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# FRA HITS 1.2 MILLION TONNES MAIZE PURCHASE MARK

# BRRA PUSHES FOR OMNIBUS LICENSING IN ACCOMMODATION SUB-SECTOR

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Chipangali Town Council has called for review of the maize delivery guidelines under the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP)....

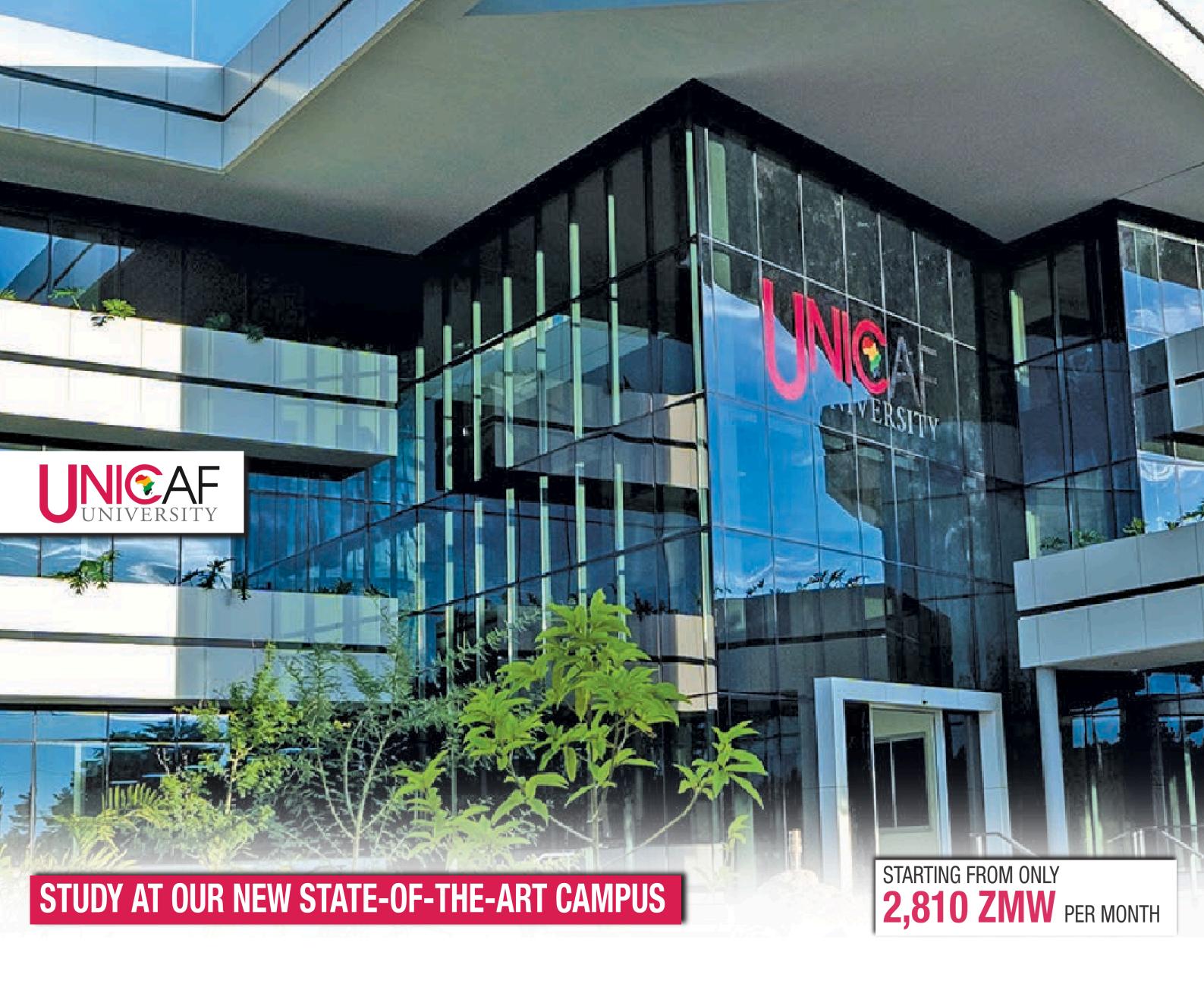
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### BRRA PUSHES FOR OMNIBUS LICENSING IN **ACCOMMODATION SUB-SECTOR**

By Cecilia Chiluba



Business and Zambia Tourism Agency (ZTA) on the Mrs. need to adopt a single speaking accommodation sector.

The Agency intends to February 2025. emulate Mauritius who have introduced omnibus licensing simplify licensing multiactivities under license.

Meanwhile, described its bench-marking mission to Mauritius as a strategic underscored the power of regulatory reform in unlocking investment, driving entrepreneurship, development.

Agency Director, Sichilongo, noted that

Regulatory Mauritius has emerged as a Sichilongo stated. Review Agency (BRRA) leading example on the says it has commenced African Continent, and formal engagements with their success story is one the Ministry of Tourism BRRA aspires to emulate.

Sichilongo during the licensing system in the dissemination meeting on sub- findings from the Agency's Mrs. Sichilongo added that bench-marking mission to

> "The purpose of this dissemination workshop is to present the key reforms one and best practices learnt during our visit with a view of inspiring public bodies BRRA and regulatory agencies in recent Zambia to adopt reforms best practices. "

learning opportunity that "We want to engage with you our stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. your perspectives and contributions are vital and accelerating national as we work together to foster a reform agenda that is responsive to the needs Executive of the private sector to Sharon spurinvestment and entrepreneurship," Mrs.

