

## Be a Partner Be EDOU Ambassador!

*Come, let's transform lives together*

### About us

Education & Development Opportunity – Uganda (EDOU) is a charity incorporated and operating in Uganda since 2009. Founded by [award-winning women's rights campaigner](#), Brian Mutebi, EDOU's mission is to transform lives. We award education scholarships to girls at-risk of child marriage, survivors of violence, and orphaned and vulnerable children, and empower and advocate for the rights and well-being of girls and women. Our work is deeply rooted in our strong conviction in engaging key actors in policy and decision making, taking up the case of strangers, being a father to the fatherless, and upholding man's primary responsibility of serving humanity, which gives us and our partners the opportunity to transform lives.

### Access to Education in Uganda: *Conceiving the Dream*

"Orphaned at 10 and brought up by my peasant grandmother and step-grandfather, I nearly dropped out of school when they could no longer afford my school fees. Along this difficult journey, however, I met Good Samaritans who held my hand up. Thanks to their support through school, I became the first graduate in my village in 2007! My journey of grace had made me understand everyone needs a hand extended to them so they could realize their dreams. I wanted to do something that would make a real difference in the lives of people. I conceived a Dream. It was a joyful burden on my heart—joyful because the thought of transforming lives was pleasant to the mind yet a burden because I didn't know how it would turn into a life-transforming reality. 'Lord, how possible am I going to do this?' I petitioned. I had a pen and a piece of paper, however. I wrote down my dream. Convinced that education is key to transforming lives, I sold my land worth \$1,500 and started the [Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund](#) for girls at-risk, violence survivors, and orphans."

### Our Impact: *Her Story*

The Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund has awarded 53 scholarships to pupils and students in [primary and secondary schools](#) and at [universities](#), they who otherwise had no hope of attaining an education, bestowing upon them a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

**Lisa** 25, lived with her mother, a single mother who struggled to take care of her and her 3 siblings. Her father abandoned them in a rented house in a Kampala slum. "Knowing that my mother could not afford to pay for my university education, I looked up scholarships. There is no single lead that I did not follow but all was in vain. I lost all hope until the opportunity came through the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund. I have never been so excited," Lisa said. In 2015, Lisa, a GBV survivor, was the first university recipient of the Brian Mutebi Dream scholarship. In January 2020, she graduated from Makerere University with a Bachelor of Laws. Today Lisa is a practicing lawyer.

*The [World Bank estimates](#) that Uganda could save up to USD3 billion by 2030 if child marriages were eliminated, and the country's productivity would be much higher if girls delayed marriage to their 20s and acquired a skill and worked.*

**Margaret** is a 20-year-old who was at risk of being married off after she and her three brothers dropped out of school for lack of school fees. Her parents are peasants in rural Uganda, and her mother was terminally ill for two years, which drained the meagre family income. "The piece of land we leased from a neighbor was too small to farm. My relatives suggested to my parents that I should be married off saying that it was a waste of money in the first place to take me to school. Luckily, I got a scholarship from EDOU; it was God-sent!

Now I have a bright future ahead of me,” she said. Margaret was awarded the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship in 2019, and in 2021 excelled in her end-of-high-school exams. She joined the university in 2022.

*In Uganda, one in four girls aged 15-19 years is either pregnant or had a baby. Only one in 10 girls returns to school after giving birth but married off underage where they face a higher risk of domestic violence.*

### **Be a Partner, Be EDOU Ambassador:** *Connect Willing Hearts to the Need*

In 2019, we marked [10 years of transforming lives in Uganda](#). The task however is too big to handle singlehandedly. The “Be a Partner Be EDOU Ambassador” Campaign seeks to mobilize partners in individuals and institutions to share in our Dream of transforming lives in Uganda. A **Partner** is he who donates to the Fund through which scholarships are awarded and *Girls Dreams Labs* are facilitated. The *Girls Dreams Labs* are town hall meetings through which we assist girls to envision, design, create and defend their spaces, and demystify retrogressive practices that perpetuate gender inequality and violence against girls and women. **Ambassadors** share this cause with people in their networks and urge them to support our work. Ambassadors connect willing hearts to the area of practical need.

Brian started EDOU aged 26. We seek Partners and Charity Ambassadors in 26 countries: The United States, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Finland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Australia, New Zealand, Poland, Denmark, Italy, Ireland, France, Poland, Estonia, Hungary, Georgia, Portugal, Luxemburg, South Korea, and Japan. Partners and Ambassadors will assist:

- Connect individuals, families, churches, philanthropists, companies, charities, and foundations and urge them to donate to the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund.
- Organize fundraising events in their counties, cities, states, or countries, including platforms where scholarship recipients can share their stories with a global audience.
- Incorporate the charity that manages the Fund in their respective states or countries, as may be required by the local laws, or deemed necessary to facilitate resource mobilization efforts.
- Mobilize for the [Uganda Charity Tours](#) where Partners and Ambassadors annually visit Uganda for a tourism expedition and experience firsthand how their donations are transforming lives.

Partners and Ambassadors are recognized on the EDOU’s Wall of Good Samaritans, documentaries and reports, and events including the International Day of the Girl Child and the Day of the African Child.

### **Management and Governance**

EDOU is governed by a Board of Directors and an Advisory Council comprised of experienced professionals in management, finance, and development work. The Board supervises the Management Team headed by the Executive Director. To ensure that we live to the promise of being good stewards of people’s generosity, we have put in place a prudent finance management system that promotes transparency and accountability in the use of all resources we get. This includes independent financial auditing of the charity’s books of accounts.

### **Knowledge Management**

We apply a robust knowledge management framework involving documentation of project activities and best practices, and share reports with our partners. We use both mainstream and social ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)) media to share the impact of our work while observing the rights to privacy of our partners and beneficiaries.

**Make Your Donation:** Account Name: Education & Development Opportunity – Uganda |Account No. 2032160000 Sort Code: 13 02 47 | Swift code: AFRIUGKA | Bank of Africa Uganda Limited |Branch: Equatoria.