



Her Honour Inonge M. Wina, MP
VICE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2019 Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) Zambia!

A call for national participation and partnership message from Her Honour the Republican Vice President Office of the Vice President

I am pleased to have this opportunity to be associated to the 12th and 2019 Global Entrepreneurship Week, as Zambia joins the rest of world and the Global Entrepreneurship Network (www.gen.co) which is aimed at bringing all the national and global Entrepreneurship and Innovations Ecosystem stakeholders together from 18th to 24th November, 2019 in over 170 countries implementing over ten million activities which thousands of million people participating for a week.

This year the GEW events are guided by four main themes as follows;

a. EDUCATION#GEWeducation

GEW Education works to share resources, raise awareness and provide skills training to potential entrepreneurs around the world. This theme celebrates the tools and programs communities use to foster entrepreneurship.

b. ECOSYSTEMS#GEWecosystem

GEW Ecosystems aims to inspire communities to collaborate, and share their networks and markets to help their rising startups thrive. This theme celebrates the shared challenges and triumphs of entrepreneurship communities and hubs around the world.

c. INCLUSION#GEWinclusion

GEW Inclusion will highlight the work startup champions are doing around the world to minimize barriers and obstacles for entrepreneurs by maximizing inclusion. This theme celebrates diversity in all forms, including women and youth in entrepreneurship. Activities, workshops and speaker series held around the world will explore the obstacles entrepreneurs from underserved populations may face, and discovering solutions through access to success stories, training, capital and mentorship.

d. POLICY#GEWpolicy

GEW policy will highlight the work of governments and policymakers to help entrepreneurs everywhere start and scale.

The Global Entrepreneurship week activities and the themes are timely for Zambia, as this falls within the issues in our 7th National Development Plan , as part four under binding constraints affecting our national Economic transformation and national development , among other is the low and poor Entrepreneurship and Innovation culture at all levels. Also the culture of bad neighborliness which leads to lack of developing sustainable business partnerships is a deterrent to national economic transformation and National Development.

In this regard I see that this event shall address these challenges as follows; it will contribute to country –wide entrepreneurial acumen, innovation, with possibilities of each Province and District coming up with at least 20 and 2 new Business ventures based on their natural and cultural resources comparatives similar with the Japan’s One Village One Product Regional development model. But very important is the idea of exploring proactive ways of coming up disaster mitigation strategies as proposed country –wide implementation as follows;

- a) Establishment of Village, District , Chiefdom and Provincial crops and produce bulking and aggregation centers, including market linkage facilitation to national, regional, continental & global Markets
- b) Development and promotion of rain water harvesting technologies and strategies
- c) Development of Village, District, Chiefdom and Provincial afforestation activities of bamboos, indigenous trees, soft food and fruit trees, including the promotion of animal wastes biogas production for cooking, heating and lighting.

I am happy to see these events have also been integrated to explore the establishment of new strategies for own local development and business resources mobilization as well as enhanced multistakeholder partnerships, with a view to actualize implementation of the would be identified District and Provincial business ventures.

It is in this spirit that on behalf of Government, my office and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to first of all thank the GEN Global, the GEN & GEW Zambia Team for this ambitious economic growth changing initiative. I therefore would like to take this opportunity to call make a national call, invite and welcome all public and private sector

institutions, banks, financial institutions, Businesses, Cooperating partners and the UN system in Zambia to partner and support this initiative, with capacity to fast track the implementation of national economic growth and Economic diversification pillars.

Once again, I wish to welcome and invite the Entrepreneurship and Innovations stakeholders public and private sector, Cooperating partners, academia, Research & Development Institutions, lenders, banks, financial institutions, UN system in Zambia, startups, venture capitalists, incubators, accelerators and SMEs to be participants, visitors, sponsors and partners. I wish you success in your participation in the 2019 GEW and beyond. I also wish to ask you to join me in spreading the message on social media by tweeting or posting on facebook before and during **#ZMGEW2019**.

Republican Vice President

Inonge Mutukwa Wina, MP