She said Mauritius has shown that with strong leadership, innovation, and collaboration, regulatory was reform can be impactful and sustainable.

> reforms top investment destination in Africa, including the Business Facilitation Act, which harmonized procedures across various laws, reducing red tape for businesses.

"Some of the key reforms we learned about include the enactment of the Business Facilitation Act, which streamlined procedures across multiple laws, the implementation of Process Business engineering (BPR) eliminate inefficiencies and reduce the cost of doing business, and the launch of the National Electronic

Licensing System (NELS), a centralized digital platform that automates licensing processes."

"Further, the development of the Info-Highway System, which enables real-time data sharing among government agencies through secure the BRRA delegation APIS ensures only data Mauritius undertaken in observed several impactful moves and not people; the have establishment of a single positioned Mauritius as a window system for trade facilitation, streamlining import export and procedures; the and promotion of risk-based regulation, allowing low-risk businesses to commence operations with inspections licensing being conducted ex post resonated very well with us," she added.

> She observed that these reforms, underpinned by strong leadership and digital transformation, resulted in improved service delivery, greater regulatory efficiency, and increased confidence investor Mauritius.

#### **WORLD BANK INVESTS OVER K70 MILLION IN** THREE NEW SCHOOLS IN CHIRUNDU DISTRICT

By Money Daily Reporter



World Bank invested over million in the construction of three Ms. in Chirundu District, investment will help quality improve infrastructure access in communities.

The project includes supplementing two secondary namely; Chikanzaya Day Secondary School construction in Musaya Ward.

Chirundu Council Relations Nakubiana Shabongo, School stated that over 1,000 Ibbwemunyama Ward

K70 new facilities.

Shabongo education education and infrastructure between performance, rural rural and communities, stakeholders

boarding government efforts of "The schools, stimulating education education infrastructure Syakalyabanyama in providing conducive communities

> Syakalyabanyama Town School in Nkadabbwe school Public Ward,

has to benefit from the Secondary School in Musaya Ward," Ms. Shabongo stated.

new secondary schools highlighted that the She emphasized that learning Southern Province, to bridge the gap in environments are vital for improved student higher urban enrollment, as broader community are development.

deficit of infrastructure in rural Nkadabbwe Ward and learning environments. gradually diminishing as key education Ibbwemunyama Ward, "The bulk of resources infrastructure is being as well as Katwezele has gone towards the constructed, this aligns of with government's free education policy which Boarding Secondary propelled an increase in enrollments Chikanzaya thereby the need for Officer, Boarding Secondary constructing schools," in she added.





## MONGU COUNCIL DISBURSES OVER K24 MILLION TO CASH FOR WORK BENEFICIARIES SINCE AUGUST 2024 By Cecilia Chiluba



Municipal Mongu Council says it has paid K24, 284,901 to 36,410 for Work beneficiaries the in District since the inception of the program in August 2024.

Council Assistant Public Relations Manager, Abigail Sitenge said of the 36,410 beneficiaries, 23,486 are from Mongu central constituency,

while 12,564 are from continually. We are keen Nalikwanda constituency.

Ms. Sitenge revealed that the Council has received eight allocations under the Cash For Work program since its inception, which means it is not up to date with payments.

"However, payments for the outstanding months are being made

to ensure that all the beneficiaries are paid without delay," she said.

She noted that Government implemented the program due to the drought experienced in the 2023/2024 farming season.

"The Primary goal of the program is to offer immediate employment opportunities

households engaged."

"In Mongu, some of the works that beneficiaries in respective wards carry out include clearing of Canals, construction of shelters and temporary crossing points, cutting overgrown vegetation, cleaning of drainages, collecting waste, cleaning of roads, and constructing temporary structures such as Mothers' shelters at health facilities," Ms. Sitenge added.



## ZAF, DMMU FLAG OFF NATIONAL FOOD RELIEF OPERATION IN MPIKA

By Money Daily Reporter



(DMMU) National Food Relief operation. Programme in Mpika District, (ZAF).

Speaking flagging **DMMU** Coordinator, Norman Chipakupaku, emphasized government's commitment households.

this is to ensure that community every facing food insecurity receives timely and that no community without food.

event, Force Commander and Chief shortages was a major of Air Staff

and Mitigation Unit Henry Chiwaya, going to bring the has reaffirmed ZAF's total much needed stability launched the 2025 support for the to

in He noted ZAF's collaboration with the continuous availability Meanwhile, Zambia Air Force to provide essential Nabwalya catchment airlift and emergency area of response capabilities in Province the support of DMMU's started receiving relief off event, national National objectives.

"The combines civilian and military coordination According to ZAF, an ensure to to reaching vulnerable delivery of food aid, tonnes was dispatched with ZAF air assets immediately after the playing a critical role launch that was held at Mr. Chipakupaku said in reaching remote and Mpika Airstrip hard to access areas."

assistance And Mpika District District Commissioner, David Operations Committee Siame, paid tribute to (DJOC), Air Force the government and Officials and members **DMMU** for of Speaking at the same prioritizing the district community. Zambia Air on the programme, as Deputy the ongoing food

Disaster Management (COAIRS), Major Gen "The relief effort is the affected communities," noted.

> Muchinga yesterday relief food with a total of 230 metric tonnes of maize expected to be operation distributed in the area.

timely initial of 50 metric Wednesday, September 2025 witnessed by DMMU, Joint the local



#### MINISTER REAFFIRMS GOVT'S COMMITMENT TO YOUTH **EMPOWERMENT**

By Cecilia Chiluba



Western Province creating government's empowerment through implementation uplifting people's livelihoods.

