



INVEST

IN

UGANDA

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA,  
TOKYO JAPAN.

# INVEST IN UGANDA – THE PEARL OF AFRICA

## A DISTINCTLY PRO-BUSINESS CLIMATE

### Strategic Location

Few countries in Africa provide the sort of strategic location that Uganda offers to investors. Located at the heart of East and Central Africa, it shares borders with some of Africa's most economically important and resource rich countries, from the mineral rich DR Congo to the rapidly expanding Southern Sudan economy. Uganda borders the Sudan to the north, the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west, Kenya to the east and Tanzania and Rwanda to the south. Though landlocked, the many borders it shares with her neighbors, give her a commanding importance as a base for regional trade and investment. Also being astride the equator makes it a tourist destination hence an ideal area of investment.

Predictability is possible because of macro-economic stability with inflation maintained at single digit level for over 10 years from a record high of 240% in 1988. The country has also had an annual and fairly stable economic growth averaging 6% per annum, since 1996 as a result of good macroeconomic policies and political stability.

A liberal economic regime is another consistent characteristic of the Uganda Economy. There is free inflow and outflow of capital (both current and capital accounts), 100% foreign ownership of investment is permitted and the market freely determines exchange rates.

### Market Access

Uganda has been secured and guaranteed by membership in various free trade and market access preferences offered to the country. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern African states (COMESA), a region with a market of over 380 million people in 20 countries is one of the groupings in which Uganda is a member, guaranteeing the business community more than 80% tariff reduction in this regional market. There is also the East African Common market (EAC) of the five countries of East Africa.

### Strong Natural Resource Base

The country has got great physical endowments. The location in the heart of Sub-Saharan Africa and astride the Equator, gives Uganda one of the best climates in the world. With rainfall all year round, fertile soils and favorable temperature range, one can grow any crops in the country in the most natural conditions any country can have. The country takes pride in being the leader in organic agriculture in Africa. Many foodstuffs are produced, in an environment free of harmful chemical inputs. There are plenty of unexploited mineral deposits

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(over 117 minerals). Confirmed deposits include: gold, zinc, wolfram, petroleum, diamonds, vermiculite, silica, uranium and iron ore.

#### Government Commitment to Private Sector

Government and private sector dialogue in policy formulation are at the highest level and at the center of business development processes in the country. A Presidential Investor's Roundtable chaired by the Country's President is in place to ensure that government policies keep the private sector at the center. Business Development Strategies including the Investment Climate Strategy (CICS), the National Export Strategy (NES) and other regulatory frameworks have all been put in place under Public - Private Sector Partnerships. As a result, many vibrant private sector associations have come up to advance their members' concerns.

#### Cost and Trainable Labour

Uganda presently produces over 20,000 University graduates per year. The quality of this labour is one of the biggest attractions, being a product of an education system with strong links with the British Education System inherited at independence. The World Bank Doing Business Report (2006) ranks Uganda among the top 25 countries where hiring labour is simplest. The country is also a regional base for training the labour force from the East African region. Being among World Bank's low-income economy classification, one of the key advantages of such an economy is low labor-cost. Using the GDP per capita as a proxy to gauge possible wage competitiveness, an evaluation of Uganda with her immediate neighbours shows her in the fifth lowest per capita income bracket based on Purchasing Power Parity. Using the conventional per capita measure, Uganda has the third lowest.

#### English Speaking Labour Force

Although English is an official language in most of the countries in East and Southern Africa, it is not the primary language spoken by the majority of the population in any of them. Uganda is however the only Country in East Africa where English is the official language. Using the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) as an indicator of English language skills, studies in the region have shown that Uganda ranks second in mean TOEFL score among the six neighboring Countries.

Based on the scores, it would appear that presently only Kenya and Uganda labour might have the requisite English language skills that are today vital for managing the rapidly changing global business, where transactions are largely conducted in English.

#### Protecting Investors

The country's investors have complete international protection made possible by the local laws and international conventions to which the country is signatory. The Ugandan constitution (1995) and the Investment Code Act 2000, stipulate

sufficient laws to protect investors' rights and property. The International Conventions and institutions to which Uganda is signatory include the Multi lateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) of US; Convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral award (CREFAA) and several others.

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Uganda's favourable soil conditions and climate have contributed to the country's agricultural success. Most areas of Uganda have usually received plenty of rain. In some years, small areas of the southeast have averaged more than 200 millimetres per month, In the north, there is often a short dry season in December and January. Temperatures vary only a few degrees above or below 20 degrees but are moderated by differences in attitude.

These conditions have allowed continuous cultivation in the South but only annual cropping in the north and the driest northeastern corner of the country has supported only pastoralism. Although population growth has created pressures for land in a few areas, land shortages have been rare, and only about one third of the estimated areas of arable land was under cultivated.

Uganda's economy has been rejuvenated by both direct and indirect investment. Because the country's economy is still young, the potential and the choice of investment opportunities is much wider for the prospective investor than would be the case in more developed economies.

Uganda's exciting comparative advantage is heavily concentrated in Agricultural, forestry and mineral resources.

Agriculture continued to dominate the economy, contributed about two-thirds of GDP, 95 percent of export revenues, and 40 percent of government revenues. Percentages of regular wage earners worked in commercial agricultural enterprises, and an additional 70 percent of the work force earned some income from farming. Commercial farming becomes viable because of cheap and available labour force and Government provides land to commercial farmers. The types of crops grown in Uganda are so many but the following are the commonest, wheat, maize, sugarcane, tea, bananas, beans, groundnuts, coffee, tobacco, cotton, plantain, cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, sorghum, corn, carrots, ginger, tomatoes, cabbage, onions, yam, pineapple, Soya, rice, vanilla mushrooms, palm-oil, flower, fish, fruits (a variety of many kinds). Farming in Uganda is under going a massive series of changes. One of the main pillars of the Ugandan government commitment to eradicate poverty is to modernize farming by improving crop husbandry and increasing farmer access to suitable market, these changes will inevitable impact on biodiversity.

