



'22

# **Achieving Uganda's NDPIII Goals:**

How Intellectual Property, Digital Trade  
and the 4IR can Facilitate an Inclusive and  
Robust Digital Economy.

**Tentative Concept Note**



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# CONVENER PROFILE

KTA Advocates (Formerly, Karuhanga Tabaro & Associates) is a specialised award winning IFLR recommended and a WTR1000 top tier law firm that focuses on technology, media, telecommunications, intellectual property & construction law. We provide real time legal solutions at each step of our clients' business decisions. Alongside its special commercial expertise, the firm's team of specialized attorneys provides full legal service across various sectors like corporate governance, project finance, international trade, dispute resolution & arbitration, tax finance, civil & commercial litigation, employment and real estate & property.

## **Achieving Uganda's NDPIII Goals:**

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The firm's clients range from leading businesses in banking, e-commerce, sports, entertainment, technology, beverage & hospitality, telecommunications, broadcast entertainment, music and publishing through to platforms, content retailers and early-stage entrepreneurs.

The firm champions at advocacy on a wide range of aspects that affect their clients' businesses ranging from regulatory, operational and compliance aspects that most affect their given nature of business. These include matters of transportation, data protection, cyber security, payments, cross border trade in the region anti-competition, copyright, e-commerce, blockchain & cryptography among others. This advocacy extends to national contributions.

The firm is a member of the Amani IP Network of Intellectual Property Practitioners [AmaniIP](#) in the region and has offices in Nairobi, Dar-es-salaam and Bujumbura. We also work with other trusted law firms in several jurisdictions in Africa including Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritius as well as law firms in Europe, Asia and North America with similar media, technology and IP focus, covering all key worldwide jurisdictions.

KTA provides an avenue through which the team of twenty (20) highly specialised Advocates render a range of legal services to clients globally. KTA is driven by its defined mission and values, which form the foundation for the business model built around solving clients' problems while incorporating them into the firm strategy. The firm is also conscious of the magnitude of its services and the need to protect its clients therefore the firm always has an updated professional indemnity policy.

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# BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

Uganda envisions becoming an upper middle-income country by 2040. In order to achieve this, medium-term targets are set, guided by five-year National Development Plans (NDPs). One key medium-term target was attaining a lower middle-income status with a per capita income of USD 1,039 by 2020 (Lipset 1969; ADB 2010). Implementation of NDPII was expected to deliver on this aspiration but the Government failed to achieve it. As a strategy, and as we advanced into the NDPIII period (2020/21 – 2024/25), the Government has promised to leverage on the power of the middle class to drive the country into the higher middle-income status. For this to happen, there should be a sound and sustainable middle class, given that a strong middle class is critical for achieving and sustaining the middle -income status.

The theme of NDPIII is “Sustainable Industrialization for Inclusive Growth, Employment and Wealth Creation”. Chapter 14 of the Plan particularly addresses innovation, technology development and technology transfer as drivers to an inclusive and robust digital economy. The desired result of this is improvement in the country’s Global Innovation Index, an increase in the gross expenditure on research and Development (R&D) in the country through an increase in development, adoption, transfer and commercialization of technologies and innovations through the development of a well-coordinated Science Technology and Innovation (STI) eco- system.

This can be summarized as harnessing the creative and technology industry in the Fourth Industry Revolution (4IR). Intellectual Property (IP) is also an integral aspect of achieving the success of the NDPIII, especially aspects of commercialization of technology and innovation. IP is embedded in virtually all the aspects of the 4IR. For the 4IR to flourish, IP must remain at the forefront of policy and should therefore be valued as a key driver to a developed economy. Intellectual property rights (IPRs) comprising of old types such as patents, utility models, copyrights, and trademarks, together with newer ones such as plant variations, geographical indications, image rights and data base rights have provided policy makers in both developed and developing countries with new opportunities to leverage these innovations and technologies to fast track inclusive and robust digital economies.



