

# Electrification News

## NEW REA BOARD APPOINTED

The Minister of Energy Peter C Kapala has unveiled the Board of Directors for the Rural Electrification Authority.

## K594 M SET ASIDE FOR ELECTRIFICATION PROJECTS

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## CELEBRATING JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE: REA MEDIA AWARDS

Amidst the glitz and glamor of the 2024 Media Awards Gala night, held with great pomp and grandeur, a collective applause and admiration resounded through the

**JAN-MAR 2024**



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# MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Reader,

This edition of our newsletter is exciting as it documents the announcement of the New Board of Directors for the Rural Electrification Authority. This marks a new chapter in the journey of our institution as we welcome our esteemed new Board of Directors. With great optimism and excitement, I extend my warmest welcome to each member of the board, who brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and fresh perspectives to guide us forward.

As we embark on this new phase of growth and transformation, I am confident that the collective wisdom and leadership of our board will play a pivotal role in shaping our strategic direction and driving sustainable success. Their diverse backgrounds and proven track records in their respective fields will undoubtedly enrich our decision-making processes and elevate our performance to new heights.

At the heart of this transition lies an unwavering commitment to our core values and vision. Together with our new board members, we will continue to prioritize innovation, integrity, and accountability in everything we do. By fostering a culture of partnerships and transparency, we will empower every member of our team to contribute their best and achieve extraordinary results.

I am particularly excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and the potential for us to make a positive impact on the lives of the rural population we are mandated to serve.

With a shared sense of purpose and a relentless drive for success, there is no limit to what we can accomplish together as we write the next chapter of our story, filled with growth, innovation, and unparalleled achievements.

Enjoy the edition.

**Eng. Linus Chanda**  
Chief Executive Officer



# EDITORIAL MESSAGE

It gives me pleasure once again to welcome you readers to this edition of the newsletter. Time and again, we have sought to communicate our activities through a number of strategies including this newsletter.

As we all know, electricity is the back bone and driving force of any productive economy and rural electrification presents an opportunity to boost various economic activities in Zambia such as agriculture, commerce and small scale industries. The mandate of the Rural Electrification Authority is to expand access to electricity, on a large scale, in rural areas through creation of electricity infrastructure. This edition therefore reflects on a number of activities that have taken place between January and March, 2024 with regards to the mandate and operations of the Authority.

Apart from the appointment of the Board of Directors, one of the notable events that has taken place in this quarter is the launch of a robust electrification project in the Meheba refugee settlement of Kalumbila district in North-western province. This story gives pinnacle picture of how many people still live in the dark in Zambia. It's a touching story of people who have been displaced from their motherlands and still must face hardships of living in the dark.

