Involvement of the Local Communities in development planning and budget prioritization is gaining recognition as one way of fostering rural development.

Creation of target specific funds (citizens’ empowerment fund, youth empowerment fund, land development fund) is another strategy aimed at creating capital capacity for development in various enterprises which could result in reduced poverty and increased employment opportunities.

Implementation of Decentralization Policy (towards empowering the people) which will result in direct funding to districts and sub-district structures will foster development in the rural areas.

The launch of the Rural Finance Programme which is private sector driven will greatly contribute to rural development considering that while urban poverty reduced from 53 percent to 34 percent between 2004 and 2006, rural poverty actually increased from 78 percent to 80 percent during the same period.

High un-employment among youths in towns and villages is one of the major challenges facing Government coupled with poor state of road infrastructure in rural areas and poor living conditions in urban areas.

The un-employed persons in rural areas migrate to cities and towns in search of employment, leading to poor living conditions in urban centres as most migrants find themselves in slums.

The challenge of the Government is to meet the needs of the people in rural areas to curb rural-urban migration, while developing the capacity for sustainable urbanization as a long term measure.

Creation of well planned small towns may be the best option to achieve balanced national development in a country like Zambia with vast land resources and a small population.

Lack of a long term integrated spatial development plan is one of the major constraints to national development. Currently spontaneous settlement dictates the shape and direction of cities/towns expansion in Zambia.

7.0 CONCLUSION

Zambia has made progress in the implementation of agenda 21, which is mainstreamed in the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) 2006-2010. Some of these achievements though not exhaustive, have been highlighted in this report. The achievements have translated into the strengthened macro economic performance. This notwithstanding, Zambia has continued to face constraints and challenges in her pursuit for sustainable development. Poverty levels remained high mainly because of low investments in key sectors that employ majority of the inhabitants. Limited financial and human resources availability for under taking huge investment programmes such as infrastructure development have proved to be a major challenge. It is in this regard that Zambia is calling upon cooperating partners and the international community at large to provide support to its quest for sustainable development and advancement of the principles of Agenda 21.
Reducing the incidence of HIV and AIDS which has adversely affected girls' education and has increased their vulnerability.

Attitudes and beliefs obtaining in patriarchal systems of society that rate men as superior to women and they affect how men regard women especially when it comes to equal participation in decision making and economic empowerment.

Slow action in translating policy pronouncements into implementable activities to ensure gender equality and empower women.

Inability to engender the national budget and ensure that through the provincial, district and Gender Focal Point offices, District Gender Sub-Committees, women's needs which are different from those of men are taken into account.

Lack of comprehensive sensitisation on gender for all in the country with a view to changing attitudes.

Cost sharing adversely affects the female completion rates of education at all levels of the school system. Where there are limited resources at household level, in providing financial support to education, preference is given to boys over girls.

Girls are married off by their parents when they are still very young and at school-going age.

Although Government has enunciated the pregnancy re-entry policy, not all females are able to return to school.

In traditional societies, there are generally poor attitudes to the education of females resulting in girls not going to school.

The prevalence of HIV and AIDS has forced more females than males to drop out of school so that they can help in domestic chores which include bringing up orphans and caring for the sick.

**Micro Small and Medium Enterprises**

The sector has many constraints that include: inaccessible markets, lack of access to finance at affordable terms, lack of storage for inputs, poor transport facilities, lack of appropriate tools/machinery (poor technology), anti MSMEs regulatory barriers, lack of skilled labour, shortage of shop/rental space, unavailable utility services and technical problems. In addition, MSMEs face existence of hazardous working environment, excess completion from imports and infrastructure weaknesses. It is natural that these constraints are minimized to bring the sector into prosperity through increased production throughout all its various activities, namely, manufacturing, processing, agricultural production, trading, textile, carpentry and wood based industry, metal fabrication and engineering, food, mining, leather and leather goods, and services. Thus, focusing on the sector's growth and development will have a multiplier impact on the national economy.

**Resettlement**
There are inadequate resources for the industry’s long-term development. Government funding of the tourism sector has been inadequate at a time when indigenous investors do not have adequate access to medium and long-term financing. Though the Tourism Development Credit Facility (TDCF) was established by the Government in 2003 to provide affordable credit to Zambians, the quantum of the fund (at K5 billion per year) coupled with large numbers of applicants made this funding source inadequate;

There is lack of interest and limited participation among local communities. From the time tourism was identified as a catalyst to rural development, the interests of the local communities have not been fully incorporated;

There has always been inadequate environmental management. Most of the national parks in the country are known to be depleted and require restocking. To realize increased growth in the tourism industry, investment in the protection of the environment and management of natural resources is essential;

There is a dearth of well trained human resource in the tourism sector due to inadequate resources and training facilities; and

Lastly, Zambia is generally perceived as a high cost destination. The high costs are attributed to various factors, such as limited international carriers and domestic flight connections; limited hotel accommodation; and inadequate dependable health facilities

Education:

Inability to prevent and reduce HIV and AIDS through behavioural change remains a critical challenge. The pandemic has led to loss of human capital, notably of school teachers, resulting in inadequate teaching and support staff in the schools.

Loss of teachers also on account of resignations resulting from poor conditions of service especially in rural areas.

Inadequate bursaries to enable vulnerable children attend school.

Limited construction of schools in places where long distances adversely affect school attendance.

Low quality of education marked by poor achievement levels, poor learning environment, lack of learning and teaching materials, and high pupil-teacher ratio whose average national ratio for grades 1-9 is 57:1.

High poverty levels leading to some children failing to enrol in schools.

Reversing the dropout rate of girls for various reasons that include: early pregnancies, inability to pay for some school requisites, girl-unfriendly school environment, e.g. lack of sanitation facilities.
which are mostly urban based and capital intensive. Most of these sectors have not generated sufficient employment due to weak linkages with the rest of the economy. If the country continues on such a growth path, it is projected that headcount poverty will continue with the marginal decline trend.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia in realising this challenge plans to re-orientate expenditures towards wealth creation and pro-poor programmes. Wealth creation shall be seen as a means towards the realization of the strategic social objective of poverty reduction and the realization of social welfare improvement. This shall constitute the most important approach towards the realization of the FNDP theme

Environment

Coordination Problems: There are various institutions and agencies (public, NGOs/CBOs and private sector organizations) involved in environment and natural resources management. The existence of the various institutions in itself makes coordination of activities in the sector extremely difficult. Recently, however, the Inter-Regulatory Environmental Coordinating Committee (IECC) has been established in an effort to address some of the key issues among all key stakeholders and will lead to improved coordination and effective implementation of programmes.

Implementation of the National Policy on the Environment: The NPE has since been adopted by Government. The next steps include the development of an Implementation Plan and the Environmental Investment Strategic Plan (EISP). Therefore, more resources will be needed to implement the Policy.

Domestication of International Environmental Conventions: Zambia has acceded to over 20 international environmental conventions, and these have a bearing on natural resource management. Different conventions are at different levels of domestication and implementation.

Zambia lacks a well informed and organized local public sector to participate in publicising the vulnerability of the environment and inculcating a sense of responsibility for the environment.

Tourism

The following are the major constraints and challenges of the tourism sector:

Tourism infrastructure in Zambia is largely underdeveloped, particularly roads, railways, airports and airstrips, telecommunications and accommodation facilities.

There is a limited product base. Much of Zambia’s tourism products continue to be wildlife based and underdeveloped, yet if Zambia is to derive maximum benefit from tourism, it is important that the country develops a wide product range and brings the product to a level where it can be easily accessible, attractive, saleable and abundant;

There is inadequate marketing of Zambia as a tourist destination. Part of the cause of this is the fact that, at the moment, tourism promotion largely continues to be a
Some major reforms that have already taken place in the Environment Sector include the formulation and adoption of the National Policy on Environment to provide a legal framework for environment protection, the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to provide a road map for implementation of adaptation activities on climate change and establishment of the Natural Resources Consultative Forum. In addition, the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act (EPPCA) of 1990 is being reviewed in order to remove inconsistencies and to align it with the provision of the NPE.

Tourism

Some major reforms that have already taken place in the Tourism Sector include the restructuring of the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources; the enactment of the Zambia Tourism Board Act to facilitate restructuring of the Zambia National Tourist Board into a purely marketing body. In addition, new legislation aimed among others at streamlining licensing procedures and reducing the cost of doing business in the tourism sector have been among the recent developments in the tourism sector.

Education

Zambia achieved an increase of 19 percentage points in primary school completion rates from 64 percent in 1990 to 83 percent in 2006. A further increase of 17 percentage points would be required over the next 8 years if the country has to realize the MDG target by 2015. With sustained and concerted efforts and the manifest commitment of the Government, this is a realizable goal.

