



**Our Ref: SR/54**

January 17, 2017

To All Head Teachers,  
Secondary Schools

Dear Sir/Madam,

**INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN ACIA 2017**

The Uganda Communications Commission (UCC), is the regulator of the communications sector in Uganda. UCC recognizes the importance of innovation in the development of the communications sector in Uganda and in promoting national development

In this regard, UCC would like to introduce to you the ACIA Awards. The ACIA Awards is an annual initiative by UCC held under the theme "**ICT Innovation for National Development**" that seeks to stimulate awareness of ICTs, encourage critical thinking and recognize innovators engaged in the creation of solutions for Uganda's development challenges.

The ACIA 2016 awards comprise a special category for Secondary schools known as **Uganda's ICT Rising Stars**. We therefore invite your school to participate by submitting an entry under this category in response to the challenge under either or both of the tracks as follows;

**Track 1: - "The most innovative ICT idea that makes it easy for children and youth to access information in a safe way"**

**Track 2: - "Explain how you would use Postal, broadcasting, & telecommunications facilities to improve nutrition or promote sustainable agriculture in your community"**

**Entries shall be received not later than 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017.**

For further clarification, kindly visit the ACIA Awards website at [www.acia.ug](http://www.acia.ug) or your nearest UCC office. You can also call the UCC Toll Free Line: 0800133911 or write to us on [awards@ucc.co.ug](mailto:awards@ucc.co.ug). Please find attached entry guidelines

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Godfrey Mutabazi  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**ACIA 2017 ENTRY GUIDELINES:  
Uganda's ICT Rising Stars- Secondary Schools**

**1. Background**

The Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) runs the ACIA Awards as an initiative geared towards promoting awareness of the potential of ICTs in transforming the Ugandan economy, as well as encouraging innovation of local solutions to local challenges. The Awards comprise many challenges among which is the Uganda's ICT Rising Stars challenge targeting Secondary schools

**2. Challenge:**

Track 1:- **“THE MOST INNOVATIVE ICT IDEA THAT MAKES IT EASY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO ACCESS INFORMATION IN A SAFE WAY”**

Track 2:- **“EXPLAIN HOW YOU WOULD USE POSTAL, BROADCASTING, & TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES TO IMPROVE NUTRITION OR PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN YOUR COMMUNITY”**

- 3. Eligibility and Participation:** All Secondary Schools in Uganda are eligible to participate in this challenge. The school should select their best Concept per track and send it to the Commission no later than **3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017**.

**Note:** *A school can submit their entry under one track or both tracks. In the event that a school submits more than one entry under a particular track, the Commission shall be at liberty to pick any one of the submitted entries*

**4. Approach**

- a) Write a concept paper illustrating your response to the challenge
- b) Concepts will be evaluated, shortlisted and the successful schools will be notified to demonstrate their concepts at the Regional Pitching challenges
- c) The 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage of the Challenge, scheduled to be held in April 2017 will require shortlisted schools to show case their illustrations at the regional competitions to be held in April 2017
- d) Regional winners shall then be evaluated at national level to identify the National Winner



## 5. Essay Content

### 5(a) Track 1:

<b>CHALLENGE:</b>	<b>“THE MOST INNOVATIVE ICT IDEA THAT MAKES IT’S EASY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO ACCESS INFORMATION IN A SAFE WAY”</b>
Background	a) Submission title: b) Category Name
Problem Statement	Describe the ICT issues that children and youth in Uganda are facing in accessing information in a Safeway, and how the identified issues can be solved using ICTs. (250 words).
Significance and impact	Explain why your proposed innovative idea is worthy of attention and how this innovative idea will solve the problem (s) you have identified above (200 words)
Detailed innovation Solution	Clearly elaborate the innovative idea you are proposing to solve the identified problem explaining how it will/would work and any parts/components required to achieve the same (200 words).
Illustration	How do you as an individual or as a team plan to illustrate/present or communicate your innovative idea to the judges? (100 words)
Profile information*	a) School: b) Supporting Teacher: c) Name of Team: d) Name of Students (at least 5 students) who have participated in proposing the innovative idea:

### 5(b) Track 2:

<b>CHALLENGE:</b>	<b>“EXPLAIN HOW YOU WOULD USE POSTAL, BROADCASTING, TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES TO IMPROVE NUTRITION OR PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN YOUR COMMUNITY”</b>
Background	a) Submission title b) Category Name
Problem Statement	Describe any nutrition or agricultural issues in your community and how you can use postal, broadcasting or telecommunications facilities to improve the identified

	nutritional issues or promote sustainable agriculture. (250 words).
Significance and impact	Explain why your proposed innovative ICT idea is worthy of attention and how this innovative idea will solve the problem (s) you have identified above (200 words)
Detailed innovation Solution	Clearly elaborate the innovative idea you are proposing to solve the identified problem explaining how it will/would work and any parts/components required to achieve the same (200 words).
Illustration	How do you as an individual or as a team plan to illustrate/present or communicate your innovative idea to the judges? (100 words)
Profile information*	a) School: b) Supporting Teacher: c) Name of Team d) Name of Students (at least 5 students) who have participated in proposing the innovative idea:

**Note:** All entries should have the profile information clearly specified. Insufficient or no profile information will be grounds for automatic disqualification of an entry.

## 6. Concept Submission

Concepts shall be submitted to the Commission, using the online portal at <http://acia.ug> not later than 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 in the format prescribed in the forms

## 7. Judging Criteria

Each entry will be judged according to the following criteria:

- **Creativity and Innovation:** how unique and imaginative is your idea?
- **Quality and Completeness:** how well does the proposed idea address the challenge?
- **Appreciation of ICTs:** Do the pupils/students demonstrate an understanding of the different ICT services (postal, broadcasting and telecommunications) and how these ICT services can help in addressing the identified challenge?
- **Depth of research:** Have the pupils demonstrated a depth of understanding of the challenge in coming up with their proposed solutions?
- **Sustainability:** Have the pupils demonstrated the economic, environmental and social aspects that arise with adoption of their solutions?
- **Documentation and presentation:** how much effort you have put into your report, posters and your presentation?