



Ministry of Finance



Civil Society for Poverty Reduction

Joint GRZ-CSOs National Symposium On Sustainable Development

Conference Report



"Dialogue for the Zambia we want towards Vision 2030"

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

7NDP	Seventh National Development plan
AU	African Union
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resources Management
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSO	Central Statistical Office
CSPR	Civil Society for Poverty Reduction
DHID	Department of Housing and Infrastructure Development
DIP	Decentralization Implementation Plan
ECE	Early Childhood Education
EFA	Education for All
EIAs	Environmental Impact Assessments
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FNDP	Fifth National Development Plan
FSP	Food Security Pack
FTA	Foreign Trade Association
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HDI	Human Development Index
HDR	Human Development Report
HHS-SAG	Housing and Human Settlements Sector Advisory Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICESR	International Convention on Economic, Social and Culture Rights
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ITNs	Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets
LCMS	Living Conditions Monitoring Survey
LGEF	Local Government Equalisation Fund
LMI	Labor Market Information
LMIS	Labor Markets and Information Statistics
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MLGH	Ministry of Local Government and Housing
MESTVEE	Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education
MEWD	Ministry of Mines Energy and Water Development
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAPSA	National Pension Scheme Authority
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NGP	National Gender Policy
NHA	National Housing Authority
NHSP	National Health Strategic Plan
NIF III	Third National Implementation Framework
NMR	Neonatal Mortality Rate
PFM	Public Finance Management
POE	Policy on Environment
PWAS	Public Welfare Assistance Scheme
R-SNDP	Revised Sixth National Development Plan
SADC	Southern African Developing Countries
SCT	Social Cash Transfer Scheme
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEAs	Strategic Environmental Assessments
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprise
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SNDP	Sixth National Development Plan



List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities Threats
TB	Tuberculosis
TEVET	Technical, Vocational Education and Training
TIZ	Transparency International Zambia
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WASH	Water Sanitation and Health
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WHO	World Health Organization
ZANEC	Zambia National Education Coalition
ZAWA	Zambia Wildlife Authority
ZBPI	Zambia Bribe Payers Index
ZDHS	Zambia Demographic Health Survey
ZRA	Zambia Revenue Authority
ZSIC	Zambia State Insurance Corporation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Joint GRZ-CSOs National Symposium on Sustainable Development under the theme, “Dialogue for the Zambia We Want Towards Vision 2030,” was held from the 11th to the 12th of August, 2015. The purpose of the Symposium was to get broad ownership and consensus in formulating and ensuring a common development agenda. There were a number of issues that arose from the symposium.

Firstly, deliberators mentioned the need to increase rural capital to guarantee development and create value adding linkages to growth sectors such as mining and manufacturing industry, manufacturing and construction industry. In addition, issues regarding performance accountability, fiscal accountability, service delivery and institutional or policy coordination were highlighted. There were also discussions on the environment which concluded the need to incorporate climate change into the planning processes, particularly in terms of improving the legal framework for environmental management.

The common view was that the problems of gender inequalities are perpetuated on different levels of society in cross-cutting ways. To address this problem there was consensus that a cross cutting approach through policy would be the best response. Major emphasis was placed on the need to improve the coordination and decentralization of various land administration systems. There are a lot of displacements going on in Zambia, particularly where mining and extensive commercial agricultural activities are taking place.

There was also consensus across stakeholders that annual target setting of at least 10% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or above would be necessary in order for economic development to help provide prospects to improve livelihoods. In addition there is need to undertake an analysis and mapping of skills in the country so that appropriate training could be provided to meet the skills required in the economy. Finally, it was highlighted during the symposium that one of the main concerns relating to improvements of livelihoods is social protection, thus an improved social protection legislative framework is needed to help fight poverty, inequality and vulnerability, including; more financing, improved coordination and greater inclusion of the disabled in the service.

In the various Working Papers prepared by the member organizations of CSPR a few issues were pointed out. Stemming forth from commerce, trade and industry paper was the need to reduce trade costs, develop a clear tax policy framework to formalize informal trade. In addition the paper indicated the need to balance the incentives for local traders and investors while ensuring protection of the poor and vulnerable from the negative impacts of excessive trade liberalization.

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The Working Papers also make mention of the need for an improved policy framework on environment and natural resource management; the need for better coordination institutions and among stakeholders involved in the sector; need for stronger linkages between environment and natural resources management and poverty reduction; need for mechanisms to promote local community ownership and beneficiary; and the need for more political attention to the impact of degraded resource management on national development.

The papers focused on the need to continue the processes of providing more human resource, increasing the levels of material and financial support, especially in terms of the teaching staff, providing more infrastructure and incentives to human resources mostly in the rural areas as well as improve the quality of service provision. The consultation process that developed the Gender paper focuses the urgent need to domesticate the international instruments and obligations aimed at hastening the levels of representation of women in political governance, access to economic and financial public resources as well as effective legal means of providing security of all forms of gender based violence. The major area the governance paper aimed to bring up was the need for a broader development oriented approach of governance that will include social, political and legal aspects. They further highlight the need for an inclusive system of governance through the decentralization of the management of national affairs and resources. Specifically, on the urgent need for genuine political will and bureaucratic commitment to overcome corruption and other abuses of public office, authority, power and resources.

Housing and Human Settlement recognized its importance in the seventh national development as it is a growing concern. The measures that are needed to be undertaken are increased funding to the sector, provision of adequate housing and improved quality living environments and the harmonization of housing related policies including the proposed National Urbanization Policy as well as the National Housing Policy. In addition the importance of setting up a Housing and Human Settlements Sector Advisory Group (HHS-SAG) would bring together all key stakeholders and expertise in the sector as well as review and revise policy to meet the current development demands. Need for Government, working closely with financial institutions, develop and adopt new spatial planning norms and standards—improving public transport, locating jobs where people live, upgrading informal settlements and fixing housing market gaps.

Priority should be given to the development of Labour Markets and Information Statistics (LMIS) at National and sub-regional levels and set attainable Employment targets in the National Development Plan based on the Labour force statistics and create a monitoring mechanism for this on an annual basis. Further improvement of funding towards the policies and strategies aimed at improving labor, employment

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and sustainable livelihood in the economy. Stakeholders were of the view that the role of the Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry to create a conducive environment where youth participation in private sector development needs encouragement and promotion. This would need to be combined with an urgent need to develop and promote the expansion of other economic sectors, especially manufacturing, in order to expand opportunities of employment and job creation and the re-orient the education principles to improve the quality of skills, employability and productivity.

The members of the Health thematic group opted to highlight the need to continue the processes of providing more human resource, increasing the levels of material and financial support, especially medicines, providing more infrastructure especially in the rural areas as well as improve the quality of services provision. The views expressed were that efforts to meet the needs of the poor and ensure that the roles that water security plays in their livelihoods and growth are given more attention. The consultation process that developed into a paper further states the need to ensure that water is available in the right quantities and quality to facilitate supportive interventions focused on promoting pro-poor forms of economic growth. Government must increase funding to the sector in order to address deficits in infrastructure development in relation to the growing population. The importance of an improved legal and institutional framework that will promote, protect and sustain genuine and meaningful youth participation and representation in all sectors of development, especially economically and financially. More specifically, the need to take deliberate steps to ensure that the Youth have access and are part of the national governance processes.

The symposium, which was the first phase of Government–CSO consultations on sustainable development and national development planning was concluded with the issuance of a Joint Communiqué on 14th August, 2015. It alluded the need to further improve the macroeconomic indicators and ensure they translate into improved social outcomes as well as tie the foreign direct investment to domestic investment as a way of reducing the externalization of resources from the country. In addition, the need to do a SWOT analysis on the Zambian people was presented as this would inform the change of Mind Set programme aimed at positively changing our attitudes to national development initiatives and fully appreciate the Vision 2030 of becoming a prosperous middle income country. The analysis would provide data needed for critical thinking for the purpose of addressing the social challenges that we face as a country. It also covered the need to undertake similar indabas at provincial level for inclusiveness and to enrich national character by giving a voice to the voiceless in the national development process.

INTRODUCTION

This book is a narration of proceedings of the Joint GRZ-CSOs National Symposium on Sustainable Development under the theme, “Dialogue for the Zambia We Want Towards Vision 2030,” that was held from the 11th to the 12th of August, 2015 at Radisson Blu Hotel in Lusaka Zambia. A total of 190 participants drawn from civil society, the private sector, Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as the international community were in attendance at the symposium. The purpose of the Symposium was to secure the broad ownership and consensus in formulating and ensuring a common development agenda. The Symposium also aimed at providing a joint platform between GRZ and CSOs to find solutions to the problems and challenges that the country was facing in the formulation and implementation of the NDPs. Based on these premises, the following were the two major objectives that guided the proceedings of this symposium:

- To strengthen stakeholder involvement in delivering national development and;
- To develop a common understanding on the National Development agenda towards Vision 2030

The symposium covered the following key topics:

- i. A Review of the Sixth National Development Plan: The presentation, submissions and deliberations of this session mainly focused on the positive outcomes, challenges, failures and prospects witnessed during the period under review. The main outcome of this session was to facilitate a process of drawing out the key lessons that could be used in the upcoming Seventh National Development Plan.
- ii. Understanding Zambia’s National Planning Environment: The presentation, submissions and deliberations of this session mainly focused on highlighting the major implications of global developmental processes of change on Zambia. In particular, the deliberations focused on drawing out the key lessons from pursuing the MDGs as well as identifying the major prospects that Zambia faced as the country moved towards embracing the newly introduced Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- iii. Citizen Participation as a Central Pillar of Sustainable Development: The presentation, submissions and deliberations of this session mainly focused on strategies for enhancing citizen participation in the development planning processes, the need for consensus building and the provision of frameworks where communities would define their own development agenda and ensure equity and transparency.
- iv. Meaningful Youth Representation and Participation in National Development: The presentations, submissions and deliberations of this session mainly emphasized the importance and the need to identify key development activities

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- v. that would promote the potential and development skills of youth. Particularly, there was a call for sustained investment in strategies that would encourage genuine Youth representation and participation in the planning processes and transformation activities of the country.

The second section of this book covers the symposium proceedings. The third section of the book presents the 2015 Issues Paper prepared by Ministry of Finance and National Planning that highlights the Socio-Economic State of the Nation. To complement the content of the material there are also the initial sector specific working papers prepared by the various Civil Society for Poverty Reduction Thematic Group members provided in the fourth part of the book. These working papers were specifically aimed at facilitating dialogue and national consensus building among the private sector, government, international partners and civil society organizations on developmental concerns regarding the upcoming Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP 2015-2017). The fifth part provides the overall conclusion of the book and the way forward. Annex 1 the presents the Joint Communiqué that was concluded from the Government–CSO consultations on sustainable development and national development planning is presented.



2. JOINT GRZ-CSO SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ZAMBIA

The Government of the Republic of Zambia and Civil Society Organisations (GRZ/CSO) National joint symposium on Sustainable Development was held on the 11th and 12th of August, 2015 under the theme “*Dialogue for the Zambia we Want Towards Vision 2030*”. A total of 190 participants drawn from civil society, the private sector, Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as the international community were in attendance at the symposium. The purpose of the symposium was to secure ownership and consensus in ensuring a common development agenda and participation by stakeholders in the process of formulating a national development plan. Specifically, the objectives of the symposium were:-

- i. To strengthen stakeholder involvement in delivering national development and;
- ii. To develop a common understanding on the National Development agenda towards Vision 2030

The meeting provided a platform to find solutions to the problems and challenges that the country was facing in the formulation and implementation of National Development Plans. The symposium was officially opened by the Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Fredson K. Yamba, who reassured the symposium of Government’s commitment to promoting inclusiveness in national development processes and would seek to involve all key stakeholders in the development of the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP), 2017 – 2021. He emphasized the need for enhanced citizen participation in development planning processes, the need for consensus building and the provision of frameworks where communities would define their own development agenda and ensure equity and transparency. He further stressed the need to identify key development activities, especially those targeting the Youth, as well as involving them in the planning processes and transformation activities of the country. He recognized the need to put in place supportive frameworks that ensure that strategies and ideas that the youth have are taken on board.

2.1 Deliberations

The deliberations first took account of achievements, failures, lessons learnt, and challenges in undertaking national development towards Vision 2030 since it has been ten (10) years of implementation towards attaining the Vision. A number of key issues emerged from the various presentations, panelist discussions and plenary sessions such as the lack of clear linkages to the national budget and the deficiency in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation frameworks. It was pointed out that there was a poor social accountability system to hold government and development partners responsible over national development, hence the need to strengthen the

framework for checks and balances. The need for an integrated approach in undertaking national development was pronounced and affirmed the need to consider environmental sustainability in the development planning processes. The challenges faced to access to information at all levels were underscored, and government was urged to put in place mechanisms that ensure that stakeholders had access to information.

2.2 Moving Towards Vision 2030: Time to Take Stock

To set the tone of the symposium, the presentation on time to take stock was made. The main objective was to highlight achievements, failures and key lessons learnt from the planning and implementation of the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP), and Revised Sixth National Development Plan (R-SNDP) towards attaining Vision 2030, which is Zambia's long term national development plan. Processes, development plan delivery mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation as well as effectiveness and efficiency of the delivery mechanisms were considered and discussed. The key issues highlighted in the presentation were:

The current development efforts skewed towards peri-urban areas whilst poverty levels remained high at 60% with the rural areas exhibiting the highest prevalence at 77.9%. This has exposed the wide rural/urban divide and high inequalities between rural and urban areas. This bias towards urban areas also underpins inherent structural rigidities to transform growth into development outcomes at all levels.

High disease burden characterized by high prevalence and impact of communicable and non-communicable diseases, resulting in high maternal, neonatal and child morbidities and mortalities. Positive strides have been achieved in the fight against HIV/AIDS with a recorded reduction in the transmission of HIV especially from mother to child.

In the Economic sector, the economic growth rate was good over the 10-year period with an average of 6.6% but has resulted in poor job creation due to being driven by investments in the extractive industry, which has low capacity to generate jobs. There has been slow implementation of key reforms that would accelerate programs implementation and promote equitable distribution of resources. Significant also has been weak economic diversification exposing the economy to exogenous factors and making it less resilient to external shocks.

The national budget has been failing to reflect national development programmes and strategies that respond to the needs of the poor. There is need to ensure alignment of national budgets to national development plans in terms of content and well sequenced implementation.

Plenary

The discussion that ensued from the presentation highlighted the following:

- The need to implement strategies that would assist in translating the economic growth rate into improved social welfare demonstrated by improved human development indicators.
- The need to harness benefits of foreign direct investment for the domestic economy, enhancing and developing Small and Medium Scale Enterprises and financial sector development that ensures minimal externalization of resources.
- Improvements required in access to information for national development at all levels and more stringent measures in addressing issues of corruption
- Need to improve on debt management and expenditure to ensure that the country does not become highly indebted, and ensure resources from the debts are invested in sectors that will provide high returns.
- Need to move from an agricultural based economy to an industrial one by way of promoting value addition especially in the agricultural sector in order to create employment and fight poverty.
- Enhancing data management and thus invest in data collection, analysis complimented by effective monitoring and evaluation
- Speedy implementation of fiscal decentralization to allow for efficient and effective service delivery and consequently improved socio-economic development outcomes.
- Policy environment on resettlement to safeguard the needs of the local communities for continued livelihoods.
- Tax management improvements to maximize revenue collection
- Investing in research for national development
- Environmental sustainability needs to come out strongly and key players need to undertake collective responsibility and in unison for effective programme outcomes. A clear and concise strategy is required to achieve this.
- In the national development agenda, there is need to continue building on social security matters in order to achieve sustainable development.
- Economic infrastructure and other support sectors need to be invested in especially energy and transport.

2.3 Understanding the Environment we are planning in Today for Tomorrow's Social Economic Development

The global village is transitioning from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which characterized the development agenda for the period 2000 to 2015 and has

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laid a good foundation for the next 15 years of development news/discussion world over.

From the MDGs various lessons have been learnt, best practices and the need to adapt and innovate approaches that deliver for the economic emancipation of the people.

Zambia being a member of the global village has taken seriously these developments and positioning itself to transition from the MDGs to now what are coined the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the process of transitioning from MDGs to SDGs, it was recognized that there have been implementation challenges in meeting the MDGs, and these include the: -

- Absence of a comprehensive legal framework
- Weak linkages between the national development planning and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), and Poor coordination within and between different tiers of government, national & sector levels, provinces and districts.
- To overcome the above challenges, government developed the National Planning and Budgeting Policy in 2014 whose main objective was to;
- Enhance stronger coordination mechanisms and institutional arrangements to create synergies between planning and budgeting.
- Improve the legal framework to harmonize different tiers of Government in the implementation of national plans including effective coordination, and monitoring of SDGs.
- Develop capacity to capture revenues from its vast natural resources and equitably allocate them to promote inclusive growth and development.