The increase in net enrolment ratio is attributed to the Government’s continued operationalization of free education policy enunciated in 2002. Provision of capital expenditure to infrastructure development involving construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of the educational assets especially classrooms and provision of teaching and learning materials have contributed to improved net enrolment. A total of five hundred and sixty (560) classrooms were built between 2004 and 2005. There is evidence that the construction of classrooms and teacher houses has been continuing until 2007. In 2007, Government also enrolled 452,974 pupils in grade one, a 2 percent increase from the previous year.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

It is noted that about 500 thousand out of a potential labour force of 4 million are in formal employment. The remaining 3.5 million are engaged in informal employment. Thus, there is the need to ensure that the sector continues to provide employment and create wealth, while measures are being made to encourage graduation of the informal into the formal sector.

6.1.3 Major constraints and Challenges

Despite the improved economic performance since 1999, poverty has not reduced significantly. One explanation for the weak growth/poverty relationship is that recent growth has been concentrated in mining, wholesale and retail trade and construction,
Meanwhile, rural poverty remains more pronounced. While it has marginally declined from 83 percent in 1998 to 78 percent in 2004, it has recently risen to 80 percent between 2004 and 2006. The gender gap also remains significant and income distribution inequality still remains high.

### Table 1: Trends in the incidences of poverty 1991 – 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>National (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>74</td>
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<td>83</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Health

There are no recent population-based data sets to provide indicators in the Health Sector. Both Census (2000) and the Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS, 2001/2) data showed some declines in the under-five mortality rate (168 deaths per 1,000 live-births) declined by 12 per cent from 1992 (191 deaths per 1,000 live-births). Declines in infant mortality were also reported for the same period. There were declines in other childhood mortality indicators as well. Neonatal mortality declined from 43 per 1000 births in 1992 to 37 per 1000 births in 2001. Post-neonatal declined from 65 per 1000 births to 58 per 1000 births. Child mortality from 94 per 1000 births to 81 per 1000 births; infant mortality from 107 per 1000 births to 95 per 1000 per births; and under-five mortality from 191 to 168 per 1000 births in the same period.

Since the 2006/2007 ZDHS data are yet to be processed, Health Management Information System (HMIS) is used to get an indication of how some proxy indicators are performing. HMIS, however, has limited scope and coverage and uses data collection procedures different from those of the ZDHS. This consequently affects the precision in decision making and assessment on progress being made towards attainment of MDGs.

The 1996 and 2001/2002 ZDHS indicated that maternal mortality in the country was increasing. It rose from 649 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1996 to 729 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2002. This is very distant from the MDG target for maternal mortality ratio of 162 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2015.

### Environment
Between the periods 1999 and 2001, Zambia experienced the most severe economic recession largely owing to public policy shifts. The drastic opening up of the domestic market to low cost and high quality foreign products made hitherto protected and inefficient local producers to be uncompetitive. In order to stay afloat, most of the enterprises were forced to restructure and reduction of labour ranked among the first options. Where downsizing was not attainable, most of the firms closed down. The result was a decline in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment, and in the absence of corresponding social protection measures, poverty increased drastically among Zambians.

The continued deterioration in the performance of the economy and, hence, the living conditions in spite of the adoption of free market economic policies, induced government to explore an alternative development strategy within the free market economic framework. In collaboration with the external and local cooperating partners, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) anchored on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was adopted as the principal national policy. Through the PRSP, Zambia hoped to attain the minimum social and economic pre-conditions necessary for take off on to the path of sustainable development.

In line with its multi sectoral approach to national development, the Government, through the PRSP, identified the MSME sector as one of the instruments to economic recovery, employment creation and poverty reduction.

**Resettlement:**

Non-availability of written agreements with Traditional Rulers on land acquisition has created disputes in some settlement areas. To minimize land disputes, a vigorous consultative process on land acquisition has been adopted. And all land acquired will have written agreements.

Un-balanced development, favouring urban areas at the expense of rural areas has prompted rural-urban migration. A balanced approach to development is the best option. The balanced approach recognizes the inter-linkage between rural areas as sources of food, raw materials and labour while urban areas are sources of capital machinery and technology, and provide market for products from rural areas.

Government has realised the fact that there can be no development in rural areas without energy. The creation of the Rural Electrification Authority will increase hydro/solar power supply in rural areas and stimulate economic activities.

**6.1.2 Recent trends and emerging issues**

According to the 2006 Living Conditions Monitoring Survey LCMS V, 64 percent of Zambia’s total population was poor living below the poverty line. The figure shows a decline compared to the 1991 figure of 70 percent. The rural population of Zambia remained predominantly poor with overall poverty level at 80 percent as compared to their urban counterparts at 34 percent.

Between 1998 and 2004, the national incidence of poverty only fell marginally from 73 percent to 68 percent and extreme poverty—the population living below US$1 per day—fell from 58 percent to 53 percent. However, between 2004 and 2006, the incidence of
It is necessary for the government to increase financial allocation to the sector. Domestification of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) needs to be accelerated for the country to maximum benefit from their implementation. There is need for harmonisation of environmental legal frameworks in order to promote coordinated approach in environmental protection and sustainable natural resources management.

**Tourism**

There is need for government to develop tourism infrastructure in both rural and urban areas in order to broaden the revenue collection. The tourism products need to be diversified to make the sector attractive; There is need for government and the private sector to invest more in tourism sector The need to build capacity for staff for effective tourism standards enforcement.

**Health**

Long distance to maternal and child health facilities. Erratic Provision of materials and staff to continuously cover immunisation programmes, especially in remote and rural areas. Growing reluctance of qualified medical personnel to serve in the rural and remote areas due to inadequate incentives and infrastructural development. This leads to poor distribution of human resources. challenges presented are the decline in the number of deliveries occurring in the health facilities, declining supervised deliveries. High prevalence of malaria in children and pregnant women. Incidence of tuberculosis in children. Inadequate procurement, supply and logistical management procedures for drugs and medical supplies to cure and manage diseases that affect the children such as malaria, respiratory infections, anaemia, pneumonia and diarrhoea. High poverty levels that increase the incidence of common preventable diseases in children, such as malaria, pneumonia, anaemia, diarrhoea and malnutrition. Provision of quality infrastructure, equipment and drugs in the maternal and child health (MCH) facilities.

**Small and Medium Scale Enterprises**
The Government is implementing Land Resettlement Programme among others to promote urban-rural migration. The retired and retrenched persons, the young graduates from Agricultural colleges are among the target groups for resettlement.

Through the Land Resettlement Programme, the Government is taking development to the rural areas by providing clean water, construction of education and health facilities; provision of electricity (hydro and solar) and improving rural road infrastructure.

The provision of socio-economic service centres in the resettlement blocks provides space for non-agricultural enterprises thereby creating employment opportunities for the rural population.

Resettlement schemes being developed across the country are growth points for social and economic development in rural areas. The Land Resettlement Programme is facilitating conversion of customary land to state land and empowering the rural population with security of tenure.

Several blocks of land for resettlement purpose have been acquired from traditional authorities. Land identified for settlement development range from 1000 – 30,000 hectares. Due to the high demand for resettlement by the people in urban areas, land acquisition is a continuing process.

Most of the land acquired for rural settlement development has been registered as state-land and tenants are being considered for lease titles. The tilling of land in the rural areas has attracted people in towns and cities to undertake business enterprises in rural areas thereby contributing to economic growth and employment creation in the country.

In order to reduce ruination of resources and ensure their sustainable use, a land capability assessment is carried out prior to settlement planning and development.

Industrial parks, commercial stands and residential plots are being included on every settlement scheme lay out plan to promote economic activity in the rural areas.

**Lessons Learnt**

**Agriculture:**

During the 1970 - 1980s Zambian agriculture was growing rapidly in comparison to other economic activities, because then the population was small, vigilant and willing to work on land. Availability of agricultural inputs was well coordinated, well distributed to bona fide farmers countrywide. Markets were operative through rural cooperatives, and the infrastructure was being maintained through a functional Ministry of Works and Supply.

The lessons to be learnt are that if prudent measures are put in place the situation can be reversed and such that agricultural growth can be more promising than before. As the national economy grows it is anticipated that more resources will be unlocked to cater not only for the development of agriculture but the rural areas as well.
In business development support and empowerment initiatives, management and technical capabilities inhibit citizen owned manufacturing firms from fully utilizing opportunities in domestic and regional markets. The development of home grown Zambian enterprises is vital for the growth of the Zambian manufacturing sector, and particularly of MSMEs. For example, in the food-processing sector, the growth of Zambian, agro-based, industries can assist in expanding domestic employment opportunities, and also in creating sustainable livelihoods for many.

