SMEs want industrial park

By Francis Emorut

Owners of small businesses in Mukono district have asked the Government to avail them public land to develop an industrial park. They argued that since the Namanve Industrial Park was allocated to foreign and big local investors they need their own space.

"We need an industrial park for manufacturing, processing and production of different goods such as leather, crafts, woodworks and food processing," said Harriet Kamya, the chairperson of Mukono Uganda Small Scale Industries Association.

This was at a dialogue to devise ways to improve the local business environment, held at Appropriate Technology Centre in Mukono district.

Kamya pointed out that the industrial park would provide a common facility with fully-fledged laboratories to ensure standards and quality measures are adhered to.

The centre would also be used to market and promote goods manufactured in the industrial park.

David Matovu, an entrepreneur, appealed to the Government to strengthen SMEs because they remit taxes to government coffers.

The dialogue, aimed at finding solutions hindering the growth of small scale medium industries and to develop a roadmap for action, was convened by the Uganda Small Scale Industries Association.

"The private sector is a key driver of economic growth and source of local revenue. It is also a source of information to Government for planning and development," Veronica Namwanje, the executive director of Uganda Small Scale Industries Association said.

Responding to the requests for public land for an industrial park, Kenneth Ntege, the district commercial officer agreed with the participants and encouraged them to apply for land from the district land board.

"As long as you have a genuine cause, public land is available," Ntege said.

The dialogue was attended by members of Mukono Town Traders Association, Mukono District Farmers Association and Platform for Women and Youth Development Action.



Business News

FTSE
Up at
7741.67

CAC
Up at
5543.38

DAX
Up at
13563.84

DOW
JONES
Up at
26214.60