

A) Microeconomic Developments

Issue	Market Updates
Employment	In September 2025, formal employment numbers, as recorded in the PAYE register, held steady at 892,525 employees, unchanged from the figures reported in August 2025. The number of migrant workers captured by the Immigration Department increased by 38% from 2,837 migrant workers in August 2025 to 3,967 migrant workers in September 2025. Uganda's Per Capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant prices increased by 9.5% from US\$1,241 million in FY2023/24 to US\$1,360 million in FY2024/25.
Living Standards	Monthly inflation for Food & Non-alcoholic Beverages registered a 1.5% increase in September 2025, compared to no change registered in August 2025. On the other hand, monthly EFU inflation increased by 0.3% in September 2025, compared to the 0.7% increase registered in August 2025.
Equity and Economic Inclusion	The number of agents on the shared network platform of agent bankers grew by 49.1%, increasing from 15,288 agents to 22,793 agents during the same period. This growth was mainly due to agents recruited by Centenary Bank, KCB Bank, and Post Bank. As a result, the volume of agent banking transactions rose by 50.6%, from 8.3 million transactions in FY2023/24 to 12.5 million transactions in FY2024/25. Likewise, the total transaction value jumped significantly by 76.1%, from Ushs. 16.7 trillion in FY2023/24 to Ushs. 29.4 trillion in FY2024/25.
Environmental Sustainability	Air quality in Kampala improved significantly, with particulate matter dropping by 38.1% from 41.33µg/m ³ in August 2025 to 25.6µg/m ³ in September 2025. The month of September 2025 experienced prolonged dry spells in many parts of the Central and Western Regions, while the Northern and many parts of the Eastern Region received above-normal rainfall.
Productivity	Malaria prevalence increased by 6% from 2.13 deaths per 1,000 persons in August 2025 to 2.26 deaths in September 2025.
Competitiveness	Monthly inflation for Liquid Energy Fuels registered a 0.2% decrease in September 2025, compared to the 0.2% increase recorded in August 2025. This was mainly attributed to a 0.3% reduction in the price of petrol in September 2025, compared to 0.35% increase in August 2025.
Markets & Regulation	The IMF Commodity Price Index increased by 2.3% from 163.1 in August 2025 to 166.8 in September 2025. This increase was partly attributed to a 4.3% increase in the price of metals. The USE All-Share Price Index increased by 3.5% from 1,392.40 in August 2025 to 1,441.1 in September 2025. New business registrations significantly reduced by 35.7% from 5,427 new businesses in August 2025 to 3,488 new businesses in September 2025.
Local Content	The monthly trade deficit further increased by 13.3% from US\$296.8 million in July 2025 to US\$336.2 million in August 2025. The increase was mainly attributed to a rise in import bills for Machinery Equipment, Vehicles & Accessories (from US\$200.76 million in July 2025 to US\$240.69 million in August 2025) and Petroleum products (from US\$106.97 million in July 2025 to US\$142.55 million in August 2025).

B) Policy Response Measures: This edition of the MIND focuses on Environmental Sustainability as a thematic area, with specific emphasis on Water Quality.

Objective	Interventions
Improving Water Quality in Uganda	The Natural Resources, Environment and Land Management Programme of NDPIV aims to ensure the availability of adequate and reliable safe water for different uses. The Programme sets out to increase the percentage of water bodies with ambient water quality from 78% in FY2023/24 to 85% in FY2029/30. To achieve the above target, Government has: 1. Strengthened sustainable water resources management through: a) Constructing wastewater treatment facilities and a landing Jetty for water quality vessels. Government through the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) is constructing Bugolobi Waste Water Treatment Plant that will treat over 45 million litres of waste water daily and generate 621KW of biogas electricity. Furthermore, the plant will divert and treat the dry flow from the heavily polluted Nakivubo channel before releasing water into Lake Victoria; and b) Constructed and equipped the National Water Quality Reference Laboratory and regional laboratories (Mbarara, Mbale, Lira, and Fort Portal) for testing water quality before its use. 2. Strengthened regulation and enforcement against water pollution and degradation through: a) Issuing permits, monitoring, and enforcing compliance with effluent water discharge standards. MWE issues water abstraction, wastewater discharge, and construction permits. As a result, groundwater and surface water abstraction compliance increased to 78.7% and 78.6%, respectively, in FY2023/24 from 76% and 78% in FY2017/18. b) Revision of the Water Act Cap. 164 and finalizing catchment-based water resources regulations. 3. Completed construction of Katosi Water Treatment Plant to improve water quality and capacity. The plant will address Kampala's long-term water supply challenges and ensure adequate capacity to produce 160,000 m3 per day. 4. Expanded and improved availability and access to clean water, both for domestic and industrial use. These interventions are aimed at ensuring sustainable access to clean water and improved sanitation. For instance, the number of domestic water points reached 146,333 countrywide, serving a total of 31 million people, of which 24.5 million are in rural areas (Water Supply Atlas). Similarly, the share of the population with access to clean water now stands at 62% nationally, albeit with variations where rural access stands at 64% and 54% for urban areas. 5. Facilitating budget for water resources management. Government in FY2025/26 provided additional Ushs.366.1 billion for: a) Construction of water supply infrastructure to increase service in underserved communities in rural, urban, and refugee settlements; and b) Increasing rehabilitation and expansion of existing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) infrastructure.

