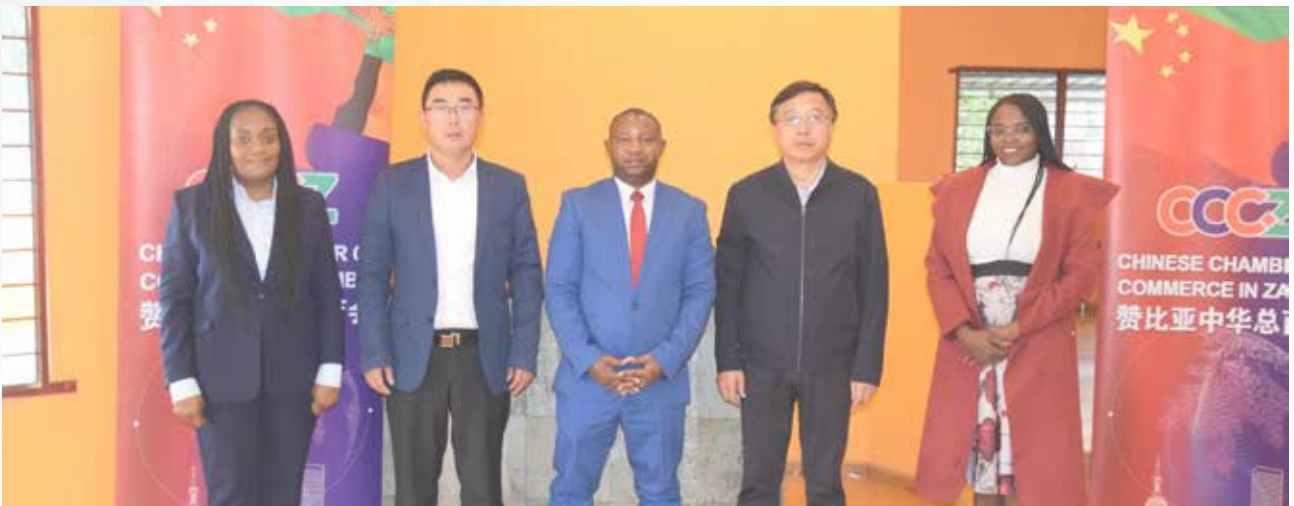


JANUARY – MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

4TH APRIL 2022



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**MR. SYDNEY MWAMBA -
ACTING PMRC EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION FOR THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a flagship project of the African Union's Agenda 2063, which is a blueprint for attaining inclusive and sustainable development across the continent over the next 50 years. The AfCFTA aims to boost Intra-African trade by providing a comprehensive and mutually beneficial trade agreement among the member states, covering trade in goods and services, investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy. The outcome of the AfCFTA will depend on whether its member states can embrace industrialization and focus on increasing their respective productive capabilities.

It has been suggested that larger economies stand to benefit more from the AfCFTA in comparison to smaller economies because of their developed industrial bases and a more diversified export base to meet the import needs of smaller economies. Although this does not mean that smaller economies will not benefit from the Agreement (for example, smaller member states could provide inputs for the products and services produced by the larger member states and thus become a part of a regional value chain), there certainly is a strong case to be made for improving industrial capacity in order to significantly benefit from the Agreement.

Industrial development will be essential if African countries are to increase their production of value-added products, expand exports of such products and reduce their trade imbalances. At present, the primary industry remains the most important one for many African countries, Zambia included. This is because of the significant contribution to GDP that the agricultural and mining sectors make. Ofa et al. (2012)¹ suggest that the implication of this dependence on the primary industry is a similarity in export structures across countries with a focus on low value-added, poorly differentiated exports. The implication of a small manufacturing sector for the AfCFTA is then that there will be low trade in finished goods which will limit the scope for intra-regional trade.

The key question then becomes how to improve the industrial base. In the case of Zambia, processing plants, multi-facility economic zones (MFEZs) and industrial yards will be critical. These all play a key role in growing the manufacturing sector and industrial base because they provide both backward and forward linkages between different sectors of the economy and produce finished goods. Moreover, they play a key role in the development and strengthening of value chains which aid industrialisation. Furthermore, Zambia should improve business

¹ Export diversification and intra-industry trade in Africa

regulations and enhance access to credit for export-oriented manufacturing firms or those with the potential to do so. Such supportive policies, along with the effective implementation of the AfCFTA, could boost the industrialisation and development of the country's economy.

