

JUNE 2025



BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UGANDA

THE CRANE'S VIEW

BCCU Administrator's Welcome



Welcome to June! It is midsummer in the UK and a chance to feel some warm sunshine and have an opportunities to enjoy light evenings and the outdoors. It's a time of optimism, gladness and prosperity, and so, I am very much looking forward to my trip back there at the end of this week. The sentiments I have about the UK summer also reflect how I feel about our evolving Chamber; we have been strengthening our engagements, our membership and our collaborations making our voice stronger, our reach further and our outcomes more tangible and effective. The Chamber was delighted when earlier this year, the British High Commissioner, HE Lisa Chesney, MBE became our Honorary President, concreting her commitment to the Chamber, its members, and British business interests in Uganda. Welcome aboard Lisa!

We have had a busy quarter, and I hope that you have been able to be part of of the many activities we have done, whether that's our work advocating for a better business environment at the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MOFPED) and at the Parliamentary Committee, or attending one of our in person or online events or just reading the information and updates I share. I am proud that the Chamber is growing and extending its influence to become the voice of British business in Uganda. I hope you are proud to be part of us.

I really enjoy engaging with you, our members at our events or at meetings and it is always a pleasure to hear that the work of the Chamber in connecting people, businesses and enabling commercial activity, ambition and economic growth. I know our members feel the difference we are making. As ever, if you have any feedback, or suggested activities, or would like to facilitate an event through sponsorship, I would love to hear from you. Please drop me an email or a WhatsApp.

I am enthusiastic about the next quarter in which we will hold our first AGM and celebrate our first birthday! I look forward to working with you all.

Best wishes, Sarah



JUNE 2025



From the British High Commissioner HE, Lisa Chesney MBE

It's fantastic to be writing my first piece for the BCCU newsletter since being named as your honorary president – a job that I do with pride and enthusiasm along with my side hustle as British High Commissioner to Uganda.

The past three months have been a vibrant and productive period for UK-Uganda relations, marked by exciting milestones and deepening partnerships. I was honoured to be on board the historic inaugural Uganda Airlines direct flight to London on 18th May, joined by some of our excellent BCCU members. This new route is more than just a flight—it's a powerful symbol of our growing connectivity and a catalyst for trade, tourism, and people-to-people ties.

We also saw strong UK engagement at the East Africa Trade and Investment Forum on 21-22nd May, where British businesses demonstrated their commitment to the region's economic future. A shout-out to Nexus Green for their appearance on a panel discussion on doing business in Uganda, and to Lagan for their engagement. Potential investors told me they valued hearing directly from experienced operators here. I hope to see even more of our Chamber members participating in such high-impact events going forward.

Earlier in May, at the London Coffee Festival, Uganda's world-class coffee took centre stage, reinforcing the UK's role as a key market and partner in value addition. It was a proud moment for all of us who champion Ugandan exports.

Closer to home, the British Chamber of Commerce Uganda has continued to foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Recent highlights include a timely tax seminar with EY in April, the joint networking event with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in May, sponsored by Baker Tilly, and a delightful dinner with Menzies Aviation, one of our valued platinum members. We've also been listening closely to your needs. In May, we hosted a practical session on common visa mistakes—part of our ongoing effort to ensure BCCU members are well-informed and supported. Do reach out to my team at the High Commission, Sarah or the Board of Directors to give us feedback on what activities would be most valuable for you.

These engagements reflect the strength and dynamism of our business community. The Chamber thrives when its members are proactive and engaged, shaping it into the vibrant, supportive network we all want it to be. A special thank you to our platinum members, Rainbow International School and Menzies Aviation, and Baker Tilly and EY for sponsoring recent events, and to Grant Thornton and Standard Chartered Bank who are sponsoring the Chamber's upcoming post budget event—your support is greatly appreciated.

Looking ahead, we'll be exploring how BCCU members can leverage the UK's Developing Countries Trading Scheme in August, especially in light of the new direct flight. And most excitingly, we'll soon be celebrating the Chamber's first birthday in September—an impressive milestone. And after all the coffee we've consumed at recent events, I'm confident we'll have the energy to celebrate in style. Bring your best dance moves!

