

End of Quarter

NEWSLETTER 2021/22



January, February, March

Government Citizen Interaction Centre
State House



FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF



Marcella Karekye

Special Presidential Assistant
In-Charge of Communication &
Director Government Citizen
Interaction Centre (GCIC)

Dear Reader,

I have the pleasure to present to you the third edition of our Quarterly Government of Uganda Newsletter for Quarter three of the Financial Year 2021/2022. This edition covers the months of January, February and March of 2022.

The purpose of this newsletter, the GCIC Newsletter, is to empower you as a citizen with information, regarding the different activities, projects and programmes that the Government has undertaken in your area, so that you can benefit from them or participate in their monitoring to ensure value for money. This new concept of Government management is called *Open Government* which we are spearheading at the GCIC.

I want to thank the readers who went through our first and second editions and have been providing us with useful feedback. We appreciate the fact that currently majority of the readers prefer imagery and statistical presentations rather than text and we have tried to keep the text as simple and short as possible except for commentaries.

I also want to thank different Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, that have cooperated with the Government Citizen Interaction Centre, in the production of this Newsletter. This Newsletter has extensively covered different interventions of Government especially in supporting livelihoods and businesses post COVID. The Newsletter has information on the following interventions; Small Business Recovery Fund, Parish Development Model, Emyooga, Microfinance Support Centre, Uganda Development Bank and Uganda Development Corporation.

The Newsletter also covers other interventions that are transforming the country such as agricultural mechanisation in Karamoja, expansion of the national power grid to Karamoja, and establishment of the sub-regional Presidential Industrial Hubs.

I therefore, want to appeal to fellow Government Communicators to support this Government quarterly Newsletter, to build it to a reliable and trusted level, where the people of Uganda can access the works of Government and attendant opportunities in one document. I kindly appeal to all the 200 MDAs of Government to contribute content quarterly to grow this initiative.

I now have the pleasure to present to you the third edition of the GCIC Newsletter.

EDITORIAL TEAM



Duncan Abigaba
Deputy Editor in Chief



Robert Sharp Mugabe
Content Production Manager



Deo Mutumba
Head of Production



Gerald Kansiime
Head of Logistics



Otim Deo
Editor



Janet Mutesi
Editor



Magezi Kiriinjju
Editor

CONTENTS

HON. KASAIJA CLARIFIES ON RISING COMMODITY PRICES.....	5
UGANDA HOLDS 5TH ECONOMIC GROWTH FORUM	6
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LAUNCHES PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL.....	7
PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL WILL DELIVER ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION	8
PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL TO UPLIFT 3.5 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS	9
LOCAL TOURISM PLAYERS AND ENTRY OF DRC TO BOOST LOCAL AND REGIONAL TOURSIM.....	10
MICROFNANCE SUPPORT CENTRE DISBURSES UGX 260 BILLION UNDER EMYOOGA	11
STATE HOUSE COMPTROLLER LAUNCHES PRESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL HUBS COUNTRYWIDE	12
KARAMOJA ACQUIRES MODERN FARMING EQUIPMENT.....	13
COST OF EQUIPMENT ACCESS BY FARMERS.....	14
GOVERNMENT COMPLETES 68 SEED SECONDARY SCHOOLS	15
UGANDA CELEBRATES WOMEN IN ICT & INNOVATION.....	16
PRISONS WARDERS AND WARDRESSES PASS OUT.....	17
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY TEAM WINS HUAWEI AFRICAN ICT COMPETITION IN SOUTH AFRICA.....	18
GOVERNMENT EXPANDS POWER GRID TO KARAMOJA REGION	19
TVET HANDS OVER VEHICLES TO TECHNICAL COLLEGES	20
GOVERNMENT RECEIVES 1,000 OXYGEN CYLINDERS FROM WHO	21
UGANDA ACQUIRES ULTRA MODERN HELICOPTER MRO FACILITY	21
EAC HEADS OF STATE ADMIT DRC TO THE COMMUNITY	22
UGANDAN YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN THE DUBAI EXPO 2020.....	23
GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS MANDATORY COVID-19 TESTING FOR ALL INCOMING TRAVELERS AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT	23
COVID-19 VACCINATION COVERAGE STANDS AT 18.2%.....	24
UGANDA DEVELOPMENT BANK TO DISBURSE UGX 612 BILLION IN 2022.....	26
GOVERNMENT CARRIES OUT RESEARCH ON UPE & USE FEES.....	27
TEAM UGANDA WINS BRONZE IN THE AFRICA SKILLS COMPETITIONS, NAMIBIA	27
CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMME FOR TEACHERS IN PRIVATE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS A SUCCESS	28
MICROFINANCE SUPPORT CENTRE CREATES UGX 568 BILLION IN TEN YEARS	29
UGANDA DRIVER LICENSING SYSTEM (UDLS) EMBRACES TECHNOLOGY.....	32





HON. KASAIJA CLARIFIES ON RISING COMMODITY PRICES

The recent increase in the prices of essential commodities is a result of events that have occurred outside Uganda. Uganda is a net-importer of intermediate raw materials used in production of items such as refined cooking oil and laundry bar soap. The Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija, clarified as follows;

1. The effect of COVID-19 restrictions across the world disrupted supply-chains leading to higher transport costs and shortage of intermediate raw materials used to produce items such as soap, cooking oil and others. In the recent past, global economy has faced high shipping costs, a shortage of shipping containers, and higher fuel prices; leading to supply shortages globally. In addition, an adverse weather condition in South America has led to low production of wheat and edible oils.

2. The full opening of economies globally following relative containment of COVID-19 has led to a rapid rise in aggregate demand for a number of fast-moving-goods (FMGs), beginning with oil, yet production levels had been constrained by COVID-19 restrictions. This has led to increase in prices everywhere in the world.
3. Lastly, the situation has been worsened by the Russia-Ukraine conflict which has further disrupted supply of oil, cereals such as wheat, corn, and sunflower oil, as well as essential metals like aluminium and nickel. The two countries are major producers and exporters of these commodities.

As a result of the above factors, prices of several commodities and services in Uganda have increased significantly and raised overall inflation. The affected commodities include cooking oil, soap, fuel, and education services.



UGANDA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CAPITALISED WITH UGX 100 BILLION

Goal

To partner with private sector engaged in strategic industrial development i.e. in agro-processing, manufacturing, minerals beneficiation, services etc.



UGANDA HOLDS 5TH ECONOMIC GROWTH FORUM

The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development holds an annual Economic Growth Forum to identify Uganda's key growth challenges and develop policy solutions to stimulate the economy and promote sustainable inclusive growth. The economic growth forums also provide evidence, growth policies and strategies that inform the national budget priorities.

This year's Forum was held under the theme: ***"Economic Resilience, Recovery and Resurgent Growth"***.

Key points of discussion also hinged on ensuring that inclusive economic growth results into productive employment, poverty reduction and human development.

The 5th Economic Growth Forum was officially opened by the Minister of State for Planning, Hon. Amos Lugoloobi, who said that although Uganda's economy has been resilient and is projected to grow by 3.8% in FY 2021/22, the country needs to achieve and sustain much higher growth to realise the medium and long-term development aspirations.

Under the theme of using trade to drive the recovery, the following were recommended;

- i. Supporting the Private Sector to benefit from the regional markets such as AfCFTA, by offering export credit schemes to prospective firms which have successfully exported to regional communities.
- ii. Partner States of the EAC should consolidate all the Non Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and address them as a region so as to exploit opportunities from regional integration.
- iii. Partner States of EAC should finalise the ongoing EAC common external tariff review and revise the EAC rules of origin to reflect industrialisation realities.
- iv. Review and subsequently implement the Uganda National Exports Strategy.
- v. Support the institutional set up to promote exports, for instance by providing information about market availability and accessibility, e.g. Uganda Export Promotion Board.
- vi. Diversify the export base to include more value added exports.
- vii. Provide the Private Sector with the necessary infrastructure to produce competitively

e.g. finalisation of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and other key infrastructure like electricity with the necessary kilowatts.

- viii. Improve quality and standardisation of exports

Under the theme of inclusive economic growth, it was recommended that focus should continue to be put on improving foundational skills learning (reading, writing and numeracy) because they are very critical for the job market.

As part of the activities for the 5th Economic Growth Forum, Permanent Secretary and Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Ramathan Ggoobi, launched a book titled "Beyond Recovery- Policies towards Resurgent Growth in Uganda". The book addresses four challenges namely; managing transition from growth slowdown to robust recovery and accelerated growth in the coming years, increasing the productivity of labour and capital, growing exports and expanding access to different markets and pace and nature of structural transformation in Uganda.

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LAUNCHES PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL

On 26th February, 2022, in Kibuku District, Bukedi sub-region, President Yoweri Museveni launched the Parish Development Model (PDM) as a last mile approach for organising and delivering public and private sector interventions aimed at wealth creation and employment generation at the parish level as the lowest economic planning unit.