Another key strategy which can be implemented is that of import substitution, which involves replacing imports with domestic production. This should especially be applied to goods coming from outside the continent. Companies such as United Capital Fertilizer Zambia Company Limited, which produces fertilizer, serve to illustrate that Zambia has the potential to pursue this strategy. Although import substitution is associated with protectionist trade policies, the strategy can be adapted to serve regional needs in addition to domestic ones.

It is also worth noting that while embracing industrialization will affect the outcome of the AfCFTA, the AfCFTA will also promote industrialization. Firstly, the Agreement will help attract foreign direct investment, especially in the manufacturing sector, as the large market can increase profit margins for external investors. Additionally, as alluded to earlier, the AfCFTA can help promote industrial development through the development of regional value chains. The development of these value chains will be aided by factors such as tariff liberalization and simplified rules of origin, and the removal of non-tariff barriers, issues which the AfCFTA seeks to address.

The potential the AfCFTA holds for the continent cannot be understated. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa has previously estimated² that the AfCFTA has the potential both to boost intra-African trade by 52.3% by eliminating import duties, and to double this trade if non-tariff barriers are also reduced. If intra-African trade is to increase, special attention must be paid to industrialization.

Recommended actions to fully benefit from the AfCFTA:

- The Zambian Government should identify the companies involved in the manufacturing sector (for example, African Milling, Zambeef and Tradekings) and provide support for them because they will play an important role in boosting intra-regional trade in the AfCFTA as trade begins. These firms deal in exportable finished goods and stand to benefit from the larger market that the AfCFTA offers.
- PMRC further urges the Government to expedite the implementation of the National AfCFTA Strategy and Implementation Plan for Zambia. One notable goal for trade in goods, as found in the strategy, is to improve domestic supply capability by stimulating production for export, especially among MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and cooperatives. To this end, each year, for ten years of implementation of the strategy, 11 SMEs will be identified, "nurtured", and supported to produce exportable products. Through Government support, these MSMEs will be introduced into an export market and will be supported in establishing a foothold and product diversity. This could serve to grow Zambia's manufacturing sector by increasing the number of finished goods being produced and thereby increasing the scope for intra-regional trade.

² Creating a unified regional market: towards implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area in East Africa.



In Zambia, the mining sector is the largest contributor to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and one of the major employing sectors. However, the sector only accounts for about 7.8% of women against 92.2% of men; this is according to Zambia's 2020 Labour Force Survey. Despite the considerable environmental and economic benefits of inclusive participation of women in the sector, such as income generation and participation in the management of natural resources, many women continue to be exploited either informally or in its auxiliary sectors with impediments for women to penetrate. Factors such as education and stereotyping of women have been identified as major gender barriers. In other similar fields, low women's participation is evidenced in the construction and energy sectors.

The emergence of organised Artisanal Small-Scale Mining (ASM) poses an opportunity for better participation of women in the mining industry. However, they tend to earn only one-quarter of what men earn in the ASM sector. In addition, women do not enjoy the same opportunities around access to, control over and benefits from artisanal mining in their communities.

A myriad of challenges negatively impacts women, such as inadequate technical skills, the cost of obtaining mining rights and related fees, limited access to financing, exploitative pricing of minerals as well as negative cultural norms and beliefs. These challenges are mutually reinforcing in nature in that various factors converge to impact women differently depending on their socio-economic status. For instance, women with inadequate access to financing are unable to meet the costs attached to obtaining mining rights which also makes their mining activities vulnerable as they operate outside the legal framework where formalisation strategies have little impact on their productivity. Similarly, they are less likely to have greater negotiating powers over their minerals, thus, limiting their potential to expand and reap the benefits of the sector. Inadequate technical skills and lack of access to geological information is also a major barrier for women to penetrate the sector and improve their financial capacity since geological information is crucial in developing bankable business proposals that can be avenues for funding. This calls for policies that promote women's economic empowerment and inclusion.

