



# Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life

ZAMBIA SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Caritas Zambia

In partnership with CAFOD and University College London



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The 'Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life' Project has been implemented in Zambia as part of a wider participatory research project coordinated by University College London (UCL), UK and the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), UK, in partnership with Caritas Sierra Leone, the National Commission for Justice, Peace and Caritas Liberia (NCJPC), Caritas Kenya, Caritas Zambia and Caritas Africa.

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# Executive Summary

This report considers four principles which underpin the transformative aspirations of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: 'leave no-one behind'; 'tackling inequalities'; 'integrating the environment and development' and 'participation and dialogue'. To explore these principles on the ground, the report considers nine case studies that provide examples that participants in the 'Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life' research felt particularly illustrated good policies, projects or processes. These case studies help guide future work and promote forms of transferable learning across sectors. They integrate not only some of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals but the four principles themselves.

This report reveals the alignment between Zambian national development agendas with the principle of 'leave no-one behind', in their 7th National Development Plan: 'Accelerating Development Efforts towards Vision 2030 without Leaving Anyone Behind'. It highlights that in particular low socio-economic status and persons with disabilities are seen as at risk of being left behind, and outlines a range of policy interventions that cut across the SDGs. Our research echoed this understanding of leaving no-one behind but specifically emphasised that 'one size fits all' approaches must be adapted for diverse contexts.

In our research, links were very clearly made between the first principle of 'leaving no-one behind' and the second of 'tackling inequalities': gender inequalities or political inequalities that foster corruption all hamper progress towards inclusive development. Tackling inequalities is one of the 'strategic areas' of Zambia's 7th National Development Plan, with a focus on income, gender and the urban-rural divide that is aligned with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Our research highlights that inequalities are a question of power; tackling them requires both political will and well-targeted and monitored funds.

Aligned with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, Zambia's 7th National Development Plan treats the principle of integrating the environment and development as an urgent concern, with a focus on the agricultural sector among others. Our research emphasises the importance of measures to halt and address deforestation, the subject of both case study 6 and 7. In both urban and rural settings, our research participants emphasised that environmental degradation is of more concern for the poorest, making links to the principles of tackling inequalities and leaving no-one behind.

Zambia's 7th National Development Plan is closely aligned with the fourth principle of the 2030 Agenda, arguing for the importance of citizen's participation on all fronts – political, economic, social and environmental. In both this Plan and our research, explicit inclusion of groups at risk of being left behind was emphasised. Participation and dialogue includes a range of actions, including voting, monitoring funds or campaigning. It should engage politicians at all levels but also vested interests such as those of multinational companies.



Photo By Bill Wegener

## KEY FINDINGS

- ● **Ensuring that no-one is left behind requires both economic and social strategies to reduce stigma and raise the profile of rights for marginalised groups**, as Case Study 1 highlights

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- **Working across government Ministries and with local authorities and groups helps to ensure that large-scale programmes designed to leave no-one behind are properly targeted and monitored**, as Case Study 2 highlights

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- **Leaving no-one behind requires tackling inequalities** – such as those relating to gender or political inequalities – for sustainable change to both socio-economic disadvantage and social stigma

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- **Tackling inequalities require systems-level interventions** – national campaigns with coalitions of civil society and community-based organisations can support real change, as Case Study 3 shows

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- **Tackling inequalities is more effective when partnerships exist between local communities and NGOs or government who work with them**, with well-allocated funds but also sensitisation work to shift attitudes, as Case Studies 4 and 5 reveal

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- **Top-down policies and incentives such as ‘plant a million trees’ or ‘cut one, plant two’ introduced by the Government of Zambia can help shift attitudes at local levels**, supported by work sensitive to local contexts, as Case Studies 6 and 7 show

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- **Large-scale government projects to address environmental issues such as flooding can help meet multiple SDG targets at the same time**, as in Case Study 8

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- **Information and creative forms of civic education are key tools for sustainable change and environmental protection**, as Case Studies 6, 7 and 8 all demonstrate

