

 An accessible well maintained fit-for purpose road network

 To provide sustainable road infrastructure for domestic and regional accessibility to spur socio-economic development

RDA CHAMPIONS PROFESSIONALISM AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN WEIGH STATION OPERATIONS

By Peggy Mwanza



RDA Director and CEO, Eng. Nelson Chuma during the official opening of the Weigh Station supervisors' workshop in Lusaka recently.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) has reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the country's road and bridge infrastructure through enhanced Vehicle Load Management following the national workshop for weigh station supervisors drawn from across Zambia.

Held under the theme "Enhancing Efficiency, Compliance and Professionalism in Weigh Station Operations," the workshop brought together supervisors from various weigh stations across the country to strengthen operational effectiveness and promote best practices in

Vehicle Load Management.

Officially opening the workshop, the RDA Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Nelson Chuma commended the Vehicle Load Management Department for organizing the meeting, describing it as both timely and strategic in the Agency's efforts to safeguard the substantial investments being made in road infrastructure development.

The CEO, who was the Guest of Honour noted that vehicle overloading remains one of the greatest threats to the longevity and safety of roads and bridges, emphasizing that the Agency is pursuing a more robust and coordinated

approach to enforcement, compliance monitoring, and stakeholder engagement.

"We are determined to strengthen weigh station operations, enhance the use of modern technology, improve accountability, and expand public sensitization programmes to ensure that transporters, freight operators, and the general public fully appreciate their role in preserving our road network," Eng. Chuma said.

He explained that the workshop provides an important platform for weigh station Supervisors to harmonize operations, address challenges, share experiences, and collectively develop strategies for a more effective Vehicle Load Management system.

The CEO stressed that effective Vehicle Load Management remains one of the Agency's most critical functions, as the performance of weigh stations directly impacts the lifespan of the road network, road safety, and the sustainability of public investments in infrastructure.

"Every overloaded vehicle that escapes enforcement contributes to the premature deterioration of our roads and bridges. Conversely, every compliant vehicle and every correctly enforced load limit contributes to preserving public investments and reducing future maintenance costs," Eng. Chuma noted.

Eng. Chuma highlighted three key objectives of the workshop: standardizing operations across all weigh stations in line with the Agency's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), sharing experiences and best practices among stations, and providing a platform for management to engage directly with station

leadership on emerging operational issues.

The workshop also addressed challenges such as increasing traffic volumes, technological advancements including weigh-in-motion systems, infrastructure constraints, staffing concerns, corruption risks, occupational safety, and the strengthening of internal controls.

The CEO urged station supervisors to demonstrate strong leadership, professionalism, and accountability in their respective stations, noting that they serve as custodians of the Agency's reputation and ambassadors of good governance.



RDA Director and CEO, Eng. Nelson Chuma, Chief Engineer VLMU, Eng. Joseph Mwinga, and Weighbridge Supervisors during the workshop.

He further emphasized the importance of adhering to Standard Operating Procedures, describing them as essential tools for promoting consistency, reducing operational risks, and ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

Looking ahead, the Agency plans to modernize Vehicle Load Management through increased adoption of technology, strengthened institutional capacity, expanded enforcement coverage, and improved operational infrastructure.

The CEO reminded participants that protecting Zambia's road network is a shared national responsibility.

"The roads we safeguard today are critical assets that support trade, agriculture, mining, tourism, and economic growth. Through effective Vehicle Load Management, we are contributing directly to national development and ensuring value for money from public investments," Eng. Chuma said.

The workshop brought together weigh station supervisors from across the country and is expected to strengthen operational efficiency, enhance compliance enforcement, and improve the overall effectiveness of Zambia's Vehicle Load Management system.



RDA Director and CEO, Eng. Nelson Chuma being shown the weighing processes by the Station Supervisor, Mr. Maximo Kauseni at Kafue Weighbridge.

Photo Focus



Training of Weighbridge Supervisors in Lusaka.



Vehicle Load Management Director, Eng. Yobe Mwalula making a presentation during the training held for Weigh Bridge Supervisors.



Vehicle Load Management Chief Engineer, Joseph Mwinga making a presentation during the training held for Weighbridge Supervisors.



Vehicle Load Management Director, Eng. Yobe Mwalula speaking during the Weighbridge Supervisors' training in Lusaka.



Group photo with the CEO.

RDA PARTICIPATES IN THE 2026 CONEXPO

By Fridah Nkonde-Mubanga



Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Director – Planning, Dr. Richard Banda when he visited the RDA stand during the ConExpo.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) recently participated in the 2026 Construction Expo (ConExpo) which was held from June 19th-20th, 2026 at the Lusaka Showgrounds, Polo Field B, Lusaka, Zambia.