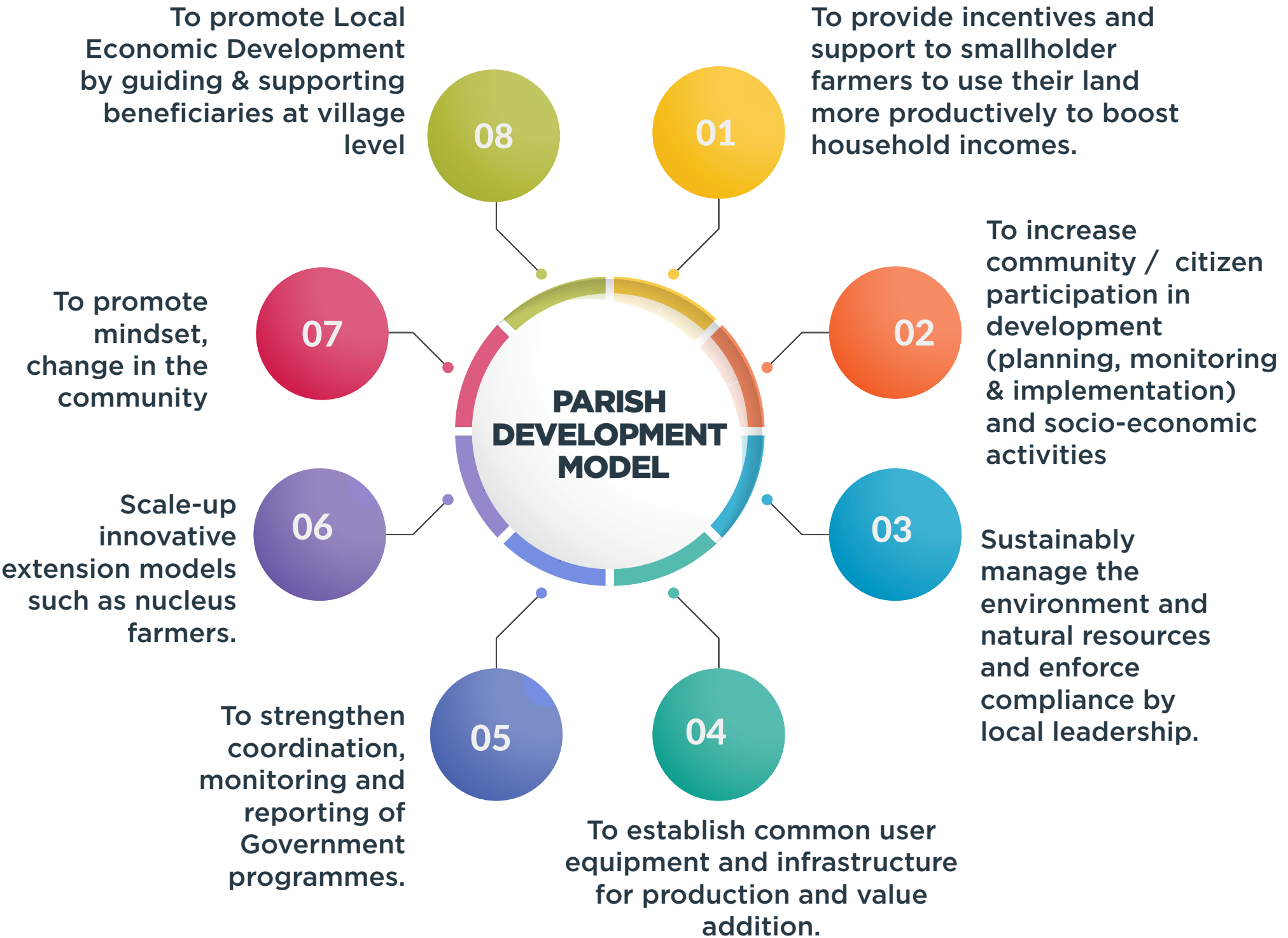
The Parish Development Model will ensure support for more Ugandans to join the money economy and consequently increase their demand for goods and services.

This FY 2021/22, Government provided UGX 200 billion targeting every parish to access UGX 17 million as a revolving fund for members of the village SACCO.

Next Financial Year 2022/23, Government will provide a total of UGX 1,059.4 billion, in which each of the 10,594 parishes in the country will receive UGX 100 million as revolving fund specifically under the two pillars of agricultural value chain development (production, processing and marketing) and financial inclusion.



Objectives PDM





PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL WILL DELIVER ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

By Janet Mutesi

Government of Uganda launched the Parish Development Model (PDM) as a flagship project under the National Development Plan (NDP III) to catapult 39% of the country's homesteads who are stuck in subsistence economy into the money income, through various profitable ventures.

Under the PDM, a Parish Chief will carry out the overall administration and management of a Parish unit in the Local Government. The argument is that Parish Chiefs know their communities well; the residents therein and the economic hardships they face. With this, a Parish Chief is the right person to guide and help implement the Parish Development Model. Government will also provide sufficient training to the Chiefs especially in financial management.

Over the years, Government has come up with similar programmes to eradicate poverty, create wealth and prosperity and cause socio economic transformation which haven't worked. But unlike the other initiatives, the PDM goes down to the parish which is the lowest administrative unit of the Central Government. The adoption of the PDM will extend to the Parish level the programme based planning,

budgeting and delivery approach. Parish action plans, budgets and reports will be prepared, coordinated and managed by the Parish Chief/Town Agent and Parish Development Committee (PDC) which will be the technical arm of the Parish Council.

How will the model work?

PDM has seven pillars, all aligned to National Development Plan III. These are;

- Production, storage, processing and marketing; the Government plans to roll out digital platforms for provision of farm inputs (e-vouchers), extension services (e-extension) and quality certification (e-certification) at the parish level.
- Infrastructure and economic services; public and private sector institutions will be mobilised to provide services at the parish level including; community access roads, safe water, produce markets, power connection and free internet to the community.
- Financial inclusion; improving access to financial services, extending loans to the currently excluded section of the population across the country, helping people to understand and practice the economics of running a viable/productive household enterprise to create 10,594 vibrant parish economies and drive local economic development across the country.
- Social Services; these include; primary health care, education, access to clean water, transport and communication.
- Mindset change and cross-cutting issues like gender, environment and disability; this will emphasize the value of work and enforce a work ethic.
- An integrated information management system; to support community profiling, data collection, analysis, tabulation, storage and dissemination, at the parish level.
- Lastly, the governance and administration pillar.

The writer is a Communications Officer at the Government Citizens Interaction Centre- State House



What are the benefits of PDM?

Under the Infrastructure and economic services pillar, communities will get the following services;

- ▶ Accessible community roads
- ▶ Improvement of bridges on community roads
- ▶ Upgrade community local markets
- ▶ Extension of safe water for domestic use
- ▶ Extension of power to communities
- ▶ Creation of free internet zones in communities

In the financial inclusion pillar, the overall goal is to enable participation of subsistence households in the financial sector.

PDM will support a wide range of financial solutions (savings, credit, insurance, transfers, etc) to subsistence households in order to enhance incomes, smoothen consumption, build assets and reduce vulnerability to shocks.

In the social services pillar, the resources transferred will be appropriately planned for by the Local Governments to;

- ▶ Construct and equip health centre (HCII)
- ▶ Recruit critical staff as well as extension workers needed
- ▶ Strengthen infrastructure /facilities management
- ▶ Provide and maintain safe and accessible water points
- ▶ Support functional Village Health Teams (VHT)
- ▶ Construct/upgrade community primary schools
- ▶ Provide logistics and equipment for institutions (Schools, Hospitals, and Health Centres)

With proper implementation of the Parish Development Model, Government’s efforts to increase household incomes and the quality of life for all Ugandans as envisaged in NDPIII and the country’s path to Vision 2040 as well as the attainment of the NRM’s economic vision for Uganda and the 2030 SDGs will be addressed.

The writer is a Communications Officer at the Government Citizens Interaction Centre- State House

PARISH DEVELOPMENT MODEL TO UPLIFT 3.5 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS

Goal	Fund Size
To move 3.5 million households from the subsistence to monetised economy.	UGX 1.05 trillion (UGX 100m per Parish)

Transmission Mechanism

The parish is going to be the vehicle for data gathering, area-based enterprise selection and development, co-operatives and financial services development, community mobilisation and mindset change.

The money is going to fund production, processing and marketing of agricultural produce.

LOCAL TOURISM PLAYERS AND ENTRY OF DRC TO BOOST LOCAL AND REGIONAL TOURSIM

By Fred Magezi Kirinju

After many years of marketing Uganda as an international destination, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, has embarked on a collaborative relationship with the private sector, to make Uganda attractive and affordable for every tourist; local and foreign.

After two years of COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, Government realised that domestic travel is very viable if marketed as a separate entity. This realisation has motivated the ministry to bring in domestic players in the tourism sector to market Uganda.

The ministry kicked off the domestic tourism promotion dubbed “DTF Easter 2022” this Easter holiday, by engaging established players in the sector to offer affordable rates to Ugandans during the festive season. They include Uganda Hotel Owners Association, Domestic Tourism Forum comprised of leading domestic tourism service providers like Breathtaking Uganda, Travel Neza, Umoja Conservation Trust, Vilakazi Safaris, Ikorom Safaris, various domestic airlines plying the local routes like Aero Link, Bar Aviation, public transport providers and several leading regional tourism clusters.

While the promotion covered the Easter Holiday, Minister of State for Tourism, Hon. Martin Bahinduka Mugarra, is optimistic that Ugandans will tour their homeland beyond the holidays. He observed thus “we are launching the Easter holiday getaway packages that will be used during the Easter holiday period for Ugandans to go and recharge in various destinations across the country. In each of these destinations,



we have also identified some moderately priced lodges and hotels that the public can take advantage of for great Easter packages using the ‘DTF Easter 2022’ promo code”.

The benefits of this domestic tourism campaign is to partner with local stakeholders to come up with packages that are tailor made specifically for local visitors through leveraging their unique travel needs and interests. Some of the packages will include lower park entrance fees, free children packages, affordable air travel, affordable accommodation, etc.