Speaking during a Town The Provincial Minister Hall Meeting in Mongu, highlighted the recent deliberate initiative launch of the 2024 National Youth Policy by the Ministry of Youth, Sport and Arts, which guiding serves as a framework for the implementation of youthfocused initiatives.

Mr. Mbangweta also consultations noted around the repeal and replacement of National Youth Development Council stressing the Act, importance of youth voices shaping legislation.

He said Government remains committed to

an Minister has reaffirmed environment where young opportunities commitment to youth self-reliant, and contribute meaningfully various initiatives aimed Vision 2030 and aspirations of the Eighth National Development Plan.

> emphasized that the Town Mbangweta, Hall Meeting was a ensure young people are He commended President Administration, programmes and policies designed to uplift their livelihoods and foster national development.

> > Mr. Mbangweta said when young people are informed, they are better equipped to make sound decisions that uplift their livelihoods and contribute meaningfully to national development.

> > "This town hall meeting aligns with government's vision for youth development. It is your platform to connect, inspire each other, address

enabling shared challenges, and seize shared today. ask questions, the power of unity."

> our shared goals and collective efforts to empower youth, build your capacity, And and chart a way forward in Development co-creating programmes that are sustainable," Mr. Kankinza, Mbangweta stressed.

prioritizing the welfare of Council's empowerment programmes across the country. introduced under the current administration, bursaries, skills development initiatives, empowerment grants and loans, entrepreneurship training, and market linkage support, designed to create real opportunities for young youth people to thrive.

information that will be

seek clarity, and leave here people can thrive, become celebrate our diversity and with a full understanding of how you can benefit from these opportunities attainment of Zambia's "These meetings will drive improve your lives and your communities," he added.

National Youth Council (NYDC) Secretary, Waana Director represented Resource Human well-informed about the Hakainde Hichilema for Malukutila, underscored the mandate young people, citing several empower and engage youth

> including She added that the Town Constituency Hall Meeting is a testament Development Fund (CDF) to commit, listen, learn, and partner with the youth, so that together they can design programmes that respond to the real needs in society.

> The meeting was attended by senior Government officials, representatives, leaders, church 200 stakeholders. Over "I therefore, urge you to youths from Mongu and take keen interest in the surrounding areas took part in the engagement.

## SINO-METALS CLARIFIES TAILINGS **SPILL VOLUME**

By Cecilia Chiluba



Sino-Metals of tailings released during the 2025, remind the public that February, was when the accident approximately 50,000 happened, 1.5 million as reported emergency by some sections of the which media.

Mwambashi and the Kafue River, detection." widespread causing fish deaths, impacting "Since then, agriculture, raising serious public complied with health concerns.

since dismissed what it Government terms as misleading authorities. media scientific and technical the statement read. basis.

In a statement, the has for 20 years, firm said its operations coexisted with the The initial efforts to have remained on halt people of Chambishi, assess the damage were since 18th February, the Copperbelt, and hampered by a dispute 2025, in compliance with Government instructions, actively undertaking

informing Government The February incident authorities. acidic, heavy metal- breach was promptly to open engagement as laden slurry into the brought under control we work together to stream within hours

and Metals fully has reporting requirements the and continues to work procuring The Company has closely with relevant independent consultant These the reports authorities suggesting that the engaged in verification consultant will provide volume of tailings was and oversight to a comprehensive report under-reported, as this ensure transparency on the presence and is devoid of factual, and accountability," concentration of heavy

> It stated that the mine systems. full Zambia as a whole.

The while emphasized that it termination of the values the lives, safety, contract in May, 2025.

Leach measures to remedy and well-being of its Zambia Limited says the effects of the host communities and the estimated volume unfortunate incident. will continue to place them at the center of its 18th "We would like to operations.

incident "Sino-Metals remains

Sino- committed to operating cubic meters and not Metals triggered its in full compliance with response the laws of the involved Republic of Zambia, relevant upholding transparency, The welcoming all wellsaw the release of tailings release and meaning stakeholders

of safeguard environment and strengthen community Sino- trust," it added.

all The Government is in process to assess the extent of acidic recent remain pollution. The metals in environment and water

between Sino Metals and a consultant it had Company hired, leading to the



# TBZ, LCC TO TRANSFORM 10 COMMUNITY WELFARE HALLS INTO ECD CENTRES

By Cecilia Chiluba



Tobacco Board (TBZ) partnered with Lusaka next generation. City Council (LCC) to rehabilitate Community Halls across Lusaka, Responsibility which will transformed into Early supporting Childhood Development development (ECD) centres.

provide essential services, Manager including child nutrition, Affairs early education, and Communications recreational activities.

growth and development, Director, Robert Mwale, to importance of CSR

of in recognition of the Lusaka Mayor, Chilando initiatives has importance of nurturing the Chitangala.

Welfare Corporate be initiatives, is efforts in Lusaka.

Relations Manager, Chola said. By investing in ECD, Mwamba, the partnership TBZ and the Council aim was discussed during a Mr. Hamunji and Ms. Zambia as a whole," they strong courtesy call by Tobacco Mwamba stated that the added. foundation for children's Board of Zambia Executive partnership highlights the

"Both leaders further 10 This collaboration on agreed on the greatest ways "By working together, the Social to leverage their respective LCC and the Tobacco (CSR) strengths and resources to Board of Zambia aim to aimed at drive meaningful impact in improve the lives of local community the community."

