

End of Quarter

NEWSLETTER 2021/2022



APRIL, MAY, JUNE

Government Citizen Interaction Centre
State House

FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF



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Special Presidential Assistant
In-Charge of Communication &
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Interaction Centre (GCIC)

I have the pleasure to present to you the fourth edition of our Quarterly Government of Uganda Newsletter. This is the last edition of the Financial Year 2021/2022 and covers the months of April, May and June of 2022.

The purpose of this GCIC Newsletter is to empower you, as a citizen, with information regarding the different activities, projects and programmes that the Government has undertaken in your area. It is hoped that you can benefit from them or participate in their monitoring to ensure value for money. This new concept of Government management is called **Open Government** which we are spearheading at the GCIC.

I want to thank the readers who have gone through our previous three editions and have been providing us with meaningful feedback. We have endeavoured to incorporate their feedback in every subsequent edition.

I also want to thank different Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, that have cooperated with the Government Citizen Interaction Centre, in the production of this Newsletter. This is the widest edition we have produced and has extensively covered Government's interventions in expanding markets for Uganda's products abroad, efforts to end resurging cattle rustling in Karamoja, and we have also annexed the President's State of the Nation Address, delivered on the 7th June, 2022, at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

In conclusion, I want to appeal to fellow Government Communicators to continue supporting this Government quarterly Newsletter, to become a one-stop centre for Government news, every three months.

I now have the pleasure to present to you the fourth edition of the GCIC Newsletter.

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Enhancing monitoring of service delivery in a digitally connected world.

The Government Citizen Interaction Centre (GCIC) operates under State House as a key contact centre between Government and citizens to enhance the monitoring of service delivery.

We provide a channel for feedback and suggestions from citizens in a bid to promote open governance. Through GCIC, citizens interact with Government through multiple channels including. The data generated through these interactions is analyzed to inform policy decisions, guide in the formulation of policy interventions.

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CONTENTS

UGANDA AND DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO HOLD A BUSINESS SUMMIT IN KINSHASA.....	5
UGANDA COMMEMORATES AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY.....	8
RWANDA HOSTS CHOGM	9
POLICE UNVEILS NEW UNIFORM FOR KARAMOJA OPERATIONS.....	10
TOP POLICE DETECTIVES UNDERGO ONE-MONTH FRESHER RETREAT	11
K9 DEPLOYS SNIFFER DOGS TO 9 KARAMOJA DISTRICTS	11
URSB SURPASSES THE REVENUE COLLECTION TARGET BY UGX 11.5 BILLION.....	12
UGANDA HOSTS UGANDA TÜRKIYE INVESTMENT, TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM SUMMIT	14
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY & TOTAL ENERGIES EP UGANDA SIGN AGREEMENT	15
UGANDA AND CHINA STRENGTHEN TIES	16
44 SENIOR OFFICERS GRADUATE FROM SCSC KIMAKA.....	16
GENDER MINISTRY RAMPS UP FIGHT AGAINST CHILD LABOUR.....	18
YOUTH AND WOMEN GROUPS RECEIVE BUSINESS TOOLKITS UNDER GREEN JOBS PROGRAMME	20
PARLIAMENT PASSES BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/2023	22
INTEGRATED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IFMS) UPGRADED	24
URA LAUNCHES AIR CARGO CONTROL OFFICE TO COUNTER ILLICIT TRADE AT THE AIRPORT.....	26
UGANDA WINS THREE TOURISM AWARDS	26
UWA REWARDS COMMUNITIES AS IT MARKS SILVER JUBILEE.....	27
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DONATES TO SOROTI DIOCESE & NATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE	27
UGANDA AND KENYA SIGN FRAMEWORK TO ALLOW TRANSIT OF FISH	29
UGANDA WORKING HARD TO GET OFF FATF GREY LIST.....	30
UNBS INTRODUCES NEW IMPORTS INSPECTION AND CLEARANCE REGULATION 2021	31
ACHOLI SUB-REGION RECEIVES THREE AMBULANCES	32
UGANDA MARKS WORLD HEALTH DAY	32
UGANDA MARKS WORLD MALARIA DAY	34
MOTHER TO CHILD HIV TRANSMISSION FALLS TO 2.8%	35
GERMANY AND WHO DONATE TO UGANDA	36
UN POPULATION FUND DONATES TO UGANDA	37
GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH	39
ELECTRICITY ACCESS SCALE-UP PROJECT.....	39
2022 STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS	42
BANK OF UGANDA FINANCIAL STABILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT	43



UGANDA AND DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO HOLD A BUSINESS SUMMIT IN KINSHASA

On the 29th May, 2022, Uganda Airlines descended at N'Djili Airport, carrying a delegation of Ugandan businessmen, businesswomen and Heads of Government agencies responsible for trade and migration. The delegation including the Senior Presidential Advisor for Special Duties and Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Exports and Industrial Development, Mr. Odrek Rwabwogo, was headed by the first Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Affairs, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, and co-ordinated by the Private Sector Foundation Uganda.

The Government Agencies in Kinshasa included Uganda Export Promotion Board,

Left-Right: Edith Mwanje; Permanent Secretary Ministry of East African Affairs, Odrek Rwabwogo; Senior Presidential Advisor, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga; 1st Prime Minister and Minister for East African Affairs, Hon. Lucien Bussa; Congolese Minister for External Trade, Hon. Didier Mazanga; Congolese Minister for Regional Integration and Hon. Julien Paluku; Congolese Minister for Industry, at the 1st leg of the Summit in Kinshasa

Uganda Revenue Authority, Uganda Tourism Board, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Uganda National Bureau of Standards. Others are Uganda Airlines, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Ministry of Works and Transport, and Ministry of East African Community Affairs.

The Ugandan business community pitching at the Summit included the Agriculture, Manufacturing, Construction, Banking, Transport, Logistics, Tourism and ICT sectors.

The high level summit opened officially on 30th May, 2022, with Congo's Minister for Foreign Trade, His Excellency Juan Lucien Bussa, representing President Etienne Tshisekedi. Other Ministers present were;

Julien Baluku (Industry), Didier Mazanga Makanzu (Regional Integration), Modero Nsimba Matondo (Tourism) and Eustache M. Muhanzi (SMEs).

In his opening remarks, Stephen Asiimwe, the Chief Executive Officer of Private Sector Foundation Uganda, the main organiser of the Summit said that Ugandans were in Kinshasa to do business. “We have come to business. We have mobilised and travelled with a consortium of private and Government players. We want a return on investment for this initiative,” he said.

The Head of the Uganda delegation committed that Uganda would work with DRC to iron out all the major issues affecting trade, including transportation, taxation and security. “I am a senior Government person. The reason I am seated in this room is to listen to your issues and we work on solutions as the East African Community,” Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga said, responding to issues raised by both Ugandan and Congolese businessmen during a plenary session. Hon. Kadaga, also said DRC was committed to expediting formalities of joining the bloc because both Cabinet and Parliament had ratified the instrument which now awaited depositing at the Secretariat. In her remarks, Kadaga said that DRC was fully committed to ratifying the Customs Union and Common Market Protocol of the East African Community, to harmonise issues that are currently hindering trade between Uganda and DRC such as taxation, Non-Tariff Barriers, among others. Kadaga added that currently, East African Community is focused on establishing a Monetary Institute which will facilitate the third protocol of the community, the Monetary Union, by 2024.

On his part Minister Bussa said that President Tshisekedi, just like President Museveni, was committed to integration, promotion of trade, and creation of African billionaires, before adding that DRC would send a delegation of Government officials and businessmen to Kampala, for a reciprocal summit, as soon as possible.

Biggest news of the day came from the Minister for Industry who invited Ugandans to invest in the new economic zone (equivalent

of Uganda’s industrial parks) and they would get a tax holiday and other benefits.

By third day of the Summit, the aura in Kinshasa was music to the ears of the Ugandan business community. Both Ugandan and Congolese authorities had agreed that Uganda-DRC Business Summit shall be an annual event, the Ministers had committed to quarterly Government to Government review meetings to monitor progress of harmonising trade practices and elimination of barriers, and most of the Ugandan companies had acquired a foothold in Kinshasa. In the next few months, Ugandan products such as vegetables, milk, chicken, steel, cement and others, will be in Kinshasa, joining a list of already established Ugandan companies in DRC such as Movit Products Limited.

The second leg of the business summit was held in Goma city, the capital of North Kivu Province, with leaders reiterating the commitments they had made in Kinshasa.

It is worth noting that Uganda approved construction and upgrading of the national roads inside the Eastern DRC, from Kasindi section (border) to Beni city (80km) and the integration of the Beni-Butembo axis (54kms) to national road; and the Bunagana (border)–Rutshuru-Goma road (89km) on grounds that the project will benefit the Government and



Photo of the participants of the 1st leg of the Summit in Kinshasa

people of Uganda through the economic interconnectivity that would improve mobility and ease of doing business, people to people interconnectivity of the two countries, security in the eastern DRC; and trade and investment. In June, 2021, the Heads of State of Uganda and DRC launched the construction works at Mpondwe-Lhubiriha border.



Participants of the second leg of the Summit in Goma City, North Kivu Province



Left – Right: Odrek Rwabwogo; Senior Presidential Advisor, Hon. Harriet Ntabazi; Minister of State for Trade, Lt. Gen. Constant Ndiima; Military Governor for North Kivu Province, Lucy Kakwano; Head, Uganda Consul in Goma, and Sarah Kagingo; PSFU Board Member, at the 2nd leg of the Summit in Goma City

UGANDA COMMEMORATES AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY

Uganda joined the rest of the African continent to commemorate Africa Public Service Day (APSD) held on 23rd June. The African Public Service Day (APSD) is an annual event held on 23rd June. It is an entrenched strategic programme on the African Union (AU) calendar, and part of the collaborative work of the Pan-African Ministers programme aimed at enhancing governance and public administration across the continent.

This year's day was celebrated under the theme; *Bringing Citizens and Government Closer: Service Delivery for Socio-Economic Transformation.*

Different Ministries, Departments and Agencies undertook various activities as a build up to the main day. State House administration led by Under Secretary for Finance and Administration, Ms. Hope Nyakairu, participated in community work by painting a classroom block at Nakasero Primary School.

Also, as part of build up activities, Ministries, Departments and Agencies participated in sports gala that was held at Makerere University Sports grounds for two days.