In 2006, the Government enacted the Citizens Economic Empowerment Act. The Commission is now in place and is developing guidelines to operationalise the CEE Fund, which is part of Government’s deliberate strategy meant to create an equal playing field and intended to raise local citizens to a level where they can effectively and productively contribute to the growth of the national economy.
Zambia has introduced Multi Facility Economic Zones (MFEZ). These are special industrial Zones for both export and domestic oriented industries. The country has so far approved two MFEZs to be developed by the China Non-Ferrous Metal Company (CNMC) and the other by the Government of the Republic of Zambia in conjunction with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with Kulim High Tech Park of Malaysia providing technical know-how.

**Micro Finance including micro-credit**

The development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is viewed as one of the sustainable ways of reducing the levels of poverty and improving the quality of life of households in Zambia. The contribution of MSMEs to employment, growth and sustainable development to the economy is now widely acknowledged.

MSMEs constitute the majority of firms, provide about 80 percent of employment and give the majority of the Zambian population a livelihood and hence play an important role in job creation, poverty reduction and economic development. They also help create an environment for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Government established the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) in 1991, through an Act of Parliament, to promote the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise sector (MSMEs). SIDO was constituted to cater for financing needs of small-scale companies and individuals and adopted an operation definition of Micro and Small Enterprises (SMEs). In 1996, SIDO was transformed into Small Enterprises Development Board (SEDB) through the 1996 Small Enterprise Development (SED) Act and in 2006 it was amalgamated into the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) under the ZDA Act No. 11 of 2006.

Government is also looking at ways of building capacity and empowering institutions dealing with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. In this regard, Government in collaboration with cooperating partners (JICA), appointed the Small and Medium Enterprise Task Force under the Triangle of Hope Initiative to recommend practical MSME development agenda.

The also Government 2007 initiated the development of the SME Policy. Consultations with the stakeholders were concluded and the policy was being finalized.

**Rural Industrialisation**

Government through the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry is currently developing the Rural Industrialisation Policy. In this regard, the Ministry in conjunction with the Central Statistical Office is currently conducting an economic census.

**Citizens Economic Empowerment**

Citizen empowerment is anchored as one of the six reform areas of the Private Sector Development (PSD) Program. The objective of this reform Program is to unlock the
Strengthened partnerships with the co-operating partners and improved co-ordination of the Sector Wide Approach (SWAP), whereby a new Memorandum of Understanding (MU) was developed and signed in 2006. Also, the framework for expansion of the health sector basket was developed.

There are strengthened partnerships with community and religious leaders; Neighbourhood Health Committees (NHCs) and Community Health Workers (CHWs), Provincial and District Development Co-ordinating Committees (PDCCs and DDCCs) are involved in aspects of health care provision including awareness and advocacy of maternal care.

Integration and scaling-up of the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV and AIDS strategy into MCH services

Troika System of Aid co-ordination, harmonisation, alignment and management was implemented in 2006. Also, all Sector Action Plans and Budgets have been aligned to the Vision 2030.

Significant increase in targeted financial support from the Government and co-operating partners towards the fight against major diseases that affect especially the children such as malaria, respiratory infections, anaemia, pneumonia, diarrhoea, tuberculosis and HIV and AIDS.

Free provision of at least three long-lasting Insecticide-Treated Mosquito Nets (ITNs) per household to prevent malaria in pregnant women (MIP) under the Roll-Back malaria (RBM) partnership from 2007.

Provision of free and more effective anti-malarial drugs to pregnant women.

Scaling-up of free provision of anti-retroviral therapy (ART) to infected and vulnerable people, especially in the PMTCT facilities.

Conduction of Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) in 2006 to map sources and uses of funds in the health sector.

Development of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) (2006 to 2008) and the Fifth National Development Plan (2006 to 2010) aimed at general infrastructural development, recruitment and retention of health staff.

Continued use of Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Neighbourhood Health Committees (NHCs) in MCH services such as child-feeding practices, use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT) or oral rehydration salts (ORS) and promoting use of long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs).

Rural enterprise development

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The inclusion of a chapter on gender in the FNDP serves to commit the nation to achieving gender parity. The plan sets out priorities which include: gender mainstreaming in the national development process, safe motherhood, capacity building for gender mainstreaming, gender management information system, review of legal framework, economic empowerment of women and monitoring and evaluation.

Creation of a supportive environment has also included the fight against gender based violence and harassment. Gender based violence hinders growth in gender parity and to this end NGOs have called for remedial legislation.

Increased educational campaigns to encourage women to participate in parliamentary and local government elections have served to encourage some females to stand for elections.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) support to female candidates helped some women stand for elections.

The inclusion of a gender perspective as a key performance indicator in job descriptions of public service is serving to reinforce the country’s commitment to ensuring that gender is mainstreamed. Sensitisation of traditional leadership so that they can influence change in cultural and traditional practices that adversely affect the women has helped remove negative attitudes towards women.

Health

With regard to health, the government provides conducive and supportive policy guidelines and environment in the health sector as exemplified in the National Health Policy, the National Health Strategic Plan (NHSP), Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) (2006 to 2010) and Vision 2030.

Continuation of integration of many activities in the maternal and child health (MCH) programmes such as implementation of the routine and National Immunisation Days (NID); Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI), Roll-back malaria (RBM) partnership; Reach Every District/Child (RED) Strategy; Integrated Management of Childhood Infections or illness (IMCI); Polio Elimination Initiative (PEI); Establishment, consolidating and scaling-up of the Prevention of Mother-to-child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV and AIDS; Provision of free health services; and Nutrition, safe water and breast-feeding support programmes and the Vaccine Independence Initiative (V.I.I.) programme aimed at improvement in the procurement and distribution of vaccines. Others initiatives include Measles Supplemental Immunisation Activities (MSIA); Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination; and installation of a computerized Vaccine Management Tool for monitoring vaccines.

Implementation of User Fees Removal Policy in 2006
Implementation Framework (NIF) (2003-2007) have been key in providing a strategic approach to education.

The FNDP 2006-2010 commits government to increasing funding to education as a key sector in development. In 2005 the Ministry of Education expenditure was 2.8 percent of the Gross National Product (GNP) and to improve on this, government will allocate 20.5 percent of the total annual discretionary budget (FNDP 2006-2010). Basic education received 18.43 percent in the 2006 budget.

Conducive policy direction on private, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) participation in the provision of education contributes to growth in the provision of universal primary school education. The decision by government to integrate the community schools (funded from community meagre resources) into mainstream educational system means that the schools are assured of stable and increased funding. These schools have played a major role in providing education to Orphans and Vulnerable Children in rural and urban areas.

Allowing children who are disadvantaged and held back in progression by various drawbacks to repeat some grades has increased numbers of children attending and completing primary and basic education.

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Decentralisation involving devolution of responsibilities from the centre to the District Education Boards and the involvement of parents and communities is increasingly leading to prompt action on issues that have otherwise taken long to resolve.

The affirmative action of establishing bursary schemes for excelling girls who cannot afford to pay for requisites at tertiary level serves to promote education for girls. Twenty-five per cent (25percent) of the bursary scheme at the University of Zambia has been set aside for the education of girls so that they can compete favourably with males for opportunities in political and technical jobs.

Legislation promulgated in 2006, the Citizen's Economic Empowerment Act, is key in empowering both genders because it provides for the promotion of employment by recommending to appropriate authorities the removal of structural and discriminatory constraints and practices that hinder any particular gender from employment opportunities.

Gender based organizations have supplemented government efforts by increasing educational opportunities for girls. In addition, cooperating and development partners continue to play a big role in supporting girl's education.

Increased global and national advocacy and awareness creation on gender issues have contributed to the articulation of the gender policy (2000), and the preparation of the strategic plan of action for the period 2004 to 2008. The appointment of a minister at cabinet level responsible for gender has reinforced government's commitment to gender in development. Gender mainstreaming in some sectors of the public service has improved the education and training of women.
Tourism has remained one of the major sectors in Zambia that plays a vital role in the growth. Growth in the tourism sector contributes to employment creation; rural and infrastructure development; increased foreign exchange earnings and community and entrepreneurial development. More than any other sector, tourism is a labour intensive industry and provides jobs for local people in both rural and urban areas. Tourism creates opportunities for both large and small entrepreneurs; promotes awareness and understanding among different cultures; breeds a unique informal sector; and creates economic linkages with agriculture, light manufacturing and construction industries, handicrafts, art and souvenirs. Furthermore, it creates linkages with service sectors such as health, education, entertainment, banking and insurance and also helps to conserve the environment. Tourism is one of the sectors that can thrive in rural areas for the direct benefit of rural communities thereby contributing positively towards poverty reduction.

