

WHAT WE DO

UMPCU works to improve livestock production and market linkages for smallholder producers in its member cooperative societies, sustain access to basic financial services, facilitate non-farm enterprise, with focus on women and youth and enhance quality meat marketing.

Thematic areas: -

- Enhancing Livestock production & productivity; through the model farmer & the mentorship approaches
- Increasing Financial access & Inclusion; through provision of working capital, credit & advance to cooperative members
- Livestock marketing, Value addition & Enterprise development; working where cooperatives are developed as centres for livestock marketing, business innovation and business development
- Lobbying & Advocacy; through engaging different livestock stakeholders on policy direction, review or change
- Institutional development; by increasing participation of all stakeholders from the grassroots



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Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd
FAIR SHARE TO THE FARMER

WHO WE ARE

Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Ltd. (UMPCU) is a private apex organization comprising 33 Primary Cooperative Societies located in the “cattle corridor”, with over 2617 individual members. UMPCU was formed in 2008 under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC) to, inter alia, spearhead the improvement of livestock production and productivity, commercialize the sub-sector and lead value addition along the value chain “from the farm to the fork”.



MISSION & VISION



Mission

To establish and maintain best practices and standards with the involvement of members and other stakeholders to produce value for money meat and meat products

Vision

To be the leading producer of high quality meat and meat products for local and international markets

HISTORY

In 2006, a feasibility study was conducted on developing an export-oriented meat industry in Uganda which established that the meat sector did not meet the minimum requirements for meat export. It also revealed various problems that needed attention like livestock disease, poor market infrastructure, outdated legislation, low financial resources, poor animal identification and traceability systems, weak animal welfare, poor animal breeds, and poor service delivery to farmers, increased middleman interference, and the absence of good abattoirs. The most glaring problem was a complete lack of organised cooperatives.

The report established that the formation of producer cooperatives was the best way for farmers to realize the ‘unmined gold’ that they owned. In response to the report, the government established the Uganda Meat Export Development Programme (UMEDP) housed in MAAIF.

The idea was to put structures in place to improve local livestock marketing and meat export – the most important of which was to mobilise farmers into formation of primary producer cooperative societies. This is mainly due to the fact that the desired markets require high quality disease-free meat calling for interventions along the value chain to up-grade the standards of meat and meat products. Farmer cooperatives were therefore seen to be the best vehicle through which such interventions could be effected. Throughout the bigger part of 2008, farmers within the cattle corridor were mobilized and formed primary meat producers’ cooperative societies. By October 2008, 43 Primary Societies had been registered. After their formation and registration, the societies joined together to form the Uganda Meat Producers Cooperative Union Limited.