



UGANDA
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

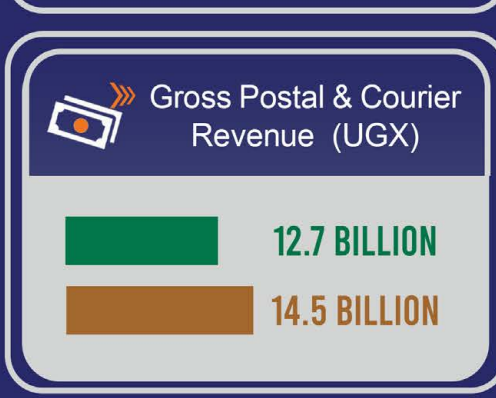
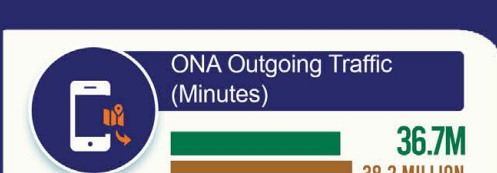
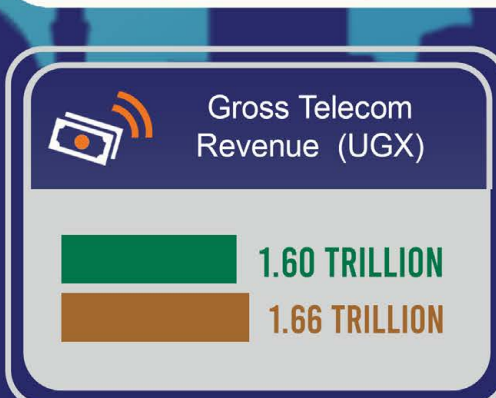
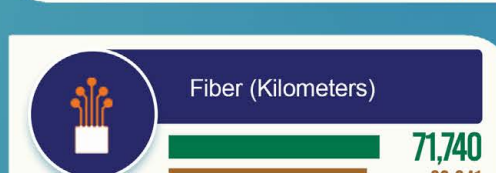
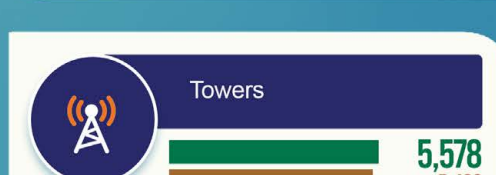
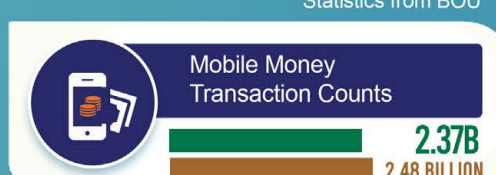
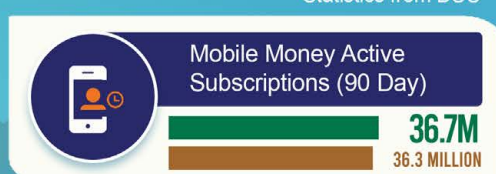
Connected Uganda 2030



Market Performance Report Q1 2026 (Jan - Mar 2026)



