

LIFESONG ZAMBIA BUSINESS UPDATE FOR MAY 2026

Steady progress continues across all sustainable businesses, with a strong focus on improvement and readiness for the months ahead.

LIFESONG NURSERY UPDATE

1. Product Development

During the month of May, products such as broccoli were not sold in bulk form. Instead, the products were repacked into 250g packages, which encouraged more customers to buy and enabled us to sell at better prices.

2. Lettuce Production

The demand for lettuce was higher this month compared to previous months. We also introduced dual lettuce, which is a mixture of red lettuce and frilly lettuce, to meet customer preferences and diversify our product range.

3. Herbs Production

Herbs production continues to be one of our main business activities as demand keeps increasing. However, during this month, we managed to supply only 60% of the orders received due to high demand.

Challenges

1. Banana Ripening

Banana ripening remains one of the major challenges we are facing. This is mainly due to difficulties in regulating temperature in the storage facility, which is currently non-functional.

2. Broccoli Wastage

Approximately 90% of our broccoli production is sold in the DRC market. During this month, timely delivery of the product became a major challenge, as traffic congestion on the DRC side resulted in about 30% of the produce going bad before reaching the market.



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COFFEE FARM UPDATE

1. Harvest has continued to increase throughout the month, with approximately 23,000 kg of cherry harvested and 3,800 kg of parchment coffee dried, bagged, and stored to date.
2. Additional seasonal workers have been brought in to support harvesting and processing activities as volumes continue to increase.
3. Plant health remains very good following the fertilizer and fungicide programs implemented earlier in the season, with minimal disease pressure observed during harvest.
4. Firebreaks have been completed around the farm perimeter in preparation for the dry season.
5. Early harvest results are encouraging, with good cherry quality and strong yields observed across the farm.

Challenges

1. Dry season fire risk remains a concern as surrounding vegetation dries out. Firebreaks have been completed to help protect the coffee fields.



COFFEE PARCHMENT DRYING ON SHADED RAISED TABLES AND SUN-DRYING ON TARPAULINS

BERRY FARM UPDATE

Farm operations during the month of May focused on field preparation, planting activities, crop maintenance, and general field management. Overall production across all sections was below the projected targets due to seasonal transition effects, reduced plant populations in some sections, and disease-related challenges.

Operational Activities

1. Strawberry Field Preparation

- Removal of old substrate bags from the tunnels was successfully carried out.
- Disinfection of substrate bags and tunnel structures is ongoing, alongside the placement of new and reusable disinfected substrate bags in preparation for the next planting cycle.
- Diseased and unproductive strawberry plants were uprooted and removed from the tunnels to improve future crop health and productivity.

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Strawberry Production Performance

- Strawberry yields remained below the expected target mainly due to the reduced number of productive plants following the removal of diseased and unproductive plants from the tunnels.

2. Blueberry Field

- Planting of new blueberry plants was successfully completed, and harvesting activities have commenced.
- A temporary reduction in blueberry yield was observed as the plants are currently undergoing regeneration following post-harvest pruning, which is still in progress.

3. Raspberry Field

- Selected raspberry plants, particularly less productive plants, were transferred to the chiller to induce root dormancy aimed at improving establishment and enhancing future productivity.
- Planting of new raspberry plants was completed successfully. The plants have been maintained in the nursery to allow for strong root development before transplanting into the main production fields.

4. Gooseberry Planting

- Well-established gooseberry plants from the nursery were transplanted into the new gooseberry field. Field preparation and planting activities are still ongoing.
- Gooseberry production remained low during the month due to the replanting activities conducted last month, resulting in a limited number of plants currently producing harvestable fruits.

Challenges

1. Nematode infestation was observed in older gooseberry plants. A drenching program has been implemented to manage and eradicate the infestation.
2. Harvest volumes for the coming months are expected to remain lower than projected due to the ongoing regeneration processes, recent replanting activities, reduced plant populations, and disease management interventions currently being undertaken.



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OTHER PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT

The Other Products Department maintained stable operational performance in May. We loaded at least 25 tonnes across key product lines, worked with 8 suppliers, and sustained consistent order flow. Product quality and handling improved, keeping wastage minimal. Rising procurement and transport costs remained the main operational pressure.