"This collaboration underscores social responsibility." The Early Childhood According to a statement the shared commitment of Development centres will jointly issued by TBZ both organizations to "We look forward to a Corporate improving the lives of local successful partnership that and families and fostering a benefits the people of Lee brighter future for the Lusaka and sets Haamunji, and LCC Public city"s children," the duo precedent for collaborative

driving positive change communities.

families, community development, strategic and foster a culture of

> community development initiatives in Lusaka and

## FRA BUYS OVER ONE MILLION METRIC TONNES OF MAIZE IN ONGOING CROP MARKETING SEASON

By Cecilia Chiluba



Food Reserve Agency countrywide from which Mr. tonnes genetically modified from countrywide during the satellite ongoing crop marketing countrywide and ensure FRA depots. season.

As at 31st August 2025, purchased for sufficient are therefore, urged to the purchased quantity replenishment 24,504,300 x 50Kg bags Reserves." of maize.

the purchased quantity open and shall remain to competitive crop so until all designated He further encouraged prices, good agricultural crops to be presented farmers to reserve policies implemented by for sale are purchased substantial quantities government, favourable pattern experienced in stated. the previous farming season.

Director, Chuunka said Agency operated 1,586 substantial satellite depots

(FRA) says it has so far the over one million commended non- was purchased.

> that all surplus maize from farmers

The Agency attributed satellite depots are still secure," he added. and a before the onset of of their harvests of weather rains," Mr. Chuunka various crops for future

He observed that the preferably farmers' positive and government through FRA Acting Executive overwhelming response FRA Justin has made it possible for national food security the the Agency to buy the begins at household quantities.

**RECOVERY SERVICES** 

Chuunka bought 1,225,215 metric metric tonnes of maize farmers for their hard work that resulted in the bumper harvest and Grade A white maize "The Agency shall for their willingness to farmers continue to operate all sell their crops to depots Government through

is "Farmers countrywide of continue delivering equivalent to National Strategic Food their crops to the nearest FRA depots and play their role in "In this regard, all making Zambia food

> use at household level and only sell the excess depots maize level.



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# GOVT COMMISSIONS NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MSANZALA BRIDGE IN LUSANGAZI DISTRICT

By Money Daily Reporter



Government and Rural facility, Mr. Msanzala Bridge Lusangazi Eastern Province has community. ended years of isolation schoolchildren, families rushing to access symbol health services during the opportunity, rainy season.

Gift Sialubalo, said the bridge, funded by the Ministry Government and Rural Development, will ease safeguard transportation challenges faced for generations.

Speaking during the

of the And Local commissioning Development says the described the Bridge will Development Fund (CDF), (C4W) initiatives, which constructed transform trade, education, as a cornerstone of are creating temporary in and healthcare access for Government's District, thousands of residents in the decentralization agenda.

> "This bridge is not just alone, the Msanzala CDF systems, and concrete and steel, it is a Committee had allocated government's unwavering of prosperity," Mr. Sialubalo community empowerment

the facilities, communities must benefit," he emphasized. take ownership to preserve them for future generations. Mr. Sialubalo further

Mr.

He disclosed that in 2025 roads and youth, women, programmes.

of Local He urged residents of it is a direct investment in building Lusangazi and Petauke to your businesses and your communities and a more new futures. I urge beneficiaries infrastructure, stressing that of CDF loans to pay back Sialubalo added. that communities have while government builds so that others may also

Sialubalo highlighted the positive Sialubalo described the Constituency impact of Cash-for-Work income opportunities while building lasting community assets such as improved drainage reaffirming progress, over K3 million towards commitment to inclusive and development.

> "No district, no ward, and no citizen will be left "This is not just a number, behind. Together, we are stronger prosperous Zambia," Mr.

# CHIPANGALI COUNCIL CALLS FOR REVIEW OF MAIZE DELIVERY GUIDELINES UNDER FISP

By Money Daily Reporter



review of the maize realities faced by small- would increase the risk delivery under the Farmer Input Support Programme He noted that not every (FISP).

every farmer to deliver a maize. minimum of ten 50kg bags of white maize to "In many cooperatives, Nkhoma noted. the Food Agency (FRA).

According guidelines, Farmers who reportedly receive only reconsider the policy, fail to meet condition will disqualified accessing inputs in the and seed in small stakeholders in the 2025/2026 season.

Maxson acknowledged secure maize stocks for national food security.

Mr. Nkhoma, however,

guidelines scale farmers.

farmer benefiting from "The FISP is capable of exclude a significant The guidelines require producing 10 bags of number of small-scale

> Reserve government inputs are shared in very small He portions be without seed, while for from others share fertilizer consultation farming gallons," he said.

Nkhoma, expect such farmers to measures that directly the produce ten 50kg bags affect the livelihoods of government's intention of maize under such smallholder farmers," sufficient conditions.

> He warned that the guidelines could force vulnerable farmers to

Town argued that the directive sell the little maize they Council has called for failed to consider the have, a move which of hunger in their homes.

> policy farmers from accessing vital inputs,"

implored among Ministry of Agriculture the members. Some farmers to urgently revisit and this two bags of fertilizer emphasizing the need broad-based with agricultural sector.

Mr. Nkhoma stated "This should be done Council Chairperson, that it is impractical to before implementing he added.



