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USSIA Hosts Guests from BMZ Germany.

USSIA hosted a team from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung BMZ), Bengo who visited various Skill up Kampala project beneficiaries in the Mukono district on the 19th of November 2022.

Accompanied by the WHH team, the BMZ guests' main purpose of the visit was to find out the progress of the Skill Up Kampala project as well as meet the various teams from the partnering organizations of USSIA and KIFAD, the district officials, Training Enterprise Organizations like USSIA members and various youth beneficiaries.

At the Mukono District Head Quarters, the BMZ and WHH team also visited the District Commercial Officer, Municipality Principal Community Development Officer, and other officials that have played a key role in supporting the success of the project in the district. The guests from the Funder's team visited several training providers and youth beneficiaries of the Skill Up Kampala project who have started businesses and are operating in the Mukono district.

The USSIA team was represented by the management officials led by the Executive Secretary and Projects and programs Manager among others.



Youth Inclusion Program by Pride Microfinance Bank.

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In bid to promote youth entrepreneurship and employment, Pride Micro Finance Bank in partnership with Uganda Small Scale Industries Association have embarked on the youth Inclusion Program for Youth entrepreneurs in the central region of Kampala, Mukono, and Wakiso.

The program focuses on empowering Youth entrepreneurs with entrepreneurship Business Development Skills and other life skills through trainings and will also conduct progressive coaching and mentorship to help build their capacity in their various individual businesses.

The project will also help support and boost their businesses through helping them access affordable financial services and loans to help them scale up their business capacities through acquiring equipment and may other additional requirements for expansion and growth.

The trainings ended with a one-week training of about 30 youths in the central region from the 14th of November - 18th November 2022 at the USSIA building offices to reach a target of 300 youths in the three main districts of Kampala, Wakiso. Mukono.



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USSIA Participates in the AfCFTA Consultative Meeting of Private Sector at MTIC



USSIA joined other stakeholders in the Private Sector and Government Sector on the 18th November 2022 to deliberate on the National implementation strategy that would ensure readiness of the Ugandan Private Sector towards tapping into the opportunities of the AfCFTA business opportunities.

Uganda along with fifty-three (53) other African Countries has signed the Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). As of the end of October 2022, 44 countries including Uganda had also ratified and deposited the instruments of the ratification.

The AfCFTA aims at strengthening the Africa's

economic integration by creating a continental market with free movement of persons, capital, goods and services which are crucial for deepening economic integration and promoting agricultural development, food security, industrialization and structural economic transformation.

The consultative meeting that was attended by over 30 private sector players took place at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives. (MTIC)

UNBS and USSIA Management Team Meet to Discuss the New Digital Conformity Marking (DCM)



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The UNBS team on the 15th of November 2022, engaged the USSIA leadership on Digital Conformity Marking which enables verification of quality of commodities on the go. This new system will ease standards enforcement and ensure consumer protection.

The conformity stamp will be used for some products for example soap and detergents, paint, steel products, cables, body and hair products, oral rinses, batteries, household appliances, plastic pipes etc.

Uganda Small Scale Industries Association appreciated

the new UNBS innovation and is looking forward to easing the standards and certification process for its members.

USSIA intends to organize an awareness workshop for the members soon under the different industrial sectors in order to orient them on the information and basics of the conformity stamp, its importance and how one can acquire it.



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USSIA Takes Part in the Mityana Stakeholders Meeting on Taxation

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The USSIA Mityana team led by the Regional Coordinator Mityana zone took part in the Mityana stakeholders engagement meeting on the 15th of November 2022 that involved other key stakeholders like with URA and other Mityana USSIA members.

The engagement was held at Kolping Hotel Mityana and the main purpose of this engagement was to sensitize the business proprietors in the region about taxation, the various URA services and many others.

This engagement was an opportunity that enabled the identification of the various taxation challenges faced by the MSMEs in the area.

URA pledged to support and cooperate with USSIA in order to enable the members understand and comply with the tax system and also committed to intervene and take action on the various issues that were raised by the tax payers.

USSIA Kasese Office Holds Press Conference During the Global Entrepreneurship Week in The Rwenzori Region



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Uganda Small Scale Industries Association joined other Entrepreneurship players across the globe on the 18th of November 2022 to celebrate the global entrepreneurship week by holding a press conference at the USSIA Kasese office on Alexander Street.

The Global entrepreneurship week is a global celebration of entrepreneurship that occurs annually during the second week of November across the Globe.

The press conference involved all media houses informed the general public about USSIA's mandate,

its various programs, business services and other association's activities aimed enhancing growth of the members' businesses.

Some of the media houses in attendance included Messiah FM radio, Ngeya FM, Light FM, and Rwenzori TV which cover the districts in Rwenzori western region.

USSIA was represented by the USSIA Kasese Zonal Chairperson, the Secretary and the Regional Coordinator.



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USSIA Participates in The Validation of The Energy Efficiency Multi-Stakeholder Platform Strategy



USSIA joined other stakeholders in the Validation workshop organized by SNV to Validate the Energy Efficiency Multi-Stakeholder Platform Strategy and Action Plan as well as the ESCOS Report.

