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Quality Assurance:
International Trade Centre (ITC), Trade Facilitation and Policy for Business Section (TFPB)
TCA Ranganathan, External consultant, Rajesh Aggarwal, Chief (TFPB), Andrew Huelin, Associate Programme Advisor (TFPB)

Author: Douglas Onyango
Design: Iva Stastny Brosig, Design plus
Editor: Guillaume Lamothe

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Uganda: An Overview

Uganda, officially, the Republic of Uganda is a landlocked, English speaking country in East Africa, surrounded by Kenya in the east, the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the west, the Republic of South Sudan in the north, Tanzania in the south and Rwanda in the south-west.

Uganda’s high population growth rates (3.3% per annum) has enabled a 15.1million strong workforce to thrive, supported by a decent literacy rates. 89.6% of the population between 18-24 years.

Uganda’s US$ 27billion economy is made up of the agriculture, industry and services sector with the services, where ICT falls, making the highest GDP contribution of 42%, compared to 41% and 17% from the industry and agriculture sectors respectively.

ICT sector, which employs 1 million people and contributes 7% of Uganda’s GDP is the country’s fastest growing sectors with a CAGR of 25%. The sector is facilitated and backed by government through liberal market policies and a fairly conducive legal and regulatory environment that has seen tremendous progress; since deliberate efforts at reform started in 1996.

Although, historically defined by the telecom sub-sector, the IT hardware, software and services sub-sectors are also growing- with several opportunities in ITES, ICT infrastructure setup, software development and hardware assembly. The IT Industry has a market size of US$318 million (2013), and is expected to grow to US$1.8 billion by 2020; driven by 72% local demand; 20% international and 8% from the region.

Although improvements are warranted in the legal, infrastructure and human resource areas to further improve international competitiveness. The ICT sector overall still presents a potentially lucrative investment opportunity backed by the fairly conducive legal and policy environment - the favourable investment incentives and the huge local market potential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key facts</th>
<th>Uganda at a glance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital: Kampala</td>
<td>GDP per capita (nominal): US$ 714.6 (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land area: 199,807.7 km²</td>
<td>GDP growth: 4.8% (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0–14 years: 48.30%</td>
<td>Currency: Ugandan shillings (UGX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15–64 years: 49.20%</td>
<td>Other major cities: Gulu, Lira, Jinja, Mbarara, Mbale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour force (over 15 years): 15.11 mm (2014)</td>
<td>Language: English (official language), Swahili, Luganda (major)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth: 3.3% (2014)</td>
<td>Imported: Capital equipment, vehicles, petroleum, medical supplies, cereals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth literacy rate (15–24 years):</td>
<td>Exchange rate (per US$): UGX 3,339.6 (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female: 81.7% (2012)</td>
<td>Govt. revenue: US$ 3.29 bn (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major imports: Capital equipment, vehicles, petroleum, medical supplies, cereals</td>
<td>*Source: UIA, 2013; World Bank, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© thinkstock.com
Why Uganda?

A FAST-GROWING ECONOMY

Uganda’s rebased GDP is US$ 27 billion (US$714.6 nominal per capita 2014), and is forecasted to grow at 5.3% during the 2015/16 fiscal year. This is a continuation of the economic growth which the country has enjoyed over the last decade, from less than US$ 9bn in 2005 to 27bn in 2014. Uganda has maintained a relatively stable inflation rate of 6.92% between 1998 and 2015 and has maintained an overall good level of fiscal health in the last five years. This is due to a series of reforms and improvements, including reforms in public expenditure management through the introduction of a Treasury Single Account (TSA); improvements in accountability and public expenditure through the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMS); improvement in hiring practices at government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, (MDAs) and local government through the Integrated Personnel and Payroll System, (IPPS); as well as the payroll and wage management system decentralization.

According to the Economist Corporate Network, Uganda’s economy is among the 20 fastest growing economies in the world, together with large economic powerhouses like China, India and Sri Lanka, and other top 9 African economies, where it trails closely behind Ethiopia.

*Source: World Bank, 2015*
Uganda’s economy is divided into three major sectors: agriculture, industry and services. Contributing 42% of the country’s GDP, the Services sector continues to see the highest growth amongst the three main sectors. It is followed by industry, with a contribution of 41% and trailed by agriculture, which, while employing more than 80% of the population but contributes 17% of GDP.