Key Achievements

- 1. Sales & Demand:** Consistent order flow maintained across peppers, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, eggplants, green beans, okra, and imported carrots. No sales report yet, but demand stayed stable through the month.
- 2. Supply Stability:** Supply of KPI products remained relatively stable with fewer shortages versus April. 8 suppliers engaged helped reduce risk.
- 3. Product Quality & Efficiency:** Improved handling and quality checks kept wastage levels minimal. Tonnage loaded: 25 tonnes.
- 4. Customer Service & Deliveries:** Deliveries were largely successful with positive customer feedback. Minor discrepancies at receiving due to natural weight loss on select items.

Operational Performance

- Tonnage loaded: - roughly 25 tonnes
- Suppliers engaged: 8
- Wastage: Minimal, reduced vs April due to tighter quality control
- Order flow: Consistent week-on-week

Challenges

- 1. Product prices:** General price increase across most lines impacted procurement costs and pricing stability.
- 2. Transport:** Local supplier collections faced delays in some instances, affecting efficiency.
- 3. Fuel costs:** Fuel price hikes sustained pressure on transport and operational costs.
- 4. DRC logistics:** Traffic congestion in the DRC affected delivery timelines for potential customers there. Challenge remains largely outside our control, but coordination with the DRC logistics team is ongoing.

Products Handled

- Colored peppers: red, yellow, green, Palermo
- Cherry tomatoes
- Cucumbers
- Eggplants
- Green beans

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- Okra
- Imported carrots
- Sweetcorn
- Butternut

Opportunities

- Expand the local supplier network to improve cost stability
- Grow demand for prepacked products
- Increase customer interest in specialty vegetables

Plans for June

- Improve forecasting to strengthen planning and product availability
- Identify and engage more local suppliers for targeted crops
- Increase stock levels for high-demand products
- Further improve packaging and roll out new prepacked lines for wider range and better presentation



TWALIMA FARM UPDATE

1. Onion Production

We commenced the planting of onions in the month of May. During the same month, we planted 3 hectares of onions. All the onions are growing well due to improved management and better agronomic practices.

2. Sweetcorn and Baby Corn Production

Sweetcorn and baby corn were also planted in the month of May, and the crops are growing very well.

Achievements

Reduction in Labour Costs

We managed to reduce labour costs in our production by 60% through the implementation of machinery use and improved agronomic practices.

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ROAST CAFE & LODGE UPDATE

Business Performance

The month of May 2026 recorded good overall business performance for both Roast Café and Lifesong Lodge. Operations remained stable throughout the month, with both departments meeting operational expectations and maintaining a high standard of customer service.

Roast Café

Roast Café experienced good business during the month, with steady customer traffic and satisfactory sales performance. The team maintained quality food preparation, prompt service, and a clean environment, contributing to a positive customer experience.

Lifesong Lodge

Lifesong Lodge also performed well, recording good occupancy levels and smooth daily operations. Guests were served efficiently, and the housekeeping and front office teams ensured rooms were prepared on time while maintaining excellent hospitality standards.

Key Highlights

- Good business performance recorded in both the café and lodge.
- High levels of customer service and guest satisfaction maintained.
- Daily operations were well coordinated with minimal challenges.
- Staff demonstrated teamwork, professionalism, and commitment to service excellence.

Conclusion

Overall, May was a successful month for both Roast Café and Lifesong Lodge. The positive performance was made possible through the dedication of the staff and continued support from our customers and guests. Going forward, we remain committed to improving service delivery, increasing customer satisfaction, and sustaining business growth.



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LIFESONG OPTICIANS UPDATE

- In the Month of May, lifesong opticians in collaboration with Living Hope ministries conducted a 4 days holistic- integrated School and Community eye screening in the outskirts of Ndola. This included screening for various eye conditions as well as sharing the gospel with the community.
- 301 people accessed this service with a 100 needing spectacles and other treatments funded by Living Hope to L.O.
- We continue to work on forging more mutually beneficial partnerships with other organisations.
- Clinic sales were steady but leave room for improvement



AUTOSHOP UPDATE

May 2026 was a busy month as the Construction team were busy renovating and setting up the new sparepart shop. We also plan to hire our new sales staff for the sparepart shop, as we anticipate to stock-up by 31st May, 2026.



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LIGHTCON UPDATE

Executive Summary

Project activities across both the Unity School Development and the Northrise University Solar Project continued to progress positively during the reporting period.

Following the reduction in seasonal rainfall, site conditions improved significantly, allowing construction activities to regain momentum across all work fronts.

