

Powering tenfold growth strategy: Why a strong UEDCL matters

Uganda is a nation on the move. From the bustling streets of Kampala to the emerging hubs in Gulu, Lira, Mbale and Mbarara, the energy of our youth and the ambition of our entrepreneurs are undeniable.

But to turn this potential into prosperity, we need more than just ambition. We need the heartbeat of reliable, steady electricity.

At the centre of this mission is the Uganda Electricity Distribution Company Limited (UEDCL).

While many see power poles and wires, UEDCL represents something much bigger: the bridge between Uganda's vast energy resources and daily life.

WHY DISTRIBUTION IS EVERYTHING

Think of the electricity system like a water network. You can have a massive dam (generation) and giant pipes (transmission), but if the tap in your house is broken, you still go thirsty.

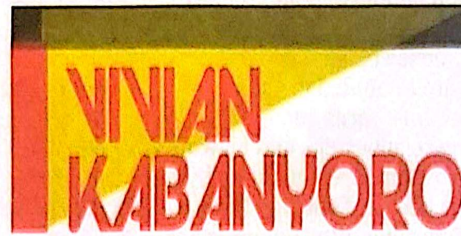
UEDCL manages that "final tap". It is responsible for the distribution segment – the most critical link that delivers power directly to our homes, hospitals, schools and factories.

When UEDCL is strong, the country is well positioned to achieve its industrialisation and improved welfare agenda. When UEDCL struggles, every prospect of progress stalls.

A modern, efficient UEDCL is not just about utility management; it is about improving the quality of life for every Ugandan.

Here is how a stronger UEDCL changes the game:

- **Steady power, fewer headaches:** High-quality infrastructure means an end to dim lights (low voltage) and unexpected outages that damage industrial production lines,



refrigerator compressors and motors, and bring salon businesses to a standstill. It also means the country no longer needs to resort to costly and environmentally harmful alternatives, including standby diesel generators, to bridge supply gaps.

- **Lower costs through efficiency:** When electricity is lost through old wires, poor designs or theft – known as technical and non-technical losses – everyone pays the price. Through modernisation, UEDCL reduces these losses, creating a more sustainable and affordable system.

- **Reaching the unreached:** A robust UEDCL will expand the grid to rural communities, ensuring that a child in a remote village can study at night just as easily as a student in the city, thereby promoting inclusiveness.

- **A culture of service:** With a renewed focus on leadership, UEDCL is moving away from being a faceless utility towards becoming a customer-focused organisation. This means

timely new connections, faster response times to outages and transparent billing.

A NEW CHAPTER OF TRUST

Currently, UEDCL is undergoing a transformation. With fresh leadership at the helm, the focus has shifted towards professionalism, transparency and accountability. The goal is straightforward: to serve Uganda selflessly and earn the trust of the Ugandan public.

By investing in better technology and providing more responsive customer service, UEDCL is demonstrating that it is ready to shoulder the demands of Uganda's energy future. This is not just about fixing wires; it is about restoring confidence that when you flick a switch, the light will come on.

THE BOTTOM LINE

As Uganda prepares for its next phase of industrial growth, the role of UEDCL has never been more vital.

Reliable electricity is the fuel of industrialisation, the foundation of economic development, the backbone of healthcare and the spark for our children's education.

By supporting a strong, efficient and well-managed UEDCL, we are not just investing in a company. We are investing in a brighter, more prosperous Uganda for everyone.

The writer is a UEDCL client in Kampala