### Fish Industry

Uganda is richly endowed with natural water bodies, and fisheries play a very important role as basis for subsistence and commercial livelihood. Lake Victoria is by far the largest and economically most significant, of the national fisheries. However, there are other lakes, including George, Edwards, Albert, and Kyoga, along with the Nile river which also have and a great variety dominance of fish production but this has had the effect of marginalizing production from other water bodies, and has resulted in little attention being paid to production data from smaller water bodies such as swamps, rivers, streams, minor lakes and water reservoirs. Although individually small, in aggregate this production is fundamental to nutrition and livelihood needs of communities, which are mainly the rural poor. Production from these waters is often under reported, or not reported at all.

However, the continued growth in fish exported from the large lakes has re-awakened fish production from originally marginalized water bodies as significant and critical sources of supply of fresh fish to Peri-urban areas and urban centres. The fisheries sector in Uganda provides a vital source of food, employment, recreation, trade and social economic well being for the people of the country and for the global community.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Establishing fish farms on the lakes
- Value addition on the fish
- Investing in boat making, fishing nets and other equipment

### Livestock industry

Ugandan livestock production contributes 17% of the agricultural sector and 9% of the total GDP with a respective population of 6.8million cattle, 7.8 million goats, 1.6 million sheep and 2 million pigs in 2005. Cattle is the most important of all the livestock. The livestock development strategy focuses on establishing an efficient livestock disease control system based on cost recovery; achieving self-sufficiency in meat, milk, poultry and other livestock products; Promoting and developing industrial livestock and livestock products; and strengthening research in livestock breeding in order to upgrade the quality and productivity of the present livestock breeds.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Local commercial dairy breeding and production of semen to reduce on the importation of heifers
- Vaccine development and forage production
- Integrated beef production and feedlot finishing
- Small ruminant production
- Game ranching
- Leather processing

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- Animal breeding
- Establishment of modern abattoirs
- Veterinary services

#### Dairy and dairy products Industry

The new dairy industry act of 1998 reformed the organization and policy framework for the dairy industry and established the dairy development authority [DDA]. The act also provides for the development, promotion and control of production, processing and marketing of milk and dairy products as well as the general facilitation and development of the dairy industry. Currently, there are a number of private milk processing plants set up in Kampala and other cattle producing areas. Cattle milk production has increased from 365 million litres in 1990 to over 1 billion litres in 2005 of which only 10% is processed.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Establishment of reliable cooling collection centres in the major producing areas
- Transportation of milk to the processing plants;
- Establishment of processing plants to cater for the excess production; Production of powdered milk for use in ice-cream manufacturing, confectioneries and homes;
- Production of long life [UHT] milk;
- Processing of butter, cheese, ghee, ice-cream and yoghurt;
- Local commercial dairy breeding
- Production of semen to reduce its importation and to reduce on the importation of heifers
- Establishing a tractor hire service

#### Leather Industry

The leather industry in Uganda has a big potential to thrive with a population of cattle, goats and sheep with off-take rates in the range of 15-17% for cattle hides and 2.6 million goats/sheep skins. The favourable climatic conditions and fertile soils endow the county with considerable potential for livestock farming. This has enabled the livestock population to grow steadily at annual rate of 3%. However the existing leather processing capacity can only handle an estimated 3.1% of the available raw materials thus creating the potential for investment opportunities in the leather sector. The maximum sustainable yield of fish in the lakes within Uganda is estimated at 300,000 metric tones, although in 2005 a catch of 435,000 tons was realized.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Construction of modern slaughter houses

- Tanning of hides and skins
- Tanning of high value fish skin
- Rearing of ostriches for their high value skins and meat
- Rearing of Crocodiles

### Cotton Industry

Uganda has had a long history of cotton production for nearly 100 years. Cotton was the country's leading cash crop and foreign exchange earner until late 1969. Today, Uganda is ranked 2nd to Egypt in the world in terms of the quality of its cotton and attracts premium prices on the international market. Blessed with lots of rains and good climatic conditions, Uganda's cotton is rain fed and grown at an altitude of below 1500m above sea level. Cotton is grown naturally, however irrigation is a necessity in order to increase production and to compete favourably in the world market.

The liberalization of the cotton sub-sector in 1994 led to a greater focus on the production of organic cotton. Several regions in the north of the country have been certified for growing and processing organic cotton. This means that use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides is prohibited. Uganda's international reputation as a source of quality organic cotton is steadily growing. Uganda currently has over 15,000 organic cotton farmers, the largest number organic cotton farmers in the African region.

### *Investment Opportunities:*

- Value addition to lint, which increases by 3-fold if sold as yarn, 5-fold if sold as cloth, 7-fold if sold as fabric, and 10-fold if sold as garment.
- Setting up a medium sized spinning mill, fabric production plant or a fully integrated textile mill.
- Expansion and improvement of current cotton farming systems.
- Marketing and exporting of organic cotton since it is a more specialized product than conventional cotton. Its production requires certification.
- Pesticide formulators and mixers to control diseases and pests.
- There is need for training/designing schools to build the capacity in the clothing and apparel industries.

### Cotton and textile industry

Cotton is a raw material source for the production of various essential products that include; cotton yarn, textiles, garments, edible oil, animal feeds, soap and fertilizers. Uganda has the potential to be a leading producer of cotton in Africa due to its fertile soils and good climatic conditions consisting of an annual rainfall of 750 millimetres to 2000 millimetres and a temperature range of 15-30 cent grades with a very narrow diurnal range. The long experience of cotton production since 1903 provides Uganda with a reliable resource base for cotton production and development of textile industry. Uganda has the potential to reach

500,000 bales per annum. Uganda's cotton production is largely rain fed and produced on smallholder basis. Yields range from 450kg per ha in the north and the northeast of the country to 2000kg per hectare in the volcanic soils of Kasese in the west, while experimental yields stand at 2500kg per hectare. Some areas in the country have been certified for organic cotton and indications in the international market are that Uganda is now a known organic cotton producer and earns a premium price. Uganda cotton is said to be one of the best in the world because of its staple length.

Staple length 31.3mm (UW3L(W))

Micronnaire 3.7 (fine)

Strength 29.9 (strong)

#### *Investment opportunities in the textile sector:*

- Processing cotton to yarn, textiles and garments, for domestic and foreign markets
- Processing of cotton by products like edible oil, animal feeds, soap and fertilizers.
- Commercial farming of cotton with further opportunities for organic production
- Clothing and apparel industries
- Tailoring and designing schools
- Contract tailoring
- Marketing of organic cotton
- Production of chemicals
- Joint venture partnerships or purchase of share in the running of textile industries.

