TECH4ZAMBIA INNOVATION FORUM 2025



Advancing Czech-Zambian Solutions in Energy, Conservation, Agriculture, Governance & Infrastructure

27 October 2025

InterContinental Lusaka, Zambia









TECH4ZAMBIA INNOVATION FORUM 2025



Programme

Monday 27 October 2025, Intercontitental Hotel, Lusaka

8:30—9:00	Registration & Arrival Tea

Opening Session

Opening Session	
9:00—9:05	Anthems
9:05—9:10	Words of Welcome
9:10—9:30	Opening Speeches
	Petr Boháček, Founder & Director – Afripoli
	H.E. Jiří Kyrian, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Zambia
	Hon. Felix Mutati, Minister of Technology and Science
9:30—9:40	Presentation on Trade & Investment in Zambia
	Albert Halwampa, Director General – Zambia Development Agency
9:40—10:20	High-Level Panel Discussion
	Petr Boháček, Founder & Director – Afripoli
	Patrick Sibanda, Executive Director – National Remote Sensing Centre
	Dennis Munachusa, Principal Agricultural Economist – Ministry of Agriculture
	Marcel Maiba, Principal ICT Officer – Ministry of Tourism & Arts

Czech-Zambian Voices of Innovation: Showcasing Innovation & Collaborations

10:20—11:10 Part 1: Czech Innovation & Cross-Border Collaborations

Presentations highlighting Czech innovation, partnerships with Zambian counterparts, and regional actors

Marketa Smrčková, Czech Development Agency
Petr Boháček, TRL Space
Serge Tuyihimbaze, TRL Space Rwanda
Kennet Christensen, Kumya Insights

Kennet Christensen, Kumva Insights Veronika Solis & Miloš Hoffman, Ardar Institute

Petr Fena, Afripoli Energy









Monday 27 October 2025, Intercontitental Hotel, Lusaka

11:10—11:40 Coffee Break

11:40—12:20 Part 2: Innovation Made in Zambia

Presentations by Zambian companies and organizations showcasing local innovation, entrepreneurship, and sectoral leadership

Luwi Nguluka, Alinea

Remco Dijkman & Suwilanji Sichone, Wildlife Crime Prevention (WCP)

Chawezi Nyasulu, CABI Southern Africa Cassandra Mtine, AgriPredict Solutions Bruno Mweemba, Panuka AgriBiz Hub Simunza Muyangana, BongoHive

1st Panel Discussion

12:20—13:10 Smart Farming

Digital tools for precision agriculture, remote sensing tech (satellite data and UAVs), agri-tech platforms for commercial and SME farmers *Moderator: Natasha Mwila, Regional Director Southern Africa – CABI*

Muyambango Liywalii, Communications & Project Support Officer – CABI Kennet Christensen, Co-Founder & Managing Director – Kumva Insights Ltd. Jonah Banda, Chief Technological Officer – AgriPredict Solutions Bruno Mweemba, Managing Director & Founder – Panuka AgriBiz Hub Serge Tuyihimbaze, Chief Operating Officer – TRL Space Rwanda Michael Phiri, Operations Manager – National Remote Sensing Centre

13:10—14:20 Lunch

2nd Panel Discussion

14:20—15:10 Advanced Tech for Governance

& Infrastructure

Cybersecurity, security risk assessment, and digital services

Moderator: Simunza Muyangana, BongoHive

Miloš Hoffman, CEO & Co-Founder – Ardar Institute Veronika Solis, Owner & Co-Founder – Ardar Institute

Petr Boháček, Founder & Director – Afripoli

Zeko Mbumwae, Chief Information Officer – INFRATEL Corporation Limited Samson Wellington Mbuzi, Information Security Manager – Zambia Electronic

Clearing House Limited (ZECHL)

15:10—15:40 Coffee Break









Monday 27 October 2025, Intercontitental Hotel, Lusaka

3rd Panel Discussion

15:40—16:30

Tech for Conservation

Drones, satellite imagery and AI innovations for anti-poaching, conservation and biodiversity protection

Moderator: Ian Mills, Chief Conservation Officer – African Bush Camps Foundation

Remco Dijkman, Chief Technical Officer – Wildlife Crime Prevention (WCP)
Jack McMahon, Director of Strategic Development – Alinea
Deretha Bester, Regional Manager & Project Lead – TRL Space / TRL Drones
Chanda Chama, Data Management Officer – Conservation Lower Zambezi
Moses Chabala, Stores & Logistics Officer – Conservation Lower Zambezi
Sophia Mulundika, Programme Manager – World Wildlife Fund

16:30-16:45

Closing Remarks

Digital Access

Tech drives this forum — including how you access information.

Use the QR code to jump directly to the latest event updates, speaker information, and project details online.











BACKGROUND ON CZECH-ZAMBIA RELATIONS

Relations between Czechia and Zambia have a long tradition, dating back to the early years of Zambia's independence when Czechia was still part of Czechoslovakia. In the 1960s and 1970s, Czechoslovakia had a visible presence in Zambia, both through business cooperation and by welcoming a significant number of Zambian students to its universities. These educational and professional exchanges laid the foundation for a partnership rooted in knowledge, solidarity, and shared aspirations.

Over the past decade, Czech–Zambia relations have gained new momentum. In 2010, Czechia designated Zambia as one of its priority countries for development cooperation, and in 2018 the partnership was elevated further with the adoption of a bilateral development cooperation programme. The reopening of the Czech Embassy in Lusaka in 2017 reaffirmed Czechia's long-term commitment to Zambia and its people.

Development cooperation has become the flagship of bilateral relations. Through the Czech Development Agency (CzechAid), projects have supported Zambia in agriculture and food security, sustainable energy, governance, conservation, and health. These initiatives have been carried out in close collaboration with Zambian ministries, universities, and local communities. At the same time, both sides see great potential in strengthening trade and economic ties. Czech businesses are already engaged in sectors such as agriculture and health, and there is increasing interest in areas including ICT, energy, defense, and aerospace technologies.

The two countries are natural partners. Both are medium-sized landlocked states that share a commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and international cooperation. Czechia views Zambia not only as an important bilateral partner but also as a strategic actor within regional organizations such as COMESA and SADC.

