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TODAY

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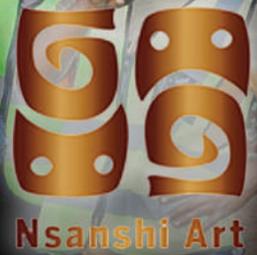


Moxico Resources spends K2m plus on CSR

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Nsanshi Art

Nsanshi Art Studio is an all women run jewelry workshop that is adding value to local minerals, providing employment and raising funds for vulnerable women and girls in the community



“

Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or concept but in **lowliness of mind**, let each of you lookout not only for her own interest, but also for the **interest of others**

”

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FIRST QUANTUM
MINERALS CORPORATION

SOLWEZI TODAY

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The Department of National Parks and Wildlife in West Lunga received a transport boost with the donation of a Land Cruiser valued at almost K700,000 from Grizzly Mining Limited.

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EDITORIAL



Signs of investment momentum in 2022

In 2022, it was not only the north-western region that made earth-shaking news with fresh investments in new mines or expansions of old ones; telecommunications companies competed to unfurl 5G technologies amid 4G infrastructures not having fully covered and benefitted the whole country.

Much of our reportage was about big names in the mining and banking sectors financing programmes to build micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and ongoing free business training for small entrepreneurs in Solwezi and surrounding areas. All the major mines unleashed their rescue teams for joint training or rescue competitions as a matter of sharpening emergency response capacities. It culminated in Lubambe Mine recording the first win by an African company in the USA in September.

Hopeful children from poor families won scholarships to noted educational institutions; a consistent annual trend that is approaching its tenth year. Increased interest in junior golf was observed, as corporate mining bodies sponsored golf tournaments for children, in hot pursuit of the bicycling events that have become hot international attractions. Towards the close of the year, we saw a rowing club spring to life, attracting a queue of college staff and students to water sports.

Not to be left behind were reforestation ventures in some chiefdoms in the North-Western Province, alongside the development of orchards. April ABSA Bank Zambia Plc partnered with Zambezi Berry Company Ltd to finance the

growth and exportation of blueberries in an investment that has so far consumed U\$12 million, aiming to produce 100 tonnes, with the bulk earmarked for export.

Not all the news was cheerful. Timber producers felt left out of opportunities to participate in the forestry sub-sector, which they lamented were given to foreign companies which supplied timber products such as poles. Across the forests into West Lunga, wildlife repopulation came to light in unprecedented mine-sponsored circumstances, while artists took their art exhibitions to rural outposts, changing the elitist image of an industry whose players cry for government support and recognition.

Grizzly Mining Group in October drew international gemstone giants to its gemstone auction, releasing close to eight tonnes of precious stones for sale at Kitwe's Wolle Park. Soon after, more than 250 delegates and 30 exhibitors from 20 countries in Africa and abroad to the tenth edition of the Zambia International Mining and Energy Conference and Exhibition (ZIMEC) in November positively repositioned Zambian industry as a whole before possible investors peering into the two sectors.

All things considered, signs of new economic momentum and creativity were blossoming in all sectors and arenas of human endeavour. On that note, Solwezi Monthly Business News Magazine salutes all our business partners and associates for a year of positive progress, and wishes everyone a blessed New Year!



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Kansanshi Mining Plc, Rio Tinto, Kansanshi Hotel bring early holiday bash to orphans

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

In a quest to operate in line with its ethos of sustainable and empowering community social investment, Kansanshi Mining Plc, a subsidiary of First Quantum Minerals (FQM) brought holiday joy to over 350 orphans.



Kansanshi Mining PLC Engineering Manager- Jacob Nienaber sharing a light moment with the Children

Pitched under a white marquee in the lush gardens of Kansanshi Hotel, a sense of awe and excitement descended over the town on Wednesday morning as underprivileged children from across the Solwezi District joined the annual Christmas party organized by FQM's Kansanshi Foundation in partnership with Rio-Tinto and Kansanshi Hotel.

Speaking when he officiated at the Christmas party on behalf of Kansanshi Mine General Manager Anthony Mukutuma, company Engineering Manager Jacobus Nienaber said the event brings together vulnerable children to appreciate and be part of the wonders of Christmas as they celebrate.

"A lot of these children we are supporting as part of our vulnerable children's support, we have about 350 children on the program and this is just a celebration to get all these kids together and ensure that they really have a wonderful day," Mukutuma said.

Mukutuma noted that it is a great honour for the mining firm to be associated with the vulnerable children in the district since many orphans come from underprivileged backgrounds.

The annual tradition, which has become a highlight of the festive calendar was made extra special this year with the children drawn from five local foster orphanages - Emmanuel, Lui Iwa Nzambi, Gilgal, Ephizimba, and Faith. The children ate heartily, received gifts, were



Kansanshi Hotel Proprietor Veronica Ryder interacting with the Children

Highlights of the party.



Highlights of the party.

entertained, and participated in fun activities including face painting, numerous games and a visit from Father Christmas!

Kansanshi Mine Early Child Education Specialist Dr. Mwanza Kabaghe said since the children come from vulnerable backgrounds, the mining company feels the need to have them enjoy Christmas just like everybody else, "This is something we pride in and we are actually very happy because one of the highlights is that once children are happy, we are also happy," Dr. Kabaghe said.

She highlighted that in terms of enhanc-

ing early childhood education among vulnerable children, the mining giant is always working tirelessly by offering nutrition support to their parents and stimulating activities for the children even before they are born.

Dr. Kabaghe further disclosed that Kansanshi mine is offering nutritional and academic support to about 6,500 children from 35 different schools that are supported by the mining firm thereby complementing government efforts of providing free education.

Kansanshi Hotel proprietor, Veronica Ryder expressed gratitude that her es-

tablishment is able to collaborate annually with Kansanshi Mine to have a function for the orphanages.

Ryder described the initiative as a wonderful idea that looks at the well-being of the vulnerable children in the district. "From our side as a hotel, we look at the well-being of children - where they are sleeping, what they are eating and their health. So, I appeal to everyone out there if they can chip in just a little to help the orphanages and I think they will have a wonderful life," She noted.

Ryder stressed that Christmas should not just be Christmas time for the kids but ought to be every day so that any individual or corporate entity can contribute to them in a little way.

She pointed out that this year, with Rio Tinto coming on board and donating mattresses, mealie-meal, soap, and other groceries to the five orphanages, even more strides have been made towards contributing to the well-being of the vulnerable children.

"We say thank you to Rio Tinto, we also say thank you to Kansanshi Mine and please don't stop! Anyone who feels that they can partake, please come and get in touch with us. We can see what we can put together, especially next year where we can put up a big fundraising event to raise money for these orphanages to buy things they really need as well," Ryder stated.

Dambisa Moyo becomes British baron

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

In his first year as Head of the British Monarchy, King Charles III has announced the 2022 Special Honours, and included on the list of recipients of a life peerage was world-renowned Zambian economist Dr Dambisa Felicia Moyo.



Dambisa Moyo taken by Chad Braithwaite

Dr Moyo has been conferred the title Baroness Moyo of Knightsbridge in the City of Westminster under the Conservative Party.

Of her appointment, she wrote, “I intend to use my platform to continue advocating for public policy that raises living standards and promotes human progress globally. Thank you to every-

one who has supported me along the way—I am excited to begin this new chapter.”

Born in Lusaka to an academic Stephen Moyo and a banker Orlean Moyo on February 2, 1969, Dr Moyo has an array of degrees, including a Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) in Economics from the University of Oxford.

She has written extensively on issues from the role of emerging markets on the global economy and international aid and is the author of five books including *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa* (2019) and *Winner Take All: China’s Race for Resources and What It Means for the World* (2012).

Her most recent offering published in 2021 is entitled *How Boards Work: And How They Can Work Better in a Chaotic World* and focuses on her insider perspective of corporate boards and their intricacies.

In a career spanning over 18 years, Dr Moyo has worked for financial heavyweights Goldman Sachs and the World Bank, and currently sits on the boards of the multinational conglomerate 3M Company, mass media company Condé Nast, and energy giant Chevron Corporation.

She has also regularly appeared in the media as a commentator on global issues—featuring in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, and on the BBC and CNBC International.

Dr Moyo has appeared thrice on the *Evening Standard* list of London’s Most Influential People, was included in *Time’s* Top 100 list, and featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine* First-Ever Power List.

She is the surviving sibling of singer Marsha Moyo.

President Hakainde Hichilema with Moxico Resources Chief Executive Officer Allan Davies (R), Mines Minister Paul Kabuswe (further Right) and Mimbula Copper Mines Senior Management officials (L) during a visit to Mimbula Copper Mines, a subsidiary of Moxico Resources



Moxico Resources spends K2m plus on CSR

BY WEZZY KALUSAMBO CHOMBA

When Moxico Resources UK decided to invest in Zambia, Chief Executive Officer Alan Davies' first priority was to understand the communities his company was going to operate in.

For this reason, locally trained personnel were contracted to undertake a detailed survey of communities of Chingola, Mufumbwe and the Kalengwa mining project. The data collected provided considerable insight into the challenges facing the local communities. This then formed the basis of a series of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes.

In line with the survey findings and recommendations, Moxico Resources has since spent more than K2 million on improving the lives of the people in Chingola District on the Copperbelt where Mimbula Minerals Limited was operating, and in Mufumbwe District, North-Western Province where Kalengwa Mine was being awakened.