The Africa Public Service Day (APSD) was later celebrated at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds with all Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies participating to show case their mandate and services to the public. The event was open to the public.



State House staff pose for a photo with pupils of Nakasero Primary school after painting a block at the school



Staff of Government Citizen Interaction Centre pose for a photo in front of the State House tent during Africa Public Service Day at Kololo



RWANDA HOSTS CHOGM



Rwandans line up Kigali streets to welcome the convoy of President Museveni for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting.

President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Rwanda's Capital Kigali, on 23rd June, 2022, for a four day working visit during which he joined other Heads of State and Government for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

The meeting was held under the theme, ***“Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming”***.

President Museveni who travelled by road from Uganda was received at the Gatuna One-Stop Border Post by the Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Rwanda, Eng. Erneste Nsabimana, Uganda's High Commissioner to Rwanda, H.E. Maj. Gen (Rtd) Robert Rusoke, Governor of Northern Province, Mr. Danielle Nyirarujero, Mayor of Gicumbi, Mr. Emmanuel Nzabonimpa, Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Anne Katusiime, Defence Attaché at the High Commission of the Republic of Uganda in Rwanda, Maj. Gen. Emmanuel Burundi Nyamunywanisa and Col. Deo Rusanganwa, Brigade Commander

501. Hundreds of people lined the streets of Kigali to receive him and almost blocked roads.

The President later attended the Commonwealth Business Forum Heads of Government and Business Leaders Roundtable at the Intare Conference Arena. Later, he hosted various bilateral meetings at his residency.

Leaders of Commonwealth countries meet every two years for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), hosted by different member countries on a rotating basis. Since 1971, a total of 24 meetings have been held including in Uganda in 2007 hosted by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, with the most recent being in the UK in 2018.

CHOGM hosted by H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, was due to take place in June 2020, but was postponed twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

POLICE UNVEILS NEW UNIFORM FOR **KARAMOJA OPERATIONS**



Policemen and women attached to ASTU wearing the new uniform at ASTU offices in Moroto.

In an effort to curb cattle theft, the Uganda Police Force officially announced that it had changed the operations uniform for Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU) personnel operating in the Karamoja sub-region and the neighbouring districts.

All the ASTU officers operating in Karamoja have been donning field force camouflage uniforms. Micheal Longole, the Mt. Moroto Regional Police Spokesperson said that the unit which is directly charged with the responsibility of mitigating cattle thefts and operating in Karamoja and the neighbouring districts is changing its uniform for easy identification and to suit the environment the forces are operating in.

In the statement, Longole said, "Uganda Police Force informs the general public that the Anti Stock Theft Unit of the

Uganda Police Force, ASTU, is in the final process of changing its operation uniform that fits the environment of Karamoja."

According to Longole, the uniforms are friendly with the environment of Karamoja and will lead to improved security and handling contact with cattle rustlers in the ambushes. He said the uniforms are already in the stores and the change will take effect immediately while the uniforms formerly used by ASTU will only be used by police personnel attached to the Field Force Unit (FFU).

Longole urged the members of the public not to be alarmed when they notice the change during the operations but instead cooperate with security to end cattle theft in the region.

TOP POLICE DETECTIVES UNDERGO ONE-MONTH FRESHER RETREAT

Top management at the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) underwent a month-long retreat at the Special Forces Command Training School at Sera in Kasenyi, Wakiso District. The detectives include Deputy Directors, Heads of Departments, and Regional CID Officers.

The Director of CID, AIGP Tom Magambo, said the training dubbed refocusing and leadership retreat, is intended to help the detectives reflect on “*what the*



Top Police leadership poses for a photo at the CID Headquarters in Kibuli, Kampala

country requires of us (CID) to contribute to delivering justice for our people”. “I am proud of our team. It is such an honour and privilege to work with dedicated officers. This retreat is a good opportunity to recharge and deliver better citizen-centred services,” the Director added.

K9 DEPLOYS SNIFFER DOGS TO 9 KARAMOJA DISTRICTS

Amidst the rising cases of cattle rustling in Karamoja sub-region, Uganda Police Force has deployed the K9 resources, to compliment the efforts of the Army and Police in combating the crime. This followed the President’s advice to the Uganda Police Force, to deploy K9 in all the districts of Karamoja, to assist in tracking the rustlers and movement of cattle.

The Commandant Police K9 Unit, CP Martin Mugume, together with the Commandant ASTU, CP Kasirabo Elias, sensitised the communities in Karamoja on the



Police officers perform a K9 dry run before locals in Karamoja

use of police sniffer dogs in fighting crime. The K9 Unit is deploying in the Karamoja sub-region to help in the fight against crime. The K9 Unit is also expanding to other districts of Lamwo, Otuke, Katakwi, Kapelebyong, Bukedea, Kween, Bukwo, Agago and Bulambuli, which are neighbouring Karamoja.

URSB SURPASSES THE REVENUE COLLECTION TARGET BY UGX 11.5 BILLION IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22



The Financial Year 2021/2022 closed off for the Uganda Registration Services Bureau on a high note. The Bureau surpassed its set targets by over 125% marshalled by an improved economic recovery that is enhancing formalisation away from the slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The varied social economic effects of the pandemic in the reporting period had a slow-down impact on most sectors, but strategic interventions reversed the negative trends setting pace for the super performance.

Throughout this period, URSB continued to play its core role of formalising the economy and facilitating private sector development and competitiveness by allowing many, individual businesses, micro, small & medium enterprises (MSMEs) join the formal sector. The Bureau remains committed to providing all necessary avenues to enable all economic and social enterprises join the formal sector.

Delivering URSB mandate and strategy

Through the financial year, the Bureau stayed on course with delivering on its mandate and services namely through; the registration of companies and business names, registration of intellectual property rights, handling insolvency matters, registering marriages, and propelling the use of movable property as collateral to access affordable credit through maintenance of the security interest in movable property registry system (SIMPO).

The Bureau adopted its Strategic Development Plan III which is aligned with the National Development Plan III to support service delivery, and increase uptake of registration service innovation and technology development in Uganda. All these combined offered new options for supporting service delivery while enhancing efficiency across all operations.

The strategic objectives are strengthening the legal and institutional framework to promote competitiveness, simplifying processes to

ease registration, enhancing communication and awareness about URSB services and strengthening research and advisory services. Among the key milestones registered include the following;

Improvement in non-tax revenue (NTR) collections

The close of the 2021/2022 FY year saw an upsurge in NTR collections from 39.2bn last year to 57.04bn over a set target of 45.51bn representing an over 125% above target growth. The growth in collections is attributed to strategic concentration on delivering quality services through the all-digital, all-online strategy that allowed clients to easily access responsive services from the comfort of their homes and offices, decentralisation of services as well as targeted awareness and communications campaigns.

Formalisation of the economy

A total of 46, 860 businesses and companies were registered, bringing the total number of formal entities to over 800,000. These registrations are a strong indicator of the economy's steady recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic which is enabling private sector growth and economic competitiveness. 56,308 legal documents were also registered showing heightened commercial activities in the economy.

Supporting growth in innovations

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in new and improved ways of creativity to enable delivery of basic services. Enterprising Ugandans took to social commerce to deliver goods during the lockdown while a number of innovations in the line of handling effects of the pandemic were created. The growth of intellectual property innovations is in line with URSB's mandate to protect, promote and commercialise these inventions while supporting groups like artists, bookwriters, and

inventors through trademark, utility models and patent registrations. A total of 5,722 local trademark applications and registered were added on the IP registry.

Enhancing access to capital for small business

Through SIMPO (security interest in movable property registry system (SIMPO)), over 12,000 borrowers especially from the vulnerable groups of small business owners including youth and women have accessed financing using their movable properties as collateral to gain capital. The SIMPO registry was launched in 2019 to support the use of assets such as cars, electronics, farm and livestock, machinery as collateral to gain financing especially for micro small and micro enterprises who lack fixed assets like land which has been the norm while trying to access credit.

Decentralisation of services

To support easy access to services, URSB maintains branch offices in Mbarara, Mbale, Arua, Gulu in addition to two branch offices to support the central region. This strategic placement has ensured that services are reachable. This is coupled with participation in major engagements across the country using mobile services vans that have the capability of operating as mobile offices especially in the hard-to-reach areas. In this reporting period, a new branch office was opened in Masaka to cater to the population in the region. Plans are underway to further extend services to the Albertine region and Jinja Municipality.

Leveraging technology and organisational talent

The Bureau continued with its aspiration with the all-digital, all-online strategy geared towards having all services online. Technology is credited for the growth of most of URSB's services with online systems replacing manual modes of service delivery. As the Bureau's size and scale continues to grow, emphasis was placed on recruiting and training staff to support the vision. These interventions are bearing results with realisation of the strategy and high impact goals. 90% of URSB services can now be accessed from the comfort of one's home or office from Monday to Sunday.

Stakeholder engagements and Recognition

In August 2021, URSB together with the Government of Uganda hosted the Africa Regional Intellectual Property Organisation (ARIPO) Diplomatic Conference on voluntary registration of copyrights and related rights at which the Kampala Protocol was adopted to support the commercialisation of artists rights across 21 countries on the continent. In November, URSB also hosted the Corporate Registers Forum which brought together over 400 delegates from 60 registers across the world to discuss the Ease of doing business and the role of corporate registries. Additionally, to support awareness on insolvency, the bureau hosted a 2-day conference for insolvency practitioners on emerging trends in corporate restructuring. The Insolvency conference was attended by Judicial Officers and Insolvency Practitioners from within the country.

The bureau was recognised for achievements and leadership in advancing vital services. In May 2022, URSB was also the proud recipient of the Buy Uganda Build Uganda award for the most efficient service delivery agency, while in December 2021, URSB won the Commissioner General's strategic partner's award from Uganda Revenue Authority during the tax payers recognition ceremony and National Information Technology Authority's E-service of the year award under the Justice, Law & Order Sector.

Stabilising the family union

Family remains the first foundation of stability and URSB has committed to ensuring all marriages are formalised and registered. Through continuous engagement of duty bearers, there has been a witnessed improvement in the registration of all marriages with a 50% increase in registration of customary marriages, a 59% increase in marriages celebrated by the Registrar of Marriages, and growth in compliance by churches filing returns of marriages conducted. Formalisation of family structures through registration of marriages strengthens the government's strategy of citizen inclusion in the money economy like disbursement of funds under the Parish Development Model which is geared towards stabilising family incomes.

