

Summary of Sida's Assessment of the Development towards the Strategy Objectives and Implementation of the Contribution Portfolio

	Mål ¹	Portfölj ²
1. Improved health		
1.1 Access to health and medical care for women and children		
1.2 Increased awareness of and access to sexual and reproductive health		
1.3 Improved nutrition for pregnant women and children		
1.4 Quality and regular social services		
2. Increased employment opportunities		
2.1 Increased number of productive jobs.		
2.2 Secure and sustainable energy f		
2.3 Access to financial services		
2.4 Access to markets		
2.5 Sustainable use of natural resources		
3. Democratic accountability, transparency, human rights		
3.1 Increased capacity, reduced corruption and increased openness in the Zambian public administration.		
3.2. Freer and more independent media.		
3.3: Enhanced capacity to demand accountability and increased awareness of human rights.		

¹ Bedömning av utvecklingen mot **strategimålen**: Grön: Önskvärd riktning; Gul: Delvis önskvärd riktning; Röd: Ej önskvärd riktning.

² Bedömning av **insatsportföljens genomförande**: Grön: Enligt plan; Gul: Delvis enligt plan; Röd: Ej enligt plan.

Svenska sammanfattning av Strategy Report 2017 for Sweden's Development Cooperation with Zambia 2013-2017 (extended to 2018).

Zambias ekonomi har stabiliserats något under 2017, främst på grund av att kopparpriset ökade. Situationen är dock instabil då på grund av en mycket snabbt växande statsskuld. Regeringens brist på åtgärder har gjort att IMF slutligen sagt nej till vidare diskussioner om ett stödpaket. År 2018 beräknas budgetunderskottet uppgå till cirka 7 % av Zambias BNP och om situationen förvärras kan det påverka utvecklingssamarbetet, främst inom hälsa och social välfärd. Ett ytterligare orostecken är den negativa politiska utvecklingen under 2017 och 2018. Oppositionsledaren Hakainde Hichelema häktades i april 2017, något som har skapat ett spänt politiskt läge i Zambia, även om han några månader senare släpptes. Oberoende medias utrymme och yttrandefriheten har också begränsats.

Inom resultatområde 1 har strategigenomförandet fortlöpt planenligt, med målsättningen att bidra till förbättrad hälsa. Portföljen ökade betydligt i och med att utbetalningarna till Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programmet var stora under 2017. Även resultatområde 2 har fortlöpt planenligt och insatserna har bidragit till att öka möjligheter till arbete på landsbygden och i stadsnära områden, samt till att starta och driva företag. Inom resultatområde 3 har utvecklingen mot strategimålen endast delvis utvecklats i önskvärd riktning trots att insatsportföljen genomförts enligt plan. Detta beror på att det krympande demokratiska utrymmet påverkar både civila samhället och oberoende media. Framförallt har målen om friare och mer oberoende media (3.2) haft problem att uppnå önskade resultat.

1 Overview of the Strategy Context

Total amount for the Strategy: 1750 MSEK

Disbursed amount 2017: 460 MSEK

Number of contributions 2017: 53

1.1 Changes in the Context

- The **economy has improved somewhat** in 2017 and the kwacha has appreciated. The situation is however unstable, especially considering the high debt burden that has been accumulated. Lengthy deliberations have taken place with the IMF about a loan facility. However, in early 2018 IMF declared that there will be no package as long as the government does not deliver credible and sustainable plans for its debt management. Without a loan from IMF the economy will be more vulnerable, since the prospects of overcoming the macroeconomic imbalances are diminished. Should the situation deteriorate it will have consequences for several areas in the Swedish Strategy; health and social protection (difficulties with budget executions) and private sector, including agriculture and energy (market volatility and higher interest rates).
- **Further deterioration in democracy and human rights.** The trend has continued to be negative, especially when it comes to freedom of expression and the Public Order Act. Sida's assessment is that the democratic space has shrunk, which affects the Swedish development cooperation in a negative way. At the same time, it is even more important that Sida continues to support actors in society that work for improvements concerning democracy and human rights. Sida will also engage in dialogue on different levels to promote democracy and human rights.
- It is not possible to say if **corruption** has increased the last few years, but it is an issue that is highly discussed in the country and even the President is accused for corrupt behavior. Since this is an endemic condition Swedish development cooperation is affected. Sida will therefore have a strong focus on combatting corruption both as a broader development obstacle, as well as obstruction of results in Swedish contributions.
- The Government has launched a “**7th National Development Plan**”, which emphasizes inclusive growth and diversification of the economy. It stresses that Zambia must work in thematic clusters rather than in traditional silos. The plan will be an important point of departure for the development and implementation of a new Swedish Strategy.

