ECONOMIC MKUTANO 2023

POST EVENT REPORT

FOR THE 5TH ECONOMIC MKUTANO

UNLOCKING THE GREEN ECONOMIC ZONES OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

23rd February 2023 **#MKUTANO23**



LETTER FROM THE CURATOR

The 5th Economic Mkutano held on the 23rd of February 2023 was a great success! #Mkutano23 drew delegate participation from over 25 countries.

In his remarks, our Guest of Honour, Hon David Bahati, Minister of state for Industry affirmed Government of Uganda's commitment to providing the right incentives to progress on the development of industrial zones. A case study of the development of eco industrial zones under the a #PPP model in Mozambique was provided by the Executive Chairman of MozParks, Adrian Frey. Gatsby Africa provided insights on investor expectations in the Textiles and Apparels sector over a fireside chat.

In his closing remarks, the Senior Advisor to the Chief Coordinator of Operation Wealth Creation, Ambassador Gen. Phillip Idro tasked the curator to provide a list of actionable items that government needs to work on.

We would like to extend out thanks to all partners and participants and look forward to an even better series of engagements at our next convening.



D. Bikhado OFUNGI
Curator, The Mkutano Company



PARTNERS

























Delegates: 54 Inhouse | 28 Online

Format: Laying the Terrain – Keynote – Fireside – Reflection Plan – Delegate Engagement

Social Media: 510 Tweets | 6 Days Time frame | 1,016,640 Reached | 9,059,432 Impressions | 444 Total RT's

Countries:





OPENING REMARKS

Hon. David Bahati, expressed gratitude to The Mkutano Company for organizing this important dialogue. He remarked that the government was privileged to have been invited and emphasized the role of the government in creating a private sector that can flourish.

Hon. Bahati revealed that the government plans to put up 22 facilitated industrial parks in the next 5 years and ensure that the green economy aspect is taken care of during their development. He added that provision of constant electricity is a key focus, and the government is discussing ways to produce more power to support the private sector.

Hon. Bahati urged banks to reduce the cost of credit, as the government has provided a good environment for them to do business.

In closing, Hon. Bahati expressed the government's eagerness to receive a document at the end of Mkutano23 with ideas that can be immediately implemented. He hoped that the discussions would result in concrete ideas and solutions that the government could take action on.

HON. DAVID BAHATI
Minister of State for Trade, Industry and Cooperatives



LAYING THE TERRAIN QUOTES



"PSFU has developed a catalytic fund that will focus on SMEs, youth, and women. Youth form the majority population in Uganda, and women entrepreneurs constitute 40% of the sector, yet they have the hardest trouble accessing credit"

DAMALI SSALI
Chief Of Programs, Private Sector Foundation Uganda



"We need to carefully implement a favorable export-led industrial base to promote the private sector. This is a key focus of the economic green zones that UFZA oversees."

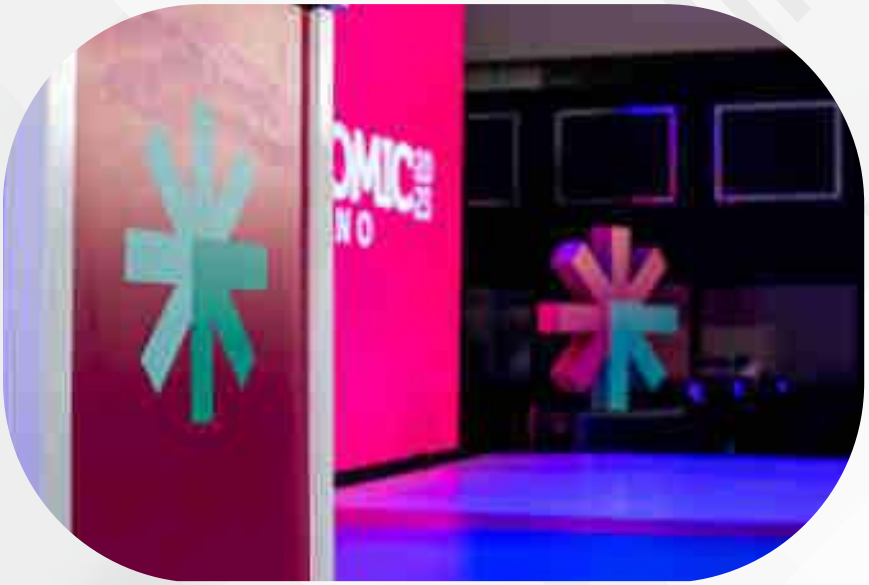
HEZ KIMOOMI ALINDA
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, UFZA

SESSION 1: Green Economic Zones

Sarah presented on the structural features of good practice special economic zones. She highlighted that a simple and transparent regulatory regime, a dedicated governance structure for efficiency, and significant administrative government investment in the form of special legislation are essential components of successful economic zones.