#### Coffee industry

Many hundreds of years ago the fearsome warriors of Uganda chewed on the coffee bean before going into battle. Coffee grew wild in the thick rainforest that blanketed the lands north of Lake Victoria and chewing the bean was believed to confer strength and invincibility. Today coffee is no less important for Uganda and its people. Uganda is one of the top ten coffee producers in the world and the second biggest in Africa, yet this comes almost exclusively from small family holdings. It is also the most important cash crop, directly supporting more than 5million Ugandans.

Although Uganda is one of the world's major Robusta Coffee producers, Some Arabica is also grown in different highland areas of the country, most notably on the slopes of Mount Elgon on the border with Kenya and on the slopes of the Mount Rwenzori, popularly known as the 'mountains of the moon' on the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Arabica coffee is also grown in the West Nile region in northwestern part of the country. Uganda produces excellent wet-processed Arabica, with virtually all grown by villagers on small plots.

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Arabica coffee is highly prized for its refined flavour and use as a gourmet coffee and comprised of one third of Uganda's Coffee output.

Robusta coffee is a native of Uganda and it is grown at relatively high altitudes, some as high as 1,500 metres, making these coffees especially attractive for the fast growing espresso industry. The bulk of the Robusta is however used in the production of instant coffees and as inexpensive fillers for blends. Coffee remains of vital importance, earning on average just short of 60% of annual export revenues. It is estimated that as much as 20% of the entire population earn all or a large part of their cash income from coffee. The coffee industry was fully liberalised between 1991 and 1992 and is currently entirely in private hands. However, export quality control remains the responsibility of the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) that grades, liquors and classifies all export shipments.

While Arabica was introduced at the beginning of the 1900's, Robusta coffee is indigenous to the country, and has been a part of Ugandan life for centuries. The variety of wild Robusta coffee still grows today in Uganda's rain forests and is thought to be one of the rarest examples of naturally occurring coffee trees anywhere in the world.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Establish coffee mills at every sub county
- Set up instant coffee industries
- Set up coffee shop franchise
- Set up coffee nurseries
- Set up domestic roasters
- Set up a packaging industry
- Start up relevant industries that use coffee as a raw material

**HORTICULTURE SECTOR**

**Flower industry**

Europe is the largest importer of flowers with total imports of US\$3 billion per year as of 2005.

Germany is the largest import market with 28% of total imports, followed by U.K. (20%) and France (15%). In Uganda, Floriculture has emerged as a major non-traditional agricultural export sector with exports valued at over US\$30 million in 2005, from approximately 180 ha of production. The flower industry is mainly comprised of roses and chrysanthemum cuttings. Though still a relatively new industry in Uganda dating back only 1993, commercial floriculture is now vibrant and profitable. The industry is presently growing at rate of 25% per year.

Uganda is the 5th largest exporter of cut flowers in Africa. Presently there are 20 flower companies employing over 6,000 Ugandans.

### *Investment opportunities:*

- Expansion of the rose industry: the total investment requirement to expand the industry from 12.6 to 200 ha is in the range US\$ 15–30 million depending on wooden or metallic infrastructure.
- Expansion to other floricultural plants: The success and expansion of rose and chrysanthemum cuttings has led to an increase in demand for other types of cut flowers like “summer flowers”, fresh foliage and grasses required for bouquets, bulbs, tubers and live plants.
- Production of propagation material: in the past, all the rose projects used to purchase propagation material from Kenya and Holland. This was the largest capital cost (35%) involved in setting up a rose farm. This resulted in establishment of domestic production, which has been initiated on some farms, in collaboration with foreign propagators
- Establishment of soil analysis laboratory and services: All the rose projects send soil samples to Holland for analysis. The cost of the services (US\$200–600/ha) justifies the establishment of a soil analysis laboratory and services in Uganda.
- Manufacture of greenhouse plastics: greenhouse plastics constitute 6% of the investment requirement and need to be replaced every 2–3 years, providing commercial opportunities for local manufactures.
- Manufacture of packaging materials: packaging materials constitute 5% of the total costs in rose production. This provides investment opportunity for local manufacturers.
- Other inputs: fertilizers, herbicide, pesticides currently imported

### Fruits and vegetable industry

The most important market for Uganda’s fruits and vegetable is the European Union. In 2005, EU imports of fresh fruit had a value of €17.9 billion, an increase of 21% since 2001. Import volume increased by 23% over the same period, reaching 23.2 million tonnes. Imports from developing countries were substantial at £6.4 billion and 8.6 million tonnes in 2005, and grew more quickly than the market (+ 26% in value and + 27% in volume). Germany, the United Kingdom and France are the largest importers of fruits, together accounting for 47% of EU import value in 2005. Developing countries play a major role in supply of exotics such as bananas, pineapples, mangoes, dates and avocados, and in the off-season supply of citrus and apples. In 2005, developing countries had a share of 36% in total EU import value. In 2005 EU imports of fresh vegetables amounted to £9.8 billion and 10.5 million tonnes compared to 2001, imports increased by 21% in value and 15% in volume. Imports from developing countries were 1.1 billion pound and 955,000 tonnes, which is a much more modest share than in

fruit. Both value and volume grew rapidly at an impressive 53% from 2001 to 2005.

In Uganda, of all the available 19 million hectares of the available land for agriculture, the area under fruits and vegetable is less than 1%. Given the abundance of natural resources like soils, fairly well distributed rainfall and moderate climate, Uganda is capable of producing most of the tropical and sub tropical, or even temperate fruits as some of the areas are 4000 metres above sea level.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Commercial farming of fruits and vegetables
- Processing of fruits and vegetables
- Production and export of de-hydrated fruits
- Investment in cold storage facilities at collecting points
- Packaging for fruits and vegetables
- Irrigation schemes for commercial farms to ensure harvest through out the year.

**FORESTRY SECTOR**

Forestry is of high economic importance to Uganda due to its household uses. The energy sector is characterized by a heavy dependence on Biomass resources, which provide more than 90% of the national total energy needs. Biomass is the dominant energy resource for households and small-scale industries like lime, brick and tile making and a number of agro-based industries like tea, tobacco and fishing.

