



UF Launches Digital System to Bolster Accurate, Transparent Funding of Students



Higher Education Principal Secretary Dr Beatrice Inyangala (centre) launches the Universities Fund Institutional Portal at UF offices on October 14, 2025.

The Universities Fund has unveiled the institutional portal and donations platform that are expected to revitalise resource mobilisation and promote effective and data-driven funding of students.

The Universities Fund Institutional Portal, launched on October 14 at UF offices, will strengthen fairness, collaborative and evidence-based funding for all university students.

Speaking during the launch, Higher Education Principal Secretary Dr Beatrice Inyangala underscored that the system will weed out multi-funding, making sure no deserving student is deprived of financial assistance.

Dr Inyangala emphasised the pivotal role digital transformation is playing in creating smart systems that promote transparency and efficiency.

“As we all know, funding reform is only as strong as the data behind it. Without accurate data, accountability weakens. Without transparency, confidence erodes. And without systems, sustainability falters,” she said.

The step, she stated, will provide universities with a standardised and secure platform for submitting and validating students’ and institutional data.

She also billed the UF Donations Platform as a progressive and long overdue move that will ease overreliance of the institutions on Exchequer funding.

Dr Inyangala called upon stakeholders to directly support the institutions in priority areas - research and innovation, special needs education, and climate action - through philanthropy and partnerships.

Dr Inyangala further urged stakeholders to take up a collaborative approach in bolstering the provision of quality education.

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Fund Aims for the Sky with Major Reforms

The Universities Fund (UF) is aiming for the sky through the implementation of reforms that cut across ICT, customer service, resource mobilisation, and staff capacity building.

According to acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi, UF has amplified the use of technology in its operations and operationalised the bulk SMS platform to improve transparency and stakeholder engagement.

Dr Wanyonyi said the organisation utilises its WhatsApp community - with over 10,000 students - to relay relevant information.

On higher education financing, he revealed that the organisation has negotiated two MoU worth Ksh1 billion that are awaiting approval from the country's Attorney General.

"We have continuously improved our systems to ensure that every shilling disbursed to universities is justified by verified data and used for its intended purpose," he said.

Dr Wanyonyi stated that nine funding concepts have been developed to facilitate the diversification of financing options, while staff received training on developing consortium-based proposals from National Treasury's Public Private Partnership Unit.

The agency has also hosted higher education sector development partners to seek funding support, which will ease the financial burden afflicting public universities.



Universities Fund acting CEO Dr Edwin Wanyonyi is joined by staff during the launch of institutional portal and donations platform on October 14, 2025.

Dr Wanyonyi spoke during the unveiling of the Institutional Portal and Online Donations Portal on October 14, 2025 in Nairobi.

UF Feted for Innovative Service Delivery



UF acting CEO Dr Edwin Wanyonyi displays the award UF received at the African Public Sector Awards event in South Africa on October 10, 2025.

The Universities Fund was recognised for embracing adoption of innovation to deliver quality services.

The agency was awarded the Innovation in Higher Education Service Delivery Award at the Africa Public Sector Conference and Awards in Cape Town, South Africa, on October 10, 2025.

Acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi praised UF employees and partners for their versatility, highlighting that their collaboration and vision continue to drive progress in service of the country's learners.

"This recognition affirms our commitment to reimagining how higher education funding is managed, through transparency, technology, and strategic partnerships that ensure equitable access and impact," he said.

The organisation is implementing a series of reforms geared towards enhancing service delivery through digitisation of its services.

Some of the most recent developments include the launch of the institutional portal and online donations platform.

Universities Fund Establishes Donations Portal amid Calls for Enhanced Collaboration

More needy students will access to affordable higher education following the launch of the Universities Fund Donations Platform, which is expected to expand the space for joint, coordinated resource mobilisation efforts.

By creating an avenue for shared responsibility among stakeholders, the system will help to ensure that every student has access to funds.

Higher Education Principal Secretary Dr Beatrice Inyangala hailed the development, underscoring that embracing tech-driven transformation will help UF transition into predictive funding, performance-based allocations and evidence-led planning.

“This is what shared responsibility looks like in the 21st century — not government doing everything, but government creating the ecosystem for everyone to contribute,” she said during the launch of the portal on October 14 in Nairobi.

UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin



UFacting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi speaks during the launch of the institutional portal and donations platform at UF offices on October 14, 2025.

Wanyonyi added that the platform will open up more opportunities for investment in transformative areas such as research.

“This system ensures that every contribution is traceable; every donor can see the impact of their support and universities can access complementary resources to enhance their programmes,” he stated.

Funding Agency Marks Customer Service Week



Universities Fund employees celebrate the start of the 2025 Customer Service Week.

Special give-aways and fun trivia questions on the Universities Fund marked this year's Customer Service Week.

Under the theme ‘Mission Possible’, the agency

raised awareness about the pivotal role stakeholders play in its growth.

Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi kicked off the week with congratulatory messages to the employees.

On social media platforms X and Facebook, students were given the opportunity to share experiences of how the government scholarships have helped them fulfil their academic dreams.

The trivia questions targeted students' general knowledge of the Student-Centred Funding Model.

The annual celebration took place during the first week of October.

UF Promotes Wellness at StanChart Marathon

Employees of Universities Fund joined more than 30,000 participants in this year's edition of the Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon held on October 26, 2025.

The event promoted a healthy lifestyle while raising money for the Futuremakers Initiative, which has impacted over one million young people by supporting education, employability and entrepreneurship.



Universities Fund Launches Digital System to Enhance Accurate, Transparent Student Funding

On his part, Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi said the systems will support efficiency from data submission and validation to reconciliation and reporting, and boost the organisation's resource mobilisation efforts.

Dr Wanyonyi disclosed that the Fund has been relying on data submitted by universities in Excel sheets and other varied formats, which caused funding delays, among other hiccups.

“Designed as a comprehensive digital ecosystem, the portal enables universities to manage data submissions, funding validations and refund processes efficiently,” he said.

