

Newsflash

January & February 2024



Noteworthy themes included meticulous examination of occupational health and safety practices, in-depth discussions on business management within

the concrete works sector, and decisive considerations on standardization and quality checks in the industry. The workshop provided a platform for participants to critically analyze their work and competencies, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the material. With an average attendance of nine participants per day, the workshops saw a predominant 90% male representation, reflecting the industry's current demographics. Looking ahead, USSIA expresses its commitment to closely monitoring both trainers and training materials to ensure seamless integration of the curriculum into practical applications. This initiative marks a significant step towards enhancing the skills and capabilities of the youth in Uganda's concrete sector.



USSIA Develops Training Concepts for TOTs

On the 12th of January, 2024, USSIA in partnership with the Handwerkskammer (HWK) Koblenz team carried out an enterprise visit to a variety of members. Visited members were part of sectors such as metal fabrication, solar works, electrical work, and tailoring companies, and were located in the Mukono and Kampala districts. These members were visited by German experts from their respective sectors. The main purpose of these visits was to interact with the members, share amongst each other any training or knowledge gaps that they have, and how best these gaps can be addressed and their knowledge to be further developed. We managed to visit Kaluusi Designs, Sarah House of Designs, Sharifah Welding Company, and Munig Technical Services.



TRIAS Reflection Meeting

On the 11th and 12th of January 2024, USSIA was able to host the TRIAS reflection meeting together with all the key partners, including UNYFA and TUNADO. The purpose was to discuss and share more about what had been accomplished in the previous year (2023) and what plans each organisation has for the year 2024. TRIAS has been one of our partners for the last 13 years and they have contributed to our organisation through different core capacities (i.e., inclusion, environment, networking, lobbying, advocacy, and service delivery).



USSIA's Enterprise Visits and New Member Sensitization Bring Connection and Awareness

Throughout the week of January 15th-19th, 2024, USSIA carried out 8 visits to member enterprises in Fort Portal. The enterprises were part of various sectors, including leather, textile, metal fabrication, and carpentry. The purpose of these visits was to create awareness about the programs and services that USSIA offers but also to assess the need for and alteration of said services. Some of the challenges that were discovered during the visits include the assumption from members that it is cheaper and safer to operate informal businesses, and that some members have deteriorating skills due to limited resources and equipment to put their skills into consistent practice. It was recommended to USSIA to support sectors with relevant trainings to enhance their skills, as well as lobby for financial assistance for members, in the hopes that it will support capacity building and expansion of members' businesses. Going forward, USSIA plans to organize more sector meetings to encourage interaction and connection between members, follow up on membership subscriptions and renewal to ensure that services are being delivered properly, and that members are seeing benefits that will encourage them to retain their memberships.



Newsflash

January & February 2024

USSIA Online Shop

Uganda Small Scale Industries introduces to you the USSIA online shop which represents more than just a marketplace but its a lifeline, offering access to new markets and opportunities for growth in an increasingly digital landscape. Through this platform, artisans and entrepreneurs from across Uganda can showcase their talents on a global stage, reaching customers who value authenticity, quality, and ethical production practices. Choose to support Ugandan-made products, and become partners in a larger movement towards sustainable development and economic empowerment. With each purchase made through USSIA Online Shop, buyers not only acquire a unique piece of craftsmanship but also contribute to the growth and prosperity of local communities.


Download the USSIA online shop APP on play store or visit www.shop.ussia.or.ug



USSIA SHOP
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Development of USSIA's Resource Mobilization Strategy

The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) held a meeting to discuss the development of a resource mobilization strategy, with support from TFO Canada. TFO Canada, a leading Canadian organization that provides trade-related technical assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries, has been supporting USSIA in various capacities. The main objective of the meeting was to develop a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy that will enhance the association's capacity to secure funding from various sources for its operations and programs.

The meeting began with an overview of the current state of USSIA's resource mobilization



Newsflash

January & February 2024

efforts. It was noted that while the association had been successful in securing some funding from various sources, there was still a significant funding gap that needed to be addressed. The need for a more structured and comprehensive approach to resource mobilization was therefore emphasized.