The Ugandan economy has seen a rapid and stable growth in the past two decades. Between 1992 and 2011, the GDP grew by 7.1% annually on average. This has made Uganda the third fastest-growing country during the period in Sub-Saharan Africa, only after Liberia (9.8%) and Equatorial Guinea (20.1%).1 This strong economic performance is attributed to the industrial and services sectors. These make Uganda an attractive investment destination due to the improved buying power of the population and the various investment opportunities which they bring about.

TRADE OVERVIEW

Uganda’s imports have surged, nearly tripling between 2010 and 2015, with oil, pharmaceuticals and other capital goods being the largest imports. In contrast, exports have remained relatively flat, totalling US$2.8bn in 2013. Coffee, cotton and copper are the largest exports. Uganda imports oil (24% of total imports), pharmaceutical products and other capital goods from Kenya, UAE, China and India. On the other hand, agricultural products make up the biggest part of total exports (80%), with coffee being the largest (22% of total exports), followed by tea, cotton, copper, oil, and fish. Uganda’s chief export partners are Sudan (15%), Kenya (10%), DR Congo, Netherlands, Germany, South Africa and UAE.2

Uganda’s skewed export balance presents a huge investment opportunity for both local and foreign investors. The government has identified investment in key sectors such as ICT as a solution to redress this situation, and is currently supporting and facilitating several investments.

Figure 2: Uganda’s GDP Per Capita (US$)


Figure 3: Overall Imports & Exports in US$

*Source: World Bank

1 UNDP. 2015. About Uganda
2 Trading Economics. 2015. Uganda Exports
BANKING SECTOR

Uganda has 4 million bank accounts, with a banking sector characterized by formal, semiformal and informal institutions. According to the Bank of Uganda, 26 commercial banks are operational in the country with more than 565 branches; a fourfold increase from a mere 129 branches in 2000. Urban institutions are served by a variety of formal institutions such as banks, microfinance deposit-taking institutions and credit institutions, many of which are foreign-owned, with only 14% of the rural population having access to finance. Semi-formal and informal institutions such as microfinance institutions and the Savings and Credit Cooperative Associations (SACCO) are important sources of finance to the rural population, serving around 12% of people in the rural areas. Despite the fact that all commercial banks in the country offer credit facilities, interest rate volatility remains a matter for concern.

All of the country’s banks, as well as several other licenced institutions provide international money transfer, remittance and payment services under a liberalized regime, which provides a conducive environment for international money transfer and a good level of freedom when it comes to moving money in and out of the country.

Uganda’s informal banking sector is greatly complemented by a rapidly growing mobile payments market. According to the Uganda Communications Commission, Uganda has more than 17.6 million registered mobile money subscribers, with approximately 90% of the country’s 19.2 million people owning a mobile phone. This is an astounding 310% increase from the 5.6 millions mobile money accounts, or 35% of the total mobile subscribers which the country had in 2012.

The Ugandan government envisages that revolutionary ICT services such as mobile money will continue to solve the country’s low banking rate problem, thus creating more opportunities for ICT investors to invest in the payments market using technology and allowing for easy access to previously unbanked populations.

*Source: Uganda Communications Commission 2014 report*
A DEVELOPING INFRASTRUCTURE

Uganda has made substantial progress on its infrastructure agenda, which has propelled it to becoming a regional leader in sector reform and liberalization. The early and successful ICT reforms culminated in a huge expansion in mobile coverage and penetration. The restructuring of the electrical sector has also paved the way for a rapid increase in the country’s power generation capacity. Air transport liberalization has led to growing traffic and good connectivity with East African hubs. The road freight sector is also improving, with several road construction projects currently on-going.

Uganda’s commitment to continued infrastructure development is apparent in the priority budget allocations to power generation, road-rail networks, irrigation schemes, schools and health infrastructure, which will further the steady progress made in these areas in the past years. Some of Uganda’s current priority infrastructure projects include: the US$ 400m Entebbe International Airport expansion, which will include a second terminal, a cargo centre and a runway; the US$ 8bn standard gauge railway project, which will connect Uganda to the rest of East Africa; the 77km toll-road project linking Kampala to Jinja; the Kampala- Entebbe expressway that will link Kampala City to Entebbe International Airport; the 250 MW Bujagali Hydropower project and the 140MW Isimba hydropower plant; as well the of 600MW Karuma Hydropower project and Oil Refinery in Hoima.

