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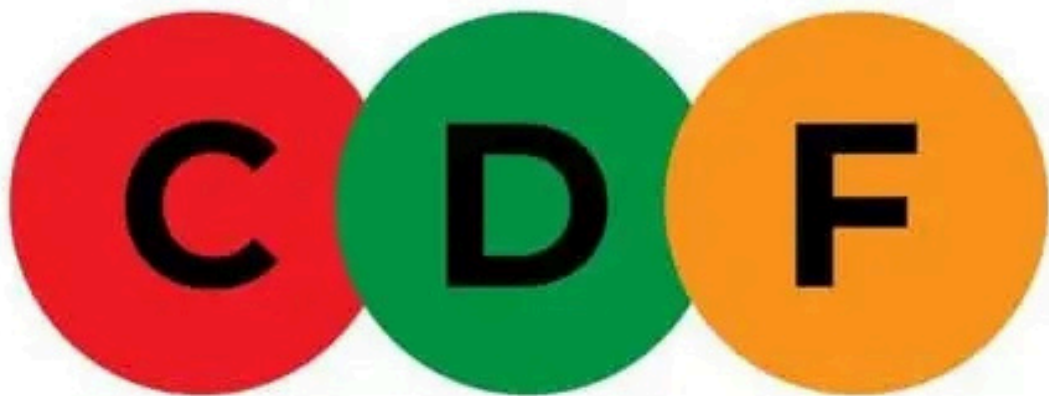
KAWAMBWA COMMUNITIES RECEIVE K5 MILLION CDF GRANTS

By Money Daily Reporter

CONSTRUCTION OF K4.1 MILLION MALAMA ROAD IN MAMBWE DISTRICT PROGRESSES

By Money Daily Reporter

CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND



EMPOWERING PEOPLE TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Kawambwa Town Council has handed over K5 million to 371 beneficiaries of the 2025 Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in Kawambwa Central and Pambashe Constituencies respectively.

The grant disbursement aims to support a wide range of development initiatives including, youth and women empowerment projects, small scale entrepreneurship and agricultural enhancement activities.

Speaking during the handover ceremony, Luapula Province Minister Eng. Nason Musonda said through the CDF grants, government aimed to stimulate rural economies, create employment, increase household incomes, as well as enhancing food security through local agricultural initiatives

and improve the skills base of the communities.

He reaffirmed governments commitment to decentralization and local economic transformation.

Eng. Musonda emphasized the need for beneficiaries to put the grants to effective and accountable utilization for the betterment of their communities.

“This is not just projects roll out but a stepping stone to poverty reduction, food security and economic resilience,” Eng. Musonda stated.

He added that the dignity that would be restored through this support speak volumes about government’s deep commitment to empowering its citizens throughout the country.

Eng. Musonda noted that government had adopted the policy of leaving no

one behind, hence the need for every Zambian to fully take part in the empowerment programs made available to them.

“Empowerment of the 371 groups in Kawambwa district is a reflection of government’s broader vision for a better Zambia where development is inclusive, people-driven and transformative,” he said.

He added that CDF was a central pillar designed not only to deliver resources but also allow communities to determine their priorities and take ownership of their development.

Eng. Musonda urged all the beneficiaries to prudently utilize the opportunity and responsibility as they had been entrusted with resources.

And Bridget Bwaly, a representative of Mukalanga women group

from Kawambwa Ward of Kawambwa Central Constituency, expressed gratitude on behalf of other groups for receiving the financial support.

Ms. Musonda highlighted the group’s commitment to becoming economically independent, further urging fellow women in the community to take advantage of the CDF initiative, as it was a tool designed to eradicate poverty and improve livelihoods.

She called on the government to continue supporting women with life changing programs, as it was the only way communities would be lifted and contribute to national development.

A total of 177 groups from Kawambwa Central Constituency received grants amounting to K2, 514,700, while 194 groups from Pambashe got K2,491,290 respectively.



Mambwe Town Council says works on the construction of 28 kilometers of Malama Road in Malama Ward are progressing well.

The road works are being funded under the 2025 CDF allocation, with a total project cost of K4.1 million.

So far, 5 kilometers out of the targeted 28 kilometers have already been worked on and graveled.

Council Assistant Public Relations Officer, Grace Lungu said once completed, the improved Malama Road is expected to greatly ease the movement of people and goods within and beyond the ward.

“After years of

hardship faced by the residents due to the year-round accessibility.

Ms. Lungu noted that residents will be able to access markets, health facilities, and schools with greater ease.

“The scope of work include camber formation, dumping of gravel,watering for moisture content, compaction and road realignment in some sections.”

“This development is particularly significant for school-going children, farmers transporting produce, and residents seeking medical services. It is a major step forward in improving the quality of life for the people of Malama Ward,” she added.

She said the road, which has been a major challenge especially during the rainy season will now be graveled and upgraded to an all-weather road, ensuring

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# ECOBANK ZAMBIA UNVEILS GROUNDBREAKING FINANCIAL SOLUTION FOR WOMEN-LED BUSINESSES

By Cecilia Chiluba



Ecobank Zambia has officially unveiled an enhanced and empowering financial solution, dubbed Ellevote 2.0, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at supporting women-led businesses across Africa.

The Ellevote platform offers unsecured loans of up to US\$50, 000, making access to finance easier.

The initiative provides tailored financial and non-financial solutions to businesses that are majority owned or managed by women.

These include access to finance, advisory services, capacity building, and networking opportunities, all designed to help women entrepreneurs thrive and bridge the gender finance gap.

The original Ellevote programme made a powerful impact-with over 883 businesses on-boarded, extending more than US\$3 million in financing, and mobilizing US\$5.6 million in deposits.