C) Microeconomic Outlook: The implementation of the Parish Development Model (PDM), particularly through its Financial Inclusion Pillar, has led to a significant rise in the number of beneficiaries, now totaling 3.253 million. This growth, combined with a favorable rainy season experienced across the country, paints a positive outlook for crop production. As a result, food security and an increase in disposable incomes for farmers are expected in the short to medium term.

MEDIA WATCH
POST

MICROECONOMIC ISSUES IN THE NEWS & REPORTS

SEPTEMBER
2025

WATER QUALITY AND LANGO ZONAL SUMMARY

**Water
Quality at a
National
glance**

The NWSC Report for FY2023/24 indicated that:

- a) Compliance with national standards for water quality reached 98.5% in FY2023/24 against a target of 98%. However, the report notes that there still exists unregulated discharge of wastewater and industrial effluent, which affects the quality of raw water
- b) The production capacity of water from the existing water treatment plants of Gaba and Katosi increased from 171 million cubic meters in FY2022/23 to 176 million cubic meters in FY2023/24.

The 2023 Uganda Water Accounts Report indicate that:

- a. In 2023, water abstraction and usage in the economy increased by 5.9% from 253.6 billion cubic meters in 2022 to 268.7 billion cubic meters in 2023. This upward trend signals the need for improved water management practices for equitable access.
- b. Uganda's water productivity increased to Ushs 5.41 million per cubic meter in 2023, up from Ushs 5.12 million in 2022. This indicates growth in economic output per unit of water used.
- c. Annual water use per capita increased to 6.1 million litres from 5.4 litres while average water use per household reduced from 52.6 litres per day in 2021 to 47.7 litres in 2023, suggesting a positive shift towards more efficient household water use

**Lango Sub-
Region:**

Economy,
Public
Services,
Industry and
Water Quality

Lango sub-region is located in the Northern part of Uganda, with a population size of 2.55 million people, 5.6% of the National Population in 2024. On average, households in the sub-region comprise of 4.4 persons. About 47.6% of the population in the sub-region is in the subsistence economy, above the national average of 33% in 2024.

- 1. State of the Economy:** The poverty rate in the sub-region reduced from 23.4% in 2019/20 to 18.8% in 2023/24. Similarly, income inequality reduced from 0.334 in 2019/20 to 0.285 in 2023/24. Unemployment in the sub-region stands at 11.8%, below the national average of 12.6%.
- 2. Public Spending and Service Delivery:** The sub-region has one NSSF, URA and Land Ministerial Zonal Office located in Lira City. In addition, the sub-region has three high court circuits located in Apac, Dokolo, and Lira.
- 3. Trade, Industry and Local Economic Development:** Lango sub-region is the leading producer of soya beans in the country. Approximately 56% (108,656 MT) Soybeans are produced in Lango (AAS, 2025). The sub-region is also the third-largest producer of simsim (14%), after Acholi and West Nile, respectively. The sub-region has three prospective Industrial Business Parks located in Lira, Oyam and Dokolo districts.
- 4. Water Quality in Lango sub-region:** Over 90.1% (Census, 2024) of the households (518,516 households) are connected to improved water sources. In addition, the sub-region also has a National Water Quality Reference Laboratory located in Lira District to ensure water quality before use. Furthermore, the sub-region has a water plant (Kachung Water treatment plant) located in Dokolo district.