The discussion then shifted to the development of the resource mobilization strategy. It was noted that the strategy would need to consider various factors, including USSIA's mandate, goals, and objectives, as well as the funding landscape in Uganda. The strategy would also need to identify various funding sources, such as grants, loans, and partnerships, and provide guidance on how to approach each source.

The meeting also discussed other strategies for enhancing USSIA's resource mobilization efforts, including building relationships with potential donors, developing a strong communications strategy, and exploring innovative financing mechanisms such as social impact investing, conducting a fundraising needs assessment, identifying potential funding sources, and developing proposals for funding. The importance of demonstrating the impact of USSIA's work was emphasized, as this would help to make a stronger case for funding. Overall, the meeting was a significant step towards enhancing USSIA's resource mobilization efforts. With support from TFO Canada and other partners, the association is well positioned to secure the funding needed to promote the growth of small-scale industries in Uganda.



Newsflash

January & February 2024

Responsible Management Donor Led Visits with USSIA

Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) showcased exemplary responsible management practices during donor-led visits held from February 22nd to 23rd, 2024. These visits, spanning Kampala, Wakiso, and Mpigi areas, aimed to monitor the progress of 23 graduates trained by USSIA. The outcomes were promising, indicating a positive impact of the training on the graduates' management skills.

Observations revealed significant improvements across various aspects of business management. Graduates demonstrated enhanced proficiency in record-keeping, financial management, health and safety protocols, customer segmentation, as well as supply chain and distribution channel management. These findings underscore USSIA's commitment to fostering sustainable growth and empowering entrepreneurs with essential skills.

By prioritizing responsible management practices, USSIA not only contributes to individual enterprise development but also to the overall socio-economic advancement of communities. Such initiatives exemplify the transformative potential of targeted training programs in driving positive change at the grassroots level.



USSIA and Kabutemba Women Value Addition Association Awareness Meeting

USSIA together with Kabutemba Women Value Addition Association (KWVAA) had an engagement meeting to create awareness about USSIA in the region, as well as to recommend KWVAA to the East African Grain Council (EAGC) on the 20th of February in Kabutemba Village, Kiboga District. Sixty (60) people attended the meeting and were eager to make a zone in their region. Furthermore, a recommendation letter was written from USSIA to EAGC to render support to the cooperative in terms of finances or machinery so as to add value on the maize harvested.

Newsflash
January & February 2024



GETSKILLED TOT for New Trainers

In a bid to develop the capabilities of Uganda's small-scale industries members in delivering enterprise skill-based training. The GET-

SKILLED Project recently concluded a Training of Trainers (TOT) program. This initiative focused on empowering trainers with essential skills in adult learning methods, facilitation techniques, coaching, mentoring, occupational safety and health, and inclusiveness among others.

Participants, hailing from diverse trades and sectors such as hair dressing, bakery, phone repair, domestic electrician, motorcycle repair and others, underwent an intensive training curriculum designed to enhance their capacity as trainers. The program emphasized many practical learning methods to enable trainers to adapt their teaching styles to suit the needs of youths effectively. Facilitation techniques were also highlighted to foster engaging and interactive learning sessions at centers.

By empowering trainers with essential enterprise skills, the project aims to drive sustainable growth and prosperity within these industries, ultimately contributing to the overall economic development of Uganda by equipping youths with skills.



USSIA Demystifies Tin Number Registration

In today's interconnected world, where entrepreneurship and freelancing are on the rise, understanding the essentials of business registration is crucial. One such vital aspect is obtaining a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). In this edition, we delve into the significance, process, and implications of TIN number registration. In line with strategic goal 4, awareness meetings about tin number registration were organized in Hoima and Fort portal on 15th February 2024 with an aim of registering members for tin numbers and sharing benefits of tin numbers.

A Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) is a unique identifier assigned to individuals and companies for tax purposes by Uganda Revenue Authority. It serves as a means of tracking and managing tax-related transactions. TINs are essential for both individuals and businesses, ensuring compliance with tax regulations. Some of the benefits of tin number registration include; legal compliance, tax Reporting, business transactions.

In conclusion, registering for a TIN is not just a bureaucratic formality; it is a fundamental requirement for individuals and businesses to fulfill their tax obligations and participate in the formal economy. By understanding the significance and process of TIN registration, individuals and businesses can navigate the complexities of taxation more effectively and contribute to the overall integrity of the tax system.

