

CEEC Showcases Empowerment Success at 2025 National MSME & Cooperatives Indaba



From 30 to 31 October 2025, the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) actively participated in the 2025 National MSME and Cooperatives Indaba, organised by the Ministry of Small Medium Enterprise Development.

The event provided a strategic platform to highlight the growth and potential of Zambia's micro, small, and medium enterprise sector.

Themed "Building Resilient and Competitive MSMEs and Cooperatives for the Africa Continental Free Trade Area," the Indaba emphasised transformation, innovation and regional integration as critical pillars for small business development across the continent.

CEEC's exhibition featured an impressive array of products from its empowerment program beneficiaries nationwide, demonstrating the Commission's measurable impact on entrepreneurship development, employment generation and economic advancement.

The display attracted significant attention, including a distinguished visit from the President, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, who toured the CEEC stand and commended the Commission's contributions to MSME sector development. The presidential visit reinforced government commitment to positioning small businesses as engines of national economic growth.

A key highlight was the gala dinner awards ceremony, where the Ministry, through CEEC, distributed 27 presidential grants ranging from K15,000 to K125,000. These grants recognised MSMEs demonstrating exceptional business growth, innovation, and substantial contributions to job creation.



From 83 applications received countrywide, 27 MSMEs were selected as recipients. Among the winners, NAMJOE FOOD from Solwezi, Northwestern Province, secured second prize for their agro-processing operations specialising in fruit and vegetable value addition through drying, packaging and distribution. Their innovative business model exemplifies significant contributions to both agribusiness development and local food security.

The 2025 MSME and Cooperatives Indaba underscored the resilience and transformative capacity of Zambia's small business sector.

CEEC remains dedicated to providing comprehensive support and recognition to entrepreneurial ventures, equipping them with essential resources to compete effectively within regional and continental markets.



CEEC Strengthens Youth Empowerment at Southern Province Investment Expo

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) participated in the Southern Province Investment Expo held in Livingstone from 12th to 16th October 2025. Under the theme “Unlocking Investment Opportunities for Socio-Economic Transformation through Strategic Partnerships and Innovation,” the event served as a strategic platform for fostering economic collaboration across multiple sectors.

Organised by the Southern Provincial Administration, the expo convened government institutions, private sector entities, agro-companies, and cooperatives to explore opportunities in agriculture, tourism, livestock, energy, mining, and infrastructure development.



CEEC’s participation underscored the Commission’s commitment to stakeholder engagement and enterprise sustainability. The Commission operated both as an exhibitor and as a facilitator at the Youth Symposium. Mr. Michelo Mukata, Public Relations and Communication Manager, represented the Director General and delivered a presentation emphasising CEEC’s critical role in advancing youth participation in local economic development.

The CEEC team facilitated exhibitions by several funded clients who displayed locally produced goods, demonstrating the tangible impact of empowerment support on business competitiveness. These enterprises gained valuable exposure, mentorship, and market access opportunities. Through strategic networking, CEEC established important linkages between clients and potential partners, including Heartlands for poultry out-grower schemes and the Cross Border Network for agricultural mechanisation partnerships. The EXPO yielded significant outreach results. CEEC sensitised over 230 youths on available empowerment opportunities while providing direct information to 40 additional citizens through stand engagements on the Commission’s products and initiatives.

The event reinforced CEEC’s mandate to build resilient, competitive enterprises and provided an invaluable platform to showcase empowerment achievements. Through such strategic partnerships and targeted interventions, CEEC continues to drive inclusive economic transformation in Zambia’s Southern Province and beyond.

CEEC and Fisheries Ministry Engage Chipata Fish Farmers to Boost Aquaculture Development

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC), in collaboration with the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, convened a strategic stakeholder engagement meeting with fish farmers in Chipata District in October 2025. The meeting focused on enhancing fish production and promoting the formation of cooperatives to ensure business sustainability within the aquaculture sector.



During the engagement, farmers were sensitised on the benefits of organising themselves into cooperative structures. This approach is designed to improve market access, strengthen value chains, and create pathways for long-term growth in the aquaculture industry. By working collectively, farmers can pool resources, negotiate better prices and access financing more effectively.



The initiative aligns with CEEC's broader mandate to promote sustainable aquaculture enterprises that drive job creation, enhance food security, and foster economic empowerment across Zambia. Aquaculture remains a vital sector with significant potential to contribute to national development goals while providing food security and improved livelihoods for rural communities. As part of its commitment to value chain development, CEEC and its

partners are conducting similar engagements across regions with viable aquaculture potential. Emphasis is being placed on areas suitable for cage farming on water bodies, a practice that maximises production efficiency and optimises the use of natural resources.

Through these targeted interventions, the Commission aims to build a robust and competitive aquaculture sector that empowers citizens economically while contributing to Zambia's food security objectives. The stakeholder meetings serve as platforms for knowledge sharing, capacity building, and fostering partnerships that will drive the sector forward.

CEEC remains committed to supporting entrepreneurs and cooperatives in the fisheries sector through tailored programs that enhance productivity, market linkages, and overall business viability.

CEEC Celebrates Customer Service Week 2025: Reaffirming Commitment to Excellence



The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) marked Customer Service Week 2025 with renewed dedication to delivering exceptional service to the Zambian citizenry. This year's theme, "Mission: Possible," underscored the Commission's resolve to overcome daily challenges in pursuit of service excellence.

According to CEEC Client Relationship Manager Caroline Kalombe, the theme reflects the reality that outstanding customer service demands creativity, resilience, and collaborative effort. "The 'Mission: Possible' theme reminds us that delivering exceptional service requires us to think innovatively and work together to address even the most complex client concerns," Kalombe explained.



Throughout the week, CEEC staff engaged directly with clients, tackling challenging cases, streamlining operational processes, and developing personalised solutions tailored to individual needs. The Commission organised interactive sessions with walk-in clients, providing opportunities for meaningful dialogue and feedback collection.

As part of the celebrations, CEEC distributed goodie bags containing branded items including mugs, t-shirts, cups, and pens—a gesture of appreciation for clients' continued trust and partnership.

Customer feedback remains central to CEEC's strategic planning and service delivery improvement. The Commission recognises that client input provides invaluable insights into service gaps, operational efficiencies, and areas requiring enhancement. By actively soliciting and incorporating customer perspectives, CEEC ensures its programs and services remain responsive to the evolving needs of Zambian citizens.

Guided by its core values, CEEC remains steadfast in fulfilling its mandate of economically empowering Zambian citizens through diverse empowerment programs and accessible services. The Customer Service Week celebrations reinforced the Commission's commitment to maintaining open communication channels with stakeholders and continuously elevating service standards.

Through initiatives like Customer Service Week, CEEC demonstrates that client satisfaction and stakeholder engagement are not merely operational priorities but fundamental pillars supporting the attainment of its strategic objectives and national development goals.



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