Plenary

Following the discussion on understanding the environment, the following summarizes the discussion from the plenary session:

- Need to mainstream SDG's into national development plans.
- Make quality education a number one priority in Zambia.
- Recognize the critical role of domestic finance (looking at human resource mobilization); international finance; and ODA.
- Incorporate implementation processes in the development plan framework.
- Need to focus our resources at the frontline of service delivery: schools, hospitals, etc.
- There should be consequences for under-performance
- Need to develop institutional frameworks to protect those at the end of service delivery.
- Move away from over reliance on donor funds, for sustainable development.
- Encourage integration among sectors for better coordination

- Need to address issues of equity, quality, and inclusiveness in the different sectors.

2.4 Youth Perspectives on National Development

Zambia's large youthful population presents an opportunity for national development. With more than 52% of the country's total population aged under 18, this large number presents an opportunity to accelerate socio-economic development that will bridge gaps of inequality and vulnerability, including reduction of poverty. A group of Youths were invited to take part in the symposium discussing how they view national development, what opportunities were available, challenges they faced and what all stakeholders could do to involve them. Major highlights from the discussion where:-

- Enhance education and skills development efforts, and ensure access to education by the vulnerable and those from disadvantaged homes.
- Creation of job opportunities and an enabling environment for SME development by assisting Youths to access more easily financial resources and business skills.
- They emphasized the need to revamp youth development centres in communities.
- Access to financing and simplifying the process of accessing such financing.
- Promotion of organizations that help youths start up business.
- Need to change the education curriculum to include practical subjects to enable school leavers have skills that can enable them to earn an income.
- Need for libraries in communities to promote access to reading materials and improved educational outcomes.
- Reduction of bureaucracy in the acquisition of government services e.g. the process of obtaining National Registration Cards.

Panelist discussion

The discussion that followed brought out the following key points:

- Need to have a tangible vision to look at issues of value addition in our industries for more meaningful development and job creation.
- Meaningful empowerment and involvement of youths in development plans and activities.
- Promote the implementation of reforms to address rural poverty.
- Ensure a bottom-up approach to planning and implementation of the development agenda.
- Need to emphasize export, supported by clear strategies on national export for genuine development and trickle-down effect.

2.5 Highlights of Emerging Issues

There are a number of key issues that were sighted as crucial during the symposium:

Gender: The problems of gender inequalities are perpetuated on different levels of society in crosscutting ways. Therefore, addressing this problem would have to utilize policy on the crosscutting issues and levels.

Land: Poverty reduction requires access to land. There are a lot of displacements going on in Zambia, particularly where there is mining. Because of inadequate institutional capacity, most people don't own title to their land. Title deeds are only processed in Lusaka, which leaves room for corruption. As such, we need:

- A comprehensive framework for obtaining land.
- To undertake a land inventory for effective planning.
- To improve coordination and decentralization of various land administration systems.

Social Protection: We need a social protection legislative framework to help fight poverty, inequality and vulnerability. There should be more financing, improved coordination, and greater inclusion of the disabled in the service.

Environment: There is need to incorporate climate change into planning processes; look towards sustainable and renewable energy; balance between the benefits of mining and its environmental costs; develop a legal framework for environmental management; and develop a resolution mechanisms for environmental conflict, which is on the rise.

2.6 Future Prospects

A session of expert panel discussants proposed options or actions to address the main impediments identified in the sessions above, this took a norm setting, policy advice and lessons, and development of strategies. The key proposals, forward-looking nature, were:

Agriculture: As most people in the country are in the rural area and employed in agriculture, there is need to increase rural capital to guarantee development.

Linkages: Need to strengthen linkages among various sectors, e.g., between mining and manufacturing industry, manufacturing and construction industry, etc.

Productivity: We need to set targets of at least 10% GDP in order for economic development to improve livelihoods. A national productivity center needs to be developed in order to achieve such levels of growth.

Skills development: We need an analysis and mapping of skills in the country, so that we have a clear sense of where we are lacking so that appropriate training could be organized to meet needed skills.

Value addition: We need to enhance value addition, especially in the mining and agriculture sectors.

Fiscal decentralization: The planning unit should move out of the Ministry of Finance and have a separate ministry so as to ensure an efficient fiscal architecture. There is need to have a clear redistribution agenda, and clear national goals framework.

Accountability: There is need to bring on board and open up a public service channel for accountability purposes.

Improve tax policy: We need a tax policy that is consistent to enable ZRA manage resource mobilization better. Maybe set up an intergovernmental tax body, for regional cooperation.

Energy: There is need to serious address the energy crisis in Zambia. Private sector actors should be involved in the provision of power, without undermining government involvement.

Fundamentalism: Care should be taken to mitigate retrogressive messages, particularly in religious contexts.

2.7 Conclusion

At the end of the symposium, one participant, representing the youth, gave a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude that the symposium took stock of the various development initiatives as the nation began the development of the 7NDP and moving forward was hopeful that Youths would be given an opportunity to continue contributing towards the development of National Plans. A communique was issued that was read by the Secretary to the Treasury; Mr. Fredson K. Yamba. The Communique would serve as a primary input document in the preparation of the 7NDP and is attached hereto.

STATE OF THE NATION: ISSUES PAPER

The development of the National Planning and Budgeting Policy of 2013 is designed to guide the formulation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of national development plans. The policy stipulates that the formulation of national development plans commence two years prior to the expiration of the current plan. It is in this regard that the formulation of the successor of the Revised Sixth National Development Plan (R-SNDP) 2013-2016, the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) 2017-2021, starts this year (2015).

The formulation process commences with the development of the Issues paper which takes into account the achievements and failures, key lessons learnt from the planning and implementation of Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), the Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP) and the R-SNDP. The paper also suggests options for development strategies that could be employed in order to attain the envisaged outcomes.

The purpose of this paper is to bring out strategic issues for Government to provide policy direction on the structure, content and strategic focus of the successor Plan.

3.1 Background

In 2005, Zambia prepared a long term development plan, the National Vision 2030 whose aim is to achieve middle income status. The objective of the vision 2030 is to attain and sustain annual real economic growth rates of between 6 and 10 percent; attain and maintain a moderate inflation rate of 5 percent; decelerate the annual population growth rate from its 2005 rate of 2.9 percent to a rate of less than 1.0 percent over the next 25 years; reduce national poverty head count to less than 20 percent of the population; reduce income inequalities measured by a Gini coefficient of less than 40; and to provide secure access to safe potable water sources and improved sanitation facilities to 100 percent of the population in both urban and rural areas.

In order to operationalise the vision 2030, national medium term, five year development plans are developed (NDPs). To actualise the Vision 2030, the Fifth National Development Plan (2005-2010) and then the Sixth National Development Plan (2011-2015) were developed. However, it should be noted that the SNDP was not implemented fully because of the change of Government in 2011. The PF Government had to revise the SNDP to take into account the new Government development aspirations hence the R-SNDP (2013-2016).

The overall focus of these Medium development plans since 2006 has been infrastructure development and poverty reduction. During the implementation of these plans, the country has registered positive economic growth averaging over 6 percent, however, poverty has remained persistently high above 60 percent with rural poverty

at 77 percent implying that poverty has a rural dimension. The growth has further been amidst high unemployment rate of 7.8 percent and 70 percent of the employed are underemployed. This service has left the informal sector at 83.4 percent of the employed. Furthermore, the inequality has worsened from 0.61 in 2005 to 0.65 in 2013 with an ever growing population with an average annual rate of 2.8 from 2005 to 2013. Inflation rate on the other hand has been between 7 and 9 from 2005 far above the target of less than 5.

In order to accelerate this growth and ensure inclusive development towards Vision 2030, Government is embarking on the preparation of the Seventh National Development Plan, (7NDP) 2017-2021. The 7NDP will take into account the achievements and failures of the FNDP/SNDP/R-SNDP.

3.2 Rationale

The implementation of the FNDP, SNDP/R-SNDP has resulted in good performance of the economy which registered a positive growth of over 6 percent, attained single digit inflation and stable interest rates. In spite of the gains attained, poverty levels remain very high with a high unemployment rate and increasing inequality.

This persistent growth/poverty paradox raises questions: Why is Zambia's positive real GDP growth not translating into positive improvement in livelihoods; what is constraining inclusive growth; and why is slow progress being made towards the attainment of key objectives of the Vision 2030?

In view of the above, this paper will highlight the development status in relation to the desired National Vision outcome. This will help Government provide policy change vis-à-vis development, content and strategic focus for the successor plan.

3.3 Situation Analysis

Below is an analysis of the results of the three development plans that have so far been implemented towards attaining the set objectives in the Vision 2030 highlighting among others the key challenges and lessons learnt. The section first gives a general overview and then goes down into specific sectors.

3.3.1 General Overview

During the SNDP and R-SNDP period, Zambia departed from the FNDP policy focus of rehabilitation and maintenance of capital projects, and embarked on an expansionary fiscal path of adding to the existing stock of infrastructure. New constructions have characterized the infrastructure sector covering the sub-sectors of

education, health, energy, agriculture, and roads, which are aimed at providing an enabling environment for investment, growth and development of human capital.

3.3.2 Poverty

In spite of the impressive economic growth rates that have been posted over the past decade, poverty levels and inequality remain high at 60 percent and 0.65. Urban poverty stands at 27.5 percent, while rural poverty is 77.9 percent. This means that the current development efforts are skewed towards urban areas. To address this situation, there is need for appropriate economic governance reforms and instruments aimed at promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development. For instance, putting in place specific interventions to improve the welfare of the extreme poor and vulnerable population through a well-targeted system and appropriate targeting of economic empowerment programmes aimed at wealth and job creation.

3.3.3 Political Economy

Good governance and a stable political framework are necessary for sustainable development as it promotes conducive business environment, increased market confidence and attracts foreign direct investment among others. In this regard, there is need for policy consistence and a strong political will in socio-economic policy implementation.

3.3.4 Reforms and Policies

The implementation of the three plans has received positive support from both the political, national and stakeholders. However, this has not been without encumbrances as implementation of policy reforms have been slow. The following reforms have been implemented since the FNDP period; Decentralisation, Private Sector Development Programme, Public Financial Management, Financial Sector Development. This has not supported the full implementation of the national development plans. Therefore, there is need for Government to speed up the implementation of various policy reforms.

3.3.5 Budget Performance

The budget is the main implementation tool for operationalisation of the national development plans. Despite the three plans having increased allocation to sectors targeting human development, the allocation in the budgets was not as expected. In addition, funds were actually not availed on time as in most instances funding is done at the close of the year.

A detailed analysis of expenditure within MPSAs exposed that programmes were not funded as provided for in the plans. Therefore, to achieve the planned outcomes, there is need to fund programmes in line with the Plan objectives.

3.4 Implementation of National Development Plans

Ever since the re-introduction of National Development Planning and during the design of all three Plans, it was perceived that the institutional arrangement and capacities was going to manage the coordination and implementation of the provisions in the plans. However, the institutional arrangement and capacities tended to negatively affect the implementation of all the three plans as the staffing levels were not adequate. The absence of an apex authority to ensure that sectors maintain their focus on national development plans targets was a major vacuum. In addition, absorption capacity in the various sectors and untimely releases of resources for implementation of various planned programmes has significantly impeded in the effective implementation of national development plans. Further, there were weak inter-sectoral linkages to promote a coordinated approach to development. Therefore, there is need to strengthen MPSAs coordination and capacities to support the implementation of future development plans.

Furthermore, the lack of a national programme/project appraisal system for instance has impacted on the implementation of programmes resulting in weak prioritization of projects. Additionally delayed implementation of projects resulted in the escalation of costs, as most projects would overrun their completion dates, hence putting pressure on the budget. Going forward, it is recommended that a programme/project appraisal system be developed and implemented to address these challenges.

Table 1 shows a summary of performance of the three plans.

Table 1: Summary of Performance of the FNDP/SNDP/R-SNDP

NDP	THEME	FOCUS	ACHIEVEMENTS	CHALLENGES	KEY LESSONS
FNDP	Broad based wealth and job creation through citizenry participation and technological advancement	Economic Infrastructure and human resource development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ave GDP 6.1% • Ave inflation 6.4% • Average growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agric 3.8% ○ Manufacturing 3.4% ○ Energy 4.9% ○ Construction 11.1% ○ Mining 9.8% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty >60% • Gini Coefficient >0.6 • Employment Rate • Delayed implementation of Reforms (Decentralization) • Poor infrastructure • Human Resource Deficit • Lack of programme and project implementation framework • Unemployment rate 7.8 %. And 70 % of employed are under underemployed • Large informal sector 83.4 percent of the employed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak institutional environment to support development. • Over optimistic on prioritization of program. • Inclusion of unplanned programs midway the implementation of the plan. • The plan was not embraced by all stakeholders. • Among the less diversified countries (4.5 index) • Poor linkage of budget and plan
SNDP	Sustained economic growth and poverty reduction	Infrastructure and human development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ave GDP 6.8 % • Ave inflation 6.66% • Poverty >60 • Rural poverty >70 • Gini >0.6 • Ave. growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agric 2.5% ○ Manufacturing 7.0% ○ Energy 5.8% ○ Construction 11.6% ○ Mining -1.3% 		
R-SNDP	People centered economic growth and development	Public Capital Investment with bias towards rural development and job creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ave GDP 6.3 % • Ave inflation 7.2% 		

3.5 The NDP Planning Approach

The FNDP and SNDP/R-SNDP were structured as both policy and investment plans. However, there were too many designated priority sectors that utilised a sectorial approach (instead of an integrated approach) which resulted in thinly spreading of resources among them. Consequently, there was no meaningful impact on development.

Going forward it would be useful to focus on limited national level broad outcomes which will foster national development.

3.5.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

All the three plans provided for the M&E frameworks and systems to support decision making processes. However, the M&E frameworks and systems were unable to

provide data as expected. This was due to untimely production of data, fragmentation of systems within and between ministries, and poor appreciation of M&E in MPSAs for internal use. In view of the above, there is need to strengthen the results focus that would drive growth and development against which success would be measured.

3.5.2 Economic Sector

The Vision 2030 remains the anchor for Zambia’s long term development agenda. The overall focus of the development plans in the past decade has been basically on

<i>Growth of selected Economic Sectors</i>		
	2006	2013
Agriculture	2.2	(7.4)
Mining	7.3	5.9
Manufacturing	5.7	4.5
Energy	10.5	5.9
Construction	14.4	11.4

<u>Issues to address</u>	
✓	Poor infrastructure
✓	Low productivity
✓	Value addition

infrastructure and human development and the emphasis has been in energy, transport, health and education. It is acknowledged that infrastructure development is an enabler for economic growth and development, however, the sustained economic growth recorded in the last

<i>Highlights on the selected Indicator 2006/2013</i>		
Indicator	2006	2013
HDI	0.407	0.561
Diversification Index	4.223	4.644
S-I Ratio		
Gini coefficient	0.60	0.65
Population Growth % (1)	2.4	2.8
Domestic Resources % GDP		
National Poverty		
Headcount % (<20)	62.8	60.5
<i>rural poverty</i>	80.3	77.9
<i>Urban poverty</i>	29.7	27.5
GDP per capita US\$	270	1,839

decade has not been responsive to job creation and poverty reduction. This evidenced by high poverty which declined only by 2 percent in both national headcount poverty and rural poverty to 60.5 percent and 77.9 percent respectively. This was despite an average economic growth of 6.5 percent in the plan periods. The key findings in the review documents of the National Development Plans, indications are that infrastructure development has not been well targeted and have remained poor especially in rural areas thereby contributing to rural areas lagging behind in development.

3.5.3 Economic Growth

Amid sustained economic growth of an average 6 percent over the past decade, macroeconomic stability, increased Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of over US\$ 10 billion (with Zambia ranked among the top ten biggest FDI recipients in Africa in 2013), employment creation has been difficult to achieve due to growth mainly being driven by capital intensive sectors such as Mining, Energy and Manufacturing.

