PRS 365
Data . Insights . Action

NEWSLETTER

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The PRS 365 Newsletter | **Issue No. 4**

News

"Beyond the Spill" Panel Discussion

PRS hosted an Expert Panel Discussion on the 19th of June, 2025, titled *"Beyond the Spill: Unpacking the Kafue River Disaster"*, bringing together leading experts to examine the environmental, legal, health, and food safety implications of the recent heavy metal spill in Zambia's Kafue River. The discussion underscored the urgent need for enhanced environmental monitoring, public health integration, and legal enforcement.

Key Takeaways:

- Metals like lead, cadmium, and arsenic persist in the environment, accumulating in soil, water, and plant life — with long-term consequences for ecosystems and public health.
- Zambia's health system is *not adequately prepared to detect or respond* to chemical-related emergencies like heavy metal poisoning.
- The approx. ZMW 32,000 offered to each *'affected farmer'* is grossly insufficient, given the long-term soil and water contamination from heavy metals.

For more insights from our panel discussion, watch video highlight: **Watch Video**

Project Highlights

Boosting ESG Capacity Through Impact Capital Africa (ICA)

At the **ICA Zambia 2025 Conference**, **PRS** delivered a hands-on Bootcamp on ESG, showing how impact measurement can drive both internal efficiency and societal value.

PRS Takes the Lead on ESG Innovation: What does ESG Measurement Mean for Small Businesses?

In partnership with **Wiggle Ventures**, and with support from **ABSA Bank Zambia**, we co-facilitated an ESG workshop tailored for SMEs. The session demystified ESG compliance and introduced participants to **PRS**'s action-oriented ESG Impact Measurement framework.

Catch Up Evaluation

Following successful completion of the baseline evaluation in 2023 and the midline evaluation in 2024, **PRS** and **Genesis Analytics** conducted the final evaluation of the **UNICEF Catch-Up Programme** where **Ministry of Education** is targeting primary school learners to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes.

PRS on the International Stage

We presented at the **International Symposium on Global Justice and Africa's G20 Priorities** in Cape Town. Our session, *"The Kafue River Disaster: Why an Environmental Impact Fund Matters"*, underscored the urgent need for institutionalized environmental financing mechanisms in Africa.

PRS Innovations:

PRS 365 **"Coach to Win"** Programme

A program that provides coaching in professional and soft-skills to soon-to-be graduating students through seminars and matches students with internships through our thought leaders networks.

Ready to transform your approach?

We invite forward-thinking organizations to explore PRS' programmes and innovations with us. Whether you're looking to strengthen customer value or elevate your sustainability reporting, let's collaborate to turn insights into action.

Contact Us **prsadmin@prs.org.zm**

Ongoing Programmes

- **PRS Elevate Impact Webinar Series**

  Introducing the PRS Elevate Impact thought leadership programme Webinar Series — a platform for leadership, ethics, and governance discussions with regional experts.

  Building on the momentum, PRS will host a second webinar this July, to explore local accountability mechanisms and citizen engagement on environmental risks.

- **PRS 365 Insights & Partner Spotlights**

  We'll be launching new content formats highlighting our project learnings and celebrating our partners through stories, interviews, and visual data cards.

Catch up on all the insightful and thought-provoking shows aired on the **PRS Elevate Impact** program.

Program recordings are available on the PRS 365 Podcast centres:

Watch here **Listen here**

Sign up for PRS Elevate Impact: **CLICK TO SIGN UP**

Insights

Beyond the Spill: Zambia's Kafue River Disaster and Its Aftermath

In February 2025, a tailings dam failure at Sino Metals in Chambishi unleashed about 50 million liters of toxic waste into the Kafue River, devastating aquatic life, crippling agriculture, and cutting off water supply for nearly 700,000 Zambians.

Delve into our analysis of the far-reaching impacts of the contamination, lessons learnt from global case studies, and the urgent need for stronger environmental safeguards and independent monitoring.

Read more

Financial Inclusion as a Driver of Economic Development in Zambia

From mobile money innovations to policy strategies under NFIS II, discover why inclusive finance is key to unlocking Zambia's full economic potential.

Explore our analysis on how access to financial services—especially for SMEs, rural communities, and women—can boost investment, resilience, and national growth.

Read more

PRS Elevate Impact Link **PRS Connect Link**