Uganda’s power sector has seen remarkable growth over the last decade, with power generation growing from 2.267mn MwH in 2008 to 3.045Mn MwH in 2012. According to the country’s Electricity Regulatory Authority, Uganda generates 810MW and has a peak demand of 509.4MW, 80% of which is produced from hydropower sources (2014). Because of power concessions, Uganda has very cheap power tariffs, with the Electricity Regulatory Authority rate being US$0.07 for bulk supply and twice this for end users, cheaper than the price for electricity in Europe or the United States.

Uganda’s power growth is attributable to sustained investment in power projects and has resulted into reduced load shading as well as some reduction in power tariffs especially for the industrial and manufacturing sectors.

Whereas the power sectors continues to be defined by high distribution losses and low electrification rates, Uganda’s power situation is getting better, and will improve dramatically after the completion of these key power projects.

A DYNAMIC MEMBER OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

The East African Community (EAC) is an intergovernmental organisation in the Great Lakes region of Africa. It comprises five countries, namely Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Established in 1967, the organization’s aim is to expand free trade. The EAC is also an essential part of the African Economic Community.

Throughout its existence, the East African Community has scored several major achievements. Key among these is the establishment of the East African Community Customs Union, which provides for a uniform tax rate and quota-based free movement of goods, cross-listing of stocks, capital markets development and joint infrastructure development projects such as the Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road, as well as other projects undertaken under the Northern Corridor Integration Projects.

An additional achievement of the EAC has been the harmonization of operations in the Ministries of Finance and Central Banks during the preparation and presentation of national budgets.

Uganda has greatly benefited from its proximity to Kenya and the East African community. Indeed, Kenya today imports some 10% of Uganda’s gross exports, with 2015 having seen the country begin to import Uganda’s surplus sugar production under a 4-year bilateral arrangement, following on the heels of a similar arrangement already in place on the importation of various commodities.

*Source: Electricity Regulatory Authority*
Other projects currently jointly implemented under the umbrella of the East African Community include the One Network Area, which allows for cheap and uniform rates for mobile telephony within the Northern Corridor countries, including further infrastructure developments such as the commencement of the Standard Gauge Railway projects. These projects are a signal to savvy investors on keen on capitalising on an addressable market of 150Mn people in the region.

**UGANDAN MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS**

Uganda is a member of various international trade and business organizations, including:

a. The East African Community (EAC)
b. The African Union
c. The Common Market for East and Central Africa (COMESA)
d. The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)
e. The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
f. The Northern Corridor Integration Projects (NCIP)
g. The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

**A FAST-GROWING AND LITERATE POPULATION**

Uganda’s population is 37.78 million (2014). It has one of the highest population growth rates in the world (3.3% per annum) and also enjoys a solid 89.6% literacy rate in the 18-24 age group, well above the 84% global average. This dynamism, coupled with a comparatively high level of literacy, strongly contributes to boosting the earning power of its 15.1 million strong workforce. Indeed, Uganda’s population, is a strategic asset for investors - one that can be harnessed by leveraging the large numbers of educated people to satisfy local and international human resource demands, not only in ICT, but also in various other sectors.
The ICT Sector in Uganda

The ICT market in Uganda is growing at a speed of more than 25% in cumulative annual rate. Significant growth has shown in various areas of computer applications, mobile devices, storage and dissemination, information processing, mobile finance, e-finance, online trade and global connectivity. The country’s geographical proximity with Europe, large educated youth population and growing service sector employment provides it with an excellent opportunity to be competitive in the domestic, regional and international ICT market.

Government support, human resource capacity, taxes and incentives, legal and regulatory framework and local market potential are a few of the factors required for an ICT industry to thrive.

BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE ICT SECTOR

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector is one of Uganda’s fastest-growing sectors, recording double-digit growth over the last few years. This growth has largely been driven by the telecommunications subsector, which has attracted investment in mobile broadband networks and Internet-related infrastructure rollouts. Such investments have resulted into Uganda being one of the few African countries with 100% GSM coverage and a cellular penetration of over 95%. Other sub-sectors include broadcasting, postal, information technology and information services, all of which have supported the larger ICT sector growth since their inception.

