

29th - 3rd July 2026

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USSIA Concludes Beef Processing Training to Boost Value Addition Among Small Enterprises

Small-scale meat processors have acquired practical skills to improve the quality and marketability of their products following the successful conclusion of the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) Beef Processing Training. The training brought together entrepreneurs seeking to strengthen their capacity in meat value addition, a growing area of Uganda's agro-processing sector that continues to create opportunities for business expansion and employment. Through practical demonstrations and guided sessions, participants gained hands-on experience in modern meat processing techniques designed to help them produce safer, higher-quality products capable of competing in formal markets.

During the training, participants were taken through the complete process of sausage production, meatball making, minced meat processing, hygienic packaging, and the certification requirements needed to commercialize processed meat products. The sessions emphasized quality standards, food safety, and product presentation, enabling entrepreneurs to understand how value addition can increase profitability while reducing waste. By combining technical skills with knowledge of regulatory compliance, the training equipped participants with tools to diversify their product lines and respond to changing consumer preferences.

The successful completion of the programme reflects USSIA's continued commitment to strengthening Uganda's small-scale industries through practical, industry-focused skills development. As participants return to their businesses, they are expected to apply the knowledge gained to improve production processes, enhance product quality, and expand their market reach. Through initiatives such as this, USSIA continues to support enterprise growth and contribute to the development of a more competitive and sustainable agro-processing sector in Uganda.

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USSIA and TRIAS Step Up Entrepreneurship Drive Under the WeWork Project

Preparations for the next phase of entrepreneurship training under the Greening and Decent Jobs – WeWork Project gained momentum as the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA), in partnership with TRIAS, conducted a refresher Training of Trainers (ToT) for facilitators who will deliver business development training to 253 Cohort II participants in Hoima, Kyegegwa, and Fort Portal. The refresher programme focused on strengthening trainers' facilitation skills, aligning training methodologies, and ensuring a consistent approach to delivering entrepreneurship content that equips participants with practical knowledge to start, manage, and grow sustainable enterprises. The exercise forms part of the project's broader objective of promoting green enterprises and creating decent employment opportunities for young people and small business owners.

Following the refresher training, USSIA and TRIAS teams embarked on field visits to selected training centres in Fort Portal and Kyegegwa, where they interacted directly with project participants.

The visits provided an opportunity to assess the progress of the entrepreneurship programme on the ground, engage beneficiaries in discussions about their business journeys, and document experiences from the training. Participants shared insights on how the project has influenced their entrepreneurial mindset, strengthened business management practices, and inspired them to pursue new opportunities for enterprise growth.

The refresher training and field engagements reflect USSIA's commitment to ensuring that the Greening and Decent Jobs – WeWork Project delivers lasting impact beyond training sessions. By investing in well-prepared trainers and maintaining close contact with beneficiaries, USSIA and TRIAS are strengthening the quality of entrepreneurship support across the project districts. As Cohort II training gets underway, the initiative continues to advance its mission of equipping entrepreneurs with the knowledge, skills, and resilience needed to build competitive enterprises, create decent jobs, and contribute to sustainable local economic development.



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Internship Programme in Textile and Graphic Design Gains Momentum as Students Embrace Hands-On Industry Learning



The ongoing USSIA internship programme in Textile and Graphic Design has moved steadily from orientation into active production work, with interns from different universities now fully engaged in daily operations at USSIA offices under the guidance of in-house trainers. The programme, which aims to bridge academic learning with practical industry experience, is increasingly exposing students to real-time design tasks, production workflows, and client-oriented assignments as they settle into the rhythm of a working environment.

However, the journey has not been without challenges. Interns highlight time management, adapting to professional standards, and balancing creativity with client expectations as some of the early hurdles. Trainers have also observed that while technical skills are developing quickly, confidence in decision-making and independent execution is still growing. Even so, the structured mentorship approach is helping to close these gaps gradually, with continuous feedback sessions and practical demonstrations forming a key part of daily learning.

The programme is already beginning to shape clear lessons for both interns and trainers. Interns are gaining an appreciation for discipline, teamwork, and the realities of industry-paced work environments, while trainers note the value of integrating young talent into live production systems as a way of strengthening future workforce readiness. As the internship progresses, USSIA continues to position the initiative as a critical pipeline for developing skilled designers who are not only creative but also industry-prepared and responsive to market demands.



In the textile section, interns are currently involved in basic production support activities including fabric handling, design development processes, and understanding workflow sequencing in garment creation. In graphic design, interns are working on branding drafts, layout designs, and digital content tasks, gradually taking on assignments that require both creativity and attention to detail. Many of them note that the transition from classroom theory to workplace expectations has been a key learning curve, especially in meeting deadlines, responding to feedback, and maintaining consistency in output quality. Despite this, several interns describe the experience as eye-opening, particularly the opportunity to work on actual design briefs rather than simulated class exercises.

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Youth Gain Hands-On Bakery Skills in West Nile Chef Association Training at USSIA Office



More than 60 young people are currently undergoing practical hospitality training at the USSIA Regional Office, where flour, ovens, and real-time production exercises have replaced classroom theory. The programme, delivered in partnership with the West Nile Chef Association—one of USSIA's longstanding member associations—is focusing on equipping participants with bakery skills that can translate directly into income-generating work.

The training has concentrated on bakery production processes, including bread and pastry preparation, ingredient measurement, dough handling, baking techniques, and hygiene standards required in small-scale food enterprises. Rather than lectures, the approach has been largely hands-on, with trainees rotating through practical sessions designed to simulate real bakery operations. Trainers report that this method is helping participants quickly understand workflow discipline and production consistency.

