



Universities Fund Takes Scholarship Awareness to Mombasa International Fair

The Universities Fund took part in the Mombasa International Show held from 3-7 September, further amplifying the importance of scholarships in enhancing access to higher education.

The fair, held at Mkomani grounds, provided a platform to engage stakeholders on the Student-Centred Funding Model.

The stakeholders, who included secondary school students, also learned how to submit applications through the Higher Education Funding (HEF) portal.

Throughout the week, UF officers enlightened the participants on the eligibility criteria when making scholarship applications.

The Fund used the opportunity to encourage first-year university students who had not made applications for funding to do so before



A Universities Fund staff engages a stakeholder during the Mombasa ASK Show on September 4, 2025.



Students speak to Universities Fund staff during the Mombasa ASK Show on September 4, 2025.

the September 14 deadline.

The outreach helped Universities Fund to ensure that learners do not miss out on financial opportunities due to lack of information or challenges emanating from 11th-hour rush, affirming the agency's proactive approach.

The Mombasa International Show featured display of advanced technologies and innovations across key sectors, such as agriculture, manufacturing, housing, SMEs, banking, public and private sector institutions, hospitality, and education.

More than 300 exhibitors from around the globe attended the event.

Fund Records Wins as Nationwide Scholarship Awareness Campaigns Come to an End



Universities Fund staff take students through the scholarship application process at Murang'a University of Technology on September 16, 2025. Similar engagements took place at Alupe and Karatina universities.

The Universities Fund has been on the ground across the country, guiding students through the scholarship application process to ensure no learner misses out on higher education.

From August through September this year, the Universities Fund rolled out nationwide sensitisation drives in various public universities.

The initiative was designed to coincide with the admission of first-year students, making sure that learners and their families received timely and adequate support.

During the period, staff were on the ground at campuses, holding forums that resolved concerns and provided personalised assistance to students who had not yet applied.

The campaign was further strengthened by the extension of the scholarship application deadline for first-time applicants.

The move gave thousands of students sufficient time to prepare and submit their

applications. Students were applying through the higher education funding (HEF) portal.

While the portal has since closed, the Universities Fund continues with university visits to provide on-ground support.

The project also demonstrated the importance of proactive outreach and close partnerships between UF and local public universities, which have enabled students to pursue their dreams.

It also highlights the Fund's commitment to promoting equity, accountability in student financing, and boosting students' access to funding.

Some of the institutions visited during the period included Murang'a University of Technology, Alupe University, Karatina University, Meru University of Science and Technology, Technical University of Kenya and Kaimosi Friends University.

The exercise has demonstrated the value of proactive outreach and close partnerships with local universities.



First-year university students are sensitised on scholarship applications by Universities Fund on August 23, 2025.

Funding Agency Underscores Significance of Sports, Education during Weekend Race



UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi rewards a participant during the Under-20 Mountain Run in Meru on September 7, 2025.

The Universities Fund flagged off the Under-20 Mountain Run hosted by Meru University of Science and Technology.

The event sought to expand education opportunities for learners amid the government's increased efforts to boost

access to quality university education.

The September 7 event drew students, budding athletes, local community members, and education stakeholders in a shared mission of promoting youth empowerment, health, and educational opportunities.

Led by acting CEO Dr Edwin Wanyonyi, the Fund raised awareness about its mandate, publicise the benefits of higher education and mobilise for resources to help secure the academic future of Kenyans.

Dr Wanyonyi emphasised that sports and education are powerful drivers of social change

He emphasised that the event encouraged conversations around investments in higher education.

The agency also strengthened its visibility by sensitising diverse stakeholders about its mandate – especially the Student-Centred Funding Model – and the role resource mobilisation plays in enhancing access to education for all learners.

Stakeholders Engaged on University Financing at Nairobi Trade Fair

The Universities Fund amplified information about scholarships and higher education financing opportunities during the Nairobi International Trade Fair (NITF).

UF engaged various stakeholders, who included students and other industry players, on the purpose of scholarships and the government's quest to expand access to quality and affordable education.

The event was organised by Agricultural Society of Kenya, running from September 29



Universities Fund staff inform secondary school students about scholarships at the Nairobi fair on September 29, 2025.

to October 5 at Jamhuri Park Showground. The theme was “Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth”.

Universities Fund to Launch Data Returns, Fundraising Portals to Solve Key Challenges

The Universities Fund is set to resolve challenges associated with student data and insufficient funding with the rollout of Institutional Data Returns Portal.

The move will boost data accuracy and expand the pool of financial resources amid increasing demand for funding to students and institutions.

The October 14 event will also feature the unveiling of the Online Donations Portal that will support UF's resource mobilisation agenda for the growth of higher education.

According to the event's concept note, the Institutional Portal will provide a platform to facilitate structured data exchange, verification, and reconciliation of funds between UF and universities.

The step is coming at the right time given that over the years the Fund has been relying on manual and semi-digital methods to collect student enrolment and financial data from universities, primarily through spreadsheets and email submissions.

The methods, the documents states, resulted in data inconsistencies, delays, duplication, and limited traceability, thereby affecting the timeliness and accuracy of funding and disbursement decisions.

"The Institutional Portal is designed to serve as a centralised digital ecosystem for universities to manage data submissions, funding validations, and refund processes in a secure, transparent, and efficient manner," the concept note reads.



Officers from public universities are sensitised on the data returns portal in Naivasha on June 19, 2025.

The development is part of the organisation's plan to modernise its operations through digital transformation in line with Kenya's Digital Transformation Agenda and Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012.

In a past engagement with registrars, finance, and ICT Officers from public universities in June this year, UF acting

Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi said that the portal will improve submission and management of student data.

The system will provide the officers with a streamlined format of handling student data.