Regionally, tourism and conservation got the much needed boost when Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) joined the East African Community at the end of March. It is good news because the most endowed place in the region is stacked between Uganda, Rwanda and DR Congo. However, DRC has been bedevilled by insecurity especially in the eastern area which hosts Virunga National Park, which is shared with Uganda and Rwanda. The entry of DRC implies the three countries can partner and secure the tourism corridor of Mgahinga, Bwindi and Virunga National Parks.

DR Congo's Virunga National Park hosts endangered mountain gorillas, chimpanzees and golden monkeys. These same species migrate to Rwanda and Uganda periodically, which necessitates a synchronised handling of tourists among the three countries. One such example of mountain gorilla families trotting the three regional parks; Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda, Virunga National Park in the DRC and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park in Uganda, is the Hirwa family.

The three countries already collaborate under the Greater Virunga-Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC) agreement that was signed in 2015 among DRC, Rwanda and Uganda, as a framework of programmes, plans and activities to conserve a network of trans-boundary protected areas in Greater Virunga Landscape (GVL).

GVL was established to enable the three partner states sustain and conserve the shared resources within the GVL and as an important programme for endemic, threatened and migratory species that include lions, hippopotamus, chimpanzees, golden monkey, leopards, Okapi, golden cats, crown eagles, buffaloes, lesser flamingos, vultures, Rwenzori duikers, sitatunga, mountain gorillas, and elephants.

The travel and tourism industry represents a vital part of Uganda's economy and has a promising future. The Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities and the Uganda Tourism Board have unveiled campaigns like "Explore Uganda" that invites tourists - domestic, regional and international to rediscover the magnificence of the Pearl. "We are promising and inviting them to explore Uganda, the Pearl of Africa, for adventure of their lifetime", Ms. Lilly Ajarova, Executive Director of Uganda Tourism Board, declared.

The writer is a Communications Officer at the Government Citizens Interaction Centre- State House



Minister of Microfinance teaching citizens about Emyooga

MICROFNANCE SUPPORT CENTRE DISBURSES UGX 260 BILLION UNDER EMYOOGA

Microfinance Support Centre also operates the Emyooga fund; launched in August 2019 as part of the government strategies targeting informal specialized enterprises and individuals.

Eligibility for Emyooga

be a member of a SACCO operating in one of the 18 specialized enterprises of boda-boda, women entrepreneurs, carpenters, salon operators, taxi operators, restaurant owners, welders, market vendors, produce dealers, mechanics, tailors, journalists, and performing artists. Others are: fishermen, persons with disabilities (PWDs), veterans, youth leaders, and elected leaders at lower levels.

- ▶ Microfinance Support Centre has so far established 6,602 SACCOs and 205,710 saving groups. These are operating 4.1M accounts.
- ▶ A total of UGX 260bn has been disbursed and stimulated savings worth over UGX 55 billion.

STATE HOUSE COMPTROLLER LAUNCHES PRESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL HUBS COUNTRYWIDE

The State House Comptroller, Ms. Jane Barekye, spent quarter three criss-crossing the country while launching the Presidential Industrial Hubs.

Industrial Hubs, a strategy of President Museveni to tackle unemployment and provide the youth with marketable skills such as bakery, block making and stone cutting, shoe making, tailoring and knitting, coffee and maize processing, welding, hair dressing, etc, started in Kampala in 2017 as Presidential Initiative on Skilling the Girl Child, under the office of State House Comptroller.

Between the years 2017 and 2020, over 10,000 girls were trained in different skills including tailoring, hair dressing, among others. At the end of the course, girls were given UGX 1,000,000, as start up capital, to start up small businesses and earn a living.

When the economy reopened in January, 2022, the President opted to decentralise the programme to all the 22 sub-regions/zones of Uganda and also to include the boy child for the first time as a beneficiary.

Ms. Barekye who has so far commissioned the hubs in Karamoja, Bunyoro, Lango, Bukedi, Busoga, Rwenzori, Kigezi, Ankole, Acholi and Bugisu, cautioned leaders against the leaders against promoting corruption in the hubs.

The Comptroller further stressed that the leaders should select beneficiaries who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are well behaved. Local leaders were advised to form committees to oversee operations of the Hubs.



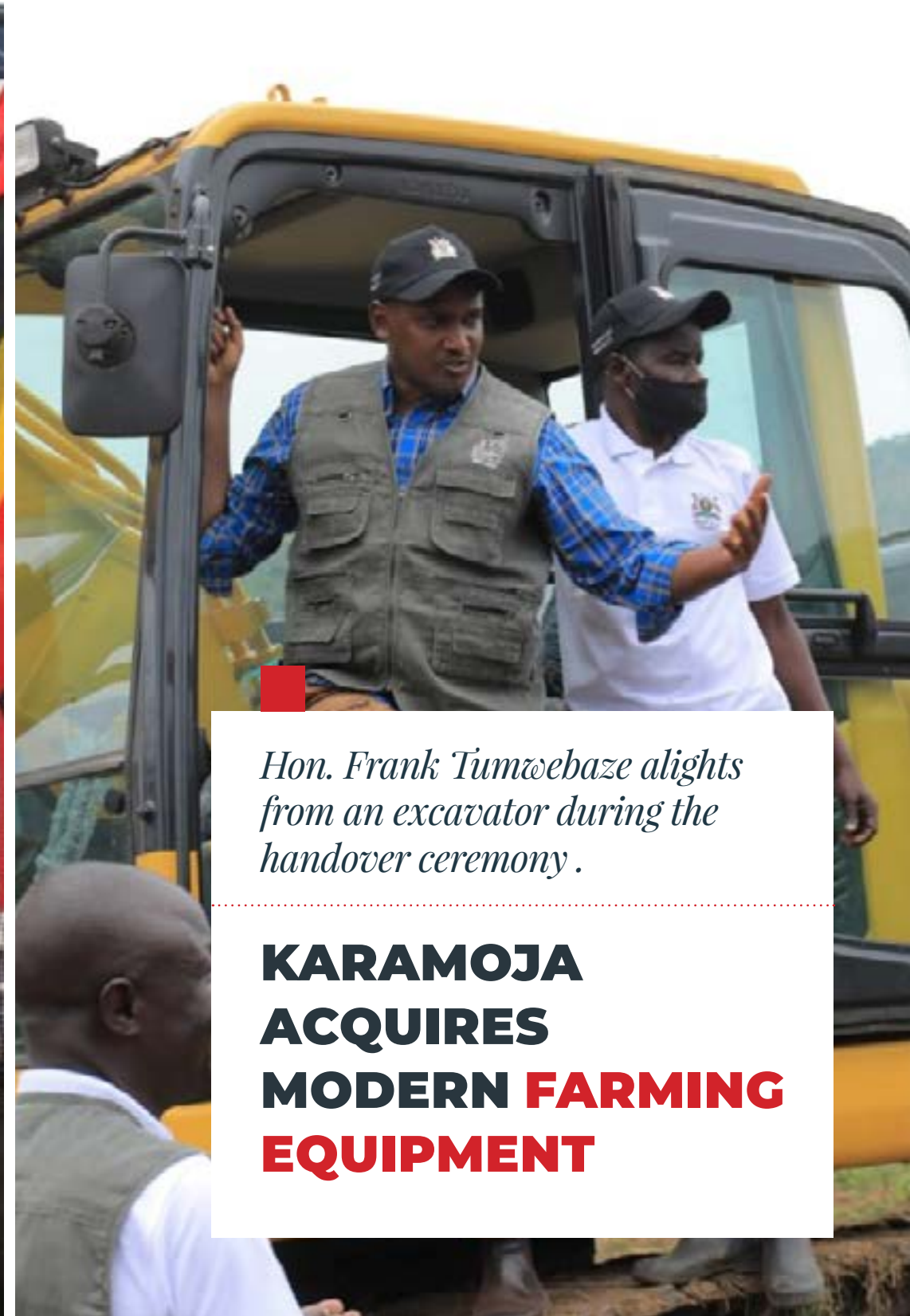
State House Comptroller, Jane Barekye, addresses local leaders at a meeting in Mbarara District

“Hubs are a brain child of President. Don’t bring in corruption. We are going to be very serious with this,” Ms. Jane Barekye while meeting local leaders of Kigezi sub-region.



State House Director for Presidential Industrial Hubs, Eng. Raymond Kamugisha, inspects some of the equipment at the Hub in Masindi District.

On his part, the Director for Presidential Industrial Hubs at State House, Eng. Raymond Kamugisha, said that they were starting operations with basic courses like bakery, block making and stone cutting, shoe making, tailoring and knitting but that after they have built some capacity, they would introduce some specialised courses.



Hon. Frank Tumwebaze alights from an excavator during the handover ceremony.

KARAMOJA ACQUIRES MODERN FARMING EQUIPMENT

H.E. Jessica Alupo hands over equipment to the leaders of Karamoja sub-region

In April, 2022, the Vice President, H.E. Jessica Alupo, handed over modern farming equipment to the leaders of Karamoja region. The Vice President who was accompanied by the Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Frank Tumwebaze and the Minister of State for Fisheries, Hon. Hellen Adoa, handed over five sets of equipment, each set comprised of; a bulldozer, hydraulic excavators, a wheel loader, chain loaders, a motor grader, a vibrating motor roller, two water bowser/tankers and two dump trucks.

In line with the agricultural sector under agro-industrialisation development programme, MAAIF procured assorted heavy earth moving equipment sets to revive the agricultural mechanisation in the country as key strategy of supporting farmers and processors.

The available assorted five heavy earth moving equipment sets are to develop infrastructure for increasing access to water for agricultural production (irrigation, livestock and aquaculture), opening, improvement and construction of farm access roads and to enhance

agricultural mechanisation services through bush clearing, land opening, ploughing, agro processing, value addition and support to farm structures development thus the ministry is using these heavy earth moving equipment sets to address the key water challenges in Karamoja.