Environment

Throughout the world it is increasingly recognised that development in all its forms should incorporate means for safeguarding the environment and for ensuring sustainable use of resources. In Zambia, environment plays an important role in fostering sustainable development. The economic sectors depend for their existence on the four basic resources (Land, Water, Atmosphere and biodiversity). However, unsustainable utilization of the natural resources has affected the livelihoods of people especially the poor. Land contamination from solid waste disposal continues to grow as an environmental problem. Although still a relatively new issue in environmental protection in Zambia, waste management particularly the management of municipal solid waste (domestic, trade and manufacturing and hospital waste) has emerged as serious environmental concerns in urban areas. The extraction and production processes of industries also have negative impacts on the environment which principally relate to disposal of waste that generate both on and off-site pollution. Notable polluters include chemical fertilizer plants, textile factories, edible oil factories, tanneries and cement factories. The limited knowledge of the problems and appropriate solutions in connection with restricted economic resources makes it difficult to solve the problems of hazardous waste management.

Education

The national educational policy of 1996, *Educating Our Future* has provided for a supportive environment in which sub-sector policies have been articulated. The Ministry of Education continues to implement the free education policy enunciated in 2002 and the global Education for All Goals adopted in 2000 to ensure that all boys and girls are able to attend school.

Since gender has been mainstreamed in the educational curriculum as result of the Programme for the Advancement of the Girls’ Education (PAGE), a gender responsive approach to education has been adopted.

Improved capacity in planning, reporting evaluation and monitoring in the Ministry of Education enables it to access finances through the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) (2006-2008). The 2006 Work plan and Budget adopted the multi-sectoral approach. The education sector Strategic Plan (2003-2007) and its National
communities, local authorities and the private sector have been introduced whereby service provision contracts have been entered into to enhance transparency and accountability among the three players. For example, where the solid waste company does not collect garbage in a given area for a certain period, the community in that area would not pay the monthly rates and they would take up the matter to the local authority through their resident development committee.

The same applies to none delivery of water; the water supply watch-group would report such cases of dry stand posts and pipeline leakages to the regulator so that appropriate action is taken with the water utility serving that area. Wastewater treatment plants and sewer lines in almost all towns and cities in Zambia require massive investments to rehabilitate and augment as some of them have bypassed their design life spans rendering them ineffective in their performance. Due to limitations in financial capacities improvements have been skewed to water supply systems over the years neglecting these systems. The annexed Water and Sanitation Programmes of the FNDP gives more details on interventions by government during. Table 4 shows coverage of safe water supply and improved sanitation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Urban Safe water supply (%)</th>
<th>Urban Improved sanitation (%)</th>
<th>Peri-Urban Safe water supply (%)</th>
<th>Peri-Urban Improved Sanitation (%)</th>
<th>Rural Safe water supply (%)</th>
<th>Rural Improved sanitation (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Fifth National Development Plan 2006-10; National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation 2005

The Zambia Millennium Development Goals Report of 2003 states that national averages on water supply and sanitation coverage were 17 percent (1990), 48 percent (1992), 15 percent (2000) and 51 percent (2002) respectively. In areas serviced by water companies, water supply coverage increased from 58 percent (2005) to 73 percent (2006); and sanitation stood at 32 percent according to NWASCO report on water companies’ performance in 2005 and 2006.

**Energy**

In rural Zambia, the main source of energy is wood fuel. This is used either as firewood or charcoal. The threat to the environment is deforestation and land degradation. Government is promoting the use of improved stoves to use wood fuel efficiently; other technologies used include renewable energy resources such as wind, solar and hydropower. All these strategies are contained in the Rural Electrification Master Plan 2007–2030. In the medium term, the Plan aims at increasing access to electricity from 3.1 percent in rural areas and 47.6 percent in urban areas in 2004 to 13.5 percent and 54.7 percent in 2010 in rural and urban areas respectively and 50.9 percent and 90 percent in rural and urban areas respectively by 2030.

**Tourism**
development of rural infrastructure where the majority of the poor live. Key growth strategies being followed support stronger linkages between the resource-base sectors of agriculture and manufacturing. This will be achieved through upstream linkages to agro related processing and supporting the expansion of a strong and diversified export base.

Agriculture and rural development is often interlinked. The development of one stimulates the other. Efforts have been made to increase agricultural production but the number of the poor and malnourished people has been increasing over the years. The reason for this is that the government has not increased investments in agriculture and rural development.

Despite Zambia being endowed with vast land, fertile soils, plenty of water and a favourable weather pattern that can support agricultural production and hence stimulate rural development this potential is never realised. For instance, market reforms have been made in Zambia to stimulate private sector participation without addressing major constraints that hinder agricultural and rural development. These constraints include poor service delivery particularly for small scale farmers, marketing constraints especially in outlying areas as a result of poor infrastructure such as feeder roads, a void in agricultural finance and credit, unfavourable world and regional markets and poor accessibility and administration of land.

Often times, Zambia has tried to develop rural areas by attempting to promote agriculture at the exclusion of the development of other sectors such as health, education. However, in rural areas these social amenities such as access to education, health and extension services are inadequate.

Land

Under the current land tenure system, land is in two categories namely customary and leasehold. Most of the small scale holders are found on customary land where there is no titling and therefore, securing collateral for agricultural credit still remains remote. In this regard, the rural poor are unable to raise their levels of income.

The Government has been trying to encourage issuance of title deeds on customary land through an advocacy programme involving traditional institutions.

Water and Sanitation

With regard to water and sanitation, efforts are being made to ensure effective coordination and collaboration in the implementation of the National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme recently launched by the Ministry of Local Government and Housing. Alongside this, is the National Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Programme being developed. The two Programmes aimed at improving rural, peri-urban and urban water supply and sanitation systems through a massive construction and rehabilitation of point and piped water supply schemes such as boreholes and municipal water supply extensions to all upgraded peri-urban settlements.

International nongovernmental organizations like Care International, Water Aid and World Vision are very active in the upgrading of peri-urban settlements. Improvements involve the provision of improved pit latrines, garbage collection and hygiene education and are major components in these programmes. Partnerships between recipient
Gender Discriminatory inheritance rules/rights and lack of disaggregated data based on gender makes it difficult to ensure that land is evenly distributed.

HIV/AIDS and other Terminal Diseases
Inadequate recognition of the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic in land administration and management services

15. Private Sector Participation
Lack of understanding of role played by the private sector in enhancing land delivery system and lack of adequate infrastructure where land has been identified for private sector investment promotion

16. Persons with Disabilities
Traditional customs, norms and beliefs that disabled people cannot use the land productively:

17. Youth
Public concern that the contractual age of 21 years is high taking into account the increase in the child headed households

18. Environment and Natural Resources
Public environmental concern over increasing land degradation due to uncontrolled human activities:

19. Land Development Fund
Public does not see the fund as functional or visible with respect to its uses and status

20. Institutional Framework
Lack of a well functioning and systematic institutional framework for land delivery

21. Legal Framework
There is no comprehensive legislation on Land administration.

6.0 RURAL DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Rural Poverty
Poverty is complex in nature and manifesting itself in various forms with different interpretations. Its reduction and eventual eradication is a major challenge that most countries have continued to face. Zambia is not an exception to this case.

6.1.1 Concrete actions taken and Specific progress made in implementation

Zambia has been implementing poverty reduction strategies through the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP 2002 ï 2004) and the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP 2006 ï 2010). Despite the implementation of these strategies and positive economic growth experienced since 1999, national poverty levels remain high.

Currently, the impact on poverty has not been significant, raising acute disillusionment, especially among the poor. More effort is needed to strengthen links between growth and poverty reduction in order to achieve desired poverty outcomes.

Agriculture:

The majority of the poor people live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihood. In this regard, agricultural development has the potential to impact on extreme poverty and hunger, which affects most rural population. Zambia is focusing on the
5.4 Major Issues, Constraints and Challenges

In Zambia the land question revolves around the following contentious issues:

1. **Vestment of Land**: There has been a contention with regard to the vestment of land in the Head of State, a national body like Parliament and Traditional rulers.

2. **Dual Land Tenure System**: The dual land tenure systems (customary and state land) are often times in conflict with each other. Argument borders on which tenure system offers more security.

3. **Land Administration**: Issues surrounding Land administration have to do with centralised issuance of certificate of title making it very costly, inadequate coordination between land use functions spread among different institutions, inadequate systematic planning in the land delivery process and mechanisms to deal with abuse of office by the agent of the Commissioner of Lands.

4. **International and Internal Boundaries**: Unclearly marked and unmaintained international boundaries are prone to encroachments and cross border settlements in places, which may result into conflicts. Conflicts also arise due to a lack of clear physical boundary marks to indicate chiefdoms, districts, provincial boundaries.

