



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

PRESS RELEASE

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

BLOCK 28, INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

P.O. BOX 50236

LUSAKA-ZAMBIA

THREE NEW INDUSTRIAL YARDS TO CREATE OVER 2000 JOBS

Lusaka, 30th July, 2025 - The Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development is pleased to announce that plans are nearly complete for the construction of three Industrial Yards in Southern, Central and Muchinga Provinces.

This is in a bid to enhance competitiveness among Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and strengthen Cooperatives, in line with government's agenda of fostering economic growth, creating employment opportunities and uplifting businesses in underserved regions.

The three new Industrial Yards will house businesses in different value chains including energy, agribusiness, timber/wood, metals/minerals, and innovation as part of ongoing efforts by the Ministry to promote Industrial development, job creation and economic empowerment across Zambia.

In addition, each Industrial Yard is estimated to have thirty (30) light manufacturing workshops for SMEs and Cooperatives who will on average create twenty-five (25) jobs per business, resulting in over two thousand jobs for the local people.

The cost of construction for the 3 Industrial Yards is estimated at 10.5 million United States Dollars and is expected to take about 18-months, commencing in mid-2026. The project is to be financed by the African Development Bank (AFDB), under phase two of the Skills Development and Entrepreneurship Project Supporting Women and the Youth (SDEP-SWY).

So far, with support from the African Development Bank (AFDB), the Ministry has successfully constructed and operationalized (8) eight Industrial Yards in Lusaka, Copperbelt, North Western, Western, Luapula, Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development remains committed to enhancing job and wealth creation across the country through sustainable, resilient and prosperous SMEs and co-operatives.

Issued by:

Virginia Chilongo (Ms.)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Virginia Chilongo'.

Principal Public Relations Officer

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