UGANDA HOSTS UGANDA TÜRKIYE INVESTMENT, TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM SUMMIT

The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda Investment Authority, the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey and the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (DEiK) jointly hosted the Uganda-Turkey Investment, Trade, Industry and Tourism Summit 2022 from 10th to 11th May, 2022 at the Speke Resort Munyonyo. The theme of this year's summit was, **“Accelerating Investment, Trade, Industry and Tourism between Uganda and Turkey in the Post COVID-19 era”**.

The summit attracted over 600 investors carefully selected by the Uganda Investment Authority, Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Uganda, the Embassy of the Republic of Uganda in Turkey and the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (Deik).

The Summit was crowned with the launch of the Uganda-Turkey Industrial Park and Trade Centre in Nakasongola which will be constructed through a partnership between the Uganda Investment Authority and the UPDF's National Enterprise Corporation.

“The Government has boosted Hydro-Electric Power generation and put in place mechanisms to provide this electricity affordably (with a target of at least US\$5 cents/Kwh) to industrial consumers and provided serviced industrial parks in most parts of the country, among others” , Robert Mukiza - Director General - Uganda Investment Authority



UIA Director General, Robert Mukiza, addresses the delegates at the Uganda-Turkey Investment, Trade and Tourism Summit



Delegates pay attention during the Uganda-Turkey Summit

“Through the One Stop Centre at the Uganda Investment Authority, it is now possible for investors to get their investment and Business licenses in less than 24 hrs”, Robert Mukiza - Director General - Uganda Investment Authority, added.



Officials from Total Energies EP Uganda and Wildlife Conservation Society during the agreement signing ceremony

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY SIGNS CONSERVATION AGREEMENT WITH TOTAL ENERGIES EP UGANDA

In an effort to conserve the environment vis-a-vis the need for the oil resource, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has signed a contract with Total Energies EP Uganda to reinforce its commitment to sustainability initiatives in road safety, biodiversity and cultural heritage conservation in the Albertine Region.

Total Energies EP Uganda has reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable development initiatives through the signing of four (4) agreements aimed at enhancing road safety, cultural heritage and biodiversity conservation in the Albertine region. The company signed the following agreements with implementing partners:

1. Safe Way Right Way (SWRW) for road safety initiatives in schools;
2. Cross Cultural Foundation Uganda (CCFU) for the implementation of a cultural dialogue and heritage programme;
3. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to support UWA law enforcement activities in the Murchison Falls National Park; and
4. Chimpanzee Sanctuary and Wildlife Conservation Trust (CSWT) to promote community, education and awareness around Budongo forest central reserve.

Speaking during the launch, Philippe Groueix, General Manager Total Energies EP Uganda said, “Total Energies has made clear commitments towards ensuring that its activities are conducted in line with best environmental and social practices. We are committed to working with partners who are experts in implementing sustainable projects aimed at achieving positive outcomes for conservation, culture and communities.

“These agreements are just the beginning of a much bigger programme of partnerships for the implementation of our actions for sustainability,” he added.

The launch was attended by representatives from Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Petroleum Authority of Uganda and the Joint Venture Partners: UNOC and CNOOC and is part of the company’s “Action for Sustainability” Campaign which aims to showcase concrete actions that the company is taking towards sustainable development.

UGANDA AND CHINA STRENGTHEN TIES

The Minister of State for Defence and Veteran Affairs (Defence), Hon Jacob Marksons Oboth, hosted the Chinese Ambassador to Uganda H.E. Zhang Lizhong, who paid a courtesy call on him at the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs Headquarters in Mbuya, Kampala.

The Government of Uganda and the Republic of China continue to enjoy and maintain long term relationships and cooperation in the areas of infrastructure, trade and peace keeping.

Amb. Zhang Lizhong said Uganda and the Republic of China had signed a Memorandum of Understanding and the key purpose of the meeting was to pave way for another Memorandum of Understanding to work together in terms of peace-keeping operations.

The meeting discussed shared goals on economic and trade deals, African security and defence matters.



Minister of State for Defence (General Duties); Hon. Jacob Oboth Oboth, China's Ambassador to Uganda; Zhang Lizhong, Permanent Secretary; Rosette Byengoma, and an official of the Chinese Embassy, at Mbuya, Kampala

44 SENIOR OFFICERS GRADUATE FROM SCSC KIMAKA

A total of forty-four (44) senior officers of course 17/21 – 22 graduated from the Senior Command and Staff College (SCSC), Kimaka in Jinja City.

In his remarks, as he presided over the function, the Minister of State for Defence, Hon Jacob Markson Oboth, congratulated graduands and noted that the only way to maintain a serving military is through continuous training.

He said the course postulates a new career and calls for new service, adding that the region faces multiple security challenges that require global combined responses.

He urged graduands to broaden their focus and respond to security issues in a strategic manner on top of being loyal and committed to service.

Hon Oboth commended the President and Commander-In-Chief of the UPDF, H.E. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for building a strong and modern UPDF that is a cornerstone for the socio-economic transformation of the country.

The Chief of Defence Forces, Gen Wilson Mbadi, in a speech read by his Deputy, Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu, noted that complex security challenges exist locally, regionally and internationally.

He implored the graduands to holistically look at issues to do with environmental degradation, climatic changes, security challenges and the current youth bulge.

Gen. Mbadi indicated that strategic fighting exists under conditions of disruptive change. "Win wars without firing a shot since you now understand disruptive security challenges and emerging new technologies," Gen. Mbadi told the graduands and further urged them to explore resources and the infrastructure for their success.

The Deputy CDF, Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu commended the solidarity expressed by all the EAC Partner States towards integration and also called upon the graduands to avoid being taken by surprise by being alert spiritually, militarily and physically. He explained that success in life is dependent on many factors other than education.



Graduands march during their graduation at SCSC, Kimaka, in Jinja

The Commandant of College, Lt. Gen., Andrew Gutti congratulated the senior officers upon their successful completion of the one-year intensive course that prepares them for future command and staff positions.

He urged them to utilise the acquired knowledge and skills to address the existing asymmetric warfare, epidemics and environmental challenges. “Not only have you undertaken military studies, but you have broadly covered issues to deal with policy and strategy, national and international affairs; which gives an advantage to handle complex international issues,” noted Lt. Gen. Gutti,

He implored the graduands to be patriotic, selfless, professional and disciplined as they execute their command and staff functions.

Facilitators from Makerere University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Management Institute, International and Local Non-Governmental Organisations, Government Ministries Departments and Agencies, among others; provided the external training support to student officers.

02 officers were from the Burundi National Defence Forces, 02 from the Kenya Defence Forces, 02 from the Rwanda Defence Forces, 02 from South Sudan Peoples’ Defence Forces and 02 from the Tanzania Peoples’ Defence Forces and the reminder 34 from the Uganda

Peoples’ Defence Forces. The course had a total of 07 females.

Graduands were awarded the College Badges, signifying the decoration Passed Staff College (psc) and the best students got gifts for their exemplary performance.

The best all round student was Lt. Col. Richard Nimanya, Maj. R.W. Nkatha was best international student while Col. Deo Akiiki was recognised as the best at central lecture hall contributions.

The graduation was graced by the attendance of the Chief of Personnel and Administration, Maj. Gen. George Igumba, Commandant of the National Defence College – Uganda, Maj. Gen. Francis Okello, Deputy Commander Air Force, Maj. Gen. Charles Okidi, Commander Special Forces Command, Brig. Gen. Felix Busizoori and the Chief of Staff Land Forces, Brig. Gen. Bob Ogiki.

Others were: the Commandant of Ecole Military in the DR Congo, Lt. Gen. Banze Rubundji, Commandant of SCSC Karen (Kenya), Maj. Gen. Njiru Peter Mbogo, Commandant of Dr. Garang Memorial Military College, Maj. Gen. Dr. Gatwech Gai, Commandant of SCSC Duluti in Tanzania, Brig. Gen. Ghuliki Sylvester Damian, Rwandan Defence Attaché to Uganda, Col. James Burabyo and South Korea Defence Attaché to Uganda, Col Lee, among others.



GENDER MINISTRY RAMPS UP FIGHT AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

Rtd Col. Hon Okello Charles Engola Macodwogo;

State Minister for Labour, Employment and Industrial Relations, Hon. Sarah Mateke; State Minister for Youth and Children Affairs and Ms Victoria Rusoke; State Minister for Local Government and Kabarole District Woman MP inspect a stall during the commemorations to mark the World Day Against Child Labour.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development through the Department of Labour, Industrial Relations and Productivity on 12th June 2022 joined the rest of the world to commemorate the World Day against Child Labour.

The commemoration of this day brings to focus the global extent of Child Labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it. The day is also intended to serve as a catalyst for the growing worldwide movement against Child Labour.

The 2022 theme was: ***Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour.***

Speaking during the commemorations of the day at Bunyonyi Primary School in Kabarole District, the State Minister for Labour, Employment and Industrial Relations, Col. (rtd) Charles Okello Engola Macodwogo, said the Ministry is planning to bring together all Resident District Commissioners (RDCs), Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) in order

to devise strategies of strengthening Labour Officers to help them fight Child Labour.

He revealed that Labour Officers are very critical in the fight against Child Labour and urged district authorities to make use of them.

“As the Ministry of Gender, we shall make sure that we strengthen the labour officers and they do the work especially on the elimination of Child Labour. To curb Child Labour, the role of Labour Officers is very critical. Child Labour deprives children of their childhood and the opportunity to develop their full potential. It interferes with their right to education,” Mr. Macodowgo said.

He added that: “In the coming days, I will engage the RDC, the CAOs and Clerks and we shall look for how to strengthen Labour Officers in the districts. I request the Local Governments and the political leaders to use the Labour Officers to eliminate child labour. The Labour Office is key in the elimination of child labour.”

In Uganda, incidences of child labour increased during the COVID-19 pandemic from 21% to 36% according to the Uganda National Household Survey 2019/2020.

Busoga and Bukedi had the highest proportion of children aged 5-17 years involved in Child Labour at 29% and 28% respectively. More children in the rural (31%) than urban (20%) areas were involved in Child Labour (with household chores inclusive).

Speaking at the same event, Ms Victoria Rusoke, the State Minister for Local Government and Kabarole District Woman MP, who represented the Vice President

Jessica Alupo, said she is going to task district authorities to provide detailed breakdown of statistics of children who are in school.

