



## Perfume giant Swiss Arabian launches in Zambia

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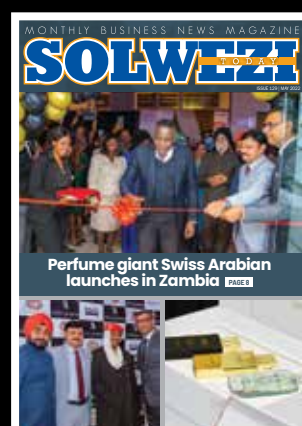
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## ENTER FRAGRANCES, WHIFFS AND AROMAS...

**The arrival of the Swiss Arabian Perfume Group in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, with its base in Lusaka, should set nascent professional minds working.**

The impact of this development on Zambia's unknown perfumery sector, or the fragrances industry, is to open new opportunities for a range of sectors. Since it is estimated that global trade in fragrance ingredients will reach \$22.18bn by 2027, many citizens potentially have a stake in it.

It is not far-fetched to observe that upcoming growers of fragrance ingredients, packaging specialists, and even environmental regulating bodies, all have a stake and a motivation.

However, there is a salient wake-up call for indigenous fragrance manufacturers and natural plant growers to

arise. All genuine foreign investments demonstrate how to do international business, and locals who eventually work for and with such organizations need to look further than meeting their daily quota of work. They should learn the trade even before Government policy support is guessed about.

The world economy is changing alongside world politics, in ways that demand that Zambian citizens go beyond importing and selling foreign perfume brands, and indeed other product brands as well. It is time to explore ways of running alongside novel industries which will in the near future be on display from overseas.

The fragrances showroom, to be based in Lusaka, Zambia, signifies a new era, and a new industry with a range of potential productivity lines. We hope more emergent local scientists catch the scent.



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# Zambia in K5.98bn trade surplus

BY STUART LISULO

ZAMBIA has recorded a third successive trade surplus of K5.98 billion in March, 2022, mainly boosted by increased domestic exports to foreign markets.



**A**ccording to recent data from the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats), the country recorded a third successive trade surplus in March, ending the first quarter of this year at cumulative amount of K18.5 billion.

The trade surplus represents higher exports compared to the country's imports, meaning a positive balance of trade.

Market analysts have noted that sustained trade surpluses positively impact the country's economic recovery prospects, and particularly the local currency, as local producers are able to generate higher foreign exchange income.

"Zambia recorded a trade surplus of

K5.98 billion in March, 2022, compared to a surplus of K6 billion in February, 2022. Exports mainly comprising domestically produced goods, increased by 9.2 per cent to K18.7 billion in March, 2022, from K17.1 billion in February, 2022. This was mainly on account of a 21.1 and 10.1 per cent increase in export earnings from raw materials and inter-

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**The trade surplus represents higher exports compared to the country's imports, meaning a positive balance of trade.**

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mediate goods, respectively," ZamStats reported.

"Imports increased by 14.1 per cent to K12.7 billion in March, 2022, from K11.1 billion in February, 2022. This was mainly as a result of 48.4 and 22.0 per cent increase in import bills of raw materials and intermediate goods, respectively."

But Zambia's Traditional Exports still constitute the larger proportion of the country's export earnings, accounting for 76.2 per cent of export earnings in March, 2022.

Non-Traditional Exports (NTEs) on the other hand accounted for 23.8 per cent of total export earnings during the same month.



# 'TELECOMS TAXES WILL BE REVISED IN 2023 NATIONAL BUDGET'

Government has assured the telecommunications industry that it is actively considering their concerns over the high cost of doing business in the country.

BY JOHN CHOLA

**G**overnment says observations and concerns of the telecommunications industry players on operational and financing costs was timely and progressive.

Reacting to Airtel Zambia Chief Commercial Officer Hussam Baday's recent observations on the high cost of running a telecommunications entity, Minister of Technology and Science Felix Mutati says Government appreciates the concerns raised and has pledged to engage Airtel and other players to see how best issues raised could be addressed.

"As Government we are alive to the fact that Airtel Zambia and other telecommunications companies are key in the creation of jobs and economic growth. We are paying attention to their concerns and we are very committed to engagements aimed at resolving whatever challenges standing in the way of their

role to grow and help better Zambia," Mutati says.

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**We are in a hurry to ask what is it that we need to do together as Government and the faithful telecoms industry to create more jobs. That will be the framework of engagement with them as we prepare for the 2023 National Budget."**

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Government's interest was to look at the telecoms industry in total and see what the State and the sector itself can do.

"Issues we have to look at include the quality of service, pricing, issues around access, availability and affordability and then address any irritations that the industry is facing, which obviously includes issues around tax. So we have agreed to meet so that the 2023 National Budget can incorporate best-tailored incentives for the industry. We are engaging them and then we will be able to see what is possible on both sides of the table," assures Mutati.

The Minister however emphasizes that even as stakeholders in the telecoms industry consider what matters Government should tackle, there was also need for them to attend to concerns of Government and the public.





“The citizens need to also be happy. Our concern as Government is how best can we deliver a happy citizen, and what support does the telecoms industry need from the Government side in order for them to accomplish that. We are in a hurry to ask what is it that we need to do together as Government and the faithful telecoms industry to create more jobs. That will be the framework of engagement with them as we prepare for the 2023 National Budget.”

Mutati reiterates that Zambians have expressed a number of concerns they wish the telecommunication industry could address, and that Government will seize the opportunity during the engagements with the telecom industry leaders to ensure that issues of public interest including service costs and delivery are addressed.

“It’s two-way traffic; you can’t always



Airtel Zambia Chief Commercial Officer Hussam Baday

give, you also have to take and so for any process everybody must come out feeling that they have won.”

Minister Mutati says his Ministry is elated that Airtel Zambia has continued posting growth and ploughing resources into the economy with more investment into infrastructure for expansion across the country.

Airtel recently opened more stores across the country, a move that has cre-

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**Minister Mutati says his Ministry is elated that Airtel Zambia has continued posting growth and ploughing resources into the economy with more investment into infrastructure for expansion across the country.**

---

ated more jobs for the youth as well as taken products and services closer to the customers.



# Perfume giant Swiss Arabian launches in Zambia



Excited potential customers browsing through Swiss Arabian Zambia's immaculate perfume selection at the newly opened showroom.

BY HILDAH NAMBELA

The Swiss Arabian Perfume Group has launched its first-ever showroom in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

**T**he new showroom, to be based in Lusaka, Zambia, signifies the commencement of a renewed period of heritage for Swiss Arabian, based in the United Arab Emirates, to create a diverse portfolio of unique fragrances.

Speaking during the official grand showroom opening, Lusaka Province Minister Sheal Muyaba said, "As the UAE continues to expand its economic influence on the African continent, Zambia's favourable political environment continues gaining investor confidence."

**"As the UAE continues to expand its economic influence on the African continent, Zambia's favourable political environment continues gaining investor confidence."**

In a statement represented by her Permanent Secretary Robert Kalamata in presence of Minister for Small and Medium Enterprises Elias Mubanga, top business men and women and representatives of Swiss Arabian group, she added that the country's rich natural resources and growing consumer market provided an enabling environment for UAE business investments in a range of sectors.

"The Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry has recognized Zambia and the rest of the Sub-Saharan Africa region as





Minister for Small and Medium Enterprises Elias Mubanga delivering his keynote speech.

a major emerging region of the world's economy," Kamalata said.

Swiss Arabian General Manager for Global Sales Pankaj Attery said the perfume group of companies had various investment plans to be implemented in Zambia, describing the plans as "just the beginning of our planned investment in the country. With Africa set for recovery in 2022, the UEA continues to recognize the immense potential in the evolving markets of the continent. Today we are here to bear witness to that, as we desire to see Zambia become among the top countries tangibly trading with the UEA."

