

UNDP Zambia

Newsletter - October 2017 (Issue 1)

Resilient nations.

Who we are

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is an agency within the United Nations system which has presence in 193 countries and territories. As UNDP, we work in partnership with Governments, UN agencies, civil society, foundations, academia and the private sector, to promote and support national development priorities through local solutions and South - South Cooperation (SSC).

As an institution UNDP commemorated its 50 years of existence in 2016 and its presence in Zambia since 1964. Our cooperation with Zambia is based on the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) signed on 14 October 1983 governing the partnership and commitment to support national development priorities.



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Climate change mitigation and adaptation Natural resource management Renewable energy

OUR VISION

To help countries eradicate poverty in all its forms, accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development, and build resilience to crises and shocks.

To attain the above vision UNDP Zambia aligns its work with national strategic documents such as the Vision 2030 and the National Development Plan. Our work is guided corporately by the UNDP Strategic Plan, the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework and our Country Programme Document (CPD) 2016 -2021. Our global presence and technical expertise bring added agility and capacity to manage risks that fulfil the role of an innovator, integrator and thought leader in development. In addition, our tested systems contribute to effective and efficient utilization of resources and delivery of development results as recognized by the international aid transparency initiative.

Our Work in Zambia

Organisationally we are structured around four distinct and yet interlinked programmatic areas, namely, environment and energy; governance and gender; poverty reduction and SDGs; and health systems strengthening for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In all our interventions we promote:

- Human rights
- Empowerment of women and vulnerable groups
- Environmental sustainability
- Inclusive growth



GOVERNANCE AND GENDER

Support to legislative and policy reforms Strengthening institutions for governance Addressing gender based violence (GBV)



POVERTY REDUCTION AND SDGs

Inclusive development Health systems strengthening Private sector development

Creating Sustainable Communities



Japanese Ambassador to Zambia, Mr. Hidenobu Sobashima , Minister -Office of the Vice President, Ms. Silvia Chalikosa , HRH Chief Mumena of the Kaonde, United Nations Resident Coordinator, Janet Rogan, North Western Province Minister, Richard Kapita during the official commissioning of the coordination office in Meheba, Kalumbila District.

October 13, 2017 saw Meheba resettlement scheme in Kalumbila District, North-Western province erupt in a hive of activity as it received high profile visitors. They came to witness several development interventions being implemented by UN agencies in Zambia through Government line ministries, international partners and civil society organisations.

Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, located in North Western and Western provinces respectively, have been designated as resettlement schemes for former Angolan and Rwandese Refugees and Zambians. The joint efforts of all stakeholders are culminating into an ambitious programme led by UNDP aimed at ensuring that the communities living in these schemes are cohesive, productive, sustainable and fully integrated into development initiatives at all levels. The importance of this high-level mission was the opportunity it accorded the Minister in the Office of the Vice President (OVP) Ms. Silvia Chalikosa and her delegation to appreciate the realities on the ground and to interact with local stakeholders including His Royal Highness Chief Mumena.

The mission further facilitated higher-level Government buy-in for subsequent positive consideration towards increased funding for the programme from local and central governments. During the visit, the Government and its development partners committed to work together to bring sustainable development to the settlements. The Minister in the OVP, Hon. Silvia Chalikosa committed Government's support to ensuring the programme's success. The UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Janet Rogan equally pledged the UN's commitment to ensure that the programme contributes towards the attainment of the SDGs in Zambia. She indicated that Zambia has continued to lead by example in living up to its international and humanitarian obligations by hosting displaced populations from neighbouring countries.

Ms. Rogan commended the Government for remaining steadfast in dealing with the needs of refugees and offering durable solutions by leaving no one behind, including recent arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

His Excellency Ambassador Sobashima of Japan reiterated his government's commitment to ensuring human security and sustainable resettlement. His Royal Highness Chief Mumena encouraged all stakeholders to work with the traditional leadership if development work was to address the real needs of the people on the ground. His remarks were supported by settlers who insisted that they should be partners and not recipients of development initiatives. The settlers thanked the Government, the UN and the Government of Japan for the support rendered in 2017.

Under this programme, UNDP has supported the Department of Resettlement under the office of the OVP to take the lead role in managing and implementing development work. Through this support, two United Nations Volunteers were recruited to work as scheme coordinators in the field. A fully equipped office and transport provisions have been set up for local governance strides. Additional facilities including water points and access roads have since been provided to support the new permanent residents and Zambians. The initial investments to support this 5-year Programme have been made by the Japanese Government, the US Government and UNDP in the amounts of \$2,087,000, \$600,000 and \$60,000, respectively.



