

*By Jeje Muhinde;*

Through the creativity of virtual training and workshops with school principals and educators, the winning message of inclusion is growing in Rwanda.

According to Rwanda Special Olympic, by the end of 2021, the Unified Champion Schools (UCS) project will be operating in 70 Schools in 7 Districts of the Eastern Province of Rwanda.

In collaboration with the Eastern Province Governor and local leaders from 7 Districts, 10 schools were selected in each District to host the project.

Unified Champions Schools programming in Rwanda has been made possible by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces.

Following a commitment made at the Special Olympics World Games Abu Dhabi 2019, His Highness Mohamed bin Zayed donated \$25 million to promote and implement Unified Champion Schools (UCS) across the globe.

UCS project trainings are being held via Zoom conference, which was adopted in compliance with the government's regulations in preventing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

To date, 30 school principals have been trained in Unified schools from 3 Districts in from: Gastibo, Nyagatare, and Kayonza.

According to Rwanda Special Olympics, the remaining 40 school principals from the remaining 4 Districts that is; (Rwamagana, Ngoma, Kirehe, and Bugesera) are also planned to be trained about the project before the end of the quarter.