Monday, Lusaka (10<sup>th</sup> June, 2024)



## YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION MIKELA ZULU PROMOTES BIOGAS TO COMBAT LOAD-SHEDDING IN ZAMBIA

A Young Environmental Advocate, Lungile Mikela Zulu, has called on Zambians to adopt biogas as a renewable energy source to counteract the effects of load-shedding exacerbated by climate change.

Zulu, Founder of Farm Scouts in Chongwe, said she has personally witnessed the benefits of biogas after initiating a project to address the energy shortfall.

She shared her insights in Lusaka at a Children's Climate Summit, which also marked a centennial celebration of the legislature.

Zulu highlighted the severe challenges faced by Chongwe, mirroring struggles across the nation.

"Water scarcity has significantly impacted agriculture. In search of a solution, I established a domestic biogas plant. This system generates electricity from waste. Farms with ample livestock can utilize manure in the biogas digester, producing valuable fertilizer for crops and providing gas for cooking and electricity. This innovation is particularly timely, as load-shedding has made cooking a challenge for many," she explained.

She further noted that the current reliance on tree felling and hydroelectricity is environmentally detrimental.

Zulu advocates for the adoption of biogas in schools and homes as a straightforward solution to load-shedding woes.

Another Young Environmental Advocate, Justina Kasongo from Lusaka, voiced her distress over the negative impact of load-shedding on education.

Adding to the discourse, Care for Nature Executive Director Nsama Kearns, stressed the importance of children's voices in addressing critical issues like climate change.

And Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) Executive Director Maggie Mwape, pledged her organization's full support for the newly formed Zambia Children's Climate Council.

Issued By: CEJ Communications Unit

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