

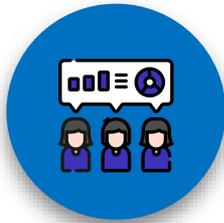


# Driving Logistics Excellence, Policy Reform, and Digital Transformation for Uganda's Export Competitiveness

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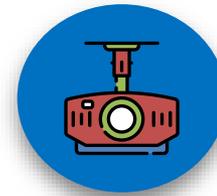




## ABOUT UFFA

UFFA is an umbrella association of transport and logistics companies in Uganda whose membership includes foreign, multinationals and local companies involved with freight logistics, including but not limited to: customs clearance, transport, shipping, ICD/freight terminals and warehouses/storage operations.

The Association has a membership of 185 companies that handle over 90% of Uganda's import and export cargo.



## **Vision:**

To be an association of excellence in logistics and supply chain.

## **Mission:**

To promote a strong ethical and professional freight logistics industry that supports trade facilitation and economic growth through capacity building and advocacy.

## **Core Values**

Professionalism  
Integrity  
Transparency

# KEY UFFA ACTIVITIES



**01**

**PROFESSIONALISM  
& ACCREDITATION**

**02**

**MEMBERSHIP  
SERVICES**

**03**

**INSTITUTIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**04**

**LOBBYING &  
ADVOCACY**





**PROFESSIONALISM & ACCREDITATION**

**MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

**INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOBBYING & ADVOCACY**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Self-Regulation Bill – has been domesticated. A Regulatory Impact Assessment for a Legal Regulatory Framework of the Logistics Industry is partially done. MoWT is the lead agency on this project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are a well structured Associations. (Executive Committee, Advisory Board, Ad hoc subcommittees and an independent Secretariat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UFFA was a key stakeholder during the drafting of the Transport &amp; Logistics Policy.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Training &amp; Capacity building</b></li> <li><b>- FIATA Diploma in International Freight Forwarding.</b> UFFA has been accredited to administer this Program in Uganda and the Region. Uganda is only the 5<sup>th</sup> country on the continent to get this blessing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information dissemination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnerships with various stakeholders, both in the Private and Public sectors (FEAFFA, FIATA, PSFU, URA, MoWT, UIA, URC, URF...)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UFFA has representation on the technical working Group of the Presidential Investors Round Table Initiative for Transport &amp; Haulage Sector.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>- East African Customs &amp; Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate.</b> 1950 graduates so far in 16 intakes. Program has played a key role in Agency licensing and enhancing professionalism in the industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agency Licensing</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have a proactive Customs &amp; Technical Affairs subcommittee</li> </ul>

# Introduction: Role of Freight Forwarders

- Freight forwarders are the **strategic integrators of global supply chains**, linking exporters, importers, customs, and transport systems for seamless cargo movement.
- The **Uganda Freight Forwarders Association (UFFA)** represents **200+ licensed logistics and customs brokerage firms** operating across Uganda and the wider East African region.
- UFFA members form the **bridge between private-sector traders and public-sector regulators**, ensuring compliance, efficiency, and transparency along regional trade corridors.

Our mission is to **drive logistics excellence** through:

- **Trade facilitation reforms** aligned with WTO-TFA & AfCFTA;
- **Digital transformation** via EDI, FMIS, and the UeSW;
- **Professional capacity-building** through globally accredited **FIATA training**.

**UFFA is a catalyst for Uganda's export competitiveness and regional trade integration.**



# Uganda's Export Competitiveness Context

- **Export-to-GDP ratio <15%** – strong untapped trade potential.
- **High logistics costs (35–40%)** – among the highest in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Corridor inefficiencies, NTBs, and last-mile gaps** drive cost and delay.
- **Efficient border management & trade facilitation** are game changers for export growth.
- **Tenfold Growth Strategy** prioritizes logistics and infrastructure for **export-led industrialization**.

