

Symposium on cotton by-products

Challenges, Opportunities, Realities, and Prospects for
Sustainable Economic Transformation

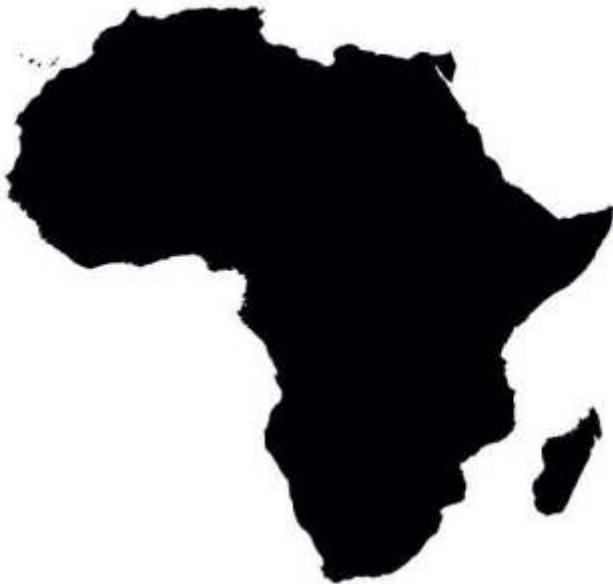
Prof Charles Kwesiga

Uganda Industrial Research Institute

March, 2018

Africa's emancipation

Africa's Dark Continent



Economist Magazine on Africa

2000: The Hopeless Continent

2013: The Hopeful Continent

2014: The Rising Continent

Africa Rising

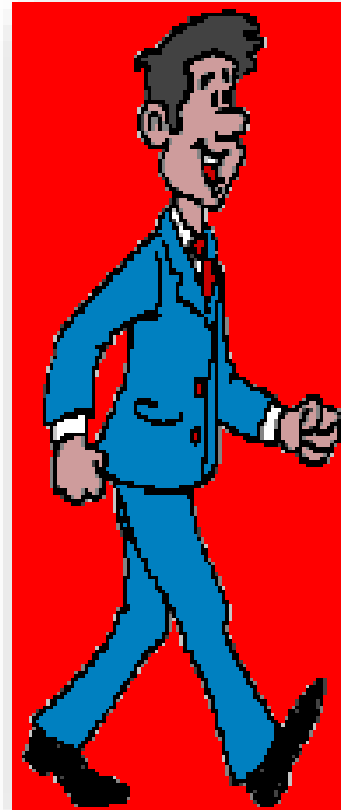


Challenges and opportunities as we follow “big brother”

- Uganda is a microcosm of the larger continent
- 1st world is miles ahead

First World

Africa



Selected quotes

- “ “It is no use saying, ‘we are doing our best’, instead you have got to succeed in doing what is necessary.”
- Churchill’s brand of democracy: a ‘whatsup’ joke
- “For a generation, we have been talking about the importance of democracy. I still embrace the rise of democracy. But democracy is nurtured in the fertile grounds of economic prosperity ” says Kituyi
- “No problem can withstand the assault of sustained thinking..”, says Voltaire

Implementing ideas (and policies) requires perseverance

“Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience.”

