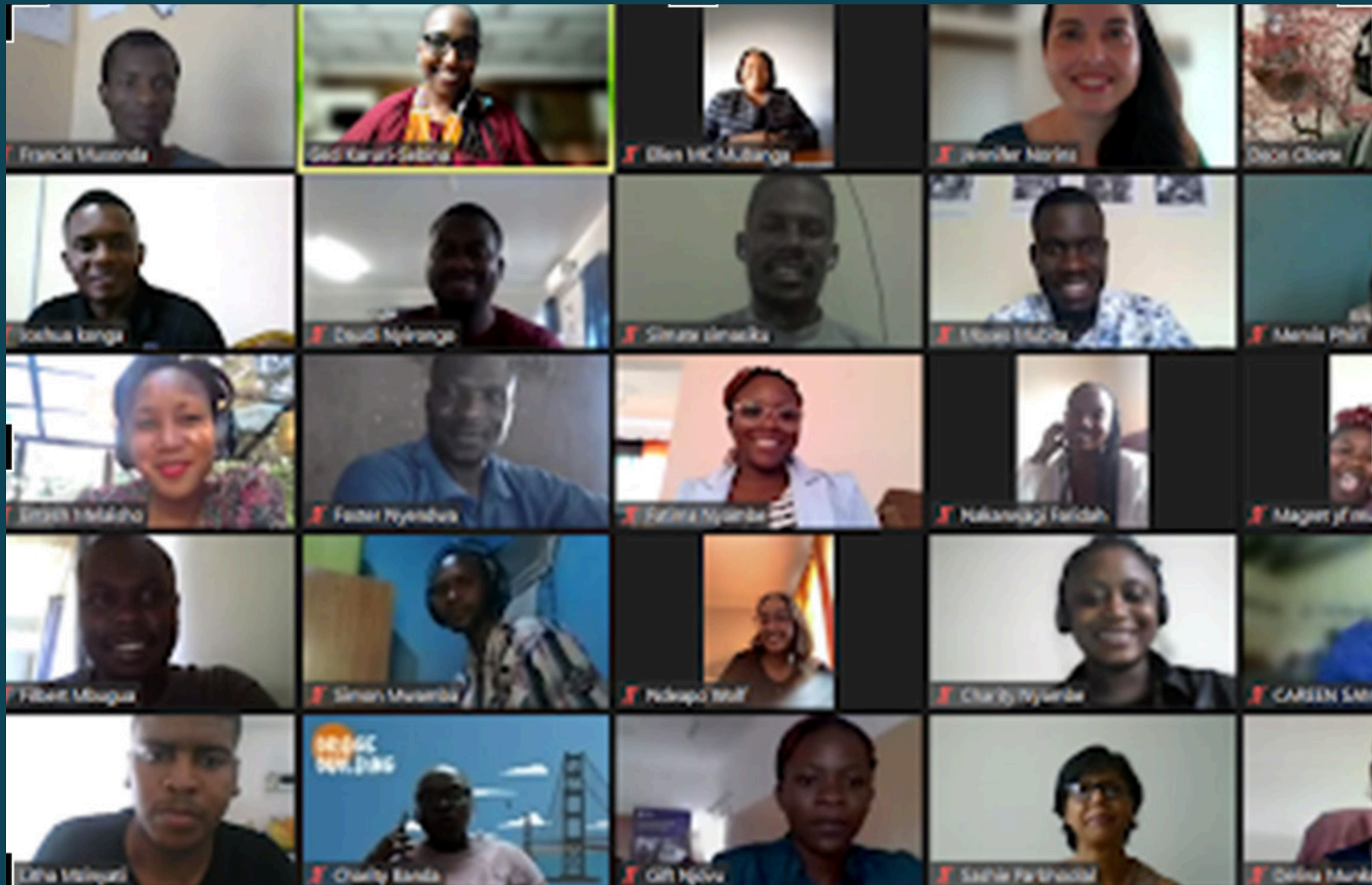


ZAMBIA



Feb 2023 - Virtual

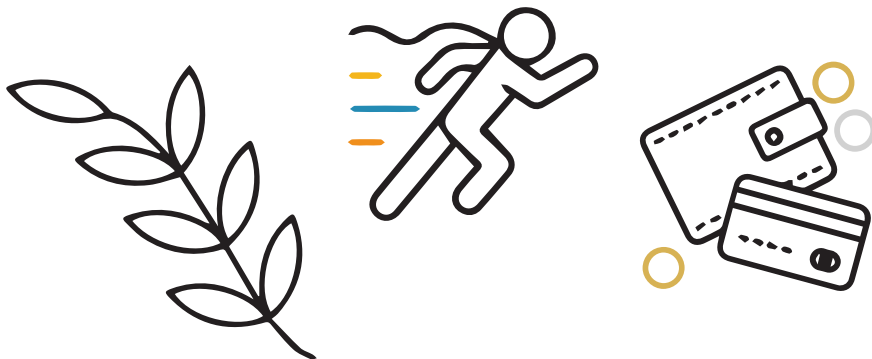


ZAMBIAN YOUTH FUTURES – INITIAL THINKING

INITIAL FUTURES ATTITUDE

Most Zambian youth felt they could influence the future.

Predominant images generated in the workshops: **superheroes, nature and wildlife, and depictions of wealth** and money.



PROBABLE FUTURES

“Youth BOOM...or Bust?”

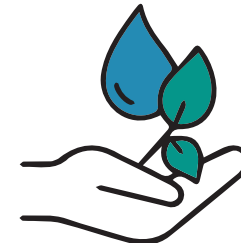
Proactive youth pull Zambia towards new possibilities while poverty, politics, and pessimism are a starkly prevalent reality to contend with.

DESIRABLE FUTURES

“Imiti ikula empanga”

(Young trees are the future forest)

Youth mental health and unemployment issues are prioritized. **Tolerance, civility, and equitable access** are the pillars of Zambian society. With time and care, strong roots grow for **more fertile youth futures**.



REFRAME METAPHOR

“No More Government”

Zambian youth explored new imaginaries guided by new metaphors such as ‘*Roots & Fruits*’, ‘*Back to the Future*’, and ‘*No Man is an Island*’. An ‘undefined society’ **free of imposed systems**. Liberated youth reconnect with their **innate personal power** and sense of worthiness. Youth come together to form **societies built on Ubuntu values**. Youth are ultimately **free to dream**.



EMERGING POLICY ISSUES RAISED BY YOUTH

Education space:

- Curriculum reforms practical and skills-oriented
- Flexible vocational and career pathways
eg. portfolio pathways

Civic space:

- Promote youth agency and meaningful engagement as active partners
- Legal protection for young peoples' rights to protest
- Human rights space: GBV, racism, tribalism and corruption

Employment space:

- Equitable and livable wages for youth

Social welfare space:

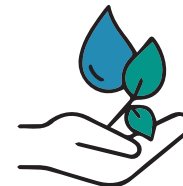
- Functional social systems for income / social welfare needs

Regional space:

- (eg. WEF) Invest in skills development and entrepreneurship

