

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYABILITY TRAINING FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS AND PROFESSIONALS IN UGANDA'S MINING SECTOR

Dates: August/September 2025 (Schedule included)

Venue: Universities

Participants: Young entrepreneurs, final-year students, recent graduates, and early-career professionals in the mining sector

Target: 50 participants per region (50% female.)

Background

The Uganda Chamber of Energy and Minerals (UCEM), in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is proud to announce a regional Business and Employability Training designed specifically for young entrepreneurs, final-year university students, recent graduates, and early-career professionals engaged in Uganda's mining sector.

This initiative forms part of the ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme, a capacity-building effort funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP. The Programme aims to strengthen the performance, formalization, and sustainability of Uganda's Development Minerals sector, a critical segment supplying materials such as clay, sand, stone, and limestone, which underpin the country's infrastructure and local economies. Development minerals are non-fuel, non-energy minerals and materials used domestically in industries such as construction, manufacturing, infrastructure, and agriculture. In Uganda, these minerals include clay, sand, stone aggregate, dimension stones, limestone, marble, salt, and gypsum. The sector is crucial for providing raw materials for construction, housing, and infrastructure development. The ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme has been working to support this sector in Uganda by promoting sustainable practices, formalizing artisanal and small-scale mining enterprises (ASMEs), and improving market access.

About the Training

This intensive two-day training responds to the urgent need to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry demands by equipping Uganda's youth with practical, market-relevant skills and professional insights in the extractives sector. Key features include:

- Career mentorship from seasoned mining and development minerals industry leaders.
- Workplace readiness sessions emphasizing soft skills, job preparation, and personal branding.
- Entrepreneurship and innovation opportunities within mining value chains, with a focus on clean energy and sustainable mineral development.
- A value chain approach encompassing not only mining but also construction, engineering, environmental science, and green technologies.
- Special focus on young professionals working with low-carbon materials, aligning with Uganda's climate change mitigation priorities.

Training Locations & Schedule

Region	District	Venue	Dates
Western Uganda	Kabale	Kabale University	14th – 15th August 2025
Northern	Gulu	Gulu University	21st – 22nd August 2025
Eastern	Tororo	Busitema University	28th – 29th August 2025

Outstanding Opportunities

- Top performers from each region will earn the exclusive opportunity to attend the prestigious Mineral Wealth Conference 2025, gaining invaluable exposure, networking, and professional development.
- Participants attending the earliest sessions (August 14–15) will also be eligible for value addition exposure visits to leading innovation hubs and mineral processing centers such as the Uganda Industrial Research Institute (UIRI), Department of Geological Survey and Mines, and the Ntungamo Innovation Hub.

Expected Outcomes

By the conclusion of the training, participants will:

- Possess practical employability, business, and soft skills tailored to the mining sector especially development and critical minerals.
- Gain a clear understanding of emerging employment and entrepreneurship pathways within the mining sector.
- Establish direct connections with industry mentors, recruiters, and HR professionals.
- Receive Certificates of Participation and become eligible for JUCEM's Graduate Training Programme and other follow-up career support initiatives.

Sustainability & Post-Training Support

- Graduates will be integrated into UCEM's long-term Graduate Training Programme, ensuring continued skills development and career growth.
- Participants will benefit from ongoing peer learning, knowledge-sharing, and networking platforms.
- The Programme fosters business linkages and innovation collaborations through local and national partnerships to sustain momentum beyond the training.

Selection Criteria

- Submission of a completed Expression of Interest (EOI) form.
- Nomination from universities and mining associations.
- Proof of current student status, recent graduation, or active entrepreneurial engagement.
- Commitment to attend both full days of the training.