Although Agriculture has been one of the drivers of this growth and remains the main employer of over 50 percent of the Zambian people, especially the rural population, productivity has persistently remained low compounded by limited investments in the sector. In 2012, the agriculture sector for instance recorded a negative growth of 7.4

percent attributed to its high reliance on rain fed agriculture. Government should expedite implementation of irrigation development and its associated technology.

The sector has further been affected by low mechanization, poor access to markets, and low access to finance, modern farm inputs and under-funded research and extension services. There is also need to facilitate investment in the sector and promote agriculture diversification.

3.5.4 Infrastructural Development

Infrastructure development has been the strategic focus of the development plans so far implemented towards achieving the Vision 2030. The main areas of focus in infrastructure development were transport, energy, education and health facilities.

In the transport sector, the roads sub-sector was the priority area in the three plans. This was with a view of creating an enabling environment for the movement of goods and services. For example, under the Road SIP II, the objective was to maintain Core Road Network of 40,113km, while Link Zambia 8000 Project's objective was to construct, rehabilitate and maintain 8,000 km of road work but, only 300 km has been done so far. Under the Pave Zambia 2000 Project, which intends to rehabilitate and construct 2,000 km of Urban Roads using concrete block paving over a period of 5 years so far, 5km, has been constructed up to base layer with 2.4km stabilised and laying of pavers in progress.

With regard to education, the objective was to improve equitable access to and quality of education. This was targeted at construction of new universities and secondary schools in all provinces. Under tertiary education, the target was construct nine universities across the country, while under basic and secondary education, the target was construct 10,000 basic school classrooms and 106 high schools respectively. However, all the projects are at various levels of construction.

In the health sector, the objective was to provide sustainable infrastructure conducive for the delivery of quality health services at all levels of the health care system. Under this sector, a mixture of works to upgrade, construct and maintain new and existing hospitals were undertaken. For example, during the SNDP, six district hospitals were planned but only two was done.

In the energy sector, the objective was to increase access to energy services through the construction of new hydro-power projects and uprating of existing ones. However, the demand continues to outstrip the supply due to increased economic activities in the mining, manufacturing and agriculture sectors.

Despite the current infrastructure expansionary focus, there is little maintenance and rehabilitation of existing ones. The roll-out of infrastructure in these sectors at the same time has led to undue pressure on the National Budget and implementation

capacity limitations. To accommodate these projects, Zambia has resorted to external and domestic borrowing to finance the infrastructure development. Evidence has shown that most of these projects are either unfinished or abandoned, while contractors continue to charge standing fees, despite there being no activity on the ground.

There is need, therefore, to take stock of the outcome of this massive nation-wide financial investment in capital projects, including the implications of this approach on institutional and human capacities and capabilities. This will enable Government to balance the construction of new capital projects with the available resources.

3.5.5 Employment and Labour

Selected indicator of employment and Labour

2006

2013

Unemployment rate	15.0	7.8
Informal sector Employment	89.3	84.6
Formal sector employment	11.0	15.4
Labour force participation rate	74.6	75.9
Youth unemployment rate		10.0

Issues to be addressed

- ✓ *Promotion of labour intensive sectors*
- ✓ *Labour productivity*
- ✓ *Matching skills with labour demand*

More than 80 percent of the employed in Zambia are in the informal sector. However, the sector is characterized by low productivity, low capital investments and low levels of technology, thereby offering limited prospects of improving the standard of living of the majority of the people. The graduation of the youthful population into the labour force has been a challenge in an environment that has more capital intensive industry. This has also been compounded by the mismatch between supply of skills and demand of industry, as well as inadequate opportunities that support practical work related skills and limited graduation of micro and small to medium scale enterprises.

3.5.6 Environment

One of the key pillars of sustainable development is environment and it is worth noting that Zambia's forest cover is about 66 percent of total land mass of which 9.6 percent are protected forest. However, between 1990 and 2000, Zambia had highest deforestation rate of about 851,000ha in Southern Africa thus reducing the forest cover to 49.9 percent in 2010. Consequently, the nation has been experiencing reduced rainfall periods and amounts as well as an increase in temperatures of 0.6 degrees Celsius over the last decade.

Key Issues for Discussion in Environment

- ✓ *Realignment of production & Consumption patterns*
- ✓ *Promotion of Innovation, R&D*
- ✓ *Economic Diversification*
- ✓ *Rural development*
- ✓ *Forestry as an economic driver*

Therefore, to enable socio-economic development, there is need to promote prudent environmental management such as prevention of land degradation, sustainable water use and natural resources management, and protecting natural resources base including biodiversity.

3.5.7 Policy Environment

Economic growth has been supported by stable macroeconomic environment however this has not been commensurate with a supportive policy setting to address the challenges of access to cheap credit, competitive markets, and lack of innovation and promotion of value addition. The failure of strong macroeconomic position to translate into poverty reduction and inequality reflects policy constraints which include; low savings and investment ratio as percentage of GDP, reflecting an inefficient domestic resource mobilization that constrained domestic investment; vulnerability to external shocks due to over dependence on the mining sector.

Key Reforms for Growth Enhancement
Private sector Development reforms
Fiscal policy reforms

Issues to address

- ✓ *Broadening of Tax base*
- ✓ *SMEs development*

3.5.8 Diversification

Diversification of the economy away from Mining sector has been Zambia's development strategy for the past decades. This is amid huge potential in the agriculture, commerce and industry, tourism and forestry. Despite the robust and sustained economic growth that the country has recorded, it remains among the less diversified countries with an average diversification index of 4.5 between 2006 and 2010. This means the country has only been focusing on export diversification (raw materials) at the expense of product quality upgrade as a critical component of diversification. Therefore, this continues to expose the economy's vulnerability to exogenous factors such as the fall in copper and fluctuating oil prices, which over the years tended to erode the gains made in economic growth.

Key Issues to address for diversification

- ✓ *Quality upgrade of products and services*
- ✓ *Promotion of value addition*

3.6 Social Sectors

Zambia falls in the bracket of countries with Low Human Development and has shown minimal gains on the Human Development Index (HDI) value from 0.405 in 1980 to 0.448 in 2012. This is evident in the education, health and water and sanitation statistics.

Table 2: Zambia's HDI trends based on consistent time series data, new component indicators and new methodology

	Life expectancy at birth	Expected years of schooling	Mean years of schooling	GNI per capita (2005 PPP\$)	HDI value
1980	52	7.7	3.3	1,424	0.405
1985	51.2	7.7	4	1,185	0.405
1990	47.5	7.9	4.7	1,135	0.398
1995	43.5	7.9	6.1	0,959	0.385
2000	42	7.9	5.9	0,981	0.376
2005	44.4	7.9	6.4	1,060	0.399
2010	48.5	8.5	6.7	1,234	0.438
2011	49	8.5	6.7	1,307	0.443
2012	49.4	8.5	6.7	1,358	0.448

Source: Human Development Report 2013

3.6.1 Health

Zambia has a high burden of disease, which is mainly characterised by high prevalence and impact of communicable diseases, particularly high maternal, neonatal and child morbidities and mortalities, HIV and AIDS, STIs, and TB and Malaria. The country is also faced with a rapidly rising burden of non-communicable diseases, including mental health, diabetes, cardio-vascular diseases and violence.

3.6.2 Maternal Health

Zambia has registered a decline in maternal mortality from 649 per 100,000 live births in 1996 to 483 in 2010. Compared to the target of 180, the Government should invest in health, education and family planning interventions, among others.

Key Issues for Discussion:

- ✓ High disease burden
- ✓ Inadequate medical staff
- ✓ Weak logistics management in the supply of drugs and medical supplies
- ✓ Inadequate and inequitable distribution of health infrastructure, equipment and transport

3.6.3 Child Survival

Zambia has made good progress in reducing child mortality and improving child survival towards the Vision 2030. Under-5 mortality declined by 60 percent, from 191 in 1992 to 75 per 1,000 live births in 2013/4, while infant mortality declined by 58 percent, from 107 to 45 per 1,000 live births during the same period. Regarding neonatal mortality, a decline of 44 percent was registered during the same period.

Compared to other countries in the sub-region, Zambia's child mortality rates remain high at 75 per 1000 live births compared to 46.4 in Botswana and 43.9 in South Africa. The high mortality rate in Zambia is attributed to, among other factors, illiteracy, poor water and sanitation, poor nutrition and inadequate provision of health

3.6.4 Nutrition

The high rate of child malnutrition is a key risk factor for childhood illness and mortality. According to the Demographic and Health Surveys, the level of malnutrition has hardly changed, with stunting, wasting and underweight registering 46 percent, 6 percent and 21 percent, in 1992, respectively, compared to 40 percent, 6 percent and 15 percent in 2013/14. In particular, stunting has a bearing on cognitive development, physical work capacity, and health status in adulthood. There is need to increase nutrition interventions to promote health status of the population.

3.6.5 HIV/AIDS

According to the Demographic and Health Survey, Zambia has registered a decline in the HIV prevalence rate from 15.6 percent in 2002 to 14.3 percent in 2007. Notwithstanding this achievement at national level, there are great differences in HIV prevalence rates amongst provinces (see Table -3)

Table-3: HIV Prevalence by Province

Province	HIV Prevalence Rate (%)	
	2002	2007
Luapula	13	11
Lusaka	21	22
North-Western	7	9
Southern	15	18
Eastern	10	14
Western	15	13
Northern/Muchinga	7	8
Copperbelt	17	20
Central	18	15

Source: Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, 2013-2014

Lusaka, Copperbelt and Central Provinces are all above 15.6 percent. Therefore, interventions should focus on provinces with high prevalence, with special attention on adolescent girls in rural areas, as it has been noted that the prevalence rate among girls in rural areas is higher than for girls living in urban centres (5.9 and 5.5 percent respectively).

With regard to HIV incidence, the rate of new infections in the Zambian adult population has reduced by more than half to 0.96 percent amongst males and 1.25 percent amongst females during the period 1990 to 2011. Although the incidence rate amongst adults over 15 years of age is projected to continue falling from 2011 to 2015, by 2.2 percent for men and 2.1 percent for women, it is still high.

It has been noted that, in Zambia, 40 percent of new HIV infections occur within the age group 15 to 24 years. In view of this, the focus is increasingly shifting to reduction of new infections.

3.6.6 Malaria, TB and Non-Communicable Diseases

Zambia has recorded an increase in new cases of malaria from 255 per 1,000 population in 1990 to 330 in 2010. Similarly, the fatality rate increased from 11 per 1,000 population in 1990 to 34 in 2010, despite the proportion of household with insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs) increasing from 9.3 percent in 2000 to 64.3 percent in 2010. Among other factors, this deterioration in malaria indicators is partly attributed to the malaria parasite's resistance to first line treatment drugs. Other identified factors include inadequate availability of malaria prevention drugs, inadequate regular indoor residual spraying and human resource and infrastructure constraints for diagnosis and treatment in high malarial areas. As such, focus should be on addressing the foregoing identified factors.

With regard to Tuberculosis, control efforts are effective in the country. Since reaching a peak of 545 new cases per 100,000 people in 2004, the notification rate has been falling steadily to 372 new cases in 2011. Zambia has also reached the WHO targets for both TB case detection (70 percent) and treatment success rate (85 percent). In 2011, Zambia's TB case detection rate was 73 percent and its treatment success rate reached 89 percent.

While there has been concerted effort to treat TB and other infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases are becoming a great concern. Mortality and loss of productivity due to heart disease, diabetes and hypertension are on the rise, and these diseases pose a health challenge in Zambia. The interventions should be aimed at prevention of the identified challenges.

3.6.7 Education

Education and training provides skills to drive economic and social development within the context of both the local and global economy. The objective is to provide equitable access to quality education. Over the past decade, Zambia has made great strides in achieving universal primary education. However, few pupils progress to secondary school, and tertiary level enrolments are very low. This is mainly due to limited infrastructure capacities, inadequate learning materials and teachers, and poor oversight in both the public and growing private education sector.

Low enrolment at tertiary levels of education poses a challenge as inadequate skilled labour graduate with the necessary technical know-how and skills required to maximise productivity and allow the country to compete favourably with the fast-developing nations of the world.

Key Issues for Discussion:

- ✓ *Quality of education*
- ✓ *Improving the pupil-teacher ratio*
- ✓ *Supply of education prerequisite facilities and maintenance of education infrastructure*
- ✓ *Improve the uptake and transition of pupils from primary through secondary up to tertiary.*
- ✓ *Realigning the curriculum towards labor market needs.*

Therefore, the focus should be aimed on improving the quality of education through improved pupil-teacher ratio, supply of education prerequisite facilities and provision of education infrastructure, among others. In addition, there is need to improve the uptake and transition of pupils from primary through secondary up to tertiary. To augment these interventions, efforts ought to be made in realigning the curriculum towards labour market needs.

3.6.8 Water and Sanitation

Achievements recorded from the implementation of the three plans in the water and sanitation sector are mainly an increase of the proportion of households with access to safe water from 56.6 percent in 2006 to 61.6 percent in 2010. Of this increase, rural households have gained greater access to safe water sources from 41 to 49 percent. On the other hand, urban households' use of safe water declined from 86.6 percent in 2006 to 83.6 percent in 2010.

Notwithstanding the notable improvements, access to safe sources of water remains a challenge in rural areas. In addition, access to safe sources of water, for households classified as poor, averages 48 percent for the extremely poor and 55 percent for the moderately poor, as compared to 75 percent for the non-poor.

In order to sustain the achievements in this sector, Government has undertaken national water reforms and created commercial water and sewerage utility companies in urban and peri-urban areas, while Government through Ministry of Local Government and Housing has embarked on a robust rural water supply programme. The commercial water and sewerage utility companies have improved the quality of service, however, coverage and financial viability remain low, particularly due to poor water reticulation infrastructure which results in approximately 50 percent of the water being wasted. There is, therefore, need to accelerate the implementation of the interventions in the provision of safe water to all areas.

Key Issues for Discussion:

- ✓ *Need to accelerate the implementation of the interventions in the provision of safe water in rural and urban areas*
- ✓ *Increase in human settlements without basic sanitation.*

With regard to sanitation, the proportion of the population without access to improved sanitation facility worsened from 26 percent in 1991 to 67.3 percent in 2010. A significant part of this decline may be attributed to the change in the definition of improved sanitation in 2010. The decline is further explained by the increase in human settlements without basic sanitation. At this rate, Zambia is unlikely to achieve the set targets of 68 percent access to sanitation for all by 2015 and 90 percent by 2030 under the Vision 2030. There is need to accelerate the implementation of the interventions in the provision of sanitation to all areas.

3.6.9 Social Protection

The aim of the social protection sector has been to empower low capacity households and provide social assistance to incapacitated households and support to vulnerable people to live decent lives with a focus of promoting human development and dignity. Therefore, Government has been implementing interventions in the form of social protection that are meant to prevent, eliminate or reduce poverty and vulnerability. The programmes include Public Welfare Assistance Scheme (PWAS), Social Cash Transfer Scheme (SCT), Food Security Pack (FSP) programme, women empowerment, enhancement of vulnerable people's justice system, child protection, Self Help Initiatives and the Promotion of Literacy among vulnerable groups.

Although Government has been implementing this social protection programme, few of the vulnerable and poor people are able to get out of their poverty trap. This, therefore, calls for the Government to review the current measures with the aim of effective targeting and relevance.

3.6.10 Gender

Zambia has made strides in promoting gender equity and equality in the development process and the empowerment of all. In this regard, major interventions focused on gender mainstreaming into policies and legislation; and support to the socio-economic empowerment of women.

According to the 2013 Human Development Report, Zambia has a Gender Inequality Index (GII)¹ value of 0.623, ranking 136 out of 148 countries in the 2012 index. Eleven point five (11.5) percent of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 25.7 percent of adult women have reached a secondary or higher level of education compared to 44.2 percent for males.

Key Issues for Discussion:
✓ *Realizing gender equity and equality in the socio-economic development process*

Given the slow rate of attaining gender equity and equality in the socio-economic development process, reaching inclusive development remains a challenge.

¹ The (GII) reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and economic

3.7 Regional Development and Governance

Regional development

The FNDP and SNDP/R-SNDP were cognisant of the need to promote local/regional economic development through increased citizenry participation. The model of development envisaged to guide local/regional development was the comparative advantage principle. This was premised on regional development, taking place in a decentralised governance system.

In a bid to promote decentralisation, an extra province, Muchinga, was created to bring the total to 10 provinces from 9 and 30 new districts were created to bring the total number of districts in the country to 103. In the same vain, the capital of Southern Province was shifted from Livingstone to Choma. This was aimed at enhancing service

delivery to the regions, promotion of citizen participation in development and bringing development closer to the people. Consequently, these developments led to increased infrastructure investments particularly in the newly established province and districts.

