



KITWE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

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

December 2023 Knowledge Sharing Session 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 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 part of Activity 3.3, focused on establishing a career service centre at KVTC, a knowledge-sharing session was conducted to promote HEO courses, disseminate program information, and explore collaborations. This knowledge sharing session was held on December 13th, 2023, at SRI Engineering Limited.

PARTICIPANTS

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

NAME	POSITION	INSTITUTION
Mr. Sunday Kalonga	Project Staff	KVTC
Ms. Alice Mutangala	Project Staff	KVTC

On December 13, 2023, KVTC conducted a visit to SRI Engineering Limited situated in Nkana East, Kitwe district. SRI Engineering Limited provides a range of services, specializing in plant hiring and sales, which includes equipment like excavators, backhoe loaders, graders, and more. The visit to SRI Engineering Limited was prompted by the company's expertise in plant hiring and sales, indicating a need for skilled operators to operate their equipment.

The KVTC delegation, consisting of HEO Project staff, was received by the Manager of SRI Engineering LTD. The manager elaborated on the company's services, emphasizing their specialization in hiring out earth-moving equipment such as excavators. The KVTC Project staff expressed their interest in forming a partnership through an MoU to facilitate placements for HEO students. The Manager of SRI Engineering LTD acknowledged the interest but proposed organizing further engagements. These discussions would involve representatives from both KVTC and SRI Management to deliberate and reach agreements on various terms and conditions. Both parties agreed to conduct another knowledge-sharing session at KVTC to familiarize SRI Engineering LTD with the institution and explore mutual benefits, primarily focusing on providing placements for HEO students. The session concluded on a positive note, highlighting its insightful nature in raising awareness about Heavy Equipment Operator Courses. Both KVTC and SRI Engineering LTD expressed keen interest in establishing a partnership, paving the way for more collaborative engagements.



Group Photo of KVTC project staff and SRI Engineering LTD Manager.

CONCLUSION

The knowledge sharing session 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 session.