“I am going to ask the Labour Officer and the DEO to give me the statistics of the children who are in school and the children not in school and then we declare a serious war to make sure that all the Children return to school,” Ms Rusoke said.

According to figures by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), even after schools were re-opened in January 2022, 1 in 10 school children did not report back to school.



WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

KABAROLE

The Child Labour Situation in Uganda:

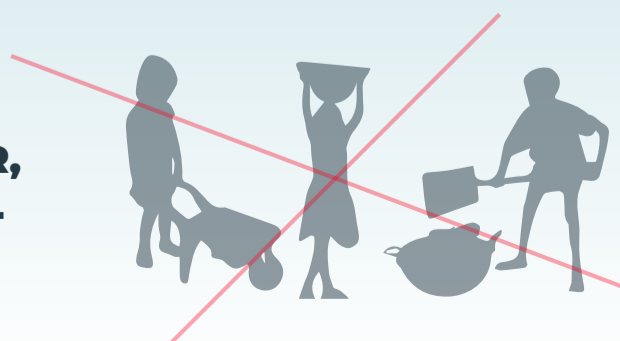


28% of children in Uganda are in Child Labour according to the 2019/2020 Uganda National Household Survey.

Theme: Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour



MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



YOUTH AND WOMEN GROUPS RECEIVE BUSINESS TOOLKITS UNDER GREEN JOBS PROGRAMME

As part of Government efforts to fight poverty and boost labour productivity, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, through the Green Jobs Programme, on 2nd June, 2022, gave out 2,165 business toolkits and equipment to 93 women and youth groups.

The 93 groups are comprised of 3,364 members (1,258 males and 2,106 females) and have been drawn from across the country.

The beneficiary groups were drawn from 22 districts spread across all the four regions of Uganda. The beneficiaries were drawn from; Kampala, Oyam, Bushenyi, Kayunga, Rubanda, Lwengo, Rakai, Tororo, Busia, Kasese, Buliisa, Gomba, Kisoro, Kyegegwa, Rukiga, Buyende, Gomba, Amolatar, Bulambuli, Buyende, Sembabule and Isingiro.

Speaking while presiding over the handover ceremony, Mr. Charles Okello Macodwogo Engola, the State Minister for Labour, Employment and Industrial Relations, said that the Government is keen on implementing the Green Jobs Programme in order to address the low productivity and high unemployment, especially among the youths.

“We are aware that this [unemployment] situation is largely being driven by the high skills mismatch, lack of access to credit, inadequate skills, low productivity, use of poor and inappropriate technologies, among others. The Green Jobs Programme is therefore, tackling some of the issues that continue to challenge our people in their quest for producing for the market,” Mr. Macodwogo said.



(L- R) Hon. Ignatius Mudimi; Elgon County MP and Vice-Chairman of Parliament’s Budget Committee, Hon. Okello Charles Engola Macodwogo; State Minister for Labour, Employment and Industrial Relations, Hon. Sarah Mateke; State Minister for Youth and Children Affairs, Hon. Flavia Kabahwenda; Kyegegwa Woman MP and Ms Cissy Namujju; Lwengo Woman MP hand over a Serger Sewing Machine to Nassanga Hellen, a representative of Katovu Tailoring Association, a Jua-Kali group from Lwengo District.

Mr. Macodwogo also indicated that beginning with the 2022/2023 Financial Year, the Government will expand the Programme to reach more **Jua-kalis**, targeting all Constituencies in the country.

Mr Ignatius Mudimi, the Elgon County MP and Vice Chairman of Parliament's Budget Committee, said the Green Jobs Programme should ensure that beneficiaries are equitably selected from all the regions of Uganda

“Get equity. Get something even for Karamoja. Let at least a region to benefit from every set of distribution. I am here with total commitment that we are going to support you. Work within the resources and ensure that every region benefits from the Programme,” Mr. Mudimi said.

Ms Flavia Kabahwenda, the Kyegegwa Woman MP and Chairperson of Parliament's Gender, Labour and Social Development, said the challenge of youth unemployment can be solved by equipping the youth with the business skills and equipment, like the Green Jobs Programme does.

“I love the option of equipping the young people of Uganda for the option of self-employment to become service providers. We can't offer the amount of jobs that are required for us to drive this country to the spaces where they are required. The only thing we can do is to empower you with tools so that when you get tools, you are empowered to the full,” Ms. Kabahwenda said.

The **Jua-kali** groups are selected based on the following criteria:-

- ▶ All beneficiaries should be Ugandan citizens;
- ▶ 70% of the beneficiaries should be youth;
- ▶ Beneficiaries should be organised in groups with a minimum of 5 members;
- ▶ The group should have a known business location;
- ▶ The group should be gender-sensitive.

UTILITY:

289 **Jua Kali** groups, in 3 cohorts, comprising of 6,412 members have received tool kits and equipment under the Green Jobs Programme.



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Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija, arrives at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds to read the Financial Year 2022/2023 budget to Parliament and Development partners

MAJOR TAX AMENDMENTS

Corporate income tax exemption for Bujagali Hydro Power Project has been extended for one (1) year up to 30th June 2023 in order to not increase electricity tariffs for power that the project generates.

PARLIAMENT PASSES BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/2023

The approved budget for the Financial Year 2022/2023 as appropriated by Parliament is Shs. 48.1 Trillion. Domestic revenues are projected to amount to Shs. 25.55 Trillion, representing an increase in revenue effort of 0.8 percent of GDP.

The theme of the budget for Financial Year 2022/2023 was; *“Full Monetisation of Uganda’s Economy through Commercial Agriculture, Industrialisation, Expanding and Broadening Services, Digital Transformation and Market Access”*.

BUDGET APPROPRIATION	AMOUNT
Peace, Security and Stability	Shs 3.987 trillion
Judiciary	Shs 381.6 billion
Directorate of Public Prosecutions	Shs 94.97 billion
Uganda Police	Shs 876.44 billion
Uganda Prisons Service	Shs 308.7 billion
Inspectorate of Government	Shs 79.37 billion
Implementation of the Parish Development Model	Shs. 1.059 trillion
Agriculture Production	Shs. 1.148 trillion
Climate Change and Environmental degradation	Shs. 625.02 billion
Promoting AgroIndustrialisation, Standards & Market Entry	Shs 1.419 Trillion
Tourism	Shs. 194.7 billion
Commercialisation of Oil and Gas	Shs. 904.1 billion
Health	Shs 3.722 trillion
Water	Shs 1.027 trillion
Education	Shs 4.14 trillion
Science and Innovation	Shs. 274.4 billion
Enhancing the Transport and Power Infrastructure	Shs 4.3 trillion
Power Infrastructure	Shs 1.573 trillion
Information Communication Technology Infrastructure	Shs. 130.1 billion
Enhancing Public Sector Effectiveness and Efficiency	
Teachers	Shs 495 billion
Medical workers	Shs. 154 billion

INCOME TAX ACT AMENDMENTS

- Introduce a zero rental income tax rate for individuals that earn annual rental income not exceeding **Shs. 2,820,000** and a rate of **12 percent** of rental income exceeding **Shs. 2,820,000**
- For rental business, introduce a 30 percent rental income tax rate on rental income with expenses capped to 50 percent for each year of income. In addition, any excess expenses shall not be carried forward to a subsequent year of income.

VALUE ADDED TAX AMENDMENTS

1. Exempted the supply of oxygen cylinders or oxygen for medical use to reduce the cost of the supply of oxygen for medical use.
2. Exempted the supply of assistive devices for persons with disabilities to reduce the cost of the equipment used by persons with disabilities.
3. Exempted the supply of airport user services charged by the Civil Aviation Authority to reduce the cost of transiting through Entebbe Airport.
4. To allow for Cash Basis Accounting for suppliers who supply goods and services to Government to facilitate them to hedge against the risk of interest and penalties arising from delayed payments by Government.
5. Repealed the exemption on VAT on imported services used in the provision of an exempt supply to encourage business to use local suppliers of services such as Information and Communications Technological services.

TAX PROCEDURES CODE AMENDMENTS

1. Introduced penalties for failure to provide information for purposes of Automatic Exchange of Information to improve compliance.
2. Introduced penalties for failure to adhere to Electronic Fiscal Receipting and Invoicing Solution and Digital Tax Stamps. This is intended to combat tax evasion, smuggling, and other vices.

