO SILK YARN



TRIDI's Namasumbi Sericulture Station is demonstrating Uganda's emerging silk value chain, from mulberry cultivation and silkworm rearing to cocoon harvesting and ongoing experiments in silk-yarn production, while highlighting the investment needed to translate the potential into jobs and community livelihoods.

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MUBENDE LEADERS DEMAND ACTION ON TRIDI'S SERICULTURE STATION



Parliament's oversight visit to TRIDI's Kijumba Sericulture Station highlighted calls for stronger investment, accountability and strategic action to turn existing infrastructure into jobs, livelihoods and a productive silk value chain for Mubende communities.

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PARLIAMENT BACKS RENEWED PUSH TO OPERATIONALISE TRIDI'S SERICULTURE STATION IN KIRUHURA



Parliament's visit to TRIDI's Byanamira Sericulture Station in Kiruhura highlighted the potential of the investment to create jobs, strengthen skills and drive economic opportunities, while calling for its completion and commercialisation.

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PARLIAMENT BACKS TRIDI'S PUSH TO UNLOCK SERICULTURE POTENTIAL IN SHEEMA



Parliament's oversight visit to TRIDI's Sheema sericulture station highlighted its potential to create jobs, generate community income and contribute to government revenue, with stakeholders calling for renewed support toward commercialisation.

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3km along the Kalagi–Gayaza Road at Nandudu Place
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TRIDI BOARD REVIEWS PROGRAMME PROGRESS, STRENGTHENS GOVERNANCE AND CHARTS NEXT STEPS



TRIDI's quarterly Board meeting reviewed programme progress, strengthened governance systems and charted priorities for turning initiatives such as SIYEP and sericulture into sustainable development outcomes.

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STRENGTHENING EVIDENCE, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Discover how SIYEP's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) activities are strengthening evidence-based implementation, improving accountability, and supporting more inclusive, market-relevant skills and employability pathways for young women.

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