Sweden's Role in the Strategy Context

Table 1. Donor Context

Total development assistance makes up 2% of the national budget	Sweden's share of the total of development assistance constitute 5 %.
	Common EU strategy is valid 2014- 2020

The five largest donors (organisations and/or countries) are: The United States, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UK, IDA, Japan

Sweden is the 7th largest donor.
Of the EU member states, Sweden is the 2nd largest donor.

Sweden has been very active in the coordination of cooperating partners. During the first six months of 2017 Sweden was chairing the Cooperating Partners Group. One of the objectives with the chairmanship was to enhance stronger relationships with the Government of Zambia. This objective was achieved, especially in relation to Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Energy. Sweden has also been had a high profile in health, gender, social protection and democracy and governance. In health Sweden has a close cooperation with USAID and administrates a part of their program. Sweden has a constant dialogue with the European Union. However, the joint programming has not played any substantial role in 2017.

1.2 Synergies with Other Swedish Strategies

As can be seen in table 4 there is basically no humanitarian support to Zambia. Through the Strategy for Civil Society Organizations in Sweden 18,7 MSEK is appropriated. Sida has a dialogue with the Swedish organizations based in the country. The Result Strategy for Capacity Development has a small sum for Zambia, but the ambition is to increase collaboration between other Swedish actors and Zambia. Within the health program, there are synergies with the Regional Strategy for SRHR

1.3 Allocation between Areas of Support

Comments in relation to the table 2 in BISI-report P6; Agreed Amounts.

- During 2017, area 1; Improved health, contributed 53,5 % of the total amount, which amounts to 246 MSEK. There has been a steady increase from 2015 when the support to the Ministry of health was signed. It increased further in 2017 with the disbursements for the Social Cash Transfer Programme (80 MSEK).
- Area 2; Increased employment opportunities, increased significantly from 2013 to 2015 mainly due to the contribution to the World Bank for the rehabilitation of the Kariba dam. However, the support to this area was reduced due to the termination of the support to the Zambia Farmers' union (ZNFU) in 2016. During 2017, the support to area increased again, because of the start of the Beyond the grid fund. The area contributed to a total of 39,5% to the 2017 outcome, which amounts to 181 MSEK.
- Area 3; Governance, has seen a steady decrease over the past 3 years. This can be explained by the fact that most of the contributions has had a life span of 4 years from the start of the strategy, with bigger disbursements in the initial years. In addition, the support to one of the main partners (Zambia Governance Foundation) was discontinued 2017. As a result, the area only contributed to 7% of the total 2017 outcome, which amounts to 32 MSEK. Having said that, Sida is currently assessing several potential partners within this area for the coming years.

2 Results Reporting

The strategy results during the last years, indicate that Zambia is a conducive country for development cooperation. Experiences prove that new and innovative methods can improve people's lives. Farmers have been an important target group and there has been a high success rate to improve their access to markets. By supporting health and social protection Sida has been able to reach the most poor and vulnerable, in an ambition of leaving no one behind.

2.1 Area of Support 1: Health

2.1.1 Objective 1:1 Improved access to quality health and medical care for women and children under the age of five, with the ambition that Sweden will contribute to trained staff assisting in at least 38 000 deliveries

Development to strategy



There has been a general increase in support of improving the health of women, children and adolescents in recent years. Several cooperating partners are focusing their efforts in the area of maternal and child health as indicators have not reached the levels expected following the Millennium Development Goals. As for adolescent health, this can be seen as an area which has long been neglected with few appropriate interventions in place. Government's funding to contraceptives is way below expectations and further advocacy and measures in this area are required. Government has actively recruited high numbers of health workers in 2017 which has helped to ensure that quality health services are more widely available. However, some cadres are difficult to attract, recruit and retain such as health providers with anesthesia skills which are critical for emergency obstetric care.

Portfolio level



The portfolio is balanced and focuses on supporting the Government in providing quality health services in the area of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, adolescent health and nutrition. The aim is to strengthen the health system as a whole with several activities related to community health and demand creation. The portfolio in the area comprises the Sida/Government of Zambia RMNCAH programme (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health) which has expanded into two new provinces following the support of USAID. Sida manages the USAID contribution both financially and programmatically. Government capacity to provide quality care along the continuum of care is in focus with a strong priority to district primary health care services, including community health and behavior change. The portfolio also includes a contribution on enhancing numbers of skilled health providers through support to CHAI (Clinton Health Access Initiative) in the Northern & Luapula provinces of Zambia.

