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FEEDER ROADS GET K927 MILLION.

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CAMFED ZAMBIA AWARDED \$50,000 UNESCO PRIZE FOR ADVANCING GIRLS' EDUCATION

Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED) Zambia, has won the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education consisting of US \$50,000, for its outstanding and innovative contributions to advance girls' and women's education in Zambia.

The prize established in 2015 with funding from the Government of the People's Republic of China is presented annually to two laureates to help further their work on girls' and women's education.

During the ceremony at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, CAMFED Zambia National Director, Ms. Namenda Malupande, represented by CAMFED Association Development Executive Director, Ms. Fiona Mavhinga, was awarded alongside Promoting Equality in African Schools (PEAS) Uganda for its programme focused on empowering schools for adolescent

girls in Uganda through building safe, gender-responsive school environments.

CAMFED Zambia has been awarded for its holistic support for girls to complete and succeed in secondary school. Since its establishment in 2001, CAMFED has operated in 50 districts and 1,408 schools across Zambia, supporting 617,875 girls and young women in rural areas to enrol and complete secondary school, equipping them with the skills needed to transition into work and leadership roles in their communities.

The nomination submitted by the Permanent Delegation of Zambia to UNESCO highlights how CAMFED revolutionizes girls' education delivery through a three-tier model that supports girls' empowerment and life opportunities. Firstly, the organization implements a comprehensive support system targeting the

most marginalized girls, addressing barriers to their attendance and success in secondary school through financial, social, learning, and community support.

The second level focuses on enabling girls to transition from school into further education or meaningful work. The third level involves CAMFED partnering with governments to embed their proven approaches for supporting marginalized girls into national school systems. In a speech read on behalf of UNESCO Director General Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Assistant Director General for Education Ms. Stefania Giannini commended the laureates' nominations for highlighting the power of girls' education as a catalyst for equality and enduring change.

This is contained in a statement made available to Solwezi Radio by first secretary Press at the embassy of Zambia in Paris Naomi Mweemba. **By Cynthia Nkhata**

MAMBWE COUNCIL TO BENEFIT FROM WORLD BANK CAPITAL GRANT

Mambwe Town Council says it is among the local authorities that have qualified to benefit from the Capital Grant funded by World Bank under the Zambia Devolution Support Programme (ZDSP), to a tune of K2.2 million.

The World Bank Programme seeks to support Government's decentralization agenda by strengthening the financial and institutional capacities of local authorities. Council Secretary John Mwanza, disclosed that the local

authority is yet to implement two key projects to enhance revenue. Mr. Mwanza explained that the Council has identified the construction of a mini bus station to be funded by the K2.2 million grant.

"Initially, the Council was supposed to construct Chalets at its guest house at a cost of K2.7 million, the initial grant amount which was supposed to be given to each local authority before it was reduced to the current

He was speaking during the third ordinary Council meeting.



OMCAZ IMPLORES GOVERNMENT TO TAKE 50% STAKE IN FUEL PROCUREMENT

By Elias Mwenda

Oil Marketing Companies Association of Zambia (OMCAZ) has called on government to take a 50 percent stake in procurement of fuel to avoid supply disruptions on the domestic market.

Speaking in an interview with Money FM News, Association President Dr. Kafula Mubanga said government's involvement in fuel importation and supply will warrant national fuel security.

Dr. Mubanga added that when the oil sub-sector is run by the private sector, government has little say over its operations except setting policies.

"In Zambia, policies are not strong enough to control what the private sector does and operations can be compromised because government does not inject money into it," Dr. Mubanga said.

He also called for government's

intervention on the current shortage of petroleum products in the country.

"The current challenges require the Ministry of Energy to come in and address them rather than leaving the Energy Regulation Board (ERB) to handle them," he asserted.

Dr. Mubanga further noted that for fuel supply to normalize, there is need for bilateral engagements between

government and suppliers.

He also attributed the current importation challenges to external factors such as wars in fuel producing regions.

According to Energy Regulation Board, the country is facing fuel importation challenges due to delays in tanker clearance at multiple border posts.



GOVERNMENT SIGNS 22 CONTRACTS FOR FEEDER ROADS PROJECT AT K926.9 MILLION

By Cecilia Chiluba

Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development has signed 22 contracts for the rehabilitation of 701.6 kilometers of selected feeder roads in various parts of the country at a cost of K926, 900, 256.56.

Ministry's Permanent Secretary for Administration, Maambo Haamaundu said this is in a bid to open up hard to reach areas by providing them with road infrastructure for transportation and accessibility of new avenues for economic growth as well as empowerment.