Most recently, bilateral ties were further strengthened in September 2025, when the new Ambassador of the Czech Republic, H.E. Jiří Kyrian, presented his Letters of Credence to H.E. President Hakainde Hichilema. In his remarks, Ambassador Kyrian highlighted the enduring friendship between the two countries and expressed his readiness to deepen cooperation in agriculture, health, education, culture, and, increasingly, digital and technological innovation. Quoting Zambia's founding President Kenneth Kaunda, he reminded both sides of the spirit of partnership: "No nation can stand alone. We must learn to walk together – not as masters and servants, but as brothers."

Building on this legacy, Tech4Zambia embodies the next step in Czech–Zambian cooperation. The initiative demonstrates how Czech expertise in satellites, drones, solar energy, and digital innovation can support Zambia's development priorities in agriculture, conservation, and governance—ensuring that the partnership continues to grow in depth and impact.

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Tech4Zambia Innovation Forum 2025 is hosted by Afripoli, in collaboration with the Czech Embassy in Lusaka, under the patronage of the Ministry of Technology and Science (MoTS) and the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA).

This year's edition serves as a platform to advance Czech–Zambian technology partnerships and foster long-term collaboration in science, technology, and innovation. It brings together government representatives, the private sector, NGOs, academia, and startups to exchange perspectives and co-develop solutions across conservation, agriculture, governance, and energy. Through cross-sector dialogue and innovation-driven exchange, the event aims to deliver actionable, locally relevant outcomes and scale them through collaborative partnerships.

OBJECTIVES

Identify local priorities, implementation challenges, and innovation needs actross key sectors

Showcase practical technologies and programs addressing real-world problems

Catalyze joint projects, pilot initiatives, and long-term cooperation

Support high-level public-private dialogue and shape future future innovation pathways

Facilitate sector-specific partnerships and collaboration with Czech and Zambian innovation actors

THEMATIC PANELS



Smart Farming

Digital tools for precision agriculture, remote sensing tech (satellite data and UAVs), agri-tech platforms for commercial and SME farmers



Advanced Tech for Governance & Infrastructure

Cybersecurity, security risk assessment, and digital services.



Tech for Conservation

Drones, satellite imagery and AI innovations for anti-poaching, conservation and biodiversity protection.



Petr Bohacek
CEO & Founder
AFRIPOLI

As the Founder and CEO of Afripoli, I am proud to see the realization of the Tech4Zambia Innovation Forum, which stands as a milestone in our mission to foster stronger ties between Africa and the Czech Republic. Since its founding, Afripoli has been committed to building bridges between Europe and Africa through research, dialogue, and practical partnerships. This Forum embodies that vision by bringing together leading innovators, businesses, policymakers, and researchers from both nations under one roof.

Our ambition is not only to create a space for conversations but to spark collaborations that drive tangible results in key areas: conservation technology, solar energy, digital governance, cybersecurity, and agriculture. These are sectors where innovation can directly improve livelihoods and strengthen resilience in the face of global challenges.

Afripoli is honored to co-host this Forum with Zambia's Ministry of Technology and Science, the Zambia Development Agency, and the Embassy of the Czech Republic. Together, we aim to create a platform that combines Zambia's dynamism, innovation, and opportunities with the Czech Republic's technological expertise and experience. The Forum will serve as a launchpad for long-term partnerships, investments, and joint innovations that go beyond this event.

We warmly welcome all participants, both Czech and Zambian, to this Forum. May it be the beginning of new connections, bold ideas, and shared solutions that contribute not only to Zambia's transformation but also to a deeper partnership between Africa and Europe.



H.E. Jiří Kyrian

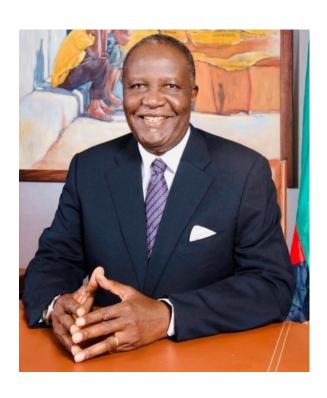
Czech Ambassador to

Zambia

During the presentation of my Letter of Credence to H.E. Hakainde Hichilema on 4th September 2025 I underscored the primary task of my mission in Zambia – to build upon the achievements of my predecessors and to spare no effort to further strengthen the partnership between our two nations particularly in the field of technology and science.

To fulfill this task, my country will continue supporting the ongoing development of Zambia through advanced projects, thus turning the vast potential of this beautiful country into real opportunities for engagement of Czech businesses in various sectors of the Zambian economy.

Hosting the Tech4Zambia Innovation Forum on 27th October 2025 at the Lusaka Intercontinental Hotel is yet another practical example of this effort. We are looking forward not only to innovative discussions of representatives of the Czech and Zambian business communities, but we will aim for new partnerships and business deals that would bring smart and innovative solutions e.g. in energy, agriculture, infrastructure and other key areas.



Hon. Felix Mutati

Minister of Technology and Science

I am delighted to welcome the partnership between Zambia and AfriPoli of the Czech Republic as we reset and strengthen our relations with the Czech Republic. Zambia is at the cusp of leapfrogging into the future, with innovation, research, and development driving our socio-economic transformation.

Through this partnership, Republic of Zambia and the Czech Republic will host the Tech4Zambia Innovation Forum on 27th October 2025 at the Lusaka Intercontinental Hotel. The landmark Forum will bring together Czech business leaders, startups, and innovators with Zambian counterparts in a vibrant B2B and B2G marketplace. Deals and partnerships will be forged in key areas including technology for conservation, solar energy, governance and smart infrastructure, smart farming, and the digital economy.

I therefore welcome all Czech Republic participants to Zambia, a nation blessed with rich cultural heritage, breathtaking natural wonders, and world-class tourist destinations such as the Victoria Falls, the mighty Zambezi, and our diverse wildlife parks as well as the sumptuous meals prepared the Zambian traditional way. Beyond our beauty, Zambia has created a stable, predictable, and investor-friendly climate, making it the perfect gateway for Czech companies to invest, innovate, and thrive.