Contribution level

The GRZ-Sida programme called Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition Continuum of Care, with additional funding from USAID, effectively set off with an increase in services provided in larger scale in 2017. A number of capital investments were made, most notably the purchase and deployment of ambulances, utility vehicles and motorbikes for outreach services to rural areas. All 22 districts have been reviewed in terms of improving on results compared with the previous year through measuring increases in number of services provided. Those that have succeeded have received a results-based financing bonus to be used for rolling out high impact interventions and making more long term investments in RMNCAH in 2018.

The CHAI programme on increasing skilled birth attendance has in the last year concluded the second phase of analysis of policy interventions to attract and retain health workers in rural areas. The findings suggest that appropriate housing is the top incentive for health workers. CHAI is in discussion with the Ministry of Health on how to take this forward. CHAI has also provided technical support to Ministry of Health on the development of both the National Human Resources for Health Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2022 and the first ever Nursing & Midwifery Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2021.

2.1.2 Objective 1:2 Increased awareness of and access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights for girls and boys.

Development to strategy



In 2017, the Government of Zambia launched a new Adolescent Health Strategy 2017-2021 aiming to expand youth-tailored health services. The strategy is good but will be demanding to implement as there is limited knowledge and capacity among health workers. Evidence suggests that it is highly relevant to support non-state actors that may be better equipped to access young people in environments other than the traditional health settings. Overall, the linkages between sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention have been strengthened in recent years with more interventions aiming to address adolescent reproductive health and access to contraceptives together with HIV prevention efforts rather than standalone.

Portfolio level



The portfolio is broad and encompasses different areas in order to address the multi-sectoral approach which is critical in dealing with SRHR. The various contributions include ensuring full access to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) in the curricula for all Zambian children from grade 5 to 12 through support to UNESCO³; support to media with educational and informational SRHR messaging tailored especially for young people and support to rural and urban outreach work to increase use of long-term contraceptive methods and access to safe abortion services and drugs and advocacy work to provide better understanding of the law on access to safe abortion in Zambia. The RMNCAH programme in collaboration with GRZ focuses on adolescent health including SRHR with the aim to improve access to and quality of services provided to young people.

Contribution level

2017 saw the final year of a four-year support to Marie Stopes Zambia to ensure that women and adolescent girls in Zambia have access to a broader choice of contraceptives and reproductive services. MSZ also provides spaces for women to have safe abortions performed and to have better access to medical abortion products. Moreover, MSZ advocates for policy reforms and has during the year worked with the Government to rewrite the national safe abortion guidelines.

The Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in Schools programme through UNESCO reached over 1.9 million learners from grades 5 to 12 during 2017 with CSE including information on school related gender based violence. In addition, 159,000 young people have been referred for SRHR services. The main challenge of the programme has been to ensure standardized high-quality delivery of CSE in all 9600+ public schools. The generally low quality of education in Zambia has spillover effects in the delivery of CSE. Quality is affected by many factors including difficulty in maintaining high quality training.⁴

³ UNESCO Annual Progress Report 2017: Strengthening Comprehensive Sexuality Education for Young People in School Settings in Zambia

⁴ UNESCO Annual Progress Report 2017: Strengthening Comprehensive Sexuality Education for

2.1.3 Objective 1:3 Improved nutrition for pregnant women and children under the age of five, with the ambition that Sweden will contribute to at least 47 000 children under the age of five having a more nutritious diet.

Development to strategy

During 2017 there was increased collaboration among donors and with Government and other development /economic sectors around the problem of malnutrition in Zambia. Specific attention has been given to the effect of child stunting. Zambia has adopted a multi sector approach based on global evidence that improvements are required in several nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific sector such as health, WASH, social protection, education and agriculture. The multi-sector coordination continued to grow in 2017 in relation to the Scaling Up Nutrition fund supported by Sida and other donors. The phase II programme has a more ambitious scale up plan and a greater emphasis on technical assistance. The main dialogue issues during 2017 and continuing to 2018 is the low level of public funding for nutrition⁵. The lack of key updated data for nutrition decision making and advocacy continued to be a challenge during 2017. Sida will during 2018 fund National Food consumption and Micronutrient Survey which will bridge the gap. Additionally tracking of budgetary allocations for nutrition remains a challenge partly due to the multiple sectors involved and the aggregated nature of the budget at national level.

Portfolio level

The portfolio includes one principal contribution, see below. However, the broad RMNCAH programme implemented by GRZ also focuses on nutrition as a key component with several activities aiming to address nutrition (see Objective 1:1).

