

Uganda's economy

HUMAN RESOURCE AND GOOD NATIONAL VALUES

Crispy Kaheru, co-ordinator of the Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda

Who will deliver Uganda to the middle-income status? A transformational, united leadership committed to the vision of delivering Uganda to a middle-income status country.

What will take Uganda to a middle-income status by 2020?

Good national values

Cultivating a set of core national values is an integral part in shaping Uganda's positive attitudes towards national development. Developmental values include integrity, honesty, selfless and dedicated leadership, discipline, tolerance, self-reliance and excellence.

Nurturing such values will help address various societal ills, including rampant corruption, impunity, chronic disregard for punctuality in public and private lives; poor quality of goods and services (which undermines our global competitiveness); indiscipline on our roads; insanitary conditions in our communities, etc. Such values are essential in stimulating advancement towards a middle-income status.

Human resource

Human resource is the engine that

UGANDA WILL REQUIRE A WORKFORCE THAT IS HIGHLY EDUCATED AND SKILLED IN THE PRACTICAL SUBJECTS

will deliver Uganda to a middle-income status. Uganda will require a workforce that is highly educated and skilled in the practical subjects that are required by the current context and markets. Uganda will require a skilled workforce, which is about solving problems through application of cutting-edge technologies, research knowledge and science.

Over the next few years, Uganda should, therefore, concentrate on producing graduates who create tools, platforms and algorithms, which unlock socio-economic logjams of their nation.

The education system should encourage and produce, for instance, engineers, who resolve engineering problems; engineers who do not contend with the sight of perennial potholes, urban water logging and unending traffic jams.

Schools should aim at producing skilled economists who can re-engineer viable economic models to solve the nation's economic complexities. We should be thinking of investing heavily in training agronomists, who will resolve agricultural challenges and ensure more productivity.

In short, markets and contexts today are dynamic. Therefore, if we are to leap into the middle-income status, then we must strengthen the ability of our workers to adapt to changing market demands and to benefit from innovation and investments in new technologies, environment, health and infrastructure.

Market responsive and high quality education and training fuels innovation, investment, economic diversification and competitiveness, as

well as social and occupational mobility. This leads to the creation of more productive and more rewarding employment opportunities.

Revenue mobilisation

Uganda is also going to have to strengthen expenditure controls and management, while ensuring value for money.

Uganda's curve of improving revenue collection has been on the rise. However, expenditures have persistently outstripped revenue performance, leading to budget deficits. To achieve a middle-income status, Uganda will need to become a lot stricter in its spending.

Strengthen the public procurement system; implement random monitoring and auditing of the payroll of various public sector institutions as a check on ghost names and payroll theft; ensure effective financial management



and oversight over state owned enterprises. These measures, when implemented, could ensure that wastes are eliminated, and the limited public resources are efficiently utilised, to quickly turn-around Uganda to a middle-income status country.

Points to note

Uganda, however, needs to guard against becoming a middle-income status country merely in figures and statistics. The middle-income status level should be seen and felt in the improvement in the quality of life of the citizens, as well as in infrastructural development.

Beyond the monetary pointers, it is also important that the middle-income status level is reflected through other indicators, including equitable distribution of resources within the population; improved quality of participation of citizens in public life; respect for the rule of law; reverence of human rights and civil liberties, as well as open governance.

Advancing towards a middle-income status takes strong leadership with a development ideology, unity of purpose; that places the interest and interests of all its people at the centre of the development conversation and leadership that works with the broader citizenry, to agree on the changes that need to happen.

And that inspires collective consensus on how to achieve the needed progress; and a leadership that will motivate the population through a variety of approaches to co-operate on accomplishing the task at hand (reaching the middle-income status), while continuously challenging the citizens to equitably share and own the dividends of their work.



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CO-OPERATIVES



H.E. Gen. Y. K. Museveni
President of the Republic of Uganda



Hon. Amelia Anne Kyambadde,
Minister of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives



Hon. Michael Werikhe
Minister of State for Industry



Hon. Frederick Gume
Minister of State for Co-operatives

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives, Minister of State for Trade, Minister of State for Cooperatives, Permanent Secretary, Staff of the Ministry and the entire Business fraternity Congratulate His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Cabinet Ministers, Members of the Parliament of Uganda, and all the people of Uganda upon attaining 54 years of Independence.

OUR MISSION

"To develop and promote competitive and export led private sector through accelerating industrial development, for economic growth and development."

OUR VISION

"Sustainable cooperatives, competitive trade and world class industrial products and services."

As we celebrate 54 years of Independence, the Ministry pledges continued commitment towards formulating and supporting strategies, plans

and programs that promote and ensure expansion and diversification of trade, cooperatives and environmentally sustainable industrialization as stipulated in its mandate.

We pledge to continue focusing on the following related key areas aimed at increased production and productivity of quality goods and services to ensure Private Sector competitiveness:

- Creation of a conducive policy and regulatory framework that facilitates

trade and industrial development

- Add value to the country's enormous resources
- Increase market access for Uganda's products and services in regional and international markets;
- Ensure efficient standards and quality infrastructure
- Improved storage and market infrastructure;
- Promote sustainable and diversified cooperatives engaged in all the subsectors of the economy.

HAPPY CELEBRATIONS, LONG LIVE UGANDA