5. **Land Registration**: Centralised land registry is very expensive, slow and tedious to users.

6. **Surveys and Geo-information**: There is public concern that geo-information services are not affordable and readily accessible to the public.

7. **Land Information**: There has been a public perception that land information is not adequate and reliable.

8. **Land Value and Property Markets**: Unregulated land market transactions and Lack of adequate and reliable land market information due to lack of segregated land values for different categories of land.

9. **Tax and Non-Tax Revenue**: inadequate efficient and effective revenue collection system for ground rent and other fees, resulting in under collection of revenues leading to inadequate redistribution of tax and non-tax revenue to land related administration and management.

10. **Spatial Planning**: Inadequate planning and enforcement of land use planning, controls and restrictions by local authorities.

11. **Dispute Resolution**: Most under-privileged persons are unable to access the Lands Tribunal mainly due to its limited jurisdiction and lack of mandate to arbitrate over land disputes in customary areas and Statutory Improvements Areas where most under-privileged persons are situated.

12. **Transparency and Accountability**: Lack of transparency and accountability in the allocation of land.

13. **Decentralization**: Lack of decentralisation of structures of the land delivering institutions.
The Government has also brought close collaboration between institutions that deal with land matters such as the Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Local Government and Housing, Local Authorities, traditional rulers, the Resettlement Department under the Office of the Vice-President, the Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry, Ministry of Tourism Environment and Natural Resources, Civil society, the private sector etc.

12. The Government has also improved the capacity for land delivery services through purchasing of the latest of the art equipment for surveying of land.

13. The Government has also improved the capacity for surveying of properties through the establishment of the land Survey Control Board which recognizes public and private surveyors. This means more land can be surveyed than was previously done when there were few private surveyors.

14. The Government has improved on the billing system through the employment of revenue collectors in all the provinces as a way of enhancing collection of land related fees and charges.

15. The Government has encouraged public/private partnership in land development through improvement of the regulatory framework.

16. Government has also passed the Citizenship Economic Empowerment Act and this means that the Land Delivery System has to be responsive to the need to empower the Citizens in the Country.

17. Through SADC Government has taken the initiative to support the establishment of the Land Reform Support Facility and has attended several meetings to make this Facility a reality.

5.2 Lessons Learnt

The following are some of the lessons learnt in undertaking land reforms in Zambia:

1. Land reforms can not be carried out overnight; it's a gradual process which requires time and perseverance and funds need to be secured for the reforms

2. There is need to define Land rights

3. There is need to build capacity in Land dealing institutions

4. The land question creates new paradigms for dealing with the land delivery system.

5.3 Recent trends and emerging issues

In recent past, there has been debate on the recognition of the customary land tenure system to promote investment in the rural areas.

1. The involvement of civil society in land matters

2. The recognition of value of land without physical development

3. Engendering land allocation in line the SADC Protocol on Gender

4. The engagement of traditional rulers in land advocacy
Policy is before Cabinet pending approval. It is expected that once the Policy is approved, it will lead to the review of all land related pieces of legislation.

2. The Government enacted the 1995 Lands Act, which restored value to land. This act introduced the Land Development Fund, meant to open up virgin lands under local authorities for development. The Act also provides for the establishment of the Lands Tribunal that is fast track court for resolution of Land Disputes.

3. The Government has introduced a Land Advocacy programme in order to improve on security of tenure on both customary land and leasehold. To this effect advocacy, campaigns have been undertaken by the Ministry of Lands on behalf of government with both local authorities and traditional rulers (Chiefs) to sensitise them on ensuring that there is equity and efficiency in the administration of land.

4. Government has developed administrative procedures to guide land allocation (Land Circular of 1985, Survey guidelines, Land allocation guidelines, Land registration procedures, Land dispute resolution guidelines and Land allocation in Land Banks Guidelines.)

5. The Government has put in place land identification measures aimed at setting aside land meant for various economic ventures. Under the agriculture sector farm blocks have been identified in all the nine provinces throughout the country.

6. With regard to land meant for other economic ventures a programme on the identification of land banks and Multi-Facility -Economic Zones has been put in place. This covers land for manufacturing, Industry, Industrial Parks, Health Infrastructure, Education Infrastructure etc.

7. The Government through the Ministry of Lands has embarked on a process of decentralising the acquisition of title deeds. The Government through the Ministry of Lands has opened regional and provincial offices throughout the country in order to improve service delivery to the people and make it easier for them to acquire title. It is the intention of the Government that more offices be created in Districts in future in order to serve the Zambian people better.

8. The Government has overhauled the old land information management system and replaced it with the Zambia Land Administration System which is a more improved version and is able to capture more parameters relating to land records and properties. As part of the ongoing land reforms with the support from USAID, the Ministry of Lands has introduced a website where members of the public can access land related information. In addition a customer service area is being established and will be launched in May 2008 as a front office to all land enquiries. Government has also through Ministry of Lands developed a service charter for the various services rendered to members of the public. Along side the service charter Core Values have been developed in order to ensure satisfaction of the client.

9. The Government has continued with programmes of educating and enforcing the laws aimed at protecting the land from degradation and encouraging sustainable land use practices.

10. The Government has put in place a policy that will facilitate the allocation of at least 30 percent of the available land to women and other disadvantaged groups. At the same time the Government has enacted and enforced laws that ensure women acquire land without reference to their marital status. Government is also addressing the needs of other disadvantaged groups such as the Youths and Disabled.
Understanding that failures will occur and ensuring that resilient community structures are in place to learn from such failures, while minimizing possible impacts through the application of risk management approaches.

5.0 LAND

In Zambia, land has since time immemorial been held under customary tenure, until the 1960s when freehold and leasehold tenure systems were introduced. Of the total land mass of the country amounting to 752,614, customary land is estimated to be 94 percent and state land is estimated at 6 percent.

Customary tenure is an indigenous form of land ownership, also referred to as traditional African customary tenure, and has a communal character. Leasehold tenure is usually held on land that is also known as state land.

Under these two (2) categories, there is reserve land that is allocated to nature, forest, and wildlife sanctuaries. Land under forest is estimated at 9 percent of the total landmass of the country or approximately 67,680 square kilometres. Land for National parks is roughly 8 percent or approximately 60,160 square kilometres and Game Management Areas about 22 percent or approximately 165,440 square kilometres.

However, population increase has created localised pressure for land and problems of access and equity. Lack of a land policy framework makes it difficult to address these problems. Since Independence there were fragmented policy pronouncements by government but a comprehensive land policy framework was only arrived at in the year 2000 when government started initiatives to consult various stakeholders in order to come up with a Land Policy for the Country.

In as far as the Zambian Government is concerned, land is a very important factor of production as it provides a basis for the development of the nation. There can be no meaningful development without an efficient and effective Land Administration System. It is for this reason that Government has attached great importance on land as being at the very centre stage of all economic development activity. In order to enhance national Development, land should be made available for different economic ventures, which include Agriculture, Industry, Commercial Activities, Human Settlement and other uses.

In this regard, all economic activities should be supported by an effective and efficient Land Administration System, which ensures equity, in the acquisition and sustainable utilisation of land. An important aspect concerning sustainable use of land is the preservation of the land for use by future generations.

5.1 concrete actions taken and specific progress made in implementation

The following have been the concrete actions take by government and progress made in enhancing the land delivery system:

1. The Government has been working on the administrative policy framework to address the imbalance inherited from the colonial past in order to remove discriminatory practices where access to land is concerned. To this effect the Government has been working on a land policy for the country. A final draft Land
Recent trends and emerging issues

1. Implementation of a regional flash flood guidance system, in the SADC region in collaboration with World Meteorological Organization to aid in determining the near-term of a flash flood in small streams and basins. This system is designed to be used along with other available data, systems, tools, and local knowledge.

2. Implementation of Flood Forecasting and Early Warning for Zambia to empower individuals and vulnerable communities threatened by floods to act in good time and in appropriate manner to reduce possibility of personal injury, loss of life and damage to property and the environment.

3. Sustained involvement of the media and local leadership play a significant role, in terms of both warning and community education and preparedness as well.

4. Use of pamphlets, fridge magnets, school education programmes, drama groups, television shows, community groups, etc., to deliver community awareness.

5. There has been growth in the use of the internet as both an information source and a service delivery mechanism.

6. There has been a realisation that settlement in flood prone areas will always be affected by seasonal flood disaster. To reduce the loss of property and livelihood a programme on human settlement for displaced persons has been developed to promote permanent settlement on higher lands.

