

AFRICAN IMMUNIZATION WEEK OBSERVED NATIONWIDE



African Immunization Week 2025 was observed at the national level yesterday at the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers hall under the theme “Immunization for All is Humanly Possible.”

Ms. Dehab Solomon, Head of Family and Community Health at the Ministry of Health branch in the Central Region, said that Eritrea is an exemplary country in conducting vaccination programs. She noted that Eritrea is conducting regular vaccination programs and introducing new ones for children and adult women in line with global information and guidelines.

Indicating that 14 vaccinations have been introduced in the country, Mr. Gebru Hurui, Head of the

Vaccination Program in the Central Region, said that 34 permanent and 25 temporary centers are carrying out regular vaccination programs. He also noted that two centers at Orotta National Referral Hospital provide vaccinations six times per week.

Mr. Gebru further stated that eight types of vaccinations were introduced at the national level from 2002 to 2022 and that vaccination coverage in the Central Region, which stood at 99.2% in 2022, increased to 99.6% in 2024.

Dr. Nande Putta, Chief of Child Survival and Development at UNICEF, and Mr. Joel Motswagole, Program Management Officer at WHO, also delivered speeches

praising Eritrea’s progress in its vaccination programs.

Mr. Joel Motswagole noted that vaccinations have saved an estimated 154 million lives over the past 50 years, reducing infant mortality by 40% and protecting people from more than 30 deadly diseases.

At the event, awards were handed out to the winners of the general knowledge contests conducted during the week.

African Immunization Week 2025 is being observed from 24 to 30 April, featuring various programs depicting the week.

EYE SURGERY SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED AT MASSAWA HOSPITAL

Eye surgery was successfully performed on 240 patients at Massawa Hospital on 26 April, as part of a collaborative initiative involving Eritrean experts from the Ministry of Health branch in the Northern Red Sea Region, Massawa Hospital, and the ‘Cure Blindness’ ophthalmology group. The beneficiaries were patients from the sub-zones of Gelalo, Foro, and Massawa.

Dr. Eyob Beyene, an eye surgery specialist and program coordinator, stated that the initiative continued similar efforts previously conducted in Nakfa, Afabet, and Ghinda sub-zones.

Dr. Zemui Mekonnen, Medical Director of Massawa Hospital, noted that a preliminary survey had been carried out in the targeted sub-zones and attributed the surgeries’ success to the strong dedication of

medical professionals and the full cooperation of local administrations.

Dr. Mengis Bairu, coordinator of the Cure Blindness ophthalmology group, highlighted the project’s commendable progress over the past two years, expanding its reach from Asmara to remote areas across the country. He emphasized that the program’s full implementation by Eritrean experts marks a double-fold victory for national healthcare advancement.

The beneficiaries expressed their profound gratitude for the opportunity and the services provided.

It is worth recalling that similar eye surgeries were previously conducted for 539 patients at Nakfa, Ghinda, and Afabet hospitals.



EXTENSIVE WATER AND SOIL CONSERVATION ACTIVITY

Residents of the Keren sub-zone are conducting extensive water and soil conservation activities.

Mr. Bekit Gubtan, head of administration areas follow-up, stated that the popular campaign is a continuation of the program launched in March and commended the strong participation of the residents.

Eng. Amanuel Angesom, coordinator of the program, said that the initiative will significantly contribute to enriching underground water supplies and protecting dams from sedimentation.

In related news, residents of the Gala Nefhi sub-zone in the Central Region have also carried out extensive water and soil conservation activities. The campaign included the construction of terraces and water diversion schemes aimed at rehabilitating the environment.

Mr. Habtemariam Amenay, head of the agriculture office in the sub-zone, reported that so far about 90,000 meters of terraces have been constructed on agricultural land, along with over 9,000 meters of terraces and more than 7,000 cubic meters of water diversion structures. Additionally, a new micro-dam is under construction in the Gul’i administrative area.

Mr. Mehari Yohannes, administrator of the sub-zone, praised the active participation of women, area administrators, and managing directors in the campaign.

SEMINAR HELD UNDER THE THEME “PRODUCTIVITY WITH CONSCIOUS PARTICIPATION”



The National Confederation of Eritrean Workers organized a seminar and workshop on 22 and 23 April in connection with World Workers’ Day, 1 May, under the theme “Productivity with Conscious Participation.”

During the seminar, Dr. Tsegay Medin, Head of Archaeological Heritage Research at the Commission of Culture and Sports, delivered a presentation introducing participants to Eritrea’s rich cultural heritage, based on scientific research from 27 million years ago to the present day.

