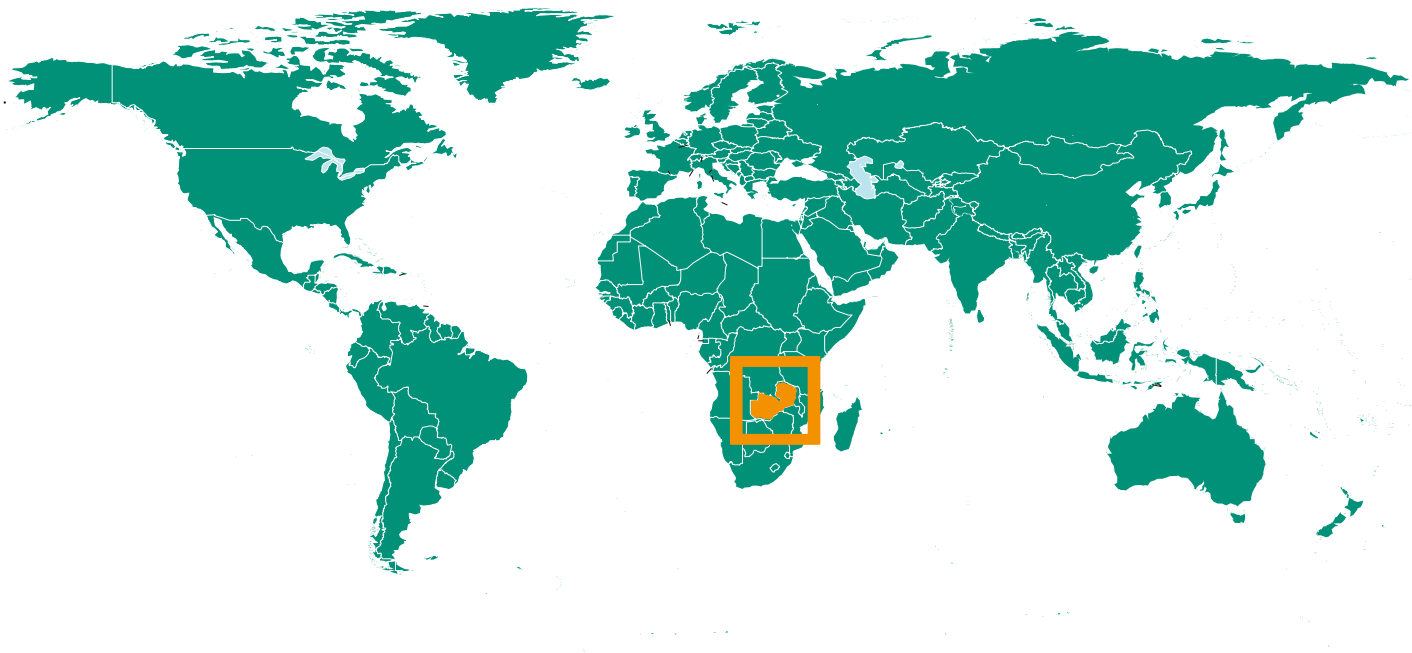


COUNTRY
PROGRAMME
DOCUMENT
2008 - 2009

ZAMBIA





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FOREWORDS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In April 2007, the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT approved our 2008-2013 Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan. This plan intends to promote the alignment of UN-HABITAT normative and operational activities at country level.

The UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents (HCPD) are tangible components of this Plan as well as a genuine endeavour of UN-HABITAT to better coordinate normative and operational activities in a consultative and inclusive process involving UN-HABITAT's in-country focal points, UN-HABITAT Programme Managers, national governments, UN country teams, sister-UN agencies, development partners and all divisions of our Agency.

The UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents are strategic tools meant as a guide for all UN-HABITAT activities over a two-year period. A major dimension of the UN-HABITAT Country Programme Document is to advocate UN-HABITAT's mandate and address the urban challenges facing the world's developing countries.

The UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents identify national urban development goals and priorities including shelter, urban governance, access to basic services and credit. Important cross-cutting issues such as the environment, gender,

responses to disasters, and vulnerability reduction are also addressed. The UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents focus on UN-HABITAT country programming. They serve as a work plan for UN-HABITAT Programme Managers and a reference tool for national and local actors involved in sustainable urban development.

According to the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Action Plan adopted by the UN-HABITAT Committee of Permanent Representatives on 6 December 2007, twenty UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents were completed during 2008, including the One-UN Pilot countries where UN-HABITAT is active.

In line with the United Nations reform process, UN-HABITAT Country Programme Documents seek to strengthen the role of the United Nations and to demonstrate our commitment. I wish to thank our UN-HABITAT Programme Managers for their input and dedication and for putting together these documents under guidance of the Regional and Technical Cooperation Division and with support from all branches and programmes of the Agency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Anna K. Tibaijuka'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anna K. Tibaijuka

Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

MINISTER



The Government of Zambia is implementing the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP, 2006-2011) and has also adopted the Vision 2030 which seeks to create a “Middle Income Prosperous Country” by the year 2030. In the FNDP, the Government has placed Housing, Water and Sanitation as national priorities alongside health education, agriculture and tourism.