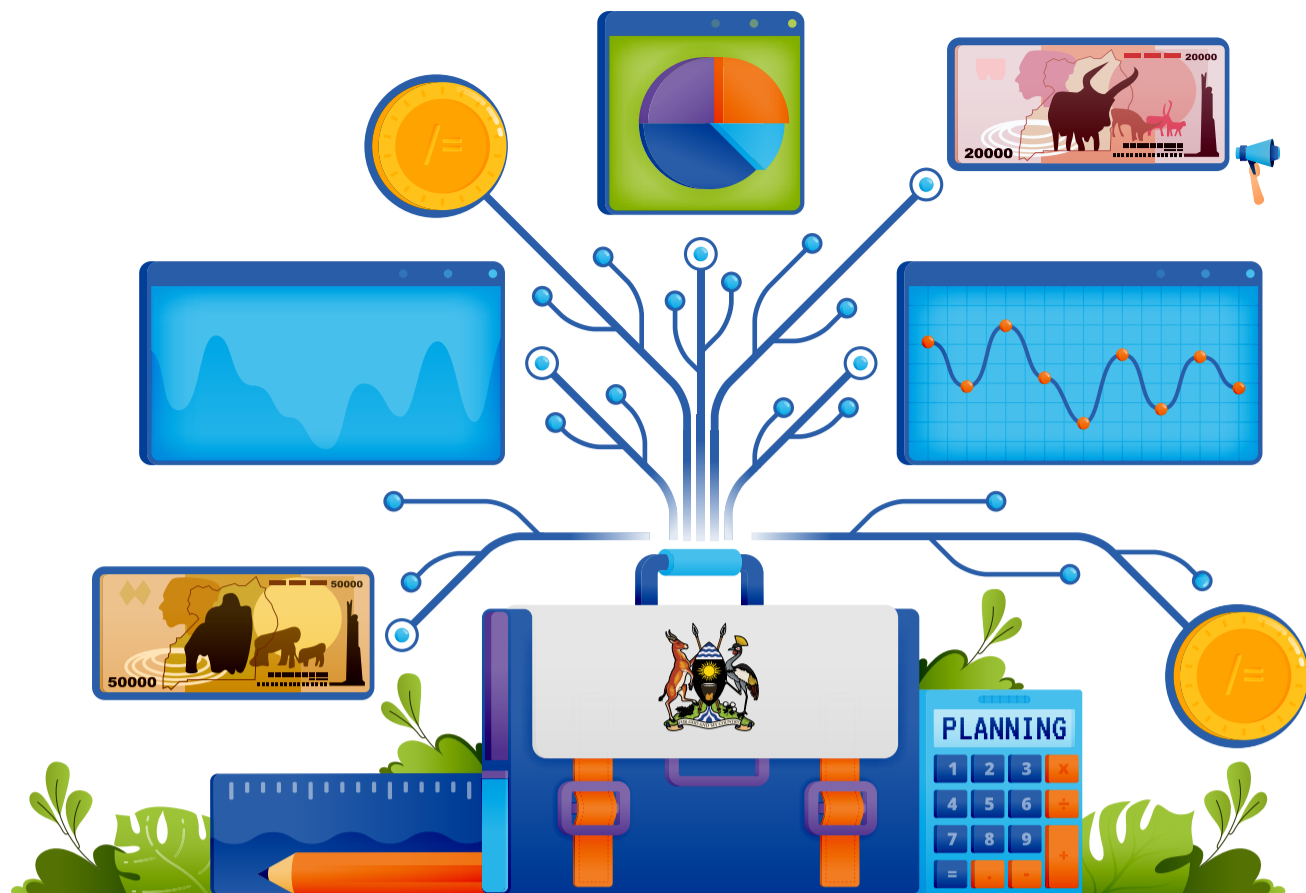
STAMP DUTY AMENDMENTS

1. Provide for NIL stamp duty on the following instruments;
 - Agreements relating to deposit of title deeds pawn pledge;
 - Agricultural Insurance Policy, to encourage the uptake of agricultural insurance services; and
 - Security Bond or Mortgage Deed executed by way of security for the due execution of an office, or to account for money or other property received by virtue of security bond or mortgage deed executed by surety to secure a loan or credit facility.
2. Clarification of the rate of Shs. 15,000 applicable on the transmission of property from the Administrator of an Estate to the Beneficiary.

EXCISE DUTY AMENDMENTS

1. Clarification of definitions of various products that attract excise duty such as spirits, juices; to enhance taxpayer compliance; and;
2. Reduced excise duty applicable on opaque beer and fermented beverages made from locally sourced raw materials to 12 percent or Shs.150 per litre, whichever is higher. This is intended to promote value addition and the use of locally-sourced raw materials.

INTEGRATED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (IFMS) UPGRADED



IFMS is a software system that integrates government financial management processes. It bundles essential financial functions into one Oracle-based software suite that operationalises key business processes such as Budget Execution, Payments Processing, Revenue Consolidation, Bank Account and Cash Management, Fixed Assets Acquisition as well as Financial Reporting. It's implemented in 285 of the 301 government votes (all Ministries, Departments, Agencies and 163 of 176 Local Governments).

Re-Implementation of Integrated Financial Management Systems

The third National Development Plan (NDP III) roadmap to delivery Uganda's Vision 2040, introduced several reforms.

Key among these are the 2 primary reforms:

1. The introduction of programme-based budgeting, a radical shift from the existing sector-based budgeting.
2. The requirement for tracking all expenditure and progress at various categorisation levels such as NDP III Programmes, Geographical Regions, and Budget Outputs which must be embedded at the core of all government systems.

These changes triggered the need to reconfigure key Public Financial Management Systems, including the Integrated Financial Management System. In all government votes, close to two months national wide user training exercises were rolled out the for the upgrade of IFMS re-implementation in Uganda and Accounting officers, Accountants, Cashiers, Auditors and Procurement Professionals trained.

All key features of these systems have been restructured to support planning for, utilisation and monitoring of government resources, vital to the achievement of the goals outlined in NDP III with the primary aim of increasing government productivity through systems. However, there are other systems that integrate and interface with IFMS re-implementation.

While IFMS automates the bigger part of Public Financial Management, its successful implementation has been in-part because of its ability to integrate with other key government public financial management systems like the Programme-based Budgeting System (PBS), Electronic Government Procurement System (EGP), Uganda Revenue Authority's E-Tax System (E-TAX), Bank of Uganda Banking System (BBS), National Social Security Fund's E-Collections System (NSSF) and Ministry of Public Service Integrated Personnel and Payroll System / Human Capital Management System (IPPS / HCM).

REVENUE PERFORMANCE FOR JULY 2021-MARCH 2022



COLLECTION TARGET

UGX 16,532.43B

73.93% of the annual target of UGX 22,363.51 billion

OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Revenue Collections

UGX 15,466.68B

69.16% of the annual target

Growth in Revenue

UGX 1,490.41B

10.66%) - compared to the same period in the FY 2020/21.

DOMESTIC TAXES

UGX 9,484.62B

The Domestic revenue collections were UGX 9,484.62 billion against a target of UGX 10,670.32 billion, registering a growth of UGX 816.22 billion (9.42%).

Direct Domestic Taxes

UGX 4,907.64B

The direct domestic tax collections were UGX 4,907.64 billion, posting a performance of 94.17%. The direct tax collections grew by UGX 273.94 billion (5.91%).

Indirect Domestic Taxes

UGX 3,602.86B

The Indirect tax collections were UGX 3,602.86 billion. A growth of UGX 341.90 billion (10.48%) was realised.

NON-TAX REVENUE

UGX 974.11B

Collections

UGX 1,141.25B

Target

85.36%

Performance

SECTORAL CONTRIBUTION TO REVENUE

The top 5 sectors generated 74.48% of the total revenue.

UGX 4,604.72B

Wholesale & retail trade

29.25%

UGX 3,690.68B

Manufacturing

23.45%

UGX 1,557.68B

Financial activities excluding insurance

9.90%

UGX 1,233.11B

Information and Communication

7.83%

UGX 637.32B

Public administration and Defence

4.05%

COMPLIANCE ENHANCEMENT INTERVENTIONS

Expansion of the taxpayer register

As at end March 2022, the taxpayer register had 2,321,828 taxpayers.

Arrears Management

The total arrears recoveries made during the period of July to March of FY 2021/22 were UGX 992.68 billion.

Customs Enforcement

Countrywide customs enforcement operations led to a recovery of UGX 70.04 billion from 5,748 seizures.

Prosecution and Civil Litigation

During the first three quarter of FY 2021/22, the litigation success rate was 84.81%

Debt Collection Unit

A total of UGX 82.28 billion was recovered by the Debt Collection Unit (DCU) against a target of UGX 60.00 billion hence a performance of 137.12%.

URA LAUNCHES AIR CARGO CONTROL OFFICE TO COUNTER ILLICIT TRADE AT THE AIRPORT

URA launched the Air Cargo Control Unit-office (ACCU) that will address trafficking of various illicit goods. These include; drugs, wildlife, precursor chemicals, firearms, weapons of mass destruction, counterfeit products, nuclear material, and other forms of organised crime activity.

The initiative is a welcome development towards increased trade volumes through the airport. For example, for the financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21; the volume of imports through the airport grew by 58% that is from approximately \$1.956 billion dollars to \$3.367 billion respectively. Similarly, exports grew by 38.9% from \$2.322 billion to \$3.227 billion. With the ACCU office, these volumes are expected to double.



Commissioner for Customs, Abel Kagumire, and other officials at the launch of the URA Air Cargo Control Unit at Entebbe International Airport

UGANDA WINS THREE TOURISM AWARDS

Uganda outcompeted many countries across Africa and globally on her way to win three awards at the 4th edition of International Tourism Film Festival Africa held in Cape Town South Africa in May, 2022. Uganda won the Grand Prix 2022 award and two gold awards for the film “Explore Uganda, the Pearl of Africa” by Uganda Tourism Board. The film invites the world to rediscover Uganda’s rare and beautiful fauna and flora that is found through-out the whole country. The Grand Prix award also honours the exceptional and innovative video content related to the tourism and travel industry.

Praising Uganda’s performance, the Chief Executive Officer Uganda Tourism Board, Ms. Lilly Ajarova, said, “It is an honour and our pleasure to receive these

awards. We shall leverage the recognition to maintain high standards for ourselves in terms of sustainability, quality, and experience. This will also add to our voice to continuously position Uganda as a destination of choice in Africa and internationally.”

“Explore Uganda, the Pearl of Africa” also earned Uganda the Gold Award for Tourist Destination Country in Africa and Gold Award for Tourist Destination Country – Internationally. The film, which is now part of Uganda’s refreshed destination brand identity seeks to increase arrivals in the country as the global travel industry recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Uganda’s State Minister for Wildlife, Tourism and Antiquities, Hon. Martin Mugarra Bahinduka, said in his award acceptance speech,

“I would like to thank the jury for finding us worthy of these awards. As a country, we are happy to be associated with ITFFA and we welcome all of you to come and Explore the Pearl of Africa as we continuously make it easy for tourists across the globe to visit us.”

Hugo Marcos, General Secretary of the International Committee of Tourism Film Festivals (CIFFT) was impressed with Uganda’s presentation saying, “The Explore Uganda Destination Video was one of the most rated films in the competition. It highlighted the uniqueness, authenticity, and variety of Uganda’s beauty and inspired the jury and the film viewers to visit Uganda now.”

UWA REWARDS COMMUNITIES AS IT MARKS SILVER JUBILEE

Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) celebrated 25 years of existence on 24th June, 2022, by reflecting on the important economic, social and ecological roles played by wildlife conservation in transformation of communities. The celebrations also highlighted the successful conservation of Uganda's beautiful and varied forms of wild fauna and flora.

Tourism, which is largely wildlife based accounts for about 1.178 million jobs or 8% of total employment in Uganda. 670,000 of the jobs are direct

while the rest are within the sector's value chain. The concession revenue in national parks has increased from UGX 345 million in 2006 to UGX 4.2 billion in 2019 before COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of wildlife revenue sharing fund, Uganda Wildlife Authority handed over UGX 3,388,186,504 billion to communities living within Bwindi and Mgahinga conservation areas in districts of Kisoro, Kanungu and Rubanda. These funds are shared as an appreciation to the communities for sacrificing

not to encroach on wildlife habitat and for protecting and conserving wildlife that attracts tourists in the area. Kisoro got UGX789, 687,773, Kanungu UGX1, 796,081,120 and Rubanda UGX 802, 415,611.

