

# Madereva malori ya mchanga waandamana kisa tozo

Na Grace Mwakalinga,  
MBEYA

**M**ADEREVA wa malori ya mchanga jijini Mbeya, wameandamana hadi Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya ya Mbeya, Beno Malisa, kuiomba serikali iingilie kati mgogoro uliopo baina yao na viongozi wa umoja wao wakiwatuhumu viongozi wao kutumia vibaya fedha za tozo walizojiwekea.

Madereva hao waliandamana jana kutoka eneo la Ilomba zilipo ofisi zao hadi Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya ya Mbeya kumuomba aingilie kati suala lao

kuhusu matumizi mabaya ya fedha kwa viongozi wao.

Miongoni mwa madereva hao, Innocent Mlaye alisema kuwa wamechoshwa na mrundikano tozo za ushuru ikiwamo madini na ya umoja wa madereva ambayo alidai wameelekezwa kutoa zote katika risiti moja.

Hata hivyo alitilia shaka kwamba risiti ya ushuru huo hauna maelekezo ya kiasi gani kinachokatwa kwenda kodi ya Ongezeko la Thamani VAT na Mamlaka ya Udhhibiti wa Huduma za Nishati na Maji EWURA.

Iman Mwampondele alisema wanashangazwa na ongezeko

la ushuru wa madini kutoka Sh.3,000 hadi Sh.6,000 na kwamba imepanda bila ya wao madereva kushirikishwa kuhusu ongezeko hilo.

"Tunaiomba serikali iturudishie tozo ya Sh. 3,000 ya awali badala ya Sh. 6,000 ambayo imewekwa na viongozi wao bila ya sisi kushirikishwa, tumeamua kumwendea Mkuu wa Wilaya ili kuingilia kati suala hili yawezekana ni njama za viongozi wetu kujipatia kipato kipitia ushuru huu ambao hawatoi ufafanuzi kwa ongezeko," alisema Mwampondele.

Baada ya kusikiliza kero za madereva hao, Mkuu wa Wilaya

ya Mbeya, Beno Malisa aliagiza umoja huo wa madereva kuanadaa mkutano mkuu ndani ya siku tatu ambao utamfanya achukue uamuzi wa kufuta umoja huo au kuaacha uendele. Alisema kama tozo hiyo hai na msaada kwa wanachama ni vyema ikaondolewa na kwamba mkutano mkuu wa dharura utaamua nini cha kufanya.

Alisema: "Kitu ambao hakina faida ni ngumu kuwaambia watu waendele kukitoa, sasa ili kufikia muafaka nimekaa na viongozi wenu kumaliza suala hilo ndani ya siku tatu kabla ya kuuvunja umoja huo ambao hauwanufaishi wananchi".



# Utatuzi changamoto wachimbaji wadogo kubeba vizazi Tanzania

Na Aveline Kitomary

**U**CHIMBAJI wa madini ni sobemu muhimu katika kutumia rasilimali za taifa na pia kukua uchini wa nchi kwa kuongeza mapato.

Madini hutumika kutengeneza vito vya thamani bidhaa za ujenzi na urembo.

Katika kipindi cha utawala wa Rais Dk Samia Suluhu Hassan, poto la madini ya viwandani limeongezeka kutoka Sh milioni 451.6 hadi Sh trilioni 1.19 kufikia Februari, 2023.

Ongereko hilo kubwa humanisha kwamba kiwango cha uwekezaji wa viwanda na wachimbaji kimeongezeka kuliko awali.

Hii imechangiwa na uhusiano wa kimataifa ambao Rais Samia amekurwa akidumisha kwa nchi mbalimbali duniani hivyo kutoa shauku kwa wawekezaji kuya nchini.

Hali hii inachochea pia ongezeko wachimbaji wa madini ya viwandani hivyo kuongeza ajira.

Hata hivyo, licha ya mema hayo bado kuna changamoto zinazowakumba wachimbaji wa madini ya viwandani.

## CHANGAMOTO

Miongoni mwa changamoto zilizoainishwa na Rais wa Shirikisho la Wachimbaji Wadogo wa Madini, John Bina, kubwa ni kodi ya Ongereko la Thamani (VAT) na ukosefu wa mitaji na ambayo itawawezesha kufanya uchimbaji.