Industry Snapshot March 2026

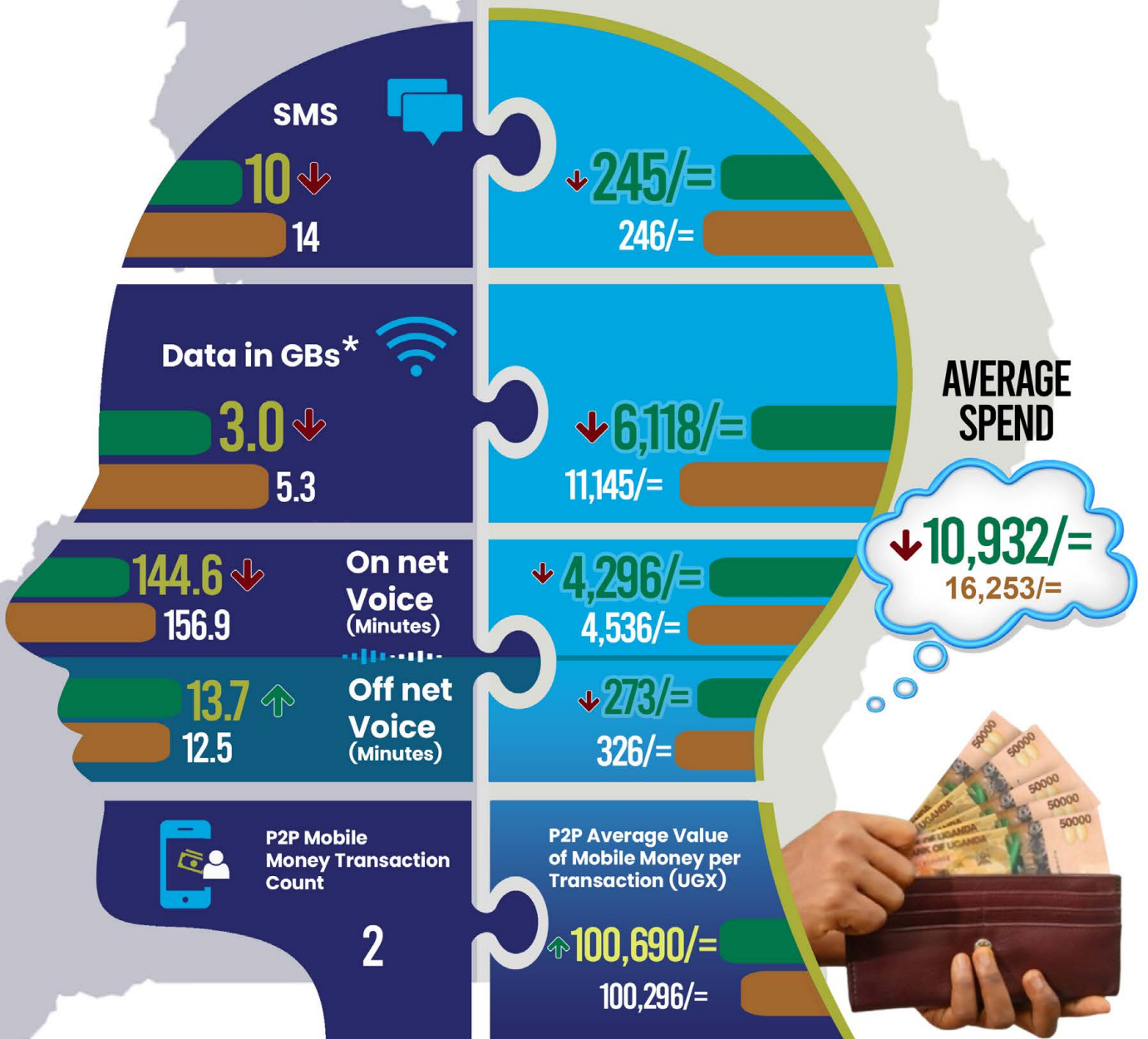


Connected Uganda 2030

March 2026 Average User Profile

Average Monthly Service Usage (Volumes)

Monthly Service Usage Spend (UGX)



● Q1 2026

● Q4 2025



UGANDA
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

Connected Uganda 2030



www.ucc.co.ug

Legal Disclaimer

The information and figures contained herein were obtained from licensees' submissions to the Commission and other sources available to the Commission. It is intended to provide the communications market overview to:

- 1. The industry,*
- 2. Prospective entrants,*
- 3. Government,*
- 4. Academia and other stakeholders.*

UCC does not give any warranty and may not be liable for the interpretation arising from its use or misuse.

Introduction

This is a review of the industry performance, trends, and key developments for the first quarter of 2026, starting January to March 2026. The report covers:

1. Domestic Highlights
2. Service Access and Subscriptions
3. Traffic and Usage
4. Financial Performance
5. Post and Courier Sector
6. Broadcast and Multimedia
7. Film and Cinema

Domestic Highlights



Key Headlines (Jan - Mar 2026)

27th Mar 2026

Uganda Secures Double Leadership Victory at PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference



At the 11th Ordinary Session of the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) Plenipotentiary Conference in Kampala, Uganda achieved a significant double success.

Uganda officially assumed the Chairmanship of the PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference for the 2026–2030 cycle. The position is held by the Minister of ICT and National Guidance, Hon. Dr. Chris Baryomunsi, and was represented at the session by UCC Executive Director, Hon. Nyombi Thembo.



In a strong show of confidence, Ms. Jessica Hope Ssengooba was re-elected as Assistant Secretary General of PAPU for a second term (2026–2030). She secured 63.6% of the vote, defeating Senegal's Bassirou Wade (36.4%). This double victory reaffirms Uganda's growing influence and commitment to advancing a modern, resilient, and digitally transformed postal sector across Africa.



11th PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference - Kampala, Uganda.



Key Headlines Ctd..(Jan - Mar 2026)

27th Mar 2026

RFC 2026 draws 257 Submissions Across the Four Regions of Uganda



UCC ran the Regional Film Competition (RFC) 2026 from 2 to 27 March across Soroti City (Eastern), Arua City (Northern), Luwero District (Central), and Hoima City (Western) to nurture regional film talent and expand access to Ugandan content. It drew 257 national submissions. Central led with 112, followed by Western (73), Eastern (67), and Northern (64). It featured residential training, live production, community/school screenings, and regional awards galas.



