



# 2022 UNDP Zambia Annual Report

TOWARDS A FUTURE SMART AFRICA

Working with the people of Zambia and key partners  
to build a resilient and diversified economy



# Table of Contents

01

Country overview

02

Message from  
Resident  
Representative

03

Integrated Policy  
and Programme  
Support

04

Development and  
Operational  
Context of 2022

05

Key Achievements

06

Progress on the  
Country  
Programme:  
Development  
Results for 2022

07

Challenges and  
Reflections

08

Operations and  
Resource  
Mobilisation

09

Strategic  
Programme Focus



# COUNTRY OVERVIEW

**9.9 %**

INFLATION  
RATE

**4.7%**

GDP GROWTH  
RATE

**USD**

**13.25BN**

EXTERNAL DEBT

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As youth represent two-thirds of the population and given the critical role they played in ushering in the New Dawn Government, the 8NDP took the bold steps of prioritizing youth empowerment and employment as a key to steer the economic growth and reduce socio-economic disparities between urban and rural areas.

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## DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

**19.6 million**

Total  
Population

**10 million**

of Zambia's  
population is  
female

**36.7%**

of the populatio  
is between 15 -  
35 years old



## UNDP ZAMBIA

# MESSAGE FROM OUR RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

In 2022, UNDP made great strides to support Zambia's national transformational agenda. We accompanied the people and Government of Zambia in advancing the sustainable development agenda and worked to meet the development aspirations espoused in the 8th National Development Plan. To scale up our support and strategically position UNDP as a partner of choice, the Country Office (CO) formulated the Country Programme Document (CPD) (2023-27) that defines our strategic engagement with the Government of the republic of Zambia (GRZ) for the next 5 years. The formulation of the new CPD is a culmination of stakeholder engagements, with clear alignment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) (2023-27), the 8th NDP and the UNDP Strategic Plan (2022-26), respectively.

During the year under review, the CO accomplished some major milestones that have been captured in the report. Under climate action, the Strengthening Climate Resilience of Agricultural Livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II (SCRALA) project, implemented in partnership with GRZ, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and with WFP and FAO as responsible parties, has been impactful in mitigating the impact of climate change by improving the livelihoods of over 940,000 vulnerable people in the 16 drought and flood-prone districts in Zambia.

Partnering with UN sister agencies, we unleashed scalable solutions for youth empowerment and employment by contributing to the national programme on Internships, Volunteerism, Apprenticeships and Graduate opportunities (IVAG). The intervention targeted an initial 2,000 youths across the country to provide them with practical experience in various sectors and institutions.

Our resolve and commitment to promote Gender Equality and Women Equality (GEWE) cannot be gainsaid – in 2022, we partnered with GRZ, Sweden, Ireland, UNFPA, ILO, UNICEF and IOM to accelerate policy and programmatic initiatives to counter Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and singularly invested in programmes to promote women participation and women empowerment across the whole of society.

The paucity of data and real-time statistics remains an existential challenge, therefore we directed our efforts towards the mobilization of both financial and technical support to conduct the Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS).

## **MESSAGE FROM OUR RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED**

Leveraging on UNDP's integrator role, we brought together the UN and other development partners, including the World Bank and Statistics Sweden, to bridge the country's data deficiency and propel evidence-based policy development and decision-making. In addition, UNDP Zambia demonstrated its thought leadership by providing technical support to the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 on Households (SEIA) which informed the formulation of the 8NDP, the UNDP CPD and the UNSDCF. This also included providing technical leadership in the UN during the formulation of the Development Financing Assessment (DFA) and post-Covid-19 recovery assessment.

As Zambia continues to make strides towards strengthening democracy, UNDP has been partnering with key oversight institutions to deepen the rule of law and administration of justice. For example, through the flagship Democracy Strengthening in Zambia (DSZ) project, funded by European Union (EU), Germany, France, Ireland, Sweden, UKAID and USAID support was directed towards capacity-building of in electoral processes and to the review process of the Public Order Act (POA). The law review process led to the development of a legal framework that regulates public assemblies and meetings anchored on the fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution.

I wish to thank the Government of Zambia through the leadership of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning — who are our main interlocutors in our development programmes — for opening the doors and creating a conducive environment that has nurtured our historical partnership. I further wish to recognize the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Beatrice Mutali, and that of our UN sister agencies, for the drive and commitment in ensuring that the UN continues to Deliver as One (DaO), and for the collective support offered to the country towards achieving all the SDGs by the year 2030! A big thanks to all our development partners who continue to believe in and trust us to deliver for this great country!



# CHAPTER 3 INTEGRATED POLICY AND PROGRAMME SUPPORT

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2022

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## Contribution to Three Direction of Change



### STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

We supported the development and operationalization of the Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF) to improve development financing for SDG advancement. The Ministry of Finance and National Planning was supported to integrate SDGs into the Eight National Development Plan (8NDP) through the Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA). In partnership with UN agencies, we supported ZamStats to implement the Phased Integrated Socio-economic Survey, which includes:

- Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) on Households;
- Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS); and
- An Integrated Enterprise Survey.