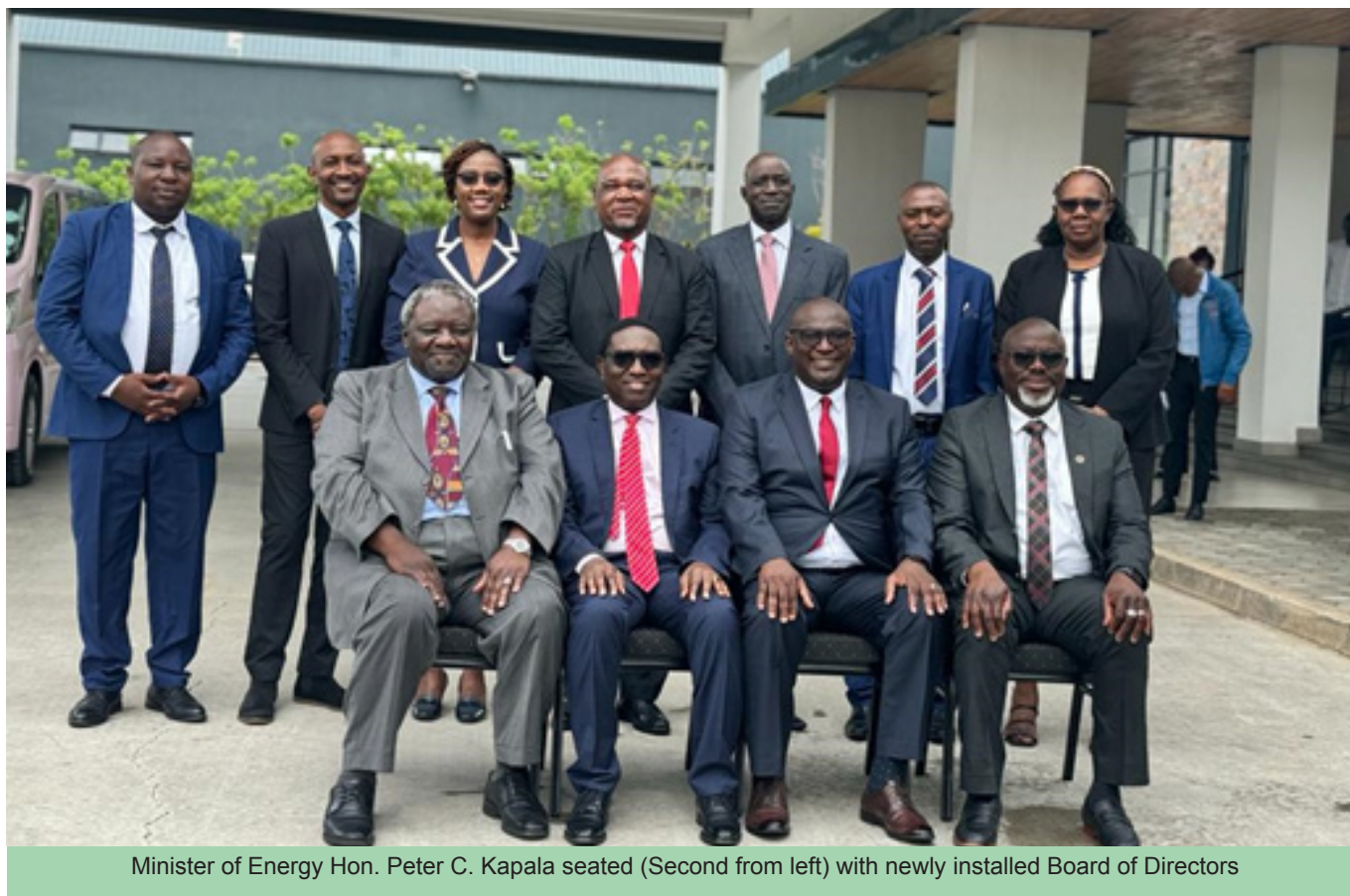
In this edition, the editorial team has also presented other stories with interesting messages such as progress that the Authority has made progress on some of the projects that it is currently implementing. Most of the grid extension projects that were carried over from 2023 have been completed or are near completion in different parts of the country. With the arrival of electricity in all these areas, the Authority expects the beneficiaries to enjoy improved living standards in areas such as medical care, education, agricultural production, trade and internet connectivity.

We hope that you will enjoy reading these stories!

**JUSTIN MUKOSA**  
MANAGER - CORPORATE AFFAIRS

# NEW REA BOARD APPOINTED

By Ndekela Mazimba



Minister of Energy Hon. Peter C. Kapala seated (Second from left) with newly installed Board of Directors

The Minister of Energy Peter C Kapala has unveiled the Board of Directors for the Rural Electrification Authority. Speaking during the inauguration ceremony held at Ciela Resort in Lusaka in January, the Minister reiterated the importance the New Dawn Government attaches to the rural electrification program.

“From inception, government has pledged to upscale the rural electrification program through extending the grid network and deploying off-grid solutions.”

“This commitment has been further solidified with a historic allocation of K743 million in the 2023 budget, marking the highest ever government investment in REA.” He said.

Hon. Kapala said the government had appointed members with diverse expertise so that their skills are used to drive transformative change in rural areas.

The Minister urged the board to hit the ground running as 2030 was in the horizon and there was urgent need for strategic guidance to propel electrification effort.

“Some of the areas where your skills will be instrumental include achieving Strategic Plan targets, updating the Rural Electrification Master Plan, implementing energy access census and solar mini grid development” he said.

The Newly appointed members of the Board are:

1. Mr. Bruce Jaani-Chairperson
2. Eng. Bright Mwangala Sepiso, representing the Engineering Institution of Zambia;
3. Mr. Caesar Cheelo, representing the Economics Association of Zambia;
4. Eng. Clement Chiwele, representing Ministry of Energy;
5. Ms. Loveness Mubisi, representing Ministry of Local Government And Rural Development;
6. Mrs. Mazuba A. S. Mwambazi, representing Non-Governmental Organisations active in rural development;
7. Ms. Diana Musunga Mwewa, representing the Attorney General Chambers;
8. Mr. Paul Kolala and;
9. Eng. Kenneth Muteto, who are experts in rural development and electrification matters.