Mr. Haamaundu stated that the 22 contracts will also involve the construction of drainage systems and installation of modern culverts.

He added that the 42.8 kilometers of the Nshindaila-Chungu-Kalaba and Chungu-Mutondo -Kasaba feeder road in Lupososhi District will be done at a cost of K98, 201, 192.23.

"In the same district, there will be rehabilitation of 43.3 kilometers of M3 Chungu and Kabangalala-Chiyongoli feeder

road at a cost of K57, 743, 532.16."

"In Kalumbila district, there are two projects involving the rehabilitation of 66.4 kilometers of Musele-Mwafwe feeder road at K93, 502,431.85 and 32 kilometers of Lukendo feeder road at K47, 958, 063.14," Mr. Haamaundu stated.

He added that in Mambwe district, Government will rehabilitate 33.5 kilometers of D104 to Msoro road via Chikowa feeder road at a cost of K41, 289, 905.36, among other Districts.

"As Government we are committed to linking communities in rural areas to various economic activities."

"Government's desire is to continue improving the social and economic status of people," he added.

Mr. Haamaundu called on contractors to utilize the expertise of young people who have been trained under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) skills development as a way to empower them.



CFU URGES FARMERS TO EMBRACE EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION FARMING AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

By Elias Mwenda

Conservation Farming Unit (CFU) has encouraged farmers to embrace effective agricultural practices to ensure a successful recovery year.

Speaking during a meeting with farmers in Serenje, Organization Project Coordinator Dr. Oliver Bulaya, stated that it is important for farmers across the country to adopt conservation tillage systems.

Dr. Bulaya emphasized the importance of shifting away from conventional farming methods, which have historically led to significant losses. Now is the time for farmers to learn from past mistakes and focus on

sustainable practices that enhance productivity and resilience," Dr. Bulaya said.

He highlighted Government's commitment to supporting farmers through the provision of mechanization implements via farmer training centres.

"These resources are designed to improve service delivery and facilitate the adoption of advanced agricultural techniques," he added.

Dr. Bulaya further encouraged all farmer coordinators and farmers to take full advantage of these implements, particularly the tractor-drawn

rippers, which are essential for preparing land effectively.

"It is disheartening to see that despite the challenges posed by conventional tillage, a significant number of farmers continue to rely on conventional farming. We must change this narrative," Dr. Bulaya emphasized.

He further called on all stakeholders to unite in the pursuit of sustainable farming practices that not only enhance productivity but also protect our environment for future generations.



ZAMBIA SEEKS TO ATTRACT MORE GREEN INVESTMENTS *By Cecilia Chiluba*



Minister of Green Economy and Environment says Zambia is seeking strong international partners to scale up green investments.

of the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

Mike Mposha said this when he addressed the joint sessions of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)'s 13th Session of the Assembly and the 17th Session of the Council at GGGI Headquarters in Seoul, Korea.

"Climate Change poses systematic risks to African economies, infrastructure, water and food systems, Public health, Agriculture and livestock, threatening to undo the Continent's modest development gains," Mr. Mposha stated.

Mr. Mposha stated that Zambia looks forward to strengthening its relationship with GGGI and other partner countries to help enhance green investments.

Meanwhile GGGI President and Chairperson, Ban Ki Moon, commended Mr. Mposha for conveying Zambia's strong commitment to champion the interests of the African Continent.



He added that employing innovative instruments such as green bonds and debt-for-nature swaps would support funding for renewable energy and biodiversity conservation.

"While working as United Nations Secretary General, I repeatedly said that without addressing challenges of Africa, we will never be able to declare that we are living in a sustainable world."

"Zambia's ability to strategically utilize climate finance and its significant nature-based endowments would be crucial in becoming a low-carbon and green economy," Mr. Mposha noted.

"This is what I believe and what most Member states believe, and we have to do much more for African development," Mr. Ban asserted.

He told the 48-member international grouping that Zambia is committed to utilizing its abundant resources to develop a low-carbon, resource-efficient, resilient and socially inclusive economy.

The Global Green Growth Institute, is a treaty based international organization formed in 2012, and it is dedicated to promoting sustainable economic growth in developing countries as well as emerging economies.

"Our goal is to foster growth that is profitable and environmentally and socially responsible," he added.

It has 48 member states and is headquartered in Seoul, Korea.

He however noted with concern that despite Africa's low contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, the Continent remains one

Zambia joined the GGGI in 2023.



