



Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS)

Zambia Country Plan

June 17, 2024

Table of Contents

Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) Zambia Country Plan	I
Table of Contents	2
Acronyms	4
Introduction	6
A. Country Context	6
Country Overview and Priorities	6
Poverty	8
Hunger and Malnutrition	8
Agriculture and Food Systems	9
The Role of the Private Sector	10
Risk and Resilience	11
Maize dependency	11
Copper dependency	11
Climate change	12
Ukraine/Russia War	12
Cross-Cutting Topics/Issues	12
Governance	12
Gender	13
Youth	13
Partnership Landscape	14
United States Government (U.S. government)	14
Other cooperating partners	15
B. Targeting	15
B.1 Map of Zone of Influence	15
B.2 Description of Zone of Influence	16
C. Results Framework	21
C.1 Results Framework Figure	21
C.2 Results Framework Summary	22
D. Program Components	26
D.1 Programmatic Approach	26
D.2 Sustainable Production and Markets	28
D.3 Business and Entrepreneurship	28
D.4 Resilience	29
D.5 Nutrition	30

E. Stakeholder Engagement	32
F. Annexes	33
Annex 1: Stakeholders Consulted	33
Annex 2: Zambian Policy and Regulatory Frameworks	36
Annex 3: Zambian Social Safety Nets	41
Annex 4: Zambian Governance Structures	42
G. Notes and References	44
Notes	44
References	44

Acronyms

BEP	Business Enabling Project
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme
CATSP	Comprehensive Agriculture Transformation Support Programme
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
COMESA	Common Market For Eastern and Southern Africa
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DTA	Digital Transformation with Africa
EDGE	Enterprise Development and Growth Enhanced
EU	European Union
FAW	Fall Army Worm
FCDO	UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FTF	Feed the Future
FISP	Farmer Input Support Programme
FRA	Food Reserve Agency
FSP	Food Security Pack
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFSS	Global Food Security Strategy
GHI	General Hunger Index
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HDI	Human Development Index
HEARTH	Health, Ecosystems and Agriculture for Resilient, Thriving Societies
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
LSFF	Large Scale Food Fortification
ICT	Information Communication Technology
MCC	Millennium Challenge Corporation
MCDP	First 1,000 Most Critical Days Programme
MCDSS	Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
MFI	Microfinance Institution

NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NIAP	National Agriculture Investment Plan
PGII	Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment
PSDRF	Private Sector Development Reform Programme
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
ROI	Return on Investment
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SCT	Social cash transfers
SME	Small-and-medium sized enterprises
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
SUN-LE	Scaling Up Nutrition Learning and Evaluation
SUN TA	Scaling Up Nutrition Technical Assistance
UPND	United Party for National Development
USADF	United States Agriculture Development Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Program
ZADS	Zambia Agricultural Diversification Supports
ZDHS	Zambia Demographic and Health Survey
ZOI	Zone of Influence

Introduction

U.S. government interagency cooperating institutions are proud to present the Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS), Country Plan for 2024 - 2029, which seeks to improve livelihood opportunities and increase nutrition outcomes in a defined Zone of Influence in Zambia. The three objective of of the GFSS include:

- 1. Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth.**
- 2. Strengthened resilience among people, communities, countries, and systems.**
- 3. A well-nourished population, especially among women and children.**

This plan operationalizes the GFSS objectives within the current Zambian context, and is based on lessons learned from over 13 years of learning from past and present Feed the Future Zambia activities. Lessons learned that were incorporated into this plan include: 1) greater leverage of private sector resources to achieve GFSS objectives, 2) increasing the influence of women in business and households to mitigate economic stressors and climate change, and 3) utilization of new digital tools to access agricultural inputs, finance, and markets. The plan describes the innovative, global best practices that will ensure food security and promote prosperity. The plan seeks to grow and expand market-led solutions that leverage private sector resources to drive enterprise development and strengthen food systems. The plan will put financial, digital, and productive tools into the hands of Zambian entrepreneurs that will increase production and diversify the agricultural landscape that drives inclusive, agriculture-led economic growth. The plan was developed taking into account local voices and concerns, and future investments will increasingly help Zambian institutions define development objectives and pathways. Partnerships with other U.S. government agencies, programs, other donors, and the private sector are key to the implementation, success and potential scalability of this plan. This plan covers a broad geography with entrenched poverty and malnutrition, and is well positioned to increase in scale and scope as needed, to help realize Zambia's critical role as an accelerator for regional food security and agricultural transformation.

This plan includes a detailed background to set the tone for what interventions will improve food security and economic opportunities. This plan will be executed in a geographic Zone of Influence (or ZOI) in districts within the Copperbelt, Eastern, and Central provinces of Zambia (and nationally as needed), to concentrate efforts and assure the effectiveness of U.S. government investments when results are achieved. Policy reform efforts are described here in brief, but also described in detail in a separate, parallel policy priorities communication and matrix, which evolves faster, and is updated annually, compared to this plan that covers five years, from 2024 to 2029.

A. Country Context

Country Overview and Priorities

Zambia, a land-linked country of 19.6 million (ZamStats 2022) in the heart of Southern Africa, with ample water resources, a youthful population, and untapped land available for cultivation, has seen progress in addressing food security over the past two decades. Despite this, shocks to the agriculture and food systems include the effects of pests and disease, economic downturns, and climate change. More than 61 percent of the population earns less than the international poverty level of \$2.15 per day compared to 41 percent across Sub-Saharan Africa. Three-quarters of the poor live in rural areas and have a poverty rate of 77 percent (MOFNP 2022a, 48). About 75 percent of farmers are small-scale, occupy two hectares or less, and are overwhelmingly subsistence-oriented (Mwanamwenge and Harris

2017). While Zambia has made progress in food security over the past, threats from floods, droughts and recurring power outages undermine resilience-building efforts that perpetuate poverty.

While Zambia has seen years of progress, poor nutritional outcomes continue to reduce the economic potential of its people¹. Undernutrition is still the underlying cause of 45 percent of child deaths and 20 percent of maternal deaths. The 2018 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS) found that 35 percent of children under age five are chronically malnourished (stunted), while four percent are acutely malnourished (wasted) and 12 percent are underweight (ZamStats 2019). Even though 73 percent of children under six months of age are exclusively breastfed, only 11 percent of children aged 6-23 months are appropriately fed based on internationally-recommended infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. Thirteen percent of children aged 6–23 months receive a minimum acceptable diet and only 53 percent of the population can afford a nutritious diet². Significant issues of food access, availability and utilization - especially of diverse and nutritious foods - persist. USAID/Zambia's Feed the Future (FTF) program consultations with rural households revealed that crop production that exceeds household consumption is often sold to meet other basic needs. Roughly 10 percent of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) are underweight, while the proportion of overweight and obese women has continued to increase (at 23 percent) due to rapid urbanization (WFP 2022). Undernutrition and malnutrition are particularly dangerous for women and girls for a number of reasons: undernutrition weakens adolescent girls' and women's immunity to infections and increases their risk of life-threatening complications, particularly during pregnancy and childbirth.

The agriculture sector felt the impact of fiscal mismanagement resulting from the accumulation of public debt which led to the country defaulting on its sovereign debt in 2020. The country experienced significant economic stress from its high debt burden and high inflation rate³ which led the World Bank to reclassify Zambia as a low-income country after more than a decade of occupying middle-income country status (Nada et al. 2021). In addition, uncertainty about debt restructuring triggered a more than 30 percent depreciation of the Zambian currency (the Kwacha) between September 2022 and March 2023 (World Bank 2023). External debt had reached \$13 billion by 2021 (GRZ 2022, 7) and the country entered into renewed negotiations for debt restructuring when a new government took office at the end of 2021, which ended in a successful Staff Level Agreement with the IMF. While this offered some respite to the economy, a similar amount is still owed and yet to be restructured in negotiations with private lenders (Mfula 2023). Following economic restructuring efforts by the government, the country was once more reclassified to lower middle-income status by mid-2023.

The rate of population growth has been relatively uniform across urban and rural areas, with the rural population growing from 7.9 million in 2010 to an estimated 11.7 million in 2022 (3.4 percent), compared to urban population growth of 5.2 million in 2010 (GRZ 2022, 12) to 7.8 million in 2022 (3.5

¹ USAID Zambia conducted the 1,000 Most Critical Days program midline assessment last year (2022) to assess the gains/losses on a number of nutrition indicators, but the data is not yet approved by the GRZ. For this reason the data referenced in this document is from the 2018 Zambia Demographic Health Survey (ZDHS). The Mission has updated its Nutrition Strategy following the selection of the Mission's Feed the Future Zone of Influence (April 2023), the Zambia National Maternal and Child Health Summit (April 2023) and the release of the Zambia Demographic Health Survey (DHS) data (in early 2024).

² Nutritious foods are referred to as safe foods that contribute essential nutrients such as vitamins and minerals (micronutrients), fiber and other components to healthy diets that are beneficial for growth, and health and development, guarding against malnutrition. In nutritious foods, the presence of nutrients of public health concern including saturated fats, free sugars, and salt/sodium is minimized, industrially produced trans fats are eliminated, and salt is iodized (FAO et al 2022, 205).

³ Annual inflation for April 2023 increased to 10.2 percent from 9.9 percent recorded in March 2023. This means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 10.2 percent between April 2022 and April 2023. This development was mainly attributed to an increase in prices of selected non-food items. (<https://www.zamstats.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Vol-241-of-2023-The-Monthly-April.pdf>).

percent, ZamStats 2022, 7). A high population growth rate contributes to a disproportionately young population, with 65 percent under the age of 25 and about 52 percent under the age of 18 years (Population Council and UNFPA 2018, 1).

Poverty

Poverty in Zambia is concentrated in rural areas away from Lusaka and the Copperbelt provinces, where a vast majority of businesses operate and have access to the country's transportation system (ibid, 8). Rural poverty is much higher (76.6 percent) than urban poverty (23.4 percent), furthering the inequalities in terms of affordability of nutritious food.

Agriculture contributions to GDP declined from 17.3 percent in 2004 to 3.4 percent in 2022, despite the 60% of Zambians participating in the agricultural sector, indicating widespread levels of low-production subsistence farming (World Bank 2023; World Bank 2019a, 2). Agriculture workers earn almost half (\$130)⁴ in monthly earnings compared to workers in non-agricultural work (\$262). Among workers in the agriculture sector, men earned a higher monthly wage (\$138) than women (\$100) (ZamStats 2022, 117).

Poor livelihood outcomes further exacerbate existing gender inequalities, with 78 percent of women compared to 69 percent of men engaged in agriculture (MAL 2013), and young women between the ages of 15-24 were most likely to have remained in informal agricultural sector jobs (Mwanamwenge and Harris 2017, 37). While women are an important part of the agricultural labor force, their roles are often limited to home production or assisting men due to their role in household work and child-rearing, making them less likely to receive a cash income (JICA 2016, i). Due to their comparatively lower access to assets, inputs and land, women-headed households have an average of two-thirds of the agricultural production of male-headed households and own half the amount of livestock (ibid, 20).

Hunger and Malnutrition

Zambia's most recognized form of hunger is undernourishment from low caloric intake. The most acute forms of undernourishment occur seasonally during low agricultural production periods (annually between December to April, WFP 2022, 13) right before the maize harvest, when households have run out or are running low on maize stocks from the previous season (Mwanamwenge and Harris 2017, 2018). Despite this, "the prevalence of undernourishment in Zambia has dropped from 38 to 31 percent from 2014 to 2020, indicating an improvement in hunger outcomes (FAOSTAT)."

In Zambia, 58 percent of children under five are anemic, and anemia among women of reproductive age also remains high at 31 percent (including 41 percent in pregnant women and 28 percent in breastfeeding women, UNICEF n.d.). According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity analysis in September 2021, covering the period from July to September 2021, about 1.18 million people in Zambia were facing high levels of acute food insecurity, classified as Crisis (IPC Phase 3) with 77,938 people being most affected in Luapula, Lusaka and Western provinces (IFRC 2021).

Factors that contribute to these nutrition problems include limited knowledge of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices, poor access to nutrient-dense foods, inadequate dietary diversity, the low reach of high-impact nutrition interventions and services, high burden of infectious diseases, and poor hygiene and sanitation. Lack of access to and availability of health services is also a contributor to poor nutrition outcomes. Failure to access health care and/or health facilities may reduce

⁴ The figure was converted from ZMW to USD using the prevailing Bank of Zambia exchange rate on December 28, 2023 where USD1 = ZMW25.787, accessed on December 28, 2023 (<https://www.boz.zm/historical-series-of-daily-zmw-usd-exchange-rates-zmw.htm>)

women and children's nutrition status from mild to severe in some cases. Untreated disease or poor nutrition weakens the body making it vulnerable to other diseases, and infertility.

Access to a nutrient-sufficient diet varies regionally in Zambia. Meeting the nutrient needs of a five-person household in 2021 cost \$1.72 per five-person household per day. Meeting only energetic (caloric) needs costs \$0.57 (WFP 2021, 8). Nutrient-sufficient diets are more expensive to access in rural areas than in urban areas, and half of all Zambian households cannot afford a nutritious diet (World Bank 2018, 184). Only 13 percent of children below two years of age are fed a minimum acceptable diet nationally, while children in urban areas (18 percent) are more likely to be fed a minimum acceptable diet versus those in rural areas (nine percent, ZamStats 2019, 184).