### BUILDING RESILIENCE

As part of our drive to build resilience in communities, we supported at least 593,577 small-scale farmers to increase capacity to deal with climate change and variability adverse effects. This included strengthening their capacity to plan for climate risk resulting in resilient agricultural production and diversification practices and increased access to markets.

### LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

In line with our principle of leaving no-one behind, we led the joint-UN collaboration to prepare a national report on COVID-19 impact on persons with disabilities. The report aimed at identifying their health and socio-economic challenges with the formulation of recommendations to the Government on COVID-19 disability-inclusive response and recovery needs.



## STRATEGIC INNOVATION

In close collaboration with the National Technology Business Centre (NTBC) and Local Research Institutes, UNDP has leveraged on the technical expertise of its Accelerator Lab to support innovations that growth business and entrepreneurship while ensuring inclusion and diversity in the target beneficiaries. With a start-up investment of ZMW100,000 combined with business acceleration programme, young innovators including young women and people living with disabilities have managed to evolve their projects into potentially viable businesses.

## DIGITILISATION

In line with SDG 16.9 target, WE assisted the Department of National Registration, Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) to initiate the implementation of a national biometric registration system. This national system, aims to enroll 10 million people in two years. The development was influenced by the need to move from a manual system and its failure to respond to demands arising from continued population growth, integrity of the electoral system, and technological changes.

## DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

The support to the operationalization of the INFF has helped actualizing SDGs at both national and subnational levels as part of the 8NDP formulation process and resulted in the conception of the Development Finance Assessment to mobilize additional sources of finance with an efficient use of available financial resources.

## Contribution to the Moonshot

The office was one of the 19 countries awarded Moonshot 2022 facility funding for a grid-tied PV solar system for the UN House premises out of 46 submissions. This system will reduce our annual carbon emissions by 29.12 tons CO<sub>2</sub>/year. In collaboration with the ITM team, we have successfully finalized the procurement process for the system.



# CHAPTER 4 DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONAL CONTEXT OF 2022



World Bank approved a \$275 million development policy operation for Zambia while the International Monetary Fund has approved a 38-month programme of Extended Credit Facility of US\$1.3billion in support of reforms to restore fiscal and debt sustainability and promote private sector-led growth.

### Youth Employment

Zambia is experiencing slow economic growth and a sharp demographic shift and is one of the world's youngest countries by median age with population estimated at about 19.6 million (2022), growing at 3.4% between 2010 and 2022



### Economic Indicators

Inflation moved from 16.4% in December 2021 to 9.9% in December 2022, mainly on account of appreciation of the Kwacha and improved supply of food items with high cost of living that poses a challenge to poverty reduction. Public external debt amounted to US\$14.87 billion by June 2022, of which external debt increased from US\$13.04 billion in December 2021 to US\$13.25 billion.

### Alternative Energy

As Zambia transition to green economy, specific mechanisms and policies will need to be developed to ensure that the transition is sustainable.

# CHAPTER 5 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



## We provided technical lead of the UN System on youth

The Joint Fund (JP) of US\$300K for GRZ-UN collaboration on the youth helped organize the National Youth Indaba opened by the Head of State and the provincial consultations to gather youth voices for future interventions. The provincial consultation report is guiding the revision of the National Youth Policy.



The provincial consultation report is guiding the revision of the National Youth Policy, the repealing of the National Youth Act and the launch of the Phase 1 of GRZ-UN Joint Programme.

## With the UN System we developed the INFF

The development of the INFF helped review the national budget, a policy brief on social sectors that informed planning, a budget analysis toolkit used to train parliamentarians and permanent secretaries on budget analysis and management.

The JP has been critical in supporting the finalization of the 8NDP and its implementation plan by undertaking a Rapid Integrated Assessment while strengthening evidence-based policy formulation such as the Living Conditions Monitoring Survey and the Census.

## We supported the UNDS Reform

UNDP supported the development and operationalization of the INFF to improve development financing for achievement of SDGs. We supported the integration of SDGs into the 8NDP through the Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) and preparation of the 8NDP Implementation Plans.

Under UNDP technical leadership, UN agencies supported:

- Implementation of the Phased Integrated Socio-economic Survey
- Production of the Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment on Households; and
- Undertaking of Living Conditions Monitoring Survey

**CHAPTER 6 PROGRESS ON THE COUNTRY  
PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT RESULTS  
FOR 2022**



The three pillars of the 2016 - 2022 Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework sought to address pervasive inequalities and ensure inclusiveness of interventions through three outcomes.



### INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- (a) stimulating the rights of the public through a people-centered demand side approach
- (b) improving the capacity and performance of duty bearers through an institutional supply side approach



### ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT





- (a) stimulating the rights of the public through a people-centered demand side approach
- (b) improving the capacity and performance of duty bearers through an institutional supply side approach



### GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION

- (a) enhanced capacities for evidence gathering for policymaking and implementation
- (b) enhanced capacities for management of public resources
- (c) people's participation in democratic processes
- (d) overall support to strengthen the human rights architecture and access to justice.