Despite earlier weather-related challenges and damage sustained to three hostel blocks at Unity School, remedial excavation, structural repair works, and stabilization measures were promptly implemented. Progress on these remedial activities remains steady and controlled under approved structural detailing.

At Northrise University, the solar plant has now been fully commissioned, with power export operations successfully underway. Supporting infrastructure works, including roads, fencing, and wall enclosures, are advancing well toward completion.

Overall project execution remains on track and continues to create positive employment and economic opportunities within surrounding communities.

Unity School

Construction activities at Unity School remain on schedule, with improved productivity following the reduction of heavy rains.

Installed drainage systems have proven effective in managing groundwater and surface runoff, significantly improving site accessibility and maintaining work continuity.

Key Progress Highlights

- Drainage systems are fully operational and effectively managing water flow across the site.
- Remedial excavation and repair works have been completed on three damaged hostel blocks.
- Structural repair implementation is progressing steadily under approved engineered structural detailing.
- Internal and external finishing activities are progressing well across multiple buildings.
- Mechanical and electrical finishing works are advancing in parallel.

Hostel Blocks

Three hostel blocks previously affected by excessive moisture and rain-related ground movement underwent remedial excavation and structural repair interventions during the reporting period.

Current Status

- Excavation and stabilization works completed.
- Structural repair details successfully implemented.
- Reinstatement and rebuilding works progressing steadily.
- Remaining hostel blocks continue progressing normally.
- Overall hostel construction remains on track despite earlier setbacks.
- MPH Building (Multi-Purpose Hall)

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MPH Building (Multi-Purpose Hall)

The MPH building is nearing completion and is rapidly becoming the visual centerpiece of the Unity School development.

Current Activities

- Final architectural finishing works underway.
- Internal detailing progressing well.
- Final quality inspections ongoing.
- External works and aesthetic enhancements advancing.

Upon completion, the structure is expected to become the primary landmark and attraction within the school campus.

Administration & Clinic Buildings

Significant progress has been achieved within the administration and clinic buildings, particularly regarding finishing works and services installations.

Current Activities

- Air conditioning installation in progress.
- Final paint coats underway.
- Ceiling and finishing details progressing well.
- Electrical and mechanical completion works advancing.

Both buildings are entering their final completion stages.

Northrise University Solar Project

Solar Plant Commissioning

The Northrise University Solar Plant has now been fully commissioned successfully.

- Key Milestones Achieved
- Full commissioning completed.
- Power export operations fully underway.
- System performance operating within expected parameters.
- Plant stability and operational reliability confirmed.

The successful energization and export capability represent a major milestone for the project and contribute significantly toward sustainable energy development within the region.

Civil & Infrastructure Works

Supporting infrastructure works continue progressing positively.

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Current Activities

- Internal road construction nearing completion.
- Perimeter fencing works progressing well.
- Wall fence enclosure works nearing final stages.
- General site finishing activities ongoing.

65kV Substation Works

Construction and installation activities related to the 65kV substation continue progressing according to schedule.

Progress Status

- Civil and structural works advancing steadily.
- Equipment preparation and installation ongoing.
- Long-lead electrical items currently en route to site.
- Coordination with suppliers and logistics teams remains active.
- No major procurement concerns currently threatening project timelines.

Community & Social Impact

Both projects continue contributing positively to surrounding communities through:

- Local employment opportunities.
- Skills development and workforce participation.
- Increased economic activity around project sites.
- Support to local suppliers and subcontractors.

Community engagement remains positive and cooperative.

Overall Project Status

Project Area	Status
Unity School General Works	On Track
Hostel Remedial Works	Progressing Well
MPH Building	Nearing Completion
Administration & Clinic Buildings	Finishing Stage
Northrise Solar Plant	Fully Commissioned
Roads & Fencing	Near Completion
65kV Substation	Progressing Well

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Conclusion

Overall progress across both Unity School and Northrise University projects remains positive and aligned with planned objectives.

Improved weather conditions have significantly enhanced productivity and site accessibility, allowing recovery from earlier rainfall disruptions.

The successful commissioning of the Northrise Solar Plant marks a major achievement for the project team, while continued progress at Unity School — particularly the nearing completion of the MPH building — reflects strong execution and commitment to delivery standards.

Management remains confident that all current works are progressing within acceptable timelines while maintaining expected quality standards.

