



UNHABITAT

Regional and Technical Cooperation Division



ZAMBIA: KITWE URBAN PROFILE



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HS/1164/09E

978-92-1-132130-2

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Editing and research: Florence Kuria

Design and Layout: Andrew Ondoo

Printing: UNON, Publishing Services Section, Nairobi, ISO 14001:2004-certified



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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
REGIONAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION

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FOREWORD



The annual urban growth rate in Sub-Saharan Africa is almost 5 percent twice as high as in Latin America and Asia. It also has the world's largest proportion of urban residents living in slums, which today are home to 72 percent of urban Africa's citizens representing a total of some 187 million people. As more and more people

seek a better life in towns and cities, the urban slum population in Africa is projected to double every 15 years in a process known as the urbanisation of poverty. African cities are thus confronted in the new Millennium with the problem of accommodating the rapidly growing urban populations in inclusive cities, providing them with adequate shelter and basic urban services, while ensuring environmental sustainability, as well as enhancing economic growth and development.

UN-HABITAT is the lead agency for implementation of *Millennium Development Goal* (MDG) 7, Target 10 (*reducing by half the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water*), and Target 11 (*achieving significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020*).

As part of our drive to address this crisis, UN-HABITAT is working with the executive Commission of the European Union (EU) to support sustainable urban development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. Given the urgent and diverse needs, the agency found it necessary to develop a tool for rapid assessment to guide immediate, mid- and long-term interventions. In 2002, based on the European Commission's *Consultative Guidelines for Sustainable Urban Development Co-Operation*, UN-HABITAT successfully implemented an *Urban Sector Profile Study* in Somalia for the first time. The Study resulted in the identification and implementation of three major programmes with funding from a variety of donors.

In 2004, UN-HABITAT's Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States took the initiative to develop the approach further for application in over 20 countries. This was achieved in collaboration with other departments within the agency – the Urban Development Branch with the Urban Environment Section, the Global Urban Observatory, the Shelter Branch, the Urban Governance Unit, the Gender Policy Unit, the Environment Unit and the Training and Capacity Building Branch. This new corporate approach is known as *Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability* (*Urban profiling*). The implementation of Urban profiling was launched thanks to contributions from the Governments of Italy, Spain, Finland, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The idea behind Urban profiling is to help formulate urban poverty reduction policies at the local, national and regional levels through a rapid, participatory, crosscutting, holistic and action-orientated assessment of needs. It is also aimed at enhancing dialogue, awareness of opportunities and challenges aiming at identifying response mechanisms as a contribution to the implementation of the MDGs.

Urban profiling addresses four main themes: governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS and environment. It seeks to build a national profile, and three settlements representing the capital or a large city, a medium-sized city, and a small town. The profiles offer an overview of the urban situation in each participating city through a series of interviews with key urban actors. This is followed by a city consultation where priorities are agreed. City-level findings provide input for the national profiling that is combined with a national assessment of institutional, legislative, financial and overall enabling frameworks and response mechanisms. The profiles at all levels result in supporting the formation of city and national strategies and policy development. Additionally, the profiling facilitates sub-regional analyses, strategies and common policies through identification of common needs and priorities at the sub-regional level. This provides guidance to international external support agencies in the development of their responses in the form of capacity building tools.

In Zambia, the profiling was undertaken under the leadership of national and local authorities. This initiative has been carried out locally in Lusaka, Lilongwe and Kitwe as well as nationally. The Kitwe Urban Profile focuses on the findings of a desk-study, interviews with key actors and a citywide consultation with key urban actors and institutions. Consultation participants agreed to address the salient urban issues including poverty, insecurity, corruption, pollution and crime all problems that negatively affect investments and economic development. A consensus was reached on priority interventions in the form of programme and project proposals to be implemented.

I wish to acknowledge the contributions of Mr. Mohamed El Sioufi, who developed the concept of Urban Profiling, Alain Grimard the programme manager, DAvid Kithakye the country focal point and Kerstin Sommer who is coordinating activities. I also wish to cite those members of staff for their role in helping produce this report. They include Alioune Badiane, Farouk Tebbal, Clarissa Augustinus, Mohamed Halfani, Lucia Kiwala, Eduardo Moreno, Ole Lyse, Raf Tuts, Gulelat Kebede, Gora Mboup, David Kithakye, Kibe Muigai and Raakel Syrjanen.

I would like to wish the Kitwe City Councillors and all those who have participated in and supported this initiative every success in its implementation. I also look forward to supporting further their efforts in the development of Kitwe.



Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations,
and Executive Director,
UN-HABITAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



INTRODUCTION

Rapid Urban Profiling is a rapid and action-oriented urban assessment of needs and capacity-building gaps at national and local levels. It is currently being implemented in over 20 countries in Africa and the Arab states. Urban profiling uses a structured approach where priority interventions are agreed upon through consultative processes. The Urban profiling methodology consists of three phases: (1) a rapid participatory urban profiling at national and local levels, focusing on governance, informal settlements, gender and HIV/AIDS, environment, and proposed interventions; (2) detailed priority proposals; and (3) project implementation. Urban profiling in Zambia encompasses profiles of Lusaka, Kitwe, and Livingstone, each published as a separate report. This report constitutes a general background, a synthesis of the four themes – governance, informal settlements, gender and HIV/AIDS, and environment – and priority project proposals.

