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News Story

US based NGO embarks on educating Zambian teachers on importance of science.

Lusaka - A United States of America based Non-Governmental Organisation has embarked on educating Zambian students and teachers in secondary school on the importance of science and technology in sustainable development.

Cosmos Education aims at inspiring young students in Africa to define their role of science and technology for the future of sustainable development of the continent.

Organisation president, Kevin Hand says Cosmos Education realises the importance of educating African students to innovate their own equipment.

The organisation is running a project known as 'Under Africa Skies' which builds a scientific literacy from the ground up by teaching students across Southern Africa about science and technology.

Mr. Hand, who is a Ph.D. student in Geological and Environmental studies at Stanford university in United States of America, observed that there was a lot of dependence on the western manufactured machines hence the need to inspire Africans to make their own machinery.

He said it was high time African students diversified into scientific and technological knowledge so that they could learn to design and manufacture machines.

Mr. Hand noted that currently the team is teaching students and teachers in various secondary schools in Zambia and added that the learners are responding well to the lectures.

The team targets 25 secondary schools in Zambia.

He described the previous tutorials as having born positive results, which he said, would boost the moral of Cosmos Education, whose theme for the year is "Science and Sustainability".

The 16 - person team, which arrived in Zambia on July 1, will leave for Zimbabwe next week where it will conduct similar programmes before concluding their tour in South Africa.

Meanwhile, Cosmos Education publicity director, Vivian Nchogu disclosed that the organisation's curriculum involved topics on health, environment, electronics and physics.

Ms. Nchogu, who is also a member of Child Rights Defenders Movement in Nairobi, further said Cosmos Education has incorporated lessons on HIV/AIDS to ensure that young engineers safeguard themselves against the pandemic as they map out the sustainable developmental programmes for the future of African countries.

She emphasised that AIDS robbed many African countries of human resources hence the need for every organisation to sensitise cooperating partners about the dangers of the disease.

Cosmos Education is being sponsored by United Nations Officers for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and many others.

The organisation has 75 members around the globe.

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