

UJA AWARDS

New Vision
ADVERTISER SUPPLEMENT

UJA rewards best



Woman entrepreneur of the year, Lydia Oile, walks away with her award during the Investor of the year 2016 awards ceremony last month

Since 1994, the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) has recognised the contribution made by investors to the economy through the Investor of the Year Awards. The awards aim at encouraging excellence, efficiency and creativity in various sectors, in order to make Uganda the leading investment destination in East Africa. It is also aimed at bringing to the limelight companies which have successfully implemented their projects within a specified period and recognising the efforts of the private sector in development. **Benon Ojiambo** brings you the winners

The Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) has for the last 24 years been recognising outstanding investors in the country. The winners, over the years have included Rwenzori Highland Tea Co. Ltd, Ngege Ltd, Kabojja Secondary School, Hotel Africana, Van Zanten Uganda Ltd, MTN (U) Ltd, Century Bottling Company Ltd, Rene Industries and Kasese Cobalt Co. Ltd.

During the awards, investors who have successfully implemented and commissioned their business

projects within a given period showcase their achievements.

THE 2016 WINNERS Gold award - Graphic Systems (U) Ltd

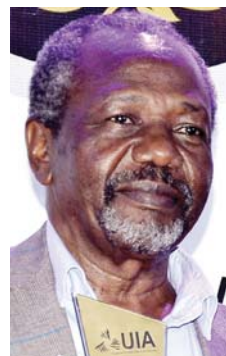
Over the last 20 years, the company has grown substantially, in terms of products and production volumes.

In 2016, the company invested in a new print technology, flexographic printing, the first of its kind on the Ugandan market, in order to widen its offering to clients for current and future market demand in Uganda and the East African market.

It created employment for about 93 Ugandans and saved foreign exchange outflow by responding to the regional market demand for high technology print and packaging products.

Silver award - BMK House

For the last three decades, the business empire has expanded its interests into hospitality, manufacturing, property development and construction in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda,



James Kalibbala of Electronic Control Switch Gear Ltd

Zambia and China.

In 2016, the Group invested in their latest development: a 12-storey commercial building, with 1,200 square meters of space per floor, a total of 7,200 sq.m of rentable office space and 86 furnished apartments on Wampewo Avenue in Central Kampala.

It responded to the Government's call to increase domestic investment in the hotel and accommodation services, invested over \$27m (about sh97b) in the commercial house project and created employment for 272 Ugandans.

Bronze award - Hariss International Ltd

They are manufacturers of

29 different types of Riham products and 54 biscuit brands. In 2015, the directors expanded by installing two PET lines each producing 28,000 bottles per hour and increased its building capacity by 4.425 acres establishing a section for warehouses/storage rooms, recreational areas for employees.

The company invested over \$55m in the last two years, in construction of a municipal waste water pre-treatment system with 60,000 litres per hour capacity and supported the community with initiatives in education, health, sports and the environment.

Medium Scale Category - Electronic Control Switch Gear Ltd

The Ugandan-owned investment provides solutions to Uganda's energy needs by providing power to rural communities and agro-based processing factories, which is essential for job creation and industrialisation.

The company set up a modern environment-friendly transformer manufacturing plant, with a production capacity of 20 transformers per month, a capacity to manufacture transformers with capacities ranging from the smallest to 1,000kVA, oil-cooled distribution transformers of 11/33kV and established a repair and service facility, contributing to a 30% increase of household incomes.

Criteria for selection of best investor

The participating project must have been licensed by the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) and should have reached commercial production in the last two years. This means that the 2016 awards considered investments that were implemented or expanded from July 2013 to June 2014. Projects of re-investments in nature also qualified to compete.

Participants are judged basing on parameters that include generation of new earnings and savings of forex, creation of jobs, project's multiplier effects, evidence of quality control and international competitiveness, use of local materials environmental considerations and level of investment and capital inflow.

Panel of judges

Participating investors are judged by a team of experts which is constituted by members from different organisations like the Uganda Export Promotions Board, Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA) and Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS). Others are from the Private Sector

Foundation Uganda, Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNAFFE) and Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST).

The panel makes the final selection from the shortlisted projects and then proceed for a physical monitoring of the projects in the different districts.

2016 awards

Combating corruption dominated this year's awards event that took place last week at Hotel Africana.

Speakers who included Prime Minister, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, finance minister Matia Kasaija and UIA's executive director, Jolly Kaguhangire, blamed corruption for Uganda's poor rankings in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business index, a ranking used to determine how favourable a regulatory environment is towards starting and operation businesses.

Currently, Uganda globally ranks at 115th position out of 190 economies behind its East Africa counterparts of Rwanda and Kenya that are ranked in the 56th and 92nd positions respectively.



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Award winners, ministers and officials during the investor of the year 2016 award ceremony at Hotel Africana, Kampala last month

investors

Small Scale Category - Laboremus (U) Limited

The joint venture between Ugandans and Norwegians is a Microsoft Certified Gold Partner for Application Development and employs 28 highly motivated professional staff, of whom 30% are female.