Under governance and participation, the Country Programme Document enunciated the UNDP contribution to four of these Partnership Framework outcomes to ensure that:

-  (a) productive sectors expand income-earning opportunities that are decent and sustainable, especially for youth and women in the poorest areas. In achieving this outcome, UNDP will seek partnerships with the private sector, particularly in the extractive, agriculture and energy sectors, to develop and support projects/programmes together
-  (b) national institutions at all levels target, manage, coordinate and account for resources for equitable service delivery
-  (c) Zambia promotes equitable and effective participation in national and democratic processes, especially by women, youth and marginalized groups
-  (d) protection and promotion of human rights and human security, access to justice and gender equality with particular focus on the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups are improved





## **Outcome 1: To create the environment and investment climate consistent with socioeconomic objectives.**

In 2022, the Country Office aspired to contribute towards an inclusive and sustainable growth and development environment that incorporated productive capacities aimed at creating employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded. To achieve this, the Agency continued to work with the Government towards expanding the productive sectors that would enhance income earning opportunities. This meant working closely with the Government to develop policies, strategies, plans, and systems at national and subnational levels to achieve sustainable management of extractives and employment/livelihood intensive productive sectors for reduction of poverty and inequalities.

The Country Office further worked with Government and other key cooperating and implementing partners to achieve the following results:

- ✓ MLNREP and its partners to develop policies, systems and measures at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste
- ✓ The Zambian government scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation across sectors with increased funding and implementation status
- ✓ MMEWD has developed inclusive and sustainable solutions to achieve increased energy efficiency and universal modern energy access (especially off-grid sources of renewable energy)



## Outcome 2: Results



Real GDP grew by 2.4% in the first quarter of 2022 compared to 1.8 % recorded in 2021. The macroeconomic environment improved in the first half of 2022 compared to the same period in 2021.

### Over 2000 youths employed through internships and volunteer opportunities

Through the Unleashing Scalable Solutions for Youth Empowerment and Employment, UNDP has contributed to the national aspiration for improved youth employable capacity by providing internship and volunteer opportunities targeting an initial 2,000 youths across the country in various sector institutions.

This is expected to positively enhance the National youth strategy, which is a priority for the current government.

A continued support to Government to enhance the productive sectors in expanding income earning opportunities, as evidenced by the 2022 economic mid-year report, which revealed that:

Inflation decelerated to single digit in June 2022 at 9.7%, after more than 22 months of double-digit inflation. The exchange rate also made gains against major currencies.

### Continued support for conservation farming has led to increased interest from oth women and youths

UNDP has continued to facilitate communities to embark on conservation agriculture that is sustainable with opportunities for job creation, especially for women and youths.

The community demand for support towards enhanced capacity for youths, small-scale and artisanal miners, has been impressive.

This is also evidenced in environment and natural resources sector with non-project target districts requiring support with policy development processes amidst limited resources.

### Number of artisanal miners supported increased



UNDP provided increased capacity and participation opportunities for 789 Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners in partnership with the Ministry of Mines, through the provision of several group grants and capacity building sessions for the miners in various districts of Zambia with a specific focus on women and youths.





## **Outcome 2: Equity and equality in socioeconomic development and service delivery.**

UNDP Zambia collaborated with national institutions to build their capacities in delivering development results. Primarily, the UNDP collaborated the Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment to produce the following outcomes:

Through the ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme, UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development, has supported 23 associations with 781 of artisanal and small-scale miners (60% females and 40% male), in enhancing productivity, creating jobs, increasing income and in implementing environmental and social safeguards in and around mining areas in the Eastern and Copperbelt Provinces.

### **ASME Operations Supported through Government and Partners**

The ACUP-EU Programme has ensured that there is sufficient coverage of all 23 ASMEs operations and that deliberate support from government and other partners will be directed to them as their operations are now well documented.

### **ASME Associations Received Grants for Business Acceleration**

UNDP provided some of the associations with grants to enable the ASMEs improve their production by helping them acquire equipment as well as space for undertaking their day-to-day business.

### **220 Rain Gauges Installed in 16 Districts**

The weather observation network was strengthened to provide more area specific weather information for farmers by the installation of 220 rain gauges in 16 districts. Furthermore, 202 (40F and 162 M) agricultural extension officers were trained in Agro meteorology enhancing their capacity to interpret weather information for improved dissemination resulting in 129,046 (50%F, 50%M) farmers with access to improved climate information, weather and agricultural advisories.

### **23 ASMEs Received Business Training**

We supported all 23 ASMEs with capacity building and formalisation process of their mining businesses, as most of the ASME have been operating without a legal mandate. This will ensure that their enterprises become sustainable and have improved linkages with other players within the mining value chain.

## **BIOFIN Guidelines Published**

The BIOFIN project in collaboration with partners published guidelines and listing rules for green bonds to attract investments in projects that will help protect and even restore biodiversity. UNDP supported Government and the private sector with identifying of innovative solutions to protect and restore nature, while supporting the economic development of the country. Green bonds have been created as a way to not only protect biodiversity, but to help invest in innovative projects that will bring long-term benefits both to the planet and to investors.

### **Efficient Modelling of Climate Risk Insurance Facilitated**

At least 100,133 (45% F, 55% M) farmers supported by government through co-financing under the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) accessed climate risk weather index insurance cover. The investments in alternative livelihoods have resulted in increased income for 390 (41% F, 59% M) farmers out of the 1,985 (42%F, 58%M) farmers engaged in beekeeping, a total of 19,208kg of honey was harvested and sold, generating revenue of about \$16,639.