Created in 1996 through the Ugandan government’s adoption of a comprehensive telecommunications policy, the ICT sector in Uganda really came into its own with the 2005 creation of a fully liberalized regime regulated by the Uganda Communications Commission (UCC). The nascent Internet industry quickly raised awareness in the Ugandan government of its potential to usher in rapid transformations in the country’s ICT landscape. In response, the government embarked on a process to integrate new technologies into the country’s ICT sector, with the cabinet ratifying the National ICT Policy Framework in 2003. This framework was later revised in 2012 under the principal theme of the “Knowledge Economy,” which borrowed greatly from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the UN sanctioned World Summit on Information Society (WSIS).

Today, Uganda’s ICT landscape consists of telecommunications, postal, broadcasting, and other sub-sectors of information technology and services, with the telecommunications sub-sector contributing the most revenue.

As the leading subsector, the telecommunications subsector has a mobile subscription rate of 19,244,020 and a tele-density of 53.3 connections per 100 inhabitants (2014), an exponential increase from the 9,768,799 subscribers present in 2009.

*Source: Uganda Communications Commission 2014 report*
The country’s total Internet users and bandwidth has also grown exponentially. In 2014, Uganda’s total bandwidth stood at 26,986.05Mbps or 737.01Mbps per 1,000,000 inhabitants. The country also had more than 8.5mn Internet users, a 300% increase from 2009. This growth, which depends on the success of the existing mobile phone network, is predicted to continue and, as such, presents favourable opportunities for FDI, both in ICT Infrastructure as well as in the relevant services that can leverage it.

Over the years, the sector has also continued to register faster growth in mobile money subscriptions, in direct contrast to the slowing adoption rate of mobile subscriptions. In 2014 alone, mobile money subscriptions grew by 46% for a total of 17,644,162 registered mobile money users, who transacted more than 11,872 trillion shillings in the same period. This exponential growth will further improve financial inclusion, especially for rural areas, by making it possible for unbanked populations to access financial services. This will further open up investment opportunities in mobile money service provision and other related mobile money driven services.

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**Figure 7: Mobile Money Subscriptions**

*Source: Uganda Communications Commission 2014 report*
**LOCAL MARKET POTENTIAL**

With a population of 38 million growing at 3.3%, Uganda’s low use of ICTs; 100% GSM coverage and 19 million-strong mobile subscriptions all combine to create enormous opportunities for services as well as other VAS offerings that can use the same mobile and Internet connections.

The mobile payments market is a great illustration of this, with 17,644,162 registered Mobile Money users and transactions in excess of 11,872 trillion Shillings in 2014. East African Integration means that investors in Uganda also have access to 150 million population in the East African region countries.

**GOVERNMENT SUPPORT**

The Ugandan government’s deliberate steps to set up a liberal marketplace and conducive regulatory environment is telling of its support for the ICT sector. Indeed, the government’s openness to industry and other stakeholders at the highest level, such as the Presidential Investors Round Table, has enabled the completion of several key projects aimed at promoting competitiveness in the ICT industry.

Key among these are the fast tracking of the cyber laws, the implementation of the National Data Transmission Backbone Infrastructure and the e-Government Infrastructure Project (NBI/EGI), which aims to connect major towns within the country into an Optical Fibre Network and link government ministries through the e-Government Network.3

Furthermore, government support has enabled the creation of a 240-seat Incubation Centre, housing three ITES service providers and employing more than 240 agents. The centre aims to stimulate and promote the ITES sector, and acts as a physical representation of government support for the industry which all ICT investors will be able to enjoy.

**HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY**

As a result of the Universal Primary and Secondary free education programme and other deliberate interventions, Uganda enjoys a good literacy rate, with up to 89.6% of the population between 18-24 years being literate. Uganda is also recognized as a regional leader in providing quality and affordable education services with more than 201,376 enrolments every year in University and other tertiary institutions (2013). 7% being foreign student from Kenya, South Sudan and other East African countries. Uganda’s oldest University, Makerere, has also been ranked third best University in Africa by UK’s Times Higher Education in 2015, only rivalled by two South African Universities in research publications.