Over 1,000 film stakeholders attended Soroti market screenings, more than 700 in Hoima, and school outreaches reached up to 1,500 students, with eight trainee short films produced. Digitally, it achieved 6,496,376 impressions, 1,278,752 estimated reach, and 604 original social media posts. It culminated in awards for Best Film, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Student Film, Best Smartphone Film, Best Original Soundtrack, and Best Community Film.



Jan - Mar 2026



UCC/UCUSAF Study Highlights Impact of ICT4PWD Programme

UCC commissioned an impact assessment of the ICT for Persons with Disabilities (ICT4PWD) Programme finds that assistive technologies, digital skills training and the ICT4PWD Observatory have significantly improved learning outcomes, independence and community participation for PWDs across Uganda. The study recommends longer training, targeted device rollout, subsidised data and stronger support.

5th January 2026



UCC joins ICT Ministry on Election Media Briefing

UCC's Executive Director, Hon. Nyombi Thembo, joined the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance for a joint media engagement on election preparedness. The session emphasised media responsibility, combating misinformation, and the requirement that all official communications occur through designated channels during the electoral period.

18th January 2026



UCC Announces Nationwide Internet Restoration

UCC hosted a national press briefing to announce the restoration of public internet and mobile services across Uganda after the 2026 General Elections and a security assessment. The temporary restriction, introduced to prevent misinformation and electoral interference, has now been lifted, while essential services remained operational throughout.

28th January 2026



UCC Marks Data Privacy Day 2026: Privacy by Design

UCC joined the global community to commemorate Data Privacy Day 2026 under the theme "Prioritise Privacy by Design." It reaffirmed commitment to embedding privacy in systems, services, and decision-making to foster trust and responsible innovation, highlighted through a series of videos shared on social media.

28th January 2026



UCC Hosts 5th Heads of Government Agencies (HOGA)

UCC hosted the 5th HOGA meeting, a high-level forum uniting leaders from key Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to enhance coordination for national development. Deliberations centred on implementing the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV), emphasising digital transformation, productivity, and building a capable state.

30th January 2026



UCC Validates Telecom Carbon and Energy Footprint Study

UCC's ICT and Research Department hosted a validation workshop on the Evaluation of the Carbon and Energy Footprint of Uganda's Telecommunications Sector. Key stakeholders reviewed findings from a CEDAT-Makerere University consultancy led by Dr. Abubaker Wasswa (PhD), assessing energy consumption, network expansion, data centres, and carbon emissions amid rising connectivity demands.

10th February 2026



UCC Publishes Safer Internet Day Podcast

UCC published a special podcast for Safer Internet Day under the theme "Building a Safer Internet for All: Shared Responsibility, Smart Choices, Secure Futures." The episode stressed collective online safety solutions involving parents, educators, creators, and industry. It is available on UCC's YouTube channel @UCC_Official_Ug.

10th February 2026



UCC Hosts Telecom Taxation Reform Consultation

UCC held a stakeholder consultation on reforming telecommunications taxation to accelerate digital transformation and inclusive growth in Uganda. The forum reviewed the tax regime to cut communication costs and boost adoption. Attendees represented NPA, URA, Ministry of Finance, and ECASA Group consultants.

11th February 2026



UCC Secures Conviction in Major SIM Fraud Case

UCC won a major conviction against Edengel Earnest for impersonating MP Hon. Mukula Francis to defraud public members via illegal SIM cards from March to October 2024. Convicted on three counts (UCC Licensing Regulations 2019 Reg. 110(b), Penal Code Act s.285, RICA Regulations 2024 s.29), Chief Magistrate Gladys Kamasanyu sentenced him to three years imprisonment concurrently.

12th February 2026



Telecom Mast Vandals Sentenced to Extra Five Years

Kasiry Charles and Mukwaya Hamdan were sentenced for 2023 telecom mast vandalism in Entebbe Market (Wakiso) and Waina (Luuka), stealing batteries and diesel from American Tower sites (Uganda Communications Act s.84; Penal Code ss.254, 302(a)). The Makindye Court awarded five years each (2.5 + 2.5 + 0.5 years per case), following prior Bbira-Buloba convictions, to protect critical infrastructure.

17th February 2026



UCC Empowers Adjumani Farmers with Digital Skills

UCC delivered digital skills training to smallholder farmers in Adjumani District, covering laptop and tablet use, mobile money reversal, online fraud prevention, Microsoft Word and Excel, and access to e-government services such as passports, national IDs (NIRA), business registration (URSB), tax identification numbers (URA), driver's licences, and UCC-regulated services.

