

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO OUR BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 005 | OCTOBER 2022



Because we do it right



From the Directors Desk

Following the unveiling of the 5th President of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. William Ruto, it is appropriate we turn to the manifesto behind the election campaign as a backdrop. Key areas and sectors highlighted and indeed prioritized include Agriculture and, of course, Housing and Settlement

I cite a note on industrialization that the 'manufacturing sector is largely agriculture-based, with food processing and beverage manufacturing contributing 40 per cent and 48 per cent of manufacturing employment and GDP respectively. When non-food agro-processing is added, agro-processing becomes more than half of the manufacturing sector' – it's quite staggering really that by developing on

Gas Africa warmly welcomes Jemima to the team. A young and aspiring accountant who shall be working closely with the Head of Finance, where she shall be learning from the ground up all things number crunching!

'Super excited to be part of the team. I have already been exposed to so much in a new industry and look forward to the experience with Gas Africa'
- Jemima Joel, Accounts Assistant

Safety – Set the standards

Specifications of components parts of equipment's are often overlooked as not important so long as they are deemed to be serving the purpose. This is a very short-sighted and often dangerous view to take. Even a small instrument, such as an oxygen regulator that is not of the recommended pressure gauge, can cause serious damage to the user and surrounding property. Urge the trained on-site bio-medical engineers to check and test all instruments and equipment's periodically – the last calibration dates tested, the O-rings being intact and so on

It is also imperative that anybody working close to any equipment that could cause harm is wearing appropriate PPEs to safeguard themselves - be smart, be safe



the nations strengths there is boundless potential yet to be unlocked

A financial commitment of KSh 250 billion FY2022/23 – FY2026/27 has been committed to Housing and Settlement. The industries supporting such structures shall be many and far reaching. You shall have noted that 'our manufacturing sector share of the economy is declining. It has fallen from 9.3 per cent to 7.6 per cent in five years (2016-2020).' The traditional players shall naturally be there to contribute to the potential economic boom i.e., steel and cement manufacturers, boreholes for water infrastructure. On the utility side – gas, electricity, solar, water, sewage

– all sectors shall hopefully bring more employment

Whilst it is noted that manufacturing is 'inordinately capital intensive' and the President quite rightly notes it does not create the relative number of jobs it should, depending on your industry and sector supplied into, the value of your product shall always be determined by your market. Some essential products may be required to be produced despite the capital-intensive nature of the production facility and such industries look forward to governmental support Gas Africa wishes his excellency and the government a successful tenure

- Rajesh Ram, Managing Director



Starting out in the sales and marketing division of the company, I have seen and been a part of the evolution that has brought about Gas Africa taking a customer centric approach in all aspects – a culture that has been adopted by management and grown tentacles ensuring the company's offering is continuously improving meeting the needs of its clients

In my current administrative role, I am tasked with ensuring that the sales and marketing function marry up with operations and finance functions to ensure company efficiency as well as constant focus remains on our company values; Service, Integrity and Accountability



Africa opens up

The last week of September reported that the first consignment of locally made batteries was shipped from Kenya to Ghana two months after it was picked among seven countries to pilot the continental free trade area. If successful, the rollout should see the unlocking of the movement of goods and services across Africa. The Kenyan-made Exide batteries worth Ksh 9.24 million (\$77,000) landed in Ghana, marking a formal start of preferential trading under the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework.

'Associated Battery Manufacturing EA Ltd is the first Kenyan company to start trading under AfCFTA, and the first local company to ever export Exide batteries to the Ghanaian market' said the Ministry of Industrialization and Trade



Other products within the framework include tea, confectionary, leather bags and fresh produce

Other countries selected to participate in the pilot phase of the AfCFTA Initiative on Guided Trade are Tanzania, Tunisia, Cameroon, Egypt, Mauritius, and Ghana

Source: www.businessdailyafrica.com - 26/09/22



Working from home vs office

You may recall in the last quarters Employee Spotlight, our HR Manager, Alice Mwendu, was asked which environment was more productive? She was adamant that given the nature of our services and industries we serve; it made sense for Gas Africa to be office based. There are many pros with working from home including: more independence, flexibility, no commute and having a work-life balance. There are also the cons to consider, for example, the mental state of people with increased isolation, increased home office costs, risks of not being able to switch off and over working and less physical face time with colleagues and friends

Large institutions in the UK and globally, including international banks, such as HSBC and JP Morgan, have promoted remote working – perhaps they are considering their industry being that of service, their requirements being generally of computers and secure online server network connections, and savings

on square footage in capital city rents paid worldwide in times where many countries are entering into recession. Despite the construction of a new HQ in New York, JP Morgan Chief Executive had written in a letter to shareholders, that 10% of the US investment bank's 255,000 employees may work from home full-time. In an article from www.guardian.com/business the chief executive of recruitment company Rantstad UK commented 'there's an increased expectation from your employees that you will offer some form of flexibility. If you want to remain competitive in the war for talent, having this as an option will become increasingly important.' The view that we should all be taking, is one that requires investment in our people. Invest in your team to execute the strategic plan. Talent acquisition is one of Gas Africa's biggest relative cost – but one that shall always bear fruit if the right minerals are provided

Social Responsibility

This quarter, the Gas Africa team had the opportunity to visit Thogoto Home for the Aged. The facility is located near Kikuyu Mission Hospital, Kikuyu, and was established in 1967 by the P. C. E. A. Woman's Guild under Kikuyu Presbytery – with the purpose of creating a refuge for the elderly that have either been abandoned by their families or do not have any close relatives caring for them

Speaking with the Manager Ms. Jane Nduta Gaturu, we learned that the facility is home to fifty senior citizens. "We work closely with the community. They identify vulnerable and needy less fortunate old parents that have attained the age of 70 years and above and bring them to the facility for assessment. Our doors are open regardless of their tribe or religious beliefs."

As we socialized with the Wazee, it was clear that they truly appreciated visits, conversation, and the fact that we thought of them. At around 5:00 PM, it was time for us to leave and let them get ready for dinner. The team was blessed by the elders, and with their well wishes we promised to visit again and share more stories soon

The home is supported by well-wishers and welcomes donations. To arrange a visit, contact Jane at: +254 (0) 723 841 234