From the Board of Directors

Dear Members, Partners, and Friends,

The past few months have been nothing short of exhilarating for the British Chamber of Commerce Uganda. We've witnessed a period marked by high-impact engagements, strong partnerships, and meaningful progress toward our shared mission of strengthening UK-Uganda trade and investment.

From strategic dialogues with key institutions such as TradeMark Africa, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, Uganda Investment Authority and the Uganda Revenue Authority, to hosting a high-level tax policy event—we've deepened our advocacy role at the very heart of Uganda's business reform agenda.

Our collaboration with the American and French Chambers of Commerce on a joint submission around the Ease of Doing Business and budget priorities was a powerful example of collective action. Together, we're shaping an enabling environment that's fit for investment, innovation, and sustainable growth.

We also stood proudly with Uganda at a historic milestone—the launch of Uganda Airlines' first direct flight to London Gatwick. It was more than just a route; it was a symbol of deeper economic ties. The UK launch events and trade forums were well-represented by Ugandan leaders and our very own British High Commissioner, HE Lisa Chesney, whose unwavering support as Honorary President of BCCU continues to elevate our voice and visibility. Her leadership, alongside UK Government partners, has been instrumental in positioning BCCU as a trusted and bold bridge between the UK and Uganda.

Our presence at multiple investor forums and sector roundtables, along with vibrant networking events—the most recent drawing over 100 enthusiastic participants and bringing together British, Ugandan and Japanese businesses—reflects the growing appetite for British-Ugandan business synergies. Our Secretariat has worked tirelessly to make this engagement seamless and meaningful. A heartfelt thank you to them.

As we look ahead, we are immensely proud to approach our first anniversary. In just under a year, BCCU has evolved into a highly respected, proactive, and dynamic platform, and the Ugandan Government has taken note. We have earned a reputation as one of the most visible and courageous voices in the private sector landscape.

Let me close by thanking our members, who are the lifeblood of this Chamber. Your participation, ideas, and belief in the BCCU vision continue to inspire us. The growth in our digital engagement and social media reach is proof of a community that is vibrant, growing, and ready to lead.

We are just getting started. Watch this space.

Sanjay Rughani, Chair of the Board of Directors





We extend a warm welcome to the new members who have joined the Chamber since the last newsletter.

Latitude 0 Hotel, G4S, ICS Engineering and Africa Group Logistics (AGL).

We are delighted to have you and look forward to working together:



New Invoices coming soon...



As we approach the BCCU's first anniversary, I will be issuing invoices this quarter for those whose membership fees will be falling due.

EVENTS REVIEW

A round up of BCCU Events since March

March 2025 – Platinum Members Dinner

British High Commissioner and BCCU Honorary President, Lisa Chesney hosted Platinum BCCU members Rainbow International School and the BCCU Board at a delicious dinner at the High Commissioner's Residence. Pictured alongside the HC and the Board are Mrs. Drashna Kotecha, Director of Rainbow International School, Mr. Bhasker Kotcher and Mr. Derek Jones, School Principal.



March – Reception to Launch Uganda Airlines Route to London Gatwick

All BCCU members were invited by Uganda Airlines and the British High Commission to attend a Reception to mark the launch of the airline's route between Entebbe and London Gatwick. Also present was Lord Collins, the UK's Minister for Africa who was visiting Uganda that week.

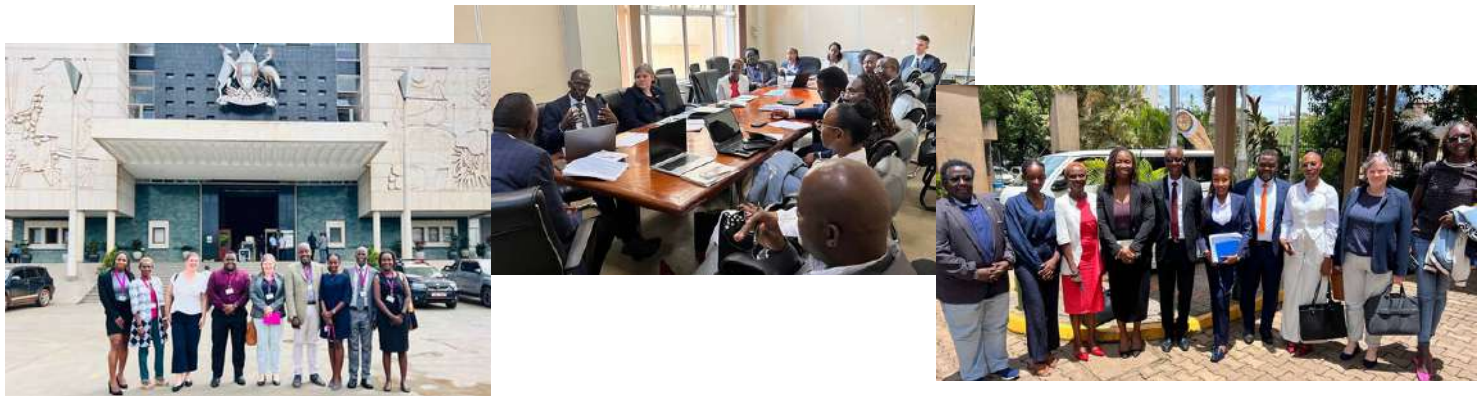
March – meeting with the URA alongside TradeMark Africa