The company recently launched a new department that is focusing on digital transformation consulting, IT support and Microsoft solutions.

It exported over 67% of their services in 2016, involved Ugandans in multi-million dollar projects for banks in Norway, such as SEB and Pareto Securities and sponsored their Ugandan staff in capacity building trainings in Norway and other countries.

Woman Entrepreneur of the Year - Lydia K. Oile, chief executive officer, Le Mémorial Medical Services
A woman entrepreneur who

had a dream to see a health care service that would stop the need for Ugandans to travel abroad for treatment.

In 2015, she invested all her life savings to a tune of \$20,000 (about sh71m) into establishing a medical facility to provide accessible, high-quality preventive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative tertiary-level health services.

She employed over 44 professional medical staff, provided enough clinical space for consultations, emergencies, general and private admission and a state-of-the-art laboratory. She created a team of experts to manage complex blood disorders (haematology), as well as offering palliative care for patients with terminal illnesses, such as cancer in advanced stages.

Best Diplomatic Mission Abroad - Uganda High Commission in Nairobi
It responded to the Government's call to promote



PROF. DR MAGGIE KIGOZI HAS USED THE DIGITAL SPACE TO BRING THE INVESTMENT TOPIC TO LIFE IN THE MEDIA BY ADVOCATING BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT

and attract foreign direct investment to Uganda through commercial diplomacy, initiated and co-ordinated trade and investment missions to Uganda, carried out innovative investment promotion activities and generated investment contacts

for the investment authority.

Special Recognition Award for Home Grown Investment - RECO Industries Ltd

Using raw materials sourced from local farmers in more than 21 districts in Uganda,

this firm came up with formulae of ready to use therapeutic foods to fight malnutrition in children.

The company works with a network of Ugandan farmers to grow high quality produce suitable for the production of therapeutic foods.

Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Investment Promotion Ambassador - Prof. Dr Maggie Kigozi

Prof. Dr Maggie Kigozi is an investment promotion consultant, focusing on promoting and facilitating foreign direct investments into Africa.

She gives positive comments on investment to the media. She has nullified the assumption that the digital age is awash with only youthful users.

With thousands of followers, Kigozi tweets and re-tweets daily on issues, especially regarding investment. Thousands re-tweet her messages, taking investment information to where Uganda Investment Authority would not have otherwise reached.

She has used the digital space to bring the investment topic to life in the media by advocating both domestic and foreign investment.



le Mémorial MEDICAL SERVICES

For a long time Ms. Lydia K. Oile had a dream to one day see in Uganda a health care service that would stop the need for Ugandans to be shipped out for medical treatment abroad. Indeed, market survey indicates that there is a significant need for quality tertiary health care services within Uganda and the Great Lakes Region. Ms. Oile went ahead to see her dream come true by investing all her life savings into establishing le Mémorial Medical Services which is strategically located in the center of the country in Wakiso District, about 12 kilometers from Kampala, and 3 kilometers off the Entebbe International Airport Highway, on Kigo road.

Formally established in 2015, the mission of le Mémorial is to provide to the people of Uganda and the Great Lakes Region accessible, high-quality preventive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative tertiary-level health services.

Since its establishment, le Mémorial is committed to providing services that will exceed the expectations of our patients, resulting in a successful and profitable business. So far the services that make us unique from the rest include but not limited to:

- Providing care to patients in a serene environment that is uniquely located away from the congestion in the capital;
- Tailor-made accommodation for the patients where there is no need for



An over view of le Memorial Medical Services.

- attendants to worry about how to care for a patient but to visit them;
- Enough clinical space that includes consultation rooms, a full-scale emergency room, general and private admission beds, a state-of-the-art laboratory, among others.
- An array of high-end operating rooms with the latest technologies to allow us carry out complex surgical procedures, including surgical oncology;
- Medical oncology with our patients treated in a holistic manner that minimizes anxiety and treatment related complications;

- Management of complex blood disorders (hematology) by our team of experts in this area;
- Palliative care for patients with life threatening illnesses such as advanced cancer;
- General health care services including immunizations as recommended by UNEPI;
- Wellness care through our wellness clinics;
- Corporate social responsibility that includes services to the people within our community aimed at disease prevention, early detection and treatment, but also to the rest of the country - e.g. blood donation drives, etc.

All this is possible because the principals of le mémorial collectively have practical experience in public relations, sales, marketing, entrepreneurship, and teaching. Each physician as well as other members of our team have completed the necessary trainings and duly registered with their respective and recognized professional bodies. Le mémorial isn't only a curative hospital but also a preventive measure hospital, we are currently running a health campaign to create awareness about lifestyle diseases in form of a health run called "Smiles through Miles".

We let people know that by going for health checkups, exercising and eating healthy then they would be able to live a healthier life.



Ms. Lydia Oile with her award (woman entrepreneur 2016).