For many of the youth involved, the experience is their first exposure to a structured kitchen production environment. While enthusiasm remains high, challenges such as achieving precision in measurements, managing baking temperatures, and maintaining timing consistency have been noted. Even so, steady improvement is being observed as trainees repeat tasks under close supervision, gradually building confidence in their output.

The training continues to reflect USSIA's collaboration model with its member associations, where technical expertise is drawn from within industry practitioners to deliver practical skills development. As sessions progress, the programme is expected to strengthen youth readiness for employment and small enterprise creation within Uganda's hospitality and bakery value chain.

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USSIA Members Engage Bank of Uganda at Regional Post-Budget Dialogue in Mbale



Business leaders drawn from Uganda's small-scale industries are engaging national economic stakeholders at the Private Sector Regional Post-Budget Dialogue taking place at Wash & Wills Hotel in Mbale City, where the Bank of Uganda is presenting key highlights of the FY 2026/27 budget framework and its implications for the private sector.

A delegation of 50 members from the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) is participating in the dialogue, joining other private sector actors in discussions focused on how the new fiscal measures will influence investment decisions, enterprise growth, and overall business stability. The engagement provides a platform for industry players to interrogate policy direction and seek clarity on areas affecting production costs, access to finance, and market expansion.

The dialogue has created an interactive space for direct engagement between policymakers and entrepreneurs, with particular attention on how macroeconomic policies translate into real business conditions at enterprise level. For USSIA members, the session forms part of ongoing efforts to ensure that small-scale industries are not only informed about national budget decisions but are also actively contributing to shaping a more enabling business environment for sustainable growth.

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Member Spotlight: Doreen Namisanvu Building Confidence Through Beauty, Wellness, and Empowerment



At the heart of Aisha Zai Enterprises is a passionate entrepreneur whose vision extends far beyond skincare. Doreen Namisanvu, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the proudly Ugandan beauty and wellness brand, has dedicated her entrepreneurial journey to helping people achieve healthy skin while inspiring confidence and self-care. Through Aisha Zai Enterprises, she has built a trusted brand offering premium skincare products, feminine hygiene solutions, and natural spa services that address common skin concerns such as acne, hyperpigmentation, uneven skin tone, and dry skin. By combining quality products with personalized skincare guidance, Doreen continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of her clients.

Doreen's impact reaches well beyond the beauty industry. As the Founder of the Nyange Nyange Foundation, she is committed to empowering women and girls through community outreach on feminine hygiene and practical skills training in skincare and personal care product formulation. Her work equips women with valuable entrepreneurial skills that can generate sustainable income while improving their livelihoods. This unique blend of business and social impact reflects her belief that entrepreneurship should not only create successful enterprises but also uplift communities and provide opportunities for others to thrive.



As a valued member of USSIA, Doreen Namisanvu has benefited from a range of business support services aimed at strengthening the growth and visibility of Aisha Zai Enterprises. Through participation in exhibitions, networking events, and marketing opportunities organized by USSIA, she has been able to showcase her products to wider audiences, connect with potential customers and business partners, and increase brand awareness. These platforms have enabled her to build valuable business relationships while positioning Aisha Zai Enterprises as an emerging player in Uganda's beauty and wellness industry. As she continues to pursue her vision of improving lives through beauty, wellness, and women's empowerment, Doreen remains a shining example of how strategic business support, innovation, and determination can drive sustainable entrepreneurial success.

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USSIA ONLINE SHOP: Elevate Every Meal with K'LA Garden Premium Spices

Bring rich flavor, irresistible aroma, and natural goodness into your kitchen with K'LA Garden's premium spice collection, available now on the USSIA Online Shop(shop.or.ug). Carefully blended to deliver exceptional taste and freshness, K'LA Garden spices are crafted to enhance your everyday meals and beverages. From the comforting warmth of Tea Masala to the bold richness of Mixed Spices, every jar is packed with quality ingredients designed to transform ordinary cooking into an extraordinary culinary experience.



K'LA Garden offers a versatile range suited for every kitchen. Ginger Tangawizi provides a vibrant, refreshing kick while offering natural wellness benefits, making it ideal for teas, soups, and health drinks. Cinnamon Mudalagini adds a sweet, aromatic touch perfect for baking, porridge, and hot beverages, while Rosemary brings a distinctive herbal flavor that pairs beautifully with meats, vegetables, and sauces. Whether you are preparing family meals or experimenting with new recipes, K'LA Garden spices help you achieve deeper, more authentic flavors with ease.

You can conveniently purchase the full K'LA Garden spice range exclusively through the USSIA Online Shop, your trusted marketplace for quality products from USSIA members. The online shop makes it easy to browse, order, and access premium locally sourced products from the comfort of your home or office. Visit the USSIA Online Shop today to shop K'LA Garden spices and discover more amazing member products that bring quality and value directly to you.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



SHORT COURSE ON-GRID SOLAR SYSTEMS TRAINING

**03RD - 28TH
AUGUST, 2026**

Renewable Energy Training Centre (NETC)
Makindu Vocational Training College,
Makindu, Kenya

APPLY BEFORE: 24TH 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
(7:00 AM - 4:00 PM EAT)

Application Forms available at:
Renewable Energy Training Centre (NETC)
Makindu Vocational Training College,
P.O Box 20121, Plot M99, Jinja Road
Tel: 0789 312 811, 0758 430 388
retn.nrep.ug, retn@nrep.ug

REGISTER ONLINE



LINK: forms.gle/CvoFg40gJ38qw47e7



SKILLS UPGRADING TRAINING

**Designing and decorating
of changing dresses
and flower girl dresses**

Practical. Professional. Hands-on Training.



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Selecting fabrics and materials
- Drafting patterns and measurements
- Cutting and stitching techniques
- Decorating with lace, beads & bows
- Finishing and quality control

FEE: \$100k
*Includes training materials

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