In the context of Uganda, the guidelines for green economic zones have been finalised and are set to be ratified by the government soon. However, to fully operationalize these guidelines, a practical approach must be defined and understood by both local and international developers. The approach should prioritize circularity and de-carbonization, particularly as Uganda's projects are predominantly greenfield.

Ochieng further stressed the need for the introduction of eco-industrial parks, as global manufacturers are placing increasing emphasis on sustainability and circular economy principles.



SARAH OCHIENG
Program Manager at the IFC



KEYNOTE SPEECH

Adrian outlined Mozpark's goal to build 20 special economic zone parks in Mozambique within the next 10 years. These parks are expected to generate income for 100,000 individuals each.

He emphasised the importance of the PPP model, noting that the primary financing for the parks will come from the government and development partners.

As Mozambique's biggest special economic zone and industrial park developer and operator, MozParks currently employs over 8,500 individuals, thanks to a multi -billion - dollar investment.

Mozparks is dedicated to developing special economic zones in all provinces of Mozambique, with a particular focus on developing SMEs. The Mozparks business model is regarded as one of the best impact models in Africa.

This initiative by MozParks serves as a valuable lesson for developers in Uganda, as well as subnational and national entities seeking to establish industrial zones under the PPP model.

ADRIAN FREY
Chairman Mozparks





SESSION 2: FireSide Chat



Antoinette emphasized that a practical approach needs to be defined for operationalising the guidelines for green economic zones, which should be understood by both local and international developers. She observed that in East Africa, there are many warehouses but not enough factories, and called on entrepreneurs to build more factories.

"Location has a lot to say about what value chains and logistics will see your investment succeed!" – Richard Davis, Gatsby Africa."

Overall, the fireside chat provided valuable insights into the practical implementation of the green economic zone framework, which can have a significant impact on sustainable economic growth and development in Uganda and the wider East African region.

SESSION 3: Reflection Panel



"Focus is on the highlighted the importance of considering environmental, social, and governance (ESG) aspects in the development of economic zones."
Spencer Sabiiti, CEO - Standbic Properties



"There is a link between industrial zones and academic institutions and how transformative education can contribute to unlocking the potential of green economic zones."
Prof. DR. Eng. Kant Kanyarusoke, Head of department Chemical & Process Engineering - Busitema University.



"UNCDF's has financing vehicles and tested experiences to unlock green economic zones"
Dmitry Pozhidaev, Head of Office - UNCDF



"The #NSSFHiInnovator program is enabling skilling of MSMEs and helping them become formal. These are an important part of the industrial ecosystem."
Richard Zulu, CEO - OUTBOX



"PSFU has developed a program called the Lead Firm Structure which is anchored on linking small firms along the value chain to big firms. So far, 50,000 SMEs have benefitted."
Allan Senyondwa, Project Manager - PSFU



"Getting the product to the market is extremely important. Trademark Africa is supporting the industrial zone ecosystem with the requisite infrastructure."
Anataria Uwamariya, Director Business Competitiveness - Trademark Africa

SESSION 4: The Wrap up



The ambassador reported that the Minister had stated the need to draw conclusions on the issues discussed, and he was pleased that all the speakers had accomplished that task. The Ambassador emphasised that industrialisation was one of the key steps towards development and that Uganda should continue to promote it.

Regarding imports and exports, the Ambassador mentioned that Ugandans imported cosmetics worth $1.8 billion but only had exports of $800 million in coffee exports. Industrialization would help to retain money in the economy.

The Ambassador concluded that industrialisation is the new order, and there are many ways to achieve it. He emphasized that there is no one-size-fits-all solution and that it is essential to be reasonable and realistic when approaching the issue.

The Ambassador thanked the organizers for putting the discussion together and officially closed the 5th Economic Mkutano.

AMBASSADOR PHILLIP IDRO
Senior Advisor to the Chief
Coordinator of Operation Wealth Creation


What it takes to shift to a green economy

Daily Monitor – 28th Feb, 2023


OIL, GAS & INFRASTRUCTURE

NEWS GO ROUND

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GOVT FREE GAS CYLINDERS?


PRIVATE SECTOR ADVOCATES FOR GREEN ECONOMIC ZONES, SUPPORT

New Vision – 24th Feb, 2023



UBC – 23rd Feb, 2023



BBS Tv – 23rd Feb, 2023
















INCLUSION


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