



LUSAKA CITY COUNCIL

LUSAKA CITY STATE OF ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK REPORT



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LUSAKA CITY STATE OF ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK REPORT

A report by Lusaka City Council and Environmental Council of Zambia

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FOREWORD

The Lusaka City State of Environment (SoE) Outlook report has been produced in order to facilitate planning of the city of Lusaka. There has been growing global concern and awareness on environmental issues since the first United Nations Conference on the Environment held in Stockholm in 1972. The focus over the years has been on sustainable development as a process of change in which the exploitation of natural resources, direction of investments, orientation of technological development and institutional change are made consistent with both the current and future potential to meet human needs.



In Zambia, sustainable use of natural resources has become a cornerstone for economic development. In this regard, Government has established legal and institutional frameworks to guide environmental management in the country by enacting regulations, plans and programmes. These include; the National Conservation Strategy (NCS) of 1985, National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) of 1994 and Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act (EPPCA) of 1990 which led to the subsequent establishment of the Environmental Council of Zambia (ECZ). The NEAP was then piloted through the Environmental Support Programme (ESP), which was aimed at supporting public, private and community based approaches to environmental and natural resources management.

In order to achieve an integrated approach to the use and management of natural resources, Government has developed a National Policy on Environment (NPE). The main purpose of the policy is to ensure that socio-economic development will be achieved effectively without damaging the integrity of the environment or its resources.

Further, Government policy on Decentralization is aimed at enhancing institutional and human resource capacity at all levels of government. The policy aims to empower local authorities and local communities by devolving decision-making authority, functions and resources from the centre to the lowest level with matching resources in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of services.

In addition to this, the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), 2006-2011 is a guide to the country's development efforts over the medium and long-term period. The FNDP is an important vehicle towards the realization of the Vision 2030 in which Government has articulated long-term development objectives and identified a number of development goals. The FNDP has acknowledged the weak management capacity at provincial, district and sub-district levels and suggests the need for capacity building at these levels. Improved environmental management at the local level will enhance the participation of those whose livelihoods are dependent upon the sustainable management of renewable natural resources.





Government recognises that achieving sustainable development in Zambia requires access to data and information so that those involved in decision making can reach the level of knowledge and understanding needed for successful programme planning and service delivery.

For this reason, the country has been engaged in periodic production of SoE Outlook reports in order to provide for an assessment of the environment so as to raise awareness and understanding of environmental trends, their causes and consequences among stakeholders.

In line with this, the country has gone a step further beyond regular production of national environment outlook reports to district SoE Outlook reporting to facilitate the measurement of progress made towards sustainable development.

The Lusaka City SoE Outlook Report is therefore important in strengthening management and monitoring of environmental issues at city level and is expected to have a significant impact on effectiveness and service delivery in Lusaka City.

Government is optimistic that through the environmental assessment and reporting process, there will be increasing responsibility for environmental planning and management at all levels.

Honourable Michael Kaingu, M.P.

MINISTER

TOURISM, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES





PREFACE

The Lusaka City State of Environment (SoE) Outlook report is a product of a stakeholder participatory process. The report has been prepared by a Technical Working Group comprising key Government departments and service providers in the city with support from United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).



Production of the report has been undertaken as part of the Sustainable Cities Programme (SCP), a global programme aimed at promoting urban environmental planning and management. The overall objective of SCP is to support and strengthen local authorities and their partners in the public and private sectors to plan, and manage their city environment in a sustainable manner. Such growth is bound to have a major influence on the urban environment in Africa, and there are already challenges facing policymakers. The SCP has warned that environmental degradation threatens economic efficiency in the use of scarce development resources and social equity in the distribution of development benefits and costs.

The report will therefore, increase knowledge about the interaction between society and the environment so as to bring about the needed changes for urban planning and management. It focuses mainly on assessing the pressures the environment is facing and analyses actions aimed at enhancing environmental management at district level. It goes a step further to propose policy options for addressing environmental challenges. Some of the key issues covered in the report include; provision of basic services such as education, health and housing, illegal settlements, transportation, land degradation, waste management, water and sanitation, energy, air pollution and governance.

The challenge is for various stakeholders in the district to utilise the report for planning and decision making at all levels. We must therefore use this document as a tool in the management of the environment and to consider an integrated approach in the sustainable development of the district. We recognise limitations in availability of data in the district. It remains our challenge to strengthen data collection, analysis and monitoring activities in the district such that subsequent environment outlook reports will have improved data.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank members of the Technical Working Group for their commitment throughout this process. I am further indebted to Environmental Council of Zambia (ECZ), UN-Habitat and UNEP for their technical and financial support during the preparation of this report.

Stephen Chilatu
LUSAKA MAYOR





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