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A writer and editor who stumbled into the profession. She has a serious case of fernweh.

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A film and television writer passionate about telling African stories. She writes on art and culture.

Bongani B. Kumar

Exploring cultures, savouring flavours and celebrating art, one experience at a time.

Mukandi Siame

Mukandi is building a whole new world through impactful storytelling.

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A writer and university lecturer, his proclivities include playing chess and losing at tennis.

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**COVER STORY:**

Liuwa Plains National Park once suffered a critical blow to its wildlife. Since partnering with African Parks, it has experienced a steady rewilding of apex predators.

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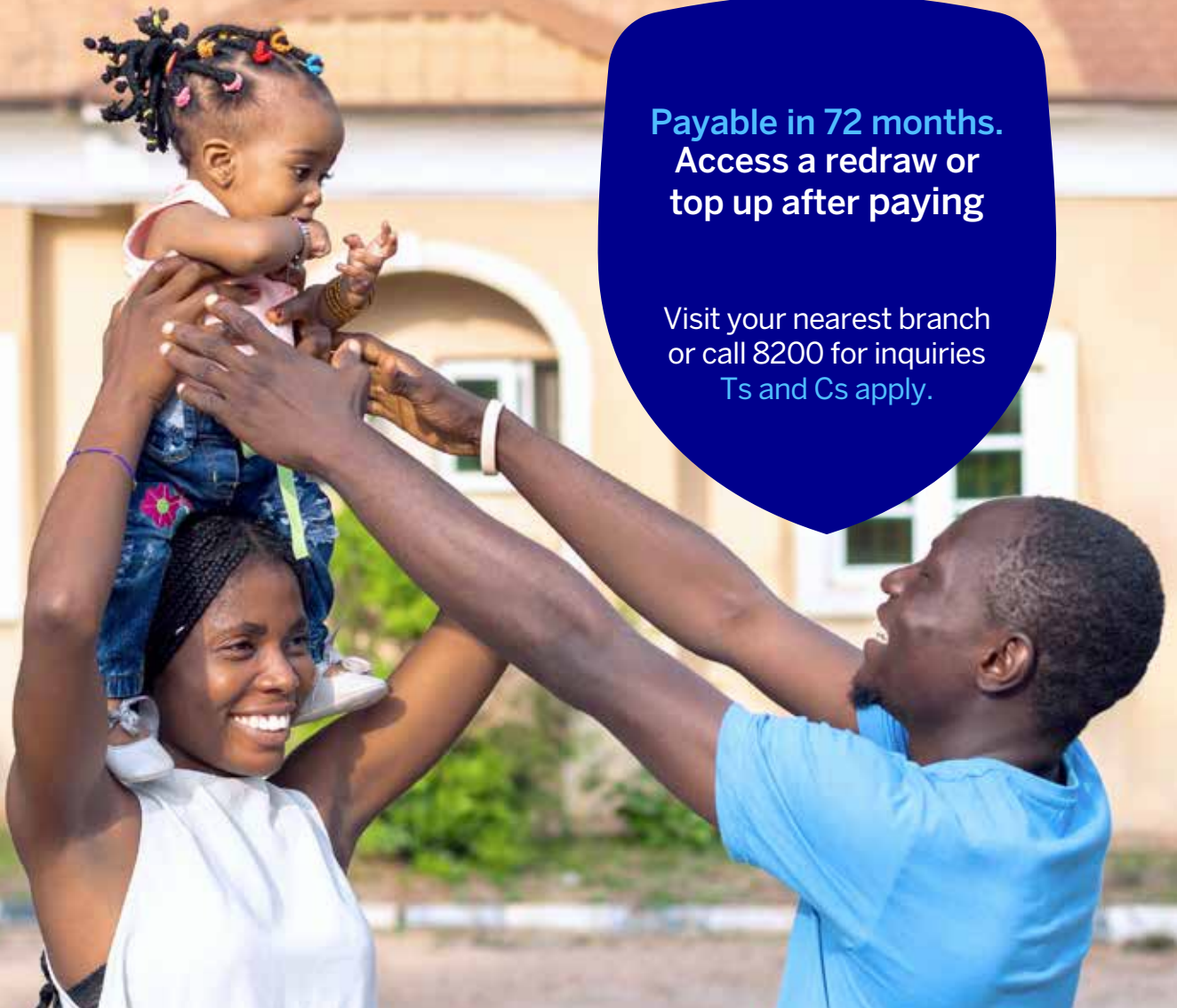
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DIASPORIC AFROPOLITANISM

As we wrap up the first quarter and transition into the second, I find myself contemplating the rather ambitious goals I had set this year; chief among these was the commitment to read two books each month, amalgamating into a grand total of 24 by year-end. Needless to say, as I am sure you already suspect, probably just like me, you too may have fallen behind on a similar, simple goal. Not to boast, but with a sense of mild self-satisfaction, I announce that of the six books piled by my bedside, I have successfully read at least ten pages of each, so naturally, that should put me in the lead. They say not to look a gift horse in the mouth, and I'll gladly give myself the win.

This experience seamlessly dovetails with the overarching themes explored in this edition, the foremost being accountability. On my unsung mission to amplify otherwise overlooked stories, a chance encounter with an art piece led me down a labyrinthine journey that led me right to the core of my identity. One may say we see art as we see ourselves, and this was no exception when artist Lazarina's work, *Romance of Ndombondo*, appeared on my radar. The artwork, awash with a vibrantly saturated ultramarine and scarlet colour palette, pays homage to a now nearly forgotten tradition of the displaced *baTonga* people of the Gwembe Valley of Zambia.






Intrigued by this invention, I immersed myself in the subject matter, and as a product of 'diasporic Afropolitanism', I discovered a part of my heritage I had never encountered, likely long-forgotten within my family tree. This revelation prompted me to examine the critical role of accountability within the archival community, propelling me into an awareness of the significance of community-led archives—repositories of histories owned by the very people to whom those histories belong. A collaborative work of the heart between myself, writer Mukandi Siame and Banji Chona's gracious imagery contribution, *Romancing the Ndombondo* challenges conventional accepted archival methods, disrupting the perpetuation of narratives devoid of context and accountability. This endeavour sheds light on an archive that seeks to reframe indigenous people as living identities, a departure from the objectification of romanticised perspectives of indigenous history.

In a parallel narrative, the transformation of Luka and Kapanda, reformed poachers in South Luangwa National Park and Kafue National Park, resonates with a profound sense of accountability. Their transformative journey has altered the trajectory of their lives forever, illustrating the power of assuming responsibility for one's actions. Simultaneously, the team at Liuwa Plain National Park stands unwavering in their dedication to the rewinding of the park with wildlife that once faced epidemic extinction. As they aptly put it, 'We are in the business of forever'.

And I hope you agree to join in the business of being forever accountable.

So, whether you are 12,000m above sea level, in air-conditioned comfort at your desk, or out on the plains, I wish you happy reading.

Shammah Phiri,
Deputy Editor

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WELCOME ON BOARD PROFLIGHT

As we approach the conclusion of the first quarter of 2024, we would like to reflect on the events of 2023 and provide insight into our plans for the upcoming year. Additionally, we would like to share some interesting statistics, highlight our achievements, and discuss the challenges we faced.

Proflight Zambia is pleased to announce that we have fully recovered from COVID-19, and despite the challenges encountered in 2023, the overall outcome was positive. Notably, there was substantial growth on key tourism routes, specifically Livingstone and Mfuwe. Zambia welcomed over 1.3 million tourists in the past year, aiming to reach 2 million in 2024.

Proflight experienced significant growth, witnessing a 115% increase in the number of passengers compared to 2022, averaging 26,000 flown passengers per month. Our aircraft seat capacity grew from 176 in 2022 to 431 in 2023, including the addition of the 737 with 305 seats. We acquired three additional CRJ-100/200 jet aircraft, an extra J41 turboprop, and our first-ever parcel freighter. Over the course of the year, we uplifted thirteen million litres of fuel, completed 10,445 sectors, and expanded our workforce from 140 staff to over 250, hiring more than 100 people across all departments.

Regarding route expansion, we reinstated direct flights to Durban, initiated a new direct route to Cape Town, and launched a new domestic route to Kalumbila. Existing routes experienced growth, with Lusaka/Solwezi flights doubling daily for the first time and Lusaka/Johannesburg increasing to thrice daily.

Looking ahead to 2024, our primary focus is achieving a year of consolidation. We plan to introduce two new domestic routes: Chunga in the Kafue National Park and Kasama in the Northern Province.

Additional plans for 2024 include the implementation of a campaign called 'Proflight Goes Green,' aimed at incorporating more sustainable and eco-friendly practices throughout our business. We also plan to launch cargo services utilising our newly acquired parcel freighter.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all our customers for their unwavering loyalty and for choosing Proflight, a proudly Zambian airline. We eagerly anticipate having you fly with us in 2024.

*Captain Josias Walubita,
Director Flight Operations*



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But what exactly is eSIM, you may wonder?

An eSIM, or embedded SIM, represents a digital SIM card seamlessly integrated into devices such as phones or tablets during manufacturing. While it operates similarly to a traditional SIM card, eSIM distinguishes itself by activating through an "eSIM profile," eliminating the need for a physical SIM card.

The eSIM brings forth a host of transformative features:

● **Multiple SIM Profiles:** eSIM enables the accommodation of multiple SIM profiles on a single smartphone, facilitating the integration of personal and work numbers onto one eSIM-enabled device.

● **Seamless Travel Connectivity:** Travelers rejoice as eSIM revolutionizes connectivity on the go. Bid farewell to the cumbersome search for local SIM cards. With eSIM, travelers can effortlessly purchase and activate prepaid subscriptions in advance or upon arrival in a new country, ensuring uninterrupted connectivity throughout their journeys.

● **Environmental Sustainability:** Beyond its practical advantages, eSIM champions environmental conservation by significantly reducing the consumption of plastic, packaging and transportation associated with physical SIM cards. By embracing eSIM, we take proactive steps toward minimizing our carbon footprint and fostering a sustainable future for generations to come.

At MTN Zambia, we are steadfast in our commitment to innovation and enhancing customer experiences. With eSIM, we usher in a new era of seamless connectivity, empowering individuals to stay connected anytime, anywhere.

eSIM isn't just a technological advancement—it's a catalyst for change that caters to diverse needs. Whether you're a seasoned traveler, a busy professional or someone who values convenience, eSIM offers something for everyone.

To determine if your device supports eSIM, simply dial ***#06#**; if your device displays an EID number, it is eSIM-enabled and ready to embark on this transformative journey with us.

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For more information on eSIM, email Customercare.zm@mtn.com, or WhatsApp **0966221056**.



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MARCH | APRIL 2024

A round-up of events and festivals of an entertainment nature from around the region.



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Get lost in nature in your very own backyard at Lusaka National Park where conservationists are making a difference.

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THE DONG BEI CONSOLE

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TABLETALK

MFIKEYI MAKAYI

Mfikeyi Makayi, CEO of KoBold Metals Africa, embodies resilience and innovation. Her journey from mining to clean energy exploration reflects agility and commitment. With a passion for sports and continuous learning, she champions new projects in Zambia's mining industry. Her leadership style evolves through service and acceptance of criticism, while her approach to life integrates work, learning, and personal values seamlessly.



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GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Zambia ranks 7th on KPMG's 2023 list of top 10 preferred countries for investment into sub-Saharan Africa. The article explores how Zambia is preparing itself.

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HUMOUR

TOURIST TRAP

The monthly humour column is a collection of musings that promises to regale readers with satirical takes on current topics.

Touchdown *in* **comfort**



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INSIDE

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ST LUCIA: SAND, SEA, SAFARI

The best of three worlds as you explore the rugged beauty of South Africa's Elephant Coast.



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ROMANCING THE NDOMBONDO

Reliving the sounds of the Gwembe Valley Tonga and exploring how living history is preserved today by a people once displaced.



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PATIENCE AND PREDATORS

Liuwa Plains National Park is the stage of the second largest wildebeest migration in the world. Bear witness to nature's spectacle in the heart of Barotseland.

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Your pressing Proflight questions answered.



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Having made substantial investments in fibre technology, high-speed terrestrial and undersea networks and new frequency spectrum across the markets wherein it operates, MTN is perfectly positioned to respond to this shift in the market.

A few years ago, MTN also made the decision to build an IP capable radio network for their mobile services, giving their core network the ability to seamlessly integrate with enterprise IP networks. Their mobile towers deliver services to enterprise clients absolutely anywhere they have a network, shortening the last mile and removing complexity and cost.

Now there is increasing demand from clients to connect their remote sites in all areas, including rural and semi-rural. MTN has assisted clients with overcoming this connectivity hurdle, enabling their staff to get the job done wherever they are.

MTN's evolution

For MTN, the focus has shifted from just being a core telecommunications services provider, towards also becoming a technology solutions provider.

Their service offering now also includes the Internet of Things (IoT), Unified communication, Cloud solutions, Security as a Service and Managed Network Services. The scope has changed to being client and industry specific, so the requirements and service portfolio vary from one client to the next. The expectation is that a company like MTN must respond to these challenges, helping clients to get business done better as they shift from old to new technologies.

As many businesses continue to grapple with a digitally dynamic world, they face new challenges that have to be solved. This environment will benefit those that are more digitally enabled and agile. It is a brave new world that will favour online over on-site, wireless over wired and fluid over formulaic. Businesses will seek out partners and suppliers that are every bit as flexible and forward-looking as they are.

Ultimately, clients need partners like MTN Business that will invest in infrastructure, deliver the services they require, have market credibility, are financially sound and have a long-term commitment to their market presence.



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UP FRONT

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Urban Masai: Nyama Choma is a dynamic East African fusion restaurant that draws from the similarities in East African and Zambian cuisine. Discover the taste of East Africa on page 28.

PLAN

MARCH | APRIL 2024



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 6 April 2024.

Location: R&G Arena.

Tickets: Individuals K250 | Teams K1000 |

Corporate K5000.

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EVENT DETAILS:

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 Location: Kenneth Kaunda Int'l Airport | ZAF Airport.
 Tickets: General from K500 | Delegates from K2000 | Gala Dinner K1500.

AVIATION WEEK AFRICA

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EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 20 April 2024.
 Location: Nkwashi Estate.
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NKWASHI SPRINT FOR IMPACT

Sporty fun with a purpose. Head to Nkwashi Estate for the 3rd Annual Nkwashi Canoe Sprint. This annual event promotes Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to give corporates a platform to check alignment and commitment towards achieving these goals by 2030. Join us for a thrilling competition and unwind to the melodious tunes of Sebastian Dutch.



JAZZ ON THE SQUARE

Jazz on the Square Festival returns to The Wanderers Club, Johannesburg. Produced by La Funk, the event promises a captivating fusion of local and international artists, creating an immersive experience with chic picnics, art installations, and fashion displays. The artist lineup, including Shekhihah and Bongeziwe Mabandla, guarantees soul-stirring performances.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 30 March 2024.
 Location: The Wanderers Club, Sandton.
 Tickets: R450-R600.



KZN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA SUMMER SYMPHONY

Indulge in a musical journey with conductor Leon Bosch and violinist Hyeyoon Park. Grieg's Holberg Suite and Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto in D Major promise an evening of neoclassicism, Mozartian echoes, and virtuosic brilliance.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: 14 March 2024.
 Location: Playhouse Opera Theatre, Durban.
 Tickets: From R103.



CORONA SUNSETS FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR

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EVENT DETAILS:

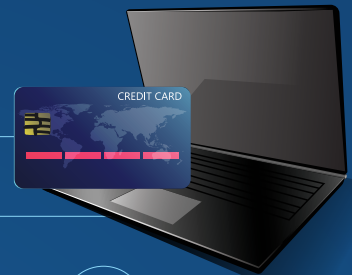
Date: 6 April 2024.
 Location: The Glen Country Club, Cape Town.
 Tickets: R395-R850.

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HILTON GARDEN INN, LUSAKA

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Words by Memory Mwanza, Images Courtesy of Hilton Garden Inn, Lusaka



Located in the Central Business District (CBD) of Lusaka, Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka's state-of-the-art building is the first thing you notice as you enter the city centre. The hotel's ultra-modern facilities and amenities uniquely blend with Hilton's vision of filling the earth with the light and warmth of hospitality. The Hilton culture of bright-hearted hospitality welcomes you at every touchpoint when you arrive.

Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka is conveniently located just a few minutes' walk

from multiple restaurants, corporate offices, and banks, including the Bank of Zambia. The hotel is a mere 35 minutes southwest of Kenneth Kaunda International Airport.

Hotel Lobby

Witness the true meaning of relaxation when you enter the Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka lobby. The perfectly put-together lobby overlooking the city creates a perfect ambience for relaxation. The interior and furniture are designed to offer a welcoming atmosphere for those

wishing to find peace and quiet while reading a book, working on a laptop, or waiting for somebody.

Rooms

The hotel has 148 guest rooms, offering diverse choices according to guest preference—these range from suites with kitchenettes to interconnecting family rooms, king rooms, and twin rooms. Room amenities include complimentary internet access, a large work desk fitted with adjustable lighting, an ergonomic chair, and coffee and tea brewers.



Garden Grille Restaurant

The Garden Grille Restaurant treats you to a world of culinary delights with a diverse à la carte menu catering to all tastes, whether for those preferring healthy, low-calorie options or hearty, satisfying dishes. The restaurant provides a variety of intercontinental meals inspired by different continents, from Zambian home delicacies to West African cuisine.

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Fitness Centre & Outdoor Pool Area

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facility is available for guests to use at their convenience. Guests may also unwind and refresh on our outdoor pool terrace, overlooking the Lusaka city skyline.

Hilton Honours

Hilton Honours enables guests to earn points by spending at any Hilton Hotel worldwide through accommodation and food. Hilton Honours membership is free and available to all hotel guests and travellers. Rise through the Hilton Honours membership stages and enjoy incentives such as free nights, guaranteed discounts, room upgrades, and 48-hour room guarantees, among many others.

You have more than one reason to make Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka your preferred hotel choice in Lusaka, Zambia.

In addition to its bright-hearted hospitality, Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka is a well-put-together hotel that caters to all your needs, whether for leisure or business.

We are Hilton; we are hospitality! Bright-hearted hospitality!



» **WHERE?**

- Hilton Garden Inn Lusaka is a guest refuge perched above the bustling city centre inside the state-of-the-art Society Business Park building. It is situated along Cairo Road, just a 35-minute drive from international airports.

» **WHAT TO EXPERIENCE**

- Indulge in relaxation and serenity on the pool terrace overlooking the Lusaka city skyline while savouring a sundowner and basking in the magnificent Zambian sunset.
- Experience uninterrupted productivity at any hour in the 24-hour business centre, equipped with cutting-edge technology and seamless wireless connectivity.
- Indulge your palate to delectable international dishes at the Garden Grille Restaurant and experience culinary excellence in an inviting atmosphere.
- Unwind in the hotel's opulent lobby, complete with contemporary furnishings, providing the ideal setting to unwind and connect.

» **BOOKING AND CONTACT DETAILS:**

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 Visit www.hilton.com for more information.



Proflight operates regular flights into Lusaka from Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Livingstone, Ndola, Mfuwe, Solwezi, Kalumbila and Mansa. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.

URBAN MASAI: NYAMA CHOMA

A TASTE OF AFRO FUSION

Words by Puthumile Ngwenya, Images by Macdonald Moyo



Perched on the edge of the bustling Great East Road, Urban Masai: Nyama Choma is a sanctuary in the heart of the capital city of Lusaka that transports patrons to a slice of East African culinary heaven. The restaurant is a fusion of East African and Zambian cuisine with a menu that celebrates the similarities in African food while denoting a distinction in flavours and techniques from its Zambian counterparts. Urban Masai was birthed out of the strong appreciation for the unique flavours of both East African and Zambian cuisine. The restaurant reflects the new generation of young Africans living in urban areas while representing and holding on to their cultural roots and identities. *Nyama choma* is the Swahili phrase for 'roasted meat', reflecting the restaurant's Kenyan and Tanzanian roots.

Urban Masai's spacious semi-outdoor venue is a tasteful blend of East African and Afro-chic themes. The different areas of the restaurant are aptly named after iconic landmarks in East Africa, from Zanzibar to the Masai Mara lounge; each area has its distinct features. Seats covered in *Masai shuka*, the woollen, vibrant, colourful cloth worn by the Masai, are accentuated by the warm hues of brown leather and white accents reminiscent of Zanzibar's beaches. The eclectic mix of textures and bold African patterns punctuates each area, from a relaxed beer garden area to a fine-dining setup; Urban Masai caters

to its diverse patronage, ensuring that every personality is catered for.

"At Urban Masai, we have a deliberate focus on service excellence throughout your experience with us, from how we welcome our guests to our waiting service and restaurant ambiance, you will always have a warm memorable experience with us," stated Mimi Daka, Managing Director and Partner at Urban Masai.


The main signature dish at Urban Masai is the *nyama choma* or *michopo*, Zambia's version. This popular street food is slowly barbecued to perfection over an open coal pit in an outdoor kitchen designed to showcase how Urban Masai perfects its roasted goat, chicken, and beef dishes. Unlike *michopo*, Urban Masai's *nyama choma* is never boiled and is slowly grilled for at least two hours until the tender meat falls off the bone perfectly and melts in your mouth. The smoke



▶ EASTERN APPEAL

The restaurant is divided into distinct areas for different dining needs. Masai Mara lounge is perfect for small groups, while Lusaka offers a relaxed dining area and beer garden style. Private booths for meetings, such as Asmara, are also available.

 @urban_masai.zm

 Urban Masai

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and char of the grill cling to the meat as it is served, fresh and hot off the coals with *kachumbari*—a delightful East African salsa comprising tomato and sweet red onions finely diced with a touch of spice. The goat is served with *choma*-style plantain, and the only establishment in Lusaka currently serves it this way. The menu also boasts the wildly popular fried plantain and *matoke* or green plantain.

There are many crossovers between Zambian and East African cuisine; however, what makes Urban Masai's menu stand out is its strict adherence to East African cooking techniques that call for longer cooking times and careful preparation to create the signature tenderness and taste characteristic of their dishes. Village or free-range chicken is a staple in Zambian cuisine, but the restaurant's East African take on the dish differs from your grandmother's recipe! *Makange* uses the wet-fry technique, which involves sautéing the chicken with spices, tomatoes, colourful peppers and other flavour-enhancing elements to create a memorable and, most importantly, moist dish. The result is served—still sizzling, on a hot stone plate. Urban Masai's *makange* contrasts local village chicken with its notable

tender texture and distinct taste. *Makange* is best paired with the iconic pilau, a fragrant basmati rice dish distinguished by the warm, comforting aromas of cumin, cardamom, and smoked paprika.

A standout Zambian menu item is the foiled fish or, as fans have called it, *chimubabe*. Urban Masai has since perfected its preparation, a closely guarded secret that results in a generously sized fish that is crispy on the outside and tender and fluffy on the inside. The statement dish starts at a whopping 1.4kg and is expertly seasoned, stuffed with potatoes and its famed garlic mix. Our dining experience concluded with a familiar, hearty goat soup with freshly made, in-house chapatis.

Our visit to Urban Masai unfolded a continent of flavours, deliciously crafted cocktails, and many East African staples. The menu serves breakfast from 7 am daily and includes familiar East African dishes such as *chipsi mayai* (French fries omelette) and *mandazi*—similar to deep-fried doughnuts. The restaurant is perfect for a lazy lunch, sundowners, or dinner. Head east on Great East to discover Urban Masai's hidden world of East African cuisine.



➤ SHAKEN, NOT STIRRED

Urban Masai offers a plethora of cocktails, from mango margaritas to the Masai Martini, a vanilla and vodka based cocktail, served with sparkling wine and a small taster.

➤ ATTENTION TO DETAIL

Urban Masai prides itself on its strict adherence to quality control. All ingredients are sourced from local farmers and breeders. Every meat item is rigorously inspected before it enters the Urban Masai kitchen.

➤ TRUE TO NATURE

Urban Masai keeps a close-to-nature philosophy by sourcing free-range, organically fed chickens from local suppliers and wild fish sourced directly from Lake Tanganyika, giving all their food a unique, true-to-nature taste.



Proflight operates regular flights into Lusaka from Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Livingstone, Ndola, Mfuwe, Solwezi, Kalumbila and Mansa. Visit flyzambia.com for the latest flight schedule.



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LUSAKA'S HOTTEST JAZZ EXTRAVAGANZA

'TASTE THE JAZZ' FESTIVAL RETURNS!



Prepare to immerse yourself in the soulful melodies, toe-tapping rhythms, and vibrant energy of Lusaka's most anticipated jazz event—the 'Taste the Jazz' festival is back and promises to be bigger and better than ever! Hosted by the iconic Bo'Jangles



Longacres, this unique celebration of local jazz talent is quickly becoming a staple in the city's cultural calendar.

Commencing on 1st February 2024, the festival is a three-month-long musical journey culminating in a grand finale on 30th April 2024. Last year, the 'Taste the Jazz' festival received widespread acclaim from the general public and the music industry, establishing itself as a must-attend event for jazz enthusiasts and music lovers.

Bo'Jangles conceived this festival with a mission: to promote jazz to a broader audience and provide a platform for immensely talented local jazz musicians. In a world dominated by pop and hip-hop, 'Taste the Jazz' is a beacon of musical diversity, introducing audiences, especially the younger generation, to the magic of jazz.

The festival boasts an incredible lineup of bands, featuring the likes of Afro Red Band, Maureen Lilanda & The Band, Nathan Nyirenda, The Optimistic Band, Uncle Rex Band, Micah & David

& Friends, Blue Note Band, and many more. With such an eclectic mix of performers, each night promises a unique and unforgettable experience for music enthusiasts.

But that's not all—Bo'Jangles is taking the festival to a whole new level by launching a fusion menu that brings diverse flavours from all over the world to your plate. It's a feast for your senses, combining the rich tapestry of jazz with a culinary journey around the globe.

Bo'Jangles's commitment to supporting local talents and musicians makes this festival even more special. Partnering with Bo'Jangles, they're not just creating an incredible musical experience—they're also nurturing the local arts scene. And here's the best part: customers can savour the music for free!

So, mark your calendars, clear your schedules, and prepare to 'Taste the Jazz' at Bo'Jangles Longacres. Let the rhythm of Lusaka's heartbeat guide you through an unforgettable celebration of music, culture, cuisine, and the sheer joy of jazz!

A PEEK INTO LUSAKA'S CONSERVATION HUB

THE WILDLIFE DISCOVERY CENTRE

Words by Bongani B. Kumar, Images courtesy of Game Rangers International and Bongani B. Kumar



Join me on a journey to one of Zambia's remarkable conservation treasures – the Wildlife Discovery Centre in Lusaka. Opened in August 2022, the Wildlife Discovery Centre was established through the collaborative endeavours of Game Rangers International (GRI) and their partners to offer a blend of exhibits, memorable animal encounters and an immersive learning experience for visitors spanning all age groups. The hub's inauguration coincides with the relocation of the Lilayi Elephant Nursery to the central hub of the Lusaka National Park.

The Wildlife Discovery Centre aims to significantly contribute to wildlife and ecosystem preservation, aiming to nurture awareness and instil a greater sense of conservation stewardship. This mission is accomplished through guided tours of the Welcome Hub, Exploratorium, elephant nursery and conservation huts, each with distinct themes, dotted around the centre.

Your exploration begins at the Welcome Hub. Here, you can purchase admission and insightful overview of the Wildlife Discovery Centre and Lusaka National Park is generously provided. The affable team sets high expectations of what you will experience and see as you progress through the premises. The strategically placed QR codes around the property are noteworthy, allowing visitors to swiftly access information about each area of interest without needing a tour guide.

Have you ever wondered about Zambia's oldest national park? West Lunga National Park in North-Western Province is Zambia's oldest and was established in 1940. I learned this nugget of information and specifics about

game management areas, forests, sanctuaries, and national parks across Zambia, with exact sizes, courtesy of a comprehensive map in the welcome lobby.

After an insightful mull around the Welcome Hub, you encounter elegantly designed conservation huts adorned with lively hand-painted murals by local artists. The huts give a glimpse into the ongoing conservation efforts of various partners across different regions of Zambia, notably South Luangwa National Park and Kafue National Park. While wildlife conservation takes centre stage, a pleasing revelation is cataloguing trees on the premises, shedding light on forestry conservation initiatives close to home. I learned so much about initiatives and diverse projects striving to safeguard and conserve wildlife, while educating and supporting communities to live sustainably.

At the heart of the Wildlife Discovery Centre lies the Exploratorium, a central hub offering an immersive learning experience about Zambia's diverse ecosystems. Murals and



➤ **FAST FACTS & TIPS:**

- Look out for the two fig trees planted at the Wildlife Discovery Centre entrance in honour of our founding Father, Dr Kenneth David Kaunda and a patron in conservation, David Shepherd.
- As you exit the welcome hub, look out for the mileage sign in the middle of the courtyard indicating the direction of each major national park.
- The murals in the conservation huts are hand-painted by local artists.
- An art installation of 1000 snares recovered in the South Luangwa National Park alone through conservation efforts.



educational boards vividly illustrate the forest, woodland, savannah, and aquatic ecosystems. The information is thoughtfully complemented by artefacts from different species. The facility provides a unique opportunity for visitors, especially those yet to explore Zambia's diverse ecosystems, to gain exposure right on the outskirts of Lusaka.

A brief stroll from the Exploratorium leads to you to the sheltered elephant viewing deck where you learn about the rescue, rehabilitation, and eventual release of orphaned elephants back into the wild in Kafue National Park. Situated below the viewing deck, is the Elephant Nursery which serves as a haven for elephant calves rescued from life-threatening situations due to poaching, human-wildlife conflict, abandonment,



or lack of care within male-led herds. A behind-the-scenes pass revealed the invaluable work of caregivers providing round-the-clock care, nourishment, and medical attention, creating a nurturing environment that mimics the elephants' natural habitat.

The nursery's resident orphans adhere to a meticulously planned meal schedule, ensuring they receive as much nourishment as possible. Caregivers prepare their meals using water, oats, infant formula, coconut powder, and moringa tailored to individual nutritional needs. You can witness this spectacle daily from 11:45 to 13:00 hours.

Expect moments of sheer delight as you witness the wobbly, wrinkled calves trotting over to their caregivers for midday nutrition. The genuine bond between each calf and its caregivers is

heartwarming, as they precisely know whom to approach during feeding time. Extend your stay after feeding to relish these burgeoning giants' playful, mischievous nature.

Wrap up your journey to the Wildlife Discovery Centre with a bout of retail therapy at The Collective, featuring locally crafted souvenirs from communities supported by various conservation projects. Alternatively, indulge in a snack at the Bush Café, offering sweet and savoury light bites and refreshing beverages. If you prefer to continue your commune with nature, pack a picnic basket and savour your meal in the picnic area, complemented by a children's play area featuring a wooden playground sculpture.

So dear adventurer, the next time you are in Lusaka and looking for an exhilarating way to spend your time, include the Wildlife Discovery Centre to your itinerary. Immerse in nature, acquire new knowledge, and join in the collective endeavour to preserve Zambia's rich biodiversity.



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CEC'S \$200 MILLION GREEN BOND

A STEP TOWARD THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION



Words by Royd Kapesa

Zambia is a nation that stands at the crossroads of economic development and environmental sustainability. As the global community intensifies its focus on mitigating the impacts of climate change, Zambia emerges as a pivotal player in the quest for a greener, more resilient future.

Against the backdrop of a changing climate and the imperative to transition towards renewable energy sources, Zambia stands as a beacon of promise. Richly endowed with abundant solar, hydro, and wind resources, the country is poised to harness these renewable energy sources to meet its growing energy demands and catalyse socio-economic progress. The question that resonates is how Zambia can leverage climate finance to unlock the full potential of its renewable energy sector and build a robust foundation for a low-carbon, resilient economy.

Leading Zambia into the future of clean energy is Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC), a company that has distinguished itself by making bold bets on the future with renewable energy investments in Zambia. Through its subsidiary, CEC Renewables, CEC Group announced the issuance of a staggering \$200 million Green Bond, a first for Zambia and its capital markets. The Green Bond will support CEC's ambition to develop a combined 200MW of solar energy. CEC is on track to meet this target with an already operational 34MW solar plant and a 60MW due for completion by the end of 2024's first quarter.

