



Monthly e-newsletter 1<sup>st</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> April 2007

**Mission:** To promote private sector influence for business growth and competitiveness through policy advocacy and capacity building in a sustainable manner.

## PSFU holds its budget strategic meeting



*Mr. Gideon Badagawa Director Policy Advocacy (PSFU) with members of the Private sector at the budget strategic half day meeting organized by PSFU at Hotel Africana on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007*

Private Sector Foundation Uganda organised a strategic meeting with the members of the private sector to discuss the private sector priorities for consideration in the 2007/08 budget. The strategic meeting took place at Hotel Africana on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007. Mr. Gideon Badagawa Director Policy and Advocacy presented the “**Private Sector Platform for Action; A synopsis of the Private Sector Policy concerns and Suggestions for the policy reforms**”.

Members of the private sector called on the Government to make policy reforms and provide more funds to productive sectors that will help

generate incomes and reduce poverty on a more sustainable path through job creation.

## Cost of Transport to the Sea

This is one of the major areas for PSFU advocacy. The Foundation has held various dialogue meetings with H.E the President, The Works and Transport Minister as well as the Minister for Finance to try and resolve the issue. As a result a number of interventions have been lined up to address the challenge and reduce the cost of doing business in Uganda. A list of interventions being followed up is available with PSFU

## PSFU Bids Farewell to David Cutting

PSFU organized a luncheon to bid farewell to the outgoing Managing Director of Standard Chartered Bank Mr. David Cutting. The luncheon took place at Main Exhibition Hall UMA show grounds Lugogo on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

The Chairman of PSFU Mr. James Mulwana thanked Mr. Cutting for the role he has played in developing the private sector in Uganda.

Mr. Cutting said it was a good experience working with the banking sector in particular but also with the private sector in general.

Mr. Cutting has been a board member of PSFU. He left on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007 and was replaced by Mr. Lamin Manjang from Gambia.



*Mr. James Mulwana Chairman PSFU presenting a memento to Mr. David Cutting former PSFU Board member at the farewell luncheon organized for him by PSFU on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2007 at UMA Show grounds Lugogo.*

## BUDS-ERT rolls out

In conjunction with other participating components of the Energy for Rural Transformation (ERT) project, BUDS-ERT held two district promotional workshops in Ssembabule and Kalangala districts. The objective was to provide awareness on rural energy business opportunities and potential productive energy uses. The workshops were held on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April 2007. Both workshops attracted participants from the local government departments, local investors, business communities, NGOs, local leaders and the entire communities

## Workshop on Single Earth Wire Return Technology held

Through partnership with Makerere University-Faculty of Technology, BUDS-ERT sponsored a 3-day training workshop on Single Earth Wire Return Technology (SWER) that was organized by the Centre for Research in Energy and Energy Conservation (CREEC). SWER technology is one of the ways through which power could be distributed more cheaply to communities that are far from the main grid.

The workshop was held from 3rd to 5th April 2007 at the Department of Food Science and Technology in Makerere University and was facilitated by Dr. Da Silva of CREEC and a Namibian SWER expert, Jochen Roeber (works with M/S G.S Fainsinger & Associates).

The workshop drew a cross-section of participants who included; 5 local Consultancy firms, 5 local Construction firms, potential Independent Power Distributors, Energy Stakeholders (UMEME, UEDTC, MoEMD, REA and ERA), local firms supported by BUDS-ERT such as Ntenjeru Power Distribution Company Ltd, and the benefiting community. The training covered the background and theory of SWER technology with a specific case study of SWER in Namibia and was followed by a field visit to Ntenjeru area where the first SWER project is envisaged to be implemented.



*Mr. Pius Isingoma Programme Officer Power Generation and ICT, BUDS-ERT with officials from CREEC touring one of the transformer sites for the SWER technology at Ntenjeru.*

## Launch of Solar pv standards

BUDS-ERT is partnering with the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) in the implementation of the quality assurance program for the solar pv industry. Following financial support from BUDS-ERT, UNBS developed solar pv standards.

On 27<sup>th</sup> April 2007, UNBS launched the implementation/enforcement program of those standards. The launch was attended by representatives of the solar industry, service providers/technicians and BUDS-ERT Officials. The function was presided over by the Hon. Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of State for Industry who emphasized the importance of affordability, durability and maintainability of alternatives to hydro electric power. The launch will be followed by pv enforcement implementation activities which include training, sensitization workshops, pv installation auditing throughout the different parts of the country. BUDS-ERT is continuing with financial support to UNBS in its implementation/enforcement program.

## Exhibiter at 2<sup>nd</sup> Members day

### **Dathine Agricultural Consult Ltd**

#### **Introduction**

Dathine Agricultural Consult Ltd (Dathine) formerly Dathine Consult Ltd; is a one stop centre for agricultural enterprise development through the provision of farmer-centred agricultural consultancy services in developing countries.

#### **Our Aim**

To enable economic development through the provision of consultancy services that stimulate and sustain growth and competitiveness.

#### **Our Mission**

The firm's mission is to enable Commercialisation of Agriculture in developing countries through provision of farmer

#### **Our Objectives**

- To provide technical services for the development of the agricultural sector in developing countries
- To enable commercialization of agriculture through innovations, initiatives and projects

that promote market oriented agricultural production

- To promote community development by providing technical expertise in designing, monitoring, managing and evaluating projects and programs that benefit the grass root person
- To enhance private sector development through provision of enterprise development, entrepreneurship, business development and management skills that enable firm growth and competitiveness.

#### **What we Offer**

1. Agricultural Enterprise Financing
2. Agricultural Marketing
3. Project Management and Investment
4. Business Development Services
5. Community Development
6. Agricultural Advisory Services

#### **Contact**

Tindiwensi K. Catherine,  
Tel: 0414-373355/ 0772-408907  
Email: [dathineagric@yahoo.com](mailto:dathineagric@yahoo.com) or  
[ctindiwensi@yahoo.com](mailto:ctindiwensi@yahoo.com)

## **Upcoming events at PSFU**

1. PSFU meetings with Government to attempt to resolve the following key policy concerns; VAT delayed refunds, pension sector reforms; counterfeits.
2. PSFU International Trade Day on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at Main Exhibition Hall UMA Show grounds Lugogo
3. Chairman's Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at Main Exhibition Hall UMA Show grounds Lugogo
4. PSCP II Day
5. Eastern Region Trade Fair (ERTF) on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at Mbale Municipal Stadium.

*For more information contact*

**Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU)**, Plot 43, Nakasero Hill Road, Tel: 256-41-230956/342163/230985, Fax 256-41-259109, P.O Box 7683 Kampala, Uganda, Email: [psfu@psfuganda.org](mailto:psfu@psfuganda.org), Website: [www.psfuganda.org](http://www.psfuganda.org),

**Note:** For comments and feedback email to [snakibuuka@psfuganda.org](mailto:snakibuuka@psfuganda.org)

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