

Ugandan Woman Entrepreneur Wins Global Award at Brazil summit

Ms Grace Nabadda Barya, CEO of Monami Take Away Restaurant located in Colline House, Kampala won the prestigious International Award on Mentoring other young entrepreneurs during the 10th World Summit of Young Entrepreneurs (WSYE) that took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil from 15-17 March 2006. Over 1000 delegates from over 75 countries attended the event and competed for the prestigious five awards available from the organizers. The other awards were for Innovation, Best Marketing & Promotion, Perseverance and Corporate Social Responsibility.



Ms. Grace Barya (2nd R) shows off her award with fellow delegates from Uganda

Ms. Grace Barya is involved in mentoring young girl entrepreneurs on the Girl Entrepreneurship Programme (GEP) run by Uganda Women Entrepreneurs Association (UWEAL), she has participated actively as a role model, visiting various girls' schools like Gayaza High School, Makerere College School, Bugema Adventist and Nabbingo Trinity College. Her role in this programme has been to especially encourage young girls create businesses alongside their studies so that they are able to become economically independent, enterprising and self sustaining. She was the only woman entrepreneurs who won an award at the summit.

The 10th WSYE that was held in Sao Paulo, was dedicated to harness the potential of global public-private partnerships towards helping achieve the goals of the UN Millennium Declaration, promoting mobility of trade and sustainable development across the developing world- Mr. Yiping Zhou, Director of the UN Special Unit for South-South Cooperation.

One of the summit's focus was **"how to make globalization work"**. It was noted that Globalization was a hard reality and is here to stay so instead of trying to fight it, the entrepreneurs should focus their energies on **"how to make it work for them"**.

Entrepreneurs from Brazil, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, China, Finland, Mexico, United Kingdom and other countries expressed interest in assisting Ugandan enterprises to restructure their businesses to do business globally. They were also keen to appoint agents other countries to expand their businesses. Brazilian entrepreneurs were specifically interested in assisting Uganda with agriculture and agro-processing technologies and supply of agro-inputs. Brazil has developed appropriate technologies in the agro-processing sector.

The Ugandan delegation was one of the largest with a representation of 5 entrepreneurs (clients of Enterprise Uganda): Ms. Grace Nabadda Barya (Monami Take Away & Restaurant); Ms Hellene Karamagi (Helika Ltd.); Mr. Patrick Kaija (Byte International); Mr. Robert Matsiko (Numa Feeds) and Mr. Melvin Mugisha (Orma Cars Ltd/Honest Contactors Ltd).