### **Climate Risks Screening Guidelines Developed**

UNDP supported the development of guidelines in Climate Risks Screening to enhance resilience of the water sector to climate change.

### **Over 5,000 farmers trained in market access**

Through the SCRALA Project, we trained 5,106 (56%F, 44%M) in market access and aggregation resulting in 2,177 tonnes of maize and sorghum aggregated and sold to the market thus providing a source of revenue to the farmers. A total of 33,737 (70% women) farmers have had access to finance by participating in the village banking groups. This has enabled their participation in the local economy.

### **Over 120,000 farmers trained in post-harvest loss management**

The goat keeping farmers who have successfully passed on the seed goats to the next beneficiary has increased by 40% from the total of 6,095 (57%F, 43%M) seed goat beneficiaries, this implies that the farmers have an opportunity to increase their population of goats and improve their access to a source of income to secure their livelihoods. Lastly, the project trained 129,794 (49%F, 51%M) farmers in post-harvest loss management to enhance household food security and income.



## Outcome 3: Total adherence to good governance

Under this outcome, the UNDP identified three key strategic areas of implementation to address the need for all people in Zambia including women, youth and marginalized, to have equitable and effective participation in national and democratic processes. During the reporting period, the following results were achieved:



### Supported the development of the 8th National Development Plan

UNDP contributed to enhancing capacities at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MoFNP) to plan and coordinate policies, strategies and programmes on national development and SDGs, which resulted in the finalisation of the 8th National Development Plan and its Implementation Plan.



### Evidenced-based Research facilitated

Capacities for evidence-based research and policy formulation were further strengthened through support to the MoFNP and ZAMSTATS in the implementation of the Phased Integrated Socio-economic Survey, which includes: (i) The Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) on Households; (ii) Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS); and (iii) An Integrated Enterprise Survey.



### Mobilised resources to conduct surveys to inform national planning

By playing an integrator role, we mobilised both financial and technical support for the Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS) from the UN and other development partners such as the World Bank and Statistics Sweden. The LCMS data was collected and the SEIA has since been finalised. The findings of the SEIA on households were able to inform the formulation of the 8NDP, the UNDP CPD and the UNSDCF.





**The Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS) provided a basis on which to:**

- Monitor poverty and its distribution in Zambia
- Identify vulnerable groups in society and enhance targeting
- Monitor and evaluate the programmes in the 8NDP, UNDP CPD and the UNSDCF
- Provide various users with a set of reliable indicators against which to monitor set national and global development targets, including the SDGs



**LCMS and SEIA**

Both the LCMS and SEIA on households significantly utilised digital technologies. They utilized tablets programmed with the Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) system. The questionnaire was designed using Survey Solutions and embedded with maps. In the context of COVID-19, this enabled the enumerators to navigate their enumeration areas and prevent overlapping. This also improved data collection and efficiency as users had high resolution offline maps that are used during data collection.



**Development Financing**

The Development Finance Assessment (DFA) was undertaken and has identified opportunities for current and future financing and is expected to feed into the Integrated Financing Framework (IFF). The Assessment will provide financing solutions for the implementation of the 8NDP and the SDGs. The enhancement of data collection, Monitoring and Evaluation systems, including the capacity of Zambia Statistics Agency, the Government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to promote a consolidated, responsiveness, accountable and well-governed socio-development system was achieved. The project supported the collection of data for the Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS) as well as the National Population and Housing Census of 2022. A budget toolkit analysis along with a policy brief on the 2023 national budget analysis was produced.



**Members of Parliament Trained to monitor budget implementation**

Members of Parliament (MPs) were trained so that they can effectively play their oversight role in ensuring that the national budget is aligned to the national planning and budget act, which will ensure that the budgeted resources reach where they are needed more especially among the vulnerable. The 8NDP Implementation Plans (IPs) at both sub-national and national levels were developed.





### **Sustained Multi-Sectoral Coordination of Women's Empowerment**

The CO contributed to a sustained multi-sectoral coordination among stakeholders in Gender Equality, GBV, Women participation, and Women Empowerment through the National GBV II led by Gender Division, which contributes to leveraging of resources, information sharing, and reducing duplication.



### **National Gender Policy Developed**

Supported the development and operationalization of National Gender Policy and Village Led One Stop Centres, and GBV Shelter Guidelines which improves the quality of services for GBV survivors.



### **Support of the Children's Code**

UNDP also supported the enactment of the Children's Code Act, which has progressive provisions on the protection of children and harmful practices. The CO also supported the launch of African Women Leaders' Network, a movement that works to enhance women's participation in political processes.



### **460 women trained in business development**

In addition, the CO supported the construction and refurbishment of Village Led One Stop Centres, and shelters for increased access to post GBV services by survivors. We also built the capacity of 461 females and 33 males in business development, start-up tool kits for IGAs and group savings and credit formation to increase their incomes. UNDP supported the strengthening of 16 Anti-GBV Shelters with food, beddings and supplies, resulting in 166 all-female GBV survivors accessing specialized GBV services (counseling, legal services, referrals).