Speaking after paying a courtesy call on Senior Chief Chizela at his palace in Mufumbwe, Moxico Resources Director Davis Mwanamoya said the mining firm was in a hurry to improve the lives of the local people in its area of operation.

"Moxico Resources had committed its resources to a holistic Corporate Social Responsibility right from the start even

Ntotobele and Bulobe co-operatives in Mufumbwe, along with the Kalengwa Multipurpose and Jibombo Multipurpose co-operatives in Kalengwa Mining area are among the groups that have been supported with seed and fertilizer by the Moxico Resources.

before full production started," Mwanamoya said after donating bags of soya and regular beans to Mufumbwe District Hospital where he also checked on a borehole that the company had sunk there.

The mining company further pledged to rehabilitate Senior Chief Chizela's palace which urgently needed a facelift.

The Director said what was unique about the Moxico Resources CSR programme was that it was aggressively

implemented before mine production started, and further promised to double that commitment once full production commenced at both mines.

Since 2020, more than 20 co-operatives with 10 members each have benefited directly from the Moxico Resources CSR initiative in the two mining areas, with more than 200 individuals receiving empowerment in cash form or through farm inputs. These co-operatives and individuals, especially women, have received 30 kg of soya and bean seed in addition to the 25 kg of Urea and 25 kg of D Compound.

Ntotobele and Bulobe co-operatives in Mufumbwe, along with the Kalengwa Multipurpose and Jibombo Multipurpose co-operatives in Kalengwa Mining area are among the groups that have been supported with seed and fertilizer by the Moxico Resources.

Ntotobele Co-operative Chairperson Catherine Mupila said the empowerment of communities through such initiatives had brought about an improvement in livelihoods. Small scale farming had been enhanced especially after in-



Natweshe Women's Club Secretary-Patricia explaining the poultry business among others to Admin and Government Liaison Officer Chileya PK Mawere



Poultry project

tensive training programmes conducted by Business Development Centre (BDC), an organization that equips small scale business groups with management skills.

Both Kalengwa Multipurpose Co-operative Chairperson Fides Kapumba and Co-operative Treasurer Charity Chitoka paid tribute to Moxico Resources for the empowerment programme and urged management to even do more so as to woo more community members onto the programme.

Apart from village banking and the Farm Input Support Programme (FISP), Moxico Resources has been sponsoring a number of community activities including local football teams in both Mimbula in Chingola and Kalengwa in Mufumbwe. The company has further supported the Ntongo Traditional Ceremony of the Kaonde people of Mufumbwe.

In Chingola, Mimbula Mineral Resources has been implementing a community empowerment programme in the form of village banking in Twatasha and Chiwempala townships where Mimbula Mine is located.

Similarly, finances totalling K185,000 were disbursed to Mailo Ni Lelo Co-operative, Natweshe Women's Club, Women of Valour and Goodwill Women's Club among the 16 from 11 wards in Chingola Constituency.

Dorothy Sakavumbi, a widow from Goodwill Women's Club, is running a poultry business of 100 birds (broilers) and more than 30 Sasol (village-like) chickens in the backyard, and has been able to meet the school needs of her three children.

Sakavumbi, 48, is one of the 144 members of the 16 cooperatives that have

benefitted from the Village Banking Initiative of Mimbula Minerals Limited. The company aims to improve the livelihood of members of the community in its area of operation with a view to alleviating poverty.

Bridget Sibajene of Chingola's Chiwempala Township, also a member of the Women of Valour, says she was given K1,500 in November 2021 like every other member in her group and she ploughed all of it into selling chicken and chips, eggs, sausages, pies and popcorns.

"By March 2022, I had already paid back to the empowerment fund and now I have built myself a block of three shops at the market place within the area," Sibajene discloses.

She encourages Mimbula Minerals Limited to continue supporting the women folk with the empowerment fund through village banking and help them get out of the poverty that had engulfed communities before the initiative started.

Mutinta Mumbala, Treasurer for Women of Valour, received K1,500 and ploughed all her money into brewing a traditional sweet drink called 'Munkoyo'.

Mumbala says she has been selling two drinks which have helped her pay back her debt. She has now extended and refurbished her house from the proceeds.

"I am grateful on behalf of the Group and indeed on my own behalf to Mimbula Mineral Resources for giving us knowledge. We have learnt how to manage our business and our profits without misusing it," says Mumbala who proudly shows off her renovated and improved house.

Moxico Resources is further scheduled to build a medical facility in Chingola District in a bid to ensure quality health care.

Moxico Resources Zambia Managing Director Theo Silver has expressed gratitude for the support of Government agencies and the local authority, and is quick to mention that the company will construct a clinic near the Mine area to service Mimbula Mine staff and the community.

'Keep adding value to sport'

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

The government says unwavering Kansanshi Mining Plc initiatives to add value to sport have spurred the growth of many sporting disciplines in the North-Western Province.



Young players immersed in their game during the tournament

Speaking during the official opening ceremony of the North-Western Kansanshi Mine Open Chess Tournament held at Trident College during December 9-11, 2022 in Solwezi District, provincial Permanent Secretary Grandson Katambi said chess was among minor sports which had not been left behind.

In a speech read on his behalf by Provincial Sports Coordinator Kondwani Munyeka, Colonel Katambi affirmed that the mining giant's contributions

“Kansanshi Mine has continued to impact the growth of many sporting disciplines in our province. The New Dawn Government has proved to many of us that no sport is bigger than the other,” Col Katambi said.

are in line with the New Dawn Government's developmental agenda of making a difference through sports.

“Kansanshi Mine has continued to impact the growth of many sporting disciplines in our province. The New Dawn Government has proved to many of us that no sport is bigger than the other,” Col Katambi said.

The Permanent Secretary noted that in the year under review (2022), the government through the Ministry of Sports,



Highlights of the North Western Kansanshi Mine Open Chess Tournament at Trident College in Solwezi District

Youth and Arts had facilitated the participation of associations and federations in more than 27 international events.

He stressed that for this reason, chess had not been left out and the goodwill could be appreciated as Zambia participated in the World Chess Olympiad which took place in India, the African Individual Championship in Nigeria and the SARPCCO competition in Tanzania.

“Through such, we have seen the resurgence of games such as darts, draft and skirting among others being revived on the international scene.”

GRASSROOTS TALENT

Speaking at the same event on behalf of Kansanshi Mine Corporate Social Responsibility Manager Bruce Lewis, Senior Metallurgist Humphrey Chikashi said in the mine’s quest to support minor sports, Kansanshi Chess Club was established to grow grassroots talent at district and provincial levels.

“I would like to thank KMP for giving us this opportunity to hold a very successful tournament. They have yet again shown their commitment to supporting



Highlights of the North Western Kansanshi Mine Open Chess Tournament at Trident College in Solwezi District

all sports including the minors such as chess. From the Kansanshi Chess Club, we are supposed to start recruiting more members in different parts of Solwezi, and as a zone, we want to start going out in other districts and form clubs there,” Lewis said.

The CSR Manager has since urged local players to work hard if they are to become a hub of chess in Zambia.

He implored the provincial Chess Asso-

ciation leadership to enhance its grassroots talent identification and continue to host tournaments to expose local players.

“We should not always have Lusaka in the lead but we should instead give the Lusaka guys a lot of competition. I saw during the tournament that some of our players put up a very good fight and we hope in the coming tourneys we can feature more on the higher tables,” Lewis added.



Highlights of the North Western Kansanshi Mine Open Chess Tournament at Trident College in Solwezi District



Highlights of the North Western Kansanshi Mine Open Chess Tournament at Trident College in Solwezi District



Chess Federation Vice President Kenneth Tembo (middle) handing out awards with KMP's Senior Metallurgist Humphrey Chikashi who is also Chairperson Northwestern Province Chess Association - Zone 7 during the prize giving gala.



Chess Federation Vice-President Kenneth Tembo described the tournament which is on the federation's calendar as a success. Individual participants were drawn from all parts of the country.

"As CFZ which is formed under an Act of Parliament which is the National Sports Council of Zambia Act Chapter 142 of the Laws of Zambia, we are there to ensure that the mandate of Government is furthered. We are also here to ensure that the vision of the government is pushed forward," Tembo said.

MINOR SPORT

The days of viewing chess as a minor sport are long gone.

"We are hoping that this development will manifest starting this year and we hope to benefit from the same. The Association would like to assure players that we will have tournaments and as long as they are CFZ, they will be rated," Tembo affirmed.

The tournament which had no age limit attracted players countrywide with players ranging in age from 6 to 50, all battling it out for the chance to win a cash prize.

The three-day tournament saw Atusayi Sichali, six, bag the Best Youngest Player while Lwambula Humphrey, 50, emerged as the Best Oldest Player during the tournament. Both walked away with K500.

In the Developmental Girls Category, young Victoria Mweetwa won first place after scoring 12 and a half points. Abigail Chikashi grabbed the second slot with 11 points while Bertha Kazhila took third position with nine-and-a-half points six points. The young girls walked away with K500, K400 and K100 in cash prizes respectively.

For the Boys Developmental Category, Sauti Joshua Lisuku bagged the first position after scoring 11 points, followed by Tumelo Lwenyeka at 11 points as well while Austin Musonda got six points. The young lads smiled

their way home with cash prizes of K400 for the first and second winners while the runners-up got a K50.