Contribution level

2017 was the final year of implementation for the **Scaling Up Nutrition Support**. An analysis of the key lessons learnt in the programme shows it has been successful in strengthening national and sub-national leadership and coordination on nutrition; catalytic in bringing sectors to work together on nutrition; has increased interaction and cooperation among donors/UN and created platforms for harmonized working while minimizing duplication of efforts; there has been increased advocacy for policy, programming and funding improvements; and most importantly targeted communities and households have been empowered with knowledge and skills to address undernutrition, especially targeting the First 1000 days from conception to age 2. The programme made good progress in 2017 and scored an 'A'⁶ having implemented most of the planned activities reaching at least 300,000⁷ children and mother with appropriate services every quarter during 2017. The main constraints are that the governance and institutional arrangement are too complex and time consuming with grant management taking priority over technical support and technical capacity building. In its current form the programme cannot be scaled up beyond the initial 14 pilot districts.

Young People in School Settings In Zambia

⁵ Nutrition Budget Tracking Report 2017

⁶ DFID Joint Annual Review Summary Sheet

⁷ SUN Quarterly reports. The estimate is derived by adding the highest number of children provided with any one service with the highest number of pregnant and lactating women provided with any one service. Adding all the services would result in double counting of beneficiaries since women and children often need to access a range of services within the same period.

2.1.4 Objective 1:4 The poorest and most vulnerable parts of the population demand and utilise quality and regular social services

Development to strategy

Social Protection has developed to be one of the priority areas for the Government of Zambia. The Social Cash Transfer Program is the flagship within the sector. It has expanded substantially from 242,000 beneficiary households in 2016 to 537,766 households in the end of 2017⁸. In a speech in September 2017 the President E.Lungu announced that the number of households shall increase even further, with the target of 700,000. The social protection system in Zambia is confronted with challenges, such as under-funded and fragmented programs (apart from Social Cash Transfer). Therefore a comprehensive Integrated Framework for Basic Social Protection programmes is being developed. At the end of 2017 an advanced draft of the integrated Social Protection Bill has been finalized and awaits to be taken up to parliament. A Disability Management Information System has been developed which strengthens the system of services to people living with disabilities.

Portfolio level

Sida has two contributions within Social Protection; the Social Cash Transfer Program and the United Nations Joint Programme on Social Protection, which is a technical assistance support. Considering the achievements in both programmes it is fair to say that the Swedish support has contributed to the objective, since there is now a more robust system and a vast coverage of social services in the country. There are however, still challenges concerning efficiency and coordination, but progress is being made. This was confirmed in a Mid-Term Review of the United Nations Joint Programme.⁹

Contribution level

The Social Cash Transfer Program has focused on the huge expansion in 2017. With great time and logistical challenges, it was an enormous achievement to reach 537,766 households. Nevertheless, there have been several problems. One of them has been the difficulties in actually disbursing the transfers in time, especially towards the end of the year. This can be explained by the huge increase in remuneration numbers in the latter part of the year, logistical challenges, as well as late disbursements of funding, primarily from the Government. A new pilot of doing payments electronically has been initiated and has the potential of doing the cash transfer system more robust and reliable.

2.2 Area of support 2: Increased employment opportunities in rural and peri-urban areas and opportunities to start and run productive businesses

2.2.1 Objective 2.1 Increased number of productive jobs, particularly for women and young people, with the ambition that Sweden will contribute to at least 120 000 people having productive work in the agricultural sector.

⁸ Third Trimester Progress Report, Sept-Dec 2017 Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
Page 4

⁹ Mid-Term Review of the Government/UNJP November 2017, Nicholas Freeland

Development to strategy 

The good rains in the 2016-17 season meant improved harvests for both small and large scale farmers in the country. The copper prices went up and the overall economic growth was more positive than the year before. There were hence more opportunities for jobs at least in the informal sector. However, the interest rates of the banks remained high preventing businesses from accessing capital for the much-needed investments in the agricultural sector and thereby hampering the creation of more employment opportunities.

Portfolio level 

Sida continued to support increased market access mainly through facilitating opportunities for the private sector to invest in the agriculture sector and involving small scale farmers in the value chains, as producers and consumers of different products and services. Several companies are now present also in rural and remote areas, offering small scale farmers and entrepreneurs of different kinds and sizes increased opportunities for work and increased income. For women, several challenges of getting a productive job still remain, mainly due to social norms and the prevailing gender dynamics. Directly targeting women in entrepreneurship training, supporting women dominated crops and value chains and carrying out gender equality training to couples have been embedded in the portfolio and seem to have made a positive, however insufficient, impact.

