UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Connected Uganda 2030

Market Performance Report Q3 2026 (Jul - Sep 2026)



Industry Snapshot Sep 2026

66.5 Million — Mobile Registered Subscriptions

Mobile Subscriptions (Active 90 Day)
50.6M
49.0 MILLION

Mobile Internet Subscriptions (Active 30 Day)*
19.6 M
19.7 MILLION
*Subscribers that use more than 30MB per month

On-Net Traffic (Minutes)
22.6B
20.4 BILLION

Off-Net Traffic (Minutes)
2.0B
1.8 BILLION

Internet Traffic (GBs)
333.4M
267.4 MILLION

ONA Incoming Traffic (Minutes)
261.0M
231.4 MILLION

ONA Outgoing Traffic (Minutes)
23.7M
24.4 MILLION

International Incoming Traffic (Minutes)
9.1M
8.8 MILLION

International Outgoing Traffic (Minutes)
6.6M
6.3 MILLION

Mobile Money Registered Subscriptions
62.1M
59.5 MILLION
*Statistics from BOU

Mobile Money Active Subscriptions (90 Day)
39.1M
37.8 MILLION
*Statistics from BOU

Mobile Money Transaction Counts
2.73B
2.55 BILLION
*Statistics from BOU

Smartphones
21.3M
20.5 MILLION

Towers
5,721
5,663

Fiber (Kilometers)
86,229
80,257

Gross Telecom Revenue (UGX)
1.74 TRILLION
1.73 TRILLION

Gross Postal & Courier Revenue (UGX)
16.7 BILLION
16.2 BILLION

Posta Uganda Courier Traffic (EMS)
4,407
4,233

Domestic Courier Traffic
929,149
859,504

International Courier Traffic
27,357
26,743

Regional Courier Traffic
11,037
8,617

Intercity Courier Traffic
108,794
102,260

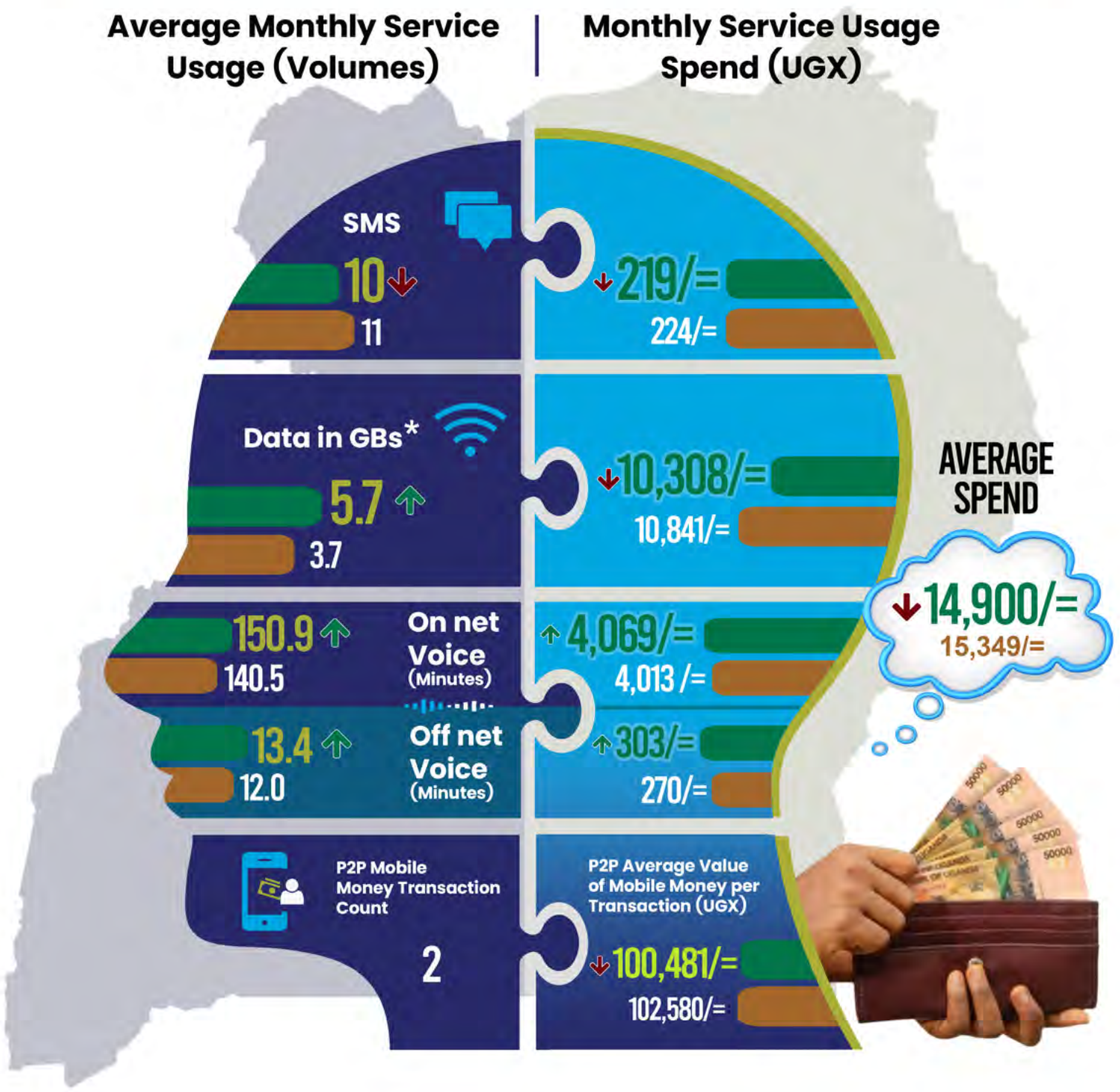
Total Courier Traffic
1,080,744
1,001,357