Other categories included those for women where Lubuto Bwalya emerged as the winner with seven points and walked away with an impressive K4000 cash prize. Second place went to Namakau Likando whose six and a half points netted her a K3000 cash prize. Daisy Simanda came in third with six points and pocketed a K2000.

Finally, in the Open Section for Men Category, Michael Kaoma emerged victorious with six and a half points and walked away with a whopping K7000 cash prize, Gillan Bwalya won the second slot and pocketed K5,000 while Timothy Kabwe got K3,500 after both scored six-and-a-half points respectively.

Chililabombwe-based Sichali said on the sidelines of the event after the prize-giving ceremony that chess was good as it enabled a person to maintain a healthy brain.

New Zesco connection charges

BY STUART LISULO

The Energy Regulation Board (ERB) has approved electricity connection charges, with the highest connecting fee pegged at K11,120 for new customers in high-density un-demarcated areas.



The newly-approved charges follow an application by Zesco to revise the connection fees upwards for standard connections.

Specifically, Zesco applied to revise standard connection charges for three connection types including:

Type 1 - High-Density Demarcated and Reticulated Areas with a high customer base and an existing distribution network;

Type 2 - Low-Density Demarcated and Reticulated Areas with a low customer base within a specific area that have an existing distribution network; and

Type 3 - Un-Demarcated High-Density Areas with a high population density with no electricity reticulation network.

The highest proposed charges the power utility wanted fell under Type 2 where they applied to the ERB to hike new connections to K34,339 from the current charge of K5,342, an unprecedented 543 percent spike.

Zesco's justification was that the organization faced challenges in promptly

connecting new customers of electricity, resulting in a backlog of 67,000 pending applications as of December 31, 2021. This was attributed to non-cost reflective charges.

According to the ERB, Zesco's application had sought to adopt a cost-reflective pricing mechanism for the determination of future connection charges, enabling the power utility to clear the mounting backlog of un-connected customers to the national grid.

Announcing the outcome of Zesco's application, ERB Board Chairperson Reynolds Bowa said that the regulator had approved a hike of K11,120 for new customers in high density un-demarcated for three-phase underground connections, up from the current K3,642, representing a 205 percent increment.

This hike is, however, significantly less than Zesco's proposed upward adjustment of K24,557 for the same category or a 574 percent increase.

For single-phased overhead works in the same areas, the approved connecting charges have also increased from the current K1,709 to K4,846, represent-

ing a 184 percent increment.

This is, again, less than Zesco's desired K6,930 or a 306 percent hike.

For customers living in low-density, demarcated and reticulated areas, standard single-phase overhead new connection charges will go up to K4,846 from K2,873, representing a 69 percent increment.

The regulator, once again, denied Zesco's proposed hike of K13,248 a connecting charge for standard single-phased overhead connections.

Bowa explained that the new charges were approved on a 70:30 cost-sharing mechanism where the customer would meet 70 per cent of the ERB's determined cost of connections, while Zesco would finance the remaining 30 per cent.

"The approved cost-sharing mechanism is meant to make connection charges affordable, especially to low-income households," said Bowa in the statement.

"In addition, the ERB has directed Zesco to implement payment options that would allow customers to pay connection fees over a 12-month period. In that regard, consumers, who would pay at least 50 per cent of the invoiced charge based on the newly approved rates must be connected promptly as though they had made the full payment.

"The cost-sharing and staggered payment mechanism are in tandem with Government's policy to promote universal access to electricity for all citizens in line with the 8th National Development Plan. Zesco is directed to implement the ERB-approved charges for all new standard connections commencing January 1, 2023."



Zambia blames Russia-Ukraine conflict for high fuel prices

BY STUART LISULO

The government says the Russia-Ukraine war is largely responsible for high fuel prices in Zambia.

In a statement, Secretary to the Treasury Felix Nkulukusa bemoans the ongoing armed conflict in Ukraine following Russia's invasion of that country back in February 2022, as disrupting the global supply chain of commodities such as crude.

According to Nkulukusa, the conflict has exacerbated Zambia's fuel pump prices, which stood at K25.89 per litre as at the end of December 2022, the second highest price for the commodity in the country's history behind the K26.50 per litre price that was pegged by the Energy Regulation Board (ERB) in April 2022.

The ERB determines prices of petroleum products using the Import Parity Pricing (IPP) model on a monthly basis.

"The Russia-Ukraine conflict has also negatively impacted developing countries such as Zambia through rising global petroleum prices, particularly in the first half of 2022, leading to higher domestic petroleum pump prices at the

time when the country embarked on petroleum reforms through which fuel subsidies were removed as part of the response to the debt crisis," Nkulukusa said.

The statement followed his remarks to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) forum on financing for recovery and development in an era of interrelated global crises in Switzerland recently.

He observed that the global crises, characterized by climate change, the Russia-Ukraine war and COVID-19, were occurring while Zambia remained in a debt crisis.

He observed that the global crises, characterized by climate change, the Russia-Ukraine war and COVID-19, were occurring while Zambia remained in a debt crisis.

But Nkulukusa added that the Zambian Government was in the process of seeking debt restructuring.

"We have commenced engagements with creditors to conclude debt restructuring, which will result in manageable debt repayment profiles. Successful debt restructuring will create fiscal space to enable the country to provide support to developmental and social sector programmes.

"This is a complex undertaking, as such, international support is required to achieve successful debt restructuring. In terms of the next key steps, we are looking forward to signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Official Creditors by the first quarter of 2023."



Public debt servicing hits nearly K3bn

BY STUART LISULO

Public debt servicing stands at more than K2 billion per month for a second successive year.

A total of K2.9 billion was disbursed in November 2022, Government data shows.

According to a Ministry of Finance (MoF) brief, K2.9 billion was spent on domestic and external debt servicing and other liabilities in November, this year, from a total of K10.8 billion that was released to finance public service delivery.

The external and domestic debt servicing expenditure was in joint second place with transfers, subsidies and social benefits, which amounted to K2.7 billion paid to both domestic and external debt owed to multilateral organisations, with the public service wage bill swallowing the highest amount of Government expenditure.

From the total K2.9 billion, only K257.6 million was released to dismantle arrears owed to suppliers of goods and services.

The government's estimated expendi-

As far back as May 2020, public expenditure on servicing the country's domestic and external debt owed to several multilateral organisations hit a staggering K2.86 billion, the highest single disbursement during that month.

ture on servicing external and domestic debt repayments alone this year was around K78,680,141,674, or approximately US \$4.5 billion, which was almost half of the entire 2022 budgetary expenditure.

From this year's available resource envelope, the government had proposed

to raise a cumulative total of around K74.4 billion as both domestic and foreign debt to finance the 2022 budget, representing around 29 per cent of the total budget.

Reliance on debt to finance this year's budget increased to K74.4 billion from K53.6 billion contracted in the 2021 budget.

And the total debt servicing on a monthly basis has remained over K2 billion for three successive years—2020 to 2022.

November's total debt servicing is the highest over the period under review, accounting for approximately 26 per cent of the entire budgetary allocation in a single month.

As far back as May 2020, public expenditure on servicing the country's domestic and external debt owed to several multilateral organisations hit a staggering K2.86 billion, the highest single disbursement during that month.



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Financial sector limiting credit to small enterprises

BY JOHN CHOLA

The financial sector has underperformed in the provision of credit to medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs), the Bank of Zambia has said.

In light of this, BoZ Deputy Governor Dr Francis Chipimo has assured that the central bank is working out corrective measures in partnership with key stakeholders such as DSIK, and the National Advisory Board on Impact Investing (NABII).

“This is why in 2023 we intend to pilot a credit guarantee scheme working with the National Advisory Board on Impact Investing (NABII). The idea is to reduce credit risk associated with lending to MSMEs working with not only financial institutions but also other players who can provide business development services,” Dr Chipimo said.

The central bank recognized that for MSMEs to invest, they needed access to capital and financial services in general.

He was speaking at the graduation of more than 59 mentors and mentees drawn from eight provinces of Zambia under the Mentorpreneur Zambia programme held Friday at the Kenneth Kaunda wing of Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka.

COLLABORATION

Mentorpreneur Zambia is a programme sponsored by German Sparkassenstiftung in Southern Africa in collaboration with the Women’s Entrepreneurship Access Centre (WEAC) and the Accelerated Growth for SMEs (AGS) Zambia to make mentor-driven capital more readily available across the country.

Dr Chipimo noted that the mentorship programme was consistent with the broad partnership between BoZ and DSIK, and congratulated the DSIK and its partners in Southern Africa for successfully supporting the mentors and mentees.

He applauded DSIK for successfully developing a mentorship programme for MSMEs with the Women’s Entrepreneurship Access Centre (WEAC), the AGS Programme and MentorMe Africa.

The Mentorship Programme’s objective was to provide standards, principles and qualification tools for mentoring MSMEs in Zambia.

After the pilot phase, the goal was to roll out a programme that met high academic and accreditation standards to support the growth of MSMEs in Zambia.

“As Bank of Zambia, we believe that an effective relationship between a mentee and their mentor contributes to the development of sustainable businesses for the mentee, which eventually leads to job creation for the country,” Dr Chipimo said.

Mentorship programmes such as this one also increased the resilience of MSMEs amid periods of destabilisation like the Covid-19 pandemic.