Digital trade is growing at a steady rate in the country. The introduction of payment systems through financial technologies like mobile money proved essential to the Ugandan economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The benefits of digital trade go well beyond convenience and security. It has the potential to drive economic growth, expand the economy, create employment and increase the level of financial inclusion in the country. Financial technologies provide access to previously unbanked populations and bring many shadow transactions into formal economy which in turn leads to an increase of tax revenue for the Government. The 4IR also includes elements such as 3D, robotics, Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence and advancements in medical drone delivery all of which have become vital in propelling the GDP of developed and developing countries. The NDP III addresses the necessity for innovation, technology development, and technology transfer as drivers to an inclusive and robust digital economy. Through the operationalization of laws such as the Security in Moveable Property Act, 2019 that allows for commercialization of intellectual property by allowing the use of IP rights as collateral for loans, and, the operationalization of the National Payment System Act and Regulations which foster innovative financial solutions while ensuring effective consumer protection and stringent regulation, Uganda's policy makers have shown initiative to harness the potential of IP, digital trade and the 4IR to boost the economy and realize the goals under the NDP III.

However, despite all these advancements and laws, Uganda is yet to harness the true potential of IP, digital trade and the 4IR. For instance, in 2020, Uganda had only 18 patent filings. This is low in comparison with the 424 filed in Kenya and 1,457 in South Africa. Both these countries were listed as leaders in innovation on the African continent according to the Global Innovation Index 2021. These countries also have relatively higher GDPs than Uganda. It can thus be said that countries with high IP filings and with IP policy at their core have a higher GDP than those with little or no emphasis on IP in their policies.

The potential in using intellectual property and a driver for economic growth lies in various aspects such as geographical indications for Uganda's coffee, bark cloth and Malewa. It also lies in using trademarks to properly brand Ugandan products to drive the success of Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU), or even the potential revenue streams from the music industry to name but a few. The potential in leveraging digital trade as a driver for the economy lies in a wider customer base for merchants and providing financial solutions and services to the unbanked population.



## **Embracing all these elements of the fourth industrial revolution is fundamental to the success of the digital transformation...**

...program under the NDP III. In light of this, the symposium seeks to facilitate a dialogue between policy makers and members of different industries who have an integral role to play in the acceleration of Uganda toward a robust digital economy. Particularly, the symposium shall serve as an avenue through which those empowered to the implement the digital transformation program can consult with stakeholders on key issues related to the program. The symposium shall also address the role of the digital transformation program in the EAC regional integration and the opportunities this holds for Uganda's economy as well as the creation of a regional digital economy.

It also seeks to give policy makers direction on how best to implement IP into policy and have meaningful results. The desired result is availing policy makers with valuable insight into how IP can be used to realize the objectives of NDP III as well as how policy can support digital trade and technologies to lead to economic growth. Lastly, the symposium aims to sensitize the public about the financial benefits of IP in the 4IR era.



# OBJECTIVES

1. Identifying the gaps and challenges in the existing policies relating to the science, technology and innovation (STI) sector.
2. Scaling up policy and legislation on STI and ICT to meet the goals under the NDP III Plan.
3. Identifying areas which policy makers need training on in order to enable effective formulation and implementation of policies under the Digital Transformation Plan.
4. Sensitizing relevant ministries in the Government of Uganda, entrepreneurs, and the community about using IP to fast-track Uganda to an inclusive and robust digital economy.
5. Discussing existing and emerging technologies and their relation to intellectual property rights and digital trade.
6. Promoting the commercialization of intellectual property.

## **Achieving Uganda's NDPIII Goals:**

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# FORMAT OF THE SYMPOSIUM

**The symposium is slated to take place on the 20th and the 21st of October 2022 at Speke Resort Munyonyo**

It shall consist of panel discussions, plenary sessions, break-out sessions, presentations and speeches by government officials, civil society organizations academics, trailblazers in the technology industry, business actors and representatives from industry organizations, research institutions, business associations and development partner organizations all of who play a key role in creating and influencing policy and the economy.

