



THE PROJECT FOR PROMOTING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT THROUGH CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATING SKILLS TRAINING

AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGN REPORT PARKLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL KITWE, Zambia

15th September 2023



HITACHI

Reliable solutions



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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

The campaign was in accordance with output 3, Activity 3.1 - Plan and conduct awareness raising campaigns for young men and women to attract their interest in the soon to be launched Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) training courses particularly, in excavator operations, at Kitwe Vocational Training Centre (KVTC).

The campaign's objective was to raise awareness about the excavator operations skills award among students at Parklands Secondary School in Kitwe. Held on September 15, 2023, the event saw the participation of the school Headteacher, grade 12 students, UNIDO headquarters delegates, KVTC staff, and Project staff.

DETAILS OF THE CAMPAIGN

The school Headteacher, extended welcoming remarks, recognizing the presence of the Project manager and the entire delegation. A total of 185 grade 12 students attended the campaign, with 200 brochures distributed to facilitate swift information dissemination among attendees, including teachers and the school headteacher, during an informative session. Speakers from KVTC addressed the audience, introducing the project and encouraging all students to express interest in operator jobs, citing the growing demand for heavy equipment operators across various industries and underscoring potential career benefits, especially for females. To further promote female participation in the HEO courses, a female excavator instructor from KVTC was included in the panel to serve as a role model. The UNIDO project manager concluded the event by urging students to consider enrolling at KVTC upon completing their secondary school education.

CONCLUSION

The secondary school awareness campaign on HEO skills training courses was a resounding success, achieving its objectives of informing and educating students to reflect on this skilful career path.

PHOTO FOCUS



Group photo of delegates from UNIDO, KVTC, KVTC Project, School Headteacher and Parklands secondary school grade 12 students after the campaign.



Parklands Secondary School Headteacher Ms. Kalunga giving her speech and welcoming remarks to the delegates from UNIDO, KVTC and KVTC Project.



Project Staff interacting and giving out brochures to the students present.



KVTC trainer Mr. Benard Simumba Explaining how it is important for females to participate in the male dominated field



UNDIO Project Manager Ms. Chie Matsumoto Giving her Encouraging remarks to the students