The challenges identified in regional development are the existence of a dual administrative system and failure to fully implement the Decentralisation Implementation Plan (DIP). Dual Administrative System: This refers to the administrative arrangement where officials in the provinces are accountable to both the provincial administration and their respective line ministries. This has been to the detriment of regional development as a dual funding system exists. The line ministries from the capital continue to implement programmes outside the provincial jurisdiction as most resources are kept at the centre. These programmes and projects are allocated resources on a pro rata basis and not on a needs or a comparative advantage basis. Consequently, the provinces are not able to determine their own development agenda and exploit their respective comparative advantages. Further, the dual administrative system has led to poor management of development in the provinces exhibited by among others dual programming. There is need to clearly streamline functions of policy formulation and oversight by the Capital and that of implementation by the Provincial Administration and lower government structures for effective programme and project implementation.

The DIP has not been implemented as anticipated. Limited functions have been devolved to the districts with matching resources. In the same vain, provinces and districts do not have the mandate to allocate significant resources as these powers

Key Issues for Discussion:

- ✓ *Enhancement Regional /Urban planning and budgeting*
- ✓ *Complete implementation of fiscal decentralization and devolution*
- ✓ *Address issues of dual administrative system*
- ✓ *Strengthen revenue collection at regional level*
- ✓ *Accelerate Integrated Rural development*

have remained at the centre. This means that priorities are set at the national level and usually do not adequately reflect the development priorities of the regions.

Fiscal Decentralisation: Significant steps were taken to advance fiscal decentralisation ahead of the devolution of new functions from 2015. A comprehensive study to reform inter-governmental fiscal relations was undertaken and the Local Government Act was amended to create the Local Government Equalisation Fund (LGEF). The LGEF stipulates that allocated resources from the Fund to Local Authorities and the size of the Fund are, by statute, set at a minimum of 5 percent of total income taxes collected by Central Government each year.

Governance

As a growing democracy, Zambia's performance on good governance scores have overtime improved, with the country ranking number 13 in 2014 on the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, an improvement of 3.1 score points.

The improvements in Zambia's governance scores could be attributed to a number of initiatives by the Government of Zambia which include sound economic management and continued efforts in ensuring that the country integrate national development planning and budgeting processes, commitment to international agreements, although some agreements are yet to be domesticated, establishment of Governance institutions to monitor and evaluate the country's performance on governance indices, approval of the decentralisation policy to increase citizen's participation in governance and national development.

Other developments include improvements in the Public Finance Management (PFM), the introduction of a Case Flow Management System which will expedite the process of handling criminal cases in Zambian courts in order to reduce case backlog and the introduction of the Parole System in 2009 to help to decongest prisons as well as implementation of the best practices of re-integrating reformed prisoners into the society and continued improvement in creating an enabling environment for private sector development and reduction in the cost of doing business.

Key Issues for Discussion:

- ✓ *Pace of implementation of reforms esp. fiscal decentralization & devolution,*
- ✓ *Strengthening of institutional mechanisms (designs) & human capacities*
- ✓ *Dual administrative system as a constraint to economic governance*

However, although Zambia's Governance Index has improved over the past five years, the country has scored low on Sustainable Economic Opportunity and Human Development scores as shown by the widening inequality gap and the high poverty levels, particularly for rural areas. The major critical challenges to Governance scorings include a highly centralised system² that limits full participation of citizens in

Governance and hinders service delivery, slow progress in the implementation of the decentralisation policy, ineffectiveness of national budgets, as budget allocations are not closely tied to performance by institutions and outcomes of programmes funded. This is compounded by in year variations between appropriated funds and actual expenditures, thereby reducing the budget credibility and the uncertainty of the outcome of the constitutional making process.

Going forward, the government should commit to undertake speedy implementation of the decentralisation implementation plan including fiscal decentralisation, improve institutional and human capacities at National, Provincial/ District/Local authorities level to effectively manage and implement programmes, strengthen development and monitoring of standards and codes of ethics at various levels of institutions in the country, oversight roles of the legislative and executive over economic policies and programme implementation. It should further commit itself to decentralise the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Public Service Pension Fund among others.

3.8 Cross Cutting Issues and Emerging Issues

Disability issues are some of the key emerging development issues in Zambia. Access to services such education, health, banking and sanitation facilities are some of the many challenges facing the differently abled population in the country. The construction industry too need to improve promote access to housing, public institutions and shopping areas by incorporating facilities that promote accessibility and therefore a policy on building construction need to be revised to accommodate this developments.

In the formulation of the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP), government need to be alive to the following emerging issues if the 2030 vision is to be achieved and these include decentralization and fiscal devolution, urban development, adolescents and Youths as well as promotion of community local level advocacy and accountability in the development process.

3.9 Going Forward

Going forward, there will be need to strengthen and develop manuals and other supporting documents to effectively mainstream cross cutting issues.

The development of the planning documents vis-a-vis the National Vision, medium term development plans (NDPs) and their subsequent implementation has highlighted positives and failures in the development planning process. Each sector and sub-sector has highlighted issues for discussion and should be critically analysed and considered in the formulation of the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) if improved development outcomes towards Vision 2030 are to be achieved. Therefore, there is need for serious shift in the design of the Plan and in order to transform the

country. Bold steps are vital for the successful implementation of the Seventh National Development Plan 2017 – 2021 towards Vision 2030. To take into account the issues raised in this paper, the formulation of the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) for the period 2017 to 2021 is proposed with a theme of “*accelerating development efforts towards Vision 2030*”.

The focus areas of the 7NDP will be accelerated implementation of decentralisation reform, fiscal decentralisation and devolution (shifting of resources from the centre to regions), local economic development (including rural development) and strengthen management information systems for development.

To achieve the above, there will be need for a supportive political environment, rationalisation of resources, strengthened national development planning systems, authoritativeness and credibility of the Plan as well as subsidiary.

PRESENTATION OF CSOs SECTORAL WORKING PAPERS

Thematic Lead Organisations

Commerce Trade and Industry  CENTRE FOR TRADE POLICY & DEVELOPMENT	Environment CBNRM Community Based Natural Resource Management	Education 	Gender 
Governance  TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL	Health 	Housing & Human Settlement 	Employment, Labour & Sustainable Livelihoods 
Water & Sanitation 	Youth & Development RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT THE YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Land  'Land is Life'	Mining 
Nutrition 	Agriculture Agriculture Consultative Forum		Macro Economics 
Social Protection 		Manufacturing & value addition 	

Initial sector specific working papers prepared by the various Civil Society for Poverty Reduction Thematic Group members are presented in this section. These working papers were specifically aimed at facilitating dialogue and national consensus building among the private sector, government, international partners and civil society organizations on developmental concerns regarding the upcoming Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP 2015-2017).

4.1 COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Highway to prosperity

Zambia's economic growth has been impressive, maintaining an upward trend with an average growth rate of about 5.4-6%, making it amongst the fastest growing economies of Sub Saharan Africa (Manenga Ndulo, Caesar Cheelo & Precious Kaela, 2014). This growth has been premised on a combination of factors, some of which include macroeconomic management, economic liberalization, the resurgence of mining investment and output with improved copper prices on the global market.

On export trade, Zambia is still highly dependent on copper with a few agricultural products such as tobacco, maize and timber. Although there have been strides towards economic diversification, there is still significant need to attain an export led trade strategy that embraces competition and open markets as captured in some of the existing development strategies. Zambia's failure to finalize and implement a national export strategy has been one of the contributing factors to lack of actualization on the export diversification agenda

It is with no doubt that trade can play a powerful role in contributing to rising incomes and creating jobs. However there are a number of challenges that impede the contribution of trade to overall economic contribution, some of these factors include; failure to diversify, high transport costs and apparent inefficiencies and structural weaknesses in the transport and logistics system among others.

4.1.1 Economic Performance A+, Impact on Poverty F

Although Zambia has done well in terms of its traditional economic indicators, the country has had difficulties in addressing the economic inequality aspect of poverty to ensure qualitative improvements (UNDP HDR report of 2013). Country data shows that between 1980 and 2012, Zambia's life expectancy decreased at birth by 2.6 years and the gross national income per capita decreased by about 5%. Overall Zambia's HDI of 0.448 is below the average of 0.446 for countries in the low human development group and below the average of 0.475 for countries in sub Saharan Africa.

The major development challenge that Zambia faces is that the country has been pursuing a development approach that mainly focuses on growth which has resulted in "jobless growth, voiceless growth, rootless growth and fruitless growth," growing inequalities and poverty. The communities where "growth" is taking place are not benefiting from it but instead there has been increasing incidence of vulnerability and risk in certain populations- youth, indigenous communities, informal sector, cross border traders, disabled people, women, men and children. Most national development priorities have been compromised in favour of global interests particularly in the extractive industries. The country's key economic sectors have been rendered vulnerable to global capital- especially agrarian and natural/ mineral resources.

To make matters worse, the Government system does not have strong inter-ministerial coordination on the agenda of inclusive growth and development. There is a lack of guaranteed participation and consultation at community level and national level. One of the greatest challenges to develop at present in the Zambian context is the lack of resources to implement development and engage effectively. In cases where resources exist they are cumbered with donor demands.

In fact, one of the key economic areas that has remained lowly exploited is Trade. The contribution of this sector to inclusive growth, job creation and poverty reduction efforts is currently very limited. This is because trade has not been effectively recognized as a tool for poverty for reduction within the development context. Focus on trade and industry has been much more about growing the business environment and making the business policy environment more conducive for industry without clear linkages to poverty reduction efforts. Another significant challenge has also been the growth of Zambia's informal sector which lacks adequate planning and coordination.³ This means that the informal sector has basically grown but its contribution to treasury and poverty reduction has not been well documented/captured.

4.1.2 What's going on?

Under the SNDP, Government prioritized the expansion and the diversification of exports with the objective to increase the contribution of trade to inclusive growth and job creation. However, there are key challenges that still need to be addressed and these include the following:

- ❖ **Limited contribution of Trade to Poverty reduction:** there are no clear linkages and strategies for reducing poverty using trade as an instrument. For instance, Zambia has failed to maximize trading arrangements under FTAs such SADC, COMESA and TFTA largely due to in house trade facilitation challenges as well as lack of an enhanced trading capacity to off load competitive higher value activities for export and pursue export led growth.
- ❖ **Co-ordination and Planning:** there has been little planning and coordination around the informal sector even though the informal sector employs 90% of the labour force. The sector has experienced rapid growth in recent years (approximately more than a million informal businesses). Most of these are rural agricultural operations, run by farmers with low skills and generating low revenues. The growth in informal trading has been worsened by poor trade facilitation arrangements coupled with lopsided tax policies that are unable to incorporate the sector adequately. Added to this,

³ Zambia's informal trade sector is classified as the fourth largest in Africa.

workers in the informal sector lack any form of social protection and it is clear that Government policy may not move in this direction anytime soon.

- ❖ **Cost of doing business:** high cost of doing business and high logistical costs for trade has been a major challenge for Zambia's ability to develop competitive higher value activities for export and pursue export led-growth.⁴ Despite Zambia's strategic geographic location and position with neighbouring countries who are well connected to ports for sea trade, the country ranks poorly in international trade logistics performance. There are potential gains from the reduction of transport costs generally and specifically from measures to facilitate trade. We also note that. However, Zambia has not been able to effectively trade with these neighbours due to a number of challenges and the Country has opted to negotiate trading arrangements in markets that have higher trade costs such as the USA through AGOA, the UK, China and Switzerland.⁵

4.1.3 Industry

In terms of Industry, Zambia's manufacturing sector faces a number of challenges that need to be addressed if the sector should meaningfully contribute to job creation, inclusive growth and poverty reduction efforts. Whilst there have been identified areas for strengthening the sector such as agro-industry; wood and wood processing; steel fabrication; textiles to mention a few, Zambia's manufacturing sector is defined with the following problems:

- Inadequate growth of Zambia's manufacturing sector. For instance, it was projected that the contribution of the sector to GDP should have been 20% by 2015 but this is far from being realized.
- Lack of competitiveness and capability of domestic firms. Domestic firms face huge challenges in their business environment as well as still competition from imports.
- Absence of a national export strategy therefore growth of domestic firms to tap into strategic sectors that will enhance their export capacity is hindered.
- Failure to achieve export growth orientation growth. Zambia's economic growth is largely driven by the export of copper which account for over 70% of the exports at present.
- Very limited expansion of Zambia's industrial base at present.
- Domestic firms are struggling to penetrate foreign markets.
- Domestic firms remain uncompetitive due to poor production technologies, high input costs and face huge competition from international firms.

⁴ Trade costs are lowest for immediate neighbours to the south such as RSA, Zimbabwe and Botswana

⁵It must be noted that there are great benefits in Zambia considering signing bilateral trade agreements with markets or countries such as the DRC and Angola as these would strategically open up great economic activities given that they are closer to Zambia and therefore trading costs would not be as high.

- Domestic firms unable to utilize preferential trade agreements: SADC, COMESA, FTA, AGOA and EBA.

4.1.4 Taking it forward in the 7th NDP

To maximize gains from trade and industry, there is need for Zambia to increase the number of lanes of the commerce and trade industry highway to prosperity to allow as many people as possible from all spectrums of society have equal access and opportunity. In order for this to happen, going forward, Zambia needs to ensure implementation of the following:

- Reducing trade costs as a core policy issues is pertinent and outlining clear strategies and resources for how this will be done must be a priority. This will influence the country's ability to position itself in global networks of trade and production.
- Building industry competitiveness must also be prioritized through developing and implementing domestic and industrial policies that can impact growth and competitiveness of local industry.
- Trade facilitation must be a priority area as well with a focus on customs and boarder management.⁶
- Zambia must develop a clear tax policy framework which can capture operations of the informal sector as well. Doing so, will help to strengthen the domestic revenue mobilization efforts. This should be at the core of government interventions to ensure that financing for implementing developmental programmes such as the SDGs can be assured.
- Building of Zambia's trading capacity by focusing on current bottle necks at the policy and practice levels will be very critical.⁷
- There is need for more comprehensive trade reforms that will focus on addressing the supply side constraints much more by dealing with current challenges of limited access to finance; poor infrastructure; high costs of doing business, high costs of transport and our huge dependency on imports.
- The 7NDP should be seen as an opportunity for Zambia to develop a clear and focused chapter on trade and industry that will focus on reducing costs and increase the contribution of trade and industry to inclusive growth and poverty reduction. The key focus should be on the diversification of economic activities into higher value activities and ultimately diversification of the economy.
- There is need to have a clear direction and strategies for increasing the volume of exports in regional and international markets.⁸

⁶ The Zambian borders such as Kasumbalesa are extremely porous and have contributed to the growth of informal trading activities which are also a cost to treasury.

⁷ Currently Zambia is a net consumer of imported goods and this means that if not clear strategies are put in place then the contribution of trade towards achieving the vision 2030 may be unachievable. Zambia Manufacturing sector is marred with several challenges at both the policy and practice level and therefore we propose that a complete chapter on commerce trade and industry be included in the 7NDP to ensure that sector can be ably financed to realize it potential and contribution to poverty reduction efforts.

- There must be a clear strategy and framework for increasing our capacity to trade in services as strategic choice and direction. Currently this area is untapped yet has great potential for delivering growth in job creation and inclusive economic growth
- There must be clear strategies for facilitating improved market access for locally produced goods and services must also be identified as part of the focus on the trade and industry chapter in the 7NDP
- There is need for more strategic thinking around the potential that regional markets have for helping to diversify our exports without killing local industry.
- Zambia's trade policies should seek to enable poorer people to compete in a globalized world market by increasing their productivity (for example in agriculture- this is lacking) Trade Policy should ensure the most equitable sharing of benefits of trade. The 7NDP should create a clear linkage between poverty and trade to ensure that poor people also draw from the benefits of trade and industry.
- The 7NDP should ensure that the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people in society are not threatened as a result of pursuing trade liberalization
- Trade Policy should focus on improving trade facilitation arrangements in line with Regional integration processes that are happening within the region.

4.2 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Abundant wealth amidst persistent poverty

Zambia boasts of rich and abundant natural resources. These resources include minerals, such as base metals (copper, zinc, lead), precious metals (emeralds, amethyst, aquamarine, garnets, and citrines), industrial minerals (iron) and energy producing minerals (coal). Other resources that Zambia also has in abundance include land, water resources (both ground and surface water), and an impressive network of wetlands, plentiful wildlife, and fish resources, extensive forestry resources and a unique and wide range of natural heritage, all within a favourable sub-tropical climatic regime. The total land surface area, for instance, is relatively vast (752,000 square. km) and the physical landscape is still of quality and pristine, characterized by fascinating and varied land systems and soil types.