The plenary sessions will allow different makers and creators, the government, academics, and other relevant sectors to discuss key issues, giving informed opinions on the processes of enhancing innovation for social economic transformation. The break-out sessions will allow for more in-depth and technical analysis of salient issues arising from the thematic focus of the conference.

The symposium convener shall host an exhibition for startups and entrepreneurs to showcase and market their innovations and products. Among the exhibition stalls shall be one set up by KTA Advocates and URSB which shall disseminate information about trademark registration and shall offer clients discounted trademark application services and post registration trademark maintenance.

The event shall include a pitch competition where in selected startup entities shall present their business concepts to a panel of judges with the winner taking home a prize. The Symposium shall establish a call centre where participants may dial in and contribute / or ask questions.

The symposium shall be a hybrid event hosted physically at Speke Resort Munyonyo and virtually on YouTube, Facebook and other online platforms determined by the convener and the organization committee.

The event will end with a live podcast recording of The Big Conversations by Ordinary People Podcast which will host experts in IP disseminating knowledge on copyright law in Uganda.



# TOPICS

01

Intellectual Property, Science, Technology and Innovation as Drivers to an Inclusive and Robust Economy.

02

Harnessing the fruits of the 4IR: Use of Emerging Technologies, IoT and Big Data to Achieve the NDP III Goals

03

Achieving Financial Inclusion through Financial Technology and Digital Trade in Uganda.

04

Commercialization of Intellectual Property Rights

## Achieving Uganda's NDP III Goals:

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# DAY ONE

**Thursday 20th October 2022**

**Topic for the day:**

Intellectual Property, Science,  
Technology and Innovation  
as Drivers to and Inclusive  
and Robust Economy





8:00 – 8:30am

Registration and Administrative  
Announcements

Secretariat  
(Cultural performance)

8:30 – 9:00am

Remarks from KTA

Asmahaney Saad- Managing  
Partner KTA Advocates

Remarks from UNCDF

Mike McCaffrey- Digital  
Regional leader, East Africa  
and Southern Africa, United  
Nations Capital Development  
Fund

Remarks from East Africa  
Law Society

Bernard Oundo- President,  
East Africa Law Society

9:00 – 9:30am

(Kenneth Muhangi, Partner, KTA  
Advocates to Invite Keynote speaker)

Hon. Dr. Chris  
Baryomunsi-  
Minister for ICT &  
National Guidance

9:30 - 10:00am

Official opening  
Keynote Address:  
**The Role of Innovation,  
Technology and  
Intellectual Property in Aiding  
Uganda to Achieve Middle Income  
Status**

His Excellency Gen  
(Rtd) Yoweri Kaguta  
Museveni-  
President of the  
Republic of Uganda

10:00 - 11:30am

**Intellectual Property , Science,  
Technology and Innovation as  
drivers to sustainable  
industrialisation**

This panel shall discuss how  
intellectual property law and policy  
can spur and incentivize, and  
support innovation, leading to  
increased industrialization across  
numerous sectors and value chains in  
Uganda.

**Chair:** Morrison  
Rwakakamba- Chairperson,  
Uganda Investment Authority

**Panelists:**

Anthony Taubman, World Trade  
Organization, Director of  
Intellectual Property

Eng. Dr. Dorothy Okello: Dean  
School of Engineering  
Makerere University and  
Director of Innovation at  
Resilient Africa Network

Mercy Kainobwiso  
Registrar General, Uganda  
Registration Services Bureau

Kevin Kaija, Chief Content  
Officer, Next Media Services

Hon. Professor Sandy Stevens  
Tickodri-Togboa, Chairperson  
Kiira Motors

## Achieving Uganda's NDPIII Goals:

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Tea will be served as panel is discussing