Agriculture and Food Systems

The majority of farmers in Zambia are engaged in low-production subsistence agriculture. As mentioned above, 60 percent of Zambians rely on agriculture for their livelihoods (World Bank 2019a, 1). Small-scale farmers represent the vast majority (approximately 90 percent) of Zambia's agricultural producers; most are subsistence producers who rely on rain-fed agriculture and with limited technical capacity and low use of mechanization. As such, the agriculture sector only contributes 3.4 percent to the national GDP (World Bank 2023). According to the 2021/2022 crop forecast survey results, maize is the most commonly produced crop, followed by soybeans, wheat, groundnuts (peanuts) and sweet potatoes (MoA 2022). In the livestock sub-sector, cattle, poultry, goat and sheep husbandry is practiced by over 1.7 million households (Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock 2022, 20). The fisheries sub-sector is growing, largely due to an increase in aquaculture production which doubled between 2015 and 2020 from 22,753 MT to 45,670 MT (Mulenga et al. 2021, 37).

In 2022, only 4.7 percent of the total national budget was allocated to agriculture, which is less than half of the 10 percent target set by the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), to which Zambia is a signatory. The majority of the GRZ agriculture budget supports the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) and Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP). In 2023, for example, contributions to FRA and FISP made up 80 percent of the Zambian agriculture budget. In contrast, agriculture research and extension comprised one percent of the agriculture budget—up from a low of 0.25 percent from the previous year. FISP and FRA programs and expenditures emphasize maize production, resulting in little to no investments in other nutritious foods that translate more directly to improved nutrition. Even though households have a higher caloric intake with maize production, their diets often lack protein, vitamins and other minerals needed to avoid malnutrition (World Bank 2018, 68-69). Government interventions in input supply and maize marketing distort agriculture markets, and limit investment. The FISP interventions resulted in the government directly engaging in market activity by sourcing and distributing inputs, crowding out the private sector that could fill these functions. The FRA also plays a distorting role, not only as the main buyer of the annual maize harvest but also in determining its market price, therefore dictating dynamics in the output market, which disincentivizes private investment (Chitumbo et al., 2023, 43).

A major constraint to agricultural livelihoods is limited farmer access to productive assets such as capital, irrigation and innovations like mechanization and use of digital tools. Lack of access to finance makes it difficult for farmers to improve the management of their farms to increase productivity. While most banks are in either Lusaka or the Copperbelt, farmers are often unable to access financial institutions, interest rates are prohibitively high (World Bank 2018, 9) and collateral requirements are prohibitive. The lack of developed cold chains reduces investment in the poultry and horticulture sectors, limiting a diversity of production. Cold chain limitations also increase post-harvest losses. Improved coordination and organization among farmers is also needed to support farmers' bargaining power, access to financial services, market linkages, and extension services (Mwanamwenge and Harris 2017, 17). In Zambia, demand for use of digital tools is growing, but limited access, particularly in rural

areas, along with low skills, especially among women persists. Only 5.2 and 28.1 percent of Zambians in rural versus urban areas, respectively, have ever used the internet, and only 20% of ICT students in four top Zambian universities were women in 2022 (USAID, Digital Ecosystem Country Assessment, 2022). Greater use of digital tools has far reaching potential to improve skills and knowledge of agriculture input supply, agronomic practices, finance, and market connections.

Underdeveloped energy infrastructure and poor management of the electrical grid reduces production and competitiveness of the agriculture sector. Zambian hydropower has been directly affected by disruptions due to reduced rainfall. In late 2022, power blackouts increased to as much as twelve hours a day as the country could deliver only 40 percent of its 1,080 MW capacity, hampering economic activities across several sectors, including agriculture. The government has been seeking private sector investment to implement solar projects throughout the country to reduce the energy poverty gap, recognizing the need to diversify Zambia's energy grid (Sparkman and Tobin 2023). Investing in energy infrastructure in agricultural production hubs is key to supporting the growth of the sector through the expansion of irrigation networks, agro-processing facilities, cold storage, and use of digital tools.

Investments in agricultural research and extension have the potential to make significant contributions to improving production and income. Diversification of crop production provides an opportunity to further improve the export value of food products while adding to the availability and affordability of nutritious foods. Given the now endemic status of the fall armyworm (FAW), regularly stressing food supplies, more resources should be allocated towards pest control research and extension. Zambia investments in extension, research, and nutrition education are lacking, with most programs being funded by international sources (Mwanamwenge and Harris 2017, 16). Recommendations for improved soil fertility management, appropriate technologies, and water usage are necessary to improve production without incentivizing further deforestation. The private sector remains an important partner in improving agricultural productivity through establishing demonstration plots, expanding the last-mile distribution of inputs, and providing agriculture extension, which all contributed to the increased application of quality inputs and adoption of good agronomic practices among farmers over the past 15 years (ibid). A policy environment that enables the successful development, commercialization, scaling, and trade of agricultural innovations is also critical to make sure that improved technologies and approaches can reach farmers via both the public extension system and private-sector-led dissemination models.

The Role of the Private Sector

Development of the private sector and investment in Zambia is limited by poor infrastructure, a bewildering licensing and taxation regime, high interest rates, lack of good regulatory practices, ongoing corruption, and GRZ interference in markets, among others. While the election of the New Dawn Government in 2021 promised an improved business enabling environment, major improvements have not been seen. Intermittent GRZ support for the Public Private Dialogue Forum (PPDF) has seen some improvements in high level messaging, but at the working level in many ministries, very little progress has been made. The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA, under the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Industry) and the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (under the Ministry of SMEs) have the primary GRZ role of supporting private sector development (CEEC, Siame 2012, 13). The ZDA helps the agriculture sector by enabling local and foreign investors access to domestic and foreign markets that comply with national regulations. The CEEC supports advocacy and growth of private local micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) by offering finance, business services and market facilitation. Zambian government support for these institutions continues to address challenges of the private sector, but many remain. A recent study found that the private sector had concerns about the business registration process, tax policies, immigration regulations, investment policies, licensing and import and

export procedures (ILO 2020, 3). These concerns severely limit foreign direct investment, including in the agricultural sector.

The country's performance improved as a result of reforms over the past decade. Zambia was among the top five African countries in the World Bank's 2019 Enabling the Business of Agriculture Index, with a score of 63.7 out of 100, same as South Africa (63.7), and only trailing behind Kenya (64.8) and Morocco (64.2). The country performed well on seed supply (Zambia is a major agricultural seed producer and exporter in the region), water supply, fertilizer use, sustaining livestock, trading food and accessing finance. Use of machinery and use of plant health protection measures scored low (below 50 percent) (World Bank 2019c, 83). Unfortunately, Zambia's corruption perception index fell from 38 to 33 out of 100 between 2016 to 2022, indicating that the level of corruption went up over this period which impedes private investment (CPI website).

The USAID-supported PPDF, established by the Zambian government, is an important platform that enables engagement between public and private sector stakeholders in various sectors, including agriculture. The Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) advocates for the interests of farmers and other sector actors across the country through its national secretariat and district and provincial farmers' union offices. The ZNFU has several affiliates representing specific sub-sectors from crops to livestock, fisheries and aquaculture. Other notable organizations that contribute to the national agriculture dialogue include the National Union of Small Scale Farmers (NUSFAZ), Zambia Association of Manufacturers (ZAM) and the Zambia Chamber of Commerce, Trade and Industry (ZACCI).

The private sector plays an important role in providing financial services to the agriculture sector but access to formal finance remains a challenge, across all sectors of the economy. A 2023 report found that 64.6 percent of adults involved in the agriculture sector have access to informal finance but access to finance through formal institutions remains low (Mwansa 2023, 11). Interest rates in Zambia remain exceedingly high, which limits agricultural SME participation in financial services.

Risk and Resilience

Maize dependency

Zambia's dependence on maize as a staple food makes the nation vulnerable to climate and pest shocks because of the predominance of the maize monoculture (crop loss from pests like FAW can be devastating). With the delayed onset of the rainy season and unpredictable rainfall exacerbated by climate change and depleted soil fertility from monoculture cropping and poor agronomic practices, productivity remains at further risk. Due to such a high reliance on maize, a drought-prone crop, drought years significantly impact smallholder farming households' income and consumption (Diwakar et al. 2021, 21). Higher fertilizer and fuel prices, due to the pandemic and Russian invasion of Ukraine, have recently highlighted productive vulnerabilities and the need to diversify away from maize, to crops that contribute positively to soil fertility and are adapted for Zambian soils. Monoculture maize production, supported by the Zambian FISP input program, has incentivized production of a crop that has high water and fertilizer needs. To build resilience in the agriculture sector, Zambia should diversify its agricultural production towards drought resistant crops that improve soil fertility.

Copper dependency

Zambia's economy relies heavily on extractive industries led by copper production, which contributed approximately 14 percent of the nation's GDP between 2014-2019 (Oxfam 2021, v). Copper is responsible for 70 percent of Zambia's exports and high global copper prices limit incentives to develop the agriculture and manufacturing industries (World Bank 2018, 7). As part of the government's economic transformation agenda, expanding the range and quality of exports is being prioritized. This would require a shift away from exporting raw minerals to promoting local value

addition across all commodities and industries, reducing vulnerability to external shocks in commodity prices (GRZ 2022, 35).

Climate change

Climate change has increased the frequency and severity of extreme weather events such as droughts and floods (Feed the Future 2019, 22). Climate shocks have negatively impacted economic performance, contributing to poor performance in the energy and agricultural sectors. Although Zambia has ample water resources that could be exploited through investments in irrigation, widespread reliance on rain-fed farming systems remains. An estimated 48 percent of smallholder farmers cultivate three or more crops while 14 percent only grow maize (World Bank 2019, 41) which puts them at higher risk of crop failure in the event of drought. Already, droughts and floods are causing damage to livelihoods in the agricultural sector (MAL 2013, 28). Parts of the country have experienced severe droughts since 2018, which have disproportionately impacted smallholders who rely on rain and surface water to irrigate crops and maintain livestock (WFP 2020, 3). In addition to damage to plants and animals, droughts and floods also contribute to negative health outcomes through water-borne, food-borne, and vector-borne diseases, such as cholera.

Adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices and technologies among producers is currently low. A 2019 World Bank survey found that only 7.8 percent of smallholder farmers practice minimum soil disturbance practices (2019a, 35). Approximately 59 percent of smallholder households in Zambia leave their crop residue in the field, either as a form of mulch or for livestock grazing. These soil management practices increase moisture retention in the soil and protect against erosion. An estimated 23 percent of smallholders produce fruits and vegetables, and less than 10 percent practice legume rotation and intercropping which increases soil nitrogen, builds soil structure, and reduces pest and pathogen pressure, among other benefits (ibid, 37- 38).

Ukraine/Russia War

Global food, fuel, and fertilizer prices, already high due to the COVID-19 pandemic, increased due to supply chain constraints associated with Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Global export bans responding to supply insecurity also exacerbated price inflation. The surge in fertilizer prices is expected to continue lower agricultural productivity and is the largest contributor to the loss in agricultural GDP. From 2022-2023 the cost of fertilizers and agrochemicals in Zambia rose more than 40 percent, pressuring small farmers to reduce the amount of land under cultivation (IPC 2022).

Cross-Cutting Topics/Issues

Governance

Zambia has made progress on the governance landscape through the enactment of public procurement and public financial management laws and regulations to improve transparency and accountability, although implementation remains a challenge (MOFNP 2022a, 66). Of note, the 2021 election of the United Party for National Development (UPND) saw increased interest in developing the private sector and addressing corruption. The government move, through the 2022 budget, to improve service delivery at the sub-national level by decentralizing financial planning and management through the increase in allocations to the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) has started showing results in the health and education sector. The change in political leadership in 2021 showed signs of increased political will to transform the rural economies and agricultural sector through a shift away from central government planning to empowering local authorities to drive development. This move is meant to improve local participation in decision-making by engaging local leadership (Transparency International Zambia 2022, 4). For example, local authorities' budgets increased from \$81 million to \$312 million, with CDF allocations receiving a major boost from \$13.4 million in 2021 to \$215 million in 2022 (MOFNP 2022b, 296). However, CDF is still a 'one size fits all' program which allocates resources

equitably irrespective of the local need based on population, level of development, quality of infrastructure, ability to manage finances, etc. In 2023, local media reported closing political space as opposition politicians and actors have been harassed by the UPND cadres and the government curbing on opposition rallies as they begin preparations for the August 2026 elections.

Gender

Women are critical actors for improved nutrition and crop diversification because they are often the primary non-staple crop farmers in their households and communities (Mwanamwenge and Harris 2017, 17). Additionally, women's education and decision-making power in household food expenditures can bolster demand for nutritious foods and health service uptake. Unfortunately, many GRZ extensionists are men, and women prefer to work with women, so information transfer to women can be limited (Farnworth and Munachonga 2010). Consequently, gender-sensitive approaches to nutrition education, access to agricultural input vouchers and extension are necessary to reduce existing gender inequalities and make diverse diets available, affordable, and desirable (ibid).

Although men are often landowners, women provide most of the agricultural labor by performing tasks such as planting, weeding, harvesting, and post-harvest handling. However, women have limited participation in household decision making, crop marketing, and are less likely to receive loans (FAO 2018, 28). Customary law in many cases in Zambia does not provide significant land rights to women, and even when it does, policy implementation is not always effective. Women have a harder time meeting the collateral needs that financial institutions demand for loans. Higher poverty levels and lower education levels are often cited as reasons for women's lower access levels (Ministry of Gender 2019, 71). However, state-owned land is required by law to be distributed equally among women and men. Studies show that access to state-owned land improved in the last five years. In 2017, 12,103 land title offers were conferred to men, while women only received 5,289 offers. By 2019, the situation had improved, with men receiving 16,715 land title offers compared to women receiving 8,883 titles (ibid, 72). Food systems in agriculture and gender-based violence (GBV) are inseparable. Attention should be drawn to the ways that food insecurity and women's experiences of hunger are impacted by violence, especially in local communities. By addressing GBV in the agriculture-food system, victims can negotiate a way out of violence against them. Additionally, reducing GBV increases food production overall and improves food access for affected individuals and their families. Due to women's role in non-staple food production and influence on family diet, they are at the forefront of addressing climate-induced food production challenges. Women also ensure that children are fed a caloric-sufficient and diverse diet at the household level. The critical role that women play in achieving the goals of the GFSS Country Plan cannot be underestimated.