RELATIONSHIP

Dr Chipimo said mentorship was founded on the relationships between the mentees and the mentors which better facilitated sustainable and continuous learning as well as timely problem-solving.

He added that through mentorship, businesses were more likely to make informed and wiser borrowing and investment decisions and were therefore less likely to default on loans. Defaults on loans were a widely acknowledged problem among MSMEs.

“Being a psychology-based intervention, some intangible outcomes of entrepre-

neurship, including autonomy and work satisfaction, contribute to the resilience of start-ups against external shocks. Participants in the training become more growth-oriented by being able to add more products and services to their portfolio.” The Bank of Zambia, Dr Chipimo pointed out, recognized that the impact of the pilot Mentorship Programme, Mentorpreneur Zambia had so far been truly exceptional.

Minister of Small and Medium Enterprise Development Elias Mubanga as Guest of Honour hoped the programme would protect businessmen and women from making the same mistakes that others had made before them.

AWARENESS

“I am happy with this programme and we need to raise awareness for the MSMEs to know the diverse support and programmes that various stakeholders provide for them. It is also encouraging to note that half of the mentors trained were women. Awareness of mentoring women in business is key to avoiding discrimination and establishing sensitive language and mentoring principles,” Mubanga said.

He urged informal businesses in the country to formalize operations through registration. Doing so would enable them access to several incentives put in place by the Government, such as access to finance through the CEEC, with the businesses’ participation in preferential Government tenders targeting local MSMEs and many others.

Following the five business pitches, Fidelis Don Chulu, Angela Kapembwa, and Tungamirai Mashamba respectively emerged with the best business models and walked away with shields.

North-Western Province Permanent Secretary Colonel Gladston Wishikoti Katambi (right) with FQM Trident Lead Local Business Development Kafula Mutale Kutontkanya (middle) and Field Officer Wildlife Monitoring Charles Chilengi



NWCCI 2022 Gala rewards excellence

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

The North-Western Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NWCCI) 2022 Annual Awards Gala recently held in Solwezi has the potential to spur higher levels of individual and institutional performance in the province.

The NWCCI Annual Awards Gala happened on December 10, 2022 at Solwezi's G-Greens main hall, under the theme Pursuing Innovation for Limitless Business Opportunities. The event was aimed at sharing experiences and

recognizing the role that the business community plays in fostering regional development.

“As NWCCI, we stand committed to recognizing excellence in business and entrepreneurship, as this is a

fundamental pillar in growing the regional economy. In this regard, we yet again look forward to hosting the next event in the year 2023,” NWCCI President Mukumbi Kafuta said.

A total of 31 awards as under-listed



Phillias Malenji - Front office Manager at Kansanshi Hotel.

A total of 31 awards as under-listed were handed to the best nominees and cut across sectors as diverse as mining, banking and finance, insurance, media, logistics management and agriculture among others.

were handed to the best nominees and cut across sectors as diverse as mining, banking and finance, insurance, media, logistics management and agriculture among others.

Kafuta affirmed that the awards built on recognizing and rewarding excellence in both the private and public sectors.

He paid glowing tribute to the main sponsors of the event First National Bank (FNB), Nvumabaranda, Kansanshi Mines and other notable individuals, institutions and organizations who played crucial roles in convening this year's Awards giving gala.

During the ceremony, Kansanshi Mining Plc bagged the Mining Company of the Year award while FQM Trident scooped three awards.

Through Trident Foundation Limited, the mine scooped two awards for CSR Company of the Year while Kalumbila Town Development Corporation (KTDC) was awarded Outstanding Local Contractor Support for 2021.





First Quantum Minerals Staff members posing with the four (4) awards won at the NWCCI Gala Awards

In line with its Corporate Social Investment activities in the community it operates from, the mining giant supports sustainable initiatives in agriculture, education, health, local business development, Community WaSH and other community development projects, all aimed at improving community livelihood.

Through the local chambers, the mining company has provided opportunities for local contractors to participate in various direct and indirect mine-related projects.

In the hospitality industry, Kansanshi Hotel won the prestigious Best Hospitality Company of the Year Award, an honour the establishment has scooped for three years in a row since 2019.

“As Kansanshi Hotel, we are honoured! For me and my husband, this means that we are doing the right thing because our services are very good and we keep improving on those and as a result, we keep winning the award every year.”

“It’s a special award and we take it very seriously because it shows how proficient and hardworking we are.

And it also shows that we have been consistent and improved on many areas that have been attractive to our customers,” Kansanshi Hotel Proprietor Veronica Ryder said in an exclusive interview.

Ryder affirmed that she and her husband David Ryder provide a unique by reinvesting in the business, thereby raising standards of the hotel.

“As Kansanshi Hotel, we are honoured! For me and my husband, this means that we are doing the right thing because our services are very good and we keep improving on those and as a result, we keep winning the award every year.”



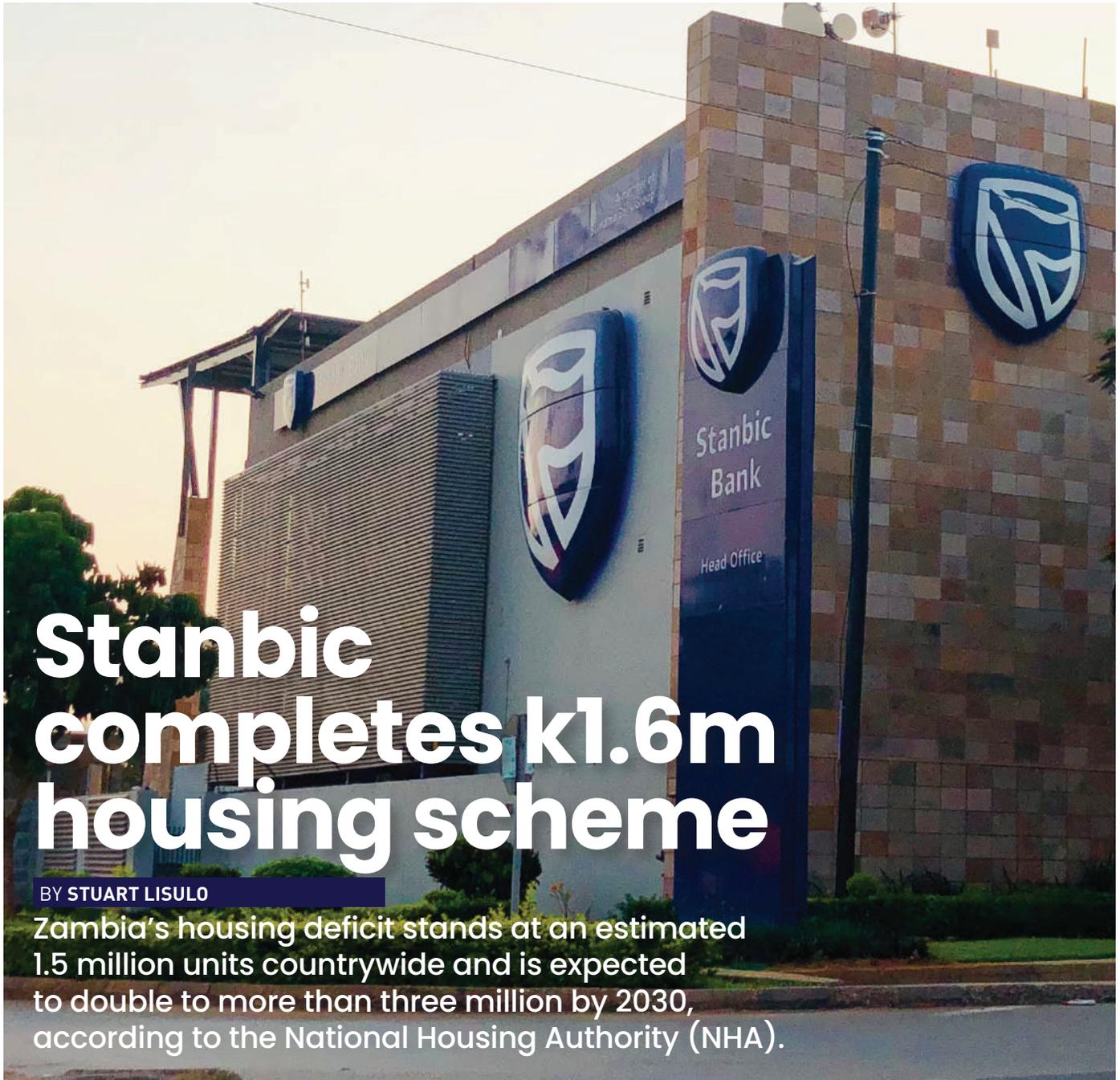
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We remain committed to the continuous improvement of our approach to responsible mining by ensuring that each aspect of our operation meets the increasing environmental performance standards.



FQM Trident Limited



Stanbic completes k1.6m housing scheme

BY STUART LISULO

Zambia's housing deficit stands at an estimated 1.5 million units countrywide and is expected to double to more than three million by 2030, according to the National Housing Authority (NHA).

Other authoritative sources, such as Habitat for Humanity Zambia put the country's housing deficit at around 2.8 million units, a figure Habitat projects to rise to an estimated 5.6 million units by 2025.

Given that the country's total population is over 17.3 million, it is clear that millions of residents do not have access to decent housing.