The showroom complemented the com-

**"Just the beginning of our planned investment in the country. With Africa set for recovery in 2022, the UEA continues to recognize the immense potential in the evolving markets of the continent. Today we are here to bear witness to that, as we desire to see Zambia become among the top countries tangibly trading with the UEA."**

pany's efforts to mark a strong presence in the SADC region, and showroom displayed a variety of perfumes along with an exclusive premium collection.

#### BRAND STORE

Swiss Arabian had achieved an important milestone on being the first brand store in Zambia, pioneering a movement of more brand stores trekking to Zambia "because of the excellent socio-economic climate."

And Swiss Arabian Zambia Chief Executive Officer Ashutosh Shamar said that the company is depending on the Zambian market to give Swiss Arabian a chance that will be used to revolutionize





(L-R) Swiss Arabian's General Manager for global sales Mr. Pankaj Attery, Business Consultant Josephine Makondo, Permanent Secretary Robert Kamalata and Swiss Arabian Zambia's Co-Ceo Mr. Surjit Sahani pose for a photo.



Satisfied customers with their newly purchased fragrances at the official launch of Swiss Arabian Zambia showroom at Eastpark mall..





Swiss Arabian Zambia's CEO Mr. Ashotosh Shamar (left) poses for a photo with Suma Systems General Manager Martin Musunka jnr (right).



Business consultants Mr. and Mrs. Makondo at the Swiss Arabian zambia launch in Lusaka, Zambia.

people's views of the perfumes industry as a whole.

Shamar also said that the perfume industry had the potential to become a key player to economic improvement.

#### **BOTTLING PLANT**

Were the showroom to prove successful, the company planned on opening a bottling plant in Zambia to cater for the Southern African region.

"The bottling plant has the potential to increase forex, contribute to the export market and make their goods and services more affordable for the Zambian market," Shamar said.

The aromatic event was initiated with a press conference and later a ribbon cutting ceremony was done by Makala for Government and Atterry for Swiss Arabian.

Swiss Arabian is the first perfume house in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and was founded by Hussein Adam Ali. The UAE-based Swiss Arabian group has been in existence for 48 years now, and is now in 80 countries across the globe. Story courtesy of Suma Systems.





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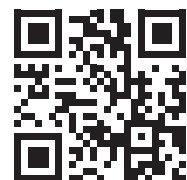
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# Airtel Zambia posts K693m profit, ups rural network

BY STUART LISULO

AIRTEL Networks Zambia Plc has posted an increased profit after tax of K693 million for the period ending December 31, 2021, driven mainly by strong revenue growth and operating efficiencies.



**F**ollowing the network's Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on March 30, 2022, shareholders heard that the company's profit after tax increased to K693 million last year, up from K341 million in 2020, mainly boosted by strong revenue growth and operating efficiencies.

The company's customer base equally increased by 19 per cent, with total revenues up by 37.8 per cent.

"The profit after tax also went up to K693 million from K341 million in the prior year. This was mainly driven by revenue growth, strong operating effi-

ciencies and appreciation of the kwacha. These results were driven by increased investments in network infrastructure and distribution, especially in rural areas with a keen focus on providing voice and data services to under-served communities. In addition, development of affordable products and services have driven subscriber retention and acquisition," read a statement issued by Airtel's Head of Corporate Communications, Yuyo Nachali-Kambikambi.

"The Board has recommended a final dividend of 2.4 kwacha per share. This proposed final dividend will be paid to all ordinary shareholders who are on

the register of members at the close of business on April 29, 2022."

Commenting on the results, Airtel Zambia Board Chairperson, Monica Katebe Musonda said:

"We had a fruitful and most engaging AGM where we highlighted how our business has continued to perform very well in the face of global and local challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic. As a business, we remain on track to achieving our goals and ensuring that we continue to invest in products and services that deliver success for our customers and our shareholders."



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Tristan Pascall (left) and President Hakainde Hichilema (right).

# 2022 Mining Indaba: Still singing songs of potential?

BY JOHN CHOLA

African leaders and stakeholders in the mining industry gathered at the 28th Investing in African Mining Indaba at Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) in South Africa from May 9-12, 2022. The event took place at a time when African governments are eager to profit from raised metal and mineral prices as the Russia-Ukraine war continues to disrupt commodity markets and reshuffle the West's energy relationship with Russia. JOHN CHOLA talks to Oxford Economics Africa Economist, Callee Davis...

**T**he event, which has been dubbed “the world’s largest African mining investment conference,” was the first in-person event since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic with African governments scrambling to take advantage of elevated metal and mineral prices in light of the Russia-Ukraine war and the rush towards greener energy.

Presidents and prime ministers from several African countries attended the event, along with more than 38 African cabinet ministers.

Other prominent attendees included CEOs of international mining companies, representatives from the US Department of State, the Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia and Japan, and specialists from institutions such as the Africa Development Bank, the World Bank, and the World Gold Council.

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**Uncertainty regarding environmental regulations, uncertainty over which areas will be protected as wilderness, parks or archaeological sites, and the taxation regime are also perceived to be less of a deterrent to investment.**

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On the first two days of the event, President Hakainde Hichilema, his counterparts from Botswana and South Africa and the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) delivered keynote addresses, which they used as an opportunity to woo potential investors.

Some leaders highlighted past efforts to improve business environments, while others focused on specific plans and strategies for the future.

Oxford Economics Africa's Callee Davis notes that in line with the Mining Indaba's theme, Evolution of African Mining: Investing in the Energy Transition, Environmental Social and Governance (ESG), and the Economies, most of the

speeches had a certain air of social responsibility to them.

He agrees with a recently released Fraser Institute's annual survey of mining and exploration companies that the legal system, quality of infrastructure, political stability, and insecurity were perceived to be some of the biggest deterrents to investment in African mining.

Uncertainty regarding environmental regulations, uncertainty over which areas will be protected as wilderness, parks or archaeological sites, and the taxation regime are also perceived to be less of a deterrent to investment.

"These findings provide a useful springboard for developing policy measures targeted at realizing Africa's full mineral potential," adds Davis.

While the African continent has a vast and unexploited mineral potential, especially in the field of green minerals, further notes Davis, potential does not always guarantee success.

## POLICY AND ENVIRONMENTS

Davis says policy and operational environments are key determinants of whether Zambia and other African countries can unlock this potential and create the development emphasized by the leaders.

"For example, in the worst-scoring countries such as the DRC, Zimbabwe and Liberia, the results suggest that governments need to focus their attention on improving legal processes to ensure that they are perceived to be fair, transparent, non-corrupt and efficient, reducing uncertainty over the administration, interpretation and enforcement of existing regulations, and improving political stability and the quality of infrastructure (such as roads and power availability).

"In the best-scoring countries, such as Morocco, Senegal, Namibia, and Botswana, the results suggest that governments should focus on improving their legal systems, taxation regimes, labour-related issues (such as regulations and work disruptions) and uncertainty around disputed land claims," Davis emphasizes.

In echoing Zambian President Hichilema

**President Hichilema noted quite vehemently that "in Zambia we have taken a decision and a very strong one that we are tired of talking about Africa's potential. We don't want to hear someone in our country sing the song of potential; we want to realize that potential. We want to realize that potential to drive development, and to alleviate poverty amongst our people."**

ma's keynote address, Davis said African leaders and partners needed to make "deliberate efforts" to ensure the sustainable development and management of the vast mineral resources available on the continent.

Davis observes that "Zambia is emerging as a beacon of hope for Southern Africa, as Mr Hichilema rejects the resource nationalism that characterized his predecessor's governance style."

## PROMOTE

Three heads of State and one prime minister took the event as an opportunity to promote further investment in precious metals and minerals in their countries.

On the first day of the Indaba, President Hichilema of Zambia delivered a keynote speech in which he shared a vision of a new dawn for Zambia's mining sector.

Oxford Economics Africa regards Zambia as a key player in the global copper mining industry and home to other green mineral resources, including cobalt and nickel.