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- **The principle of participation and dialogue can work at multiple levels to enhance outcomes for the poorest**, between communities and multinational companies, as well as between local communities and governments, as in Case Study 9

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- **Participation can open and take advantage of new spaces to hold governments and those in power to account**, including social media, revised governance structures or national campaigns that work across civil society and NGO organisations

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- **For participation and dialogue to be meaningful it needs to be relevant, strategic and regular, beyond ‘rubber stamping’ to leading to real change in funding and attitudes**

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## INTRODUCTION:

# 'Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life'

2015 marked a huge shift in development thinking, as the global focus moved on from the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their 169 targets. This shift represented many years of collective thinking and inclusive conversations within the international community about the priorities of international development. It resulted in an ambitious agenda with an aspirational preamble and declaration: 'Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'.

This report, and the research behind it, seeks to bring that ambitious agenda to life. It aims to move beyond attention solely to individual goals and targets and to look more closely at the transformative principles that cut across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 'Bringing Agenda 2030 to life', we have focused on four key principles that we believe have the potential to shape how we do and think about development differently:



A commitment to **leave no-one behind**: ensuring that everyone reaches minimum standards; putting the most vulnerable groups at the centre of policy making and tackling the discrimination that different individuals and groups face.



**Integrating the environment and development**: encouraging development processes that support and restore our common home so that it can provide for the needs of both present and future generations.



**Promoting people's participation and dialogue**: ensuring that women and men are able to participate in ongoing dialogue and contribute to decision-making around development priorities, policies and programmes.



An emphasis on **tackling inequalities**: challenging inequalities in societies around how wealth, power, and opportunities are distributed, and addressing discrimination faced by certain groups.

These four principles cut across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, but they are also strongly supported by Catholic Social teaching, giving Catholic organisations a strong mandate to engage. Soon before the agenda was agreed, Pope Francis published his Encyclical ‘Laudato Si’ – On care for our common home<sup>1</sup>. Laudato Si’ questions the current models of development, and invites the global population to engage in a dialogue that re-defines progress and promotes development in ways that benefit all – particularly the poorest and most vulnerable – at the same time as respecting the environment and the earth’s natural resources. This report discusses the ways in which Laudato Si’ both affirms and challenges the 2030 Agenda, drawing on analysis already conducted by a group of Catholic development agencies<sup>1</sup>.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development places a strong emphasis on adaptation to the diversity of national contexts. Therefore, this report explores local voices in bringing these four transformative principles to life. This report is part of an innovative advocacy-focused research partnership in four sub-Saharan African countries: Liberia, Sierra Leone, Kenya and Zambia. In each of these four countries, twenty-five women and men were interviewed about their knowledge and experience of development, bringing together participants from different sectors: in Kenya this included government, civil society, academia, national and international NGOs, media, the private sector and women’s groups. In Kenya, participants were drawn from Nairobi, Nakuru, Samburu and Marsabit County. The research aimed to gather a diversity of views to explore how these different people understand the four principles, and to discuss examples from each country that demonstrate what each principle means in practice. These twenty-five women and men indicate a cross-section of some of the views on the ground of how the 2030 Agenda can be translated at national and local levels.

The analysis in this report and the examples of good practice and policies already happening in Kenya comes from both the interviews and from the collective engagement

of participants in a two-day participatory workshop. The findings of this research were analysed and compared with recent national development plans in each of the four countries, understanding how diverse perspectives could together contribute to the localisation of the 2030 Agenda. An important objective of this research process was to foster dialogue around the implementation of sustainable development in each country, through a two-day participatory workshop delivered in each country. That dialogue is reflected in this report.

The examples presented in this report cut across both the individual SDGs and the four transformative principles. They represent forms of policies, practice or processes that are transferable, and that can provide learning across sectors, as Agenda 2030 encourages us to do. They can help to guide future directions for sustainable development, by building on the work that has already been done. These examples were identified by research participants and discussed during the workshop; the case studies presented here are those chosen by these participatory processes.

