

# NEWSFLASH



25th-29th May 2026

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## USSIA, EDiC Forge Strategic Alliance to Map National Manufacturing Capabilities



This week, a new chapter in Uganda's industrial transformation journey was set in motion as the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) led a vibrant delegation of micro, small, and medium-scale manufacturers on a strategic visit to the Enterprise Development and Innovation Center (EDiC). More than a routine exposure visit, the engagement signaled the launch of a bold collaborative effort aimed at redefining how local manufacturing potential is identified, nurtured, and elevated.

At the heart of the engagement was the official activation of the Uganda Manufacturing Capability Catalog, a pioneering initiative designed to create a comprehensive profile of the country's small-scale manufacturing landscape. Through this undertaking, USSIA and EDiC seek to document existing production capacities, uncover hidden strengths within enterprises, and generate valuable insights that will inform future industrial development interventions.

The visit also served as a practical bridge between industry and innovation. Manufacturers were introduced to cutting-edge engineering technologies, product development support systems, and technical solutions tailored to address the operational challenges faced by small-scale enterprises. By connecting entrepreneurs to innovation ecosystems and strategic partnerships, the initiative opened pathways for enhanced productivity, competitiveness, and market readiness.

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## Shaping the Future of Leatherwork: 50 Women Prepare for Milestone UVTAB Assessment

Fifty women beneficiaries specializing in advanced leather design received vital guidance during a USSIA awareness session held at WEPASI Enterprise Limited. The engagement prepared the trainees for the upcoming Uganda Vocational Training Assessment Board (UVTAB) examinations by clarifying assessment procedures and certification requirements for obtaining a formal certificate or Worker's Pass.

The activity also reinforced the value of partnerships in skills development. Appreciating USSIA's continued support, WEPASI Enterprise Limited pledged to strengthen collaboration in expanding vocational training opportunities and empowering more women through industry-relevant skills.

Led by master trainers Ms. Viola and Ms. Pheona, the session emphasized the importance of commitment and preparedness as the women approach this critical stage of their professional journey. Although participants noted the short timeframe before the assessments, they expressed readiness to proceed and successfully complete the examinations.

As the candidates prepare to undertake their assessments, the initiative stands as a testament to the power of certification in transforming practical skills into recognized professional competence and sustainable livelihoods.



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## Brewing Opportunities: Barista and Coffee Quality Training Energizes Greater Kampala Youth

A fresh wave of opportunity is taking shape as USSIA and its development partners roll out specialized Barista and Coffee Quality Management training under the wework Project. Implemented across Kampala, Wakiso, and Mukono, the initiative is equipping young people with practical skills to tap into Uganda's growing coffee value chain and emerging green economy.

The training goes beyond coffee preparation, introducing participants to professional brewing techniques, coffee quality assessment, and customer service standards. By positioning coffee craftsmanship as a viable profession, the program is opening pathways to decent employment, entrepreneurship, and sustainable livelihoods for youth.

The practical sessions attracted enthusiastic participation from young men and women eager to transform their passion into profitable ventures. As the training progresses, the initiative continues to demonstrate how targeted skills development can turn everyday opportunities into engines of economic growth and self-reliance.



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## From Jobless to Shop Owner: How the 'Get Skilled Project' Transformed Oboli Emmanuel's Reality



At just 20 years old, Oboli Emmanuel, a resident of Ngenie in Mukono, faced a bleak cycle of unemployment and zero financial income. His breakthrough came when community awareness drives introduced him to Cohort 1 of the Get Skilled Project. Following an intensive 4-month practical welding training program, Emmanuel received comprehensive business interventions, including foundational masterclasses in financial literacy, business planning, and digital marketing.

The business training inspired Emmanuel to venture into value addition by manufacturing custom metal beds as a secondary revenue stream. Simultaneously, digital literacy classes empowered him to market his craftsmanship on TikTok and the Yokazzi app. Today, Emmanuel works a steady welding job at a local workshop and utilizes the facility, with his employer's permission, to run his side business. Investing UGX 170,000 in raw materials per bed, he sells his finished products for between UGX 300,000 and UGX 400,000.

While seasonal demand keeps his current monthly net average at UGX 50,000, Emmanuel is actively building a solid client base and preparing to sit for his UVTAB Junior Certificate in November to solidify his professional credibility. "The Get Skilled Project changed my life. I went from no job to a steady welding job, and now I'm learning to run my own side business. My biggest goal now is to get my certificate so I can get better opportunities."

