



**IMPROVING ACCESS, LEARNING OUTCOMES AND SKILLS  
OF ADOLESCENTS THROUGH DIGITAL LEARNING:  
LESSONS FROM SCALING KOLIBRI IN UGANDA**

**PROSPECTS Learning Event: Digital  
Acceleration of Learning and Skills  
Development**

**March 2, 2021**



Yoweri K. Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, experiencing Kolibri platform through students at St. Charles Lwanga College in one of the refugee hosting districts – Koboko. UNICEF in collaboration with NITA Uganda



# UGANDA – CONTEXT



**87% (159,676) of refugee adolescents (12-17)** are not enrolled in secondary education. Only 33% of all refugee and host communities adolescents enrolled in secondary schools are girls.



**Adolescents make up the highest population bracket among the displaced populations** in Uganda, these young refugees and host adolescents suffer from lack of access to quality learning, which affects their employability.



**41% of adolescent and youth are not in employment, education and training (NEET)** with absolute majority being adolescent girls.



**Low levels of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and digital literacy** among adolescents, especially girls. 10.67 million internet users with an **internet penetration at 24%**.



**Low capacity of teachers/instructors to utilize digital tools** in the teaching and learning process.



# DIGITAL LEARNING JOURNEY



**Mobi-Station (2011- 2012)**



**Digital Drum/Kiosk (2013 - 2016)**



**Kolbri (2017 - Present)**



# THE SOLUTION: DIGITAL LEARNING WITH KOLIBRI

## Objectives:

- Improve secondary school learning outcomes
- To enhance digital literacy to better position Ugandan young people, especially girls, as competitive in the workforce

## Focus:

- Fostering innovative pedagogy
- Increasing the availability of relevant, aligned learning materials
- Overcoming infrastructural barriers preventing equitable access
- Learning pathways and self-guided learning
- Tools to understand learner progress and support differentiation in instruction



No Internet required



Wide variety of hardware  
(legacy/low-cost)