Zambian mining accounts for just under 20 per cent of total GVA, with copper exports making up around 65 per cent of total export earnings.

In his speech, Hichilema noted that his Government is determined to revive the

Zambian economy, which is anchored by the mining sector.

In fitting with the theme of the rendezvous, President Hichilema also underlined his administration's commitment to building a resilient and sustainable mining industry based on set Government standards and best practices.

## The efforts highlighted by President Hichilema include:

Building downstream linkages aimed at promoting value addition—specifically in manufacturing, building upstream linkages into mining goods, consumables, and the services industries and developing supporting infrastructure in areas such as power, logistics, transport, and communications.

President Hichilema also highlighted areas of research, technology, and exploration as potential investment areas, to run alongside unlocking the potential of artisanal sites and small-scale subsectors.

At the end of his speech, President Hichilema called on private sector partners to "work with us", especially through a public-private partnership (PPP) dialogue forum.

A day before Mr Hichilema's keynote address, Canadian-based First Quantum Minerals announced that its Board had approved plans for a US\$1.25 billion expansion of the company's Kansanshi copper mine.

"Mr Hichilema hopes to increase copper production to three million metric tonnes p.a. over the next decade, from around 800,000 metric tonnes produced in 2019. However, a substantial ramp up in investment will be needed to achieve this goal."

President Hichilema noted quite vehemently that "in Zambia we have taken a decision and a very strong one that we are tired of talking about Africa's potential. We don't want to hear someone in our country sing the song of potential; we want to realize that potential. We want to realize that potential to drive development, and to alleviate poverty amongst our people."

To that end, he proceeded to plead with African leaders to "make no excuses" but "just get the job done."



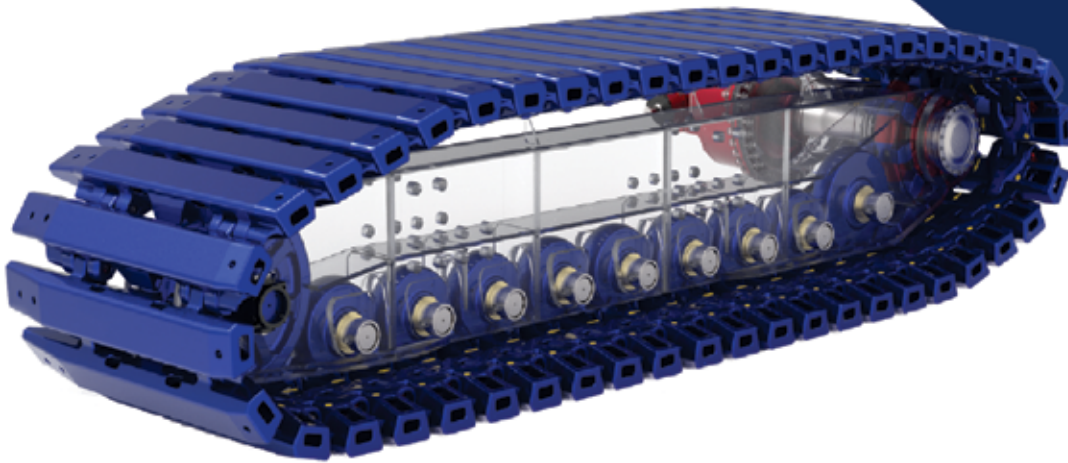
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# Mopani will rebound, predicts ZCCM-IH

BY STUART LISULO

## ZCCM-IH is confident that Mopani Copper Mines Plc will improve copper production once much-needed capital investment is injected.

**T**he investment holding company has however lamented mining companies' struggles to ramp up production despite high copper prices on the international market.

Speaking during ZCCM-IH Shareholders' Open Day via Zoom Meetings in Lusaka recently, ZCCM-IH Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Brian Musonda, expressed confidence Mopani would improve its production after recapitalization.

He was responding to a question why Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) and Mopani were struggling to pay for electricity from the Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) amidst record-breaking copper prices.

Mopani was acquired from Glencore Plc by ZCCM-IH following the signing of an Off-Take Agreement of US \$1.5 billion last year.

"The operations of KCM are under the control of the Provisional Liquidator, so we don't have a grip in terms of what is happening on the ground, and the officers are only answerable to the courts. So we are constrained in terms of what is causing those significant challenges.

"Coming to Mopani: Mopani and CEC have a purely commercial relationship where a service is being provided to Mopani, and in-turn, Mopani is supposed to make payments. Yes, there is a possibility that there could have been some lags in terms of payments being made, but just to confirm to the members that Mopani and CEC continue enjoying a cordial relationship and they have constantly been engaging each other to see how best they can improve any potential business relationships."

Asked if stakeholders should expect another KCM situation with Mopani given the latter's rising power debt with CEC, Musonda insisted that Mopani's future depended on its ability to execute its expansion programme.

"From the time that we acquired Mopani, our focus has been on stabilizing the operations of the company." The organization would engage an investment banker to review the current operations of Mopani, review its business model; and restructure its operations.

"The future of Mopani also depends on the realization of the expansion projects. We are quite confident that once the expansion projects are funded, there is going to be significant growth. And our expectation, according to the Strategic Plan that has been done and approved by Mopani's Board, is that by the year 2025, we will be more than double when you compare with the current production"

And ZCCM-IH Board Chairperson Dolika Banda stressed that the holding company remained focused on resolving the mining companies' structural challenges, including their debt burden.

"It is public knowledge that a number of our mining companies, some in the ZCCM-IH portfolio, some not, have had very heavy debt burdens. But we are so focused on sorting out these matters. They have been burdened, it has not been easy," she observed.

But she added ZCCM-IH was working on regaining trust that had eroded between the holding company and mining companies.

"Quite a lot of trust has been broken between the holding company and

some of its underlying investments for reasons best known to both sides. The good news is that they are all at the table, ready to talk, ready to find the way forward," said Banda.

"It is painful for us to see copper prices where they are and yet the productivity of our mines is not optimal. So, we are working very hard to find equity, to resolve debt, to source new technologies to be put into these mines so that, indeed, we can benefit from the current wave of prices."

Earlier, during a lengthy PowerPoint presentation, ZCCM-IH Acting Chief Executive Officer, Tisa Chama, told shareholders that the holding company was in the process of engaging an investment bank to help with the restructuring and financing matters.

"It is expected that this process will take some months, and at this stage, we are looking at six months to complete this exercise," he said.

He also revealed that Mopani was actually failing to generate free cash flows.

"The company is currently not generating free cash flows owing to the fact that the company requires capital investment in order to increase productivity. There are projects that need to be completed for us to improve productivity at Mopani."

The ZCCM-IH Shareholders' Open Day was the first time the Board and Shareholders met in six years.

The session gathered shareholders from across ZCCM-IH's portfolio to exchange notes and provide important corporate updates ahead of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).



# Solwezi schools receive 225,000 exercise books

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Kansanshi Mining Plc has handed over 225,000 exercise books worth more than K380,000 to 35 schools that are in the mine's operational zone in Solwezi.



Kansanshi mine Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi displays one of the donated exercise books



Mushitala Primary School pupils pose for a photo with Kansanshi mine Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi (R) and Solwezi District Commissioner Tiki Mulofwa

**A**nd Government has commended the mining company's commitment to deliver quality in line with its policy to implement free education in the country.

Speaking on Tuesday during the hand-over ceremony at Mushitala Primary School grounds in Solwezi District, Kansanshi Mine Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi said on behalf of the company's General Manager Anthony Mukutuma that the exercise books would be allocated to at least 32,000 pupils in Grades Three to Seven, and each child will receive six books.

"At Kansanshi, we strive to be a responsive and responsible company. We try to develop capacity and resilience in our communities through various sectors, so yes education is important and so are our activities in agriculture, local busi-

ness development, health and the environment," Mukutuma said.

The General Manager reiterated that the education sector is particularly important to FQM as it is equal to people's advancement.