# K594 M SET ASIDE FOR ELECTRIFICATION PROJECTS

By Ndekela Mazimba



Construction of High Voltage lines in Itezhi-tezhi Grid Extension Project in Itezhi-tezhi district in Southern province

The Rural Electrification Authority has set aside K594,214,177 for the implementation of rural electrification projects across the 10 provinces of Zambia.

Speaking during a press briefing held in Lusaka in January, REA Chief Executive Officer Linus Chanda said the Authority was working towards actualising governments aspirations of making universal access to affordable reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all Zambians by the year 2030.

“The REA Board of Directors at their sitting on 12th January 2024 approved a budget of K592,214,177 for the implementation of forty-eight grid development projects, eight new off grid projects and sixty-four grid development projects which were carried over from last year” he said.

Eng. Chanda said the projects would electrify 28,389 households, 252 schools, 206 rural health centres, 57 markets, 115 chiefs’ palaces and 39 other public facilities including local courts, police stations, immigration offices, agriculture camps, and national assembly offices.

Eng Chanda said the Authority had decentralised its operations in four regions namely Central, Northern, Southern and Western region.

In the central region, the Authority will undertake seventeen (17) new grid development projects at a total cost of K61,569,826. It would also complete nineteen other grid development projects which were carried over

from 2023 costing K56,617,888.

In the northern region, the Authority will undertake eleven (11) new grid development projects at a total cost of K56,186,153 and complete implementing nineteen (19) projects which were carried over from the 2023 workplan a total cost of K105,652,489. In the southern region, the Authority will undertake eleven (11) new grid development projects at a cost of K34,584,252. In addition, fifteen (15) projects from 2023 costing K68,468,663 will be completed.

In the western region, the Authority will implement nine (9) new grid development projects at a total cost of K32,007,715 and complete Twelve (12) projects costing of K72,061,430 which were carried over from the 2023 will be completed.

The Authority would also undertake eight off-grid renewable energy projects including solar for health, solar for agriculture, solar for markets, solar for chiefs palaces, solar for households, biogas digesters, solar mini-grid network in Nakonde district and expansion of the grid at Kasanjiku mini hydro power station.

The Authority opened regional offices in 2022 to smoothen its operations. In terms of provinces that the regions service, Central region covers Central, Eastern and Lusaka provinces, Northern region covers Luapula, Northern and Muchinga provinces, Southern region covers southern and western provinces. Western region covers north-western and Copperbelt provinces.

# ELECTRIFICATION OF MEHEBA REFUGEE SETTLEMENT UNDERWAY

By Choolwe Kasamu



North Western province Permanent Secretary Col Grandson Katambi unveiling the plaque during ground breaking ceremony on behalf of Minister of Energy Hon. Peter C. Kapala MP.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Rural Electrification Authority (REA), working with the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), jointly launched an electrification project in the Meheba Refugee Settlement of Kalumbila District in the Northwestern Province. The project is in line with the government's mission through the REA to electrify rural communities equitably and sustainably for positive socio-economic transformation.

The project, which will benefit refugees, former refugees, and the host community in Kalumbila district, was launched by Zambia's Minister of Energy, Eng. Peter K. Kapala, who was represented by the Northwestern Province Permanent Secretary, Col Grandson Katambi 30th January, 2024.

"The launch of this electrification project in Meheba is part of the government's comprehensive plan as contained in the National Refugee Policy and its implementation plan to ensure refugees, former refugees and the Zambian host community have access to services," said Honourable Kapala.

The Government of Zambia confirmed its commitment towards the inclusion of forcibly displaced persons via 10 pledges at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) held in Geneva, Switzerland, in December 2023. Providing sustainable energy to Zambian districts that host refugees and former refugees is a key element of the pledges. The electrification scheme fits into the government's Modernisation of Refugee, Host Communities and Settlement Approach (MORHCSA).

Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security Permanent

Secretary, Mr. Dickson Matembo, who was represented by Director Planning Mr. Goodson Sinyenga, said that in 2023, at the GRF, Government made a pledge to connect all three settlements to the national grid by 2027. "Today, we proudly announce that we are making strides towards fulfilling that commitment," Mr. Matembo said.