While participants felt that we could learn from these examples, they can also have problematic aspects and are not intended to be understood as ‘ideal’ or perfect examples. Moreover, we are not suggesting that these case studies are the only way in which the transformative principles could be translated into practice. What the case studies do reveal, however, are some specific forms of intentional actions that we can learn from. They offer integrated approaches that cut across different principles and different goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development simultaneously.

<sup>1</sup> CAFOD (2018) [Engaging in the 2030 Agenda through the lens of Laudato Si’](#)

<sup>2</sup> While most inputs from participants in this report have been analysed and presented in a synthesised manner, the report contains some quotations which have been anonymised. We simply state whether the interviewee is female or male and which sector they represent.

## The Sustainable Development Goals



Source: UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform (2015).

## Case Study Table: Connections Across Transformative Principles and SDGs

| Case Study  | Principles  | SDGs  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Case Study 1: Promoting Economic and Social Rights for People with Disabilities</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave No-One Behind;</li> </ul>  | <b>SDG 1; SDG 3; SDG 4</b>                  |
| <b>Case Study 2: Educational Inclusion through Affirmative Action</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave No-One Behind;</li> <li>Tackling Inequalities;</li> </ul>  | <b>SDG 4; SDG 5</b>                         |
| <b>Case Study 3: Kulinganiza Campaign ('Make it Equal')</b>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling Inequalities</li> </ul>   | <b>SDG 10; SDG 16</b>                       |
| <b>Case Study 4: Land Ownership by Vulnerable Groups</b>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling Inequalities</li> <li>Leave No-One Behind;</li> </ul>   | <b>SDG 10; SDG 5</b>                        |
| <b>Case Study 5: Accessibility of Social Protection Schemes &amp; Social Cash Transfers</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling Inequalities;</li> <li>Leave No-One Behind</li> </ul>   | <b>SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 10</b>                 |
| <b>Case Study 6: Sustainable Reforestation in Mufulira</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating Environment and Development;</li> <li>Tackling Inequalities;</li> <li>Leave No-One Behind</li> </ul> | <b>SDG 2; SDG 4; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 15</b> |
| <b>Case Study 7: Green Charcoal</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating the Environment and Development;</li> <li>Tackling Inequalities</li> </ul>                           | <b>SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 12; SDG 15</b>         |
| <b>Case Study 8: Bombay Drainage</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating Environment and Development;</li> <li>Participation and Dialogue</li> </ul>                          | <b>SDG 6; SDG 11; SDG 3</b>                 |
| <b>Case Study 9: Silica Mining</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation and Dialogue;</li> <li>Leave No-One Behind</li> </ul>  | <b>SDG 1; SDG 3; SDG 5</b>                  |





Photo by Avel Chuklanov on Unsplash

## PRINCIPLE 1: Leave No-One Behind



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds on the Millennium Development Goals by aiming to complete what they did not achieve. Reaching the most marginalised or the ‘furthest behind’ is a key dimension to this work: none of the seventeen SDG goals or targets will be met unless they are met for each and every person. This represents a shift in previous ways of measuring development that tended to use national averages to suggest success. The specific focus on ‘leaving no-one behind’ reframes the values that shape how we do and measure development.

In his Encyclical *Laudato Si'*, the Pope affirms this focus in the 2030 Agenda on leaving no-one behind by emphasising that preferential treatment for the poorest is an ethical imperative. Prioritising the most vulnerable members of society becomes the indicator of progress. For the Pope, this involves dialogue and a broad process that sees the poor not as victims, but as agents of change.

