

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE CORPORATE WORLD

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## SOCIAL CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY



James Baanabe Isingoma (sitting) the acting director of energy resources development commissioning the refurbished computer laboratory at Kikagati Primary School in Isingiro district. SBI International Holdings AG (Uganda), the contractors of the 16mw Kikagati Hydropower Project has equipped the school's computer laboratory with 15 computers, work stations and provided an ICT teacher for one year. Looking on is Dotan Hameiri (second-left), an administration manager of SBI Uganda and Alex Byarugaba Bakunda, (third-left), the resident district commissioner, Hoima

## MTN reduces data rates

MTN Uganda has revised data rates to continue the drive towards offering affordable Internet to Ugandans. The reduction in data is expected to drive further Internet connectivity, facilitate business growth and enable communication through Internet-based channels.

The rate reduction, according to Wim Vanhelleputte, the MTN Uganda chief executive officer, is an indication that as uptake and Internet usage continues to grow, the Internet rates will also continue to fall.

"What we are currently witnessing is data revolution coming into full swing. The reduction in pricing is by over 100%, indicating our commitment towards Internet connectivity and affordability for all," he said.

The revised data bundles are not just price-based, but they also include increased volumes for a lower price. For instance, the lower data bundle threshold has been increased to 15MBs from 10MBs at a price of sh250.

For sh5,000, a customer would get

325MBs. With the new rates, a customer get 1GB for that price. This is more value for the customer at the same price.

For sh100,000, one can now get 30GB for a month. In the old rates, a customer had to pay sh285,000 to get 30GB.

"It is important that our customers not only get lower rates, but also experience a good quality network, where we are keen to continuously invest, everywhere. MTN Uganda over a two-year period of 2017 and 2018 has budgeted over sh400b invested in network upgrades in order to improve customer experience. This will increase our 3G sites and 4G/LTE sites to deliver a bold digital world to our customers," he added.

According to Vanhelleputte, MTN Uganda's planned investment will upgrade the network in order to ensure quality, good coverage and better experience.

Further investment in the network also means the Internet speeds continue to improve, which will facilitate business growth and innovation.

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