4.4 Major constraints and challenges

1. A shared understanding of the risk by both providers and users, including the recognition that floods occur during the rainy season, but that there can also be long periods between the occurrence of floods when awareness can decline;

2. Maintaining the operational capability of ZMD and DWA and ensuring that users understand the importance of the sustainability of these systems;

3. Ensuring that users are aware of and understand the implications of the capabilities and limitations of the warning system;

4. Understanding the specific requirements of users in each situation and determining the key trigger points and what actions can be taken and when;

5. Recognizing that with growing populations and economies and also the possible implications of climate change, the community at risk may be increasing and therefore that problems can arise in new areas;

6. Understanding that the total system will only be as strong as its weakest link and that components must therefore be regularly reviewed and examined;

7. Maintaining contact, as most users, ZMD and DWA have other roles and responsibilities, which implies that interaction and coordination must be formally set in place and regularly reviewed;

8. Gaining recognition that advances will require an investment in research to improve scientific and technical capabilities;

9. Gaining recognition that there is no one specific solution for all situations; that even within a community vulnerabilities differ; that different approaches will be needed for effectively warning each group; and that social and cultural issues must therefore also be considered;

10. Recognizing the important role of the media in the provision of services and how to optimize this under current arrangements;

11. Establishing adequate feedback and event review mechanisms; and
1. Development of effective drought and flood warning system to maximize the implementation of response strategies aimed at enhancing the safety of life and reducing avoidable flood damage.

2. The operation of the *in situ* monitoring and measuring instruments, for both rainfall and river level that use the current and forecast information to provide estimates of future flood levels.

3. The provision of accurate weather and climate forecasts by Zambia Meteorological Department (ZMD) to DMMU, policy makers, the media and public has reduced significantly the impact of these events.

4. The lead-time of alerting these events resulting in quick mitigation and responses to disasters has improved. The development of the national early warning flood and drought system will allow for the generation of and dissemination of real-time data and products at national, provincial and district levels.

5. Interaction of DMTC members before and during the events has improved.

6. Cross-training and cooperation of meteorologists, hydrologists and disaster managers in the science of hydrometeorology that forms the basis of flood detection and prediction is being undertaken.

7. Flood and drought prone areas identification process in place.

### 4.2 Lessons learned

1. An integrated national early warning system, supported by an integrated information system, will indeed be a major contribution to realizing the socio-economic benefits to be derived from a wide range of products and services of ZMD, with special consideration to protection of life, livelihoods, property, health and well-being.

2. The total system includes elements of monitoring, prediction, interpretation, message construction, communication and protective behaviour.

3. In Zambia DMMU, NGOs, individuals, industry, the community at risk and the media, are primarily concerned with access to the information being provided, its accuracy and knowledge and understanding of the actions they need to take.

4. They also expect information on the length of time inundation can be expected to continue, whether or not follow-up events can be expected and specific areas of inundations, especially in relation to key services (such as power, water supply, sewerage, etc).

5. When incorporated in flood plan management, users also require advance information on areas and services at risk of flooding so that they can more appropriately undertake effective land use.

6. That a balance between structural and non-structural measures aimed at "living with floods" should be promoted.

7. That provision of information will vary from situation to situation, but could include facsimiles, phone calls, SMSs, e-mails, radio, television, radio and internet (RANET) and word of mouth. The delivery mechanism will depend on the characteristics and location of the community at risk, the amount of lead warning time required, and the capabilities and limitations of the early warning system. Consultation and communication are therefore the key elements in determining the optimum delivery mechanism in each case. This must involve discussions and input from all of the responsible authorities and stakeholders, and in particular the community at risk itself.
1. Traditional Knowledge initiatives have played major roles in sustainable resource management. Most relevant institutions in resource management have involved traditional approaches in planning and management of natural resources;
2. Several projects in the country are including traditional methods as ways of ensuring sustainability. Best examples are those to do with wildlife management, forest management, water supply and health programmes
3. The Early Warning System has assisted the country to intervene and take necessary measures where drought has occurred.

3.3 Recent trends and emerging issues

Although about 60 percent of Zambia’s land is covered by forests, evidence of continuing forest destruction leading to environmental degradation and their negative impacts is widespread.

Climate change is one of the defining issues in our recent times which pose a major challenge to sustainable development and poverty reduction. Zambia’s Fifth National Development Plan and National Policy on Environment recognize climate change as a problem and suggest measures to address it.

3.4 Major constraints

The major constraints in the UNCCD implementation revolve around inadequate financial resources, insufficient technical expertise and lack of harmony in existing environment related policy and legislation leading to implementation and legal enforcement failures.

Although the NAP is clear on the scientific activities necessary to combat desertification there is still limited technical and financial capacities to implement scientific and technical measures stipulated in the NAP.

4.0 DROUGHT/FLOODS

In Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region, Zambia is one of the countries highly impacted on by severe weather and extreme climate events. Studies in the Sub-region suggest that losses due to flooding have increased in frequency over the past two decades and have adverse effect on Communities and the economy of the Sub-region. In fact, in Zambia it is estimated that 75 percent of all disasters are attributed to weather conditions. Causes of disasters include fire, floods, pests, drought and storms

4.1 Concrete actions taken and progress made in implementation

1. The setting up of the Disaster Management Technical committee (DMTC) and Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) of the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) under the Office of the Vice President.
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One of the critical challenges that Zambia faces is environmental degradation through loss of biodiversity, soil erosion, water pollution etc. Such resource degradation and depletion contribute significantly to the low productivity of the primary sectors like agriculture, forestry, wildlife and fisheries thereby contributing to prevailing extreme poverty in most of the Zambia’s rural communities. This situation relates to lack of managerial capacity in the local environmental practitioners to implement their programmes aimed at promoting sustainable management of natural resources. Due to widespread nature of this problem, the Zambia government with support from United Nations Development Programme/Global Environmental Facility (UNDP/GEF) implemented the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Management Project (EPNRMP) to enhance managerial capacity for environmental protection and sustainable management of the natural resources as well as for coordination the implementation of Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs).

Through the ENRMP Government implemented programmes aimed at promoting public awareness on the protection of the environment, and strengthening of the existing institutional mechanisms for enforcement of environmental standards. In addition, domestication of international conventions on environment and natural resources management is underway and this has encouraged the communities to implement the provisions of the UNCCD at grass root level. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources (MTENR) spearheaded the implementation of provisions of the Convention on land degradation and mitigation of drought in affected areas of agro-ecological regions II and I. The Department, with participation of the local communities, NGOs and CBOs has facilitated the formation of community groups who are involved in rehabilitation of degraded lands, through replanting of trees and promotion of conservation farming and linking their programmes to NAP and UNCCD provisions.

3.1.3 Sustainable Management of Zambia’s Protected Areas

The rural population depends entirely on the natural resources for their livelihood. The natural resources such as the forests are the only source of firewood, fodder, food, medicines and thatching grass for the local people. The MTENR in collaboration with the local communities, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Community Resources Boards (CRBs), and Village Resources Management Committees (VRMCs) in protected areas have been involved in regulation and protection of the natural resources in protected areas in an integrated manner. The natural resources management in protected areas is through formulation of by-laws by CBOs and CRBs. Most of the programmes on resources management are co-managed programmes between the communities and the government.

3.1.4 National Tree Planting

The Forestry Department has been encouraging communities to protect and plant trees through its annual National Tree Planting programme, implemented countrywide between 15th December and 15th January of every subsequent years. The aorestation programme has lead to the establishment of community forest and fruit tree plantations and rehabilitation of degraded lands.
3.1 Concrete actions taken and specific progress made in implementation

Sustainable development objectives for Zambia have been supported by sectoral policies and strategies that fulfill national obligations. The policies and strategies have been developed over the years, since independence, and are aimed at contributing to achieving environmental sustainability.

The country’s national Conservation Strategy (NCS) of 1985 identified and recommended institutional and regulatory reforms. This culminated into enactment of the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act (EPPCA) of 1990, which led to the establishment of the Environmental Council of Zambia. In 1994 the NCS was updated into the national Environment Action Plan (NEAP), and highlighted key environmental problems that included unsustainable harvesting of natural resources and deforestation.

In 2002, Zambia prepared a National Action Programme (NAP) to Combat Desertification and Mitigate serious effects of drought. Consistent with Article 10 of the Convention, the NAP emphasizes integrated local development programmes for affected areas based on participatory mechanisms and strategies for poverty eradication into efforts to combat desertification and mitigate effects of drought. It provides a framework for identifying factors contributing to desertification. The vision of the NAP is to restore land productivity in order to reduce poverty and foster development.

The NAP concentrated on five provinces, namely Central, Eastern, Lusaka, Southern and Western. These are located in Agro-ecological Regions I and II and experienced severe land degradation and drought.