The heavy equipment are serviced by a pickup, low bed carriers and mobile workshop vans and wheeled four tractors have been incorporated to ease farm activities in the districts to promote tractor services country wide.

The equipment units available include;

Equipment	No.
Bulldozers	15
Hydraulic Excavators	18
Chain Loaders	02
Wheel loaders	5
Motor graders	5
Vibrating rollers	3
Water bowser/tankers	10
Dump trucks	7
Low Bed carrier	2
Hydraulic Drilling Rigs	2
Mobile workshop Vans	3

ACCESS BY FARMERS

Once the heavy equipment unit is in the district, farmers access the services guided by the following principles:	work to be carried out. This helps to determine the type of equipment to deploy, for how long and the costs involved.
The farmers request for the equipment by filling a requisition form (form is available and copy is in the guidelines booklet). All requests for use of equipment are routed through the respective districts to leverage rational scheduling of equipment.	Based on the assessment, discussion and agreement with the farmers, a Bank Payment Forms of the amount for payment is issued and to pay in the bank on Uganda Revenue Authority Account (the payment is Government revenue and must only be paid in the bank).
Upon receipt of the request, the technical team visits the site and assesses the scope and quantity of	The equipment will be deployed after payment is made.

COST OF EQUIPMENT

The services are on cost sharing between Government and the farmers.


The farmers will provide fuel (diesel) for the equipment to accomplish the assessed works; caution is taken to ensure that no contaminated fuel is used and that it is readily available when needed to ensure continuity. The amount of fuel is calculated according to the number of hours the particular equipment is to work. The heavy equipment has a meter to record the hours it has worked.

Pay a dry lease rates per hour rates (40% of the total utilisation rate per hour or day) for the different machinery as commitment to effective use. Approved dry hire rate are as follows;

Equipment	Dry hire rate (UGX)
Bulldozer	60,000 / hr
Motor grader	50,000 /hr
Excavator	60,000/hr
Wheel loader	50,000/hr
Dump truck	100,000/day
Vibrating roller	250,000/day
Water Tankers	100,000/day
Wheel Tractors	40,000/Acre

Government/MAAIF is responsible to pay operators and other staff (salaries and wages); Transports the equipment to the site; Servicing and repairs of the equipment; Make assessments, bills of quantities, designs and drawings and undertakes any feasibility studies that / be required; and supervision quality assurance.

equipment can also be used es of disaster/emergency case/ y another Government agency. s done under a Memorandum of rstanding between the MAAIF he institution to spell out roles esponsibilities (as detailed in the lines).



GOVERNMENT COMPLETES 68 SEED SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Government started the process of commissioning Seed Secondary Schools on 28th December 2021. The first Phase of UglIFT project will deliver a total of 117 Secondary Schools; 48 Seed Secondary Schools have so far been commissioned in the sub-regions around the country out of a target of 68 Schools that are already complete.

REGION	DISTRICT	SCHOOL	REGION	DISTRICT	SCHOOL
Ankole	Buhweju	Kyankanda Seed School	Bunyoro	Masindi	Budongo Seed School
Ankole	Bushenyi	Bumbaire Seed School	Busoga	Mayuge	Mpungwe Seed School
Ankole	Ibanda	Keihangara Seed School	Busoga	Namutumba	Namutumba Seed School
Ankole	Kiruhura	Nyakasharara Seed School	Karamoja	Abim	Nakwae Seed School
Ankole	Mbarara	Bukiiro Seed School	Karamoja	Kotido	Panyangara Seed School
Ankole	Mitooma	Mayanga Seed School	Karamoja	Moroto	Rupa Seed School
Ankole	Rubirizi	Ryeru Seed School	Karamoja	Nabilatuk	Lolachat Seed School
Ankole	Sheema	Kigarama Seed School	Kigezi	Kabale	Buhara Seed School
Buganda	Buikwe	Ssugu Seed School	Kigezi	Kisoro	Nyakinama Seed School
Buganda	Kalungu	Lukaya Seed School	Kigezi	Rubanda	Nyamweru Seed School
Buganda	Kayunga	Nazigo Seed School	Kigezi	Rukiga	Rwamucucu Seed School
Buganda	Luwero	Katikamu Seed School	Lango	Alebtong	Abia Seed School
Buganda	Lwengo	Lwengo Seed School	Lango	Amolatar	Muntu Seed School
Buganda	Lyantonde	Mpumudde Seed School	Lango	Apac	Apac Seed School
Buganda	Masaka	Bukakata Seed School	Lango	Dokolo	Batta Seed School
Buganda	Mpigi	Kiringente Seed School	Lango	Kwania	Aduku Seed School
Buganda	Mubende	Kigando Seed School	Lango	Otuke	Ogoro Seed School
Buganda	Mukono	Kimenyedde Seed School	Teso	Kalaki	Kakure Seed School
Buganda	Nakaseke	Nakaseke Seed School	Teso	Kumi	Kumi Seed School
Buganda	Rakai	Samson Kalibbala Seed School	Teso	Ngora	Ngora Seed School
Bukedi	Butaleja	Nakwasi Seed School	Teso	Soroti	Asuret Seed School
Bukedi	Butebo	Kanginima Seed School	Toro	Bundibugyo	Kisuba Seed School
Bukedi	Tororo	Malaba Seed School	West Nile	Pakwach	Alwi Seed School
Bunyoro	Buliisa	Ngwedo Seed School	West Nile	Zombo	Atyak Seed School

Shools Aready Commissioned Per Region					
Kigezi 4	Buganda 12	Bunyoro 2	Karamoja 4	Lango 6	Tooro 1
Ankole 8	Bukedi 3	Busoga 2	Kigezi 4	Teso 4	West Nile 2



Sample computer laboratory in one of the seed secondary schools



Sample classroom in one of the seed secondary schools



Sample library in one of the seed secondary schools

UGANDA CELEBRATES WOMEN IN ICT & INNOVATION

International Women’s Day is a global holiday that honors and celebrates the social, cultural, political, and economic achievements of women across the globe. As the world came together on this special day to recognise the impact women are making in the world and to raise awareness of women’s equality and gender parity, the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance under its ICT Innovation initiative recognised women-led ICT Innovations (including inventions, products or systems) that have been developed in Uganda or by Ugandans.

The Ministry under the National ICT Initiatives Support Programme has a mandate to create a sustainable ecosystem for ICT innovations and to support ICT innovators and application developers and as such, the role women have played in pushing Uganda’s agenda towards achieving this objective in the recent past cannot be emphasized enough. It’s against this background that the Ministry organised a 6-day conference between 7th and 12th March 2022 at the National ICT Innovation Hub, Nakawa under the theme: “***Celebrating Uganda’s Women in ICT and Innovation***”.

The conference brought together innovators, entrepreneurs, students and women who have climbed to leadership positions at some of the most reputable companies.

PRISONS WARDERS AND WARDRESSES PASS OUT

The President and Commander in Chief of the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), Gen. Yoweri Museveni, officiated at the pass out ceremony at Kololo of 2, 018 prisons warders and wardresses that comprised 554 females and 1, 464 males who had undergone an eleven months training course at the Prisons Academy and Training School.

The President encouraged the Prisons Service to put up more prison and accommodation facilities noting that during a visit to Luzira prison last year, he had seen some good structures constructed by the prisons construction unit and called on them to utilise the same unit for putting up facilities across the country for the staff and inmates.

"If you can build houses, why can't you build more prisons? Let's stop the issue of crying for houses and buildings. The only demand should be for construction materials and may be recruiting more engineers", the President noted.

The President also advised the prisons service to build primary and secondary schools as well as medical facilities for the biological children of the prisons officers where they can study free of charge and the Government pays salaries of the teachers, and also receive medical attention.

H.E. Museveni, however, commended the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Prisons service for reinforcing the force with more human resource. He noted that the problem in many African countries has been conceptual; pointing out that NRA/UPDF overcame that challenge by prioritising ideology.



President Museveni talks to Gassi Christine, one of the best female students during the pass out



Some of the graduands marching during the pass out ceremony

He added that with a small economy, UPDF managed to defend the country from retrogressive forces and has never called the United Nations (UN) to defend Uganda.

The President expressed his gratitude and satisfaction with the exemplary standard exhibited by the graduands whom he equally praised for being very smart in the parade. He congratulated the leadership of the prisons service and the commandant of the Prisons Academy and Training School, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons Brenda Sana, for churning out good products.

The Commissioner General of Prisons, Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, thanked President Museveni for giving the green light for increasing the human resource in the prisons service.

Dr. Byabashaija assured the President that the growing of the cotton project to meet the target of one million bales is ongoing and will be achieved as more land is under acquisition in several parts of the country.

“With your help, Your Excellency, I am sure we shall meet the target of one million bales of cotton”, he stressed.

Addressing the graduands, he urged them to be disciplined. He also assured the President that the officers of the prisons

services are very loyal and will always support Government’s efforts to elevate Uganda into a middle income country.

He urged graduands to be disciplined and to be ambassadors of the Prisons Service.

The best warders and wardresses during the eleven months training course received gifts for their excellent performance. They included; Aryong Marshal Jude who was the overall best student while the best student in academics in the male category was Wolwenje Fred. Chemutai Flomena led in the female category.

The best male student in parade was Nyanga Eric Disi while the best female student was Christine Gassi.

