



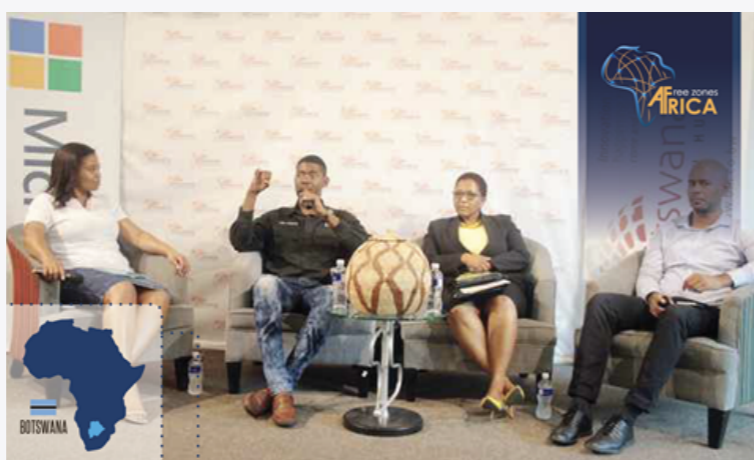
AFZO NEWSLETTER | N° 52

AFRICAN FREE ZONES LATEST NEWS



Kenya - EPZA records 17,6% surge in 2018 exports and an average of Sh2 bln injected monthly into the local economy by the EPZs

Kenya - The Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) has recorded an increase in exports, which grew by 17.6% last year to stand at Sh71 bln. The Authority chairman, Paul Gicheru, says that at the end of 2018, capital investment in form of equipment, machinery and other funds invested by the EPZ companies stood at Sh75 bln, while an average of Sh2 bln had been injected monthly into the local economy by the EPZs.



Botswana - SEZA harnessing innovation, vital for economic makeover

Botswana - Neo Mahube, Director of Investor Facilitation and Relations at SEZA, who was a panelist in the Botswana Innovation Hub (BIH) coffee session, said the authority is eager to transform the country's economy by ensuring that the eight selected SEZs yield high productivity with innovation implemented. SEZA has been earmarked as the important segment, which should be leading in positioning of the country's economy into innovated and well diversified one. Mahube said SEZA has selected sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure development and aerospace as one of the areas that will be fully innovated.



Ghana - GFZA plans for Special Economic Zones in every region of the country.

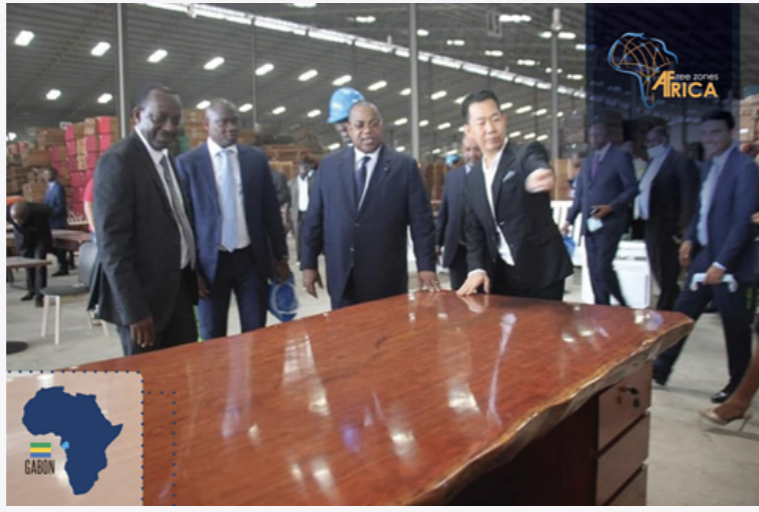
Ghana - The Ghana Free Zone Authority (GFZA) has announced plans to establish SEZs in every region of the country to locate factories selected for processing and manufacturing of goods close to the source of raw materials. Currently there are 235 FZs companies in the country. GFZA also announced a new visibility programme aiming to meet potential local investors to educate them about the FZs idea. The Authority intends to send Act 504, which establishes the Free Zone, to Parliament for review.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



Ethiopia - South Korea's Hyundai opens assembly plant in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia - South Korea's Hyundai Motor Co opened a 10,000-a-year vehicle capacity assembly plant in Addis Ababa on Thursday, its first factory in East Africa. While second-hand vehicles dominate sales, Hyundai hopes locally-assembled cars could prove attractive given the cost of imports due to high taxes. Vehicles that will roll off the assembly line at the plant include passenger hatchback cars and trucks, said Haile Gebrselassie, the former Olympian-turned businessman who has partnered with the South Korean firm. Some of the cars will be exported to the region.



Nkok ZERP - A bright future for the wood industry with the establishment of 3 new processing units

Gabon - With the inauguration last Friday of the Jin Shan Wood processing plant and the laying of the foundation stone of two other Indian-owned units at Nkok's ZERP, the wood industry in Gabon will have to experience a boom in coming years. These three units, totaling an investment of 73 billion CFA francs, will ultimately boost the volume of jobs by 18% and further enrich the Gabonese timber market with quality products.



Angola - Opaia Group and Kolon to set up a pharmaceutical factory in the Luanda-Bengo SEZ

Angola - The Board of Directors of the Luanda-Bengo SEZ held a courtesy meeting with the president of the Opaia Group and its partners of the South Korean multinational Kolon. This meeting is part of the executive's policy for the EEZ and the fulfillment of its mission to attract new non-oil sector investments. The partnership between Kolon and the Opaia Group aims to set up a pharmaceutical factory in the Luanda-Bengo SEZ.

INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES




Rwanda - New plant to produce 1.7m mosquito nets every month in the Kigali SEZ

Rwanda - A local firm, Vision Garment Ltd, is set to begin production of bed nets in April this year, and targets to manufacture 1.7 million nets every month, The New Times has learnt. The mosquito net factory is under construction in the Kigali Special Economic Zone with plans to construct another plant in Rwamagana Industrial Park. Rwanda spends a staggering \$17 mln (Rwf15 bln) every year on importing mosquito nets, which are distributed to the citizens under the first and second category of Ubudehe free of charge.



Ghana - 12MW Rooftop Solar PV to be constructed in the Tema Free Zones Enclave

Ghana - The power generation subsidiary of Southern Utilities Limited, a member of LMI Holdings, Helius Power Company, intends to construct and operate a rooftop solar power plant in the Tema Free Zones Enclave, in Ghana, West Africa. The plant will be approximately 12MW, located on 92,000m2 roof space of Mega Warehouse, which is owned by the International Warehouse Company, a subsidiary of LMI Holdings.



Morocco - Launch of the \$30 mln Sustainable Industrial Zones Fund (FONZID)

Aiming at strengthening the model of sustainable IZs and contributing to the improvement of productivity and ESG performance of companies in IZs, the Fund for Sustainable IZs (FONZID) is entering the call for projects phase. Initiated by the MCA-Morocco Agency in partnership with the Ministry of I.I.T&DE, FONZID has \$30 mln of funds, half of which is provided by the government. They will be mobilized for the creation or extension of sustainable IZs, as well as the requalification and upgrading of existing IZs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NAME OF THE EVENT | 00 - 00 MONTH 2019 | PLACE



AFRICA FREE ZONES
ORGANIZATION
WORKSHOP

Wednesday, March 27th, 2019

Africa Free Zones Organization and Nkok Special Economic Zone
are pleased to invite you to the Training session
that will take place in **Radison Hotel, Libreville - Gabon**



This training session will bring together international experts to discuss :
**“ The Impact of SEZ in achieving Sustainable Economic
Development in Africa ”**

www.africafreezones.com



VIDEO OF THE WEEK



A great success for AFZO's Webinar held on February 12 - 41 participants, from 24 countries, followed AFZO's last Webinar on the theme "Developing Competitive Advantage: Main driver to attract investment within African Economic Zones and Free Zones". Special thanks to Dr. John Rutherford for his outstanding presentation and congratulations to Togo Invest for their wonderful initiative. They set up a workshop connected to this Webinar, which is a remarkable involvement in our Organization' activities.



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The Africa Free Zones Organization

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