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# ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CDF THROUGH THE PROUDLY ZAMBIAN CAMPAIGN

By Zondwayo Duma



The Government of the Republic of Zambia public amended its procurement guidelines to decentralise public local procurement to communities in 2021. This achieved through increased allocations in the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) to each of the country's 156 constituencies, 16-fold, unlocking about US\$1.3 million (approximately K30 million) for each constituency to spend on local development. Similarly, the government proposed an increase in the budget allocation of CDF to K4.8 billion in 2024, which that implies each constituency will receive K30.6 million during the implementation period. The CDF complements other Government empowerment programmes under the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC), Gender Division, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Arts and the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development.

The Zambian Government has made significant investments through CDF. Out of the 62 maternity annexes built by the end of August 2023, 19 were financed through CDF.

Additionally, the Government procured 442,000 through CDF and targets to million procure 1 desks manufactured local by entrepreneurs in the respective communities, thereby creating jobs and increasing income for the local communities. Further, the Government is training vouths in building skills to bridge the skills gap in the rural areas.

Zambia's 60% allocation to objectives resonates strongly with the worldwide community-driven development approach. Through community-driven development approach, various countries provide block grants to communities to fund local development projects. They provide technical assistance to help make local decision-making more inclusive, transparent and democratic. For instance, roughly every person received US\$4.5 per year, US\$4 per year and US\$1 per person in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Democratic Republic of Congo respectively. It was observed that there was a solid technical investment in assistance, equivalent to twothirds of the block grant budget in Sierra Leone. It was also noted that Sierra Leone had the most improvement in local public goods and economic welfare compared to the Democratic Republic of Congo which focused only on

financing.

Notably, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) located in rural areas struggle to supply Governments due to limited capacity. It is for this reason that goods required for use in the wards would be nonexistent or in low supply from the locals. In other cases, the goods may be of a lower quality. This failure to meet quality and quantity demands becomes a barrier to the Government's efforts economic transformation and improvement of the people's lives at the grassroots level. put, Simply MSME's participation in CDF projects is constrained by the lack of technical capacity to produce high-quality goods and services and meet the required demand.

Currently, the Government in partnership with the Zambia Association of Manufacturers (ZAM), is implementing the Proudly Zambian Campaign (PZC) aimed at promoting locally produced goods and services and driving the local content initiative in the country. Local content is taken to mean a set of policy instruments designed by National Governments to ensure a certain share of factors of production required at various stages of the value chain is sourced from the domestic economy. In this regard, campaigns and trainings have been undertaken, the most

recent of which involved 21 MSMEs receiving training and mentorship for 6-months

However, due to various challenges such as physical budgetary presence and constraints, the campaign has been focused on companies based in urban areas such as Lusaka and the Copperbelt, leaving out other parts of the country especially those in rural areas. As a result, rural areas are at risk of continued lag due to exclusion from fully reaping the benefits of CDF. The Zambia Association Manufacturers thus recommends a budgetary allocation from CDF be made towards the Proudly Zambian Campaign to build capacity in communities. Other than the need to train MSMEs and hold various campaigns in these communities, PZC will be required to document each enterprise in every ward for purposes of business linkages and effective local procurement. In addition, business from CDF should be targeted towards the entities that have undergone this training.

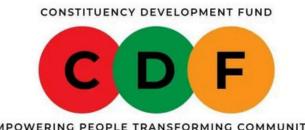
In conclusion, it is worth noting that the proposed initiative between the Zambia Association of Manufacturers and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development faces several risks that could hinder its effectiveness, such as the potential rise in corruption and

political interference. Hence, it is recommended that the initiative targets to have very little human interaction by putting in place self-running systems. However, considering most stakeholders are in rural areas and may lack necessary exposure to technology, the use of e-platforms can be done gradually.

#### **About author:**

Zondwayo Duma is a development economist and policy analyst specialising in mineral governance and inclusive growth. He writes in his capacity.

Contacts: Call: +260976197359 Email: zondwayoduma@gmail.com





# WE NEED LIFESTYLE AUDITS FOR ALL SENIOR PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

The recent convictions of former Foreign Affairs Minister Joe Malanji and former Secretary to the Treasury Fredson Yamba are not just courtroom victories—they are damning indictments of how deeply theft has been normalized in Zambia's corridors power. Add to that the case of Bowman Lusambo and the long trail of former PF strongmen who now stand exposed, and the picture is crystal clear: corruption in Zambia is not accidental. It is calculated, organized, and protected.

Let us stop dressing it up. This is theft. Plain and simple. Theft from the sick who cannot access drugs in hospitals. Theft from children learning under trees with no books and no desks. Theft from unemployed youth whose future is held hostage by an elite that lives large on money meant for national development. Corruption in this country is not a side issue—it is the single biggest betrayal of the Zambian people.

The reason looting has become a sport is because the system thrives in darkness. Secrecy is the oxygen that fuels corruption. officials—from Senior ministers to directors, from commanders to captains dip their hands in public

coffers with brazen confidence nothing else. because they know nobody is watching their lifestyles closely. They know they can lifestyles buy fleets of luxury cars, build mansions worth millions, fly first class every month, and still stand in church on Sunday as "honourables." The truth is they are nothing more than thieves in suits.

This is why Zambia must institutionalize lifestyle audits for all senior public service employees. Enough of the charade. Enough of waiting for regime changes to expose corruption. If you are

even president your lifestyle

must match your official income. If you are living beyond your pay, you must explain. If you cannot, then you must face the law.