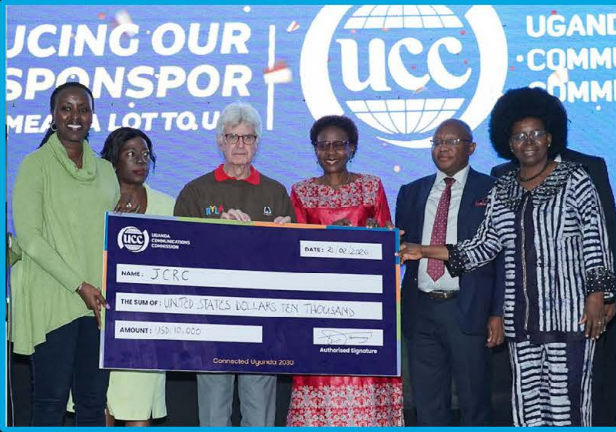
20th February 2026



UCC Board Visits UCUSAF Projects in Eastern Uganda

The UCC Board visited UCUSAF-supported digital projects in the Eastern Region to assess their functionality, impact and sustainability in bridging the digital divide. The Board reviewed assistive technologies at the Regional PWD ICT Centre and the Jinja Public Library PAC, as well as solar-powered labs at St. Gonzaga SS, Bubiita Seed SS and Mbale School for the Deaf.

21st February 2026



UCC Supports Uganda's First Bone Marrow Transplant Centre

The initiative aims to bring life-saving treatment for sickle cell disease and blood cancers closer to home and cut costly medical travel abroad. Representing UCC, Julianne Mweheire, Director of Economic Regulation, Content and Consumer Affairs, contributed USD 10,000, with the event also attended by Rotary International President Mr. Francesco Arezzo and senior Ministry of Health officials.

24th February 2026



UCC to support 2026 Tusker Lite Rwenzori Marathon

UCC's Executive Director, Hon. Nyombi Thembo, highlighted the Commission's role in overseeing the communications infrastructure that underpins the 2026 Tusker Lite Rwenzori Marathon, ensuring reliable telecommunications services to support coordination among security teams, medical personnel, organisers and participants throughout the event, which will be held in Kasese on 22 August 2026.

28th February 2026



UCC Strengthens Digital and Commercial Ties with the U.S

UCC met with the U.S. Ambassador, H.E. William Popp, to strengthen digital and commercial ties between Uganda and the United States. Together with the Ministry of ICT & National Guidance and other agencies, UCC discussed opportunities to accelerate Uganda's digital transformation, including AI collaboration, IT skills exchanges with U.S. firms, and the need for robust regulatory frameworks.

6th March 2026



UCC Empowers Women and Youth with ICT Skills

UCC/UCUSAF delivered ICT skilling for women in the informal sector in Butebo and Bugweri districts, and for youth in ICT and multimedia in Kamuli District. The Women in the Informal Sector programme targets over 2,500 women across 25 districts, while the youth digital skilling targets 1,500 people in 15 districts, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

11th March 2026



UCC Launches Child Online Protection School Outreach

UCC launched a nationwide Child Online Protection (COP) school outreach as part of World Consumer Rights Day 2026 preparations. The Consumer Affairs team and Regional Offices ran coordinated assembly sessions across all regions, with two ICT students identified per school as COP Ambassadors to promote peer-to-peer education and a safer digital environment for children.

11th March 2026



UCC Disseminates RF-EMF Exposure Assessment

UCC hosted a stakeholder workshop to disseminate the new Guidelines for the Assessment of Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Field (RF-EMF) Exposure from Communications Infrastructure and Services, strengthening collaboration with industry, researchers and partners and supporting informed discussions on RF-EMF in Uganda's communications sector.

16th March 2026



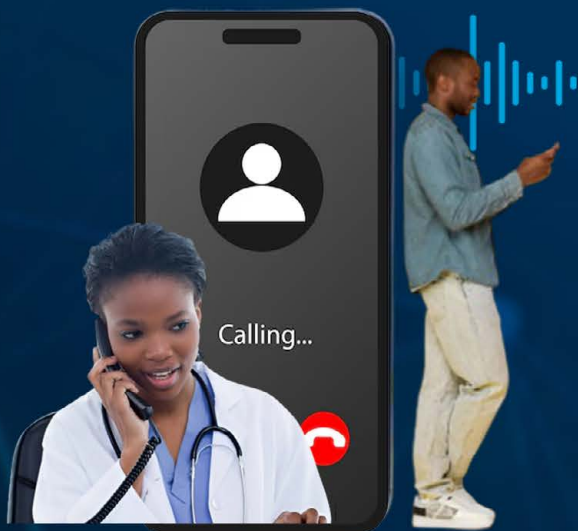
UCC Marks World Consumer Rights Day Across the Regions

UCC commemorated World Consumer Rights Day under the theme "Safe Products, Confident Consumers", hosting concurrent events in Mbale (Eastern), Mbarara (Western), Gulu (Northern) and Masindi (North Western). The regional engagements brought together parents, local leaders, teachers and students to discuss child online protection and responsible digital use.