### Understanding Leave No-One Behind: Zambian perspectives

Zambia’s 7th National Development Plan (2017–2021) is entitled ‘Accelerating Development Efforts towards Vision 2030 without Leaving Anyone Behind’, aligning national agendas with the focus of the 2030 Agenda and *Laudato Si'*. This Plan aims to prioritise interventions that ‘ensure that no-one is left behind as the economy grows’, through the ‘translation of policies into equitable, cost-effective interventions’, including: diversifying the economy (SDG 8); universal quality education (SDG 4); maternal and neo-natal health (SDG 3); preventing early and child marriage (SDG 5); and governance and anti-corruption systems (SDG 16). A key dimension of the Plan is a wide range of inclusive training systems, with a specific focus on people with different learning abilities or the inability to pay.

*“The less privileged people and the people with disabilities are those left behind. The reason being is that there is a perception that poor people are of lesser intelligence, are lazy and add nothing constructive to the society other than theft and filth. While the disabled are mostly neglected even by their families, they are not well taken care of and most of them are denied the right to education.”*

Female, Government

The specific focus on people with different abilities and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds in Zambia’s 7th National Development Plan reflects two of the common understandings of groups that are left behind that were common in our research. As the female government participant’s words show, being left behind for these groups was understood in terms of social discrimination and stigma that compounded economic disadvantage. The following case study highlights work to challenge both the social and the economic dimensions of being left behind for people with disabilities in Zambia.



Photo By Ben White

## Case Study 1:

**Promoting Economic and Social Rights for People with Disabilities**

SDG 1; SDG 3; SDG 4 // Leave No-One Behind

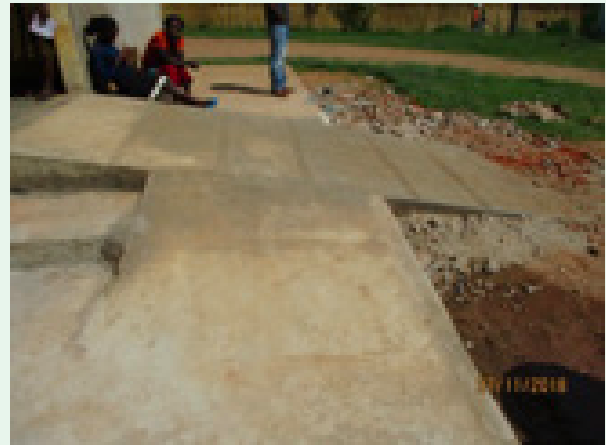
In Zambia, people with disabilities are among the most marginalised, stigmatised and discriminated against, particularly in remote rural communities. Through an EU-funded project called 'Inclusion for All: Promoting Economic and Social Rights for People with Disabilities,' CAFOD in partnership with Households in Distress are advocating against the injustices people with disabilities are facing in a remote district of Zambia called Mbala. In this district, two billboards have been mounted to fight against discrimination and stigma for people with disabilities. The billboards have been placed at two different places with messages that promote the economic and social rights for people with disabilities.

In addition to raising the visibility of rights for people with disabilities, the Inclusion for All project is also advocating for the implementation of the 2012 Disability Act in Zambia which makes it mandatory for every building to be accessible for persons with disabilities. The project has also set an example for five key public infrastructures by providing infrastructure modifications. These include rail guides, and in some instances widening the doors or door frames to ensure that wheel-chair users are able to enter rooms and buildings.



Billboard in Mbala district near the Finance Bank to enhance visibility

These public buildings, which included three health facilities and two schools, were chosen through an infrastructure audit. More than three hundred people with disabilities in the surrounding communities will now be able to access these buildings. The project also includes specific provision for the health and education of people with disabilities, by providing an outreach clinic offering physiotherapy services, and a school for visually impaired pupils. It is now advocating with district officials for town planners to allocate further funds to support those with disabilities to access public services.



Ramp built outside Tulemane General Hospital

**Promoting Economic and Social Rights for People with Disabilities Case Study: What can we learn?**

- Ensuring that no-one left behind requires both economic and social approaches to reduce stigma and raise the profile of rights for marginalised groups
- Tracking and auditing public services to ensure that they meet the needs of marginalised groups can ensure that these groups are not left behind. Audits of both the allocation of funds and of physical infrastructure are important dimensions of these assessments.

