



## THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTRY HAS FACILITATED LOCAL COMPANIES TO BENEFIT FROM

**T**he trade, industry and co-operatives sector is focused on realising sustainable co-operatives, competitive trade and world class industrial products and services.

The sector is critical in the realisation of Uganda's Vision 2040 of a transformed Ugandan society from a peasant to a modern and prosperous country. As Uganda celebrates its 59th independence, below are the messages from the ministers and what the ministry has achieved and targets.

### HON. MWEBESA FRANCIS, MINISTER FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CO-OPERATIVES

Securing our future comes with responsibilities, commitment and hard work. My focus as the minister responsible for this sector is to see traders and industrialists transform into a middle-income class and to work towards transforming the mindset of Ugandans to embark on productive enterprises through, among others, domestic investment and popularising commercial services right up to local government level.

The National Industrial Policy, which was launched this year, is expected to enhance industrialisation in the country, create employment opportunities, increase value addition to our local raw materials, increase export of locally manufactured products and increase the country's GDP.

Through the policy, the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) is key in order to make their products competitive in the international market.

We are also addressing the issue of value addition and quality standards of our locally manufactured products. My ministry is committed to increasing market access for Uganda's products. We now have the African Continental Free Trade Area, which is a great market opportunity for Uganda.

But this is not all. I, therefore, call upon traders and industrialists at different levels and Ugandans in general to take advantage of the conducive investment environment the Government has created to engage in productive enterprises for increased household incomes.

We shall continue to engage with the private sector to drive Uganda's economic growth. I, therefore, wish all Ugandans a happy 59th Independence anniversary.

**HON. DAVID BAHATI, MINISTER OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY**  
Transformation of Uganda's economy through industrialisation is one of the fundamental goals of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government. The pursuit of this strategic direction has not

# MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY, CO-OPERATIVES ACHIEVEMENTS



Mwebesa



Ntabazi



Geraldine Ssali



Bahati



Gume

**45%**  
**PERCENTAGE OF SECTOR TARGET RATIO OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS IMPORTED TO TOTAL IMPORTS**

been by accident, but rather as a result of intensive analysis of the problems facing the country, as well as the opportunities that surround us.

Our approach to industrialise Uganda has been steadfast and anchored on addressing the 10 'Strategic Bottlenecks' that H.E the President has regularly informed us about.

Industrial development is a participatory process that involves the participation of government, civil society, the private sector and the citizens in general. It is important that all define their roles in the country's development process and pursue them as a patriotic duty.

Our goal is to ensure that we build a fully integrated, competitive, high value and productive industrial sector and this is achievable if we all work together as Ugandans.

### HON. GUME FREDRICK NGOBI, MINISTER OF STATE FOR CO-OPERATIVES

Fellow countrymen, the co-operatives have the potential of increasing production, productivity and value addition. Therefore, they are critical for Uganda's transformation towards an inclusive middle-income economy.

To this end, we are trying to diversify the co-operatives portfolio as they grow because it is a key hedge against product specific risks and it also widens their economic base. They have a potentially strong role in reducing poverty and social exclusion and they can promote rural and national development.

### HON. NTABAZI HARRIET, MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRADE

Productive trade is a key factor in securing the future of Ugandans because it contributes to the economic growth of the country.

Uganda is a member of several trading blocs, including the East African Community (EAC) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

However, this market is not sufficient to absorb the country's products, hence, the need for market expansion. In this regard, my ministry has put in place strategies to improve trade development in the country. I also call upon the Ugandan population to develop a positive mindset towards Ugandan-made products in line with the Buy Uganda Build Uganda initiative.

### TRADE MINISTRY PERMANENT SECRETARY GERALDINE SSALI

With Uganda making 59 years after our political independence, we still have a lot of opportunities to grow into full economic independence. The main game changers will be value addition under commercialised agribusiness, industry and tourism. We must not lose vision and focus on these if we are to build the Uganda we dream about.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

#### TRADE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL INTEGRATION IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT (RIIP)

- The project is funded by the European Union, through COMESA.
- The project specifically aims at improving the 'doing business' environment, especially for small scale traders and increased exploitation of regional markets through improved market access, value addition and private sector development.

- The project has supported development of border export zones (BEZ) at four border posts of Busia (warehouse), Katuna (warehouse), Lwakhakha (market) and Oraba (commercial building). The BEZ programme is intended to increase Uganda's exports into the EAC and COMESA regional markets. Construction of the Busia BEZ has been completed; the others are in advanced stages.