Service Access and Subscriptions



Q1 2026 Subscriptions



47.5 Million

Active Mobile Subscriptions

375 Thousand

Fixed Line Subscriptions

Devices and Terminals



13.3 Million
Basic Phones



24.7 Million
Feature Phones



20.3 Million
Smart Phones

Active Subscriptions



36.7 Million
Mobile Money

18.0 Million
Mobile Internet

256 Thousand
Fixed Internet

Social Media Subscriptions

As of March 2026



Traffic and Usage

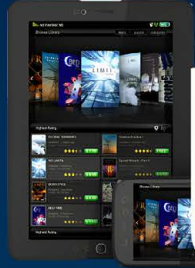


Q1 2026 Traffic



**2.37
Billion**

Mobile Money
Transactions



**256.8
Million**

GigaBytes (GBs)
Downloaded



**19.1
Billion**

USSD
Sessions



**20.9
Billion**

Domestic On
Net Minutes



**1.8
Billion**

Domestic Off
Net Minutes



**196.9
Million**

One Net Area
(ONA) In Minutes



**36.7
Million**

One Net Area
(ONA) Out



**13.2
Million**

International
Voice In Minutes



**10.7
Million**

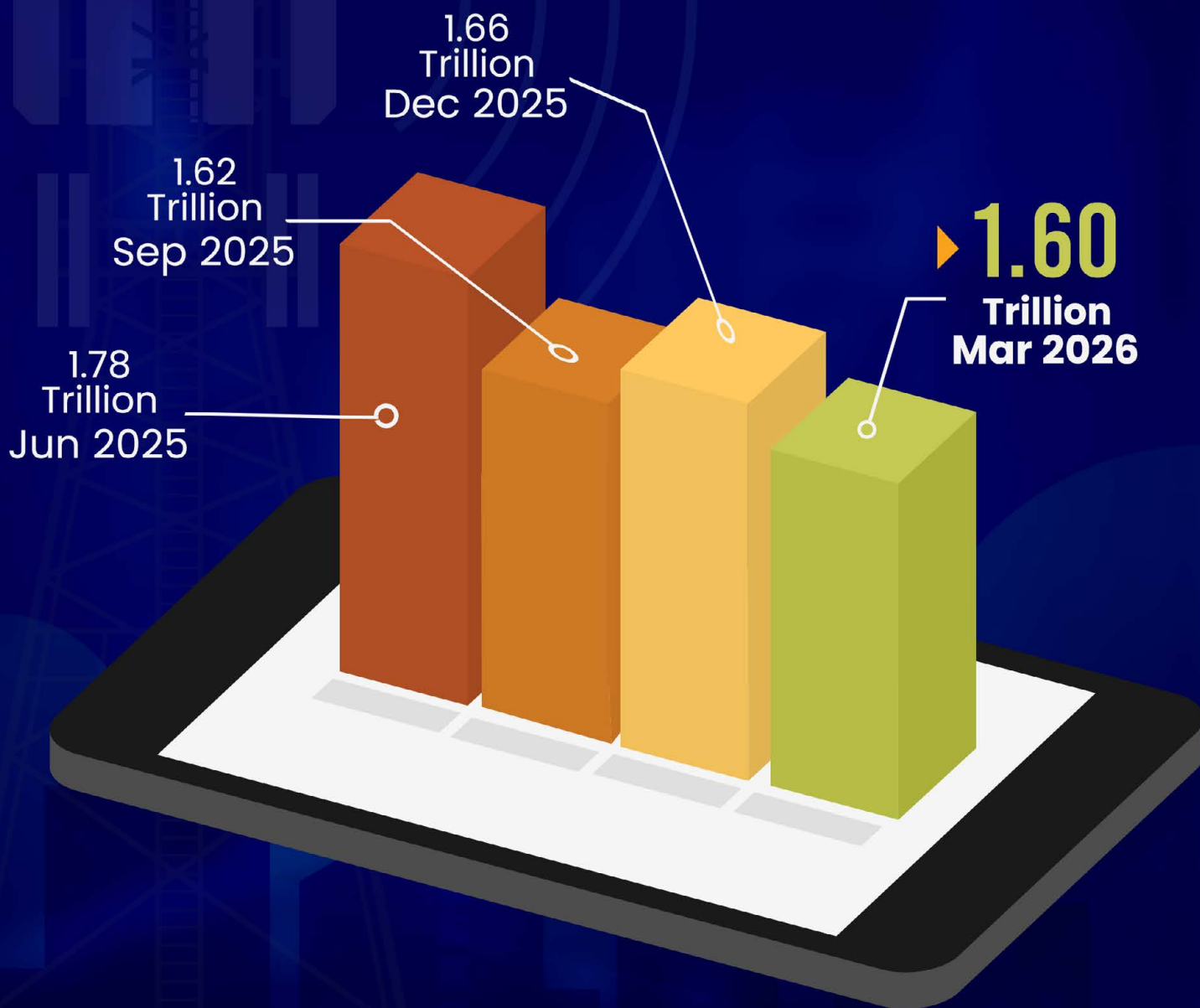
International
Voice Out Minutes



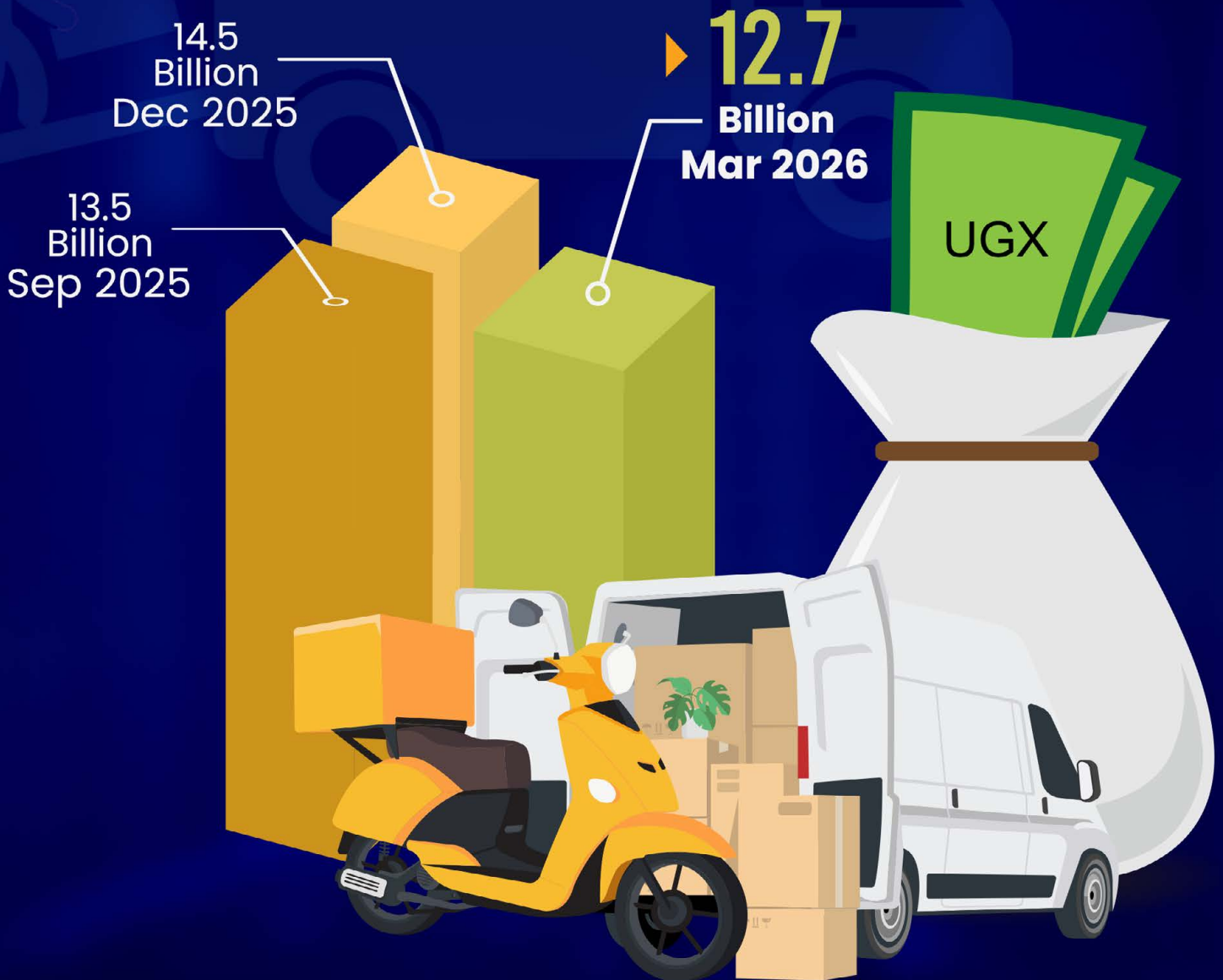
Financial Performance



Q1 2026 Telecom Revenue



Q1 2026 Postal & Courier Revenue



Postal and Courier Sector Highlights



Q1 2026 Postal and Courier Headlines

6th March 2026

UCC Annual Postal and Courier Forum



