



The impact is already visible in some communities. In Samfya, the CEEC-supported Aquaculture Expansion Project is in the implementation stage, while in Senanga, supported enterprises recorded their first commercial fish harvest in July 2026.

These developments demonstrate how investment can translate into actual production and economic activity at district level.

Other investments include maize milling projects in districts such as Nangoma, Mpongwe, Kawambwa, Mbala, Chavuma, Kasempa, Kalomo, Kazungula and Sioma, alongside rice processing initiatives in Kawambwa, Nakonde and Sikongo, and edible oil processing in Mpongwe and Lumezi.



Figure 1 CEEC supported milling plant under construction in Chavuma.

By taking productive investment closer to communities, CEEC is contributing to the development of local value chains and creating opportunities for citizens to participate not only as producers, but also as processors, suppliers and entrepreneurs.

These disbursements are part of broader, ongoing investment efforts. CEEC is not stopping here: additional high-value projects are in the pipeline as the Commission continues to expand productive investment, strengthen local value chains and support the growth of citizen-owned enterprises.

CEEC: Empowering Farmers, Strengthening Agriculture

As Zambia celebrated Farmers' Day on 3 August, CEEC reflected on its contribution to strengthening the agricultural sector and helping farmers build productive, sustainable enterprises.

Since 2022, CEEC has provided over K766.4 million in support to 1,462 individual and cooperative farmers through its agricultural empowerment interventions, including Agricultural Mechanisation, Agro-Processing and Irrigation.

Through Agricultural Mechanisation, farmers have gained access to financing for modern machinery and equipment, helping them increase productivity and transition from traditional to mechanised farming. The Commission has also supported agro-processing enterprises to promote value addition and enable farmers and agricultural businesses to move beyond primary production.



Figure 2 CEEC has enhanced the agricultural productivity of citizens and enterprises in Zambia by providing modern machinery and equipment.



Recognising the impact of erratic rainfall on agricultural production, CEEC has further introduced irrigation support to enhance farmers' resilience and enable production beyond reliance on rainfall. Support may include irrigation systems, boreholes, inputs and solar-powered equipment, depending on the needs of the beneficiary.

These interventions demonstrate CEEC's commitment to supporting farmers across the agricultural value chain — from production and mechanisation to processing and irrigation — while contributing to increased productivity, value creation and economic empowerment.

CEEC Takes Economic Empowerment to the Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show

This year's Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show once again provided a valuable platform for CEEC to take its economic empowerment message directly to citizens, entrepreneurs and businesses.

Held under the theme "Fostering Trade and Investment," the show brought together farmers, entrepreneurs, businesses and other stakeholders from across the country and beyond, creating an ideal environment for CEEC to engage the public on its mandate and the support available through its empowerment programmes.



Figure 3 CEEC's exhibition at the Show served as an opportunity to showcase funded enterprises such as Amai Bliss.

Throughout the show, visitors to the CEEC exhibition stand received information on the Commission's financing products, eligibility requirements and application processes. Entrepreneurs also learned how CEEC support can help them establish, expand and sustain their businesses.



Figure 4 Team CEEC interacting with showgoers visiting the stand during the Show.

A key highlight of the Commission's participation was the showcase of CEEC-supported enterprises, which displayed a range of locally produced goods and demonstrated the impact of access to finance on business growth and productivity.

The show also served as a platform to reinforce the importance of loan repayment. Because the CEEC Empowerment Fund operates as a revolving fund, timely repayments make it possible for more citizens and businesses with viable projects to access financing and contribute to economic development.

Beyond the exhibition itself, the show enabled meaningful interaction between CEEC and the communities it serves. Through discussions and enquiries from entrepreneurs and prospective applicants, the Commission gained valuable insight into the aspirations and challenges of citizens seeking to participate more actively in Zambia's economy.

CEEC's participation therefore extended beyond the display of information and products. It helped connect citizens to empowerment support, showcased the successes of funded enterprises and promoted a culture of entrepreneurship, productivity and economic inclusion.

As platforms such as the Zambia Agricultural and Commercial Show continue to bring together producers, businesses and consumers, CEEC remains committed to ensuring that more citizens are informed, connected and equipped to benefit from economic empowerment opportunities.

CEEC Media Impact Awards: Celebrating Journalism That Drives Economic Empowerment



Figure 5 Journalists who emerged as winners at the 2nd CEEC Media Impact Awards.

CEEC is set to host the 3rd CEEC Media Impact Awards, building on the growing success of an initiative that has become an important platform for recognising the media's contribution to Zambia's economic empowerment agenda.

The awards were introduced in 2024 to recognise journalists whose work goes beyond reporting to highlight the realities, opportunities and challenges surrounding entrepreneurship and economic empowerment. At the inaugural awards, CEEC emphasised that the media is a key partner in Zambia's economic transformation, particularly through stories that promote accountability, showcase enterprise success and draw attention to the impact of empowerment programmes.

The success of the initiative was evident at the 2nd CEEC Media Impact Awards, held in December 2025, where CEEC noted a marked improvement in the quality of entries compared with the inaugural edition. Entries were received from areas including Lavushimanda, Sikongo and Chinsali, demonstrating the growing reach of economic empowerment stories and rising interest in reporting on entrepreneurship beyond Zambia's major urban centres.

The awards have also strengthened the relationship between CEEC and the media. Through radio, television, print and digital platforms, journalists continue to educate citizens about empowerment opportunities, showcase the experiences of beneficiaries, and draw attention to both the successes and challenges within the MSME sector. CEEC has further recognised the media's role in promoting accountability, including through reporting on loan recoveries and the responsible use of empowerment funds.

As the Commission prepares for the 3rd CEEC Media Impact Awards, the initiative continues to evolve from a celebration of journalistic excellence into a platform that encourages impactful economic storytelling. The awards seek to inspire journalists to tell stories that inform, create awareness, give visibility to entrepreneurs and communities, and deepen understanding of Zambia's economic empowerment journey.

Ultimately, the 3rd CEEC Media Impact Awards will celebrate not only those who excel in journalism, but also the power of the media to inform, inspire, promote accountability and contribute to a more inclusive and economically empowered Zambia.

Your story. Your spotlight. Your win.



MEDIA IMPACT AWARDS

**Journalists - radio, tv, print, digital
this one is for you.**

Told a story about CEEC that moved the needle on economic empowerment? Captured a CEEC beneficiary's journey to success? It could win big.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Stories aired or published Jan 1 - Oct 31, 2026 on:

- ☐ Economic empowerment in action (CEE Act No. 9 of 2006).
- ☐ CEEC beneficiary success - repayment, jobs created, value chains built, communities lifted.

HOW TO ENTER:

- 1 Fill in the CEEC Media Awards entry form
- 2 Email your clip, cutting, or package + a short note on its impact to mediaawards@ceec.org.zm
- 3 You can only submit up to 3 different entries per category.

For more details: ☎ +260967660387/ +260967650814

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31 OCTOBER 2026.

Tell the CEEC story. Get the recognition!

CEECE Media Impact Awards 2026



**Citizens Economic Empowerment
Commission**

Editors:

Dr. Muwe Mungule, Lucy Mbao Mataka and Michelo Mukata

Layout:

Michelo Mukata

Stories and Images:

Michelo Mukata and Thelma Mbewe