Uganda Wildlife Authority also partnered with River Lokicher Wildlife Conservancy to create the largest animal protection area in Napak district connecting Pian-Upe and Bokora Matheniko game reserves. The new game will be called Karamoja Wildlife Conservancy and will ease natural animal migrations in the area.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DONATES TO SOROTI DIOCESE AND NATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The tractors were handed over by the Agriculture Minister; Hon. Frank Tumwebaze to Fr. Samuel Ebietu Echelu the Soroti Catholic Diocese Pastoral Coordinator in Kampala and one of the Leadership Institute was received by Brig. Charles Kisembo, the NALI Director.

Speaking during the ceremony to hand over a tractor to the National Leadership Institute (NALI), Kyankwanzi in June this year, Tumwebaze explained that through this approach, government will provide equipment like tractors to organised and registered farmer groups, associations

, cooperatives, individuals or any other in a given locality to help them in increasing production.

He said this is aimed at ensuring food security not only in the country but in the region and continent at large.

“What is so far bothering the economists of the world is not anything else but rather food. The discussion globally is food amidst population explosion. What is on the mind of any serious planner is whether this increasing population is proportional with the food,” Minister Tumwebaze said.

He said through a hybrid

strategy, government wants not to only increase food production but also the number of agricultural exports for the country.

“We are targeting the smallholder farmers through the Parish Development Model which gives them quick access to capital in their SACCOs at the parish since these are mostly the unbanked group. Government has now put money for smallholder farmers through their parishes,” said the Minister.



L-R: NALI Director; Brig. Charles Kisembo, receiving a tractor key from Permanent Secretary; Maj. Gen. Kasura and Minister; Hon. Frank Tumwebaze

“Government has also realised that the smallholder farmers also need the support of large scale farmers. We want to encourage large scale farmers to produce and support the smallholder farmers. You can produce foods for export and agro-processing but you can also have feed mills and we can partner with you to produce at subsidised costs for the smallholders farmers to afford,” added the Minister.

While handing over the tractor to the Teso Diocese leaders, he noted that whereas in the past

government mainly supported smallholder farmers, it is high time the large scale farmers also benefitted from similar government programmes.

“For many years government has targeted small holder farmers and our interventions have not been in vain. Indeed the numbers of people who have moved from subsistence farming to commercial agriculture has gone up. We now need to motivate people to use their big chunks of land into agriculture,” said Tumwebaze.

Minister Tumwebaze explained that currently, only 34.4% of Uganda’s arable land is under agriculture, noting that it is high time more chunks of the country’s arable land are utilised.

He however noted that government will continue giving incentives like machinery and prioritising people with big chunks of land, be it individuals or organisations like church to ensure more land is used for agriculture.

UGANDA AND KENYA SIGN FRAMEWORK TO ALLOW TRANSIT OF FISH

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries together with its Kenyan counterpart signed a framework for the smooth transit of fish from Lake Turkana in Kenya to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) through Uganda without interference.

This follows the fish trade row which erupted between the two countries in October last year when Ugandan security officers confiscated about 300 tonnes of fish belonging to Kenyan traders that was destined to DRC.

Following that incident, the Ministers of Agriculture under the instructions of the Presidents of both Uganda and Kenya agreed to meet and resolve any issues noted out of the fish trade.

Thus in March this year, Maj. Gen. David Kasura-Kyomukama, the Permanent Secretary of Uganda's Ministry of Agriculture together with Kenya's Fisheries Principal Secretary, Dr Francis Owino, and other officials embarked on a joint mission to Lake Turkana and Busia to witness the type and size of fish harvested and also how the fish is processed and packed in lorries before being transported to Busia enroute to DRC.

Following such engagements, the two countries drafted a framework that will enable the transit of fish from Kenya through Uganda to DRC



L-R: NALI Director; Brig. Charles Kisembo, receiving a tractor key from Permanent Secretary; Maj. Gen. Kasura and Minister; Hon. Frank Tumwebaze

to take place without any interference.

During the signing of this framework at Busia one-stop border point, Gen. Kasura said that all the factors that have been hindering fish trade have been addressed through negotiations and consultations with all stakeholders and assured that as long as the fish has all the relevant documentation which have been mutually agreed upon by the two countries, nobody is going to interfere in its transit.

“We believe that the smooth trade in fish from Lake Turkana through Uganda to DRC will not only increase the incomes of traders in the fish and fish products but also contribute to the economies of the three countries and the East African as a region,” said Gen. Kasura.

Kasura further assured Ugandan traders that the

framework is going to have no effect on fish trade in Uganda because the fish in transit is for Kenya and not Uganda. He, therefore, urged the fish traders to apply this framework because it is for the good of their business.

“I also urge the fish traders to carry out fishing in a sustainable way, and not over exploit it. The purpose of the framework is not to interfere in the fish trade but to ensure that the traders exploit the fishing resources sustainability,” Kasura added.

For purposes of following up on the agreement, the delegation travelled from Busia to Mpondwe border to see the fish exports cross the border and they appreciated the Government of Uganda for making sure there will be protection and safe guard for the exports from Kenya.

UGANDA WORKING HARD TO GET OFF FATF GREY LIST

In February 2020, Uganda made a high-level political commitment to work with the Financial Action Taskforce (FATF) and the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) to strengthen the effectiveness of its AML/CFT regime.

Uganda is working to implement its action plan to address its strategic deficiencies by:

- ▶ Seeking international cooperation in line with the country's risk profile.
- ▶ Developing and implementing risk-based supervision of financial institutions and Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (including lawyers, casinos, and real estate agents among others).
- ▶ Ensuring that competent authorities have timely access to accurate basic and beneficial ownership information for legal entities.
- ▶ Demonstrating law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities apply the money laundering offence consistent with the identified risks.
- ▶ Establishing and implementing policies and procedures for identifying, tracing, seizing and confiscating proceeds and instrumentalities of crime.
- ▶ Demonstrating that law enforcement agencies conduct terrorist financing

(TF) investigations and pursue prosecutions commensurate with Uganda's TF risk profile.

- ▶ Addressing the technical deficiencies in the legal framework to implement PF-related targeted financial sanctions.

Key achievements by end of Quarter 3

Receipt of;

- ▶ 1,786 suspicious transaction reports;
- ▶ 269 suspicious activity reports; and
- ▶ 3,055 large cash transaction reports.

1. 53 intelligence reports were disseminated to law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and competent authorities for further management.
2. Received 82 requests for information from different LEAs and competent authorities, and responded to 78 of them by the end of half year.
3. Completion of the National ML/TF Risk Assessment (NRA).
4. The NRA Tax Crimes ML/TF Risk Assessment commenced and was at data collection stage by the end of Q3.
5. The planning stage for the Typology Study of Fraud in the Banking Sector was completed.
6. The goAML electronic platform continued to be enhanced and as a result, 9,226 reports were received

via the goAML platform from various accountable persons relating to different transaction reports.

7. 5 risk-based onsite inspections were carried out on accountable persons.
8. 10 compliance spot checks were carried out on accountable persons.
9. 6 follow-up and thematic inspection reports were prepared and shared with the respective accountable persons.
10. 467 accountable persons were registered and 525 certificates of registration issued, bringing the total number of accountable persons registered to 1,947.
11. 264 accountable persons requested for their certificates to be certified.
12. FIA conducted 6 financial/integrity due diligence (background and credibility checks) out of 10 received from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on companies that wished to partner with Government of Uganda on certain projects. The remaining 4 requests are still ongoing.
13. 4 Members of the new and 3rd FIA Board were sworn-in by the Honorable Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.
14. 2 new staff staff were recruited bringing the total staff establishment to 41.

UNBS INTRODUCES NEW IMPORTS INSPECTION AND CLEARANCE REGULATION 2021



The Uganda National Bureau of Standards has adopted the following new Imports inspection and Clearance Regulations;

- ▶ A person shall not import into or export from Uganda, any commodity for which a compulsory standard specification has been declared by the bureau, where the commodity does not meet the requirements of the compulsory standard specification.
- ▶ The commodities shall, prior to being imported into Uganda, be subjected to Pre-export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) to Standards, in the country of origin or export up on payment of the required fees stated in the regulations.
- ▶ The products shall be accompanied with a Certificate of Conformity (CoC) or certificate of Road worthiness (CRW). The certificate of road worthiness shall be valid for nine months from the date of issue for each customs entry
- ▶ Commodities that are not accompanied by a certificate of conformity or a certificate of road worthiness shall be subjected to destination inspection.
- ▶ An importer shall not place any commodity on the market for which a compulsory standard specification has been declared, unless the commodity bears the distinctive mark and /or a digital conformity mark.

Commodities exempted from PVoC under the new regulation of 2021

- ▶ Consignments of commodities profiled as low risk.
- ▶ Consignments of imports by importers profiled as low risk and registered as Authorised Economic Operators (AEO)
- ▶ Farm machinery, agro-processing equipment and spare parts not for resale.
- ▶ Mining equipment and spares not for resale.
- ▶ Branded or engraved hospitality and tourism

industry equipment, excluding vehicles.

- ▶ Religious books and literature such as Bibles, Qurans and other related printed matter

Revised fees

- ▶ Fees for destination inspection: 0.500% of Cost Insurance and Freight (CIF) value, but in any case not less than USD 235 and not more than USD 3,000. Not applicable for consignments whose total cost in freight value is less than US\$1300.
- ▶ Fees for release under seal: US\$ 100 or the equivalent in Uganda Shillings.
- ▶ Fees for supervision of re-work: US\$100 per day or the equivalent in Uganda Shillings.
- ▶ Fees for factory inspection under the Pre-export Verification of Conformity Exemption programme: US\$ 100 or the equivalent in Uganda Shillings.
- ▶ Fees for verification at owner's premises: US\$ 100 or the equivalent in Uganda Shillings.

ACHOLI SUB-REGION RECEIVES THREE AMBULANCES

Emergency Medical Services in Acholi sub-region have been boosted to ensure improved response and referral services. This is in form of 3 ambulances that have been donated to the region by ENABEL to support Nwoya, Amuru and Omoro Districts.

The type B ambulances were received by the Minister for Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero, at the Ministry of Health Headquarters. She announced that these will be part of the National Ambulance Services and will be managed by Gulu Regional Referral Hospital.

