

# Inside the National Road Fund Agency



**NYAMAZAO NYIRENDA**

growth on all fronts, and to all citizens, nothing speaks more than the soaring number of cars on the roads. This is a mammoth challenge that the country's road infrastructure needs to keep pace with economic growth.

Zambia's Transport Policy was formulated and approved in 2000.

In 2002 the three road sector agencies were created under acts of Parliament, namely Road Safety Act No. 11 of 2002, which created the Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA), the Public Roads Act No. 12 of 2002, which created the Road Development Agency (RDA), and the Road Fund Act No. 13 of 2002, which created the National Road Fund Agency (NRFA).

RTSA is responsible for the implementation policy on road transport, traffic management and road safety, while RDA is responsible for the care, maintenance and construction of public roads in Zambia.

As NRFA we are responsible for the administration and management of the National Road Fund (NRF).

NRFA's other main functions include: preparing and publishing audited annual accounts of the NRF; recommending to the minister

responsible for Finance a fuel levy and other road

sources, as prescribed by law. The sources of funds for



the road sector include GRZ funding appropriated by

user charges and tariffs; recommending to the minister the projects for funding; and allocating resources for the construction, maintenance and rehabilitation of roads based on a percentage of the annual work plan of RDA and for road transport. We also do traffic and safety management based on a percentage of the annual work plan of RTSA, and in consultation with RDA, NRFA recommends funding for development of new roads. The agency also undertakes such other activities as are conducive, or incidental, to its functions.

Using this mandate, NRFA mobilises financial resources from internal and external

Parliament, road tolls, fuel levy, weighbridge fees and fines, road tax and vehicle licence fees. External funding comprises loans and grants from cooperating partners.

These monies are duly disbursed for road projects and related activities within the agreed annual work plan under respective implementing agencies and institutions.

The NRFA, through its monitoring and evaluation wing, plays a key role in ensuring that resources are used effectively. We also track the progress of ongoing projects

and ensuring that outcomes are achieved as planned.

A key function of NRFA is to manage the National Road Tolling Programme under delegated authority from RDA.

The National Road Tolling Programme, which will soon have a dedicated article on this space, is a home-grown solution to sustainably raise domestic revenue for road infrastructure based on the user pay principle.

It is Government's policy to leverage on the National Road Tolling Programme by inviting private sector participation in road infrastructure development within the framework of the

public-private partnerships (PPPs) so as to free government resources for other needy sectors of the economy.

**Look out for our next article next week and channel your feedback to: National Road Fund Agency, Plot 33 Fairley, P.O. Box 50695, Lusaka. E-mail: [roadfund@nrfa.org.zm](mailto:roadfund@nrfa.org.zm), Website: [www.nrfa.org.zm](http://www.nrfa.org.zm)**

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By James Gayo