- The project has supported implementation of the Simplified Trade Regime (STR) at strategic borders points. This has facilitated fast clearance at the border posts, reduced clearance costs, elimination of informal and illicit trade and their related risks, including loss of goods or life, harassment and resultant exploitation as well as improved collection of statistics on Uganda's imports and exports which facilitates proper planning and policy development.

- The project has provided support to trade negotiations and development of the Competition Policy.

### GREAT LAKES TRADE FACILITATION PROJECT (GLTFP)

- The project development objective is to facilitate cross-border trade by increasing the capacity for commerce and reducing the costs faced by traders, especially small-scale and women traders, at targeted locations in the borderlands.

- The project is supporting development of a BEZ (market) phase one at Mpondwe town council, Kasese district; a one-stop-border Post at Mpondwe-Kasindi border, Kasese district and upgrade of the border facilities at Bunagana/Bunagana Kisoro district.

- The project has also supported implementation of policy and procedural reforms and capacity building to facilitate cross border trade in goods and services.

### ELECTRONIC SINGLE WINDOW ([WWW.SINGLEWINDOW.GO.UG](http://WWW.SINGLEWINDOW.GO.UG))

An online system that supports trade facilitation through automation of trade processes such as electronic issuance of certificates of origin, electronic submission of international trade documents across trade facilitating institutions, such as Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives, Uganda Revenue Authority and the Uganda National Bureau of Standards.

### NATIONAL TRADE INFORMATION PORTAL (NTIP) ([WWW.UGANDATRADES.GO.UG](http://WWW.UGANDATRADES.GO.UG))

Supports electronic provision of international trade information, such as documents, processes and procedures with the objective to



## THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENTS UNDER THE PREFERENTIAL AND RESERVATION SCHEMES

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**30,215**

Total number of co-operatives registered as of July 31, 2021

**3,900**

Number of products that have been certified by the Uganda National Bureau of Standards

ease trade processes at the border posts.

### IMPLEMENTATION OF BUY UGANDA BUILD UGANDA (BUBU) INITIATIVE

The ministry has facilitated local companies to benefit from the Government procurements under the preferential and reservation schemes under The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (cement, steel, furniture, textile, electricity materials, among others).

The ministry developed and gazetted the BUBU logo.

### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Development of laws and policies, including the National Industrial Policy 2020 and five-year Implementation Plan approved by Cabinet; National Accreditation Act for Conformity Assessment Services Bill 2021 passed by Parliament; National Sugar Act 2020.

Established the Industry Business Register with 7,700 factories.

Under the Rural Industrial Development Project (RIDP), 24 Enterprises in 17 districts have been supported with value addition equipment and 136 beneficiaries trained in value addition.

### INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TARGETS

- Increased industry sector contribution to GDP [gross domestic product] from 27.1% in 2018/2019 to 31.7% in 2029/2030.
- Increased contribution of manufacturing to GDP, from 15.4% in 2018/2019 to 26% by 2029/2030.
- Increased ratio of manufactured products exported to total exports, from 22.5% in 2018/2019 to 46.8% by 2029/2030.
- Reduced ratio of manufactured products imported to total imports, from 63.2% in 2018/2019 to 45% in 2029/2030.
- Increased share of jobs from manufacturing sub-sector to total formal jobs, from 9.8% in 2018/2019 to 15% in 2029/2030.

### CO-OPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

**A UNBS official testing the quality of products in the UNBS internationally accredited laboratories in Bweyogerere**



Total number of co-operatives registered increased from 15,583 in 2015 to 30,215 by July 31, 2021; with a total of 12 million individuals from six million.

### SUPPORT TO MSMES

Developed a handbook for good manufacturing and good hygiene practices for MSMEs, which is used in training MSMEs personnel involved in food production on issues of safety, quality and hygiene requirements.

- Developed the Green Manufacturing Strategy 2020/21-2024/25.
- Developed the Cosmetics Products Development Strategy to ensure that the cosmetics on the market are safe for use.
- The Agricultural Produce Marketing Bill (APMB); Draft Principles were developed and consultations are ongoing.
- Draft Furniture Industry Strategy; final wider stakeholder consultations are ongoing.
- National Packaging Development Industry Strategy (NPIDS); draft is undergoing stakeholder consultations.
- Capacity building of MSMEs in the areas of preparation of business plans, financial management, good manufacturing practices among others.

### UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS (UNBS)

UNBS currently has stock of 4,243 Standards broken down as follows: 2,777 International Standards adopted from International Standards Organisation (ISO); 505 East African Standards harmonised for common application by EAC partner states; 961 indigenous Uganda national standards.

The bureau currently has 3,900 certified products with over 1,000 applications for certification under processing. The certified products

are from over 1,700 enterprises, majority of which are MSMEs.