The event showcased products, networking opportunities, and business deals.

The ConExpo gave the RDA an opportunity to engage with contractors, consultants, suppliers, and investors and also helped to strengthen relationships with government bodies and industry players.

And, representing the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Permanent Secretary Professor Albert Malama, Guest of Honor, Dr. Richard Banda commended the organizers and sponsors for successfully organizing the Expo for four consecutive years. He said the ConExpo had become a mirror that reflects the ambitions of Zambia's construction industry, and a platform where those ambitions turn into action.

Dr. Banda reiterated the government's commitment to infrastructure development as a cornerstone of Zambia's economic future, emphasizing the need for durability, climate resilience, and adherence to international standards.

"The construction industry is a vital component of our national development, creating jobs and value across the country," he said.

"Through the Public Procurement Act and Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission regulations, government is effectively supporting local content and the participation and growth of local contractors and industry players, with special provisions for women and youth-owned firms.

"The subcontracting policy and the supportive legal frameworks are meant to support government goals of growing our local contractors. Government is further encouraging joint venture with foreign contractors as a way of further capacity building and knowledge and skill transfer in the industry among our local players," Dr. Banda said.

Speaking when he visited the RDA stand, Dr. Banda said the RDA has demonstrated strong performance in stakeholder engagement, fostering productive and collaborative relationships with key stakeholders.

"I would like to commend you for your effectiveness when it comes to stakeholder engagement. I have been monitoring your social media platforms and I must say you are doing a very good job," Dr. Banda said.

ConExpo Zambia, first launched in April 2023, has quickly grown into an annual regional gathering for contractors, suppliers, and government officials, providing an essential platform for dialogue and development within the Zambian and regional construction industry.



The Guest of Honour Dr. Richard Banda at the RDA stand during the 2026 ConExpo.

REHABILITATION OF MUTANDA-MWINILUNGA ROAD WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF ZAMBIA – PROF. MALAMA



Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Director – Planning, Dr. Richard Banda during the event.

By Fridah Nkonde-Mubanga

Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Permanent Secretary, Prof. Albert Malama says the rehabilitation of the Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road is a strategic investment that will contribute significantly to the social and economic transformation of Zambia.

Speaking during the signing ceremony for the rehabilitation of 214 kilometers of the Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road (T5) Lot 2, Prof Malama, who was being represented by Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Director – Planning, Dr. Richard Banda said for many years, the poor condition of the Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road had posed serious challenges to motorists, transporters, businesses, and communities that rely on it for their daily activities.

The rehabilitation of the Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road is a strategic investment that will contribute significantly to the social and economic transformation of our country.

The deterioration of the road has increased vehicle operating costs, prolonged travel times, and constrained economic opportunities within the region,” Prof. Malama said.

“This event is far more than a contractual undertaking; it is a clear demonstration of government’s unwavering commitment to improving transport infrastructure and stimulating economic growth in the North-Western Province of Zambia and beyond.”

The Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road project comprises the rehabilitation of approximately 75 kilometres of the T5 road together with 10

kilometres of township roads in Mwinilunga District. The works will be undertaken by Messrs. Arab Contractors O.A.O Ltd in joint venture with Palmetto Trading Ltd under a contract period of twenty-four months.



RDA Director and CEO, Eng. Nelson Chuma during the signing ceremony at Southern Sun Hotel, Lusaka.

The scope of works includes clearing and grubbing, construction of diversions, replacement of culverts, maintenance of existing bridges, and other associated road rehabilitation activities along the stretch from Lukanka Basic School to the Mwinilunga Substation.

Upon completion, the project will significantly improve road safety, mobility, and accessibility for communities and businesses operating along this corridor.

Prof. Malama said the project directly responds to the aspirations and needs of the people.

He said the Mutanda–Mwinilunga Road serves as a critical transport corridor connecting Zambia to the Jimbe border post, thereby facilitating regional integration and enhancing trade with neighbouring Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo.



RDA Board Chairman, Eng. Eugene Haazele during the event.

The Permanent Secretary said by rehabilitating the road, the Government was creating a more efficient transport network that will support commerce, improve accessibility, and strengthen Zambia's position as a regional trade hub.

"As Government, we remain committed to ensuring value for money in all infrastructure investments. We expect the contractor to deliver works that fully comply with internationally accepted engineering and bituminous road construction standards.

"Quality must never be compromised. We further expect that every kwacha invested in this project will translate into measurable physical progress and durable infrastructure that will serve the people of Zambia for many years to come," Prof. Malama said.

