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Institute for Sustainability Africa

'Advancing Sustainability Initiatives for Africa'

The Financial Gazette

ZSE

SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE | BUSINESS VALUE | RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

AUGUST 2026

SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER



THINK. ACT. TRANSFORM.

CEO INSIGHT

MR RODNEY NDAMBA, FCCA



“PARTNERING WITH THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE FOR THE ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY BREAKFAST MEETING REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING BUSINESS LEADERS AND STAKEHOLDERS TOGETHER TO RETHINK SUSTAINABILITY. OUR FOCUS IS TO MOVE BEYOND VIEWING SUSTAINABILITY AS A COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT OR COST CENTRE, AND INSTEAD EMBRACE IT AS A STRATEGIC DRIVER OF BUSINESS VALUE, INNOVATION, RESILIENCE AND LONG-TERM GROWTH. TRUE PROGRESS HAPPENS WHEN SUSTAINABILITY BECOMES PART OF HOW WE LEAD, MAKE DECISIONS AND CREATE LASTING IMPACT.

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SUSTAINABILITY THAT CREATES VALUE



FROM COST CENTRE TO VALUE DRIVER

Welcome to the August edition of the Institute for Sustainability Africa (INSAF) newsletter.

This month, INSAF's public communications placed a spotlight on an increasingly important question for African organisations: how can sustainability move beyond a compliance obligation to become a driver of business value, resilience and long-term competitiveness?

Across business, financial markets and industry, sustainability is becoming an essential part of how organisations think about strategy, risk, governance and growth.

For INSAF, this means encouraging organisations to connect sustainability commitments with practical business decisions, transparent reporting and measurable impact.

In the Spotlight: Annual Sustainability Breakfast Meeting 7 August 2026 | Golden Conifer Functions Venue, Harare

In partnership with The Financial Gazette, INSAF promoted its Annual Sustainability Breakfast Meeting under the theme of rethinking sustainability from a cost centre to a value driver.

The meeting brought together a sustainability-focused agenda designed to connect industry leaders, professionals, academics, innovators and decision-makers around the business case for sustainability.

The central message was clear: sustainability can support competitive advantage, strengthen long-term thinking and create opportunities for organisations willing to integrate it into their strategies.

Why it matters

Organisations that approach sustainability strategically can better connect environmental and social considerations with governance, operational decisions and stakeholder expectations. The challenge is to translate commitments into credible action and demonstrate the value created.

A Month of Moving the Conversation Forward

INSAF's August communications also highlighted the importance of connecting sustainability with finance, responsible industry practices and organisational capability.

These conversations reinforce a practical principle: sustainability is most effective when it is integrated into the way an organisation operates, rather than treated as a separate initiative.



CAPITAL MARKETS, INDUSTRY AND RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

Connecting Sustainability with Finance



Capital Markets Sustainability Insights

5 August 2026 | Cresta Lodge, Msasa

INSAF promoted a session organised in collaboration with the Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) and the Victoria Falls Stock Exchange (VFEX). Titled Capital Markets Sustainability Insights: From Compliance to Competitiveness – Building Sustainable Businesses, the session focused on the changing relationship between sustainability, capital markets and business performance. The announcement highlighted environmental, social and governance considerations, sustainability disclosure, the IFRS sustainability standards and sustainable finance.

The bigger picture

Capital markets play an important role in directing investment towards resilient businesses and long-term value creation. As sustainability disclosure expectations evolve, organisations need to understand how credible information, sound governance and responsible business practices relate to competitiveness and investor confidence. For businesses, the opportunity is to move beyond treating sustainability reporting as a box-ticking exercise and begin using it to support better decision-making.

Three Priorities for Organisations:

- Integrate sustainability into strategy: Connect ESG considerations with business objectives, risk and long-term performance.
- Strengthen reporting and accountability: Work towards reliable, decision-useful sustainability information.
- Turn commitments into action: Establish clear responsibilities and track progress against meaningful objectives.

> “CAPITAL MARKETS HAVE A CRITICAL ROLE TO PLAY IN SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS FUTURE. SUSTAINABILITY SHOULD NO LONGER BE VIEWED SIMPLY AS A REPORTING OR COMPLIANCE OBLIGATION, BUT AS A STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN COMPETITIVENESS, INVESTOR CONFIDENCE AND LONG-TERM BUSINESS RESILIENCE. ORGANISATIONS THAT EMBED ESG PRINCIPLES INTO THEIR STRATEGY, STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY AND TURN COMMITMENTS INTO MEASURABLE ACTION WILL BE BETTER POSITIONED TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT AND CREATE LASTING VALUE.”

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INSAF GALLERY | AUGUST 2026

MOMENTS FROM THE MONTH













> TRUE SUSTAINABILITY IS ABOUT CREATING A FUTURE WHERE RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS PRACTICES, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH WORK HAND IN HAND TO DELIVER LASTING VALUE.

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SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE

INSAF's work spans sustainability research, capacity development, advisory services and advocacy.

01

SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH

Evidence and insight to inform sustainability conversations, strategy and decision-making.

02

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Learning and capability-building to help professionals and organisations strengthen sustainability knowledge and practice.

03

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY

Support for organisations seeking to integrate sustainability into strategy, governance, reporting and operations.

04

ADVOCACY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Connecting stakeholders and advancing practical dialogue on sustainability priorities across Africa.

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