EVENTS

April – Collaborative advocacy meetings with MOFPED and the Parliamentary Committee on Finance

Great connections, impactful advocacy and strong collaboration with fellow Chambers, the French Chamber of Commerce, NUTIP (Netherlands Uganda Trade and Investment Platform), the American Chamber of Commerce and BCCU Members EY and KPMG. Taking issues raised by members to Government departments and committees to improve the business environment on issues such as tax disputes, access to finance, non tariff barriers, climate compliance and infrastructure.



April – Member's Breakfast – Tax in Uganda



Kindly delivered by EY, and in the presence of the PSST and the URA we held an informative member's breakfast, presentation and panel on the Government's proposed tax amendments and the fiscal landscape.



May – UK Visas Teach in Webinar

Delivered by UK Visas & Immigration, we held a teach in webinar about how to successfully apply for a UK visa and how to avoid the common pitfalls.



EVENTS REVIEW

May – Networking Drinks with the Japanese Business Community



Kindly sponsored by BCCU member Baker Tilly, we hosted a networking event with over 100 guests from the BCCU and invited guests from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce to enjoy drinks, great food and network widely.



May – Platinum Members Dinner

British High Commissioner and BCCU Honorary President, Lisa Chesney hosted Platinum BCCU members Menzies Aviation and the BCCU Board at a delicious dinner at the High Commissioner's Residence. Pictured alongside the HC and the Board are Mrs. Mary Eafta, GM, Mr. Nouamane Zahouani VP Central and East Africa and Tiffany Kirlaw Deputy High Commissioner.



May – Breaking Silos



BREAKING silos

Your moderators:
Happiness Esther (Chairman)
The British Chamber of Commerce
Uganda (Chairman)
Board member - BCCU

Mark McQuinn
Uganda (Chairman)

Ashu Ogoola
CEO & Founder
Uganda (Chairman)

Think you know how to make your money grow in Uganda? Let's find out.

This isn't another 'sell' panel with people in suits repeating what you already know. This is the classroom where you get schooled on the stuff we all should know, but most of us secretly don't.

We're talking money. How to grow it. How to keep it.

Plus, music, cold drinks & good company.

May 27, 2025
17:00-20:00

Former Design Hub
5th street, Bugokobi

200 tickets available
Chamber members UGX 50k
Non-members UGX 100k

Contact NUTIP to sign up:
+256 705 853254 or admin@nutip.org

Hosted by NUTIP, BCCU Were invited to join the discussion at this lively networking event.

There are others planned so watch this space!

June – meeting with the UIA



FUTURE EVENTS

Here is an overview of upcoming events for the next few months of 2025.
More details to come. All details subject to change.

Thursday 19th June	<p>Post Budget Analysis Breakfast (in conjunction with AmCham, FCCU, NUTIP) Sheraton Hotel</p> <p>Register for your complimentary ticket by emailing Sarah. Subsequent tickets can be bought at 120,000 UGXpp</p>
July	DBT hosted Business Breakfast. Date TBC
August	Teach in about Developing Countries Trading Scheme. Date TBC
Thursday 18 th Sept	AGM and First Birthday Celebrations.
Oct	TBC
Nov	TBC
Dec w/b 1/12	Christmas Event

Please contact Sarah (bccuganda@outlook.com) if you could offer some sponsorship or a venue for any of our events. It would be much appreciated.



GLOBAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025
**FUTURE OF THE
ECONOMY**
WHERE'S THE GROWTH?



British Chambers of Commerce Global Annual Conference is on 26th June in London. To book, please visit their website. www.britishchambers.org.uk

MEMBERS' SURVEY

Soon, the BCCU will be launching its annual **members' survey** which we strongly encourage you to complete.

The survey will be three-fold and will ask questions about:

1. **Your business.** This will provide us with data we can use to help demonstrate the reach and value of the Chamber collectively.
2. What **issues** are important to your business? What **challenges** do you have? What areas do we need to do more **advocacy** on? What would members like more **information** about?
3. Feedback on **events** and **activities** done so far. What was valuable, what do you want more of or less of etc.?

We have been working with colleagues at other Chambers (including AmCham and the FCCU) to try to align our membership surveys thereby giving us greater leverage when advocating, so that together we have a bigger, louder, more influential voice.

We can only achieve this if you complete the survey.

Watch out for it coming soon!



BCCU Charity 2025

If you would like to nominate a charity for the BCCU to support in 2025, please write to Sarah with more details.

The Board will take a decision at a meeting later in the year as we raise funds in the month of December.



NEWS & UPDATES



British
High Commission
Kampala

From the British High Commission: The East Africa Trade and Investment Forum

On 21-22 May, the UK Government in partnership with DMA Invest, hosted the inaugural East Africa Trade and Investment Forum (EATIF) in London. We were delighted to host a senior delegation of Ugandan Ministers and officials for the event, including the Honourable Francis Mwebesa, Minister for Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, and Honourable General Wamala, Minister for Works and Transport. The UK's Minister for Africa, Lord Collins, delivered a keynote speech, as did the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy for East Africa, Kate Osamor MP. We were also delighted that a number of our BCCU members were in attendance, and wanted to say a huge thank you to Nexus Green for taking part in one of the panel sessions, representing the BCCU and for being an excellent ambassador for Uganda as an investment destination.

It was a vibrant and popular event with more than 500 British, Ugandan, Kenyan and Tanzanian businesses and other stakeholders in attendance across the two days. We worked hard to promote Uganda as an investment destination, to highlight the favourable business environment, and Uganda's strategic regional location, and role as a gateway to the East African market. The event provided an excellent opportunity to meet with important new and existing stakeholders and make new connections with the private sector across the region. The major focus for Uganda was the ten-fold growth strategy and how British companies can contribute to it by tapping into various opportunities presented in the areas of Agriculture, Tourism, Mineral Development and Science & Technology (ATMS).

For those who attended: a huge thank you! We'd love to hear what you thought of the event and any new connections you made. And for those that didn't, please tell us why! We are always keen to hear your feedback as we shape our flagship events in future.



Standard Chartered Bank hosted the Uganda Investment Dialogue 2025

Standard Chartered Uganda convened the Uganda Investment Dialogue 2025, a high-impact platform to catalyse cross-border investment, deepen international partnerships and spotlight Uganda's vast economic potential.

Held under the theme "Cross-Border Trade: Connecting your ambitions to Global possibilities", we focused on how to advance Uganda's 10X Strategy, the government's ambitious roadmap to multiply investment and growth across priority sectors. The dialogue also brought together influential stakeholders from the UAE, UK, China and East Africa, alongside government officials, development partners, and private sector leaders.

The keynote address provided clarity on the Country's vision and clearly articulated Uganda's 10X Strategy, positioning the country as an increasingly attractive investment destination. While delivering his remarks Mr. Moses Bekabye, the Technical Advisor for Economic Affairs Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development shared insights into the policy reforms, fiscal priorities and government's commitment to creating an enabling environment for cross border trade and private capital inflows. Some of the dialogue's key take-aways included;

- Uganda's 10X Strategy is a bold and actionable roadmap that positions the country as a high-potential investment destination across the ATMS sectors.
- Standard Chartered is uniquely positioned to leverage its cross-border capabilities to facilitate investment, mobilise global capital and deliver solutions that align with Uganda's long-term development agenda.
- Public-private collaboration emerged as a central driver for unlocking sustainable and inclusive growth, with strong commitment from both Ugandan leadership and global stakeholders.
- Investor confidence in Uganda was reinforced through compelling reforms, a stable macroeconomic environment, and a clear commitment to creating a conducive investment climate.
- Deeper regional and international integration especially through partners from the UAE, UK, China, and East Africa will be key to accelerating capital flows and translating ambition into impact.