⁸Up till now, Zambia does not have a clear national export strategy and the 7NDP provides an opportunity for Zambia to make its strategy around growing exports much clearer. Our focus should be to become an export-oriented economy; in short our economic growth should be led by growth in exports.

4.2.1 Struggling to practice policy

There are over 80 sets of legislation affecting the environment, much of which is inadequate. Zambia has a dualistic legal framework and is signatory to 21 multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). The National Policy on Environment (NPE, 2005) states that it has become widely recognized that Zambia's wealth of natural and cultural resources are in danger of further widespread depletion and degradation, sometimes irreversibly as in the case of misuse of some soils. Concern for this worsening environmental situation prompted the need to create a National Policy on Environment. More worrying, despite Zambia being a signatory to these international instruments, the reality is that the country's performance in terms of achieving environmental targets is still weak.

4.2.2 Taking a step back – what is the cause of this?

The fragmentation of natural resources legislation implies fragmented implementation and lack of effective coordination of the Sector. Each of the legislation provides for the formation of a separate community structure to collaborate with. This has made integrated management of natural resources difficult within government itself and within the communities. Community Resource Boards do not have the legal mandate in other natural resource legislation and find themselves in conflict with forest and fisheries departments and traditional authorities when they attempt to formulate byelaws outside the wildlife sector. A good example in this case relates to the management of the Wildlife Sector. Prior to the early 1980s wildlife management was the domain of the Zambian Government almost to the total exclusion of local communities. Decision making on such issues as animal off-takes and resource protection were the sole responsibility of the Government. This approach caused some frustrations on the part of the local communities who developed negative attitudes towards wildlife. The absence of community participation in the decision making processes in wildlife management as well as the limited legal benefits have been cited as among the contributing factors to increased illegal harvesting of wildlife. The 1994 National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) identified illegal harvesting (poaching) as one of the five main environmental problems facing Zambia.

Furthermore, the Environment and natural resources sector is mainly characterised by the following conditions:

- Fragmented sectoral approach to the management of natural resources management.
- Inadequate adherence to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEAs) requirements leading to uncoordinated small and large scale infrastructure developments including mining and commercial agriculture without adequate appreciation of the long term implications.

- Poor coordination between key players resulting in environmental degradation in general including protected area encroachment due to ill defined land use plans. The wildlife resource is generally under severe and increasing pressure due to increasing pressure due to increase in human population and loss of habitat as a consequence of expanding human settlements and conversion of habitat to land uses.
- Lack of access to and lack of effective community empowerment programmes such as Public Private Partnership legislation and other initiatives like the Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM).
- Lack of domestication of international conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements.
- Inadequate comprehensive environmental and natural resource management research and development (e.g. quantifying environmental flows).
- High levels of poverty.
- Inadequate investment in environmental and natural resources management.
- Limited capacity (finances and human resources) for effective environmental management.
- Deforestation partly to the uncoordinated developments mentioned above but also due to the growing energy crisis in which the majority of the population depends on charcoal for their energy needs while only a small fraction of the population has access to electricity – the current limited supply of electricity due to load shedding is worsening the dependency on charcoal.
- Limited accessible to and limited policy environment renewable energy sources.

4.2.3 Direct relationship between poverty and environmental management

The growing awareness on the magnitude of environmental impacts on development in general and poverty reduction, in specific led to a worldwide discussion that resulted in the consensus to adopt the concept of Sustainable Development (SD) as best means of pursuing progress globally. a way forward. On this basis, the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) defined sustainable development as the development that meets the needs of today's generation without compromising those of future generations. This notion was mainly focused the effective access and use of natural resources as well as the management of the environment in general.

The simple definition of development is a process of improving livelihoods and welfare of the people; while environment is everything about and around us forming the basis of our livelihood. Thus; development is all about people using resources around them (air, water, land, and everything in it to satisfy their needs). Traditionally, development has for long time been guided by mainly economic considerations at the expense of environmental considerations. This has led to deterioration of environment such are costs as ecological disturbances in the habitat, loss of plants and animal's species, soil loss, desertification, floods, etc. Examples to verify this observation are

plenty. Deforestation, land and environmental degradation have major effects on local agriculture systems which is the mainstay of many poor people. Investment in technologies and policies that promote more permanent agriculture compared to shifting cultivation, would greatly contribute to reducing the those impacts on agricultural land. Loss of species reduces the sources of protein thus negatively affecting households.

The lessons of critical ecosystems services especially water catchment, carbon sequestration (and other nutrient cycles), flood control and water purification are critical for the national economy. Therefore, inadequate investment in the management and protection of this natural capital would definitely compromise the prospects for sustainable development is compromised. For this reason, valuation and preservation of ecosystem services should be better incorporated in local and national development planning frameworks than is the case currently

4.2.4 Practicing policy through the 7th NDP

The 7thNDP should focus on addressing the following issues associated with the sector while taking into account the above mentioned issues that were not addressed in the SNDP;

- There is need for Government to take co-management of natural resources seriously through improving the enabling conditions for its strengthening. This will include strengthening community structures for CBBNRM, capacity building for members and staff of community structures and possibly developing a holistic policy on community natural resources management (CBNRM).
- Government should put in place adequate measures and programmes for the protection of poor and vulnerable communities from losing their land by ensuring pro-poor legal rights in land tenure security. This is especially crucial in the current situation where communities are losing their land to speculators and large scale infrastructure development without appropriate compensation and safeguards as provided for in international legislation and best practices.
- Government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Civil society working on community programmes should work together to promote the understanding and acceptability of Corporate Social Responsibility in local communities.
- Government should prioritise efforts aimed at addressing deforestation, land and environmental degradation have major effects on local agriculture systems which is the mainstay of many poor people. Increased investment in technologies and policies that promote more permanent agriculture to combat shifting cultivation, would greatly contribute to reducing those impacts on agricultural land. Improved land and resource management with benefits to communities is an important climate change adaptation measure as it enhances resilience both of the community and the ecosystem.

Presentation of CSOs Sectoral Working Papers

- Government should harmonize laws and policies in the environment and natural resources sector, including making sure that the international and regional instruments aimed at promoting environment and natural resources protection are fully domesticated and implemented.
- Plans on the General Management National Parks and Game Management Areas should be developed and put in place in order to ensure effective coordination between key players in the sector as well as ensure that there is sufficient capacity to implement these plans.
- Government should ensure that the capacity for management of protected areas is improved and increased in order to safeguard the practice of broader ecosystem values.
- Conservation, protection, management and utilisation of the Nation's wildlife assets and resources should continue to be vested in the Zambian Wildlife Authority. Recapitalization of Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) to ensure that its wildlife management mandate is undertaken more effectively is the best option.
- There is need to restock depleted species and develop infrastructure in National Parks.
- The Government should promote local community participation and ownership in natural resource management through Community Tourism Development.
- The Government should ensure that sufficient technically qualified research and management staff are in place to validate local management decisions, for time series monitoring and to help co-ordinate research activities and to guide environment and natural resource initiatives.
- Government should expand the training infrastructure and facilities on CBBNRM.
- Attention should be given to water management issues to ensure a balance between environmental requirements and production requirement.
- Measures to protect and guide the management of watershed areas, equitable allocation of water rights, dialogue between water users and water regulators should be put in place.

4.3 EDUCATION: A winning ticket in the fight against poverty

An educated population has been known to contribute to high production as more people will be able to get quality work, have better entrepreneurial skills and thus increasing employment for the country and paying more tax. This increases the nation's potential to generate income and will in turn increase the national budget. Additionally an educated population has more capacity to participate in national development processes. Education breaks the cycle of poverty right from the household level.

Zambia has over the last fifteen years been implementing programs in the education sector in line with their commitments to the globally agreed Education for All (EFA) Goals. The goals are an elaboration of goal two of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These global commitments are implemented at national level through the third National Implementation Framework (NIF III) of the Education Sector developed in line with the Sixth National Development Plan. The two documents are aligned to each other hence the on-going plans to revise the NIF to end in 2016. The sector is guided by the Education Act of 2011 and the Education Policy of 1996, both of which are currently under review.

4.3.1 Some things are right, but certain things are still wrong

The Education Sector is a key social sector in national development as it pertains to both personal development and potential for high productivity for national development. The sector has been receiving the highest allocation of the national budget to social sectors. However, 68% of these funds go to Personnel Emoluments while only 32% caters for infrastructure and direct service delivery to the schools. The insufficient funds going into the schools means that the quality of the services is compromised resulting in poor learning outcomes for the recipients (pupils/students). The policy environment is also problematic as all the sector policy documents are either under review or in draft since 2011, weakening the policy guidance function of the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education (MESTVEE).

The problem of quality service delivery in the education sector stems from inadequate funding to cater for all the needs in the plans. With the growing population of children, the old infrastructure, most of which was done over twenty years ago, can no longer accommodate the growing demands and are dilapidated to the extent of being inhabitable in most cases. Budget limits have meant that the government cannot employ the required number of teachers to cater for the high student population. While the Free Education Policy has resulted in high enrolment rates, it has also contributed to unbalanced pupil:teacher ; pupil:textbook; pupil:toilet ratios among other things.

4.3.2 Letting the facts speak for themselves

A review of EFA conducted by the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education (MESVTEE) in collaboration with ZANEC (February 2015) reveals that Zambia has only made progress towards the attainment of two out of the six EFA Goals. These are EFA Goal number 2 on achieving universal access to primary education and Goal number 5 on achieving gender parity at primary school level. For instance, enrolment rates at primary school level have increased from

85.1% in 2000 to 93.7% in 2013. This progress is mainly attributed to the massive infrastructure development initiatives registered over the years and the declaration of free education at primary school level. However, the main concerns at this level remain the low quality of education and inadequate efforts targeted at enrolling the remaining 6.3% of the children who are out of school.

These Out of School Children fall in the category of orphans, child laborers, rural girls or children with special education needs. Others are simply out of school because their parents do not value education due to entrenched poverty. This category of children particularly captures civil society's interest whose main goal is to ensure that all Zambians achieve quality education, especially the vulnerable groups.

Similarly, some efforts have been made to improve universal access to primary education through interventions such as the recruitment and deployment of teachers, classroom construction and provision of education materials. The Ministry has also developed the new curriculum which is being rolled out to schools according to grades. Furthermore, the introduction of Local language Policy as a medium of instruction in schools is aimed at improving the literacy and numeracy skills in the early grades.

Zambia has made very little progress towards the attainment of EFA goals number 1, 3, 4, and 6. Current data shows that, for Goal number 1, only 15.4% of grade one entrants have Early Childhood Education (ECE) experience against the EFA target of 50% by 2015. Similarly, in the case of Goal number 3 on provision of youth skills programs, only 2% of students completing Grade 12 have access to tertiary education. Furthermore, access to adult literacy (Goal Number 4) remains limited with 28% of the population being illiterate. The lack of progress in the adult literacy subsector can be attributed to inadequate funding and the lack of a comprehensive policy framework. Regarding Goal number 6 on achieving excellence in the Quality of Education, both test and examination results reveal low quality of education with only 34% of children able to read English, 38.7% demonstrating basic skills in mathematics and 37.94% able to understand life skills.

4.3.3 Putting on the right lense to see what needs fixing

The focus for all stakeholders beyond 2015 is to consolidate the progress that Zambia has made in the provision of universal access to primary education as well as towards the attainment of gender equality at primary school level. By so doing, Zambia will be able to increase its prospects of achieving at least two of the six EFA goals. Achieving progress on the lagging four EFA goals is the main focus for Zambia's Education 2030 Agenda. The Education 2030 Agenda, which the Zambian government and civil society agreed on alongside the global community during the World Education Forum held in May, 2015 has set out direction on how this will be achieved. This agreed upon agenda will be the basis for education stakeholders' engagement in the

finalization of the Sustainable Development Goals and national engagement around education. Considering the local context, other national factors will also be taken into consideration.

Progress in the education sector will only be possible through continued and stronger collaborations between the government, civil society, private sector and the Cooperating Partners. The government and other service providers needs to exhibit more commitment to improving quality of service delivery by allocating more budgets implementing plans, while Cooperating Partners need to increase funding and technical support to the sector. Civil society, like-wise, needs to strengthen their support to government programs and improve their gatekeepers' role to that effect.

4.3.4 Making the right turn for education in the 7th NDP

A well-articulated policy environment is key to systematic implementation of plans and allocation of funds. More needs to be done to ensure that the children in schools receive quality education as the sub-sector is currently marred with inadequate Policy Frameworks, insufficient learning and teaching material, lack of school infrastructure leading to over-crowding of classroom. The Seventh National Development Plan guidelines will need to be result focused, practical for implementation and be able to be monitored for accountability. Some highlights below are ways that this can be achieved on education benchmarks;

- Maintain consistency by treating EFA and NIF III as unfinished business even beyond their 'lifespan. This means building of efforts already made in all the education sub-sectors.
- Strengthen capacity of the Ministry to monitor adherence to standards at all levels, especially in the schools.
- More financing towards Special Education, procurement of teachers, learning and teaching material as well as infrastructure development as a means of improving the learning environment for quality learner outcomes from Early to Tertiary Education.
- Continued implementation of the two tier education system consisting of the academic and skills training career paths, Zambia is poised to register significant progress in this area especially beyond 2015.
- Draw up an explicit strategy and revolving fund to implement the Loan Scheme and roll it out completely as well as increase infrastructure especially accommodation at tertiary level.
- Increase financing to adult education which will include the employment of adult education facilitators and professionalize adult education.
- Operationalise the Guidance and Counseling departments as well as fully implement the Re-entry Policy in schools to curb the increased number of early pregnancies and marriages currently being implemented.

4.4 GENDER: Getting the balance right

According to the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, women comprise 51% of Zambia's total population of 13,092,666 (CSO 2010). Despite being the majority, women are underrepresented in all aspects of the development process- politically, culturally, economically and socially. Women remain poorly represented at higher level and are relegated to the lower echelons of control and power, for instance, though women make up the larger percentage of voters, only a few are given opportunity to contest political positions while in the economic sector, traditional roles assigned by gender inhibit women's dynamic contributions to economic development even though they dominate the labour force especially in the informal sector. Access to land and high illiteracy levels are among the major constraints of women's control and benefits over productive resources.

Zambia is a signatory to progressive international instruments that aim to narrow the gap between women and men which includes the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women; popularly known as the African Union (AU) Protocol on women's rights which calls on AU member states to include in their national constitutions the principle of equality between men and women. Zambia is also party to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Gender and Development Protocol on 50/50 female/male representation in positions of decision making and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) declaration that had a target on gender equality.

4.4.1 International commitments aren't ending local shortcomings

However, despite Zambia being a signatory to these international instruments, the reality is that the country's performance in terms of achieving gender equality is still far below par. For instance, women represent a meagre 11 percent at parliamentary level and only 6% at local government level. From the social aspect, the deeply entrenched gender inequalities find expression in high incidences of gender based violence, threatening women and girls' abilities to contribute to economic and political life⁹. Cultural norms on inheritance and women's submissive roles in relations further entrench the unequal power relations that have resulted in women and girls' vulnerability. Consequently, women suffer disproportionately to social ills brought about by the high poverty levels, HIV&AIDS, climate change and health calamities which include maternal health.

⁹ Ann Hudock (2014). Inclusive growth in Zambia: Improving Women's Representation, Access to Services and Economic Opportunity.

4.4.2 Tackling gender from more than one angle

Gender inequality in Zambia was identified as a major impediment of the development process in the 1990s. This observation led to the development of the National Gender Policy (NGP) in the year 2000. This policy institutionalised a Gender Division and, later on, the Ministry of Gender and Child Development. The main mandate of this Ministry is to ensure that gender is mainstreamed in all laws, policies and programmes. In order to ensure that gender is mainstreamed, especially in the government ministries, Gender Focal Point Persons were appointed in each line ministry.

Furthermore, in all national planning documents since 2000, gender has been regarded as a cross cutting issue. This implies that at the planning stage, consideration should be given to the fact that any law, policy or programme will impact differently on men and women, boys and girls. However, not taking a deliberate position on the sector of gender has had adverse effect on the integration of gender in the country's development process. Further, it has been observed that there is lack of capacity on how to mainstream gender into the planning and development process. The sector is now at the mercy of political will.