The Zambian government, with support from the cooperating partners has been implementing programmes/projects aimed at promoting effective environmental protection and sustainable management of the natural resources. These programmes and/or projects implemented in collaboration with communities are in line with the NAP and UNCCD provisions and they include the following:

1.1.1 Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM)

Zambia was one of the first countries to pioneer approaches involving communities in managing natural resources, through the initiative of the Administrative Management Design (ADMADE) programme in the early 1980s. Since that time, Government in collaboration with various cooperating partners has attempted to establish a number of Community based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) initiatives to improve community involvement in the management of forests, fisheries, water resources and in sustainable development of agriculture and tourism. A number of communities have been involved in managing community natural resources through integrated and sustainable land use practices. Successes have been recorded and what is required now is to upscale the programmes to cover all the districts and address more effectively the issues of community natural resources management systems.
Natural disasters such as drought and floods due to climate change have affected the small-scale farmers. Low food production among the small-scale farmers.

6. Poor land husbandry practices.
7. High energy prices leading to higher production costs.
8. Stringent product standards.
9. HIV/AIDS has emerged as a serious constraint to the development of the agricultural sector.
10. Inadequate value addition due to lack of fully developed agro-industries resulting in export of raw materials.
11. Inadequate mechanization of the agricultural sector.
12. Dependence on imported agricultural inputs.
13. High dependency on rain-fed agriculture.
14. Non-availability or poor access to inputs.
15. High dependency on maize.
16. Underutilization of land resources.
17. High incidences of pests and disease for livestock and crops.
18. Inadequate agricultural finance and credit.
19. Unfavourable world and regional markets.
20. Weak market linkages to local and international markets.

2.5 Challenges

1. Meeting the millennium development goals of reducing hunger and poverty by 50 percent by 2015.
2. The promotion of value addition closer to the production centres to reduce the cost of wastage e.g. abattoirs, refrigerated trucks for transportation.
3. Provision of adequate infrastructure in the rural areas to promote agricultural development.
4. Producing agricultural inputs, (vaccines, fertilizer, equipment) locally.
5. Production of bio-fuel crops may compromise the production of food and may lead to hunger in Zambia. A balanced approach is required.
6. There is need to promote the formation of strong farmer based marketing organizations.
7. Increased investment in the agricultural sector.
8. Promoting job creation in off-farm activities.
9. Mitigate against impact of HIV and AIDS on agriculture.
10. Strong early warning mechanism.
11. Promotion of good nutritional practices.
12. Promotion of research in crops and livestock.

3.0 DESERTIFICATION

Zambia signed and ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on 15th October 1994 and 19th September 1996 respectively. The convention aims at combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought by promoting effective action through innovative local programmes and supportive action to international partnerships. To achieve this aim, the Convention requires that each country party prepares a National Action Programme (NAP). The Zambian government with financial assistance from cooperating partners developed the UNCCD NAP in 2002.
There has been an increase in food insecurity in rural areas due to factors such as the collapse of some of the institutions which used to provide services in rural areas leaving farmers with no guaranteed access to markets and credit. Though the Food Reserve Agency is present in the crop marketing, the impact is minimal because of inadequate financial resources.

The private sector has failed to fill some of the vacuum created by the withdrawal of government services and the collapse of government-supported institutions.

Access to key services such as credit, marketing and information has been problematic especially to small-scale farmers in outlying areas. Some of the services such as veterinary services that previously used to be offered to farmers have now to be cost shared with farmers. Given the high poverty levels and low incomes, most small-scale farmers have been unable to pay for some of the services.

The earlier focus in the early warning systems was on food, there is realization of the omissions of markets, trade and impact on livelihood which are being addressed through data collection and working in collaboration with stakeholders to improve the early warning system.

During the 1970 - 1980s Zambian agriculture was growing rapidly in comparison to other economic activities, because then the population was small, vigilant and willing to work on land. Availability of agricultural inputs was well coordinated, well distributed to bona fide farmers countrywide. Markets were operative through rural cooperatives, and the infrastructure was being maintained through a functional Ministry of Works and Supply. Over the years Zambia’s population has been increasing at the rate of 3.5 percent per annum whereas the agricultural growth has been varying at the estimated rate of 2 to 3 percent annually. The lessons learnt are that if prudent measures are put in place the situation can be reversed. As the national economy grows it is anticipated that more resources will be unlocked to cater for agricultural and rural development.

2.3 Recent trends and emerging issues
1. Due to trade liberalization, Zambia has exposed local producers to tough competition from imports.
2. The power outages being experienced in the country have put a lot of uncertainty in irrigated agriculture and in production of high value agricultural products.
3. The introduction of bio fuel crops such as Jatropha is likely to undermine the food security situation in Zambia as more farmers may diversify into production of bio fuel crops at the expense of food crops.
4. Transboundary partnerships on livestock disease control are in place

2.4 Major Constraints
1. Low spending on agriculture-related developments resulted in dilapidated agricultural support infrastructure and inadequate delivery of extension service.
2. The poor rural infrastructure in many parts of the country is still constraining the development of agriculture as it increases operational costs and cuts off certain areas from many agricultural services. Poor infrastructure in rural areas causes high distribution costs leading to higher prices of food.
26. Water saving irrigation technologies such as drip (trickle) irrigation, micro sprinklers, common sprinklers and centre pivot systems are being promoted. In recent years, there has been a marked increase in the use of centre pivot systems especially among large-scale farmers. The emerging farmers tend to use drag hose, semi fixed and fixed sprinklers systems. Smallholder farmers in rural areas tend to use treadle pumps or petrol/diesel powered systems combined with furrow systems for water application.

27. Government recognizes the poor state of infrastructure especially in some of the potentially productive agricultural areas. Measures that have been undertaken include rehabilitation of feeder roads, bridges, storage sheds, dams, canals, dip tanks, on-farm storage to help farmers market their produce and access inputs.

28. The Government is also developing strategies to educate small-scale farmers on the importance of constructing on farm storage facilities.

29. Zambia’s local agro-industries have raised concerns with regard to unfair trade practices with some of the trading partners in the region. However, through dialogue within the regional bodies such as COMESA, efforts are underway to level the playing field in trade and investments.

30. It should be noted that the Doha round of negotiations and the ESA-EU-EPA negotiations relating to the liberalization of agricultural commodities are still yet to be concluded. However, efforts are being made to liberalize trade in agricultural commodities within the region.

31. Zambia is encouraging farmers to diversify into production of high value cash crops such as cotton, tobacco, coffee, herbs and spices, floriculture and horticulture products. The formation of the Zambia Export Growers Association (ZEGA) is one positive effort that promotes the production and export of vegetables, horticulture and floriculture. These products have managed to enter the European market. Some small-scale farmers around Lusaka have been certified for Euro GAP and are able to export their vegetables to Europe.

32. The National Early Warning Unit was established in the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The Unit provides early warning information using monthly food security updates, alerts, Crop and Livestock Monitoring reports as well as briefings and support to contingency and response planning efforts.

33. Government continues to provide funds for the Food Security Pack Programme executed through Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM) under the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services targeting vulnerable but viable farmers.

34. Nutritional (Food mix) insecurity stems from the lack of access to an adequate diet due to the unavailability of food variety, ineffective distribution mechanisms or inadequate utilization of food at household level. Zambia is promoting diversified production and consumption of nutritious food crops.

35. Zambia is implementing the Private Sector Development Programme with the aim of improving the investment climate within the country. Within the programme, is a component on trade expansion that is looking at enhancing the capacity of the Zambia Bureau of Standards in quality testing to international best practices, strengthening the capacity of the Ministry to provide SPS services for export horticultural and livestock products.
10. As part of the strategy to improve food securities, Zambia is implementing the Fertilizer Support Programme, which was designed to improve access of smallholder farmers to inputs.

11. Rural seed supply through smallholder seed multiplication

12. The government has established the Outgrower programme earmarked to assist smallholder farmers improve their productivity and farm income. Crops supported under the programme include Tobacco, Cotton, and Coffee, Pineapples, Cashew nut, Fresh vegetables and paprika.

13. Irrigation development targeting both smallholder and commercial farmers particularly in the drought prone areas,

14. Livestock development and disease control,

15. Land and infrastructure development,

16. Research and technological development,

17. Development of Fisheries and aquaculture sub sectors

18. Winter cropping in plains is ongoing as part of the flood recovery programme

19. Commercialization of Agricultural Lands (Farm Blocks Development) aimed at rationalizing the use of the limited resources to develop the selected parts of up to 100,000 ha in each of the 9 provinces of the Country. Government is providing necessary infrastructure such as feeder roads, bridges, storage sheds, electrification, dams and canals to attract investments in agriculture. Electrification of Nansanga Farm Block is in progress and surveys are complete.