Youth

In 2020, young women and men (15 - 35 years old) made up 54.5 percent of the labor force which comprised 3.5 million individuals (ZamStats 2020, 53). Youth unemployment in 2020 was 19.9 percent, with female youth recording higher unemployment levels (22.9 percent) compared to male youth (17.6 percent) (ibid, xvii). However, rural youth had lower unemployment levels than urban youth and the majority of employed rural youth received either a primary or secondary level education (ibid, 53). There is also evidence of a gradual movement of youth out of agriculture in search of better opportunities in alternative livelihoods in both rural and urban areas. As a result, the average age of men engaged in farming increased from 36.5 years from 1998 to 40.4 years in 2010 (Subakanya 2015, 34). With sheer numbers and greater interest in and use of technology, youth energy should be further harnessed to build food systems in Zambia.

Partnership Landscape

United States Government (U.S. government)

In March 2023, Zambia and the United States, through the Department of Commerce, signed a memorandum of understanding to work jointly on strengthening the business operating environment that encourages innovation and attracts investors. Through targeted legislative reform the aim of this partnership is to support private sector-led economic growth in Zambia through timely financing and capacity building for small- and medium-sized enterprises, workforce development in priority industries, job creation, and the development of sustainable vital infrastructure. This will be achieved through commercial engagement with the following U.S. initiatives within USAID and across the interagency: Prosper Africa, Digital Transformation with Africa (DTA) and Power Africa, and support for the G-7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure (PGI). The selection of the Zambia Feed the Future Zone of Influence (ZOI) was influenced by PGI prioritization and planned development of the Lobito Trade Corridor in order to synergize and maximize the impact of U.S. government investments. The planned geographic focus is on the northern border with the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the FTF Zone of Influence was also selected in part due to the planned investments by the Millenium Corporate Challenge (MCC). The MCC is planning a second compact that addresses policy, infrastructure, and finance constraints to unleash the potential of the agriculture sector. The second compact in agriculture, slated to begin in early 2025, will focus on:

- Improving market access infrastructure for enhanced horticultural, oil seeds and legumes value chains.
- Improving access to finance for enhanced agricultural production, productivity and agro-processing
- Institutional strengthening to support agriculture production, productivity and agro-processing

Embassy Lusaka integrates all Embassy interagency resources through the Integrated Country Strategy (ICS). This strategy generally includes development objectives related to goals: 1) improving democracy and governance, 2) economic development, 3) health, 4) education, and 5) security cooperation. The GFSS country plan overlaps mainly with goals 1, 2, and 3, and Feed the Future staff help develop annual work plans under each of these goals. Through the ICS, Feed the Future Zambia will also leverage other Embassy agency resources to meet the goals of the GFSS Country Plan. The ICS development is an iterative, annual process that will help FtF meet goals that it cannot achieve working only with USAID resources, leveraging interagency resources and capabilities.

Zambia was designated by the U.S. government as a Nutrition Strategic Support Country in 2022. As part of the requirements for this designation, Zambia has developed a new nutrition plan for 2023 –2027(). The plan addresses many of the nutrition challenges identified in this plan with greater private sector involvement, including on large scale food fortification. In 2021, USAID designated Zambia a High Priority Country under the U.S. Government Global Water Strategy (GWS or Strategy). Under the 2022-2027 Strategy, USAID/Zambia will continue to work with the GRZ and other stakeholders to strengthen sector governance; address key financing gaps; increase professionalism in the sector; and increase access to area-wide, sustainable water and sanitation services in rural areas.

Peace Corps Zambia supports several livelihood activities in rural parts of the country through its network of volunteers. FTF funding currently supports grassroots level work of Peace Corps Volunteers to build resilience with communities through the Small Projects Assistance program.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USAID), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and USDA's Food Safety for Food Security program is initiating a program of work with the

Government of Zambia to support their application of Good Regulatory Practices for Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. This workstream will pilot a tool with relevant ministries on SPS measures to improve the quality and effectiveness of Zambia's policy and regulatory reform efforts to meet GFSS objectives.

Zambia was also designated as a “Democracy Delivers” priority country by USAID. The “Democracy Delivers” Initiative is meant to mobilize efforts from across USAID, the U.S. government and beyond, including policy and diplomatic support, technical assistance, potential additional funding, and relationships with the private sector, philanthropy, and other bilateral and multilateral institutions, to support partner governments and local stakeholders to demonstrate that democracy is delivering tangible economic benefits for citizens. Through Democracy Delivers, USAID/Zambia will increase access to alternative sources of fertilizer to increase production of key grain crops, under agreement with Prosper Africa’s Africa Trade and Investment mechanism.

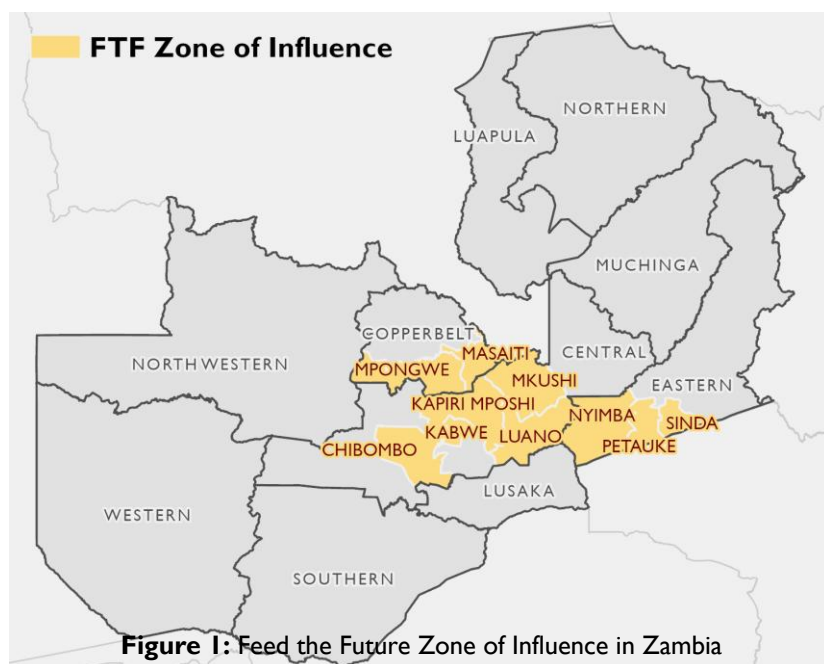
Other cooperating partners

In addition to investments and interventions provided by USAID and the U.S. government, several public, private and development partner programs have been implemented to support the growth of the agricultural sector. GRZ line ministries and agencies have implemented several donor-funded programs targeting smallholder and emergent farmers to access inputs, markets, business services, mechanization and irrigation infrastructure. USAID actively coordinates actions and support with other donors through the cooperating partner group and associated sector partner groups. Businesses are increasingly co-investing with development partners through USAID funding and platforms such as the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) business network and other collaborative platforms. The government has initiated the development of a national public-private partnership (PPPs) framework (under the PPP Act) to guide and regulate future PPPs across all sectors, including agriculture.

B. Targeting

B.1 Map of Zone of Influence

The proposed Feed the Future Zambia Zone of Influence (ZOI) comprises 10 districts spread across the Central, Copperbelt, and Eastern provinces of Zambia. The districts selected are as follows:



across the Central, Copperbelt, and Eastern provinces of Zambia. The districts selected are as follows: **Central province:** Chibombo, Kabwe, Kapiri Mposhi, Luano and Mkushi; **Eastern province:** Nyimba, Sinda and Petauke; and **Copperbelt province:** Masaiti and Mpungwe. The selection process applied four selection criteria across all districts in the nine provinces. These criteria were the level of need, the opportunity for agriculture-led growth, rightsizing to the budget, and opportunities for sustainable impact. The next step narrowed down the geographic areas by ruling out districts where 90 percent of the land area is

protected (for example, national parks and watershed protection areas). When this criterion was applied, parts of the Eastern province in the Luangwa River Basin and Luangwa National Park, similarly parts of the Central Province covered by the Kafue National Park, were eliminated from selection. Another key consideration in narrowing the scope was eliminating areas with a record of persistent drought where agricultural production is limited (many parts of Western and Southern provinces). The remaining districts were selected based on the level of need and the opportunity for agriculture-led growth. The level of need was informed by an assessment of three key dimensions: poverty, malnutrition, and hunger.

Additional considerations for the ZOI were locations covered by U.S. government-funded programs (PGI, MCC, and USAID/Zambia health investments, in particular), locations that were prioritized and covered by the government, and where local commitment is high to have a sustainable impact. Geographically contiguous areas were also preferred, and finally, the alignment of boundaries with administrative units was considered. Several districts in the Central and Copperbelt provinces have several ongoing U.S. government programs, including USAID health and nutrition programs, along with linkages to planned MCC and PGI investments, making them attractive locations for leveraging existing and planned resources and partnerships. The planned strengthening of market linkages under these programs, in particular, are attractive to Feed the Future investments. GRZ programs are generally spread out across the country. Therefore, this did not significantly influence the process of narrowing down the scope. The decision to consider administrative units at the district level meant the condition of alignment with administrative boundaries was met. In addition, the selection of ZOI took into consideration locations with ongoing or planned investments by other donors, development actors, and the GRZ. Finally, stakeholder engagement with diverse industry actors (local and national GRZ staff, the private sector, donors, community members) helped shape the ZOI.

B.2 Description of Zone of Influence

An estimated 2.3 million people live in the proposed ZOI. The extreme poverty rate is estimated at 59 percent. As in most parts of the country, the districts in the ZOI primarily rely on rain-fed agriculture, except for some commercial and emerging farmers with access to irrigation. The districts differ by their agro-ecological zones, which are divided by rainfall patterns. Zambia is divided into three major agro-ecological zones:

- **Agro-ecological Zone I** receives the least annual rainfall, less than 800mm, and covers up to 12 percent of the country's total land area. It includes parts of Eastern, Southern and Western provinces where maize, sorghum, millet and livestock farming (goats and cattle) are common.
- **Agro-ecological Zone II** covers about 42 percent of the country and receives between 800 and 1,000 mm rainfall annually. Agro-ecological zone II is subdivided into regions IIa and IIb.
 - IIa covers Lusaka, Central, Eastern and Southern provinces which produce the bulk of the country's crops with rainfall ranging from 800 – 1000mm. Small and medium-scale farmers rely on rain-fed agriculture to grow maize and other crops, while large-scale farmers irrigate their crops;
 - IIb includes the semi-arid plains of Western Province which are predominantly infertile coarse sandy and alluvial soils and receive rainfall of higher than 800mm. Households farm millet, sorghum, maize and rice in the Barotse plains and upland wetlands.

- **Agro-ecological Zone III** is characterized by 1,000 to 1,500 mm of precipitation annually and covers 46 percent of the country's territory, including Northern, Luapula, Copperbelt, Northwestern and parts of Central province. Cassava, beans and millet are commonly grown but farming is constrained by strong soil acidity caused by high rainfall (Small Scale Farmers Africa).

Provincial agriculture landscape

As described in Table 1, all three provinces have a high fertilizer use rate among farmers with the Central province recording the highest at 80 percent. All three provinces grow maize, soybeans, sweet potatoes and groundnuts but there are differences across other commodities such as sunflower and mixed beans. The Central province is the most affected by droughts and experiences the least incidences of flooding, whereas the Eastern province is the most affected by flooding. Central province leads in livestock population across all livestock types, followed by Eastern and the Copperbelt.

Table 1. Agricultural statistics in ZOI districts

-	Central	Eastern	Copperbelt
Rate of fertilizer use among smallholder farmers	81%	73%	77%
Main crops	Maize, soybeans, groundnuts, wheat, sweet potatoes, sunflower	Maize, soybeans, groundnuts, sweet potatoes, mixed beans, sunflower	Maize, soybeans, sweet potatoes, ground nuts, mixed beans
% households affected by droughts 2015-19	80%	50%	60%
% households affected by flooding 2015-19	<10%	30%	<5%
Cattle population	786,842	716,368	77,823
Goat population	759,113	420,590	207,423
Sheep population	54,543	16,331	19,913
Pig population	119,093	192,464	100,612
Chicken population	5,953,855	3,202,403	3,156,063

Sources: Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock 2022; Mulenga et. al 2021, 17; Ministry of Agriculture 2022

Central Province

The Central province has the highest number of districts in the ZOI, with more than half strategically located along the rail line, major roads, or linked to market corridors, giving them an advantage over other parts of the country. The high rainfall in the region attracts commercial and emergent farming operations. Despite this, concerning levels of poverty and stunting remain. In 2020, the whole province had a population of 2.3 million people making it the least populated among the three provinces selected for the ZOI. The Province accounts for the third highest share of people in the national labor force (10.9 percent) (ZamStats 2020, 18), after Lusaka and the Copperbelt. Up to 43 percent of this labor force is in the agricultural sector (ibid, 33). The province ranks second in youth unemployment, at 11.2 percent, among the three provinces in the ZOI. The prevalence of childhood stunting stands at 33.4 percent, while anemia among women of reproductive age is 23.8 percent. The majority (72 percent) of rural households in the province are considered vulnerable to climate-related shocks (Mulenga et. al 2021).

