Between 01st–17th December 2015, USSIA in collaboration with the Uganda Cleaner Production Centre organized awareness seminars for small scale industries in: Arua, Gulu, Hoima, Masaka and Fort-Portal. The goal of these meetings was to mobilize partners, share knowledge and case studies on SCP as well as disseminate information on the need to change our consumption and production patterns, towards a more sustainable model of development. The participants included, both small scale industrialists and other consumers.

The meetings focused on sustainable energy consumption, particularly on the production and the use of energy–using products. The positive impact of small and inexpensive improvement measures was emphasized. Energy inefficiency and energy poverty, as a phenomenon prevalent in Uganda was stressed. It was also proposed to intensify the promotion of green public procurement as a positive example to effect much-needed changes in consumption patterns.
Base-line survey on the legal and regulatory framework for EU funded-SPIN & EE project conducted

The Uganda Small Scale Industries Association commissioned a base-line survey of the legal and regulatory framework for sustainable product innovation and energy efficient practices among small scale industries in Uganda. The purpose of the baseline study was to analyze and identify the status quo of the existing SPIN & EE related policy framework, its instruments and the respective institutional framework in Uganda. This mapping of on-going policies, instruments (incl. incentives and disincentives), involved organizations and driving forces related to or linked with SCP in Uganda; has provided a basis for USSIA’s work under component one of the project—to strengthen the institutional framework for SPIN & EE in Uganda. Overall, the study concludes that the Government of Uganda is committed to promoting and enhancing sustainable consumption and production patterns in Uganda i.e. decoupling economic progress from resource use, decreasing resource intensity, avoiding negative impact on the environment. Consequently, the existing legal framework for SPIN and EE is fairly robust. However, implementation of these policies is poor. This can be attributed to lack of capacity among some policy makers or limited appreciation of the concept of sustainable production and consumption. A detailed study can be downloaded from the website.
EU funded project beneficiaries’ show-case green products during the “SME & Cottage Industry Fair, 2015”

USSIA organized the 3rd SME& Cottage Industry Fair from 13th -17th August 2014 at UMA Conference Hall Grounds–Lugogo. During the event, SMEs had an opportunity to dialogue with the Minister of Trade of Uganda. During the event, the Minister requested all Government Ministries and Departments to respond to SMEs issues. While meeting the beneficiaries of the EU funded–SPIN & EE project; she urged small scale industrialists to adopt Sustainable Consumption and production practices, in order to create an ecological and economic space for the poor to meet their basic needs. She assured the SMEs that the MSME policy was being discussed and would be approved by cabinet, very soon.

EU funded project launches a new website to popularize SCP activities among small scale industries in Uganda

With a financial support of the European Union, "Sustainable Product Innovation and Energy Efficient practices among small scale industries project” has established a web-site to popularize the activities of small scale industries that have adopted SCP practices. Speaking on the occasion of the launch of the portal; the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Amelia Kyambadde urged the beneficiary MSMEs, to not only use the website as a platform for information and knowledge sharing; but also as a marketing platform. She reiterated the Government’s true commitment to the protection of the environment from the adverse effects of industrial development which could cause pollution and resource wastage in the country. Website: www.greeningsmesuganda.org
On 27th October 2015, the Sustainable Product Innovation and Energy Efficient Practices among small scale industries project was launched at Nob View Hotel. Officially opening the workshop on behalf of the Executive Director of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); Mr. Mike Nsereko, the Director of Policy at NEMA applauded USSIA for being selected as one of the grantees under the Switch Africa Green project. He challenged the MSMEs to adopt sustainable production and consumption patterns, in line with the objectives of the project. The National Switch Africa Green coordinator, Teddy Twine focused on the need for the MSMEs to look at the project, as a catalyst in their quest to become sustainable. She informed them, that whereas, the project is not designed to provide equipment or direct financial support to the enterprise; it offers immense opportunities in accessing markets, both locally and internationally. The Executive Director of USSIA, John Walugembe congratulated the companies, on being selected through a rigorous process to be among the 100 MSMEs that USSIA shall be working with under the project. He encouraged them to take advantage of the business development support that USSIA and UCPC will provide under this project, to expand their businesses.