



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

LSE ZAMBIA

Conference information

Agenda

19th June 2025

Taj Pamodzi, Lusaka

Taxing Smarter: Evidence-based Approaches to National and Local Revenue in Zambia

Registration

SESSION 1: Introductory Remarks

19th of June, 8:30-09:15

WELCOME REMARKS

Twivwe Siwale, Head of Tax for Growth Initiative, International Growth Centre (IGC)
Ezekiel Phiri, Director of Research, Zambia Revenue Authority

REMARKS FROM GUEST OF HONOUR - Transforming Tax, Priorities of the ZRA

Dingani Banda, Commissioner General, ZRA

SESSION 2: Keynote address - Why Domestic Resource Mobilisation Matters

19th of June, 09:15- 09:45

SPEAKERS

Nada Eissa, IGC Research Advisor and Steering group member, Professor at University of Georgetown

MODERATORS

Benjamin Shawa, Country Economist Zambia, International Growth Centre (IGC)

SESSION 3: Panel discussion – Setting the Direction: A Roadmap for Smarter Taxation

19th of June, 09:45-10:45

SPEAKERS

Nada Eissa, IGC Research Advisor and Steering group member, Professor at University of Georgetown
Ezekiel Phiri, Director of Research, Zambia Revenue Authority
Jones Kalyati, Mayor of Ndola
Simeon Mtambo, Committee Member, Economic Association of Zambia (EAZ)

Phone No.: +260774745243

Email address: zambia@theigc.org

London School of Economics and Political Science is registered in Zambia with registration number 220150001674.

DIRECTED BY



FUNDED BY



From the British people



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

LSE ZAMBIA

MODERATORS	Mbewe Kalikeka , Research Fellow of Public Finance, ZIPAR
Coffee break 10:45-11:15	
SESSION 4: How to think about widening the tax base	
19 th of June, 11:15 – 12:45	
SPEAKERS	Eliya Lungu , Assistant Director of Statistics, Zambia Revenue Authority Daniel Overbeck , Economists, University of Mannheim Mukuka Mulenga , Assistant Director of Quality Assurance, Zambia Revenue Authority Twivwe Siwale , Head of Tax for Growth Initiative, International Growth Centre (IGC) Tyler Rossow , ZEL Data Analyst, International Growth Centre (IGC)
MODERATORS	Laura Fras , Policy Economists, Tax for Growth Initiative, International Growth Centre (IGC)
LUNCH 12:45-13:45	
SESSION 5: Property tax and the role of data and technology	
19 th of June, 13:45 – 15:15	
SPEAKERS	Jones Kalyati , Mayor of Ndola Mboyonga Kaputula , Geoinformatics Specialist, Lusaka City Council Bright Chisengele , Assistant Director Domestic Taxes, Zambia Revenue Authority
MODERATORS	Juliana Oliveira-Cunha , Policy Economist in Cities that Work Initiative, International Growth Centre (IGC)
COFFEE BREAK 15:15-15:30	
SESSION 6: Panel Discussion – Next steps in tax policy and research	
19 th of June, 15:30 – 16:15	
SPEAKERS	Ezekiel Phiri , Director of Research, Zambia Revenue Authority Andrew Wilson , Public Finance and Tax Adviser at Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, FCDO Chomba Kalunga , Head of Zambia Evidence Lab, International Growth Centre (IGC) Isaac Munjunga , Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia
MODERATORS	Nada Eissa , IGC Research Advisor and Steering group member, Professor at University of Georgetown

Closing thanks

Rebecca Terzeon, UK High Commissioner to Zambia, British High Commission
Chomba Kalunga, Head of Zambia Evidence Lab, International Growth Centre (IGC)

Group Picture

Speaker Bios

Nada Eissa - Associate Professor, Georgetown University



Nada Eissa is Associate Professor of Public Policy and Economics, and Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). From 2005-2007, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy. Previously, she was on the economics faculty at the University of California at Berkeley, a National Fellow of the NBER, a visiting economist at the IMF and a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI).

