

# Role of Higher Education Growth in Enhancing Economic Growth, Innovation Advancement and Technological Progress in Uganda (1970–2014)

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## Abstract<sup>4</sup>

We examine the role of growth in higher education in enhancing economic growth, innovation advancement and technological progress in Uganda during the 1970 to 2014 period. Higher education is measured by the higher (tertiary) education gross enrolment ratio (GER). The major hypothesis of the study is that “Higher education growth enhances economic growth, innovation advancement and technical progress”. The study is important because Uganda still has low levels of higher education GER, innovation and technology. Data set employed in the empirical analyses was obtained from the United Nations statistics database and analyzed using the generalised least squares (GLS) technique. First, we find that a 1% increase in higher education GER growth had the potential of causing economic growth, innovation advancement, technological progress and total factor (TF) to increase by 0.82, 0.10, 0.27 and 0.56%, respectively, during the given period. Second, empirical evidence shows that a 1% increase in economic growth, innovation advancement, technological progress and TF the potential of causing higher education GER growth to increase by 1.08, 5.02, 1.36 and 1.42%, respectively, during the given period. Third, over the given period, a 1% growth in innovation, technical progress

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