The ASM subsector has the potential to drive economic growth, alleviate poverty, and contribute to development. As a new focus is being placed on income-generating opportunities, women can be involved in the various stages of the mineral value chain. The sector presents an opportunity for locals to own their minerals and engage in

mining activities since ASM rights are reserved for local citizens as espoused in the Mines and Minerals Act of 1995. However, much of these activities remain undocumented and underdeveloped. Therefore, there is need to map formalisation strategies. Similarly, there is need to redefine the ASM subsector through the development of stand-alone legislation and directorate to adequately support the subsector's growth.

Notwithstanding the various challenges, there are growing opportunities for women to tap into non-traditional minerals such as aggregate, flat stones and pebbles, among others which are relatively easy to identify and extract. Value addition in ASM is also able to create more jobs for women and youth and encourage innovation for mineral processing. A key example is in the jewellery and artefacts industry. The processing of minerals for value addition is a critical component to increase revenue generation and derive economic benefits for women beyond ASM activities. Therefore, there is need to increase opportunities for women to earn income through value-added livelihood opportunities beyond ASM, which is directly linked to reducing poverty in artisanal mining communities. Thus, investments in processing centres such as the Gemstone Processing and Lapidary Training Centre are a critical aspect to the promotion of value addition of local minerals.

Finally, in order to advance women's engagement in the sector, there is need to improve access to financing and machinery necessary for productivity as well as build capacity and improve access to critical information such as geological information. Similarly, there is need to support the formalisation of these activities in order to account for women's contribution to the mining sector as well as extend financial and technical support to these ventures. In addition, there is need to encourage cooperatives and joint-ventures among women-led initiatives in order to facilitate economic development among women capable of contributing positively to the growth of the Zambian economy.



THE IMPORTANCE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION FOR THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a flagship project of the African Union's Agenda 2063, which is a blueprint for attaining inclusive and sustainable development across the continent over the next 50 years. The AfCFTA aims to boost Intra-African trade by providing a comprehensive and mutually beneficial trade agreements among the member states, covering trade in goods and services, investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy. The private sector will play a pivotal role in boosting intra-African trade through the AfCFTA.

According to the Trade Law Centre, in Africa, the private sector accounts for 80% of total production, 66% of investment, 75% of credit and employs 90% of the working age population. In addition, 90% of the firms within the African private sector are Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). This is also the case for Zambia where Micro, Small and Medium- sized Enterprises (MSMEs) employ the majority of the country's workforce

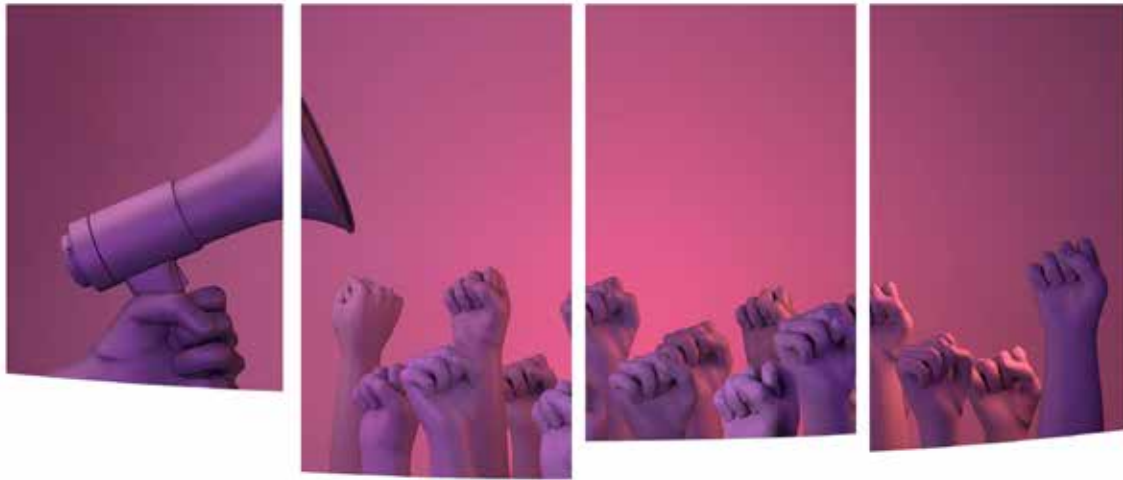
The private sector is the engine for innovation, investment, job creation, poverty alleviation and sustainable economic growth for any economy. However, the sector's participation in cross-border trade is often hindered by tariff and non-tariff barriers (including complex customs and trade procedures), high transportation costs and a lack of access to information. These are some of the issues that the AfCFTA will seek to address. It will progressively remove tariffs on 90 % of goods (with 10% of sensitive items to be phased in later) as well as resolve the challenges of multiple and overlapping memberships, both of which will make it easier for businesses to trade across the continent. The AfCFTA is also expected to enhance competitiveness of local enterprises and promote industrial development. None of this will be possible, however, unless the legal instruments of the Agreement are fully implemented. These legal instruments represent an opportunity to establish strong governance structures as well as a stable and predictable business climate when trading or investing across borders.

