



## MAKERERE UNIVERSITY SPACE SCIENCE RESEARCH GROUP UGANDA



Applications that use satellite links are immense and these include telecommunications, transport industry, navigation in cars, farming and agricultural applications, among others. It is with this in mind that space science research was introduced in the department of physics, Makerere University in 2009.

The space science research was in collaboration with the International centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and Boston College (BC) with the participation of the European Space Agency, together with other universities in Africa. The purpose of this research was to investigate space weather effects on GPS satellite signals within the East Africa region using GPS receivers positioned at Makerere University, at Mbarara University, at Maseno University and at the University of Nairobi.

The acquisition of this equipment at the Department of Physics enabled us to introduce space science programmes both at undergraduate and graduate levels and a number of publications were made by both students and staff during this period. In addition, a good number of students were able to write their dissertations in this area and attained Masters degrees. Unfortunately, the collaboration with the above institutes stopped and the Department can no longer download ionospheric data using the equipment and this is hampering research a great deal. Most graduates



in space physics would like to continue with research but it has been very difficult to get equipment. Satellite development and launching in Uganda can solve many of these problems. This will go a long way in strengthening our research and global networks.

Am happy to be part of ISWI Newsletter where I can get information and help the continent grow in space science, thank you George Maeda for introducing me and my department members to this platform. The department of Physics Makerere University and the national space department will be happy to join ISWI programs so as to develop our national space departments.

Thank you very much

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