In all the different sectors, gender has lacked specific enough budget and human resource allocation to directly address gender issues. Additionally, there are inadequate targets set for achieving gender responsiveness in the planning and implementation of programmes. This has led to weak incentives for formulating, reporting on and achieving targets of gender responsive programs. The implication has been that responses to gender concerns have been inadequate. For instance, while the government has committed to address Gender based Violence (GBV), its response to providing quality safe houses for survivors of GBV is poor. Similarly, even though there is commitment to support women's equal participation in political leadership and access to economic resources, the dual system of laws governing the country acts as a hindrance to women's control over productive resources as well as protection from early marriage.

4.4.3 Is Gender still a poverty and development issue for Zambia?

Yes it is - sixty four (64) percent of the population of Zambia lives below the poverty line out of which 42.3 % live in extreme poverty (CSO LCMS 2010).¹⁰ Poverty by and large continues to carry a female face. Extreme poverty is higher in female headed households (60.4 %) compared to male headed households (57.1 %)¹¹. Women lack economic, social and political power, which excludes them from development processes. Hence women are systematically blocked from rights, opportunities and

¹⁰ Extreme poverty has reduced from 58 percent in 1991 to 42.4 percent in 2010. However, this rate of reduction is not enough to meet the MDG target of 29 percent by 2015. Furthermore, the rate of poverty reduction has not been uniform across all provinces and gender.

¹¹ UNDP (2013). MDG Progress Report for Zambia, 2013.

resources (e.g. housing, employment, healthcare, civic engagement, democratic participation and other processes). This has resulted in high levels of vulnerability which must be recognized as a structural tool of discrimination and exploitation. This condition does not solely harm women, but impedes the development of the entire country. Gender inequality leads to major losses in economic efficiency and human development leading to more poverty.

It is important to acknowledge and accept that equality between women and men is more than a matter of social justice - it is a fundamental human right. Besides, gender equality is also a key factor in contributing to the economic growth of a nation. It evidently enhances human capital, as well as it fosters higher labour and agricultural productivity. When women have equal access to education, and go on to participate fully in business and economic decision-making, they are a key driving force against poverty. Women with equal rights are better educated, healthier, and have greater access to land, jobs and financial resources. Their increased earning power in turn raises household incomes. Gender equality could increase household income in Africa by up to 25 per cent, depending on the cultural context¹². By enhancing women's control over decision-making in the household, gender equality also translates into better prospects and greater well-being of children, reducing poverty of future generations¹³.

4.4.4 Taking on gender issues through the 7th NDP

From the foregoing, the Gender thematic group recommends the following:

- There is need to put gender in the 7th NDP as a cross-cutting issue and theme in each sector. The inadequate mainstreaming of gender has largely been attributed to the inadequate capacity in gender mainstreaming.
- There is need for government to harmonize laws, that is, the statutory and customary, to avoid conflicts created by giving each equal power. It is also a fact that customary laws discriminate women to a large extent when it comes to application of personal law. This therefore justifies the need for specific gender interventions as an affirmative action strategy aimed at promoting the general participation of women in development.
- Government must ensure that the international and regional instruments aimed at promoting gender equality are fully domesticated and implemented. Furthermore, deliberate steps to fully implement existing laws, such as the Anti-GBV Act, should be taken. The full implementation of the existing laws must be coupled with capacitating of the implementing bodies, providing the necessary budget and human resources with the relevant skills to handle the work.
- Government together with civil society must carry out massive sensitisation campaigns on the laws and policies, such as the Re-entry policy, Anti-GBV Act

¹² Chatham House (2010). Evidence for Action. Gender Equality and Economic Growth.

¹³ UNDP (2015), Post 2015 Development Goals.

and Educational Act. The sensitisation campaigns should also focus on the civil service so as to ensure implementation of the said pieces of legislation in a more concerted manner. Any sensitisation campaign carried out should equally focus on the involvement of men and women in the promotion of gender equality.

- Government must ensure that adequate resources are allocated to sectors such as health, education and agriculture among others that have the multiplier effect and potential to improve the status of women in society. With adequate resources to these sectors, women will have improved provision and access to quality health care, education and an improved standard of living.

4.5 GOVERNANCE: Responsible business, responsible governments

The state of corruption in Zambia has mainly been caused by poor conditions of service, weak internal financial controls and lack of strict enforcement of the code of conduct for public service workers, wide discretion conferred on public officials with little accountability as well as a general lack of revulsion to corruption and weak enforcement of anti-corruption legislation. It has also been widely accepted in Zambia that perceived weak punishment may be responsible for the escalating levels of corruption. This problem has been worsened by the lack of transparency in the systems that govern public administration. There is need to find appropriate and effective political, economic and bureaucratic governance measures and mechanisms that can assist the Country to practically and genuinely tackle the problem of corruption, particularly in terms of abuse of public office and resources for personal gain and gratification. Briefly put, it is time that Zambia moved from perceiving “governance” mainly from the lens of “legality” to include imperatives such as socio-economic justice and political accountability.

4.5.1 Corruption is a two way street

Zambia lacks an inclusive system of governance that is capable of reducing poverty and delivering the developmental goods and services in a fair and just manner to all the citizens. A weak system of governance in its entirety is a grave danger to national development. Zambia has been grappling with this challenge since the time of independence. Overtime, demands for improvements in governance have mainly been narrowed down to mean legal and judicial reforms.

The experience of Zambia clearly shows the country is need of more than this approach. Governance transformation should be holistic: bureaucratic, political, judicial and societal. Closely related to these are important imperatives of economic and political accountability, socio-economic justice and fair access to legal justice. It is

this form of governance that is capable of tackling the current paramount problems of abuse of power, resources and office, under performance of the public administration, exclusive governance structures and pervasive patronage politics.

According to the International Transparency International Corruption Perception Index of 2014, (CPI, 2014), Zambia's score remained the same at 38 compared to 2013. This indicates that there has been no change positive change in this regard.¹⁴ On the Local level, the findings of the 2014 Zambia Bribe Payers Index (ZBPI) shows that the overall aggregate bribery index of the year for 22 public service organizations is 8.5% (Zambia Bribe Payers Index-ZBPI 2014).¹⁵ However when compared to the 16 institutions covered in 2012, the overall aggregate bribery index rose up to 11.9% which is indicative of a negative change in percent of 2.1%. This means that the likelihood of one being confronted with a corruption situation in the public service has now risen to 11.9%. Significantly, in terms of bribery demand, the incidence of bribery increased by 6.7% in 2014, from 38.0% in 2012 to 45.1% in 2014. Furthermore, the 2014 ZBPI survey revealed that the preference of bribery has worsened. For instance, in 2012, 44.6% respondents paid the bribe while in 2014 the preference of bribery increased to 57.1%. The common reasons cited for engaging in this act include avoiding delays, fear of service denial as well as the belief that it is a normal trend or part of societal functioning.

The abuse of public resources in Zambia has rightfully so been called the enemy of progress. As indicated in several reports issued by the Office of the Auditor General, this vice is directly linked to public sector inefficiency, shortfalls in public revenues, declining public trust and increased impunity. For instance, there have been several allegations of misuse and theft of public funds have in recent months.¹⁶ These and other cases have highlighted significant levels of administrative theft perpetuated by civil servants.

It is also worth noting that the office of the Auditor General's reports reveal an overall tone of poor financial and operational performance in most of the audited entities. The 2013 report highlights some financial and other irregularities with the highest being non-remittance of statutory contributions at K142, 500,901 followed by inadequately supported payments at K6, 479,256. Other cited financial irregularities include unretired imprest which stood at K3,892,884 while unaccounted for funds were at K997,261, adding that irregular payments and wasteful expenditure ranked the lowest at K156,611 and K26,100, respectively.

¹⁴ The total possible score is 100. In percentage terms, therefore this means there has not been any improvement. Being stuck on the same position means that we need to renew our focus on the fight against corruption and focus on good governance as a driver of change and sustainable development.

¹⁵ This survey is undertaken jointly by Transparency International Zambia (TIZ) and the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) after a period of two years

¹⁶ The list runs long, including the (i)Ministry of Local Government and Housing (the stolen of Rufunsa Constituency Development Fund scandal "(ii), Road Development Agency(iii), Zambia Wildlife Authority(iv) Zambia Police.

4.5.2 Factors eroding good governance in Zambia

Overall, the following are the outstanding factors that tend to weaken and undermine effective governance in Zambia;

- Government's failure to act on the revelations by the Auditor General's report on the stolen money by the named government ministries and departments officials
- Lack of enforcement by state law enforcement institutions
- Lack of action taken on individuals involved in corruption
- Delays in taking action from the judiciary to complete corruption cases
- Inadequate funding to institutions that fight corruption
- Inertia or delays dealing and concluding on corruption cases
- Limited political will in taking action against corruption officials.
- Less punishment of convicted corrupt public officials
- Prevalence of pervasive politics of patronage

4.5.3 Impact of poor governance on poverty

Deviation of public resources such as the Constituency Development Fund would increase the impact of poverty among the Zambians who would otherwise benefit from the allocated money to build a bridge for example. Poor Service delivery will be affected as citizens will be unable to obtain the required services within the stipulated time frame as some public officials will delay the process to create a room for corruption.

Justice will not be delivered as required as people with money will always buy their way to obtain justice depriving the poor and vulnerable to seek justice from the courts of law. Corruption derails development because it perpetuates inequality and poverty as only a few privileged and connected citizens are able to access and enjoy developmental goods excessively at the expense of the majority population, who are largely poor.

4.5.4 Transformation of the Governance Approach through the 7th NDP

For improved governance the three policy elements – detection, prosecution and punishment – must be treated as an unbroken trinity. Policy initiatives that utilise a combination of these three can prevent corruption by drastically increasing the expected cost for being corrupt (increasing the probability of being caught engaging in corrupt activities, and increasing the punishment for being corrupt). Detection on its own is ineffective, because the individual must face a punishment for being corrupt. Similarly, increasing the incentive to stay honest has no effect when the probability of getting caught is too small. These can be achieved through;

- Redefining the national position of “Governance.” The main aim should be to put in place an “inclusive’ of governance that pays particular attention to socio-economic justice, political and bureaucratic accountability, citizen-led development and fair judicial justice.
- Insulate Law enforcement Agencies: These Agencies should be provided with sufficient capacities and resources to undertake their work independently and professionally.
- Promote Meritocracy in the Public Service: There should be efforts to stringently monitor professional conduct in the public service and where it fails, necessary action on erring officials.
- Political Commitment to be inclusive of responsible governance: The political elite, particularly the ruling elite must provide leadership and practical demonstration of upholding the values and tenets of “inclusive governance.”
- Review of Internal Resource Management Systems: Government should genuinely review and adopt systems of management that will not only pay attention to the demands of the donors and other financing partners but should include the measures that will ensure that the citizens are able to access and enjoy public goods and services
- Strengthening the whistle-blower mechanism institutionally and legally.

4.6 HEALTH: A healthy nation is a healthy workforce

Zambia committed itself to putting aside fifteen percent (15%) of its National Budget towards health when it signed the Abuja Declaration in the year 2001. This commitment was further affirmed in the National Health Strategic Plan (NHSP) 2011-2016 that focused on increasing the total funding for health towards the Abuja target. Since then, Government has been implementing significant health sector reforms aimed at strengthening health service delivery in order to improve the health status of Zambians. According to the Zambia Demographic Health Survey, this effort has resulted in the strengthening of some parts of health systems, improved access to health care and improved health outcomes (ZDHS 2013).

4.6.1 Healthy strides but still coming up short of targets

Despite the achievements recorded in the health sector, it is now definitely settled that Zambia will not achieve all Health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the end of this year. Several indicators support this observation. First, Zambia still has unacceptably high mortality rates with 24/1,000 NMR, 45/1,000 IMR, 75/1,000 U5MR and 398/100,000 MMR. These figures are in some cases worse-off when compared with other countries with an even lower per capita spending on health. Health service coverage in rural areas remains a challenge as people in some areas still have to travel long distances to access a health centre. Zambia is also faced with high disease burden of both communicable and non-communicable

diseases. The main challenges in the health system are as a result of three major historical inadequacies, namely, low financing levels, insufficient human and material resources against a growing population. For instance, low levels of investment in health have given rise to shortages in human resource, medical equipment, medicines and medical products. In addition, low citizen participation in health governance has continued to undermine the effective performance of the sector.

4.6.2 The value of Health - an unhealthy nation is a costly nation!

Taking a leaf from the global best practices and historical experience of the prevailing situation in the health sector a few pointers have been highlighted to be considered in the 7th NDP. This is in order to have a responsive health sector to the national development needs.

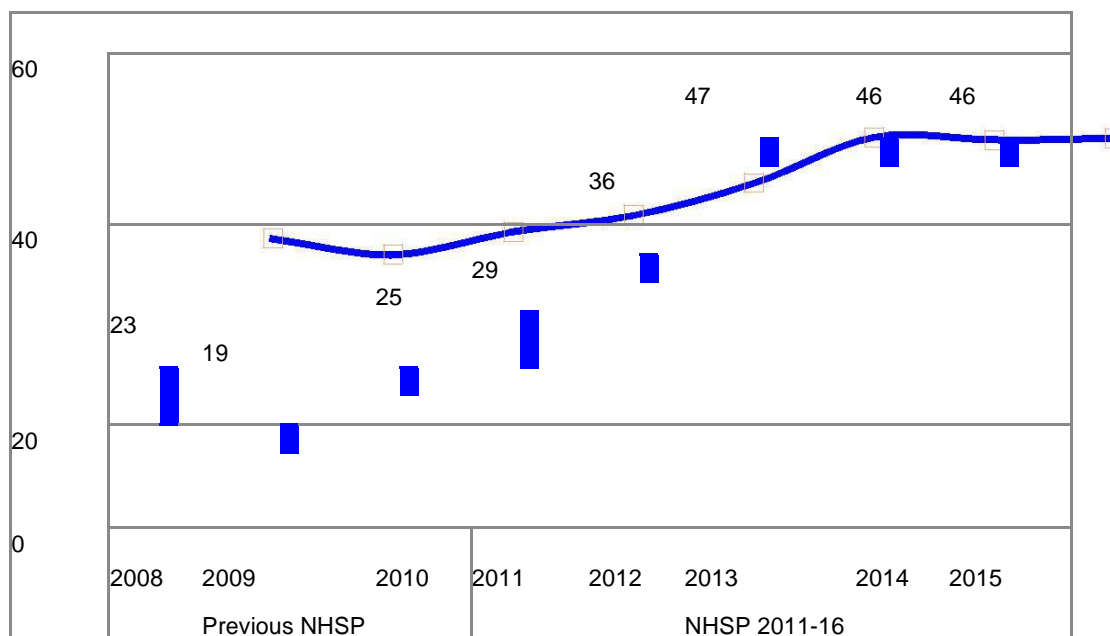
4.6.3 Health Financing

Zambia needs to improve the approach to funding the health sector in light of:

- i. Increasing demand for country ownership and co-financing. This is directly as a result Zambia's graduation from a poor country status to a lower Middle income country and the Global economic challenges which continue to affect donor countries.
- ii. Increasing double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- iii. Increasing population.

The per capita expenditure on health increased from 25 in 2010 to 29 in 2011; 36 in 2012 peaked at 47 in 2013 and remained at 46 for 2014 and 2015. The per capita allocation in comparison to health financing at health facilities raises an allocative efficiency question.

Figure 1: Growth in Government Health Budget Per capita (US\$)



There is a need to review and strengthen the public financing act to ensure that there is an Inclusion of sub district elements such as health facilities below 1st and 2nd level in the yellow book. Currently there is a challenge of knowing what has been approved for each health facility and predictability of financing for frontline health facilities. Funding ceilings are in some cases unrealistically low as there are months without funding and most times the budgeted amount is not what is received. Ring fencing service delivery funds and explicitly including Hospitals and health centres in the yellow book will allow for transparency and accountability, predictability in health financing, effectiveness and reduce uncertainty of funding thereby helping facility managers in planning and activity implementation. An inclusion of performance based financing elements will help to ensure that performance or non-performance has consequences for those entrusted with the noble task of improving health outcomes. This should apply to all tiers of the health system i.e. national to Health facility level. This will greatly improve health outcomes.