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY TEAM WINS HUAWEI AFRICAN ICT COMPETITION IN SOUTH AFRICA

The ICT team from Uganda represented by university students from Makerere University won first place in the 2022 Huawei ICT Competition for Sub Saharan Africa having beaten 19 Countries and 36 teams and thus advancing to the Huawei ICT Global finals in China in May 2022.

The Huawei ICT competition is an annual international competition and communication platform for university students and higher education institutions within the Huawei ICT Academy programme aimed at promoting innovation among African universities and institutions of higher learning. Over 2,500 students compete annually.

A team of three Makerere University students code named, “Kilo-Tech” designed a QuickTest App for blood diagnosis without pricking of blood from the patient. The QuickTest App is an embedded mobile application system to diagnose blood diseases mainly HIV/AIDS and Malaria without pricking the patient.

The team was led by Rutanana Arnold, Nakyanzi Catherine (also Vice President College of Computing) and Nsengiyumva Wiberforce.

The key Benefit of the QuickTest App System

is to reduce blood disease diagnosis time. It is designed in a way that patient just logs in the app, place the thumb on the scanner, and get the test results.

The new Makerere students’ technology is life-saving in terms of costs for Government they incur in buying kits for the hospitals and also saving costs on the patient’s side in terms of transport to hospital and also reducing on stigmatisation because the patient will be afraid of the doctor or other people knowing their HIV status.

President Museveni congratulated and called upon the team to use those skills to innovate and create jobs for themselves and others.



Winners of the African ICT Competition with Minister of State for Higher Education, Hon. John Muyingo, in South Africa.

GOVERNMENT EXPANDS POWER GRID TO KARAMOJA REGION

By Lawrence Kimbowa,
Acting Principal Public Relations Officer, UETCL

Unreliable and insufficient power has come with several challenges in Karamoja Region, which range from; low industrialization, poor economic and social development. However, Government has plans of boosting Karamoja Businesses and Industrial parks among other development priorities. Karamoja Sub region is a semi-arid zone, located in the North-Eastern part of Uganda and covering around 27,000 sq. km covering over seven districts.

Government was thus concerned and gave priority to the expansion of the grid to ensure supply of stable, sufficient and reliable power in the region. The Uganda Electricity Transmission Company (UETCL) has constructed a 132kV Transmission Line (Opuyo-Moroto) on Monopoles covering 160kms. The

objective of this project is to ensure strategic expansion to meet the present and future electricity demands in Karamoja Region and its surroundings. The project has further seen the construction of a 132/33kV sub-station in Loputuk Sub-County in Moroto District with two transformers, capacity of 40MVA and the upgrade of Opuyo Substation from 14MVA transformers to 40MVA.

Embarking on such projects has been efforts, concern and vigilance of the energy sector through its key players namely; Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, ERA, UEGCL, UETCL and UEDCL and the endless support of the Government of Uganda, as well as development partners in solving the challenge of insufficient and unreliable power in the region and the Country at large.



All these investments by the Government of Uganda are drivers of economic development derived from the key focus areas for the energy sector in the National Development Plan (NDP) III. The Government focus for the sector is tailored on increasing proportion of Ugandans with access to electricity from 24% to 64% by 2025, increase Per Capita electricity consumption, increase transmission capacity of high voltage lines to 4354kms, 90% reliability of the grid, promoting the use of alternative sources of energy and strengthening the policy, legal and institutional framework.

I am confident that in the near future, power outage will become history in Uganda. However, to attain this, there is need for concerted efforts from the different stakeholders in the areas where the investments

are being implemented for their timely implementation and success. This therefore, calls for good political will from the local leadership, easy acquisition of land from the Project Affected Persons(PAPs) as well as attainment of the relevant required permits, for example for wetlands, forest reserves and traffic/roads.

This call is to limit the complicated and lengthy processes of acquiring land for new electricity transmission projects, which is a key bottleneck for projects because it has a direct bearing on the timeliness and cost effectiveness of implementing these projects, and slows down the intended economic and industrial growth of the country.

The energy sector players remain committed to providing a reliable and stable power network as we attain the NDP III goals.



Hon. Dr. Ruth Nankabirwa; Minister for Energy and Mineral Development, chats with UETCL Managing Director; George Rwabajungu, during her tour of the newly completed Moroto substation

TVET HANDS OVER **VEHICLES** TO TECHNICAL COLLEGES

On 15th March 2022, the Directorate of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) handed over three buses each with seating capacity of 67 passengers to Uganda Technical College (UTC) Lira, UTC Elgon and UTC Bushenyi through the Uganda Skills Development Project (USDP). In total, so far 20 vehicles have been handed over to TVET institutions around the country.

Efficient and reliable transport is important in supporting both operations and learning at the institutions. This is the reason for prioritisation of the purchase of the buses such that Principals, staff and students explore various learning opportunities; conduct exchange visits in the country and within the region to increase their knowledge base, skills and practices.

Through the Skills Development Projects (ARSDP & USDP) students in the Technical Vocational Education and Training Institutions will be in position to access training infrastructure like quality workshops, technical education equipment, furniture and ICT equipment.



Buses that were handed to Lira, Bushenyi and Elgon Technical Colleges

GOVERNMENT RECEIVES 1,000 OXYGEN CYLINDERS FROM WHO

The Ministry of Health has received a complete set of one thousand oxygen cylinders worth US\$ 233,000 procured by the World Health Organization (WHO) with financial support from the Government of Denmark for the management of critical cases of COVID-19 in Uganda.

The package includes 1,000 medical oxygen cylinders (J-type with a capacity of 6,800L), 1000 oxygen cylinder regulators and humidifier bottles. Together, these 1000 cylinders when filled with oxygen and the associated accessories constitute equipment adequate to administer oxygen for up to 1,000 COVID-19 patients

requiring oxygen at any time.

Since the confirmation of the first case of COVID-19 in Uganda in March 2020, the country has experienced two major waves of the pandemic and is now responding to the new COVID-19 variant, Omicron. The second wave experienced an increase in morbidity and mortality of 2.7%, compared to the first wave (0.9%). The deaths were attributed to insufficient oxygen supply in various regional referral hospitals.

The Minister of Health, Dr Jane Ruth Aceng Otero received the equipment saying, “the additional oxygen cylinders we are receiving are an effective

response to the current health needs. They will strengthen the management of critically ill COVID-19 patients throughout the country.”

The Minister further recalled that COVID-19 has shown the need to strongly equip health facilities with adequate medical equipment to better respond to emergency health problems affecting the population.

She highlighted the critical support the Ugandan Government has received from both WHO and the Danish Government noting, “the Danish Government and WHO remain great partners for the Government. WHO has been present both technically and strategically to ensure that we respond to the pandemic effectively”.

UGANDA ACQUIRES ULTRA MODERN HELICOPTER MRO FACILITY

President Yoweri Museveni who is also the commander in Chief of the UPDF commissioned a Helicopter Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul plant at the Nakasongola Air Force Base on 22nd January, 2022, that will also in the future upgrade chopper ware.

The MRO plant, the first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa is a joint venture by the UPDF's commercial arm, the National Enterprise Corporation-NEC and Pro-heli International, a Russian Company and will be developed into a hub not only for the entire East African Region including UN Missions which use Russian helicopters but for the entire continent.

The Helicopter Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul - MRO plant will help Uganda save about 3.5 million US dollars that have been spent on transportation and overhauling one helicopter outside Uganda.

Maj Gen Sabiiti Muzeyi the General Manager Luwero Industries, a subsidiary of National Enterprise Corporation (NEC), said the facility with state of the art equipment is now fully operational.



President touring the Helicopter MRO facility in Nakasongola District

President Museveni addressing the EAC Heads of State virtual Summit on the 29th March, 2022, from State House, Entebbe



EAC HEADS OF STATE ADMIT DRC TO THE COMMUNITY

On 29th March, 2022, East Africa made history when the East African Heads of State officially admitted the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) into the East African Community, effectively making it the latest and largest member of the trading block.

During the EAC Heads of State 19th Extra-Ordinary Summit held virtually, the summit considered the report of the Council of Ministers on the negotiations between the East African Community (EAC) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) on admission of DRC into the EAC.

EAC Heads of State officially admitted the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) into the

East African Community.

Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta, Chair of the Summit of EAC Heads of States announced the admission of DRC to the East African Community during the 19th Extra-Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State.

President Uhuru Kenyatta who is Chairman of the EAC Summit said DRC was first assessed by a council of the EAC ministers who concluded that the DRC is eligible to join the EAC, adding, that the aim of regional integration blocks is to strengthen our relationship, expand our markets for goods and services, create wealth, create more opportunities for investment and services across without

hindrance, and for easy movement of goods and services in the EAC.

President Yoweri Museveni described the joining of EAC by DRC as a big event of great significance.

"I have been involved in these efforts for almost 60 years and this is really very pleasant that DRC has finally reconnected formally. What we call DRC now was part of Great Lakes. We were connected before colonialism. But when colonialisms came we got disconnected. It is good we are assembling. In 1960, towards the end, even Zambia and Somalia had applied to join the community" the President said.

UGANDAN YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN THE **DUBAI EXPO 2020**

A team of selected ICT innovators and BPO practitioners represented the ICT sector in Uganda during the Innovation Week at the Dubai Expo 2020, in March, 2022, where they got to experience breakthrough technologies and learnt about disruptive innovations.

The innovators and BPO practitioners that represented Uganda were chosen from a pool of those that expressed interest and responded to the national call that the Ministry of ICT & National Guidance issued on 28th January, 2022, in print, digital and radio media.

Government of Uganda is committed to growing innovators and BPO practitioners and providing growth opportunities for them. Government is also committed to identifying, supporting and growing those that are plying their trade in ICT.