"UNHCR, working with the government and our partners, has committed to support sustainable, clean energy in all areas hosting refugees and former refugees," said UNHCR representative Ms Preeta Law. This is an important development for the province and particularly the communities in Kalumbila. Zambians, refugees and former refugees will enjoy electricity for the very first time since the establishment of this settlement in 1971."

Once completed by 31 July 2024, the project will enable the supply of electricity to Meheba A Primary and Secondary Schools, Meheba B Primary and Secondary Schools, Kananga Primary School, Kananga Rural Health Centre (RHC), Meheba A RHC, Meheba B RHC, Jagaimo RHC, Meheba Police, St. Mary's Mission and surrounding areas. 40,510 residents, living in Kalumbila District will benefit from this joint venture.

REA has allocated K9.7 million towards electrifying the settlement whose construction commenced on 2nd November 2023. The REA part of the project includes 10.4 km of 33-kilo-volts high-tension line and 10.9 km of 0.4 kilo-volts low-tension line. In this partnership, UNHCR has allocated ZMW 6.3 million to the project providing an additional 17.8 km of 33 kilovolts of high-tension backbone line. REA is committed to providing technical assistance on the complementary scheme funded by UNHCR.

# ZAMBIA'S PR BODY AWARDS REA

Staff Reporter



Manager Corporate Affairs Justine Mukosa (R) with Public Relations Officer Ndekela Mazimba receiving the the Award as Winners of the Best Event Management Award at the ZIPRC Gala Dinner.

The Rural Electrification Authority has been bestowed with a prestigious award from the Zambia Institute of Public Relations and Communication (ZIPRC). The award in Best Event Management comes as recognition for successfully hosting the 2022 REA Media Awards program.

The Media Awards program which is hosted by the Authority recognizes and celebrates journalistic excellence in reporting on rural electrification matters.

Receiving the award on behalf of the Authority, REA Public Relations Officer Ms. Ndekela T. Mazimba said the award was evidence of REA's dedication to promoting communication within the public sphere.

"This award bestowed upon the Authority underscores the pivotal role of effective communication strategies in advancing developmental agendas and inclusive growth. REA has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to building bridges between communities, media professionals, and policymakers, fostering a culture

of dialogue and progress through its media awards program” she said.



“As we celebrate this award, we reaffirm our commitment to improving the lives of people residing in the remotest parts of the country through providing sustainable electrification solutions. We also pledge to support and nurturing the media who have been providing a voice of the

underserved Zambians” Ms Mazimba added. ZIPRCs’ recognition of the Rural Electrification Authority’s exemplary efforts serves as a testament to the transformative potential of strategic communication in shaping societies and driving positive change.

The Zambia Institute of Public Relations and Communication is the professional body which regulates public relations and communication in Zambia.



File Picture of 2021 REA Awards.

# EXCITING COLLABORATION ON THE HORIZON: ENGIE ENERGY ACCESS AND REA EXPLORE PARTNERSHIPS

By Choolwe Kasamu



Chief Executive Officer Eng. Linus Chanda (R) handing over calendars to Engie Energy Access (EEA) Country Director, Ms. Helen Zulu

On 8th February 2024, the Rural Electrification Authority hosted a team from Engie Energy Access (EEA), led by their Country Director, Ms. Helen Zulu, at our headquarters.

The EEA team was welcomed by the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) Chief Executive Officer Eng. Linus K. Chanda.

The REA team took the opportunity to explore numerous collaboration avenues on Mini-grid Development in Rural Zambia.

Speaking during the meeting REA Chief executive Officer Eng. Linus Chanda said he was excited to note the possibilities that the discussions would open-up. He noted that the private sector's role in rural electrification was crucial, and partnerships were key to the execution of REA's mandate of electrifying rural communities equitably

thereby providing sustainable socio-economic transformation in rural communities.

He further said the Authority was committed to forging strong partnerships that accelerate the journey towards universal electrification.

Engie Energy Access Country Director, Ms. Helen Zulu said Engie Energy Access was one of the leading providers of off-grid solar home systems in Zambia as was looking for opportunities of working with REA.

She noted that her institutions offered expandable solar solutions such as Solar Home Systems and Solar Mini Grids that included lighting, phone charging, TV, and radio, among other appliances financed through a Pay-as-you-Go Business Model.

# REA HOSTS WORKSHOP FOR CONTRACTORS

By Choolwe Kasamu



Contractors and Suppliers that attended the Training Workshop

Chief Executive Officer Eng. Linus Chanda has implored contractors executing projects on behalf of the Authority to adhere to the institution's aspiration of delivering projects on time with the right quality and price.