Q3 2026
Q2 2026

UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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Sep 2026 Average User Profile



● Q3 2026 ● Q2 2026

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

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Introduction

This report reviews industry performance, trends, and key developments during the third quarter of 2026 (July – September 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 (Jul - Sep 2026)

28th Aug 2026

Uganda Film Festival 2026 Recognises 31 Outstanding Local Production Winners

The 2026 Uganda Film Festival concluded with an Awards Gala on 28 August 2026 at the UICT Innovation Hub in Nakawa, under the theme "*Transformation: The Power of Local Stories.*" The festival received **361 film submissions** across eight categories, with short films accounting for the largest share at 121 entries. Several productions distinguished themselves by winning multiple honours: *ADUI* won four awards, including Best Cinematography, Best Post-Production/Editing, Best Film in Indigenous Language and Best Screenplay; *You May Kiss the Bride Goodbye* also secured four, including Best Costume Design, Best Make-Up, Best Director and Best Feature Film; while *Small Gods* collected four awards, including Best Original Soundtrack, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Rising Star. *Damalie* was another notable winner, taking three TV drama awards.

31 Winners | **361** Submissions | **1,330** UFF Gala Guests











Key Headlines Ctd..(Jul - Sep 2026)

24th –25th Sep 2026

10th National Conference on Communications (NCC 2026)

UCC, in collaboration with Makerere University, convened the 10th National Conference on Communications (NCC 2026) under the theme *"Accelerating Market-Driven Innovation for Uganda's Development."* The conference programme was supported by six paper publishing masterclasses, reaching **505 participants** through five physical sessions across universities in Uganda and one national virtual session. NCC 2026 also extended innovation to secondary schools through the National School ICT Clubs Competition, which attracted **135 schools**, with **112 shortlisted** for the regional competitions across six project areas. The wider conference programme brought together research, industry and policy perspectives across eight thematic tracks, spanning digital infrastructure, FinTech, artificial intelligence, digital content, e-government, ICT for social impact, agriculture, cybersecurity and innovation ecosystems.