## “60 Female Police Officers trained for peace-keeping missions”

To address barriers impeding the participation of women as UN peacekeepers, UNDP supported an assessment and skills development training for 60 policewomen. The women were equipped with skills in driving, computer literacy and other capacities. The results of the training showed 55 of 60 participants qualified for all of the unarmed missions, which gives a success rate of 91.7 per cent (armed and unarmed missions).

The CO supported the Gender Theme Group to ensure gender mainstreaming in the development of the UNSDCF



## Outcome 4: Total adherence to good governance

UNDP's focus under outcome 4 was to ensure citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability to be met by stronger systems of democratic governance through several activities that included:

### Process to domesticate strategies launched

We supported the Human Rights Commission develop strategies, procedures, and systems to perform core functions for advocating the domestication and fulfilment of human rights in line with regional and international treaties and conventions.

### Strategies on gender equality developed for line ministries

Line ministries driving national economic growth have developed evidence-informed national strategies and partnerships to advance gender equality and women's empowerment

### Gender and social inclusion policy for electoral body

UNDP commenced work to develop a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy for the Electoral Commission of Zambia. The policy is designed to make the EMB to be more inclusive in its internal processes and procedures.

### CSOs developed networks to address development issues

Communities, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and marginalized groups have developed networks, coalitions to fight discrimination and address emerging issues (such as environmental, electoral justice, people affected by HIV, people living with a disability, women, minorities and migrants)

### Integrated National Registration Information System (INRIS) launched

We supported the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security commence with the implementation of the Integrated National Registration Information System (INRIS), a national identity management system with enhanced biometric digital security features for national registration cards, as well as birth and death certificates. UNDP support enabled the installation of equipment and connectivity in 10 districts across the country. INRIS addresses challenges resulting from the manual system and its failure to respond to demands arising from continued population growth, integrity of the electoral system, and technological changes and aims to enroll 10 million people by 2024.



**HIGHLIGHT:** UNDP had intended to complete the Institutional Assessment of the Electoral Commission of Zambia and develop a capacity development plan by the end of 2022, however the administrative changes in the leadership of the institution and the numerous by-elections impacted on the recruitment of consultants to undertake the tasks. By the end of the period the consultants were on board and the institution assessment completion date has been deferred to 1st half of 2023. Further, delays were experienced in completing the Gender and Inclusion Policy and the Strategic Plan for ECZ the completion dates for these activities have also been deferred to next year.



### **We supported the repeal and replacement of the Public Order Act**

UNDP contributed to the review process of the Public Order Act. The law review process led to the development of legal framework that regulates public assemblies and meetings anchored on constitutionally guaranteed fundamental rights and freedoms. UNDP supported extensive consultative processes and collaborated with OHCHR and the UN RCO to provide technical inputs to the review of the POA. UNDP project supported the repeal and replacement of the Public Order Act Chapter 113 of the Laws of Zambia (POA). This piece of legislation has been cited by political stakeholders as non-progressive and contradictory to the spirit of multipartyism and tenets of democratic society.



### **We developed an online citizen consultation platform accessible by women and other marginalised groups**

UNDP supported the development of an online citizen consultation platform. The platform will promote sustained interactions between the 156 MPs and the constituents. To promote inclusive participation for women, youth and other marginalized groups, the system will be accessible through various channels: smart phones, the Parliament Website, and a USSD application.



### **Over 180 Fact-Checkers trained**

UNDP's work with Panos, enabled them to operate the iVerify Zambia mechanism - a system to counter misinformation, disinformation and hate speech in elections. UNDP supported the training of over 180 factcheckers from private and government media agencies across 5 provinces. The iVerify System factchecked and published over 200 stories suspected to be misinformation, disinformation or hate speech.

UNDP facilitated the development and roll out of the Communication Strategy (2022-2026) of the National Assembly leading to production and broadcast of the 12 TV and 14 radio programmes featuring MPs. UNDP facilitated the training of 50 ECZ staff in BRIDGE training. One of the main BRIDGE objectives is to promote internationally accepted principles of democracy and good electoral practice in EMBs.





Over 6,000 refugees received support through provision of social amenities

UNDP in support of Zambia's Local Integration Framework has provide various programme contributions to ensure enhanced focus of human security in two resettlement schemes of Meheba (Kalumbila District) and Mayukwayukwa (Kaoma District).

Through the development nexus approach, we facilitated for increased collaboration and investment in the resettlement schemes:

- Construction of access roads and crossing points
- Construction of staff houses
- Provision of improved water facilities

Over 6,000 refugees and the surrounding population were targeted.

UNDP has supported Government and other key partners in ensuring that resettlement schemes hosting former refugees from Angola, Rwanda, and Congo DRC, as well as native Zambians receive support to grow their capacities and resilience by ensuring that co-members undertake various development programmes through synergies and strong partnerships.

Further, UNDP has made contributions for enhanced financial inclusion opportunities for women and youths in the resettlement schemes through the provision of financial management trainings, and linkages to institutions that will support their capacity to manage their financial programmes.