Emphasizing the vital role of cultural heritage in national development and the consolidation of national identity and unity, Dr. Tsegay highlighted that Eritrea’s heritage serves as a foundation for the people’s resilience and future growth.

He also stressed the importance of recognizing and transmitting the cultural achievements of the Eritrean people across various historical stages to future generations.

In parallel, a workshop focused on workplace safety and health was conducted. Representatives from the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers, the Ministry of Labor

and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Health, Bisha Mining, and Anberbeb Companies attended the event.

During the workshop, participants from each institution presented briefings on the meaning of workplace safety and health, the current status of safety programs within their organizations, and existing challenges and plans.

Mr. Michael Mebrahtu, Chairman of the Social Service Provision Workers Federation, noted that the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers actively promotes workplace safety and health. He added that efforts are underway to revitalize safety and health committees established in 2015 and new committees to strengthen worker protections.



LOCAL NEWS

WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK OBSERVED NATIONALLY



World Day for Safety and Health at Work was observed yesterday at Red Sea Bottlers Share Company under the theme "Let's Ensure Professional Safety and Health."

Speaking at the event, Mr. Woldeyesus Elisa, Director General of Social Welfare at the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, noted that the global commemoration this year focuses on the impact of Artificial Intelligence on workplace safety. Nationally, however, the day is being marked with an emphasis on raising awareness, promoting understanding, and strengthening measures to ensure the safety and health of workers.

Mr. Woldeyesus stressed that workplace accidents and diseases are largely the result of unsafe

practices and conditions, leading to significant human and financial losses and decreased productivity. He urged all institutions to establish dedicated safety and health committees to mitigate such risks.

Mr. Haile Tesfamichael, a member of the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers, underscored the importance of maintaining workplace safety standards and conducting regular

inspections. He highlighted that Labor Proclamation No. 118/2001 clearly outlines the legal framework for workplace safety and health.

As part of the event, participants received briefings on the critical role of workplace safety committees. They had the opportunity to observe firsthand the safety and health measures implemented at Red Sea Bottlers Share Company.

CALL FOR ORGANIZING REGULAR VISITS TO HISTORICAL SITES

Youth workers in the port city of Assab have called for organizing regular visits to historical and developmental sites to broaden their understanding of national history.

The call was made on 26 April during a visit by over 300 youth to the Bure Front and Duhtum trenches.

Stressing that history serves as a bridge connecting the past to the present, the youth emphasized the need for organized programs to transfer historical knowledge and experiences to younger generations.

They further noted that meeting with veterans and visiting historic sites would significantly strengthen the youth's appreciation of the heroic feats demonstrated during the struggle for independence and the safeguarding of national sovereignty. Such visits, they said, would also help instill perseverance, unity, and camaraderie among young people.

During their visit to Bure front, the youth were briefed on the heroic feat of safeguarding national sovereignty.



INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY OBSERVED IN ANSEBA REGION

International Workers' Day, 1 May, was enthusiastically observed in Keren on 28 April at the Anseba Region level under the theme "Productivity by Conscious Participation."

Mr. Atobrhan Gebrat, Head of the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers branch in the region, noted that productivity and development could not be realized without conscious and committed participation. He called on workers to strengthen their participation and contribution at their workplaces, as they have in the past.

Indicating that productivity is a strong force that addresses both the material and spiritual demands of citizens, Mr. Tsehaye Hagos, Head of the Labor Unit, said that the day serves as a reminder to strengthen commitment and participation, equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills.

Ambassador Abdella Musa, governor of the region, emphasized the significance and meaning of May Day and called for strengthening unity and participation to achieve better outcomes.

The event featured cultural and artistic programs depicting the day, and awards were handed out to the winners of general knowledge competitions.

Amid Global Measles Outbreaks . . .

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shoreline on the Red Sea, a constellation of islands, an abundance of marine and natural resources, incredible wildlife and biodiversity, and significant agricultural potential. The country is also positioned along one of the world's most important international maritime shipping routes and boasts endless possibilities for a thriving tourism sector. Despite all these advantages, Eritrea's greatest asset and most important resource, by far, is its valiant people, especially its youth.

As a powerful reflection of this, across the three decades since winning its independence, Eritrea has maintained a strong, unwavering commitment to its youth's health, well-being, and development. The UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child was the first international convention ratified by the Eritrean government after the nation won its independence. At the same time, it also acceded to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in December 1999, not long after the Charter entered into force.