505 Participants | **112** Shortlisted | **135** Schools











Key Headlines Ctd..(Jul - Sep 2026)

11th –12th Aug 2026

Inaugural National Cybersecurity Conference 2026

UCC convened Uganda's inaugural National Cybersecurity Conference on 11–12 August 2026 at the Sheraton Kampala Hotel under the theme"*Securing Uganda's Digital Future: Collaboration, Resilience and Trust*." The two-day conference brought together government, regulators, security and law-enforcement agencies, telecom operators, banks, fintechs, academia and civil society to strengthen Uganda's cybersecurity ecosystem, with the programme structured around four major thematic areas covering governance and regulation, critical infrastructure, cyber resilience and incident response, and cyber skills and awareness. The conference highlighted that malware infections had declined from about 1.59 million in 2024 to 1.41 million in 2025, although the sector's cybersecurity rating remained at "Basic". It also reported a national Global Cybersecurity Index score of 82.94 out of 100 and identified seven priority actions to strengthen national cyber resilience, coordination, information sharing and accountability.

432 Participants

7 Sectors Represented

Government | Telecoms | Media
Financial services | Academia
Cybersecurity | Civil society









Jul – Sep 2026

ONGOING UCUSAF INITIATIVES

The Uganda Communications Universal Service and Access Fund (UCUSAF), established in 2001 by UCC, promotes digital inclusion by extending telecom infrastructure, broadband, and ICT services to unserved and underserved areas in Uganda.



Digitisation of Uganda Sign Language

Project launched, with implementation preparations and baseline assessment activities undertaken

9
New Public Wi-Fi hotspot locations implemented at Kyanika, Oraba and Kagitumba

13
Primary schools connected to the internet

145
Schools connected and digitised

212
Teachers trained in digital skills

218
Mechanics digitally skilled in 2 districts

1,084
Persons with disabilities digitally skilled across 28 districts.

1,395
Health workers digitally skilled across 58 faith-based health facilities.

1,417
Women digitally skilled in 13 districts (phase II).





1st July 2026



ICT Minister's Maiden Visit to UCC

During a courtesy visit to the Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) headquarters, the Minister of ICT and National Guidance, Rt. Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba, called for accelerated digital transformation, stronger consumer protection and closer collaboration between the Ministry, the Commission and other agencies to advance Uganda's digital economy.

7th July 2026



UCC Announces Nationwide Enforcement Against Illegal Public Wi-Fi Services

UCC launched a nationwide enforcement exercise targeting unlicensed public Wi-Fi operators, citing risks to consumers, communications infrastructure, cybersecurity and government revenue, and directed operators to regularise their operations or face enforcement action.

9th - 10th July 2026



UCC Partners with Mengo Rotary Blood Bank

UCC partnered with the Mengo Rotary Blood Bank to support national blood collection efforts, reinforcing the Commission's corporate social responsibility and community engagement activities. The activity was initiated by the Internal Audit and Risk Department as part of the Internal Audit Awareness Week 2026.

13th July 2026



UCC Rallies Stakeholders to Combat Digital Piracy

UCC convened regulators, broadcasters, telecommunications operators, internet service providers, copyright holders and law enforcement agencies in a high-level engagement to develop a coordinated national response to digital piracy, which it described as a serious threat to the creative economy, jobs, investment and revenue.

16th July 2026



UCC Meets Hotspot Operators, Suspends Enforcement

UCC met members of the Alliance of Hotspot Operators Uganda following UCC's recent advisory on unauthorised Wi-Fi hotspot operations. The operators raised concerns about the potential impact on their livelihoods and customers. Hon. Thembo suspended enforcement of the directive and pledged to convene a multi-stakeholder dialogue towards a balanced, mutually beneficial solution.

17th July 2026



UCC National Communications Testbed Hosts Study Tour

The UCC National Communications Testbed at UICT in Nakawa hosted a guided study tour showcasing its role in research, innovation and Uganda's digital transformation. Participants engaged with developers and innovators, explored robotics and AI technologies. The tour also highlighted the Testbed's new digital management platform, which streamlines bookings, registration, reporting and facility monitoring.

