

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)

I. VOTE MISSION STATEMENT

Mission: To provide secure, efficient and innovative registration services.

Vision: The Centre of Excellence in providing registration services for business facilitation.

II. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Improve the access and quality of registration services.

Strengthen communication and awareness about URSB services.

Strengthen the legal and institutional framework for effective service delivery.

Promote innovation, creativity and competitiveness in the public and private sectors.

Enhance sustainable infrastructure to support service delivery.

III. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025/26

During the period July 2025 to February 2026, URSB recorded notable progress.

From July to February of FY 2025/26, URSB collected NTR of UGX 54.36 billion representing a growth of 13.06 percent compared to the same period in FY 2024/25. The improved performance was largely driven by increased share capital transactions and share transfers, alongside sustained uptake of registration services.

During the period, URSB registered 18415 new companies representing 54.6 percent of the FY 2025/26 annual target of 33698 companies. 12474 business names were registered representing 48.5 percent of the annual target, reflecting continued demand for formalisation services and improved access to registration platforms.

The Bureau continued implementing the Mass Business Registration initiative as a targeted intervention to reach informal enterprises. The initiative supported the registration of 2974 business names, 1728 new companies and 2636 legal documents between July 2025 and February 2026, generating UGX 2.395 billion.

During the period, 942 local trademarks and 1021 foreign trademarks were registered alongside 266 copyrights. In addition, four patents, three utility models and four industrial designs were registered. One Geographical Indication GI was registered, bringing the total number of registered GIs in Uganda to two, while two additional GIs were profiled.

The Bureau continued to support domestic GI initiatives, including engagement with communities and institutions promoting products such as Bugisu Arabica Coffee, positioning GIs as instruments for value addition, export differentiation, and rural enterprise development.

URSB also strengthened access to credit through the Security Interest in Movable Property Registry SIMPO. During the period, 17116 security interest notices were registered, supporting the use of movable assets as collateral and expanding financing opportunities for micro, small and medium enterprises.

Turnaround times were maintained within established benchmarks, with business name registration averaging 30 minutes, company incorporation between three to four hours, and intellectual property and insolvency services between 15 and 30 minutes.

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During the period, URSB obtained ISO 9001 2015 Quality Management System certification, which is expected to further harmonise internal processes, strengthen quality assurance systems and enhance consistency in service delivery.

The Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Amendment Regulations 2025 were passed and gazetted removing the mandatory gazette publication requirement and reducing the cost of copyright registration. URSB also participated in stakeholder consultations on the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Amendment Bill 2025, which is awaiting Second Reading in Parliament.

URSB further advanced reforms aimed at addressing fragmentation in the registration of non individual entities. During the period, the Bureau commenced a Regulatory Impact Assessment RIA to inform the development of supporting regulations and necessary legal reforms while also advancing development of a digital system to support registration of Non Individual Entities under a more integrated framework.

Public awareness and stakeholder engagement remained a key focus. During the period, 52 media publications were produced across print, broadcast and digital platforms, including 17 feature stories in national newspapers, with coverage across five national dailies, three television stations and 15 online platforms.

The Bureau also continued to support innovation and research commercialisation through the Technology and Innovation Support Centres TISCs network. During the period, over 40 innovators received specialised training in patent search and patent drafting, strengthening their capacity to convert research outputs into protected intellectual assets. Monitoring and technical support to (TISCs) across universities and research institutions also continued.

URSB's core digital platforms, including the Online Business Registration System (OBRS), Security Interest in Movable Property Registry (SIMPO) and Industrial Property Administration System (IPAS) remained operational throughout the period, enabling uninterrupted delivery of registration services.

Regional offices remained operational and continued supporting service delivery and outreach across the country.

At the international level, Uganda completed ratification of the WIPO Treaty on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, following Cabinet approval on 30 June 2025 and the signing of the instrument of ratification on 4 July 2025. URSB also participated in the Sixty Sixth Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO.