“The 3 Districts will be responsible for ensuring security of the ambulance, its professional use and ensuring the safety of the equipment,” Dr. Aceng emphasised.

The Ambulances will be installed with a GPS tracking system so as to track and easily locate the ambulances.



Health Minister, Hon. Ruth Aceng, and other officials flag off the ambulances at Ministry of Health Headquarters, Kampala

The Minister also advised the leaders from the Acholi sub-region who received the type B Ambulances to use them purposefully for health emergencies rather than for their personal interests.

Tom Vanneste, a representative of ENABEL, put emphasis on the effective and efficient use of the ambulances so as to reduce on the mortality rate. “We shall always work together with the Health Ministry so as we can save the lives of the people of Uganda,” he said.

UGANDA MARKS WORLD HEALTH DAY

Uganda joins the rest of the world annually on 7th April to commemorate World Health Day. This year, the day was held under the theme “Our Planet, Our health” at the Ministry of Health Headquarters.

The focus of this day centered on the dangers that arise on the health of the population due to climate change and its effects. Climate change is basically the long term shift in temperatures and weather patterns. This leads to a rapid deterioration of health globally among other negative consequences.

According to the Commissioner of Health Services in charge of Environmental Health, Kabangi Moses, climate change disrupts human and natural systems. “Climate change is characterised by the rising temperatures, droughts and heavy rains and it also undermines the health of people through bad air that is basically caused by pollution,” he said.

In Uganda, the negative effects of climate change have been felt and this is clearly seen in 2021, where more than 223,000 people have been affected by drought, floods, landslides, heavy storms and fire out breaks and also an estimated 20,000 people were internally displaced due to the destruction

of infrastructure and the associated risk of waterborne and climate sensitive diseases.

“God gave us the mandate as humans to rule and subdue the earth so it’s important we use the earth to promote health,” the Director, Public Health, Dr. Daniel Kyabayinze said.

Dr. Kyabayinze added that climate change increases the transmission of diseases like cholera which is caused by floods and malaria which was exacerbated by ever increasing temperatures.

Dr. Bayo Fatunmbi, who represented the WHO Representative in Uganda, noted that Uganda adopted resolutions that promote the fight against climate change and these

include; awareness raising, partnerships with organisations, promotion and generation of scientific evidence and strengthening of health facilities to have the ability of tackling climate change. “Health is wealth and health is a weapon in the fight against climate change,” he added.

Dr. Charles Batte from Tree Adoption Uganda also reaffirmed the risk climate change has on children due to the warming of the planet and the solution to tackle this is to plant as many trees as possible.

The event was crowned off with the planting of two trees at the Ministry of Health headquarters and selected health facilities in Kampala Capital City and Wakiso District.



Ministry of Health officials plant a tree to commemorate the World Health Day



UGANDA MARKS WORLD MALARIA DAY

Health Minister, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, and other officials during commemoration of the Malaria Day

Uganda joins the rest of the world to commemorate World Malaria Day annually on the 25th day of April. As part of the activities to mark the day, the Ministry of Health with support from partners held a Malaria Scientific Colloquium under the theme “Domesticating the Malaria Fight Scientifically”.

During the same event, the Minister for Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero launched a new USAID grant dubbed PMI Malaria Reduction Activity (PUMRA) to the tune of USD 38 million (UGX 134 Billion) aimed at reducing Malaria infections by 50% and Malaria related deaths by 75%. PUMRA will also enhance household and community capacity to prevent Malaria and access high quality health services. The activity will be implemented in the five regions of; West Nile, Acholi, Busoga, Karamoja and Lango.

While launching the grant, Dr. Aceng called for the need to address the regions that have a high prevalence of Malaria and draw up responsive ways to fight Malaria. She added that Government of Uganda with support from partners is implementing several interventions to address the Malaria burden, however not all them are brought to scale.

Currently, Uganda spends USD 125 million on Malaria annually and this investment has been

critical in reducing the high prevalence rate from an alarming rate of 42 % to 9%. Despite the success, there are regions like; Karamoja that have a high Malaria prevalence rate of 34% compared to the central region stands 9%.

The Director General, JSI, Dr. Onyeyekwe Kate noted that PMI is fully involved to boost the fight against Malaria in Uganda. “I am proud of the domestication of the fight against Malaria in that it strengthens the health system which in turn improves the malaria response,” he added.

The USAID Mission Director, Richard Nelson, affirmed USAID support in the fight against the deadly yet preventable disease. “We have a shared vision where no child dies due to Malaria and every health centre has the medicines that are needed to treat Malaria. Over the years the fight against Malaria has produced some results and this is clearly seen with the child mortality rate currently at 53%,” Mr. Nelson said.

According to research, Malaria is still the leading cause of death in Uganda accounting for over 14 deaths(incomplete statement). Over the past five years, USAID has invested USD 480 million in the fight against Malaria in Uganda.



MOTHER TO CHILD HIV TRANSMISSION FALLS TO 2.8%

Health Permanent Secretary, Dr. Diana Atwiine, US Ambassador, Natalie Brown, Minister for Health, Hon. Jane Ruth Aceng and other officials during the release of the study findings at Ministry of Health Headquarters, Kampala

Uganda has recorded a significant drop in mother to child HIV infections from 30% over two decades ago to the current 2.8%. This was revealed during the release of study findings of the Prevention of Mother- to- Child- HIV Transmission (PMTCT).

The access to HIV Prevention and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services including; antenatal care attendance, HIV testing and nevirapine prophylaxis have significantly improved and this has been achieved largely through integration of HIV services at all levels,” Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocerro, the Minister for Health said.

Baseline data for this study was collected from September 2017 to March 2018 and eligible participants were followed up for 18 months from the time of enrolment. The data collection for the study concluded in July 2019.

Dr. Aceng added that mothers and their infants aged 4-12 weeks old were enrolled from a representative sample of 206 health facilities selected from all regions of Uganda. “A total of 23,314 mother-infant pairs were screened to obtain 1,795 HIV-exposed infants and 14,911 HIV-unexposed infants,” she informed.

All the HIV exposed infants, 9,529 HIV un-exposed infants and their mothers were then followed up for 18 months to assess sero-conversion of HIV-negative infants and HIV-negative mothers. Sero-conversion is the time between exposure to a virus and when antibodies show up in one’s blood.

The primary objectives of the Impact Evaluation were to estimate; HIV mother to child transmission rate; maternal HIV incidence or rate of new HIV infections during the breastfeeding period, and; the mortality among HIV exposed and unexposed infants during the 18 months post-delivery period.

“During the study period, new HIV infections was lowest among adolescents aged 15-19 years and highest among older women aged 25 – 49 years”, Dr. Aceng said.

The findings of the study further revealed that mothers who attended four or more ANC visits were at a lower risk of having HIV infected infants compared to those who attended 3 or fewer ANC visits.

“There is need for HIV services to be integrated within Primary Health Care and that includes meaningful investments in Community Health,” Dr. Munir Safieldin, the UNICEF Country Representative said in his remarks.

“Together, we can eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and realize the AIDS-free generation we all aspire. Stigma and gender-based violence impedes service access and must end,” Natalie Brown, the US Ambassador to Uganda noted.

The study was conducted by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Rakai Health Sciences Program (RHSP) and funded by PEPFAR. Technical assistance for this study was provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

GERMANY AND WHO DONATE TO UGANDA

The Ministry of Health received an additional 2,800 oxygen cylinders and 48,172,700 syringes from the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to support the COVID-19 response and other health complications in the country.

The medical supplies purchased with funding from WHO and the German Government were valued at USD 688,800 for the cylinders and USD 2,862,440.8 for the syringes respectively. They were handed over to the Minister for Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, at a ceremony held at the Ministry headquarters in Wandegaya.

“The syringes and cylinders we are receiving today will greatly support the ongoing COVID-19 response in the country and strengthen our health systems,” Dr. Aceng said. She noted that in addition to supporting the vaccination programme, the syringes received will also support the needs of the Intensive Care Units. The cylinders boost the total number of oxygen cylinders in the country to over 10,000 presently. “Every health facility that needs to supply oxygen will now be able to,” Dr. Aceng added.

Speaking at the same function, the German Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Mr. Matthias Schauer, reaffirmed his Government’s readiness to support Uganda in addressing the health challenges facing the country. “The syringes provided today are intended to ensure the continuation of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign and can be used to meet other vaccination needs as well. I am glad that Germany is enabling Uganda to accelerate its response to COVID-19. Global cooperation and solidarity will be our only chance to defeat the virus worldwide,” he stated.

The WHO Representative in Uganda, Dr. Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam, said, “WHO remains true to the commitment made at the founding of the organisation more than 70 years ago and espoused in its current mission of “promoting health, keeping the world safe, and serving the vulnerable,” Dr. Yonas said. “The provision of these supplies shows our continued support to Uganda in preventing and controlling outbreaks,” he added.



L-R: German Ambassador; Matthias Schauer, WHO Country Representative; Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam, Health Minister; Ruth Jane Aceng and Director Health Services; Mwebesa Henry, at the handover of the donations at Ministry of Health Headquarters in Kampala

Dr. Tegegn also explained that the 2,800 oxygen cylinders donated, when filled with oxygen, will serve more than 850 patients each requiring 15L/min of oxygen for 24 hours. “Like any other long-lasting healthcare equipment, after the management of critical patients, the cylinders will then be made available to treatment centres to ensure the continuity of essential health services,” he added.

The provision of this equipment is an addition to other generous contributions of the German Government since the onset of the pandemic. That included donations of more than 5 million vaccine doses, support provided through WHO to strengthen the country’s response to COVID-19 case management, surveillance, and coordination, and to identify known and new variants of SARS-CoV 2 (COVID-19) in Uganda.

Since the confirmation of the first case of COVID-19 in Uganda in March 2020, WHO, in collaboration with many partners, has continued to provide technical and financial support to improve the country’s response to the COVID-19 outbreak, including support for the development of the national COVID-19 response plans, the national vaccine deployment plan, and the resurgence and recovery.



UN POPULATION FUND DONATES TO UGANDA

The Minister of Health Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng on behalf of the Ministry of Health received two ambulances and an assortment of equipment and supplies from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with funding from the Embassy of Japan in Uganda and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda, to support interventions to advance sexual reproductive health and rights.

