

FOCUS

Seedtime Updates July-August 2026

July-August at a glance

- First-year students receive bibles
- 10 STEM staff commissioned for ministry
- Churches united around one mission
- 45 Child Program students receive school fees
- FOCUS governance & leadership strengthened

Dear friends, thank you for your prayers and support, which enabled us to disciple students, strengthen Christian Unions, and support vulnerable families. As God opens new doors for future ministry across Uganda, we praise Him for this remarkable impact made possible through your partnership.





30 First-Year students connected to scripture

The deployment of STEM staff of STEM staff at Makerere and Kyambogo created opportunities to place God's Word directly into the hands of new students. 12 bibles were distributed at Makerere and 18 at Kyambogo. This initiative connected first-year students with Scripture while creating a foundation for continued discipleship and engagement with the Christian Union

New FATT members oriented

FOCUS held a FATT Overnight attended by 7 participants. The overnight created an intensive space for participants to deepen their understanding of FOCUS, Christian Unions and the ministry philosophy and approach of FOCUS. Despite running throughout the night, all participants remained actively engaged in the sessions and discussions.

STEM staff equipped and deployed for student transformation

August saw 10 STEM staff equipped through orientation and training covering FOCUS doctrine, CU leadership, mentorship and effective student ministry. This saw a transition from preparation to active campus deployment at Makerere, Kyambogo and other institutions in the different FOCUS regions. The training equipped the new staff to intentionally engage CU executives, fellowship leaders, small groups and departmental leaders, strengthening the structures through which student discipleship can take place.

Kyambogo CU reveals a clear discipleship roadmap

Kyambogo produced an important ministry outcome where it identified specific areas requiring intervention, including biblical interpretation, Bible study practices and stronger participation in the wider Christian Union. Leaders from teams and departments were engaged, and the new STEM staff was connected with key ministry and university stakeholders. Rather than simply identifying challenges, the engagement created a basis for intentional follow-up, stronger Bible study practices and greater unity across fellowships.





Ten graduates, one mission: A new generation sent to transform campuses

2026/2027 STEM programme brought together 10 STEM staff members for a one-year commitment to campus ministry. Coming from different backgrounds and experiences, the team shared a common mission to disciple, mentor, teach sound doctrine, and help students develop Christ-centred lives, character, and leadership. The programme was presented as a strategic investment in young graduates who would take what they had learned into universities, colleges, and other institutions.

The STEM staff reported that their work would go beyond conducting programmes; they would journey personally with students, helping them navigate questions of faith, identity, purpose, academics, and leadership. Their testimonies emphasized that the impact of investing in one student could extend into families, workplaces, churches, communities, and the nation. The seven-member team therefore represented more than additional ministry staff—it represented an intentional investment in the next generation of Christian leaders.

15 student leaders equipped to lead beyond their term

A leadership training at IIHS equipped 15 Jinja Joint student leaders to think beyond their current terms of service. The training focused on handling leadership challenges, building a legacy, mentoring emerging leaders and learning from biblical leadership examples including Jesus, Paul and Timothy, Moses and Joshua, and Elijah and Elisha. 15 leaders gained practical leadership and mentorship principles they could apply before handing over their responsibilities. The training strengthened the leadership pipeline by encouraging current leaders to intentionally prepare those who will serve after them.

150 students, 4 associates engaged in Jinja

The Jinja Joint Handover brought together 150 students and 4 associates for focused engagement around Christian leadership and the mission of FOCUS. Participants explored FOCUS' vision and mission, the meaning of value-based leadership, and why God calls people to leadership.

The importance of this increased awareness of FOCUS and its ministry among the 150 students and 4 associates, while the teaching from 1 Timothy 4:1–15 helped connect leadership responsibility with biblical principles. The gathering also created a platform for encouraging incoming leaders as they assumed responsibility for Christian Union ministry.

9 care group leaders trained to strengthen student discipleship

FOCUS trained 9 care group leaders at The Answer Foundation. The training covered what care groups are, why they are important, how to run and sustain them, appropriate group size and the qualities of an effective care group leader. All 9 trained leaders on how to establish and manage care groups. More importantly, the training equipped these leaders to use care groups as a practical structure for strengthening Christian Union discipleship and student fellowship.



When support unlocks a child's potential

A 12-year-old boy in the Mulago Child Support Program has made remarkable progress after beginning school with no prior educational experience. He entered Baby Class without having attended school before, yet through the combined efforts of teachers, volunteers and other stakeholders, he progressed all the way to Primary Two within the same year. Respective of Uganda's education system, he had to be promoted on a termly basis such that he levels up to the required class respective of his age. This explains the quick progress from Baby Class to Primary Two

This demonstrates what consistent support, close follow-up and collaboration from the FOCUS Child Support Program can accomplish for vulnerable learners. These efforts also build trust between families, schools and programme stakeholders, creating a stronger shared commitment to each child's success

Two students, two University dreams, one life-changing investment

August marked a major milestone for the Mulago Child Support Program as two supported students successfully transitioned to university. One joined Makerere Business Institute to pursue a Diploma in Business Administration, while the second began a Bachelor's Degree in Procurement and Supply Chain Management at Makerere University.

