Inside

NITA
UGANDA
- Driving the IT Revolution -

A behind-the-scenes look
at the people, projects, and
partnerships driving digital Uganda.

Welcome to the First Edition

In our fast-paced digital era, timely communication is everything. This bi-annual newsletter is one of the many ways we seek to keep our stakeholders both internal and external informed, engaged, and inspired as we collectively work toward a digitally transformed Uganda.

From project highlights and industry partnerships to thought leadership and behind-the-scenes glimpses of our teams at work, this publication showcases the efforts driving innovation, efficiency, and inclusivity across the IT landscape.

We hope you enjoy this issue as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

- *Editorial team*

● WELCOME NOTE

Message from the Executive Director

Dear readers,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Inside NITA-U Newsletter.

At the National Information Technology Authority – Uganda, we are committed to driving forward the digital agenda and transforming public service delivery through strategic use of Information Technology. This newsletter represents another step in enhancing transparency, collaboration, and stakeholder engagement as we share the milestones, lessons, and opportunities shaping our journey.

In this edition, you will read about our latest projects, collaborations with both government and private sector actors, and the incredible work being done by our teams across the country.

As we continue to digitize Uganda, your feedback, ideas, and contributions are always welcome.

Enjoy the read and thank you for walking this journey with us.

Warm regards,
Hatwib Mugasa
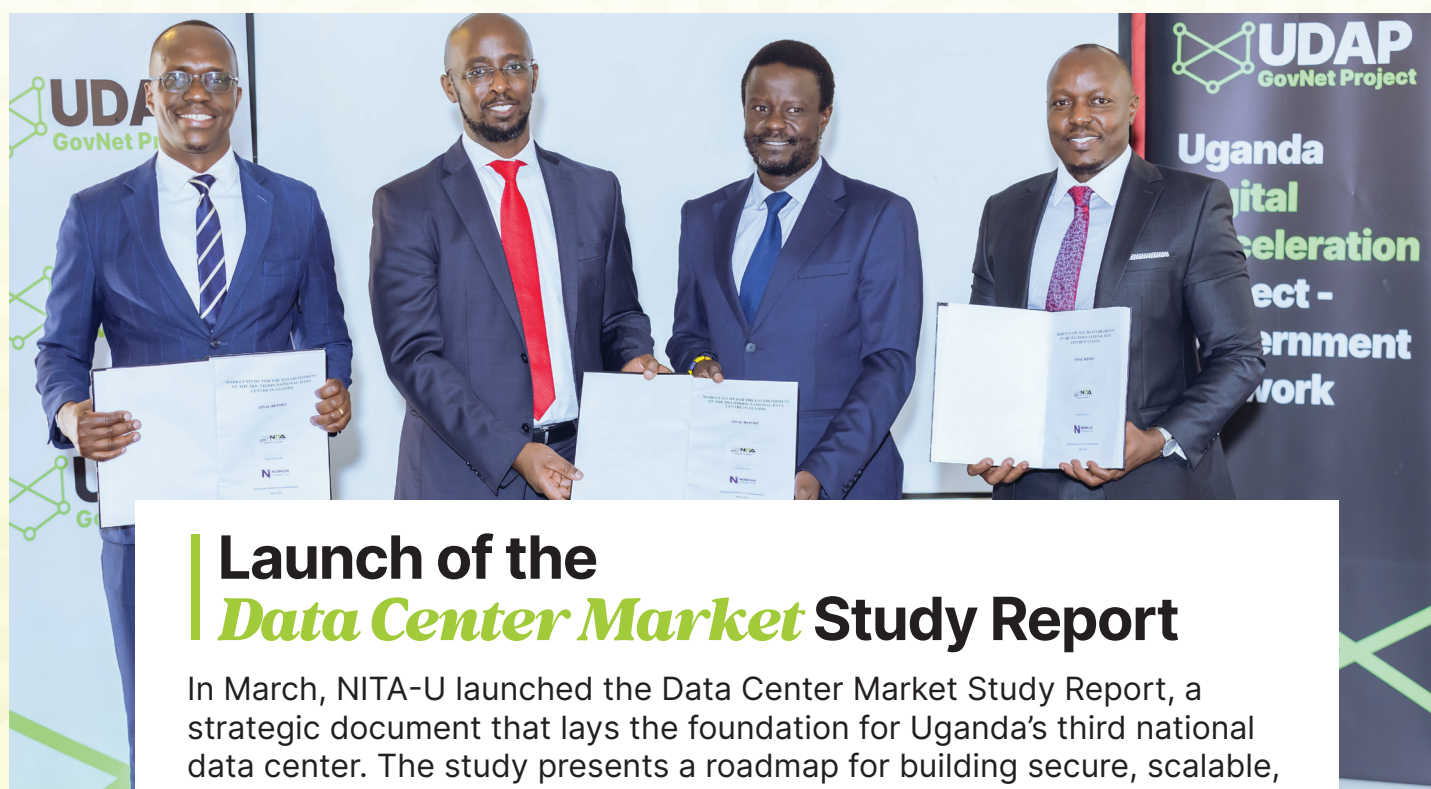Executive Director, NITA-U

Successful Completion of ==Regional Leadership Engagements== under the Uganda Digital Acceleration Project

NITA-U has made significant progress under the Uganda Digital Acceleration Project (UDAP – GovNet), a World Bank- government funded initiative aimed at reducing digital inequalities across the country. The project continues to focus on expanding internet access, enhancing e-government services, and fostering digital skills in refugee-hosting and underserved communities.

Working alongside the Ministry of ICT & National Guidance and the Office of the Prime Minister, NITA-U concluded a five-region series of Regional Leadership Engagements across Arua, Hoima, Mbarara, Lamwo, and Adjumani. These sessions were instrumental in inducting local leaders as digital champions and aligning grassroots support for ICT infrastructure rollout and digital skilling under UDAP Govnet.