At the Forum, we will also sign a Memorandum of Understanding as a framework for sustained collaboration. This partnership will unlock opportunities, create jobs, and cement Zambia's place as a hub of digital innovation, investment, and inclusive growth.

Mwaiseni!



Albert Halwampa

Director General

Zambia Development

Agency

The Zambia Development Agency is delighted to welcome the partnership between the Republic of Zambia and AfriPoli of the Czech Republic as the nation resets and strengthens its cooperation with the Czech Republic. Zambia stands on the point of leap-frogging into the future, with investment, trade and business development driving the economic transformation.

Through this partnership, Zambia and the Czech Republic will jointly host the Tech4Zambia Innovation Forum on 27th October 2025 at the Lusaka Intercontinental Hotel. This landmark Forum will bring together Czech business leaders, startups and innovators with their Zambian counterparts in vibrant B2Bs and B2Gs. Strategic partnerships will be explored in key sectors, including technology for conservation, solar energy, governance, smart infrastructure, agriculture and the digital economy.

The Zambia Development Agency warmly welcomes all Czech Republic participants to Zambia — a nation blessed with a rich cultural heritage, breathtaking natural wonders, and world-class tourist destinations such as the Victoria Falls, the mighty Zambezi River, and our diverse wildlife parks, complemented by our unique traditional cuisine. Beyond its natural beauty, Zambia offers a stable, predictable and an investor-friendly climate, making it the perfect gateway for Czech companies to invest, innovate and thrive.

The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) warmly welcomes all participants from the Czech Republic to Zambia, a country renowned for its trade and investment opportunities. Zambia offers a stable, predictable and an investor-friendly environment. As the nation's lead investment promotion agency, ZDA is committed to facilitating strategic partnerships, supporting innovation and unlocking opportunities across key sectors such as agriculture, energy, manufacturing, tourism and mining. We invite Czech companies to explore Zambia not only as a destination but as a gateway to regional markets, where they can invest, grow and thrive.

Welcome to Zambia!

SPEAKERS BIOS

Alphabetical order



Bruno Mweemba

Managing Director & Founder

Panuka AgriBiz Hub

www.hub.panukaagribiz.hub.com



Bruno a Chartered Accountant (ACCA), Environmental Finance Expert as well as a development finance specialist (Mphil in Development Finance) with over 20 years of experience, now serving as Founder and Managing Director of Panuka Enterprise Limited. Through Panuka Farm and the Panuka AgriBiz Hub—a Digitally Enabled Agribusiness Incubation Hub for Agricultural SMEs (web and mobile app). He combines financial expertise with hands-on farming and agribusiness mentorship. The Panuka AgriBiz Hub equips agripreneurs with tools in farm accounting, risk management, and business development, while linking them to talent, finance and markets. He will be presenting the Panuka AgriBiz Hub and its role in nurturing bankable and investment-ready agripreneurs.

Panuka Enterprise Limited is an agribusiness venture dedicated to advancing sustainable farming and agripreneurship in Africa. Through Panuka Farm (horticulture production) and the Panuka AgriBiz Hub (web and mobile app), we provide agripreneurs with practical farming models, digital training in farm accounting, risk management, and business development, and a finance matchmaking platform that connects them with funders and markets.

- 1. Panuka AgriBiz Hub (Web & Mobile App): A Digitally Enabled Agribusiness Incubation Hub for Agricultural SMEs that provides training in farm accounting, risk management, and business development, alongside an access-to-finance module linking agripreneurs to funders. The Hub directly contributes to Zambia's priorities on SME growth, financial inclusion, and climate-smart agriculture.
- 2. Panuka Graduate Trainee Programme: A six-month mentorship and skills development program for young agricultural graduates, equipping them with hands-on experience in horticulture, agribusiness management, and employability skills. Over 90% of trainees have transitioned into employment or entrepreneurial ventures, supporting Zambia's youth employment and skills development agenda.
- 3. Horticulture Innovation at Panuka Farm: Panuka Farm serves as a demonstration and testing ground for climate-smart horticultural practices, piloting innovations in value addition (e.g., solar-dried fruit), sustainable irrigation, and environmentally friendly production methods. This contributes to food security, rural industrialization, and Zambia's broader green growth agenda.



Cassandra Mtine

Chief Executive Officer
AgriPredict Solutions

www.agripredict.com



Cassandra holds a background in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Arizona. She brings over a decade of experience working with innovative organizations across local and international contexts. Her expertise spans analytics and evaluation, administration, project management, and organizational leadership. Cassandra has successfully spearheaded pioneering projects across diverse sectors, positioning her as versatile with a strong track record of driving impact through innovation and evidence-based solutions.

AgriPredict Solutions, an agri-tech company that leverages technology to help small-scale farmers overcome challenges in accessing vital, on-demand agricultural information. Through its platform, easily accessible via USSD and Android mobile applications, AgriPredict provides services including weather, market access, early warning system, e-extension and agro-dealers networks. The platform currently has over 350,000 farmers across Zambia.

In addition to its farmer-centered services, AgriPredict is currently digitizing the dairy value chain, beginning with Southern Province—the hub of dairy farming in Zambia. We have developed a comprehensive system that provides end-to-end tracking, covering collection centers (including chiller levels, staff, equipment, and testing metrics) all the way to individual household deliveries. This innovation creates visibility across the entire value chain and empowers farmers, government, and development agencies to make data-driven decisions that enhance efficiency, accountability, and growth in the dairy sector.



Chanda Chama

Data Management Officer
Conservation Lower
Zambezi - CLZ

www.conservationlowerzambezi.org



Chanda holds a BSc in Environmental and Natural Resources Management from the University of Zambia, and I am currently pursuing an MSc in the same field, focusing on Participatory GIS for clean water provision. He has been the Data Management Officer with Conservation Lower Zambezi since June 2023, supporting operations in Chiawa, Lower Zambezi National Park, and Rufunsa GMA. His expertise spans environmental management, GIS applications, and conservation data analysis.