Officiating at the launch of the initiative, Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (SME) Permanent Secretary Subeta Mutelo commended the Bank for taking a bold step towards elevating women-led and women-focused businesses through providing access to affordable finance.

Ms. Mutelo noted that Ellevote resonates deeply with the government's empowerment programmes.

"Its multifaceted approach - offering unsecured financing, leadership development, digital market access through My Trade Hub, loyalty benefits, and customized wealth solutions, directly mirrors our vision for MSME development in Zambia," Ms. Mutelo stated.

She expressed confidence that Ellevote shall evolve rapidly from being an idea today, to a proven, impactful force and a platform with even greater ambition.

"When you boost a woman's business, you increase the GDP of the country and you also increase productivity among women. When you elevate a woman, you encourage businesses to be innovative, and diversify," she noted.

Ms. Mutelo encouraged women entrepreneurs to seize the opportunity and use it grow their businesses because they are not statistics or case studies but architects of prosperity.

Speaking earlier, Bank Managing Director Aina Moore, revealed that the initiative provides favorable interest rates and collateral requirements to support early growth, offers support for businesses with a two year track record.

Ms. Moore said the initiative also provides digital platforms like MyTradeHub to help businesses find customers and grow across Africa.

"We are thrilled that Zambia is one of only nine Ecobank countries selected to spearhead the launch of this enhanced initiative. It is a prestigious opportunity, and one we embrace with great enthusiasm and resolve."

"Our message to women-led businesses is clear; you are seen, you are heard, and you are supported," Ms. Moore stated.

She added that Ellevote 2.0 is unique in that it combines capital, capacity, connectivity and care.

# ZICA APPLAUDS LAUNCH OF NATIONAL GREEN GROWTH STRATEGY

By Money Daily Reporter



Zambia Institute of Chartered Accountants (ZICA) has observed that the country's economic landscape is deeply combined with environmental sustainability challenges, particularly in sectors such as mining, agriculture, manufacturing and energy.

Speaking during the Chief Finance Officers (CFOs) workshop in Lusaka, ZICA President Yande Mwenye applauded government for the recent launch of the National Green Growth Strategy and Enactment of the Green Economy and Climate Change Act.

Government recently enacted the Green Economy and Climate Change Act No. 18 of 2024 to provide a legal framework for integrating environmental sustainability into its economic policies.

This Act, alongside the National Green Growth Strategy, aims to transition Zambia towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient, resilient, and socially inclusive economy by 2030.

The strategy focuses on resilient and climate-compatible growth, enhanced resource efficiency, enhanced natural capital, and improved inclusivity

"We are of the firm belief that businesses have the power and ability to take meaningful action on climate change," Mrs. Mwenye said.

She explained that ZICA's adoption of IFRS S1 and IFRS 2 complements the government's Green Growth Strategy by enabling businesses to report on information about their most significant impacts on the economy, environment and people, and how they intend to manage these impacts.

And Mrs. Mwenye encouraged Chief Financial Officers to share new market developments and emerging issues in the profession, obtain global perspectives, knowledge and expand the network.

"Through this interaction, CFOS are expected to share ideas on various aspects including, emerging technology which is making it easier to drive proficiency and productivity for your organizations," she said.

"Zambia is amongst the first 30 countries to adopt the sustainability standards. These standards provide a structured framework for transparent and comparable Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting, ensuring alignment with global sustainability practices."

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## FORMER AGRICULTURE MINISTER URGES LEADERS ACROSS AFRICA, EUROPE TO ALIGN FOOD SYSTEMS WITH HEALTH, CLIMATE GOALS

By Money Daily Reporter

Former Minister of Agriculture has urged leaders across Africa and Europe to align food systems with health and climate goals, and adopt integrated agriculture, finance, investment planning, health, trade, frameworks that break down sectoral silos.

Dr. Dora Siliya said the African Union, speaking collectively on behalf of its member states, has laid out a clear direction.

She was speaking during a side event at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Headquarters in Rome, dubbed: Supporting science-to-policy for sustainable agri-food systems across Europe and Africa.”

Dr. Siliya noted that through the Kampala Declaration, the AU has reaffirmed that food systems transformation is central to achieving the goals of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and Agenda 2063.

She however stated that commitments alone are not

enough, stressing the need to connect the continental ambitions to day-to-day decision-making through stronger science-policy interfaces—across agriculture, finance, planning, health, trade, and environment.

“The challenge is not a lack of knowledge. Across the continent, African researchers, institutions, and technical experts are producing valuable insights every day.”

“But too often, this knowledge arrives too late, is poorly communicated, or is disconnected from national policy cycles. Timeliness, clarity, and contextual relevance are essential,” she said.

Dr. Siliya emphasized that what leaders need is not more reports, but real-time, decision-ready intelligence.

“When scientists such as those at PANAP and FARA, and policymakers collaborate to define priorities, co-develop policy questions, and translate findings into actionable options, change becomes possible.”

“Through the African Parliamentary Network on Food Systems, we are advocating for this



shift. This means investing not only in research, but also in the mechanisms that connect evidence to political choices: policy dialogues, advisory platforms, cross-ministerial coordination, and local analytical capacity,” Dr. Siliya stated.

“It also means investing in national data collection to build our evidence base. The AU-EU partnership can play a critical role in this transition.”

“But to be effective, it must move beyond short-term projects and toward long-term, co-investment in

She clarified that Africa is not asking for charity but calling for meaningful partnership built on trust, mutual respect, and shared intelligence.

“If we want food systems that nourish our people, regenerate our environment, and support inclusive economic growth, then we must embed evidence into every stage of policy—from planning and budgeting to implementation and review.”

