

Sunday, Luangwa (2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2025)



### **ZAMBIA PAYS TRIBUTE TO SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE SUPPORT**

The Zambian Government has paid tribute to the Scottish Government for their unwavering support and commitment to advancing climate justice through the Climate Just Communities (CJC) initiative.

Luangwa District Commissioner Luke Chikani said his District is in a climate-stressed environment that is receiving attention from various stakeholders working closely with the Zambian Government.

This came to light during the Local Climate Indaba held in Luangwa under the Climate Just Communities (CJC) Project funded by the Scottish Government.

The project coordinated by NIRAS Zambia is being implemented by the Council of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) in Luangwa District as one of the four districts where the project is being implemented and supported by the Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) on the advocacy stream.

The Senior Government Official highlighted the significant impact of the initiatives on building resilience and empowering vulnerable populations.

Mr Chikani urged participants to continue advocating for climate justice, leveraging their collective experiences and solutions to tackle climate challenges effectively.

He reaffirmed the Government's commitment to supporting such initiatives and emphasised the importance of collaboration between communities, governments, and other stakeholders.

Earlier, Council of Churches in Zambia (CCZ) General Secretary Bishop Emmanuel Chikoya emphasised that the Indaba was a call to action for creating a roadmap for enhancing climate resilience and environmental equity, focusing on local priorities and solutions.

Bishop Chikoya highlighted that communities should take ownership of their environment, as the answers to challenges lie within them.

He said increased awareness and action plans are expected to foster understanding among local communities, the government, NGOs, and other stakeholders, transforming challenges into opportunities.

The Bishop observed that Climate justice goes beyond adaptation by transforming systems that perpetuate inequality, ensuring every family, farmer, and fisher has the tools to thrive in a climate-impacted world.

And Centre for Environment Justice (CEJ) Executive Director Maggie Mwape emphasised the urgent need to address climate change, which is impacting the planet and affecting the most vulnerable among the population.

She highlighted the importance of recognising the principles of climate justice and called on the global community to provide adequate finance and technology transfer to support developing countries.

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