

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015/16 AND HANDOVER, 3rd May 2016



Dr. Peter Ngategize,
Chairman, EDBI Steering Committee,
2015/16.

2015 EDBI Kampala Conference



Welcome to 2016 EDBI Nairobi Conference

- The EDBI Steering Committee welcomes you to the 2016 EDBI Conference
- Uganda has chaired EDBI since the May 2015 Kampala Conference and we are now handing over a stronger and more dynamic EDBI to Kenya
- EDBI has proved to be a powerful tool for the transformation our business environments and investment climates
- We have been able to network, learn from our peers, share information and experiences on reforms. This has been empowering!
- However, we can and must do much more. We look to Kenya to guide us as implement EDBI over the next 1 year

Highlights of the Kampala Conference (1)

- **The Theme of the Conference:** *Connecting the Dots; How Public Reforms Improve the Ease of Doing Business.*
- **Attended by over 300 Participants;** Including 100 delegates from 15 countries: Botswana, Burundi, Canada, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
- **Officiated by Uganda's Prime Minister** Rt. Hon. Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda who represented of H.E. President Yoweri K. Museveni.

Highlights of the Kampala Conference (2)

- The President of Uganda's address to the 2015 EDBI conference emphasised the Pillars upon which Prosperity is Built:
 - Security of Person and Property;
 - Availability of Minimum Infrastructure;
 - A Vibrant Private Sector;
 - Application of Science and Technology; and
 - Regional Integration.

- The EDBI community is contributing to attainment of some of these pillars

Decisions of the EDBI Steering Committee (After the Kampala 2015 EDBI Conference)

- Fragile and Conflict States to be regular members of SC
- Quorum of three Members was affirmed
- Noted that top performers (Mauritius, South Africa & Rwanda) had not been active
- Noted that RMCE Secretariat lacked resources to monitor and support EDBI conferences
- Agreed that Kenya was to host the 2016 EDBI Conference

Post EDBI 2015 Conference Activities - May 2015 to Date (1)

- Streamlining processes and systems has been a priority but more EDBI countries implementing more complex ICT based reforms
- Overall economic environment is now more challenging
- However, more EDBI countries are leveraging stronger ICT infrastructure and capacities to enhance quality of service delivery
- There has been a strong push towards automation of Government to Business (G2B) services across the region

Post EDBI 2015 – reform examples

- **Rwanda** Implemented a Credit Scoring Service in May 2015; and it Made Starting a Business Easier by Eliminating the Need for New Companies to Open a Bank Account in order to Register for VAT
- **Kenya** Launched service centres company preregistration Services in Major Towns, Reducing the Time Required to Start a Business by 4 Days.
- **South Sudan** is implementing an e-Registry of business licenses and construction permit reform

Post EDBI 2015 – reform examples (2)

- **Madagascar** Strengthened Minority Investor Protection by Requiring that a Director with a Conflict of Interest fully Disclose to the BOD
- **Senegal** Improved the Regulation of the Connection Process and Lowered the Cost by Reducing the Security Deposit
- **Malawi** Launched the Malawi Business Registration Systems and Collateral Registry (February 2015)

Performance of EDBI Countries in DB 2015/2016

	Economy	Ease of Doing Business Rank (2016)	Ease of Doing Business Rank(2015)	Change in rank
1.	Mauritius	32	31	-1
2.	Rwanda	62	55	-7
3.	Botswana	72	72	--
4.	South Africa	73	69	-4
5.	Zambia	97	91	-6
6.	Kenya	108	129	+21
7.	Uganda	122	135	+13
8.	Mozambique	133	128	-5
9.	Tanzania	139	140	+1
10.	Côte d'Ivoire	142	145	+3
11.	Burkina Faso	143	149	+5
12.	Ethiopia	146	148	+2
13.	Burundi	152	151	-1
14.	Zimbabwe	155	155	--
15.	Sudan	159	158	-1
16.	Madagascar	164	166	+2
17.	Congo, Dem. Rep.	184	187	+3
18.	South Sudan	187	186	-1

DB 2015/16 Highlights

1. Mauritius (32nd), Rwanda (62nd), Botswana (72nd) and South Africa (73rd) and Zambia (97th) topped the ranking.
2. Uganda (122nd), Kenya (108th), Mauritius (32nd), Senegal (153rd) and Benin (158th) were among the top Global Performers.
3. Sub Saharan Africa accounted for 14 of the 32 Reforms Globally in Getting Credit.

Lessons Learnt from Shared Experiences

- High Level Ownership and Leadership is Critical
- Support to MSMES is Crucial to provide Goods and Services and Generate Jobs to Solve Youth un-employment Challenge
- Need to Revamp Education Sector – Curriculum to Meet the Emerging Challenges
- Use of IT to Facilitate Flow of Data and Information which in turn should Improve Public Service Delivery
- FCS should focus on reforms that allow businesses and investments to thrive so as to contribute to quick recovery

Pre 2016 EDBI Preparations: SC Meetings

- Steering Committee has aimed to fulfil its mandate despite some challenges
- SC held preparatory meetings in April 2016 to guide 2016 Conference
- SC reviewed Highlights of 2015 EDBI Conference and Minutes of its earlier meetings
- SC reviewed the 2016 Conference Agenda – Programme Content, Speakers and Logistics
- Attendance by South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda (Mozambique and Rwanda)

Proposed Agenda For Next SC during 2016/17

- Need for at least one physical meeting of the Executive
- More Study Tours / Benchmarking Exercises to Enhance Learning
- Consider attachments of Staff in Agencies where Positive Reforms are Taking Place (within and across member Countries)
- Decide on the 2017 host given the growing importance and interest of West Africa & FCS Countries
- Leveraging of Donor Support – Technical and Financial for Lesson learning and evaluation of the Initiative

Key Success Factors for EDBI 2016/17

- Breaking down barriers across agencies to facilitate flow and exchange of information within and across agencies
- Leveraging technology, (ICT) and Private Sector's Knowledge and innovative financing options
- Reforms champions to lead, manage and communicate reforms
- Measuring and communicating the impact of the reforms

I thank you all for your support and contribution since the 2015 EDBI Kampala Conference and call on you to extend similar support to Kenya as it takes over Chairmanship of EDBI!

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