Table 2. Central province district profiles- poverty, stunting, food insecurity and agro-ecological zones

Location	Poverty level (Poverty headcount ratio, 2015)	Childhood stunting priority district (MCDP Phase II)?	Projected IPC Food Insecurity Classification (2023 Lean Season)	Agro-ecological Zone
National	0.60	–	–	–
Central Province	0.61	–	–	–
Chibombo District	0.73	Yes	Phase 2: Stressed	Ila
Kabwe District	0.33	Yes	Phase 2: Stressed	Ila
Kapiri Mposhi District	0.68	Yes	Phase 2: Stressed	Ila/III
Luano District	0.74	No	Phase 3: Crisis	I
Mkushi District	0.71	No	–	I/Ila/III

Chibombo, Kabwe and Kapiri Mposhi districts are all considered priority areas for addressing childhood stunting under the First Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP) as well as food security stressed areas under the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC). Although Luano district is considered an IPC Phase 3 crisis area, it was not considered a priority under the GRZ's Most Critical Days Program (MCDP). Mkushi is the only district not classified as a priority for food security interventions for childhood stunting.

Copperbelt Province

The Copperbelt Province is historically an important economic region in the country owing to significant investment in the mining sector, which produces copper, the key national export commodity. The entire province has a population of 2.8 million people and is characterized by an urban population employed by mining firms yet still maintains a significant rural population. It has the second largest percentage share of the national labor force (20.9 percent) (ZamStats 2020, 18), with less than a quarter employed in the agricultural sector (13 percent) (Ibid., 33). The province has a high youth unemployment rate (23 percent), the highest among the three provinces in the ZOI. The province is characterized by relatively well-developed road infrastructure linking people and markets, as well as a railway infrastructure that is partially functional. Development and expansion of the Lobito corridor rail into Zambia has the opportunity to grow agriculture for export along the planned route in Copperbelt Province. Poverty levels in Copperbelt are lower than in the two other provinces in the Zone of Influence and the province has a strategic location due to its proximity to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which is a major export market for agricultural commodities. Close to two-thirds (72 percent) of rural households are considered to be vulnerable to shocks, especially climate-related shocks (Mulenga et. al 2021, 10). Childhood stunting stands at 29.7 percent, with anemia among women similarly high at 29.2 percent. Neither Masaiti nor Mpongwe districts are considered priority areas for addressing childhood stunting under the MCDP, but are also classified as Phase 2 food insecurity stressed areas.

Table 3. Copperbelt province district profiles- poverty, stunting, food insecurity and agro-ecological zones

Location	Poverty level (Poverty headcount ratio, 2015)	Childhood stunting priority district (MCDP Phase II)?	Projected IPC Food Insecurity Classification (2023 Lean Season)	Agro- ecological Zone
National	0.60	–	–	–
Copperbelt Province	0.34	–	–	–
Masaiti District	0.51	No	Phase 2: Stressed	III
Mpongwe District	0.71	No	Phase 2: Stressed	III

Eastern Province

Of the three provinces in the ZOI, the Eastern province is the only one that does not fall along the rail line and is therefore not easily connected to lucrative markets in the DRC. However, the province shares a border with Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. The district conducts a considerable amount of trade along the Mwami border, which received a significant change in 2022 following government investment to create a one-stop-border trading post. The province has the second largest population after the Copperbelt at 2.5 million and accounts for 5.7 percent (ZamStats 2020, 18) of the national labor force, among whom 38 percent are employed in the agricultural sector

(ibid, 33). Among the three provinces in the ZOI, it has the lowest youth unemployment rate at 6.8 percent. It has the highest prevalence of childhood stunting at 34.2 among the three provinces, while anemia in women of reproductive age is estimated at 27.6 percent. An estimated 81 percent of households in the province are considered to be vulnerable to shocks, especially climate-related shocks (ibid, 10).

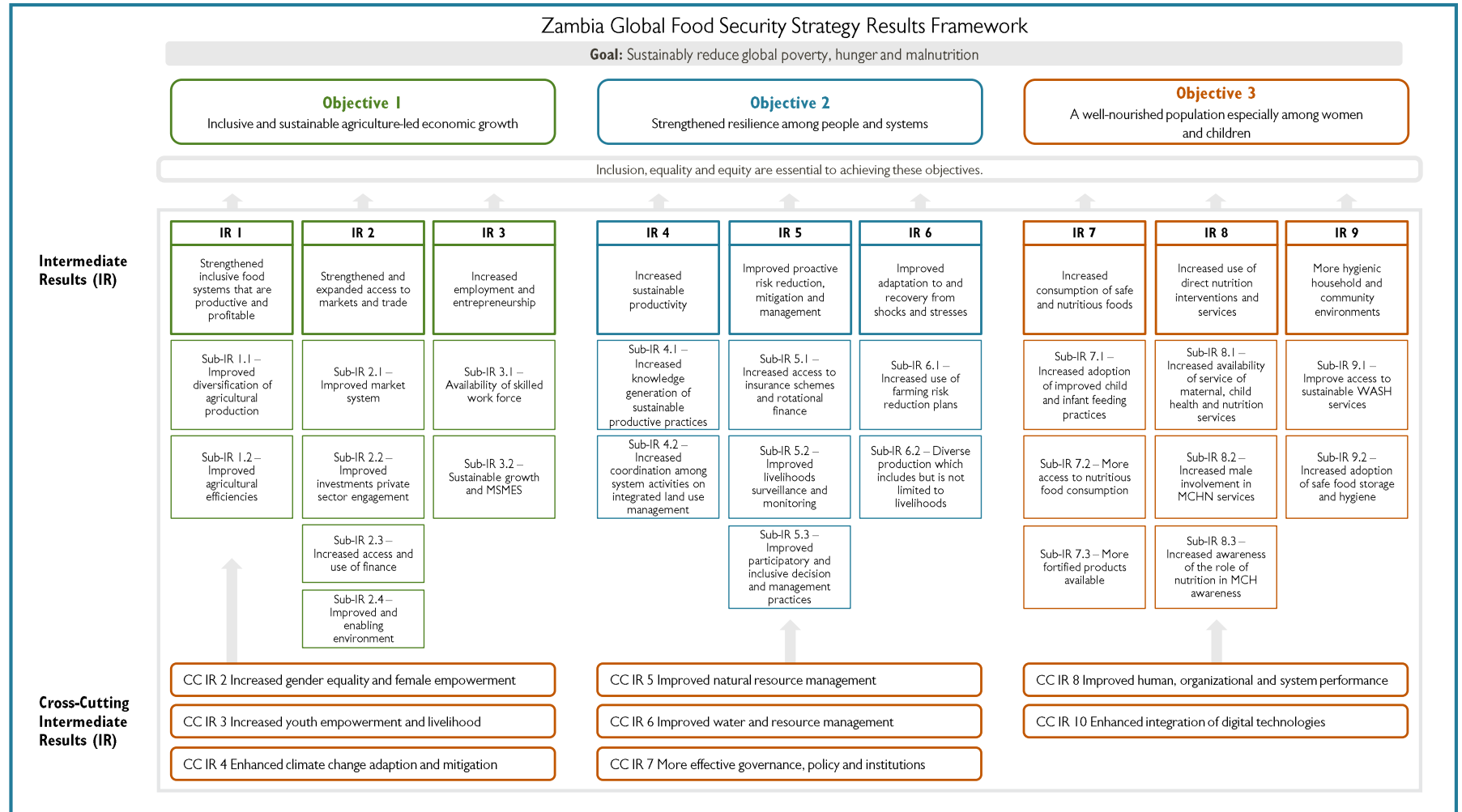
Table 4. Eastern province district profiles- poverty, stunting, food insecurity and agro-ecological zones

Location	Poverty level (Poverty headcount ratio, 2015)	Childhood stunting priority district (MCDP Phase II)?	Projected IPC Food Insecurity Classification (2023 Lean Season)	Agro- ecological Zone
National	0.60	–	–	–
Eastern Province	0.79	–	–	–
Nyimba District	0.78	No	Phase 3: Crisis	I/IIa
Petauke District	0.82	Yes	Phase 3: Crisis	I/IIa
Sinda District	–	Yes	Phase 2: Stressed	I/IIa

Nyimba and Petauke are both Phase 3 food insecurity crisis areas but only Petauke is a childhood stunting priority district. Sinda is a Phase 2 stressed food insecurity area and also a childhood stunting priority district.

C. Results Framework

C.1 Results Framework Figure



C.2 Results Framework Summary

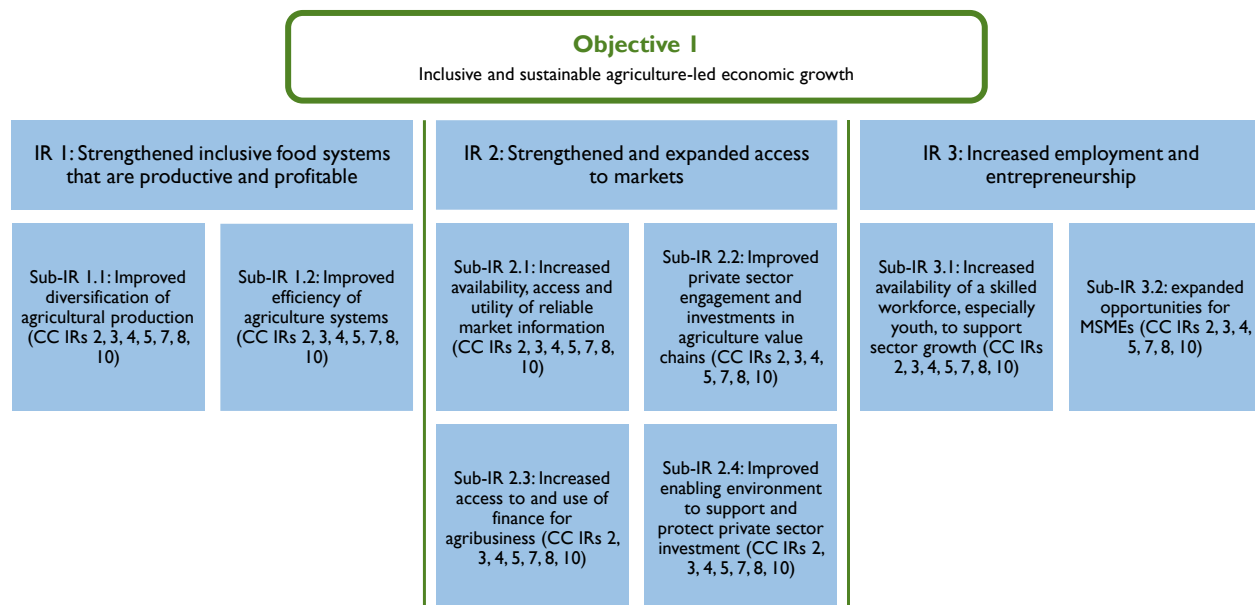
Overarching Theory of Change

By partnering with local system actors including the private sector, public services providers and community organizations to address the systemic underlying policy, regulatory and institutional constraints to economic growth the Zambia Country Plan will achieve large-scale and sustainable impact in the areas of 1) Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led growth; 2) Strengthened resilience among people and systems; and 3) A well-nourished population, especially among women and children.

Assumptions:

- The country remains politically stable and conducive to supporting development programs and policy reforms which makes it possible for the population to focus on productive work, savings and investment.
- The debt restructuring agreements are concluded and remain in place, and are honored by all parties.
- The macro-economic environment does not deteriorate.
- The GRZ maintains its commitments to cooperation with donors and other development partners.
- FTF and overall Mission funding levels are maintained during the five-year period of the GFSS Country Plan.
- Risk factors
- The deteriorating economic environment leads to households sliding further into poverty as a result of the increased cost of living.
- Climate related shocks increase in frequency and severity, thereby increasing the constraints and costs related to investing in agriculture.

Objective I - Inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth



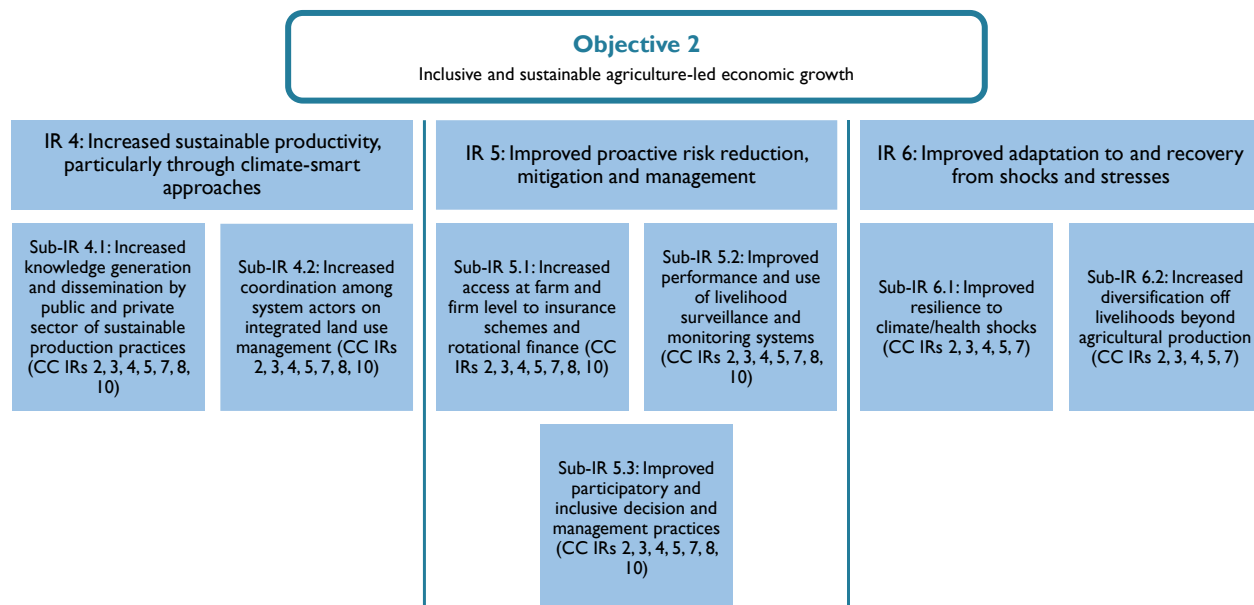
Interagency Partners: USDA, USTDA, Commerce, USAFD, Department of State, MCC, Peace Corps, PGI

If inclusive food and agriculture systems are strengthened in a way that increases productivity and profitability, while simultaneously expanding access to markets and trade, then employment and entrepreneurship will grow resulting in inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth.

