



## 2025 NATIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



# Concept Note

**Venue:** Radisson Blu Mosi-Oa-Tunya Resort, Livingstone

**Dates:** 11th – 12th September 2025

**Summit Theme:**

*“Repositioning Zambia's Economy: Advancing Resilient  
Growth through SMEs, Innovative Financing,  
and Sustainable Debt Strategies”*

## 1. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Zambia stands at a crossroads in its economic development journey. After undertaking extensive fiscal reforms, debt restructuring, and macroeconomic stabilisation measures, including support under the IMF's Extended Credit Facility, the nation is now poised to pursue a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable growth path. Central to this ambition is the empowerment of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), which collectively contribute over 70% of national employment and approximately 30% to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These enterprises serve as the backbone of Zambia's economy and a key driver for job creation, innovation, and poverty reduction.

However, MSME development remains hindered by limited access to finance, weak market linkages, and inadequate policy coordination. At the same time, sustainable financing and long-term debt sustainability remain critical to safeguarding macroeconomic stability and ensuring equitable development outcomes. These priorities are even more pressing in light of global economic uncertainties and climate-related risks.

In this context, the Economics Association of Zambia (EAZ) will host the 2025 National Economic Summit and Annual General Meeting (AGM) under the theme:

***“Repositioning Zambia’s Economy: Driving Resilient Growth through SMEs, Sustainable Financing, and Debt Sustainability.”***

The Summit will bring together stakeholders from government, the private sector, academia, civil society, and international development partners to explore bold, practical solutions to unlock Zambia's economic potential. The event will serve as a platform to catalyse policy reforms, foster strategic partnerships, and champion innovative financing models that promote inclusive and sustainable economic transformation.

## 2. THEMATIC OBJECTIVES

The Summit will address the following key focus areas:

Outcome Area	Tangible Results
SME Development	Increased SME formalisation, financing access, and productivity
Investment Growth	Scaled-up sustainable and blended finance in key sectors
Debt Management	Stronger debt oversight and transparent fiscal frameworks
Employment & Innovation	Expanded youth entrepreneurship and job creation
Financial Sector Deepening	Improved inclusion and fintech integration
Regional Integration	Enhanced trade competitiveness under AfCFTA

a. SMEs as Engines of Resilient Growth: Promoting access to finance, markets, and technology for SMEs to expand employment and productivity.

b. Sustainable and Inclusive Financing Models: Leveraging blended finance, impact investing, and green bonds to fund priority sectors and public services.

c. Debt Sustainability and Fiscal Management: Enhancing debt transparency, efficiency in public spending, and long-term planning for economic stability.



- d. Financial Sector Innovation: Improving digital financial inclusion, fintech infrastructure, and regulatory frameworks to support underserved segments.
- e. Regional Trade and Value Chain Integration: Unlocking cross-border SME growth opportunities under AfCFTA and regional partnerships.

### 3. FORMAT OF THE SUMMIT

The summit will run in conjunction with the EAZ Annual General Meeting (AGM) and will feature an optional Golf Tournament on the sidelines to foster relaxed, high-value networking among business leaders, policymakers, and sponsors.

#### *The 2-day event will feature:*

- a. Official Opening Ceremony to be graced by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zambia (Guest of Honour)
- b. Keynote Addresses by leading economists, industry leaders, and international partners
- c. SME Growth & Innovation
- d. Debt Sustainability & Macroeconomic Policy
- e. Climate Financing & Green Investment
- f. Digital Economy & Financial Inclusion
- g. Regional Integration & Trade
- h. Breakaway Sessions for sector-specific deep dives
- i. EAZ Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- j. Networking Cocktail Reception & Cultural Showcase

### 4. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Summit aims to produce the following tangible results:

### 5. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The EAZ invites strategic partnerships, corporate entities, donor organisations, multilateral agencies, and financial institutions to sponsor the National Economic Summit and gain high-level visibility while contributing to Zambia's national development agenda. Sponsoring the event provides your institution with an opportunity to demonstrate leadership, align with national development goals, and benefit from high-profile visibility.

#### **Target Participants**

- a. Government Ministries and Regulators (Finance, Commerce, SMEs, Green Economy, etc.)

- b. Development Partners (World Bank, IMF, AfDB, EU, GIZ, UN agencies)
- c. Private Sector Leaders, chambers of commerce, industry associations
- d. Financial Institutions, fintechs, and investment firms
- e. Academia, economists, think tanks, and policy researchers
- f. Regional blocs (COMESA, SADC, AfCFTA)
- g. Youth and Women's Networks, cooperative societies
- h. Media and civil society organisations

***Sponsorship Benefits Include:***

- a. Strategic branding visibility across summit materials (banners, media, digital platforms, press releases)
- b. Speaking opportunities on high-level thematic panels
- c. Exhibition booths and demo spaces for product/service promotion
- d. Placement in summit programme and digital communications
- e. Access to decision-makers, policymakers, and key investors
- f. Sponsor giveaway pack inclusion (corporate materials or items)
- g. Recognition as a development partner committed to Zambia's transformation
- h. VIP access to the networking cocktail and roundtables

***Sponsorship tiers (Platinum, Gold, Silver) are available with customised benefits***

**8. PARTICIPATION & EXHIBITION FEES**

Category	Participation Fee (ZMW)	Accommodation Fee (ZMW)X2 Days	Total (ZMW)
EAZ Members	3,500	5,000 x 2	13,500
Non-Members	4,000	5,000 x 2	14,000
Students	1,000	N/A	1,000

***Please note:*** Accommodation is optional

***Payment Deadline:*** 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2025

***Participation Fee Includes:***

A high-value, curated participant gift pack that includes:

- Full summit materials (programme booklet, notebook, pen, etc.)

- Branded EAZ T-shirt and cap as part of the participant pack
- Certificate of participation
- Networking cocktail (Day 2 evening)
- Access to all summit sessions, panels, and exhibitions
- Daily buffet lunch, tea/coffee breaks, and refreshments

Exhibitor Category	Fee (ZMW)
Large Corporates	25,000
SMEs	15,000

***Exhibition Package Includes:***

- One branded exhibition booth (table, chairs, banner space)
- Summit visibility in programme and event signage
- Full participation and meals for one company representative
- Distribution of marketing materials in delegate packs
- T-shirt, cap, and branded delegate bag
- Option to include branded items in the summit giveaway pack

Economics Association of Zambia (EAZ)

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***“Join us in Livingstone as we drive Zambia’s next phase of economic transformation built on resilience, innovation, and inclusive growth.”***