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**In a vote of thanks, Luwi Cheli, a Grade Seven pupil at Mushitala School applauded Kansanshi Mine's gesture adding that the exercise books would go a long way to enhance the school's education.**

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He noted that the mining firm's success and growth had been anchored by people who were bold, smart and driven in a bid to encourage and support the educational development of the country's future leaders. It was the first time the mine was assisting with exercise books.

"We have previously assisted schools with resources such as textbooks, desks, sports equipment and infrastructure. We felt however that without exercise books for pupils to write their work and actively exercise their minds, the learning equation was not well balanced," he stated.

#### **BURDEN**

Solwezi District Commissioner Tiki Mulofwa described the donation of exercise books as marvellous and that it would go down in the memory of parents as the move would lift their economic burden.



Mulofwa stated that Kansanshi Mine has once again demonstrated the philosophy of collaboration with Government to deliver quality education in the country.

“On behalf of the Government, the parents and the school children, I would like to express our joint gratitude to Kansanshi Mine for this thoughtful assistance that will enhance the implementation of our new policy of free education.”

Mulofwa urged the teachers and pupils to appreciate the mining giant’s gesture by taking care of the learning materials.

And Mushitala Primary School head-teacher David Likashi said with a total population of 3,587 learners, the school is now one of the major institutions in Solwezi.

#### RATIO

Likashi further disclosed that the teacher-pupil ratio at his school currently stood at 1:80 and appealed to the education authorities to address the matter.

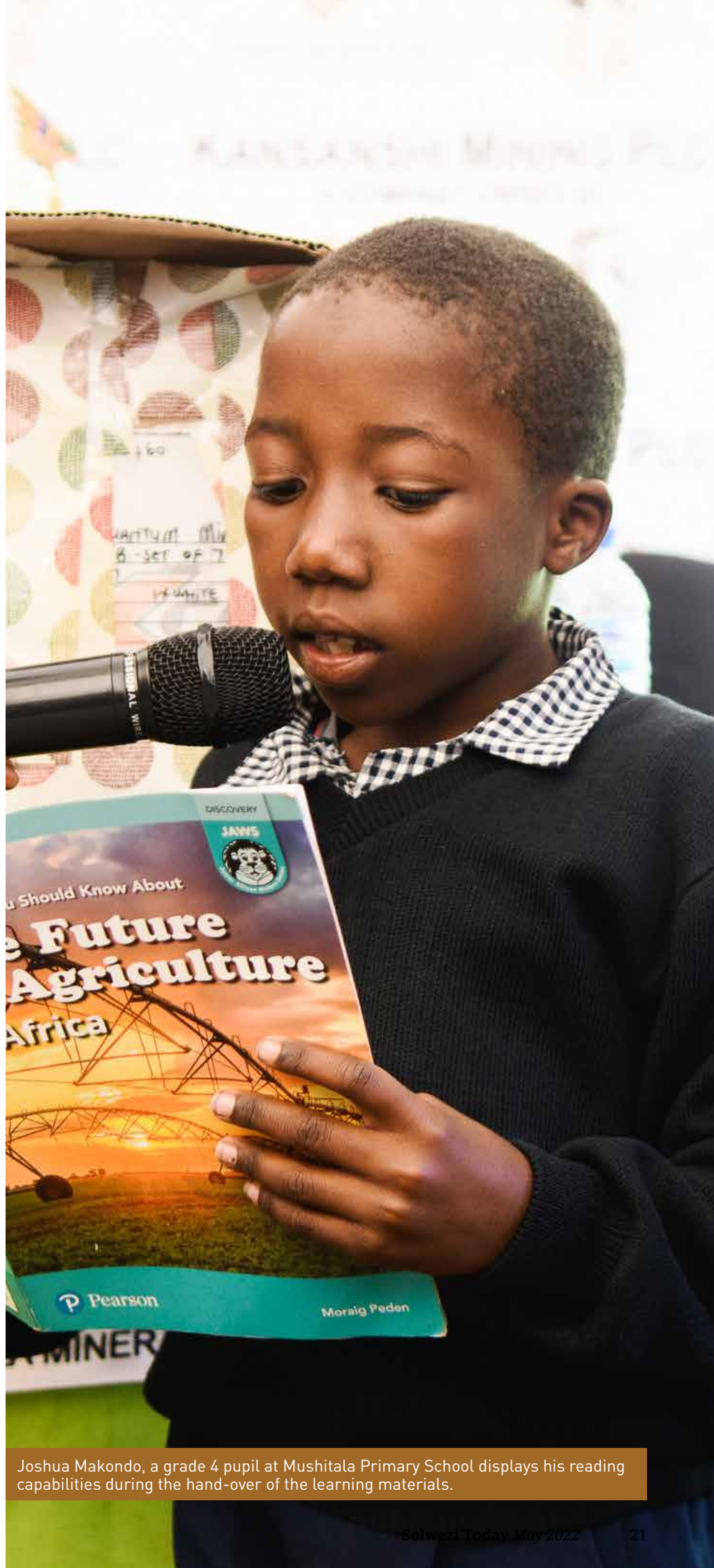
He added that the pupil-book ratio was 1:3 which had made learning easy because of the continued help from Kansanshi Mine.

“Our literacy levels in our school are improving every time because from Grade One up to Seven, we have a programme that is running every day in trying to teach children to read even if the hours that we are spending in class are very few,” Likashi noted.

In a vote of thanks, Luwi Cheli, a Grade Seven pupil at Mushitala School applauded Kansanshi Mine’s gesture adding that the exercise books would go a long way to enhance the school’s education.

Luwi said the mining firm’s generosity had changed pupils’ futures as the exercise books would allow them to excel academically.

“Thank you to Kansanshi Mine for your support, contribution, enthusiasm, dedication and that helps us remain steadfast. Many thanks again for having inspired us to explore, achieve and improve quality of life through our education.”



Joshua Makondo, a grade 4 pupil at Mushitala Primary School displays his reading capabilities during the hand-over of the learning materials.

# Flight Schedule

Effective 3rd February 2022

## LUSAKA

	Depart	Arrive
Monday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Tuesday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Thursday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00
Friday	LUN 10:00	JNB 12:00

## JOHANNESBURG

	Depart	Arrive
Monday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Tuesday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Thursday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30
Friday	JNB 13:30	LUN 15:30



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# New Partnership For 2000 Solwezi Schools Desks

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Kansanshi Mining Plc will provide steel and wood for the manufacture of 2000 desks in partnership with the Solwezi Trades Training Institute (SOTTI) of North-Western Province.



Minister of Technology and Science Felix Mutati cut ribbon during the launch of the 2,000 desk project at Solwezi Trades Training Institute on Friday in Solwezi district.

**S**peaking at the launch of the project at the Institute, Minister of Technology and Science Felix Mutati said Government had identified Zambia's furniture-making industry as key for accelerated job creation.

"We are taking practical steps to implement the directive that the President gave that we should no longer import desks because as a country we have more than sufficient capacity and capability to be able to make our own desks. We are answering to that call that SOTTI in partnership with Kansanshi mine are saying to us all that yes, we can," Mutati said.

The minister noted that the project conceived on December 20, 2021 had finally come to life through the partnership between the mining company and the trades training institute.

"It is the collective responsibility of Government, the private sector and our development partners to design and implement practical programmes to generate decent employment, reduce poverty, and promote self-sustainability among the youth to economically empower them to play a more meaningful role in the development and uplifting of their communities and the nation at large."

With an increase in primary school

dropouts or youths who have never been to school, the minister said the institute was providing training for youths with little or no education and was currently training more than 300.

Many youths were now working as carpenters and metal fabricators in the formal and informal sectors of the Zambian economy.

"Government will continue making investment in education and skills training a cornerstone of our development process. This 2000-desk project endeavours to encourage our students that the skills that they are acquiring today can be translated into commercial and busi-



Kansanshi Mine Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi welcomes Minister of Technology and Science Felix Mutati during the launch of the 2,000 desk project at Solwezi Trades Training Institute on Friday in Solwezi district

ness opportunities,” he said.