Achieving the results under Objective I are driven by the following approaches:

- Diversify agricultural production and products among SMEs, with a focus on high-value crops and nutrient-rich crops which have high demand in local and international markets.
- Improve agricultural efficiencies, increase enterprise access to agricultural technologies, and invest in knowledge generation and dissemination of sustainable production practices.
- Empower women, and youth, in addition to men-owned and led enterprises to successfully participate in food systems through employment, skill enhancement, entrepreneurship.
- Increase access to finance and use of digital technologies by industry actors.
- Facilitate increased international trade.

Objective 2 - Strengthened resilience among people and systems



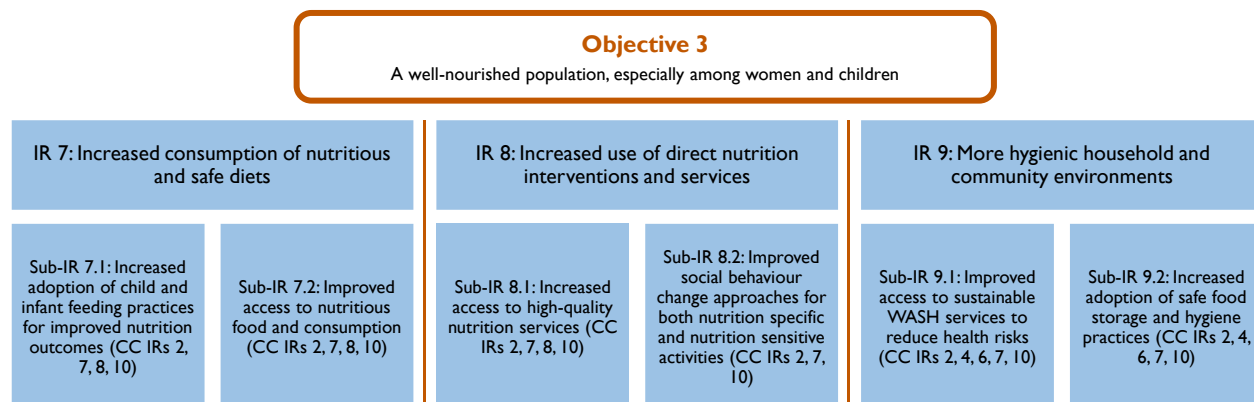
Interagency Partners: USDA, USTDA, Commerce, USAFD, Department of State, MCC, Peace Corps, PGI

If proactive risk reduction and mitigation and management of risks are improved among agricultural actors; and adaptation to and recovery from shocks and stresses is supported through context- relevant, sustainable, safety-net infrastructure; then, resilience to climate-related shocks will increase in Zambia's agricultural system.

The achievement of results under Objective 2 are driven by the following approaches:

- Increase adoption of risk reduction plans and insurance products by SMEs and producers that protect agricultural system actors against climate and health-related risks (such as weather index insurance).
- Increase surveillance and monitoring by strengthening climate and weather early warning systems and communication.
- Incentivise and increase the use of farming risk reduction plans, diversifying production (to include livestock and forest products).
- Empower men, women and the youth to participate in, use resilience-focused, private sector-led programs, processes to adapt to climate change.

Objective 3 - A well-nourished population especially among women and children



Interagency Partners: USDA, USTDA, Commerce, USAFD, Department of State, MCC, Peace Corps, PGI

If nutrition-sensitive interventions are promoted across health, agriculture, WASH, and education sectors; women of childbearing age, male caregivers, and other caregivers in the community are targeted with strong nutrition SBC messages; and access to sustainable WASH services and increased adoption of good WASH practices are increased; then, vulnerability to infectious and food- and water-borne diseases will be reduced.

The achievement of results under Objective 3 are driven by the following technical approaches:

- Leverage private sector involvement to diversify the variety of food and food products being produced, marketed and consumed. Private sector-led innovations and investments result in improved availability of nutrient-dense foods and improved access to and consumption of safe nutritious food will be prioritized.
- Support increased micronutrient fortification with targeted companies and food vehicles through Large Scale Food Fortification (LSFF).
- Reduce barriers to good practices, external influencers, and habits that will promote improved hygiene practices at household and intra-household levels to impact decision-making around food consumption and preparation. Improved behaviors not only influence consumption patterns but also reduce the incidence of food-borne illnesses. Increased consumption of safe nutrient-dense foods and decreased childhood illness will contribute to reduced stunting.

Additionally, improved access to sustainable WASH services and increased adoption of good WASH practices will contribute to a well-nourished population through reduced vulnerability to infectious and food- and water-borne diseases.

Cross-cutting intermediate results not selected:

- CC IR 1: Strengthened global commitment to investing in food security: This cross-cutting IR was not selected because FTF activities will likely have a regional impact on food security in Southern Africa, rather than a global impact.
- CC IR 9: Enhanced integration of conflict sensitivity, peacebuilding and social cohesion: This IR was also not selected because Zambia currently enjoys relative peace and stability, therefore this IR is less relevant to the next five years of FTF programming.

Contribution of the impact pathways towards achieving results pertaining to the GFSS priority areas

Impact pathways chosen under the Results Framework will contribute towards achieving results under four of the five GFSS priority areas. The GFSS priority areas not covered under the Results Framework are the integration of conflict mitigation, peacebuilding and social cohesion since these areas are less relevant to Zambia's current state of social and political stability.

Table 5. Selected GFSS Cross-cutting IRs

GFSS Priority Area	IR contributing to GFSS Priority Area
Equity and Inclusion	IR 1, IR 2, IR 3, IR 4, IR 5, IR 6, IR 7, IR 8, IR 9
An Ambitious Approach to Climate Change	IR 1, IR 2, IR 3, IR 4, IR 5, IR 6, IR 9
Proactively Counter the COVID-19 Pandemic's Long-Term Effects	IR 1, IR 2, IR 3, IR 4, IR 5, IR 6, IR 7, IR 8, IR 9
Work Across Relevant Areas of Food Systems	IR 1, IR 2, IR 3, IR 4, IR 5, IR 6, IR 7

D. Program Components

D.1 Programmatic Approach

The GFSS Country Plan is an important mechanism for directing U.S. government investments in agricultural transformation, poverty reduction and food security efforts in Zambia by improving stakeholder engagement, market systems and involvement of the private sector. The private sector is primary to the programmatic approach, and where possible will take the lead in achieving the goals of the GFSS Country Plan. The GFSS Country Plan mainstreams gender equality principles and practices, and actively addresses the barriers women face in financing household or commercial access to agriculture resources and tools, and addressing climate change. It will develop mentorship and support programs for female entrepreneurs, increase women's access to affordable credit, and support equitable membership in business organizations. Empowering women to play a more significant role in diversification of production, product marketing and trade, and increased consumption of a diverse, nutritious diet at the household level, will more efficiently address climate change and promote agriculture-led economic growth.

The plan supports the achievement of Development Objectives 1, 2 and 3 in the USAID/Zambia CDCS to promote inclusive, agriculture-led economic growth to reduce poverty and stunting. It also seeks to improve government, civil society and private sector capacity to increase access to health services, by careful layering and sequencing of activities both in the ZOI and nationally. This will be achieved by prioritizing interventions under four program components. **The first component will focus on sustainable production and markets.** This requires addressing opportunities and constraints in food and non-food agriculture production systems and related markets. **The second component is concerned with the business and entrepreneurship environment.** It seeks to facilitate private sector participation and growth in the agricultural sector by strengthening market

systems. **The third component looks to build resilience among households, communities and agricultural food systems. Component four will address issues related to nutrition, especially among women and children.** The first two program components, sustainable production and markets and business and entrepreneurship, will be prioritized in the Country Plan in terms of resources and level of effort by designing new interventions and increasing resource allocations to existing projects. The resilience and nutrition subprograms support the new U.S. government-funded WASH, nutrition and resilience activities in the ZOI, especially related to nutrition programming in Objective 3. See Annex 2 for an overview of how current programing will support GFSS interventions.

To achieve results, USAID will work with interagency partners to synergize resources for maximum impact. USAID will continue working with the State Department in strengthening diplomatic linkages, partnerships, leadership and trade facilitation with the host government and linkages to other U.S. government agencies (MCC, USADF, Peace Corps, PGI, Department of Commerce, USTDA, USDA). Key to these results, MCC will invest in the supportive infrastructure to promote production and regional trade. Peace Corps volunteers will continue to support skills transfer in the Zone of Influence at the community level. See Annex 3 for additional information on interagency activities in Zambia.

This GFSS Country Plan was developed using lessons learned from past Feed the Future investments, and incorporates innovative, global best practices to achieve results. Of note, the final program evaluation for FTF in 2017 identified SMEs, not farmers, as the most effective, sustainable participant targets for support. Since then, FTF investments have pivoted to supporting enterprises that indirectly support farmers. If FTF helps agricultural SMEs grow with finance and market connections, they will, in turn, hire more workers and buy more produce from farmers. FTF Zambia now only indirectly supports farmers by connecting them to aggregators, processors, and middle market actors. These market-based relationships that FTF supports are based on profit, and are more sustainable than the ephemeral donor-funded projects that come and go. This GFSS Country Plan for Zambia will continue indirect support for small scale farmers, by developing the agricultural enterprises that, in turn, buy from farmers.

Women are at the forefront of production of non-stable crops and make dietary decisions at the household level. Putting women up front, in terms of adapting to climate change, and improving nutrition outcomes, at the enterprise and household level, respectively, are the new hallmarks of this GFSS Country Plan. Building women's entrepreneurship, access to finance and other productive inputs will help women grow, sell, and process the food needed to support food security. Providing women with additional information on how to best feed young children, matched with increased livelihood opportunities, will lead to improved nutrition outcomes at the household level. Seeking and implementing creative, local, private sector-led solutions to grow women's businesses and improve nutrition are a key goal for the GFSS Country Plan.

Getting new and innovative tools into the hands of Zambian SMEs is also a lesson learned that is now incorporated into this plan, including greater access to and use of digital technologies, investment in climate smart value chains, finance, cold chain, improved seed varieties, among other interventions. This GFSS County Plan for Zambia builds on the many lessons learned, gets critical new tools into the hands of Zambian industry, and builds the partnerships needed to achieve the transformative goals of the GFSS.

This portion of the Results Framework is aligned with program components 1, Sustainable production and markets and 2. Business and entrepreneurship.

D.2 Sustainable Production and Markets

The U.S. Government will strengthen crop, aquaculture, fisheries, and livestock production systems and market linkages. Planned work under this program component will reduce market inefficiencies and increase production and productivity through the increased adoption of modern, climate smart agronomic practices (mechanization, irrigation, and improved seeds, among others) and increased access to markets. The program will promote more diversified production and value addition of commodities to increase availability of nutritious crops and foods; simultaneously increasing income-earning opportunities and food system resilience. The GFSS Country Plan promotes a market systems approach to strengthen coordination and information flow along various value chain actors by streamlining aggregation, processing, and marketing functions. Increased production meets domestic demand for food and non-food products while also producing goods for export to increase profits for businesses and tax revenue for the GRZ. USAID/Zambia will work with export-oriented businesses to facilitate trade activities - leveraging private-sector capital from participants - to increase trade and inclusive economic growth. USDA's work to strengthen sanitary and phytosanitary systems and measures will improve small business access to markets and trade. In particular, supporting producer adoption of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) will ensure safer and more nutritious food products and potential for access to regional and international markets. The plan will, as much as possible, promote value chains that are based on climate smart production. Agricultural production that takes into account the changing climate, i.e. is tree or shrub-based, legume-based, low or no till, and manages farm organic matter to promote soil fertility is to be promoted over existing monocultural systems of perennials. Mixed agroforestry systems are the best example of these types of climate smart systems that are profitable and resilient to drought and flooding conditions.

On policy, the GFSS Country Plan addresses systemic market failures that have led to limited investments in the agricultural sector. Reforms will ensure the agriculture sector's public financing is restructured by reallocating resources across different government functions that return GRZ back to the original core business of research, extension, marketing, and ensuring basic food security. USAID/Zambia will support meaningful reforms that are currently embodied under the Ministry of Agriculture's proposed Comprehensive Agricultural Transformational Support (CATSP, see Annex 4) program. These reforms under CATSP place the private sector in the lead on marketing and sales of agricultural inputs and commodities, among other goals. Further investments are required from both the public and private sectors in research and development, and extension services to efficiently produce, process, and deliver high-quality food products to the Zambian population. The GFSS Country Plan will also support private-sector driven innovations to increase access to finance for agricultural enterprises. The U.S. government will work in partnership with GRZ, donors, the private sector and other stakeholders to support policy and regulatory reform to achieve sector-led economic growth.