The AfCFTA will need to build on the work done by various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as it relates to private sector participation. For example, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat Directorates, with support from various committees, have established consultative mechanisms with the private sector on various topics, including infrastructure development, food security, customs and mining. Additionally, SADC has the Support to Industrialisation and the Productive Sectors (SIPS) programme, which is

supported by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development to facilitate expansion of regional value chains and promote dialogue between the private and public sectors. Such mechanisms and programmes must be infused into the AfCFTA negotiations and implementation of the Agreement. SADC represents just one of at least 8 RECs found across the continent, all of which have approached private sector participation differently. The progress that has been made in these RECs in terms of private sector participation is the key building block for greater private sector participation in the AfCFTA.

To further achieve success in the implementation of the AfCFTA, it will be important for the Zambian Government to actively engage the private sector at all levels because it is a key stakeholder in the Agreement. To date there has been limited direct involvement of the private sector in the negotiations of the AfCFTA, which demonstrates the importance of such engagements. To this end, it is commendable that Zambia's Minister of Commerce and Trade, Mr Chipoka Mulenga recently stated that the private sector will be briefed on the provisions of the agreement and engaged as the negotiations proceed. This will further need to include the likely impacts of the Agreement on the sector as a result of the increase in competition that will come with open borders.

The AfCFTA will not achieve any success without the involvement of the private sector. It is therefore critical that they receive the necessary support in order for them to have a major developmental impact in Zambia and Africa at large.



THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 2023 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY UNDER THE THEME: "DIGITAL: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR GENDER EQUALITY."

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The commemoration of women's day on 8th March is an appreciation and recognition of women as equal partners in development in the global community. The 2023 women's day is being celebrated under the theme "Digital: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality", which is a demonstration of a changing world that embraces technology, innovation and the digital space in blurring an array of barriers that women have historically faced while promoting gender equality and empowering all women and girls. This year's theme envisions a world where anyone can attain their goals and achieve their desired aspirations regardless of their positionality, be it their gender, physical ability, location, economic status or race.

The digital space has become a critical part of life and is envisaged to be a tool for improving the quality of life of people across the globe. The digital space also offers enhanced opportunities for access to education, health services, information, communication, work, leisure, entrepreneurship and innovation. In a world driven by innovation and technology, individuals can be able to apply themselves even in the most challenging fields of work. Technological advancements have been pivotal in diminishing socio-economic barriers and enhancing women and girls' participation and decision-making abilities in the overall development agenda. The digital space also has the potential to enhance the capacity of women to take up challenging roles and increase their contribution to national development.

The evolution of science and technology has made it possible for women to work in spheres previously dominated by men, such as the energy, mining, nautical and aviation sectors. Technology and innovation have gone beyond just blurring gender barriers but also made it possible for women and girls with disabilities to equally play greater roles. In today's world, it is possible for women with disabilities to find meaningful work through the constant evolution of technology and digitisation.