Speaking during a workshop hosted for contractors in Lusaka on February 13, 2024, Eng. Chanda said the Authority was keen to see contractors delivering quality projects.

"We want to see that those that have projects with us delivered on time, with the right quality, and within cost."

The workshop, which attracted 150 contractors, was aimed at training contractors and suppliers on how to submit responsive bids.

And Acting Procurement Manager Mulenga Lombachalo said encouraging responsive bids was important as it would result into competitiveness.

Mr. Lombachalo said competitiveness was important in procurement of goods services as it enhanced transparency and guaranteed best value for money.

# SOLAR FOR HEALTH PROJECT A GAME CHANGER IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN REMOTE AREAS

By Choolwe Kasamu



File picture of healthcare worker with Client at Chinyanta Rural Health Centre in Mwanabombwe District

**E**xpectant mothers at Kaundula Rural Health Centre in Luano District are happy with the installation of a 2kWp, 3kVA Power Solar System.

Speaking after giving birth to a bouncy baby girl under a well-lit room, Sitali Namangolwa said giving birth in a well-lit room gave her a sense of security for herself and a sense of safety for her child.

“I am excited with the development as delivering from a health facility feels safe for me and my child.” She said

And facility in-charge Simon Zulu said the supply of power to the health facility will encourage more expectant mothers to deliver from the health facility.

“Some mothers in the past preferred to deliver at home a practice that was marred with myths because the facility had no form of power to provide basic lighting.”

The facility benefited from the Solar for Health Project (SfH) under the Authority’s 2023 workplan.

Senior Engineer Projects - Off Grid Systems Odesi Muleya who visited Kaundula Rural Health Centre says the facility has benefited immensely as the project package has also included a water pumping solution.

“The System includes installation of a Water Pump, 5000-litre water tank, and water point. It also includes provision of lighting and sufficient energy for refrigeration.” Eng. Muleya said.

The Solar for Health Project is in line with the government’s aspirations of ensuring that all maternity annexes have reliable energy and water sources within the facility.

The provision of Solar Power Energy will ensure quality maternal and child health services in remote areas thereby helping to reduce maternal mortality and improve maternal and child health outcomes.

Due to reliable sources of energy, healthcare providers will be able to deliver timely and effective interventions to cases in the community. It also envisages that healthcare providers will have a better environment to manage complications and provide lifesaving treatments, leading to better health outcomes for mothers and newborns.

Under the SfH project, the Authority has completed the installation of 50 Solar Powered Systems under the 2023 work plan out of the 100 which are set to be completed in the second quarter of 2024. The 100 installations are being undertaken at the cost of K21 million.

# CELEBRATING JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE: REA MEDIA AWARDS

**“When the winner was announced, I was breathless for a second. I was proud of myself for being brave and doing a documentary so unusual”**

*By Ndekela Mazimba*



The overall winner for the REA Media Awards 2023, Lillian Chipeso.

**A**midst the glitz and glamor of the 2024 Media Awards Gala night, held with great pomp and grandeur, a collective applause and admiration resounded through the hall as the names of the winners were being announced. The Rural Electrification Media Awards are held annually to honour excellence in reporting, particularly on rural electrification matters.

The event, graced by esteemed guests and dignitaries including heads of institutions from public, private, and non- governmental institutions, was a testament to the symbolic relationship between the Authority and the media.

While all the stars shone brightly, one star shone the brightest! The overall winner was Lillian Chipeso who, at the time of submission of entries for the awards was working for YAR FM in Kitwe.

This was not the first time Lillian was entering for the REA Media Awards. She participated in the REA media awards in 2022 where she wrote a story about the Authority's work on the Copperbelt which did not make it to the nomination round.

“When the call for 2023 entries came, I was not so optimistic about it. I submitted my work on the day of deadline. I wrote a story to evaluate whether the country through REA will be able to achieve its target of 100 percent rural electrification by the year 2030. I wasn't sure about winning to be honest especially that the documentary seemed like an attack on the Authority and the work being done” she said.

Lillian found out about the nomination after being added to a WhatsApp group REA opened for nominees. She was happy that she had made it as a nominee but never in her wildest dreams did, she think she would make it to the top three or even the overall winner.