**Goal:** Position Uganda as a **competitive regional trade hub** within EAC & AfCFTA by strengthening multimodal connectivity and digital border systems



# Current Logistics Realities

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- Land-linked economy reliant on two key regional corridors:

**Northern Corridor:** Mombasa – Naivasha – Malaba – Kampala

**Central Corridor:** Dar es Salaam – Isaka – Mwanza – Port Bell – Kampala

East Africa Trade Corridors - Northern & Central with Lake Victoria



- Each handles 8+ million tonnes annually but faces:
  - Multiple regulatory checkpoints
  - Manual, paper-based documentation
  - Limited multimodal connectivity
  - High last-mile transport costs

# **Trade Facilitation & Border Efficiency**

- Single Window (UeSW): Integrates customs, inspection & licensing agencies.
- Advance Rulings (AR): Provides predictable customs decisions.
- AEO Programme: Rewards compliant traders with priority clearance.
- NTB Elimination: Harmonises standards & border procedures.
- Digital Transit Monitoring (ECTS): Cuts transit time & reduces cargo risk.

Together, these tools cut delays, lower costs, and boost trust in trade systems.

# UFFA's Role in Driving Efficiency & Competitiveness



**Advocacy & Reform:** Shapes trade-facilitation policy through NTFC, EAC & AfCFTA platforms.



**Coordination:** Bridges regulators & industry to streamline border and corridor operations.



**Capacity Building:** Delivers FIATA Diploma & CPD programs to enhance professionalism.



**Digitalization:** Promotes EDI, FMIS, UeSW & IoT for paperless trade.



**Regional Integration:** Works via FEAFFA/EFFFA to harmonize procedures and boost corridor efficiency.



**Data & Insights:** Provides evidence for policy and investment decisions.



**Public-Private Dialogue:** Builds trust and collaboration for effective trade reforms.

# Impact of Efficient Border Management



Clearance time cut from days to hours.



Trade costs reduced by up to 25%.



Predictable delivery schedules boost export reliability.



Investor confidence rises with transparent, digital procedures.



Efficiency translates directly into competitiveness & growth.

# Case Studies



URA AEO Programme – Clearance <24 hours for certified traders.



MV Mpungu (Lake Victoria) – 30% cost reduction on bulk cargo.



UeSW + iCMS Integration – Seamless cross-border data exchange.



These examples prove how digital integration & collaboration drive efficiency.



# Challenges Hindering Efficiency

- Fragmented institutional coordination across border agencies.
- Low digital adoption by small freight operators.
- Inconsistent application of EAC TFA & AfCFTA commitments.
- Infrastructure gaps at ICDs and border posts.
- Skills deficit in digital freight management.



- Integrate UeSW with EAC systems.
- Develop multimodal links: rail–lake–road connectivity.
- Invest in digital logistics skills via UFFA–URA–MTIC partnerships.
- Strengthen NTFC coordination for efficient agency alignment.
- Encourage PPP investment in dry ports & logistics hubs.
- Focus on integration, innovation & collaboration.



# Alignment with Tenfold Growth Strategy



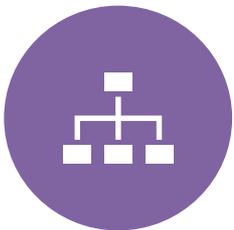
## Pillar 1: Export-led Industrialization

UFFA enhances export growth through efficient logistics, digital customs solutions, and reduced trade costs — making Ugandan products more competitive regionally and globally.



## Pillar 3: Infrastructure for Competitiveness

UFFA actively supports both **hard infrastructure** (rail, lake, road connectivity) and **soft infrastructure** — including trade policies, digital systems, and streamlined procedures — to strengthen corridor efficiency and resilience.



## Pillar 4: Public Sector Efficiency

Through the NTFC, UFFA promotes collaboration, harmonized documentation, and data-driven coordination among border agencies to improve service delivery.



## Overall Alignment:

UFFA's interventions — **corridor optimization, trade-facilitation reforms, and public-private dialogue** — directly advance all three pillars, positioning logistics as a core driver of Uganda's Tenfold Growth Strategy.

# Call to Action



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“Seamless trade is not an aspiration—it is an obligation.”

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Efficient border management and trade facilitation are the engines of Uganda’s export-led future.

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Let us work together—public and private sectors—to turn efficiency into competitiveness.

**THANK  
YOU**





## Q&A / Discussion