17th July 2026



SIM Card Seller Convicted for Irregular Registration

A SIM card seller, Patrick Wanyera, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment or a fine of UGX 500,000 after registering a subscriber outside an approved point, in breach of Regulation 28 of the Regulation of Interception of Communications Regulations, 2024. The illegally registered SIM card was later used to defraud a student in a fraudulent scholarship scheme.

17th July 2026



UCC and KACITA Strengthen Collaboration on Safe Communication Devices

UCC and the Kampala City Traders Association committed to closer cooperation to support the SIMU Klear enforcement programme and promote the sale and use of type-approved, safe communication devices. The KACITA delegation was led by CEO Mwesigye Abel and Chairman Issa Sekitto.

22nd July 2026



Telecom Infrastructure Vandal Jailed for Five Years

UCC welcomed the five-year prison sentence handed to Sibaminya Sadick for vandalising telecommunications infrastructure in Kibaale District, where equipment worth UGX 23.6 million was damaged. UCC also urged the public to remain vigilant and report vandalism to help protect Uganda's communications infrastructure.

24th July 2026



UCC at State of the Digital Economy (SODE 2026)

UCC participated in the SODE 2026 conference in Kampala, themed "*Beyond Connectivity: Turning Access into Opportunity*." UCC's Director of Finance Mr. Haruna Musinguzi reaffirmed the Commissions's commitment to a secure, competitive and inclusive communications sector. UCC also contributed to discussions on digital skills, infrastructure, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and enabling regulation.

26th July 2026



UCC Supports Uganda's Election to ATU Council

UCC contributed to Uganda's successful election to the ATU Administrative Council at the African Telecommunications Union Conference of Plenipotentiaries (CPL-26) in Abuja, Nigeria, in July 2026. The Ugandan delegation engaged on the Union's governance and strategic direction, welcoming its Risk Management Framework and advocating stronger accountability.

30th July 2026



UCC Receives ATC Uganda's Statutory Contribution

UCC, in the presence of the Minister of State for ICT, Hon. Joyce Juliet Nabbosa Ssebugwawo, formally received ATC Uganda's statutory 2 per cent Gross Annual Revenue contribution under the Uganda Communications Act, 2013, on 30 July 2026. The handover reinforces the partnership between UCC, Government and industry in advancing universal access, digital inclusion and socio-economic development.

31st July 2026



UCC Hosts Inaugural Ataakulaba Akunyooma Music Concert

UCC hosted the inaugural Ataakulaba Akunyooma Heritage Music Concert on 31 July 2026 at Sheraton Hotel Kampala Gardens, as part of its Atakulaaba Heritage Music Initiative to preserve, digitise and promote Uganda's Kadongo Kamu heritage while supporting veteran artists. The event featured performances by Kadongo Kamu legends, including Mukadde Hadijah Namale and Mzee Dan Mugula.

7th August 2026



UCC at the Launch of MTN TV by Afro Mobile

UCC participated in the launch of MTN TV by Afro Mobile on 7 August 2026 in Kampala, where Director of Corporate Affairs Fred Otunnu represented the Executive Director. UCC welcomed the partnership between MTN Uganda and Afro Mobile, highlighting its potential to expand opportunities, increase consumer choice and support Uganda's digital economy, while encouraging responsible innovation and regulatory compliance.

13th August 2026



Child Online Protection featured at Be a Cyber Hero Launch

UCC's Head of Consumer Affairs Joseph Kizito highlighted UCC's efforts to promote child online safety. He outlined initiatives that engaged young people on safer digital practices, including the UCC Debate Series, and reaffirmed UCC's commitment to equipping children with the skills to recognise online risks and make informed choices.

19th - 21st August 2026



UCC Partnered with Judicial Training Institute to Strengthen Digital Capacity

UCC partnered with the Judicial Training Institute for a three-day capacity-building engagement that equipped judicial officers and other justice actors with practical knowledge on digital evidence, cybersecurity, data protection, electronic transactions, AI-generated content and communications regulation.

