



## **THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

### **PRESS RELEASE:**

#### **FOUR GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA INSTITUTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP TO WIDEN THE TAX BASE.**

The Uganda Registration Services Bureau, (URSB), The Ministry of Local Government, Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) are in partnership to support the citizens involved in generating income, formalize their business ventures as required by the laws. This is under a collaboration called the Taxpayer Register Expansion Program, (TREP). This collaborative implementation framework aimed expanding the taxpayer base and collection of taxes from small businesses, was provided for during the budget speech for the Financial Year 2013/14.

The main objectives of the program are to:

- Bring all business registration services nearer to the clients.

- Reduce cost of doing business for the business community by breaking the silos these government institutions originally operated in.
- Reduce the time taken to formally register a business to less than 8 hours.
- Ensure cost saving for business owners by eliminating intermediaries who overcharge for usually free services.
- Ensure that, as joint teams we are able, to sensitize clients on the requirements and procedures relating to; formalizing businesses (names), registration for taxes and obligations of taxpayers and trade licensing requirements.

Currently, we have setup 9 one stop shops (OSS) in Kampala:

- Five in all KCCA Divisions,
- KCCA City Hall
- URSB Plot 5, George Street , Georgian House (1),
- URA Central Business District, Diamond Trust.
- Down Town liaison offices, Aponye Building

By the end of September 2016, we shall have at least a one Stop Shop in each of the Municipalities in the greater Kampala namely Nansana, Entebbe, Makindye Ssabagabo, Mukono and Kira.

More One stop shops are in the process of being set up in the remaining 29 Urban Municipal councils by the end of October 2016 to further facilitate business owners upcountry.

**Taxes and fees administered under this program are:-**

1. Presumptive tax, Withholding tax and Rental tax collected by Uganda Revenue Authority.
2. Local Service Tax, Local Hotel Tax, Property Rates and Trading Licenses collected by KCCA & Local Government.
3. Business name and Company registration fees by URSB.

**The benefits of registering one's business with URA and the Uganda Registration Services Bureau are:**

- More business expansion opportunities once formal business registration is done.
- Taxpayers are entitled to tax benefits like claim of tax credits.
- Payment of the right taxes.
- Obtaining a legal status.
- Safeguarding one's business name.
- Ability to access loans and tenders.
- Ability to acquire licenses e.g. trading and investment licenses.
- Better marketing, branding and advertising opportunities for an increased clientele.
- Improved competitiveness in the regional markets like the East African Community.

**Achievements so far.**

- a) The TREP program has realized UGX 47.6.Bn shillings in revenue since the joint operations began at the beginning of FY 2015/16.
- b) During the period July 2015 to June 2016, KCCA and URA carried out registrations of 134,332 new businesses and taxpayers.

The projected revenue/fees collections by the FY 2018/19 are **UGX 420,345,167,446** and 412,044 new clients on our tax registers.

The projected revenue collections by Institutions:

<b>Institutions</b>	<b>Total Target</b>
<b>URA</b>	<b>139,248,490,040</b>
<b>KCCA</b>	<b>67,378,301,634</b>
<b>URSB</b>	<b>10,780,528,260</b>
<b>LGs - 34MCs</b>	<b>202,937,847,512</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>420,345,167,446</b>

Please **NOTE**, there are no new taxes the government is collecting under the program. TREP is intended to ensure that all business owners comply with their tax obligations already provided for in the respective laws.

We urge all business owners to take advantage of the opportunities provided under the TREP collaboration to formalize their businesses, register and pay the taxes and fees due.

For God and My Country.