Their transition represented more than academic progression. It was the result of sustained mentorship, academic support and sponsorship throughout their educational journey that is from primary and secondary school to tertiary education. The achievement provided tangible evidence that long-term investment in vulnerable children can produce lasting educational outcomes.

Beyond the classroom: school visits helping vulnerable children stay on track

Throughout August, the Child Program strengthened its follow-up of vulnerable learners through visits to several schools. The visits were designed not only to monitor students' attendance, but also to understand the challenges affecting their participation in school and identify learners who were becoming increasingly vulnerable to dropping out.

During the visits, the team engaged with school administrations and volunteers to review attendance patterns and identify students who were attending irregularly. This provided an opportunity to recognise potential challenges early and ensure that learners at risk were not overlooked. Rather than waiting for a child to drop out before responding, the programme used regular school monitoring as an important early-warning approach to protect children's education.



FOCUS gets new Board Treasurer

FOCUS made measurable progress in strengthening institutional governance during July and August. The National Governance Council and its committees continued oversight of key institutional priorities.

A key governance milestone was achieved with the identification of a new Board Treasurer following the review of candidates. The next measurable step is to complete the appointment and formal communication, strengthening the structure for financial oversight as FOCUS prepares for continued national growth.

Tororo & Kabale positioned for 2026 Re-pioneering

FOCUS has moved beyond intention towards practical preparation for re-pioneering ministry in 2 strategic locations: Tororo and Kabale.

The deployment matrix already identifies STEM capacity for Eastern/Tororo and Western/Kabale, giving the organisation a defined staffing foundation for renewed ministry presence in both locations. The measurable next step is to translate these deployment plans into active ministry in 2026 while maintaining and strengthening existing regional structures.

12 potential partners engage gerenge re-development

FOCUS moved the Gerenge redevelopment from an idea towards a more defined investment concept. Planning now includes 10 self-contained cottages, alongside other priority improvements, while 12 potential partners have expressed interest in the development.

The immediate measurable outcome is a narrowing of the development options towards a preferred cottage concept, providing a clearer basis for subsequent investment decisions. If implemented, the 10-cottage development would increase the property's capacity to generate long-term ministry and commercial value.

Mulago property advances towards a development partnership

At Mulago, FOCUS progressed discussions with a development partner around the future of the property.

The measurable milestone is that the property has moved into active development-partnership discussions, with the objective of unlocking its long-term ministry and commercial value. The next outcome is to move these discussions towards a clear development and investment decision.

FOCUS gains cross-cultural mission exposure in Nairobi

FOCUS participated in the EPSA Mission Directors' meeting in Nairobi, creating a measurable external learning opportunity for the organisation.

The aim of this initiative was exposure to emerging approaches in cross-cultural mission, giving FOCUS additional perspectives to inform its own ministry development. The longervterm measure will be how these insights are translated into FOCUS' ministry practice and strategy.



Churches around Makerere unite around one mission

During July, FOCUS brought together 25 representatives from churches around Makerere University to explore how churches could work with the Christian Union to reach more students rather than compete with the CU.

The discussions focused particularly on reaching students who have not yet been reached, supporting CU ministry, mobilising young people to participate in freshers' orientation, and helping students connect with good biblical churches. The conversation moved beyond ideas into action, with Deliverance Church, Full Gospel, Every Nation and ROLEC subsequently sending members to participate in the CU evangelism week.

This represents an important step towards a more coordinated campus ministry ecosystem in which churches and Christian Unions work together to reach and disciple students.

Every Home for Christ partners with FOCUS at Makerere freshers' Orientation

FOCUS created an opportunity for Every Home for Christ to participate in the Makerere University freshers' orientation.

The partnership brought discipleship literature and resources directly into spaces where new students were being welcomed into university life. At CHUSS, the Christian Union fellowship was already engaging students through preaching and fellowship information, while at the College of Computing and Information Sciences students were participating in one-to-one evangelism.

For the partner, the engagement provided a practical opportunity to understand how FOCUS and Christian Unions operate on campus. For the ministry, it helped connect additional discipleship resources with students at a critical entry point into university

FOCUS advances engagement with Global Christian Book Fund

FOCUS made progress towards a potential partnership with the Global Christian Book Fund during August. On 25 August, communication from the Christian Book Fund indicated that its CEO, Craig, was supportive of developing a partnership with FOCUS Uganda and was open to supporting the ministry through the next Uganda container.

The potential partnership could strengthen access to Christian literature and discipleship resources for ministry on university campuses, while also creating the foundation for a longer-term relationship with the organisation.



Partner with us

1. Share this newsletter with friends and our local church
2. Pray for students preparing for the September regional conferences.
3. Sponsor one STEM trainee.
4. Sponsor one child under the Child support program.
5. Support the 10K Campaign(Aug 01 to Nov 30)
6. Introduce FOCUS to your church.



Support the 10K Campaign

Acc Name: Fellowship of Christian Unions

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