D.3 Business and Entrepreneurship

The business and entrepreneurship component will support actions under Objective I of the GFSS by addressing inefficiencies in the agricultural market system. Similar to program component I, this program component is linked to IR 2 and IR 3 because it is concerned with facilitating access to the market and contributing to increased employment and entrepreneurship. This subprogram focuses on promoting "farming as a business" at the production stage but will also engage other market actors along agricultural value chains, including input suppliers, aggregators, processors, transporters, business development services (BDS) providers, and financial and non-financial services providers. Of particular focus, supporting businesses that engage in nutritious, climate smart value chains, or otherwise support sustainable agricultural value chains for nutritious crops will be prioritized. The GFSS Country Plan will engage private sector actors to promote increased investments in agriculture value chains, including

development of cold chain and increased mechanization. This private-sector-driven growth is expected to lead to an increase in employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, especially women and youth.

Planned activities will also prioritize interventions that mainstream digital technologies which decrease transaction costs, especially technologies that expand opportunities for youth employment in different agriculture value chains. This can include promoting digital financial services for farmers to increase their access to finance, supporting market information systems to help farmers make better decisions on which crops to produce, when to harvest them, and how to sell them, and agricultural extension services that leverage communication tools to inform farmers of new products, services, and methodologies that can improve their livelihoods and community food security.

The GFSS will support actions that address the skills mismatch in the labor market by engaging agricultural sector actors and training institutions to increase the availability of a right-skilled workforce. Young women will specifically be targeted to ensure the imbalance in skill levels among them is minimized. The plan will seek to build skills for both young women and girls in addition to youth and other marginalized groups. This will be done by supporting agricultural education and skills development for young women and girls, with a focus on introducing information and communication technologies that lower training costs and increase training effectiveness.

As funding is available, the FTF team will engage the USAID Zambia Education office to codesign and implement actions that will increase the opportunities for education and training in both public and private institutions, focusing on technical vocational education and training, and make connections to real jobs in the agriculture sector. This will involve reviewing the curriculum offered by vocational training institutions and suggesting updates that match the skills needed by the private sector. This will also include using stakeholder engagement platforms such as the public-private dialogue forum to get input from employers on the skills they need to grow the sector. The skills that youth need to be employable in different functions such as production, processing, marketing, agriculture extension, transportation, business development support and others will be considered.

The Zambia FTF team will partner with new and established businesses whose models are aligned with GFSS' objectives of driving inclusive and sustainable agricultural-led growth. Interventions will be driven by ongoing or new activities such as the EDGE project that works with participating small and medium enterprises to enhance their productivity and ability to generate new jobs. Access to finance is often cited as a major constraint inhibiting the growth of agribusinesses. Therefore, restructuring agriculture finance is key to unlocking the potential of the sector. Aside from public financing, USAID/Zambia working through the EDGE and DFC loan guarantee will partner with diverse financial service providers (FSP) to increase access to and use of digital financial services among micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), particularly youth and women-run enterprises. Supporting the growth and expansion of MSMEs will expand opportunities for unemployed but educated youth, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. Actions that will increase the capacity of MSMEs to achieve financial sustainability while supporting women's equality and inclusion will be prioritized. This program component will collaborate with GRZ, donors, the private sector and other stakeholders through the ZADS, EDGE, BEP and Tradeboost projects to promote regulatory reforms and investments that support the production of safe and nutritious foods for the domestic and export market.

D.4 Resilience

This program component supports action under GFSS Objective 2 and will work to strengthen market resilience and the capacity of communities and households to adapt to shocks and stresses. U.S. government investments will be targeted at actions that sustainably increase productivity, particularly through climate-smart agriculture approaches that mitigate risk. In addition, the program will support

actions that improve the capacity of households, communities and systems to adapt to and recover from shocks and stresses. USAID/Zambia will collaborate with GRZ, donors, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders to achieve these goals. This component seeks to increase knowledge generation of sustainable production practices by public and private sector actors to ensure information and skills on climate-smart agriculture are easily available and up to date. System actors will be supported to improve coordination on integrated land use management and adopt the use of early warning systems (including GIS-based ones) to protect against climate and health-related shocks as part of risk reduction and mitigation. The use of farm risk reduction plans will be promoted among producers across different value chains to improve adaptation to climate and health risks. Promoting participatory approaches to inclusive decision-making is important when addressing the use of shared natural resources (including sensitive issues such as land use and access) in light of increased incidences of migration of farming communities away from drought-prone areas. This participatory approach also needs to address issues of access to land among women, youth and marginalized groups. Discussion platforms should make use of ward development coordination committees (WDCCs) that are inclusive of the public and private sector, civil society and other local special interest groups, including those representing youth, women and persons with disabilities.

Increasing access to insurance schemes and rotational finance requires private sector engagement to design products appropriate to the broad range of agriculture sector actors and should also be responsive to the economic, climate and health risks they face. Another important adaptation strategy will be the diversification of livelihoods beyond production to generate off-farm income across different agriculture value chains. Delivering this level of work will require close cooperation with public, private and civil society actors at the sub-national level in order to design local solutions to local problems. Actors will be required to commit to investing in and adopting technologies that will support the movement towards climate-smart agriculture. A resilient market will also use early warning system data to adapt to outside stressors while mitigating devastating loss. This program component is closely linked to actions under program components one and two with facilitation and capacity building targeting agribusinesses supported under these two sub-programs. Therefore, the GFSS Country Plan will collaborate with GRZ, donors, the private sector and other stakeholders through the ZADS, EDGE, BEP, Eastern Kafue Nature Alliance, LSFF, Luangwa Livelihoods and Conservation and Tradeboost projects to promote regulatory reforms and investments that support the production of safe and nutritious foods for the domestic and export market.

D.5 Nutrition

In line with the GRZ national nutrition strategy, this program component aims to improve nutrition to save lives, build resilience and increase incomes. This component will support actions under GFSS Objective 3 by addressing underlying causes of malnutrition, stunting and wasting. Actions under IR 1 and 2 are closely linked to this program component because increasing and diversifying food production, coupled with improved post-harvest management, will be important to improving the availability and affordability of nutrient-dense foods. However, households must ultimately make the decision to consume more nutritious foods, as well as to prioritize the diets of women and children. In support of improving consumption patterns, the program component will prioritize SBC messaging by targeting all household members to increase their knowledge of the role of nutrition in maternal and child health. Male involvement in the promotion and adoption of family health and nutrition has been identified as an important factor as men often impose a high level of influence on household spending. The GFSS will promote the increased adoption of recommended child and infant feeding practices by increasing awareness and access to nutritious food and services at the household and community levels. Increasing involvement of the private sector, specifically producers and sellers of nutritious foods, will be necessary to achieve these goals.

At the national scale with the private sector partners, FTF Zambia will work to increase the fortification of food vehicles to deliver micronutrients by supporting Large Scale Food Fortification (LSFF). Food fortification is one of the most economical interventions to control vitamin and mineral malnutrition. By making available and accessible food vehicles that contain additional amounts of those micronutrients, fortification aims to increase the intake of specific micronutrients (vitamins and minerals) that are found to be lacking or insufficient in the diet or whose additional intake may have health benefits. Working with the private sector, USAID will incentivize production and marketing of fortified foods to deliver critical nutrition to those in need.

Gains in household food and nutrition security cannot be sustained without addressing women's empowerment. Decision-making by women on access to finance and management of productive assets is a critical piece to women and children's nutritional outcomes. Embracing women's voices and addressing their needs and priorities will promote inclusion. Promoting women's access to land, financial literacy and technology will be pivotal to ensuring women have negotiating power with market players in targeted value chains. Identifying and addressing these areas of concern are fundamental to the FTF Zambia program. In particular, improving market linkages will raise household incomes and connect families with products and services that support improved nutritional outcomes.

In line with the Global Water Strategy High-Priority Country Plan for Zambia, the GFSS will leverage resources under the Mission's WASH programing to professionalize private sector WASH services, promote monitoring and accountability in service provision, and enhance the enabling environment for private sector investment in WASH infrastructure and service delivery (USAID 2021). Improved WASH services and hygiene practices are important for households and communities to reduce the transmission of food- and water-borne diseases. The GFSS plan will promote the increased adoption of food safety and hygiene practices at the community and household levels to reduce the incidence and burden of disease. Further stakeholder engagement and partnerships, especially with the private sector will be facilitated through actions undertaken by the existing USAID/Zambia projects to holistically address nutrition.

Gender Approach:

The Country Plan works with women business owners and entrepreneurs to increase and diversify products primarily of seed, legumes and small livestock for nutritional value and income generation. Women's voices in household decision-making, on expenditures and assets are strengthened through Social Behavior Change messaging.

Climate Change Approach:

The Country Plan prioritizes proactive climate-risk monitoring and mitigation, while simultaneously seeking to build the necessary safety-net infrastructure that would enable people and institutions to more positively absorb and adapt to shocks.

Localization Approach:

The Country Plan emphasizes locally-led implementation, partnerships and actions. Interventions will be designed with key stakeholders at both national and subnational levels from the public and private sectors, civil society and special interest groups representing women, youth and persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups -- in line with both the Agency's Localization Vision Paper and the Mission's Localization implementation plan.

E. Stakeholder Engagement

The GFSS Country Plan has been developed following a series of consultations with stakeholders representing the public and private sectors, local and international development organizations, academic, community, and civil society organizations, among others. To date, stakeholders have been engaged at both sub-national and national levels. In April 2023, national stakeholders were convened to solicit input towards the development of the Zambia GFSS Country Plan. Further consultations with potential program participants, private sector groups and public officials were held in the ZOI in May 2023 to incorporate additional perspectives and priorities in the planning process. The FTF team is an active member of Cooperating Partners (CP) groups that convene international donors supporting various sectors including agriculture, nutrition, WASH, environment and climate change, and private sector development. Key among the international donors that participate in the CP group are Sweden, Ireland, Germany, the World Bank, the EU and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The FTF team participates in the CP working groups for agriculture, energy, WASH, environment and nutrition. Existing national collaboration platforms will be leveraged to foster partnerships and coordinate complementary interventions under the Country Plan. Through the Business Enabling Project, the FTF country team initiated a national private sector engagement platform, the Public-Private Dialogue Forum (PPDF) that brings together public and private sector actors to discuss opportunities and constraints to collaboration and investment in sectors aligned with the national development agenda. These partnership platforms serve as important mechanisms for coordinating development support to the national government and the private sector and coordinating planned interventions at the sub-national level.

Sub-national level engagement will be important to providing targeted support as the GRZ rolls out its decentralized governance approach. The Constituency Development Fund (CDF) is a key instrument used by GRZ to finance development programs across all constituencies in the country which also feed into district development plans (see Annex 5). Therefore, collaboration with district authorities that was initiated during the GFSS Country Plan development process will continue to be an important mechanism for coordinating the implementation of program components. Stakeholder engagement will start from the bottom up, through ward development coordination committees (WDCC) up to provincial development coordination committees (PDCCs, see Annex 6). The national and sub-national engagement platforms mentioned represent a cross-section of actors from the public and private sector and civil society, including women, youth, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups. The FTF coordinator will facilitate quarterly GFSS meetings with Mission leadership and interagency partners to ensure cross-sectoral coordination of FTF resources and programming.

F. Annexes

Annex 1: Stakeholders Consulted

Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and associated Community Members

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
- Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission
- Zambia Development Agency
- Zambia Commodity Exchange
- Ministry of Health
- Kabwe District Council
- Chibombo District Council
- Kabwe District Administration
- Chibombo District Administration
- Kapiri Mposhi District Administration
- Lufwanyama District Council
- Mpongwe traditional leadership
- Petauke District Administration
- Petauke District Nutrition Coordinating Committee
- Nyimba District Administration
- Nyimba traditional leadership

Local NGOs

- MUSIKA
- Financial Sector Deepening Zambia
- Emerging Cooking Solutions
- Programme Against Malnutrition
- Prospero
- Public Private Dialogue Forum
- AGS programme
- Programme Against Malnutrition
- Lima Links
- Academic and research institutions
- Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research
- Indaba Agriculture Policy Research Institute

Other partners

- Madalitso Savings Group
- Mizyu Women's Savings group

Private sector

- SARO AGRO/TATA
- Wattles and Combs
- ABSA
- Zambia Seed Traders Association
- BAYER
- MKP Farms
- Community Markets for Conservation
- AGCO
- Association of Microfinance Institutions in Zambia
- American Chamber of Commerce
- Zambia Industrial and Commercial Bank
- Good Nature Agro
- 260 Brands
- Mt Meru
- Tan'isha Farm
- Gibegeli Millers

International organizations

- TechnoServe
- Care International
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- Action Against Hunger
- AGRA
- CIMMYT
- KFW
- Self Help Africa

Farmer organizations

- Kabwe farmers group
- Mpongwe District Farmers Association
- Petauke District Farmers Association
- Nyimba District Farmers Association

- Petauke Chilima Nyama Cooperative
- National Union of Small-Scale Farmers
- Chibombo farmers group

Annex 2: *Zambian Policy and Regulatory Frameworks*

Vision 2030

The vision is the overarching development blueprint for the country launched by the government in 2006. It outlines the country's aspirations for becoming "A prosperous middle-income nation by 2030". To achieve middle-income status, Zambia's socio-economic development objectives are:

- I. To attain and sustain annual real economic growth rates of between 6 and 10 percent;
- II. To attain and maintain a moderate inflation rate of 5 percent;
- III. To decelerate the annual population growth rate from its 2005 rate of 2.9 percent to a rate of less than 1.0 percent over the next 25 years;
- IV. To reduce national poverty headcount to less than 20 percent of the population; and,
- V. To reduce income inequalities measured by a Gini coefficient of less than 40;
- VI. To provide secure access to safe potable water sources and improved sanitation facilities to 100 percent of the population in both urban and rural areas.