CEC's existing renewable energy developments are a testament of their environmental impact. The current 34MW operational plant has offset over 14,000 tonnes of carbon emissions, additionally CEC is committed to biodiversity preservation with snake-catching and the adopted technologies in the wake of climate change and a growing awareness of environmental and social responsibilities. Financial markets are witnessing a transformative trend

with the rise of green bonds. These financial instruments are reshaping the investment landscape and proving to be catalysts for sustainable development.

Green bonds are debt securities specifically designed to finance projects with environmental and social benefits. Issued by governments, municipalities, financial institutions, and corporations, these bonds raise capital with a commitment to channelling funds into projects that promote sustainability. The proceeds from green bonds are dedicated to renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, and other environmentally friendly endeavours.

With the global, ever-burgeoning cost of capital, CEC's decision to use Green Bonds to further its ambitions is a mark of the innovation and strategic vision that permeates the company. In an exemplary feat, the company has recently issued the first tranche of the Green Bond valued at \$53.8 million. Less than a month after issuance, the bond was remarkably oversubscribed, a strong signal of the vibrancy of Zambia's capital markets and the private sector's desire to participate in diversifying Zambia's energy mix.

Historically, Zambia has relied heavily on hydropower to meet its electricity needs. With the iconic Kariba Dam and other hydroelectric facilities harnessing the energy potential of the Zambezi River, the country has benefited from a relatively clean and renewable energy source. Recognising the importance of a diversified energy mix, Zambia is making strides to reduce its reliance on a single source. Diversification is not merely a strategic move to mitigate risks but a progressive approach to embracing cleaner, more resilient and technologically advanced solutions.

Furthermore, dependence on hydropower comes with challenges, including vulnerability to climate change shocks such as droughts, which have proved to be Zambia's Achilles' heel

over the decades. Zambia has been facing its worst drought in recent years, with record-low rainfall leading to reduced water allocation at the Kariba Dam for 2024. The Zambezi River Authority (ZRA), responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Kariba Dam Complex, recently announced a reduction in water allocation to 16 billion cubic litres, down from 30 billion cubic metres in 2023, to be equally shared between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CEC's investment ambition is a bright spot in the sector's outlook. The additional generation capacity that CEC will develop with the Green Bond will ease dependence on hydropower and spur Zambia's economic development. Moreover, Zambia is yet to harness its full solar energy potential. The country's proximity to the equator ensures abundant sunlight throughout the year, providing an optimal environment for solar energy projects. From large-scale solar farms to decentralised solar solutions for rural electrification, solar energy is emerging as a game-changer in Zambia's pursuit of a diversified and sustainable energy portfolio.

The diversification of Zambia's energy mix goes beyond environmental considerations; it carries profound economic and social implications. Investments in renewable energy projects stimulate economic growth, create job opportunities, and foster technological innovation. Furthermore, decentralised energy solutions, such as mini solar grids, contribute to rural electrification, bringing power to previously underserved communities.

Economic transformation requires boldness in the face of adversity. It also requires strategic direction and rigorous dedication to achieve the intended targets. CEC embodies all these tenets necessary to transform Zambia into a prospering economy that delivers essential services to its people. Most importantly, CEC is a reminder to all that Zambia can deliver innovative solutions to challenges at a national level.

Supporting the Green Energy Transition with Zambia's first Green Bond

Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) Plc is centering sustainability in order to generate and deliver energy from green sources to its customers. As the pioneering issuer of Zambia's first Green Bond, CEC will develop Solar PV sites that will see the company generate 200MW of solar energy.

Power your industry with your reliable partner in energy.



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THE DONG BEI CONSOLE

RECLAIMING NATURE WITH SAUCY MUKOSA

Words by Mulenga Udie Soko, Image courtesy of Saucy Mukosa



Discover the Dong Bei console, a design marvel by Saucy Mukosa that is a testament to sophistication. Crafted by Mulenga Udie Soko, the console began as an entrance adornment for a 1970s-style Lusaka bungalow, evolving into a vintage-inspired masterpiece that seamlessly blends tradition and modernity.

Drawing from ancient oriental furniture techniques and Zambian artistry, the Dong Bei console embraces culture and sustainability. Crafted from reclaimed Zambian wood, its journey from a winged silhouette to a contemporary design showcases meticulous detailing.

Featuring rich natural burls and warm red tones, the two-tone console boasts an

unmistakable oriental allure. The winged trim pays homage to traditional Asian silhouettes, adding a layer of cultural richness to any space. Beyond its aesthetic appeal, the console becomes a canvas for creative expression when adorned with books, vessels, lamps, and greenery.

Rooted in vintage architectural design, the Dong Bei console invites users to explore texture, pattern, curves, and lines in their living spaces. Saucy Mukosa's commitment to nature-inspired aesthetics transforms spaces into simple yet elevated environments with a profound cultural resonance. As a conversation starter, the Dong Bei console exemplifies Saucy Mukosa's dedication to infusing homes with meaningful design experiences.

» **HOW MUCH?**
\$550.

» **ABOUT SAUCY MUKOSA**

A proudly Zambian, woman-owned studio designing and handcrafting earthy pieces for the eco-conscious.

» **CARING FOR WOOD FURNITURE**

1. Keep wood clean by dusting with a soft dry cloth regularly.
2. Prevent moisture damage by using coasters and avoiding high humidity areas.
3. Preserve its lustre with occasional conditioning using wood oil such as tung oil.

» **FIND SAUCY MUKOSA**

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NUTRASIP SOYA JUICE BLEND

REJUVENATE WITH A BREAKTHROUGH IN PLANT-BASED BEVERAGES



Nutra Sip

Juice Blend

Taste
the Sip



In a world where health-consciousness is on the rise, 260 Brands, a leading Zambian fast-moving consumable goods company that has existed for 26 years, has emerged as a trailblazer with its vision to become the leading FMCG in Africa. Committed to promoting healthier lifestyles and sustainable choices, 260 Brands has introduced a remarkable innovation in the beverage industry with the launch of NutraSip, a Soya Juice Blend. This plant-based juice blend, available in four flavours, offers a refreshing taste and provides numerous health benefits, setting new standards for wellness-conscious consumers

Unleashing the Power of Plants

NutraSip Soya Juice Blend has revolutionised the traditional juice market by introducing a unique combination of natural ingredients. Unlike conventional fruit juices, this blend incorporates the richness of soya and a delightful medley of plant extracts to deliver a truly refreshing experience. By harnessing the power of plants,

260 Brands has created an exceptional product that caters to the growing demand for healthier alternatives.

Unparalleled Health Benefits

What distinguishes NutraSip Soya Juice Blend is its inherent ability to enhance overall well-being. Packed with essential nutrients including soymilk, this blend offers a myriad of health benefits. The inclusion of soya enriches the beverages with high-quality plant protein, making them an excellent choice for individuals seeking plant-based protein sources. Moreover, the carefully selected plant extracts boost natural energy, aid digestion, and promote a healthy immune system. You nourish your body with every sip while indulging in a refreshing taste sensation.

Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship

260 Brands understands the importance of environmental sustainability and is committed to minimising its ecological footprint. NutraSip Soya Juice Blend

contributes to reducing the strain on natural resources and mitigating the impact of traditional agriculture by opting for plant-based ingredients. The company's dedication to sustainability is not only evident in its product offerings and overall business practices, ensuring a greener and healthier future for generations to come.

The Pioneering Spirit of 260 Brands

As the first soya-based juice blend to be created in Africa, NutraSip has carved a path of innovation and set a new standard for the industry. 260 Brands has demonstrated its commitment to pushing boundaries and delivering products that meet the evolving needs of health-conscious consumers. By introducing NutraSip, the company has established itself as a visionary force in the FMCG sector, positioning Africa as a leader in plant-based revolution.

Join the NutraSip and Soya Juice Blend Movement

Embrace the power of nature and embark on a wellness journey with NutraSip Soya Juice Blend. Experience the harmonious blend of flavours that invigorate your taste buds while nurturing your body. With every sip, you contribute to a sustainable future and support a company dedicated to promoting healthier lifestyles.

NutraSip Soya Juice Blend, crafted by 260 Brands, represents a groundbreaking FMCG industry achievement. With their plant-based goodness, unparalleled health benefits, and commitment to sustainability, these juice blends have redefined the notion of a refreshing beverage. Embrace the future of wellness and join 260 Brands on its mission to revolutionise the way we consume and care for our bodies. Let's raise a glass and toast to a healthier Africa and a greener planet together. Taste the Good Life, Taste the Sip!

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MFIKEYI MAKAYI

A LIMITLESS MIND

Words by Jolezya Adeyemo, Images courtesy of Ryno Media





Getting to a TableTalk venue typically doesn't involve checked luggage or the collection of boarding passes. However, this particular TableTalk was unique. It was the first time a TableTalk interview took place outside of Lusaka in over seven years of these interviews. Initially scheduled in Lusaka, our interview with Mfikeyi Makayi took an unexpected turn when she suggested the Nkwazi team travel to the Copperbelt to meet her. As the current CEO of KoBold Metals Africa, a mineral exploration using AI to search for metals crucial for the transition to clean energy, meeting in the heart of Zambia's mining industry made perfect sense.

On a random Tuesday morning, my colleagues and I boarded the first flight to Ndola, continuing on to Chingola, where we met Mfikeyi. She warmly thanked the team for making an effort to meet her, emphasising that mining, predominantly centred around the Copperbelt and North-Western provinces, is a driving force in the Zambian economy. Despite this, Lusaka often receives more attention as an economic centre. This was one reason Mfikeyi chose the Copperbelt for our meeting. She jokingly mentioned that you can't tell the story of mining from Lusaka.

Our rendezvous took place at Crumbs & Co, a cosy café popular among

Chingola residents and those passing through the town on their way to or from North-Western Province and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Mfikeyi emphasised her intentional selection of a local business as our interview venue, stating that supporting Zambian local entrepreneurs is crucial for their growth.

Although Mfikeyi now considers the Copperbelt home, she was born and raised in Lusaka. A precocious child, she grew up in an environment that nurtured her creativity and talents. Raised by a single mother, one of the first two qualified physiotherapists in Zambia, Mfikeyi was encouraged to have a "limitless mind." Her mother allowed her to explore the world around her and experiment, even if it meant taking apart household gadgets and trinkets to build a mini version of the Kariba Dam (something which she did in the sixth grade). Mfikeyi later pursued civil and environmental engineering, earning a bachelor's and a master's degrees from Old Dominion University in the United States before returning to Zambia in 2010.

Upon returning, Mfikeyi joined First Quantum Minerals (FQM) at Kansanshi Mine in Solwezi, North-Western Province. Starting in a supervisory role, she progressed to a mining engineer position and later returned to a supervisory role in the internal audit department. Throughout her time at Kansanshi, Mfikeyi prioritised continuous



“PEOPLE ARE EXCITED ABOUT MINING, BUT ZAMBIA NEEDS MORE EXPLORATION PROJECTS. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF MINES THAT HAVE BEEN OPEN FOR DECADES, BUT WE WANT NEW ONES.”

— Mfikeyi Makayi, KoBold Metals, Country Manager.

learning and obtaining qualifications in drilling and explosives handling. She also earned a master's in mining engineering from the University of Exeter's Camborne School of Mines.

After seven years with Kansanshi, Mfikeyi transitioned to the role of assistant operations manager and later operations manager at Barloworld Equipment Zambia in Kitwe, the official dealer for Caterpillar earth-moving equipment in the region. Some people viewed moving away from the mining industry into mining services as a step down but Mfikeyi saw this change as a necessary move. Tasked with turning the company around during a challenging period of increased competition and the impact of COVID-19, she was soon promoted to country manager. Mfikeyi did not stop to celebrate or publicise her promotion as she was faced with the daunting task of retrenching 30 per cent of the workforce due to a 50 per cent business loss during the pandemic.

Mfikeyi's first year as country manager was tough, but she focused on making her smaller team more efficient and identified key people to help her turn things around. The strategy paid off, as the company surpassed sales targets and achieved higher profits after an initial challenging year.

After turning around the company, some people called Mfikeyi a one-hit wonder, but Barloworld continued to meet and beat its targets under Mfikeyi's leadership, regaining market share in the construction industry. In addition to her work, Mfikeyi was also pursuing an MBA at the Lagos School of Business, shuttling between Zambia and Nigeria. She began thinking about a transition long before joining KoBold Metals. She took a month off before taking the helm of KoBold Metals Africa in August 2023.

KoBold Metals is a mineral exploration company using artificial intelligence (AI) to discover metals such as copper, cobalt, and nickel, critical for driving the transition to clean energy. As Mfikeyi points out, "We know climate change is real, and we see its effects, especially in our rainfall patterns." The transition to clean energy is essential, and Mfikeyi wanted to take advantage of the opportunity to be part of this transition.

I asked Mfikeyi what she plans to achieve during her tenure as the company's leader; I have learned from this discussion that she always has a long-term plan. "If there were ten greenfield projects, of which three or four become a mine, I will be thrilled because that would cascade into many other things for Zambia and the continent. Another thing is



» **EVOLUTION THROUGH LEADERSHIP**

KoBold Metals Africa CEO Mfikeyi Makyi believes that successful leadership requires agility and the ability to accept criticism. She describes her leadership style as transformational because she evolves through the people she serves.

» **COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS LEARNING**

Mfikeyi has three engineering degrees and just completed an MBA but initially wanted to study history. She still has a passion for the subject to this day.

» **PAGE-TURNERS**

A few of her books include *The Road Less Travelled* (M. Scott Peck), *Tools of Titans* (Tim Ferris), *Only the Paranoid Survive* (Andrew S. Grove) and *Africa Rise and Shine* (Jim Ovia), *Imported: Locking in Africa's Value(s)* (Chuks Ibechukwu) and *The Black Jacobins* (C.L.R James).



“WHO I AM AT WORK IS WHO I AM OUTSIDE. I DON'T HAVE A SEPARATE ME OUT THERE AND THEN A WHOLE MFIKEYI AT WORK.”

– Mfikeyi Makayi, KoBold Metals, Country Manager.

grooming a successor, that starts now, not at the end.”

Reflecting on KoBold's achievements in Zambia, Mfikeyi says, "The biggest exploration investment in decades, 150 million dollars in exploration at Mingomba, in partnership with ZCCM-IH. People are excited about mining, but Zambia needs more exploration projects. We've got a lot of mines that have been open for decades, but we want new ones. New projects mean new capital, increased productivity, a growing economy and the GDP."

Addressing KoBold's financial and social goals, Mfikeyi emphasises the interconnectedness of investor returns and community benefits. "Our investors understand that over and above expected returns, the energy and materials transition is working towards solving a global

crisis and protecting our natural environment, while other stakeholders expect returns such as job creation in the community. We are searching for commodities that will alleviate climate change and support the move to electric vehicles and cleaner energy sources and this will lead to a better world for everyone."

As our conversation concluded, I asked Mfikeyi who she was outside of work. She answers in a logical, straightforward manner, much like the way she approaches life. "Who I am at work is who I am outside. I don't have a separate me out there and then a whole Mfikeyi at work. I don't have it all figured out; maybe that's who I am. The journey had a lot of twists and turns, and I don't know what is next, but that's who I am."



▶ **SPORTS FANATIC**

One of Mfikeyi's favourite pastimes is playing sports, including squash, football and mountain biking. She played football in her university's team in the United States and she credits sports with helping keep her straight during her studies.

◀ **CRUMBS & CO.**

Crumbs & Co was opened in 2020 by self-taught chef Mwaba in Chingola. The restaurant represents a culinary journey where passion, grit and global flavours meet. Every dish tells a story. The Crumbs & Co menu features Asian, Mexican, Italian and Spanish-inspired foods, with their desserts leaning more towards French cuisine.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

ZAMBIA AS SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA'S PREFERRED INVESTMENT DESTINATION

Words by Kamiza Chikula



Imagine, if you will, a near-perfect, almost utopic business environment where just about everything that you require to succeed is at your disposal, with relative ease, too. Such a reality is beyond mere coincidence but rather the result of years of playing to strengths whilst setting parameters that create an environment for businesses to not only take root but thrive. The phrase "Zambia is open for business" best encapsulates the current developments within Zambia's business-enabling environment.