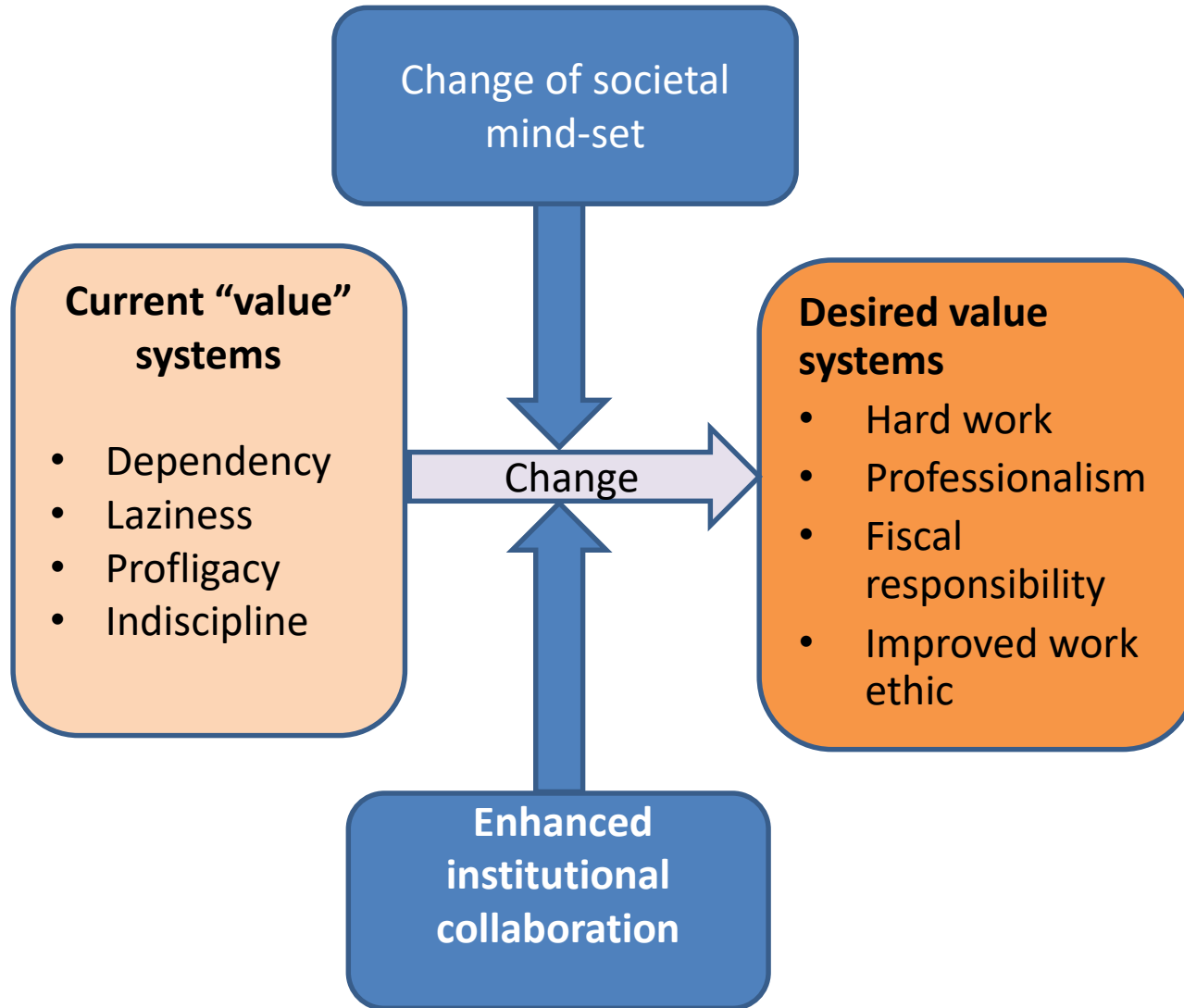
Hyman Rickover (1900-1986)



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Value Systems need to change