Contribution level

The results of the support to the implementation of Musika's first business plan, for 2013-2017 have been well achieved. At the end of 2017 411 000 small holder farmers had got access to inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides and 124 000 small holder farmers got access to markets where they could sell their produce. It is estimated that the value of private capital mobilized as a result of Musika's interventions in the agricultural market was more than 32 Million USD during 2013-2018. Musika's financial support was just under 15 Million USD, making the financial leverage ratio to 2.2. For the year 2017 some of the markets had developed and as a result the financial leverage ratio was almost 40.¹⁰ The UN Joint Program on Decent Jobs for Youth, targeting young people to become agricultural entrepreneurs has picked up during the year and been able to create 5,000 jobs in the value chains of soya beans and aquaculture¹¹. The share of these beneficiaries that are youth is unfortunately lower than expected.

2.2.2 Objective 2.2 Increased access to secure and sustainable energy for households, public services and businesses.

Development to strategy 

There is an acute and immediate demand in Zambia for energy services. Less than five per cent of the population have access to the national electricity grid. In rural areas, people use charcoal, wood fuel, kerosene, candles, diesel and batteries. There are vast needs for investments in electricity generation and distribution, and for further efforts to improve efficiency, reduce losses and ensure cost recovery, within the national energy utility. The high dependency on few energy sources also calls for deepened regional integration of energy infrastructure. To a large extent, increasing rural access to electricity relies on the national utility's (ZESCO) ability to finance investments in grid extension. The financial situation for ZESCO is poor and deteriorating. Resolute actions are required to avoid debt distress, and to meet the

¹⁰ Musika Annual report Annex 1: 2017 Results, p 3,5 and 8, January 2018

¹¹ Yapasa Extension proposal for 2018, December 2017, p 44

goals for electrification. At the same time, a market for alternative energy sources and services is emerging.

Portfolio level

Support to the energy sector has been a corner stone of Swedish development for productive sectors. The portfolio has been tailored to meet the different needs of public and private actors. Sida engages with the government in policy dialogue as well as in broader partnerships for key infrastructure development. The importance of the role of the private sector in providing energy services for the rural poor has increased, through technical developments of solar technology and mobile payments. The results as for increased energy access, in line with Sida's Power Africa initiative, are emerging and are estimated to exceed the expected targets, with a potential to scale.

Contribution level

Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia has in its first round 2017, contracted four companies that are now active in Zambia. Together they are contracted to deliver energy services to around 1.6 million people, or around 15 % of Zambians currently without access to electricity. Beyond the Grid Fund leverages around three times the funds committed by Sida, in co-financing from the private sector. The share of women as primary customers for the energy services has been higher than expected. The number of customers purchasing energy services for productive use has also been higher than expected.¹² The experience from the first stages of the Beyond the Grid Fund also shows that development of the off-grid renewable energy market benefits greatly if there is space for dialogue between private sector and authorities, and ways to address crosscutting issues. The Fund has therefore contributed to the establishment of a government led Off-Grid Task Force.¹³

A mid-term review of the support for promotion of biogas in agriculture was carried out early 2017. The review indicated that there is a strong market potential for household/farm biodigesters in Zambia.¹⁴ After early delays, the cumulative total number of farm-size biodigesters completed and in operation within the project are now likely to reach the expected results.¹⁵

2.2.3 Objective 2.3 Increased access to financial services for small-scale farmers, entrepreneurs and businesses, with the ambition that Sweden will contribute to at least 30 000 small-scale farmers having access to financial services.

Development to strategy

Even though the economy recovered partially during 2017, the interest rates on loans from formal financial institutions are still high, 35-40%. Poor people hence can't afford to take a loan and even though they would be willing, there are few options for financial services and products in the rural areas. The distribution of financial institutions are scarce and the mobile money service systems that are flourishing in East Africa are not yet available in Zambia. Only 50% of the rural population have access

¹² Beyond the Grid Fund for Zambia (BGFZ), Quarterly report 8 (November 2017 – January 2018), p. 3 and Annex 1, REEEP, March 2018

¹³ Decision ZAM DC 05/2018

¹⁴ Mid-term Review commissioned by the ENERGY FOR AGRICULTURE (E4A) Programme and SNV Netherlands Development Organization, p.2, February 2017, Tjasker Management

¹⁵ Energy for Agriculture (E4A) Project Annual Progress Report, January – December 2017, p.6., February 2018, SNV/National Biogas Support Unit (NBSU)

to financial services, half of these from savings groups and other informal sources, and women and youth are even more excluded from the financial market.¹⁶

Portfolio level

The portfolio is a combination of direct interventions to financial access such as guarantees and support to a financial access expert organization, but also embedded into several of the agricultural market contributions since financial access is a means for agribusiness growth. Since the formal financial services are limited the portfolio targets both the formal and informal financial sectors, including support to established and newly formed savings groups.

