

Foreword

How time flies! January is already done and dusted, but social media is still buzzing with vision board sessions of people announcing how they are going to organise or reorganise their lives in 2023.

If you already have goals for 2023, good for you! We would love to hear about them, especially if they relate to the growth of your business.

Our focus is capacity building. Helping small business owners to position themselves in the marketplace and guiding them on how to raise capital. We are consistently looking out for ways to empower Uganda's small and medium Enterprises.



A word from the Chief executive

After our achievements in 2022, we at the Stanbic Business Incubator Limited are very excited for 2023 and appreciate your continued support, contributions, and participation in all our programs.

During the past year, the Network for Innovation and Sustainability in Agriculture and Tourism (NISAT) Program saw 110 small business owners graduate. They acquired training in Product Development and Market Validation, best industry practices in Eco-tourism and Agro-ecology fundamentals, Digital Marketing, and Social Media Branding. At the same time, Masterclass sessions encouraged trainees to keep learning and looking out for opportunities by networking and sharing ideas.

We have improved our footprint on social media platforms, keeping the public updated and informed of what is going on at Stanbic Business Incubator. We plan to enhance this presence in the coming months.

With prior consultations, we can offer customised training programs/coaching suited for the circumstances of your business and personal goals. Think of us as a trusted partner in the development journey of Uganda's private sector.

As a firm believer in nurturing Uganda's entrepreneurial spirit, the Stanbic Business Incubator recognizes the importance of the private sector as an engine of economic growth. However, this also demands a commitment to constant training and mentoring to increase the likelihood of success.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter which will come out quarterly and look forward to your feedback.

A prosperous New Year to you all! **Tony Otoa**



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What to look Forward to?

Here are some programs that you should look out for;

1. Enterprise Development Program: From February 20th, the Incubator will train at least 500 small business owners in how to become more competitive, to sustainably grow their business and create jobs. The three core areas of the training are access to markets, access to finance and business operational skills. The key sectors include Agribusiness, Hospitality and Professional services. If you would like to apply or know a business owner who would be interested, kindly click on this link https://bit.ly/3R80qSv

2. Masterclass: The sessions strengthen the capacity for business owners to achieve their dreams by creating and exploiting opportunities, notably through networking and sharing ideas. The Incubator will be holding the first Masterclass of 2023 on 24 th February under the topic "Family Business & Succession Planning".



500



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Book recommendations

Reading books continues to be one of the best ways to achieve self-improvement. Explore life from the perspective of successful people or those who have the technical knowledge that can help grow your business.

Here are some books that our team would love to recommend for you to read this year available at most bookstores in Uganda.

1 Change Your World by John C. Maxwell

The Courage to Be Disliked by Ichiro Kishimi and Fumitake Koga

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance by Angela Duckworth

Remember! We have you covered.

Partner Highlight

Appreciation for GIZ, the funders of Enterprise Development Program (EDP)

With financial support from GIZ, Stanbic Incubator runs the Enterprise Development Program subdivided into the Regional Enterprise Development Programs namely; the Stanbic Accelerator Program (SAP) and the Micro Enterprise Development Program (MEDP).

In the Micro Development Program, 759 individuals were trained: 450 as sole proprietors and 309 SACCOs. Throughout the program, there was creation of meaningful collaborations with The American Center, Busoga Business Community, Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in Business in Uganda and National Women's Council where 98 entrepreneurs were coached. All beneficiaries from the two programs were equipped with skills to become more innovative, attained the capacity to grow, increased their revenues and created jobs. It is donors like GIZ that make our work possible. We thank them and hope for a long and fruitful relationship.



Appreciation for Stanbic Bank Uganda (SBU), who financed the Albertine Enterprise Development Program-ADP

We thank Stanbic Bank Uganda (SBU) for funding this program which was established in 2018 to build the capacity of SMEs to supply to the energy sector. In 2019, a hub was set up in Hoima to support the National Content policy by ensuring farmers are consistently producing the right quality of produce to meet the standards in the extractive sector. Eventually, 48 farmer groups were trained in best farming practices for vegetables, poultry and fish farming. The program seeks to promote and nurture the agribusiness sector in the Albertine region.

Under this program, over 200 individual farmers and 100 businesses were trained while 40 farmer groups trained in backyard farming and horticulture. This was all done in partnership with the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) and the Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom.



Appreciation for the Embassy of France for supporting Network for Innovation, Sustainability & Tourism (NISAT) program

NISAT is a two-year project being implemented in partnership with the Embassy of France. With a budget of 435,000 Euros until March, 2023, it mainly focuses on women and youth involved in Agro-ecology and Ecotourism. We thank the Embassy of France for their generous contribution that has also enabled over 100 entrepreneurs to become more exposed by visiting demonstration farms for best agricultural practices to improve on their knowledge, skills and abilities.

One hundred and ten (110) entrepreneurs have so far graduated from this program while 34 pitched for over UGX 100 million in micro grants that aimed at supporting them to build their businesses.



