



OPPORTUNITIES



CHINESE INVESTORS TO CREATE 200,000 JOBS

BY JOHN RICKS KAYIZZI

Uganda's industrialisation agenda has received a significant boost with the planned establishment of a 1,200-acre agro-industrial park in Lusenke, Kayunga district — an ambitious project expected to generate more than 200,000 jobs and transform livelihoods.

The project, spearheaded by Chinese investor Paul Zhang, is being positioned as a major employment engine, particularly for Uganda's youthful population and growing pool of skilled graduates.

Supported by President Yoweri Museveni, the initiative will focus on value addition in key agricultural sectors such as coffee, cotton and tea, creating jobs along the entire production and processing chain.

Government officials say the scale and design of the Lusenke Kayunga Agro-Industrial Park will unlock employment opportunities not only within factories, but also in agriculture, logistics, energy, construction and social services.

Speaking during a meeting

Paul Zhang and Evelyn Anite shake hands after a meeting with the Chinese investors delegation. The Lusenke Kayunga Agro-Industrial Park is projected to unlock employment opportunities that will transform livelihoods in the country



PHOTO BY JOHN RICKS KAYIZZI

with a Chinese investor delegation, the Minister of State for Privatisation and Investment, Evelyn Anite, underscored the project's importance in addressing unemployment and driving economic transformation.

"Our vision is not just to dream about the \$500b economy, but to turn this dream into reality. We are looking at practical investments that will transform our economy

and create opportunities for Ugandans," she said.

Anite said the industrial park is expected to create over 200,000 jobs in the coming years, with a strong emphasis on absorbing young professionals entering the labour market.

The job opportunities are expected to span a wide spectrum of skills. Within the industrial park, factories processing

agricultural products will require technicians, machine operators, engineers, quality controllers and administrative staff.

The industrial park's strategic location near a hydroelectric power station is expected to guarantee reliable energy supply, a key factor in sustaining industrial activity. Plans are also underway to establish a solar energy plant and a chemical manufacturing

facility, which will further expand employment opportunities in energy and industrial production.

Beyond manufacturing, the project envisions a fully integrated industrial ecosystem.

Plans include schools, hospitals and commercial centres to support workers and their families — developments that will create additional jobs in education, healthcare and retail.

Lu Wei, the deputy general manager of Shenzhen Mingyang Technology Company, said: "Our interest is to support industrial growth with reliable and efficient energy systems. We see Uganda as a strategic entry point for providing battery storage solutions that can stabilise power supply for factories and industrial parks."

Paul Zhang, who has previously developed industrial parks in Mbale and Mbalala, is credited with attracting international manufacturers to Uganda. His projects have already created jobs in sectors ranging from electronics to household goods, and the Lusenke development is expected to build on that track record.