Ground-breaking for MMISTC



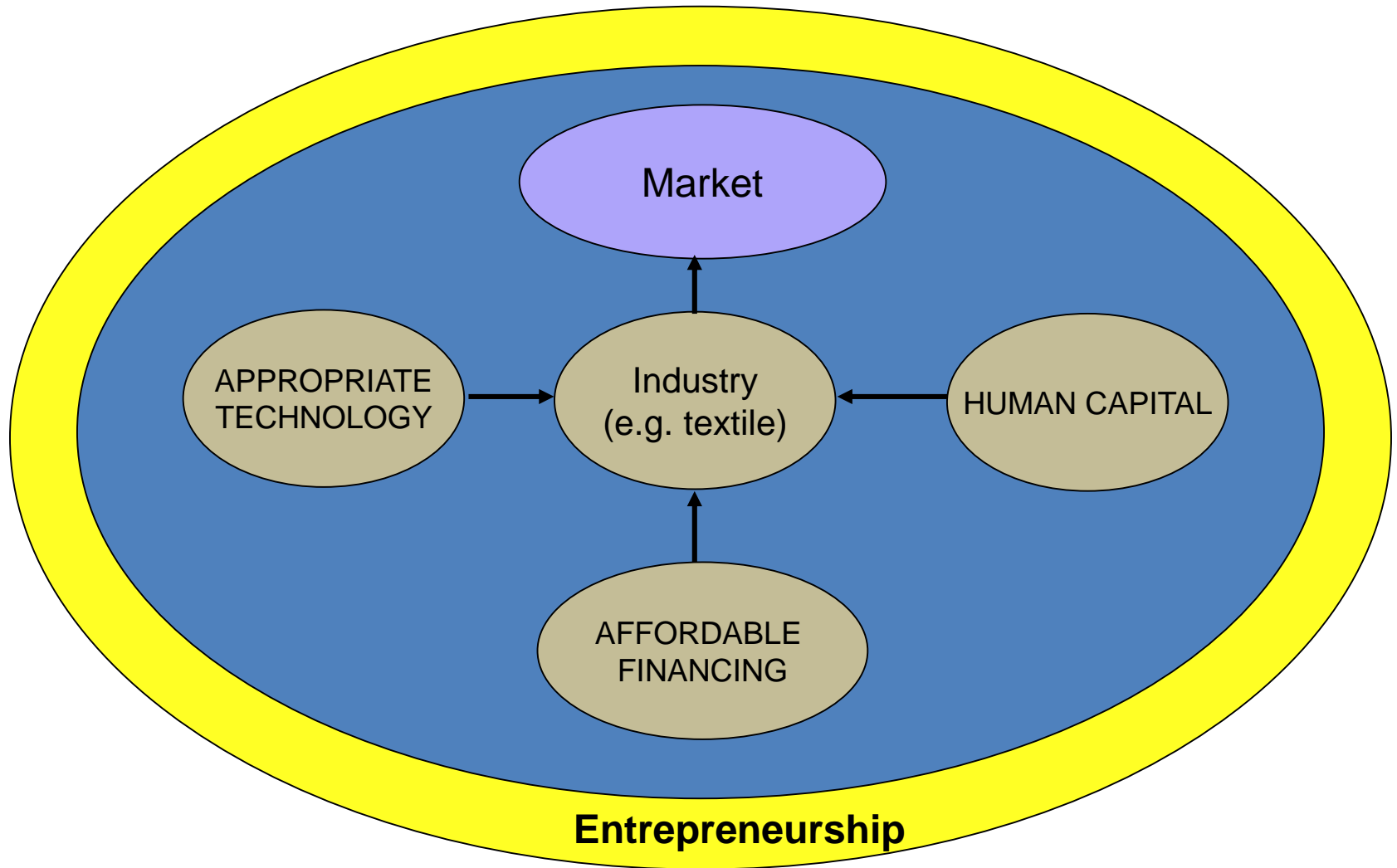
Hon. Dr Tumwesigye

Prof. Kwesiga

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

Hon. E Anite

Pillars of industrialization



Projects/Products under development

- Bioethanol from molasses; waste to energy projects (e.g. briquettes)
- MUTIMA electronic diagnostic tool for pneumonia; Aflatoxin Bio-sensor
- Essential oils project; Biotech products; Food product
- Revitalisation of Uganda's Textile Sector (working with CDO; VIA University College; DTI; etc.)



UIRI, as a **Centre of Excellence in EAC in R&D**, is uniquely placed to host the STI hub



Signing MoU with CSIR (Jan 2011): a good example of institutional collaboration



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Closing remarks

- Institutions should embrace the four C's: **collaborate; cooperate; corroborate; and co-ordinate.**
- Governments must increase resources for R&D. Overdependence on foreign funding can be counterproductive. Remember the adage, “He who pays the piper calls the tune.”
- Governments/Agencies must allocate resources in accordance with the priorities, needs, and aspirations of a well-thought out agenda for socio-economic transformation.
- RTOs: Be prudent in your Tech Transfer practices by developing competences in assessing Africa's technological needs.

THANK YOU!!

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