4.6.4 Strengthen Health Governance

There is need for the Government to ensure that there is effective Participation of Non State actors in health governance in Zambia. Health governance in Zambia is currently mainly focused at national level. The Ministry of Health has signed an MOU as part of the National Strategic Plan operationalization. A similar system is however, not present at Provincial, District and health facility level. Zambia was a champion of how a health system can benefit from a governance system that includes: joint decision making; checks and balances and increased transparency. The enactment of legislation that will give non state and state actors clear rights, roles and responsibility will ensure good governance and the return to effective partnership between government and non-state actors in health.

This will ensure that everyone's views are represented and everyone's needs are met. Inclusion of Non state actors in health governance will promote the health rights of people and ensure that the needs of people at the lower levels are met.

4.6.5 Recognise and uphold Patients' Rights

There is need for the Government to institutionalize Patient's rights to ensure for a systematic administration of these rights. The knowledge of patients' rights is of paramount importance to the patients and health workers because it acts as a protector and defence against the danger of violating these rights. There is need to elicit knowledge, attitude and utilization of patients' charter and come up with an institution that will ensure there is knowledge of the charter and its provisions among patients and health care providers. In other countries is the existence of the office of

the Patient's Ombudsman, an office that will represent the rights and needs of patients in Zambia. The current system of health workers representing both the interests of health workers and clients is a conflict of interest. Best practices from the police and judiciary complaints commission present starting points for the creation of a body to uphold patients' rights. The institution thus created should however be highly accessible to all Zambians.

4.6.6 Provide Overarching Legal Framework

There is a need for the Government to review specific health legislation as there was a legal gap created by the repeal of the health services act in 2006; current legislation does not provide for advanced medical procedure such as Organ transplant. This therefore justifies the need for legislation to provide a guide advanced transplant procedures

4.7 HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT: A basic need

The SDG Number Eleven (11) - *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable* implores the need for governments and stakeholders to ensure access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services for all by 2030.¹⁷ This SDG should guide the Zambian government and its stakeholders as it sets its priorities for the housing sector in the upcoming Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP).¹⁸ In this regard, this Plan should reflect the gains and failures of the RSNDP in adequately addressing the challenges faced in the housing and human settlement sector.

4.7.1 Housing and Human Settlements – *making the poverty link*

Adequate housing is a human right recognized the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Specifically, Articles 17 and 25 lay the foundation for the right to adequate housing, which is the right of every woman, man, youth and child to acquire and sustain a secure home and community in which to live in peace and dignity.

Housing fulfils physical needs by providing security and shelter. It fulfils psychological needs by providing a sense of privacy and dignity. It also fulfils social needs by providing a sense of belonging, a gathering area and community space for the human family. In this sense, housing is clearly an integral component of development. Therefore, improved housing is not only a desirable goal in its own right, but more

¹⁷<http://undocs.org/A/68/970>

¹⁸ CFHH considers the process of developing the Seventh National Development (SNDP) initiated by the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ), as an opportune time for the nation to discuss and agree on appropriate and innovative strategies to address the many challenges that affect the provision of adequate and pro-poor housing.

importantly, contributes to economic growth, social development, effective national governance, stability and enhanced security.

In Zambia, adequate housing is not explicitly provided for in the Bill of Rights. However, the draft constitution, currently being considered by the general public, proposes to expand the Bill of Rights to include Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of which the right to adequate and decent housing is one of them. In Zambia, like in so many African and developing countries, the poor are not able to access adequate housing because of a variety of reasons but most prominently the costs associated with access to formal housing. The Central Statistics Office (2012) estimates that 60.5% of Zambians are poor and thus face challenges in meeting their basic needs.¹⁹

The poor in Zambia cannot access adequate and decent housing. This has resulted in a situation where 74 percent of urban dwellers live in slums. Adequate housing is more than provision of four walls and a roof as it dictates that individuals should have; security of tenure, availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure, affordability, habitability, accessibility, location and cultural adequacy. With the average cost of a low end adequate housing unit at K70,000 (seventy thousand kwacha only), majority of Zambians, particularly the poor, cannot afford this cost in the absence of supportive Government policy and regulatory measures.²⁰

4.7.2 Time to look at the state of housing in the face in Zambia

Zambia currently faces a housing supply deficit in many urban centers. The shortage is particularly severe in three provinces, namely Lusaka, Copperbelt and North Western.²¹ The creation of new Provinces and districts has also contributed to the increase in the demand for housing in the quest to meet the set standards of district and provincial administrative operations. Although there are varying estimates on the current levels of housing, the MLGH has placed the national housing deficit at 3 million units across the country. The housing deficit is critical for low-income earners – majority of who live in peri-urban and often unplanned housing areas.

In addition, Zambia is facing a challenge of rapid urbanization which has resulted in a rapid growth of the population of the urban poor. At present, the local government administration is unable to effectively provide necessary amenities such as housing, water, sanitation, public transportation to the citizens. As a result, large urban centres and cities of Zambia have seen the rise of massive slums. Most of the informal housing in these areas is individually driven and owned. For instance, UN-Habitat has estimated that 70 percent of housing in cities like Lusaka is informal. This stock accommodates about 90 percent of the city's population but occupies only 20 percent

¹⁹ Central Statistics Office, 2012, Living Conditions Monitoring Survey 1996 and 2010

²⁰ UN-Habitat (2012), Zambia Urban Housing Sector Profile.

²¹ New mining activities in Northwestern and Copperbelt provinces have fuelled the increase in the demand for housing

of the residential land. So far, very little has been done by Government to upgrade slums and unplanned settlements.

4.7.3 We have a housing deficit – what’s causing this?

There are a number of drivers for the current deficit of housing in Zambia. The following are some of the major drivers;

- ***Outdated and poorly implemented National Housing Policy:*** Zambia developed its first national housing policy in 1996. The main policy goal of the National Housing Policy of 1996 was to provide adequate and affordable housing for all income groups in Zambia. However, this Policy has not been reviewed to take into account the current changes that have taken place in this sector. So far, the 1996 Policy goals have not been achieved and a number of policy measures such as 15% budget allocation towards housing has not been actualized. It also seems that housing has not been a national development priority. For instance, in the 2015 National Budget, government allocated 1.7% of the national budget towards housing, water and sanitation. This represented a marginal increase from the 1% allocation in the 2014 Budget. This level of budgetary allocations is inadequate in addressing the huge housing deficit in Zambia. However, it is also important to state that a process to review the National Housing Policy has been initiated by the Government of the Republic of Zambia.
- ***Poor prioritization of housing in national development plans:*** The Revised SNDP does not address Housing as a stand-alone sector. Housing development is marginally reflected under regional development, particularly for Muchinga Province. This reflection is clearly not adequate to give the sector the required visibility as a national development priority. It should however be noted that prior to the RSNDP, Housing sector prominently featured in the SNDP under the subtitle of infrastructure development. This gave the housing sector visibility in all the subsequent planning processes – annual budgets and operational plans as the development plan benchmarks the development road map for the period.
- ***Shortage of land for housing:*** Access to land for housing development in general and low cost housing in particular, continues to be a challenge for many local authorities. The unavailability of reasonably priced and well-located serviced land are the two major constraints to the rapid expansion of housing or low and moderate-income families. However, access to affordable land has become extremely difficult for low-income earners who are often pushed out of the urban and formal land areas. Formal land delivery systems are too inefficient. In instances where land is available for purposes of planning and alienation, the process alienation, allocation and access is often too long and cumbersome. Those who are desperate for land mostly risk their money by obtaining illegally created plots which come “cheaply and efficiently”.

- ***Inadequate public sector involvement in provision of housing:*** In the past, Government contracted parastatals or State-Owned Enterprises like the National Housing Authority (NHA), Zambia State Insurance Corporation (ZSIC), National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA) among others to construct housing units particularly in the medium to high cost range. However, most of the parastatals lack the financial capacity to invest in such programmes and this has created a vacuum filled by the private sector. Parastatals have, in some instances partnered with the private sector but this is mostly for the attractive high cost housing which has good return on investments. There are various reasons for the failure of parastatals to provide housing for different income groups and some of these include challenges in accessing land, absence of long-term low cost financing, high cost of providing infrastructural services like roads, water, sewerage and storm water drainage and high cost of building materials. The net result of these conditions is that housing and human settlement development in Zambia has gradually become an initiative of the private sector and individual citizens. The high income earning citizens are able to afford housing in private sector driven planned housing estates while the poor and the lower income bracket are left with no choice but to help themselves in informal unplanned housing and human settlements
- ***High cost of building materials:*** The most common building materials and technologies, as dictated by the existing Building regulations and standards, are expensive and not environmentally sustainable. There is very limited building material research in Zambia and hence the continued focus on the use of traditional building materials like brick and mortar which makes it unaffordable to many people. There are some good examples where government projects have adopted alternative building materials and the most prominent of these projects is the one undertaken by the Ministry of Defense recently in building over 4,000 housing units. The units were built using prefabricated building technology.²² Additionally, the Zambian Government is building 650 health posts using prefabricated building materials.

4.7.4 There is still time to cut the deficit

The 7th NDP should dedicate a cross-cutting approach to the housing and human settlements sector. This chapter should clearly indicate the linkages with other key sectors and economic areas such as infrastructure development, local government, land development, environmental protection among others.

The policy highlights in the 7th NDP for the housing and human sector may include but not limited to;

- Increase provision of adequate housing and improved quality living environments by 2021.

²² Government is using the same technology in building the six hundred and fifty health (650) posts around the country

Presentation of CSOs Sectoral Working Papers

- Develop a functionally equitable residential property market that caters both for the low income and the high-income groups of the population.
- Initiate medium and long term programmes for slum upgrading.
- Enhance institutional capability for effective coordination and spatial investment decisions in urban and rural areas.
- The 7th NDP should provide for harmonization of housing related policies including the proposed National Urbanization Policy as well as the National Housing Policy
- The 7th NDP should categorically provide for a Housing and Human Settlements Sector Advisory Group (HHS-SAG) which will bring together all key stakeholders and expertise in the sector to advice and work with government in planning, implementation and monitoring interventions the housing sector in order to achieve housing sector goals of the SNDP. The HHS-SAG will add value to the housing sector planning processes and promote collaboration among stakeholders.
- The 7th NDP should adopt an incremental approach to budgetary allocation for the housing sector. The aim should be increase the percentage share of the Housing sector budget from the current 1.7% (2015 budget) and achieve 15% share of the budget by 2021 in order to meet the housing deficit.
- Government should urgently review and harmonize the existing grant and subsidy regimes that aim at improving/upgrading and creating human settlements (e.g. Land Development Fund, Local Government Equalization Fund, Housing development Funds etc.). This should target at;
 - Ensuring diversity in product and finance options for greater spatial mix & flexibility prioritizing development in areas of economic opportunities.
 - Ensuring that housing provision supports livelihood production and job creation.
 - Investing in public spaces and public infrastructure that improves the health of a community.
- Working closely with financial institutions to increase levels of finance to the lower end of the market.
- The 7th NDP should develop and adopt new spatial planning norms and standards focused on improving public transport, locating jobs where people live, upgrading informal settlements and fixing housing market gaps.
- The 7th NDP should locate Housing development within the framework sustainable human settlements with all elements required for the one's wellbeing of integrated. This ultimately would lead to sustainable housing and improved quality of household life.
- Based on the Urban and Regional Planning Bill 2015, there is therefore a need to link local authorities spatial planning to investment potential and decisions. Such an approach has the potential for job and wealth creation.

4.7.5 Approaches to implement housing and human settlement

- Review and improve existing housing instruments to better direct housing and human settlement investments.
- Increase the supply of housing opportunities using different tenure types of financing facilities to ensure the diversity necessary to address social, economic and cultural needs.
- Fast-track release of land for housing targeting poor and lower middle-income households especially in newly created districts.
- Review the building codes and encourage the adoption and utilization of global best practices in low cost housing solutions.
- Include access to basic infrastructure and services in new land developments for human settlements.
- Address infrastructure and basic services backlog in existing compounds and townships.
- Implement projects that ensures spatial, social and economic integration
- Develop minimum standards and finance options for investment in public spaces
- Issuing of title deeds should be decentralized and procedures should be streamlined
- Educate citizens on importance of adequate housing to create effective demand
- Develop M&E system to measure effectiveness of spatial targeting
- Ensure effective and consistent policy monitoring of the 7thNDP commitments to this sector and client compliance to the Urban and Regional Planning Act.

4.8 LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS:

4.8.1 Getting the formula right

Zambia has been facing the challenge of high unemployment since the early 1990s. For instance, according to CSO (1998, 1999) formal sector employment was estimated at 12% and 11% in 1996 and 1999 respectively and the unemployment rate was at 18.2 and 9.5% for the same years. However in as much as there was a significant reduction in unemployment, there has been very minimal change in the reduction of the high poverty levels witnessed in the Zambia during the same period. Official documents prepared by both the Government of Zambia and their Co-operating partners clearly indicate that Zambia will not be able to meet the MDG Number 1 on poverty reduction (UNDP-GRZ 2014; GRZ 2015).

The Zambian labor force market is facing several severe challenges. These include the high youth unemployment rate which was at 7.9% in 2012.²³ The Labor market is

²³ This situation has major consequences for the young people in the labour market as most of them tend to resort to criminal activities and other unlawful activities.

too skewed towards agriculture which has remained largely under developed. The informal sector which is estimated to be about 71.3% hosts the largest proportion of the labour force. With regards to the level of education, it is still not high enough to build up the required level of human capital. Very few people have access to tertiary education and reliable Labor Market Information (LMI) is usually unavailable, CSO, LFS (2012).

4.8.2 The young and the restless

Zambia is a youthful country, with approximately 74 percent of its 14 million total population under the age of 30 (28 percent are 15 to 29 years-old). Annual population growth rate estimates range from 2.4 to 3 percent, and projections indicate a population of 24.5 million by 2030 (UNDP 2013). Regardless of this, formal job creation appears to be very slow. In spite of the high levels of urbanization, farming has remained as the main occupation of Zambians.²⁴ For instance, in 2010 about 4.5 million people were working in Zambia. Of these, 68% in farming including fishing and forestry while manufacturing employed only about 3.2% and mining consumed only 1.5%. Only 25% of total employment was in the services sector and about 14% of rural employment in nonfarm activities, of which 2.8% are the public sector (Zambia economic brief, 2013). In 2012 out of 5.4 million employed persons, 83.4 percent were in the informal sector (Labour Force Survey 2012).

Currently employment in the formal sector has declined in absolute terms. In addition, the quality of employment in the formal sector has also declined. Real wages for most categories of workers have continued to fall as the purchasing power gets eroded. Wages for workers in Zambia are very low compared to some neighboring countries and the developed world. Even though nominal wages have increased over the years, corresponding real wage levels have actually declined over the same periods. This can be attributed to the rising prices due to inflation that Zambia has encountered over the years.

4.8.3 Efforts in response

In order to address these challenges, the government has formulated some policies and strategies, some of the notable policies that address employment issues include:

- National Youth Policy (NYP) and Youth Enterprise Fund which mainly focuses on the creation of youth employment through entrepreneurship to accelerate poverty reduction²⁵.
- The **Agricultural policy** which addresses the issues of food security, economic growth and poverty reduction.
- The **TEVET Policy** which in conjunction with other boards (Ministries) emphasizes on the construction of Universities and Youth Skills Training

²⁴ Reflected in the increase in the number of hospitals, schools, roads and shopping complexes

²⁵ The NYP includes measures to reduce youth unemployment and improve the coordination of national youth programs

centers' aimed at enhancing which youth access to quality Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TEVET).

- **National Gender Policy** and **National Action Plan** on Gender-Based Violence, which seek to fight gender inequality and identifies employment as a means of empowering women both economically and socially.

In addition to the various policies, different institutions have also initiated various strategies aimed at addressing unemployment. These include the Youth Empowerment Fund, Business Development Support programmes under various Ministries and the Citizen Economic Empowerment Fund. It should be noted that all these policies and strategies have as their main aim the empowerment of youth and are largely aimed at promoting employment and job creation opportunities for this segment of the population.

4.8.4 Working it out in the 7th NDP

- Give priority to the development of Labour Markets and Information Statistics (LMIS) at National and sub-regional levels and this can be achieved through increasing its institutional support and resource development to the Ministry of Youth and Sport to enable it capture employment and labor market data in a timely and comprehensive manner.
- There is need to set attainable Employment targets in the National Development Plan based on the Labour force statistics and create a monitoring mechanism for this on an annual basis.
- The Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry should create a conducive environment where youth participation in private sector development is encouraged and promoted through a clear framework and work plan that encourages decentralization and wealth creation among the youths.
- There is an urgent need to develop and promote the expansion of other economic sectors, especially the manufacturing, tourism, mining and agriculture in order to expand opportunities of employment and job creation.
- Re-orient the education principles to improve the quality of skills, employability and productivity. In line with the TEVET policy the government can strengthen the accessibility of technology to the youth through the provision of more equipment to the responsible bodies to meet their daily need.