The key objective of the workshop was the enable the validation of the study report of the ESCOs (Energy Service Companies) and the EE MSP (Energy Efficiency Multi Stakeholder Platform) Strategy and Action that was implemented by the Heden Engineering and Adroit Consult International consultancy firm contracted by SNV.

The two days enabled a details presentation of the

report and strategy as well as the projected action plan and also enabled the various stakeholders to validate them through professional authentication and guidance as well as making the necessary recommendations to improve the documents.

The Validation Workshop took place from the 14th to the 15th of November 2022 and was held in Jinja at the Civil Service Center Conference Hall.

The workshop brought together various stakeholders from the Government Sector, Private Sector, Civil Society, MBOs and the Development partners.

USSIA Takes Part in The Kasese Municipal Council Budget Conference 2023/2024.



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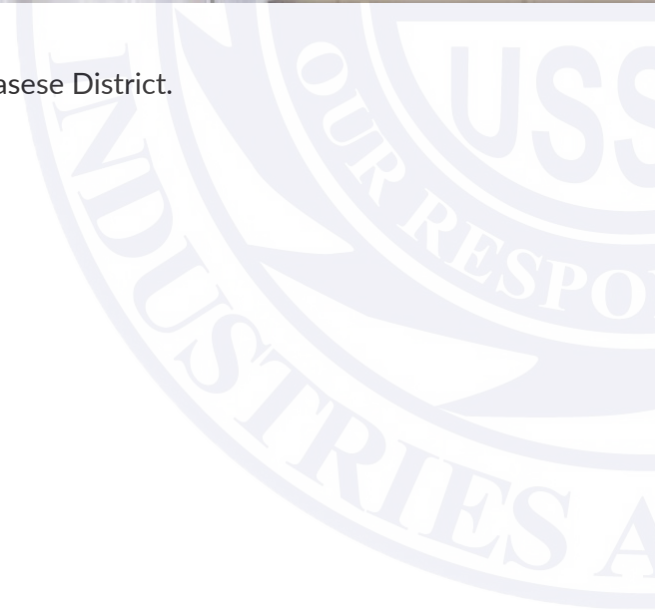


The USSIA team was invited to take part in the Private Public Partnership on the 17th of November 2022 as a member of the Kasese Municipal Development Forum which is a privately led forum of Kasese Municipality.

The main purpose of this conference was to discuss the interests of small-scale industries in the Municipality of Kasese and what government interventions can be made to support the development of the Private Sector in the region.

The event took place at the Kasese Multi-Purpose

Hall in Kasese District.





NEWS Flash

USSIA Organizes the Insurance Dialogue for MSMEs in Partnership with IRA

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Business Risk remains a big challenge and has affected a number of businesses and also led to the collapse of a many businesses in Uganda and across the globe.

In order to control and reduce risk effects, Insurance has been introduced and in remains a key business support option that has helped a number of businesses in planning for any business risk dangers that may occur unexpectedly.

USSIA in partnership with the Insurance Regulatory Authority of Uganda (IRA) organized an Insurance Dialogue on the 16th of November 2022 under the theme: Reducing Business Risk Challenges Through Insurance to Enhance Business Growth and Sustainability Among MSMEs.

The Insurance Dialogue aimed at orienting the MSMEs on the fundamentals of Insurance as an

opportunity to control and reduce the effects of the different business risks among MSMEs in order enable suitability and continuity of business.

Insurance has not been popular in the Ugandan economy and current statistics show that only 3% of the Ugandan MSMEs have embraced and registered for insurance.

The dialogue has held to enable the USSIA members understand and appreciate the benefits of Insurance and the various insurance options and policies that they can register for in their various businesses.

It was held on the 16th of November 2022 at the USSIA Board room and was part of the USSIA Global Entrepreneurship Week programmes and was attended by over 60 USSIA members and other participants.



USSIA Participates in the UAE – East African Trade Mission

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USSIA joined other stakeholders on the 17th of November 2022 to participate in the UAE - East Africa Trade Mission that was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Kampala City.

The Trade mission was organized by the Sharjah Exports Development Centre, an initiative of the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UAE aimed at enhancing bilateral trade between Uganda and the United Arab Emirates.

The launch of the two-day event was officiated by the Ugandan Vice President H.E Jessica Alupo,

the Chief Guest who appreciated the initiative and emphasized the commitment of the Uganda government to support the Ugandans and the UAE in a bid to promote the bilateral trade between the two countries.

The event was also attended by the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Mr. Francis Mwebesa who appreciated the various stakeholders that participating and reemphasized MTIC's program towards supporting the growth export trade in Uganda.



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Intensification of Business Community Mobilization Drive



The USSIA Rwenzori team led by the Kasese Regional Coordinator carried out a mobilization drive in the 15th of November 2022 in the Kasese district. The key Intention of the drive is to recruit new members and extended the USSIA services and opportunities outside major towns to the Mubuku and Hima town councils.