"Tuna changamoto ambazo tunazo kama mikopo ili tunawashukuru CRDB kwa kujitua lakini wakati madini yanauzwa ndani ya nchi tuna kodi ya ongereko la thamani ndani ukimuuzia mteja wa karibu viwanda vyetu haviwezi kushindana, tunacomba VAT iingaliwe upya," anasisitiza Bina.

Anasema makaa ya mawe yamepanda bei wao wanaona ni madini ambayo baada ya muda mfupi yatatoka sokoni hivyo wanaomba yachimbwe sasa na si baadaye ili kukua uchini.

"Suala la mama kufungua nchi tutafiri kwa maendeleo tunashindwa nini kuwa soko kuu kwani sisi ni kisiwa cha amani, tunataka iwe amani ya watu kufurahi mfano madini ya granite Wachina hapa wanatuuzia bei ya juu, tuwe na mpango wa kutengeneza ziara ya kufungua uchini twende na waduu wa madini," anasisitiza Bina.

## WADAU WA MADINI KUTEMBELEWA

Mkurugenzi wa Shirika la Madini la Taifa (STAMICO) Dk Venance Mwase anasema wataenda kwa wadau wengi wa madini yakiwemo ya chumvi na baadaye ya vito na wengine.

"Tunataka kupata changamoto za kuleta suluhu ili tuweze kufanikiwa na hapa kuna wadau wakubwa watafu tukiingoa tunawesha kupata suluhu, tunataka kujua kwanini viwanda vinatumia malighafi kutoka nje wakati hapa kuna malighafi? Kama wanasema malighafi zetu hazifiki ubora unaoitakiwa hapa kuna wataalamu wa maabara, Tume ya Madini watuambie tufanye nini," anasema Mwase.

Anasema pia watasaini makubaliano kuhua vikwazo vya kumkopesha mchimbaji mdogo lengo likiwa ni kuhakikisha hakuna kikwazo kati ya taasisi za fedha na wachimbaji wadogo na kampuni ziweze kukodisha viifaa kwa wachimbaji wadogo kwa kiwango kinachokubalika wapate faida.

"Tutaendelea kwa kufuata aina ya madini ili kumfikia kila mchimbaji kwa umuhimu ukele kuliko kufanya mkutano kwa wadau wote wanaochimba madini, tunataka changamoto mahususi zinazowakumba kwa hiyo tunaanza hapa madini ya viwandani na baadaye tutaenda madini ya chumvi na mkaa.

"Tunataka rasilimali zetu kuvunwa vizuri, tumewaita wadau wengine kama wanajihusisha na maabara kama viwanda vina changamoto za ubora basi tujue na maabara wote suluhu hapa," anasema Mwase.

Anatoa rai kwa wachimbaji kwenda na wakati na kufanya kazi kitaalamu ili kupata ubora.

## WACHIMBAJI KULINDWA

Akizungumza wakati walipofungua Mkutano wa Wachimbaji Wadogo wa Madini na Wadau wa Viwanda vinyavyotumia madini Dar es Salaam, Waziri wa

Madini, Doto Biteko anawataka wote viwanda wawunue madini kwa bei elekesi kupuka kuwakandamiza wachimbaji wadogo.

"Nakumbuka wakati fulani nilikwenda kwenye kiwanda waliniambia wanafuraha uwekezaji kwa sababu upatikaji malighafi ni mkubwa, lakini wale wachimbaji wakaniambia kuna changamoto kubwa, moja minaweka bei elekesi lakini wenyewe viwanda hawataki kumunua kwa bei elekesi.

Anaongeza: "Mwingine akaniambia ukileta gari ya tani 30 wao wanakata kwana tani tatu wanasema ni uchafu wanaanza kuhesabu kuanzia tani 27 wanampunja kuanzia kwenye uzito na kwenye bei."

Biteko anawataka wote viwanda kuwasikiliza wadau wao muhimu na wafahamu bila wao viwanda vyao haviwezi kupata malighafi wakifanikiwa wao na wachimbaji wamefanikiwa.

Pamoja na hayo, Biteko anawataka wachimbaji wapeleke madini yenye ubora kwani wapo wengine wanachanganya na vitu vingine kuongeza uzito hali inayowatia hasara wenyewe viwanda mwisho watafilisika na watakosha pakuzia madini yao.

Anasema mkutano huo utoaleta mapinduzi makubwa ambayo lengo kuu la serikali ni kufungamamisha sekta ya madini na sekta nyingine za kiuchumi kama viwanda na biashara na zingine nyingi.