UNDP is supporting the roll-out of the Integrated National Registration Information System (INRIS), a national identity management system with enhanced biometric digital security features for national registration cards. This system will enhance registration processes for citizens and former refugees

## CHAPTER 7: CHALLENGES AND REFLECTIONS

The year 2022 was characterised by partial lock down due to COVID 19 which hampered activity implementation. COVID 19 restrictions have hampered implementation of activities under the project. For instance, the activity on national MRV development was expected to have commenced at the beginning of the second quarter of 2022 but was rescheduled to the third quarter. The same was the case for other activities such as mini GHG inventory preparation whose implementation demanded physical meetings. However, in the last month of the second quarter, the partial lockdown was eased which enabled the preparation for hosting of the inception workshops for MRV and mini GHG compilation. UNDP will accelerate implementation of planned activities in the new Country programme.



# 01

## Challenge

There has been a growing concern on the slow pace for the provision of legal documents such as passport, resident permits and national identity cards for former refugees in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Resettlement restricted their participation in development programmes as their free movement in and out of the areas of settlement are restricted and they also do not benefit in many national development programmes that by law mandate for citizen beneficiation

# 02

## Challenge

UNDP has been undertaking a key stakeholder advocacy process to both the government and other stakeholders in ensuring that all aspects that require addressing towards the improvement in the provision of legal documentations for former refugees is undertaken.

# 03

## Challenge

The existing gap of needs in the resettlement schemes that is hosting former refugees has been noted to be great compared to the amount of investment coming in from UNDP and other partners. Further there is a challenge of lack of legal documents for former refugees which ensures equal beneficiation of all community members irrespective of their background. Through the existing gaps, there is need to advocate for increased support to the resettlement schemes in addressing the plight of the former refugees as well as marginalised community members such as women and youths.

# 04

## Challenge

Government's interest to reform the Public Order Act (POA), Cyber Security Act, Penal Code, and broader constitutional reforms remains a challenge to attain over the next four years.

# 05

## Challenge

Formulation of National Development Plans (NDPs) should be done in line with the Planning and Budgeting Act, so that even when there is change of government, unfinished Plans by previous administrations can be finalised smoothly and efficiently. UNDP will support the Ministry of Finance and National Planning to operationalize the Planning and Budgeting Act, including enhancing awareness to the new government leadership on the contents of the Act. Big surveys such as the National Census and LCMS should not be undertaken in the same year, they should be well planned to avoid straining the technical and financial capacity of the Zambia Statistics Agency, which resulted in delayed publishing of survey results. UNDP will continue providing support to strengthen capacities for evidence-based research and policy formulation as well as to plan and coordinate policies, strategies and programmes on national development.

# 06

## Challenge

Due to the changes in Government, change of leadership/ critical officers (including staff turnover at ZIPAR) and dissolving, merging and realignment of various ministries which saw the merging of the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of National Development Planning in to one ministry, and the surge in COVID 19 cases, both the DFA and the LCMS along with the Census could not be completed on time. The LCMS was further delayed because the technical manpower that would have supported its implementation were engaged with the 2022 National Population and Housing Census.

# 07

## Challenge

Lack of a multi-stakeholder engagement platform for key players to highlight gender related activities they are engaged in and maximize joint planning and implementation.



# 08

## Challenge

The transition period associated with the change of government spilled into the first half of 2022 affecting timely implementation of the planned activities particularly those bordering on policy, legal and constitutional reforms. New ministries were formed, new leadership and merged key institutions such as Ministries of Planning and Finance led to slowing down of programme implementation.

Consequently:

- Finalisation of the 8NDP Implementation Plan was delayed.
- Progress on implementation of the LCMS stalled because of competing roles by key staff who were responsible for the 2022 National Population and Housing Census.

# 09

## Challenge

Internal coordination at the Country Office and among external stakeholders such as government and other stakeholders needs to be improved.



# CHAPTER 8 OPERATIONS AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

With UNDP technical and financial support, capacity building workshop for UNDP Programme staff was held to sensitise them on the concepts of Social and Environmental Standards and Social and Environmental Assessments. Further, we developed and operationalized the Social Environmental Standard (SES). The CO established SES Oversight Committee that oversees the implementation of its SES Action Plan.

The Committee acts as a cross cutting group to catalyse and support the process of SES mainstreaming throughout programmes and operations in UNDP Zambia. The SES committee is mandated to ensure that UNDP Programmes and Projects adhere to the objectives and requirements of the Social and Environmental Standards.

The CO could not conduct SES training for all contractors during the period under review, as it was not possible to secure a resource person at the time the training was scheduled. However, the training has been scheduled to take place in the first quarter of 2023. The SES training for staff has also been planned to be undertaken in 2023 and going forward SES will be a regular agenda item.



Roland Seri  
Deputy Resident Representative



# Talent Development Learning and Management Committee

Talent Development Learning and Management Committee (TDLMC) was rejuvenated and met regularly. Knowledge sharing sessions held consistently with good participation and various speakers and topics. The CO managed to send out staff on 3 detail assignments.



We had Career development webinars with the help of Talent Development Team, with great participation and shared different resources on training opportunities. UNDP contributed to the overall UN Zambia induction package by 150% of the set target within deadline on 3 topics namely: 1. Transport 2. Zambian Holidays 3. Diplomatic Spouse Associations



We continue to receive a lot of interest in career development and recommend training sessions to continue with one specifically on detail assignment legibility and guidance on applying for higher job roles. There should be deliberate management intervention on encouraging female staff to participate in detail assignments (especially virtual ones when family responsibility is inhibiting participation) HR RO HAVE structured webinars on different dates to ensure full participation by developing a learning calendar covering every quarter.

