

# NEWSFLASH



16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

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16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Strengthening Women-Led Enterprises Through Strategic Financing Partnerships



A renewed commitment to advancing women entrepreneurship took center stage during the Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) engagement meeting, where industry stakeholders convened to discuss practical pathways for women-owned businesses to access the Grow Loan facility.

Women entrepreneurs present at the meeting also voiced critical challenges that continue to hinder business growth, including the high cost of product certification, heavy taxation, stiff competition from substandard products, limited access to affordable and quality packaging materials, and inadequate information on available trade and market opportunities.

The Grow Loan facility is being implemented in partnership with DFCU Bank, Equity Bank, Centenary Bank, Post Bank, Finance Trust, and Stanbic Bank. These partnerships are expected to ease access to affordable financing and strengthen financial inclusion among women entrepreneurs across Uganda.

The engagement reaffirmed a collective resolve to bridge financing gaps while addressing systemic barriers that limit the competitiveness of women-led enterprises. With strengthened partnerships and targeted financial solutions, the Grow Loan facility presents a promising opportunity to accelerate the growth of women-owned businesses

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## New USSIA Members Step Boldly into Growth

Excitement, connection, and fresh ambition filled the room as entrepreneurs gathered for the recent New Members Orientation—an engaging and impactful session designed to unlock opportunity and accelerate business growth.

During the engagement, new members were taken through the wide range of services offered by the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association and how these services directly support enterprise growth. From capacity building and business advisory to advocacy, exhibitions, and access to finance linkages, members gained clarity on how to fully leverage their membership for tangible impact.

The orientation proved to be a resounding success, equipping participants with practical knowledge, strategic insights, and valuable connections. Entrepreneurs gained a deeper understanding of policy advocacy and how it shapes a more enabling business environment. They explored market access opportunities, discovered how to leverage digital tools to strengthen operations, and unpacked ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) strategies to build sustainable and responsible enterprises.

The orientation marked more than an introduction—it was the beginning of a stronger, more informed, and more connected entrepreneurial journey.



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## Strengthening Enterprise Networks in Nebbi District Through Strategic Outreach

A focused two-day field mission in Nebbi District marked a significant step toward strengthening enterprise development and expanding inclusive membership engagement in the region. The outreach blended relationship building, systems strengthening, and strategic stakeholder engagement to unlock new opportunities for local businesses.

Ten potential members were identified and successfully profiled during the exercise. All were onboarded onto the mWater system to enhance structured data management, follow-up, and service delivery tracking. This digital inclusion ensures better coordination and visibility of enterprise needs within the district.

Five existing members were visited to assess business performance, understand operational challenges, and provide advisory support. The engagements allowed for firsthand insight into enterprise realities on the ground and strengthened institutional relationships.

Four key stakeholders were consulted to explore collaboration and ecosystem support opportunities. These included Caritas, World Vision, AFARD, and AFCE. The discussions focused on partnership potential, enterprise support interventions, and aligning development efforts to avoid duplication while maximizing impact.



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## Unlocking Financial Growth

### USSIA SACCO Awareness session

Discover how you can access affordable financing, grow your savings, and unlock new opportunities to expand your business with confidence!

#### Date / Time

18th February 2026

Start at 10:00am

#### Link

<https://meet.google.com/zdy-xcct-rmn>

For more information,  
0787091022 / 0706733792



A vibrant online session brought together 27 members eager to learn more about the opportunities available through the USSIA SACCO. The interactive engagement provided clear guidance on how members can join the SACCO, grow their savings, and access affordable financial services tailored to support their businesses and personal development.

During the session, participants were taken through the membership requirements, share contributions, loan products, and the unique benefits of being part of a member-owned financial cooperative. Emphasis was placed on the SACCO's role in promoting a savings culture, offering accessible credit facilities, and strengthening members' financial discipline.

Members were also guided on the step-by-step process of registration, the importance of regular savings, and how collective contributions empower the SACCO to provide competitive loan packages. The facilitators highlighted success stories of members who have leveraged SACCO loans to expand their enterprises, invest in equipment, and stabilize cash flow.

By the end of the training, participants expressed increased confidence and readiness to enroll, recognizing the SACCO as a reliable partner in their financial growth journey.

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Happy  
Ramadhan  
Kareem to  
the Muslim  
Community

The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) extends warm wishes to the Muslim community for a blessed and peaceful Ramadhan Kareem.

May this holy month be filled with spiritual renewal, compassion, and abundant blessings for you, your families, and your businesses. As you observe fasting and prayer, may your sacrifices be rewarded, your duas answered, and your hearts filled with gratitude and strength.

Ramadhan Kareem to you all.

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## Meet USSIA Brands



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## UPCOMING EVENTS



**FEE: SHS  
25,000**

## EXPOSURE VISIT TO KAWUMU LEATHER INDUSTRY

Don't miss this chance to broaden your vision, build networks, and open doors to new opportunities in business and industry.



**20th March  
2026**

**REGISTER NOW!**

**0750424935 0706733792**

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