

Empowerment

FACTSHEET



Figure 1 CEEC and CSR Network Zambia presentation to a diverse range of participants.



CEEC Boosts SME Development Through Strategic Training Partnerships

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) recently strengthened its commitment to small and medium enterprise (SME) growth through two targeted capacity-building initiatives designed to enhance business performance and community impact.

Corporate Social Responsibility Focus

On June 18, 2025, CEEC partnered with the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Network Zambia to deliver essential CSR and Equity Employment training to SMEs and stakeholders. Dr. Muwe Mungule, CEEC Director General, emphasised that CSR isn't just about corporate responsibility—it's a strategic tool for sustainable growth and brand positioning, regardless of business size.

The training provided participants with practical knowledge on leveraging CSR for business development while fostering networking opportunities and best practice sharing. As one of CEEC's nine economic empowerment pillars, CSR reflects the Commission's dedication to building a culture of community investment among beneficiaries.

Southern Province Expansion

Simultaneously, CEEC collaborated with Musika Zambia under an existing MoU to conduct mentorship training in Southern Province, attracting over 60 entrepreneurs, cooperatives, and SMEs. The session focused on improving revenue generation, enhancing project sustainability, and creating employment opportunities.

Assistant Secretary Beston Mbozi, representing the Provincial Permanent Secretary, praised the CEEC-Musika partnership as an exemplary Public-Private Partnership model supporting inclusive economic development.

These initiatives demonstrate CEEC’s multi-faceted approach to empowering businesses while contributing to national economic growth through strategic collaboration and comprehensive skill development.



Figure 2 Participants at a joint workshop by CEEC and Musika in Choma.

CEEC Strengthens Project Oversight Through Nationwide Monitoring

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) serves as the backbone of effective empowerment programs, providing a systematic assessment of project implementation and impact measurement. This critical process ensures resources reach intended beneficiaries while maintaining accountability and driving continuous improvement in development initiatives.

Throughout June, the Commission demonstrated its commitment to rigorous oversight by conducting comprehensive M&E visits nationwide, assessing funded projects and optimizing empowerment fund utilisation.

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Regional Impact Assessment

In Southern Province, CEEC teams evaluated cooperatives within the Goat Value Chain Project, delivering hands-on training in goat rearing best practices. The team also inspected Chenko Farms’ sunflower cultivation operations, observing active harvesting and seed aggregation for edible oil production.

Northern Province showcased impressive infrastructure development through the Tourism Loan Facility. Kosha Lodge has achieved 85% completion while Lwamwa Resort reached 95% completion. These strategic investments promise to transform the northern tourism circuit by providing quality accommodation and stimulating regional economic activity.

Eastern Province received intensive attention across six districts—Lumezi, Lundazi, Chama, Chasefu, Chipangali and Kasenengwa. CEEC conducted dual-purpose visits combining M&E assessments with sensitisation campaigns to promote awareness of available products and services.

Commitment to Excellence

CEEC’s systematic approach to M&E reinforces its dedication to successful project implementation aligned with strategic objectives. These regular assessments strengthen accountability, enhance outcomes, and foster sustainable economic empowerment across Zambia’s diverse regions, ensuring every invested kwacha generates meaningful community impact.



Figure 3 M & E at Koyebless Farms in Chipangali.

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CEEC Opens Applications for Irrigation Support Loans to Boost Agricultural Resilience

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) ran a call for applications for irrigation system support under its agricultural mechanisation loan product, targeting smallholder and emerging farmers across rural districts. This initiative supports the government's goal to increase maize production to 10 million metric tons by 2027 while reducing farmers' dependence on unpredictable rainfall.

Proven Track Record of Success

CEEC's strategic response to drought, food insecurity, and energy challenges in 2024 demonstrates the commission's commitment to agricultural transformation. The organization successfully funded 159 agricultural mechanisation projects and 56 energy sector initiatives, totaling K135,904,285 in investments.

These targeted interventions have generated impressive results, with funded projects producing an estimated 26,969.25 tonnes of crops including maize, fruits, rice and vegetables across 10,840 hectares. As farmers prepare to sell their produce to processing companies and the Food Reserve Agency (FRA), strong loan repayment performance is anticipated, creating a sustainable reinvestment cycle.

Comprehensive Support Package

The loan facility offers farmers a complete agricultural support package featuring:

Drip irrigation systems and borehole installation

Seeds and fertilizers

Labour support and handheld tractors

Solar-powered equipment

This comprehensive approach enables farmers to adopt climate-smart farming techniques and significantly enhance productivity through modern irrigation solutions.

CEEC encouraged farmers and agribusinesses to capitalise on this opportunity to build resilience and embrace sustainable agricultural practices that will secure long-term food security and economic growth across Zambia.

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Figure 5 CEEC has strategically allocated substantial resources to strengthen Zambia's agricultural resilience.

CEEC Brings Entrepreneurship Training to Secondary School Nationwide

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) expanded its entrepreneurship training program to secondary schools across Zambia in June, targeting the next generation of business leaders.

Through interactive workshops, students learned fundamental business concepts using practical tools like “Brainstorm Sheets” and “My Entrepreneurial Takeaway” exercises.

Participants identified community problems and developed viable solutions, creating business proposals covering poultry farming, tailoring, agriculture, retail trading, and digital platforms. The program equipped students with essential skills in business conceptualization, development planning, and budget creation—preparing them to contribute meaningfully to Zambia’s economic growth.

Schools that have so far been targeted in the initiative include Hillside Girls Secondary School (Eastern Province), Lunga Day Secondary School (Northwestern Province) and St. Dominics School (Central Province).

Additional schools are scheduled for training in the coming months. This strategic investment in youth entrepreneurship education aligns with CEEC’s mission to foster financial literacy and an entrepreneurial mindset among Zambian students, helping to build tomorrow’s economic leaders today.



Figure 6 CEEC secondary school engagement at St. Dominics School in Kabwe.



Figure 7 CEEC is targeting secondary schools to entrench a positive mindset towards entrepreneurship.



Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission

CEE THREE Rs



RECEIVE

RESPONSIBLY USE THE CEEC LOAN IN YOUR BUSINESS.



REPAY

MAKE TIMELY AND IN FULL REPAYMENTS VIA MOBILE MONEY OR BANK DEPOSIT.



REVOLVE

TOGETHER, LET'S CREATE A SUSTAINABLE EMPOWERMENT FUND FOR ALL TO BENEFIT.

Credits

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