“The REA Media Awards are one of the most prestigious media awards in the country and most journalists are always submitting their entries, so to make it to that stage of the awards, was so unreal. The two colleagues I was nominated with in the same category, had won at the 2022 REA media awards. So, from that angle I was so sure I did not stand a chance. My documentary put the Authority on the spot. These reasons made me believe I couldn't win” an excited Lillian said.

Lillian had mixed feelings about attending the gala and asked Sera Tamina from Radio Icengelo to collect the award on her behalf. Sera insisted that she attends the ceremony, and the rest is history.

“When the winner was announced, I was breathless for a second. I was proud of myself for being brave and doing a documentary so unusual.”

Journalism to me is a platform for me to ensure that policy makers implement whatever they pronounce. As journalists we need to move away from “she said he said” kind of stories as they have diluted the very essence of journalism and that's something I thrive to uphold. The two REA awards were my second awards in the month of March. Two weeks prior, I won second prize for most consistent journalist to report on issues of standard specification under the Zambia Compulsory Standards Agency media awards.”

Winning the award for best overall winner is something I still pinch myself about even up to now, it will take longer to sink in because at that point, I was so sure I was done for the night and the award was going to Angel Kasabo who had won about four awards in one night.



The overall winner for the REA Media Awards 2023, Lillian Chipeso.



Best TV Documentary Winner -Derrick Chityamba

# REA AWARDS 23



Best Internet Based - Radio Winner I an Chomba



Best Community Radio Winner - Sara Tamina



Best Local Language Production Winner - Marry Namusokwe



# REA AWARDS 23



CEO' Award Winner - Karrus Hangandu



Best Video Documentary Winner - Joseph Phiri



Best Internet Based Print Winner -  
Angel Kasabo



Best Print Media Award Features  
Winner - Mutinta Mweemba



Best Print Media Award - News Winner - Violet Mengo



# THE VITAL ROLE OF CONTRACT MANAGEMENT FOR CONTRACTORS IN GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

**C**ontract management is a critical aspect of any business endeavour, but its importance is magnified when undertaking projects on behalf of government agencies like the Rural Electrification Authority (REA). For contractors engaging in projects with government entities, effective contract management is not just a matter of compliance; it's the linchpin of success. In this article, we explore the significance of contract management for contractors working with government agencies like REA and the key strategies for ensuring project success through meticulous contract oversight. Contract management encompasses the entire lifecycle of a contract, from negotiation and execution to performance monitoring and closeout. In the context of government projects, contract management involves ensuring that all parties adhere to the terms and conditions outlined in the contract, managing risks, optimizing performance, and ultimately delivering value to the government agency and ultimately taxpayers.

For contractors undertaking projects on behalf of government agencies like REA, effective contract management is paramount for several reasons:

**Compliance and Accountability:** Government contracts are often subject to stringent regulations and compliance requirements. Contractors must ensure full adherence to these regulations to avoid penalties, legal disputes, and reputational damage.

**Financial Management:** Proper contract management enables contractors to monitor project costs, budget allocations, and revenue streams accurately. By maintaining financial transparency and accountability, contractors can avoid cost overruns and optimize resource allocation.

**Performance Optimization:** Contract management facilitates the monitoring of project milestones, deliverables, and performance metrics. By closely tracking progress and identifying potential issues early on, contractors can take corrective actions to ensure project success and client satisfaction. **Risk Mitigation:** Government projects are inherently complex and can be fraught with risks, including legal, financial, operational, and reputational risks. Effective contract management involves identifying, assessing, and mitigating these risks to protect the interests of both the contractor and the government agency.

**Relationship Building:** Building and maintaining positive relationships with government agencies like REA is essential for securing future contracts and fostering long-term partnerships. Effective contract management demonstrates professionalism, reliability, and commitment to delivering high-quality outcomes.

Strategies for Effective Contract Management To excel in contract management for government projects, contractors should consider implementing the following strategies:

**Thorough Contract Review:** Conduct a comprehensive

review of the contract terms, conditions, and specifications to ensure a clear understanding of obligations, deliverables, and performance expectations. Often times contractors only review the contracts when there is conflict which generally makes it even more difficult to interpret and understand under the immense pressure at the time. Contracts should be reviewed at the bidding stage as they are embedded as part of the solicitation document.

**Establish Robust Processes:** Implement structured processes and systems for contract administration, including document management, communication protocols with the Procuring Entity, change management system, and dispute resolution procedures. Often times the basic processes to be adhered to would be prescribed in the tender documents as well.