22nd August 2026



UCC Supported the Tusker Lite Mt. Rwenzori, Kasese Marathon

UCC participated in the 2026 Tusker Lite Mt. Rwenzori Marathon in Kasese, with more than 70 members of the UCC community taking part. UCC also supported the event through spectrum management and communications infrastructure, enabling reliable connectivity, broadcasting and effective coordination throughout the marathon.

27th August 2026



UCC Smartphone Penetration and Pricing Engagement

UCC held a stakeholder engagement on 27 August 2026 to assess smartphone penetration and pricing in Uganda. The discussions explored challenges affecting smartphone adoption, including device affordability, data costs, supply and digital skills, and sought to establish a baseline to guide future interventions aimed at expanding meaningful digital participation.

August - September 2026



UCC Invited Applications for FM Radio Frequencies in Eight Districts

UCC invited applications for FM broadcasting frequencies in Maracha, Gulu, Kitgum, Abim, Kaabong, Kotido, Hoima and Kisoro. The initiative sought to expand access to radio services in underserved areas, promote local content and support community development, with applications closing on 15 September 2026.

2nd September 2026



UCC Empowered Digital Creators in the Acholi Sub-Region

UCC participated in a digital content creators workshop in the Acholi Sub-Region, where Director of Corporate Affairs Fred Otunnu encouraged creators to draw inspiration from their culture, language and identity while approaching content creation as a sustainable business. UCC also emphasised professionalism, intellectual property protection and lawful monetisation as key to building sustainable careers.

7 - 8th September 2026



UCC Hosted Rwandan Regulators for Benchmarking

UCC hosted a four-member delegation from the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority for a benchmarking visit from 7 to 8 September 2026. The engagement focused on sharing knowledge and experience in Direct-to-Consumer systems, Quality of Service monitoring and Electromagnetic Field monitoring, strengthening regulatory cooperation between the two institutions.

9th September 2026



UCC Held Regional Stakeholder Engagement in Arua

UCC held a regional stakeholder engagement in Arua on 9 September 2026, bringing together local leaders and key stakeholders to discuss the development of the communications sector. The engagement focused on strengthening collaboration, understanding regional communication needs and expanding access to inclusive and reliable communications services under the Connected Uganda 2030 initiative.

10th September 2026



UCC Engaged Parliamentary ICT Committee on Digital Transformation

It was aimed at strengtheningg policy and legislative alignment in support of Uganda's digital transformation. Discussions focused on emerging regulatory challenges, digital safety, responsible online engagement and the sustainable growth of the communications sector towards a Connected Uganda 2030.

15th September 2026



UCC Engaged University Students Ahead of Ultimate University Quiz Season 4

UCC participated in a digital content creators workshop in the Acholi Sub-Region, where Director of Corporate Affairs Fred Otunnu encouraged creators to draw inspiration from their culture, language and identity while approaching content creation as a sustainable business. UCC also emphasised professionalism, intellectual property

7 - 8th September 2026



UCC Highlighted Cybersecurity Priorities at InfoSec 2026

UCC participated in the 15th East Africa Information Security Conference in Kampala, where Director ICT & Research Christine Mugimba delivered the opening keynote on behalf of the Executive Director. UCC highlighted its cybersecurity interventions through UG-CERT and emphasised stronger protection of critical communications infrastructure, information sharing, and cybersecurity skills development.

22nd September 2026



UCC Operator Cybersecurity Technical Training & Drill 2026

UCC, through UG-CERT, hosted the Operator Cybersecurity Technical Training and Drill 2026 at UCC House, bringing together communications sector operators for technical training and practical cyberattack simulations. The engagement strengthened participants' ability to identify and respond to cybersecurity incidents, tested incident-response procedures and highlighted emerging areas such as artificial intelligence.

24th September 2026



Airtel's Satellite-to-Mobile Launch

UCC participated in the launch of Airtel Uganda's Satellite-to-Mobile partnership with Starlink, which aimed to expand connectivity to hard-to-reach areas across Uganda. UCC highlighted its technology-neutral regulatory approach, including the licensing of Starlink and support for infrastructure sharing, and reaffirmed its commitment to service quality, consumer protection and inclusive digital connectivity.