## ASSOCIATION ATTRIBUTES RISE IN TOMATO PRICES TO LESS COMMODITY SUPPLY

By Cecilia Chiluba



Fruits and Vegetable Traders Association of Zambia has attributed the current hike in tomato prices in Lusaka to less supply of the commodity on the market.

Tomato prices in Lusaka are currently fluctuating, with a box of first grade selling at K420 from as low as K50 and K100 in recent months.

A check at selected markets in Lusaka,

revealed that some traders selling a single tomato between K2 and K3 depending on the size.

He added that the price may be maintained above K300 or K400 in the next two weeks, but will later begin to drop when other people start harvesting.

“The increase in tomato prices on the domestic market is due to less supply of the commodity not that we do not have tomatoes no, we have enough.”

“You will see may be in the next two weeks the price will maintain above K300 or K400 and later on it will drop when other people start harvesting. But otherwise, it is because of less supply on the market but as a country we have enough tomatoes to last for the remaining months of the year,” Mr. Sikunyongana said.

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# GOVT REVIEWING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS TO IMPROVE MSME WELFARE

By Money Daily Reporter



Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) remain the backbone of Zambia's economy, contributing around 70% to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and accounting for 88% of employment across various sectors.

Despite their contribution to the country's economy, MSMEs have continued to face challenges ranging from limited access to affordable finance, lack of adequate infrastructure, low product standards, and insufficient business skills among others.

It is in this vein that Government, through the Ministry of SME is intensifying efforts to improve the operating environment for entrepreneurs in the country.

Speaking at this year's commemoration of the United Nations MSME Day in Lusaka, Minister of Small and Medium Enterprise Development Elias Mubanga said Government has prioritized the development of this sector as a catalyst for economic transformation.

Mr. Mubanga, who was represented by Ministry's Permanent Secretary Subeta Mutelo highlighted some of the interventions being undertaken to address challenges that MSMEs are facing.

He said government with support from stakeholders and its cooperating partners, is currently reviewing legal frameworks including the Cooperatives and Societies Act as well as the Citizens Economic Empowerment Act.

"Through the Ministry's

Capacity-Building programmes, over 1, 200 MSMEs have been trained across six provinces, equipping them with skills in business formalization, branding, financial literacy and market access."

"We have started the mainstreaming of Kaizen Principles in all SME Capacity Building programmes to tackle the problem of quality, cost and timely delivery," Mr. Mubanga said.

He added that this decision was informed by the positive results from the 30 SMEs under the joint MSME/JICA Empowerment programme.

"In a space of four months, SMEs that started implementing the Kaizen Principles recorded increases in revenue, number of jobs, and improvement in quality of products."

With regards to market linkages, he stated that Government has successfully facilitated linkages between MSMEs and major retail chain stores, enabling local entrepreneurs to supply their products to mainstream markets.

He said government remains committed to creating an enabling environment for MSMEs, through sound policy, skills development, improved access to finance and strategic partnerships.

"We are focused on supporting MSMEs not only as economic units but as engines of inclusive growth, innovation and national development," he added.

The 2025 UN MSME Day was held under the theme: Business for MSMEs-Connecting the Entrepreneurs."

## HEALTH MINISTER PLEDGES POLICY REVIEW TO STRENGTHEN CRITICAL CARE NURSING IN ZAMBIA

By Money Daily Reporter



Health Minister Dr. Elijah Muchima has announced a commitment by the government to review Zambia's current health sector policies, placing a spotlight on the integration and advancement of critical care nursing across the country. Dr. Muchima underscored that while critical care nurses have long been central to life-saving interventions, particularly highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic, the current staffing and institutional frameworks have yet to adequately support the scale and specialization of their work.

Speaking at the official opening of the 3rd Critical Care and Emergency Nurses Conference at Njele Country Park in Ndola, Dr. Muchima praised critical care nurses as the "backbone" of the health system and emphasized the need for their increased recognition through supportive policy reforms.

"You are truly a critical component of our healthcare system," he said. "Your skill, dedication, and compassion often mean the difference between life and death." Dr. Muchima applauded the rising number of Zambian-trained critical care specialists, with new offerings of advanced diplomas, bachelor's, and master's degrees in the field now available locally.

The Minister also reaffirmed the government's commitment to universal access to quality healthcare, as championed under President Hakainde Hichilema's administration. He further called for increased nurse-led research and innovation, emphasizing that this will be crucial for building a more resilient and evidence-based healthcare system.

"This conference is more than a gathering — it is a call to action," he said. "Let us invest in your well-being, integrate emergency and rehabilitation services, and modernize policy to support the invaluable role you play." This policy review, he said, will reflect the growing importance of specialized nursing roles in responding to emergencies and improving patient outcomes, from the emergency department through rehabilitation — the theme of this year's conference. He urged nurses to continue upskilling and being mobile within the national health system to meet the needs of communities across Zambia. The weeklong conference brings together nurses, policymakers, academics, and health professionals from across Zambia and the region. Organized by the Critical Care Nurses Association of Zambia (CCNAZ), the Directorate of Nursing Services, and Birmingham City University, the event features scientific sessions and policy discussions that aim to shape the future of critical care and emergency nursing in Zambia.

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JUNE INFLATION FIGURES REFLECT STRENGTHENING TREND TOWARD MACROECONOMIC STABILIZATION - ANALYST

By Cecilia Chiluba



An Economic Analyst says the drop in June inflation rate to 14.1% reflects a strengthening trend toward macroeconomic stabilization, driven by notable declines in food and transport costs.

contributor to the latest inflation figures, supported by increased foreign exchange inflows, largely from robust mineral export performance and improved external financial support.

essential commodities.

