



Strikers Hotel –Moroto Municipal Council

STRENGTHENING LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEES (LEDICs) IN KARAMOJA SUB-REGIONS TO CATALYZE LOCAL INVESTMENT FOR JOB CREATION AND REVENUE GROWTH WORKSHOP

27th-29th May 2026 - LED Department Ministry of Local Government



The Local Economic Development (LED) workshop under the Ministry of Local Government was successfully conducted with participation from 11 Local Governments (LGs) from the Karamoja Sub-region, together with representatives from various Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) including Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB), Stanbic Bank, Pearl Bank, and Microfinance Support Centre (MSC).

The workshop aimed at strengthening the capacity of LEDICs in promoting Local Economic Development (LED) and investment coordination within Local Governments.

Workshop Objectives:

- 1 Create awareness on LED and its Implementation in Uganda.
- 2 To enhance the understanding of LEDIC members on their roles and responsibilities in promoting Local Economic Development and investment.
- 3 To strengthen the capacity of LEDICs in identifying and supporting viable local economic opportunities and investment potentials within the Karamoja Sub-region.
- 4 To promote public-private partnerships and stakeholder coordination for sustainable local economic growth and increased local revenue generation.
- 5 To develop action points and collaborative approaches for strengthening LED implementation and investment coordination in Local Governments within Karamoja.

Key Discussions and Presentations

Key discussions focused on the overview of LED implementation in Uganda and reflections on the status of LED implementation in the Karamoja Sub-region. Participants discussed the importance of establishing effective structures for LED implementation through functional LEDICs in every Local Government.

The workshop also highlighted the roles and responsibilities of LEDICs, partnership building, investment promotion, resource mobilization, and strategies for enhancing local revenue generation. Participants explored approaches for identifying investment opportunities within districts and improving coordination among stakeholders for effective implementation of development initiatives.

OUR VISION: An effective and efficient Local government system that provides quality, equitable and sustainable services to the population of Uganda.

OUR MISSION: To coordinate and support Local Government in a bid to provide efficient and sustainable services, improve the welfare of all the people and eradicate poverty in Uganda.

OUR MANDATE: To guide, inspect, monitor and advocate for all Local Governments in support of the overall vision of the Government to bring about social-economic transformation of the country.

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May - 2026

Continued..



"Tourism and mineral development are among the key sectors that should be prioritized to accelerate development in the Karamoja Sub-region. As leaders, we must embrace unity, proper planning, and collaboration to effectively cascade Local Economic Development initiatives within our respective localities. The prevailing peace and security in the region have created immense opportunities for industrial growth and private sector investment. We must therefore strengthen our engagement with the private sector and devise practical ways of creating employment opportunities for our people, particularly the youth, to ensure inclusive and sustainable economic transformation in the sub-region," *said the Mayor of Moroto Municipal Council.*

Hon. Ssire Mark
Mayor of Moroto Municipal Council.



"Government, under the leadership of H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, expects improved service delivery, accountability, and tangible results from civil servants and Local Governments. As the Ministry of Local Government, we remain committed to strengthening our coordination role by linking Local Governments with key institutions such as URA, URSB, UIA, Pearl Bank, and the Microfinance Support Centre to create an enabling environment for business growth, investment, and job creation. I urge all participants to champion the message of wealth creation and economic transformation in their respective districts and to take advantage of the prevailing peace and security in the Karamoja Sub-region to promote Local Economic Development initiatives that will improve the livelihoods of our people," *said Mr. Namara Anthony, Commissioner for Local Economic Development.*

Namara Anthony
Commissioner for Local Economic Development.



"The purpose of this workshop is to strengthen the capacity of Local Economic Development and Investment Committees (LEDICs) to effectively drive economic transformation within the Karamoja Sub-region. Through this engagement, we seek to create greater awareness of Local Economic Development and its implementation in Uganda, enhance the understanding of LEDIC members regarding their roles and responsibilities, and equip them with the knowledge and skills required to identify and support viable local economic and investment opportunities. The workshop also provides a platform for fostering stronger public-private partnerships and improving coordination among stakeholders to promote sustainable economic growth, job creation, and increased local revenue generation. Ultimately, we aim to develop practical action points and collaborative approaches that will strengthen LED implementation and investment coordination across Local Governments in the Karamoja Sub-region," *said Musinguzi.*

Mr. Musinguzi Leonard
Senior Development Officer, LED Department

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Continued..



