

Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) has partnered with the Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA) in a strategic move aimed at enhancing tax awareness and compliance among manufacturers across the country.

The partnership will see the roll-out of a series of regional tax education clinics designed to bridge persistent information gaps on tax policies and administrative procedures, particularly among manufacturers operating outside major urban centres.

This initiative comes at a critical time when Uganda's industrial sector continues to be a cornerstone of the economy.

The sector contributes approximately 24.5% to the national Gross Domestic Product, with manufacturing alone accounting for 16.5%. The sector employs over 2.5 million Ugandans and generates more than 30% of the country's total tax revenue.

Despite this significant contribution, many manufacturers, especially small and medium enterprises, have struggled to keep pace with evolving tax obligations, exemptions and procedural changes.

URA, UMA to empower manufacturers with tax knowledge

According to the UMA executive director, Ezra Rubanda, the partnership is aimed at helping manufacturers understand recent tax policy changes and tap available tax incentives.

"The financial year 2025/26 National Budget introduced several tax policies and administrative amendments with far-reaching implications for Uganda's manufacturing sector," Rubanda said in a statement. He added: "While these reforms are intended to broaden the tax base, promote investment and support industrial growth, limited awareness and delayed communication of tax changes have created significant tax administration challenges for manufacturers."

Recognising this challenge, URA and UMA have jointly developed a targeted intervention to equip manufacturers with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the tax landscape effectively.

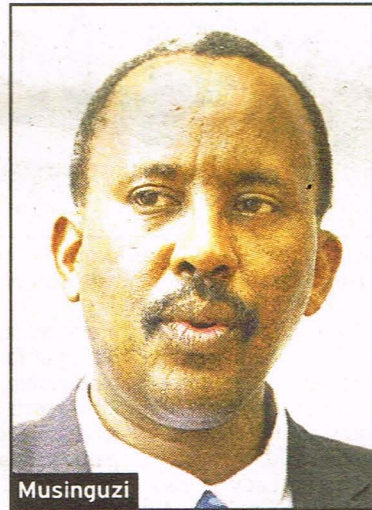
Beginning later this month, the one-day clinics will be held in key industrial hubs including Mbale, Jinja, Fort Portal, Kampala, Mbarara, Masaka,



Rubanda

Lira, and Arua. The sessions will bring together manufacturers from various value chains for practical, hands-on engagements with URA tax experts.

Participants will benefit from technical presentations, interactive question-and-



Musinguzi

answer sessions and simplified guides on tax compliance and recent legislative changes.

Key focus areas will include customs procedures, such as import duties and export levies, the Duty Remission

Scheme, Value Added Tax (VAT), Pay As You Earn (PAYE), income tax obligations, tax return filing and the use of digital platforms like the Electronic Fiscal Receipting and Invoicing System (EFRIS) and Digital Tax Stamps.

URA Commissioner General John Musinguzi described the initiative as a "significant step" towards strengthening the relationship between the taxman and the manufacturers.

"We aspire to build a tax administration environment where taxpayers clearly understand their obligations and are empowered to comply voluntarily," Musinguzi said.

He reaffirmed URA's commitment to working closely with manufacturers to address compliance challenges and ensure that businesses fully benefit from available incentives.

Under the partnership, URA will provide technical expertise and develop tailored tax education materials, while UMA will mobilise its membership, coordinate logistics, and bring valuable sector insights to the engagements.