CLZ strive to mitigate threats to wildlife through a holistic approach, focusing on, Anti-Poaching & Law Enforcement Support, Community Empowerment, Environmental Education and Wildlife Reintroduction, Research & Monitoring.

CLZ is currently involved in quite a number of developmental projects. for example supporting an all female scout team called Kufadza the first ever in the landscape. CLZ is currently using Earth Ranger Technology for law enforcement activities which includes ant-poaching among others. Further CLZ supports community livelihoods projects in the Surrounding GMAs, including sustainable fisheries, Agro-projects.



Dennis Manuchusa

Principal Agricultural Economist (Trade & Agribusiness)

Ministry of Agriculture

www.agriculture.gov.zm



Dennis Munachusa is a seasoned Zambian Agribusiness and Marketing Specialist with over 30 years of experience in agricultural development, food security, and value chain promotion. He currently serves as the Principal Agricultural Economist at Zambia's Ministry of Agriculture Headquarters in charge of trade and Agribusiness and a graduate of Master's in Agribusiness Management at Mulungushi University.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dennis has led the design and coordination of national and sub-national agribusiness programmes, with deep expertise in agricultural marketing, value chain development, entrepreneurship training, and trade policy formulation. He has played a pivotal role in capacity-building initiatives for smallholder farmers, agribusiness stakeholders, and extension staff, fostering inclusive and sustainable market linkages. His contributions span several major donor-funded projects, including SAPP, SADFS, ESAPP, and the UNHCR-MACO refugee livelihoods project, where he specialized in value chain mapping, training facilitation, and monitoring and evaluation. Internationally, Dennis has consulted in the Democratic Republic of Congo, developing an agro-input supply chain and marketing strategy under the Ellan RDC Project. His strengths lie in project management, stakeholder engagement, training delivery, and community mobilization. Fluent in multiple Zambian languages, he is known for his strong communication, analytical, and leadership capabilities.

The Ministry of Agriculture in Zambia promotes sustainable and diversified agriculture to enhance food security and rural incomes. Its mission is to drive inclusive agricultural growth through policy development, innovation, and farmer support. Key focus areas include crop productivity, climate resilience, market access, and export promotion. The Ministry provides extension services, technical training, and agricultural inputs like seeds and fertilizers. It also invests in infrastructure such as irrigation systems and storage facilities. Through research, regulation, and monitoring, the Ministry ensures long-term transformation of Zambia's agricultural sector.

KEY PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

- 1. Agricultural Transformation Support Programme (ATSP)
- 2. Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Promotion
- 3. e-Voucher Input Support System
- 4. National Agricultural Policy (NAP) Implementation

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

- 1. Digital Extension Services
- 2. GIS-Based Crop Monitoring
- 3. Smart Pest Surveillance



Deretha Bester

Regional Manager

TRL Group - TRL Space/ TRL Drones

www.trlspace.cz www.trldrones.cz

TRL SPACE **企**

Deretha is Regional Manager for TRL Group in Africa. Originally from South Africa, she moved to Czechia to pursue a PhD in Security and Strategic Studies, focusing on African security dynamics. At TRL, she leads business development across the continent, identifying new markets, aligning local needs with aerospace and drone technologies, and advancing conservation and security projects. Her role bridges defense, strategy, and technology, with a strong emphasis on developing practical solutions for conservation and sustainable security. Passionate about biodiversity and conservation, Deretha views Africa's wildlife as integral to the continent's identity and future. She champions the use of drones, satellites, and Al-powered platforms to support antipoaching operations, biodiversity monitoring, and resource management, ensuring that technological innovation translates into lasting impact on the ground.

TRL Group is a Czech-based aerospace and drone company at the forefront of innovation in space and defense technologies. Through its two core entities — TRL Space and TRL Drones — the Group designs, manufactures, and deploys advanced systems that combine space-based capabilities with UAV solutions to tackle today's most complex challenges.

TRL Space specializes in mission integration and satellite design, from ready-to-order nanosatellites to customized Earth Observation constellations and deep-space exploration. With expertise in hyperspectral sensing, LiDAR, onboard AI data processing, and 3D printing for space applications, TRL Space expands access to space while delivering tailored solutions for communications, agriculture, and environmental monitoring.

TRL Drones designs and manufactures next-generation UAVs for defense, surveillance, and intelligence. From air defense drones to ISR platforms, TRL Drones transforms concepts into intelligent aerial systems that are precise, reliable, and field-ready.

Together, TRL Space and TRL Drones create integrated solutions for conservation, border security, maritime monitoring, and crisis response. Their Al-powered satellite imagery platform combines data and algorithms to generate actionable insights for governments, conservationists, and businesses. Driven by innovation, TRL Group is engineering the future of autonomous flight and space technology — delivering affordable, sovereign solutions that connect global innovation with local impact.



Ian Mills

Chief Conservation Officer
African Bush Camps
Foundation

www.africanbushcampsfoundation.org



Ian is the Chief Conservation Officer and Head of Foundation at the African Bush Camps Foundation. With over 20 years of experience across Africa in social and business impact, partnership development, and programme delivery, Ian has dedicated his career to fostering collaboration between communities, conservation initiatives, and socially driven enterprises. He believes deeply in the power of community-led interventions and inclusive partnerships to drive meaningful and lasting change. At ABCF, Ian leads efforts to advance the Foundation's vision of connected landscapes and thriving communities.

African Bush Camps Foundation works within the communities and wildlife areas surrounding African Bush Camps' Lodges. Through active engagement with local communities, the Foundation strives to improve quality of life and foster long-term preservation through our programs focused on Community Empowerment, Conservation, and Sustainability. In Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, we tackle critical challenges related to unemployment, food scarcity, limited access to education and healthcare, financial empowerment, wildlife poaching, and the preservation of natural resources.

African Bush Camps Foundation is proud to partner with Conservation Lower Zambezi in supporting Kufadza, Zambia's first all-women ranger team. Meaning "to inspire" in the local Goba language, the Kufadza scouts patrol the Lower Zambezi National Park and surrounding areas to combat poaching, remove snares, and reduce human-wildlife conflict, while also serving as powerful role models for women and youth in their communities. ABCF is supporting the training and deployment of 10 female scouts.