## Greening Moonshot

The CO greening moonshot task force was able to identify activities to accelerate the greening of UNDP operations through the implementation of the UNDP Green Moon-shot Initiative. The CO adopted greening initiatives in the annual office workplan, including the full operationalization of the Task Force and the acquisition of an electric vehicle.

Through the use of digital platforms to submit documents for signature, payments for processing, and data for reporting, the office has been able to eliminate the need for physical documents and greatly reduce paper waste.

**With the support of the UNDP Greening Team, the office was one of the 19 countries to receive Moonshot 2022 facility funding for the installation of a grid-connected PV solar system for the UN House common premises. It is anticipated that this system will reduce our annual carbon emissions by 29.12 tons CO<sub>2</sub> per year.**

UNDP Zambia created its first digital strategy off the corporate 2019 Digital Strategy which was focused on developing new capabilities in digital programming and strengthening its digital capabilities.



## Cutting-edge strategic innovations

With the new Digital Strategy 2022-2025, which is intended to maintain and accelerate the momentum that has been generated across UNDP and among its partners, UNDP Zambia has since developed and started implementing the new strategy at country level. This strategy is contributing to the achievement of the Strategic Plan (2022-2025) by:

fostering new ways of collaborating with other partners,  
creating environments and systems that drive and support innovation, and  
building new capabilities to develop and apply digital solutions.

All these will enhance quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of our work. The strategy has been revamped to build on the new ERP QUANTUM and its supporting platforms to modernize how we work and improve operational efficiency and utilize technology that can adapt and evolve. To operationalize the strategy UNDP developed five digital platforms (PROOPs, PCA, Gender Seal Tracker & Office Workplan Tracker) contributing to improved office performance, which has resulted in 75% completion of the 2022 workplan.

## Development of Zambia CPD 2023-27

In line with the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025 UNDP developed the 2023-2027 CPD in support of the United Nations Corporation Framework, national development goals and Sustainable Development Goals. The country programme, 2023-2027 adopts an integrated people-centred approach that recognizes the interconnection of the prosperity-peace-planet nexus in contributing to the UNSDCF. The new Zambia CP 2023-27 was approved at the Executive Board Meeting, held in September 2022. Priorities set out in the new country programme are aligned to both United Nations Sustainable

Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and Eight National Development Plan (8NDP); and reflect the consultations with national and cooperating partners, including civil society and the private sector. The programme also draws on beneficiary feedback in evaluation reports and from monitoring missions.

**Our CPD prioritizes three broad pillars of engagement as follows: (1) Sustainable natural resources management and resilience; (2) Inclusive economic diversification and growth; and (3) Good governance, inclusive and participatory society.**



# Cooperating Partners – Stronger Together

We want to recognise the partners that we are working with in Zambia. These are Cooperating Partners that have made it possible for our work to make these progressive results possible.



From  
the People of Japan





# Strategic Planning

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to be a steadfast champion and a pivotal policy and advocacy partner in Zambia. At the heart of our mission was the unwavering commitment to evidence-based policy formulation, a cornerstone of sustainable development. Through a diverse array of strategic initiatives, UNDP played a transformative role in advancing Zambia's development agenda, leaving a lasting imprint on the nation's progress.

UNDP spearheaded the 2023 Voluntary National Review (VNR), a critical exercise that periodically assesses Zambia's journey towards the SDGs. This comprehensive evaluation illuminated the nation's achievements and highlighted areas requiring intensified efforts.

In our relentless pursuit of data-driven insights, UNDP orchestrated the 2022 Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS) and the Integrated Household Survey, pivotal instruments offering indispensable insights into the well-being of the Zambian populace.

We conducted the Rapid Integrated Assessment of the 8th National Development Plan (8NDP), meticulously evaluating its alignment with the SDGs. To translate these insights into action, UNDP diligently facilitated the development of the Implementation Plan for the 8NDP, ensuring a clear path towards tangible progress. Financial sustainability was a paramount concern, prompting UNDP to conduct a rigorous Development Finance Assessment (DFA), pinpointing areas demanding investment and optimizing financial resource flows to Zambia.

Domingos Mazivila  
Economic Advisor



**Above:** Launch of the UN Cooperation Framework by the Republican Vice-President, Ms Mutale Nalumango (in the centre)

**Below:** Launch of the National Budget Analysis Toolkit, 2022



Our dedication to inclusivity was manifest in the creation of a Citizen Version of the 8NDP, an initiative making complex policies more accessible to the broader public. Recognizing the importance of technology and digitalisation as well as data cardinality, we actively supported the development of a Digital Monitoring and Evaluation platform, synergizing with the Monitoring and Evaluation Management System (MMMS) to enhance the oversight of government projects and programs.

Furthermore, UNDP extended its commitment to the most vulnerable segments of society, supporting the strategic plan for the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD). Through focused efforts, we empowered People Living With Disabilities (PWDs) with critical skills in national budget analysis, formulation, and monitoring, thereby strengthening their capacity for effective advocacy.

