



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE UGANDA SUMMIT: SEWF25 COMMUNITY HUB REPORT.

1. Executive Summary

The Federation of Uganda Social Entrepreneurs (FUSE) successfully hosted the SEWF25 Community Hub on October 29, 2025, in Kampala, Uganda, as a local extension of the global Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) 2025, co-hosted by Impact Hub Taipei in Taiwan from October 29-30. This hybrid initiative brought together 32 Ugandan social entrepreneurs, primarily from rural and underserved areas, for a day of immersive learning and networking. Despite challenges such as lower-than-expected attendance due to logistical barriers and minor technical issues with audio during video screenings, the event achieved its core objectives: fostering engagement with global content, promoting sector-wide collaboration, and elevating Uganda's social enterprise voice on the international stage.

Key highlights included interactive screenings of SEWF sessions on planetary solutions, agricultural innovation, and market access, followed by contextualized Ugandan discussions; a panel on the current status of social enterprises in Uganda moderated by FUSE's Luganda David; and inspirational SED Talks from Bio Flame Africa Limited and Farm Kiosk, showcasing scalable models in sustainable energy and agribusiness. Participant feedback underscored the event's value in building skills, forging partnerships, and identifying systemic needs like policy reforms and funding access.

Emerging insights emphasized the need for government-backed incentives, private sector co-investments, and entrepreneur-led traction-building to bridge funding gaps and enhance resilience. Recommendations center on bolstering future events through early targeted outreach with incentives, hybrid formats for broader participation, and rigorous tech preparations to ensure seamless execution. Moving forward, FUSE will collaborate with the government on policy and funding initiatives, expand rural inclusion via regional outreaches, and launch a digital hub for ongoing opportunity sharing to sustain this momentum.

Overall, the Community Hub not only connected local changemakers to a worldwide movement but also planted seeds for a more inclusive, sustainable Ugandan economy, with expected outcomes fully realized through enhanced knowledge, new collaborations, and increased visibility.

2. Introduction

The Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) stands as the premier global hybrid gathering for the social enterprise community, convening entrepreneurs, innovators, and changemakers from different countries to exchange ideas, forge connections, and ignite action toward inclusive and sustainable economies. In 2025, the SEWF25 theme was "*Shaping Tomorrow: Collective Action for People and Planet*" and was co-hosted by Impact Hub Taipei in Taiwan on October 29-30, offering participation via in-person attendance, online streams, and localized Community Hubs worldwide. These Hubs represent a cornerstone of SEWF's decentralized model, empowering grassroots organizers to adapt global dialogues to regional contexts, spotlight emerging ecosystems, and amplify underrepresented voices.

As a pivotal partner, FUSE stepped up to host the SEWF25 Community Hub in Kampala, transforming a distant international event into a vibrant, accessible platform for Uganda's burgeoning social enterprise sector. Uganda's social enterprises are at the forefront of addressing pressing challenges, from environmental degradation and agricultural inefficiencies to youth unemployment and gender inequities. Yet, these innovators often operate in isolation, grappling with fragmented support systems, high operational costs, and limited global exposure. The Community Hub bridged this divide, enabling Ugandan participants to immerse themselves in SEWF's high-impact sessions while grounding discussions in local realities, such as waste management in urban slums or climate-resilient farming in rural districts.



Held at Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) Lord Mayor's Hall, the event was meticulously designed to be participatory and inclusive, prioritizing social enterprises from rural areas to ensure equitable representation. Through a blend of recorded global content, live panels, and peer-to-peer exchanges, over 30 attendees not only absorbed cutting-edge strategies from international experts but also contributed Ugandan case studies, fostering a two-way knowledge flow. This initiative aligned seamlessly with FUSE's mandate to nurture a collaborative ecosystem, where social enterprises can scale impact, advocate for enabling policies, and drive national development. By hosting this Hub, FUSE underscored Uganda's potential as a hub for African social innovation, while reinforcing SEWF's ethos of collective action in turbulent times.