Lifestyle audits are not rocket science. They are simply a mirror held up to public officials. Show us how you afford what you own. Show us where you got the money. Show us the taxes you paid. If you inherited it, prove it. If it is from a business, produce the records. If you cannot, then every mansion, every car, every unexplained bank account is evidence of theft—

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The excuses about "witch hunts" will not do. Witch hunts only exist where there are witches. If your wealth is legitimate, you have nothing to fear. If it is not, then you should be trembling. The argument that lifestyle audits can be abused is a distraction. That is why audits must be run by independent institutions the Auditor General's office, the Financial Intelligence Centre, and the Anti-Corruption Commission—

wealth, Zambia will remain trapped in a cycle where one group of thieves replaces another every election cycle.

Lifestyle audits break that cycle. They make impossible for thieves to hide behind the façade respectability. They send one clear message: public service is not a shortcut to overnight wealth. It is service. And if you choose it, you will be watched. Every car you drive, every house you build, every

happens—and lifestyle audits are a direct, effective weapon against the plunderers.

Let us call things by their name. Corruption in Zambia is not "mismanagement," it is not "abuse of office." It is betrayal. It is treason against the people. It is theft of blood and sweat from millions of Zambians. And those who engage in it are leaders—they criminals hiding behind titles.

If this government is serious about breaking from the past, then it must stop tiptoeing around thieves. It must make lifestyle audits mandatory for all senior public servants, including the president himself. Anything less is cowardice. Anything less means we will simply continue burying our future under the mansions of a corrupt elite.

Zambia is not poor. Zambia is being stolen. And until we confront the thieves with hard systems we will accountability, remain a country rich in resources but bankrupt in delivery. Lifestyle audits are not optional. They are urgent, they are nonnegotiable, and they are the line between saving this nation or watching it collapse into permanent kleptocracy.

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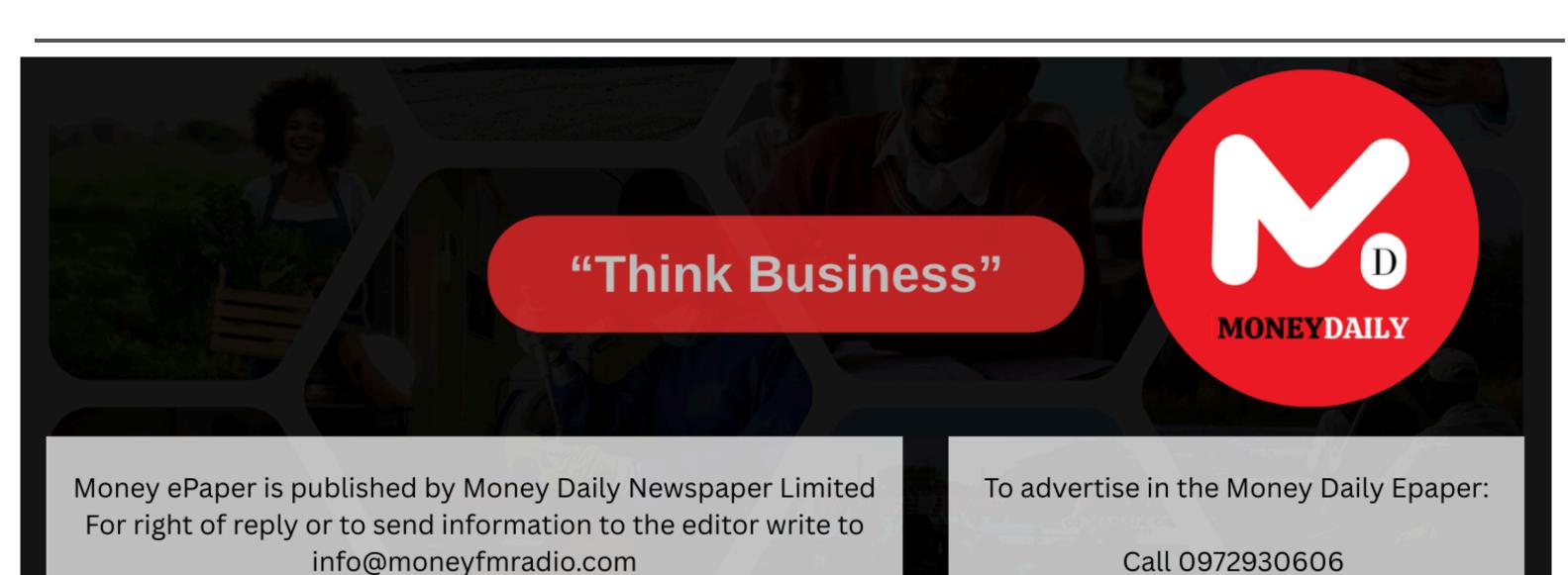


whose findings are published openly for the public to see. Sunlight is the best disinfectant, and it is time we flooded the murky world of public service with it.

We must stop pretending that corruption is about "a few bad apples." The entire barrel is rotting because power without scrutiny always leads to abuse. From State House to ministry corridors, from police command to defense ranks, too many in public service treat power as a license to plunder. And as long as the system tolerates unexplained

trip you take will be weighed against your pay slip. If it doesn't add up, you are a thief —and you will be treated as such.

The Zambian people are tired of speeches about fighting corruption. They are tired of selective prosecutions that only target yesterday's thieves while today's plunderers roam free. They are tired of empty rhetoric while hospitals run dry, schools crumble, and young people waste away in unemployment. What the people demand are systems that prevent theft before it



By Reuters



Venezuela's government is slowly allowing the use of dollar-tied cryptocurrencies in currency exchanges for the private sector, a dozen as U.S. sources said, restrictions on oil exports available reduce currency.

government characterized as "economic war," prevent many business forcing transactions, companies seeking to buy raw materials from abroad to exchange local bolivars for dollars that are generated by the oil trade and foreign card

transactions and are injected USDT, a digital currency also into exchanges by the central

in recent months.

foreign Though the United States Treasury Department last month issued a new, restricted Sanctions by the United license to Chevron allowing it States, which the Venezuelan to export oil after a threemonth pause, the license blocks any payments to the government, reducing the quantity of dollars available for exchange.