The project aims to improve internet access, e-government services, and digital skills in underserved and refugee-hosting communities.

Launch of the *Data Center Market* Study Report

In March, NITA-U launched the Data Center Market Study Report, a strategic document that lays the foundation for Uganda's third national data center. The study presents a roadmap for building secure, scalable, AI-ready infrastructure that positions Uganda as a regional digital hub.

NITA-U Engages Uganda Editors' Guild on UDAP-GovNet

> **Enhancing e-government services for improved service delivery and efficiency**

NITA-U held an engaging media session with the Uganda Editors' Guild at Protea Hotel Kampala, bringing together editors from print, television, radio, and online platforms for an in-depth discussion on the Uganda Digital Acceleration Project (UDAP-GovNet).
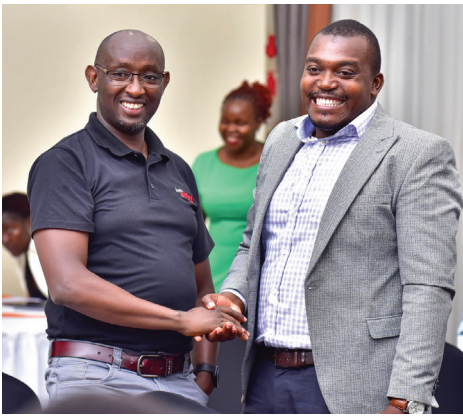
The dialogue provided a platform to reflect on Uganda's digital transformation journey and share key project updates and objectives, including:

- Expanding broadband connectivity to public institutions and underserved communities
- Enhancing e-government services for improved service delivery and efficiency
- Promoting digital inclusion, especially in refugee-hosting districts and vulnerable communities
- Strengthening digital skills and workforce readiness for Uganda's digital economy
- Improving e-waste management to support environmental sustainability

As the project moves into the implementation phase, NITA-U recognized the critical role of the media in shaping public discourse, enhancing transparency, and driving awareness of digital transformation efforts across the country.

Strategic Research on Rural Connectivity

During the Stakeholder Validation Workshop in March, NITA-U presented findings from critical studies on rural broadband and last-mile Wi-Fi deployment. These insights will shape future connectivity models to ensure even the most remote communities are part of Uganda's digital journey.

Leadership in Responsible AI at Africa AI Summit 2025

As a Strategic Technology Partner at the Africa Artificial Intelligence Summit 2025, NITA-U emphasized ethical, inclusive, and scalable AI adoption. Executive Director Dr. Hatwib Mugasa reaffirmed Uganda's commitment to responsible innovation, anchored by the ongoing development of the National AI Framework.

Landmark MoU with Presight

In a major step toward smart governance, NITA-U signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Presight, a global AI and analytics firm. This partnership aims to enhance Uganda's cybersecurity, cloud infrastructure, and digital public services while promoting local innovation and job creation.

Strengthening Uganda's Cyber Resilience

NITA-U conducted a week-long cybersecurity Training of Trainers program for over 50 UPDF personnel from across the country. This third edition of the training, delivered by NITA-U's Information Security experts, focused on practical, hands-on simulations aimed at strengthening institutional capacity to establish and scale Information Security Operations.

The initiative is part of NITA-U's ongoing efforts to enhance national cybersecurity awareness and support Uganda's journey toward a more resilient and digitally secure future.

Supporting UGPass Onboarding

The Directorate of E-Government Services led UGPass onboarding across various government agencies. This effort is central to building an interoperable, secure digital identity framework that will streamline access to public services for all Ugandans.

Contributing to industry **conversations**

NITA-U was honored to contribute to a series of high-level industry dialogues covering a wide spectrum of critical themes, including e-Governance, Artificial Intelligence, Information Security, Data Protection, and beyond. These engagements provided valuable platforms to share insights, exchange knowledge, and strengthen collaborations that advance Uganda's digital transformation agenda.

- e- Governance Forum
- Africa Ai Summit
- Data Protection Conference
- ID4Africa Summit

Infrastructure Development - Civil Works
Kick Off in Kayunga Under NBI Phase 5

NITA-U has officially commenced civil works for Phase 5 of the National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI), beginning with the inspection of the Kayunga Transmission Station, one of 21 new sites under development.

Once completed, the station will relay high-speed data between Kampala and Jinja, serve as a regional hub, and regenerate signals over long distances.

Phase 5 will extend the fibre network by 5,845 km, adding to the existing 4,300 km. This expansion will significantly enhance internet access, bridge the digital divide, and unlock new opportunities in e-services, education, healthcare, and business across the country.

The project represents a major step forward in strengthening Uganda's digital infrastructure, with implementation led by China International Telecommunications Construction Corporation (CITCC).

Welcoming the 2025 Internship Cohort

NITA-U is thrilled to have welcomed its 2025 Internship Cohort, a dynamic group of young minds eager to explore the world of ICT and digital transformation.

As part of their induction, the interns were taken on an insightful tour of key facilities, including the National Data Centre, Network Operations Centre, and the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) office. These immersive experiences offered them a first-hand look at the backbone infrastructure and critical digital services that NITA-U provides to government and citizens alike.

We look forward to an engaging and impactful internship period as we continue to nurture Uganda's next generation of tech talent.

Stay Connected, Let's Keep the Conversation Going

Thank you for taking the time to engage with the first edition of our newsletter. As we continue to build Uganda's digital future, your insights, feedback, and participation are invaluable.

If you'd like to contribute to future editions or join our editorial team as a contributor or editor, please get in touch we'd love to hear from you!

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