Service Access and Subscriptions



Q3 2026 Subscriptions



50.6 Million
Active Mobile Subscriptions

548 Thousand
Fixed Line Subscriptions

Devices and Terminals



14.3 Million
Basic Phones



25.3 Million
Feature Phones



21.3 Million
Smart Phones

Active Subscriptions



39.1 Million
Mobile Money

19.6 Million
Mobile Internet

322 Thousand
Fixed Internet

Social Media Subscriptions

As of September 2026



12.3 Million
TikTok

11.6M
Whatsapp

7.3M
YouTube

3.0M
Snapchat

1.8M
Instagram

1.0M

0.2M
NETFLIX

Traffic and Usage



Q3 2026 Traffic



2.73 Billion
Mobile Money Transactions



333.4 Million
GigaBytes (GBs) Downloaded



19.9 Billion
USSD Sessions



22.6 Billion
Domestic On Net Minutes



2.0 Billion
Domestic Off Net Minutes



261.0 Million
One Net Area (ONA) In Minutes



23.7 Million
One Net Area (ONA) Out



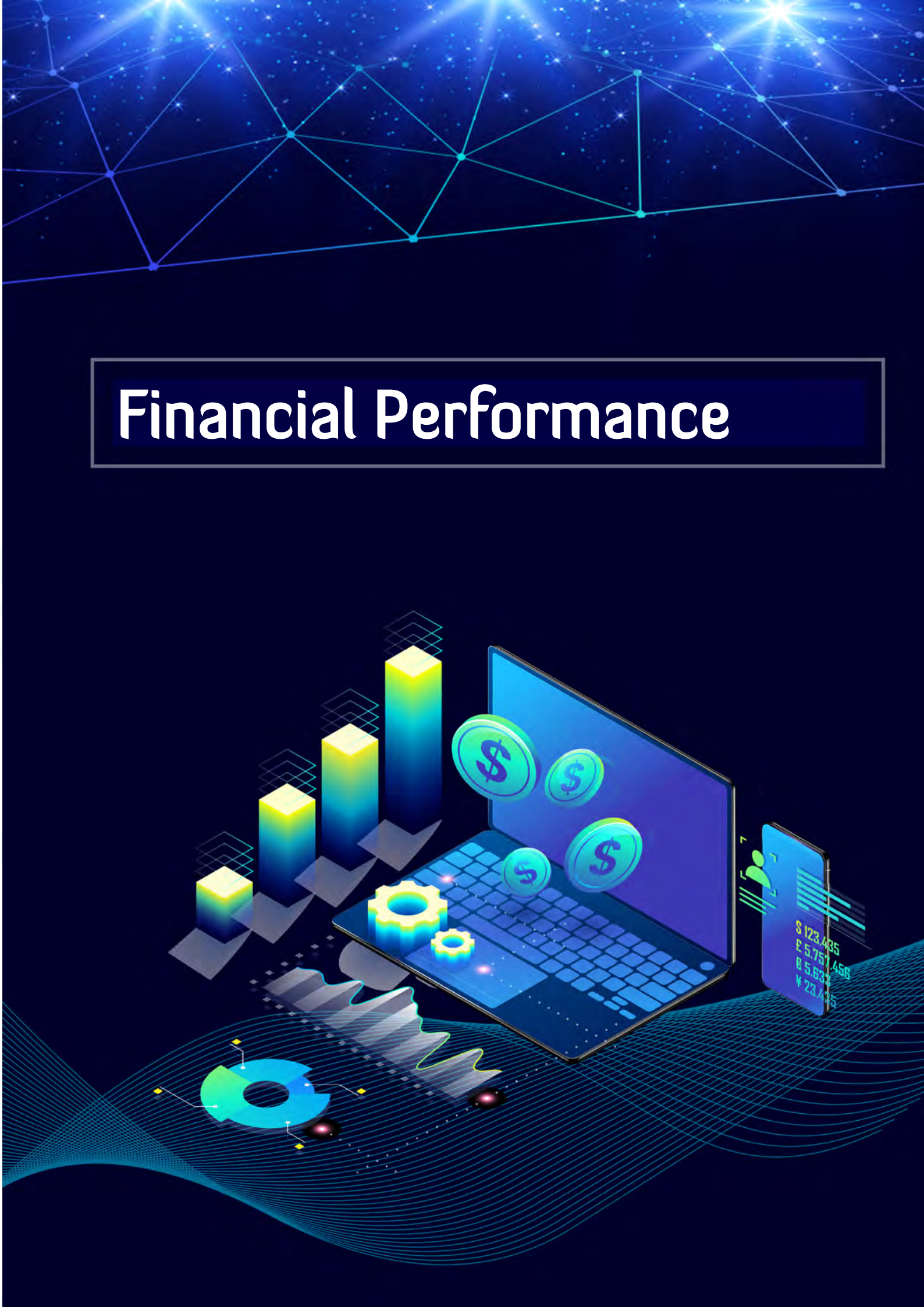
9.1 Million
International Voice In Minutes



