



# UF NEWS

A Newsletter of the Universities Fund

## Universities Fund Partners with Chancen to Unlock Fresh Student Funding Opportunities

**The Universities Fund (UF) struck a strategic partnership deal with Chancen International that will help to expand students' access to higher education.**

The move is expected to benefit between 500 and 1,000 university students countrywide.

The signing ceremony took place at UF offices, led by UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi and Chancen International Country Director Gladys Mutisya. Also present during the meeting was Grants Management Deputy Director Dr Richard Ngali.

The partnership comes at a time when the need for innovative and inclusive financing solutions in higher education is rising.

Dr Wanyonyi emphasised Universities Fund commitment to diversifying and transforming funding streams to bridge gaps in access.

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**We believe education is the most powerful tool for transformation,”**

**Ms, Gladys Mutisya - Chancen International Country Director**



*Universities Fund Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi (left) and Chancen International Country Director Gladys Mutisya sign an accord that will increase students' access to financial opportunities. The meeting was held at UF offices on July 21, 2025.*

“This partnership reflects our dedication to ensuring no deserving student is left behind because of financial constraints,” he said.

And added: “Together with Chancen International, we are introducing a solution that is practical, sustainable, and sensitive to the needs of our diverse student population.”

At the heart of the partnership is the ‘Study Now, Pay Later’ model, an approach that helps students access quality education without the immediate burden of paying tuition fees.

Repayments are tailored to graduates’ future income, ensuring that repayments are manageable and aligned with the realities of the job market.

Key highlights of the initiative include targeted support for post-graduate learners and a

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# Lesotho Delegation Tours UF for Benchmarking

**Officials from Lesotho visited Universities Fund to benchmark on higher education.**

The delegation from the Students Loan Bursary Fund toured the Fund to strengthen regional collaboration and acquire insight into how the agency has transformed higher education.

The delegation was led by which was led by the Deputy Principal for Finance and Development Planning.

Other officials included Director of National Manpower Development Secretariat, MFDP Policy Adviser, and NMDS Legal Officer.

During the July 9 session, Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi explored best practices in higher education funding and shared lessons from UF's policy advisory role.

Dr Wanyonyi further examined the implementation of student-centred funding

models that promote equitable access to higher education.

The engagement is expected to inform the review of Lesotho National Tertiary Education Students Fund draft bill as well as transform the institution's structure in accordance with Lesotho's higher education financing reforms.



## Universities Fund, Parliamentary Education Team Discuss Progress of Higher Education Financing



*National Assembly Education Committee Chairman Julius Melly (centre) in a meeting with UF leadership at the Fund's offices on July 15, 2025.*

**The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Education visited Universities Fund to address key priorities in higher education financing.**

UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi delivered a presentation on the Fund's performance in the current financial year.

Dr Wanyonyi reported 100 percent success in the disbursement of scholarships to universities in accordance to the amount applied by students.

He further noted a significant funding gap that requires urgent attention to ensure the sustainability of university operations and continued support to students.

The June 15 visit – led by committee Chairman Julius Melly – also focused on the Student-Centred Funding Model that was established by President William Ruto in 2023 to enhance equity, quality, and affordability of university education.

## Universities Fund Takes Part in Launching KIPRE Strategic Plan



*UF acting CEO Dr Edwin Wanyonyi speaks during the launch of the 2023-2027 KIPRE Strategic Plan in Nairobi on June 22, 2025.*

### **Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi participated in the launch of Kenya Institute of Primate Research (KIPRE) 2023-2027 Strategic Plan.**

The decision helped to strengthen stakeholder relations with partners in the higher education sector. Dr Wanyonyi represented Higher Education and Research Principal Secretary Dr Beatrice Inyangala.

The roadmap outlines KIPRE's top priorities in the fields of biomedical research, primate conservation, and capacity building, with the goal of strengthening Kenya's position as a leader in health research and innovation.

During the meeting held on July 20, Dr Wanyonyi commended KIPRE for its commitment to promoting health research and innovation.

He emphasised the importance of partnerships between the education and research sectors in driving socio-economic development.

The event was also attended by Ministry of Health's Secretary for Administration Hassan Harakhe, who represented both the Health Cabinet Secretary and Public Health and Professional Standards Principal Secretary.

## CEO Wanyonyi Joins Vital Discussion on Sustainable Financing

**Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi took part in a consultative forum with public university vice-chancellors on education financing.**

The discussions centred on developing practical and sustainable financing mechanisms for the institutions amid the rising operational and financial challenges.

Participants explored strategies for enhancing resource mobilisation, improving financial management, and safeguarding the quality of higher education in the country.

The meeting, which was held on July 17, marked a critical step towards strengthening the sector.

The endgame is to ensure the institutions are financially resilient and deliver quality education. The occasion came ahead of enrolment of 2025 cohort of students to public universities.

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba and Higher Education and Research Principal Secretary Dr Beatrice Inyangala also attended the high-level consultative meeting.



*Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba (second left) during a consultative meeting with vice-chancellors on July 17, 2025.*

# How to Apply for Government University Scholarship on HEF Portal



## Fund Teams Up with Chancen International to Scale Up Student Funding Opportunities

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Sharia-compliant financing option designed to meet the needs of Muslim students.

These will enable them to pursue advanced degrees that will contribute to innovation and national development.

The plan will also offer better flexibility and access to funding, making higher education a reality for more students.

Ms Mutisya said Chancen International's mission aligns closely with UF's vision of empowering students through accessible financing.

"We believe education is the most powerful tool for transformation, and this model allows us to remove one of the biggest barriers - affordability," she said.

The programme will be rolled out in phases, with detailed eligibility guidelines and application processes to be announced soon.