**Monitor Performance Metrics:** Establish key performance indicators (KPIs), where particular milestones are not identified, and monitoring mechanisms to track project progress, identify variances, and measure performance against established benchmarks.

**Foster Communication and Collaboration:** Maintain open and transparent communication channels with the government agency and other project stakeholders. Regularly engage in meetings, status updates, and progress reports to ensure progress is aligned, this will help address any concerns promptly.

**Proactive Issue Resolution:** The larger part of Government Contracting is the risk that is transferred to the suppliers of various goods and services. Anticipate potential risks and proactively address them before they escalate. Develop contingency plans, escalate issues as necessary, and collaborate with the procuring entity to find mutually beneficial solutions.

In the realm of government projects, effective contract management is not just a bureaucratic necessity; it's a strategic imperative for contractors like those working with the REA. By diligently managing contracts throughout their lifecycle, contractors can ensure compliance, optimize performance, mitigate risks, and ultimately deliver value.

The importance of contract management cannot be overstated. It serves as the foundation for successful project execution, financial management, risk mitigation, and relationship building. By implementing robust contract management strategies, contractors can navigate the complexities of government projects with confidence and achieve their objectives efficiently and effectively.

In conclusion, contract management is not merely a procedural task; it's a cornerstone of success in government projects. Contractors who prioritize meticulous contract oversight stand to reap the rewards of enhanced compliance, performance, and stakeholder satisfaction, positioning themselves for continued success in the dynamic landscape of public procurement.



# ENHANCING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION THROUGH COLLABORATIVE RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

**T**he Authority faces various risks in its pursuit of delivering sustainable electrification solutions to Rural Zambia and attainment of its mission of electrifying rural communities in an equitable and sustainable manner for socioeconomic transformation.

To ensure attainment of our strategic objectives, the Authority recognises the importance of implementing collaborative risk management strategies in line with ISO 31000 principles. This article will delve into the significance of collaborative risk management strategies.

## The power of collaboration:

Collaboration emerges as the most powerful tool in ensuring the success of risk management strategies. Putting together resources, knowledge and expertise from stakeholders is essential to strengthening the risk culture.

The Board of Directors is the overall risk owner and assigns risk management responsibilities throughout the Authorities structure. The Board demonstrates leadership and commitment by allocating responsibilities to individuals who are fully accountable, appropriately skilled and have adequate resources to check controls, monitor risks and improve controls.

All members of staff should be fully aware of the risks, mitigation controls and tasks for which they are accountable, and that effective risk management is not an option but should be regarded as essential for the achievement of the Authority's objectives.

Collaborative efforts create a synergy that is more adept to identifying opportunities and mitigating risks.

## Risk Responsibility:

Risk is a shared responsibility among all stakeholders. This creates ownership that strengthens the Authority's risk culture. The Risk Unit works closely with Departments and Units that have specialists in various fields to ensure that risks and opportunities pertinent to their domain are identified and mitigated. Risk Owners are individuals with accountability, responsibility, and authority to manage particular areas of risk. The Authority assigns such responsibility to departmental and functional heads.

Risk Owners ensure that risk management is incorporated into performance evaluation for all members of staff.

This shared responsibility fosters a sense of accountability and responsibility that encourages effective implementation of mitigation strategies.

## Knowledge Sharing:

Collaboration in risk management enables the exchange of valuable insights and information. The Authority leverages on experiences and expertise that stakeholders may possess.

The Risk Unit undertakes departmental risk awareness meetings that enhance employees understanding of the risk management process, promotes enthusiasm and stimulates action in mitigating potential threats. The risk awareness meetings provide a platform to focus on departments risk management performance and exchange ideas about risk management strategies which enable us to stay proactive in implementing our Enterprise Risk Management framework. Furthermore, the Authority conducts an Annual Risk Conference that provides an additional platform for risk champions and risk owners from different departments to interact and provide various perspectives.

## Learning and Improvement:

The Authority has fostered a culture of learning and continuous improvement by sharing lessons learnt from past materialised risks or near misses and using this knowledge to encourage a proactive approach and enhance future risk management practices.

## Risk Culture:

The collaborative approach to risk management cultivates a strong risk culture. The Authority is striving to improve its risk culture by modelling good risk management behaviors and considering risk as part of existing practices and processes.

"Culture eats strategy for breakfast" –Peter Drucker.