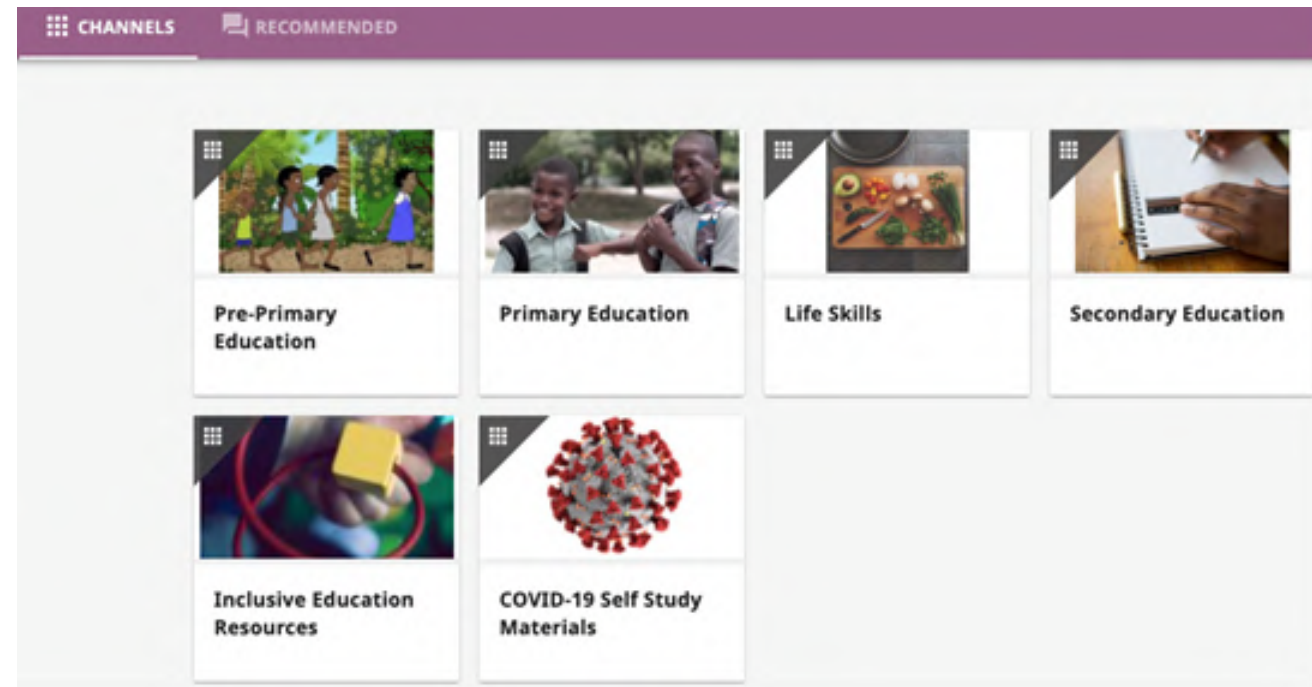


Seamless distribution  
and data syncing



# HOW KOLIBRI WORKS

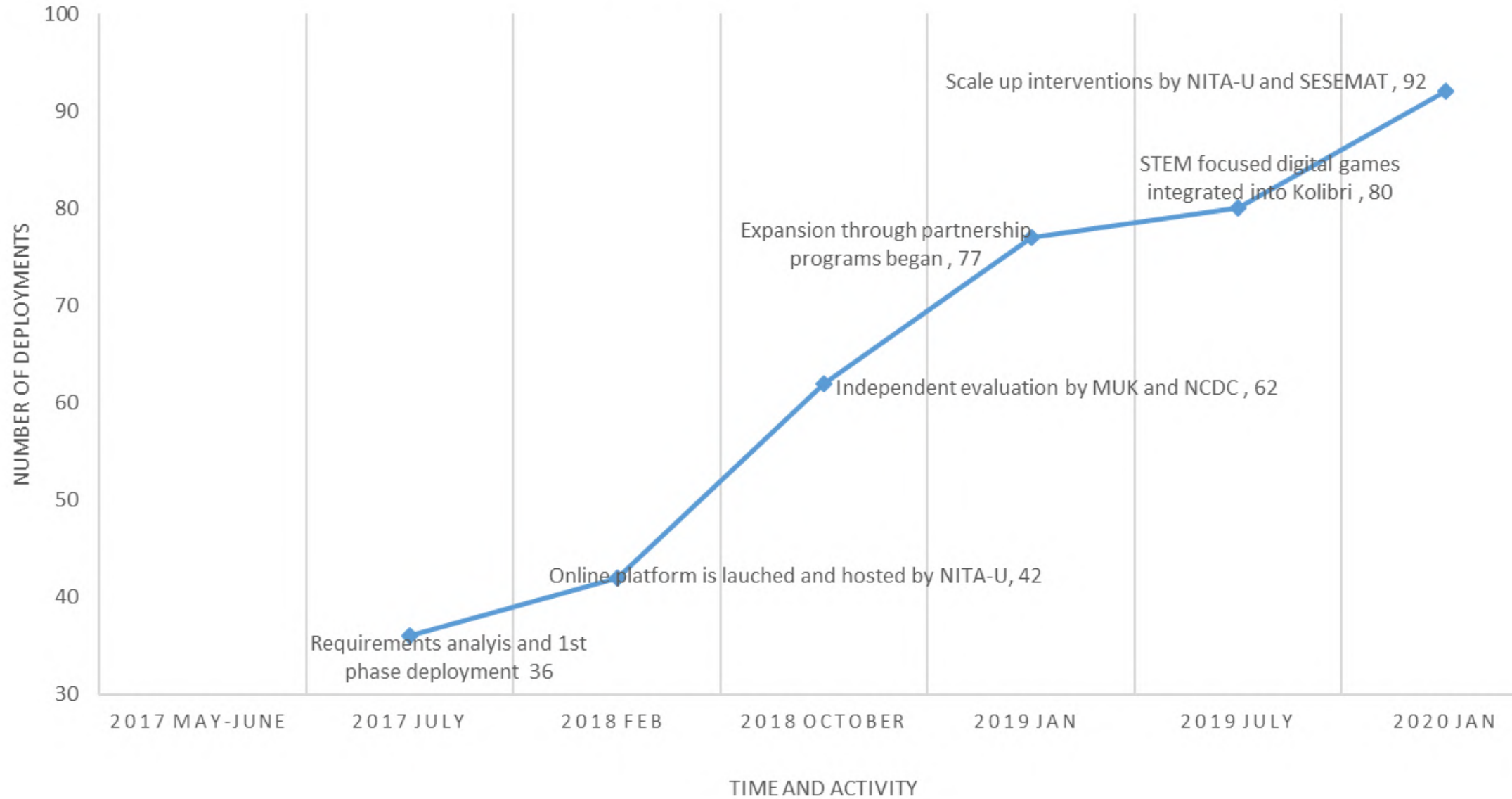
- Leverages computer labs in government secondary schools and ICT centres
- Learners and educators can access open education resources via the digital learning platform
- Capacity building for users including teachers, school administrators and learners
- Accessible online via the National IT Authority local server as a public good



Kolibri Homepage: <https://e-learning.education.go.ug>;  
<https://e-learning.ncdc.go.ug>



## KOLIBRI TIMELINE



# REACH

- Functional in 42 secondary schools, 20 primary schools, 12 ICT centers in refugee settlements
- 12,637 in school adolescents reached (7,538 boys, 3,487 female)
- Over 4,000 online users
- 250 teachers and youth facilitators trained
- COVID-19 Response: 130,000 content interaction via e-Library since March 2020
  - 105,931 (81%) accessed curriculum-based and remedial learning materials
  - 25,000 hits pers week during schools closure







# PARTNERS

**NCDC:** Endorsed by the NCDC as a flagship e-Learning program for secondary education and included in the Education Digital Agenda strategy 2021-2025

**MTN Uganda:** Zero-rated the Kolibri url

**Learning Equality:** Software maintenance and enhancement

**UNHCR/HP/Google.org:** Through the UNHCR Connected Education Program in 34 secondary schools, 3 Community Technology Access centers in refugee settings. The HP school cloud and home-based learning model with 2,315 tablets.