It is, therefore, a necessity for all stakeholders to recognize that the provision of decent shelter, being one of the basic needs, remains a top priority.

In recognizing this deep-rooted societal problem, Stanbic Bank teamed up with NGO, Habitat for Humanity Zambia, to

roll out a low-cost housing scheme in 2016 that has provided shelter to residents living in high-densely populated areas.

The scheme came to a close in December

The two 3-roomed housing units formed part of the 10 houses that had been constructed since 2016, bringing Stanbic's investment in the low-cost housing scheme to around K1.6 million.

2022, with two residents in Chilanga's Mapepe area having received two newly built houses at a cost of K160,000 per unit.

The two 3-roomed housing units formed part of the 10 houses that had been constructed since 2016, bringing Stanbic's investment in the low-cost housing scheme to around K1.6 million.

Speaking during the handover ceremony in Mapepe, one of the beneficiaries, Felistus Mweemba, hailed the Bank's initiative, saying the gesture had provided her with much-needed relief as she was previously inconvenienced by poor housing, especially during the rainy season.

"You (Stanbic) should continue with the



work so that others benefit. I used to stay in a dilapidated house such that, when people used to pass my structure, they would ask: ‘Ms. Felistus Mweemba, are you there with your children?’ I answered back, ‘yes.’ And the rain would come and go. So, Stanbic Bank, please, I’m begging you, carry on the good work so that my friends can also benefit from decent housing,” Mweemba said through a translator during a vote of thanks.

She expressed gratitude for the newly-built home as it had raised her standard of living.

“These houses are usually occupied by affluent members of society. Like, right now, I am in Kabulonga!” said Mweemba, to rapturous applause from onlookers at the handover ceremony.

And Stanbic Chief Executive Officer, Mwindwa Siakalima, explained that the Bank remained focused on contributing towards narrowing Zambia’s housing deficit, which is likely to hit more than a million units by 2030.

“I would like to thank Habitat for Humanity Zambia for their great partnership throughout the last six years. I would also like to congratulate the new homeowners, Felistus Mweemba and Grace Siatembo. We trust that our humble contribution will positively impact you and your families and provide you with better livelihoods.”

“I would like to state that our commitment is not limited to only reducing the housing deficit, but doing so by building quality and sustainable structures such as the ones we are handing over today. As Stanbic, we value gender equity and to empower our female-headed households is a very important goal to us. We believe that in empowering our women

and we ensure their growth as they truly are the backbone of our society.

“I would like to thank Habitat for Humanity Zambia for their great partnership throughout the last six years. I would also like to congratulate the new homeowners, Felistus Mweemba and Grace Siatembo. We trust that our humble contribution will positively impact you and your families and provide you with better livelihoods.”

Chilanga District Commissioner David Sheleni commended both Stanbic and Habitat for Humanity for their partnership that had culminated in the construction of the two housing units.

“It gives me great joy to witness Habitat for Humanity Zambia’s partnership with Stanbic Bank contribute to the increase of the country’s housing stock,” said Sheleni.

According to the United Nations-Habitat, an estimated three billion people will need access to adequate housing by 2030.



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Tourism body seeks K10m to revamp, rebrand

BY STUART LISULO

The Zambia Institute for Tourism and Hospitality Studies (ZITHS) needs K10 million to meet its 2023 budget.



ZITHS Chairperson Mulemwa Moonga outlined this in a meeting of the Governing Council with Tourism Permanent Secretary Evans Muhanga in Lusaka, mentioning that the Council was working around building from its Strategic Plan.

“We did find a Strategic Plan, and it is from this Strategic Plan that we’ve actually built this conversation. So, we are looking at a possible K10 million in the short term, which we will be able to break down. So, what we are proposing is a way in which, in the short-term, the K10 million is not going to be a bulk movement of money,” said Moonga.

While ZITHS was able to tap into a sponsorship relationship through CDF (Constituency Development Fund) and possibly attract some students, it was

uncertain that it would be highly appealing.

“Are we going to be that school that they want to come to? Maybe not. But if we go out with a new brand, new look and feel, it gives them a bit of hope that ‘This is not going to be something that we do for free. It is something that will re-

He lamented that the Council had not been sufficiently aggressive to rebrand the ZITHS as an institution to enable it to attract more investment from stakeholders to enable it to fulfil its mission.

quire us to put out money.’ As it is, we’ve asked that the lodging facilities be not reopened until such a time when we are confident as the Governing Council.”

Muhanga said there was a need for the ZITHS Governing Council to be more aggressive in rebranding itself to attract investment.

Muhanga observed that ZITHS had not been aggressive enough to reinvent the forward direction of the organization. “How are you positioning yourself going forward? How ambitious are you in the transformation agenda?”

He lamented that the Council had not been sufficiently aggressive to rebrand the ZITHS as an institution to enable it to attract more investment from stakeholders to enable it to fulfil its mission.

ZITHS began as the Department of Hotel, Catering and Tourism Studies of Evelyn Hone College of Applied Arts and Commerce at Zambia’s attainment of political independence from British colonial rule in 1964.

It was initially named College Hotel by around 1971 and was later renamed Fairview Hotel and transferred to the Ministry of Tourism under the National Hotels Development Corporation (NHDC) in January 1989.

But in 1991, Fairview Hotel became autonomous and the management changes resulted in the change of the name to the Zambia Institute for Tourism and Hospitality Studies (ZITHS) after the dissolution of the NHDC.

Its mission is to “provide quality training in hotel and tourism to local and international students to fulfil requirements of the labour market.”

The 10 Graduates posing for a picture after graduation ceremony



Nsanshi Art Studio cheers women with first-ever graduation

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

Nsanshi Art Studio, an all-women jewellery workshop in the Zambian mining town of Solwezi, has graduated 10 students.

The first batch of graduates of jewellery design and manufacturing were seen off at Kansanshi Hotel on Friday, December 16.

The studio, funded by Kansanshi Mining Plc, employs vulnerable women and girls from the community.

General Manager Anthony Mukutuma, through Metallurgical Manager Crosby Chongo, said empowering girls and women to excel was at the core of the company's goals.

"As a mine, this for us is a very special occasion. And if you look at the track record from Kansanshi Mine over the years, our whole belief and philosophy is that of not just empowering the area in which FQM operates but to share with the communities that we operate in, de-

Mukutuma urged the graduates to take ownership of their skills and take hold of their destiny. He encouraged them to be focused and treasure their skills as whatever they did with their hands had a market anywhere in the world.

velop them and leave a legacy there."

The General Manager said beyond mining, it was vital to enhance women's empowerment in order to help them realise their dreams.

Nsanshi Art Studio imparted rare skills in artistic expression through culture, painting and sculpturing which were, demographically, slowly shrinking skills.

"What you are seeing here is the rebirth of that rare skill in adding value to our resources so that they also give people a livelihood. When you look at the works that the ladies do, they are actually locking in the values and culture of our community."

Mukutuma urged the graduates to take ownership of their skills and take hold of their destiny. He encouraged them to be focused and treasure their skills as whatever they did with their hands had a market anywhere in the world.

"Be clear with what you want to do with the skill you have received because it's

a rare gift. But it's up to you now to actualize that gift and be great. Don't just think about Solwezi or Zambia, because what you have can actually be sold anywhere in the world. Dream big that one day you will be at an art gallery or art exhibition in Europe, America and anywhere in the world."

North-Western Province Permanent Secretary Grandson Katambi through provincial senior staffer Mununga Muhinyi hailed the mining company for empowering the young ladies in jewellery design and manufacturing.

Katambi implored the graduates to maximize their skills for their self-betterment and the well-being of the community at large.

"We are grateful that the girls are able to unlock that skill that was lost a long time ago. When we were growing up, the girls' place was always in the kitchen but now we are seeing the potential of our girls through this kind of initiative," he said.

Col Katambi has since urged traditional leaders in various chiefdoms to look after the girls by encouraging them to excel in various skills and thus avoid early marriages.

Senior Chief Mujimanzovu who was flanked by representatives from Chief Kapijimpanga expressed joy that Kansanshi Mine had once again trained young ladies in life-support skills.

"I am very aware that Kansanshi has been running similar programmes, especially at a place called Kwambula that is imparting skills to our children. This one is very unique because it is a first of its kind, and so I want to encourage our graduands today that the life skills you have acquired if properly utilized will enable you to become an employer, to live comfortably, progress and inspire others to seek a career. Thank you Kansanshi once again for igniting this money-spinner initiative among our children," the traditional leader said.

Specialist in Early Childhood Education at Kansanshi Mining Plc, Sylvia Kabaghe, disclosed that some of the graduates were survivors of gender-based violence while others came from vulnerable backgrounds. "In line with our theme today, Breaking Barriers and



Jewellery designed and manufactured by Nsanshi Art Graduates



Jewellery designed and manufactured by Nsanshi Art Graduates



Jewellery designed and manufactured by Nsanshi Art Graduates

Opening Opportunities for Women, Kansanshi is doing this through the corporate social responsibility department. We have helped others too, for instance,

children with nutritional support, early childhood, primary and secondary education with more than 200 girls in our care."

FQM Trident leads 'Green Revolution'

BY KAUSA MBASELA

First Quantum Minerals Trident has launched its version of the 2022-2023 National Tree-Planting Programme at the South East Waste Rock Dump site in Kalumbila where 60000 trees will be planted to restore forest land.