Meheba female settler giving a presentation to the delegation on the various farming activities at the settlement.

Transforming Traditional Farming Systems into Sustainable Agriculture



Using climate information for planning and transforming farming systems

In support of the Government of Zambia's efforts to ensure that climate adaptation interventions in the agricultural sector are gender-responsive and transformative, UNDP in collaboration with FAO organized a skills development workshop in Siavonga, Zambia from 18 to 21 September 2017 on integrating gender into climate adaptation planning.

The intervention was supported by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) as part of Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans programme (NAP-Ag).

The objective of the engagement was to enhance the knowledge and skills of participants to integrate gender issues into their day to day work of planning, designing and implementing climate change responses in the agricultural sector. The participants were from the Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Gender; Ministry of National Development Planning; and the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Additional technical expertise from the University of Zambia and the Zambia Agriculture Research Institute enhanced the discussions on policy reforms, the importance of research, and evidence-based planning.

The workshop was in line with the National Climate Change Strategy which highlights that climate change poses a further burden on women due to gender differentiated roles of reproduction and production. This is further amplified in the Paris Agreement on climate change which Zambia ratified in 2016 and translated into the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). The Paris Agreement encourages countries to develop and implement national adaptation plans (NAP) for climate change in vulnerable sectors. It is in this regard, that the Ministry of Agriculture commenced this process to ensure that traditional farming systems are less susceptible to climate variations and made more resilient. As 70% of the population is dependent on agriculture, of which 60% are women, it is important that gender dimensions are included in the strengthening of the agricultural sector to bring meaningful transformation to people's lives.

"......l plan to include components on gender in trainings for agricultural extension staff – in this way we can reach the farmers"

Mr. Mulele Moses - Ministry of Agriculture

The Government of Zambia is building effective strategies that will enhance adaptation planning, protect vulnerable communities, improve agricultural productivity, and build a climate-resilient future with the technical and financial support of the United Nations system in Zambia, including UNDP and FAO.

It is not only in the agricultural sector where UNDP is providing support in relation to climate change. UNDP has been supporting stakeholder engagement and preparations for the 23rd Conference of Parties on Climate Change (COP 23) taking place in Bonn, Germany from 26th October to 19th November 2017. UNDP has provided technical advisory services on national issues to be raised by the Zambian delegation, which includes various government ministries, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector.

UNDP and the UN family look to the continued partnership to assist the Government and people of Zambia to implement the outcomes from the COP 23.



Modernising Culture and Tradition to Empower Women and Girls



Chief Chamuka Chiefdom is located about 120km from Lusaka in a rural part of Central Province. It comprises 200 villages, with approximately 40 households in which nearly half are female headed and 60% of the population is under 16. Crop and livestock agriculture constitutes the main economic activity in the Chiefdom.

Security of land tenure and gender equality are the foremost factors that undermine efforts to reduce poverty. Patriarchal norms, customs, and negative traditional practices are some of the drivers of gender inequality and unequal access to titled land between men and women. These are the main challenges in promoting economic empowerment of women. To this effect incidences of early marriages among the youths is high, especially for girls. UNDP in collaboration with other UN Agencies and financial support from Sweden, Ireland and DFID coordinated its programme interventions with Plan International, Global Land Network and National Legal Aid Clinic for Women to support community transformation in this Chiefdom.

The main focus of UNDP's support was social transformation for gender equality and women's empowerment. Elements included among others (i) capacity development of traditional authority and community leaders and securing their commitment to transform their communities (ii) change of individual attitudes (iii) change of community values, traditions, practices (iv) change of policies, legal frameworks and (v) empowerment of women for them to fully participate in national processes and contribute to the economic wellbeing of the country.

The central pillar of the interventions was individual change in attitude among traditional authority through campaigns and sensitisation programmes such as the HeForShe campaign. The traditional authorities' role as members of a district councils was central. The House of Chiefs as a convener and as a platform for sharing best practices added legitimacy to the process as well as acting as a catalyst for change.

Civil society organisations such as Plan International, National Legal Aid Clinic were best suited for grassroots interventions. The third set of interventions centered on traditional/civil authority interaction. This was essential in securing coherence between community by laws and the national legal framework, especially when considering the issuance of title deeds on customary land.