Jack McMahon

Director of Strategic Development

Alinea

www.alineanetwork.org



Jack's role at Alinea focuses on strengthening partner organisations, funding pipelines, and systems-level collaboration in conservation and development. He has extensive experience delivering multi-partner programmes across Africa, supporting grassroots organisations with capacity building, security, and technology. Jack's work emphasizes building trusted local actors, de-risking donor investment, and aligning resources behind field-ready, systems-based approaches.

Alinea is a capacity-building partner and systems enabler that strengthens grassroots organisations across Africa. We incubate and professionalise NGOs, embedding governance, accountability, and sustainability while consolidating shared services in finance, communications, data, and technology. This approach de-risks donor investment and creates resilient, investable organisations that can scale impact in partnership with governments, funders, and the private sector. Alinea is the conservation intermediary that backs trusted local actors with funding, systems, and support to scale their impact.

Alinea applies a systems-based approach to strengthen conservation and development outcomes across Africa, including Zambia. Current initiatives support grassroots organisations with shared services in finance, communications, data, and technology, enabling them to operate at higher standards and deliver trusted impact. Our work includes capacity building for local NGOs, support to community livelihoods linked to conservation, and partnerships on human-wildlife coexistence and security. We are also advancing innovative finance models and digital tools that de-risk investment and align with Zambia's priorities for sustainable development and resilient landscapes.

Jonah Banda

Chief Technological Officer

AgriPredict Solutions

www.agripredict.com



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In addition to its farmer-centered services, AgriPredict is currently digitizing the dairy value chain, beginning with Southern Province—the hub of dairy farming in Zambia. We have developed a comprehensive system that provides end-to-end tracking, covering collection centers (including chiller levels, staff, equipment, and testing metrics) all the way to individual household deliveries. This innovation creates visibility across the entire value chain and empowers farmers, government, and development agencies to make data-driven decisions that enhance efficiency, accountability, and growth in the dairy sector.



Kennet Christensen

Co-Founder & Managing Director

Kumva Insights Ltd.

www.kumva.oi



Kennet is an international expert in communication, mobile and digital technology and holds 15+ years of senior management experience from NGOs, social enterprises, and private sector in Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Kenya, Malawi, Botswana, and Rwanda. With a passion for technology, data, and agriculture innovation, Kennet has strong practical expertise inproduct development and adoption of digital and mobile solutions. As Managing Director at Kumva, Kennet leads the development and design of the Kumva Data Platform, set to revolutionise how extension services in agriculture are run and managed.

Kumva Insights is an IoT company in Rwanda, focusing on boosting efficiency and effectivness in agriculture through data and technology. We focus on making precision agriculture accessible, affordable, and impactful and help smallholder farmers and agribusinesses improve productivity and climate resilience through real-time, use-case-specific IoT data delivered via the Kumva Data Platform. Our platform enables: - Smarter water management in irrigation - Efficient climate control in greenhouses - Enhanced poultry production - Improved advisory service from FEOs - Reduced post-harvest losses in cold storage.

Kumva has developed data solutions based on IoT technology to introduce smart irrigation, smart greenhouses, smart poultry houses, and smart storage facilities. Our devices are deployed on farms and collect data that is sent to our Cloud based data platform. The data is analysed and converted into actionable insights, that farmers can use to optimise their production and reduce resource waste.

The technology has been developed in close collaboration with leading agricbusinesses and universities, who have provided essential input and feedback during product development. The next phase focuses on the integration of additional data sources like soil maps, satellite imagery, weather forecasts etc. combined with Large Language Models (LLMs), Natural Language Processiong (NLP), and Machine Learning (ML). These technologies will provide the basis for scalability and expansion.



Luwi Nguluka

Director of
Communications
Alinea

wwww.alineanetwork.org



Luwi is a leading voice for inclusive, African-led conservation. Raised in Botswana's Okavango Delta, her deeprooted connection to nature fuels a lifelong passion for wildlife and community empowerment. At Alinea, Luwi leads strategic communications, amplifying the stories of partners and increasing visibility across the global conservation finance ecosystem. With a strong focus on narrative as a tool for change, she uses storytelling to influence behavior, challenge perceptions, and elevate local perspectives in conservation dialogues. Previously, Luwi led award-winning campaigns in Zambia, including This Is Not a Game, which tackled the illegal bushmeat trade, as well as initiatives like Women for Conservation and the radio drama Mtima Wa Mkango, which reached diverse audiences with messages of coexistence and stewardship. She has also been a champion for youth engagement, co-creating Zambia's Conservation Careers Fair to open pathways for young professionals. Beyond campaigns, Luwi is committed to reshaping conservation from the ground up, building inclusive narratives that reflect African voices, leadership, and lived realities. She continues to collaborate with governments, NGOs, and local communities to drive lasting impact across the continent.

Alinea is a capacity-building partner and systems enabler that strengthens grassroots organisations across Africa. We incubate and professionalise NGOs, embedding governance, accountability, and sustainability while consolidating shared services in finance, communications, data, and technology. This approach de-risks donor investment and creates resilient, investable organisations that can scale impact in partnership with governments, funders, and the private sector. Alinea is the conservation intermediary that backs trusted local actors with funding, systems, and support to scale their impact.

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Marcel Maiba

Principal ICT Officer
Ministry of Tourism

www.mot.gov.zm



Marcel's work in the Ministry of Tourism is instrumental in integrating technology into tourism development and governance frameworks. It focuses on promoting public sector innovation and strengthening digital governance to enhance service delivery and citizen engagement. He is passionate about leveraging ICT to position tourism as a catalyst for sustainable national development.

The Ministry of Tourism's mission is to facilitate the development of sustainable tourism for economic transformation and job creation. Specifically, the Ministry focus areas include sustainable tourism development, wildlife management, and the management of culture and traditional affairs.

In 2016, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Zambia embarked on a project called the Kafue National Park Connected Conservation (KNP CCP). This project integrated the internet and cutting-edge computing with a smart network of tactically deployed sensors and systems, to enable DNPW to intelligently detect and respond to poaching threats, before poaching takes place. To this end, leading technology companies such as CISCO, FLIR, and SMART Parks came together to provide vital communication and surveillance hardware and software focused on protecting the population of elephants and key species in poaching hotspots in the Kafue National Park.