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IV. MEDIUM TERM BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Table 4.1: Overview of Vote Expenditure (Ushs Billion)

	2025/26		2026/27	MTEF Budget Projections				
	Approved Budget	Spent by End Dec	Budget Estimates	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	
Recurrent	Wage	18.449	9.042	21.601	21.886	22.649	23.450	24.290
	Non-Wage	42.464	15.820	42.868	42.781	44.379	46.298	48.599
Devt.	GoU	3.900	0.276	3.900	4.290	5.148	6.178	7.413
	Ext Fin.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
GoU Total	64.813	25.138	68.369	68.957	72.176	75.925	80.303	
Total GoU+Ext Fin (MTEF)	64.813	25.138	68.369	68.957	72.176	75.925	80.303	
Arrears	1.690	1.051	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Total Budget	66.503	26.189	68.438	68.957	72.176	75.925	80.303	
Total Vote Budget Excluding Arrears	64.813	25.138	68.369	68.957	72.176	75.925	80.303	

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Table 4.2: Budget Allocation by Department for Recurrent and Development (Ushs Billion)

<i>Billion Uganda Shillings</i>	Draft Budget Estimates FY 2026/27	
	Recurrent	Development
Programme:01 Agro-Industrialization	0.600	0.000
Vote Function:02 Lawful Registration Services	0.600	0.000
006 Intellectual Property	0.600	0.000
Programme:04 Manufacturing	0.200	0.000
Vote Function:02 Lawful Registration Services	0.200	0.000
006 Intellectual Property Rights	0.200	0.000
Programme:07 Private Sector Development	9.479	0.000
Vote Function:01 General administration, planning, policy and support services	4.052	0.000
001 Regional Offices	1.838	0.000
006 Directorate of ICT and Innovations	2.214	0.000
Vote Function:02 Lawful Registration Services	5.427	0.000
001 Business Registration Services	3.679	0.000
003 Insolvency / Official Receiver	1.276	0.000
004 SIMPO / Chattels	0.472	0.000
Programme:12 Human Capital Development	6.044	0.000
Vote Function:01 General administration, planning, policy and support services	6.044	0.000
005 Public Relations and Corporate Affairs	6.044	0.000
Programme:13 Innovation, Technology Development and Transfer	1.900	0.000
Vote Function:02 Lawful Registration Services	1.900	0.000
006 Intellectual Property Rights	1.900	0.000
Programme:16 Governance and Security	46.247	3.900
Vote Function:01 General administration, planning, policy and support services	46.247	3.900
002 Finance and Administration	31.125	3.900
003 Legal and Advisory Unit	1.571	0.000
005 Public Relations and Corporate Affairs	1.200	0.000
006 Directorate of ICT and Innovations	9.103	0.000
007 Internal Audit	0.854	0.000
008 Records Unit	0.390	0.000
010 Office of Registrar General	0.900	0.000

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<i>Billion Uganda Shillings</i>	Draft Budget Estimates FY 2026/27	
	Recurrent	Development
Programme:16 Governance and Security	46.247	3.900
Vote Function:01 General administration, planning, policy and support services	46.247	3.900
011 Procurement and Disposal Unit	0.519	0.000
012 Quality Assurance Unit	0.321	0.000
013 Policy and Planning	0.264	0.000
Total for the Vote	64.469	3.900

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V. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND PLANNED OUTPUTS

Table 5.1: Performance Indicators

Programme: 01 Agro-Industrialization				
Vote Function: 02 Lawful Registration Services				
Department: 006 Intellectual Property				
Key Service Area: 460158 Domestic and International Cooperation				
PIAP Output: Product differentiation mechanisms developed and promoted				
Programme Intervention: 014111 Promote market penetration for agro-based products				
Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of Geographical Indication Agricultural products profiled	Number	2023/24	0	3
Number of PDM groups trained in compliance and enforcement on GI	Number	2023/24	0	21
Programme: 04 Manufacturing				
Vote Function: 02 Lawful Registration Services				
Department: 006 Intellectual Property Rights				
Key Service Area: 000075 Registration Services				
PIAP Output: Innovation and research initiatives supported				
Programme Intervention: 043111 Promote acquisition and use of appropriate technology in collaboration with research institutions and academia				
Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of innovation and research initiatives supported	Number	2023/24	0	1
PIAP Output: Improved regulation of the manufacturing subsector/ Competitive				
Programme Intervention: 045121 Implement existing Laws and Policies that support Manufacturing (Industrial Licensing Act, Competition Law, Trade Marks Law, Consumer Protection Law.)				
Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Percentage of Statutes enforced in the manufacturing subsector	Percentage	2023/24	0	80%
Programme: 07 Private Sector Development				

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 001 Regional Offices****Key Service Area: 460030 Registration Services****PIAP Output: Business registration system at all levels of Government (Central and local Government) integrated****Programme Intervention: 073125 Strengthen partnerships between local Governments, MDAs (URA, URSB) and Private sector to streamline formalization regimes**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of systems integrated to the business registry	Number	2023/24	2	4