> In response, the Venezuelan government has since June allowed the use of more

known as Tether, whose value is pegged to the U.S. dollar and designed to But oil revenue has taken a hit maintain a stable value, according to the private and financial sector sources, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of repercussions.

> The use of digital currencies helps keep the economy operating amid the sanctions, including domestic production of basic goods such as food.

> "When one operation closes, others open," said one business person about the use of crypto.

## WITH DOLLARS SCARCE, VENEZUELA CURRENCY CASH CULTURE SLOWS ZIMBABWE'S SHIFT TO DIGITAL EXCHANGES TURN TO CRYPTO

By Chronicle

BANKING experts believe Zimbabwe's continued reliance on cash, despite widespread mobile penetration and modern payment infrastructure, is hindering the country's ambition to become predominantly digital economy.

This concern was raised by Mr Amon Chitsva, Chief Policy Research and Anti-Laundering Money Compliance Officer at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, during the ongoing inaugural ZimSwitch Digital Connect Symposium in Nyanga.

His sentiments were echoed by Mr Irvine Masona. President of the Electronic Payment Association Zimbabwe (Epaz), who

provided detailed assessment of the nation's digital payment landscape and the challenges slowing digital adoption.

Mr Masona noted that while countries such as China and the United Kingdom conduct over 90 percent of their daily transactions digitally, Zimbabwe remains heavily dependent on cash despite mobile penetration He exceeding 100 percent.

A FinScope survey indicates 70 percent that Zimbabweans still rely on cash for daily transactions.

"Our volumes are going in the wrong direction. Customers withdraw their salaries as cash, then transact outside

digital ecosystem, limiting the potential of digital platforms. Are we providing the same level of convenience that cash already offers? If someone deposits US\$100 into their account, can they still transact the full amount, or do they lose immediately? Unless we fix that, adoption will remain low," he said.

highlighted convenience, cost and trust as key factors driving cash usage. Digital transactions often incur fees and can reduce the value deposits, whereas cash immediate offers and predictable access.

Mr Masona compared Zimbabwe's adoption with global peers.



## **EXCHANGE RATES**

#### Daily Commercial Banks Exchange Rates

<b>⊞</b> 04-09-2025	09:30				12:30				15:30				
Bank Name	Interbar	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	23.8000	23.8500	23.8000	24.0250	23.8550	23.9050	23.8550	24.0500	23.8700	23.9200	23.8700	24.1000	
BANK OF CHINA (ZAMBIA)	23.7000	23.7500	23.6125	24.0355	23.7500	23.8000	23.6125	24.0355	23.7500	23.8000	23.6600	24.0655	
ABSA BANK ZAMBIA	23.7300	23.7800	23.7300	24.1058	23.7700	23.8200	23.7700	24.1463	23.7700	23.8200	23.7700	24.1463	
CITIBANK ZAMBIA	23.8000	23.8500	23.6880	24.0370	23.8000	23.8500	23.7370	24.0880	23.8150	23.8650	23.8020	24.1530	
ECOBANK ZAMBIA	23.7500	23.8000	23.6500	24.0000	23.8000	23.8500	23.7000	24.0500	23.8000	23.8500	23.7000	24.0500	
FIRST ALLIANCE BANK ZAMBIA	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.0700	23.8650	23.9150	23.8650	24.0400	23.8650	23.9150	23.8650	24.0700	
FIRST CAPITAL BANK ZAMBIA	23.8200	23.8700	23.8000	24.0454	23.8650	23.9150	23.8650	24.1125	23.8650	23.9150	23.7900	24.0500	
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ZAMBIA	23.7750	23.8250	23.7750	24.0320	23.7750	23.8250	23.7750	24.0320	23.7750	23.8250	23.7750	24.0320	
INDO-ZAMBIA BANK	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.0700	23.8500	23.9000	23.8500	24.0900	23.8800	23.9300	23.8800	24.1200	
STANBIC BANK ZAMBIA	23.7750	23.8250	23.7500	24.0500	23.7750	23.8250	23.7500	24.0500	23.7750	23.8250	23.7500	24.0500	
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK	23.7800	23.8300	23.7250	24.0850	23.8250	23.8750	23.8000	24.1100	23.8400	23.8900	23.8000	24.1100	
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA ZAMBIA	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.0933	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.0933	23.8500	23.9000	23.8500	24.0327	
ZAMBIA INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL BANK	23.8000	23.8500	23.8000	24.0752	23.8000	23.8500	23.8000	24.0752	23.8000	23.8500	23.8000	24.0752	
ZAMBIA NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK	23.7500	23.8000	23.7500	24.0826	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.1534	23.8200	23.8700	23.8200	24.1534	
Market Average	23.7814	23.8314	23.7529	24.0576	23.8121	23.8621	23.7871	24.0804	23.8196	23.8696	23.7951	24.0863	





#### KAMPAMBA, MUSONDA RULED OUT AS AVRAM GRANT TRIMS CHIPOLOPOLO SQUAD

By Lucky Chama

The Chipolopolo World Cup qualifier against They 26 players.