Stay informed, stay compliant!



Newsflash

January & February 2024

USSIA Empowers MSMEs with Certified Excellence!

In the competitive market landscape, it is crucial for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to differentiate their products through certifications that demonstrate quality, safety, and compliance. In 2024, USSIA in line with strategic goal 5, is continuously helping industries certify products under the slogan "Empowering MSMEs with Certified Excellence! This is envisioned to help MSMEs communicate their commitment to excellence and attract customers who value certified products.

USSIA has a dedicated team helping various SMEs in the buying product standards, online registration and training good hygiene and manufacturing practices. All certified companies will be uploaded on the USSIA online shop to support access to markets.

USSIA Navigates Global Markets: Empowering Export Readiness through Logistics Awareness

In today's interconnected global economy, the ability to access international markets is a critical driver of business growth and prosperity. Recognizing the pivotal role that logistics plays in enabling exports, an insightful awareness session was recently convened to empower businesses with the knowledge and resources needed to enhance their export readiness.

In line with strategic goal 5, USSIA organized an online awareness session on 22nd February 2024 in partnership with multi lines to provide a comprehensive overview of the significance of logistics and transport in facilitating trade. Industrialists interested in exporting gained insights into the key elements of export logistics, including transportation modes, supply chain visibility and customs clearance procedures. Case studies and real-world examples illustrated how effective logistics management can enhance competitiveness, reduce costs, and accelerate time-to-market for exporters. As the awareness session concluded, participants emerged with a deeper understanding of the critical role that logistics plays in facilitating export success and a renewed commitment to enhancing their export readiness and competitiveness. Armed with practical insights, tools, and resources, they were poised to embark on their export journeys with confidence, resilience, and a clear roadmap for success.

In essence, the awareness session served as a catalyst for collaboration, learning, empowerment, strengthening the export ecosystem, and positioning businesses for sustainable growth and prosperity in the global marketplace.



USSIA's Patched Bedcover Training

In a unique endeavor to empower its members with unconventional skills, the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) organized and executed a training program focused on patched bedcover techniques from the 20th to 21st February 2024 at USSIA offices. This initiative, aimed at enhancing the ingenuity and adaptability of USSIA members in the textile sector, has garnered significant recognition for its approach to skill development within the small-scale industry sector. Conducted in collaboration with expert trainers and industry specialists, the patched bedcover training program provided USSIA members with comprehensive instruction in the art of fabric manipulation and crafting. Participants were introduced to the intricacies of utilizing everyday materials such as bedcovers to create effective camouflage and concealment solutions tailored to their specific operational needs.

Throughout the duration of the program, USSIA members received hands-on training in the selection, modification, and application of patched bedcovers for various purposes, including product concealment, branding, and promotional activities. Emphasizing practicality and resourcefulness, the training encouraged participants to explore innovative techniques and creative approaches to maximize the utility of patched bedcovers within their businesses.

The success of the training program was evident in the remarkable proficiency demonstrated by USSIA members during practical exercises and simulations. From transforming simple bedcovers into eye-catching displays for market stalls to using patched bedcovers as versatile marketing tools, participants showcased their newfound skills with enthusiasm and confidence.



Newsflash

January & February 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS



USSIA MAGAZINE.
COMING IN APRIL 2024
Advertise in the magazine and reach thousands of customers

DON'T BE LEFT OUT LIST YOUR BUSINESS IN THE MEMBERS DIRECTORY

BrandKnew
+256 782 173 066 (USSIA Office)
+256 784 669 913 (Rachael)
+256 772 550 015 (Francis)
+256 780 121 584 (Bernard)

Launch of USSIA Magazine

As the curtains rise on USSIA Magazine, we embark on a journey to celebrate the vibrancy and ingenuity of Ugandan craftsmanship. We proudly shine a spotlight on the diverse array of products crafted by our esteemed members, showcasing the unparalleled quality and innovation that define Uganda's manufacturing landscape.

Our magazine stands as a testament to the rich tapestry of industries represented within USSIA, ranging from textiles and agribusiness to technology and beyond. Through captivating imagery and insightful narratives, we invite readers to explore the breadth of offerings available, from handcrafted textiles that bear the mark of generations of skillful artisans to cutting-edge innovations that push the boundaries of possibility.