Mr. Chisanga however observed that despite the downward trend, the current inflation rate remains above the Bank of Zambia’s medium-term target range of 6–8%.

consistency, reinforcing the productive sectors and maintaining currency stability will stand to be vital in securing durable price stability effects and safeguarding the purchasing power of households,” he added.

According to ZamStats, annual food inflation decreased to 16.7 % from 17.9% in May 2025 due to a reduction in prices of items such as breakfast and roller mealie meal, maize grain, rice, vegetables, and fruits.

On the other hand, annual non-food inflation also dropped to 10.3% from 11.6% in May 2025 on account of decreases in the price of purchasing motor vehicles, passenger transport by air as well as fuel including petrol, diesel and Paraffin.

He said this was pointing to persistent structural and supply-side constraints within the economy, emphasizing the need for continued fiscal prudence and disciplined monetary policy.

Mr. Chisanga added that there is also need for targeted investments in agriculture, energy and logistics infrastructure, to drive long-term inflation control and build economic resilience.

“As Zambia moves forward, ensuring policy

“These factors have helped reduce the cost of imports and enhance overall market confidence.”

“Further easing in food inflation was supported by the seasonal availability of key staples, along with improved domestic supply chains, particularly for cereals, fresh vegetables coupled with high yields in legumes,” Mr. Chisanga said.

He added that this has further helped soften price pressures across key

On Thursday, Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) reported that overall inflation has declined to 14.1% from 15.3% in May 2025, the lowest level recorded in 14 months.

The Agency attributed the decline in June inflation figures to price movements in both food and non-food items.

Reflecting on the development, Kelvin Chisanga noted that the appreciation of the Kwacha was the major

HH PUSHES FOR LOCAL MEDICINE PRODUCTION TO CUT AID RELIANCE

By Cecilia Chiluba



President Hakainde Hichilema has underscored the importance of strengthening Zambia’s capacity to manufacture essential medicines locally.

And President Hichilema announced that he held a productive meeting with the “End Malaria Council of Zambia,” led by its President, Godwin Beene.

He emphasized the need to intensify public awareness efforts on malaria, in close collaboration with the Ministries of Health, Information, and Education.

According to a Facebook post monitored by Money News, President Hichilema said reducing reliance on unpredictable donor aid and imported drugs is critical for building long-term resilience.

He stated that his Government is committed to promoting local pharmaceutical manufacturing through targeted policy incentives and positive discrimination in public procurement.

“As their Patron, we received a comprehensive presentation on the Council’s challenges and strategic vision to control, and ultimately eradicate, malaria in Zambia.”

“Malaria remains one of the most pressing public health issues affecting our communities. It not only endangers lives but also undermines national productivity and economic growth,” he said.

“Raising knowledge and changing attitudes at the community level is essential in the fight against this disease.”

“Malaria is a deadly but preventable disease. Government will continue to allocate more resources towards its awareness, control, and treatment, because every life saved contributes to a stronger, healthier Zambia,” he assured.

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YOUNG PARISIAN INTERNS FROM PARIS SECOND CHANCE SCHOOL WALK FOR CLEAN WATER FOR MBEZA IN ZAMBIA

By Cecilia Chiluba



Eighteen groups of young interns from the Ecole de la 2è Chance, (E2C), translated Second Chance School walked from 17 districts' town halls to the Paris City Hall to raise funds for a water project in Mbeza near Monze in Zambia, in collaboration with World Vision France.

World Vision is a globally renowned non-governmental organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and families worldwide.

In 2024, World Vision International provided access to clean water to over 3.1 million people, reflecting a significant reduction in the number of individuals without access to this fundamental resource.

On the other hand, Second Chance School is a non-government association that promotes the professional and civic integration of young Parisians who left the school system without qualifications.

The 6 Km Walk is an annual event that serves to both raise awareness

on the importance of access to drinking water and to raise funds for a World Vision project.

Zambia's Ambassador to France Judith Mulenga, walked with the young people halfway distance and back to the embassy building.

Globally, safe drinking water is not available for 800 million people and the Global 6 Km Walk for Water by World Vision, represents the average distance many children and women walk each day to fetch water often from unsafe sources and unsafe routes.

To appreciate and show empathy to the children and women of Mbeza that walk long distance to fetch water, some of the young Parisians taking part in the walk also carried 5 litre containers of water.

In her welcome remarks to the group, Ms. Mulenga, thanked the young people for their generous and noble act of helping others, despite not having much themselves.

She reminded the young people of the importance of Article 31 of the United

Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which guarantees every child an adequate standard of living, including access to all basic amenities such as safe water and proper sanitation.

Ms. Mulenga emphasized that their compassion and willingness to give were an inspiring example to all, demonstrating that if everyone reached out to support those in need as they were doing, the Sustainable Development Goals could be achieved.

“By helping the children of Mbeza access safe water, you have become duty bearers of those children in Mbeza by ensuring that the right to water and sanitation, as enshrined in Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, is fulfilled and as the representative of Zambia I cannot thank you enough for your efforts,” Ms. Mulenga said.

She applauded both organizations for their commitment to aiding underprivileged communities in achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goal 6 on access to clean water and good sanitation, as

the walk has significantly elevated Mbeza's visibility on the Zambian map.

Meanwhile, World Vision France's Director General, Camille Romain des Boscs highlighted the importance of the walk, in raising awareness about the challenges young people face in accessing clean water.

She expressed pride in supporting efforts to improve water access in Mbeza and reaffirmed her organization's commitment to upholding every child's basic right to clean water around the world.