Government believed that enhancing sectoral skills development was key for developing the required infrastructure to steer economic diversification, an aspiration of the Vision 2030 and the revised 8th National Development Plan which are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“I am therefore elated that the students are drawn from the three constituencies namely; Mushindamo, Kalumbila and Solwezi.”

Mutati urged the training institute to help learners set up cooperatives so that the desk making could be replicated across the country.

Speaking at the same event, North-Western Province Minister Robert Lihefu described the project as a landmark of the new dawn administration’s quest to empower youths through skills development and its commitment to work with the private sector to create jobs.

“I am extremely excited to be part of this launch, and I hope to see more youths benefit not only from here in Solwezi but other parts of the province because all the districts in the province have adequate land and forests to support initiatives like the one we are witnessing today.”

Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi said the project was an example of sustainable empowerment and

the company was delighted to be involved in such projects.

“We are very happy to collaborate with such an institution because it provides skills for empowerment that help youth go into either the formal work sector or entrepreneurial ventures,” Mukutuma said on behalf of Kansanshi Mine General Manager Anthony Mukutuma.

“On behalf of Kansanshi as well as my team, we are always very happy to take part in sustainable projects such as this one and we look forward to continued involvement in other programmes in the district,” he said.

Speaking on the sidelines of the event, Solwezi Trades Training Institute Principal Shangobeka Mbewe said following the Government’s directive that desks and other academic furniture should not be imported from other countries, the institute has stood up to that challenge to start manufacturing and supplying desks on the local market.

In a vote of thanks, Solwezi Central area member of Parliament Stafford Mulusa expressed gratitude that the desk project was now being implemented, a clear demonstration of President Hakainde Hichilema’s desire to see every pupil provided with a desk.



Senior govt officials, Kansanshi mine executives, senior staff at SOTTI, local authority and among others having a feel of the first batch of the locally manufactured desks.



# STOP

COVID-19

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02

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03

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04

Avoid large crowds and crowded places, and limit social gatherings.



05

Proper nutrition and hydration are vital. A well-balanced diet strengthens your immune systems and lowers the risk of chronic illnesses and infectious diseases.



...By Working Smart and Together, We Can End COVID-19...

The newly built state-of-the-art offices built by FQM's Kansanshi mine at Chief Kapijimpanga's palace.



# Kapijimpanga palace gets modern offices

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

**The Kapijimpanga Royal Establishment has acquired ultramodern offices to enhance administration and communication in the chiefdom.**

**K**ansanshi Mining Plc has handed the facility it constructed over a period of three years to Chief Kapijimpanga of the Konde-speaking people in Solwezi District.

The offices at the palace include the traditional leader's main office, a conference hall and kitchen and catering facilities. One highlight is a custom-made throne from the United States of America which was chosen by the royal establishment.

Speaking during the handover ceremony of the facility at Chief Kapijimpanga's palace on Monday in Solwezi, Kansanshi Mine Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi said on behalf of the

company's General Manager Anthony Mukutuma that the facility would enhance the mine's strong working relationship with members of the community and the royal establishment.

"It gives me great personal pleasure to handover this facility and offices built by Kansanshi Mining Plc to his Royal highness Chief Kapijimpanga today. It is our prayer that with this facility, our aim to keep up with the communication will be met and will even be stronger," Mukutuma said.

He described the completion of the project as a fruit of a three-year journey that was started with the design of the building and later its actual construction.

Mukutuma hinted that the mining giant was instructed by the royal establishment to design a facility that represented nature and would fit in the natural environment.

"It is for this reason that the roof was thatched and we planted a lot of greenery around the facility and planted fruit trees to symbolise the fruit of the land," he said.

The General Manager further highlighted that during the construction phase, several people from within the community were employed, acquired some skills and gained knowledge during the building of the facility.

Mukutuma stated that over the past years, the mining firm had realised the importance of having good, strong communication with all of its stakeholders.

"All our stakeholders are very important to us and because of that, we have made





Chief Kapijimpanga of the Kaonde speaking people cuts the ribbon of the state-of-the-art offices built by FQM's Kansanshi mine at his palace in Solwezi district.



Chief Kapijimpanga receives a custom made throne from the United States of America which was chosen by the Kapijimpanga royal establishment. Unveiled by Kansanshi Mining Plc Corporate Affairs Manager Kyansenga Chitoshi.

sure that every month we meet with our community stakeholders and we discuss a topic of their choice. For example, last week, we met with members of the community and our topic was health care," he noted.

Speaking at the same event, Chief Kapijimpanga paid glowing tribute to Kansanshi mine's various projects in his chieftdom, adding that the royal establishment was immensely and profoundly grateful for the work that the mining firm continued to do.

He noted that it was not only the office

**The traditional leader emphasised that the mining company was touching people's lives where it mattered by developing sectors such as health, education, water, youth skills training and lately art and culture.**

facility that the company had built, but the works include health centres, schools, teachers houses, houses for health workers, and the training of youths in skills development.

"As we speak now, we have a group of 25 youths that are being trained at Solwezi Trades Training Institute. We have others that are being trained as truck drivers and every month, about 10 of them are trained by this mine. So, this is a mine that has given us unprecedented support and we call this best practice. It is best practice not only in Zambia but we are comfortable to say that even in the sub-region."

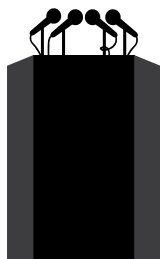
The traditional leader emphasised that the mining company was touching people's lives where it mattered by developing sectors such as health, education, water, youth skills training and lately art and culture.

"We thank God for giving us such an investor. We have seen this love from people at Kansanshi and not just by word but in action. And so, we are here to give a blessing unto this our mine. Let this mine grow, let this mine expand and in fact I have seen it expand, employing and empowering more of our people," he stated.

Chief Kapijimpanga further commended the Government for creating an atmosphere in the mining industry conducive for investors like FQM to thrive with ease.

And moving a vote of thanks, Solwezi Deputy Mayor Alex Pupe expressed gratitude to Kansanshi Mining Plc for a job well done in facilitating various developmental projects in the district and urged other corporate entities to emulate the mining company.

"We congratulate Kansanshi mine management for a job well done in implementing developmental projects in our communities. We shall continue knocking at your door steps. Our feeder roads also need your attention as well as other education and health facilities in the district which need to be upgraded."



## HICKS SIKAZWE ON THE PLATFORM



# Africa must invest in agriculture, stop food imports

One of the aspects brought out about by the Russian invasion of neighbouring Ukraine, is that Africa is among the world regions affected by the fighting.

How? One many ask.

**T**he Ukraine is one of the world's producers of grain. Until the war erupted many of us did not know that many places in Africa depend on wheat and other cereals from that far, maybe an unlikely region. In fact according to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) at least 40 per cent global wheat consumption comes from Russia and Ukraine. Africa is a prominent beneficiary.



As a tool of war, Russia has blocked ports that allow cereal exports to Africa and the rest of the world. This, the former USSR knows, will affect The Ukraine economically and maybe the former Kremlin state will surrender.

But the main point of discussion here is not the merits and demerits of the fighting between the two countries, but rather that after so many years of Independence, Africa with an immensity of resources can continue to depend on wheat and other cereals from The Ukraine and even Russia.

In fact according the United Nations, if the war continues or Russia does not lift the grain blockade, Africa is one of the places affected and hunger and anguish may follow.

Since the announcement that even Africa depends on a lot of grain from The Ukraine not a single head of state from the continent has challenged the statement. How sad this kind of truth can be.

Otherwise African leaders and their people should be embarrassed that in this time and age the continent should spend foreign exchange and other resources to bring wheat and other cereals from as far as The Ukraine and Russia instead of the continent producing its own.