"Malengo mengine ni kuongeza ushiriki wa Watanzania katika uchini wa madini kupitia uwekezaji katika shughuli za biashara zinazotokana na madini, sera ya madini inaelekeza madini yote yanayochimbwa nchini yaoongewe thamani ndani ya nchi kwa kuwa asilimia kubwa hutumika katika viwanda na ujenzi," anasema Biteko.

Anasema wizara inatambua changamoto kama ukosefu wa mitaji, ukosefu wa taarifa za jikojia na ubora wa madini, uwezo wa wasambazaji wasikuwa na leseni na kutokununuliwa madini hayo kwa bei elekesi.

## KUWASAIDIA WANAWAKE

Mwenyekiti wa Chama cha Wanawake Wachimbaji Madini Tanzania (TAWOMA), Semeri Malela anawasili taasisi za kifedha kuwapa kipaumbele wanawake ambao ni wachimbaji wa madini kwani wanaweza kufanya kazi nzuri kama ilivyo kwa wanaume.

"Msichoke kuwasaidia kinamama wachimbaji wadogo na niwasili akinamama msikate tamaa na niwasili taasisi za fedha kuwapa kipaumbele wanawake wachimbaji kwani mitaji ni changamoto," anasema Malela.

Naye Katibu wa Tawoma, Salma Ernest anashukuru serikali kwa kuhakikisha wanawaunganisha na kusikiliza changamoto zao na kuzitafutia ufumbuzi.

Waziri wa Madini, Dk Doto Biteko akizungumza wakati wa mkutano wa wachimbaji wadogo wa madini ya viwandani jijini Dar es Salaam.



Wadau wakiwa katika mkutano wa wachimbaji wadogo wa madini ya viwandani, taasisi za kifedha na wamiliki wa viwanda.



# LIFEZONE METALS IN TALKS ON NICKEL OFFTAKE CONTRACTS

NAIROBI

**B**HP Group-backed Lifezone Metals, which is developing a nickel mine in Tanzania, is negotiating supply deals with several electric vehicle manufacturers and battery makers as the race for energy transition metals intensifies, its CEO said.

The process run by RBC Capital Markets to sell yet-to-be-produced metal from Lifezone's Kabanga Nickel project has attracted strong interest from EV and battery companies, some of which have been to the mine site, CEO Chris Showalter said.

He declined to provide names, and said no agreements had yet been reached.

Lifezone Metals, which plans to list in New York this year via a blank-check acquisition deal that values the firm at around \$1 billion, owns the Kabanga nickel and cobalt mine and refinery in north-west Tanzania.

BHP currently holds a minority stake in Kabanga and has an option to raise its interest in the mine to 51 percent and subsequently become its operator, Showalter said.

The global miner is pivoting back to Africa after exiting the continent in 2015 when it spun off South32. The Tanzanian government also holds a minority stake in Kabanga.

Via the deals currently under discussion, Lifezone could sell its share of output, equivalent to 40 percent of the metal produced at



the facility, to help raise the capital it requires for the mine's development, Showalter said.

"Primarily what we are looking for is a prepayment structure," Showalter told Reuters. "In our view this would

replace the more traditional project finance portion of the project funding."

EVs and battery manufacturers wanting to secure supplies from the mine could have to compete for offtake rights, Showalter, a former investment banker, said.

Nickel, key to growth in electric vehicles, is used in lithium-ion batteries, and helps vehicle manufacturers to use less cobalt.

Indonesia currently accounts for around 40 percent of the world's nickel supply, with much of it controlled by Chinese companies.

With BHP's backing, there is potential to expand on plans to produce about 60,000 tons of refined nickel from initial expectations of about 40,000 tons, Showalter said.

Mining is expected to start toward end of 2026.

Located in far north-western Tanzania, approximately 120 km south-west of Lake Victoria and within a few kilometers of the Burundi border, the Kabanga deposit is acknowledged to be one of the largest and richest undeveloped

nickel sulfide deposits known at present, of unmatched scale and grade.

The world's nickel resources are currently estimated at almost 350 million tons.

Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, Russia and Canada account for more than 50 percent of the global nickel resources. Economic concentrations of nickel occur in sulphide and in laterite-type ore deposits.

The five largest nickel mines in Africa are Mogalakwena Mine, Nkomati Mine, Union Mine, Impala Mine, and Thembelani Mine, cumulatively produced approximately 35,868 tonnes of nickel, 28.68 mmtpa of ROM in 2021.

Nickel steel is used for armour plating. Other alloys of nickel are used in boat propeller shafts and turbine blades.