At the heart of USSIA Magazine lies a commitment to fostering connections – between producers and consumers, communities and markets. With each page turned, we seek to cultivate a deeper appreciation for the craftsmanship and artistry inherent in Ugandan-made products, while also championing the principles of sustainability and ethical production that underpin our members' endeavors.

As we look ahead to the launch of USSIA Magazine in April, we extend an open invitation to all who share our passion for promoting local enterprise and uplifting Ugandan ingenuity. Together, let us embark on a journey of discovery, celebrating the remarkable achievements of our members and paving the way for a future where Ugandan products shine on both national and global stages.

Join us as we unlock Uganda's finest – one story, one product at a time. Welcome to USSIA Magazine, where the spirit of innovation knows no bounds.

Newsflash
January & February 2024

NYTIL EXPOSURE VISIT

USSIA is pleased to welcome enthusiasts, entrepreneurs, and industry aficionados on March 7th, 2024, for an exclusive exposure visit.

Organized to offer a firsthand glimpse into cutting-edge textile technology and innovation, this event promises to be a transformative experience for all attendees.

The exposure visit is scheduled for March 7th, 2024, at the prestigious Nyanza textile Limited (NYTIL) located in Jinja.

The primary objective of this exposure visit is to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the latest advancements in textile manufacturing, design, and technology. Attendees will have the opportunity to witness innovative processes, interact with industry experts, and gain insights into emerging trends shaping the global textile landscape.

Interested individuals can call 0787091022 for more information



OPEN TO EVERYONE

Nytil - Jinja

- ✓ Textiles
- ✓ Weaving
- ✓ Tie and dye
- ✓ Printing
- ✓ And more!

Date and Time

Thursday, March 7th
2024 at 8:00am

Fees: **30,000 UGX**

Booking: 20,000 UGX, remaining
10,000 UGX to be paid the day of.

Contact Us

0789104638 or 0703454049



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THIS
NOVEMBER 2024! USSIA DAY @

45

  USSIASSOCIATION
 UGANDA SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
 WWW.USSIA.OR.UG

USSIA @ 45

With 45 years of unwavering commitment to supporting small-scale industries across Uganda, USSIA is poised to celebrate its rich history, accomplishments, and the enduring spirit of entrepreneurship that has fuelled its success. Since its inception 45 years ago, USSIA has been at the forefront of championing the interests of small-scale entrepreneurs, artisans, and craftspeople across Uganda. Established with the vision of being the leading organization in the promotion and development of small scale value addition industries as the engine of growth in Uganda, the upcoming event in November serves as an opportunity to reflect on the remarkable achievements and milestones attained by USSIA over the past four and a half decades. From advocating for policy reforms to providing training, mentorship, access to markets, and fostering entrepreneurship and economic development, USSIA has been instrumental in transforming the landscape of small-scale industries in Uganda.



Newsflash

January & February 2024

USSIA Women's Day Celebrations

As March unfolds, the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) gears up to honor and celebrate the achievements, contributions, and resilience of women entrepreneurs across the nation. With International Women's Day on March 8th serving as the focal point, USSIA has curated a month-long series of events and initiatives aimed at empowering and uplifting women in the small-scale industry sector.

Recognizing the pivotal role played by women in driving economic growth and fostering community development, USSIA remains committed to providing a platform for female entrepreneurs to thrive and succeed. Through various capacity-building programs, mentorship opportunities, and advocacy efforts, USSIA aims to empower women entrepreneurs with the skills, resources, and support needed to realize their full potential. Throughout the month of March, USSIA has planned a diverse array of activities and initiatives to commemorate Women's Day and honor the achievements of women in the small-scale industry sector. These include:

- Networking events
- Trainings
- Community outreach programs
- Public awareness campaigns
- Marketing and many others

Join USSIA in Celebrating Women's Day!

**"Women
empowering
women for
success."**



Join USSIA in celebrating
INTERNATIONAL

**WOMEN'S
DAY**

Theme:

**EMPOWERED WOMEN,
EMPOWERING WOMEN.**

Date: March 6th, 2024

Time: 8am - 12pm

Location: USSIA Offices Lugogo

Contact 0706733792 or 0789104638



Newsflash

January & February 2024