Uganda's participation in the Dubai Expo 2020 was an opportunity to illustrate its national aspirations in promoting digitalisation, innovation and its ability to connect people. Additionally, the physical presence of the innovators and BPO practitioners at the Dubai Expo was an opportunity for marketing Ugandan innovations and position them to benefit export opportunities for the Ugandan enterprises in the global market.

The participation of the Ugandan innovators was a collective effort, with support from the private sector companies that include



A group of Ugandan innovators and BPO practitioners at the Dubai Expo 2020

telecommunication companies, technology companies, banks, fin techs, to mention but a few.

In anticipation of the expo, the Ministry of ICT launched an awareness campaign which profiled and celebrated the brilliance of the Ugandan geniuses that are resident in the ICT sector.

The Government of Uganda remains committed to building technology infrastructure and spurring a digital culture, essential enablers for inclusive and sustainable development of Uganda.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS **MANDATORY COVID-19 TESTING** FOR ALL INCOMING TRAVELERS AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT

The Ministry of Health suspended the mandatory COVID-19 testing of all incoming travellers at Entebbe International Airport upon arrival with effect from 16th February 2022. This followed a Cabinet decision on 14th February 2022.

The suspension of mandatory testing is informed by:

1. The decline in positive cases identified at the airport
2. Reduction in global threat of new variants of concern (VOC) and therefore reduced risk of importation of VoC that will increase community transmission

However, the requirement for COVID-19 testing 72 hours before boarding for both incoming and exiting travellers remains in effect.

Health workers continue to screen all travellers both at arrival and departure and verify their COVID-19 test certificates.

COVID-19 VACCINATION COVERAGE STANDS AT 18.2%

The Government of Uganda continues to prioritise COVID-19 vaccination as a strategic intervention to protect the population from the severe effects of COVID-19 and control the spread of the pandemic including the new variants.

So far, **12,085,428** doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to the population.

To date, **10,315,951** of the 22 million priority persons have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccines and **2,236,544** are vaccinated using J&J vaccine while **1,769,477** have received the second dose of their initial vaccine and are therefore fully vaccinated.

Considering it requires only one dose of J&J to be fully vaccinated, Uganda has fully vaccinated 4,006,021 people (vaccination coverage of 18.2%)



VACCINE BOOSTERS FOR PRIORITY GROUPS

1. Elderly aged 50 years and above
2. Security personnel
3. Health workers
4. Teachers both in pre-primary, primary, secondary and post-secondary institutions
5. Bodaboda riders
6. Drivers and conductors of all Passenger Services Vehicles (PSVs)
7. Bar and night club workers
8. Market workers and vendors
9. Religious leaders
10. Media

The aforementioned groups of people were recommended for booster doses due to their high level of contact with the other members of the public during their day-to-day activities. The recommended groups are eligible for booster if they completed their primary vaccine series at least 6 months ago.

LABORATORIES ACCREDITED TO CARRY OUT COVID-19 TESTING IN UGANDA

1. Uganda Virus Research institute (UVRI)
2. Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL)
3. Infectious Disease Institute Laboratory (IDI)
4. Makerere University Hospital Laboratory
5. Mildmay Laboratory
6. Tororo Mobile Laboratory
7. Mutukula Mobile Laboratory
8. Adjumani Mobile Laboratory
9. Joint Clinical Research Center (JCRC)
10. Lancet Laboratories
11. MB Laboratory
12. Medipal International Hospital
13. Case Hospital, Kampala
14. ATest and Fly Laboratory
15. Uganda Cancer Institute, Fred Hutchison Laboratory
16. IOM Laboratory
17. ANCA Biotech Laboratories
18. Rakai Health Science Program
19. Gulu University Biomedical Center
20. City Medicals
21. Safari Lab
22. MSF-Epicenter Labs, Mbarara
23. ATCG Laboratories
24. MAIA Group Laboratories
25. Same Day COVID-19 Labs
26. MUWRP-EIDP Lab
27. UMC Victoria Hospital
28. LMK Medical Hospital
29. Tenna and Pharma
30. Mengo Hospital
31. Paramount Hospital
32. Mulago National Referral Hospital (Public-Private Partnership)
33. City Medicals – Entebbe
34. Dulwich Diagnostics Laboratory
35. Unity skin clinic
36. Jowa Health Specialized Laboratory
37. Bwindi Community Hospital
38. Medsafe Hospital
39. Beijing Testing Center – Bugolobi
40. Biomedicus International
41. Examina Diagnostic Center, Wandegya
42. Times Laboratory and Diagnostics



UGANDA DEVELOPMENT BANK TO DISBURSE **UGX 612 BILLION** IN 2022

Goal:

To accelerate socio-economic development through sustainable financial interventions in line with Uganda's development priorities.

UDB plans to disburse UGX 612 billion i.e. between January and December 2022.

Minimum loan size is UGX 50 million (for SMEs and Youth) while maximum is UGX 10 million dollars (UGX 36bn).

Eligibility criteria

- ▶ Ugandan private sector, registered in Uganda, operating in the priority sectors of manufacturing, commercial agriculture, agro-industry, tourism, education, health, and infrastructure (including ICT).
- ▶ Can be a start-up or existing business seeking to expand
- ▶ The promoter of the enterprise must be of credible reputation, and full compliance with all statutory requirements (tax, NSSF and environmental obligations etc.)
- ▶ Owners' equity contribution of between 10% and 60% may be required depending on project specifics and the bank product offered.

- ▶ Collateral is required to cover the default risk. Loans are secured using any form of acceptable collateral.

Requirements

- ▶ Registration record, e.g. a proprietorship deed or certificate of registration & articles of association or a cooperative's registration certificate & certified list of members, a trading license (if applicable),
- ▶ National ID or passport,
- ▶ Bank/Mobile Money/SACCO statements, etc. for 3 months
- ▶ Loan statements (where applicable)
- ▶ Record of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenditures for 3 years or audited accounts for 1 year
- ▶ Projection of revenues and expenditures for a minimum of loan tenor (start-ups)
- ▶ Valuation report
- ▶ CRB card report
- ▶ Feasibility report/business plan and cash flow projections
- ▶ Bank statement for the last twelve months (not applicable for start-ups)
- ▶ Loan statements for all existing loans, if applicable, including copies of loan

offer letters or agreements from other financial institutions (where applicable)

- ▶ Security for the proposed loan, including current valuations of the assets and any encumbrances, if applicable
- ▶ Credit Reference Bureau Report of the company and all its shareholders/directors (where applicable)
- ▶ Current and historical off taker agreements/purchase agreements where significant sales are on credit or under contract, including pro-forma invoices accompanied by profiles of the proposed suppliers
- ▶ MEMARTS and Certificate of Incorporation (where applicable)
- ▶ Latest Returns of Directors and Shareholders (if applicable)
- ▶ Profiles of Directors and key technical personnel Latest Trading License

GOVERNMENT CARRIES OUT RESEARCH ON UPE & USE FEES

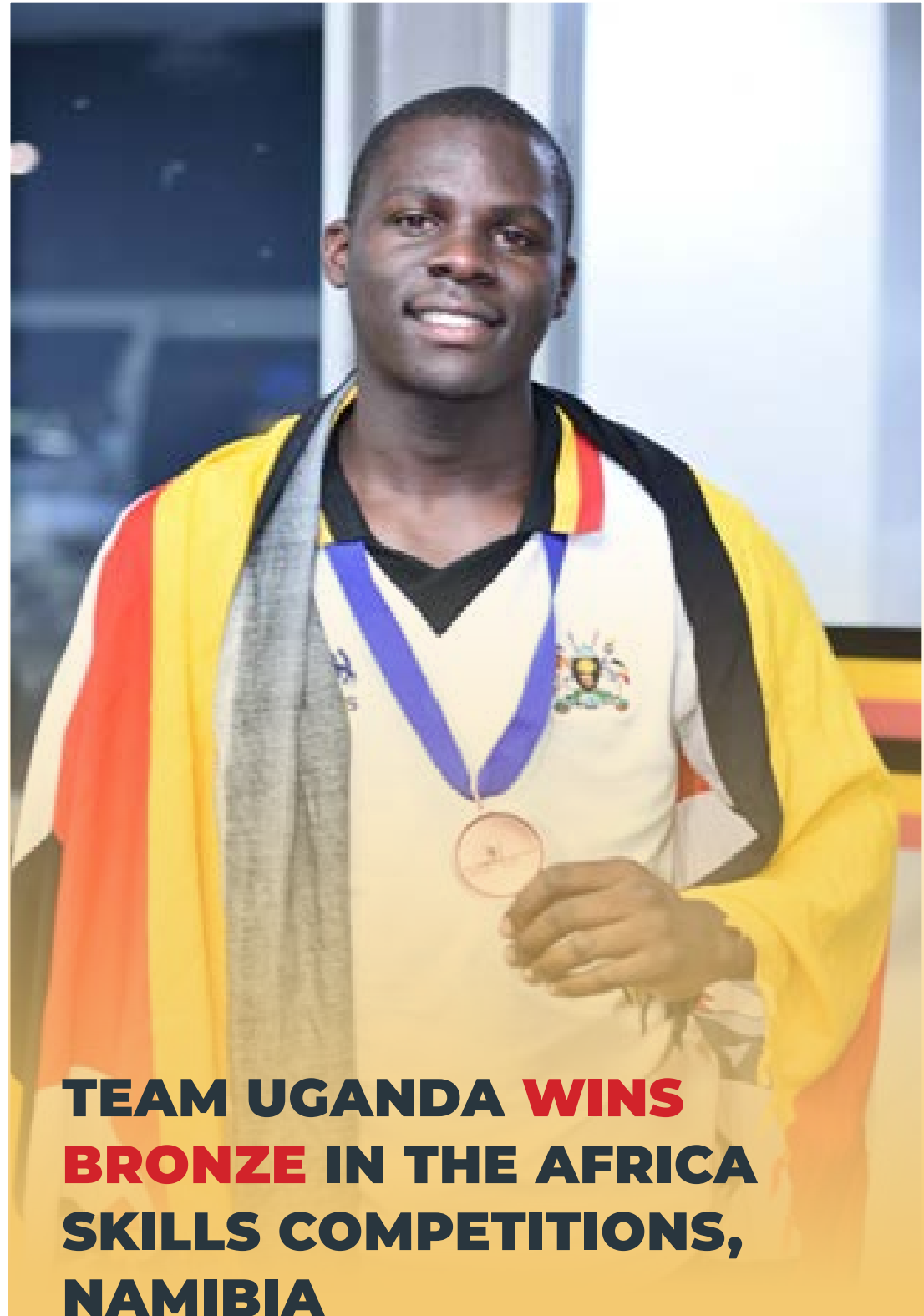
The Ministry of Education and Sports with support from the Norwegian Embassy in Uganda is undertaking a countrywide study to collect empirical evidence on payment of fees and other school charges in public schools that implement the Universal Primary and Secondary Education programmes of Government. The study will help the Ministry to put in place a streamlined regulatory framework for school charges and fees.