The two ambulances, worth USD 130,000 (UGX 481 million) were procured with funding from the Embassy of Japan in Uganda to support Palabek Kal Health Center III in Lamwo district and Rukunyu Hospital in Kamwenge district. This is in addition to one ambulance that was handed over to the Ministry of Health early this year, with funding from UNFPA core resources to support Lalogi Health Center IV in Omoro district.

Health Minister, Hon. Ruth Aceng and other officials, flag off ambulances donated by UNFPA at Ministry Headquarters in Kampala

The Minister of Health Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng thanked the Embassy of Japan, the Embassy of Netherlands and UNFPA Uganda for prioritising maternal health including in humanitarian settings.

“The ambulances will be part of the National Ambulance fleet and will be used for Emergency response and referral, with focus on high burden disease conditions like Maternal Child health conditions, road traffic injuries and intra-facility transfer. They will be part of the regionally-coordinated ambulance service and in this case, they will be part of Gulu and Fort Portal RRHs fleet. The Districts will however, be responsible for ensuring the security of the ambulance, its professional use, and ensuring the safety of equipment therein,” said Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng.

She noted that the day to day operations of the ambulances will be funded through the National Ambulance Service Fund, Results-Based Financing (RBF), Primary Health Care (PHC) funds and locally generated resources.

At the handover ceremony, H.E. Ambassador Fukuzawa Hidemoto said that the support is part of the Government of Japan's response, commitment, and support towards refugees and host communities as well as the COVID-19 response in Uganda.

"The role played by emergency vehicles such as ambulances in quality health service delivery cannot be over-emphasised. The procurement aims at strengthening the emergency obstetric referral system including support to the operations of ambulance services in refugee settlements and host communities in Western and Northern Uganda. I must therefore, congratulate Dr. Otieno and her team for observing the project timeline in procuring the ambulances," said H.E. Hidemoto.

Through UNFPA, the Embassy of Netherlands in Uganda invested USD 127,288 (UGX 471 million) to support the procurement of 90 computers, 90 printers, and 90 internet devices to strengthen the electronic Logistics Management Information systems (eLMIS) for Reproductive Health Commodities. The equipment will be distributed to select health facilities in West Nile and Acholi sub-regions to support the online ordering and reporting for Reproductive Health and other commodities.

"Efficient logistic management at lower health facilities is fundamental for last mile commodity security. With this support the Netherlands contributes to enabling people to access and utilise sexual and reproductive

health services that meet their needs," said Ms. Ruth van Zorge, First Secretary Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, Netherlands Embassy.

In addition, a total of 2,342 manual vacuum aspiration kits worth USD 120,730 (UGX 446 million) were procured under the UNFPA Supplies Partnership Programme, and will be distributed to Health Centre IIIs and above across the Country with guidance from the Ministry of Health.

According to the UNFPA Representative, Dr. Mary Otieno, the support is intended to strengthen emergency referrals, post-abortion care, and electronic logistics management systems for reproductive health commodities.

"I call upon the recipient districts and health facilities to ensure that these ambulances, manual vacuum aspiration kits and the electronic equipment are used for their intended purposes and are well-maintained and hence able to operate for a longer time," said Dr. Otieno.

The UNFPA Representative in Uganda, Dr. Mary Otieno commended the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands for the generous support towards the mandate of UNFPA to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled, and committed to continue working with the Government of Uganda to ensure that sexual and reproductive health and rights issues remain on the agenda of development partners.

GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH ELECTRICITY ACCESS SCALE-UP PROJECT

The Ugandan energy sector has registered significant progress in electricity generation having increased its installed generation capacity from about 300 MW in 2002 to 964 MW in 2018 of which GoU has also undertaken significant investments to further increase the generation capacity with additional 183 MW from Isimba hydropower dam, which was commissioned in March 2019, and the 600 MW Karuma hydropower dam is expected to be commissioned at the end of 2020. This will increase the installed capacity to 1,747 MW.

The aforementioned achievements notwithstanding, the sector still faces multi-dimensional challenges. First, access to electricity remains low; the national electricity access rate stands at 41 percent. The rural access rate stands at 28 percent, compared to other countries in the region such as Kenya (70 percent) and Tanzania (33 percent). Some of the major factors that have hindered the electricity access relate to incentives, capacity to meet connection targets, affordability of

service connections charges and internal wiring facilities of potential consumers of the electricity.

In order to address the electricity access challenges, the Government of Uganda through support from the International Development Association of the World Bank, intends to implement the Electricity Access Scale-Up Project (EASP). The EASP will support the country's electricity connection, which intends to increase access from the current 41% to 60% by 2027.

The Objective of EASP will be to increase access to energy for households, commercial enterprises, industrial parks, and public institutions. The project will also increase access to clean energy cooking services by supporting private sector enterprises promoting efficient and clean cooking solutions. The project will also support interventions to increase access to clean, affordable, and reliable energy services in refugee areas.



The EASP project components include;

(1) Grid expansion and connectivity, including investments in MV/LV network expansion and strengthening, and service connections;

(2) Financial intermediation for energy access scale-up;

(3) Energy access in refugee host communities;

(4) Project Implementation support and affordable modern energy solutions; and

(5) Contingent emergency response.

EASP will be implemented by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD)-Directorate of Energy Resources Development and Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company (UECCC). The MEMD will have a PCU and a PIU under the Directorate of Energy Resources Development for the Grid expansion and connectivity component and UECCC has a PIU for the Financial Intermediation / off grid and clean cooking components. The PCU under MEMD will report to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising of MEMD, UECCC, OPM, MOFPED, MOJCA, SG, and MoLG and coordinate the different project beneficiaries.

The Framework was prepared through review of relevant documents and through stakeholder consultative meetings with officials from various Ministries, Departments

and Agencies (MDAs), solar companies and financial institutions. The ESMF is structured into eleven (11) chapters and this include: the introduction, project description, generated in Uganda is from renewable resources while the remaining 10% is from non-renewable resources.

90% of the electricity policy, legal, regulatory and institutional framework, baseline environmental and socio-economic conditions, environmental and social impacts and mitigation measures, environmental and social screening and impact assessment procedure, monitoring plan, grievance redress mechanism, stakeholder consultations and engagement, capacity building and the ESMF implementation schedule and budget.

Baseline information for the Project area has been discussed, in two main categories namely biological environment (forest cover, wetlands and climate change) and the socio-economic environment (population, employment, refugee influx, vulnerable and marginalised groups, land tenure and land use, health, education and governance structure, crime, fire emergence and road safety). The detailed site-specific conditions will be studied once the areas are selected by the respective implementing agencies.



Both the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and the national legislation relevant to the Project have been considered in relation to the applicable policy, legal and administrative framework within which this ESMF. GoU in collaboration with The World Bank Environmental and Social Management Specialists undertook a comprehensive review of the country's policy legal and institutional framework for management of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with this project. Where gaps have been identified, the ESF will be adopted to mitigate the negative impacts arising from the project implementation.

The proposed Electricity Access Scale-Up Project (EASP) is associated with both positive and negative impacts.

The potential positive impacts of the project include; improved health and education standards through electrification of schools and health centres, electrifying refugee settlements and host communities, employment opportunities for the local communities and reducing pressure on protected areas from which communities may be sourcing woody biomass for their energy needs. However arising from component (1) and (3) the environmental and social impact is expected to have moderate to substantial environmental and social impact, and on that basis this Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been developed in line with the national policy, legal, and institutional framework and the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) to mitigate the potential negative Environmental and Social Impact of the project. The ESMF entails the principles, rules, guidelines and procedures for E&S screening, assessing and mitigating environmental and social risks to ensure compliance of the project

activities with both the requirements of the Republic of Uganda and the World Bank ESF.

The EASP will have Substantial Risk as components that include grid expansion and connections with Medium Voltage (MV) and Low Voltage (LV) power distribution lines, Financial Intermediation and Project Implementation Support are anticipated to have low to substantial environmental or social risks and/or impacts in line with World Bank ESF, 2018.

A team from MEMD and UECCC carried out public consultations as an input in the development of EASP safeguards documents. The stakeholder Engagement Framework that has been developed for this project spells out how consultations will be carried out during the project implementation phase.

The ESMF implementation budget refers to all costs that will be incurred to the requirements or activities of the ESMF. The ESMF activities will ensure that the Project implementation integrates environmental and social issues for the sustainability of the project at the same time with the project sub-components. Among other things the ESMF recommends the following key issues, namely; training, capacity building and monitoring mechanisms. MEMD and UECCC will have dedicated staff for environmental and social due diligence. The total cost of capacity building and implementation of the ESMF is estimated to be around USD18.5 million, of which over USD10 million will be required for RAP preparation and implementation. The implementation of the ESMF will be partially financed by IDA under the EASP – it is expected that GOU counterpart funding will be provided for the full implementation of activities.



STATE OF THE NATION

— ADDRESS —

DELIVERED BY H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA
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BANK OF UGANDA

FINANCIAL STABILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ BOU Mandate for Financial Stability
- ▶ Why is Financial System Stability Important?
- ▶ Summary of Key Risks to Financial Stability
- ▶ Macro financial Developments and Risks
- ▶ Funding and Liquidity Risk
- ▶ Credit Risk and Asset quality
- ▶ Banking Sector Capital and Profitability
- ▶ Update on Policy on Payment of Discretionary Distributions by SFIs
- ▶ Update on Afriland Bank
- ▶ Performance of Payment Systems
- ▶ Conclusion, Outlook and Implications



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Eastern Uganda
Mayuge, Bugweri, Bugiri

Environment & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
Compiled under the guidance of NEMA-certified EIA practitioners working for the Ugandan-based JBN and Atacama consulting teams.

Financial Contribution (USD)

380M | Estimated Gross Royalty Payments

965M | Corporate tax Contributions

2024 Project Commencement

27Yrs Project year life

315M Tonnes Indicated & inferred resources

12.5M Tonnes Annual Mining rate

1,200 Estimated No. of Jobs



The Makuutu Project (Makuutu) is a large-scale, long-life, ionic adsorption clay Rare Earth Element (REE) Project which will serve as a catalyst to unlock Uganda's large untapped resource potential.

“

Africa was colonised and enslaved and People were exterminated, dominated or marginalised, not because they lacked storytellers, comedians, musicians, witchdoctors and priests, Kings and Queens, soldiers, farmers, etc.; but because they lagged behind in Science and technology.



H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
#SONA

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