The Vision outlines a path to development that entails a progressive migration of labour from agriculture (primary) into industrial (secondary) and finally into services (tertiary) sectors. Increasing labour productivity plays an important role in the growth envisioned by the plan. First, improving labour productivity is planned in the agricultural sector, and subsequently in the industrial sector which releases labour to the tertiary sector. Eventually, the transformation of the structure of the economy will move from an agricultural-based (primary) to an industrial-based (secondary) economy. The transformation of the agricultural sector into an economic driver that is efficient, competitive, sustainable and export-led to assure food security and increased incomes by 2030 will be achieved by the following goals:

- A. Increase agricultural productivity and land under cultivation by 2030;
- B. Increase exports of agricultural and agro-processed products by 2030;
- C. Preserve the agricultural resource base by 2030;
- D. Increase land under cultivation to 900,000 hectares by 2030;
- E. Increasing land under irrigation to 400,000 hectares by 2030;
- F. Increase agricultural machinery, tractors per 100 hectares to 2 by 2030;
- G. Increase livestock population to 6,000,000 by 2030;
- H. Increase fish population to 300,000mt by 2030.

Eighth National Development Plan (2022-2026)

The 8NDP has an overall goal of achieving economic transformation and job creation. It identifies three strategic development areas: human and social development; environmental sustainability; and good governance, which are important pillars in achieving the goal. The agricultural sector is considered one of the key economic drivers, alongside manufacturing, mining and tourism. The agricultural sector supports actions under Development Outcome 1: An industrialized and diversified economy which falls under Strategic Development Area 1. Improved health and nutrition outcomes are covered under Strategic Development Area 2 while climate adaptation and natural resource management falls in Strategic Development Area 3. Strategic Development Area 4 focuses on improving the national policy and governance environment, rule of law and socio-economic justice.

National Agriculture Policy (2012-2030)

The policy was developed to align with the country's Vision 2030 to develop, "A competitive and diversified agricultural sector driven by equitable and sustainable agriculture development".

The goals of the agricultural sector are:

- 1) To increase the annual growth rate of the real GDP;
- 2) To increase the value and growth rate of crop exports;
- 3) To contribute to the reduction of poverty and food insecurity in rural and urban areas.

Policy objectives:

- I. Promote sustainable increase in agricultural productivity of major crops with comparative advantage;
- II. Continuously improve agricultural input and product markets so as to reduce marketing costs of, agribusiness, including small-scale farmers and farmer groups;
- III. Increase agricultural exports to preferential markets at regional and international levels;
- IV. Improve access to productive resources and services for small-scale farmers, especially women and young farmers, in outlying areas to enable them to increase production of staple foods, including fruits and vegetables, for own consumption and the surplus for income generation;
- V. Continuously strengthen public and private sector institutional capabilities to improve agricultural policy implementation, resource mobilization, agriculture research, technology dissemination, and implementation of regulatory services.

National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy

The fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector contributes about 3.2 percent to the agriculture gross domestic product and provides incomes to over 1 million Zambians. Although the country is classified as water-rich, compared to most African countries, fish production and productivity fall significantly short of the minimum required thresholds to deliver profitability, food security, nutritional needs, job creation and poverty reduction among fishers and fish farmers. To address these issues, the policy was launched in 2023 and identified seven key objectives:

- A. To promote sustainable fish production and productivity;
- B. To strengthen fisheries and aquaculture extension service delivery;
- C. To strengthen research and development in fisheries and aquaculture;
- D. To enhance market linkages for fish and fish products;
- E. To improve and maintain aquatic animal health;
- F. To prevent and mitigate environmental degradation; and
- G. To mainstream cross-cutting issues in fisheries and aquaculture.

National Livestock Policy

The policy, launched in 2020, was the first specific policy on livestock development in the country. It promotes sustainable livestock development through the expansion of extension and advisory services, improving value addition, improved livestock restocking through improved breeding

and breed multiplication through management of animal genetic resources. The policy also promotes the scale up of the “one livestock unit per rural household programme” and the “pass-on-the-gift scheme”.

The policy also sets out to improve awareness of national animal health and welfare standards while also promoting indigenous knowledge and practices in the management of animal diseases.

The sustainable development of the sub sector will be guided by 8 objectives:

- A. To promote sustainable livestock production and productivity;
- B. To promote established standards and quality of livestock, livestock products, and by-products;
- C. To strengthen livestock Research and Development;
- D. To promote sustainable management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources;
- E. To improve the animal welfare and livestock production environment;
- F. To improve animal health service delivery;
- G. To improve the management of rangelands and livestock water resources; and
- H. To establish a Livestock Information Management System (LIMS).

National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

The policy was developed to align with the 8NDP plan period and focuses on the link between household food security and nutrition and national development progress. It is further aligned with the priorities outlined in the Global Nutrition Report of 2021 that highlights key steps required to be taken in order to achieve global food and nutrition SDG goals related to the elimination of all forms of malnutrition notably undernourishment, chronic undernutrition, acute malnutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity and their consequent conditions by 2030.

The plan identified nine Strategic Operational Objectives:

OSD 1: Operationalizing the already planned phase 2 of the 1st 1000 Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP 2) that involves continuous revision, improvement and scaling up efforts in newer districts using the most effective models.

OSD 2: Increasing Availability, Accessibility and Use of Nutritious Foods

OSD 3: Addressing the Dangers of Micronutrient Deficiencies in the General Population and Particularly Vulnerable Groups:

OSD 4: Early Identification, Treatment, and Follow-up of Acute Malnutrition

OSD 5: School Health and Nutrition

OSD 6: Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion to Prevent Environmental Enteropathy

OSD 7: Nutrition and HIV/AIDS

OSD 8: Nutrition-related Non-Communicable Disease Prevention and Management

OSD 9: Food and Nutrition in Emergency Preparedness and Response

Comprehensive Agriculture Transformation Support Programme (CATSP)

The CATSP is a multi-sectoral policy document draft that articulates the vision of the GRZ is to transform the agricultural sector, by deploying a compendium of comprehensive policy implementation

instruments, in order to accelerate inclusive economic growth and end hunger & undernutrition. The programme is designed to be operationalized through seven strategic objectives:

Strategic priority 1 – Confine and strengthen the public sector in its enabling functions. The GRZ ensures all Ministries, Departments and Agencies focus on their enabling functions, and avoid any distortive intervention.

Strategic priority 2 – Improve the business climate for agriculture. In partnership with the private sector players, the GRZ, is committed to designing and deploying the basket of required measures in order to make the business climate for agriculture, more conducive for farmers (small, medium, large) and enterprises.

Strategic priority 3 – Enhance the quality of public expenditure in agriculture. The GRZ is committed to reforming the budget and the public expenditure system, to ensure that relevant MDAs effectively deploy required policy implementation instruments and are kept accountable.

Strategic priority 4 – Expand private sector's access to financial services. Capitalizing on lessons from the global level, the GRZ is committed to expanding and resourcing a private sector-led Trust Fund, to deliver risk sharing, differentiated credit and technical assistance services to value chain players, in the crops, livestock and fisheries sub-sectors.

Strategic priority 5 – Upgrade infrastructure for production, processing and trading. The GRZ will partner with the private sector to ensure that infrastructures that are critical for the production, processing and trading of crops, livestock and fisheries commodities, are developed and operated in a profitable and sustainable way.

Strategic priority 6 – Increase investment for research and enhance the uptake of technologies. For that purpose, the GRZ is committed to increasing and enhancing the quality of investments in research and dissemination of technologies, as well as quality control.

Strategic priority 7 – Promote land tenure security, as well as social and environmental safeguards. The Government will invest to enhance the emergency preparedness and response system, ensure social protection, and promote land tenure security and sound management of the Zambian ecological basis.

These strategic priorities will be realized through seven sub-programs, each one covering several investment areas:

National Adaptation Plan:

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for Zambia is a medium to long-term strategic framework developed by the Government of the Republic of Zambia to address identified risks and vulnerabilities in various sectors to enhance the country's resilience to the impacts of climate change. It also identifies primary hazards and recognises that climate change poses significant risks to the country's natural resources, socio-economic development, and livelihoods. This is particularly for vulnerable communities and sectors particularly the agriculture sector (crop, livestock, and fisheries) that has great potential for reducing vulnerability, enhancing adaptive capacity, building resilience, and ensuring sustainable development in the face of climate change. The NAP is aligned to national development frameworks such as the Vision 2030, National Development Plan and the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

Nationally Determined Contributions:

Zambia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the timeframe 2015-2030, describes Zambia's ambition to contribute to global GreenHouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction by 25% by 2030 against a base year of 2010 under the Business As Usual (BAU) scenario with limited international support or by 47% with substantial international support. The effort is focused on strategic productive systems of which the agricultural sector provides opportunities for both mitigation and adaptation actions. These efforts require substantial resources to meet the means of implementation of these interventions.

Business Regulatory Act:

Reforms of the Business Regulatory Act will:

- Provide an efficient, cost effective and accessible business licensing system,
- provide a set of principles to guide regulatory agencies when regulating and licensing business activities,
- establish an e-registry and assign a control number for laws regulating business
- establish regulatory service centers, clearance systems and a single licensing system for business in each sector or group of sectors and,
- establish the Business Regulatory Review Committee and the Business Regulatory Review Agency and provide for their functions and powers.

Public Private Partnership Bill:

2023 Updates to the 2009 Public Private Partnership Act will:

- Regulate the promote the participation of the private sector in the design, financing, construction, development, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or delivery of services through the private PPP provide for the procedures for the approval, award and implementation of public/private partnership projects in accordance with principle of transparency, fareness, stability, proper management, integrity, competition, economic and long term sustainability
- Provide for rehabilitation, modernization, expansion and operation of existing infrastructure facilities and systems and their maintenance
- Strengthen the institutional framework for the implementation of public public private project; provide for the establishment of the public private partnership office
- Provide for a transparent project selection process, clear procurement procedures, effective regulatory approvals and expanded contractual models in order to promote tio promote private sector investments
- Provide for the establishment of the public private partnership project development support fund; repeal and replace the public private partnership act, 2009; and
- Provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

Annex 3: *Zambian Social Safety Nets*

Food Security Pack (FSP)

The FSP targets poor and vulnerable but viable farming households, especially female-headed households. The pack includes agricultural inputs and related social services to ensure food security and nutrition at household and community level. The initial design of the programme intended to assist 200,000 households, covering about 20 percent of the vulnerable but viable small-scale farmers across the country. It wasn't until 2021 that the number of project participants increased to over 200,000 households after more than 20 years of implementation. The limited coverage has been cited as a reason why the programme has failed to have a significant impact on food security at the national level (Nalishebo, 2022).

Social Cash Transfers (SCT)

The social cash transfer (SCT) scheme was developed under the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) to provide assistance to the most destitute and incapacitated households to allow them meet their basic needs, particularly health, education, food and shelter. The scheme was developed as a response to the HIV and AIDS Pandemic, which had led to a growing number of child-headed households, and households headed by older persons and chronically ill persons. SCTs are regular, non-contributory payments provided to participants who receive K200 and are paid bimonthly which amounts to K400 for every payment. Persons with disabilities receive double the amount (K800). The scheme is now being implemented in all 116 Districts across the country and by 2022, the scheme reached 974, 160 households (MCDSS 2022).

SCT Identification/ Selection Criteria

Residency test: the household should be resident in the same locality for a continuous period of 6 months or more.

Incapacitation and destitution: the household should meet one of the following socio-economic conditions

- Female-headed households with 3 children or more
- Child-headed households: This is a household that is headed by a child aged 18 years and below
- Households with person (s) who are chronically ill on palliative: a household with person(s) on palliative care should be certified by a qualified health practitioner from a government health facility and issued with a certification slip.
- Households with a person (s) with severe disability: a household will qualify when a member(s) has a severe disability which is certified by a health practitioner from a government health facility.
- Households with an elderly member aged 65 years and above and confirmed by a green National Registration Card (MCDSS 2023)

Welfare Assessment

In the final assessment, information on households or individual characteristics are analyzed. A household is eligible if it is not able to meet basic needs, based on a means and needs test. The estimated welfare is automated by the Management Information System (MIS) based on a Household Living Conditions Index (UNICEF, 2022).

National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS)

The National Health Insurance Scheme was established in 2019 as an effort to extend health coverage to all Zambian citizens and residents. The NHIS is managed by the National Health Insurance Management

Authority (NHIMA) which was established pursuant to Section 4 of the National Health Insurance Act No. 2 of 2018. The NHIS seeks to provide predictable and reliable healthcare financing for Zambian households and the entire health sector. The scheme became operational in October 2019 and by 2021 had over 800,000 registered members (UNICEF Budget Brief 2020/2021, 3).

Annex 4: Zambian Governance Structures

A. National Level Coordination and Implementation

The National Development Coordination Committee (NDCC) is the apex advisory body to the Cabinet on matters relating to national development plans and budgets. Key stakeholders that participate at this level are line ministries, government institutions and agencies.

B. Sectoral Level Coordination and Implementation

Cluster Advisory Groups (CAGs) play an important role in facilitating the participation of state and non-state actors in the implementation and monitoring of the Plan. CAGs are constituted on the basis of the strategic development areas of the 8NDP and to bring together relevant key stakeholders.

C. Provincial Level Coordination and Implementation

Provincial Development Coordinating Committees (PDCCs) facilitate the participation of state and non-state actors in the implementation and monitoring of the Plan at provincial level. The PDCCs are an important link between national and provincial level actors and also work to ensure that provinces deliver on the targets set in the Plan. The PDCCs provide oversight to district administration offices.