Professor Eissa's research examines how tax and transfer policy affects work and family formation decisions, and in turn what these behavioral responses imply for how programmes should be designed. Her work has been published in major economics journals, and widely cited in the media. Professor Eissa is a recipient of the National Tax Association's Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Government Finance and Taxation (1995). She is also a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance.

Dingani Banda - Commissioner General, Zambia Revenue Authority



Dingani Banda is the Commissioner General of the Zambia Revenue Authority. He has over to 20 years of experience in tax administration serving in various positions including as Commissioner Customs and Commissioner Modernisation and Corporate Strategy.

He has a background in management consultancy with expertise in leadership, change management, business and technology strategy, and trade facilitation in both the private and public sector.

Rebecca Terzeon - British High Commissioner to Zambia



Rebecca Terzeon has been British High commissioner to Zambia since January 2025. Prior to this, she most recently served as Head of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's West Africa Department, from 2021 to 2024. Since joining the UK civil service in 2001, among other roles she has served as Head of the UK's Africa Strategy from 2020 to 2021.

Head of Gender Equality for the UK's Department for International Development from 2015 to 2019, Deputy Head of the UK's development programme in Somalia from 2011 to 2015 and has also served in Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Congo.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

LSE ZAMBIA



Jones Kalyati - Mayor of the City of Ndola

Jones Kalyati is serving as the Mayor of the city of Ndola for the period 2021 – 2026. He's a student of Political Science and International Relations. He joined politics at a young age rising to become a Youth Leader, District Secretary and Provincial Youth Secretary. Mr. Kalyati has also served as one of the youngest Ward Councillors under Ndola City Council at the time when he represented Fibobe Ward from 2006 to 2011.

In his years of service as Mayor, Councillor, business owner, active community participant, politician and teacher, his biggest aims are to enhance food security and agriculture among residents, promote recycling and economically empower Ndola residents with a passion for market traders in particular.



Ezekiel Phiri - Director, Research and Corporate Strategy, Zambia Revenue Authority

Ezekiel Phiri is the Director, Research & Corporate Strategy at Zambia Revenue Authority based in Lusaka. He has over 15 years' experience in tax administration. He oversees a department with multiple functions including research, data intelligence, corporate planning and statistics.



Twiwwe Siwale - Head of Tax for Growth Initiative, International Growth Centre

Twiwwe Siwale is the Head of Tax for Growth, a thematic initiative of the International Growth Centre. She is responsible for project development, content creation and policy engagement for IGC's work on tax. The portfolio includes a collaboration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority to develop a dashboard to increase the utilization of tax data generated from Electronic Fiscal Devices to increase domestic revenue mobilization. Other work is with the Zambia Revenue Authority to pilot a consumer incentive scheme to increase VAT compliance.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

LSE ZAMBIA

Session Descriptions:

Keynote address by prof. Nada Eissa

Professor Eissa will discuss some of the major challenges and opportunities in Domestic Resource Mobilisation in Zambia and neighbouring countries today. She will draw from lessons learnt across the globe and the importance of data and research in answering key tax policy questions.

Panel discussion - Setting the Direction: A Roadmap for Smarter Taxation

The panel discussion will draw from the keynote address and pose to a wide range of panellists what practical challenges might be faced in attempting to increase tax revenues, and in what direction policymakers across Zambia should focus their tax policies to best start on the road to smarter taxation.

Session 4: Why is it so hard to tax the informal sector?

This session consists of an interactive presentation on what academic literature can tell us about the opportunities and challenges to taxing the informal sector and the role that data and communication can play to improve taxation more generally. The session further consists of a presentation on turnover taxes, which highlights the benefit of undertaking research prior to implementing taxes aimed to expanding the formal economy.

Session 5: Property tax and Technology

This session will include a presentation on how new satellite technology has been leveraged in Lusaka to value property taxes and what other methods of property valuation can be used further afield. The session will also include a panel discussion on property valuation and technology to best identify the opportunities for property tax.

Panel Discussion – Next steps in tax policy and research

The final panel discussion will summarise the key takeaways from the conference and consider what practice next steps policymakers can take. The discussion will touch on the role of data and what possible technologies can be used to make tax enforcement easier at a local and national level.