Further, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) also uses tools like SMART and Earth Ranger which map boundaries where patrols are conducted, record specific locations where they find intrusions and track animals that are collared with sensors to monitor their movements. In addition, GPS devices are also used by ecologists to collect animal sightings data. Ministry of Tourism works with the Electronic Government Division SMART Zambia Institute which has the responsibility of the management and promotion of electronic Government services and processes to facilitate access to electronic Government services to improve service delivery to enhance citizens access to Government services, coordination of e-government and information and communication technology matters in public bodies.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Ministry of Tourism is implementing the Zambia Green, Resilient and Transformational Tourism Development Project (GREAT-TDP) with financing from the World Bank. The Project commenced operations on January 10th, 2024, and it will be implemented for seven (7) years, expecting to close on 31st December 2030. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to strengthen the enabling environment, access to resilient infrastructure and economic opportunities in emerging tourism destinations. The Project focuses its support on three emerging nature-based Tourism Destination Areas (TDAs).



Michael Katango Phiri

Manager - Operations
National Remote Sensing
Centre - NRSC

www.nrsc.org.zm



Michael Katongo Phiri is a geoinformation and Earth Observation (EO) scientist and the Manager – Operations at Zambia's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), advancing EO/GIS for national planning and environmental stewardship. He holds a BSc in Natural Resources Management and an MSc in Integrated Water Resources Management from the University of Zambia and is currently pursuing a PhD in IWRM there. With over 13 years of experience, he specialises in Earth Observation (EO), GIS, land & water resources management, and natural capital accounting. Mr Phiri manages end-to-end EO/GIS operations and the timely cross-agency delivery of decision-ready products.

The **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)**, established by Statutory Instrument No. 137 of 1999 under the Science & Technology Act (No. 26 of 1997), is the Zambian government's lead EO/GIS agency. The focus and services of the NRSC are image acquisition, processing and archiving, ground station services, and nationwide training and technology transfer

- 1. Crop classification and yield prediction to bolster food security and climate resilience.
- 2. Land Use Advisory Service (LUAS) for the Commissioner of Lands.
- 3. Land/Forest Accounts & Natural Capital Accounting
- 4. Informal Mining Detection & Compliance Monitoring
- 5. EO and ML tools for hazards and disasters
- 6. Rapid Environmental Incident Monitoring
- 7. National Ground Receiving Station (GRS) & EO Infrastructure

Smart farming starts with smart data, which is Zambia's newest farm input. When we deliver EO insights to the right people at the right time, productivity and resilience follow.



Moses Chabala

Stores & Logistics Officer
Conservation Lower
Zambezi - CLZ

www.conservationlowerzambezi.org



Moses has been in the conservation industry for the past 4 years working for Conservation Lower Zambezi as a Stores and Logistics Officer specializing in inventory control, procurement, and logistics coordination. Skilled in managing stock systems, overseeing fleet operations, and ensuring the efficient distribution of resources to support field operations in the Lower Zambezi.

Conservation Lower Zambezi strives to mitigate threats to wildlife through a holistic approach, combining: Anti-Poaching and Law enforcement, Environmental education, Community Empowerment and Wildlife Protection, Research & Monitoring.

CLZ is currently involved in quite a number of projects, one of them is the support of local farmers with solar powered farming systems. This project has empowered farmers in enusring that they are able to sustain their lively hoods throughout the year. It is also supporting an all female scout team called Kufadza, which is the first ever female team in the Lower Zambezi landscape.



Muyambango Liywalii

Communications & Project Support

CAB International (CABI)

www.cabi.org



Muya has a BSc International Relations and Media and Communications. He provides development communication expertise to CABI PlantwisePlus in Africa which helps to support the achievement of the programme's development objectives. He also supports implementing and facilitating CABI's projects in Zambia by participating in field-based activities such as surveys and project meetings, logistical arrangements and procurement processes.

CABI is an international, intergovernmental, not-for-profit organization that improves people's lives worldwide by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment. CABI develops digital advisory tools that can help users make informed decisions.

By providing farmers, practitioners and policymakers with the tools to support evidence-based choices, we can support better responses to farming challenges. With easier access to rigorous scientific knowledge, end-users can respond more effectively to problems and take suitable preventative and proactive measures. We use a range of targeted digital channels to reach users and deliver insights that help improve decision making.



Natasha Mwila

Regional Director-Southern Africa CAB International (CABI)

www.cabi.org



Dr. Natasha Mwila is a passionate agricultural scientist and transformative leader with over 15 years of experience driving change in agrifood systems across Africa. As Regional Director for Southern Africa at CAB International (CABI), she oversees strategic programs that strengthen food systems, agribusiness, governance, and climate resilience, engaging directly with governments, regional bodies, and development partners to shape inclusive and sustainable agricultural policies.

CAB International (CABI) is a global, intergovernmental, not-for-profit organisation, owned and run by its 49-member countries- of which 17 are in Sub-Saharan Africa. CABI has its headquarters in the UK and operates through a network of centres. CABI improves people's lives worldwide by providing information and applying scientific expertise to solve problems in agriculture and the environment. This is achieved through a global network of experts undertaking capacity building, research, training, development and information management activities.

Pest Risk Information Service (PRISE) (Zambia and Malawi)
Pesticide Risk Reduction (PRR) (Zambia)
Village-based biocontrol FAW in Zambia (ACIAR) (Zambia)
Biosecurity training development (Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique)
Assisted Specialty Crops Export (ASCE) Initiative (Southern Africa including Zambia)
Small-scale Cross Border Traders and safe trade facilitation (STDF) (Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia)
Enhanced Livelihoods and Sustainable Agriculture Markets (ELSAM) WFP (Zambia)
Nature-based Microbial Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture - NAMSSA (ICGEB) (Zambia, Plant health initiative (CGIAR-CIMMYT) (Zambia)



Patrick Sibanda

Executive Director

National Remote Sensing

Centre - NRSC

www.nrsc.org.zm



Dr. Patrick Sibanda is a seasoned academic and research leader with extensive experience in higher education and space science research. He began his career as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Michigan after obtaining his PhD in Space Science from Rhodes University, South Africa, in 2009, where he had earlier earned a Master of Science in Space Science. He also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the University of Zambia (2004) and an Honours degree in Astrophysics and Space Science from the University of Cape Town (2005). He later joined the University of Zambia as a Lecturer in Physics, rising through the academic ranks and serving as Head of the Department of Physics. Dr. Sibanda subsequently moved to Kwame Nkrumah University, where he lectured in Physics and served as Director for Research, Postgraduate Studies and Innovation, providing strategic leadership in research governance, postgraduate training, and innovation promotion.