D. District Level Coordination and Implementation

The District Development Coordinating Committees (DDCCs) play an important role at the sub-national level to ensure that non-state actors operating in the district collaborate with government institutions and agencies through joint planning, implementation and monitoring of interventions. This collaboration is important for ensuring all actors plan and deliver interventions jointly, where possible, to address district-specific development challenges.

The DDCCs are responsible for the development of Integrated District Development Plans aligned to the 8NDP which are used to direct the utilization of funds received through the constituency development plans.

E. Ward Development Committees

The lowest coordinating body for implementation of the plan and specific activities at sub-national level are Ward Development Committees (WDCs). The structures operationalize projects at community level and also carry out monitoring of progress. WDCs promote the participation of citizens in development at the district level.

F. The Constituency Development Fund (CDF)

The CDF was first established in 1995 to support micro-community projects as part of the wider decentralization and local development policy. The CDF was established by the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act No 2 of 2016 under Article 162. The Constituency Development Fund Act No. 11 of 2018 was enacted to provide for the management, disbursement, utilization and accountability

of the fund. The main purpose of the Fund was to provide resources to local governments to bridge the resource gap in the financing of micro community-led projects in constituencies across the country.

The Fund has since evolved with an expanded scope and increased budget allocation to enhance community participation in determining local development priorities. In 2021, the government increased CDF allocations from K1.6 million to K25.7 million per constituency. The expanded scope covers i. community Projects; ii. youth, women and community empowerment; and iii. secondary boarding school and skills development bursaries (MLGRD 2022, 2).

G. Notes and References

Notes

¹USAID Zambia conducted the 1,000 Most Critical Days program midline assessment last year (2022) to assess the gains/losses on a number of nutrition indicators, however, the data is still undergoing GRZ review. For this reason, the data referenced in this document is from the 2018 Zambia Demographic Health Survey (ZDHS). The Mission plans to update this Nutrition Strategy following the selection of the USAID Zambia Feed the Future Zone of Influence,, the Zambia National Maternal and Child Health Summit (April 2023) and the release of the Zambia Demographic Health Survey (DHS) data (in early 2024).

²Annual inflation for April 2023 increased to 10.2 percent from 9.9 percent recorded in March 2023. This means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 10.2 percent between April 2022 and April 2023. This development was mainly attributed to an increase in prices of selected non-food items. (<https://www.zamstats.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Vol-241-of-2023-The-Monthly-April.pdf>)

³The figure was converted from ZMW to USD using the prevailing Bank of Zambia exchange rate on May 8, 2023 where USD1 - ZMW18.07 <https://www.boz.zm/historical-series-of-daily-zmw-usd-exchange-rates-zmw.htm>.

⁴ The figure was converted from ZMW to USD using the prevailing Bank of Zambia exchange rate on December 28, 2023 where USD1 - ZMW25.787, accessed on December 28, 2023 <https://www.boz.zm/historical-series-of-daily-zmw-usd-exchange-rates-zmw.htm>.

References

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and Transparency International Zambia (TIZ). 2023. 2022 Zambia Bribe Payer Index (ZBPI) Survey Report. Lusaka, Zambia.

Central Province Provincial Administration. 2022. "Central Province Provincial Administration." Government of the Republic of Zambia. Accessed May 18, 2023. https://www.cen.gov.zm/?page_id=1069.

Chapoto, Antony, Xinshen Diao, Paul A. Dorosh, Mia Ellis, Karl Pauw, Jenny Smart, Mitelo Subakanya, and James Thurlow. 2022. "Zambia: Impacts of the Ukraine and Global Crises on Poverty and Food Security." Global Crisis Country Brief 15. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.135965>.

Chiluya, William. 2017. "Fall Army Worm Maize Attack: A Case for Diversity from Farm to Fork." Hivos and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). Accessed 8 May, 2023. <https://reliefweb.int/report/zambia/fall-army-worm-maize-attack-case-diversity-farm-fork>.

Chitumbo, Bupe, Guzman, Jorge, Spahia, Linda and Saab, Samer. 2023. "Zambia: Selected Issues." IMF Country Report No. 23/257. International Monetary Fund. Washington, D.C.

Corruption Perception Index (CPI). Zambia. Accessed August 3, 2023. <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2022/index/zmb>.

Diwakar, Vidya, Mitelo Subakanya, Mary Lubungu, Anthony Chapoto. 2021. "Rural Poverty Dynamics in Zambia 2012-2019." London, England: Chronic Poverty Advisory Network (CPAN).

Farnworth, Cathy Rozel, Monica Munachonga. 2010. "Gender Approaches in Agricultural Programmes- Zambia Country Report: A Special Study of the Agricultural Support Program (ASP). UTV Working Paper 2010:8. SIDA. <https://www.oecd.org/countries/zambia/46150642.pdf>.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). 2018. "National Gender Profile of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods: Zambia" Country Gender Assessment Series. Lusaka, Zambia.

FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022. "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022." Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0639en>.

Feed the Future (FTF). 2019. "Zambia Zone of Influence Survey Endline Assessment October 2012 - November 2018." Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (IAPRI). Lusaka, Zambia.

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition. 2021. "Enabling Business to Advance Nutrition Index (EBANI): Zambia Country Report. Geneva, Switzerland: GAIN and SBN.

Global Nutrition Report. 2023. "Country Nutrition Profiles." Accessed May 12, 2023. [https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/africa/eastern-africa/zambia/#:~:text=14.7percent25percent20ofpercent20adultpercent20\(agedpercent2018,andpercent207.4percent25percent20ofpercent20adultpercent20men](https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/africa/eastern-africa/zambia/#:~:text=14.7percent25percent20ofpercent20adultpercent20(agedpercent2018,andpercent207.4percent25percent20ofpercent20adultpercent20men).

Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ). n.d. "National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan, draft" Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ). 2006. "Vision 2030." Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ). 2022. "Eighth National Development Plan" Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). 2021. "Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Zambia: Food Insecurity." <https://reliefweb.int/report/zambia/zambia-food-insecurity-emergency-plan-action-epoa-dref-operation-n-mmdrzm014>.

International Labour Organization (ILO). 2020. Progress Review of the Enabling Environment for Sustainable Enterprises (EESE) programme in Zambia. Geneva Switzerland: ILO.

IPC. 2022. "Zambia: Acute Food Insecurity Situation: July - September 2022 and Projection for October 2022 - March 2023."

Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). 2016. "Country Gender Profile: Zambia Final Report."

Machina, Henry, Thelma Namonje-Kapembwa, and Albert Kasoma. 2018. "Youth Employment in Zambia: What Opportunities Does Agriculture Offer?" Working Paper No. 138. Lusaka, Zambia: Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute.

Malambo, Miyanda, Fwasa Singogo, Mulako Kabisa, and Hambulo Ngoma. 2020. "Balancing Health and Economic Livelihoods: Policy Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Zambia." COVID-19

Policy Response Portal Project Note 2. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL). 2013. “Zambia National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) 2014-2018.” Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). 2022. The Crop Forecasting Survey Results for the 2021/2022 Agricultural Season and the Food Security Status for the 2022/2023 Marketing Season. Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS). 2022. “Social Cash Transfer Factsheet.” Lusaka, Zambia: Republic of Zambia.

Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS). 2023. “Social Cash Transfer.” Accessed July 29th. https://www.mcdss.gov.zm/?page_id=2086.

Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). 2022. “Constituency Development Fund Guidelines.” Lusaka, Zambia: Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.

Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MOFNP). 2022a. “Eight National Development Plan 2022-2026.” Lusaka, Zambia: Republic of Zambia.

Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MOFNP). 2022b. “Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure (Output Based Budget).” Lusaka, Zambia: Republic of Zambia.

Ministry of Gender. 2019. “Zambia Gender Status Report 2017-19.” Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Mulenga, Brian, Kabisa Mulako, Antony Chapoto. 2021. “Agricultural Status Report, Zambia 2021”. Lusaka, Zambia: Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute.

Mwanamwenge, Marjolein, and Jody Harris. 2017. “Agriculture, Food Systems, Diets and Nutrition in Zambia.” Sustainable Diets for All Discussion Paper. Hivos International and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED).

Mwansa, Floyd. 2023. “Status of agricultural finance in Zambia: Demand and Supply.” Lusaka, Zambia, GIZ and FSD Zambia.

Nada Hamadeh, Catherine van Rompaey, Eric Metreau, and Shwetha Grace Eapen. 2021. “New World Bank Country Classifications by Income Level: 2022-2023.” World Bank Blogs. Accessed May 19, 2023. <https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/opedata/new-world-bank-country-classifications-income-level-2022-2023>.

Nalishebo, Shebo. 2021. 2020/2021 Unicef Budget Brief.

Nalishebo, Shebo. 2022. “Social Protection Budget Brief- Scaling up social protection to protect lives and livelihoods” Lusaka, Zambia. UNICEF.

Oxfam. 2021. “Copper for Development Report.” Lusaka, Zambia: Oxfam.

Population Council and UNFPA. 2018, State of the Youth in Zambia Policy Brief: Education, Unemployment, and Poverty Reduction. Lusaka, Zambia.

Mfula, Chris, Rosario, Jorgelina Do and Thomas, Leigh,. 2023. “Zambia seals \$6.3 billion restructuring in breakthrough for indebted nations”. Last modified, June 23, 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/zambia-seals-63-billion-debt-restructuring-deal-2023-06-22/>.

Siame, Kayula. 2012. “Lessons from the Private Sector Development Reform Programme in Improving the Business Environment: Achievements and Challenges.” Presentation by Kayula Siame. Accessed August 3, 2023. <https://www.theigc.org/sites/default/files/2014/08/Kayula-Siame-Zambia-GW2012.pdf>.

Sparkman, Maia, and William Tobin. 2023. “Country spotlight: Unlocking a high-energy future for Zambia.” Atlantic Council. Accessed August 3, 2023. <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/energysource/country-spotlight-unlocking-a-high-energy-future-for-zambia/#:~:text=Zambia%20has%20%2C800%20megawatts%20>.

Subakanya, Mitelo. 2015. “Changes in the age and gender composition of agricultural participation in Zambia: implications for economic policy.” Master Thesis, University of Pretoria. <https://repository.up.ac.za/handle/2263/53559>.

Transparency International Zambia. 2022. “Constituency Development Fund Issues Brief.” Lusaka, Zambia: Transparency International Zambia.

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and Bank of Zambia (BoZ). 2019. “State of Digital Financial Services Market in Zambia 2019: Results from the UNCDF Annual Provider Survey.” UNCDF and BoZ.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2023. “Country Insights.” Human Development Insights. Accessed May 19, 2023. <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/country-insights#/ranks>.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2022. “Human Development Report 2021-22: Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World.” New York, New York: UNDP.

UNICEF. n.d. “Nutrition Zambia” accessed July 23, 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/zambia/nutrition>.

UNICEF. 2020. “Scaling UP Nutrition (SUN II) Newsletter.”

UNICEF. 2023. “Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene.” Accessed May 12, 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/zambia/water-sanitation-and-hygiene>.

United Nations (UN). 2022. “Sustainable Development Report Country Profiles: Zambia.” <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles/zambia>.

USAID. 2016. “Climate Change Risk Profile: Zambia.” Fact Sheet. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00msqc.pdf.

USAID. 2022. Digital Ecosystem Country Assessment. <https://www.usaid.gov/digital-development/zambia-digital-ecosystem-country-assessment>.

USAID. 2021. “Zambia: High-Priority Country Plan. GLOBAL WATER STRATEGY | 2022-2027.” https://www.globalwaters.org/sites/default/files/zambia_hpc_plan.pdf.

World Bank. 2015. Doing Business 2015: Going beyond efficiency.” Washington D.C.: World Bank Group.

World Bank. 2018. “Republic of Zambia Systematic Country Diagnostic.” Washington, DC: World Bank.

World Bank. 2019a. “Zambia Climate-Smart Agriculture Investment Plan: Analyses to Support the Climate-Smart Development of Zambia’s agricultural sector.” Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/358291552021231101/Zambia-Climate-Smart-Agriculture-Investment-Plan-Analyses-to-Support-the-Climate-Smart-Development-of-Zambia-s-Agriculture-S>.

World Bank. 2019b. “Agriculture Finance Diagnostic Zambia.” Washington D.C.: World Bank Group.

World Bank. 2019c. ‘Enabling the Business of Agriculture 2019.” Washington D.C.: World Bank Group.

World Bank. 2020. Doing Business 2020.” Washington D.C.: World Bank Group.

World Bank. 2023. “The World Bank in Zambia: Overview.” Accessed May 19, 2023. [Zambia Overview: Development news, research, data | World Bank](#).

World Food Programme (WFP). 2019. “Zambia Country Strategic Plan.” Rome, Italy: World Food Programme.

World Food Programme (WFP). 2020. “Zambia Annual Country Report.” Lusaka, Zambia: World Food Program.

World Food Programme (WFP). 2021. “Fill the Nutrient Gap.” Rome, Italy: World Food Programme.

World Food Programme (WFP). 2023. “WFP Zambia Country Brief.” Lusaka, Zambia: World Food Programme.

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStat), Ministry of Health (MOH) Zambia, and ICF. 2019. “Zambia Demographic and Health Survey 2018.” Lusaka, Zambia, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: Zambia Statistics Agency, Ministry of Health, and ICF.

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats). 2020. “2020 Labour Force Survey Report.” Lusaka, Zambia: Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats). 2022. “Census of Population and Housing: Preliminary Report.” Lusaka, Zambia: Government of the Republic of Zambia.



FEED^{THE}FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative