



“UNZA, Lubambe Partnership Mutually Beneficial” – UNZA Deputy Vice Chancellor

10th March, 2022



University of Zambia Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tamala Tonga Kambikambi, has described the partnership between Lubambe Copper Mine Limited and the University of Zambia (UNZA) as a shared benefit, with potential for replication elsewhere.

Speaking during a visit to the Mine on 4th March, 2022, to check on the progress of the various trainings at the Mine Site, Dr. Kambikambi said the partnership with Lubambe has made the University receptive to different ways of doing things due to the fact that Lubambe is one of the most automated, highly mechanised and technologically advanced mining Companies in Zambia.

Dr. Kambikambi said that because the learners already have the experience, it is easy for the lecturers to learn from them and adopt some of the things and incorporate them into their syllabus.

She added that times have changed and the University always looks for ways to create programmes that would work for various industries as they produce quality human resource for the country, without compromising on quality.

She further said that the University is currently working on a policy to Recognise Prior Learning (RPL). Recognition of Prior Learning helps individuals acquire a formal qualification that matches their knowledge and skills, and thereby contribute to improving their employability, mobility, lifelong learning, social inclusion and self-esteem.

Lubambe Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Tim Duffy, thanked the University for having such flexibility to train Lubambe employees, stating that the partnership between the two institutions is unique as employees are able to fit in work and family life, while advancing their education. He said this model of imparting knowledge into the employees is a good one.

Mr. Duffy expressed optimism that the results of this partnership will be great as both employees and the Company will derive benefit.

Lubambe Copper Mine Limited and the University of Zambia entered into a partnership two years ago to upskill Lubambe staff and expand their capabilities. Fifty Scholarships have been granted to employees since 2020. The training includes online learning and residential sessions on site. The courses that have been and are being undertaken include: Certificate in Mining, Metallurgy, Survey and Geology, as well as a Diploma in Mining and Metallurgical Engineering. The first group of students will graduate in April 2022.

The training of employees is focused on improving current employees' skill sets, so that they can advance in their jobs and find different roles and opportunities within the Company and beyond. Currently, 14 employees are studying for a Diploma Programme in Mining and Metallurgy, while 10 are studying for a Certificate in Mining and Metallurgy. 11 employees are also studying for a Certificate in Survey and Geology.

The partnership between Lubambe and the University of Zambia has contributed to the certification of employees to professional bodies such as the Engineering Institute of Zambia (EIZ) and others.