DASHBOARD: SEPTEMBER 2025

Version 1.0

Issues	Indicators		Frequency	Status		Issues	Indicators		Frequency	Status		
Employment	Jobs	Formal Sector ¹	Monthly	892,525 (0.3%)	▲	Productivity	Literacy Rate (Grade 6) ¹¹		Yearly	42.7% (0%)		
		Informal Sector	Yearly (-1)	8,796,480			Numeracy Rate (Grade 6)		Yearly	58% (0%)		
		Migrant Workers	Monthly	3,967 (38%)	▼		Morbidity Rate (Malaria Incidence) ¹²		Monthly	2.26 (6%)	▲	
	Incomes	Per-capita GDP (US\$): 2024/25	Yearly	1,360 (9.5%)	▲		PIP Budget Absorption (GoU, IFMS %) ¹³		Yearly	83.3% (-8.5%)	▼	
						Power Tariff (Ushs per Unit)	Medium	Quarterly		355.1(0%)		
							Large			300.4(0%)		
		Income Poverty (%)	Yearly	16.1% (20.6%)	▼		Extra Large		203.6(0%)			
		Remittances (US\$, M)	Yearly	1,403 (0%)		Av. Freight Costs (US\$, Mom-Kla, 40ft)		Monthly	3,500			
Living Standards	Utilities (Retail Tariff Rates)	Water (M ³)	Quarterly	4,307 (1.96%)	▲	Competitiveness	Commercial Case Backlog ¹⁴		Yearly	1,645 (0%)		
		Power/Domestic	Quarterly	756.2(0%)			Fuel Prices (Liquid Energy Fuel Inflation) ¹⁵		Monthly	-0.2%	▼	
		Data (Ushs, 1GB)	Monthly	2,036 (0%)			Customs Clearance (Hours)		Monthly	5.13 (0%)		
	Household Expenditure (HFCE), Ushs Bn		Quarterly	26,178 (-2.5%)	▼		Transit Times (Mom-Kla, Days)		Monthly	4.8 (0%)		
	Healthcare Expenditure (HH, Ushs)		Yearly (-2)	32,000 (113.3%)	▲		Investment Registration (Days)		Yearly	2		
	Food Inflation (%)		Monthly	1.5 (5.2)	▲		Export Growth		Quarterly	10.7%	▲	
	EFU ⁴ Inflation (%)		Monthly	0.3 (-0.1)	▼		Electricity Connection (Days)		Monthly	28 (0%)		
	Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) for GKMA		Quarterly	110.57 (2.9%)			Water Connection (Days)		Monthly	3 (0%)		
	Crime Rate (per 100,000):2024		Yearly	476 (-5%)	▼		Investment Growth (GFCF)		Quarterly	3.3%	▲	
	Equity and Economic Inclusion	Private Pension: Active Members		Yearly	733,588 (0%)			Markets and Regulations	Communication Rates	Voice (Ushs Per Sec)	Quarterly	0.45 (4.3%)
Private Pension: Registered Members		Yearly	2,451,422 (0%)		Data ¹⁶ (Unlimited)		Monthly			550,000(0%)		
Public Pension (Beneficiaries)		Yearly	382,492 (0%)		IMF Primary Commodity Price Index		Monthly		166.8 (2.3%)	▲		
SAGE (Beneficiaries)		Yearly	450,843 (0%)		Average Monthly Net Salary (After Tax)		Yearly		628,611			
Agent Banking (Volume of Transactions, Mn)		Yearly	12.5 (50.5%)	▲	Retail Sales/EFRIS ¹⁷		Quarterly (-1)		63% (-25%)			
Environmental Sustainability	Water Quality (PM _{2.5}) ⁵		Quarterly	Low, 20.54 (-24.5%)	▼	Local Content	USE All Share Price Index		Monthly	1,441.1 (3.5%)	▲	
	Air Quality (PM _{2.5}) ⁶		Monthly	25.6µg/m ³ (-38.1%)	▼		New Business Registrations		Monthly	3,488 (-35.7%)	▼	
	Noise Pollution (Decibels, Kampala)		Monthly	High, 64.29 (0%)			Hotel Occupancy Rate (Kla)		Yearly	53.2% (13.4%)	▲	
	Seasonal Changes in Rainfall		Monthly	Dry and Above-Normal	▲		Plant Utilization Rates (SME-Large Firms)		Yearly	53.6%		
	Natural Disaster Incidences ⁷		Monthly	19,869			MUG Shelf-Presence ¹⁸		Yearly	N/A		
							Trade Balance ⁴ US\$, Millions)		Monthly (-1)	-336.2 (13.3%)	▲	
						Contracts Awarded to Local Providers ¹⁹		Yearly	77.12% (0%)			

*Unless indicated all quarterly figures are for Q4, FY2024/25.¹ Active PAYE Register Jobs²Labour Intensive Public Works³ Average household expenditure on Primary education⁴Energy, Fuel and Utilities⁵ Particulate Matter (August 2025)⁶ 0-50 is good⁷ Total number of individuals affected by Natural Hazards¹¹ Persons aged 10 years and above¹² Cases per 1,000 population¹³ Cumulative Absorption in FY2023/24¹⁴ June 2024¹⁵ Percentage Average change¹⁶ Average monthly price of data bundles for MTN (1705GB) and Smile (150GB)¹⁷ Electronic Fiscal Receipting and Invoicing System¹⁸ Made in Uganda (MUG)¹⁹ By Value.