### NOT INVESTED

The revelation simply means that Africa has not invested in agriculture as the continent ought to have done. Many countries in the world may have difficul-

ties, but the majority are self-reliant in food production and supply. They grow enough for local consumption and export.

For example, here in Zambia, we import rice from Thailand and Vietnam—countries with no land for agriculture to talk about when compared to this country. While we import Thai or Vietcong rice, very little has been done to develop the country's demonstrated rice-growing capacities in Mongu, Mpulungu, Chama, Nakonde, the Copperbelt Province and other areas.

In fact at one point there was no market where to sell rice from Mongu, qualitative as the cereal is. Farmers from there were stuck with tonnes of the commodity that they were compelled to sell it cheaply to any one who cared. The problem of lack of market for Mongu rice dates back to the UNIP days.

However, in recent years, rice from Mongu, Nakonde and Chama has become popular. But even with the abundance of the three brands Zambia's shops are still crammed with Thai rice and others from countries elsewhere.

This problem is not prevalent in Zambia alone: visit any neighbouring country you are likely find shops stocked with grain and other foods from the Far East, including China, yet they can be grown locally.

Not a longtime ago Zimbabwe was a food basket in the SADC region. The country supplied food stuffs to all neighbouring



countries. Maize and other cereals from there were a common sight. Even now the country produces cornflakes for export here in Zambia and other African countries.

It is quite clear that Zimbabwe does produce rice too. What about South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, Morocco, Malawi and others—why is their rice not flooding African shops, yet we have to wait for it from The Ukraine and Russia?

There is clearly something wrong with Africa and its affairs. For example Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi produce quantities of tea sufficient to flood African shops, but despite that feat, Africa still imports tea from India, Ceylon, or Brazil. When will the continent get weaned off this dependency?

In fact, many countries in the continent including South Africa, Rwanda and others produce so much tea that to be fair the continent would not need any tea imports, and should by now have depended on indigenous brands.

#### DIVIDED BY IDEOLOGIES

Rather than enhance synergies and promote products from the continent Africa has allowed itself to get divided by ideologies and politics from outside. As a result, an impression has been created that goods from Europe, the Far East or Asia are of superior quality than those produced locally. This flawed thinking has destroyed our motivation and helped decimate our economies.

For example, Nigeria and Angola produce enough crude oil to supply entire continent without any country having to depend on supplies from the Middle East or elsewhere. But instead there is a propagated narrative about Angolan crude which Zambia should have been ferrying into the country even on bicycles. But that has not worked.

Instead, during UNIP days Zambia had to construct a pipeline from Dar-es-Salaam to Zambia to bring crude oil imported from outside Africa and loaded into the line to Zambia. Granted, Angola had been at war for as long as 25 years, but it is also true that the country has been at peace long enough for a pipeline or other conventional ways to have been worked out by now to import oil from there to Zambia.



Nigeria and Angola are not the only countries with oil reserves in Africa, there are others too. All the continent needed to do was that the oil producing countries come together and form the African version of OPEC to begin supplying oil within the continent before any exports are made.

#### WAKE-UP CALL

However, all is not lost the Ukraine cereal example is a wake call for the continent. Measures are needed for Africa to begin pulling resources together in all sectors for use within the continent. We have been tied for too long to outsiders that our political independence is now meaningless.

Some African countries are manufacturing vehicles and other items, which ventures must be strengthened to hivel off dependency the so-called developed world. The just-created Africa Trade Area will have a lot to do not only to improve Africa's economies, but change the perception and the mind-set of many people. It is time to have faith and above all to promote Africa's products.

Surely the continent should not be threatened with hunger simply because wheat and other cereals will not get here from The Ukraine or Russia.

**But instead there is a propagated narrative about Angolan crude which Zambia should have been ferrying into the country even on bicycles. But that has not worked.**

There is so much and enough wheat in Africa, to the extent that Zambia attained self-sufficiency by 2010. What is needed is to pull resources and mop up the cereal for the benefit of the African market.

After all, wheat can grow anywhere and everywhere in Africa. What the continent needs is heavy investment in agriculture—that is all what The Ukraine and Russia has done.

Hicks Sikazwe is a former Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Times of Zambia, now Media and Communications Consultant based in Ndola. Comments: hpsikazwe2017@yahoo.com, hpsikazwe2010@gmail.com or 0955/0966 929611.





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# Artists join fight against gender-based violence

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

According to data at the Solwezi General Hospital, nearly 2000 women every year seek help at the one-stop centre for gender-based violence. One in 10 of the women cannot safely return to their homes and need to be sheltered in a safe house. In light of this, First Quantum Minerals (FQM) is proactively raising awareness on gender-based violence (GBV) in the North-Western Province. DERRICK SILIMINA reports...



A member of the community admiring art pieces during the Kansanshi Visual Arts Exhibition at Kabitaka school hall in Solwezi district.

**W**hen FQM hosted the first-ever Kansanshi Visual Art Exhibition at Kabitaka school main hall in Solwezi District, Kansanshi Mine General Manager Anthony Mukutuma said the main idea behind the event is to raise awareness of GBV in the district and raise funds for a Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) safe house for female victims.

"We do realize that a lot of people are going through violence of every sort in relationships and really, the first step is getting help, and help is available. I hope that with this exhibition, we shall bring awareness that help is available in Solwezi through counselling centres where anyone affected can access the services and get their relationships back on track," Mukutuma said.

The General Manager was optimistic that visitors to the exhibitions would purchase the artworks depicting the GBV theme. The proceeds would go to the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) to help their fight against GBV.

It being the first art exhibition in the district where local artists showcased their works alongside Lusaka-based artists, Mukutuma expressed hope that



FQM's Kansanshi mine General Manager Anthony Mukutuma scoping through the arts exhibition.



Caleb Chisha explaining his artwork to the inquisitive observers.

the mining firm would continue to engage with the Visual Arts Council to host workshops in Solwezi, which Kansanshi Mine had already started doing so with a number of public schools.

“One of the schools we went to is Mushitala and we got the children to display their art and also got to see their artworks that you are seeing here. That arrangement will raise their talent in art. So, we have given them that link and out of more than 150 pupils, some will easily be captured in the art industry for them to be able to send a message and speak to the world through art,” he stated.

#### LANGUAGE

Asked why the mining giant thought of art to raise awareness against GBV in the

**“As for me, I didn’t get the artwork the first time I saw it, but after standing here with the artist, I started to see that there is a message there. And it won’t stop here as my mind is in that moment where I am starting to think about things and I hope that is what will happen to many people that will come here today.”**

district, Mukutuma said art is a language that caused people to start thinking through certain issues affecting society.

“As for me, I didn’t get the artwork the first time I saw it, but after standing here with the artist, I started to see that there is a message there. And it won’t stop here as my mind is in that moment where I am starting to think about things and I hope that is what will happen to many people that will come here today.”

Mukutuma, who was one of the first buyers of the artworks on display, described the event as a success. “What I am hoping to see is that after this point, we can actually see a lot more art in the community so that local artists draw things that will send a message and like I said earlier, creating awareness.”





A panoramic view of the Kansanshi Visual Arts Exhibition.

And North-Western Province YWCA Regional Coordinator Chileshe Mwape said since GBV cases were rife in the province, there was need to enhance awareness among people in Solwezi as the violence could befall anyone at any time.

Since art was a key communication channel that easily captured people's interest, the YWCA thought it wise to engage with the Kansanshi Mine to showcase their various services, thereby alerting people to forearm them against GBV cases in their communities.

#### SAFE HOUSE

"We have a great working partnership with Kansanshi Mine as it dates back to 2012 and hopefully, it will go on because besides the art exhibition was meant to raise funds for the safe house. There are a number of programmes that have been funded by the mining company such as the counselling centre which was opened in 2013."

Mwape noted that the safe house, a normal home which was recently opened for survivors of GBV, courtesy of Kansanshi Mine, equally required constant support in terms of foodstuffs among other

**Since art was a key communication channel that easily captured people's interest, the YWCA thought it wise to engage with the Kansanshi Mine to showcase their various services, thereby alerting people to forearm them against GBV cases in their communities.**

needs for the running of the facility.