Department: 006 Directorate of ICT and Innovations**Key Service Area: 000019 ICT Services****PIAP Output: Business processes simplified through automation****Programme Intervention: 072412 Implement Digitalization strategies**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
% of automation for URSB registries	Percentage	2023/24	84.99%	90%

Vote Function: 02 Lawful Registration Services**Department: 001 Business Registration Services****Key Service Area: 460030 Registration Services****PIAP Output: Uptake of business registration enhanced****Programme Intervention: 073124 Promote formalisation and business registration**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of businesses registered (New Company + Business names)	Number	2023/24	50893	52100
Number of start-ups registered	Number	2023/24	0	52100

Department: 003 Insolvency / Official Receiver**Key Service Area: 190027 Insolvency services****PIAP Output: Insolvency legal framework strengthened****Programme Intervention: 073112 Strengthen insolvency and corporate rescue frameworks**

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 02 Lawful Registration Services****Department: 003 Insolvency / Official Receiver****Key Service Area: 190027 Insolvency services****PIAP Output: Insolvency legal framework strengthened**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of Insolvency Practitioners registered	Number	2023/24	75	131

Department: 004 SIMPO / Chattels**Key Service Area: 460030 Registration services****PIAP Output: Security Interest in Movable Property Registry System fully functional and accepted by the industry****Programme Intervention: 071111 Increase access and affordability of financial services**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Value of security interest registered (UGX Trn)	Value	2023/24	7.5	7

PIAP Output: Individual borrowers and MSMEs accessing credit using movable assets as collateral increased**Programme Intervention: 071126 Promote use of Security interest in Movable assets in MSMEs**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of borrowers accessing credit using movable assets as collateral.	Number	2023/24	8336	15630

Programme: 12 Human Capital Development**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 005 Public Relations and Corporate Affairs****Key Service Area: 000011 Communication and Public Relations****PIAP Output: An enabling environment for Small and medium CCI enterprises created****Programme Intervention: 128111 Empower culture and creative practitioners with resources, entrepreneurship skills and opportunities using appropriate technologies and innovations for value addition.**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of copyrights registred	Number	2023/24	80	240

Programme: 13 Innovation, Technology Development and Transfer

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 02 Lawful Registration Services****Department: 006 Intellectual Property Rights****Key Service Area: 000075 Registration Services****PIAP Output: Strategic IPRs Registered/ Commercialised****Programme Intervention: 133135 Strengthen the Intellectual Property (IP) value chain management**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of copyrights registered	Number	2023/24	102	240
Number of industrial designs registered	Number	2023/24	21	23
Number of IPR Awareness Engagements Conducted	Number	2023/24	68	80
Number of local trademarks registered	Number	2023/24	1771	1900
Number of Patents Granted	Number	2023/24	1	3
Number of utility models registered	Number	2023/24	9	12

Programme: 16 Governance and Security**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 002 Finance and Administration****Key Service Area: 000014 Administrative and Support Services****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of financial reports produced and submitted	Number	2023/24	4	4

Key Service Area: 000089 Climate Change Mitigation**PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of Climate Change mitigation/adaptation interventions undertaken	Number	2023/24	1	1

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 003 Legal and Advisory Unit****Key Service Area: 000012 Legal advisory services****PIAP Output: Certainty of laws and regulations ensured****Programme Intervention: 162111 Strengthen coordination of the policy and legislative-making processes**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of Commercial laws and administrative reforms updated to promote competitiveness and regional integration	Number	2023/24	3	2

Department: 005 Public Relations and Corporate Affairs**Key Service Area: 000011 Communication and Public Relations****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No of public relations engagements conducted	Number	2023/24	25	45

Department: 006 Directorate of ICT and Innovations**Key Service Area: 000019 ICT Services****PIAP Output: Business processes automated, and Management information systems integrated****Programme Intervention: 163112 Strengthen the rule of law and governance service delivery systems**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of systems integrated with registration systems	Number	2023/24	4	3

Department: 007 Internal Audit**Key Service Area: 000001 Audit and Risk Management****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 007 Internal Audit****Key Service Area: 000001 Audit and Risk Management****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of Internal Audit reports produced and submitted	Number	2023/24	4	4

Department: 008 Records Unit**Key Service Area: 000008 Records Management****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
Number of records scanned and digitized	Number	2023/24	0.29	70000

Department: 010 Office of Registrar General**Key Service Area: 000010 Leadership and Management****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of Senior management meetings held	Number	2023/24	6	12

Department: 011 Procurement and Disposal Unit**Key Service Area: 000007 Procurement and Disposal Services****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of Procurement Reports Produced and Submitted	Number	2023/24	12	4

VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Vote Function: 01 General administration, planning, policy and support services****Department: 012 Quality Assurance Unit****Key Service Area: 000014 Administrative and Support Services****PIAP Output: Quality Assurance enhanced.****Programme Intervention: 163112 Strengthen the rule of law and governance service delivery systems**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
% progress with the implementation of ISO	Percentage	2023/24	80%	100%

Department: 013 Policy and Planning**Key Service Area: 000006 Planning and Budgeting services****PIAP Output: Management and Administrative Services coordinated****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
No. of performance reports submitted	Number	2023/24	4	4

Project: 1911 Institutional Development of Uganda Registration Services Bureau**Key Service Area: 000003 Facilities and Equipment Management****PIAP Output: Institutions Retooled****Programme Intervention: 169111 Strengthen programme institutions for effective and efficient service delivery**

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	Performance Targets
				2026/27
% of retooling budget implemented	Percentage	2023/24	1%	100%

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VI. VOTE NARRATIVE

Vote Challenges

One of the key constraints is the lengthy and bureaucratic legal reform process, which delays the amendment and enactment of legislation required to strengthen the URSB's regulatory mandate. Many of the Bureau's services operate within legal frameworks that require periodic updates to respond to emerging developments in business regulation, intellectual property protection, and digital service delivery. However, the extended processes involved in drafting, consultation, approval, and enactment of legal reforms often delay the implementation of critical institutional reforms and limit the Bureau's ability to fully operationalise new regulatory initiatives.

The Bureau also faces constraints arising from partial or delayed release of development budget allocations. Over the years, the URSB development budget has not been fully released as planned, affecting the timely implementation of retooling initiatives aimed at strengthening institutional capacity.

URSB also faces funding gaps for key investments, particularly the planned construction of an archival centre. The proposed archival facility is intended to strengthen document preservation, improve records management systems, and enhance accessibility of institutional records for regulatory and public use. The centre is also expected to support improved collaboration between government institutions and facilitate the secure storage and retrieval of critical registration documents.

Budget limitations for international travel and participation in global engagements constrain URSB's ability to effectively represent Uganda in regional and international forums. Participation in such forums is important for aligning national systems with evolving global standards, strengthening cooperation with international institutions, and promoting Uganda's interests in emerging regulatory and intellectual property frameworks.

Plans to improve Vote Performance

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URSB will accelerate the internal and cross Government integration of registration systems to enhance interoperability, improve data sharing, and streamline service delivery.

URSB will operationalise the Innovation Hub to support innovation, research, commercialisation, and intellectual property development.

To enhance accessibility of services, the Bureau will expand service access points across the country through regional offices, institutional partnerships, and digital service delivery platforms.

URSB will complete the full rollout of the Human Capital Development System to strengthen staff performance management, skills development, and organisational effectiveness.

URSB will strengthen initiatives that enhance accessibility of services for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) through inclusive service design, targeted outreach, and improved accessibility across digital and physical service channels.

The Bureau will also conduct regular management reviews of Quality Management System risks under the ISO 9001 2015 framework to strengthen continuous improvement, enhance operational efficiency, and sustain high standards of service delivery.

URSB will invest in specialised capacity building in ICT, legal practice, and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, to enable staff to effectively manage evolving regulatory systems and digital platforms.

The Bureau will continue the Mass Business Registration initiative across the country to support informal enterprises in formalising their operations and accessing formal financial and market opportunities.

URSB will also intensify stakeholder engagement to fast track the development of the legal framework for the protection of traditional knowledge, working closely with relevant government institutions, cultural communities, and international partners.

The Bureau will strengthen research and development capacity within the intellectual property ecosystem, particularly through support to Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISCs) and collaboration with universities and research institutions to enhance patent search, drafting, and commercialisation capabilities.

URSB will continue to promote stakeholder awareness and participation in its services through public education campaigns, media engagement, and digital communication platforms to improve uptake of business registration, intellectual property, and secured transactions services.

The Bureau will continue implementing the Business Rescue Framework to support financially distressed companies in reorganising and returning to viability.

VII. Off Budget Support and NTR Projections

Table 7.1: Off Budget Support by Project and Department

N/A

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VOTE: 119 Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB)**Table 7.2: NTR Projections(Uganda Shillings Billions)**

Revenue Code	Revenue Name	FY2025/26	Projection FY2026/27
142211	Registration fees for Documents and Businesses	87.060	87.090
Total		87.060	87.090

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VIII. PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Table 8.1: Staff Establishment Analysis

N / A

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Table 8.2: Staff Recruitment Plan

N/A