"Equally important is the need for timely completion of the works. Delays not only increase project costs but also prolong the inconveniences experienced by road users and businesses. We therefore expect strict adherence to the agreed twenty-four-month implementation schedule

and all contract provisions,” he added.

Road Development Agency (RDA) Board Chairman, Eng. Eugene Haazele said the Agency remains committed to delivering quality infrastructure that meets the highest standards.

Eng. Haazele said the Mutanda to Mwinilunga Road project will be implemented with strict adherence to engineering specifications, environmental and social safeguards requirements.

“Our role at the RDA is to ensure that we build roads that last and we maintain them so that they keep working for Zambia everyday.

Development without maintenance is wasted money.

“Over the next few years, we want to be known for two things; delivering projects on time to specifications and within the budget. We also want to be running a maintenance program that keeps our network in a condition where travel is safe, predictable and efficient,” Eng. Haazele said.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Ambassador to Zambia Ms. Mayada Essam said the Mutanda – Mwinilunga Road project should be a beacon of what Zambia and Egypt can achieve if they work together.

“Today, we are not just signing a contract; we are laying the cornerstone of a new era in Egyptian-Zambian relations.

This agreement, the first project for the Arab contractors in the heart of Zambia, represents the bridge between Egyptian expertise and Zambian ambition,” said Ms. Essam.



Special Assistant and Advisor to President Hakainde Hichilema for Finance and Investment, Mr. Jito Kayumba.

And the Arab Contractors (Osman Ahmed Osman & Co.) Chairman and CEO Eng. Ahmed El Assar assured stakeholders that the company will execute the road works diligently and competently, ensuring compliance with project specifications, quality standards, and agreed timelines.



RDA Director and CEO, Eng. Nelson Chuma with Arab Contractors (Osman Ahmed Osman & Co.) Chairman and CEO Eng. Ahmed El Assar.

COPPERBELT PRE HOSTS CEO ON A WORK VISIT



Copperbelt Provincial Roads Engineer, Bernard Zulu officially welcoming the Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Nelson Chuma to the RDA Ndola Office on the Copperbelt Province.

By Brian Chavula

In a demonstration of his commitment to engaging with employees across the country, Road Development Agency (RDA) Chief Executive Officer, Eng. Nelson Chuma, recently took time out of his demanding schedule to visit the Ndola Regional Office.

The visit marked an important opportunity for the CEO to interact directly with staff, gain first-hand insight into ongoing projects and operations, and better understand the opportunities and challenges facing the region.

The visit underscored the CEO's leadership approach of fostering open communication, collaboration,

and inclusivity as the Agency responsible for developing and maintaining Zambia's public road network. Staff at the Ndola Regional Office, led by the Provincial Roads Engineer Bernard Zulu welcomed the opportunity to engage with the CEO, share experiences from the field, and discuss strategies for enhancing service delivery and development impact in the communities they serve.

While on the Copperbelt, Eng. Chuma also took time to inspect several road infrastructure projects being undertaken by the Agency which include the Lumpuma-Mukutuma in Lufwanyama District, Kafubu bridge in Ndola, Chibuluma Road in Kitwe, Ndola - Sakanya Road and concluded his tour by visiting the RDA Provincial office in Ndola.

"I would like thank everyone at RDA for the warm welcome you gave me when I joined the Agency and I really look forward to working with all of us. I hope that this friendship continues as long as I remain your leader," Eng. Chuma said.

"I am sure you are all anxious to understand what I bring to the table and what makes me different from other Directors and CEO's RDA has had before. There is literally nothing that makes me unique, the only thing is that there will be a re-focus on how we do business at the Agency."

Eng. Chuma assured RDA Ndola office members of staff that under his leadership, they would benefit from a clear vision focused on growth, innovation, and enhanced service delivery.

"My focus is to empower RDA Provincial offices. I would like to see RDA regional offices performing to their very best. I pledged to lead the Agency with purpose, be it road construction or maintenance of our infrastructure projects or any other work where RDA is involved in," the CEO said.

He encouraged members of staff to continue with their hard work.

"Whatever assignment you are tasked to do, it should be done at the right price. Execution of projects should be within agreed timeframe...I will lead the Agency with integrity, and under my administration there will be inclusivity. Every one of you is important to me regardless of your position," said Eng. Chuma.

UPDATE ON REHABILITATION OF ROAD PROJECTS

RDA COMMENCES CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF MUNDA ACROW BRIDGE IN LUANO DISTRICT



The Road Development Agency (RDA), Central Provincial Office working with the Zambia National Service (ZNS) has commenced construction

and installation of the Munda ACROW Bridge following reports of persistent flooding at a crossing point over the Munda stream.