Healthcare space:

- Youth access to free and quality healthcare services
- Investment in health tech, eg. sexual and reproductive health education



VIABLE TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATIONS

- **Digital Tax System:** Streamlining Zambia's tax processes through digitalization enhances revenue, transparency, and efficiency, promoting economic development.
- **Nativestack Solutions:** Tailoring digital solutions to key sectors drives transformative digitization, fostering economic growth, job creation, and citizen empowerment in Zambia.
- **CSTL by FLN:** FLN's Curriculum System for Future Life addresses unemployment by updating curricula to align with emerging technologies, preparing students for AI and automation industries.
- **Funding for Graduates:** Zambia's program funds graduates to implement research solutions, bridging academia and practical application for societal challenges and innovation.



ZAMBIA VISION 2035



In 2023, Zambia faced formidable challenges, including weakened checks and balances, high unemployment, and an ailing education system. Amidst these difficulties, the Kectil Center for Youth Excellence, a beacon of hope, provided leadership training, while initiatives like the Peer-to-Peer counseling system and the Progressive Youth Organization tackled mental health issues. Restless Development Zambia’s “TUSUNGE LUBONO” project and a groundbreaking re-entry programme for young girls further contributed to positive change. Skill enhancement programmes, gender equality measures, and free education initiatives marked a transformative period. Retaining key aspects of its past, Zambia cultivated a society based on Ubuntu principles, fostering unity and compassion. This era witnessed the fading of mental health issues, productive youth engagement, and a revitalized education system, portraying a bold and hopeful future for Zambia.