Besides, the formal education, Ugandans are also known to speak English with a fluency and accent that gives the country a competitive edge in Africa and Asia in areas like BPO where fluency and neutral accents are valuable assets.

Furthermore, Government, through NITA-U, and other private sector players, jointly-developed a training programmes, and has so far trained 500 graduates at Makerere University to support the BPOs sector. This growing pool of trained resources forms human capital that investors can readily use.

It is going to be necessary for the country to expand such programmes into other ICT areas if Uganda is to produce a globally competitive workforce to satisfy the local and export requirement in both ICT and other sectors.

Uganda’s 15.1 million workforce also comes with a cost advantage in comparison to countries like India. According to a Nasscom report, Uganda’s entry level salary for IT services is an average of $320. This is 20% cheaper than India’s $400 entry level salary.

3 National Information Technology Authority - Uganda (NITAU). 2015. Projects
LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

Uganda has made remarkable strides using legal and policy instruments to create an enabling environment for the growth of the ICT industry. One example is the enactment of the Computer Misuse Act of 2011, which prevents the misuse, abuse or unlawful access of information systems and regulates electronic transactions and electronic evidence in courts of law. The Electronic Transactions Act of 2011 and Electronic Signature Act of 2011, meanwhile, facilitate and secure electronic transactions and encourage e-Government. All of these help provide ICT investors with all of the adequate legal protections for their investments in the sector.

In the past, the absence of regulation on data privacy and protection has impinged on Uganda’s efforts at promoting Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services on the international market, with clients left in doubt over the privacy of data. However, Uganda today has a draft law which, once enacted, will extend the same levels of data protection and privacy for foreign data in Uganda as is already the case in other globally competitive economies, such as India and Malaysia.

TAX & INCENTIVES FOR ICT

Uganda has made great progress in extending a widely preferential system of taxes and other incentives for investors. These include the setup of more than 22 Business Parks and Export Promotion Zones to target priority areas for the Ugandan economy, and in which ICT plays a key role. The latest in this chain of developments is the USD 158 million Industrial and Business Park project in Mbale, in Eastern Uganda. In fact, the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) has earmarked land in all of the Business 22 Parks as priority areas for the sector. A variety of other preferential treatments also exist for foreign investors in Uganda in the form of waived premiums on land, expedited application processing and other perks.

In addition to this, the government has further set up free zones to make investing more attractive to foreign investors. Managed by the Free Zones Authority, the benefits of investing in these zones include 100% foreign ownership of investments and a 10 year tax holiday, 100% allowance on scientific research expenditure and training expenditure, as well as a nominal corporate tax rate of 30%, which is amongst the lowest in Africa.

These incentives mark Uganda as a favourable environment for ICT investment able to compete with and even surpass, not only its East African neighbours, but also many of Asia’s most popular ICT investment destinations.

REGISTRATION AND LICENCING

In response to concerns about Uganda’s lengthy and scattered business registration and licencing processes, the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) collaborated with seven other agencies to set up a “One Stop Centre” at the UIA offices. As a result of this intervention, the business registration process now takes less than a week and is managed from a centralized location, which includes premises that house the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB), Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), and various other agencies.

What’s more, the One Stop Centre is continuing to evolve. Indeed, an electronic system in being developed to further shorten the registration process and integrate directly with the Agencies’ systems to eliminate the remaining cumbersome manual intervention in the business registration and licensing processes. This will greatly benefit investors who will soon have access to an automated system through which business registration can be completed online in a day or two.

GEOGRAPHY AND TIME ZONE

Uganda has a convenient geographical location which not only puts it in close proximity to regional markets in East and Central Africa, but which also allows for comparatively easy access to Europe. Indeed, the country’s GMT+3 time zone is particularly favourable for BPOs, as the major consumers of these services are located in different time zones, with three hours’ difference in the UK, eight hours’ difference in the USA and Canada, and six hours’ difference in Japan. This provides an advantageous position for Uganda in the BPO sector, with the possibility of doing business with Asia in the morning and Europe and the Americas in the afternoon.
Investment Opportunities

Together with the country’s liberal business environment, the sector’s growth and competitiveness has already attracted global players such as Microsoft, Cisco, Samsung, TechnoBrain, Dhanush, and Spanco, all of which have set up operations in Uganda and operate alongside local enterprises such as Datafundi, Crystal Clear and Yo Uganda. Both as a sector and as an enabler for other sectors, the growing use of ICTs in Uganda has created widespread demand for IT products and services, making for profitable investment opportunities. In fact, Uganda’s IT-enabled services market is expected to grow by 70% between 2013 and 2020, supported by the country’s favourable time zones and large pool of skilled, inexpensive labour. The following sectors represent some of Uganda’s most important investment opportunities:

- **Telecommunications:** As the adoption of ICTs in various facets of life and business continues to flourish in Uganda, local demand for quality ICT infrastructure and services is also rising, creating many profitable investment opportunities to service the local population.