These collective endeavours have significantly bolstered the Government of Zambia's capacity to forge and implement evidence-based policies that seamlessly align with the SDGs.

# Governance and Gender



Gregory Sali  
Assistant Resident Representative  
Governance and Gender

## Accountability and transparency

We focus on strengthening accountability mechanisms through legal reforms and institutional strengthening for corruption risk assessments. We provide platforms for CSOs to strengthen their capacities in advocacy, policy engagement and for increased demand for transparency and accountability from public institutions on utilization of public resources and from private sector regarding financial flows.

## Deepening democracy

We support strengthening of duty bearer's capacities for effective law-making, representation and oversight. On the demand side, we support rights holder's capacity and engagement to advocate for quality delivery of basic services. This includes promoting partnerships for electoral cycle support including legislative frameworks, institutional strengthening of electoral management bodies, media, civil society and women's participation.

## Gender equality and women empowerment

Gender equality and empowerment of women is at the heart of UNDP programming support. We therefore support the development of a gender responsive legal and regulatory frameworks for effective rights based and equitable approaches to development planning. We work towards fulfilment of women and girls' rights to fully participate in the economic, social and political development of the country, and influencing positive social norms and cultural practices for addressing patriarchy, gender-based violence and access to justice. Policy support and the cross country exchange of experiences is provided in areas of women's economic empowerment and for women judges, advocacy on 'special measures' to ensure greater female representation in local council and parliament, and facilitation of women's rights and advocacy campaigns as led by civil society partners, such as on anti-GBV and ending child marriages.





# Inclusive Growth

We promote innovative approaches that tackle the connected issues of multidimensional poverty, inequality and exclusion, and sustainability, while enhancing knowledge, skills and production technologies to enlarge peoples' choices, reduce risks and sustain development gains. UNDP has been providing extensive support to national policy development and implementation through the provision of evidence-based policy guidance and programmatic support and by promoting active participation of youth, including the most marginalized and vulnerable in all spheres of society, including economic activities.

We are currently implementing the following programmes:

## **Promoting Sustainable Resettlement**

The Government and the UN in Zambia have together developed a Programme of Sustainable Resettlement, with the aim of: i) meeting the high ambitions and standards of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; ii) supporting the local integration of former Angolan and Rwandan refugees in Zambia into new communities in designated resettlement areas; and iii) supporting the local integration of youth in the Mwanze resettlement scheme.

## **Transformation of the Extractive Sector**

We partner with government, private sector and CSOs to support the transformation of the extractive sector to promote broad-based economic development and structural transformation to achieve Vision 2030, the African Mining Vision and the SDGs. Support is being provided to facilitate backward and forward linkages, thereby creating opportunities for value addition and increased value chains which a diverse range of private sector.

## **National Health Systems Strengthening**

An effectively performing health system is key to improving the population's health status, providing protection against health-related financial risks and enhancing the health sector's responsiveness to people's needs. UNDP is providing technical and financial support for health systems strengthening to maximize the overall impact of health programs of the Government and to contribute to achieving health-related goals. Furthermore, UNDP is supporting Government removing barriers hindering women's and key population's access to HIV and AIDS services.





# Environment and Clean Energy

## Climate change

Ensuring environmental sustainability has remained a challenge for Zambia, with high rates of deforestation and low access to clean drinking water, sanitation and renewable energy. Since the mid-2000's, UNDP has augmented government and local community efforts in community-based natural resources management, reducing the impacts of climate change through, for example, the introduction of alternative livelihoods, and the promotion of renewables. At the institutional level, increased coordination of climate change issues has been facilitated through support to the national Climate Change Policy and National Climate Change Response Strategy, which guides the country's response to climate change. This closely partnered work has also contributed to the effective mainstreaming of climate change issues in the Seventh National Development Plan. We support the people of Zambia to implement the commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Our work focuses on strengthening the institutional and legal frameworks with relevant Ministries and private sector responsible for implementing initiatives towards climate change adaptation and mitigation. As an accredited entity to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), we work with Government and private sector to limit or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to climate change through the promotion of paradigm shifts to low-emission and climate-resilient pathways.

## Natural resource management

We work with the Government, private sector and development partners to ensure that land, water, biodiversity and carbon sinks are protected from threats and effectively managed by national and local institutions, communities and economic actors by using sustainable forestry, wildlife, land, water and healthcare waste management practices. We promote the use of innovative nature-based solutions for economic growth and environmental sustainability while supporting Zambia's commitments to the global agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to have a meaningful impact on people's lives including reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) to protect forest and sustain the livelihood of the people who depend on them.

## Access to renewable energy

The energy mix for Zambia is dominated by wood fuel which accounts for about 70% of fuel consumption, while electricity and petroleum account for about 10% and 9% respectively. Currently, more than 90% of electricity in Zambia comes from hydro power generation although less than 50% of the potential has been exploited. UNDP is working with partners to strengthen the legislative environment to promote private sector engagement in renewable energy, as well as strengthening institutions in scaling up the use of renewable energy. Transitioning to renewable energies will contribute to Zambia making progress on its obligations to the Paris Agreement.





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