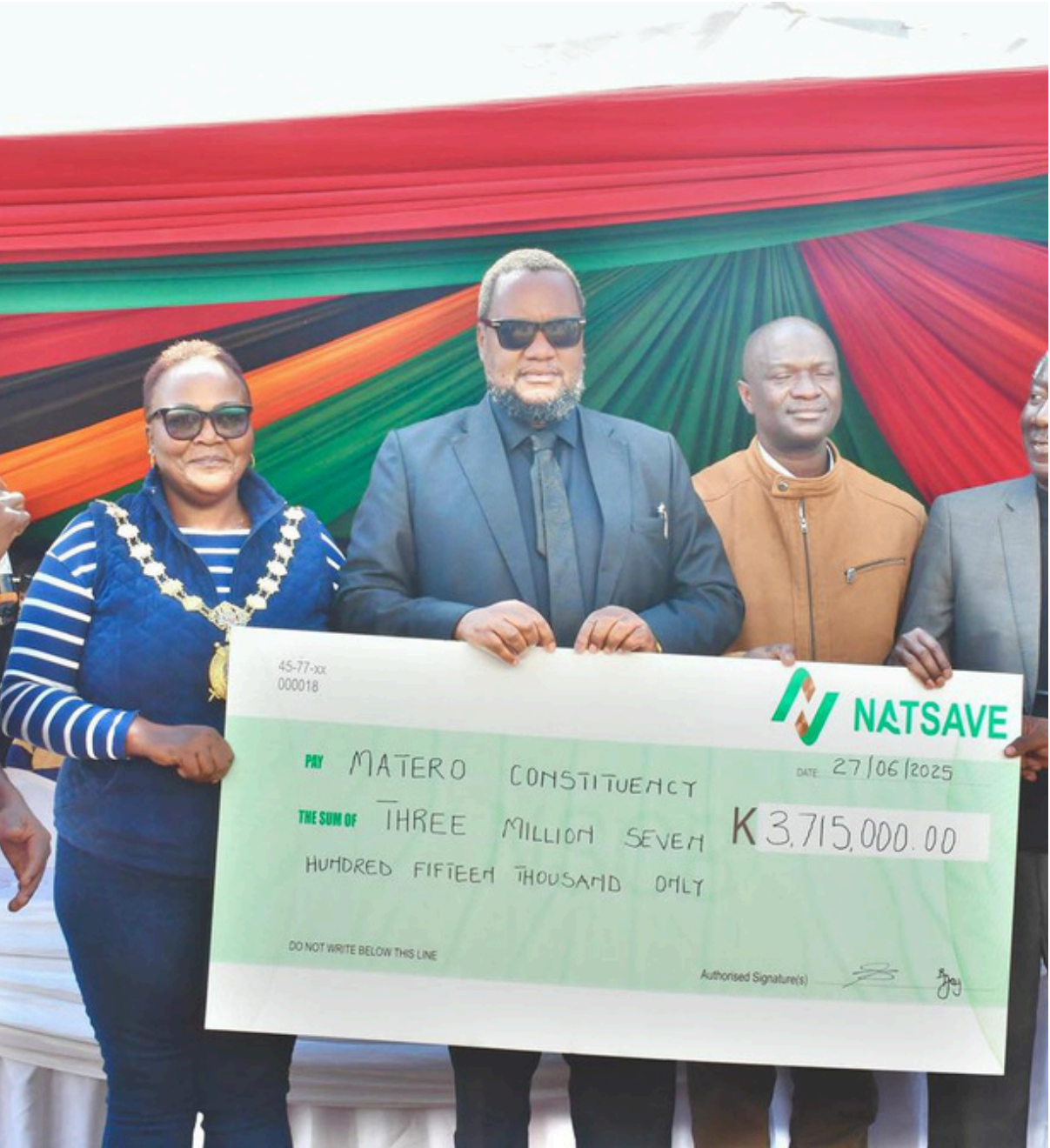
And E2C President Denis Bouchard, noted the challenges faced by individuals without access to clean water, particularly the burdens placed on children and women.

“Our participation in this walk is a testament to our dedication to raising awareness about the need for clean water access in Mbeza,” he noted.

This is according to a statement issued by First Secretary, Press, at the Zambian Embassy in Paris, France, Naomi Mweemba

K3.7 MILLION IN CDF LOANS DISBURSED TO MATERO BENEFICIARIES

By Money Daily Reporter



The Lusaka Provincial Administration today hailed the disbursement of K3,715,000 Constituency Development Fund (CDF) loans in Matero Constituency, calling it a clear demonstration of the government's commitment to economically empower its citizens.

Presiding over the 2025 CDF loan disbursement to over 50 beneficiaries in Matero, Provincial Administration Assistant Secretary, Professor Gideon Mwanza, emphasized that these funds are crucial for recipients to capitalize their businesses, which in turn will create vital employment opportunities for others in the community.

Professor Mwanza acknowledged the government's ongoing decentralization efforts and urged Matero residents to actively participate in CDF programmes, whether as suppliers, contractors, or youth enrolled in skills training, to ensure inclusive development. He also reminded the beneficiaries of their responsibility to repay the loans, stressing that timely repayments would enable the government to extend support to even more deserving individuals.

The Assistant Secretary commended the Lusaka City Council, the area Member of Parliament, and the local CDF Committee for their effective management of the funds.

He revealed that since 2022, a total of 216 cooperatives, clubs, and individuals in Matero Constituency have benefited from CDF loans.

Also speaking at the event, Lusaka Mayor Chilando Chitangala expressed optimism about the transformative potential of the disbursed loans.