Zambia is referred to as one of the most urbanized countries in Africa, with more than 40 percent of its population being urban. This population characteristic has occurred and increased since independence in 1964. Due to the very rapid increase in the urban population, the government and the local authorities could not cope with the provision of planned low-cost housing and infrastructure facilities. This resulted in sporadic developments of unplanned and un-serviced settlements, which are now a permanent feature of many of our towns.

Government commitment has been to increase the low cost housing stock, provision of serviced land, as well as recognition and adoption of unplanned settlements. These can be upgraded through the introduction of basic services and security of tenure. The Government has enacted the Housing (Improvement) Areas Act, which allows local authorities to recognize and authorize existing buildings which do not conform to the Town and Country Planning Act, or indeed to existing Building Regulations.

The purpose of this was to allow sufficient time for residents to obtain legal ownership of land, the local authority to plan or replan the settlement, create the basic services and relocate affected residents to planned areas. In 1996, the Government released the National Housing Policy which stipulates that Government would set aside 15% of the GDP in the national budget for housing development, concentrating on low cost housing. In the ensuing years, the Government has continued to increase funding to the housing sector, enabling the local authorities to construct housing units. However, much more remains to be done in developing both housing and infrastructure facilities if the nation is to meet the millennium Development Goals.

The solution lies in putting together an integrated approach for the provision of shelter, water supply, sanitation and solid waste management. The declaration of 2008 as International Year of Sanitation also helps to create a good environment for improved human settlements. This also fits in well with the Government Programme - ‘Make Zambia Clean and Healthy Campaign’ which was launched by the Republican President, His Excellency Dr. Levy Patrick Mwanawasa State Counsel on 22th June 2007. This programme aims at encouraging all citizens, communities, civil society, private and public sector to develop activities that enhance the living and working environments by cleaning their premises, good solid waste management, water supply and sanitation as well as general improvements and maintenance of shelters.

The UN Habitat Country Programme Document is therefore an important document for the Government of Zambia, in recognizing the UN responsibilities to assist nations in areas of human settlements, water supply and sanitation. In partnering with the Government, both parties will build on best practices for upscaling based on projects that have been done over the years in the many different countries be it in Africa, Asia or South America.

Zambia is proud to be among the 20 countries selected to participate in the 2008-2013 Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan prepared by UN Habitat. It is my considered view that the partnership between Government and UN-HABITAT will further strengthen the capacities of local authorities to mobilize and work with communities in the improvement of human settlements.

Sylvia T. Masebo, MP

Minister of Local Government and Housing

SITUATION ANALYSIS

NATIONAL URBAN POLICY CONTEXT

Zambia is one of the most urbanised countries in Africa. The country's urban areas are home to almost 50% of the country's population. Although the majority of the urban population lives in Lusaka, the cities of Kitwe, Ndola, and Livingstone with populations of 400,000, 374,757, and 97,488 are rapidly growing. This situation has brought about major urban development challenges. For many urban dwellers, housing and basic services are extremely inadequate. In the larger cities over 70% of people live in informal settlements and peri-urban areas that have inadequate access to basic services. The urban environment is threatened with over-exploitation of resources due to poverty. Waste collection and management is inadequate.

Although there is a formal waste management system in Lusaka, only about 40% of solid waste is collected. Local authorities are ill equipped to manage the challenges of rapid urban growth. The local government system has been struggling to deliver services to the people. Although commendable progress has been made at stabilising the economy at the macro-economic level, the country's social and economic indicators reveal that much work remains to alleviate poverty.

Approximately 67% of Zambians live below the poverty line, and 46% of these are classified as extremely poor. HIV/AIDS is one of the nation's greatest health challenges, with 16% prevalence among the adult population. The government and other stakeholders have put in place various HIV/AIDS prevention and control programmes, that have helped to stabilise the spread of the disease. Rapid urban population growth, unsustainable use of natural resources, a struggling local government system and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, all pose serious challenges to sustainable urban development in the country.

In 2005, Zambia prepared its Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) that outlines the framework of national development for the period 2006-2010. The FNDP has featured Health, Education, Tourism, Agriculture and Housing and water and sanitation as national priorities. This means that they will be the centre of focus in shaping the economy during the Plan Period, to which an increasing budgetary allocation will be channelled.

The United Nations Country Team has used the Fifth National Development Plan as the analytical basis for supporting the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2007-2010),

whose priority areas are HIV/AIDS, Food Security, Basic Social Services and Governance.

