



## **KITWE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE**

**The Project for Promoting Youth Employment Through Construction  
Equipment Operating Skills Training.**

## **November Knowledge Sharing Sessions Report**

## PROJECT SUMMARY

SAP 200069 project aims to contribute to closing the skills gap in Zambia’s construction and mining industries in order to support the country's Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP). This will be achieved through three outputs, 1) Developing and accrediting a competency-based and demand-driven modern curriculum for construction equipment operator’s workforce; 2) Establishing a regional centre of excellence for construction equipment operator training; and 3) Providing vocational training and career services to unemployed and underemployed youths, with a particular focus on female and disadvantaged students. This project (SAP 200069) builds on UNIDO’s extensive experience in the design and implementation of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), particularly in projects adopting the Public-Private Development Partnership (PPDP) modality. Partnership between the Government of Japan, the Government of Zambia, Hitachi Construction Machinery (HCM), and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will stimulate systemic change in closing the skills gap observed in the construction and mining sectors in Zambia.

The project for promoting youth employment through Heavy equipment operator skills training (herein referred to as KVTC project) seeks to provide decent employment opportunities for youths in Zambia. The expected outcome is that Zambian youths are professionally qualified to fulfil the human resource demands for skilled Heavy Equipment Operators (HEO) in the construction and mining sectors.

## AIM

In line with project Activity 3.3, which is centered on establishing a career service centre at KVTC to help in the student placements and to act as liaison with industry for synergies, we organized knowledge-sharing sessions involving companies spanning various sectors, such as construction and mining, as well as community leaders. The primary focus of these sessions is to promote the Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) courses, enhance the dissemination of knowledge about the programmes, and explore potential collaborations. These sessions aim to create awareness and establish partnerships with key players in the industry, with the ultimate goal of finalizing potential Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs).

As a pivotal step in this initiative, two knowledge-sharing sessions were conducted on the 14th and 23rd of November 2023, involving Shawonga Enterprises LTD, and BL&D Sales and Plant Hire.

## PARTICIPANTS

The knowledge-sharing sessions saw the active participation of the following personnel from KVTC.

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>INSTITUTION</b>
Mr. Oswald Kabwela	Vice Principal	KVTC
Mr. Prince Tembo	Business Development Officer	KVTC
Mr. Sunday Kalonga	Project Staff	KVTC

Ms. Alice Mutangala	Project Staff	KVTC
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**SHAWONGA ENTERPRISES LTD VISITED KVTC – 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

On November 14, 2023, Shawonga Enterprises Ltd visited KVTC, a Zambian-owned Engineering Company established in 1989. Specializing in supplying engineering capital equipment and tools, as well as providing services for the mining and quarry industries, Shawonga Enterprises Ltd offers a diverse range of products, including materials handling equipment, rock breakers, underground loaders, and utility vehicles.

Shawonga Enterprise Ltd manager visited KVTC, during the visit, the KVTC Business Development Officer led the delegation to the Vice Principal's office, where the achievements and current status of the project were presented. The Shawonga Enterprises manager expressed gladness at the Heavy Equipment operating skills training courses, stating support by recommending the program through their sister companies in mining and construction. The discussions concluded with proposed future engagements, meetings, and an invitation for a knowledge-sharing session at Shawonga Enterprises Ltd.

The visit included a tour of the KVTC facility, where the Shawonga Enterprises manager was impressed to find an excavator parked on the premises, showcasing the institution's progress. A synergy should be established with Shawonga Enterprises Ltd, as this collaboration could connect the institution to their partners and sister companies, facilitating internships for Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) students.



*Group photo of KVTC Vice Principal (left), KVTC BDO(right) and Shawonga Enterprises Manager(middle)*

KVTC VISITED BL&D PLANT HIRE AND SALES – 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

BL&D Plant Hire & Sales, headquartered in Lusaka, Zambia, with branches in Kitwe and Mkushi, is a robust heavy construction equipment rental business. The company specializes in hiring, selling, and contracting construction equipment, delivering professional and reliable services to projects in Zambia's mining, agriculture, and construction sectors. Leveraging extensive expertise and longstanding customer relationships, BL&D effectively manages projects of diverse scales.

On November 23, 2023, a delegation from KVTC's Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) Project, led by project staff, visited BL&D Plant Hire and Sales. The delegation was warmly received by the workshop manager. During the visit, the project staff provided insights into the HEO project and emphasized the importance of forging partnerships with companies like BL&D for the benefit of upcoming HEO students. The workshop manager from BL&D shared brief highlights about the company, noting that two student technicians from KVTC were currently undergoing attachments with BL&D. Expressing interest, the workshop manager highlighted that formalizing a partnership would be a mutually beneficial collaboration.

The workshop manager from BL&D proposed the idea of an exchange knowledge-sharing session at KVTC to gain a better understanding of the project's progress and KVTC's overall initiatives. To strengthen the relationship, KVTC should engage in further interactions with BL&D Plant Hire and Sales.



*Group photo with the Workshop Manager for BL&D plant Hire and sales*

CONCLUSION

The knowledge sharing sessions were successful and created room for all parties engaged to understand the HEO project and how both the institution and companies can benefit from the synergies created upon holding the knowledge sharing sessions.