**11: 30 - 12:30pm**

**Panel Discussion:**

**Leveraging Big Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence in the Formation of Policy and Provision of Public Services**

This panel shall discuss how the Government can utilize data and artificial intelligence to inform legislation and policy and to improve public service delivery

**Chair:**

Emmanuel Mugabi, Manager Governance and Risk- National Information Technology Authority, Uganda

**Panelists:**

Ivan Mukiibi , Data Scientist GIZ Uganda

Bernard Mukasa, Ortus Advocates

Dr. Cosmas Mwikirize, Superintendent Industrial Value Chain, Ministry of Science Technology & Innovation Office of the President

Martin Mubanguzi, United Nations Global Pulse



**12:30 – 1:30pm**



**Panel Discussion Three:  
On the Road to Digital  
Transformation: Is Uganda Ready?**

The panel shall discuss the steps that have been taken so far in an effort to digitize Uganda. These include Government initiatives such as digitally enabled public service delivery and other legislative/regulatory measures such as the NIISP. The panelists shall also address the challenges and gaps in implementing such initiatives and policies. These include low levels of digital literacy, limited internet coverage and low levels of digital inclusion in the country. Panelists will identify ways in which these issues can be rectified.



**Chair:**

Kananu Mutea, Partner, Gikera & Vadgama Advocates (Kenya)

**Panelists:**

Dr. Aminah Zawedde,  
Permanent Secretary Ministry  
of ICT and National Guidance

Chris Lukolyo, Digital Country  
Lead, United Nations Capital  
Development Fund

Christine Mugimba, Director  
ICT & Research, Uganda  
Communications Commission

Bart Cornille, Digital for  
Development Expert, Enabel

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**1:30 - 2:15 pm**

**Lunch**

## **Achieving Uganda's NDPIII Goals:**

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2:15 - 3:45 pm



**Breakout Session One**  
**Closing the Digital Divide:**  
**Expectation Vs Reality**

Uganda has had aspirations to bridge the digital divide for over a decade now. However, despite numerous efforts and policies, the majority of Ugandans remain excluded. This session shall specifically address the challenges of implementing policies aimed at increasing digital inclusion.



**Chair:** Chris Lukolyo, Digital Country Lead, United Nations Capital Development Fund

**Panelists**

Diana Akullu Wanyama,  
Chairperson Digital Frontiers Association

Melle Tiel Groenestege, Director Digital Inclusion, Policy and Advocacy, GSMA.

Evelyn Namara, Alliance for Affordable Internet

Shem Ddungu, Manager of Digital Banking, Equity Bank Uganda

**Breakout Session Two**  
**E- Government as a Path to Digital Transformation in Uganda**

Under the digital transformation program, the Government aims to provide 80% its services online. This panel shall discuss the initiatives which it has taken in employing the use of ICT in service delivery and the challenges encountered.

**Chair:** Marcella Karekye, Director Government Citizen Interaction Centre

**Panelists:**

Dr. Hatwib Mugasa, Executive Director National Information Technology Authority, Uganda

Dorothy Kisaka- Executive Director Kampala Capital City Authority

Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire, Justice of the Court of Appeal

Ms. Rosemary Kisembo, Executive Director, National Identification & Registration Authority

**Chief Guest**

Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni, Minister of Education & Sports



**2:15 - 3:45 pm**



**Breakout Session Three  
Commercial Diplomacy: Uganda's  
Achievements and Lessons Learnt**

Commercial Diplomacy refers to all the diplomatic activities done to promote national businesses in foreign countries.

It is diplomacy designed to influence foreign government policy and regulatory decisions that affect global trade and investment. Uganda has over 32 missions abroad that carry out this function. This panel shall examine the success Uganda has had in this regard, its shortfalls and the lessons that can be learnt from other jurisdictions.