Recently, global consulting giant KPMG, in an independent assessment, ranked Zambia as the seventh out of ten preferred countries in Sub-Saharan Africa for investment opportunities in the next two years. This reality is firmly within Zambia's grasp, and foundations are being laid to fortify the ground for potential investors. According to the latest PACRA Annual Report, 80 foreign

companies have been registered in Zambia, indicating robust and steady growth from the 69 companies reported in 2019. This triumph is a precursor of the greater potential the local economy possesses.

Optimally, Zambia is poised at the centre of the Sub-Saharan trade routes. It provides the ideal hub, gateway and throughput from east to west and north to south. With over eight neighbouring capital cities within a 1,548-kilometre radius, Zambia provides unbridled and unmatched levels of connectivity with 13 airlines granting unlimited destination options through the Middle East, East Africa and South Africa.

This advantageous position is bolstered further by superb market access throughout the region. With Zambia's membership to both the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

(COMESA) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Zambia is a point of access to both the COMESA market, with its combined population of 492.5 million people and a GDP of USD657.4 billion, and the SADC market, which has a combined population of 293 million consumers and boasts a GDP of USD700 billion. The potential presented by this level of market access alone is an incredibly attractive proposition for any investment advisor.

Zambia's international investment outlook is optimistic, as is evident in reports by the US Department of State in their 2023 Investment Climate Statement and the Embassy of Ireland's Guide to Doing Business in Zambia, both drawing the consensus that Zambia offers numerous investment incentives and concessions for expanded trade across various sectors including the



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agriculture, healthcare, energy, financial services, and ICT sectors in the country. These incentives are derived from the Zambia Development Agency Act of 2006 (amended in 2014), which provides for investment thresholds to qualify for fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. It must be noted that fiscal incentives are the preserve of Category One investors. Category One investors are defined as investors investing USD500,000 and above in a Multi-Facility Economic Zone (MFEZ), an Industrial Park in a Priority Sector, or an investment in a Rural Enterprise under the ZDA Act. These investments are entitled to lucrative and attractive incentives, namely a zero per cent tax rate on dividends for five years from the year of the first declaration of dividends, zero per cent tax on profits for five years from the first year of operation, and zero per cent import



duty rate on capital goods, machinery including specialised motor vehicles for five years.

Over the years, Zambia has built up a solid reputation in the sub-Saharan region as a safe bet for investment, particularly infrastructure development. Such projects include the Link 8000 Road Project, an ambitious, accelerated road development initiative launched in 2013 and aimed at making Zambia truly land-linked, and even more recently, the railroad network interconnector through the Lobito Corridor and the Walvis Bay Corridor to make access to the Atlantic Ocean trade route a viable and affordable option for both importers and exporters alike.

On the aviation front, infrastructure development has yielded four airports that can service international air traffic. These modern facilities are spread across Lusaka, Ndola, Livingstone and Mfuwe, with local flight access to the North-Western and Northern Provinces through Solwezi Kasama. Furthermore, astute investment is increasing on the cold-chain front in readiness for increased inflows and outflows of perishables that require guaranteed sub-zero temperatures, with several players positioning their facilities for ready access to markets in any direction.

Boasting relatively affordable land coupled with a policy that does not disadvantage foreign land ownership for investment purposes, Zambia has swung

wide the doors for viable establishment and growth of businesses within its borders. The Zambian market continues to entice with its superior cell phone network coverage, internet connectivity, and extensive media outlet availability, with more than 100 radio stations and 30 television stations nationwide. Communication with potential clients presents no problem at all.

According to Macrotrends, Zambia boasts an impressive local literacy rate of almost 90 per cent, signalling the availability of highly skilled labour. In addition, flexible and favourable financial laws allow seamless internalisation and externalisation of funds through an international, credible financial sector, comparatively lower crime rates, lower morbidity, and mortality rates in comparison to most sub-Saharan countries, coupled with an emerging robust health system, offering facilities across the country, all make for an attractive and enticing package for the would-be investor.

With the growth in greenfield investments worth an impressive USD 1,698 million in 2022, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) latest data, everything seems right for things to fall neatly into place on the investment front. It is just a matter of catching and harnessing the positive wind driving the Zambian business landscape. It's a great time to be alive and a great time to leap into investing in Zambia!

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GLOBAL CONTEXT OF THE GIG ECONOMY

RETIREMENT FOR NON-TRADITIONAL WORKERS

Words by Royd Kapesa

One of the biggest events of the last decade has been the exponential rise of the 'gig economy'. The term 'gig' has been traditionally used to describe a short-term engagement for an artist's services, such as a musician, writer, or actor. Today, the word has taken on a broader meaning to include knowledge workers who take on short-term contracts to deliver a specific product or service for the hiring business. Gig work has always been there, albeit in small pockets worldwide. However, the rise of gig work has been fuelled by the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced millions to work remotely and gave the practice traction. According to a recent World Bank Report, the gig economy is 12 per cent of the global labour market and is expected to increase.

While countries in the Global North have the highest concentration of non-traditional workers, countries in the Global South are quickly catching up. The same World Bank study cites that gig work grew 130 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa compared to 14 per cent in North America. Furthermore, 60 per cent of Global South companies reported increased work outsourcing to non-traditional workers compared to less than half in countries within the Global North. The verdict is clear: the gig economy has fully dawned in Africa and is here to stay.



Spotlight on Zambia

Zambia has also seen a sharp rise in the number of non-traditional workers driven by increased access to reliable internet and technological advancements, including more affordable gadgets. Furthermore, the youth that dominates Zambia's population opts for gig work in search of freedom, flexibility, and greater autonomy over their time. While legacy industries such as banking, telecoms, and manufacturing still demand that workers report to the office, the rise in tech-enabled businesses will further accelerate the rise of non-traditional workers in Zambia.

However, what non-traditional workers gain in freedom and flexibility, they lose in reliable and consistent benefits

(financial and non-financial) in an economy under increasing pressure. Full-time employees enjoy a consistent monthly salary, health insurance, and various pension employer-sponsored benefits.

On the other hand, non-traditional workers are responsible for ensuring that they secure an economic future for themselves today and beyond their highly productive years. According to insights provided by Octagon Africa Financial Services, a leading pensions services company in Zambia, financial institutions in Zambia will soon create products tailored explicitly to non-traditional workers as the country aims to close the financial inclusion gap.

Micro-insurance products have already passed regulation, and micro-pensions



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If you are interested in signing up, you can apply via:
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Hub Locations

Solwezi Hub

Lwenge Road Avenue, Plot #32, Solwezi
North Western, Solwezi 10101, Zambia

Livingstone Hub:

916 Cnr Akapelwa Street and
Mosi-O-Tunya, Livingstone, 10101, Zambia



The Minister of Science and Technology, Felix Mutati, officiated the launch of the Solwezi Hub, powered by Jacaranda Hub Zambia.



Jito Kayumba - Special Assistant to the President with the Absa Team during a masterclass at the Solwezi Absa Innovation.



The Minister of Tourism, Rodney Sikumba, officially opened the Mosi-O-Tunya Hub in Livingstone.

are currently in the pipeline. These will cover non-traditional workers' lower and higher end and aim to put them on equal footing with their employed counterparts.

Unfortunately, current pension schemes have not responded to the rise of the non-traditional economy and remain tightly regulated. This leads to the exclusion of non-traditional workers, requiring them to plan for their retirement without access to specialised financial products designed to meet their unique needs.

The Challenges of Non-traditional Workers

Numerous challenges make planning for retirement particularly difficult for non-traditional workers. Firstly, non-traditional workers have irregular incomes that vary for each period. This proves challenging for non-traditional workers to establish regular saving habits and build financial reserves for retirement. Furthermore, periodic income streams prove taxing on non-traditional workers attempting to scale their businesses as they frequently lag on statutory requirements and often need help to employ additional staff.

Additionally, non-traditional workers need help accessing employer-sponsored benefits such as health insurance, employer-funded pension schemes, paid leave and other allowances. The employer typically bears these benefits, shielding the employee from unforeseen circumstances. On the other hand, non-traditional workers must take extra caution to ensure they provide for their benefits.

Lastly, and perhaps the most overlooked challenge faced by non-traditional workers, is the mental stress associated with the absence of long-term contracts and job security. Most non-traditional workers may experience the unease of running out of money or opportunities; therefore, to ensure their long-term survival, they may need to work long hours to build financial security. This further underscores the need for social safety nets that cater to the non-traditional economy's unique challenges.

Paving a Successful Path as a Non-traditional Worker

Despite these challenges, the non-traditional economy continues to grow and provide substantial financial benefits for those who have developed

the understanding to navigate this new world. According to Octagon Financial Services, there are four essential steps non-traditional workers can take to ensure that they reap the maximum benefits from non-traditional work.

Firstly, non-traditional workers are encouraged to maintain low-cost lifestyles, which may reduce reliance on a regular income. Non-traditional workers with high overheads may find it challenging to meet these responsibilities when income is inconsistent. Octagon Financial Services recommends maintaining a low-cost lifestyle to counter unforeseen circumstances.

Secondly, building a savings fund of 6 to 12 months of monthly expenses and a low-cost lifestyle is imperative. Higher lifestyle costs mean larger stockpiles are needed in case of emergencies. Therefore, non-traditional workers must continuously audit their lifestyles while building significant savings.

Skill development is another area in which non-traditional workers can invest their income. Their full-time counterparts benefit from employer-sponsored personal development programmes unavailable to non-traditional workers. Therefore, the onus to stay on top of emerging trends and personal development remains on non-traditional workers.

Finally, the non-traditional worker must be mindful of their health, as they are essentially a company within themselves. Illness acts as a hamper, and business operations cease, possibly limiting their effectiveness and, by extension, income during that period.

The surge of the gig economy over the past decade, both globally and in Zambia, reflects a significant shift in work dynamics. While providing newfound freedom and flexibility for non-traditional workers, it exposes them to unique financial security and retirement planning challenges. Efforts to introduce micro-insurance and micro-pensions in Zambia are steps in the right direction. Yet, a crucial need remains for more comprehensive solutions presented on a national level that are tailored to the gig economy's distinctive demands.





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TOURIST TRAP

Travelling, they say, opens the mind. Not in a directly spiritual way (unless you are consuming class A drugs), but rather in the way that new experiences are meant to lead to new ways in which to perceive the world. You are supposed to meet people you've never met, eat food you've never eaten, and see things you've never seen. Unless, of course, you can't meet people because your high school French disappeared along with your textbook—last seen as a fire-starter; all you can afford is a ham and cheese sandwich, and you can't go and 'see things' because your suitcase was lost and now you have to brave near-negative temperatures in a t-shirt and jersey. Cursed? Probably—I may have discarded God a little too quickly in my younger days. That doesn't mean I'm not superstitious; indeed, it seems that something else was happening while travelling, something outside of my spiritual paranoia.

The epiphany came to me while trying to find the perfect angle to take a picture of the Eiffel Tower. The predicament was: how do I take a picture of this skyward metal structure that no one else has taken before? How do I become the next internet inspiration, a trending purveyor of global tastes, with one photograph? Of course, about four hundred other tourists, adequately representative of humanity's diversity, were also trying to take that photograph. We traversed our vast differences by our wish to become famous. Not for the last time, a buoyant celebrity culture brought people together and made the world a better place, if only for a moment. That moment ended when I came across a hawker selling postcards of the Eiffel Tower. The photograph on the

postcard was exquisite—it gave a full view of the Tower, rising from the smog of Paris. It was something I couldn't recreate. I daren't recreate it. Most importantly, there were no people in this picture. No celebrities, no four hundred people with bigger cameras than mine. This should have been my ticket to fame. That was the moment I realised I was in a tourist trap.

What is a tourist trap? Typically, it is considered a place created for legal and legitimate robbery by providing services, entertainment, food and souvenirs that no one needs (how many 25cm replica Eiffel Towers does the world require?) The list goes on, but I thought a postcard would be exempt. Nay, it seems like the law of economics is never in my favour. This got me thinking: maybe it isn't so much that I'm cursed, but I'm at the receiving end of a long-running joke about economics in poor taste. That would explain my bank balance and the state of my haircut simultaneously. Not to say that the Eiffel Tower is the cause of worldwide poverty, but in a parallel universe, I wouldn't say that it is too wild an idea.

And so, in an act of solidarity with myself and the poor of said parallel universe, I took a bad photograph of the Eiffel Tower. My folks could have been more impressed, expecting better of their son. It is another waste of potential. I did, however, buy a 25cm replica of the Eiffel Tower for them, which now sits next to that bad photograph of the Eiffel Tower. Ha! The joke's on them or me... I don't know—perhaps all I did was bring the tourist trap home with me, the hidden pandemic of our age. Well, whatever the costs, all I know is that I'm glad to be home.

› ABOUT SEBASTIAN

Sebastian can be found selling knock-off replica Eiffel Towers on eBay.



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Obey the call of the wild and escape to silence and a simpler way of life in the heart of Liuwa Plain National Park on page 80.

BARRICK LUMWANA

BARRICK LUMWANA

ST LUCIA



SAND, SEA AND SAFARI

St Lucia, nestled in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, boasts diverse ecosystems and cultural richness. Visitors enjoy encounters with hippos, crocodiles, and the Big Five, alongside beach adventures and Zulu cultural experiences. St Lucia promises an unforgettable blend of wildlife, culture, and natural beauty.

Words by Noxolo Kapela



Safely tucked at the southern end of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, on the east coast of KwaZulu-Natal, the quaint little town of St Lucia forms part of the picturesque Elephant Coast and occupies the most beautiful part of the coast. It has a unique ecosystem with lakes, swamps, and pristine beaches. The area's diversity is an adventure on its own, as visitors experience a teeming hippo populace, crocodiles, varieties of bird species, and even the famous Big Five. Furthermore, KwaZulu-Natal prides itself on its rich culture and history. Therefore, visiting

cultural villages in the area is another memorable must-do.

The first point of departure when visiting St Lucia is a visit to the iconic iSimangaliso Wetland Park. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is known for its diverse ecosystems, from estuaries to coral reefs; visitors to this unique town and its surroundings can expect to come across the country's largest 800-strong pod of free-roaming hippos, over 1200 crocodiles, and is a prime bird-watching spot. For a full immersion, take a St Lucia Estuary boat tour to witness the estuary's





rich birdlife, including flamingos and pelicans, and an opportunity for an up-close encounter with aquatic mammals and reptiles in their natural habitat. As the hippos are slightly more active in the afternoon, the recommendation is to take the last tour of the day and experience their fun side on a stunning sunset cruise.

BEACH AND SEA ADVENTURES.

Embark on an enchanting journey along the sun-kissed shores of St Lucia, where the allure of beach and sea adventures awaits. Feel the powdery sands



beneath your toes as you wander along pristine beaches fringed by lush coastal vegetation. Here are some must-try beach experiences:

Spend a day at Cape Vidal Beach:

Forty-five minutes from the Bhangazi Gate on the Eastern Shore lie the stunning beaches of Cape Vidal, offering pristine soft golden sands and clear waters, ideal for swimming, snorkelling and picnics. This mesmerising shoreline with its azure waters is also where bush and beach meet, creating a rare convergence of sea, desert and grassland. Cape Vidal's beauty and warm tropical waters will have you adding a day or three to your St Lucia itinerary. Who doesn't need a day of lazing around at the beach when on holiday?

Enjoy a Turtle Tracking Adventure:

Indulge in a captivating experience during the turtle nesting season, when the leatherback and loggerback hatchlings make their way to the sea. This rare and unique activity must be experienced at least once in

your lifetime. To witness this magical moment, tourists join guided tours organised by local conservation organisations, with minimal disturbance to the nesting process. The tours often occur after nightfall and always at low tide, when the turtles come ashore to lay their eggs.