**Oboli Emmanuel, Welder**

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## USSIA Participates in SME Training On Kibalo Tool To Enhance Enterprise Competitiveness



The application allowed entrepreneurs to run simulations on expected costs and projected sales, verifying profitability before committing financial capital. It monitored actual inputs and physical outputs to provide business owners with an instantaneous view of their financial health, using built-in AI components to translate complex financial metrics into simple, actionable insights regarding cost drivers and profit margins. Participants highly commended the user-friendly interface of the tool, noting its immense relevance in solving long-standing strategic planning and financial management challenges.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation held a stakeholder engagement at Kabira Country Club, centered on the deployment of the innovative Kibalo Tool. Brought together by a shared vision for national economic transformation, key industrial stakeholders gathered to learn how data-driven decision-making can radically enhance enterprise competitiveness, boost productivity, and eliminate operational losses.

Delivering remarks at the training, the Secretary emphasized that equipping grassroots businesses with modern analytical tools is fundamental to achieving Uganda's Tenfold Economy agenda, creating sustainable wealth, and eliminating structural poverty. The Kibalo Tool functioned as a highly adaptable virtual business advisor suitable for all enterprise levels—from small roadside kiosks to expanding multi-product retailers



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## USSIA Spotlight: Savor the Pure Sweetness of Masaka Organic Honey



Expertly harvested and packed by Masaka Honey, this golden kitchen essential brings 100% natural sweetness, rich flavor, and superior quality to the dining table. Carefully handled to preserve its organic integrity, each jerrycan is packed with natural nutrients, including essential vitamins, sodium, magnesium, potassium, iron, calcium, water, and natural sugars—making it a perfect, healthy alternative for families and sweet teeth alike.

This week, our local manufacturing spotlight shines brightly on another exceptional agricultural value-addition champion emerging from the heart of Masaka. Making significant waves in the agro-processing sector, the brand is delivering nature's finest wellness package straight to your household with its premium-tier Masaka Organic Honey (5 Ltrs).

Beyond delivering an exceptional and wholesome product, local apiculture brands stand as a major pillar of community empowerment by supporting local beekeeping ecosystems and strengthening the domestic agricultural value chain. Packed under strict, hygienic local production standards, this bulk 5-liter option is designed to meet the growing demand for pure, unadulterated honey in both domestic homes and large-scale commercial kitchens.

Important health note for families: In line with infant nutrition guidelines, this natural honey should not be served to children under the age of 1 year.

For direct distribution networks, bulk wholesale inquiries, or fast doorstep orders, the production team can be reached directly on 0701528793 / 0774231828. Support this local brand today and experience authentic, premium Ugandan quality

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### BEEF PROCESSING TRAINING

Learn how to start and profit from beef processing

#### What You Will Learn:

- ✓ How to make sausages (step-by-step)
- ✓ Minced meat production techniques
- ✓ Burger & meatball preparation
- ✓ Packaging and value addition

**UGX 150,000 only**

\*Includes training materials

📅 22nd-25th June 2026

🕒 9:00 AM daily

📍 USSIA Offices, UMA Showgrounds - Lugogo

Register now – Limited slots available!

Call / WhatsApp:

📞 0787 091022 | 0706 733792

🌐 Visit: [www.ussia.or.ug](http://www.ussia.or.ug)

Who Should Attend:

- ✓ Butchers & meat vendors
- ✓ Entrepreneurs
- ✓ Youth & startups
- ✓ Anyone interested in agribusiness



### SHORT COURSE ON-GRID SOLAR SYSTEMS TRAINING

**03<sup>RD</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2026**

Renewable Energy Training Centre (RETC)  
Nakawa Vocational Training College,  
Nakawa, Kampala

**APPLY BEFORE: 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2026**

#### TRAINING MODULES

- Occupation Safety and Health (OSH)
- Introduction to Solar Energy
- Solar PV Components
- System Design and Sizing
- Installation Practices
- Testing and Commissioning
- Fault Diagnosis and Maintenance
- Practical Sessions

#### TARGET GROUPS

- Technicians
- Solar practitioners
- Solar engineers and Designers
- Solar Business owners
- Electrical engineers

**Training Fees: UGX 1,185,000**

#### FULL DAY PROGRAMME

🕒 (8:00 AM - 4:00 PM EAT)

Application Forms available at:  
Renewable Energy Training Centre (RETC)  
Nakawa Vocational Training College,  
P.O Box 20123, Plot M36 Jinja Road  
Tel: 0788 332 531, 0758 430 288  
[retc.nrep.ug](mailto:retc.nrep.ug), [retc@nrep.ug](mailto:retc@nrep.ug)

**REGISTER ONLINE**

LINK: [forms.gle/Cvcfg4Dgt3BqWA7o7](https://forms.gle/Cvcfg4Dgt3BqWA7o7)

APPLY NOW!