MALAWI STOCK EXCHANGE HOSTS MZINGA INCUBATION PROGRAM GRADUATION CEREMONY



The Malawi Stock Exchange (MSE) held the Mzinga Incubation Program Graduation Ceremony on 6th November 2025 at Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel in Blantyre, celebrating the first cohort of entrepreneurs to complete the program. The initiative, funded by the World Bank through the FInES project, aims to strengthen SMEs by building their capacity and improving access to affordable capital, preparing them for potential listing on MSE's Enterprise Development Growth Exchange (EDGEx) platform. The ceremony was graced by the Guest of Honor, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi, Economics and Regulation, Dr. Kisu Simwaka, who praised the program's contribution to entrepreneurship and economic growth. In his remarks, Dr. Kisu Simwaka noted that the Mzinga Incubation Program Graduation marked a milestone in the growth of Malawi's private sector, particularly SMEs. He highlighted the Reserve Bank of Malawi's role in enhancing growth of the Malawi capital markets through, among other initiatives, facilitating procurement of key infrastructure such as the Automated Trading System (ATS), the Central Securities Depository (CSD) and championing product innovations such as Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). He expressed gratitude to the World Bank for supporting the program and commended the Malawi Stock Exchange and market players for their collective efforts

Before the formal proceedings began, the incubates displayed their products and services in an exhibition area, which the Guest of Honor, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi, Dr. Kisu Simwaka, visited. Each entrepreneur explained their offerings, providing an opportunity for direct engagement and feedback prior to the graduation ceremony.

Following the exhibition, the graduation ceremony officially commenced with opening remarks from the Chief Executive Officer of the Malawi Stock Exchange, Mr. John Robson Kamanga, who reflected on the capital market's role in driving economic growth. He was followed by Mr. Ralph Tseka, Project Manager of the Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship Scaling (FInES) Project, who highlighted the importance of partnerships in fostering sustainable business growth. Mr. Neddie Malala, Manager of the Central Securities Depository (CSD), represented Director Chakudza Linje of Financial Markets at the Reserve Bank of Malawi and shared key developments in the securities market. The Chairperson of the MSE Board, Professor James Kamwachale Khomba, emphasized the Exchange's strategic role in promoting inclusive financial market development.

This was followed by investment pitch sessions, during which the graduating entrepreneurs presented their business ideas along with their financial needs. After the pitches, certificates of completion and awards were presented to the graduates and their corporate advisors. Participants were also given the opportunity to view a full documentary showcasing the journey of the first Mzinga cohort by scanning a QR code provided at the event. The documentary is additionally accessible on MSE's digital platforms.

The ceremony concluded with closing remarks from Mrs. Kelline Kondowe, Chief Operating Officer of the Malawi Stock Exchange, who congratulated the graduates and reaffirmed MSE's ongoing commitment to supporting the growth and development of SMEs and enhancing their readiness for listing on the EDGEx platform. The graduation represented an important milestone for the Mzinga Incubation Program, highlighting MSE's commitment to enhancing SME access to long-term finance through potential listing on the Malawi Stock Exchange and supporting Malawi's overall economic development.