To this end community consultations and capacity development programmes included content on international Human Rights instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) Convention against Torture, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (CAT), International Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (IESCR) and national legislation. Training manuals to modernize customary and traditional courts were also prepared to facilitate coherence of traditional courts with provisions of the national legal framework and international/regional Human Rights instruments.

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Girls are encouraged to complete education before marriage

Sustainability was founded on ensuring change of personal and community value as well as establishing a codified set of community/customary by-laws which were consistent with national laws and international human rights norms and standards. Further, modernisation of traditional authority including traditional courts met community needs in their day to day livelihood activities.

The involvement of the House of Chiefs and the national Government secured the opportunity for replication. H.E. Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia as a Champion for Gender Equality was engaged to promote national innovations and achievement in promoting gender equality and equity and the elimination of gender based violence.

A major side event on addressing early marriage and eliminating gender based violence was hosted on the margins of the 72nd UN General Assembly where The President of the Republic of Zambia Edgar Chagwa Lungu, HRH Chief Chamuka and the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Janet Rogan were on hand to share experiences from Zambia and strengthening South - South (SSC) Cooperation for development. Continuous investment in advocacy and visibility of gender equality programmes is an equally viable method for securing replicability of the programme. The combined effect of visibility and advocacy programmes is that the initiatives become part of national policy frameworks and best practices shared nationwide. Study visits by traditional authorities to each other's Chiefdoms is a further measure for facilitating replication.

There are some key lessons learnt which can be attributed to the success of the programme so far. These include:

Community ownership and leadership: All aspects of the interventions were based on community leadership and ownership. The bylaws and land allocation mechanism were founded on community needs. Further, transformation of personal and community values set the foundation for success.

Strong coordination among development partners: Capacity development of the community to strengthen coordination of various development partners was an integral part of the programme.

Close collaboration with civic authorities:

Strong partnership between Government and traditional authority ensures coherence of processes and content of community products, as well as national policies and legal frameworks.



HRH Chief Chamuka is a HE4SHE Champion

Cobblestone Paving Technology -Sustainable Youth Employment



Creating livelihood opportunities for all

Under the the Africa Caribbean Pacific-European Union Development Minerals Programme, UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development (MMMD) supported a 28-day capacity building programme aimed at empowering women and youth involved from all over the country and interested in the value addition of cobblestones. The intended outcome of this initiative was to capacitate and empower women and youth in all relevant aspects of cobblestone cutting, chiselling and laying techniques as a means for employment.

This programme has brought renewed hope among young people and women of Zambia, as it is being promoted at a time when the Government through the Road Development Agency is promoting the use of development minerals (cobblestone) in road paving through various initiatives such as the Pave Zambia 2000 Project. Evidence from countries like Ethiopia, where this technology has already been adopted, has proved cobblestone paving is a viable, environmentally friendly and cost-effective way of road paving. The Government is excited about this initiative as it is a programme promoting tangible ways of value addition, a notion that has eluded many countries in Africa.

The excitement is stemming from the opportunity for the country to harness the full economic potential of the industrial minerals, construction materials and dimension stones as Zambia implements *the* 7th *National Development Plan.* For young people of Zambia who have been looking for economic opportunities, this is one opportunity that will change their lives and contribute to the attainment of SDG 1 by ensuring that economic growth is inclusive and equitable through providing livelihood opportunities and sustainable jobs. This is a huge step forward in creating opportunities that change people's lives as the country is endowed with abundant mineral resources that can be used for cobblestone technology.

".....the programme opened up my mind as we can do with the plenty natural resources in our village, yet we live in poverty". Nchimunya (25-year-old man) from Bakassa village in Lusitu

Despite Zambian youth constituting up to 36% of the total national population, of which 17.7% are male and 19% are female, they are generally left behind on many socioeconomic indicators. With this recognition, women and youth have been deliberately targeted in this programme, hence bringing forward those left behind.

This training will enable the participants to work as contractors in large construction projects where cobblestones will be adopted for road works. The programme is earmarked to benefit over $4_{,3}$ oo youth and women, who will be participating through the "return to work" initiatives that involve setting up cooperatives and small-scale companies to create work opportunities and lift people out of poverty. The aim of the return to work component is to support graduates with practical components once in the field.



Application of skills development techniques at Roma Girls School

Senior Management

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