Part one of the HCPD is divided into the mutually reinforcing focus areas of UN-HABITAT's Medium-Term Strategic Institutional Plan for 2008-2013, as approved by the Governing Council in 2007.

FOCUS AREA 1: ADVOCACY, MONITORING AND PARTNERSHIPS

HIV/ AIDS

The HIV/AIDS pandemic, together with poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, etc., remains one of Zambia's single most important roadblock to human development. The impact of the AIDS pandemic remains one of the most formidable challenges impeding the realisation of Zambia's development aspirations.

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

Urbanisation (2008)

- Total population: 12.1m
- Urban population: 4.2 m (35%)

Annual population growth rates(2005-2010)

- National: 1.9 %
- Urban: 2.3 %

Population of major cities (2008)

- Lusaka: 1.3 m

Source: UN DESA

Slum indicators

- Slum to urban population: 57.2%

% urban population with access to:

- Improved water: 89.8%
- Piped water: 81.7%
- Improved sanitation: 68.7%
- Sufficient living area: N/A
- Durable housing: 81.9%

Source: UN-HABITAT, 2002

In terms of the human face of the crisis, it is estimated that one in six Zambians aged between 15 and 49 is infected with HIV, with rates four times as high among girls aged 15-24 in comparison to their male counterparts. The Zambian Chapter of the Secretary General's Global Task Force on Women, Girls & HIV and AIDS in Southern Africa has noted "the mounting frustration with the seeming inability of the country to address gender inequality, its influence on HIV transmission and the impact of the epidemic on worsening the socioeconomic status of women and girls". Government has undertaken and continues to undertake awareness campaigns aimed at sensitizing people about the dangers of HIV/AIDS.

The National HIV/AIDS/STI/TB Council was established to coordinate a national multi-sectoral response. The Ministry of Health sets health policy on HIV/AIDS. Although a lot is being done to leverage technical expertise on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in support of government initiatives, integration of housing and water and sanitation issues in the multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS has lagged behind.

The current policy priority is the development of a multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS that integrates the provision of basic urban services, especially at the local authority level.

FOCUS AREA 2: PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Key to improved local governance is the full implementation of the National Decentralisation Policy. The main objectives of the Decentralisation Policy are (i) to empower local communities by devolving decision-making authority and delegating functions and resources from the centre to the lowest level in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of services, and (ii) to provide a legal and institutional framework to promote autonomy in decision-making at the local level.

Government, through the Local Government Act CAP 281, has provided local governments with full decision-making autonomy, including other functions provided under the Act.

The need to operationalise the good governance agenda is explicitly recognized in the Fifth National Development Plan. To realise good governance, functions and national resources must be decentralised from the centre to democratic local governance structures. Government has identified good governance as bedrock for the protection of the environment and an effective management of natural resources.



PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Through the Sustainable Cities programme, the Planning Authorities of Lusaka and Kitwe have taken on board stakeholder participation in environmental planning and management - an approach that has strengthened the capacity of cities to identify priority urban environmental issues and plan for them.

Policy priorities include empowerment of local authorities through the implementation of the National Decentralisation Policy and the strengthening of institutional capacities to implement, manage, and support decentralised governance, development, service delivery and implementation of participatory urban environmental planning and management in all Planning Authorities.

FOCUS AREA 3: PRO-POOR LAND AND HOUSING

HOUSING AND BASIC SERVICES

Since independence, Zambia has faced a shortage in decent housing and basic services for the larger part of its population. The lopsided pattern of development between rural and urban areas has resulted in very high rural-urban migration without the corresponding effort to provide appropriate housing and basic services in the expanding urban areas. Although site and service programmes were introduced in the 1970s, these were inadequately funded and had little community participation.

The proliferation of unplanned settlements in almost all urban centres has continued unchecked while civic authorities have failed to provide them with the basic

The Policy has not been fully implemented due to the absence of an Implementation Plan. The Ministry of Local Government and Housing is responsible for the formulation and implementation of policy on housing and the provision of basic services. Access to quality basic services for the majority of Zambians has been decreasing with high levels of urbanisation.

Policy priorities include mobilisation of affordable housing finance; review of the National Housing Policy to bring it in line with the government's new initiatives as it targets the increase of housing stock; provision of security of land tenure in unplanned settlements; promotion of local building materials and technology development; improvement of the living environment in unplanned urban settlements; establishment of a national housing programme and improved urban environmental management and planning.

FOCUS AREA 4: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND BASIC URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

URBAN ENVIRONMENT

The urban environment is seriously threatened by pollution, the destruction of the natural forests because of the need for fuel, charcoal burning, unregulated quarrying and inadequate waste management. Inefficient environmental planning and management, corruption and a lack of political will have fuelled environmental degradation. Institutions tasked with environmental management lack enforcement capacity and coordination.

The policy and institutional framework governing environmental management in Zambia is enshrined

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