Beyond the world of work, technology and innovation through digital spaces have transformed how women access critical health information and services. Through various innovations, digital applications have been developed to tackle issues ranging from delivering vital health information to pregnant women, improving access to sexual and reproductive health services, to reporting instances of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

However, access to technology and digital spaces still remains a challenge for many women and girls in Zambia. Studies show that only about 5.8% of females in Zambia are computer literate, while the digital divide between the rural and urban areas remains at 47%, with rural areas still experiencing low digital literacy.

Furthermore, there are still gaps in the gender digital divide characterised by low digital adoption, access and use of technology among women and girls, with 37% not digitally connected, thus, limiting their access to opportunities in the digital space. Given the critical role of technology and digitisation in the now and the future, there is need to bridge the digital divide that will enhance opportunities for women and girls while addressing gender equality gaps. Additionally, the irresponsible use of the internet, particularly social media, has given rise to negative vices such as sexual harassment and SGBV, which threatens the privacy and safety of women and girls, which is on the rise in the cyberspace. This remains the downside of technology and digitisation hence the need to enhance media literacy to foster positive and responsible use of digital technology.

In recognising that innovation cannot be successful without the full inclusion of every section of society,

thus there is need to strengthen policies that promote the participation of women and girls in fields of science and technology, such as increased access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education as well as increased access to digital skills in line with global trends.

The Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) underscores the need to strengthen gender-responsive digital transformation strategies across all Government policies and programs in order to achieve a just and equitable society that responds to global problems and offers greater opportunities for women and girls in the fields of science and technology. In addition, there is need to step up efforts in fostering innovations among women and girls, particularly rural women, to develop solutions to challenges facing them in an effort to transform society into one that offers equal opportunities for all through financial and digital inclusion and the promotion of women and girls in STEM.



YOUTH DAY - TRANSFORMING MINDS FOR ACCELERATED YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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This year, Zambia celebrated youth day under the theme **“Transforming Minds for Accelerated Youth Development”**. This year’s theme was especially relevant, considering the critical importance of mindset.

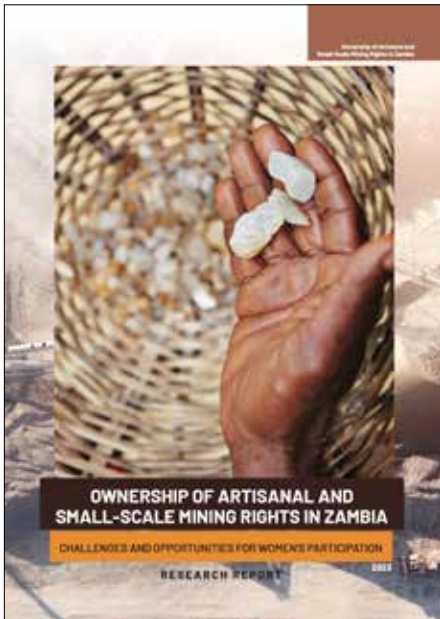
It has generally been observed that certain **negative traits are detrimental to achieving rapid progress in development. These traits include; poor time management, low productivity, poor entrepreneurship culture, poor working culture, poor reading culture and a low level of innovation.** These traits have the ability to hinder Zambian youth from fulfilling their true potential. Therefore, such traits need to be confronted and remedied whilst building on more positive traits. This calls for a change in mindset amongst the Country’s youth or, in keeping with the 2023 Youth Day theme, it calls for transformed minds.

The theme of transformed minds for accelerated youth development highlights the importance of education. Education is a critical tool in shaping individuals to contribute to the development of society. Additionally, education broadens the mind and provides alternative perspectives that can change our young people’s outlook and approach to the world. With this in mind, we must continue to celebrate the free provision of education from early childhood to the secondary school level. This will play a key role in transforming young minds for accelerated youth development.

Furthermore, the **Government must be commended for increasing its Constituency Development Fund (CDF) budgetary allocation from K25.7 million to K28.3 million in 2023. This indicates Government’s commitment to further decentralising functions to local authorities and providing the required financial resources to enable constituency-led projects to drive development.** CDF can be used as a vehicle to transform the minds of the youths by encouraging them to be entrepreneurial and innovative. So far, 29,916 youths from vulnerable families in 145 constituencies have accessed skills development bursaries. CDF has put these and many other young people in a position to shape the development of their communities and the nation at large.

The Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) urges young people to stay away from vices that could derail their full participation in the national development agenda, such as drug and alcohol abuse, theft and graft and the abuse of social media. Instead, we encourage young people to fulfil their roles and responsibilities diligently and wholeheartedly, knowing that the growth of Zambia’s economy will only be possible with their full participation.

RESEARCH REPORT

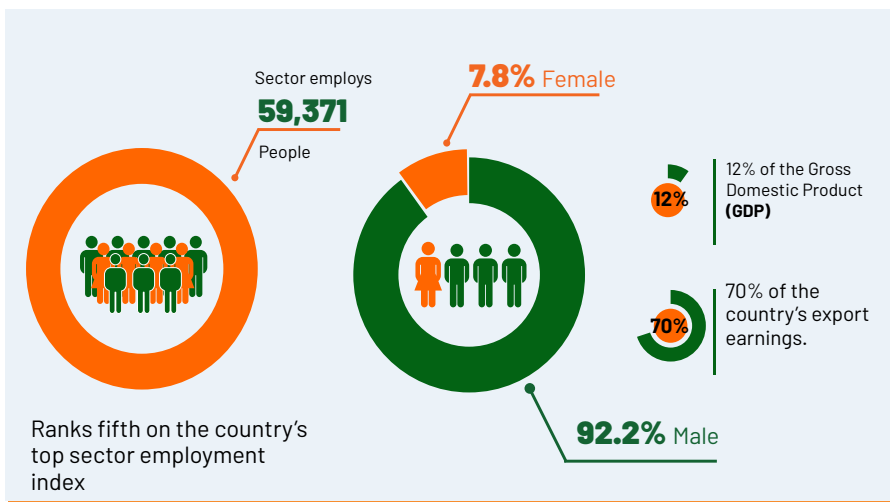


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OWNERSHIP OF ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE MINING RIGHTS IN ZAMBIA

Mining is the major driver of economic activities in Zambia, accounting for about 12% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and more than 70% of the country's export earnings¹. Further, the sector employs about 59,371 people, making it fifth on the country's top sector employment index. Of the total employed in the sector, 92.2% are male, while only 7.8% are female, exhibiting deep gender disparities².



The emergence of organised Artisanal and Small-scale mining offers better opportunities to change the gender narrative in the mining sector and enhance the social and economic position of women. However, the subsector is not immune to challenges that continue to impede women's full participation. ASM refers to small groups and individuals engaged in the low-cost and labour-intensive excavation of minerals using minimal mechanisation.

1. How Can Zambia Benefit More from Mining (2016) World Bank Retrieved from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2016/07/18/how-can-zambia-benefit-more-from-miningLabour>
2. Force Survey (2020). Retrieved from <https://www.mlss.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2020-Labour-Force-Survey.pdf>



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[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/01/THE-USE-OF-DIGITAL-FINANCING-TO-PROMOTE-SMALL-AND-MEDIUM-ENTERPRISES-GROWTH-AND-WOMEN-ECONOMIC-EMPOWERMENT-IN-AGRICULTURE.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/the-use-of-digital-financing-to-promote-small-and-medium-enterprises-growth-and-women-economic-empowerment-in-agriculture.pdf)

THE USE OF DIGITAL FINANCING TO PROMOTE SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES GROWTH AND WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN AGRICULTURE

Technological advancements through digital financing have revolutionized the financial sector by extending finances to the previously underserved/unserved Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and rural women (particularly female smallholder farmers). This has been perceived as a game changer for both SMEs and female farmers as they face numerous challenges, some of which include an unanticipated financial mismatch between their income and expenses to support their growth. Digital finance entails financial services being delivered through mobile phones, the internet or cards linked to a reliable financial system¹. It includes all products, services, technology and/or infrastructure that permits individuals and firms to access payments, savings and credit facilities through the internet without the need to visit a bank branch or deal directly with the financial service provider. To succinctly appreciate this technological drive, this work unpacks the use of digital financing to promote SMEs growth and women’s economic empowerment with a particular focus on how it mitigates SME financial constraints as well as those faced by women in agriculture.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

The PMRC team led by PMRC Acting Executive Director Sydney Mwamba submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Energy, Water Development and Tourism. The Acting Head of Research and Analysis - Leya Tembo, presented on the Tourism Sector Development and the Effectiveness of Tourism Development Strategies in Zambia.