From left, Minister of Green Economy and Environment Eng. Collins Nzovu, British High Commissioner Nicholas Woolley, Trident General Manager Junior Keyser, and Trident Environmental Manager Kachiwala Sapalo

General Manager Junior Keyser discloses that 60000 indigenous trees will be planted over 19 hectares of land. Last year Trident Limited started by rehabilitating three hectares of land, aiming to cover a further five hectares by planting at least 50,000 tree seedlings within the mine during the wet season.

FQM Trident recognized the need for a healthy environment in which to operate, and on an annual basis embarked on re-vegetation activities in the mine environment with the main purpose of reducing end-of-mine life environment liabilities.

NATURAL RESOURCE

"We acknowledge the fact that trees

This tree-planting exercise we are undertaking here is not limited to just the North-Western province but must be replicated across all the provinces and districts in Zambia.

are a strategic natural resource important for life sustenance, social economic development and maintenance of the environment. As we are transforming these mine landforms for forests, we envision the new forest created will service the local communities beyond the life of the mine.

"We are committed to develop, design, and operate positive benefits to local biodiversity, protection of water resources and the efficient use of energy and other resources. The minerals we mine at Sentinel Copper Mine and soon the Enterprise Nickel Project are fundamental for energy infrastructure which puts a demand to increase production. However, we remain focussed and disciplined to deliver these metals responsibly and place a high premium on the environment we operate in."

TREE-PLANTING

The General Manager further stressed the need for investing for the future, saying tree-planting today was an investment for tomorrow. He added that the mine restoration strategies such as converting waste dumps into forests by introducing indigenous trees were not only done to meet compliance obligations or tick the box of best mining practices but there was a genuine lasting positive impact from investments made now which would yield dividends of stable landforms in the near future.

The government has commended FQM Trident Limited for the tree-planting initiative, calling on others to follow suit.

Minister of Green Economy Collins Nzovu who officially launched this year's National Tree Planting campaign emphasized the need for Government, communities, the corporate world and cooperating partners to get deeply involved in tree planting. "I would like to call upon other players to emulate this gesture and plant trees for us to save the earth from the negative impact of climate change and biodiversity loss. This tree-planting exercise we are undertaking here is not limited to just the North-Western province but must be replicated across all the provinces and districts in Zambia. Further, it is a rallying call: plant a tree and save the earth," he said.

The Minister further disclosed an investment pledge was made by the International Technical Association for Tropical Woods (ATIBT) of France to help Zambia derive maximum benefits from the timber trade which has a huge potential to enhance economic growth.

Eng. Nzovu recalled that President Hakainde Hichilema, during the COP-27 summit at Sharm el Sheikh in Egypt,



Kalumbila Tree Planting 2022



Minister of Green Economy and Environment Eng. Collins Nzovu planting a tree



Trident General Manger Junior Keyser with the tree planted in his name

“I am glad to report that, through these engagements, a feasibility study in collaboration with Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation (ZAFFICO) is underway for a full inventory of the plantation across the country.”

British High Commissioner to Zambia Nicholas Woolley said helping the country’s wonderful biodiversity and natural environment is a big priority for his government. “The UK is proud to play a role in supporting Zambia in activating green growth and natural resource management, for the benefit of all Zambians through responsible investment. Key to this is our UK-Zambia Green Growth Compact, which is helping to facilitate significant green UK investment here - including the mining sector.

“In fact, additionally 2600 megawatts by 2026 is needed to cater for the country’s projected needs, close to double of the current production. With this in mind, the UK is proud to have a pipeline of renewable energy projects in Zambia ready to produce over 1000 megawatts of power in support of those sustainability goals.”

The National Tree-Planting exercise was held under the theme, Plant a Tree and Save the Earth.

According to the United Nations REDD Programme, Zambia has around 50 million hectares of forest, with an estimated deforestation rate of 250,000 to 300,000 hectares per year.

signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the European Union (EU) aimed at sharing common responsibility for the challenges posed to forests by climate change and development needs, to enable forests to fulfil their economic, social and environmental roles.

CRITICAL

The development was critical and required wide participation by the communities and corporates to ensure effective restoration and improvement of degraded forest and deforested areas.

“In strengthening collaboration in the forestry sector, I was in Paris, France where I had an engagement with the French Development Agency, negotiated and agreed that PROPARCO, a subsid-

“I am glad to report that, through these engagements, a feasibility study in collaboration with Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation (ZAFFICO) is underway for a full inventory of the plantation across the country.”

ary of the AFD Group, through its forestry section will support the forestry sector in Zambia.

DPWN Principal Warden Operations Officer Matthews Mushimbalume (R) receiving the keys to the donated Land Cruiser from Grizzly Mining General Manager Mrs Caroline Sampa (M) and Grizzly Copper Mine General Manager Babra Kafwilo



Grizzly Copper Mine empowers Wildlife Department

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife in West Lunga received a transport boost with the donation of a Land Cruiser valued at almost K700,000 from Grizzly Mining Limited.

Principal Warden Operations Officer Matthews Mushimbalume said the donation by Grizzly Mining would go a long way to cushion the transportation challenges that the Department was currently experiencing. Mushimbalume was speaking on behalf of the Assistant Director for the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Andrew Chombo at a handover ceremony held at the Department premises in Chilanga on Tuesday, December

13. Grizzly Copper Mine (a subsidiary of Grizzly Mining Limited) was represented by General Manager Barbra Kafwilo accompanied by Grizzly Mining Limited General Manager Caroline Sampa.

Mushimbalume added that the donated Land Cruiser would ease the deployment and redeployment of officers as they attended to human-wildlife conflicts. Wildlife officers in West-Lunga Area Management Unit would now be better

able to conduct anti-poaching exercises. "The problems that the communities experience, regarding negative interaction which they experience with wildlife, such as injuries or loss of human life, destruction of property and destruction of crops in the field which farmers experience from the crocodiles, buffalos, elephants and other species, will now be responded to quickly," Mushimbalume said. He further appealed to cooperating partners to consider donating more



Donated Land Cruiser

vehicles and other resources to enhance service delivery as Government alone could not provide all requisite resources for adequate operations of the department

Grizzly Mining Limited General Manager Caroline Sampa, speaking on behalf of Grizzly Copper Mine General Manager Barbra Kafwilo, explained that in line with Grizzly Mining's Corporate Social Responsibility (CRS) programme which ensures that surrounding communities benefit from their local resources, the company had decided to donate a Land Cruiser to DNPW Kasempa unit for officers to carry out their duties effectively.

"Our organization believes in the balance of economic growth and the welfare of society and the environment, and this is why over the years we have placed emphasis on operating ethically

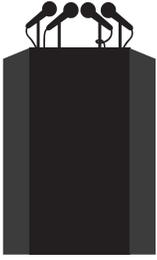
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and sustainably in all the communities where we operate. This has enabled us to enhance social values and improve the welfare of the people in the areas we operate," Sampa said. She further stated that Grizzly Mining understood the pivotal role it played as a corporate citizen with direct social responsibility in the sustainable development process, "It is, therefore, our belief that this vehicle will be of help in transport logistics to the Department of National Parks and wildlife patrols in the community of Kasempa District."

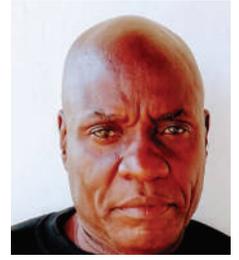


Sampa added that over the years Grizzly Mining was primarily known for operating in Lufwanyama District on the Copperbelt, noting that the expansion into North-Western Province had facilitated the partnership with the Department in line with company policy. "Our commitment is to ensure that we touch many lives in various parts of the country and also create quality jobs for the Zambian citizen," she said.

The General Manager thanked His Royal Highness Chief Kasempa for being a true agent of development and pledged continuous collaborations with traditional leaders to uplift the living standards of citizens.



HICKS SIKAZWE ON THE PLATFORM



We urgently need local development models

Recently I sat in a discussion at a local hotel in Ndola that interrogated reasons why even after so many years of Independence most African countries have not made meaningful strides in their development agenda.

At some point, some people felt perhaps donor assistance could change the landscape. So for many years the international community and erstwhile lenders have poured money into the continent for one development project or another, but not much has been achieved.

Unemployment, poverty and deaths that can be prevented seem to be rising in Africa, at higher rates than on any oth-



er continent. Yet the continent has been endowed with all manner of resources including labour that has contributed to developing Europe, the United States and other areas.

Poor infrastructure or none at all is a hallmark in Africa, to an extent that in cases where local peasants have toiled and produced maize, tomatoes and beans, they cannot easily take these products to markets because of terrible roads or none at all.

Yields like tomatoes, with a notably short lifespan, end up offloaded cheaply because farmers fear losses from the crop rotting. Pastoral farmers may also not find it easy to sell the milk to lucrative markets because of the difficulties of getting their cargo there.

“What is really the problem with us in Africa? For how long will donors keep

ploughing life-saving subventions in terms of loans grants or mere wind-falls?” one discussant wondered.

MODELS

As the discussion developed, it turned out that one of the key problems that have stagnated Africa’s development while other continents surge, are the models of development that we have adapted over the years.

Even after political Independence, the majority of African countries follow to the letter the models handed down by former colonial masters.