This location is approximately 5 km from D209 Road, near the Mpula-Masansa Road along RD492, and about 3 km from Copper Primary School in Luano District.

The scope of work includes clearing and grubbing the site, demolishing the damaged concrete culverts, excavating foundations, and installing reinforcement bars along with concrete works. Additional tasks involve bridge assembly and launching, construction of embankments and approach roads, erosion protection, and installation of road infrastructure.

Currently, physical works are underway, with progress at approximately 60%. The project is expected to be completed within the next four weeks, as the assembly and launching of the steel structure continues.

Outstanding Works include: Construction of backwalls, Erosion protection works, Completion of approach access roads and Ancillary works.



KAKOSO CULVERT RECONSTRUCTION COMPLETED, ROAD REOPENED FOR TRAFFIC AS MINOR WORKS CONTINUE



The Kakoso Culvert works along the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road have reached substantial completion.

The original Kakoso Culvert, located at kilometre 15 on the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road, was washed away in February 2026.

This culvert is a critical crossing point in the Public-Private Partnership project for the Chingola-Kasumbalesa Road.

The Concessionaire has been busy reconstructing a new box culvert, and it is now complete. The road has been reopened to traffic to allow for the settlement of the embankment on the approach roads.

Following this settling period, permanent asphalt pavement will be laid. Motorists are advised to drive cautiously during this time.

SHANTUMBU ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT GAINING MOMENTUM



The upgrade of the Shantumbu Road, a vital connection between Lusaka and Kafue Districts through Chalala Township, is taking shape as momentum builds for the project.

The Road Development Agency (RDA) is rehabilitating and upgrading 58.5 kilometers of road network in Lusaka, including a significant 22 kilometers of the Shantumbu Road.

This rehabilitation project is a cornerstone of the Government's broader infrastructure development strategy, aimed at enhancing urban mobility, improving road safety, and bolstering socio-economic growth in Lusaka and its surrounding areas.

As of 30th May 2026, the project has achieved an overall physical progress of 15.5 percent, with advancements noted on key sections of the Shantumbu Road, State Lodge Roads, and the Lilayi Bypass Road.

Community members have expressed their gratitude to the government for initiating this long-awaited project. Residents noted that the road has been a source of hardship for many years, with excessive dust impacting schools, health facilities, businesses, and households.

LUSAKA-NDOLA DUAL CARRIAGEWAY WORKS: KAPIRI MPOSHI TO NDOLA SECTION

The progress of the Lusaka-Ndola Dual Carriageway has accelerated following the resumption of full-scale construction after the rainy season.

We are pleased to share the latest images showcasing the ongoing activities, including earthworks, drainage installation, concrete laying, and asphalt pavement construction.



“CHIMBUYA” AT RDA



RDA members of staff sharing a meal during lunch time.

By Faith Chilekwa and Fridah Nkonde

Chimbuya in Zambia refers to traditional tribal cousinship, a cultural practice of humor, reciprocal interactions, and social bonding.

In Zambia, Chimbuya literally means traditional cousinship and represents a system of social reciprocity among relatives, particularly cousins, across various ethnic groups such as the Bemba, Ngoni, Tonga, and Lozi. Chimbuya is a cultural norm that combines humor, jokes, playful teasing, and mutual respect, often expressed during social gatherings like marriages, funerals, and other communal events.

The practice fosters social cohesion, emotional support, and solidarity among participants, while also allowing light-hearted demonstrations of power and influence within the family or community.

Following the deaths of Paramount Chief Mpezeni of the Ngoni-speaking people of Eastern Province and His Royal Highness Imfumu Tungati of the Isansa Bemba Kingdom in Luwingu District, Northern Province recently, RDA members of staff, most notably Bembas and Ngoni's spent some time off their busy schedules to share a light moment and bond by practicing "chimbuya," pouring of white powder on each other.

The "pouring of powder" refers to "Chimbuya," which is a traditional joking relationship and cultural practice between specific tribes in Zambia – most notably the Bemba and the Ngoni.

A day after the Bemba Royal Establishment announced the passing of His Royal Highness Imfumu Tungati, the Ngoni speaking people at the RDA woke up feeling energized to retaliate against the Bembas for what had been done to them.

After managing to “pour powder” on some Bembas, others decided to pay the Ngonis and pleaded to be spared. Enough money was raised by the Ngonis to buy a meal which was shared by many.

