

BUSINESS PARTNERS UGANDA

New Vision

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Trade minister launches BPI



The guest of honour, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Amelia Kyambadde having a discussion with Business Partners Uganda Fund Country Manager Daniel Kaggwa during the launch

Business Partners International (BPI) Uganda, a subsidiary of Business Partners International, aims to encourage entrepreneurship, facilitate job creation and contribute to small enterprise development by providing access to funding, technical assistance and mentorship to SMEs.

Their thesis is to have a development impact (support entrepreneurs to pursue wealth for themselves and create jobs for many) in the SME sector thus bolstering the middle class which is the fulcrum of successful democracies and to make profits thus ensuring a sustainable and growing development impact.

Business Partners Limited has over 30 years' experience in risk financing in South Africa and the model has been very successful and is highly regarded globally.

Due to its success in South Africa, the IFC requested it to extend this model into other African countries; Uganda is the 6th country outside South Africa that Business Partners Limited has since entered after Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda and Zambia. Currently, the minimum lending amount is sh200m with a maximum of sh3.5b. The key criterion is the business's viability; they lend to sole proprietors, partnerships, limited companies and close corporations.



Ben Bierman of Business Partners International and country manager Kaggwa hand over a gift to Kyambadde at the BPI launch at the Kampala Serena Hotel on Tuesday



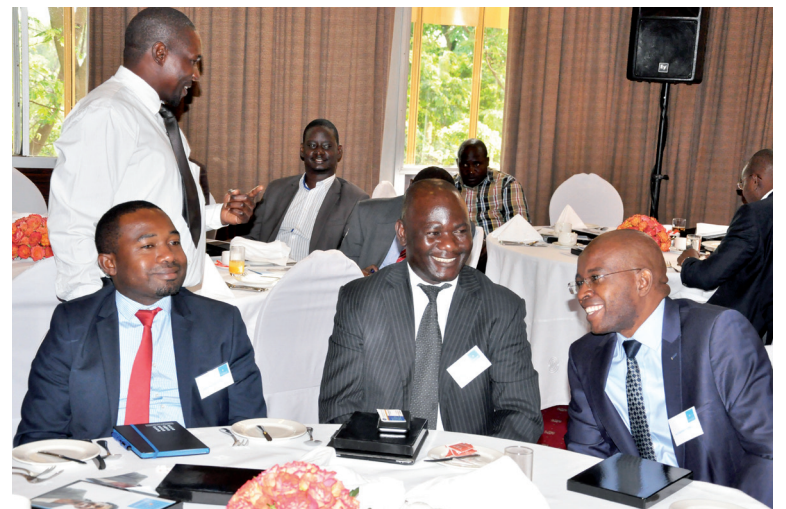
BPI chief operations officer Mark Paper answers questions raised by guests. Right is Uganda Development Bank CEO Patricia Ojangole



Joseph Biribonwa of MPG Associates, Sam Rwamahe of Byokusheka and Company and Kenneth Legesi of Deloitte keenly attentive during a presentation



Agatha Ninsiima of Byenkya, Kihika & Co. Advocates makes a contribution



Patrick Ngolobe, the president of the Human Resources Association of Uganda and head of HR at Umeme Ltd, shares a moment with Alexander Forbes CEO Busani Ngwenya and Japheth Kawanguzi of IDEA Innovation village



Ebert Byenkya of Byenkya, Kihika & Advocates and Lawrence Oketcho of Uganda Manufacturers Association were some of the guests who attended the BPI launch



Lion Assurance MD Newton Jazire stresses a point during the event. Photos by Godfrey Kimono