**Chief Guest**



**Chair:** Fabrice Brad Rulinda,  
Mayor of Entebbe Municipal  
Council

**Panelists:**

H.E. Dr. Aziz Ponary Mlima,  
High Commissioner of  
United Republic of Tanzania to  
Uganda

H.E Fareed Kariisa,  
Ambassador of Uganda to  
Democratic Republic of Congo

Vincent Waiswa Bagiire,  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry  
of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Gen. Jeje Odongo,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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3:45 – 4:15 pm



**Masterclass Session**

Trademarks as a tool for  
Brand Protection  
Uganda Registration  
Services Bureau Exhibition



Mawalla Advocates  
(Tanzania) & Gikera &  
Vadgama  
Advocates (Kenya)  
KTA Advocates (Uganda)

4:15 - 4:30 pm

**Cultural performance**

## END OF DAY ONE

# DAY TWO

**Friday 21st October 2022**

Achieving Financial Inclusion  
through Financial Technology and  
Digital Trade in Uganda and  
Harnessing the fruits of the 4IR:  
Use of Emerging Technologies, IoT  
and Big Data to Achieve the NPDIII  
Goals



**8:00 – 8:30am**

Registration and  
announcements

Secretariat

**8:30 – 8:40am**

Opening Remarks

Justus Karuhanga/  
Edgar Tabaro -  
Senior Partners KTA  
Advocates

Recap of day one

Janice Celine Nantumbwe,  
Junior Associate &  
Executive Assistant, KTA  
Advocates

**8:40 – 9:00am**

Remarks from the President of the  
Uganda Law Society

Bernard Oundo - President  
ULS

**9:00 - 9:25am**

**Keynote address**

H.E Wamkele Kebetswe Mene,  
Secretary General of the African  
Continental Free Trade Area

**Chief Guest**

Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, Prime  
Minister of Uganda

**9:25 - 9:40am**

**Speaker Session-**

**'Regulation of the Payment  
Eco-System in Uganda: Lessons  
Learnt'**

Mackay  
Aomu- Director of  
Payments, Bank of  
Uganda

**9:40 - 10:00am**

**Tea break & Networking**

**Cultural  
performance**

**10:00 – 11:00am**

**Panel Discussion:**

**'The Payment Sector as a gateway  
to financial inclusion'**

This panel shall discuss how  
financial technologies can be used  
as an avenue through which  
financial inclusion amongst the  
unbanked population can be  
achieved. It shall also delve into the  
laws governing the payment sector  
and the challenges faced by the  
players in the payment ecosystem.  
The panel shall also discuss the  
future of digital lending in Uganda.

This panel shall also feature a  
session on KYC compliance in the  
payment sector.

**Chair:** Josephine  
Olok - Chairperson FITSPA

**Panelists:**  
Richard Yego Mobile Financial  
Services General Manager,  
MTN Uganda

Doreen Lukandwa, Vice  
President, Global Enterprise  
MFS Africa

Rashmi Pillai, Global Head,  
Public Policy, Wave Mobile  
Money

Timothy Musoke, CEO,  
Laboremus Uganda

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**11: 30 - 12:30pm**



**Panel Discussion**  
**The Gig Economy and content creation: Employment in the Future**



**Chair:** Ron Kawamara  
CEO Jumia

**Panelists:**  
Danze Edwin John,  
Head of Digital  
Marketing, Next  
Media

Collins Mbulakyalo,  
Waape

Shehzada Walli,  
Managing Partner,  
Stallion Attorneys

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**12:30pm – 1:00pm**

**Pitch Competition**

Judges, United Nations  
Capital Development Fund,  
Kajja Timothy- KTA Advocates,  
Rita Ngezi- National Coordinator  
Youth Startup Academy

**Youth Start-up  
Academy**

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**1:00 pm - 2:00pm**

**Lunch**



2:00 - 3:30pm



**Breakout Session One:  
Big Data & Technology Advancements in the Energy Sector: A journey to Cleaner Energy”**

The session will host a discussion on how the Country’s energy sector can leverage the available technologies to collect and employ data sets in making evidence-based decisions so as to enable the sustainable exploitation of the country’s energy resources.