20. In the farmer selection criteria for the beneficiaries, provision to cater for affirmative action in consideration of the gender has been made by insuring that 30 percent of available small-scale farm plots shall be set-aside for women and other vulnerable groups.

21. Integrated and diversified farming at community level is one way of achieving sustainable agriculture. A number of strategies to realize sustainable food productions at community level are being implemented such as; the utilization of organic materials. In addition the promotion of suitable cultural practices such as crop rotation, improved tillage, erosion control, utilization of manure from livestock enterprises, use of homemade natural pesticides from agro forestry tree, as well as utilization of crop residues for compost manure and fodders is being undertaken.

22. Farmer field schools in rural communities have provided an effective approach to disseminating information on appropriate technologies.

23. The control of agricultural pests is critical to sustainable agricultural development. With the current challenges Zambia is facing regarding climate change, it is imperative that environmentally sound agricultural pest control programmes are implemented. In view of this, Zambia’s past research has concentrated more on cultural practices such as crop rotation, intercropping, destruction of crop residues, date of planting and harvesting, deep ploughing and the use of traps and planting barrier than the other control practices. These cultural practices have led to the reduction in the amounts of pesticides used.

24. Development of resistant varieties is another area that researchers have used as a control practice to reduce the use of pesticides. Several varieties have been and are being screened for resistance against both insects and diseases. Examples of these include the screening of tomato varieties against red spider mite a major pest of tomatoes in Zambia during the dry season.

25. In order to improve water management in agriculture, the Government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives is facilitating construction and
the rural areas. The human development situation and maternal mortality rates and malaria and HIV is now below 40 years and the country ranked 165 on the UNDP Human Development Index out of 177 countries in 2006. Zambia, therefore, needs to expand its economy at a much faster rate than the current 6 percent while social service delivery needs to be enhanced. According to the latest Zambia MDG Status Progress Report, most of the goals will not be met by 2015.

One of the major assumptions made at the time of developing the FNDP was that there would be an increase in the resource envelope based on an anticipated scaling-up of donor aid. The Plan at the time of its preparation had a financing gap of about K3 trillion over the period 2006-2010. This financing gap arises based on the recognition that for Zambia to rapidly make headway in tackling the mentioned development challenges, especially the high poverty levels and weak human development situation, there is need to step up implementation of the necessary programmes. This would require additional resources over and above the domestic resources and the baseline donor resource projections.

2.0 AGRICULTURE
Agriculture remains the key priority sector in the growth and poverty reduction agenda of Zambia. Over 60 percent of the population derives its livelihood from agriculture. Despite Zambia experiencing strong economic growth in the recent past, agriculture has not performed well. In order to fully exploit agriculture, Zambia has developed well articulated agricultural policies and strategies which emphasize objectives such as attainment of food security, maximizing farmers' incomes, promoting sustainable agriculture, and enhancing private sector roles in input and output markets.

2.1 Concrete actions taken and specific progress made in implementation
Zambia has put in place policies that provide public support and investment in agriculture with a view to creating an enabling environment to attract private sector and smallholder interest in farm production, processing and trade. The main thrusts of the National Agricultural Policy (NAP) are liberalization, commercialization, promotion of public and private partnerships, and provision of effective agricultural services that will ensure sustainable agricultural growth.

Programmes that Zambia has been implementing to achieve sustainable food production and enhancing agricultural productivity, farmers' incomes and as a response to climatic change include:

1. crop seed multiplication and distribution,
2. conservation farming,
3. Promoting "traditional" food crops such as cassava, sweet potatoes, sorghum and millet.
4. Research into high yielding drought/pest tolerant food crops such as sorghum, cassava and sweet potatoes;
5. Soil fertility initiatives to combat soil degradation through agro forestry and organic fertilizer
6. Promotion of small-scale irrigation technologies and post-harvest technologies;
7. Livestock disease control measures such as massive vaccinations, cordon line construction, livestock movement ban;
8. Provision of extension services to farmers on crops, livestock, and fisheries;
Zambia has performed well in the past few years in terms of macroeconomic management. The economy has strengthened with positive real GDP growth, featuring single-digit inflation (9 percent in 2007), a relatively stable currency, decreasing interest rates, and increasing levels of trade.

Nonetheless, the country is faced by major developmental challenges. Poverty is high at 64 percent of the population while the country’s human development situation has not improved significantly. Life expectancy is now below 40 years while infant and maternal mortality rate are still high.

1.1.1 Concrete actions taken and specific progress made in implementation
Through a national consultative process, Zambia formulated its national long-term vision and strategy for accelerating development. The national vision, commonly known as Vision 2030, is to become a prosperous middle-income economy by the year 2030. The Vision is being operationalized through five year medium-term development plans of which the current one is the Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP) 2006-2010.

The FNDP places emphasis on diversifying and accelerating economic growth beyond the current 6 percent, rural development, and human capital development. The strategic focus of the Plan is therefore “Economic Infrastructural and human resources development”. The Plan focuses on building productive infrastructure of the economy, and enhancing social service delivery.

In order to focus resource allocation, the plan has identified seven (7) priority public investment areas to accelerate development to better the lives of the people of Zambia whose population is estimated at 12 million. These areas are: agriculture, energy, infrastructure, health, education and skills development, water and sanitation, and public order and safety. These investment areas are also critical to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Inflation declined to single digit levels from 15.9 percent in 2005 to 8.2 percent in 2006 and 8.9 percent in 2007. While the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) continued to register growth rates of 5.2 percent in 2005, 5.8 percent in 2006 and 6.2 percent in 2007. Mining and construction continue to dominate the growth process, especially with the opening of major new copper mines in the North-western Province. Copper output has increased steadily since 2004, due to higher copper prices and foreign investment. In 2005, Zambia qualified for debt relief under the Highly Indebted Poor Country Initiative, consisting of approximately USD 6 billion in debt relief. Zambia experienced a bumper harvest in 2007, which helped to boost GDP and agricultural exports and contain inflation.

Other sectors that have contributed to economic growth include tourism, transport, and communications. The prevailing positive macro economic conditions coupled with good will from the donor community have increased the prospects for higher economic growth in Zambia.

1.1.2 Major constraints and Challenges
Zambia is faced with major development challenges. According to the latest Living Conditions Monitoring Survey, about 64 percent of the population leaves in abject...
Zambia in its quest to reduce poverty has articulated its long term development goals in the **National Vision 2030**. The Vision 2030 reflects the collective understanding, aspirations and determination of the Zambian people to be a ‘prosperous middle-income country’. The Vision sets the horizon for developing the medium-term plans and provides the ‘gravitational pull’ to achieve long-term objectives. It outlines in broad terms, plausible courses of action to be undertaken towards the achievement of the country’s long-term objectives and targets.

The Vision will be operationalized through five-year medium term planning instruments, which are to contain specific policies, programmes and projects, predominantly targeted towards wealth creation and poverty reduction. The first of these plans is the country’s national strategy for sustainable development i.e. Fifth National Development Plan (FNDP), which Zambia is currently implementing for the period 2006 to 2010.

The Government recognizes that wealth creation through sustained economic growth constitutes the most important element in poverty reduction and, consequently, a very high premium is being placed on growth-stimulating interventions;

The Government recognizes that redistributive policies do matter for reducing poverty and that growth and equity are not necessarily in conflict. The Government maintains that there is no intrinsic trade-off between long run aggregate efficiency and overall equity, hence its resolve to approach poverty reduction through the ‘broad-based growth’ approach. It is in this context that the Government, with civil society, has placed priority attention on sectors that both maximize growth stimulation and best address the plight of the poor, such as agriculture, education and health.

The Government maintains that the needed linkages between growth and poverty reduction can be developed in a sustainable way, through an approach that allows everyone to share the benefits of growth. Although, under the right circumstances, sustained growth does often result in poverty reduction, rising inequality adversely affects this and it is in this regard that the role of social protection is considered an important FNDP component.

This notwithstanding, empowering the poor to earn a decent living income is perceived to be a much more effective approach in addressing their plight than the often unsustainable subsidy programmes that tend to destroy the very financial and human resource bases that are expected to facilitate positive growth through productive investment.

Long periods of neglect in infrastructure maintenance due, in part, to the curtailment of development budgets in the interest of fiscal balance, resulted in the country’s characteristic deterioration of its transport networks. It is in this regard that, as one of its priorities in the national Plan; the major transport arteries that connect the countryside to the market will be focused upon to ensure basic minimum connectivity for moving poor people’s income-yielding commodities over long distances.

Under the banner of **Broad-Based Wealth and Job Creation through Citizenry Participation and Technological Advancement as its theme**, the Plan aims to target both wealth creation and poverty reduction.
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Zambia’s Report on the Various Thematic Cluster of Issues
Submitted to the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD -16),

May 2008