Contribution level

Women's Financial Inclusion project aims at increasing access to finance for women and young people. The project, implemented by the Financial Sector Deepening Zambia, have had a slow start, but is starting to pick up. Over 6,000 women have got access to new financial services and 17,000 girls and boys in and out of school have received financial literacy training. Thanks to the project's efforts financial education has just become part of the national curricula for schools, facilitating for 4 million Zambian schoolchildren to make sound financial decisions in the future.¹⁷ Through Musika's interventions in the financial market, over 50,000 people have got access to financial services and products.¹⁸

2.2.4 Objective 2.4 Increased access to markets for small-scale farmers, entrepreneurs and businesses.

Development to strategy

The government subsidy programme Farmer Input Support Programme and the government's Food Reserve Agency, both focusing entirely on maize, have for a long time distorted the agricultural markets. The Government also imposed export bans of maize during the first months of the year, preventing companies to sell their surplus from last season to neighboring countries and therefore. When the export ban was lifted, the neighboring countries had started harvesting the same bumper harvest as Zambia in 2017 and did not acquire the Zambian maize. However, the government implementation of FISP input distribution through the electronic voucher has opened up for private actors to involve in the agricultural value chains, at least in the sale of seeds and fertilizers to farmers. Many efforts have also been made by development cooperation partners to facilitate increased market access for farmers, entrepreneurs and businesses. The private sector has responded well to these initiatives and are now more widely spread over the country. There are hence positive developments that should further be supported and expanded, not least considering the large potential for farmers and businesses in satisfying the needs of the growing urban middle class for new and more products.

Portfolio level

All contributions in the portfolio for Results area 2 contribute to increased market access for small scale farmers, entrepreneurs and businesses. The outcomes are to be found in the other objectives, particularly in 4.2.1. The portfolio is built up of interventions increasing access to products and services mainly within the agriculture, finance and energy sector. Moreover, Sida is supporting a research and policy institute in agriculture and has been supporting the government in setting up the E-voucher system

¹⁶ FinScope 2015 p.5-6, no newer analysis exists

¹⁷ Women in Financial Inclusion and Capabilities (WIN) Half year report 1 July to 31 December 2017, p.7, 14 and 15, January 2018.

¹⁸ Musika Annual report 2017, Annex 1 Results, p.6, January 2018

aiming at facilitating for the farmers to use the government subsidies for purchasing inputs of their own choice, rather than having the government distributing determined seeds and fertilizers to farmers. The system enables access to markets not only for farmers but for also for the agrodealers and input companies.

Contribution level

Businesses in agriculture and off grid energy are now much more widely spread over Zambia. Musika has 72 private sector partners doing business with small scale farmers and rural Zambians as suppliers, customers and clients. As a result of Musika's interventions with the private sector, all districts in Zambia show increased market access for smallholders, entrepreneurs such as agrodealers and businesses of different sizes. Over 430,000 smallholder farmers are now accessing input, output, agricultural service, finance and renewable energy markets.¹⁹ Through the Small-holder Agriculture Reform through Enterprise Development project implemented by IDE 8,500 smallholder farmers are now able to sell their agricultural produce to the private sector.²⁰

2.2.5 Objective 2.5 More sustainable use of natural resources with the focus on agriculture, with the ambition that Sweden will contribute to at least 14 000 farmers basing their activities on sustainable use of land resources.

Development to strategy



The loss of forest coverage, increased erosion and reduced access to water in combination with non-sustainable farming methods cause an increasing stress on the Zambian natural resources and low resilience among small scale farmers. Climate projections also show that Zambia will become hotter and drier, especially the southern, western and eastern regions. The warmer and drier climate causes more soil degradation, decreases the access to water and increases livestock and crop diseases. Already today farmers experience the climate change effects in form of reduced and unpredictable rainfalls, decreasing the agricultural productivity and food security significantly.

Agroforestry and Conservation agriculture have been practiced on a smaller scale, but is not widely or thoroughly spread. Small scale farmers rely on rainfed agriculture and rainwater harvesting and irrigation are not common practice. Adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture is today about 9%²¹.

Portfolio level



The increased vulnerability due to an overall non sustainable use of natural resources in Zambia causes Sida to aim for an integration of environment and climate change measures in the whole portfolio and beyond. The agricultural contributions address this by introducing and supporting climate smart agricultural practices, soil conservation measures, agroforestry, sustainable irrigation solutions and crop diversification. The support to more production and use of sustainable energy solutions also contribute to this objective.