The Eritrean National Charter, adopted in Nakfa in February 1994, and which provides the guiding vision for the country, clearly articulates the prioritization of children. Specifically, it firmly declares, "Eritrea should strive to minimize infant mortality and to care for its children. The children of martyrs, in the tens of thousands, who were deprived of the love of their parents, as well as other orphans, must be provided with proper upbringing and care. In Eritrea, children's rights to education, health, love, safety, play, and human dignity must be respected."

Eritrea's high rates of measles vaccination and impressive figures from the national vaccination campaign are thus only a continuation of the country's longstanding and strong commitment to its people and prioritization of its youth.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Eritrea's efforts in combating measles reflect the country's commitment to improving child health through strong vaccination programs. With high vaccination coverage and consistent progress in reducing measles cases, Eritrea is a model for other nations in the region. These achievements highlight the importance of prioritizing public health to protect vulnerable populations, especially children.

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SpotLight

Amid Global Measles Outbreaks, Eritrea's Longstanding Vaccination Success Stands Strong

Bana Negusse

Measles cases are spiking globally. According to UNICEF, an agency of the United Nations dedicated to promoting the rights and well-being of children worldwide, over the past five years, measles outbreaks have hit over 100 countries, home to roughly three-quarters of the world's children. (Some of the countries hit had previously eliminated measles altogether.)

Although vaccines are a safe, cost-effective, proven way to prevent children from contracting measles and spreading the disease to others, too many children around the world are still unprotected. Currently, the global coverage rate for measles vaccination, which is safe and provides 99 percent protection for life, is far below the level needed for robust protection, ultimately leaving ample room for measles to spread and putting vulnerable groups, including unvaccinated children, at higher risk.

Despite various challenges, Eritrea has made significant strides in addressing measles over the years. The following article explores Eritrea's general progress and efforts to combat the disease and protect its children.

A snapshot of Eritrea's progress

Caused by a virus, measles is a highly transmissible, severe disease that usually results in a high fever and rash but can also lead to blindness, encephalitis, or death. The disease remains one of the leading causes of death among young children globally, especially in the developing world (particularly in parts of Africa and Asia). Currently, however, outbreaks are happening in every region of the world.

The measles vaccine, first made available nearly 60 years ago, has proven to be an extremely safe, highly efficacious, and inexpensive way to reduce measles incidence and mortality in many parts of the world. While the measles vaccine is available in monovalent formulation, it is commonly incorporated with other vaccines, thus allowing for shared delivery and administration costs. It is equally effective in the single or combined form.

Over the years, Eritrea has

maintained high coverage for measles vaccination, making substantial progress toward measles elimination. (While Eritrea has made significant strides in moving towards measles elimination, it still must complete several steps to achieve formal certification of complete elimination.)

For many years, children in Eritrea were provided one dose of the measles vaccine at around nine to 12 months of age. However, in 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended that reaching all children with two doses of measles vaccine should be the standard for all national vaccination programs, to decrease incidence and mortality from measles further and progress toward elimination. Two doses help ensure immunity and prevent outbreaks, as many vaccinated children, perhaps up to approximately 15 percent, may fail to develop immunity after receiving the first dose.

In 2012, not long after the WHO's global recommendations, Eritrea introduced a second dose of the measles vaccine into the national routine vaccination schedule. Since 2018, Eritrean children have received two doses of the combined measles-rubella vaccine. In 2023, measles vaccine coverage for the first and second doses was 93 percent and 85 percent, respectively, considerably higher than the continental and global averages. Notably, the coverage for the first dose is well above what it was in 2000 – 76 percent – and nearly three times more than the figure in 1993, when it was about 34 percent.

In terms of incidence, in 2023, there were 54 reported measles cases nationwide, with an incidence rate of about 15.6 per 1,000,000 total population,



reflecting continued progress on prevention and control. By comparison, Africa (per the WHO's regional categorization) had more than 424,000 cases, with an average incidence rate of about 195 per 1,000,000 total population.

Success is part and parcel of broader health-related efforts

Eritrea's sustained success against measles is part and parcel of the country's broader, award-winning national routine childhood vaccination program. Routine childhood vaccination is a significant health intervention that helps prevent serious illness, disability, and death in children caused by a range of dangerous diseases. Beyond measles, these include diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), influenza, pneumonia, and rubella.