In the life of a political party, two events stand above all others: winning power and authority, and losing them. What happens in between is dictated by how public perceptions are managed—not merely by what a party claims to be doing, but by how people think it is doing. It is this gap that ultimately determines survival or defeat.

One needs only to glance at Zambia's political history to see the truth of this. The late President Sata was a master of controlling the narrative, using propaganda to cement his position. His administration's control over public perceptions rendered opponents almost invisible.

Similarly, President Banda's fall was largely a result of poor public perception, not necessarily poor performance. The lesson here is clear: those who control the narrative control power and authority.

Yet, the United Party for National Development (UPND) administration under President Hakainde Hichilema seems alarmingly unaware of this. More than three years in power, the UPND's communication channels remain clogged, reactive, and disorganized.

WHAT IS THE UPND ADMINISTRATION'S COMMUNICATION STRATEGY?

There is no coherent strategy, no proactive agenda-setting—just a series of reactions to events that they should be anticipating. The party is on life support, with ministers and members of parliament seemingly detached from the very political machinery that put them into power.

The UPND's failure to understand that politics is about controlling both the message and the narrative has led to an erosion of public confidence. Politics, at its core, is about the distribution of power, authority, and resources, and maintaining these requires public support. But this support is only sustained when public perception remains in your favor.

When people express dissatisfaction with the high cost of living and economic hardship, the UPND's reflexive response has been to blame the previous administration. While it is true that the Patriotic

Front (PF) left behind significant problems, continuing to pass the buck three years later is not a viable strategy.

The UPND must acknowledge the public's concerns and address them with empathy and substance. Instead of merely criticizing the PF for failing to diversify the energy mix, the UPND should focus on presenting solutions—expanding energy capacity and promoting

energy diversification. This failure to communicate has permeated the entire administration. UPND ministers, perpetually walking in the shadow of President Hichilema, offer half-hearted and unresearched responses, further fueling public outrage. Party functionaries, frustrated by unmet expectations,

now feel alienated and abandoned.

The initial patience among the youth and rank-and-file members has worn thin, with only a few voices like Gilbert Liswaniso attempting to manage the growing frustration.

The UPND's internal communication failures have also spilled over into governance. Ministers are overwhelmed, party

officials are disgruntled, and the party itself appears directionless. The once vibrant energy of the UPND's rise to power has dissipated, replaced by a sense of stagnation and helplessness.

The UPND's reliance on divisive figures to communicate their message has compounded the problem. The Permanent Secretary of

Information and Media, for instance, is antagonistic and emotionally charged, while the so-called communication consultants the party employs continue to belittle the Zambian public.

This approach is a colossal blunder. Instead of bridging the gap between the party and the people, it widens it.

At this moment, both the UPND as a party and its administration have failed to set the national agenda. As a ruling party, they should be controlling the narrative, steering the conversation, and guiding public opinion.

Yet, they are perpetually on the defensive, always firefighting instead of anticipating crises. The opposition's propaganda machine, particularly the PF's, has capitalized on this weakness, constantly putting the UPND on the back foot.

Consider the rise of figures like the PF's communications team, once dismissed as clowns by many. Today, their allegations and innuendos against the UPND are gaining traction. The UPND's inability to effectively counter such propaganda only strengthens their opponents.

Ultimately, the UPND's failure to manage public perceptions will cost them. Their lack of a coherent communication strategy is not just a weakness—it's a ticking time bomb. Even if they continue to make strides in economic development and governance, they will lose power if they don't win the perception battle. Politics is not just about running a competent administration; it's about convincing the public that you are running one.

The UPND must realize that the opposition is not just the PF or any other political party—it's the Zambian people themselves. If the people lose faith, they will turn to anyone, no matter how unlikely a candidate.

The UPND has the best agenda on the political landscape today, but that alone will not secure their future.

Without a drastic shift in how they communicate and control the narrative, the UPND risks losing power as quickly as they gained it.

MONEY EDITORIAL

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SEVERAL LIVESTOCK DIE IN GWEMBE DISTRICT DUE TO DROUGHT

By Cecilia Chiluba

Gwembe Member of Parliament has disclosed that several livestock in the district are dying due to drying up of water sources and lack of adequate grazing areas caused by the drought.

Mr. Sumuzingili explained that the situation has caused serious panic and stress among the livestock farmers who do not have means to that their animals are well taken care of.

measures to prevent more livestock from dying.

He however commended Government for coming up with several interventions to address the adverse hunger in the district and country at large.

