



10th -16th October
2022

USSIA Members Take Part in Bukalango Exhibition

Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) and its members in various industrial sectors from various zones were invited to take part in the Bukalango exhibition.

The exhibition which took place from the 13th to the 15th of October 2022 at the Bukalango Church grounds was organized by the Bukalango church management as one of the fundraising initiatives towards the construction of the new Bukalango church.

The USSIA Secretariat team under the Service Delivery department with support from the USSIA Consult team also participated in the exhibition as they exhibited the USSIA information and services and also marketed various member products which created massive

visibility for the products for the USSIA members.

The three-day exhibition gave a huge opportunity to a number MSMEs in the industrial sector to exhibit and market their products to the many buyers that attended the exhibition.

One of the highlights of the exhibition was the Bukalango Run that took place on the final day of the exhibition where everyone participated in the run that raised funds and contributed towards the construction of the new Bukalango church and altar.

The exhibition was wrapped up with a church service that was led by the Bukalango church priests.

USSIA and UNBS Team Support Members in Certification Audits



USSIA in collaboration with the UNBS team carried out certification audits for member products in West Nile region in the Arua, Nebbi, Madi, Okollo and Zombo districts.

This activity was sponsored by PSFU under the COVID 19 recovery fund program through supporting MSMEs in the Standards and Certification process through testing their products for certification.

Up to twenty companies (MSMEs) were submitted during this process and ten of them managed to go through the auditing process hence enabling their samples to

be taken to Kampala at the UNBS head offices for further testing.

Some of the USSIA member companies that were supported include; New Beginning, Ojova Natural Honey, Elvino Investments, Minimax Enterprises, Savoury Ltd, Nile fruit Ltd, Emma's trading center, Bratex Agro venture and Zodfa among others.

The above members will be awarded the UNBS Certification (Q mark) once they pass through the testing without incurring any costs as they are being supported by the program.

Focus Group Discussion Held by USSIA and AgriTech Talk Africa.

Uganda Small Scale Industries Association Mukono zone in conjunction with AgriTech Talk Africa – ATTA held a Focus discussion on the 14th of October focused on the youth employment opportunities in the selected livestock value chain.

This youths’ discussion was at the USSIA Mukono Zonal office along Ssaza road where Star Afrifarm and research technologies, a Kenya consultancy based firm conducted the FGD along various 21 stakeholders from five divisions/ sub counties in Mukono district.

The participants included agricultural farmers, feeds and concentrates

producers, Veterinary Drug Shop owners, Veterinary Doctors among many others. USSIA members, the DVO and two livestock farmers were visited during the event by the SAFR team together with the USSIA Mukono Regional Coordinator to ascertain the opportunities, challenges affecting and solutions in the livestock value chain and involvement of the youths.

The five sub counties were informed at the end of the event that their various responses and views would inform and guide the implementation of future programs and projects that will in the long run support their communities.



USSIA Holds MSME Sensitisation Meeting in Mityana



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The USSIA Mityana Zonal Office in collaboration with the Friends at Heart team organized an awareness sensitization meeting for the members in the Mityana zone on the 14th of October 2022.

This meeting was spearheaded by their chairperson following a prior meeting held with the USSIA team during an official visit at the USSIA offices in Mityana where the team requested to have a formal meeting with the USSIA executive members in the region in a bid to foster partnership amongst the two institutions.

One of the key objectives of the session was to create awareness to the community

about the many USSIA support services for MSMEs and the various membership benefits and general services offered by the association to its members which include but are not limited to continuous training and capacity building opportunities to the MSMEs with special programs for the youth entrepreneurs, women and start up enterprises.

The participants included a number of active entrepreneurs involved in different sectoral enterprises with a positive yearning for growth and expansion.



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USSIA Delegates Meet with Kasese Presidential Industrial Hub management

In a bid to steer partnership and synergy, the USSIA team headed by the Regional Coordinator of Kasese region visited the presidential industrial hub on the 14th of October 2022 located in Mubuku town council Kasese along Kasese-Fort Portal Highway.

The industrial hubs were initiated by the President of Uganda with a major objective of minimizing high level unemployment among the youths. The beneficiaries in these hubs are expected to acquire practical skills in various vocational fields like tailoring, carpentry, welding and metal fabrication among others.

The USSIA team visited the Hub on a mission to establish a working relationship and had a meeting with the manager centered on future partnership between USSIA and the Kasese Industrial Hub. This would facilitate a number of opportunities like internship placements for graduates of the Hub among the USSIA industrial members.

The Presidential Initiative aims at enabling unemployed youth transit from job seekers to job creators which is also key among USSIA's Strategic Plan main objectives.



Snapshots



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USSIA Skill Up youths prepare for the Bukalango exhibition.

In a bid to enhance readiness for the exhibition, different Skill Up youths in Wakiso region were taken through preparation of the Bukalango Exhibition which was organized from the 13th to the 15th of October, 2022.

Over ten (10) youths were taken through the fundamentals of organizing their stalls and how to market their products during the exhibition.



New Membership recruitment in Mukono

Under the USSIA recruitment drive, Ms Winnie, the proprietor of Angel Ceramic Workshop in Kayunga, Mukono District was able to join as USSIA member on the 12th of October, 2022, through the Mukono USSIA Regional Coordinator of USSIA. During the visit, the USSIA team was able to identify the different products they manufacture as well as the various challenges that the business is facing. USSIA a key player in MSME support committed to work towards addressing their various challenges identified and also pledged support the business towards its growth and sustainability in USSIA's various interventions, programs and services designed for the members.



Advocacy and Follow Up for USSIA Members.

The USSIA team led by the Regional Coordinator of the Mukono zone together with the USSIA SACCO manager carried out a follow up interactive discussion meeting with the Mukono Municipality Local Government officers that included the SCDOs, CDOs and MCDO on the 14th of October, 2022.

The meeting was intended to lobby and seek for support for the USSIA youths and women groups, MSMIs and Startups. During the meeting, the team submitted more VSLA groups of youths seeking registration as Community Based Organizations (CBOs) under the Mukono Local Government.