4.9 WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SUPPLY, SANITATION AND HYGIENE: *Manage the water to develop other sectors*

The right to water is part of the broader international human rights framework. The right to water is a right in itself and closely interlinked with other economic culture social rights (ICESCR) set out in the international Covenant on Economic Cultural and

Social Rights. On 30TH September 2010, the UN Human Rights Council responsible for mainstreaming human rights adopted a resolution affirming the decision that water is indeed a human right.

Water and economy are inextricably linked. Improved water supply sanitation and water resources management boosts economic growth and contributes greatly to poverty reduction. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD/Rio+20) in 2012, recognized “that water is at the core of sustainable development as it is closely linked to a number of key global challenges”, and reiterated “the importance of integrating water in sustainable development.”

Zambia is a signatory to major UN and regional treaties protecting human rights. Although by ratifying international conventions Zambia has an obligation to respect and fulfill the human rights of all citizens, the provisions of these treaties are not locally effective if not incorporated into the domestic legislation. The Living Conditions Monitoring Survey reports that only 43% of the population have access to sanitation facilities while access to safe drinking water stands at 63%. According to the World Bank Country Water Resources Strategy, Zambia faces significant water resources challenges related to climatic variability, recurring droughts and floods and continued underinvestment in water infrastructure. Frequent water shocks such as droughts and floods have a significant impact on the country’s economic performance.

4.9.1 Have we done enough in managing our water?

The water subsector in Zambia has undergone substantial reforms beginning in the early 1970s when the government initiated dialogue. In 1994 the government embarked on the implementation of the water sector reforms. The major ministries involved in implementing these reforms are the Ministry of Mines Energy and Water Development (MEWD) responsible for water resources management and the Ministry of Local Government and Housing (MLGH) under which the Department of Housing and Infrastructure Development (DHID).

The water mandate is highly fragmented with more than 7 line ministries leading to challenges in distribution and management of resources at national and sub-national level. Institutional setup and policy framework and policy mix is weak, roles and responsibilities are clear but uncoordinated within the water resource management supply sanitation and hygiene sector.

Nevertheless the sector has a capable sector advisory group (SAG) which brings together key development actors such as Government, Cooperating Partners, Civil Society Organisations’ and Private Sector. Government has created enabling environment for dialogue and participation among stakeholders within the sector. Cooperating partners have been instrumental in supporting sector reforms and national development plans. Civil Society is actively involves in supporting national

development plans through the setting up of the Zambia NGO WASH Forum through a unified effort of different key players who have an interest in the sector. In terms of financing, Government of the Republic of Zambia, external assistance in form of grants from bilateral and multilateral agencies and loans provided by international and domestic financial institutions, earnings by public commercial water and sanitation utilities, private institutions and households are the main sources of funding to the sector. Government allocation has been steadily rising, but not sufficiently to match donor contribution. The dependence on external financing while welcome raises the risk of stability of funding in the event of donor procrastination

External Cooperation from Zambia's development partners has taken the form of financial and technical support to the water sector on a bilateral and multilateral as well as project basis. Zambia aimed to reach 75% access to water and 60% to sanitation by 2015. This has not been achieved as the progress within the sector remains slow coupled with low investments to the sector. In addition to the insufficient funds allocated to the sector also faces the poor and late disbursements with budgetary performance being as low as 36% and 38% for 2013 and 2014 respectively budget performance. The external donor contribution to WASH financing over the last decade has continued to surpass the domestic financing. For instance, In 2013, the annual CP budget was 533,793,999.92 against the GRZ budget of K250, 000,000. Similarly, without funding from Millennium Challenge Account Zambia (MCAZ), Lusaka would be operating far below the 10% of the required capital investments and yet all this investment is going towards rehabilitating old infrastructure. While foreign assistance can boost credibility of the national programme, this support can be difficult to maintain and donor policies may change and affect the future of the programmes. Another challenge has been the perpetual problem of lack of infrastructural investment in turn affects the capacity to expand coverage beyond the existing network.

4.9.2 Water – we have a problem!

The sector faces the challenge of low levels of service delivery worsened by the growing growing demand for the services due to increased population. An estimated 6.5 Million Zambians lack access to sanitation facilities and 37% lack access to safe drinking water (GRZ/UNDP Progress Report 2014). Some of the factors that have contributed to low service delivery include the following;

- Weak institutional setup and fragmented policy framework and/or institutions working in silos.
- Uncoordinated regulation and poor legal enforcement.
- Research and documented findings are not put to use.
- Inadequate funding and bias towards water projects and the expense of sanitation, particularly will contribute to deterioration in rural sanitation indicators across the country.
- Declining infrastructure development and investment.
- Reluctance to provide services to low-income communities

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- Poor service standards Safe hygiene is the single most cost-effective means of preventing infectious disease. Investment in hygiene is low both in health, water supply and sanitation sectors. Improved access to water supplies and sanitation facilities make it easier to practice hygiene.
- Growing affordability burden for poor households increasing vulnerability of many households.
- Lack of equity with rural areas and peri urban areas, which are mainly poorer areas receiving lower levels of services compared to the well-off urban areas.
- In addition, the sector faces water resource management challenges which have resulted in groundwater contamination, inadequate drainage continue to cause widespread outbreaks of waterborne diseases.

Furthermore, the real challenge is largely associated with politically motivated activities related to sanitation issues. Examples of such charges include the operations of municipal markets, selling of food from the ground and on streets, sanitation of toilets at all public institutions i.e. bus stops, hospitals and even schools should be addressed. Current levels of hygiene are unacceptable and public expenditure towards hygiene improvement is low. A more structured approach to hygiene is needed

Problem Area	Interventions
Weak institutional framework	Set up Water & Sanitation Ministry and the commission for water at national right down to district level
Financing (inadequate)	Increase Allocations from K40 per capita per annum to at least K100 per annum [50%] Budget Policy
Supervision Monitoring Tracking Performance Accountability	Social Accountability (Models) Tools to monitor standards and score cards to rate service provision
Research and Development Findings not adopted	
Uncoordinated regulation and poor legal enforcement	
Reluctance to provide services to low-income communities	
Poor service standards	Set standards for rural water supply and sanitation as the case is in urban areas. Create regulator or increase NWASCO's mandate to cover rural areas
growing affordability burden for poor households increasing vulnerability of many households,	Adopt cheap and affordable technologies that will ensure sustained access to Water Resources Supply Sanitation and Hygiene
Lack of high level political leadership in WASH issues	Creation of Ministry of Water
Inadequate staffing (quantity and quality) in Local Authorities (LAs)	Increase staffing and funding
Very little resources for sanitation as compared to water.	

There must be focused efforts to meet the needs of the poor and ensure that the different roles that water security plays in their livelihoods and growth are properly recognized. There is great importance to ensure that water is available in the right quantities and quality to facilitate supportive interventions focused on promoting pro-poor forms of economic growth. Government must increase funding to the sector in order to address deficits in infrastructure development in relation to the growing population. There is need for increased spending on hygiene improvements beyond hand washing or sensitizations on Community Led Total Sanitation within national programmes.

4.10 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Zambia is getting younger everyday

It has been estimated that by 2021, 3.6 billion people under the age of 30 will make up half the global population and 90% of these people will live in developing countries. In the case of Zambia, the country can be classified as youthful given that fact that with approximately 74 percent of its 13 million total population under the age of 30 (28 percent are 15 to 29 years-old). The annual population growth rate estimates range from 2.4 to 3 percent, and projections indicate a population of 24.5 million by 2030 according to the 2013 Human Development Report. The youth population will continue to expand, as “Zambia is experiencing the lowest declines in fertility in the past decades for which data is available, and by 2020-2025 the country is expected to have the highest fertility rate in SADC sub-region.

4.10.1 Young population, old problems

There are challenges and gaps in understanding youth participation. Even the current development policies seem to have failed to capture this aspect of development. In practical terms, meaningful youth participation is active, informed and voluntary involvement of young people in decision making and the life of their communities (both locally and nationally). It is working with and for young people, valuing them as assets – as advisors, colleagues and stakeholders. Young people’s participation is also more than gathering their views in surveys or listening to limited numbers of representatives. It should be part of a process whereby young people progress to greater rights and responsibilities; from being targets of outreach to being actively engaged in the planning and implementation of development interventions.

Generally, majority of the young people do not have the means or possibilities to sustain themselves and make decisions about their own lives, nor influence the development of their societies. This is mainly due to unequal distribution of resources, limited access to power and basic political rights at global, national, and local level. Consequently, many of them migrate from rural to urban areas, drop out of school, and work under hard and unhealthy circumstances with very limited possibilities to

influence their own lives and their societies in a positive way. There are also, different perceptions against young people that they lack commitment, capacity and temperament to participate in adult decision making processes; they are often barred from discussions affecting family or community.

There is also lack of access to influence, education, jobs, and health care for youth. For instance, in the case of Zambia, it has been noted that people who represent the young people are mostly beyond the age limit as defined in the National Youth Policy 2006. For example, out of the 150 Members of Parliament elected to the National Assembly, less than 5% were below the age of 35 years. This must be taken as a serious concern because matters affecting the young people can best be expressed by the young people themselves and therefore, they should be given genuine representation and effective participation opportunities.

4.10.2 Leaving out the youth is keeping Zambia poor

Meaningful youth participation, gives young people a “Voice” – young people bring useful perspectives, skills, qualities and experience that are unique to their situation, which mean they can play an active role in development. It also leads to increased understanding of young people’s real, rather than perceived, situation and needs. There are also benefits to young people that result from their participation, such as an increased sense of value and ownership, which in turn provides further tangible benefits to governments such as being able to better fulfil their objectives through more effective programmes and policies.

New ideas and energy created by youth-adult partnerships cannot be underestimated, by working together and combining experience with creativity and an understanding of youth culture. Youth-adult partnerships not only produce better solutions to problems facing young people, they also create trust and recognition of capabilities between the generations. Young people are pioneers of new approaches and are able to adapt quickly to changes and updates in technology. They understand what will appeal to their peers, meaning that interventions that young people have been involved in designing are more likely to.

4.10.3 Paving the way for the young through the 7th NDP

Youth participation is one of the main pillars of a healthy and strong democratic system where there is mutual understanding between people and institutions. Youth participation should be taken beyond peer education and one-off consultations to include young people in all aspects of development efforts including identifying vulnerabilities and risks, designing programming, research, participation in governance structures and monitoring and evaluation of results. Some thoughts to achieve this are;

- Mainstreaming Youth Development Priorities in all the Sectors

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- Considering allocating specific slots for Youth Participation in the Budgeting Process, Parliament and Council Chambers
- Engage higher numbers of young people and b) influence young people to adopt positive behaviours and make other positive changes in their lives.
- Empowering youth to exercise active citizenship and generate sustainable long-term development is therefore very important.
- Youth should be given a voice in national and community programmes and projects. They should be transformed from mere participants into partners, and from beneficiaries of programmes into resources for programmes. Fostering participatory governance at the grassroots and strengthening grassroots decision-making structures; empowering citizens to engage with grassroots structures is needed.
- There is need for the relevant national government promotion of young people's skills and capacities to participate actively in democratic practices, including in local, district, provincial and national processes.
- In order to achieve a healthy, participative and strong governmental system, there is need for a proper education system with an emphasis on democratic participation is crucial.
- In order to place young people as a main stakeholder in the decision making process, recommends an increase in the number of young people involved in the political institutions, including the governmental positions.
- Strengthening formal youth representation by clarifying roles and responsibilities; ensuring recognition; enhancing legitimacy and accountability and reviewing the legislative framework (Quotas for youth representation) and recognising legal youth structures and their roles at all levels is crucial.
- Youth Forum and structures at village and provincial needs to be established to enable them to review the financial planning and budget allocation needs to be present for young people.

CONCLUSION

This section of the report reflects key conclusions from the symposium. It sets out areas of strengthening stakeholder involvement in delivering national development and develop a common understanding on the National Development agenda towards Vision 2030. The symposium was a good platform for seeking solutions to the problems and challenges that the country was facing in the formulation and implementation of National Development Plans.

Emphasis was made on the need for enhanced citizen participation in development planning processes, the need for consensus building and the provision of frameworks where communities would define their own development agenda and ensure equity and transparency are achieved.

Many developmental ideas and recommendations were highlighted and taken note of. It came to light that in order for poverty reduction to be achieved, there was desperate need for access to land, social protection and a sustained environment, among others.

In addition, achievements, failures and key lessons learnt from the planning and implementation of the Fifth National Development Plan, Sixth National Development Plan and Revised Sixth National Development Plan towards attaining Vision 2030 (which is Zambia's long term national development plan) were taken into reflection. It was brought to light that development was skewed towards urban areas and less of rural development and as a result there was high communicable and non-communicable disease burden in rural areas and despite the economic boom of 6.6% the country still experienced poor job creation.

The symposium was such an ambitious program as it touched on many cross cutting issues that play a significant role in developmental processes and it did succeed in being a true knowledge, research as well as a catalyst for follow-up activities including plans for seeking a good development agenda and in bringing out the main issues that thrust a country like Zambia towards sustainable development especially in the sectors that Zambia has comparative advantage to such as Mining and manufacturing industry, among others.

Many recommendations regarding development steps to be undertaken were presented in papers, for example, issues such as performance and fiscal accountability, service delivery and institutional or policy coordination and the need to incorporate environmental sustainability in all the developmental planning processes. Symposium attendees moved from knowledge sharing to a small number of important and strategic recommendations that, if actioned and implemented, would result in sustained and inclusive development in the country.

Annex 1: Symposium Communique



COMMUNIQUE ON THE JOINT GRZ-CSO NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Government of the Republic of Zambia and the Civil Society Organizations met at the National Symposium on Sustainable Development from 11th to 12th August 2015 at Radisson Blue Hotel in Lusaka with the objective to strengthen stakeholder involvement in delivering national development and to develop a common understanding on the national development agenda towards Vision 2030.

The Symposium deliberated and:

RECOGNISED that though so much progress had been achieved on the economic agenda, the gains had not translated into poverty reduction especially in the rural areas where the majority poor reside.

RECOGNISED that development issues such as Gender, Disability, WASH, Youth, HIV/AIDS, Environment, and Nutrition needed to take prominence in National Development planning for successful development outcomes towards attaining Vision 2030 and there is also need to strategically plan on environmental issues and coordinate climate change mitigation activities.

NOTED the significance to strengthen coordination of national development across and among all stakeholders and implementing entities. Therefore, it was resolved to develop a coordinated and comprehensive framework.

REITERATED the need to move from raw agricultural based economy to an industrial one by way of promoting value addition especially in the agricultural sector in order to create employment and fight poverty.

REITERATED the need to re-organize the institutional arrangements and legal frameworks for the achievement of equitable and sustainable development objectives.

Symposium Communique

IDENTIFIED the need to shift from a sectorial-approach of planning to a multi-sectorial approach with a regional development bias for effective and efficient development planning delivery.

RECOGNISED the need to re-engineer the education system to allow for innovation tapping, sport facilitation for national development, holistic career guidance provision, revamp youth development centers in communities, improved access to education services for the vulnerable, and improvement on skills development that is responsive to the general industry needs.

ADOPTED, as a way forward, to involve the youth, in future planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national development programmes and projects.

UNDERScoreD the importance of collaboration in investing in data collection and analysis to ensure informed and thus comprehensive development planning by all stakeholders.

COMMITTED themselves to play their respective roles in order to ensure that planned reforms such as decentralization are implemented as a catalyst of speeding national development.

COMMITTED to be providing leadership by all individuals and institutions in terms of accountability and information sharing in development initiatives.

RESOLVED there is need to further improve the macroeconomic indicators and ensure they translate into improved social outcomes as well as tie the foreign direct investment to domestic investment as a way of reducing the externalization of resources from the country.

RESOLVED that there was need to do a SWOT analysis on the Zambian people which would then inform the change of Mind Set programme aimed at positively changing our attitudes to national development initiatives and fully appreciate the Vision 2030 of becoming a prosperous middle income country. The analysis would provide data needed for critical thinking for the purpose of addressing the social challenges that we face as a country.

RESOLVED to undertake similar indabas at provincial level for inclusiveness and to enrich national character by giving voice to the voiceless in the national development process.