Ms. Chitangala noted that the funds, specifically aimed at fostering grassroots entrepreneurship, are expected to serve as catalysts for sustainable ventures and contribute to local economic resilience. "You are not just recipients but agents of possibility. Let these resources be a springboard for ventures that create jobs, inspire others and ultimately build stronger local economies," she said.

Reaffirming her commitment to supporting local innovation, Ms. Chitangala called for enhanced collaboration between local authorities and civic leaders.

Matero Member of Parliament, Miles Sampa, confirmed that the funding had successfully reached recipients across all five wards of the constituency.

Mr. Sampa urged beneficiaries to use the funds responsibly, highlighting that the government's focus is not only on developing community infrastructure but also on empowering citizens to start and expand businesses through CDF loans.

He further called on his constituents to embrace unity and support one another, stressing that the enhanced CDF was introduced to benefit all citizens, regardless of political affiliation.

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# EXPECTING SAINTS IN A DEN OF THIEVES: ZAMBIA'S REAL CRISIS

It is too simplistic—and frankly dishonest—to continue placing the blame for Zambia's underdevelopment solely on politicians. While political leadership is crucial in setting the tone for national direction, it is just one component in a much broader and more complex ecosystem. The truth, as painful as it may be, is that Zambia is suffering from a deep-rooted societal crisis that transcends politics. We are a nation with systemic dysfunction, cultural decay, and personal mediocrity that has embedded itself so thoroughly that even the most well-intentioned leaders find themselves swimming against an unrelenting tide.

Take President Hakainde Hichilema for instance. By most accounts, he is one of the most disciplined and visionary presidents Zambia has had in recent memory. He does not appear to be chasing political popularity at the expense of sustainable development. His ambitions are clearly aimed at rebuilding a resilient Zambia—one that is future-ready, economically vibrant, and institutionally stable. But make no mistake: President Hichilema is not leading a clean slate. He has inherited a nation entangled in decades of bureaucratic rot and societal compromise.

The dysfunction is not primarily because the public

service is filled with unqualified individuals. Far from it. Many of our civil servants are educated, trained, and experienced. The real tragedy is that the system has rewarded selfishness, laziness, and personal gain over patriotic service. Government institutions—from the police service to hospitals, school to council offices—are riddled with individuals whose daily motivation is not service delivery but personal enrichment.

Just look at the Zambia Police, particularly the traffic section. These officers have turned their uniforms into tools for extortion. What should be a revenue-generating institution for the treasury has become a cartel that bleeds the system from within. This cancer is not unique to the police. It has metastasized across government: to passport offices where bribes determine who gets served, to councils where land allocation is a game of favoritism, to public hospitals where essential drugs disappear into private pharmacies.

But here is the bitter pill: this is not just a government problem—it's a national pathology. Our society is broken. Our values have been traded for cheap thrills and fleeting materialism. We have nurtured a generation that

finds it easier to manipulate than to innovate. Children grow up learning that the quickest route to success is deceit, connections, and corruption—not merit, honesty, or hard work.

In our homes, we have substituted discipline with indulgence. Our young people are growing up addicted to betting, drugs, sex, and alcohol. Some of our daughters now trade their dignity for a smartphone or a bottle of cider. Boys have

become comfortable being dependents and scavengers of opportunity rather than creators of it. The erosion of values is so severe that we now look to "miracle posts" on Facebook for deliverance rather than real effort. Even religion, once a moral compass, has been hijacked by prosperity preachers who promote laziness cloaked in "faith."

What's worse is our intellectual apathy. We have university graduates who do not read, analyze, or engage with issues critically. We have academics who use their platforms to promote tribalism and political propaganda. Our online

culture thrives on gossip, leaked sex tapes, and conspiracy theories more than constructive national dialogue. We are a people more intrigued by who slept with whom than by who is building what. This moral bankruptcy is choking our collective progress.

Zambians are also plagued by an inferiority complex that celebrates foreigners while demeaning their fellow citizens. We cheer foreign investors while demonizing

local entrepreneurs. We sabotage each other's progress while praising outsiders as "more capable." This deep self-hate ensures that unity, collaboration, and shared national purpose remain out of reach.

This is the environment into which our politicians ascend. And when they arrive at the apex of this broken pyramid, they are either overwhelmed or quickly co-opted by the machinery. They are told plainly: "Politicians come and go. This is how the system works." And unless they are made of steel, most of them conform. Those who resist are sabotaged and isolated. Those who succumb become

enablers of the very corruption they once opposed.

So, while we are right to hold politicians accountable—and we must—they alone cannot fix Zambia. No amount of policy reform or leadership speeches can substitute for cultural transformation. We must fix our homes, our schools, our churches, our workplaces. We must fix ourselves. Each citizen must take personal responsibility for their conduct and role in nation-building.

President Hichilema may not be perfect—no leader is—but he is evidently trying to steer Zambia toward a more disciplined and development-focused future. He cannot do this alone. He needs citizens, civil servants, business leaders, and clergy who can resist the temptation of quick gain and embrace a vision of collective progress.

Zambia has the potential to rise. But it will never rise on the back of one man. It must rise on the shoulders of a transformed people. Until we confront our own complicity in the nation's stagnation, we will continue to elect good men into a bad system—and watch them fail. Let us not just demand better leaders. Let us become a better people.

## MONEY EDITORIAL

"Think Business"



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THINK BUSINESS



OK TO SELL PROPERTIES IN CAPITAL RAISE

UK CAR PRODUCTION PLUNGES TO 76-YEAR LOW FOR MAY

By News Day



OK Zimbabwe Limited has unveiled plans to sell some properties to raise part of the required US\$30 million to stabilise its operations.