The quote by Peter Drucker highlights the importance of culture in the successful implementation of strategies.





## REA AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNER



Community Project Committee members during a community sensitisation programme for Kamphambe grid development project in Katete district, Eastern province.

**T**he Rural Electrification Authority (REA) has announced its collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare. This partnership aims to bolster community engagement and empowerment within REA project areas, fostering sustainable development and effective stakeholder satisfaction.

Recognizing the significance of community involvement in electrification projects, the REA has formalized this collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry. This strategic alliance will leverage the Ministry's extensive presence and expertise across all districts of the country to enhance the capacity-building, mentorship, and monitoring processes of REA community committees. Through this initiative, both entities are committed to implementing comprehensive community sensitization and education programs, ensuring that stakeholders are well-informed and actively engaged throughout the project lifecycle. The collaboration also

emphasizes the importance of continuous monitoring and supervision to address any emerging challenges and ensure the successful implementation of electrification projects.

"We are excited to partner with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare to strengthen our stakeholder engagement efforts. This collaboration underscores our commitment to building vibrant and empowered communities that take ownership of electrification projects, leading to sustainable development and improved quality of life" said Eng. Linus Chanda Chief Executive Officer at REA.

Key components of the collaboration include tailored training and capacity-building programs, as well as ongoing supervision and support to community committees.

By empowering local stakeholders, the REA aims to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility, ultimately leading to increased participation and support for electrification initiatives.

"Our collaboration with the REA exemplifies our shared commitment to community development and social welfare," stated [Ministry Representative Name], [Title] at the Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare. "Together, we will work tirelessly to ensure that communities are not only connected to electricity but also equipped with the skills and resources to thrive."

By bridging information gaps, providing timely feedback, and resolving community issues, this partnership seeks to create resilient community committees capable of championing effective stakeholder management. Ultimately, the goal is to enhance stakeholder participation, promote economic activities, and foster energy efficiency practices in REA project areas.



# STRATEGIC PHILOSOPHY

## VISION STATEMENT

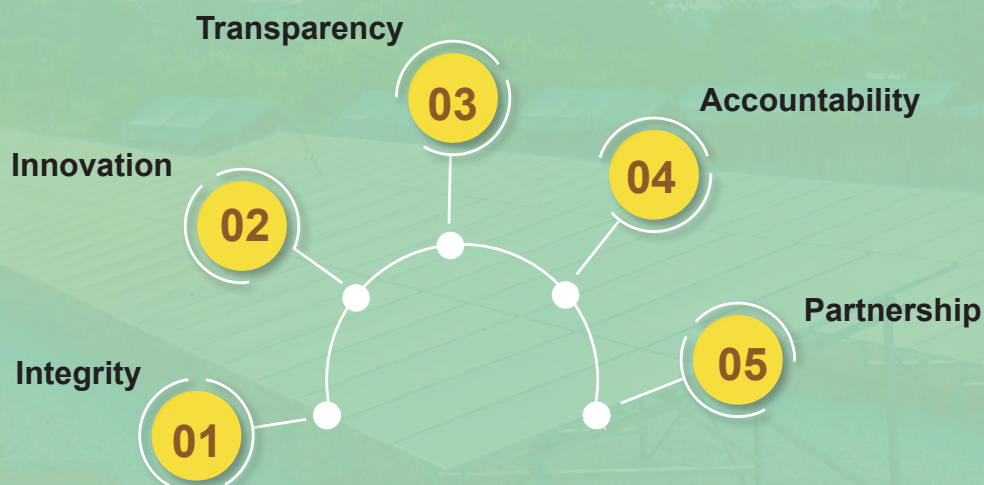
A beacon of excellence in providing access to electricity to all rural communities for improved livelihoods.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To electrify rural communities in an equitable and sustainable manner for social-economic transformation.

## CORE VALUES

The REA Board, Management and Staff commit themselves to the following values which govern behaviour in discharging the mandate:



REA has coined an acronym for the values as I<sup>2</sup> TAP.

## 2022 – 2026 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

### REA's strategic objectives are:

- Strategic Objective 1: Improve Rural Electrification;
- Strategic Objective 2: Improve Stakeholder Collaboration;
- Strategic Objective 3: Improve Financial Capacity and Management;
- Strategic Objective 4: Improve Operational Processes and Procedures;
- Strategic Objective 5: Improve Human Capacity; and
- Strategic Objective 6: Improve Administration and Logistical Capacity.



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