6.6 Million
International Voice Out Minutes



Financial Performance



Q3 2026 Telecom Revenue



Q3 2026 Postal & Courier Revenue



Postal and Courier Sector Highlights



Q3 2026 Postal and Courier Overview

Postal Traffic (Mails)

344
East Africa Inbound



2,822
Express Mail Service (EMS) Outbound



456
East Africa Outbound





38,823
Total Mails Delivered Country-wide



1,585
Express Mail Service (EMS) Inbound



28,425
Rest of the World Inbound



16,457
Rest of the World Outbound

Courier Traffic (Parcels and Packages)

Posta Uganda (National Postal Operator)	Posta Uganda	Total Items Delivered Countrywide **4,407**
Domestic Couriers		Total Items Delivered Countrywide **929,149**
International Couriers		Total Items Delivered Countrywide **27,357**
Regional Couriers		Total Items Delivered Countrywide **11,037**
Inter-City Couriers		Total Items Delivered Countrywide **108,794**
Total Items Delivered Countrywide		**1,080,744**

Broadcast and Multimedia



Q3 2026 Broadcasting Overview

Country Mapping for The Pay-Tv market in Uganda

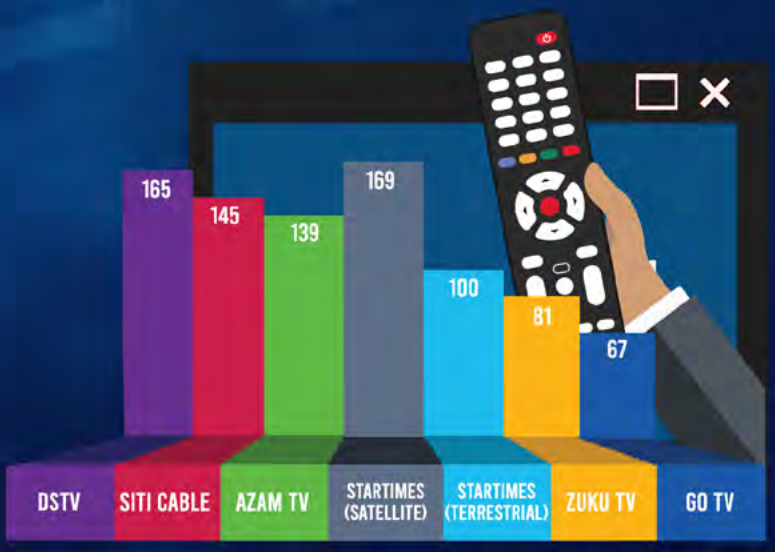
DStv Satellite	Country Wide
zuku Satellite	Country Wide
azamTV Satellite	Country Wide
StarTimes Satellite	Country Wide
StarTimes Terrestrial	Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Masaka, Mbarara, Fortportal, Jinja, Mukono, Kalangala, Luweero, Gulu and Mbale
GOtv Terrestrial	Kampala, Jinja, Iganga, Mbale, Lira, Gulu, Arua, Kasese, Mbarara, Masaka and Wakiso
Simba TV Cable	Kampala & Jinja