Last month, OK revealed that discussions were underway for a US\$30 million capital raise to clear its debt with suppliers.

In a circular to shareholders yesterday, OK said it would raise US\$20 million from existing shareholders and the planned sale of properties to raise the balance of the required capital raise.

“The company has identified certain immovable assets, from which selected properties will be disposed of to raise US\$10 500 000 in net proceeds, after accounting for disposal-related costs,” OK said.

“For properties currently occupied by the company, the sale will be contingent upon the buyers agreeing to lease the properties back to the company under pre-agreed long-term lease arrangements.”

The proposal means OK will continue operating in some of the locations, without owning the underlying real estate.

The properties up for sale are OK Mbuya Nehanda, OK Glen View, Birmingham Warehouse, OK Gweru, OK Malvern, Stand 6464, Odar Township, Stand 39, Odar Township, Harare, Stand 19676, Harare Township of Borrowdale, Harare, and a Mutoko stand.

The OK Mbuya Nehanda, OK Glen View and Birmingham Warehouse properties will be mortgaged off to FBC Bank Limited, while OK Gweru, OK Malvern, Stand 6464, Odar Township and Stand 39, Odar Township, Harare have been pledged to the National Building Society.

The remaining Stand 19676 Harare Township of Borrowdale, Harare, has been pledged to CBZ Bank Limited. “Given prevailing market conditions, the properties offering the greatest saleability and value realisation will be prioritised for disposal,” OK said.

By BBC Business

UK car production sank to its lowest level for May since 1949 as US tariffs hit exports, an industry group has said.

However, US import taxes on UK cars are due to be cut by the end of June, giving cause for optimism, the SMMT said.

Production fell by nearly a third from a year earlier to 49,810 units, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), which - excluding the period hit by the 2020 Covid pandemic lockdowns - was the lowest figure for 76 years.

Exports to the US halved as President Donald Trump's tariffs caused some UK car makers to halt shipments.

The drop in exports to the US came after the Trump administration announced new 25% tariffs on cars and car parts in March.

This "depressed demand instantly forcing many manufacturers to stop shipments", the SMMT said.

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) suspended shipments to the US in April, while Aston Martin reduced exports, after the tariffs were imposed early in the month.

The US share of UK exports fell from nearly a fifth to just over a tenth in May.

Production was also hit by continuing work to change factories over to electric vehicle production, the SMMT said.

For example, JLR is shifting Jaguar to being an all-electric brand, and Nissan is preparing for a new Leaf model.

In May, the US and UK reached an agreement that included reducing import taxes on 100,000 British cars per year from 25% to 10%. This matches the number of vehicles the UK exported last year.



EXCHANGE RATES

Daily Commercial Banks Exchange Rates

📅 27-06-2025	09:30				12:30				15:30			
Bank Name	Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail Rates		Interbank Rates		Retail Rates	
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
ACCESS BANK ZAMBIA	23.6200	23.6700	23.6200	24.0750	23.7500	23.8000	23.7500	24.1500	23.7500	23.8000	23.7500	24.1500
BANK OF CHINA (ZAMBIA)	23.5500	23.6000	23.5425	23.9855	23.6000	23.6500	23.5425	23.9855	23.6000	23.6500	23.5425	23.9855
ABSA BANK ZAMBIA	23.6000	23.6500	23.5498	23.9953	23.6500	23.7000	23.5996	24.0460	23.6500	23.7000	23.6494	24.0968
CITIBANK ZAMBIA	23.6100	23.6600	23.5750	23.9170	23.6500	23.7000	23.6460	23.9950	23.6500	23.7000	23.6460	23.9950
ECOBANK ZAMBIA	23.5500	23.6000	23.5500	24.0000	23.7500	23.8000	23.7100	24.0755	23.7000	23.7500	23.6500	24.0755
FIRST ALLIANCE BANK ZAMBIA	23.6200	23.6700	23.6200	23.9500	23.7200	23.7700	23.7200	24.0200	23.7500	23.8000	23.7500	24.0500
FIRST CAPITAL BANK ZAMBIA	23.6150	23.6650	23.6140	23.9550	23.8150	23.8650	23.8120	24.0460	23.7500	23.8000	23.7470	24.0450
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ZAMBIA	23.6000	23.6500	23.6000	23.9000	23.7000	23.7500	23.7000	24.0010	23.7000	23.7500	23.7000	24.0010
INDO-ZAMBIA BANK	23.6200	23.6700	23.6200	24.0900	23.7000	23.7500	23.6800	24.1200	23.7300	23.7800	23.7300	24.1600
STANBIC BANK ZAMBIA	23.6500	23.7000	23.6400	24.1000	23.6500	23.7000	23.6400	24.1000	23.7500	23.8000	23.7300	24.1720
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK	23.6500	23.7000	23.5900	23.9900	23.7500	23.8000	23.6300	24.0300	23.7000	23.7500	23.6300	24.0300
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA ZAMBIA	23.6000	23.6500	23.5900	23.8979	23.6900	23.7400	23.6800	23.9428	23.6900	23.7400	23.6800	23.9428
ZAMBIA INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL BANK	23.6000	23.6500	23.6000	24.0030	23.7000	23.7500	23.7000	24.1046	23.7000	23.7500	23.7000	24.1046
ZAMBIA NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK	23.6000	23.6500	23.6000	24.0012	23.6400	23.6900	23.6400	24.0418	23.6500	23.7000	23.6400	24.0418
Market Average	23.6061	23.6561	23.5937	23.9900	23.6975	23.7475	23.6750	24.0470	23.6979	23.7479	23.6818	24.0607





DAILY MARKET NEWS

European markets rise ahead of German debt reform vote; QinetiQ down 20% – CNBC

EU mulling duties on European scrap steel exports – Reuters

U.S. stocks slightly higher - Reuters

European currencies rise

European stocks started the new trading week in positive territory, although investors will be looking to see if global market volatility continues.