Speaking on the sidelines of the event, Lano Puma, one of the upcoming local artists, has paid glowing tribute to the mining company for having thought of hosting the first-ever art exhibition in the district.

"This exhibition has really exposed my works and raised my profile. It has also enabled me to exchange notes with ex-

perienced artists especially those coming from Lusaka. I am excited that from my creative paintings, I have managed to sell two pieces," Puma said.

Puma, a self-taught artist, has urged the mining firm to consider hosting the event at least twice per year so that more local artists nurture their talents and thereby help grow the local art industry.

Lelane Van Schalkywk affirmed, "This art exhibition is stunning! I like doing art; it's like an escape from reality and living in your own world. For me art comes naturally and I derive my passion for art in everything around us because God is all over things around us. I can't wait for another art exhibition."

The exhibition attracted various artists that showcased their talents ranging from sculptures to paintings, photography as well as hand-crafted jewellery.

Notable artists included Lawrence Yombwe, Agnes Yombwe, Mulenga Mulenga, Caleb Chisha and Mulenga Mubanga. Others were Shayne Hodges, Lano Puma, Clive Nsansi art jewellery, Boyd Bishonga and Baldwin Chikalata among others.



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# Poultry demand spurs Solwezi farmer

BY JOHN CHOLA

Poultry farmers are taking advantage of demand for chicken especially on the open and informal market.



Japhet Kawanda in his poultry house.

**S**olwezi District of North-Western Province is among the fastest-growing in the country, and Japhet Kawanda, 29, a resident of Kandemba Township, is among the keen entrepreneurs.

Kawanda ventured into the poultry business in 2017 starting with 50 chickens.

He told Fortune World Investments Limited (FWIL) team which recently visited him that the poultry business had been lucrative as it gave about 50 per cent profit.

FWIL Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta says out of this business, Kawanda has been able to look after his wife and children, and managed to pay K5000 for a course in Dump Truck Driving.

“Initially, Kawanda invested an amount of K1,500, and has now grown his cash to K10,000. The number of chickens has increased to 110 since 2021 and he has maintained the number due to limitations of space in the poultry house. He

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**Kawanda also belongs to Twinyingishe Cooperative which has applied for K84,000 from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), which once accessed would enable the entity start rearing 600 chickens.**

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aims to expand the poultry house and increase the number of birds to 200 before end of this year. This expansion project would begin at the end of June after selling the current stock,” narrates Kafuta.

Kawanda is one of the FWIL business development training students who enrolled into the Kansanshi Mining Plc-sponsored sessions in 2019 which also exposed him to computer skills at the Kansanshi Town Office.

“Knowledge acquired from computer and social media training has enhanced his marketing ability and he is able to communicate to a wider range of customers via WhatsApp. According to him, most of his customers are individuals who usually order more than one chicken at once. He is now aiming at capturing other markets such as lodges to increase his market base,” Kafuta adds.

Kafuta says the training his organization offers encourages entrepreneurs to diversify as one of the benefits derived from the teaching, and Kawanda is now working towards acquiring computers to start a business centre that shall offer photocopying, typing, scanning and other services.

Kafuta counsels Kawanda to quickly formalize his business as this would boost the enterprise through working with other institutions.

Kawanda also belongs to Twinyingishe Cooperative which has applied for K84,000 from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), which once accessed would enable the entity start rearing 600 chickens.

“The CDF money will cater for building expansion, purchasing birds, feed, chemicals and other expenses. All cooperative 20 members of Twinyingishe Cooperative were trained through the KMP-sponsored training programme, and this has helped with the loan approval, an indication of how authentic and effective the programme is. Their loan will be paid back within a three years period,” Kafuta says.

Kawanda is thankful to Kansanshi Mining Plc for sponsoring the training and urges mining firm to sustain it so that more hopefuls can acquire knowledge and in turn help grow the country's economy.

# Home electronics solutions increase in Solwezi

BY JOHN CHOLA

Wisdom Sokontwe in his electronics repairs shop.

With increased electrification of domestic households in both rural and urban areas, almost every electrified home and business property now has basic electronics such as television sets, radios, refrigerators and stoves among others.

**T**his scenario has brought about a business opportunity for many electricians who have positioned themselves to offer electronics solutions.

In Solwezi's Zambia Compound area, Wisdom Sokontwe, 29, repairs domestic electronic items. The business was initially setup in 2007, but Sokontwe only became a part of it 2021.

Prior to that, Sokontwe had his own workshop in Kyawama area but later decided to partner with three other colleagues who were running their shop at Zambia Compound Market specialized in installations and repair of TV sets, stereos, DVD players, decoders, stoves and many other home appliances.

When recently visited by Fortune World Investments Limited (FWIL), Sokontwe described the business as very good, especially during month-ends and mid-month.

Sokontwe and partners enjoy leverage on the business as currently theirs is

the only outlet offering such services in the area, therefore building a wide customer base.

FWIL Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta, whose team recently paid a mentoring visit on Sokontwe, says he started attending the business development training in February 2022 and has since been consistent in following the training on radio, and also on Facebook for revision purposes.

"The training has helped him with ability to do thorough market research. He has also developed good financial discipline, hence being able to make savings from business proceeds. Wisdom has also acquired customer care skills and is able to liaise with customers better," narrates Kafuta.

Kafuta notes that Sokontwe's business is now able to generate about K5000 profit every month and that most clients were those seeking TVs and radios repairs.

Apparently, stocking of TV and radio

spare parts for sale was a potential cash flow stream in their business extension.

Sokontwe and his partners were now in the process of completing their business registration with Patent and Company Registration Agency (PACRA) and will soon have their certificate.

As part of expansion Sokontwe and team intend to open another branch in Solwezi's Mitech area.

The Fortune World mentoring team encouraged him to expedite the registration process so that they could tap into many opportunities in the corporate world.

FWIL also advised the team to apply for financing from the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in order to boost their business capacity.

Sokontwe thanked KMP for sponsoring the FWIL development training which had imparted knowledge to many beneficiaries.



Steven Siwila showing off his business.



# More construction, more welding...

BY JOHN CHOLA

**With increased construction works taking place at both domestic and industrial levels in the country, welding is increasingly playing a significant role in the building value-chain.**

**F**ortune World Investments Limited (FWIL) notes that as a result, more players in Solwezi District have joined in the welding business which is proving to be a major source of self-employment for many skilled young people.

In Solwezi's Muzabula area, Steven Siwila who owns a welding business is cashing in from manufacturing of door frames, window frames, hammer mills, garden forks and hoes.

FWIL Managing Director, Mukumbi Kafuta says Siwila started this business in 2017 with an initial capital of K1000 making items on order for clients building houses, while some items were made in advance for sale on display.

Kafuta says in the initial stages Siwila lacked knowledge in business and financial management, hence the business struggled to grow. Siwila also had limited capital which only enabled him make products in very small quantities.

"In January 2021, Siwila recruited for the business development training programme which has now given him knowledge in managing money and quality control. This has transformed the business to becoming a profitable venture as a result of the application of financial management principles," says Kafuta.

Siwila has also improved on record-keeping which involves tabulating product sales, purchases and stock information which he uses to monitor growth in the business.

Siwila's business now makes a monthly profit of more than K5000, thus making it attractive.

Kafuta says Siwila has since taken on two other partners in order to enhance his metal fabrication skills in the business.

"Each partner is entitled to a monthly allowance and is able to sustain his fam-

ily out of their welding business. This has created steady jobs for the partners, therefore fulfilling one of the most important training objectives of job creation," says Kafuta.

Apart from welding, Siwila has diversified into vegetable gardening where he grows beans and sugarcane.

According to Siwila, Kafuta reports, the garden business is lucrative and has ability to grow. From sugarcane alone, he expects to make over K1000 per month while vegetables are expected to bring in about K150 per day at retail price.