¹⁹ Musika Annual Report 2017, p 2, January 2018

²⁰ Mid-term Evaluation of Small-holder Agriculture Reform through Enterprise development, p 22, February 2018

²¹ IAPRI presentation 2018-03-05 by Chance Cabaghe

Contribution level

The Sustainable Integrated Land Management Solutions project implemented by SNV has only reported the first agricultural season 2016-17. So far 30 agrodealers, 210 lead farmers and 14 government extension officers had gone through comprehensive training in sustainable land management methods. They in turn have trained about 8,000 farmers in mainly integrated soil fertility management and agroforestry.²² SNV has also contributed to increased applied research together with ICRAF and the Zambia Agricultural Research Institute regarding agroforestry and soil fertility measurement and improvement. Getting private actors interested in purchasing or selling more environmentally sustainable solutions has been challenging, but some promising alliances with private sector companies have been formed. Climate Smart Agriculture methods are being supported in different ways in all the agricultural contributions.

2.3 Area of Support 3: Strengthened democratic accountability and transparency, and increased awareness of human rights

It is worth noting that 8 out of the 11 contributions in this area of support ended in December, 2017 because they were aligned to the strategy timeline (2013 to 2017). Therefore, about 7 appraisals are planned for the year 2018 to continue some of the contributions and start new partnership. The area of support expects completion reports by June, 2018.

2.3.1 Objective 3.1 Increased capacity, reduced corruption and increased openness in the Zambian public administration

Development to strategy

Zambia is currently undergoing a number of reforms stemming from the amended Constitution of 2016 which are meant to improve citizen's participation and legislature oversight in public administration such as the Planning and Budgeting Bill among others. Despite the efforts to improve the legal framework to increase citizen's participation and oversight by the legislature, budget transparency has dropped significantly as evidenced in the 2017 open budget index from 39/100 in 2015 to 8/100 in 2017.²³ Zambia has also dropped on the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index of 2017, from a ranking of 87 to 96 out of 180 countries while the score has dropped by one point from 38 to 37. The general perception among stakeholders is that democratic space is at its lowest and that there is a growing tendency of selective justice targeting those opposed or critical to the government. Most cooperating partners working in the governance area are currently developing new strategies, hence it has been agreed that concerted efforts and shared thinking is required to avert the deterring governance situation.

Portfolio level

All implementation periods of the four contributions in this portfolio ended in December, 2017 and are expected to be closed by June, 2018. The portfolio has a mix of contributions which contribute 100% of results to this objective but also to objectives 3.2 and 3.3. This is because of the nature of governance programs and the Zambian context which require strengthening of demand side of accountability as well as public administration being strengthened to yield results. The portfolio is well balanced because the

²² Annual Progress Report 2016 SILMS, p 33, June 2017

²³ It needs to be noted however that part of the drop in Zambia's transparency score is due to a change in the index criteria. The Open Budget Index now requires that documents be made available on line, and Zambia's the executive's budget proposal was not available on line on time.

two UN programs support systems strengthening target Ministries and parliamentary oversight while the OAG enforces accountability of public financial management. Although the democratic governance in Zambia is regressing, this portfolio has contributed positively in strengthening accountability and increasing capacity in Public administration.

Contribution level

The Auditor General's Office has continued to produce its reports timely and with good quality hence strengthening the oversight role of the Public Accounts Committee which uses the report to question Government officials cited in the report and recommends those found wanting for disciplinary measures. The 2016 Audit report, issued in September 2017, showed improvements in queries such as unvouched expenditure, non-recovery of advances and loans, wasteful expenditure and undelivered materials. However, queries such as misapplication of funds amounting to K162,095,699 (K28,153,997 in 2015), misappropriation of funds amounting to K3,618,127 (0K in 2015), unretired accountable imprest, unvouched expenditure and undelivered materials remain areas of concern.²⁴

2.3.2 Objective 3:2 Freer and more independent media

Development to strategy



The legal and political environment for the media in 2017 was very unfavorable characterized by legal suits, harassments, threats, intimidation and attacks under which media houses and practitioners operated.²⁵ Some of the threats and intimidation came from individuals while others were from institutions or the state, which adversely affected working morale of media practitioners. Whereas some of the threats were as a result of journalists reporting on sensitive matters or carrying out interviews with opposition leaders, other threats aimed at rectifying unprofessional conduct by journalists such as abuse or falsehoods. The public media continued to be biased towards the ruling party, leaving little or no space for the opposition and civil society in the media. During the 2018 parliament debate on budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, a ruling party Member of Parliament said that the ZNBC should not be allowed to air any views from the opposition parties. Such high level support to the exclusion of opposition parties on public media and civil society has negatively affected the country's democratic governance generally.

The high cost of capital and reduced number of cooperating partners in Zambia makes it even more difficult for community radio stations or private media to operate, for instance, the 2016 Auditor General's Report revealed that 145 radio stations in the country had expired broadcasting licenses due to failure to pay the annual license fees.²⁶ This means they can be deregistered resulting in lack of alternative media for people in the peripheral.