Go Deep-Sea Fishing:

For those seeking an adrenaline rush, St Lucia offers the perfect opportunity to explore the generosity of the Indian Ocean through deep-sea fishing adventures. Popular along the St Lucian coast, this activity invites visitors to cast their lines into the ocean's waters, teeming with game fish like marlin, sailfish, and tuna. Experienced charters provide all the necessary equipment and guidance, ensuring a thrilling experience for both novice and seasoned anglers. The breathtaking coastal scenery and the chance to reel in impressive catches position St Lucia as a premier destination for those seeking an exhilarating deep-sea fishing experience.

RACING ON ROBUST HORSES THROUGH THE BUSH, SURROUNDED BY GRAZING WILDLIFE, PROMISES A LASTING SENSE OF JOY THAT LINGERS WELL AFTER YOUR JOURNEY ENDS.

GET TO KNOW THE PEOPLE.

An old saying suggests that to understand a place fully, one must know its people and their way of life. In St Lucia, this involves immersing yourself in the rich Zulu culture by visiting a traditional village, where you can witness traditional dances and music, taste local cuisine, and learn about the Zulu people's way of life and the Zulu Kingdom's fascinating history. The locals are always willing to take you down memory lane and give you value for your money. Beyond mere storytelling, this experience offers a lived encounter with one of South Africa's most renowned tribes, leaving a lasting impact and a wealth of knowledge.

TIME OUT IN THE WILD.

St Lucia is known for its impeccable beauty and the broad spectrum of wildlife it harbours. It is famous for offering visitors the best of both [beach and game] worlds. With these three activities, you will never go wrong, and your trip to St Lucia will leave you longing for more long after you depart:

INDULGE IN A CAPTIVATING EXPERIENCE DURING THE TURTLE NESTING SEASON, WHEN THE LEATHERBACK AND LOGGERBACK HATCHLINGS MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE SEA.



Game Drive through Hluhluwe-uMfolozi Game Reserve:

Exploring a game reserve is an essential and highly rewarding activity in St Lucia, and Hluhluwe stands out as a prime example. As one of Africa's oldest game reserves, it has earned global recognition for its dedicated conservation initiatives, particularly in safeguarding the endangered white rhino population. Hluhluwe proudly distinguishes itself as one of the select nature reserves in KwaZulu-Natal, home to the complete Big Five. While spotting all members of the Big Five in a single game drive is rare, opting for an afternoon game drive enhances your prospects of encountering these majestic creatures.



The close encounters with other wild creatures, such as zebra and antelope, become the focal point for many embarking on this thrilling escapade. The passionate guides add an extra layer of delight, elevating the entire experience to a worthwhile use of your time.

Visiting St Lucia provides a unique blend of wildlife, cultural experiences, and natural beauty. The region's diversity, from wetlands to game reserves and cultural villages, offers a well-rounded experience catering to nature enthusiasts and those seeking beach living and cultural immersion. Nothing screams "put me on your bucket list" more than the beautiful town of St Lucia. Hop on that plane and experience this unique part of KwaZulu-Natal.

Eastern Shores Game Reserve:

Another delightful way to unwind is a self-drive safari in this section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park. This reserve delivers stunning vistas, including lakes, grasslands, and coastal dunes. It features wildlife such as rhinos, buffalos, and species of antelopes. For the fearless, the park allows adventure-seekers to take guided safari walks in addition to self-drives and boat safaris.

Bhangazi Horse Safaris:

Completing your St Lucia adventure with bush and beach horse riding would only be comprehensive. Racing on robust horses through the bush, surrounded by grazing wildlife, promises a lasting sense of joy that lingers well beyond the conclusion of your journey.



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SILENCING THE SHOTS





A POACHER'S REDEMPTION

WORDS BY MUKANDI SIAME, IMAGES COURTESY OF GAME RANGERS
INTERNATIONAL AND CONSERVATION SOUTH LUANGWA



In the vibrant heart of the Zambian grassland, a silent battle wages between man and beast. Before this moment, humans passed down the reverence of the wild, and the ecosystem maintained its natural order. As we have developed, the divide has become smaller, and the hunter has become the hunted. Several factors have driven this; some include socio-economic demand for wildlife products, poor governance, climate change, cultural beliefs, conflict and political instability and last but not least, poverty. Today, predators and prey are equally vulnerable to this threat.

Meet Luka Chinoya and Kapanda Chilekwa, two strangers sharing the same dark past and inspiring story.

Starting as tenacious young boys with equal potential for a bright future, Luka and Kapanda had the same hindrance.

Luka reflects on their shared predicament: "I aspired for a brighter future for myself and my family, but poverty held us back. I sought a means of livelihood, and unfortunately, poaching appeared to be the most viable solution."

Poaching, an age-old menace, threatens the delicate balance of our ecosystems and biodiversity. This vice is detrimental to our ecosystem and biodiversity, and illegal game can also be harmful, transferring fatal pathogens from mismanaged, unregulated meat to the people who consume it. However, there's a glimmer of hope in the shadows:

reformed poachers who have chosen a new path as stewards of the wildlife they once exploited.

Speaking in earnest, Luka tells his story in CiNyanja, but there are no words for the danger he has faced throughout his life and his regret for his actions. He started poaching as a young man and grew up in the illicit trade, facing risks and danger for twenty years.

Do poachers know that poaching is wrong?

For Luka Chinoya, he had two choices: die of hunger or hunt. He chose the latter and lived a hard life, shooting down animals for sale at minimal prices so that he could feed his family. Today,



I COMMITTED MANY CRIMES AGAINST MOTHER NATURE, ALL WHILE LIVING IN CONSTANT FEAR.

he serves as a ranger supported by Game Rangers International, and when he shares that his favourite animal is the elephant, the warmth in his voice is genuine. Acknowledging wrong leads to true transformation, evidenced by his dedication to preserving the wild spaces he once hunted in. His hope today is that more poachers can come to understand the damage they cause so that they, too, can reform.

"I committed many crimes against mother nature, all while living in constant fear." Kapanda Chilekwa shares in a moving short film produced by Mosam Media.

Samson Moyo, the proprietor of Mosam Media, is a talented videographer operating in Mfuwe who encountered Kapanda Chilekwa and told his story. In the award-nominated short film, we see the perils of growing up in a poverty-stricken community in South Luangwa, the hunger and desperation that drives many people to poaching and the illegal procurement of game meat and wildlife products.

What makes the story of Luka and Kapanda exceptional is their history. As poachers, they were masters of the wild. The work of a poacher is risky, dangerous and life-threatening. Every day is survival, and without formal training, they must develop intricate skills to learn, track, trap and hunt prized wildlife. In a twist, these are the same skills that have made them exceptional rangers.

The turning point.

Kapanda Chilekwa knew the wild like the palm of his hand. During his reign, he was infamously known for his skill and vigour, recruiting more and more youth into his trade. Among them was



EVERY PERSON DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE.



his younger brother, who was left in his care. Their father deserted his family. To fend for their family, they resorted to poaching, and like a bad habit, the thrill of the hunt drove the duo from seeking out small antelope to chasing large game. The brothers found great success and grew an intricate network of poachers who understood sales, climate, and the habits and timings of ranger shifts. This syndicate continued to thrive until disaster inevitably struck.

Kapanda's brother met his untimely death due to the misfire of a malfunctioning gun while on a hunt. Tragically, at the time Kapanda discovered his brother's lifeless body, he also found the most significant loss of his life. He was changed forever. Struck with grief, regret and nightmares, Kapanda made the pivotal decision to give up poaching. But it wouldn't be that easy. After the burial of his brother, he reflected on the damage done and decided it was time for a new path. He looked to farming as an alternate way to meet his needs, knowing that this

transformation could cost him his life. His former network of poachers would come searching for him in fear of the information he possessed.

"Every person deserves a second chance", Benson Kanyembo, the Law Enforcement Officer from Conservation South Luangwa, states. There are no truer words, as it takes immense sacrifice to change a way of life. Kapanda Chilekwa faced persecution and was ready to turn himself in. However, in a cosmic twist, law enforcement officers decided that he was an asset and it would be beneficial to cooperate with him. He was incorporated into the conservation efforts in South Luangwa through full-time employment as a community scout with Conservation South Luangwa. With the knowledge he has brought in, Kapanda Chilekwa has been instrumental to the decline of poaching in the area.

As a poacher, Luka hunted with a team of four, with their designated main targets being wild buffalo that they

would shoot for bushmeat. It was a difficult life, with weeks spent trekking through the wild on foot, looking out for buffalo and wildlife rangers on patrol. After ten years of this way of life, he was captured and sent to prison in Kaoma. Here, he met his moment of transformation when he was offered the chance to join a reformed poacher initiative and become a ranger. Ever since then, Luka has served in Kafue National Park, based at the release facility for orphaned elephants, supported by Game Rangers International (GRI). GRI is a non-profit organisation working with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife and the local communities to protect Zambia's wildlife and wild spaces. In a moment of chance, Luka found a way to apply his knowledge and received training to protect the animals he once hunted. Anti-poaching units supported by Game Rangers International have apprehended over 1,000 poachers and have removed over 750 illegal firearms from the Kafue landscape, saving the lives of countless species of wildlife. Luka carries an M59 rifle in the event he ever needs to defend the elephants or himself from aggressive poachers. Luka is now the longest-serving scout at the Release Facility, working there since its founding.

Together, lessons from Luka and Kapanda's life converge to create a driving force for change that charges on towards a brighter future. The message is simple: Zambia's wildlife is an invaluable asset that deserves protection and preservation to allow future generations to continue enjoying and benefiting from it.



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ROMANCING THE NDOMBONDO

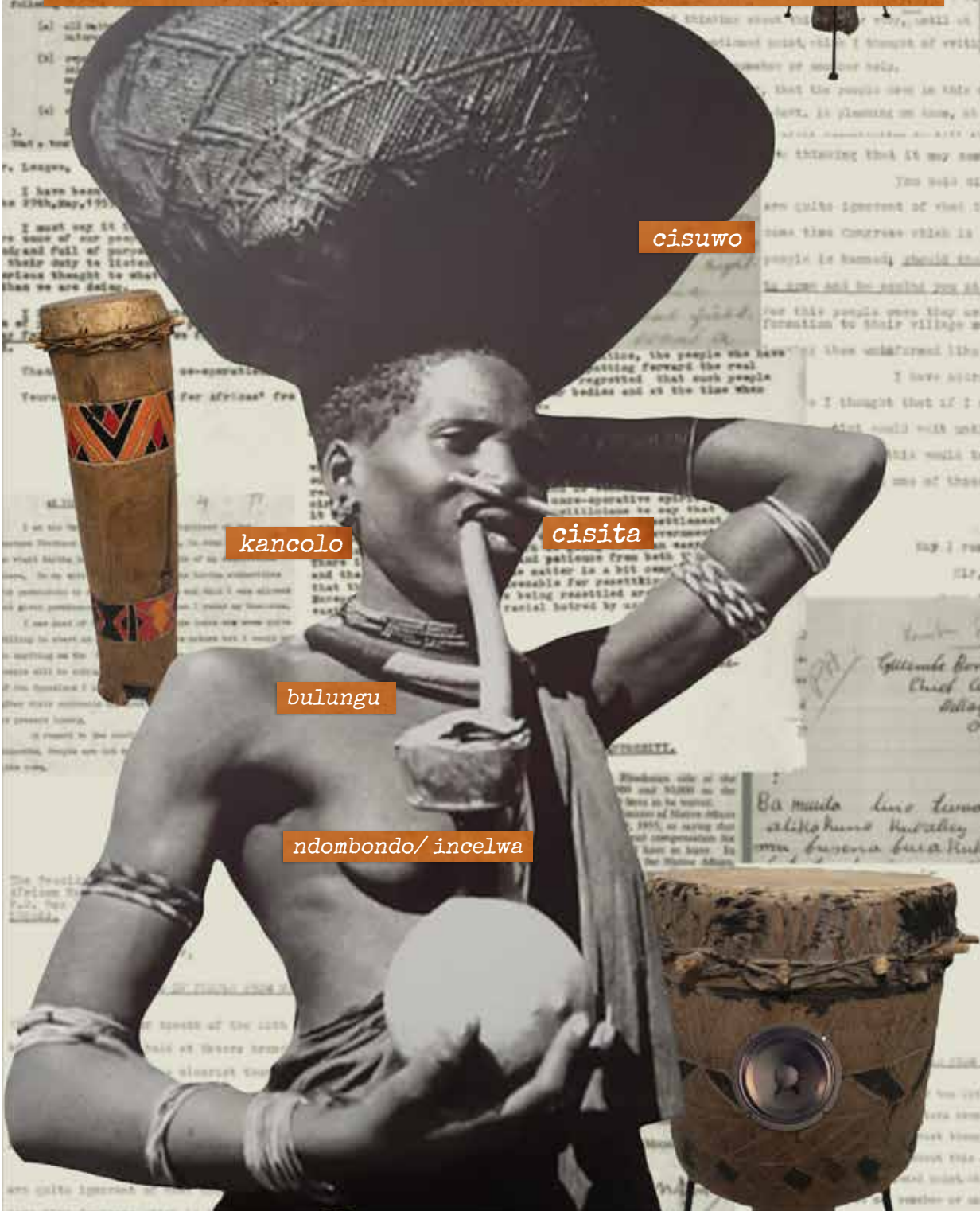
cisuwo

kancolo

cisita

bulungu

ndombondo/ incelwa



Radical Archiving[radikal / 'radikal]
adjective
[especially of change or action] relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something; far-reaching or thorough
"a radical overhaul of the existing regulatory framework"

archiving /'ɔ:kɪv/
verb
1. gerund or present participle: archiving
place or store (something) in an archive

Personal Definition of Radical Archiving

The act of overthrowing historical and present systems of archiving in order to build and nurture a more democratic and representative space for the storage in and thus interaction with collective histories (mainly those of marginalised groups)

Archiving/Storytelling As a Point of Power

The stories we know of ourselves, as Zambian people, we learn or are taught through the hegemonic power structures that engulf society. We have previously been on the [oppressed, receiving end of projected and exerted power within narrative construction which in turn has influenced our perception + positionality + representation + existence, preservation and availability of archives, documents and records in our society are very much determined by the distribution of wealth and power" (Zinn, 1970)

Radical Archiving within this context would be actively attributing more value (through engagement) to community led archives which are more horizontal rather than institutional archives which adhere to a more vertical, top-down structure

definitions - banji chona

analyse movements and thoughts of further liberation for the Zambian mind and psyche.