There are 4.9 million hectares of natural forests and woodlands in Uganda, which cover 24% of the land area. The majority of this forest area (81%) is woodland, 19% is tropical high forest and less than 1% is forest plantations. The distribution of these resources varies greatly by region, the northern region dominated by woodland, while the majority of the tropical high forest is in the western region. The plantation resource is currently very small (0.2%) but also very productive (i.e. 16 tonnes/ha/year) with great potential for expansion in the area and yields.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Planting of softwood plantations for timber and poles
- Planting of softwood plantation for pulp
- Value added products from both hard and soft wood (matches, pencil, particle board mill, veneer/plywood, flooring/panelling, furniture)
- Tourism and recreation
- Planting palm trees and processing of palm oil
- Planting for medicinal purposes

## TOURISM SECTOR

### A land of lakes

At the very heart of the country, from Lake Victoria, the second largest lake in the world, the majestic and historic river Nile begins its 4000 miles journey to the Mediterranean Sea.

Along the Albertine Rift Valley floor bordering the Congo is the impressively scenic lake Albert and lake Edward extending 15km and 80km respectively while lake Kyoga and lake Kwana, formed by the Nile drain luxuriously at the very centre of the country.

One of Uganda's rapidly developing wetlands is Lake Bunyonyi known for its water birds, dense population of other and its steep-sided shores and small islands dotted with rustic hotels and campsites. Yet another rising attraction is the cluster of 200 creator lakes that extends northward from Queen Elizabeth National Park to Fort Portal, reaching its scenic peak in the vicinity of Kibale forest, where several forest-fringed lakes have been developed as community-based ecotourism project.

### Ssese Islands

The glory in the luxurious equatorial Ssese islands situated in the northwestern part of the Lake Victoria. Ssese had a cross section of 84 islands; some large and dotted with local fishing villages, others small and uninhabited yet they are all well watered with flourishing forests teeming with wild life-hippos, crocodile, waterbuck, antelope, chimpanzees and monkeys. Residents traditionally refer to Ssese as the island of the gods, and one specific island called Bubembe is regarded to be home of Mukasa, the spirit presiding over Lake Victoria.

The Ssese islands are crowded with delightful empty beaches and a Peaceful environment provides unique retreat after a long safari. There are fascinating opportunities for bird watching, fishing, walking, boating, or simply enjoying beautiful, unusual virgin surroundings as well as hooking heavy weight Nile Perch fish!

### Source of the Nile

The elusive source of the Nile stood as one of the worlds great geographical mysteries until 1863, when speak identified it as a small waterfall flowing northward out of Lake Victoria. Flanked today by the city of Jinja, Speak's waterfall now lies submerged beneath the Owen falls Dam, but a visit to this legendary spot remains a moving and wondrous experience. Municipal gardens, yacht club on the shores of Lake Victoria offers a variety of recreational facilities for tourists and residents alike. One can enjoy sailing on the lake, swimming, golf and tennis. You will not only watch the Nile as it begins its majestic journey providing a major tourist attraction but may also engage in surfing the rapids in a spectacular day long white water rafting trip.

### Water rafting

Uganda is a classic adventure tourism destination. Bujagali falls, an hour's drive East of Kampala, is the launching point for one of the world's most thrilling commercial white water rafting routes, passing through three heart-stopping grade five rapids in one day. Other activities at Bujagali include Kayaking, mountain biking, quad biking and a new 44meter-high bungee jump from a cliff above the Nile.

## THE NATIONAL PARKS

Across the pearl is a network of 10 national parks and several other protected areas offering wildlife fans a thrilling opportunity to experience Uganda's rich biodiversity: not only the fascination tracts of thorn bush savannah teeming with the Big 5 usually linked with equatorial East Africa, but also abundant expanses of tropical rainforest, fertile valleys towering snow-capped peaks of Africa's tallest mountain range.

### Murchison falls National Park

A trial to the country's largest protected area-Murchison falls National park will leave you marvelling yet enjoying the great experience of a life time as you literary feel the world tremble at the world's most powerful natural flow of water. At the park that you will be able to experience enthralling game drives to see lion, elephant, giraffe and antelope, will take enchanting jungle walks to see chimps and baboons among the ten species of primates, see the amazing bird life of over 250 species including the rare and exotic shoebill stork above all you will be able to enjoy the Victoria Nile herself, on her journey from her source at lake Victoria to join Murchison falls national park with lake Albert she provides a unique and spectacular showcase of the enormous diversity of Uganda's wildlife.

### Queen Elizabeth National Park

Any visitor to Queen Elizabeth national park can not fail to be impressed by the park's amazing diversity set in the west of the great East African Rift valley and bordered by the Rwenzori Mountains (the legendary mist capped mountains of the moon). Queen Elizabeth incorporates a variety of fresh water lakes and you will never forget the sight of a crater lake full of flamingos. You may imagine such enormous variety of wildlife. And you would be delighted to discover the bird list alone runs to over 550 species the largest of any protected area in Africa.

The park is one of the most popular national parks in Uganda for many reasons, but mostly because of the two hour long launch cruises tourists take up the 3km Kazinga channel. Tourist numbers have shot up as everybody seeks to get a taste of this exciting activity.

### Rwenzori Mountains National Park

Rwenzori mountains National park protects the eastern slopes and glacial peaks

of the 120km-long Rwenzori Mountains or "*Mountains of the Moon*" known for its world-class hiking and mountaineering destination. Rising from the Rift Valley floor the Rwenzori supports large tracts of evergreen and bamboo forest; while the higher moor land zone is known for its otherworldly cover of giant forests.

#### Bwindi impenetrable National Park

One of the richest areas for flora in eastern Africa and home to the world mountain gorillas is best known for its superb gorilla tracking. The forest is also a refuge to elephant, chimpanzee, monkeys and various small antelope, as well as bird species restricted to the Albertine Rift.

#### *Mountain Gorilla tracking*

Uganda is home to half of the world's population of mountain gorillas. It is a remarkable privilege to be able to visit these enormously powerful and gentle creatures in their spectacular natural habitat—the tropical forests bordering the Virunga Volcanoes. The Bwindi Impenetrable forest National Park is a treasure chest of flora and fauna and the richest forest in East Africa of Mgahinga gorilla National Park one of Uganda's most scenic parks with its aromatic volcanoes

#### Mgahinga National Park

Mountain gorillas also form the main attraction at Mgahinga National park, which protects the Uganda portion of the Virungas, an imposing string of nine free standing extinct and active volcanoes that runs along the border with Rwanda and the Congo. Other wildlife includes the leopard, giant forest hog, Bushbuck, Buffalo and golden monkey.

