

## Thousands visit Uganda Virus Research Institute

Thousands of students from secondary schools and universities visited an open day held by MRC/UVRI on 5th March. The day encouraged young people to become scientists, showcasing the work of MRC/UVRI and Makerere University. The event included displays, music and talks, and gave visitors the chance to speak to researchers about their work.

As part of the open day, Evidence for Action researchers on the Wakiso project answered many enthusiastic questions from students about their research. The Wakiso project is investigating whether peripheral health centres in Uganda can effectively deliver antiretroviral treatment. Currently patients in rural areas have to travel long distances to receive antiretroviral treatment. If peripheral health centres are able to deliver antiretroviral therapy it will mean patients have less far to travel, saving time and money.

Dr Stephen Malinga, Minister of Health in Uganda, was one of the speakers at the event, encouraging young people to become scientists. He also praised the work of Uganda Virus Research Institute and Makerere University.