For instance here in Zambia, when the British were here they focused on developing regions with resources which were to the benefit of the countries they came from. That is why today the Copperbelt, Lusaka and a few other areas

are more developed than other regions.

The colonial masters wanted copper and other minerals from the Copperbelt. So towns were quickly set up with accompanying road networks. The colonialists also ensured that they built railway lines that connected all the towns in the region to make it easier to move the copper. They made sure that the railway line was connected to the main one which ran up to South Africa.

With this route Zambia's foreign exchange earner (copper) could be loaded onto wagons and carted via Lusaka, the Southern Province to South Africa and onward to foundries in Europe. As a result of the railway line, several districts were set up which now form the Southern Province.

Around these road and rail structures, the colonialists built schools hospitals and other social service outposts in the areas where they were excavating.

NEGLECTED

While the focus was centred on what are now termed urban centres, the rural areas where there were high populations were neglected. The populations in the rural areas also began trekking for the bright lights in towns and districts, so that by Independence urban populations were swelling, putting pressure on the limited facilities in urban outlets.

Unfortunately, after Independence, the same colonial model was adopted with a focus on uplifting urban areas further. Kaunda's attempt to get people who retire to go back to their villages, through a programme called Go Back To The Land eventually failed.

Even in other countries in Africa, the above model is the kind that was followed by post-colonial administrations.

By the time the discussants were coming to the end of the debate, it was resolved that Zambia and the rest of Africa need to review their models of development. There is an imperative to adapt the sort that will address the needs of the people and not of those who ruled the continent more than half a century ago.

One approach the panel recommended was to begin spreading development to rural areas. For example, in Zambia and other parts of Africa, agriculture is

among the sectors that employ the majority of people, especially at the peasant level.

Except for a few places in the continent affected by drought and other offshoots of climate change Africa still receives considerable amounts of rain to survive on. Therefore, there is a need to turn the eye to opening up rural areas rather than simply concentrating on urban centres.

PROCESSING PLANT

For example, if the Northern Province grows a lot of tomatoes, maize and groundnuts here in Zambia, Government should be thinking of setting up say a tomato processing plant in the area where the farmers can sell the crop which in turn could be producing tomato sauce for local consumption and export.

If an area grows a lot of maize, it would be helpful to set up milling plants that will produce mealie-meal, cornflakes and stockfeed for consumption and sale outside such an area. Similarly, a region growing excess ground nuts can be helped to add value to the nuts by setting up plants to manufacture oil, peanut butter and related products.

The point is that development will help the local people when ventures are centred around their needs and on products that are an outcome of their handiwork. When the rural areas are opened up it will be easier to take good roads there

The colonial masters wanted copper and other minerals from the Copperbelt. So towns were quickly set up with accompanying road networks. The colonialists also ensured that they built railway lines that connected all the towns in the region to make it easier to move the copper. They made sure that the railway line was connected to the main one which ran up to South Africa.

and extend railway networks there for easy, efficient and faster haulage of the crops grown in these regions.

LOCAL INTERFACE

Such a model which has a local interface will not only help create employment but further help to decongest the urban areas. After roads and railway networks are extended, it will be easier to take shopping malls and football stadia there.

By the end of the day, discussants agreed that unless Zambia and the rest of Africa adopt models which will provide local solutions to unemployment and abject poverty, instead of models that colonialists let more than 50 years ago, then the continent will have taken the right direction.

As someone once said, it always helps to change what is not working. The colonial model has not helped, it needs review.

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A private school with a compelling story

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

In the Solwezi District of North-Western Province, a private school with a focus on quality, efficiency and innovation is creating a compelling 'school story' which is intelligently and professionally followed through.



Fortune World Tutors led by Managing Director Mr Mukumbi Kafuta (R) pose with School Directors, Oscar Machayi (2nd Right) and Mathews Mungochi (3RD Right) with some pupils

Oscar Machayi, 32, and Mathews Mungochi, 29, are co-owners of the 380-children Emmanuel Academy which was established in 2020 immediately after they enrolled on the Kansanshi Mining Plc-sponsored Business Development Programme which is facilitated by the Fortune World Investment Limited.

"We recruited for the training in 2020 and we did all the topics. The knowledge we acquired from the training helped us with a business mindset which prompted us to open a school that has since continued to grow," Machayi said.

From inception, the school which is located at Humphrey Mulemba Park near the Solwezi Airport area has increased its staff from 9 to 14 teachers, continuing to fulfil the objective of employment creation.

In addition, during a recent mentorship visit by the FWIL tutors led by Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta in September 2021, the academy had more than 290 pupils in total from baby class to Grade

12. That number has now grown to 380 pupils 12 months later, a good sign of growth.

"Our school has also grown financially from making a profit of K900 per term to about K15,000 per term. However, our major challenge remains that some parents are not paying school fees on time, therefore creating some cash flow problems," Machayi states.

Machayi, who is also the Director of the

Machayi, who is also the Director of the academy, states that school fees averages at around K300 per term which gives the institution the potential to gross K114,000 with a profit of about K30,000.

academy, states that school fees averages at around K300 per term which gives the institution the potential to gross K114,000 with a profit of about K30,000.

He explained that the school which was not yet registered with the Ministry of Education, is now registered and has been bestowed the status of Grade Seven Examination Centre. The partners have since applied to raise the school to a Grade Nine Examination Centre with the goal of attaining Grade 12 examination centre level.

Plans are afoot to renovate the school and build a science and computer lab, alongside the acquisition of modern furniture and teaching aids. The partners now plan to own a plot where they will build their own school.

Kafuta has since urged Makayi and his team to formulate a business plan that will cater for school expansion projects in terms of revenue and facilities as well as to affiliate the academy to the North-West Chamber for enhanced business linkages.

Kyobela: Innovating against all odds

BY DERRICK SILIMINA

In her quest to start a poultry business in 2010, Grace Kyobela lacked the ability to set prices, calculate profit, and re-invest in the business.



Grace Kyobela

K yobela, 35, from Solwezi's Kazomba area, who did not have a solid business mindset realized the need to enrol in the Kansanshi Mining Plc-sponsored business training programme.

"The knowledge I acquired enabled me to start a poultry business. I started with 50 birds in 2010, which increased to 500 birds. Then, I used to rear my birds in the Kisasa area of Kalumbila district at our family poultry house," Kyobela says.

Later, Kyobela also attended another training session with Hybrid Poultry in poultry management, and after enhancing her poultry skill, began supplying chickens to World Vision in Kisasa as

well as some restaurants in Solwezi.

In 2015, after her family moved to Solwezi, she built a smaller poultry house

According to her, the tailoring business brings in about K3,500 per month through services including making uniforms, ladies' clothes, and children's apparel, while her salon brings in about K3,600 per month.

with a 250-bird capacity. However, the poultry house - which was located near Kazomba market - attracted a lot of break-ins, an unfortunate setback that prompted her to start a salon business (which is still running).

With her passion for poultry farming, Kyobela decided to continue her poultry business and is now renting a poultry house with 123 chicks.

"My capital injection for this lot was K5,500 to cater for the chicks and feed. I anticipate having about K14,400 in terms of sales with a profit margin of K9,000," she affirms.

Kyobela describes the poultry business as very profitable and in her pursuit to enhance her business acumen, she was recruited for a training session in tailoring in 2017 and is now a qualified tailor.

With her plans to go into real estate by building houses for rent on her 30 x 30m plot located in Solwezi's Urban Extension, Kyobela's business has now diversified with three main lines; poultry rearing, a saloon and, tailoring.

According to her, the tailoring business brings in about K3,500 per month through services including making uniforms, ladies' clothes, and children's apparel, while her salon brings in about K3,600 per month.

An elated Kyobela says, "Thank you Kansanshi Mine for kick-starting my business activities through knowledge. I am urging them to continue with the training to guide others."

The Fortune World Investment mentors led by their Managing Director Mukumbi Kafuta encouraged Kyobela to register her business and to continue increasing the number of birds for more profitability.



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Trident FC shoots for top-tier football

BY KAUSA MBASELA

Trident Football Club, nicknamed The Conquerors, has set out to conquer Zambian football. Playing in the second tier of the country's organized football, The Eden National Division One League, Trident FC has its eyes on reaching the very top.

The team's hard work and insatiable appetite for success have seen it meet its first target for the 2022/23 season - qualification for the ABSA Cup (currently the country's only cup tournament). The ABSA Cup is contested by teams from the top tiers of Zambian football—the top six teams from the Super League and the top two teams from the National Division One after 17 games or the end of the first half of the season.

Trident FC Board Secretary Jones Mwiza was happy to lay down the club's lofty aspirations.

"The revolution at the club is no acci-

dent. We set targets for not only the season but the next four years. There is no time to relax despite having met the first target which is qualifying for the ABSA Cup. Our hunger for success drives us to do more so that we meet set targets."

For the 2022/2023 season, the targets required to qualify for the ABSA Cup were: to win promotion to the Super League and win the League.

PLAN

"The ambition goes further than that," Mwiza explains. "The Club has also set out a four-year plan; winning promotion to the Super League, learning and

stabilizing over the next two years, and reaching for qualification to continental football in the fourth year."

This may seem unlikely, especially for a team from the less fancied North-Western Province with only two teams in the country's top league, but not impossible.

Ndola-based Buildcon Football Club were able to achieve the feat, winning promotion to the Super League in 2016 and playing continental football in 2019.