Nickel is used in batteries, including rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries and nickel-metal hydride batteries used in hybrid vehicles. Nickel has a long history of being used in coins.

# Tembo Nickel young talents raring to go

By DAILY NEWS  
Reporter in Ngara

TO continue nurturing young talents in the country, Tembo Nickel has started implementing the Young Talent Graduate Programme for various fields of higher education. In the first phase, 10 grad-

uates have started one year internships, being among more than 7000 graduates who applied to join the program.

Tembo Nickel General Manager for Human Resources, Saimon Sanga speaking shortly after receiving the graduates at Kabanga Nickel Project in Ngara District,

Kagera Region, said that the one-year internship is a sustainable programme which aims at providing opportunities and pairing qualified Tanzanian youth with Tanzanian and foreign specialists working at the nickel project.

"Tembo Nickel is a relatively new company which

aims to start nickel production after finishing construction of the mine, so we need to prepare for the correct skills that will be needed. It is prudent for the company to train graduates who have the potential to become its future employees. These graduates are being groomed for the mining indus-

try, this is at the core of this programme"

"We have started with ten young graduates from different disciplines. Since this programme is going to be an annual affair, we will have new young graduates for the year 2024/25 and the number will continue to increase in

**Another fundamental observation is that if you tell people there were over 7,000 people who applied, they become fearful. They must not consider this as a challenge, but rather an opportunity. These 7000 applicants all have degrees and are valuable to the nation, if other companies bring them on board and train them, in the next few years, we will not need to look far for skills, we will have a lot of skilled people in our country."** stressed Sanga

Another fundamental observation is that if you tell people there were over 7,000 people who applied, they become fearful. They must not consider this as a challenge, but rather an opportunity. These 7000 applicants all have degrees and are valuable to the nation, if other companies bring them on board and train them, in the next few years, we will not need to look far for skills, we will have a lot of skilled people in our country," stressed Sanga

With regard to gender balance considerations, Sanga said among those who were selected, 50 per cent were men and 50 per cent were women.

"The issue of gender balance is something we take very seriously at Tembo Nickel. At our head office in Dar es Salaam, women are the majority, at 67 per cent and men are 33 per cent. We would love to see that happening even at the mine site in Ngara," added Sanga

With regard to where the graduates geographically come from, Sanga said it is Tembo Nickel's policy to give preference to those from Ngara and Kagera, 50 per cent of the graduates who joined the programme are from Ngara with the remainder from other districts and regions.

"We analyzed the information of all those who applied, and sieved those who simply applied but did not have the skills, and we were able to separate those with potential and the desired qualifications. In one group we placed those from Ngara to ensure we balanced our selection accordingly.

"Psychometric tests were conducted on the candidates, which measures a person's ability to comprehend concepts and to learn, we were able to find the top 20 through this method. These gradu-

ates then did face to face interviews. The interviews revealed their goals, their aspirations and why they were interested in Tembo Nickel. From the top 20 we were able to select the best 10 candidates to start with," said Sanga

Noela Msimangilo, a Human Resources graduate says she received information about the Tembo Nickel programme through a WhatsApp group set up by students who had graduated together.

"I saw the information and decided to go for it since I was not employed yet, the process was very transparent, I had three interviews before final selection.

"I believe here I will get good training, we have been well received and we are taught very well, I am expecting to really improve my skills and to get a lot of experience here and ultimately become great HR personnel. I am definitely in the right place. I am advising my fellow youth to apply and take a chance when they see opportunities like this, they must not hesitate," she said.

"When I saw the advert, I decided to apply, the process was transparent and I believe that this one year programme will benefit us greatly because we are being mentored by very skilled people who are committed to our development.

"The process is transparent and we went through various stages after which I received a phone call and was told to prepare myself to come to the Kabanga project site.

"This is a big project and for me, it is a place to gain more knowledge, here I meet people with a lot of skills and experience in different sectors. I believe I will gain greatly from this programme. For young graduates this is a perfect opportunity to grow," he emphasised.



TEMBO Nickel General Manager, Human Resources Saimon Sanga, shows nickel core sample to candidates selected for the Tembo Nickel Young Graduates Programme this year. (Photo by a correspondent)

line with the expansion of the nickel project.

"We received 7,143 applications for the first phase and they went through various processes, whereby we were able to pick the top 10. This means that out of 7,143 applicants, an average of one person in every 700 applicants was successful.