UCC convened the Annual Postal and Courier Engagement Forum at Protea Hotel, Kololo, bringing together 84 participants from 40 organisations, including regulators, courier operators and private sector stakeholders. The half-day forum reviewed sector challenges and priorities, with discussions focused on consultative regulation, licensing, customs, transport permits, and fee harmonisation. It also recorded postal market growth from 29 operators in 2019 to 56 in 2026, while 60 per cent of the sector remained unregulated, and agreed on key actions for the next 12 months, including URA-courier MoUs, licensing reforms, eBox rollout, sector procurement guidelines and digital system integration.

 **84**
Participants

 **40**
Organisations

 **93%**
Operator growth



Q1 2026 Postal and Courier Overview

Postal Traffic (Mails)

1,638

Express Mail Service
(EMS) Outbound



247

East Africa
Inbound



673

East Africa
Outbound



96,307

Total Mails
Delivered
Country-wide



1,873

Express Mail Service
(EMS) Inbound



105,644

Rest of the World
Inbound



29,353

Rest of the World
Outbound

Courier Traffic (Parcels and Packages)

Posta Uganda
(National
Postal
Operator)



Total Items
Delivered Countrywide

3,511

Domestic
Couriers



Total Items
Delivered Countrywide

755,019

International
Couriers



Total Items
Delivered Countrywide

25,512

Regional
Couriers



Total Items
Delivered Countrywide

9,871

Inter-City
Couriers



Total Items
Delivered Countrywide

102,626

Total Items
Delivered
Countrywide



896,539

Broadcast and Multimedia



Q1 2026 Broadcasting Overview

Country Mapping for The Pay-TV market in Uganda