Siwila looks forward to attending training in general agriculture to enable him improve his farming business, which Kafuta says would enable Siwila to specialize in farming and do it on large-scale.

Siwila has paid gratitude to Kansanshi Mining Plc for their sponsored business development training programme.



Some of the young golfers in action at the Trident Country Club.



# FQM Trident brings golf to Kalumbila

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

When the Trident Country Club hosted a golf tournament for the Junior Golf Academy on Thursday at Kalumbila golf course, FQM Trident General Manager Junior Keyser said golf is an important sport as it teaches discipline, integrity and sportsmanship.

**T**he prestigious tournament, a first in North-Western Province, featured 60 pupils from as young as five years of age up, from some local schools including Trident Preparatory, Frontier Nkisu, and Sentinel Kalumbila schools. The debut championship was held last year.

Keyser noted that the Junior Golf Academy which is supported by the FQM Trident Ltd, is an on-going programme whose aim is to tap talent from the grass-root level.

“Today we rewarded more than 60 kids and most of them are from the local community. What we want is to bring this lovely sport to the people of Kalumbila because we have our best coaches available to teach young golfers the right techniques, the right discipline and right attitude from the grassroots level.”

The General Manager further affirmed that the Trident Country Club has one of



FQM Trident Public Relations Specialist Mirriam Harmon at the Trident Country Club during a prestigious Junior Golf Tournament.





FQM Trident General Manager Junior Keyser (Back roll from L - R) pose a photo with Trident Junior Academy coach Beza Daka and company Lead - Finance and Commercial Support Auxilia Kangwa at the Trident Country Club during a prestigious Junior Golf Tournament prize giving ceremony for the Junior Golf Academy on Thursday at Kalumbila golf course.

the best golf courses in the country and probably in the world, hence the need for the mining firm to develop the sport in the district.

Asked if the mining giant will roll-out the support of golf to other parts of the country beyond Kalumbila District, Keyser explained that the programme is currently focused on the need to nurture local grassroots talent.

“For now, I think the focus is in our own district as we do the same in our soccer kids and adults such as the Trident Football Club, which we will be rolling out to the ladies as well. You can see that some of these kids are doing great in sports and will soon compete at national level. Our focus is to develop our own kids here,” he stated.

Speaking at the same event on behalf of Trident Foundation Manager Joseph Ngwira, company Lead-Finance and Commercial Support Auxilia Kangwa encouraged the junior golfers to use the sport to gain integrity, discipline, and use it as a platform to network with role models of various professions.

**Asked if the mining giant will roll-out the support of golf to other parts of the country beyond Kalumbila District, Keyser explained that the programme is currently focused on the need to nurture local grassroots talent.**

Ngwira noted that being a sportsman and woman presents an opportunity for one to learn valuable lessons in life such as integrity.

“As Trident Foundation, we are honoured to be part of this Golf Academy but we would also like to add that this tournament would not have happened without the efforts and sacrifices made by everyone who was involved in organizing this event,” he said.

And speaking on the sidelines of the golf tournament, FQM Trident Public Relations Coordinator Mirriam Harmon said the mine management had taken a keen interest to support sports development especially among young learners.

“What we are doing today is part of an on-going sports development for the youths, especially the children. It’s an interest that we are inculcating from a young age, meaning that when you start with the foundation, the discipline is already there, the interest is already there.”

The young people who were part of the Junior Golf Academy were the future professionals, hence the urgent need to develop their talent.

“For us, this is our starting point. And it’s not just the children of employees who work for the mine but we have also taken a keen interest in children who are in the surrounding schools in our communities who are also being supported by Trident foundation.”





Chengelo Chisanga poses for a photo at the Trident Country Club.

# Infants, youths stroll onto golf turf

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

**The new generation of golfers have arrived and rightfully so because they are young, they are boisterous, and they are here to stay.**

**T**he game of golf has seldom been so exciting in the history of the sport in Zambia, thanks to a bunch of young golfers aged five to 14, who participated at the just-ended Junior Golf Tournament held at the Trident Country Club in Kalumbila District.

The boys and girls from the Junior Golf Academy were drawn mostly from some local schools in the district including Trident Preparatory, Frontier Nkisu, and Sentinel Kalumbila schools courtesy of FQM Trident.

Scores of Kalumbila residents trekked to the Trident Country Club to watch a total of 60 pupils who took part in a second thrilling golf tournament that showcased their talents par excellence. The debut championship was held last year.

Junior Golf Academies' Gabriel Khumalo, Tinovimba Muzinda and Abraham Muroso emerged first, second and third overall winners respectively during the 18 Hole, Category A competition and

each walked away with a trophy, a medal and a bag.

In Category B of the qualifying rounds, Xholani Nhlane carried the day and was followed by Emmanuel Zulu in the second slot while Nathan Kumanda grabbed third place.

"I like playing golf so much; this sport is just amazing. I thank my coach and organisers of this tournament because tapping local talent among us young ones is key to growing the sport in our communities and country at large," Gabriel Khumalo, who bagged the first overall prize, said after the prize-giving gala.

Chimwemwe Kasaro, 12, a Grade Seven pupil from Frontier Nkisu school expressed joy to be one of the participants in the golf tourney as the sport enabled her to be fit as well as interact with other pupils with ease.

"I used to be a latecomer at school but after I started playing golf, I have come to

learn to be punctual and I am now able to make new friends since it is a social game," Kasaro affirmed.

## CONFIDENCE

Marizel Prisloo, 11, a Grade Six pupil from Trident Preparatory School, bubbled with confidence stating that she aimed to be the next Tiger Woods because the game of golf had taught her patience in life as not everything can go as planned.

For this reason, Trident Junior Academy coach Beza Daka hinted that the idea of having a junior golf academy was vital as it nurtured young talent for future growth of the sport, thereby enabling the country to participate effectively in international fixtures.

"FQM Trident has just shown its commitment to grow the sport because managing this golf course here in Kalumbila is not easy. This has added value not only to the game but it also gives job oppor-





The new generation of golfers Trident Country Club during a prestigious Junior Golf Tournament.

tunities to Zambians who maintain this facility.”

Daka, a professional golfer who started his sporting career at the age of nine, noted that golf, like soccer, was a big industry in the world hence the need to take it seriously if it were to contribute to the country’s socio-economic development.

### NEW GENERATION

“People used to think that golf is for the rich people but it’s not because we have a lot of young people who are taking it up, and this will help grow the game moving forward. In this context, preparing a new generation of golfers is vital for the future development of the sport in our country,” Daka noted.

According to latest data, around a third of all golfers are now millennials, which could be a shock to the golfing community given its clear appeal for the middle-aged and older crowds.

Golf analysts have estimated that more than 14 million millennials in 2019 indicated that they would be interested in playing a game of golf.

Certainly, even with a range of safety precautions, following the onset of Covid-19, golf is one of the sports best positioned to weather the pandemic through social distancing norms. With less competition for outdoor activities, the pandemic has provided golf with an opportunity to attract new participants.

### OVERWHELMING

Riana La Grange who is Ladies Captain at the Trident Golf Club said the tournament had drawn an overwhelming response. The academy has at least three promising pupils and a group of 15 boys and girls with “a lot of potential.”

Asked what inspired her to be part of the organisers of the Junior Golf Academy, La Grange who is also a professional golfer indicated that the initiative which unfolded three years ago is aimed at giving back to the community and grow the sport in Zambia.

“Our aim is not just to focus on them to become professional golfers but there is a wide variety of careers in the sport, such as green keeping and being a course manager. We also giving them the opportunity to understand how a golf course like this one was built, how greenkeeping works and the perspective of what golf is all about.”







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**Memorial Service on 18th June 2022**

Memorial Service at Baptist Theological Seminary of Zambia  
on Twin Palm Road, near Memorial Park  
Unveiling of tombstone at Memorial Park  
Time: 09:30hrs