Since winning its independence, Eritrea has made tremendous leaps in routine vaccine coverage. In 1991, only six vaccines were available for children, and the

overall coverage rate stood at less than ten percent. (Some of the vaccines provided at independence included the Bacille Calmette-Guérin vaccine and the vaccines for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis, among others.) Over subsequent years, however, the national routine vaccination schedule in Eritrea steadily grew, and it has progressed to provide young children with an array of vaccines that help protect against various serious or potentially fatal diseases.

At present, Eritrea administers a total of 14 vaccines to young children. These protect against several dozen diseases; overall coverage rates are above 90 percent. Through the Ministry of Health and the National Immunization Programme, around 300 health facilities provide free routine vaccination services six days per week. In addition, vaccination service is provided at about 450 outreach sites nationwide, while nomadic groups and those residing in extremely remote or difficult to reach areas receive service through mobile health units, barefoot doctors, and mass vaccination campaigns organized in close cooperation with community coordinators, volunteers, and local contacts.

Notably, regional and global organizations have recognized and celebrated Eritrea's progress. For example, in November 2009, Eritrea garnered recognition from Gavi, a public-private global health partnership, for its outstanding performance in improving child health and

immunization. One of 17 countries to be recognized at the Vietnam ceremony, Eritrea won the "Best Immunization Performance" award. In 2016 and 2017, Eritrea received back-to-back awards from UNICEF's Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office for effective vaccine management practices, while in September 2018, the country received another prize from UNICEF in recognition of improvements in its national vaccine store.

Additionally, during a working visit to Eritrea in late 2021, Mohammed Malick Fall, UNICEF Regional Director for East and Southern Africa, explained that he was, "struck by the level of immunization [of children]," before going on to note that there, "are many advanced countries that have a hard time reaching [those coverage levels]."

A strong commitment to children – the nation's most valuable resource

Another critical element surrounding Eritrea's success in the fight against measles is how it reflects the nation's unwavering commitment to its most valuable resource – children.

One of the world's youngest countries, Eritrea possesses a rich history, a blend of beautiful cultures, and vibrant diversity. Blessed with a warm, hospitable climate, it has a long, pristine



Continued on page 2



Luwam Kahsay H.

In the culinary tapestry of many parts of Eritrea, especially the highlands, injera and the mogogo transcend their function as sustenance, embodying culture, tradition, and innovation. Whether gracing festive celebrations or everyday meals, these elements of Eritrean heritage are deeply woven into the nation's identity. Exploring the intricate processes of preparing injera and the traditional oven, the mogogo, offers a unique glimpse into the highland society of Eritrea's culinary artistry, history, and values.

Injera, the spongy, slightly tangy flatbread, is the cornerstone of Eritrean cuisine. Primarily made from teff flour—a nutrient-rich grain indigenous to the Horn of Africa—injera is more than food; it is a cultural symbol embodying Eritrean values of hospitality, community, and tradition.



Variations of injera are also crafted from other grains like sorghum and millet, depending on the region.

Eritrean households often serve meals featuring injera on large communal platters, accompanied by various flavorful stews and sauces such as zigni, shiro, and tsebhi. The act of tearing pieces of injera and sharing food from the same platter fosters a profound sense of unity and connection among family members and guests. Eating with hands further enhances this tactile experience of sharing,

emphasizing the communal aspect of Eritrean dining.

During national and religious festivals, injera carries significant symbolic weight. For instance, on Independence Day, tables in many parts of the country are adorned with injera, reflecting the shared pride and resilience of the Eritrean people. Its unique appearance, spongy surface punctuated by thousands of tiny holes, once prompted a French observer to exclaim, "What is this? Beehive!" This intricate texture truly resembles the delicate work of bees, capturing the imagination and making injera an unforgettable culinary experience.

A truly unique aspect of injera is its universal significance to all Eritreans, irrespective of religious beliefs or practices. Eritrea is home to a rich mosaic of faiths, including Christianity and Islam, yet injera transcends these differences

as a shared staple. It features prominently in meals during religious celebrations, whether served alongside fasting dishes for Christian holidays like Meskel or Fasika, or as part of festive meals for Islamic occasions such as Eid. This inclusivity underscores injera as a powerful symbol of national unity, reminding Eritreans of their shared cultural heritage and playing a pivotal role in bridging differences and fostering a sense of belonging among the nation's diverse communities.

The mogogo, a traditional

The Cultural and Culinary Heartbeat of Eritrea: Injera and the Mogogo

clay oven, is the unsung hero in the creation of injera. Its ingenious design ensures even heat distribution, resulting in perfectly textured injera with its characteristic "eyes"—the tiny holes that form on the surface during cooking. Passed down through generations, the mogogo represents the artistry and practicality of traditional Eritrean cooking methods.