#### Semiliki National Park

The lower-lying and more remote Rainforest set at the base of the northern Rwenzori is of special interest to ornithologists for some 40 Congolese bird species recorded nowhere else in the country. The park is home to eight species of primate, 400 birds and 300 butterfly species, elephant, buffalo, leopard, civet, bush baby and flying squirrels.

Nearby, the spectacular Semiliki Wildlife Reserve, which adjoins Lake Albert, is one of the best localities for sighting of the mysterious, swamp-dwelling shoebill.

#### Kibale National Park

Kibale National Park is a primatologist's dream. It hosts a population of more than 1,000 chimpanzees, of which 80-strong community has been familiarized to tourist visits, as well as half-a-dozen readily observed monkey species, including the acrobatic red colobus and black-white colobus, and the handsome L.Hoest' monkey. Almost 300 species of bird life, 144 types of butterfly, bushbuck, waterbuck, duiker and forest hog have been identified.

#### Lake Mburo National Park.

The closest savannah reserve to Kampala, Lake Mburo National park is centred on a series of swamp-fringed lakes known for their rich birdlife, notably the

secretive African fin foot. The green acacia woodland surrounding the lake harbours dense populations of zebra, warthog, buffalo, impala and various other grazers, including the last surviving Ugandan population of eland, the largest of African antelope. There are also over 357 species of birds including marabou stock and the crowned Crested crane our National bird.

#### Mount Elgon National Park

Set on the Kenya border near Mbale town, Mount Elgon National Park encompasses the 4,321-metre mountain for which it is named, which has the largest base of any extinct volcano in the world. A lush mosaic of afro-montane forest, grassland and moorland habitats makes this park a highly rewarding destination for hikers and other natural history enthusiasts.

Simply take a walking trip to the Mount Elgon area and you will be impressed by the beautiful scenery of a country side mountain with the largest surface areas of any extinct volcanoes in the world peppered with cliffs, caves, gorges and waterfalls. The caldera covers some 40 square KM at the top of the mountain. And the Sipi falls in the foothills of the mountain has to be the most beautiful and romantic waterfalls in the country.

#### Kidepo Valley National Park

In the far northeast, the remote and wild Kidepo Valley National Park provides refuge to a long list of dry-country species not found elsewhere in the country, including cheetah and greater Kudu, while its perennial waters attract large numbers of elephant and thousand-strong buffalo herd, especially during the dry season.

#### *Activities to enjoy and invest in:*

##### Chimpanzee tracking.

Visits to the chimp family, watching how they feed, climb, respond to humans, mate, and care for young ones is such an exciting experience. Visitors are guided to watch the chimp make and unmake their beds in the morning an evening respectively.

##### Tourist walk

Enjoy taking a primate walk, community walk, forest walk, long distance walk at night or day in Uganda's national parks and wildlife reserves and experience the quietness of the wilderness with sweet natural songs from birds and gentle winds in the leaves of tropical rain forest. Your adventure will be flavoured with game viewing, scenery viewing, Bird watching and much more.

##### Fishing

Sport fishing on Lake Victoria, Lake Mburo national Park and at the Murchison falls or elsewhere on the Ugandan waters will leave a lasting experience. Johannesburg fishing columnist Charles Norman had this to say after his trip to the Nile at Murchison falls "I turned to see a dorsal fin emerging from the water, an erect fin with spines as thick as knitting needles. Then broad silver back followed and we were looking at rows of scales bigger than golf balls. Slowly but

with apparent ease this monster fish moved alongside of the rock against the current. We knew that we were looking at a Nile Perch larger than anything we had seen before, from the size of the dorsal fin and broad back moving slowly past just two meters away we knew we were looking at a fish in 100kg class.”

### *Birding*

From the source of the White Nile on Lake Victoria to the snow-capped Rwenzori range, the mountain forests of the Virunga volcanoes to the desert plains of Karamoja, Uganda is an equatorial country of astonishing contrasts. No other area in Africa can match its amazing diversity of habitants and its richness is reflected in its ever-growing bird list of over 1000 species. Amongst these are many special birds such as shoebill that are impossible to find elsewhere. The huge bird list is all the more remarkable given the small size of the country making it arguably, the richest African birding destination.

### *Hiking and climbing destinations*

Uganda boasts of some of Africa's top hiking and climbing destinations. Serious mountaineers need look no further than the majestic Rwenzori Mountains, whose craggy 5000 metre plus glacial peaks offer genuine challenge to experienced Alpine climbers while fit hikers will find the six day loop trail through the forest and the moorland zones as rewarding as it is demanding. Further east, Mountain Elgon, Africa's eighth highest mountain offers an excellent and relatively undemanding introduction to Afro montane climate and vegetation, culminating in the ascent of 60km wide volcanic caldera studded with waterfall caves and hot springs.

### *Hot Springs - A healing Helm*

The pearl of Africa is proud of its wealth of hot springs, which, since times immemorial have had several uses to the surrounding communities as well as interesting sceneries to tourists.

**Kitagata hot springs** near Kitagata hospital about 40kms on Mbarara-Ishaka Road is such a fascinating panorama to the eye not to mention the healing implication to the residents. The springs receive thousands of rheumatism and arthritis patients who bathe in the warm sulphurated water for some relief. Another interesting scenery is in Bundibugyo at the **Sempaya hot springs**. Although nothing historical or cultural is known about these exciting, springs, they are potentially rich for thermo hydro electricity. Situated in the middle of a forest, one drives through the vigorous twists and turns of the Bundibugyo road, meandering through Semliki River towards lake Albert in the north, the experience is very fascinating.

Just to mention a few, still at the bottom of the Western Rift Valley escarpment along Lake Albert are the hot springs at Kibiro fishing and salt producing village. Exciting to see is how the spring water impregnates soil to form salt. The salty soil is scraped, spread and dried repeatedly for a couple of weeks, then filtered and the filtrate boiled to evaporation point to produce edible salt. For a long time the community has traded the salt for food and other essentials.