Mr. Stephen Tumwine
Senior Development Officer,
LED Department

“The Local Economic Development Policy recognizes that sustainable development can only be achieved when national and local government stakeholders work together to assess local economies, identify opportunities, address challenges, and implement practical solutions that transform communities. Through Local Economic Development, we aim to strengthen local economies, create employment opportunities, and promote inclusive and sustainable growth. As the Ministry of Local Government, we have continued to advance this agenda through the National Strategy for Local Economic Development, and we are now developing a new strategy aligned to NDP IV, Vision 2040, and the Sustainable Development Goals. Strategic planning remains at the heart of this process because it helps us understand where we are, where we want to go, how we will get there, and how we will measure success. By working together and making informed decisions, we can unlock local potential and drive economic transformation across our communities,” *said Stephen.*



Ms. Ruth Kashaga
Development Officer
LED - MOLG

“Local Economic Development is a strategic approach that empowers local governments and communities to harness their unique resources, skills, and opportunities to drive economic transformation. It promotes a bottom-up approach to development, ensuring that economic growth is rooted in local realities and responsive to the needs of communities. By focusing on value chains, entrepreneurship, and local investment, LED creates jobs, stimulates innovation, and builds resilience while ensuring that women, youth, and vulnerable groups actively participate in and benefit from economic opportunities. However, for LED to succeed, it requires strong institutional structures that provide coordination, accountability, and effective stakeholder engagement. This is why Local Economic Development and Investment Committees (LEDICs) are so important. They serve as the central platform that brings together technical officers, political leaders, the private sector, development partners, and communities to identify opportunities, mobilize resources, and implement practical interventions. In essence, LEDICs are the engine room of Local Economic Development, transforming policy into action and ensuring that local governments deliver tangible economic results for their people,” *said Ruth.*



Mr. Ssendendo Lawrence
Development Officer,
LED Department

“Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) provide Local Governments with a practical and sustainable mechanism for delivering public services by combining public sector oversight with private sector investment, innovation, and expertise. Through the PPP framework, risks, responsibilities, and rewards are shared between the public and private sectors, enabling Local Governments to implement critical infrastructure and development projects despite limited financial resources. The PPP model not only accelerates project implementation but also enhances service delivery, creates employment opportunities, stimulates local economic activity, and generates sustainable revenue. For Local Governments to fully benefit from PPPs, it is important to understand the institutional framework that supports their implementation, including the roles of the PPP Committee, PPP Unit, Ministries, Accounting Officers, Project Teams, and oversight institutions. When properly structured and managed, PPPs can become a powerful tool for driving local development, attracting investment, and improving the quality of life for our communities,” *said Lawrence.*



Areas of Emphasis

During the workshop, facilitators and participants emphasized several critical areas necessary for strengthening Local Economic Development (LED) implementation within the Karamoja Sub-region. These included:

- » The need for continuous monitoring and evaluation of LED interventions to ensure effective implementation, accountability, and sustainability of development initiatives.
- » Promotion of value chain development as a strategic driver for Local Economic Development through value addition, increased productivity, market competitiveness, and commercialization.
- » Encouraging youth and communities to utilize Presidential Industrial Hubs as avenues for skills development, entrepreneurship, innovation, and employment creation.
- » Strengthening and supporting cooperatives to improve collective production, bargaining power, access to markets, and financial inclusion among local producers and farmers.
- » Improving infrastructure, particularly community access roads and market facilities, to facilitate trade, market access, transportation, and investment attraction.
- » Enhancing awareness among farmers, entrepreneurs, and business communities on services and opportunities provided by Government institutions such as URA, URSB, MSC, and other development partners.
- » The need for Local Governments to activate, update, and effectively utilize official websites and ICT platforms for investment promotion, information dissemination, and visibility of economic opportunities within their jurisdictions.
- » Utilizing RDC radio airtime, community radios, and other communication channels to promote LED interventions, government programs, investment opportunities, and community sensitization.
- » Encouraging Local Governments to take advantage of the prevailing peace and security within the region to promote investment, cross-border trade, market linkages, and commercialization.
- » Emphasizing the importance of partnership building and coordination among Local Governments, MDAs, private sector actors, and development partners in order to avoid working in silos



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Continued..



Key Issues Raised

Several challenges affecting LED implementation within the Karamoja Sub-region were identified, including:

- » Non-functional LEDICs in some Local Governments.
- » Non-functional or inactive Local Government websites.
- » Absence of investment profiles across most LGs.
- » Limited engagement and coordination between LGs and MDAs.
- » Inadequate staffing and limited resource allocation to Commercial Departments.
- » Poor quality livestock breeds despite the region's high livestock population.
- » Poor access routes between Northern and Southern Karamoja hinder traders and business communities from accessing the Kenyan market, affecting trade and commercialization.
- » The tendency by LGs to send different delegates for trainings, affecting continuity and effectiveness of capacity building.

Action Points & Recommendations

The following action points were emphasized as key action areas for LGs to adapt

- » Functionalize and strengthen LEDIC committees in all Local Governments.
- » Improve coordination and engagement between LGs and MDAs.
- » Develop investment profiles for all Local Governments.
- » Activate LGs websites and ensure they are always up-to date.
- » Strengthen monitoring and follow-up mechanisms for LED interventions.
- » Enhance information sharing and awareness creation on Government programs and services.
- » Local Governments were encouraged to engage Development Partners to support and fund LED activities as they await Government funding.
- » LGs were also encouraged to strengthen collaboration with institutions such as URA, URSB, MSC, and FISU in order to tap into services and opportunities that benefit local communities and businesses.