The presentation bordered around;

- The legal and policy framework in place for the development and management of the tourism sector in Zambia.
- The institutional framework and the capacity of institutions promoting and managing the tourism sector in Zambia.
- The various Government tourism development/promotion strategies in Zambia.
- The resilience of the strategies against external shocks.
- The state of infrastructure to support the tourism sector in Zambia.
- The challenges and way forward.
- Policy Recommendations.



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[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/01/TOURISM-SECTOR-DEVELOPMENT-AND-THE-EFFECTIVENESS-OF-TOURISM-DEVELOPMENT-STRATEGIES-IN-ZAMBIA.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/tourism-sector-development-and-the-effectiveness-of-tourism-development-strategies-in-zambia.pdf)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Planning and Budgeting. The PMRC Acting Executive Director, Sydney Mwamba and Acting Head of Research and Analysis –Leya Tembo, presented a Review of the 2022 Third and Fourth-quarter Budget Performance.

The presentation bordered around;

- Expenditure monitoring and tracking of the budget by PMRC.
- Macroeconomic and fiscal policy performance for the third and fourth quarter of 2022-12-22 .
- General economic budget performance during the third and fourth quarter of 2022.
- Recommendations.



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[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/01/REVIEW-OF-THE-2022-THIRD-AND-FOURTH-QUARTER-BUDGET-PERFORMANCE.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/review-of-the-2022-third-and-fourth-quarter-budget-performance.pdf)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team, submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Cabinet Affairs. The Acting Head of Monitoring and Evaluation- Esther Besa presented on the Implementation of the National Monitoring and Evaluation Policy in Zambia.



PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Health, Community Development and Social Services. The PMRC Acting Executive Director, Sydney Mwamba and Researcher -Chisengele Chibuta, presented a Review of the Operations of the Zambia Flying Doctor Service.



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[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/02/PMRC-PARLIAMENTARY-PRESENTATION-A-REVIEW-OF-THE-OPERATIONS-OF-THE-ZAMBIA-FLYING-DOCTOR-SERVICE-1.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/PMRC-PARLIAMENTARY-PRESENTATION-A-REVIEW-OF-THE-OPERATIONS-OF-THE-ZAMBIA-FLYING-DOCTOR-SERVICE-1.PDF)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Planning and Budgeting. The Acting Head of Monitoring and Evaluation—Esther Besa and Research Fellow – Sharon Williams, presented on the Effects of illicit Financial Flows on the Budget and its Sustainability in Zambia.



[LINK](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/PMRC-Parliamentary-Presentation-Effects-of-Illicit-Financial-Flows-on-the-Budget-and-its-Sustainability-in-Zambia.pdf)

[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/02/PMRC-PARLIAMENTARY-PRESENTATION-EFFECTS-OF-ILLICIT-FINANCIAL-FLOWS-ON-THE-BUDGET-AND-ITS-SUSTAINABILITY-IN-ZAMBIA.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/PMRC-Parliamentary-Presentation-Effects-of-Illicit-Financial-Flows-on-the-Budget-and-its-Sustainability-in-Zambia.pdf)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

During today's Parliamentary presentation, the PMRC team, submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Transport, Works and Supply. Researcher -Chisengele Chibuta, presented on the Operations and Management of Zambia Airways – Challenges and Opportunities.



[LINK](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-presentation-the-operations-and-management-of-zambia-airways---challenges-and-opportunities.pdf)

[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/02/PARLIAMENTARY-PRESENTATION-THE-OPERATIONS-AND-MANAGEMENT-OF-ZAMBIA-AIRWAYS---CHALLENGES-AND-OPPORTUNITIES.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-presentation-the-operations-and-management-of-zambia-airways---challenges-and-opportunities.pdf)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team, submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Education, Science and Technology. Acting Executive Director –Sydney Mwamba and Researcher- Kaputo Chiwele, presented on the Free Education Policy in Zambia: Opportunities and Challenges.