- **Software development:** Every year, Ugandan government ministries, departments and agencies award several multi-million dollar software development contracts to foreign companies in order to develop Uganda’s domestic software infrastructure. This has resulted in a variety of strategic investment opportunities to capture some of this profitable market.

- **ICT hardware manufacturing and assembly:** The lack of local companies active in ICT hardware manufacturing and assembly means that both Uganda’s 38 million strong population and the 150 million strong East African common market are important consumers of imported ICT hardware. This established local and regional demand, for which there is no major local competition, presents several lucrative investment opportunities.
PROCEDURES TO START A BUSINESS

Legal and regulatory interventions incentives, mostly centred around the Free Zones, have progressively improved the attractiveness of doing business in Uganda. The One Stop Centre is the latest in this new line of interventions. Centralizing access to information, shortening registration time and reducing costs are some of the Centre’s main objectives.

The process for registering a business In Uganda can be outlined as below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>ETA</th>
<th>Associated Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Submit the Name Reservation Form to the assessment window of the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) and obtain the bank payment slip</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>USH 25,000 + USH 2,000 bank fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Pay the name reservation fees at the bank</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>included in previous procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Reserve the company name</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Sign the declaration of compliance before a Commissioner of Oaths</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>USH 2,000-10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Obtain the slip-in for the payment of the registration fee and the stamp duty from URSB</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Pay the registration fees at a designated bank</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>File the registration documents at the Office of the Registrar and Obtain the Certificate of Incorporation</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>See details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Obtain a Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Register for taxes at the Uganda Revenue Authority</td>
<td>5 days</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Receive inspection of the business premises by the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA)</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Obtain the application forms for the trading license</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Receive inspection of the business premises by the licensing officer and Obtain the assessment form</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Pay the license fee at the bank</td>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>included in the following procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Obtain the trading license</td>
<td>10 days</td>
<td>USH 400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Register with the National Social Security Fund (NSSF)</td>
<td>4 days</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Make a company seal</td>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>USH 225,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: World Bank, 2015, Doing Business Database*
Useful contacts

Upon arriving in Uganda, investors are encouraged to begin by visiting the Uganda Investment Authority, where they will find the most recent information and advice to successfully begin their activities in Uganda.

**Uganda Investment Authority**  
The Investment Centre,  
Plot 22B Lumumba Avenue, TWED Plaza  
P.O. Box 7418 Kampala, Uganda  

| Telephone:    | +256 414 301 000  
| Website:      | ugandainvest.go.ug |

**Uganda Communications Commission**  
UCC House, Plot 42 - 44, Spring road, Bugolobi  
P.O. Box 7376, Kampala, Uganda  

| Telephone:    | +256 414 339 000/ 312 339 000  
| Fax:          | +256 414 348 832  
| Website:      | ucc@ucc.co.ug |

**Ministry of Information and Communications Technology**  
Parliament Avenue, Kampala Uganda  
P.O. Box 7817 Kampala  

| Telephone:    | +256 414 236 262  
| Fax:          | +256 414 231 314  
| Website:      | www.ict.go.ug |

**National Information Technology Authority - Uganda (NITAU)**  
Palm Courts, Plot 7A, Rotary Avenue  
P.O. Box 33151, Kampala - Uganda  

| Telephone:    | +256 417 801 038  
| Fax:          | +256 417 801 050  
| Website:      | www.nita.go.ug |

**Uganda Free Zones Authority**  
6th Floor, Communications House.  
Plot 1 Colville Street, Kampala  
P.O. Box 37578, Kampala Uganda  

| Telephone:    | +256 417 722 600  
| Email:        | helpdesk@freezones.go.ug |