The Dialogue showcased the Bank's commitment to mobilising capital and capabilities to drive Uganda's development aspirations, facilitated by our unwavering belief in cross-border collaboration and role as a bridge between international investors and local opportunity.

Standard Chartered Bank host Liverpool FC Vs Crystal Premier League Final - Match Viewing Party - May 2025

Standard Chartered Bank successfully hosted an unforgettable Liverpool FC match viewing party on Sunday, 25th May at Four Points by Sheraton to celebrate the premier league final!

Over 80 guests, including valued clients, Board Members, and the Governor of the Bank of Uganda - Michael Atingi-Ego, joined us to witness a truly historic moment as Liverpool FC were crowned Premier League Champions after 20 years!

The energy was electric from start to finish, with Ben Mwine - our host for the event keeping the crowd engaged by delivering a fun and interactive experience. Our "Predict & Win" competition brought extra excitement, as several lucky guests walked away with authentic LFC merchandise!

The event was not only a celebration of football but also a powerful platform to connect with our stakeholders and Liverpool fans given our long-standing journey that began in 2010 to date, that makes our sponsorship the second-longest sponsorship deal in the Red's history.

Finally, we used this event to reward the winners of our 2024 SC Cup winners - New Vision football team that had the New Vision CEO Don Wanyama and team receive their compensation prize.

Together with Liverpool FC, we continue to create meaningful experiences that go beyond banking.
You'll Never Walk Alone!



MEET A MEMBER - MENZIES AVIATION



Menzies Aviation is the world's leading service partner to airports and airlines, operating across six continents at over 300 airports in more than 65 countries. We proudly support more than 4.5 million flights annually and handle over 2.5 million tonnes of cargo, ensuring seamless operations for our global network of airport partners.

With a dedicated team of over 50,000 highly trained professionals, we provide complex, time-critical ground services, including passenger handling, ramp operations, cargo management, warehousing, cold storage, and exclusive VVIP services. Our commitment to safety, security, and sustainability ensures that we meet the evolving needs of our customers, 24/7, every minute of every day.

Headquartered in London and founded in 1833, Menzies Aviation has grown to become the largest aviation services provider in the world. Our partnerships with airports across the globe demonstrate our ability to deliver tailored solutions that keep passengers, aircraft, and cargo moving efficiently and safely. For more information, visit www.menziesaviation.com.

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By number of
Countries

N°1
By number of
airports

Our global reach

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Americas
Airports

78

Europe
Airports

60

Middle East,
Africa and Asia
Airports

27

Oceania and
South East Asia
Airports

Africa

18

Countries



37

Airports



Entebbe - Uganda



1,437,950

Passengers Served
per annum



56,333.15

Cargo Tonnes
Handled per annum



16,603

Aircraft Turns
Handled



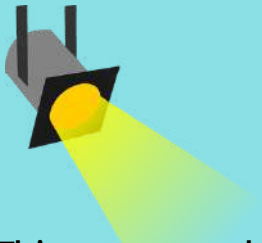
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Contacts:

Menzies Aviation Uganda, Plot.M.92, Sebugwawo Drive, P.O. Box 560, Entebbe - Uganda,
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CSR Spotlight - Rainbow International School



This term, students from Rainbow International School had the opportunity to give back to the community by visiting two charities: The Bless a Child Foundation (BCF) and an outreach mission to Nakaseke organized by Amahoro Charity. Through these initiatives, they aimed to support education, sustainability, and the well-being of those in need.

The outreach mission to Nakaseke focused on two key activities: painting the local library and planting trees. The Nakaseke library, an essential resource for students, was in need of a transformation. The students painted its walls with vibrant colors, creating a welcoming space that would inspire learning. In addition to this, they planted trees with the local community, contributing to environmental conservation and fostering teamwork.

At Lukyamu Primary School, they donated essential items such as plates and cups to improve mealtime hygiene. The gratitude of the students and teachers reinforced the impact of even the smallest contributions.