Research participants emphasised that stigma does not only affect people with disabilities, limiting their access to basic services. It also affects other groups including those with HIV and AIDS or those from the LGBTQI community, who a female participant from civil society described as “misunderstood because they do not conform to what society dictates is right”

***“In Zambia if you don’t have education as a woman it leaves you further behind, because already the patriarchal system favours men when it comes to owning land and property.***

***Women are disadvantaged when they are educated but two steps back or worse when they are not educated. Women have to work extra hard. Even amongst the educated women – when you go to a meeting, it is male dominated and people are still trivializing the issue of women, what women are going through. The most marginalized are grassroots women.”***

Female, NGO

Research participants saw stigma as part of wider social norms that included patriarchal attitudes “in prevailing traditional and cultural practices that seem to more or less place women on the disadvantaged side”, as a male NGO worker said. These patriarchal constraints on equality meant that women were less likely to be able to access land or capital, less likely to be educated, and less likely to be able to sustain themselves financially. These forms of marginalisation were intensified by the gendered labour market which meant that women were more likely to work in unregulated sectors such as in domestic work or market-trading. Participants emphasised that these economic vulnerabilities were linked to gender-based violence as women were financially dependent on the male members of their household.

***“To start with, the women. Quite alright we have seen lots of programmes meant to empower women starting from programmes meant to ensure equality in the enrolment of girl child at primary school and their inclusion at different levels of development, including in leadership. However, we see them still being disadvantaged as a result of our culture which has already taught us that women should take a back bench***

***in society. Be it at home, in schools, at church or in governance of the country. I would classify the aged and the disabled in the same category in terms of the way society side-line them.”***

Female, Academia

Our participants saw women as a potentially marginalised group but with different needs, depending on whether they were living in rural or urban areas, whether they were educated or not, and in terms of the kinds of work that they did. Participants also emphasised, as in the words of a man from civil society, that “youths...are not homogenous group. You have youths who are disabled, you have youths who are female, you have youths who are literate, you have youths who are semi-literate, but you know, when you have a one size fits all approach to youth empowerment you have a big problem.”

While our research participants emphasised the importance of diverse approaches for diverse needs, they also recognised that large-scale government initiatives were useful, if targeted appropriately and delivered without corruption. The following case study considers the response by the Zambian government to some of the socio-economic dynamics of leaving no-one behind, focusing on the provision of education for marginalised youth.

## Case Study 2:

**Educational Inclusion through Affirmative Action**

SDG 4; SDG 5 // Leave No-One Behind; Tackling Inequalities

*In Zambia, 54.4% of the population live below the poverty line and 40.8% are classified as extremely poor. This poverty is compounded by the HIV and AIDS crisis, which has left about 19% of children below the age of 18 orphaned and without proper care. Without adequate care, these children are more prone to drop out or fail to enrol in school, as well as at risk of child labour, early marriages and sexual abuse.*

*In response to the growing needs of HIV and AIDS orphans, poor communities and female learners, different Ministries of the government of the Republic of Zambia have come together to implement a bursary scheme for these vulnerable youth. In this scheme, the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education has collaborated with the Ministry of Community Development, Mother and Child Health, as well as with traditional and local authorities to identify and monitor beneficiaries for this scheme. In response to*

*SDG 4, at least 25% of all bursaries are set aside for girls who excel academically but fail to transit from free primary to secondary and tertiary education. Institutions where beneficiary recipients attend are monitored once a term, including details of the attendance and performance of the beneficiaries.*

**Educational Inclusion Case Study: What can we learn?**

- Working across Ministries and with local authorities helps to ensure that large-scale programmes designed to leave no-one behind are properly targeted and monitored
- Affirmative action for particular marginalised groups to access funds helps leave no-one behind at the same time as tackling inequalities