Pixel Positionality[Pixel Positionality]

pixel /'pi:ksəl/ 'pɪksəl/
noun

A pixel is the smallest unit of a digital image or graphic that can be displayed and represented on a digital display device. ... Pixels are combined to form a complete image, video, text, or any visible thing on a computer display. A pixel is also known as a picture element (pix = picture, el = element).

positionality / pə'zɪʃənəl-ɪ-tee

1. Positionality is the social and political context that creates your identity in terms of race, class, gender, sexuality and ability status. Positionality also describes how your identity influences ... and is primarily based on your understanding of and

Personal

reche
relate
extern

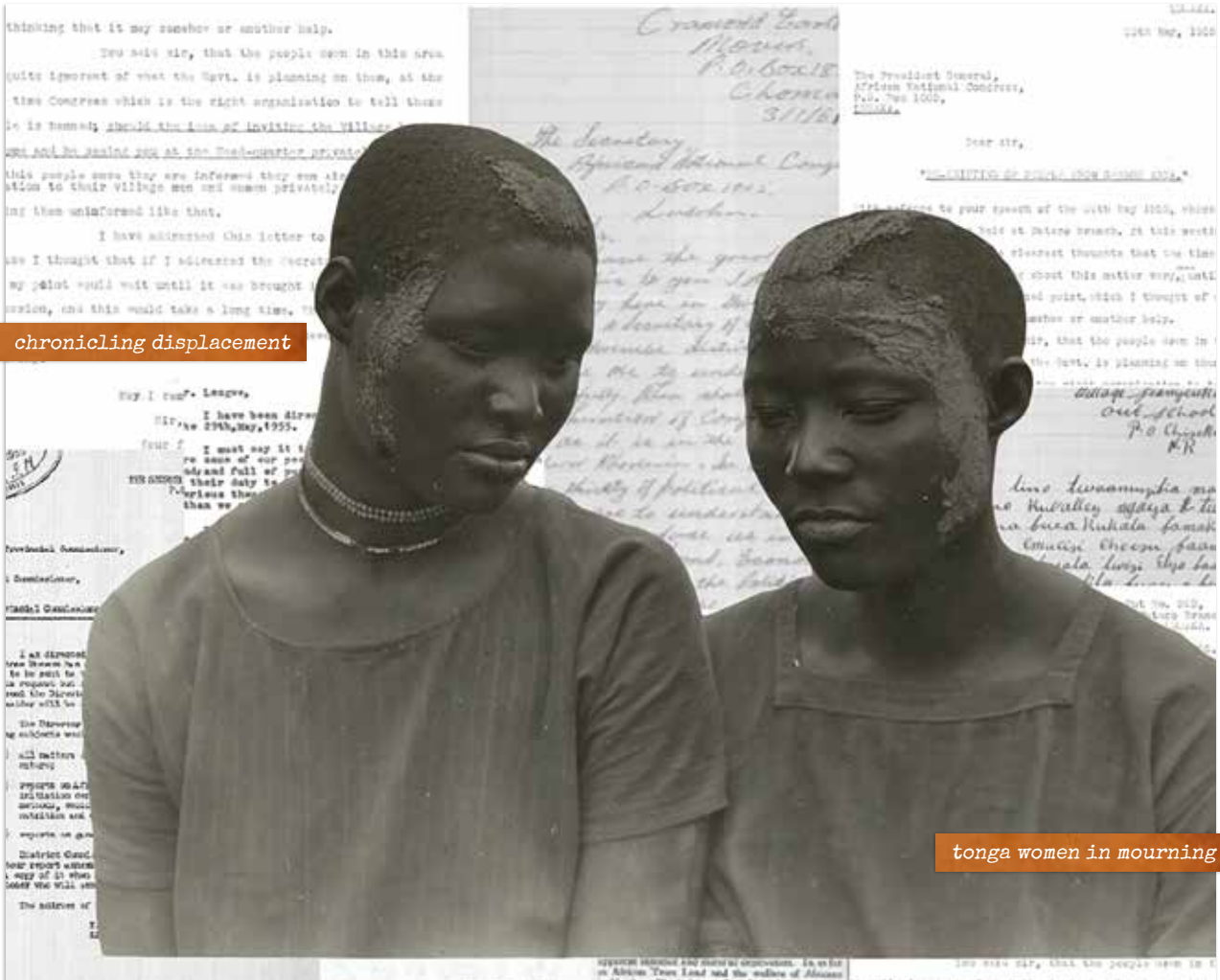
The Artchive = persons participating + radical zambeziian archiving + pixel positionality

Community archive = (persons participating) [in] (storytelling) [using] picture elements on the internet.

"A community archive is a result of persons participating in storytelling and dissemination of information through or by using documentation in the form of pictorial elements and digital assets and technology, by the identities of Zambian people, on the internet"- Hammah Phiri.

Words by Mukandi Siame, Edited by Shammah Phiri, Images courtesy of Banji Chona in collaboration with Women's History Museum and Swedish Ethnographic Museum

We will write like us, in our voice, in our cadence, in our philosophy.



Ngu!
Ngu!
Ngu!

My mother makes music when she cooks: swift turns, tender swirls, gentle splashes, firm shakes, and precise cuts. Her cooking is alchemy. She grows a thriving garden on our land, where half is cultivated in neat rows, and the other half is wild. There's always an element of surprise when she cooks; we never know what we will get.

From the warm thud of the pestle against the well-worn wooden mortar, I know when we're getting *ifisashi*—a delicacy of food cooked in pounded groundnut paste. Why is this exciting? She pounds

down the groundnuts herself as she has done my whole life. It is a special sound. She could use the food processor to blend down the nuts, and we would never know, but the process of pounding down the nuts to powder and knowing when to stop before they become paste is generational.

Contemporary Zambian identity is spread thinly across all the elements that form it. We have the influence of exposure from travel and multicultural alliances, corporate careers, industry, and trade, and the daily interaction with English as an official language. It is easy to forget that we are a Bantu nation of seventy-three ethnic tribes. Most Zambians are a blend of the

tribes, myself included. My parents are Namwanga and Tonga. I have always felt fortunate to have the pedestrian knowledge of my ancestry but never felt the nudge to dive deeper.

On a rainy afternoon, Shammah, the Editor, gave me the nudge I needed. Armed with a few paragraphs in a synopsis and curiosity as a guide, I encountered the flow of life of the Tonga people. I accidentally unlocked why *ifisashi* is innately special to me.

I'll shamefully admit that I don't know enough about the Tonga people. All I know about the tribe has been observed from the bottom of my family tree looking up. It is said the name 'Tonga'



from ngoma zya budima, banji chona

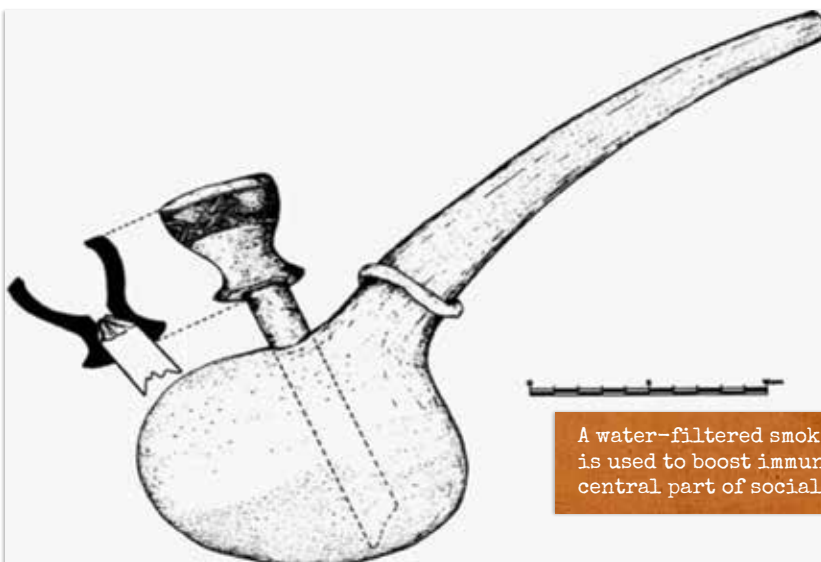
means 'independent', which refers to the fact that before colonisation, the Tonga tribe was reported to have been a tribe without chiefs, unlike other tribes that surrounded them.

Zambia's original Bantu inhabitants comprise at least 12% of the country today. The details of their exact origins are scarce, but historical markers have the Tonga people mentioned as hospitable and generous.

This text from Emil Holub about the *baToka*, a tribe closely related to *baTonga*, in cultural practice, near Victoria Falls, in 1885, caught my eye:

"The tobacco pipe plays a very important role in the life of the Matoka. ... They have a surprising skill in making highly artistic tobacco pipes. The bowls of the pipes are made of burnt clay and have carved animal heads such as wild pigs, gnus, buffaloes, roan antelopes, water antelopes, oxen, goats, lions, etc. ... The pipe is lit by coal. To handle the coal, the tribes use little fire tongs made by the Matotele. While they are smoking, all quarrels and strife are suspended, and when they invite strangers and unknown visitors to smoke with them, this is a sign of friendliness."

The Tonga are predominantly identified by their homeland in the Southern Province, extending from the Gwembe Valley below the Zambezi River to Victoria Falls. The culture and history of the Tonga people are intricate and dynamic. Still, it would be dishonest to tell their story without noting the impacts of displacement, colonialism and development on the partial erasure of their history.



A water-filtered smoking pipe made from a gourd which is used to boost immunity, foster creativity and forms a central part of social activity.

September 10, 1958, is a dark day in the history of the *baTonga* as it coincides with the displacement of more than 50,000 Tonga people from their homeland. The raising of the Kariba Hydroelectric Power Dam in 1957 birthed Lake Kariba and stood as the largest man-made dam in the world. The force of the god of the Zambezi was once so strong that its floodwaters caused an accident during construction, which claimed the lives of almost 90

people; 17 are still plastered on its walls today. Among them is my mother's oldest brother, Austin Mwiinga, who has nobody alive to remember him. All we have left is his handsome face in a tiny square, sepia-toned photograph and his name engraved at the memorial epitaph. The most famous legend of the Tonga is that of the Nyami Nyami, the river god whose wrath broke the walls of the Kariba dam. But for all we know about him, I often wonder what other burial sites, shrines and ritual cultures were buried beneath his waters, never to be remembered again.

The Tonga people are a doing people. The oldest person in my family is an old lady, only known as *Mukopekope*. She has spent the last five decades blind from old age, weaving well-ropes and smoking her *tombwe*—her beloved tobacco pipe. As a little girl, I'd twirl around the long, winding ropes while she worked on them deep inside her hut. Retirement is often framed as a time to do nothing finally, but no matter the age, Tongas are always doing something, and *Mukopekope* still weaves her ropes today.

community archive = (persons participating) [in] (storytelling) [using] picture elements on the internet

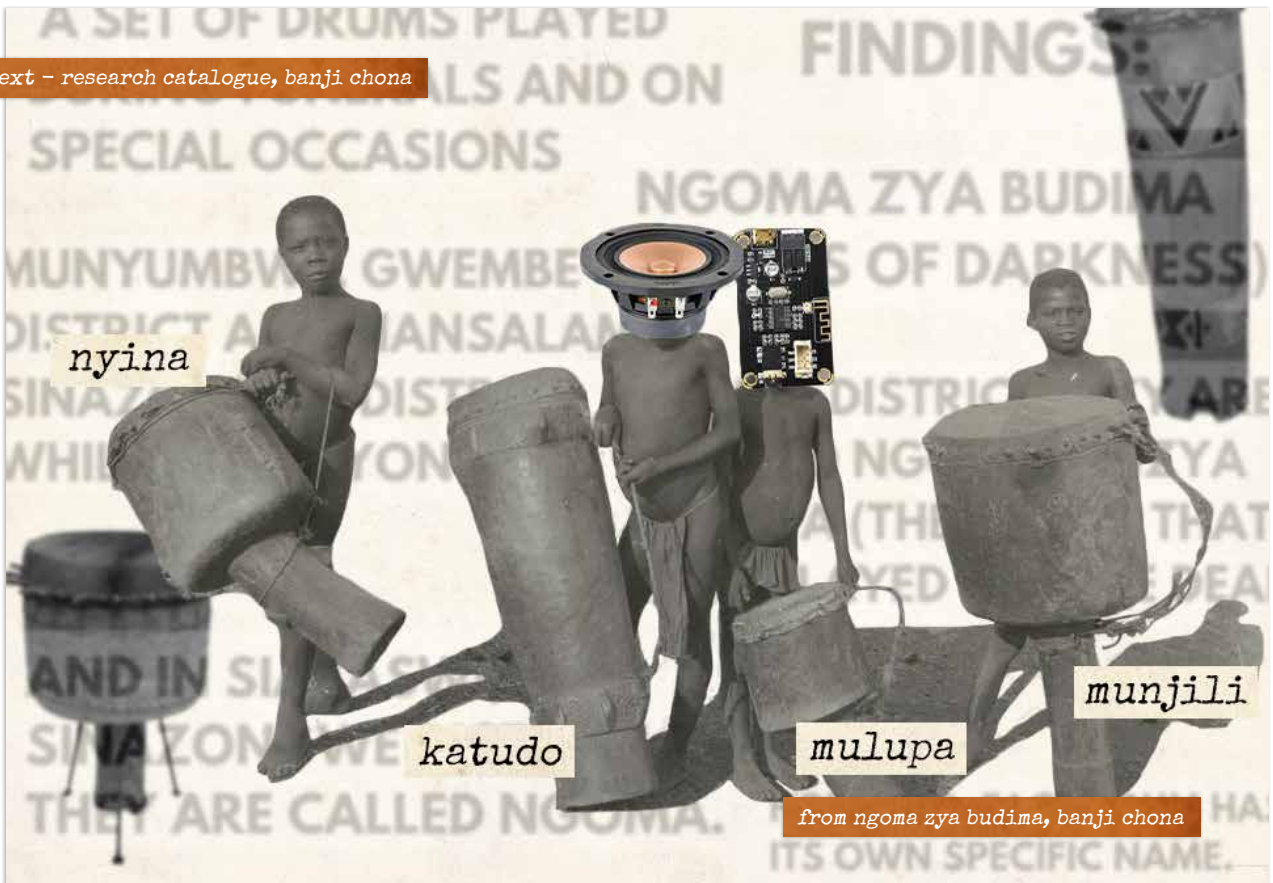
It was so special to find that carving, weaving, creating and doing are integral to life for the Tonga people. My journey into my ancestry led me to discover the points where my personal archive met the archive of the entire tribe. One such point of convergence is with artist Banji Chona, who, like me, is one part Tonga. Currently defining herself as a Zambesian, Banji is an artist, researcher, and curator with a deep immersion in the elements of Tonga's history. Her artistic practice is devoted to using natural elements in creating offerings grounded in the telluric and spiritual practices of the Tonga people. Her identity as a Zambesian is an intentional questioning of identity, naming, meaning and tradition.

Banji generously shares that her first word was '*Kanininini*'—a Tonga word that means very small.

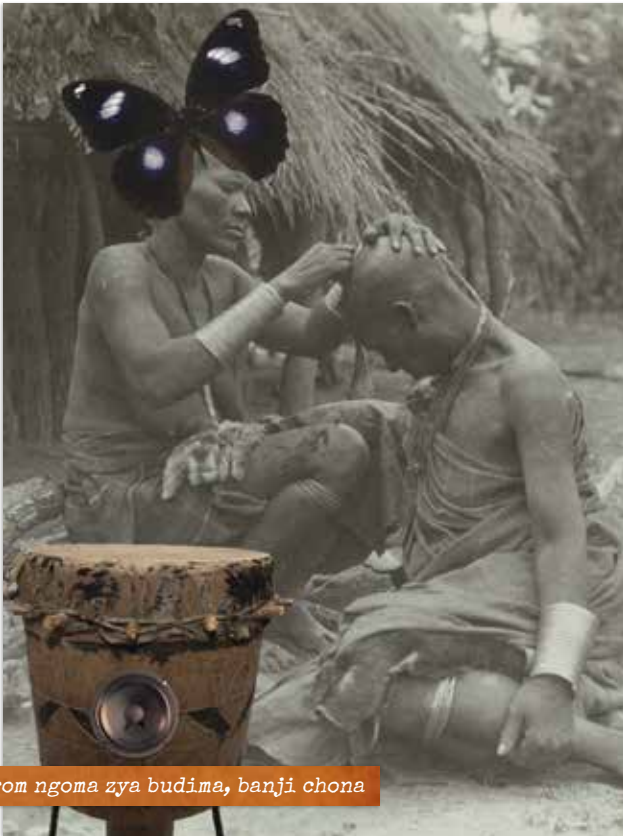
She describes Tonga as the language of her heart while detailing her interactions with Tonga as a language. As an academic, English is the language of research, findings and presenting arguments and discoveries. This is seen through Banji's reflective presentations in *Ngoma Zya Budima*.

Ngoma Zya Budima is a body of work from which a research catalogue born, through the intimate exploration of grief following the loss of her grandmother. The multi-medium body of work is a product of the research conducted and employed

text - research catalogue, banji chona



from ngoma zya budima, banji chona



from *ngoma zya budima*, banji chona

in collaboration with The Women's History Museum and The Swedish Ethnographic Museum. The work aims to give indigenous object owners agency in the research and archiving process that provides room for narratives and complex identities. In *Ngoma Zya Budima*, we encounter the Drums of Darkness and natural objects created for the dead during periods of mourning. I have seen the role of *musila*, soil from the grave applied to the faces of the mourning family, and *kunyola*, which is the shaving of heads during a funeral, in my family. Still, seeing it extrapolated in Banji's work gave these rituals the depth and meaning that were lost on me but which my family innately understood but had no words to explain.

radical zambesian archive

In her work, Banji employs everyday objects that have meaning to her to express the hybrid conditions of life, then and now. Her works comment on the absence of context in ethnographic images by overlaying her context onto the images. Digital collages transform images lacking context using the symbolism of a blue moon butterfly to communicate grief and the powerful impact of subwoofers. This helps us understand how the world of sound, in this case, *Ngoma Zya Budima*, can leave marks on the physical world.