PAY TV (SEPTEMBER 2026)

1.0 Million Active Subscribers



Channels Offered



19th August 2026

UCC Engaged Broadcasters on Copyright Compliance



UCC convened a multi-sector stakeholder engagement on copyright and neighbouring rights on 19 August 2026, bringing together broadcasters, collecting societies and other industry stakeholders. The engagement focused on strengthening broadcasters' compliance with copyright requirements, ensuring appropriate authorisations for protected works and fostering better relations between broadcasters, content creators and collecting societies. Broadcasters and collecting societies agreed to work towards finalising applicable tariffs to improve compliance across the broadcasting sector.

3rd September 2026

UCC Engaged Parliament on Copyright Reform



UCC appeared before the Parliamentary Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs to provide input on the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights (Amendment) Bill 2025. The UCC team, led by Dr Abudu-Sallam Waiswa, Ibrahim Bbossa and Meddy Kaggwa, welcomed efforts to strengthen Uganda's creative sector while emphasising the need for clear and balanced provisions that responded to evolving technologies, protected creators and consumers, and supported a sustainable broadcasting and content ecosystem.

Film and Cinema



Key Headlines (Jul - Sep 2026)

21 - 25 Aug 2026 UCC Conducts Six Film Industry Capacity-Building Activities



UCC supported six film industry capacity-building activities at the Innovation Hub in Nakawa, comprising workshops on casting, auditioning and directing actors, two film clinics, the Screen Actors' Guild Uganda strategic meeting, and a pitching for funding, audience development and content distribution forum. The activities strengthened industry skills, stakeholder collaboration, access to funding and opportunities for the development and distribution of Ugandan film content.

23rd Sep 2026 UCC Hosts Post-UFF 2026 CEO and Stakeholder Breakfast and Announces CDSP III Beneficiaries



UCC hosted the Post-Uganda Film Festival 2026 CEO and Stakeholder Breakfast at UCC House, Bugolobi, bringing together government and film industry stakeholders to discuss the growth of Uganda's local film industry. During the engagement, UCC announced 22 beneficiaries of the third Content Development Support Programme, with UGX 1.377 billion allocated to support local film projects, and reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the industry through capacity building, content development and stakeholder collaboration.

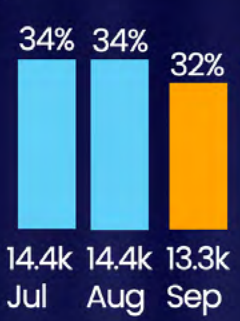
INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARD WINNERS

Ugandan Film Project '*A Vineyard for a Lobster*' Wins Top Locarno Open Doors Grant

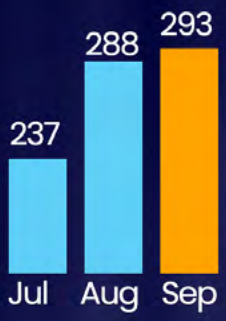
On 10 August 2026, Ugandan filmmaker Talemwa Pius's feature project "*A Vineyard for a Lobster*", produced by Emmanuel Gashumba of Gripmagic Uganda, received one of the top Open Doors Grants worth CHF 20,000 at the Locarno Film Festival's industry platform in Switzerland. The magic-realist political fable, which portrays an unprecedented snowfall over a drought-stricken Ugandan village and examines colonial legacies, self-interest and communal breakdown, was selected among African projects in development. It shared the main prize pool with projects from Somalia and Ghana.



CINEMA ATTENDANCE JUL - SEP 2026



32% of cinema tickets were sold in September 2026



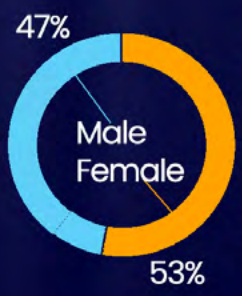
293 film screenings in September 2026

Most Popular Movie



- Spider-Man: Brand New Day (11%)
- The Dog Stars (5%)
- Odyssey (4.9%)

Gender Breakdown



53% of cinema attendees were female.



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