The other charity visit was to the Bless a Child Foundation (BCF), which supports children battling cancer. The students were warmly welcomed by Flavia, the Treasurer, who guided them through the facility and shared the foundation's mission. They engaged in fun activities with the children, witnessing their resilience and positivity firsthand. To support them further, the students donated 40 kilograms of rice, sugar, cooking oil, maize flour, and wheat flour.

A heartwarming moment of their outreach was the exchange of gifts with the local community. As a token of appreciation, the residents gifted them sugarcane, pawpaw's, and jackfruit, a meaningful reminder of the reciprocal nature of generosity. As they departed Nakaseke and BCF, the students carried with them a deeper understanding of resilience, community spirit, and the power of giving back. These experiences have inspired a renewed commitment to community service and making a lasting difference.



A focus on CSR – calling all members!

Member feedback reminds us of the importance of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and the role the BCCU can play in promoting this important aspect of business.

In response, the BCCU would like to spotlight the CSR policy of our members in future newsletters, on our website and on our media channels. Please reach out to Sarah if you'd like the BCCU to profile and champion what your company is doing. Email bccuganda@outlook.com.



COMMUNITY
WORKPLACE
MARKET PLACE
ENVIRONMENT

Why You Should Choose Rainbow International School Uganda's Bugolobi Branch for Your Child

When choosing a school for your child's early years, you're not just selecting a location – you're choosing the foundation of their learning journey, their sense of self, and their first experience of the world outside home. That's why more and more parents are choosing the Bugolobi branch of Rainbow International School Uganda – because it offers more than just education. It offers the right start.

At Bugolobi, your child is welcomed into a calm, nurturing environment designed specifically for children aged two to five. It's not just safe and secure – it's thoughtfully built to encourage exploration, curiosity, and joy. Every corner of the school is an opportunity to learn, play, and grow with confidence.

The branch follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum – a world-renowned framework that goes



beyond reading and numbers. It focuses on communication, physical development, emotional wellbeing, and creativity. At Rainbow's Bugolobi branch, children are guided by passionate educators who understand how young minds develop, ensuring learning is tailored and never rushed.

But what truly sets Bugolobi apart is its strong connection to families. Parents are not outsiders here – they are partners. Events like Book Week and Sports day bring families into the learning process, creating lasting memories and stronger bonds between home and school. It's a place where your child is known, seen, and celebrated.

The Bugolobi branch offers a calm and welcoming environment tailored for young learners and their families. We're open from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday to Friday. We also host a program every Wednesday morning – our Mum, Dad & Me Play Date. It's a fun and interactive session where parents and toddlers come together for music, dancing, sensory play, and creative crafts. Designed to strengthen bonds and support early development, it's the perfect midweek activity for families.

Finally, when you choose the Bugolobi branch, you're not just joining a preschool – you're joining the Rainbow International School Uganda community, one of the most respected

educational institutions in the region. That means access to world-class standards, experienced leadership, and a seamless transition into later stages of learning if you wish to continue within the Rainbow family.

Your child's first school should be a place where they are safe, inspired, and supported every single day. That's exactly what Rainbow International School Uganda's Bugolobi branch provides – a strong, joyful, and meaningful beginning.

Ready to give your child the right start? Discover the Rainbow difference for yourself by visiting our Bugolobi branch or contacting us for admissions information.



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Powering a Sustainable Future:

At Nexus Green, we are more than a renewable energy provider. We are a catalyst for green growth and sustainability in East Africa. Our mission is clear;

'To reduce carbon emissions and deliver affordable, cleaner energy solutions that empower nations and communities to thrive'.

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- 3,500 acres under irrigation, benefiting 60,000+ people.
- 450+ domestic water systems, serving 4.5 million people.
- Reduced travel distance for water access from 2km to 200m.
- Increased agricultural output, which doubled with all seasons farming.





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TURNKEY SOLAR SOLUTIONS

Nexus Green offers turnkey solar solutions, including custom design, installation, and warranties for reliable and efficient energy systems.

Members' Contributions

If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter, perhaps in the member's spotlight, to profile your CSR, any market insights or to showcase a product or event. Please contact Sarah at BCCUganda@outlook.com. All member contributions are very welcome!



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MARCH 2025



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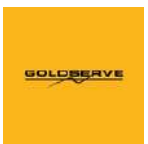
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**UGANDA
BREWERIES**



SHERATON
KAMPALA



VOLCANOES



SAFARIS
25 YEARS



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