While the classic mogogo is crafted from clay and heated with wood or charcoal, modern adaptations have brought significant changes. For example, the Adhanet (smokeless) mogogo has revolutionized cooking in rural areas by significantly reducing wood consumption and smoke production. Equipped with pipes to expel smoke and valves to regulate heat, this innovative version prioritizes health and environmental sustainability. Modern ovens also come in electric versions, making traditional cooking methods more accessible to urban households. These adaptations maintain the integrity of the traditional cooking process while offering added convenience.

The preparation of injera is as much an art as it is a science, requiring patience, precision, and a deep understanding of the fermentation process. It begins with mixing teff flour or other grains and water to create a batter, which is then left to ferment for two to three days. This fermentation gives injera its distinct tangy flavor and enhances its digestibility. Some women expertly blend different grains to create unique injera variations. Once the batter is ready, it is poured onto the heated surface of a mogogo or non-stick skillet in a circular motion, forming a thin, even layer. As the batter cooks, tiny bubbles rise to the surface, creating the signature spongy texture—a feature that, as noted, resembles a beehive. The cooking process is quick, and the injera is carefully removed and placed on a clean cloth to cool. This results in a soft, pliable bread that serves as both plate and utensil, connecting diners to their food through a tactile and intimate experience.

Recent innovations in mogogo design have addressed pressing

environmental and health challenges. Traditional mogogos consume significant amounts of wood, contributing to deforestation in Eritrea. Developing energy-efficient stoves like the Adhanet

adaptability. While preparation methods have evolved to meet modern needs, the essence of these traditions remains unchanged. They are not merely culinary tools but also vessels of cultural



mogogo has significantly reduced wood consumption, helping combat deforestation and lowering carbon emissions. Furthermore, these modern stoves have improved indoor air quality by minimizing smoke, benefiting the health of women and families who traditionally spend long hours cooking. The efficiency of these stoves has also reduced women's workload, providing them with more time for other activities and empowering them within their communities.

The enduring popularity of injera and the mogogo speaks to their deep cultural resonance and

heritage, preserving the values of sharing, unity, and sustainability. A glance at injera, with its distinctive sponge-like surface, inspires curiosity and admiration, whether viewed as a culinary staple or an artistic marvel. Through its preparation and sharing, injera tells a story of Eritrean resilience, creativity, and connection. In most parts of Eritrea, regardless of religion or background, injera and the mogogo unite people, reminding us that food is not merely nourishment but a window into history, community, and the human spirit—a reminder that echoes in the simple yet profound bread of Eritrea: injera.



OPINION

The Eritrean Army: A Pillar of Self-reliance and National Development

Simon Weldemikael

In Eritrea, the army is not only a defense force but a production force. Over the years, it has played a pivotal role in rebuilding Eritrea's economy, which had been devastated by the 30-year war of independence, the post-independence war, and the unjust sanctions imposed on the country. Eritrea utilizes its army for economic growth, infrastructure development, and community support.

One of the army's most profound contributions has been in water conservation, an area critical for Eritrea's agricultural development, in particular, and economic development, in general. In Eritrea, water conservation is a national priority. Given the unpredictability of the amount of rainfall and the intermittent droughts, the country has long relied on innovative strategies to secure water for drinking, agriculture, animal husbandry and industry. The Eritrean army plays a crucial role in this effort, actively contributing to the construction of dams and irrigated farms, and the restoration of the environment through water and soil conservation and reforestation.

Eritrea's strategy of development favors self-reliance, which has been shaped by decades of struggle for independence. This legacy has



influenced the nation's approach to development, where the army is not only a protector but also a builder. By utilizing its military forces in national development projects, Eritrea has placed the defense forces at the center of the country's long-term growth.

One of the objectives of the National Service, as stated in the National Service Proclamation No. 82/1995, is to enhance the economic development of the country by using its human resources in a trained and organized manner. In recent years, the Eritrean army has built hundreds of dams of varying sizes across the country, including major dams such as Kerkebet, Gahtelai, Misilam,

Logo, Gerset, Fanco-Rawi, Fanco-Tsimu, and Badmeit. These dams are instrumental in securing potable water supplies, enhancing irrigation systems, and supporting mechanized agriculture.

In the development strategy of the country, the human element is accorded a central position. More than 800 dams have been constructed following Eritrea's independence through the concerted efforts of the people and the army. And many more dams are under construction. The water harvesting infrastructures have significantly alleviated water shortages, ensuring sustainable farming and food security.