- DStv Satellite** | Country Wide
- zuku Satellite** | Country Wide
- azamTV Satellite** | Country Wide
- StarTimes Satellite** | Country Wide

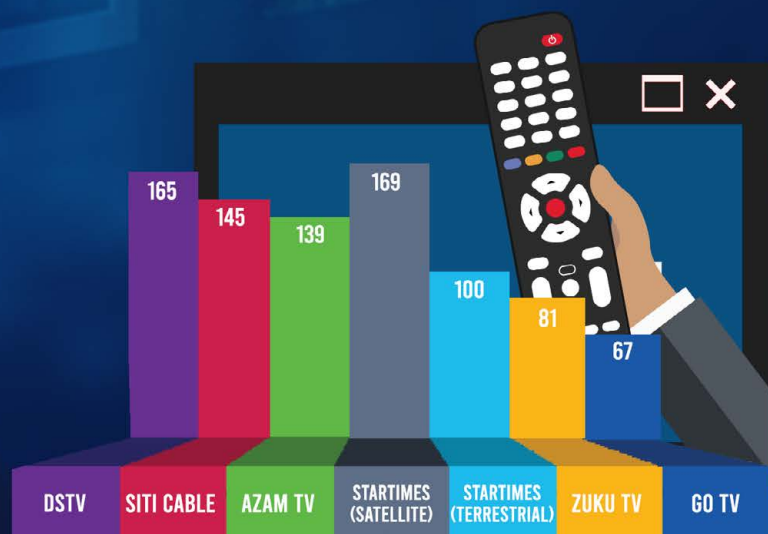
- StarTimes Terrestrial** | Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Masaka, Mbarara, Fortportal, Jinja, Mukono, Kalangala, Luweero, Gulu and Mbale
- GOtv Terrestrial** | Kampala, Jinja, Iganga, Mbale, Lira, Gulu, Arua, Kasese, Mbarara, Masaka and Wakiso
- SIMBA TV Cable** | Kampala & Jinja

PAY TV (MARCH 2026)

▶ **0.8**
Million
Active
Subscribers



Channels Offered



Jan – Mar 2026

UCC Media Engagements on the 2026 General Elections



In the January to March 2026 quarter, UCC's broadcasting sector work was shaped by the 2026 General Elections. UCC Executive Director Hon. Nyombi Thembo appeared on television stations including NBS TV, UBC TV, BBS TV and Sanyuka TV, as well as on radio programmes such as Big Talk on Next Radio 106.1 FM, The Spectrum on Radio One and Digi Talk Media. Through these engagements and a joint election preparedness briefing with the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance, he repeatedly emphasised media responsibility, cautioned against misinformation and hate speech, warned broadcasters against airing premature results or operating unofficial tally centres, and stressed that only the Electoral Commission has the mandate to announce official election results.