The pan-European Stoxx 600 index was up 0.75% by 3:15 p.m. London time, with most sectors moving higher.

British defense firm QinetiQ shed 20%, tumbling to the bottom of the Stoxx 600, after the company made a downward revision to its revenue outlook for the year.

European markets ended the week higher Friday after German lawmakers reportedly came closer to agreeing on reforming the country's so-called debt brake rule. Media reports said Germany's likely next chancellor Friedrich Merz had won support from the Greens party to hike public borrowing to allow an increase in defense spending.

The European Commission is considering proposing levies on scrap steel and metals exports, Reuters reported Monday, citing a draft plan.

CNBC has contacted the European Commission for comment.

The institution earlier this month launched a strategic dialogue on steel, seeking to support an industry which has been hit hard by higher energy costs, challenging raw materials access and — as of last week — U.S. import tariffs of 25%.

The EU will also investigate possible safeguard measures to counter the U.S. duties, which also target aluminum, Reuters reported.

The S&P 500 rose on Monday as the benchmark tries to continue its comeback from correction territory following a four-week rout on Wall Street exacerbated by President Donald Trump's chaotic tariff policy rollout and falling consumer confidence.

The broad market index gained 0.4%, while the Nasdaq Composite rose 0.2%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average advanced 163 points, or 0.4%

Europe's major currencies rose against the dollar on Monday, as jitters around the state of the American economy and U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs regime persisted.

The euro gained around 0.26% against the greenback by 10:47 a.m. in London, while the British pound was up by roughly 0.29% against the U.S. currency. The Swiss franc, widely seen as a safe haven in times of economic or geopolitical uncertainty, added 0.3% against the dollar.





GHANA'S JENNIFER CUDJOE EYES POSSIBLE WAFCON REMATCH WITH ZAMBIA

By Lucky Chama

Ghana Women's National Team captain Jennifer Cudjoe has expressed openness to facing Zambia again at the upcoming CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) Morocco 2024, hinting at a desire to avenge their previous defeat in the Paris 2024 Olympic qualifiers. Speaking during a media engagement, Cudjoe reflected on their last meeting with the Copper Queens, praising Zambia as a formidable opponent while also noting Ghana's performance during that high-stakes clash. "The last time we played them — you know, they're a great team," said Cudjoe. "It was a great opportunity for us to meet a powerhouse side. It didn't end well for us, but I think we showed up. People saw a lot of Ghana that day."

Zambia defeated Ghana in a closely contested two-legged Olympic qualifier earlier this year, dashing the Black Queens' hopes of making a return to the Olympic Games. Despite the result, Cudjoe believes her team proved their quality and character during the tie.

As both teams prepare for WAFCON, which kicks off on July 5, Cudjoe isn't ruling out a potential semifinal or final showdown with the Copper Queens in Morocco — and she welcomes the idea of a rematch.

"Yeah, if it happens, I don't think it would be a bad idea to play them again — and then we take our revenge," she said with a smile. "It would be a great adventure for both teams."

MONGU ATHLETES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SET TO REPRESENT ZAMBIA AT AUSC REGION 5 GAMES



In a moment of pride and inspiration for the nation, four young athletes with special needs from Kanyonyo, Lewanika, and Lourdes Primary Schools in Mongu are set to fly the Zambian flag high at the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 Games in Windhoek, Namibia.

The athletes expressed their gratitude and pledged to represent the country with pride, promising to give their all and return with medals that would elevate Zambia's profile on the regional sporting stage.

Also speaking at the event was Western Province Special Olympics Coordinator Edwin Wasamunu, who voiced his confidence in the team's preparedness for the track and field events. "My boys and girls are ready. They have been training intensively for this international encounter," he said. "We've worked on their techniques, their confidence, and their mental focus, so they can face the competition with courage."

Ahead of their departure, the athletes — two boys and two girls — were honoured in a send-off ceremony by Western Province Permanent Secretary Simomo Akapelwa, who praised their courage, commitment, and the example they are setting for children with disabilities across Zambia.

AGUILA STARS STRENGTHEN SQUAD WITH NEW SIGNING, PHYSICAL COACH APPOINTMENT

By Lucky Chama

Aguila Stars Football Club has confirmed two key additions to its ranks ahead of the new season, signaling its ambition to strengthen both on and off the pitch.

The club is pleased to announce the signing of Richard Tapiwa Kamanga, a 21-year-old centre back from Atletico Lusaka Football Club, following the successful completion of his medicals. Kamanga, who brings with him experience from the Zambia Super League, is known for his commanding physical presence and impressive pace. Aguila Stars believe his arrival will add much-needed steel and youthful energy to their defensive line.

Sakala's appointment underlines Aguila Stars' commitment to enhancing player conditioning, injury prevention, and overall performance throughout the team.

"These additions reflect our focus on strengthening the team holistically — from the backline to the training ground," the club added.

With Kamanga adding depth to the defense and Sakala leading the fitness department, Aguila Stars FC is positioning itself for a competitive and high-performance season ahead.

Sakala's appointment underlines Aguila Stars' commitment to enhancing player conditioning, injury prevention, and overall performance throughout the team.



**UNITY SPIN OUT**

Unity spin out for Mwila Kakana aka Goli Fingers

**VENUE: MIKES CAR WASH**

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**CHARGES: K50 BEFORE 2PM AND K100 AFTER 2PM**

**TIME: 12-18HRS**

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