Powder is poured when a member of one tribe sees their “cousin” at a funeral, they

will playfully pour white powder, ashes, or mealie meal on them. This is done to tease them and spark a moment of laughter to help distract them from the heavy grief.

Originally, smearing a substance like powder (or traditional inkula) on someone was meant to celebrate and honour them, which evolved into the present-day playful teasing.



RDA Web/Graphics Designer, Christine Mwansa Samuwika (R) with RDA Corporate Services, Personal Assistant Faith Chilekwa.



RDA cashier Edwin Chalesa after the Ngoni speaking people poured powder on him.



RDA members of staff sharing a meal during lunch time.



WHY EMPLOYEES NEED TO SAVE MONEY

Employees need to save money for several reasons, including:

1. **Emergency Preparedness:** Having an emergency fund can protect against unexpected costs like car repairs or medical emergencies.
2. **Reducing Financial Stress:** Saving money can reduce anxiety and stress related to bills and unexpected expenses.
3. **Achieving Financial Goals:** Savings are essential for reaching long-term financial goals such as buying a home or starting a business. By consistently saving money, employees can create a financial cushion that provides peace of mind and supports their future aspirations.



HYPERTENSION:

Quick facts

- High blood pressure is also known as hypertension. It happens when the force of your blood pushing against the walls of your blood vessels is too high. High blood pressure can lead to other serious problems such as heart attack and stroke. It can affect all age groups: children, young adults, adults and older adults.
- High blood pressure can lead to serious health problems
- It's important to have your blood pressure measured and to understand what your numbers mean.
- Many people don't even know they have high blood pressure. The only way to know you have high blood pressure is to have your blood pressure checked. A diagnosis of high blood pressure will need to be made by a health care professional.
- High blood pressure is a 'silent killer.'
- Most of the time there are no obvious symptoms.
- Certain physical traits and lifestyle choices can raise your risk of high blood pressure.
- Untreated high blood pressure can cause heart attack, stroke and other health threats.
- It's best to avoid high blood pressure altogether. Healthy lifestyle choices such as not smoking, eating a healthy diet and being physically active can help.
- If you have high blood pressure, work with your health care professional to control it. This may mean taking medications in addition to making healthy lifestyle changes.

RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER

Risk Management Is Never Finished

Why the work is a continuous cycle, not a once-a-year ritual

By the Risk Management Unit

A risk register that is drawn up once and dusted off occasionally cannot protect an organization in a fast-moving environment. Risks do not stand still. They shift when markets move, when regulations evolve, when vendors fail, when cyber threats multiply, or when strategic priorities change. That is precisely why continuous risk management matters: it keeps an organization moving through the full cycle rather than treating risk as a form to be filed and forgotten.

The continuous cycle

1. Identify — spot what could go wrong, before it does.
2. Analyze — weigh the likelihood and the potential impact.
3. Evaluate — measure the exposure against your risk tolerance and appetite.
4. Treat — respond appropriately: reduce, transfer, avoid or accept.
5. Monitor — track key indicators, controls and emerging threats.
6. Improve — act on evidence and lessons learned, then begin again.

Each turn of the cycle feeds the next: monitoring surfaces new risks to identify, and lessons learned sharpen how we analyses and treat. Aligned to ISO 31000:2018, this is risk management as a living routine — not a destination.



"The real strength of risk management is not documentation. It is disciplined visibility, timely action, and better decisions before risk becomes damage."

Bringing it Home

For RDA, this is why we revisit our strategic and operational registers each quarter, monitor our weighbridge sites and contract exposures, and update our risk profiles as conditions change. The value lies not in the volume of paperwork, but in the visibility, it gives us the chance to act while a concern is still a risk, before it becomes a loss.

But none of this is the work of the Risk Management Unit alone risk management at RDA is everyone's business. Wherever you sit, on a project site, at a weighbridge or behind

a desk, you will often see a risk before it reaches a register. So, speak up early: flag the contractor delay, the control that has slipped, the hazard others walk past, while it is still a risk and not yet a loss. When each of us plays our part, RDA becomes better prepared, more resilient and far less surprised.

EDITORIAL TEAM

Mr. Anthony Mulowa

Chief Communications and Corporate Affairs Manager

Mr. Trevious Mbomena

Chief Risk Management Manager

Ms. Jenny Chibale

Manager Communications and Corporate Affairs

Mr. Brian Chavula

Senior Communications and Corporate Affairs Officer

Ms. Fridah Nkonde-Mubanga

Senior Communications and Corporate Affairs Officer

Ms. Peggy Mwanza

Social Media Officer