

18th- 22nd August 2025

Strengthening Peaceful Pathways

Building capacity for peace and conflict-sensitive development, the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) actively participated in a four-day “Do No Harm” workshop organized by LEADS. The workshop brought together different stakeholders to deepen their understanding of conflict dynamics, leadership roles, and practical approaches for conflict-sensitive programming.

Participants focused on the transfer of resources in conflict contexts and introduced participants to conflict analysis tools, actor and stakeholder mapping, and identifying partners for action and behavior change. The discussions highlighted how resources, when not well managed, can exacerbate conflicts. Participants also practiced generating program options that integrate conflict sensitivity to ensure sustainability.



Participants also delved into conflict-sensitive planning, with detailed discussions on the steps of planning and the use of a risk management matrix. The day also covered conflict-sensitive implementation, highlighting its essential elements, followed by insights on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) practices that ensure projects remain sensitive to the conflict dynamics on the ground. Importantly, the day emphasized the incorporation of gendered perspectives into conflict analysis, ensuring that interventions address the unique challenges and contributions of both men and women.



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18th- 22nd August 2025



Shaping Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs

In a world where skills are the new currency, the COWA Vocational Institute Job Fair in Kireka, Wakiso District became more than just a career event it became a launchpad for dreams. Among the key voices shaping the conversations was the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA), which brought a fresh wave of inspiration to finalists on the brink of stepping into the job market.

With industries rapidly evolving, USSIA shared practical business insights, emerging industry trends, and a clear picture of today's job market realities. The discussions didn't just highlight employment opportunities but also challenged the students to think like innovators and entrepreneurs. The finalists, drawn from courses such as welding and metal fabrication, agribusiness, hairdressing, and domestic electricity, were encouraged to see their skills not just as tools for survival, but as gateways to leadership in Uganda's small-scale industries.

What made the engagement powerful was its focus on mindset shift—from waiting for jobs to creating them. By blending technical expertise with entrepreneurial thinking, USSIA reminded the young graduates that the future belongs to those who can adapt, collaborate, and innovate.

The event closed with renewed energy, as many students left not just with career options, but with a vision: to transform their vocational training into sustainable enterprises that drive community development and national growth.



18th- 22nd August 2025



Sironko Community Embraces Bar Soap Making

In Sironko Zone, women and youth gathered with enthusiasm for a hands-on practical bar soap making training—an initiative designed to equip communities with skills that improve livelihoods and promote self-reliance.

The training created an interactive space where participants learned the step-by-step process of soap production: from mixing ingredients and molding bars to practicing safe production techniques. The sessions emphasized not only the technical know-how but also the potential of soap making as a household necessity and an income-generating venture.

What stood out most was the eagerness of participants to turn knowledge into action. By the end of the training, many expressed confidence that they could now produce quality bar soap for both domestic use and commercial purposes. This empowerment opens doors for families to reduce household expenses while also tapping into the growing demand for affordable hygiene products.

The initiative demonstrated how simple, practical skills can transform communities, creating pathways for financial independence and improved standards of living. For the women and youth of Sironko, the training was more than an exercise in soap making—it was a step toward building brighter, self-sustaining futures.

18th- 22nd August 2025

Building Stronger Businesses Through Accounting Records Training

Good record keeping is the backbone of any successful enterprise, and that message was at the heart of a recent Accounting Records Training that brought together entrepreneurs and business owners eager to strengthen their financial management skills.

The training aimed at empowering participants with practical knowledge on how to create, maintain, and utilize accounting records as a tool for business growth. Participants were guided through the importance of source documents, the different types of accounting records, and how proper record keeping supports better decision-making, accountability, and long-term sustainability.



Interactive sessions allowed attendees to practice how to track income, expenses, and cash flow, while also understanding the role of accurate records in accessing financing and meeting regulatory requirements. Beyond technical skills, the training encouraged a culture of transparency and discipline in managing business finances.



By the end of the program, participants expressed confidence in applying these skills to their own enterprises—transforming the way they handle money, measure performance, and plan for growth. For many, the training was more than just a class; it was a stepping stone toward building resilient and financially sound businesses that can thrive in today's competitive market.

18th- 22nd August 2025

Entrepreneurs Shine at Ankole Demonstration Zoo Launch

The launch of the Ankole Demonstration Zoo turned into more than just an environmental and educational milestone—it became a platform for small-scale entrepreneurs to showcase their creativity and resilience. At the event, members of the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) proudly exhibited their diverse range of products, capturing the attention of both visitors and dignitaries.

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The initiative was spearheaded by Mr. Kabegambire Ceophas, USSIA's Regional Representative, in partnership with Plawaste Consult Limited, reflecting a shared commitment to promoting sustainable practices and supporting local enterprise.

As part of the celebrations, the Commissioner representing the State Minister for Urban Development toured the exhibition stalls, engaging with members and appreciating the innovation and hard work embedded in their products. From eco-friendly solutions to locally crafted goods, the exhibits reflected the vibrancy and potential of Uganda's small-scale industries.



The event not only highlighted the role of entrepreneurship in complementing community initiatives like the Demonstration Zoo but also created new opportunities for networking, visibility, and market linkages. For USSIA members, it was a proud moment to demonstrate how small businesses are contributing to sustainability, job creation, and regional development.



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18th- 22nd August 2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

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18th- 22nd August 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS



BEEF PROCESSING TRAINING

What to learn / Expect

Beef sausages
Minced meat
Burgers
Meat balls



Fee: 100,000
/=



25th - 29th
August 2025

09.00am



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MAKEUP TRAINING

What to Learn

- Cream contouring and strobing
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FEE: 80,000 Shs

USSIA Offices, UMA show grounds Lugogo

28th-29th, August 2025

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18th- 22nd August 2025

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18th- 22nd August 2025

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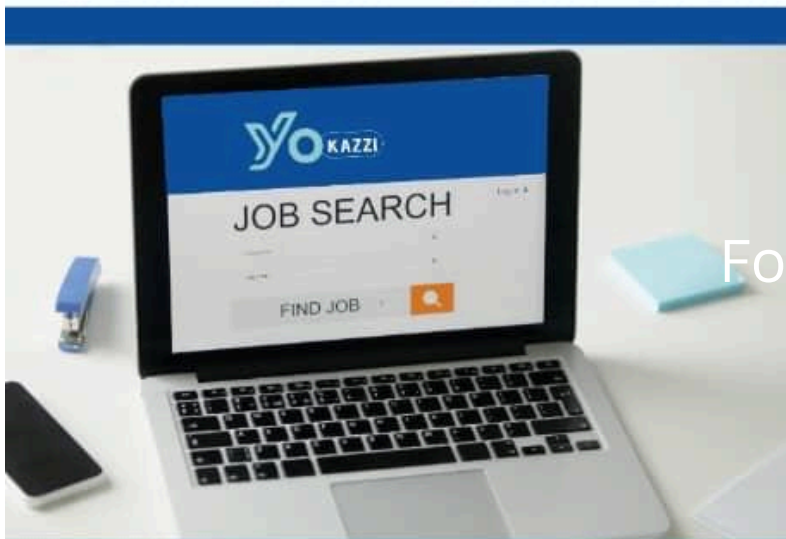
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18th- 22nd August 2025

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