While our female participants were particularly likely to bring out the gendered dimensions of leaving no-one behind, our male participants tended to also focus on the political dimensions to leaving no-one behind. This included corruption, in which “those who cannot pay a bribe are left behind as they cannot access jobs and other social services available”. It also included the influence of multi-national corporations on government, and the issue that some social and economic policies and laws were seen as “designed to prop up the rich and leave the poor behind, such as the seed laws that aim at stopping poor peasant farmers from sharing and exchanging seeds, and also trade policies that kill off small traders due to high tax and stringent measures that are hard to meet,” as one man working in an NGO emphasised. Resettlement as a result of mining concessions, that reduced their access to social services and infrastructure was also seen as a key way that entire communities could become left behind.

***“The shrinking civic and political space has affected access to social and economic opportunities where access to public assets like markets and bus stations have been taken over by ruling party cadres who are collecting exorbitant levies and also deny access for those perceived to support opposition political parties. On the other hand social schemes for economic empowerment have also been largely politicized”***

Male, NGO

For some participants, these political processes linked to the categories of youth and gender which have previously been identified. Uneducated, male youth were seen as particularly vulnerable to exploitation, at the same time as they were left out of planning and democratic processes, as one woman from an NGO emphasised: “the uneducated are also easily manipulated to participate in vices that disadvantage them, but advantage those who wield the power, especially when it comes to political, those political campaigns. The uneducated are the ones who are used in the political violence, during campaigns. That does not advantage them, of course they will give them money for chibuku (beer) but it advantages those who wield the power.”

## Leaving No-One Behind in Zambia: Summing Up

Our research in Zambia highlights the importance of leaving no-one behind through targeted initiatives that do not take a ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach. For some participants this meant a combination of challenging discrimination and advocating for targeted allocation of funds, as in case study 1. For others, this meant ensuring that work with specific beneficiaries, particularly if women, took a ‘household approach’, that meant meeting with both husbands and wives to ensure that information and awareness was widely disseminated. Many of our participants made links between leaving no-one behind and the second transformational principle of tackling inequalities. They argued that issues such as gendered inequalities within systems and political inequalities that linked to corruption all restricted work to meet the goal of leaving no-one behind.



Photo By Annie Spratt

## PRINCIPLE 2:

# Tackling Inequalities



In the 2030 Agenda, tackling inequalities is both a cross-cutting principle and a specific goal (SDG 10). In a world in which inequalities both within and among countries are rising, and wealth, power and opportunities are not equally shared, tackling inequalities is a particularly pressing issue. In the 2030 Agenda, gender inequality ‘remains a key challenge’, requiring the removal of all barriers to equality between women and men, and for equal access to economic opportunities, political participation and decision-making and justice. Efforts on this key issue should be informed by data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, meeting SDG target 17.8.

Laudato Si’ goes further to argue that these inequalities cannot be tackled without addressing the structural drivers of inequality, and the concentration of power in the hands of the most powerful. Making links to the principle of leave no-one behind, both Agenda 2030 and Laudato Si’ emphasise that inequality affects us all, but affects the poorest and most vulnerable most severely.

## Understanding Tackling Inequalities: Zambian Perspectives

Tackling inequalities is one of the ‘strategic areas’ of focus for the Zambian government, reflecting recognition in the 7th National Development Plan (2017–2021) that Zambia is one of the most unequal countries in the world according to the GINI coefficient. The 7th National Development Plan presents this inequality as a ‘potential threat to long-term social and economic development’. In the plan, emphasis is placed particularly on reducing income inequality, gender inequality, and the rural-urban divide.

On income, the Government recognise that the ‘nature and character’ of growth needs to change – ‘different from the growth achieved during previous plan periods, which were characterised by marginal reductions in poverty and increases in inequality.’ Of particular concern is the recognition that ‘the gap between the rich and the poor has been getting wider and wider over the last decade and a half’ (2000–2014).’