**Chair:** Asmahaney Saad,  
Managing Partner KTA  
Advocates

**Panelists:**  
Peter Mullisa , Chief Legal  
and Corporate Affairs Officer,  
Uganda National Oli Company

NJ Ayuk, Chairman, African  
Energy Chamber & CEO  
Centurion Law Group

Bwesigye Don Binyina,  
Executive Director of Africa  
Centre for Energy & Mineral  
Policy

**Breakout Session Two: Data  
Protection and Privacy Policy in  
Uganda:**

This panel shall discuss the evolution of data protection law in Uganda, the best practices as recognized world wide and the ways in which data protection and privacy laws are responding to emerging technologies.

**Chair:** Bonita Mulelengi, Senior  
Associate, Practice Head TMT &  
IP, KTA Advocates

**Panelists**  
Richard Ndahiro, Technical Ad-  
visor, Inclusive Digital Economy,  
United Nations Capital  
Development Fund

Ms. Stella Alibateese- Director,  
Personal Data Protection Office,  
Uganda

Juliet Nanfuka, Research and  
Communications, CIPESA.

Priscilla Mutebi, Legal Counsel  
Huawei Technologies (Uganda)  
Co. Ltd”

Dorothy Mukasa, CEO Unwanted  
witness,

## Achieving Uganda’s NDPIII Goals:

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2:00 - 3:30pm



### Breakout Session Three:

#### Unlocking Uganda's Green Economy through SMEs: The use of Impact Investment and Technology to Combat Climate Change

This panel shall explore how the financial institutions, and policy makers can incentivize SMEs to adopt the use of green technologies



**Chair:** Mike McCaffrey- Digital Regional leader, East Africa and Southern Africa, United Nations Capital Development Fund

#### Panelists:

Elizabeth Kasedde Mwerinde, Public Sector and Social Investments, Equity Bank Uganda

Patrick Kibaya, CEO, Climate Change Adaptation Innovation

Dr. Peter Davis Mutesasira, Dean of the School of Law, Uganda Christian University

Anne Namakula, Contour

### Breakout Session Four:

#### Taxation of Digital Platforms: Global Trends and Uganda's Position

This panel shall discuss the approaches other countries have adopted in imposing taxation on digital platforms, the considerations of the amount of tax levied on digital platforms in light of the need to encourage cross border e-commerce and which factors Uganda must consider when widening its tax bases to include digital platforms.

**Chair:** Winnie Begumisa, International Taxation, Uganda Revenue Authority

#### Panelists:

Patronella Namubiru ,Associate Director, Tax & Legal Uganda, Deloitte East Africa

Lyla Latif- Tutorial Fellow, University of Nairobi and Warwick Law

Anthony Kibirige, Team leader - Transfer Pricing at Uganda Revenue Authority

Pamela Natamba, Partner and Leader of Tax Practice, PwC

Charles Mwanguhya- E-Trade and Start Up Association of Uganda



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**3:30 - 4:00pm**

**MASTERCLASS SESSION:  
Key Fintech Business  
Models**

United Nations Capital  
Development Fund

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**4:00pm - 4:30pm**

**Closing Remarks**

Kenneth Muhangi, Partner,  
KTA Advocates

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**5:00pm - 5:45pm**

NBS Studio

**Live Podcast Recording of Big  
Conversations by Ordinary People:**

**Value for Talent:  
Commercialization and Contract  
Negotiation in the Entertainment  
Industry**

It is not uncommon for artists and musicians to sign contracts with onerous terms. The guests shall discuss the terms which every artist should look out for when signing a contract with a music label. The guests shall also give an insight on how up and coming artists can access funding and join creative commons

**Host:  
Big Conversations by  
Ordinary People**

David Tayebwa, CEO  
Opus Music Holdings

Izabel Ug, Artiste

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## END OF DAY TWO

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