27th Feb 2026

Conviction of Unlicensed Online Broadcaster TV10 – Gano Mazima

Dean Saava Lubowa, proprietor of unlicensed online broadcaster TV10 – Gano Mazima, was convicted by Makindye's Standards, Utilities and Wildlife Court for operating and transmitting without a UCC licence, defying enforcement notices and court orders. He pleaded guilty to three offences: unlicensed broadcasting, unlicensed operation, and disobeying a UCC directive. He received cumulative fines or custody. Forty-five broadcasting items were forfeited, affirming UCC enforcement of the Uganda Communications Act.



Film and Cinema



Key Headlines (Jan - Mar 2026)

13th Feb 2026

UCC Consultative Meeting with the Ikon Awards on Edutainment and Regional Collaboration



UCC's ED Hon. Nyombi Thembo, hosted South African filmmaker Thapelo Mokoena and Humphrey Nabimanya, founder of the Ikon Awards, at the UCC head offices in Kampala. The meeting centred on the role of "edutainment" in engaging Gen Z audiences, with UCC emphasising the need to anchor contemporary storytelling in a broader historical narrative rather than isolated recent events. UCC reaffirmed its commitment to move beyond regulation by actively supporting creatives.

26 - 27th Feb 2026

UCC Supports Local Community Screenings



UCC supported and promoted free public community screenings of the acclaimed documentary *Memories of Love Returned* in Mbirizi, bringing the film back home after its international recognition across five continents. Directed by Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine, the documentary celebrates the life and legacy of renowned Ugandan photographer Kibaate Aloysius Ssalongo, and the initiative reinforced UCC's commitment to promoting local content, nurturing Uganda's creative industry and showcasing authentic Ugandan stories on the global stage in line with the Connected Uganda 2030 vision.

Key Headlines Ctd... (Jan - Mar 2026)

2 - 27th Mar 2026

UCC Regional Film-Making Trainings Programme



As part of RFC 2026, UCC delivered film-making training programmes across Soroti, Arua, Luwero and Hoima, with participants receiving structured, hands-on training in scriptwriting, acting, directing, cinematography, sound, editing, production planning and career development, progressing from story development through pre-production, production and post-production to produce films in collaborative team settings. Across the four regions, the training component engaged roughly 35 to 40 participants per location, with each cohort completing a four-day practical programme that culminated in the production of two short films per region.

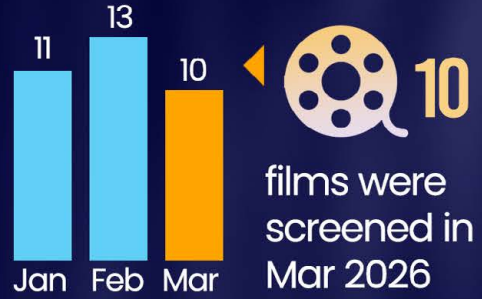
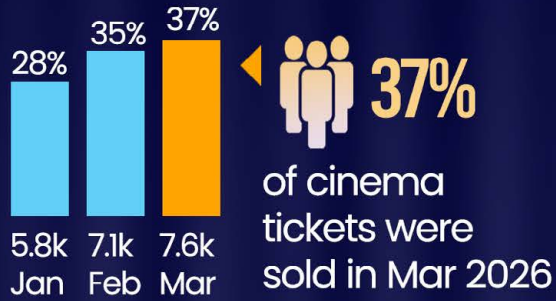
 **4**
Regions

 **257**
Trainees

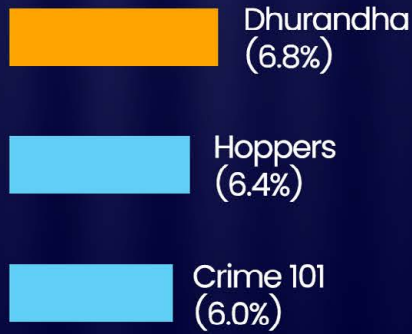
 **6.4 Million**
Reached Online



CINEMA ATTENDANCE JAN - MAR 2026



Most Popular Movie



Most Popular Time




Evening 50%
Afternoon 47%
Morning 3.1%






UGANDA
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

Connected Uganda 2030

 0800222777

 @UCC_Official

 ugandacommunicationscommission

 ucc_Official

 www.uccinfoblog.com

 www.ucc.co.ug

 kmpare.ug