"Government has been providing people with

money and good through various ventures such as the Cash for Work Programme, Community FRA maize sales Programme and Food for Work Programme, among others," Mr. Sumuzingili noted.

Meanwhile, some livestock farmers have appealed to Government to consider drilling more boreholes to make it easy for them to provide water for their animals.

Tyson Sumuzingili said all grazing areas in most of the district have completely dried up, leaving livestock with no where to graze from

He appealed to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, to speed up the Distribution of hay and stock fees planned as part of the hunger mitigation



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CHINA'S ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN DEEPENS



China's economy expanded in the third quarter at the slowest pace since early last year, as the country struggles to boost flagging growth. On an annual basis, gross domestic product (GDP) rose by 4.6% in the three months to the end of September, according to China's National Bureau of Statistics.

That is less than the previous quarter and below the government's "around 5%" target for this year. But it was slightly better than analysts expected, while other official figures released on Friday, including retail sales and factory

output, also beat forecasts. In recent weeks, Beijing has announced a number of measures aimed at supporting growth. This is the second quarter in a row that China's official measure of economic growth has fallen below the 5% target, which will add to government concerns.

"The government's growth target for this year now appears in serious jeopardy," the former head of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) China division, Eswar Prasad told BBC News. "It will take a

substantial stimulus-fuelled boost to growth in the fourth quarter to hit the target."

But Moody's Analytics' economist, Harry Murphy Cruise, was more optimistic. The stimulus measures are "likely to propel the economy to its around 5% target for the year", he said.

"But more is required if officials are to address the structural challenges in the economy." Official figures also showed new home prices fell in September at the fastest pace in almost a decade, indicating that the downturn in the

property sector is worsening.

"The property market unsurprisingly remains the biggest drag on China's growth," said Lynn Song, chief economist for greater China at banking giant ING.

"New investment is unlikely to see a substantive recovery until prices stabilise and housing inventories decline... until then property will remain a notable headwind to growth." Earlier on Friday, China's central bank said it had held a meeting to call on banks and other financial institutions to boost lending to help support growth.

Last month, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) announced the country's biggest stimulus package since the pandemic, including large cuts to interest and mortgage rates. The plans also included help for the flagging stock market and measures to encourage banks to lend more to businesses and individuals. Since then, the Ministry of Finance and other government bodies have unveiled further plans aimed at boosting economic growth.

The world's second largest economy has been hit by a number of challenges, including a property crisis, as well as weak consumer and business confidence.

META FIRES STAFF FOR BUYING TOOTH PASTE, NOT LUNCH

Workers at Meta have reportedly been sacked for abusing the tech firm's meal voucher system, such as using it to buy toothpaste and washing powder.

Other breaches of the policy included sharing the vouchers with others or going over budget, according to people who said they work at Meta.

There are differing accounts over how much warning, if any, the owner of Instagram, Facebook and WhatsApp gave the workers before firing them.

Separately, the company has reportedly cut jobs across the business. Meta has been contacted for comment.

Meta staff are given \$25 (£19) for lunch, \$20 for breakfast, and \$25 for dinner in vouchers which are meant to be used for ordering food from Grubhub, the US name for

takeaway website Just Eat. Posts on anonymous work social message board Blind appear to confirm elements of the story, originally reported by the Financial Times.

One user wrote that more than 30 people were fired last week because they used the credits for "non-food items, shared credits with people, or went above budget".

Examples of the non-food items bought included toothpaste, toothbrushes and wine glasses. "They were given a warning to stop which most of them did, but were still fired three months later even after stopping," the user said.

Some repeated the claim the staff were warned, though other users wrote that there were no warnings.

The company has also reportedly made job cuts at WhatsApp,

Instagram and Reality Labs, its virtual reality business responsible for the Oculus headset.

Jane Manchun Wong, a former security engineer at Meta, said on Wednesday that she had lost her job as part of the wider layoffs.

"I'm still trying to process this but I'm informed that my role at Meta has been impacted," she wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

Ms Wong was hired just over a year ago as a software engineer after making 2022's Forbes 30 under 30 list.

The layoffs were first reported by Verge, with a spokesperson telling the tech publication: "A few teams at Meta are making changes to ensure resources are aligned with their long-term strategic goals and location strategy."

"This includes moving some teams to different locations, and moving some employees to different roles. In situations like this when a role is eliminated, we work hard to find other opportunities for impacted employees."

EXCHANGE RATES

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Indicative Foreign Exchange Rates

Rate Sheet no.

