

## **Investment and trade in post-conflict Northern Uganda by Madina Mwangale Guloba.**

This paper presents a critical review of investment and trade in post-conflict Northern Uganda. The paper utilises trade (formal and informal) and investment (foreign and domestic) annual data from Uganda Bureau of Statistics and Uganda Investment Authority from 2006 to-date. An identification of opportunities and challenges together with key policy strategic options as a means of establishing the North as an industrial hub for the economy is undertaken. A number of policy and programme initiatives by government have been undertaken to revamp and rebuild the North such as Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF) and the Peace Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) and several other sub projects. Despite both government and donor interventions in the region, public and private sector investments continue to be piece-meal and largely driven by small scale traders and investors (shops, kiosks). Financial, security of access to land, environment, finance, strong cultural norms-attitude towards work and infrastructural factors are still poor and continue to impede growth in these sectors in the North. Hence, the region becoming an industrial hub to enhance livelihoods is still that, a dream.