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Company Registration in Uganda

The Complete Checklist & Cost Guide for Foreign Investors (2026)

Foreign ownership	Up to 100% (most sectors)	**Authority**	URSB (OBRS portal)
Timeline	~2-4 weeks end-to-end	**Register remotely**	Yes
Corporate tax	30% (VAT 18%)	**Min. capital**	No universal minimum

1. Before you start

- [ ] Decide your business structure (Private Company Limited by Shares suits most foreign investors)
- [ ] For foreign firms, choose between a local subsidiary (Ltd), a branch, or a representative office
- [ ] Confirm shareholding structure (1-100 members for a private company; min. 1 director / 1 shareholder)
- [ ] Identify directors, shareholders and the ultimate beneficial owner(s)
- [ ] Secure a registered physical business address in Uganda
- [ ] Note: 100% foreign ownership is allowed; no universal minimum share capital

2. Reserve your company name

- [ ] Create an account on the URSB Online Business Registration System (OBRS)
- [ ] Submit at least 3 preferred names in order of preference
- [ ] Check availability via the URSB online name search
- [ ] Approved name is reserved for 30 days (branches do not need a name reservation)

3. Documents to prepare

- [ ] Memorandum & Articles of Association (standard template or custom)
- [ ] Statement of Nominal Capital (Form A1) and Declaration of Compliance (Form A2)
- [ ] Particulars of Directors & Company Secretary (Form CR7)
- [ ] Notice of Situation of Registered Office (Form 9)
- [ ] Beneficial Ownership Information Form (mandatory)
- [ ] Certified / notarised passport or ID copies for all directors & shareholders
- [ ] Foreign branch (extra): notarised parent Certificate of Incorporation & MAA, Form 24 (directors), Form 25 (local representative), Form 26 (principal office), Form 13 (charges)

4. Register with URSB

- [ ] Upload the forms and documents via the OBRS online portal (or submit in person)
- [ ] Pay the government registration fees and stamp duty
- [ ] URSB verifies the application; foreign documents may need certified translations
- [ ] Receive your Certificate of Incorporation (hours to a few working days)

5. After registration

- [ ] Obtain a Tax Identification Number (TIN) from the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA)
- [ ] Register for VAT once turnover thresholds are met
- [ ] Register as an employer with the NSSF if you employ staff (10% employer / 5% employee)
- [ ] Secure a trading licence from the local authority (e.g. KCCA in Kampala)
- [ ] Open a corporate bank account (certificate, MAA, TIN, director IDs / permits)
- [ ] File annual returns with URSB; obtain any sector-specific licences

6. Foreign investors - don't forget

- [ ] 100% foreign ownership is permitted in most sectors - no local partner needed
- [ ] Notarise / apostille home-country documents (branch registrations) before submission
- [ ] Appoint a Uganda-resident representative to accept service for a branch
- [ ] Investment licence (UIA) unlocks incentives - indicative min. USD 250,000 for foreign investors
- [ ] Class C (Trade/Business) work permit needed if you will live & work in Uganda (~USD 1,500-2,500)
- [ ] Profits and dividends can be repatriated freely (dividend WHT ~15% to non-treaty countries)