Completed construction of Modern Food Safety Laboratories at its headquarters at Bweyogerere to support quality assurance of local products under BUBU and promote exports.

Decentralisation of UNBS Services to Mbale, Gulu and Mbarara to support MSMEs development countrywide and support the upcoming Parish Development Model.

Harmonisation of standards to promote access of Ugandan products to regional, continental, and international markets.

### UGANDA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (UDC)

Installed a new mango line at the Soroti Fruit Factory to increase capacity for uptake of the mangoes produced in the region and increase on its production and output.

Under agro-industrialisation, UDC revived operation in the tea, cotton, coffee and sugar sub-sectors as follows:

- UDC intervention at Mabale Growers Tea Factory Ltd aimed at improvement in the governance and management structures, created 2,887 jobs and increased value of exports to over \$872,455.
- UDC intervention at Mpanga Tea factory to create 2,500 jobs.
- UDC intervention at Mutuma Commercial Agencies (cotton) created 10,200 jobs.
- UDC intervention at Kaaro Agric Producers Limited (coffee) is intended to set up a coffee processing plant to off-take coffee produced by 20,000 small holder farmers in Kazo region.
- UDC intervention in the sugar sub-sector aimed at providing transport subsidy to the farmers in the Busoga region as a solution

to the excess sugar grown in the region, the cane was supplied to Atiak Sugar Factory in Amuru district.

### MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND ADVISORY CENTRE (MTAC)

- Strengthened partnerships with: Centre for Community Development and Innovation Initiative (CCDI) based in Muduma, Mpigi; PACE; KAFOC; BRAC; KCB; SOH; USSIA; and LOVE A FRIEND in vocational skilling.
- Trained 785 women vendors free of charge, incubated 1,750 entrepreneurs in bakery and cookery, shoe making and leather works, tailoring and design, hairdressing and cosmetology, skills for oil and gas.
- Enrolled over 1,000 students for the 12 accredited diploma and certificate courses, which are accredited with National Council for Higher Education and Directorate of Industrial Training.
- Maintained presence in the districts of Pader, Mbale, Luwero, Mbarara, Ntungamo and Iganga in addition to the main centre at Nakawa. All MTAC services are replicated at these centres and majority of Ugandan have been afforded access to the centre's services.
- In the past two years, MTAC, with support from the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives has offered free on-site business support services to 4,797 enterprises largely located in the districts of Arua, Lira, Mbale, Iganga, Pader, Luweero, Kampala, Mukono, Wakiso, Mpigi, Masaka, Mbarara, Bushenyi and Ntungamo.
- Empowered 1,243 women vendors through a free well-coordinated and accelerated training, upgrading and in-house training.
- Organised and conducted

training courses for semi-skilled and skilled workers. A total of 789 Ugandans were trained in the last financial year.

### UGANDA EXPORT PROMOTION BOARD (UEPB)

**PREPARING COMPANIES TO EXPORT**  
UEPB developed the export readiness activity to prepare new companies to export and improve SMEs export performance. Preparation of exporters involves identification of gaps, counselling and advisory services, training and handholding companies to the target foreign markets.

### LINKING PRODUCERS TO EXPORTERS AND EXPORTERS TO FOREIGN BUYERS

A total of 9,300 producers/exporters were linked to exporters/foreign buyers in the last five years through training workshops, knowledge sharing sessions with farmers, recommendations organised by UEPB and expos within and outside the country.

### PROMOTING AND MARKETING UGANDA'S PRODUCTS IN REGIONAL AND FOREIGN MARKETS

Over 550 export leads were got of which it is estimated that 60% resulted into exports in the past five years. These leads were generated from foreign promotion and marketing events held over the period.

### CREATING AWARENESS AND SENSITISING THE PUBLIC TO EXPORT EXPORT WEEK AND LOCAL TRADE FAIRS

Over the last five years, 200 best performing exporters were awarded at the President's Exporters Award ceremony by the President of Uganda. The Annual Exporters Conference brings together exporters and is officiated by Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives.

### NEW INFORMATION DOCUMENTS PRODUCED

Information gathered and analysed through research studies is used to produce export documentation guides to support both current and potential exporters. For example; over the last five years, we had the Rwanda market survey, Uganda-Korea export potential on trade and Market surveys in Kenya and Dubai. Twenty buyers were identified during these studies and linked to exporters. UEPB also developed various publications to guide upcoming exporters to understand exports better.

### PARTNERSHIPS FOR CO-ORDINATION OF EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION

Export development and growth is an outcome of efforts by both the public and private sector. As a result, UEPB plays a co-ordinating role to ensure consistency in implementation of export related programmes and minimal duplication.