Bahrain-based Kelvin Kampamba have

Morocco at the Levy Siankombo, Saddam Phiri, Denmark-based Mwanawasa Stadium in Mwenya Chibwe and Killian Chilufya and Ndola, with coach Avram Kanguluma on the list of Sabobo Banda provide adds youthful energy to the Kalumba providing backup. Grant trimming his squad to players unavailable for the further options in the middle of the park. high-stakes clash.

Patson Daka leads the

have been ruled out after medical attack alongside Lecce's in- Hapoel forward line.

defender Despite those setbacks, The midfield will be campaigners and Kings Kangwa of

Be'er Sheva, Hamansenya and Sudan's Edward Banda. Italy's Joseph Liteta, jersey, Joseph making strides at Cagliari, Mulenga

Spain-based David

intensified preparations for assessments confirmed form winger Lameck Banda supported by Scotland- Obinno Chisala. Goalkeeper Monday's crucial 2026 FIFA they would not be fit in time. and Saudi Arabia-based based Miguel Chaiwa and Toaster Nsabata is expected join Abraham Fashion Sakala, while Maccabi Bnei's Emmanuel to retain the number one Lawrence with and All players summoned for duty have now arrived in At the back, experienced camp, ensuring Grant and his Kabaso technical bench have a full Frankie Musonda and Zambia still boasts a strong anchored by Germany- Chongo and Dominic complement of options as Zesco United midfielder lineup. Leicester City striker based Lubambo Musonda Chanda are joined by they seek to close the gap in Group E.

#### ELITE LADIES FC SECURE SIGNING OF 14-YEAR-OLD SENSATION AGNESS MWAKA

By Lucky Chama



Elite Ladies FC have during her initial stay. confirmed the signing of highly-rated 14-year-old Mwaka rose to prominence Academy of Mpika in She further Muchinga Province.

The deal, worth K15,000, NASDEC includes signing-on fees.

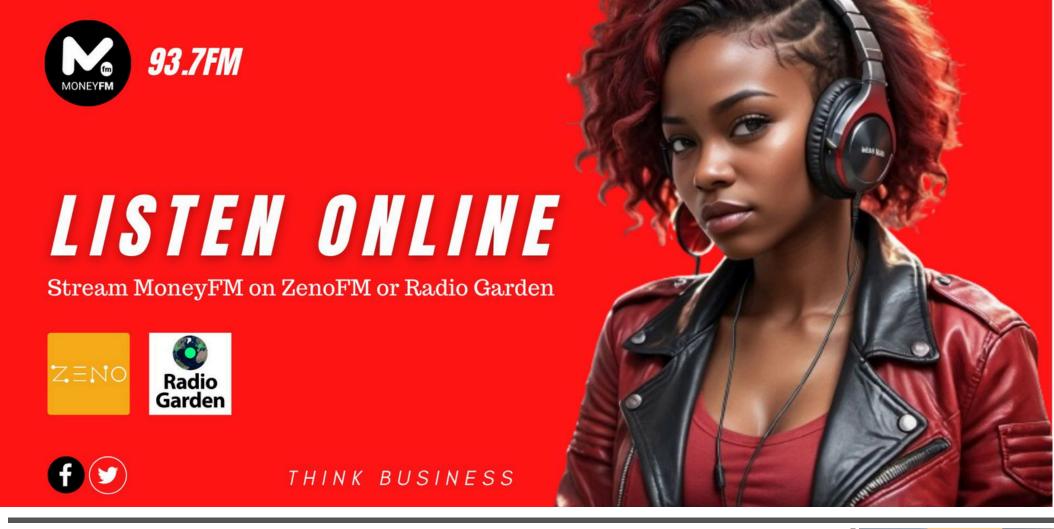
(DTMS).

The youngster joins on a Under the three-year contract with an Registration K300,000 over guaranteed emoluments

defender and defensive after being voted Best Player midfielder, Agness Mwaka, at the Muchinga Provincial from Isubilo Youth Soccer League finals in Chinsali. impressed during the 2025 ZANACO grassroots tournament at Sunset and K10,000 Stadium, catching transfer fee and K5,000 in attention of Elite Ladies' scouts.

According to the club, all She has already featured for compensation has been Young Elite Ladies in the fully settled, with Isubilo Zambian Premier League receiving half the transfer Women's National League, fee upfront. Mwaka has debuting in a 3-3 draw with already been registered Choma Warriors Queens through FIFA's Domestic before helping her side to a Transfer Matching System 4-0 victory over Kabwe Warriors Queens.

FAZ Single Concept, option for an additional Mwaka is also eligible to year, and is set to earn appear for Elite Ladies' in senior team in the ZPL Women's Super League.



#### BOUANGA HITS FIRST-HALF HAT-TRICK AS GABON LEAPFROG COTE D'IVOIRE IN 2026 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS By CAF Online



In-form striker Denis Bouanga hit a firsthalf hat-trick as Gabon swept past Seychelles 4-0 on Wednesday in Saint Pierre to go top of Group F of their 2026 World Cup qualifier.

The match, played at the neutral venue of the Cote d Or Sports Complex in the Mauritian city of Saint Pierre, saw the Panthers dominating the exchance from the start of the game.

The Los Angeles FC forward struck in the 4th, 34th and 38th minutes before substitute Yannis M'Bemba added a late fourth to round off an emphatic win.

The result moves the Panthers to 18 points from seven games, two clear of Côte d'Ivoire---who have a game in hand —before the pair meet in a potential group decider later in the window.

The Ivorians will play Burundi on Friday and will have the chance to return to the top of the group if they win the game.

