

SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

 **insaf**

Institute for Sustainability Africa

'Advancing Sustainability Initiatives for Africa'

ZIMBABWE

Listed firms under
spotlight

AFRICA

Trade Partners Must
Prioritise Sustainability



GLOBAL

Nanofibre hydrogel filter
for sustainable water
purification



Recycling Could
Reduce Zimbabwe's
Environmental and
Economic Woes

A bio-based nanofibre hydrogel filter for sustainable water purification Putting sustainability at the heart of growth strategy

As a leading ingredient business, we're increasingly being asked by customers about the sustainability of our products, how we can reduce CO2 in their supply chains and ensure we're aligned with achieving net zero targets. Continued pressure on industries to reduce their CO2. The challenges are most acute in the dairy industry, which is under sustained pressure to do more to reduce the levels of CO2 produced in the production of many of the most popular products. But like the products produced, it's equally important that the business producing them also operates sustainably for the long-term security and benefit of employees. As a business, we identified 'sustainability' as a commercial opportunity. An opportunity to differentiate ourselves from our competitors by setting leading standards in reducing CO2 and mapping out a definitive road to achieving net zero across all operations by 2050. **Read more:** <https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/putting-sustainability-at-the-heart-of-growth-strategy/173089/>

More Than A Goldmine: Trade Partners Must Prioritise Sustainability in the Global Race for Africa's Rare Earth Metals

With developed global economies pushing for ever more digitisation, technological innovation and energy sustainability, there is one commodity for which demand has increased exponentially: rare earth metals (REMs). These raw materials are an indispensable component in the production of high-tech and low-carbon products that are essential to the growth that the US, UK and EU countries in particular are aiming for. But with the major producer and refiner of REMs, China, witnessing a rise in tensions and rivalry with its western buyers over the last few years, the global technology supply chain appears worryingly precarious. The answer, according to US and European leaders, seems to be a swivel to the global south and with Africa's emerging rare earth metals market. However, China too is in the race to develop its already impressive tech sector, and has set its sight beyond domestic supplies. **Read more:** <https://theowp.org/reports/more-than-a-goldmine-trade-partners-must-prioritise-sustainability-in-the-global-race-for-africas-rare-earth-metals/>

Listed firms under spotlight

Companies that are listed on the two stock exchanges in the country, the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) and Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX) are under increased pressure to disclose business sustainability issues in accordance with new rules designed to help investors track down on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues, Business Times can report. The new rules come into force this financial period going forward. A growing number of investors globally are screening potential investments using ESG standard criteria, and as a result, business sustainability has become a big deal. Apparently, the ZSE gazetted the new rules in 2019, but more than 90% of listed entities have been defying the reporting requirements, which means that non-financial information makes up less than 10% of annual reports for listed companies. The ZSE CEO, Justin Bgoni (pictured), asserts that listed businesses should incorporate the corporate sustainability business model into their financial disclosure as a means of achieving long-term success, value creation, and competitiveness. **Read more:** <https://businesstimes.co.zw/listed-firms-under-spotlight/>

Recycling Could Reduce Zimbabwe's Environmental and Economic Woes

A new study by Reloop Platform, a global non-profit organization, has found that the implementation of a well-structured recycling system could help Zimbabwe address its environmental and economic woes. Zimbabwe has been grappling with a myriad of challenges in recent years, including high levels of poverty, unemployment, and environmental degradation. The country's waste management sector is in dire need of reform, with limited infrastructure and inadequate resources to effectively manage the growing volume of waste generated by its citizens. According to the study, Zimbabwe generates approximately 1.6 million tons of waste per year, with only 10 percent of that being recycled. The majority of the waste ends up in landfills, which are often unregulated and pose significant environmental and health risks. The report highlights that the adoption of a comprehensive recycling system would not only reduce the volume of waste in landfills but also create significant economic opportunities. **Read more:** <https://www.waste360.com/waste-recycling/recycling-could-reduce-zimbabwe-s-environmental-and-economic-woes>

ABOUT INSAF

INSAF is an independent multi-disciplinary independent think tank and research organization working towards a sustainable Africa. The Institute is a registered Independent Trust (MA1218/2012) in Zimbabwe.

OUR VISION

Advance Sustainability Initiatives for Africa

OUR MISSION

Foster Sustainability Initiatives and innovations towards Green Economy, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Living through applied research, programs and technical support services and across sectors.

OUR VALUES

- ✧ A non-partisan research institute
- ✧ An agent for change that promote transformation towards sustainability
- ✧ Committed to rigorous and objective research and analysis to support policy and decision making across sectors
- ✧ Capable of handling complex economic, environmental, developmental, and social issues honestly
- ✧ Committed to environmental sustainability principle, practices and values





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