BACKGROUND

Kitwe, Zambia's third largest city, is located in the central part of the copper belt and is endowed with vast natural resources, including forests. It is currently the most populated district in Copperbelt Province and the second most populated district in Zambia. In 2000, Kitwe district had a total population of 376,124, accounting for about 24 percent of the population in the province, and had an annual population growth rate of about 0.8 percent. Kitwe's inhabitants are young, with slightly over 66 percent of the population below the age of 25 years. Kitwe is the second largest industrial centre in Copperbelt Province, with the core economic activity being mining and mining-oriented activities. Most of the retrenched residents are self-employed in the informal sector. In the 1990s, unemployment rates grew with the decline of the mining sector. It is hoped that more jobs will come with the privatisation of the mining industry in the district.

GOVERNANCE

Urban governance in Kitwe, as in other districts in the country, is dualistic. On one hand is the municipality, which is represented by the mayor, councillors, and city management staff; on the other hand is the district commissioner's office, which is responsible for all central government functions in the district. This dual system of governance, introduced in 2000, can be an impediment to development if different parties are in conflict. There is need to harmonise the system of governance to achieve coordinated development. Governance at the lower community levels is through Ward Development Committees (WDCs) and Resident Development Committees (RDCs).

INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

There are more than 20 informal settlements in Kitwe with few or no basic services. The local authority has the mandate to provide conventional housing or serviced plots for housing development, but has no capacity to do so. This has led to the mushrooming of informal settlements on the outskirts of the city as people have taken it upon themselves to provide their own shelter. Kitwe City Council (KCC) has put in place a policy of regularising and upgrading (subject to availability of funds) the informal settlements located in designated residential areas. The concepts of community participation and partnership in development are being promoted in the upgrading programme. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) play a major role in settlement upgrading, but their efforts and resources are usually inadequate for the challenges at hand. The council also provides sites for home ownership schemes within low-cost housing programmes meant to cater for the relocation of settlements in areas zoned for other land use and those that are deemed unsuitable for human settlement. Kitwe needs a large-scale, integrated urban upgrading and environmental improvement programme that will uplift the lives of more than half its population.

GENDER AND HIV/AIDS

An inclusive city is one that incorporates all aspects of gender issues and cross-cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS in its development programmes. In Kitwe, there are isolated efforts among development agencies to mainstream gender and HIV/AIDS, including the Community Response to HIV/AIDS Programme and the Copperbelt Health Educational Programme. There is need for a concerted citywide effort aimed at education, awareness raising, and sensitisation on gender roles in urban development and in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

ENVIRONMENT

The city of Kitwe faces serious urban environmental challenges and problems that include inadequate basic urban services such as water, sanitation, solid waste management, road networks, and drainage systems. Furthermore, the city experiences water and air pollution, mainly from the copper mines, illegal sand mining, and environmental disasters like flooding and deforestation on the urban fringe. The city management and other stakeholders have responded by implementing a number of urban environmental management initiatives such as the Sustainable Kitwe Programme and the Copperbelt Environment Project. These efforts, however, are not adequate for solving the

many and complex environmental issues facing a fast growing city with an increasing population.

BACKGROUND

THE URBAN PROFILING

The urban profiling is a rapid, action-oriented assessment of urban conditions, focusing on priorities, capacity gaps, and existing institutional responses at the local and national levels. The purpose of the study is to develop urban poverty reduction policies at local, national, and regional levels, through an assessment of needs and response mechanisms, and as a contribution to the wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The study is based on an analysis of existing data and a series of interviews with all relevant urban stakeholders, including local communities and institutions, civil society, the private sector, development partners, academics, and others. This consultation typically results in a collective agreement on priorities and their integration into proposed capacity-building and other projects, all aimed at urban poverty reduction. Urban profiling is being implemented in over 20 African and Arab countries, offering an opportunity for comparative regional analysis. Once completed, this series of studies will provide a blueprint for central and local authorities and urban actors, as well as donors and external support agencies.

METHODOLOGY

The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme consists of three phases:

Phase one involves rapid profiling of urban conditions at national and local levels. The capital city, a medium-sized city, and a small town are selected and studied to provide a representative sample in each country. The analysis focuses on four themes: governance, slums, gender and HIV/AIDS, and the environment.

during the two earlier phases, with an emphasis on skills development, institutional strengthening, and replication.

This report presents the outcomes of Urban profiling Phase One at the local level in Kitwe.

URBAN PROFILING IN ZAMBIA

Urban profiling in Zambia encompasses the cities of Lusaka, the capital city; Kitwe, a middle-sized town in the Zambian copper belt; and Livingstone, a small town on Victoria Falls. Each urban profile is published as a separate report.

The national consultation was conceived as a partnership platform, co-developed with the Ministry of Local Government and Housing, the Lusaka City Council, the Ministry of Finance, CARE International, Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company Ltd, parastatal organizations such as the National Housing Authority, and the NGO Zambia Low-Cost Housing Programme. The aim is to promote inter-agency collaboration that integrates a wide range of urban actors in response mechanisms.

REPORT STRUCTURE

This report consists of:

a general background of the urban sector in Kitwe, based on the findings of a desk study, interviews, and a city consultation held on 23 December 2004 (see back cover for a list of participants in the national consultation and a bibliography). The background includes data on administration, urban planning, municipal finance,

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