The project gets its name from the Tonga drums used for thanksgiving and expressing sorrow. The drum's hollow body,

moving air, and making sound acts as a speaker. The skin on its surface reacts to the air, temperature, and how strong it is. Hands and ears are like channels, both effectors and receptors of this auditory experience. Subwoofers speak to the auditory perception of oral narratives generated by personal and collective remembrance.



disruption and reclamation

Banji adds a new light to intimate practices through descriptions and image additions that complete the story. There are gaps in the context of the ethnographers' photographs, but with insight and perspective, vital context is returned that brings them back to life. Reimagination and repatriation are forms of resistance. Now, I know and respect the practices I've observed my whole life and yearn for their return.

Banji's reimaginings express community-led archiving that challenges established, 'conventional' methods of collecting, storing, and telling history. Ethnography often finds itself far removed and divorced from the origins, thus creating isolated objects or artefacts with assumed histories and incorrect contexts attached to them. In the case of funerary rites of *baTonga*, *musila* and *kunyola* are presented as romanticised

portraits, seemingly acting as a catalogue of everyday life, when contradictorily, the imagery presents the sobriety of families in mourning.

Tonga history is shrouded in an inescapable mysticism. The *indombondo* is a finely carved water pipe that Tonga women have used to smoke tobacco for centuries. Logic tells us that tobacco is harmful, but there are claims that *indombondo* has immune benefits. However, through The Community, origin and meaning are re-attached. In present-day Tonga culture, significance and identity find a place in a process as simple as *kutwa* (pounding). Despite a history often distinguished by displacement, the braiding of rope, weaving patterns into *cisuwo*, and the

striking of *ngoma zya budima* all act as visual and auditory cultural cues. Tonga culture reclaims its space in modern-day society through "acts of resistance" such as smoking *incelwa* or *indombondo* and adorning the neck, arms, ears, and nose with *bulungu*, *inkaya*, *kancolo* and *cisita*. Through photoreception, Tonga identity and culture are upheld through the living archive.

the archive

Family is the first school. We learn our first words, mannerisms, values, and the beliefs that eventually form our identity. When I hear my mother pounding groundnuts, I hear my people. The firm, consistent thud lulls me into relaxation and anticipation of the deliciousness to come. Today, I know about the macronutrients present in groundnut, but I wonder how my ancestors discovered them first and figured out the different ways to preserve and enjoy them. Participant observation is a critical part of how knowledge is passed down among the Tonga, and we are a culmination of all that comes before us. *lfasashi* has held us together for centuries, and it is what we will share beyond migration. We are our own archives.





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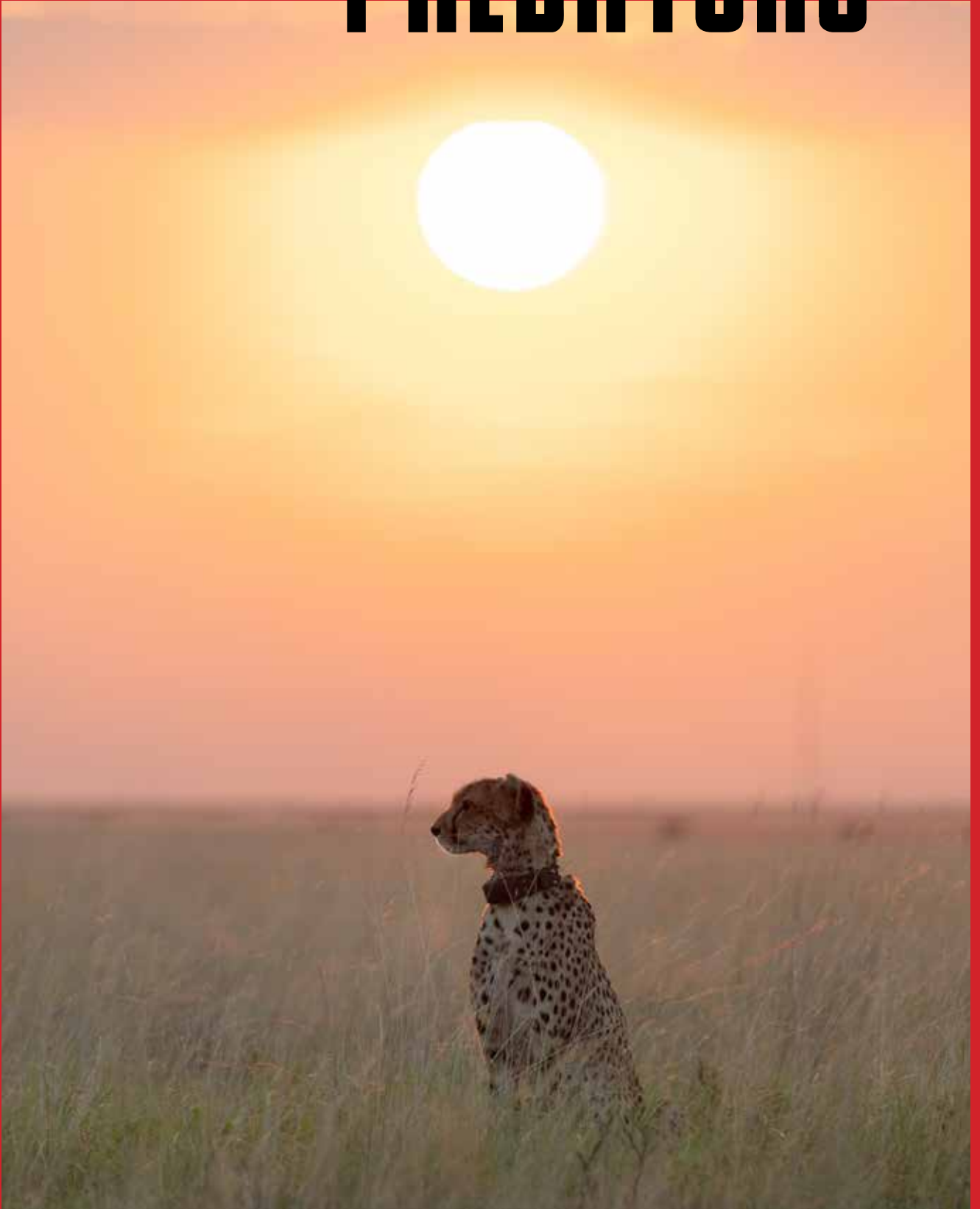


PATIENCE AND



Words by Bwanga 'Benny Blow' Kapumpa, Images by Walid Nassar and Alex Sikazwe

PREDATORS



The wilderness may not cast its spell on every soul, but those enchanted by it fall hard. The call of the wild beckons and nature walks and hikes serve as temporary remedies for city dwellers longing to be one with nature. Visits to national parks become a necessity, while leashed cheetah walks appear seemingly insulting. What prompts this yearning for the outdoors? Do they desire society to return to a simpler way of life? While we may never know the answer, only a handful obey the call of the wild.

Liuwa Plain National Park is a wild gem, with vast land that is emerald in the wet season and canary citrine in the dry. The bush had begun changing its coat for the wet season, and green had sprouted nearly everywhere.

The park is the stage for the second-largest wildebeest migration on the planet and one of the oldest conservation efforts in Africa. In the 1800s, Lubosi Lewanika, then Litunga (king) of Barotseland, appointed his people as custodians of the plains. His legacy continues through Liuwa Plain National Park.

Liuwa's Park Manager, Deon Joubert, and his partner, Anél Joubert, the park's Commercial Development Manager, welcomed us. Deon, Anél, and their team have been instrumental in increasing what was once a dwindling animal populace, reintroducing several animals to the park.

"We're in the business of forever," Deon says. Liuwa Plains National Park falls under the umbrella of African Parks, a non-profit conservation body that manages and rehabilitates



protected areas. They partner with local communities and government bodies, including the Barotse Royal Establishment and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW). "We sign 20-year agreements, so we are really invested," he states. Liuwa Plain is the prime employer in the region and helps with essential health and educational facilities for approximately 12,000 people. But being a non-profit organisation whose earnings go back into sustaining the local community and conserving Liuwa's biodiversity, Deon and his teammates are under pressure from donors to close their funding gap.

Initially, the only long-term accommodation was Time + Tide King Lewanika, a US\$1.5 million investment in luxury safari tent accommodation. However, in a post-pandemic economy, Liuwa and African Parks want to push more domestic tourism to increase revenue. Enter Liuwa Camp, a mid-market fully catered experience with en-suite tented accommodation that recently opened. The hope is that this new camp brings in more outdoors lovers.

Liuwa Plain National Park is managed by African Parks – every dollar earned goes back into conserving the park's biodiversity and supporting local communities.

Hours before dawn, a primal cry reverberates throughout the park's camps. It's a sound you feel in your marrow, a roar that pulls you from your nightmares of the city and reminds you where you are. Bon Jovi, a majestic lion whose mane would make his namesake envious, calls out to his pride. The large cat is among the growing lion population that had once hit a critical low in Liuwa. But there has been a steady rewilding of animals, including eland, wild dogs, and buffalo.



At dawn the following day, our assigned guide, Sepo Mubonda, picked us up. He's an excellent animal tracker in a Land Cruiser and a repository of quirky bird facts. He possesses an uncanny knack for identifying birds by their calls among Liuwa's three-hundred-plus species. Though he may occasionally consult the coordinates of their recent sightings, Sepo has the park's wildlife hotspots committed to memory. And that's no easy feat; Liuwa is 3,600 km² large.

The drive from HQ to camp was nearly an hour long. As we rolled through the vast landscape, clusters of wildebeest dotted the land like an ant colony on a fruit juice spill. It was the largest gathering of animals I had ever seen with my own eyes. We arrived at Camp Matiamanene to a warm welcome from Siku Mutukwa and her team. I met her in 2017 at Time + Tide King Lewanika on a different Nkwazi assignment, and she ensured we were well taken care of. I anticipated the same royal treatment at Camp Liuwa as well.

After a world-class lunch, Sepo took us out on the plains in search of fauna. Not long after we drove out of camp, we came face to face with Bon Jovi, the biggest and oldest male in the park. Once you see the large feline, it's obvious that his magnificent mane bears

a resemblance to Jon Bon Jovi's similarly notable mane. He lay there, relaxed, in quiet majesty.

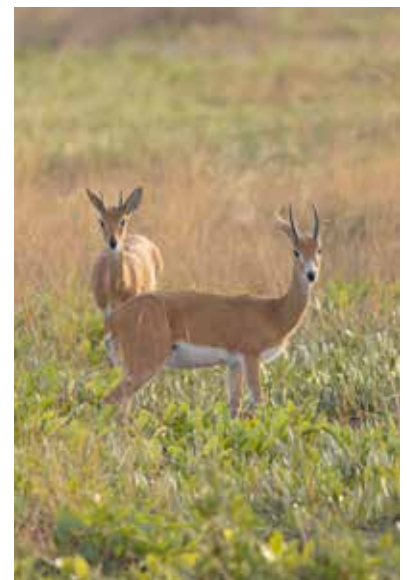
"He's like this because he's just fed," Sepo told us. I was a little afraid to look into his yellow cat eyes, too shaken to make sudden movements. I guess that's part of the thrill of the wilderness, that there's the possibility of a wild animal showing its true nature.

During the day, thousands of insects are consumed by the magnificent grey-crowned and wattled cranes swooping down onto the waters of the pans dotted around the plains—classified by Bird International as an Important Bird Area. I'd considered what drew the birds to this land when we spotted a small steenbok. Its curious ear markings reminded me of a leaf, perhaps an illustration of the artistry of a higher power...

As sunset approached, we drove into a small cove with a canopy of trees, creating water-cool shade. On the open white sand beneath the trees, we stumbled upon the Coalition, five lion sub-adults who were once part of Bon Jovi's pride. Sepo said they had been kicked out because they had begun challenging their father's authority. Three of them sat eating an animal we guessed used to be a wildebeest, most of its flesh

gone. We could hear bones cracking and ligaments tearing, the beasts growling as they ate. Two lions, having eaten their fill, lay in the shade. A bolder one separated from his mates and strutted in front of our vehicle before positioning himself and sitting right in front of it, sending us an unmistakable message.

"This one is like that," Sepo said about the lion. It had been sitting and posing



in front of cars since it was a cub. Now, they were all relatively large. "Gigantism," Sepo called it. When animals have little competition for food, they grow enormous. Obviously, the carnivores have it good in Liuwa.

At night, insects drunk on the luminescence from lightbulbs around the camp tap and crash into tent sides and window screens. Logic says it's nothing to be afraid of. Fear says it could be a hyena testing the durability of your accommodation as you sleep.

As the sun rises, clusters of wildebeest herds become visible. They form an extended black line that stretches farther than humanly perceptible, swallowing

up the horizon. Their nasal "gnooing" becomes louder, and strong males kick up dust as they butt heads for the attention of females. This site is mirrored across the plains as the migration begins and the blue wildebeest returns home. Orange wisps of clouds emerge as the sky gradually sheds its night skin. We were heading to the roadside hyena den, hoping to catch the pack as it headed out for the day.

While watching the sun slowly rise, we heard some hollering from hyenas in the distance. The known den was vacant when we got there. Now, we were pursuing them, trying to follow the direction of the sounds we had heard.

Liuwa Plain is situated next to the Barotse Floodplain and includes the Luanginga and the Luambimba rivers, forming part of the Upper Zambezi.











find her. Sepo re-input the coordinates into his GPS device as we moved in the direction where some vultures were riding the thermal current, soaring weightlessly and likely observing a potential meal. That was a clue that there might be a kill there. Maybe one by a cheetah. We nearly didn't see her, but we found Kali the cheetah sitting in the shade under a wild syringa tree. At 17, she's possibly the oldest female cheetah in the Zambian wild. She is one of sixteen cheetahs in the park.

"She looks alert like she's planning on doing something," Sepo observes. "Hunts during the cooler parts of the day..." he read out loud from one of his guidebooks. Once she felt comfortable, realising that we weren't a threat, Kali locked her head in one direction, looking for animals that might come her way. Sepo informed us it was a game of patience. One of the reasons the carnivores sit in one place is that they're waiting for prey to sort of forget about them. She appeared to be watching a herd of wildebeest in the distance. Her eye was most likely trained on a calf.

We patiently waited for Kala to make her move. She'd open her eyes, perk her ears, and then lay down again. We suspected she was full because she was lazing about, and her belly looked enlarged. Waiting around for animals to do something we humans might find interesting is a test of patience. It gives you time for self-reflection. I pondered the possibility of predators doing their

Owing to their larger numbers, hyenas are the apex predator in Liuwa, hunting small wildebeest and antelopes. Howls and cackles can often be heard in the cool Liuwa evenings. Their female-led clans have complex social hierarchies, with males often bringing offerings to their matriarchs. Grey Crowned Cranes. Red-Billed Teals. Blacksmith Lapwing. All are convening and having breakfast by a small pan of water, their feet blackening with mud around the bank. There, we found a hyena lying down in a shallow basin. Wildebeest dug up the hollow that the hyena lay in. It's where the taurine beasts rub their heads in the ground, their preorbital glands releasing a pheromone to mark their territory. I asked if the hyenas respect the wildebeest territory. "No," Sepo replied. "They eat them," he chuckled.

We arrived at a tree where a cat had previously been spotted, but we didn't





introspection as they waited for the right moment to pounce.

Suddenly, after what felt like an eternity, with a swift and purposeful movement, Kali rose with feline agility. The rhythmic sounds of the plain surrounded us, amplifying the anticipation in the air. Her eyes once more locked onto the distant herd of wildebeest; the game of waiting had reached its climax. Sepo's earlier words echoed in my mind—patience, an essential virtue for predators in the wild. In a blur, the cat leapt forward with unimaginable speed, momentarily closing the gap between herself and the unsuspecting wildebeest. As the scene unfolded before us, I couldn't help but imagine that we, the once patient observers, had become active participants in this spectacle, the memory of Kali's decisive moment under the wild syringa tree collectively etched on our minds.