The dams constructed by the Eritrean army have a significant impact on the development



of local communities. Many communities now have easier access to water for drinking and using for irrigated farming, reducing their overreliance on seasonal rainfall for farming. Communities that live near the dams experience improved living conditions. The dams constructed by the Eritrean army have boosted the country's agricultural transformation from rain-fed subsistence farming to mechanized irrigated agriculture. The expansion of irrigated farms in the vast plains of Western Eritrea is a vivid example of such a transformation.

The army's involvement in national development has fostered a sense of unity and collective responsibility among Eritreans. It is often referred to as a development army due to its dual role, national defense and

development works.

The Eritrean army is often referred to as the People's Army due to its deep integration with Eritrean society. The defense and security forces of Eritrea are an integral part of the society. They participate in production and in solving societal problems. As outlined in the National Charter of Eritrea (1994), the army and security forces must function in close cooperation with the people.


This philosophy ensures that the army not only defends the nation but also actively contributes to solving societal challenges. Elaborating further the principles guiding the establishment of Eritrea's army and security forces, the charter states that "because the security we desire is not so much the

security of the land but of the people, they should participate in the effort. Thus, we must establish national army, security and police institutions which function in close cooperation with the people."

The Eritrean army is a reliable pillar of national development and self-reliance. It is a force united with its people in development and defense of the country, a model that plays a critical role in reinforcing resilience and unity among its people. Its contributions to development efforts, such as water conservation, environmental restoration and road construction reinforce Eritrea's long-standing strategy of self-sufficiency. By actively engaging in these sectors, the Eritrean army is playing a vital role in securing a sustainable future for the country.

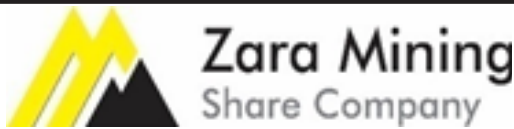


Vacancy Announcement

 Zara Mining
Share Company

Position:	Mining Maintenance Engineer
Number required	01
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine
Reporting to:	Maintenance Superintendent/ Mine Manager
Primary Responsibility & Scope of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- This role is crucial for ensuring the smooth operation and reliability of mining equipment, contributing to the overall success of the mining maintenance department. The maintenance Engineer must contribute to effectively managing maintenance operations, ensuring equipment reliability and operational efficiency in mining environments.
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Leadership and Management:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Oversee and manage all engineering maintenance activities on site.○ Lead a team of engineers and maintenance personnel, ensuring efficient and effective operations.○ Develop and implement maintenance strategies to optimize equipment reliability and performance.2. Maintenance Planning and Execution:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Plan, schedule, and execute preventive and corrective maintenance tasks.○ Coordinate maintenance activities for both underground and open pit operations.○ Ensure compliance with safety regulations and standards.3. Project Management:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Manage capital projects related to maintenance and engineering improvement○ Coordinate with contractors and vendors for equipment and service procurement.○ Monitor project progress and ensure timely completion within budget.4. Reporting and Documentation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Maintain accurate records of maintenance activities and equipment performance.○ Ensure documentation is up-to-date and accessible○ Ensure documentation is up-to-date and accessible.○ Bachelor's degree in engineering (Mechanical, Electrical, or related).○ An advanced degree (Master's or MBA) is a plus
Qualifications:	
Certifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Professional certifications such as CMRP (Certified Maintenance & Reliability Professional), or equivalent.○ GCC (Government Certificate of Competency) for Mines and Works
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Minimum of 10 years of experience in maintenance engineering, focusing on mining operations.○ Proven experience in both underground and open pit mining environments.○ Demonstrated leadership experience in managing large projects and teams.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Strong leadership and team management skills.○ Excellent problem-solving and analytical abilities.○ Proficiency in maintenance management software and tools.○ Knowledge of safety regulations and best practices in mining.
Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Strong communication and interpersonal skills.○ Ability to work under pressure and manage multiple priorities.○ Commitment to continuous improvement and innovation.

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Essential Skills:

1. **Technical Expertise:**
- Mechanical and Electrical Engineering: Deep understanding of mechanical and electrical systems used in mining equipment.

- Mining Operations: Knowledge of underground and open pit mining processes and equipment.
2. **Leadership and Management:**
- Team Leadership: Ability to lead, motivate, and manage a diverse team of engineers and maintenance personnel.