*Investment opportunities:*

- Establishing Hotels and Lodges in the National parks
- Improving and developing tourists attractions and products
- Establishing recreation centres

**MINING SECTOR**

Uganda is largely underlain by rocks which are host to a wide variety of mineral deposits

levels in 1950s and 1960s and contributed up to 30% of export earnings, included asbestos, beryl, bismuth, copper, gold, gypsum, lead, iron, ore, limestone, lithium, mica, niobium-phosphate, salt, tin, tungsten, sand and gravel, aggregate, clays and silica sand. Currently, mineral production is still too low to meet local industrial demand.

*Investment opportunities:*

1. Non-metallic sub-sector:

- Cement and lime
- Fertilizers from Sukulu phosphate deposit
- Stone products from marble and granite
- Salt for human consumption and chemical industries;
- Container glass from silica sands at Diimu, Bukakata, Nalumuli and Nyimu along the shores of lake Victoria and from its islands of Buvuma and Kome;
- Bricks, roofing tiles and various ceramic products.

2. Metallic mineral sub-sector:

- Gold deposits, especially in known goldfields of Buhweju, Busia, Kigezi and Mubende
- Epithermal type gold deposits associated with Tertiary volcanic and rift faulting;
- Magnetite-phosphate-niobium-calcium carbonate deposits in Tertiary carbonatites;
- Strata bound copper-cobalt sulphide deposits in the Kilembe series met sediments.
- Strata bound nickel-copper sulphide and chromium-platinum-palladium deposits in ultramafic and layered intrusive host rocks in Achaean greenstone belts;
- Nickel-cobalt-copper deposits in ultramafic intrusive in Proterozoic met sediments in South Western Uganda along the Tanzania frontier.
- Small to medium scale tin, tungsten, beryl, and columbite-tantalite operations in the south west,
- Hematite iron ore in Muko area for the domestic and regional iron steel requirements.

## ENERGY SECTOR

During the last 50 years, Uganda has invested in only two hydropower plants, Nalubaale and Kiira with a total of 380MW capacity of electricity. The hydropower installations at these plants on the Nile River provide the major of Uganda's electricity supply. Due to drought sometime less than 130MW is generated. In order to meet some of the energy demands, thermal power plants have been installed. Uganda has a national transmission system that connects most towns and district centres in the country. The transmission system has export links to Kenya and Tanzania, and the distribution system includes links to Rwanda in the South West of the country. Electricity end-user sales in Uganda in 2005 were 1015Gwh [compared to 870 Gwh in 2003] but due to high technical losses the actual generation needed to meet demand is 1900 Gwh. Future growth rates in electricity consumption are expected to be in the order of eight percent per annum, implying a five-fold increase in consumption over a twenty year period. Maximum demand on the system is expected to reach 550MW unless additional capacity [beyond the committed capacity at Kiira] it's bought on stream by this date. Uganda endowed with vast renewable energy resources, which have not been exploited and has the potential to a net exporter of power to the East African region. A new electricity act allowing the private sector into the sub-sector has been enacted.

### *Investment opportunities:*

- Development of large hydropower facilities whose timing must be in line with the load forecast for the domestic and export market for example the Under construction Bujagali Hydro-power Station
- Development of mini-hydro sites (Ayago) either as stand-alone systems or to be integrated with the national grid;
- Exploration and production of hydrocarbon resources in the Albertine Garben area where there three exploration areas available for investors;
- Distribution and marketing of petroleum products;
- Development of renewable energy resources such as geothermal energy, solar energy, wind energy, Bio-mass etc;
- Development and marketing of energy-saving technologies and appliances.

## ICT SECTOR

The sector underwent major changes and restructuring. Key among these was the break-up of the former Uganda Posts and Telecommunications Corporation into three separate commercial companies; Uganda Telecom Ltd, Post Bank Uganda and Posta Uganda. The reform programme has resulted in the complete privatization of Uganda Telecom and a number of private companies have sprang up to provide value added telecommunications services. These include VSAT services (private voice/data transmission via satellite), cellular services and payphones, and fax bureaus and cyber cafes.

In August 2006 the duopoly of MTN and UTL as major licence holders were broken away to pave way for other competitors in providing basic wire line and fixed wireless telephone service, mobile wireless service, trunk capacity resale including leased lines, and satellite communications service, VOiP, etc.

***Investment opportunities:***

- Business Process Outsourcing,
- Call Centre Services and Business Support,
- E-Commerce & M-Commerce Solutions,
- Software Development and Training Opportunities, Software testing & Assurance, Data Integration,
- Data Warehousing, Data Management, Storage area Networks
- Integrated Solutions Planning
- Hardware Equipment Assembly
- Multimedia Development,
- Internet Applications
- E-Translation Services,
- Rural Communications,
- Broadband Service provision
- Software Solutions for Financial Sector, health sector, e.t.c
- Network Computing/Management software
- Intranet Internet and Extranet application
- B2B Solutions, Professional Solutions for Manufacturing Industry
- IT Education and Training, Setting up ICT Virtual zones

**EDUCATION SERVICE SECTOR**

The most important challenge facing the education system is the restoration of relevant and practical skills at all levels. Many of Uganda's populace are unskilled, though trainable and currently the shortages of skilled labour both technical and managerial staff is an encumbrance to the development of the country. Thus, there is need for specialized educational services to equip the indigenous human resources needed in the local market.

Therefore, there are various investment opportunities in specialized educational services and investors are encouraged to take advantage of the various investment concessions put in place by government.

***Investment Opportunities:***

- In-service specialized training programmes, where opportunities exist with respect to the provision of specialized education and/or skill to redress the imbalance of availability of unskilled or semi-skilled labour versus managerial and technical experts;
- Agricultural services in areas like crop and animal husbandry, land management, horticulture, fish farming, artificial insemination, silkworm rearing, ostrich farming and bee-keeping;
- Managerial skill development

- Health training;
- Formal education sub-sector like the pre-primary cycle, primary and secondary schools, provision of instructional materials like teacher guides, text books, teaching equipment and materials for teaching of sciences;
- Development of computer skills.
- Establishing specialized training institutions

