

Afreximbank and Uganda Development Bank Partner to Boost Investment

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African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and the Uganda Development Bank (UDB) have signed a Joint Project Preparation Facility (JPPF) Framework Agreement to accelerate industrialization and export development in Uganda.

The partnership aims to provide early-stage financing and technical support to public and private sector entities for project preparation. By de-risking projects and advancing them to bankability, the JPPF will unlock investments in key sectors such as energy, transport, logistics, special economic zones, manufacturing, agro-processing, hospitality, tourism, mining, and solid minerals.

Afreximbank and UDB will jointly mobilize up to US\$25 million in project preparation funds. The facility will cover feasibility studies, project development advisory services, and related costs.

Mrs. Kanayo Awani, Executive Vice President, Intra-African Trade and Export Development Bank (Afreximbank), signed the agreement on behalf of Afreximbank while Mr. Samuel Edem Maitum, Director of Credit, UDB signed on behalf of his organisation on 14 June 2024 in Nassau, The Bahamas.

Commenting on the execution of the agreement, **Mrs. Awani** stated: "The JPPF is a critical collaborative tool through which the Bank and its partners pool resources to prepare bankable projects, given that one of the major challenges in developing projects was moving commercially viable projects to financial close. "Through this partnership, Afreximbank intends to work alongside UDB to prepare quality, bankable projects to attract investments from both the public and private sector."

Mr. Maitum noted that several transformative project ideas remain unimplemented in Uganda due to the

limited availability of technical and financial support to ensure Bankability.

He stated that UDB's collaboration with Afreximbank through the Joint Project Preparation Facility "shall unlock several transformative private and public sector-led projects. The collaboration shall also enable the flow of capital to the jointly prepared projects."

He extended appreciation to Afreximbank for the collaboration opportunity and confirmed UDB's commitment towards ensuring the success of the initiative.

The implementation of the agreement is expected to help accelerate economic growth in Uganda through increased private sector investments in the targeted sectors and to help position Uganda as an attractive investment destination through the supply of a steady stream of investment ready projects.