- Project Management: Skills in planning, executing, and overseeing maintenance projects, ensuring they are completed on time and within budget.
3. **Problem-Solving:**
- Analytical Thinking: Strong analytical skills to diagnose and resolve complex equipment issues.

- Decision-Making: Ability to make informed decisions quickly, especially in high-pressure situations.
4. **Communication:**
- Interpersonal Skills: Excellent communication skills to interact effectively with team members, contractors, and stakeholders.

- Reporting: Ability to prepare clear and concise reports on maintenance activities and project status.
5. **Safety and Compliance:**
- Safety Management: Knowledge of safety regulations and best practices to ensure a safe working environment.

- Regulatory Compliance: Understanding of environmental and industry regulations to ensure compliance.
6. **Resource Management:**
- Budgeting: Skills in managing budgets and resources efficiently.

- Scheduling: Ability to plan and schedule maintenance activities to minimize downtime and optimize productivity.
7. **Innovation and Continuous Improvement:**
- Technology Integration: Familiarity with advanced technologies and maintenance management software.

- Continuous Improvement: Commitment to improving maintenance processes and implementing innovative solutions
8. **Adaptability:**
- Flexibility: Adapting to changing conditions and new challenges in underground and open pit environments.

- Training: Skills in training and developing team members to enhance their capabilities.

Key Challenges:

1. **Safety Management:**
- Ensuring the safety of personnel in hazardous environments, including managing risks associated with confined spaces, reduced visibility, and potential rock falls in underground mines.

- Implementing and maintaining stringent safety protocols and emergency procedures.
2. **Equipment Reliability:**
- Maintaining the reliability and performance of mining equipment, which can be subject to harsh conditions and heavy usage.

- Addressing frequent breakdowns and ensuring timely repairs to minimize downtime.
3. **Transitioning Between Mining Types:**
- Managing the transition from open pit to underground mining involves different operational challenges and equipment requirements.

- Training personnel to adapt to new environments and technologies.
4. **Resource Allocation:**
- Efficiently allocating resources, including workforce and materials, to meet maintenance demands across both mining operations.

- Balancing budget constraints while ensuring high standards of maintenance.
5. **Technical Complexity:**
- Dealing with the technical complexities of underground mining, such as ventilation, ground control, and specialized equipment.

- Implementing advanced technologies like automation and remote monitoring systems.
6. **Environmental Impact:**
- Managing the environmental impact of mining activities, including waste management and pollution control.

- Ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and standards.
7. **Communication and Coordination:**
- Coordinating maintenance activities across different teams and departments to ensure smooth operations.

- Effective communication with stakeholders, including contractors and vendors.
8. **Continuous Improvement:**
- Driving continuous improvement initiatives to enhance maintenance processes and equipment performance.

- Staying updated with industry trends and best practices

Salary: According to the Company’s salary scale.

Place of work: Zara Mining Share Company Koka Gold Mine, Zoba Gash Barka

Additional Requirement for nationals: - Having fulfilled or been exempted from National Service obligations and providing evidence of a release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Having finished registration and performing duty for the National Army, present the release paper or registration card issued by the National Army. Present a Clearance paper from the current/last employer. Only short-listed applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview.

Application documents will not be returned to the sender.

Please mail your applications to the **ZARA MINING SHARE CO: P. O. Box 2393, Asmara,**

Note to Eritrean applicants: - Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea. and Eritrea. Mineral Resources Management P. O. Box 272.

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Eritrea's Agribusiness Initiative and the Hand-in-Hand Program

Mussie Efriem

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) convened, on 24 April, a National Agri-Business Conference focusing on carefully selected group of seven key commodities -- potato, banana, anchovy, cactus, pepper, poultry, and honey -- that are vital to Eritrea's food systems. Following is a set of views expressed by participants of the conference.

Mr. Semere Amlesom, Director General, Agricultural Extension Department, MoA:



Mr. Semere Amlesom

This conference is the first of its kind to be held in Eritrea. Following Eritrea's decision to join a global initiative comprising approximately seventy countries, the nation began preparations to implement the required procedures. Eritrea signaled its interest in participating through the MoA. Subsequently, research was undertaken by local experts in collaboration with the MoA and producers. This conference is an integral part of that preparatory process. Research findings are being presented to participants from various ministries and administrations for assessment, with a view to establishing a solid foundation of knowledge for future work. Many participating countries have made significant progress, and Eritrea seeks to match these achievements. To

facilitate this, plans are underway to invest approximately 70 million Nakfa in seven selected key commodities, in cooperation with the FAO. Furthermore, the researchers who presented thorough findings on this matter will participate in an international summit in October 2025. The current conference serves as a necessary preparation for that international program.