### HEALTH SERVICE SECTOR

The main objective of the health policy is consolidation and orientation of the existing services towards primary health care. The government resources in the sector have been concentrated on the provision of public goods (immunization, family planning, and HIV/AIDS and health education) and areas where other agents would prove ineffective.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- The high prevalence of tropical diseases is an indicator of potential market for health care services.
- The existing training institutions for doctors, pharmacists and other related disciplines do not have enough capacity to cope with the ever-increasing demand for science based such as training.
- The high growth rate of GDP, which has averaged 6.3%, per annum, a good market signal for establishment of health insurance services.
- Manufacture of drugs and various hospital equipment and furniture.
- Establishment of specialised hospitals

### Pharmaceutical industry

Uganda produces only 5% of its pharmaceutical and health product requirements. Pharmaceutical and health products amount to 10% of total imports. The national domestic demand verses domestic production gap remains substantially large. Existing industries produce injectables, liquid mixtures, paracetamol, aspirin, assembling capsules, disposable syringes, surgical gauze etc.; The Uganda national drug authority (NDA) regulates, monitors and licenses private participants in the sector.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Manufacture of drugs for treatment of various tropical diseases
- Family planning and contraceptives
- Selected medical equipment and goods e.g. simple surgical instruments, disposable syringes, injectable water and hospital furniture.
- Herbal Medicine to exploit Uganda's bio-diversity in flora and fauna
- Raw material based items like; surgical cotton/gauze, sanitary pads, bandages, glucose, water for injections, infusions, syrups, oxygen etc.
- Joint venture opportunities with the existing companies.

### PACKAGING SECTOR

Packaging enables a safe delivery of products for the final consumer in a presentable and sure condition. Packaging includes all forms of printed-paper, plastics, foil and glass packaging. The basic raw materials for the packaging industry are locally available. There are large deposits of quality silica sand estimated to be more than 20million metric tonnes along the shores of Lake Victoria. Feldspar used in the glass industry, is available in the western parts of the country. Uganda also has plenty of forests where soft and hard woods can be obtained to manufacture pulp. The packaging industry in Uganda meets less than 50% of the domestic requirement.

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- Manufacture of glass containers
- Manufacture of tin cans/boxes
- Manufacture of corrugated cases (shuffle)
- Manufacture of cartons and labels
- Manufacture of flexible low value added packaging products
- Manufacture of multi layer plastics, simple plastics, Rigid plastics i.e. bottles, cans and plastics
- Manufacture of thin walled plastic packaging products

### METAL AND METAL PRODUCTS SECTOR

Metal working in Uganda today basically comprises of blacksmith, metal fabrication, foundry shops, steel plants and mechanical workshops (machine and forging shops). Locally available raw materials for the industry include iron ore; limestone and sand

#### *Investment opportunities:*

- The production of metal products for other growing economic sectors
- Manufacture of spare parts and industrial machinery for the local and export markets.
- Joint ventures with existing enterprises.
- Fabrication of food processing and agro-processing equipment/machinery.
- Manufacture of electric motors for industrial use,
- Manufacture of hand tools
- Establishment of maintenance services centres
- Provision of laboratory services (for quality control, calibration and standardization).

### BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

The construction industry has continued to grow at an average rate of 13.2% p.a. since 1992. Major industries include construction companies and manufacturers of cement, paints, tiles, iron sheets, steel doors and windows.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Provision of low cost housing
- Provision of housing and mortgage finance
- Manufacture of pre-fabricated concrete systems
- Exploitation of non-metallic minerals to provide sanitary ware/table ware; floor/wall tiles, cement, glass, lime, etc.
- Construction of industrial parks and warehouses
- Joint venture with Uganda Investment Authority in industrial and agricultural land development
- Establishment of mini-cement factories
- Establishment of Real Estates

**STORAGE SECTOR**

Storage facilities for the safe custody of goods are of crucial importance to Uganda, the country being largely agricultural based and landlocked. Storage activities comprise food-gain storage, cold storage, warehousing and container terminal storage and Bulk Fuel storage.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Food-Grain storage
- Regional storage facilities/depots which can be used for storage of surplus produce prior to export
- Central/regional depots to serve as the main collection and distribution centres
- Buying centres/depots located close to the production centres to serve as collection points for produce to be aggregated at central/regional levels for the successful marketing of fish, flowers, fruits and high value vegetables.
- Inland container Terminal
- Construction of a new Air Cargo Centre at Entebbe International Airport
- Construction of warehouses and warehouse chain facilities across the country.

**TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION SECTOR**

Provision of basic infrastructure services such as telecommunications, efficient transport, water and waste disposal, and serviced industrial land etc is top on Government agenda. Infrastructure and communication services are important because they directly contribute to the cost of doing business and are known to boost the overall development of any economy. In consideration of railway transport, only 762 out of 12443km is operational and transports mainly export and import goods between Kampala and the Kenyan port of Mombassa. For the case of water transport, ferryboats are serving as bridges across rivers, and have not improved causing unnecessary delays. Air transport sector is characterized by both international and domestic airlines for passengers and

cargo, which use Entebbe International Airport and 13 aerodromes managed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Uganda.

*Investment Opportunities:*

- Cargo handling at Entebbe International airport.
- Establishing aircraft maintenance hangers
- Cargo consolidation and deconsolidation activities at Entebbe airport
- In-flight catering
- Operating both cargo and passenger air flights services.
- Minor Licenses of value added telecom services for example, internet, E-mail, Telex, paging, pay phone, fax bureau, Cable television
- Setting up training centres for various telecommunication services.
- Development of serviced industrial land
- Developing new options for urban and rural water production and sewerage collection.
- Setting up clearing and forwarding firms due to the increase in regional and international trade.
- Road construction and maintenance
- Setting up organized car hire firms, with cars fully equipped with radio call system.
- Setting up regional, urban and national bus services.
- Setting up ferry services on L. Victoria, L. Albert and L. Kyoga.
- Establishment of one-stop-centres for heavy vehicles

**FINANCIAL SERVICE SECTOR**

The operations of financial institutions are governed under of statutes: i.e. the Financial institutions act 2004; The foreign exchange (forex bureaus and remittance) Regulations of 2006; microfinance deposit taking institutions act 2003 and regulations of 2004. under this law an investor in a financial institution [banks, credit institutions, building societies etc] is to be licensed by the Central bank. There are currently 15 Commercial banks in Uganda. Other financial institutions include 25 insurance companies, 1 re-insurance company, 1 build society, 3 Development banks, 7 credit institutions and 5 other non-banking finance institutions. The financial is dominated by urban based commercial banks, which offer a range of tradition products including deposits, overdrafts, short term credits, export finance and foreign currency exchange.

