

MAF launches workshops for pupils in Uganda amidst global shortage in aviation professionals



PHOTO: ANNET NABBANJA

Last year, aviation training giant CAE forecasted a global need to recruit 1.3 million new aviation professionals by 2032 to support the predicted growth of aviation markets.

In Uganda, aviation leaders recently urged more girls to consider a career in flight, including Deputy Director General of Uganda's Civil Aviation Authority Olive Lumonya who said few girls considered it because of stereotypes that aviation is a complicated sector.

'The number of women in aviation is low, and we need more leaders – especially the girls,' she told Ugandan newspaper the *Daily*

Monitor at an Entebbe International Airport event this September.

MAF Uganda's response is a new hands-on experience for primary-aged children from its air base in Kajjansi, spearheaded by Country Director Ruth Jack.

'Enabling children to come and see our planes opens their eyes to a world they may have never come across, and potentially inspires them to think about working in aviation one day,' says Ruth.

After visiting MAF's hangar facilities, hearing about MAF's work and getting up close to MAF aircraft, local pupils left feeling

inspired by the scheme.

'I saw how a pilot looks like – they fly planes and get money. That's why I want to be a pilot,' said six-year-old Ssendagire from Arise and Shine Junior School.

'I feel very happy – being a pilot is very interesting,' said another student.

Teacher Patrick Ojambo confirmed the impact of MAF's workshop. 'Pupils can see first-hand and touch what we teach them in school,' Patrick said. 'We want them to know that their dreams are possible, and MAF is helping us make those dreams a reality.'

Pause for prayer

Please pray for MAF's overseas job vacancies, and ongoing needs for aviation professionals across our programmes in roles including engineering, finance, maintenance, and human resources. Pray for new ways to inspire people with the necessary skills and ability to join MAF so the increasing demands for our humanitarian flights can be met.

Adventures with MAF

For more information about the many ways to join MAF and be a part of its life-saving work overseas – including our pilot and engineer training schemes designed for 18-year-olds and upwards, please visit www.maf-uk.org/working-with-us

Online career event

MAF is running an online Explore Day on 19 October between 11am and 1pm where you or someone you know can find out more about MAF and the exciting career opportunities we're offering around the world. Visit www.maf-uk.org/explore-online