On our last early morning, freshly brewed coffee accompanied our goodbyes. I was going to miss the quiet of the park. Liuwa means 'plain' or 'hunting grounds' in Lozi, and while the park's accommodation is anything but plain, this visit was my return to the plain and simpler, if you

will. It was a welcome escape from the barrage of conflicting news from social media, an escape from an unforgiving capitalist society—a chance to obey the call of the wild once more. Liuwa Plain National Park is a place with a passion for guests and hospitality, and more importantly, they have a passion for the wilderness and preserving it. I will gladly return to it—and a simpler way of living—whenever I can.

As custodians appointed by the king of Barotseland in 1800s, the local Lozi guides trained by African Parks share the history of the park through traditional stories.






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FLIGHT SCHEDULE

LUSAKA - JOHANNESBURG

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
020	08:15	10:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
024	11:00	13:00	●		●	●	●	●	●
026	15:00	17:00			●	●	●	●	●

NDOLA - JOHANNESBURG

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
311/020	06:30	10:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
303/024	09:00	13:00	●		●	●	●	●	

LUSAKA - CAPE TOWN

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
050	08:00	11:30				●		●	●

LUSAKA - DURBAN

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
032	08:15	10:45	●				●		

LUSAKA - LIVINGSTONE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
700	06:50	08:00		●			●		●
704	10:30	11:40	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
708	16:35	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - SOLWEZI

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
910	06:50	08:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
916	15:00	16:10	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - MFUWE

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
800	06:50	08:00					●		
804	10:30	11:40		●		●		●	●
808	16:35	17:45	●		●		●		●

JOHANNESBURG - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
023	12:00	14:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
025	14:00	16:00	●		●	●	●	●	●
027	18:20	20:20			●	●	●	●	●

JOHANNESBURG - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
023/308	12:00	17:45		●					
025/308	14:00	17:45	●		●	●	●	●	●

CAPE TOWN - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
051	12:15	15:35				●		●	●

DURBAN - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
033	11:30	14:00	●				●		

LIVINGSTONE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
701	08:40	09:50		●			●		●
705	12:20	13:30	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
709	18:25	19:35	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

SOLWEZI - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
911	08:40	09:50	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
917	16:50	18:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

MFUWE - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
801	08:40	09:50					●		
805	12:20	13:30		●		●		●	●
809	18:15	19:25	●		●		●		●

Please check our website, www.flyzambia.com, for updated departure days and times.

LUSAKA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
302	07:45	08:30	●	●	●	●	●	●	
330	07:55	08:30							●
334	10:20	11:05	●		●		●	●	
306	14:00	14:45		●		●	●		●
308	17:00	17:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
310	18:30	19:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

NDOLA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
311	06:30	07:15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
303	09:00	09:45	●	●	●	●	●	●	
331	11:25	12:10							●
335	13:45	14:30	●		●		●	●	
307	15:15	16:00		●		●	●		●
309	18:15	19:00	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

LUSAKA - MANSARA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
330	07:55	09:50							●
334	10:20	12:15	●		●		●	●	
430	08:00	09:15				●			
440	08:00	10:40		●					

MANSARA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
331	10:15	12:10							●
335	12:40	14:30	●		●		●	●	
430	09:40	12:20				●			
440	11:05	12:20		●					

NDOLA - MANSARA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
330	09:10	09:50							●
334	11:35	12:15	●		●		●	●	

MANSARA - NDOLA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
331	10:15	10:55							●
335	12:40	13:20	●		●		●	●	

LUSAKA - KASAMA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
430	08:00	10:25				●			
440	08:00	09:30		●					

KASAMA - LUSAKA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
430	10:50	12:20				●			
440	09:55	12:20		●					

MANSARA - KASAMA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
430	09:40	10:25				●			

KASAMA - MANSARA

#	DEP	ARR	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
440	09:55	10:40		●					

BOOKINGS

+260 777034742
reservations@proflight-zambia.com

+ SIDE NOTE

Proflight Zambia reserves the right to change, suspend or amend this published schedule without prior notification. Every effort will be made to operate as per the planned schedule.

PROFLIGHT CHITENGE WEEK

THE CHITENGE IS NOT JUST A CULTURAL SYMBOL BUT A PART OF PROFLIGHT'S IDENTITY.





PROFLIGHT ZAMBIA AND AIR TANZANIA SOAR THE SKIES TOGETHER



Zambia's leading commercial airline, Proflight Zambia, has announced its newest interline ticketing agreement as it links up with Air Tanzania to unlock access to new destinations and seamless travel experience for passengers in the region.

Under the agreement, a streamlined ticketing process will enable travellers to book itineraries across both airlines effortlessly and

to enjoy the benefits and services of the two airlines in a single-ticketed journey.

Proflight Zambia's Director of Flight Operations, Captain Josias Walubita, remarked that the current interline agreement aims to provide cost-effective and flexible travel options for passengers travelling with both airlines. The airline is optimistic about enhancing passenger experiences across both airline routes.



Air Tanzania Managing Director Eng. Ladislaus Matindi expressed optimism, stating that passengers will join the most extensive network family, Air Tanzania, by choosing to travel with Air Tanzania. Passengers will benefit from better connections and suitable travel options within Zambia's domestic routes and four major cities, including Dar es Salaam, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town, as part of their commitment to providing extraordinary, timely travel solutions to their passengers across the Southern African region.

The interline agreement between Proflight Zambia (PO/659) and Air Tanzania (TC/197) took effect on December 18, 2023, allowing Air Tanzania to ticket onto Proflight Zambia's flights and vice versa.

Later this year, discounted fares for itineraries combining both airlines, such as Dar es Salaam to Johannesburg via Lusaka, will be published on Proflight Zambia's website and Global Distribution System (GDS).



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EXPLORE WITH US!

----- Seasonal, operated by ProCharter
——— Route coming soon!



PROFLIGHT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

ZAMBIA AWAITS A PROSPEROUS 2024 IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM



Proflight Zambia eagerly anticipates a thriving year for Zambia's travel and tourism sector in 2024. This optimism is based on the collaborative efforts and advancements made by key ministries and stakeholders in 2023, both domestically and regionally. This positive outlook was conveyed during recent travel agent workshops held in Lusaka and Ndola. These workshops established the foundation for a year of consolidated growth and numerous opportunities.

The airline, through its Commercial Director Keira Langford Johnson, expressed its optimistic outlook at recent workshops, attended by travel agents in Lusaka and Ndola, aimed at laying the groundwork for a year of consolidated growth and opportunities ahead. She highlighted the airline's commitment to quality service and customer satisfaction in line with its core values of providing friendly, reliable, convenient, and safe services.

She stressed the significance of engaging with industry stakeholders, especially travel agents. Timely sharing of valuable insights is crucial for the industry's overall growth. Travel agents are vital in the distribution channel, marketing, and selling of tourism itineraries. The accurate and timely relay of information,

such as policy changes, contributes to smooth journeys for travellers.

The workshops, held at Sarovar and Protea hotels in Lusaka and Ndola, respectively, brought together industry professionals for an informative day focused on education, networking, and exchanging insights to enhance service delivery to local and international travellers.

Attendees had the opportunity to connect with fellow agents, the Travel Port team, and Proflight Zambia representatives, strengthening relationships and sharing experiences. The workshop included an engaging quiz competition testing agents' knowledge about Proflight Zambia, aviation regulations, and industry trends. Winners received exciting travel packages, underscoring the importance of product knowledge in selling airline services.

In the business card draw, Annie Bwalya from Mint Travel and Tours, Lindiwe Mpofo Nyasulu from Birch Wood Travel and Tours, Rita Stambuli from Tikuya Travel and Tours, and Mwansa Kapasa from Voyagers Zambia each secured a Proflight fleece. Mwansa Kapasa stood out as the winner for the best Proflight suggestions.

Winners in the quiz category included Sylvie Chipman from Shamba Travel and Tours and Candice Harrington from Lumela Travel and Tours, claiming the top spot and a return ticket for two to any of Proflight's network destinations, excluding Cape Town.

Blessings Shamutuku, team leader at Voyagers' Lusaka office, emphasised the importance of market feedback for making informed business decisions. Alice Tembo, a travel consultant at Mushambo African Safaris, highlighted the impact of such engagements in adapting to various scenarios for successful travel itineraries.

Proflight continues to be a driving force in Zambia's aviation industry, promising a well-connected future for travel and tourism.





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KASAMA HERE WE COME



Lusaka to Kasama Direct: Tue, 08:00 - 09:30

Lusaka to Kasama via Mansa: Thu, 08:00 - 10:25

Kasama to Lusaka Direct: Thu, 10:50 - 12:30

Kasama to Lusaka via Mansa: Tue, 09:55 - 12:20

Flights also available between Kasama/Mansa and connections to/from Ndola.

Explore with us!

PROFLIGHT
ZAMBIA





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CONNECTING **LUSAKA** & CAPE TOWN **DIRECT.**



Lusaka - Cape Town:

Thu, Sat, Sun: 08:00 - 11:30

Cape Town - Lusaka:

Thu, Sat, Sun: 12:15 - 15:35

Explore with us!



PROFLIGHT FLEET

BOMBARDIER CRJ100 / CRJ200



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
4	26.77m	21.21m	20ft	6400kg	41000ft	682km/h	50

BOMBARDIER CRJ100 PARCEL FREIGHTER



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX CARGO
1	26.77m	21.21m	20ft	6400kg	41000ft	682km/h	6804kg

JETSTREAM 4100



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
3	19.25m	18.29m	5.75ft	2600kg	25000ft	550km/h	29

JETSTREAM 3200



FLEET	LENGTH	WING SPAN	HEIGHT	FUEL CAPACITY	MAX ALTITUDE	SPEED	MAX PASSENGERS
1	14.37m	15.85m	5.37ft	1474kg	25000ft	445km/h	18

TRAVEL TIPS

FLYING COMFORTABLE

- Before you fly, get a good night's sleep. Rest and some light exercise will help you cope on your journey.
- Wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes that are not too restrictive.
- Eat a light, well-balanced meal before you travel and opt for a smaller helping than normal on the plane.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Please ensure that all electronic devices are turned off before taxiing and take off as they may interfere with the safe operation of the aircraft. These include cellphones, laptops, remote controlled games.

SAFETY

- A Preflight safety demonstration is always made before take off. A safety pamphlet is also provided at your seat. Please familiarize yourself with its important information and note the nearest emergency exit.

SMOKING

- Smoking on board is strictly prohibited. This includes any artificial device or e-cigarettes.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

- In addition to the carry on luggage allowance provided herein, each passenger may carry without additional charge, the following carry on items the weight of which shall not exceed 5kg. The carry on items are permitted for use during the flight and when retained in the passengers' custody as listed here below:
- A lady handbag, pocket book or purse, which is appropriate to normal traveling dress and is not being used as a container for the transportation of articles, which would otherwise be regarded as baggage.
- Laptop.
- An overcoat, wrap or blanket.
- A small camera and/or a pair of binoculars.
- Reading material.
- Infant's food for consumption in flight.
- Infant's carrying basket.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BAGGAGE POLICY

We offer a complimentary 30kg checked allowance on our international flights for adults/children and 10kg for infants. On our domestic flights, our complimentary checked allowance varies from 15kg, 23kg, 30kg dependant on fare type booked for each flight. In addition, you are allowed one piece of 5kg carry-on baggage.

Excess checked baggage over your complimentary amount is charged at \$5/kg out of Zambia or R60/kg out of South Africa or K60/kg domestic within Zambia. Excess baggage can also be pre-purchased on our website at a discounted rate per 15kg excess bundle. The bundle is \$40/bundle out of Zambia or R600/bundle out of South Africa or K600/bundle domestic within Zambia.

Take note due to airport safety rules, no one piece of baggage can weigh more than 32 kg. All excess baggage is subject to space available on the aircraft and is non-refundable.

Toy guns or blunt objects such as tennis racquet or hockey stick are not permitted in carry-on baggage. Toy guns must be declared for carriage in checked baggage and you must check-in at least two hours prior to flight else the toy gun will not be permitted.

The following items are not permitted in checked or carry-on baggage, they must be sent as cargo: hoverboard, television set, microwave, computer and computer parts, car parts, stoves of any kind.

CHECK-IN DESK LOCATIONS

Our Check-in desks are located as follows:

- Lusaka International Flights: Terminal 2
- Lusaka Domestic Flights: Terminal 1
- Joburg: Terminal B counters 64-66
- Durban: counters 37-39
- Cape Town: counters 65-67

Airport ticket sales in South Africa are located at check-in counters serviced by our ground handler NAS Colossal.

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

We happily accept unaccompanied minors (5 years to 11 years) on the flight. There is no extra charge for unaccompanied minors and they still receive our 25% children discount. Please note we are limited to a certain number of unaccompanied minors per flight so book early.

INTERLINE PARTNERS

- Air Tanzania
- Cemair
- Emirates
- Ethiopian Airlines
- Fly Safair
- Hahn Air
- Kenya Airways
- Qatar Airways
- Rwandair
- South African Airways

TRANSFER IN JOBURG DETAILS

(Connecting to an international flight out of Joburg)

- Advise the Proflight check-in agent of your final destination and show necessary tickets.
- If you are on Emirates, Qatar or Cemair out of Joburg, you will receive your onward boarding card at time of first check-in with Proflight and your baggage will be tagged through to final destination.
- If you are on another airline out of Joburg, your baggage will be tagged as final destination.
- Upon arriving into Joburg airport from bus, do not enter South Africa through immigration, turn left before immigration queues.
- Follow the signs for International Transfers and go to the transfer check-in desk of your next airline.
- From your next airline, collect your onward boarding pass and receive new baggage tags (your baggage will be re-tagged for you by the next airline transfer check-in agent).

CARGO CONTACTS

For South Africa to Zambia:
Tel:+27 (0)11 2304600 or +27 (0)83 2692841
mariaj@bidaircargo.com

For Zambia to South Africa:
Tel:+260 972 666312 or +260 977 511690
zegacourier@zegaltd.co.zm

PROHIBITED GOODS

Banned, restricted and dangerous goods are articles or substances that are capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment.

If you wish to travel with any such goods or material, please be aware of the restrictions or steps you may have to take if wishing to travel on a Proflight Zambia service.

To ensure the safety of the aircraft and those on board, checked in or hand baggage must not contain articles or substances that could pose a danger during flights these include:

COMPRESSED GASES
 deeply refrigerated
 flammable non-flammable)
 such as butane, oxygen
 propane and aqualung
 cylinders.

FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS & SOLIDS
 such as lighter and heater
 fuels, paint. All safety
 matches and fire lighters.

CORROSIVES
 such as acids, alkali wet
 cell batteries and apparatus
 containing mercury.



MEDICAL AND TOILET ARTICLES MAY
 BE CARRIED IN SMALL QUANTITIES.
 SAFETY MATCHES MAY BE CARRIED ON
 THE PERSON.

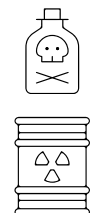
EXPLOSIVES
 such as fireworks, flares
 munitions, Ammunitions and
 pistol caps.

**BRIEFCASES / ATTACHE
 CASES**
 installed with alarm devices.



**OXIDISING
 MATERIALS &
 ORGANIC PEROXIDES**
 such as bleaches and fibre
 glass repair kits.

POISONS
 such as insecticides, weed
 killers, arsenic & cyanides.



TOXIC SUBSTANCES
 such as bleaching powder
 and peroxide.

RADIO ACTIVE MATERIALS



**INFECTIOUS
 SUBSTANCES**
 such as bacteria and live
 virus materials.



**! IF YOU ARE CARRYING
 ANY OF THESE ITEMS,
 YOU MUST INFORM THE
 AIRLINE.**



We are your dedicated partner in International Trade.

Let us help you trade worldwide with an Exports Account for seamless navigation of cross border transactions.

With presence in 20 African countries including USA, UK, Dubai, and France.

For assistance, contact our Trade Desk on +260211389500 or infozambia@ubagroup.com.



**MTN Home Self-care Portal
Is Your Key. Check your
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Collateral-free Loan

Enjoy collateral-free loans of up to **ZMW 200,000** with Zee Women's Banking. Our loans are flexible, have preferential interest rates and are easy to apply for.

Email womensbanking@zanaco.co.zm for more information.



Believing. Achieving. Together.