Ms. Nahla Valji, UN Resident Coordinator, Eritrea: This is a partnership led by the MoA and the FAO. As part of the UN, we are very proud that we can engage as partners on this initiative. It's about investment in agri-food systems, and as we know, food systems and food security are given priorities in this country. We see that when we invest in the value chain of food security, we increase incomes, gain economic independence, and, through food



Ms. Nahla Valji

security, impact health, education, and sustainable development goals.

Farayi Zimudzi – FAO Sub-Regional Coordinator: Basically, in my job, I lead the FAO team across eight countries in Eastern Africa. As FAO, we are promoting the transformation of the agri-food system, which is a tool for economic development. This conference was a landmark event in my opinion and from the FAO's perspective, in the sense that we

are supporting countries through this initiative to put agriculture at the center of economic and rural development. Eritrea, like many other economically developing countries, finds agriculture to be the key sector not only because



Ms. Farayi Zimudzi

it's contributing to the national economy but also, at the household level, it really is the main source of livelihood for the majority of Eritreans as well as other Africans. So, through this initiative, the Hand-in-Hand program, we seek ways to ensure the sector performs to its full potential by facilitating, supporting, and generating investment. FAO provides technical support to countries through investment planning, identifying key value chains that can be the focus of the investment. The national authorities do this; of course, the governments play a central role in this initiative, making sure that they identify the key private value chains within the agriculture sector that can then be the focus of the investment.

Mr. Kazuyuki Fujiwara – Regional Partnerships Officer in FAO Regional Office for Africa: I am here representing my Assistant Director General, Regional Representative for Africa, Dr. Abebe Haile Gabriel. And I am privileged to be here for this significant national dialogue on investment in the Hand-in-Hand initiative. Eritrea must embark on its investment plans in additional agricultural investment for poverty reduction and food security. It's also essential to catalyze and mobilize investment from both the public and private sectors, and to stimulate dialogue on what needs to be done and how to change challenges into opportunities for investment, taking care of the risks and sharing them with stakeholders. With these outcomes, the country delegates will join the global Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum



Mr. Kazuyuki Fujiwara

in Rome, Italy, this year. There, country delegation representatives will present investment cases to a variety of prospective global investors, including public and private financial institutions, development partners, and the private sector, to stimulate further dialogue on how best to collaborate and cooperate in catalyzing investment for agri-food system transformation in Eritrea.

Dr. Yonas Woldu – Hand-in-Hand Focal Person, MoA: The significance of the Hand-in-Hand initiative is crucial for Eritrea because we are actively working on major agricultural



Dr. Yonas Woldu

commodities within the country. These commodities hold high potential for significant production gains. This focus spans the entire value chain, starting right from the fundamental farm level and extending up to the end consumers. We must dedicate our efforts to comprehensively address all stages, encompassing efficient production techniques, careful handling practices, effective processing methods, and sound management strategies. This holistic approach is profoundly important for the country's overall economic and social development, paving the way for sustainable growth and improved livelihoods.

Mr. Mohamed AwDahir,

Senior Officer, Programme and Partnerships, FAO: Over the last year, I have been partially entrusted with the responsibilities of the FAO Eritrea program. Furthermore, I actively participated in the core team and held a leading role in the formulation process for the Hand-in-Hand initiative program. Within the specific context of Eritrea's development priorities, the Hand-in-Hand program stands out as an exceptionally crucial undertaking. Under the government's strong leadership, the Hand-in-Hand initiative aims to identify and strategically target meaningful investment opportunities within key agricultural value chain areas. This identification process maintains a specific focus not solely on generating economic benefit but also on achieving significant positive social benefits for the Eritrean people. Despite facing considerable challenges related to climate issues, Eritrea has already undertaken substantial investments in the vital water sector. To ensure that this significant investment in water resources is fully and effectively utilized, further improvement of the agriculture value chain across the nation is also critically important. We recognize the immense potential that exists, coupled with the exciting possibility of attracting significant investment not only from the public sector, which has already shown commitment, but also from the dynamic private sector, both domestic and international. For this reason, we envision a bright and prosperous future for the agricultural Eritrean industry, driven by this inherent potential and the tangible possibility of attracting targeted investments in strategic value chains. We eagerly look forward to witnessing Eritrea's active and impactful participation in the upcoming investment forum, which will be held in October, as a key step in realizing this vision.



Mr. Mohamed AwDahir

