Uganda AGOA 101: A New Resource for Exporters

Ugandan exporters now have an updated manual, the Uganda AGOA 101, that outlines the step-by-step process they should take to export duty-free to the U.S. through the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). This tool will help Uganda leverage AGOA for greater economic growth. In addition to clarifying the basic export procedures, the guide provides additional information on export requirements for four high-demand, high-value sectors, namely coffee, cut flowers, fish, and textiles and apparel.

Read more

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UGandan Exporters Sensitized on Export Requirements for Greater AGOA Trade

The USAID Hub partnered with the Uganda Parliament Speaker’s Office, the AGOA Country Response Office and the AGOA Exporters Association to conduct the Uganda Parliamentary AGOA Sensitization Workshops and Exhibition on
May 14-15 in Kampala. Ugandan companies learned about AGOA export requirements to enable them to fully utilize the duty free opportunity.

While delivering her opening remarks the Minister of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, Amelia Kyambadde, said, "AGOA is an opportunity for Uganda to access the U.S. market place, increase exposure for 'Made in Uganda' goods, and create more jobs. The Uganda Brand under BUBU (Buy Uganda, Build Uganda) was launched by the President on March 7, 2019 and it's in the process of being popularized. The milestone we have taken today of exhibiting our products before the Parliament will definitely create further awareness amongst the private sector and legislators in order to spur growth in exports under AGOA."

Although a lot of progress has been made, AGOA's potential has not been maximized. One of the primary constraints remains a lack of knowledge about AGOA among the private sector and supporting public sector actors. To mitigate this challenge, the USAID Hub supported this awareness-raising event and the development of Uganda’s National AGOA Strategy and Action Plan and AGOA 101.

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WOMEN CROSS-BORDER TRADERS MAKE ALMOST $3M IN TRADE COMMITMENTS

The USAID Hub partnered with Agribusiness Focused Partnerships (AGRIFOP) to train 20 women cross-border traders from Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on their rights under national, regional and international cross-border trade protocols and on structured staple food trade practices. The capacity building forum included a business-to-business event where women traders signed commitments to trade 2,000 MT of soya valued at $1.3 million, and 6,000 MT of maize valued at $1.65 million. This brought the totals for trade commitments under the AGRIFOP grant to 13,268 MT valued at $4.34 million. Read more

For more information on the USAID's Hub work with women cross-border traders, read the Gender and Youth Compendium.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND IN TANZANIA'S CASHEW SECTOR

Tanzania’s cashew nut production is growing at 450 percent (Tanzania Cashew Nut Board) with significant opportunities for investors along the value chain according to a study produced by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) with technical support from the USAID Hub. The USAID Hub and TIC visited 16 districts and town councils where they assessed cashew nut growing and processing with stakeholders and identified investment opportunities in this critical sector.

The study highlights opportunities in adding value to Tanzania’s raw cashew products through processing; investing into new cashew farming/plantations and providing extension
services so as to increase productivity and total tonnage; and investing in cashew machinery, equipment, spare parts production and supply. Read more

USAID HUB FACILITATES SAFE TRADE THROUGH SPS TECHNICAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN TANZANIA

The USAID Hub and the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI) trained 67 senior staff from Tanzanian government ministries and institutions on sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) risk analysis in plant health, animal health and food safety. This was the first in a series of four training workshops that will build Tanzanian authorities’ capacity to facilitate safe intra-regional and international trade in line with international standards and regulatory practices. Subsequent training workshops in June/July 2019 will cover official controls and inspections for plant health, animal health and food safety, and pest diagnosis for plant health and animal health.

The SPS technical training workshops are instrumental in enhancing SPS knowledge, skills and practice and they form part of USAID’s larger efforts to strengthen EAC Partner States’ compliance with the U.S.-EAC Cooperation Agreement. Read more

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