525

	International Cross Currency Rates				Kwacha Local Currency Rates			
		Buying	Selling		Buying (Cash)	Buying (TT/TCs/BN)	Selling (Cash)	Selling (TTs/TCs/BN)
United States Dollars	USD	1.0000	1.0000	USD	26.5066	26.5066	26.9201	26.9201
British Pounds Sterling	GBP*	1.2720	1.3176	GBP*	34.4069	34.4069	34.9437	34.9437
Euro	EUR*	1.0632	1.1014	EUR*	28.7596	28.7596	29.2083	29.2083
South African Rand	ZAR	17.3409	17.9653	ZAR	n/a	1.4978	n/a	1.5211
Swedish Kroner	SEK	10.3122	10.6820	SEK	n/	2.5188	n/	2.5581
Swiss Francs	CHF	0.8492	0.8800	CHF	a	30.5816	a	31.0587
Danish Kroner	DKK	6.7383	6.9793	DKK	n/	3.8549	n/	3.9151
Norwegian Kroner	NOK	10.7289	11.1145	NOK	n/	2.4209	n/	2.4587
Japanese Yen	JPY	146.6864	151.9354	JPY	a	0.17708	a	0.1799
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	CNY	6.9803	7.2300	CNY	n/	3.7213	n/	3.7793
Tanzanian shilling	TZS	2660.7000	2776.0250	TZS	0.00973	0.00973	0.00986	0.00986
Kenya Shilling	KES	125.9300	131.4425	KES	n/a	0.2055	n/a	0.2087
Botswana Pula	BWP*	0.0733	0.0761	BWP*	n/a	1.9853	n/a	2.0163

*Base currencies

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COSAFA TO IMPLEMENT VAR IN FINAL GROUP MATCHES *By Lucky Chama*

COSAFA has revealed that it will introduce the use of the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) in the final round of group matches at the 2024 COSAFA Women's Championship.

The tournament is to be staged in Gqeberha, South Africa from October 22-November 2 and will contain a record 14 teams, making it the largest women's senior competition

on the African continent. Last year COSAFA used VAR from the semifinals onwards, but this time will extend that to the final round of group games too, making it nine fixtures that will have the system in place.

According, COSAFA there are not enough certified referees in the region to implement VAR in all the matches at the tournament, stating that it working on having more certified referee to fully roll out the system throughout the

According, COSAFA there are not enough certified referees in the region to implement VAR in all the matches at the tournament, stating that it working on having more certified referee to fully roll out the system throughout the

MATERO MAGIC RECEIVES FINANCIAL BOOST OF K5, 000 AHEAD OF NEXT WEEK'S BAL QUALIFIERS *By Lucky Chama*

Zambian champions Matero Magic Basketball Club have received a financial boost of K5,000 from FSI Outsourcing.

The donation will be channeled towards Matero Magic's preparations for the Road to Basketball Africa League (BAL) qualifiers tournament, which will take place in Harare, Zimbabwe, from October 22nd to 27th, 2024.

FSI Outsourcing Chief Operations Officer Shadreck Banda says the assistance is

intended to cover preparation costs.

Banda says the partnership with Matero Magic demonstrates his firm's commitment to promoting the growth of local sports and talent identification.

And Matero Magic Treasurer Beford Makabakano thanked FSI Outsourcing for the gesture, saying it will help to reduce the cost of tournament preparations. Makabakano has called on the corporate to come on board and support the club in its preparations for the BAL qualifiers.



'FAIRYTALES AND LIES' - TEN HAG CONDEMNS JOB REPORTS

Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag has accused the media of making up "fairytales and lies" about his future.

Ten Hag went into the international break under huge pressure after a run of five games without a win, which included the embarrassing 3-0 home defeat by Tottenham.

Former England midfielder Jamie Redknapp told Sky Sports after that Spurs loss that he felt Ten Hag was "out of his depth".

With United 14th in the Premier League, many felt the 54-year-old would be dismissed during the international break, particularly as

members of the Glazer family attended a pre-planned United board

meeting with co-owner Sir Jim Ratcliffe and other members of the club's hierarchy in London last week.

However, Ten Hag remains in post and says journalists have deliberately ignored his post-match comments after the goalless draw at Aston Villa on 6 October, when he said "we are on one page" about the backing he was receiving at Old Trafford.

"The noise is only coming from some of you, creating stories and fairytales and bringing lies," he said.

"I know we are on one page at this club. I said this before the break. I told several journalists. Probably the journalists didn't believe me because I saw the reports. But internally, it is quiet."

It is five years since United went six games without a win in all competitions.

It is five years since United went six games without a win in all competitions.