*Investment opportunities:*

- Savings institutions which propose to operate in rural areas.
- Commercial banking-banks with wide international experience and those willing to take over weak banks
- Development banking.
- Discount houses,

- Insurance services, on banking services e.g. leasing finance, merchant banking, mortgage financing, building, and micro financing services and specialized training institutions

#### “INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL IS THE PEARL”

In this book “My African Journey 1908” Sir Winston Churchill had this to say “*Uganda is fairy tale, you climb up a railway instead of a bean stalk and the top there is a wonderful new world. The scenery is different and most of all the people are different from anything elsewhere to be seen in the whole range of Africa*”. Uganda’s Beauty so overwhelmed Winston Churchill that he named it “The pearl of Africa”

Uganda, situated astride the equator, has an area of 243,400 square miles; of which about 95,823 square miles is open water and 39,000 square miles is swamp. Uganda is comparable in size with United Kingdom. It is bordered by Sudan in the north, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi in the south, Democratic Republic of Congo to the west and Kenya to the east.

#### People and culture

Uganda’s reputation as Africa’s friendliest country stems partly from the remarkably low level of crime and hassle directed to tourists and partly from the tradition of hospitality common to its culturally diverse populace of three major groups the Nilotic and Luo speaking people in the northern and the Bantu speaking in the southern part of the country. With a population of approximately 30 million, Uganda has over 30 different indigenous languages belonging to five distinct linguistic groups, and an equally diverse cultural mosaic of music, art and handicraft to which visitors are welcome.

#### Climate

On the equator Uganda is yet at an altitude of 4,000 feet and enjoys a beautiful sun most of the year.

#### Time

During winter Uganda is three hours ahead of GMT and two hours ahead of GMT in the summer

#### Economy

Uganda has great potential for growth because of its unique strategic location in Africa and its significant natural resources including ample farmland. It is one of the fastest growing economies in Africa with a growth rate for 6.5% GDP for the past 15 years. Since 1986 Uganda has simultaneously experienced a steady expansion of road communication and other virtual infrastructures, and a corresponding increase in international tourists arrival and up market facilities.

#### Language

Educated Ugandans are generally fluent in English, which is the official language



although the government is promoting Swahili and it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Official Language. Uganda has more than 30 indigenous languages and Luganda is the most widely spoken indigenous Language.

#### **Food and Drink**

Tourist-oriented hotels and restaurants serve good western-style meals, while a wide range of cuisines being available in the capital and some larger towns. Local restaurants serve Ugandan dishes, typically Matooke (cooked banana) or Posho (a stiff maize or millet porridge) eaten with stew or vegetables.

#### **Driving**

Driving is on the left side. Visitors without experience of African roads are advised to organize a vehicle with a driver rather than self-drive.

#### **Electricity**

The amount of electricity used in Uganda is 220/240 volts at 50HZ with British-style plugs with three pins.

#### **Laws and respect for authority**

Avoid infringing the law especially the foreign exchange control act, traffic regulations and laws against prostitution, sexual abuse and taking or trafficking in drugs. Foreign offenders are usually arraigned and fined or ordered to leave the country... Smoking or importing opium or cannabis sativa, also locally called "bhangi", is forbidden, while smoking cigarette in public is against the law.

#### **Health**

You are advised to take anti malarial medication before departure and carry mosquito repellents. Use of mosquito nets is a precaution.

#### **Money**

The unit of currency is the Uganda shilling in denominations of 50,100,500 coins, while paper notes are in denominations of 1,000, 5000, 10,000, 20,000, 50,000. The US dollar is traditionally the hard bureaux de change in all large towns, but travellers' cheques are not widely accepted outside Kampala. Local currency can be drawn against Visa and other major credit card at selected ATMs in Kampala, at Entebbe International Airport, and in a few other towns.

#### **When to visit**

Uganda can be explored at any time, though mountains hikes, gorilla tracking and other forest walks are more challenging during the rains, which generally peak over mid September to November and March to May.

#### **What to wear**

Daytime temperatures are generally warm to hot, so bring lots of light clothing. Evenings are cooler, especially at high altitudes, so carry a couple of light

sweaters. Those who intend to hike on the mountains will be exposed to alpine temperatures and should pack accordingly. Solid walking shoes and sturdy clothing are ideal for forest walks you will need a hat, sunglasses and a waterproof jacket.

#### **What to carry**

To make the most of the game reserves and national parks, carry binoculars and field guides. Photographers will need a zoom lens for wildlife (70-300 or similar). Print film and developing is available in Kampala. However you will need a customs bond for the video equipment, musical instruments, radios, slide projectors and tape recorders during your stay. Toiletries and other essentials can be bought in the cities.

Consumables in small amounts of one litre of alcohol, one litre perfume, fifty cigars, 200-cigarette or quarter kilogram of tobacco will be allowed duty free. Obscene literature is **not allowed**. Pets accompanied by a recent health certificate and special permission from the commissioner of customs will be allowed. These are however not allowed into the national park/reserves. Firearms cannot be imported without an import certificate from the police firearms department.

#### **Tipping**

Tipping is not standard practice at local hotels and restaurants, but it will always be appreciated. It is normal to tip 5-10% at tourist-oriented restaurants. Guides and drivers should always be tipped.

#### **What to buy**

Wide selections of local handcraft are available as souvenirs. These include musical instruments, such as the hide drums as well as excellent local basketwork, paintings, batiks and pottery at all tourist centres.

#### **Drinking water**

In the major towns of Kampala, Jinja, Masaka, Mbale and Mbarara the water are supplied by the national water corporation and are considered to be relatively safe. However it is advisable to first boil it before drinking, bottled water mineral water is available from all major hotels.

#### **Dos and Don'ts**

- Do not carry large amounts of cash with you or leave it in your hotel room.
- Do not leave your valuables or any luggage exposed in the back of your car or on the roof.
- Camp only on approved sites and never in secluded areas.
- Watch your handbag when shopping or in crowded streets, restaurants or pubs.
- Park in controlled parking areas and always lock your car.
- When visiting tourist sites, do not wander off the trail or the environs of the site unless you are sure you know where you are going.
- In any emergency, dial 999 and ask for police assistance.

- However, if you observe these simple precautions you are unlikely to need them.