

Busulu Loan Relunched on Youth Day, Putting Capital in Young Hands



The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) marked Youth Day, 12 March 2026, with the relaunch of the Busulu Loan Product — a targeted financing facility designed to put affordable capital within reach of young Zambians building small and micro businesses.

Accessible through the government-supported Imisepele App, the Busulu Loan offers financing of between K5,000 and K20,000 at an interest rate of 8%, with a flexible one-year

repayment period. Critically, the product requires no collateral. Thereby, removing one of the most persistent barriers that prevents young entrepreneurs from accessing formal financing.

The market response has been swift and encouraging. Since the relaunch, CEEC has disbursed approximately K10 million to more than 500 youth entrepreneurs across the country, with beneficiaries channelling funds into retail, manufacturing, and service-based ventures. The results are already contributing to job creation and local economic development in communities nationwide.

“Through Busulu, we are not simply providing loans — we are investing in the next generation of Zambian business owners,” said CEEC Director General, Dr. Muwe Mungule. “We want both young men and young women to see entrepreneurship as a genuine and viable path to economic independence.”

As uptake continues to grow, CEEC anticipates a long-term shift towards a more dynamic small business sector — one that drives down unemployment and strengthens household incomes across the country.



CEEC Deepens Footprint in Western Province with K127.5 million in Disbursements



The Commission has completed the full transition of Preferential Procurement (PP) certification applications to its Empowerment Plus platform — and physical or email applications will no longer be accepted. The move is part of CEEC’s broader strategy to modernise service delivery, eliminate administrative delays and make its offerings more accessible to all Zambians, regardless of location. The message has been communicated widely through the Commission’s channels, with clients encouraged to register and begin using the platform without delay.

A key enabler of this transition is the newly integrated online payment system, now fully operational with Airtel Money. Clients can process payments and submit applications remotely, removing the need for in-person visits and significantly reducing turnaround times. The integration also strengthens transparency and accountability across the certification process.

Empowerment Plus offers a centralised, intuitive interface where users can submit applications, track their progress in real time, and receive completed certifications — all from a single platform. It is designed to be simple to navigate, with client experience at its core.

“CEEC is committed to meeting citizens where they are,” said the Commission. “By moving fully online, we are cutting the red tape and making sure that more businesses — especially smaller enterprises — can access the certification and support they need, faster and more efficiently than ever before.”

Clients are encouraged to visit the Empowerment Plus platform today to access CEEC’s full suite of digital services.

“This strengthens financial inclusion and ensures that geography is no longer a barrier to accessing CEEC services,” Mrs. Simuyambala stated.



She further noted that CEEC used its presence at the 2026 Kuomboka Ceremony to deepen community engagement, showcasing its impact and raising awareness of its products among stakeholders and residents. Describing the ceremony as a valuable platform for dialogue and a demonstration of the Commission's commitment to showing up where its beneficiaries are.

PS Akapelwa warmly received the update, commending CEEC for its impactful work in the province and encouraging continued collaboration between the Commission and provincial authorities to accelerate economic empowerment at the grassroots level.

Mrs. Simuyambala reaffirmed that Western Province's momentum is a testament to what targeted, accessible empowerment financing can achieve, pledging that CEEC remains committed to building on this foundation.

CEEC Goes Fully Digital: All Services Now Online Through Empowerment Plus

The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) has disbursed over K127.5 million to 5,676 beneficiaries in Western Province under its various empowerment programmes, the Commission's Director of Operations, Beenzu Simuyambala, has revealed.

Mrs. Simuyambala disclosed during a courtesy call on Western Province Permanent Secretary, Simomo Akapelwa, underscoring the Commission's growing presence and deepening commitment to the region.

"Western Province is emerging as a strong centre of CEEC-supported economic activity," Mrs. Simuyambala said, noting that the investments span a broad range of sectors — from cage fish farming and rice processing to trade, small-scale manufacturing, and services — reflecting both the diversity and entrepreneurial energy that the province holds.

The Director highlighted that the funded projects are generating tangible results, including rising household incomes, new employment opportunities, and a growing culture of enterprise across the region. Mrs. Simuyambala added that CEEC's model of inclusive financing is deliberately designed to ensure that these opportunities reach not just urban centres, but communities throughout Western Province.

On digital access, the Director of Operations revealed that through the Imisepele App, the Commission recently approved K4.7 million for 482 young applicants under the Busulu Loan Product — a development he described as a clear signal that youth entrepreneurs in the province are embracing mobile-first pathways to funding.



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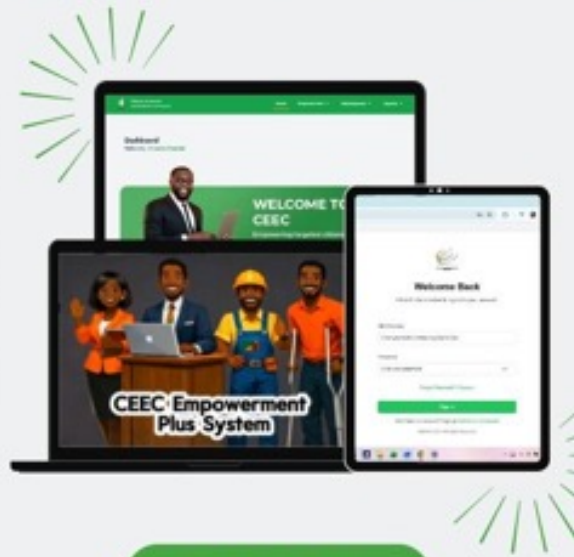
EMPOWERMENT + IS NOW ACTIVE!

Experience convenience with Empowerment Plus. CEEC's new online empowerment application system. We encourage you to get familiar with Empowerment Plus by watching a tutorial video available on all our social media platforms.

This tutorial provides step-by-step guidance for navigating the application process for business loans, grants and Preferential Procurement certification.

Interested individuals, companies and cooperatives are encouraged to submit their applications through Empowerment + at empowerment.ceec.org.zm

- ✓ **Submission**
- ✓ **Approval**
- ✓ **Disbursement**



Credits

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