**Enabel:** BTVET centers with customized content





# PLANS FOR SCALE UP

**Adequate policies and frameworks** – Education digital agenda strategy with Kolibri

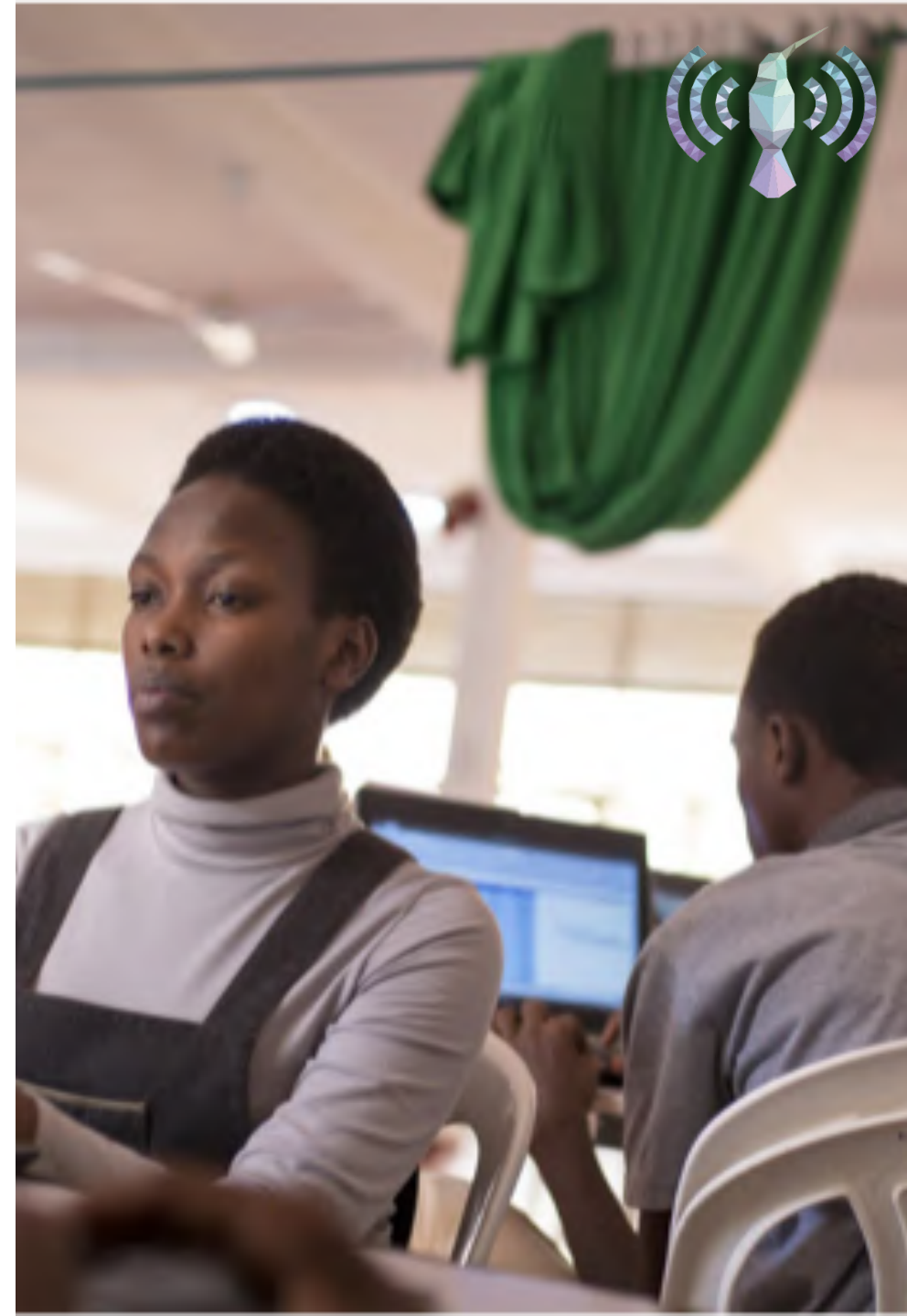
**Leverage platforms:** Opportunity to deliver skills development models such as Life Skills Toolkit and UPSHIFT

Cover **29 districts and reach 2.7 million children and adolescents (13-19 years old)** by 2025

**Technology capacity development** for teachers and instructors

**Diversification of partners**

- PROSPECTS partners
- Private sector partnerships
- Public institutions for research and innovation





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