*“Most times it is dependent on who wields power. Those with less power face deeper inequalities.”*

Female, Civil Society

In our research, income and wealth inequalities were further linked to power inequalities between the elites and ‘ordinary’ citizens. Tackling inequalities was felt to require political will and strong, equitable approaches to leadership that would ensure that progressive policies were appropriately funded and implemented. The following case study considers a national campaign organised by a coalition of civil society and community-based organisations to monitor and advocate for spending to specifically tackle inequalities..

*“To be honest, it is only very true that Zambia is one of the countries in the world with very good policies, but implementation is not there. I think commitment is not there, political will is not there. And this is demonstrated by the levels of funding. Pay particular attention to the national budget. You will see how much money these good policies are receiving. It’s one thing to have a policy, it’s another to actualize it”*

Male, NGO

## Case Study 3:

**Kulinganiza Campaign ('Make It Equal')**

SDG 10; SDG 16 // Tackling Inequalities

The Initiative for the Kulinganiza Campaign started around 2014, concerned with issues of rising income and social inequalities in Zambia and following the “Even It Up” Campaign. The campaign prompted community-based organisations and policy and advocacy civil society organisations to come together on a platform. The campaign broadly focuses on how Zambia can make use of taxation and public expenditures to reduce inequalities in the nation considering the growing inequalities in Zambia, speaking to SDG targets 10.6 and 10.7, as well as SDG target 15.6 which promotes the ‘fair and equitable sharing’ of the benefits of natural resources.

Amongst the key focuses of the campaign is interrogating expenditure by local authorities in service delivery. More specifically the campaign looks at addressing challenges of the Local Government Equalization Fund (LGEF) which is governments grant to all local authorities in Zambia. The Local Government Equalization Fund is financed by 5% of all the income taxes in Zambia and is meant to be redistributed to all local authorities in the country for their expenditure on capital project, emoluments and service delivery. The formula for calculation of what specific local authorities receive from the grant is determined on the variables of poverty, population and size of the local authority in order to reduce inequalities. The Kulinganiza Campaign interrogates the structure of the initiative in fighting inequalities arguing that although this fund exists for purposes of fighting inequality, little of the resources are actually ear-marked for this purpose of service delivery.

The current target of the campaign is in mineral resource rich districts of Zambia where inequalities have proved to be more prevalent. Host communities and those displaced by mining activities are left worse off by multi-billion extractive projects, while creating opportunities for the elite and expatriates in the areas. The campaign urges local authorities to earmark funds through the Mineral Revenue

Sharing Mechanism provision for local community use from the taxes from extractive projects so as to ensure that local communities and those displaced are not left worse off. The campaign ensures a strategy of making use of evidence from case studies on the performance of the fund to inform community mobilization, media outreach, engagement meetings with government at national and district level. Currently the campaign has influenced Solwezi Municipal Council, a council hosting Zambia's biggest Copper Mine, to deliberately reserve 10% of revenues from extractive projects for purposes of service delivery for the mine host communities, as a way of improving expenditure by mining companies.

**Kulinganiza Campaign Case Study: What can we learn?**

- Tackling inequalities requires large-scale attitude and practice changes – national campaigns with coalitions of civil society and community-based organisations can support interventions at multiple levels to help foster these changes
- Collective advocacy efforts can help drive the implementation of progressive laws that mobilise taxes and funds for development





*“The inequality between men and women is quite evident. So when you talk of an average Zambian woman, to be more specific they will have less opportunities, less access to properties, even owning land, they’ll have less access to capital and things like that because more often than less they access these things through their husbands traditionally and so their livelihoods are dependent on the other. And once the bread winner is out of the picture then they are very vulnerable and so that inequality is quite huge.”*

Male, Church

Building on the concerns about income, the government also sets out in the 7th National Development Plan that ‘gender inequality remains an important issue for policy in Zambia’. The government understands this in terms of power, and ‘unbalanced power relations between women and men in the domestic, community and public domains’. In our research, understandings of gender inequalities cut across the domestic, community and public domains noted in 7th National Development Plan, and echoed the focus of Agenda 2030 in arguing for the importance of equal opportunities, political participation and decision-making between men and women. This included many different forms of social structures, including the Catholic Church, which was working through a Women’s Empowerment Program to educate and sensitise women and their communities, as well as putting in place policies to encourage women to participate in governance. The following case study considers work to tackle inequalities by gender associated with access to land.