The study seeks to address the following;

- ▶ The nature and extent of fees and other school charges in Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE) implementing schools in the country.
- ▶ How school fees and charges are determined, collected, utilised, and accounted for in public primary and secondary Schools.
- ▶ Assess the level of willingness of parents and caregivers to make a monetary contribution to public schooling in Primary and Secondary Education levels.
- ▶ Determine the extent to which school fees and other charges are affecting the various categories of vulnerable children in the country.
- ▶ Lastly, what is the most feasible financing framework for UPE and USE based on the findings of the primary research and analysis of the policy framework for education financing in Uganda.

Status

- ▶ Data collection phase- Completed (46 districts sampled) as a representative of the whole country.
- ▶ Over 350 schools and more than 6,000 households have been visited.
- ▶ Ongoing - data analysis stage of the study.



TEAM UGANDA WINS BRONZE IN THE AFRICA SKILLS COMPETITIONS, NAMIBIA

Mugerwa Husama, the bronze medallist, showing off his medal upon arrival at Entebbe International Airport

World Skills Uganda held the National Skills Competitions from 2nd to 4th February 2022 at Nakawa Vocational Training College. The best students went to compete in the World Skills Africa Competitions which were held in Swakopmund, Namibia, from 28th March to 2nd April, 2022.

Team Uganda was represented by;

- ▶ Nyamata Cathy - Hair dressing – School of Beauty, Nateete.
- ▶ Kibwota Walter – Bricklaying – Minakule Technical Institute, Gulu.
- ▶ Baguma Amon - Welding – Nakawa Vocational College.
- ▶ Nahwera Unity - Fashion and Design– Kibatsi Technical Institute, Ntungamo.
- ▶ Mugerwa Husama - Restaurant Services (Winner: BRONZE) – Jinja Institute of Hotel Management.

This was the first time Uganda participated in the Continental Skills competition and one of the competitors won a bronze medal for the country.



CASH TRANSFER PROGRAMME FOR TEACHERS IN PRIVATE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS A SUCCESS

By Deo Otim

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MoGLSD) implemented the cash transfer programme for teachers, tutors, and instructors in Private Primary, Secondary, Vocational, and Health Training Institutions/Schools across the Country.

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MoGLSD) implemented the cash transfer programme for teachers, tutors, and instructors in Private Primary, Secondary, Vocational, and Health Training Institutions/Schools across the Country.

During the National Address on COVID-19 on 18th June 2021, the President of the Republic of Uganda H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni directed the Prime Minister and the Minister for Gender, Labour, and Social Development, to identify persons who depend on daily income in urban areas especially Greater Kampala/Cities and Municipalities of the Country, assess their needs during the lockdown period and identify interventions to take care of their needs.

Following the directive, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) implemented the Cash Transfer Programme that reached 497,848 persons within the targeted areas.

Given that the economy was already opening up, after consultations with several stakeholders including the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Ministry of Education and Sports - a decision was reached to target teachers in private primary and secondary schools.

The decision to target teachers in private schools was based on the fact that schools were closed since March 2020 when COVID-19 forced a nationwide “lockdown”. While the vast majority of sectors were fully or partially reopened, the education sector remained closed.

By the time schools started reopening on 10th January 2022, teachers in private primary and secondary schools had missed income for close to two years, which made it difficult for them to provide for their families. Even when they have returned to school, they still face challenges.

The purpose of the intervention was to support teachers whose income was disrupted by COVID-19 containment measures for close to two years, targeting One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (150,000) teachers each receiving cash worth Two Hundred thousand Uganda Shillings (UGX200,000) net with the taxes and withdrawal fees catered for.

The cash transfer programme to teachers in private primary and secondary schools was also to support the teachers as they return to the classroom and foster collaboration between the Government of Uganda and Civil Society in addressing the negative impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable people.

The beneficiaries for the programme were selected based on the teachers that are not on the Government payroll, duly registered or licensed by the Ministry of Education and Sports, or have proof of submission of application for registration/licensing, those already teaching in a school licensed

or registered by the Ministry of Education and Sports, teachers who did not benefit from the June – September 2021 Government of Uganda (GoU) COVID-19 cash relief programme, and have a mobile money account (MTN or Airtel) registered in their name.

The Ministry of Gender closely worked with Kampala Capital City Authority, Chief Administrative Officers, Town Clerks of Cities and Municipalities to ensure that Education Officers and Head Teachers of private primary and secondary schools compile and upload data of eligible teachers on an online system.

Registration was done through the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MoGLSD) Online Data Collection System (<https://cashrelief.mglsd.go.ug>), by capturing the Head Teacher’s details plus the respective school information which includes; the School Name, EMIS/License Number, Physical Address, Level (Primary or Secondary) and Administrative Unit.

The programme was a collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Local Government, and National Information Technology Authority-Uganda, with support from GiveDirectly (GD) – an international Non-

Governmental Organization (NGO) that focuses on poverty alleviation and humanitarian relief via livelihood cash transfers.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, officially launched the cash transfer programme on Tuesday, 18th January 2022, at the Kampala Serena Hotel.

Since the Government of Uganda’s decision in 1993 to liberalise the education sector, thousands of schools and institutions have been set up by private investors. In the secondary sub-sector, the number of private schools, at about 4000, is more than double the number of Government-funded schools.

The writer is a Communications Officer at the Government Citizens Interaction Centre- State House

MICROFINANCE SUPPORT CENTRE CREATES UGX 568 BILLION IN TEN YEARS

Goal

To deepen financial inclusion among the financially excluded such as vulnerable groups and active poor.

- ▶ Lends at low interest rates, flexible terms and no requirements for collateral for Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs), Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs), MFIs, SMEs, and Cooperatives
- ▶ Interest rate for SACCOs/ VSLAs is 8% and 13% for agricultural SMEs
- ▶ In10 years, MSC has revolved GoU grants to benefit 7,253 client institutions, to create wealth estimated at UGX 568 Billion.



SMALL BUSINESSES RECOVERY FUND (SBRF)

FUND SIZE UGX. 200bn

Eligibility

- ✓ **Small businesses** that have suffered financial distress arising from the **effects of covid-19 pandemic** and have potential for recovery.



- ✓ **All small businesses** operated by individuals, groups, partnerships and companies, **employing 5-49 people** and with **annual turnover of UGX 10 million- UGX 100 million** are eligible under the Fund.

Loan Tenure



Loans to eligible borrowers will be extended for periods of a minimum of **six (6) months** and a maximum of **four (4) years**, which shall include a grace period of a maximum of one (1) year depending on the nature of the project as agreed upon by the borrower and the PFI.

Costs Involved

Government component to the PFIs will be interest free.

The interest rate chargeable by the PFIs shall not exceed 10% per annum.

Facility fees charged by PFIs to eligible borrowers will not exceed 0.5% of the total loan amount and shall be a one-off charge.

Legal documentation, insurance fees and registration costs shall be borne by the borrower.

Security

The loan facilities under the Fund will be secured by collateral of any form as agreed upon by the PFI and the borrower in accordance with PFI's lending policies.



The Fund can be accessed from any financial institution supervised by Bank of Uganda.

Borrower application process

- ✓ Submit an application to any participating bank
- ✓ A copy of registration or certificate of incorporation or any other form of licensing; details of business ownership; number of employees; annual revenue projections from the business; and loan amount required.