Portfolio level



There is only one contribution in this portfolio which is sub-granting to 8 community radio stations across the country. Even though the projected results are achieved, the program results are negatively affected due to the unfavorable media environment in the country as stipulated above. Based on the poor

²⁴ Report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of the Republic for the year ended 31st December, 2016, page Viii, September 2017.

²⁵ Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) – Zambia Chapter, State of the Media In Zambia, p 13 and 16, 2017.

²⁶ Report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of the Republic for the year ended 31st December, 2016, p 38, September 2017.

linkages to policy and national level advocacy in the current project, the new project is being designed to include more national level advocacy on media freedom and policy engagement. In addition, several contributions under objective 3.3. also contributes to this objective.

Contribution level

In April, 2017, five of the Radio Waves stations (Radio Icengelo, Breeze FM, Radio Chikuni, Liseli and Hot FM) participated in the in-depth reporting training organized by BBC Media, and conducted by Andrew Forrest from the Mail and Guardian of South Africa and Charles Mafa, a local freelance investigative reporter. With remote support from Charles Mafa and BBC Media Action mentors all five participating stations finished their in-depth radio packages. Topics included misuse of CDF funds in Monze, and misappropriation of donor funding for ADC offices in Chipata. Broadcast was throughout June and July. The programmes were also shared with other stations.²⁷

2.3.3 Objective 3.3 Enhanced capacity to demand accountability and increased awareness of human rights

Development to strategy



Although Zambian citizens are generally free to participate in national processes more than their counterparts in the region, democratic space is shrinking. Civil Society has challenges of reaching out to citizens and mobilization due to the lack of independent media outlets. The increased harassment of ordinary people and activists by party cadres has also reduced the freedom of speech, assembly and association as people are afraid of violence. A number of positive pronouncements were made in the new constitution which would increase platforms for citizens participation but most of them are not yet operationalized and there seems to be no political will to promote human rights and accountability.

The drafting of New NGO Policy was completed and it may be approved by Cabinet in the 3rd quarter of 2018 after which review of the amendment process of the NGO Act will commence. Therefore, there is still a threat that the Act may be used to further suppress CSOs especially towards elections. NGO's had sued government seeking an interpretation on the constitutionality of the Act; the court ruled that the Act should be suspended until the two parties resolve their differences. According to experts who have been working on the process with the Ministry of Community Development, there are still a lot of grey areas because the Act is still alive hence Sida will continue following the developments.

Portfolio level



This portfolio has as many as 7 contributions. Sida's assessment was that strengthening the demand side of accountability would more likely produce results and indirectly increase the response and accountability of the government to citizens. Hence, the high investments in civil society through the Zambian Governance Foundation (ZGF) which was reaching about 30 Civil Society Organisations. Although the results from ZGF were very positive, Sida decided to discontinue this support due to lack of adherence to agreement conditions. A new support to replace ZGF is being appraised. Diakonia and Save the Children also sub-grant to CSOs working on social accountability in the extractive industry and children's rights respectively. Gender equality is also covered under this portfolio with a substantial investment in the Joint GRZ-UN Anti-Gender Based Violence program as well as the National Legal Aid Clinic for Women (NLACW). The portfolio is well balanced and responds to both the local needs

²⁷ Radio Waves Highlights from 2017, p.2, BBC Media Action.

and the strategy objectives. Two evaluations (Diakonia and NLACW) were concluded last year showing positive results from the contributions.

Contribution level

Through Sida's Support to the UN-Governance program; the Human Rights Commission and the Law Development Commission completed and handed over the anti-torture bill to criminalize torture in Zambia in June, 2017 to the Ministry of Justice. This bill is expected to reduce the prevalence of torture once approved by Parliament.

3 Implications for the Continued Strategy Implementation

The current Strategy 2013-2017 has been extended to 2018. This provides Sida with a mandate to continue with the implementation of the Strategy. In November 2017 Sida was commissioned by the government to provide a *“Basis for a new five-year Strategy for cooperation with Zambia.”* In February 2018 Sida submitted such a basis to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The document includes an analysis of the current development challenges in Zambia and proposes areas where Sweden can make an added value. The proposed objective for the Development Cooperation with Zambia 2018-2022 is to *“reduce inequalities and improve resilience for people living in poverty, especially for women, children and youth in rural and peri-urban areas; to promote democratic space and accountability as well as a socially and environmentally sustainable economy”*. This is well in line with Zambia's own priorities. The Basis for a Strategy puts a lot of emphasis on gender and environment and climate, areas where Sweden has specific comparative advantages.