Mwiza says the Club believes in its ambition enough to invest in it.

"That is why we have made changes



Trident FC team



Some Trident FC players in action

to both the squad and technical bench. We have more experienced players like John Mwangani and Potiphar Zulu who have played Premier League Football for a long time, the former having even featured for Zambia National Team and this has brought stability to the team.

“Furthermore, we hired Israel Mwanza as coach based on his vast experience and that is already paying dividends.”

ABSA CUP

Trident FC made it to the ABSA Cup as one of the top two teams in the second tier of organized Zambian football. They closed Week 17 of the 2022/23 season joint leaders on points with Mighty Mufulira Wanderers at 32 points. The two sides were separated by goal difference with Mighty in first place having scored 23 and allowed 10 while Trident netted 18 and allowed 11.

The teams were two points ahead of

third-placed Kafue Eagles. In the last five games before the mid-season break, Trident FC had recorded three wins, two draws and one loss. Mwiza is also quick to thank FQM Trident Limited, the major sponsor of the team for its immense support in helping the Club achieve its goals. “We are arguably the best-funded team in the League because of the support we get from FQM Trident Limited. We can boast of competitive salaries, some of which can even beat teams in the Premier League. Our winning bonus for example is K3000. That has greatly helped us to motivate our players to get good results.”

SPONSORSHIP

Beyond the major financial backing from the mining company, Trident FC has a US\$40,000 kit sponsorship with Sarago Motors, a two-year medical support deal with Nvumabaranda Public Health Services, and weekly Man-of-the-Match K2000 sponsorship with Rock-

tech Conveyor Solutions.

Mwiza has further attributed the success of the team to its loyal fan base. “What could the team be without our fans who sometimes travel long distances, at their own cost, to cheer the team on? This support was especially crucial as the team beat Jumulo FC of Luanshya, securing a spot in the ABSA Cup in the process.”

He discloses that as part of the urge to develop the sport with the female gender in mind, a women’s team was established and has quickly risen through the ranks, now playing in the top tier of the women’s game. “The women’s team also has a kit sponsorship deal with Sarago Motors,” Mwiza adds.

Joint top goal scorers tied on three are Emmanuel Kalala and Jonathan Tanga nyika.

INDEPENDENCE CUP

And the Executive Committee has established an Independence Cup for local schools, now in its second year.

“It has proven to be a good nursery for talent as two players have since been signed onto the team. We are helping them develop their talent and slowly integrating them into the main thrust of the team,” he says.

Trident FC finished 10th last season after a good start leading up to Week 13, at which point the team was in fourth place.

Mwiza says part of the successful run this season is owed to lessons drawn from the only other teams in the province playing in the Super League; Lumwana Radiants and Kansanshi Dynamos.

“We learned from what they do during pre-season training and how they spend in the transfer window. That opened our eyes and pushed us to do things a little differently and we are happy with the results so far,” he adds.

Changes to both the technical bench and squad have given the team zest and depth, something that has previously been missing but now casts light on the future and could see the team become the third from the province to play Premier League football.

The year that was: 2022 news round-up

2022

BY SOLWEZI TODAY REPORTER

JANUARY

01

Known global cases of COVID-19 Pass 300 million

Fuelled by the emergence and rapid spread of the Omicron variant of the virus, the total number of reported cases of COVID-19 across the world surpassed the 300 million mark. By then most countries had lifted restrictions.

Tropical Storm Ana



A total 115 people from Madagascar, Mozambique, and Malawi were killed after Tropical Storm Ana made landfall bringing strong winds and heavy downpours in her wake. In recent years, multiple Southern African countries have experienced an increase in storms and cyclones which experts attribute to the growing climate emergency.

FEBRUARY

02

2022 Winter Olympics



The 24th edition of the games took place in Beijing, China from February 4-20, 2022. This made Beijing the first-ever city to have hosted both the Summer and Winter Games.

Russia invades Ukraine

Russian President Vladimir Putin launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine which resulted in the displacement and mass exodus of millions of people in Ukraine and caused a refugee crisis in Europe not seen since World War II.

Cyclone hits Madagascar



Just two weeks after Tropical Storm Ana battered Madagascar, the island nation faced more extreme conditions as Cyclone Batsirai landd on its shores. Also affected were Mauritius and Réunion. In all, 123 people lost their lives during the intense tropical storm.

MARCH

03

East African Community admits DR Congo



The Democratic Republic of Congo joined the East African Community (EAC) during the 19th Extraordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State. The EAC, is now made up of seven nations in the Great Lakes region of East Africa: Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

China flight crashes



A Boeing 737-89P belonging to China Eastern Airlines crashed in Guangxi, China. According to investigations, the plane experienced a steep descent mid-flight before high-speed impact with the ground. All 132 people on board (123 passengers and 9 crew members) died.

APRIL

04

Russia removed from Human Rights Council



In the midst of its on-going invasion of Ukraine, Russia was removed from the Human Rights Council. The decision was made after United Nations General Assembly voted in favour of the motion. The vote was split 93-24 with 58 countries abstaining from the vote.

Pakistan installs new Prime Minister

Opposition leader Shehbaz Sharif was elected as Prime Minister of Pakistan two days after the removal of Prime Minister Imran Khan following a motion of no confidence. The motion followed allegations of Khan mismanaging the country's economy and mishandling of the country's foreign policy.

Real champions again



Spanish giants Real Madrid won the UEFA Champions League for the 14th time, further extending their record UEFA Champions League trophies in the competitions history. Real beat Liverpool 1-0 at the Stade de France.

Monkeypox outbreak



A monkeypox outbreak is confirmed in the United Kingdom. Further testing across the globe showed the outbreak was present in Asia, Africa, North and South America, and Europe. It was the first time the viral disease had spread beyond West and Central Africa at that magnitude. To date, over 70,000 cases had been reported.

Swimming federation bars transgender athletes from women's games



FINA (Fédération internationale de natation/International Swimming Federation) during its Extraordinary General Conference voted to restrict transgender athletes from competing in elite women's competition—a move

supported by 71.5 per cent of its member federations.

Massacres in Bankass, Mali



About 132 civilians were killed by militants in the Bankass Cercle of the Mopti Region in Mali. The militants—suspected to be fighters of the Macina Katiba of Amadou Kouffā—carried out their attack over the course of two days in Diallassagou and two other villages.

Birmingham hosts Commonwealth Games



The 22nd edition of the Commonwealth Games were held in Birmingham, England, the third games to take place in England and sixth games to be hosted in the United Kingdom. A total 72 nations participated in the last games to be held under Queen Elizabeth.

Al Qaeda leader slain



The Second Emir of al-Qaeda, Ayman al-Zawahiri, was killed during a drone strike carried out by the United States in Kabul, Afghanistan. The Emir succeeded Osama bin Laden who was killed by United States-led forces in 2011.

The success of the operation was seen as a major counterterrorism victory for President Biden's administration.

Ruto wins presidential election



Kenyans elected their fifth president, William Ruto after a tense election period marred by protests, unrest, and allegations of electoral fraud. President Ruto claimed victory over long-time opposition leader Raila Odinga.

30 by 30 climate change deal signed



A historic deal during COP15 saw more than 200 countries pledge to help protect the planet's biodiversity by halting the destruction of ecosystems. The deal targets to protect 30 per cent of the earth for nature by the end of the decade and restore 30 per cent of her degraded terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems.

Copper Queens crowned champions



The Zambia Women's National Football Team emerged winners of the 2022 COSAFA Women's Cup.

en's Championship after beating hosts and South Africa 1-0 at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Gqeberha. This was the first time that the Copper Queen had lifted the regional trophy.

OCTOBER

10

Enock Mwepu forced to retire



Brighton midfielder Enock Mwepu was forced to retire at the age of 24 after being diagnosed with a hereditary heart condition. The discovery was made following an illness while on his way to join the national team during the international break. Mwepu had joined Brighton from Red Bull Salzburg in a deal worth around £20 million in July 2021.

NOVEMBER

11

FTX files for bankruptcy



The crypto firm BlockFi filed for bankruptcy in the US, as the dramatic collapse of FTX continued to rattle the industry. BlockFi was seeking court protection to restructure, settle its debts and recover investors' money. BlockFi had received a rescue deal from FTX earlier this year as the values of cryptocurrencies plunged. But FTX, a crypto exchange, tumbled as clients rushed to pull money from the platform amid doubts about its finances.

DECEMBER

12

Champions of the world



Argentina defeated favourites and defending world football champions France at the Lusail Stadium in Qatar. The 12-goal final which ended in a penalty shootout was won 4-2 by the Argentines who had last lifted the trophy in 1986. Their victory was also significant as the gold trophy was one that had eluded Captain Lionel Messi for many a year.

Pele dies



Three-time World Cup winner Edson Arantes do Nascimento, alias Pele, the greatest footballer to ever grace the field, died at the age of 82 after a battle with colon cancer. Brazil's joint all-time top goalscorer and Athlete of the Century was a passionate footballer, husband, and father. In its tribute, FIFA wrote: "He will always be The King for all eternity."



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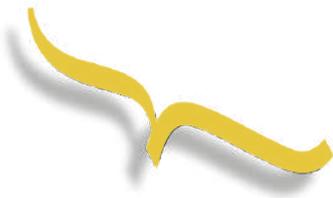
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