A renowned researcher in space physics, his work focuses on characterising the Earth's ionosphere using GNSS data to understand space weather and its impact on communication and navigation systems. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Technology and Science, where he is leading national efforts in Earth Observation and geospatial technology for sustainable development.

The **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** is a statutory body established under Statutory Instrument No. 137 of 1999, pursuant to the Science and Technology Act No. 26 of 1997. It serves as Zambia's national focal institution for Earth Observation and geospatial information, promoting, coordinating, and facilitating the acquisition, processing, and dissemination of satellite data to support evidence-based decision-making in key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water resources, environment, and disaster management.



Petr Bohacek

Business Director
TRL Space / TRL Drones

www.trlspace.cz www.trldrones.cz

TRL SPACE 1

TRL Group is a Czech-based aerospace and drone company at the forefront of innovation in space and defense technologies. Through its two core entities — TRL Space and TRL Drones — the Group designs, manufactures, and deploys advanced systems that combine space-based capabilities with UAV solutions to tackle today's most complex challenges.

TRL Space specializes in mission integration and satellite design, from ready-to-order nanosatellites to customized Earth Observation constellations and deep-space exploration. With expertise in hyperspectral sensing, LiDAR, onboard AI data processing, and 3D printing for space applications, TRL Space expands access to space while delivering tailored solutions for communications, agriculture, and environmental monitoring.

TRL Drones designs and manufactures next-generation UAVs for defense, surveillance, and intelligence. From air defense drones to ISR platforms, TRL Drones transforms concepts into intelligent aerial systems that are precise, reliable, and field-ready.

Together, TRL Space and TRL Drones create integrated solutions for conservation, border security, maritime monitoring, and crisis response. Driven by innovation, TRL Group is engineering the future of autonomous flight and space technology — delivering affordable, sovereign solutions that connect global innovation with local impact.



Petr Fena
Program Manager
Afripoli Energy
www.afripoli.com



Petr Fena serves as Program Manager at Afripoli, leading projects that connect European engineering with Africa's fast-growing clean energy priorities. He focuses on building partnerships that enable local energy manufacturing, local skills, and local value creation.

Afripoli Energy Solutions is a clean-energy integration portfolio focused on empowering to produce, store, and deploy their own energy systems. The portfolio offers:

- Local solar manufacturing enabling countries to build solar panels at scale
- Mobile power systems clean electricity for construction, agriculture, healthcare, and emergency operations
- Battery storage at every scale from community facilities to utility-grade systems

By delivering technology, manufacturing processes, and hands-on training, Afripoli supports the transition from importing infrastructure to developing domestic capacity.

The mission is clear: energy security through local capability — ensuring clean power drives economic growth, industrial development, and a more resilient future.

Remco Dijkman

Chief Technical Officer
Wildlife Crime Prevention WCP

www.wildlifecrimeprevention.com



Remco Dijkman is the Chief Technical Officer and co-founder of WCP. Originally from the Netherlands and with a professional background in policing, he has lived and worked in Zambia for over 10 years. In his role, he leverages extensive experience in technology, security, and organizational leadership to drive WCP's mission and strengthen its operational capacity.

Wildlife Crime Prevention (WCP) is a Zambian non-profit organization working in partnership with government agencies to address wildlife and timber trafficking. WCP strengthens law enforcement, supports the justice system, and raises public awareness to safeguard Zambia's biodiversity and ecosystems for future generations.



Samson Wellington Mbuzi

Information Security Manager

Zambia Electronic Clearing House Limited -ZECHL

www.zechl.co.zm



Samson Mbuzi has over 20 years' experience in Information Security and IT Operations both in public and private sectors. He holds two Master of Science Degrees in Auditing and Information Technology, and various Certifications which include CISSP, CISA, ISO 27001, ISO 22301, ISO 20000 HCIA-Security and COBIT5. He currently serves as Information Security Manager at the Zambia Electronic Clearing House Limited.

ZECHL is a Non-profit making private limited company established in 1999. It is owned by the Bank of Zambia (50%) and Commercialbanks operating in Zambia (50%). It provides National interbank clearing and switching services within the Zambian Financial Ecosystem. These services include Cheque Truncation, Electronic Money Transfers, E-Money, POS, and ATM.



Serge Tuyihimbaze

Chief Operations Officer
TRL Space Rwanda

wwww.trlspace.rw

TRL SPACE 1

Serge Tuyihimbaze is the Chief Operating Officer at TRL Space (Europe & Rwanda) and a Board Member of the Rwanda ICT Chamber. Founder of 4Ds Metrics. He has supported 50+ startups and guided 200+ technology innovators through Inkjubeit. He is a FabAcademy (MIT) graduate and Digital Fabrication Master, leading Al fellowships and flying-robot initiatives. Recognized by the ITU Entrepreneurship Awards (2015) and the Lake Kivu Drone Challenge (2020), Serge holds an IT degree, an MIT certificate in Design Thinking, and an MBA from Quantic.

TRL Space is an air and spacecraft manufacturer with offices in Europe and Africa.

Small Satellites and AI Powered UAS for multiple applications. Small Satellites and VTOL Drones for multiple applications.



Simunza Muyangana

Co-Founder & Director (Innovation & Entrepeneurship)
BongoHive

www.bongohive.co.zm



Simunza Muyangana is the Director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at BongoHive, a leading technology and innovation hub in Lusaka. In this role, he oversees the development and delivery of programs that help individuals and groups explore, launch, and grow their businesses. He is also a co-founder of the Zambia Business Angel Network and an angel investor. Simunza is passionate about building thriving ecosystems that support entrepreneurs and serves on the boards of several startups and national advisory bodies. He brings a wealth of experience from his previous work in the advertising and telecom industries across Africa.