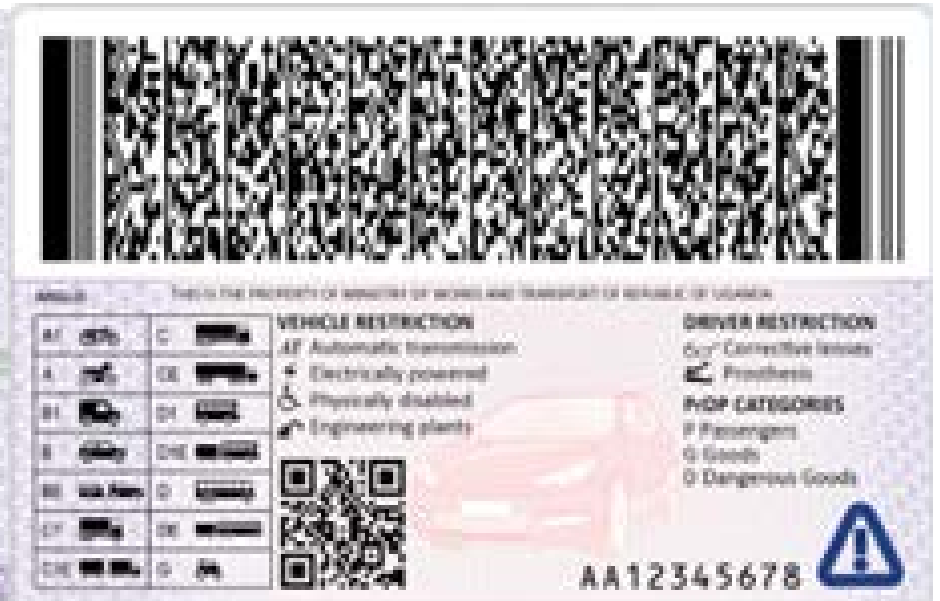
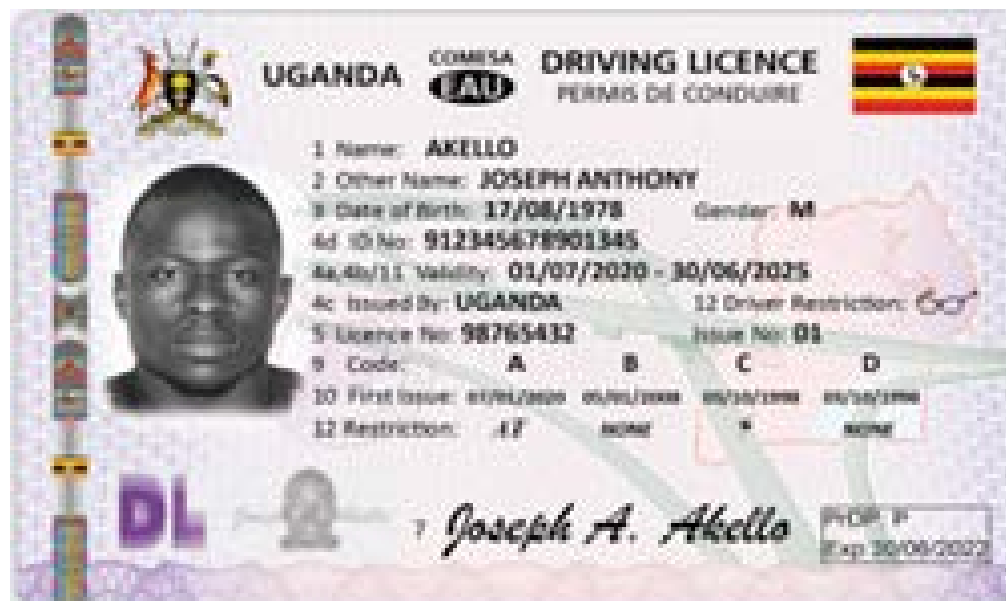
*Send your opinion to publications@gcic.go.ug
to feature in any of our magazines. For guidance,
send a WhatsApp text to +256 414 670 288.*

**We are opening up Government
to Citizens. Every day**

UGANDA DRIVER LICENSING SYSTEM (UDLS) EMBRACES TECHNOLOGY



Ministry Of Works & Transport
To provide Reliable, Safe works, Transport
Infrastructure & Services



UDLS has embraced technology to improve service delivery. Clients are now able to receive their Licences in 30 minutes or less.

Playing a part in supporting regional integration; USPC has designed a card that is ISO-compliant and is accepted in EAC, SADC, COMESA countries and beyond it also aligns with the TTTFP standards for regional harmonized travel.

UDLS has moved services closer to people. There are six regional offices in the East, West and Northern parts of the country with the Kampala main and biggest branch catering to the Central region.

Documents needed to process the licence

► Identification;

National ID for Ugandans, Passport for non-Ugandans, Refugee card for refugees

► Medical form

Filled out application form endorsed by a qualified medical practitioner

- Proof of payment (PRN)
- Certificate of Competence (CoC) for 1st time application and Class extension
- Renewals DO NOT need to have a medical form

NOTE:

A letter issued by NIRA confirming the details of a NIN number can be used in place of a National ID for Nationals.

Location of UDLS Offices

► Kampala;

Uganda Railway Corporation (URC) building on 57 Nasser Road

► Jinja;

Nile Avenue, opposite Ntake factory

► Mbale;

Plot 2 Cathedral Avenue, opposite UMEME

► Gulu;

Plot 2 Kitgum road, Opposite Municipal council

► Mbarara;

Kabale road, Opposite Ministry of Water and Environment

► Fort Portal;

Works Road.



USPC

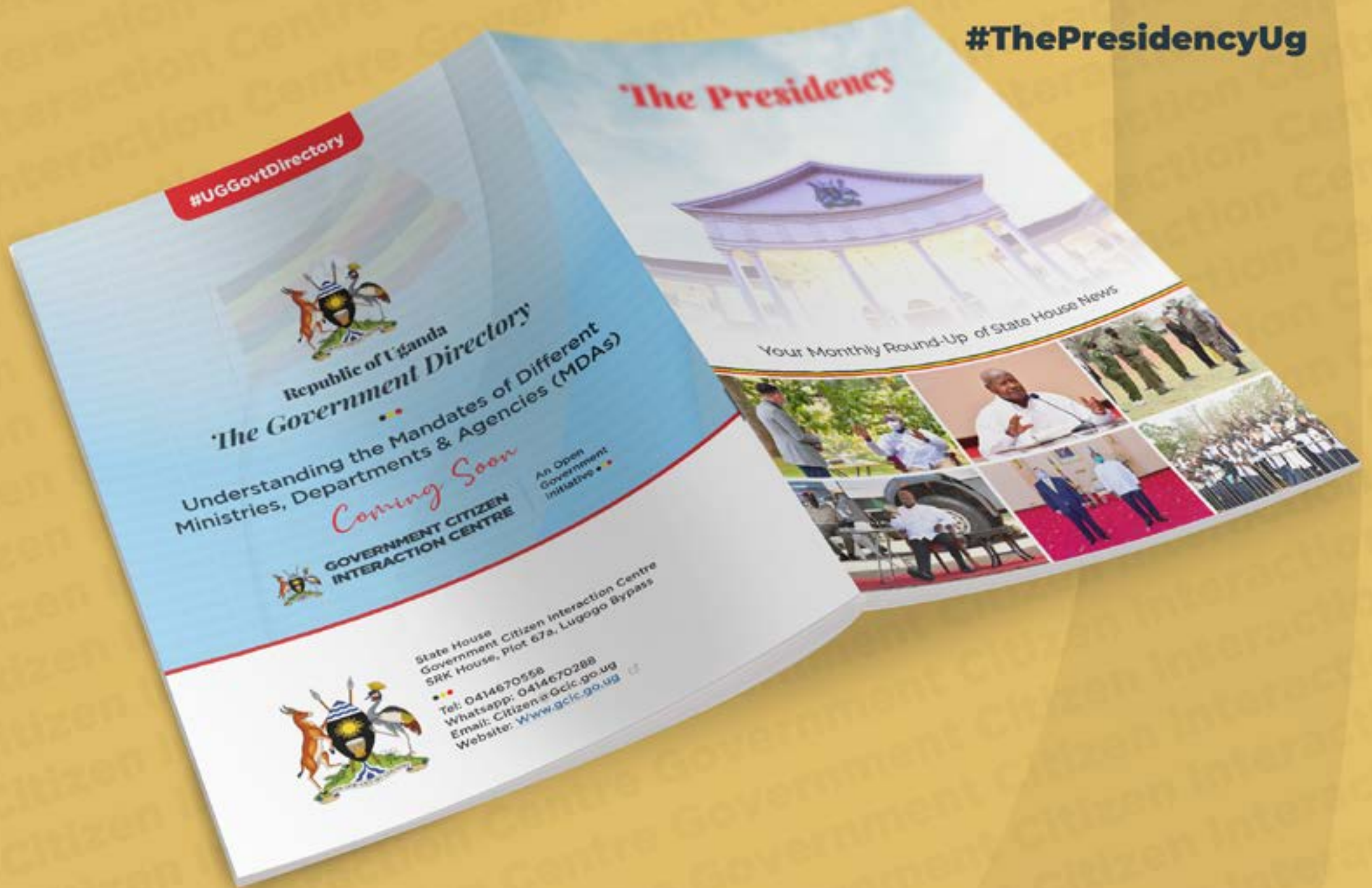
Uganda Security
Printing Company

Rates (UGX)

TYPE OF LICENCE	1 YR	3 YRS	5 YRS
Learner/Provisional	60,000	N/A	N/A
Learner renewal	60,000	N/A	N/A
1st time Driving licence	135,000	230,000	330,000
Driving licence renewal	130,000	210,000	310,000
Duplicate Driving licence	121,000	N/A	N/A
Class extension @ class	121,000	N/A	N/A
Foreign Exchange	135,000	230,000	330,0000
Test fees @ class	25,000	N/A	N/A



#ThePresidencyUg



Send your views & comments to
info@gcic.go.ug
or WhatsApp **+256 41 4670 288**

   GCICUganda



GCIC • STATE HOUSE

STATE HOUSE
GOVERNMENT CITIZEN INTERACTION CENTRE
SRK HOUSE, PLOT 67A, LUGOGO BYPASS

TEL: 0414670558
WHATSAPP: 0414670288
EMAIL: citizen@gcic.go.ug
WEBSITE: www.gcic.go.ug