[LINK](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-presentation-written-memorandum-on-the-free-education-policy-in-zambia-opportunities-and-challenges.pdf)

[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/02/PARLIAMENTARY-PRESENTATION-WRITTEN-MEMORANDUM-ON-THE-FREE-EDUCATION-POLICY-IN-ZAMBIA-OPPORTUNITIES-AND-CHALLENGES.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-presentation-written-memorandum-on-the-free-education-policy-in-zambia-opportunities-and-challenges.pdf)

PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION

The PMRC team, submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on National Guidance and Gender Matters. Research Fellow – Sharon Williams presented on Achieving the 50/50 Gender Parity in Governance and Decision-Making Positions in Zambia.



[LINK](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-submission-gender-parity-.pdf)

[HTTPS://PMRCZAMBIA.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2023/02/PARLIAMENTARY-SUBMISSION-GENDER-PARITY-.PDF](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/parliamentary-submission-gender-parity-.pdf)

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

PMRC Acting Head of Research and Analysis Leya Namonje Tembo presenting on Social Development Strategies to Enhance Women's Economic Participation and Opportunity at the newly launched Africa branch of the International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD) which hosted its inaugural colloquium from 14 - 15 March 2023 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The colloquium themed, "When Crises Collide: Social Development Responses to Intersecting Crises in Africa," was hosted as an intimate in-person gathering of eminent social development experts from across the African continent. The Colloquium was attended by participants from Zambia, Malawi, United Kingdom, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Botswana, South Africa, Australia, Tanzania and Lesotho.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

PMRC Acting Executive Director Sydney Mwamba presented on Policy Interventions on the 2022 Economic Performance and 2023 Budget Execution during the Townhall Forum on the 2022 Economic Performance and 2023 Budget Execution hosted by the Ministry of Finance and National Planning.



PMRC Acting Executive Director - Sydney Mwamba paid a courtesy call on the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Zambia (CCCZ) President Prof. Tie Li to discuss various developmental and research aspects.

Others present during the meeting included: PMRC Acting Head of Research and Analysis - Leya Tembo, PMRC Head of Communication and Grants - Melody Simukali and CCCZ Executive President - Huang Jibo.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

PMRC Acting Executive Director - Sydney Mwamba met with Lusaka Chamber and Commerce and Industry President - Alexander Lawrence and International Relations and Cooperation Consultant Maria Chibansa Branchetti based in Italy to discuss various research aspects key to Zambia's economic transformation agenda.



INFOGRAPHICS

Monetary Policy Committee Statement 15th February 2023 - Infographic



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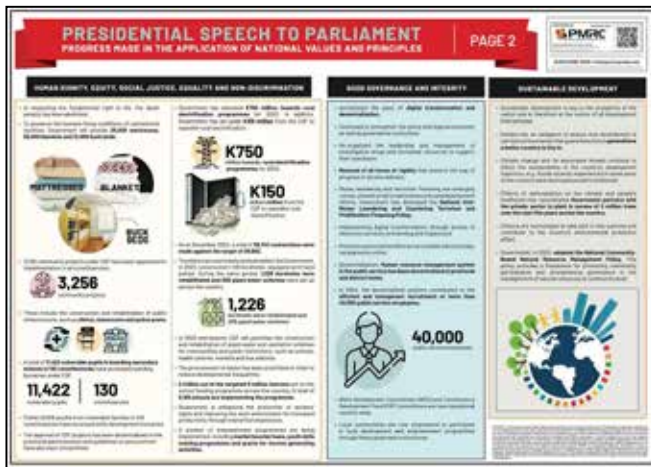
PMRC Presidential Speech Infographic on Application of National Values and Principles – Part-1



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PMRC Presidential Speech Infographic on Application of National Values and Principles – Part-2



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Zambia's Energy Mix and Climate Change- the need for Energy Diversification



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