BongoHive is a technology and innovation hub, focused on supporting entrepreneurs in an emerging entrepreneurial ecosystem in Zambia. The organisation develops and delivers a variety of startup and tech programs, workshops, and events to help individuals a

BongoHive Consult is actively engaged in Zambia's national digital agenda, notably through a partnership with the SMART Zambia Institute to contribute expertise to the country's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) roadmap for effective governance.

We recently launched a dedicated AI Lab to research and deploy ethical Artificial Intelligence solutions across key sectors like agriculture, health, and finance.

Additionally, BongoHive leads initiatives like the UNDP MineTech Accelerator in collaboration with UNDP's Timbuktoo Initiative and the National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research, which supports startups using advanced technologies like AI, data visualisation, and drones to revolutionise resource management, directly addressing national development priorities.



Sophia Mutalani Mulundika

Green Bankable Projects
Originator

World Wildlife Fund - WWF

www.wwfzm.panda.org



Sophia Mutalani Mulundika works under the Finance Practice at WWF Zambia. She is the Lead for the Mobilising More for Climate (MoMo4C) initiative and responsible of all green project origination at WWF Zambia. She has a strong track record in de-risking and structuring early-stage nature-based businesses, attracting over USD 12million in investments in just over two years. Her expertise spans green finance, environmental and social safeguards, and building investment pipelines in climate and biodiversity-positive sectors.

WF Zambia is part of the World Wide Fund for Nature network, working to ensure that Zambia's natural resources are managed sustainably for the benefit of people and nature. The office focuses on promoting green finance, protecting biodiversity, and supporting climate-resilient development through collaboration with government, communities, and the private sector.

The Africa PachiPanda Challenge, a collaboration between MTN and WWF, is a pan-African initiative aimed at empowering youth-led enterprises to develop innovative, technology-driven solutions addressing critical environmental challenges. Building upon the success of its inception in Zambia in 2022, the challenge has expanded to multiple African countries, including South Africa, Zambia, Uganda, Cameroon, and Nigeria

Tech-Driven Conservation Impact

The challenge focuses on harnessing digital tools and innovative technologies to promote sustainability and conservation efforts. Participants are encouraged to develop solutions that integrate technology to address issues such as climate change, energy access, water management, and waste reduction. By providing training, mentorship, and seed funding, the initiative fosters the growth of tech-enabled enterprises that contribute to environmental conservation and sustainable development across the continent. Through this collaboration, MTN and WWF are creating a platform where young innovators can leverage technology to drive positive environmental change, demonstrating the potential of digital solutions in advancing conservation goals.



Suwilanji Sichone

Protect the Pangolins
Program Manager
Wildlife Crime Prevention WCP

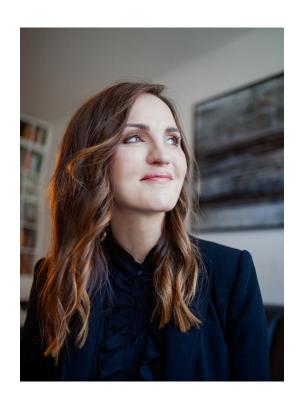
wwww.wildlifecrimeprevention.com



An animal scientist enthusiastic about animal welfare and the conservation of our ecosystem, Suwilanji Sichone has spent 29 years working with animals, domestic and wild. She currently manages the Protect the Pangolins program pioneered by Wildlife Crime Prevention in partnership with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife.

Wildlife Crime Prevention (WCP) is a Zambian non-profit organization working in partnership with government agencies to address wildlife and timber trafficking. WCP strengthens law enforcement, supports the justice system, and raises public awareness to safeguard Zambia's biodiversity and ecosystems for future generations.

As a member of International Union for Conservation of Nature, Species Survival Commission, she participates in international and regional activities concerning pangolin conservation. She is currently the IUCN PSG Co – Chair for the Education and Outreach Focal Area.



Veronika Solis

Owner & Executive ARDAR Institute

www.ardar.institute



Veronika Solis studied law, politics & economics in Czechia & France. She gained professional experience at the Ministry of Justice of Czechia and at a Korean company as a Top Manager before establishing her own law firm after passing the bar exam. Veronika founded ARDAR Institute s.r.o. focusing on digital and legal protection & cash management & social impact. As a cofounder of several NGOs, Veronika aspires to protect and give back to the community support and empowerment.

ARDAR Institute, based in Prague with a branch in Johannesburg, specializes in information security and cash management. Our team of 25+ certified experts delivers training and customized solutions for companies, individuals, and state agencies. We focus on data protection, AI applications, and ID card and identification. Our mission is to help clients secure their assets, operations, and future in the digital age

Latest initiative of ARDAR Institute is a submitted application for a project through Embassy of the Czech Republic in Lusaka - Aid for Trade - in Zambia called Enhancing Practical Financial Education and Strengthening Institutional Networks for Long-Term Economic Growth in Zambia - cooperating with the University of Zambia, Zambia Development Agency & Zambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Exchange of information, survey, trainings and workshops taking place both in Zambia & Czech Republic focusing on cybersecurity, cash management, and finance fundamentals.



Zeko Mbumwae

Chief Information Officer
INFRATEL Corporation
Limited

www.infratel.co.zm



Zeko Mbumwae is the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at INFRATEL, providing strategic technology leadership for data center infrastructure, cloud services, IT operations, cybersecurity, and digital solutions development. Zeko is an innovative digital transformation and cloud infrastructure expert with 18 years of experience in data governance.

INFRATEL Corporation Limited, established by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) through the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), embodies a transformative vision. INFRATEL's mandate is to support the expansion of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector by providing cutting-edge cloud services, digital solutions, cybersecurity solutions and shareable ICT and Telecommunications infrastructure.

Management of Data Centres, Offering of Cloud services and rollout and management of telecommunications tower to closed the digital divide for unserved and underserved areas-

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