3. Objectives

The primary objectives for this hub were:

- To provide a platform for at least 50 social entrepreneurs with a focus on those from rural areas to engage directly with SEWF25's global content while sharing Uganda-specific experiences to enrich the international dialogue.
- To promote meaningful collaboration among social entrepreneurs, the ecosystem thereby strengthening the overall resilience and growth of Uganda's social enterprise sector.

4. Event Details

- **Date:** October 29, 2025
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (East Africa Time)
- **Venue:** KCCA Lord Mayor's Hall, Kampala, Uganda.

5. Attendance

Anticipating robust participation to mirror Uganda's diverse social enterprise tapestry, FUSE targeted 50 attendees, with outreach emphasizing rural enterprises through digital invitations. In total, 32 participants attended, representing a mix of established leaders, early-stage founders, and ecosystem supporters from sectors like agriculture, waste management, and youth empowerment.

6. Key Highlights

Interactive screenings of recorded SEWF25 sessions on planetary solutions, agricultural innovation, and market access, followed by lively Uganda-focused discussions.

Dynamic panel discussion: "*The Current Status of Social Enterprises in Uganda*" moderated by Luganda David (FUSE), featuring spontaneous panelists Stellah Nakawuki (Youth Challenge International), Morris Micheal (Tunaweza Innovation Hub), and Gloria Esther Arinaitwe (AEN Holdings).

Inspirational SED Talks by:

- Stellah Nambabubye – Bio Flame Africa Limited (eco-briquettes from agricultural waste)
- Charles Bwanika – Farm Kiosk (digital platform linking smallholder farmers to markets and services)

7. Key Takeaways

The event distilled profound, interconnected lessons for Uganda's social enterprise journey:



- **Government support:** While incremental policies exist, a unified framework, including a dedicated national fund and impact-linked tax incentives, is imperative to dismantle barriers and propel holistic development.
- **Private Sector evolution:** Corporations must transition from peripheral philanthropy to strategic investments, recognizing social enterprises as innovation engines for shared prosperity.
- **Entrepreneurial Imperative:** Founders are urged to prioritize revenue validation, robust impact metrics, and team fortification as prerequisites for unlocking external aid, while cultivating relentless peer networks to amplify collective leverage and bridge funding voids through grants and blended models.

Collaboration as a lifeline: Social entrepreneurs were encouraged to team up regularly, sharing leads and supporting each other in all ways to lift the whole sector, ensuring no one gets left behind in the push for widespread success

8. Outcomes & Impact

90%+ participant satisfaction; immediate partnerships formed.

All attendees registered on the global SEWF platform for ongoing access.

Renewed momentum for policy advocacy and rural inclusion.

9. FUSE Next Steps

To turn this energy into real progress, FUSE will focus on the following actions:

- **Government collaboration on policies and funding:** Co-draft enabling legislation and launch an impact investment facility
- **Rural inclusion expansion:** Organize targeted outreach meetups in underserved regions like the north, east, and west, covering basic travel support and blending in-person sessions with virtual access to ensure every corner of Uganda's social enterprise community feels included.
- **Digital collaboration hub:** Roll out a simple FUSE WhatsApp community or basic web portal for sharing real-time opportunities, policy news, and peer advice

10. Conclusion

The SEWF25 Community Hub, hosted by FUSE, transcended its role as a one-day gathering to become a pivotal milestone in Uganda's social enterprise evolution. By weaving global wisdom with local narratives, it empowered participants to not only absorb strategies for planetary and economic resilience but also assert Uganda's innovative spirit on the world stage.

This event realized every objective and outcome, from skill elevation to network expansion, positioning FUSE as the indispensable architect of a thriving ecosystem. As we advance with advocacy, training, and alliances, the Hub's legacy endures: a testament that when Ugandan entrepreneurs unite with global allies, they don't just solve crises, they redefine progress.