



NEWSFLASH

UGANDA'S SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES IN FOCUS



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USSIA MOURNS THE PASSING OF HIS MAJESTY THE OMUKAMA OF TOORO



The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) extends its deepest condolences to the people of Tooro Kingdom, the Royal Family, Kingdom leadership, USSIA members, and the people of Uganda at large following the passing of His Majesty Omukama Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV.

His Majesty's passing is a profound loss to the people of Tooro Kingdom and the nation of Uganda. USSIA recognizes and appreciates His Majesty's support and goodwill towards industry, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development within the Kingdom.

We stand in solidarity with our members and all small-scale industrialists in the Tooro region during this difficult period of mourning. We join the people of Tooro and the entire nation in remembering His Majesty's leadership, service, dignity, and contribution to the Kingdom.

May His Majesty Omukama Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV rest in eternal peace.

Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA)

USSIA joins the people of Tooro and the nation at large in mourning.

USSIA Participates in Capacity-Strengthening Workshop on Work-Based Learning



KAMPALA — The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) participated in a capacity-strengthening workshop organized by the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) under the theme “From Evidence to Action: Scaling Innovative Work-Based Learning for Employment

The workshop focused on strengthening the capacity of institutions and organizations to promote, implement, and scale work-based learning opportunities in Uganda. It brought together key stakeholders to discuss practical approaches for linking learning institutions, employers, private sector organizations, and other relevant actors in creating effective work-based learning pathways for young people.

The discussions highlighted the important role of institutions and organizations in creating opportunities for practical learning, including internships, apprenticeships, workplace training, mentorship, and other forms of industry-based learning. Participants also shared experiences, evidence, and innovative approaches that can help strengthen collaboration between training institutions and the private sector.

The workshop provided USSIA with an opportunity to contribute to discussions on how the private sector can support work-based learning, ensure that training responds to labour market needs, and create pathways that equip young people with practical skills and improve their transition into employment.

USSIA Participates in Elgon Sub-Region Export Readiness Symposium



The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) Mbale participated in the Elgon Sub-Region Export Readiness Symposium, organized by the Uganda Free Zones and Export Promotions Authority (UFZEPA), at Mbale Resort Ltd on Thursday, August 27th, 2026. The symposium brought together Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), government institutions, private sector representatives, and other key stakeholders to explore opportunities for market access and strengthen export competitiveness within the region.

Discussions focused on enhancing SME export readiness, identifying emerging market opportunities, and equipping businesses with the knowledge and capacity required to compete effectively in regional and international markets. Participants also explored the requirements and strategies for accessing export markets, while highlighting the importance of quality, standards, innovation, and competitiveness in positioning Ugandan products for wider markets.

The symposium provided an important platform for SMEs to engage with relevant institutions, gain insights into export promotion initiatives, and establish connections that can support business growth and market expansion. The engagement also highlighted the need for continued collaboration among government agencies, private sector organizations, and business associations to create an enabling environment for SMEs to participate more effectively in international trade.

USSIA remains committed to empowering SMEs through capacity building, market linkages, networking, and strategic partnerships that promote sustainable enterprise growth, competitiveness, and increased access to local, regional, and international markets.

USSIA and Muni University Advance Plans for West Nile Tomato Farmers Value Chain Conference



The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA), in collaboration with Muni University, held a joint planning meeting to advance preparations for the upcoming West Nile Tomato Farmers Value Chain Conference. The meeting brought together representatives from both institutions to discuss key arrangements, stakeholder engagement, and activities leading up to the conference.

The conference has been scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 24th, 2026, at Muni University, with Prof. Simon, Vice Chancellor of Muni University, expected to deliver the keynote address. The conference will provide a platform for stakeholders across the tomato value chain to discuss opportunities, challenges, and strategies for strengthening tomato production, value addition, market access, and enterprise development in the West Nile sub-region.

As part of the preparations, Dr. Yasin Amandu, Dean of Students at Muni University, was tasked with developing the conference concept note within one week, with a submission deadline of September 3rd, 2026. The planning committee also agreed to strengthen stakeholder engagement through visits to six districts, where teams will meet with District Production Officers and Commercial Officers to mobilize participation and gather input from local stakeholders.

The engagement will further extend to Members of Parliament and other relevant stakeholders whose involvement will be important in supporting the development of the tomato value chain and creating sustainable opportunities for farmers and enterprises in the region.

The planning committee is scheduled to meet again on the fourth Friday to review progress, assess preparations, and agree on the next steps towards the successful hosting of the conference. The collaboration between USSIA and Muni University reflects a shared commitment to strengthening agricultural value chains, supporting farmers, and promoting opportunities for inclusive enterprise growth in the West Nile sub-region.

Meridah Nandudu: Championing Women and Ugandan Coffee



“Quality coffee can transform livelihoods and create opportunities for women while taking Ugandan coffee to global markets.”
— Meridah Nandudu, Founder & Director, Bayaaya Specialty Coffee

For Meridah Nandudu, Founder and Director of Bayaaya Specialty Coffee in Mbale, coffee is more than a business—it is a pathway to transforming livelihoods and empowering women in the coffee sector.

Through her passion for coffee farming, artisan production, and women’s economic empowerment, Meridah is committed to producing quality coffee while creating opportunities for women to participate meaningfully in the coffee value chain.

Her dedication to quality and market standards is reflected in her UNBS-certified coffee, demonstrating her commitment to producing coffee that meets recognized quality requirements.

Through Bayaaya Specialty Coffee, Meridah continues to promote Ugandan coffee and contribute to putting locally produced coffee on the global map.

Bayaaya Specialty Coffee — From the farm to your cup.

USSIA Completes Five-Day GET Ahead Entrepreneurship Training



The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) successfully completed the first cohort of the GET Ahead Entrepreneurship Training, held from 24th to 28th August 2026. The training was organized to support entrepreneurs and members facing challenges in managing and growing their businesses.

The first cohort brought together USSIA members, market vendors, staff, business owners, and beneficiaries of skilling projects implemented by USSIA partners. Participants gained practical entrepreneurship knowledge and skills aimed at improving business management and strengthening enterprise performance.

The training was also conducted to continue supporting members while minimizing implementation costs, expose USSIA to other SMEs and stakeholders, and build relationships that could create opportunities for future training engagements. It also contributed to the completion of a task assigned by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and provided an opportunity for capacity building.

The training concluded with a session led by Mr. Moses, a lawyer and West Nile Regional Officer, who guided participants on the Tax Appeals Tribunal (TAT) and avenues available to businesses in addressing tax-related disputes.

The successful completion of the first cohort marks the first phase of the SME Entrepreneurship Training Programme, with a second cohort scheduled to follow.

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USSIA ONLINE SHOP

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 Sandals UGX-30,000 UGX 25,000	 Sandals UGX-30,000 UGX 25,000	 Sandals UGX-30,000 UGX 25,000	 Sandals UGX-30,000 UGX 25,000	 Sandals UGX-30,000 UGX 25,000	 Shoes UGX-40,000 UGX 30,000



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SCAN TO SHOP




UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MEMBERS, ENTREPRENEURS AND INDUSTRY



Uganda Revenue Authority
DEVELOPING UGANDA TOGETHER

UGANDA SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
UGANDA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Invites you to an

AWARENESS SESSION

ABOUT

DIGITAL TAX STAMPS



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DATE:

2ND SEPTEMBER 2026
(WEDNESDAY)



TIME:

10:00 AM



VENUE:

ONLINE



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CONFIRM ATTENDANCE

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