#### Case Study 4:

### Land Ownership by Vulnerable Groups

SDG 10; SDG 5 // Tackling Inequalities; Leave No-One Behind

Zambia has a dual legal system – common law and customary law. In common law all people have the right to own land (1995 Land Acts, art. 184) but in many of the customary laws in the tribal areas or chiefdoms land is often denied to certain groups of people, in particular women, people with disabilities, youth (18–35) and people living with HIV and AIDS. Women are the largest group who are discriminated against, as it has traditionally been the case that a woman only has access to her husband’s land or, if she is a widow, to her parents’ land. She therefore has had no right to own land herself.

Caritas Zambia have been working for many years with the chiefs and communities in the rural areas in the North Western Province, building a relationship to engage on sensitive topics. With threats of displacement by mining companies, Caritas started to work with the chiefs and their advisers to document customary land ownership so that people could claim compensation if displacement did

happen. Caritas worked with the chiefs to form “village land committees” in each ward, but at the same time ensuring that the committees included women, youth and people living with disabilities. Caritas provided technical and legal support in drawing up suggested village land committee guidelines that would challenge some of the traditional exclusions on land ownership.

These committees undertook a land register and allocated land to all adults over 18 who didn’t already have it, giving them a certificate of ownership. The village guidelines explicitly included giving land to women, people with disabilities and people living with HIV and AIDS i.e. those who were being excluded. They also started to demarcate the land, so that boundaries were clearer between different land titles. In total, 357 women and 243 men received Customary Land Holding Certificates, covering 3000 hectares.

### Land Ownership Case Study: What can we learn?

- *Certifying customary land ownership helps tackle inequalities between ordinary citizens and multinational companies, but can also be a lever to shift customary practices to ensure that no-one is left behind*
- *Thinking of inequalities within communities not just as income but also in terms of assets such as land is very important for tackling inequalities, especially for women, youth and people with disabilities.*
- *Civil society partnering with local authority structures to develop progressive guidelines can help to tackle community-level inequalities, and ensure that no-one is left behind*



Land Committee members of Ikelenge chiefdom

Our research participants emphasised that gender is not only a question of access to resource and opportunities, but also shapes how men and women understood themselves, such as through understandings of male power and sexual prowess which were seen as particularly damaging in the context of the HIV and AIDS crisis. As one male NGO participant explained: “In Tonga we say, ‘Mulombwana Munyati’ (‘A man is a buffalo’). This slogan has even ended men into trouble... where there is AIDS there, because ‘a man is a buffalo’, he will go there and wants to prove that he is really a man. And that’s why actually you have seen so many men are dying because of that notion.”

These gendered inequalities are compounded by other forms of inequality, particularly across the urban/rural divide. In the 7th National Development Plan, concerns about the urban-rural divide translate into a policy focus on improved infrastructure and social service delivery, linked in the Plan both to questions of social justice but also to economic competitiveness. Our research participants saw these inter-linked inequalities as leading to the entrenchment of poverty and inequality across generations.

***“Generational household poverty is the root cause of inequalities in Zambia. This is intensified by long distance to basic services such as education and health services. The high levels of unemployment in the rural areas is high and thus contributes to the differences in incomes levels among households.”***

Male, Government

## Case Study 5:

**Accessibility of social protection schemes & social cash transfers**

SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 10 // Tackling Inequalities; Leave No-One Behind

*The Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) in collaboration with the Non-Governmental Coordinating Council (NGOCC) with support from the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) undertook a piece of research in January 2019 to examine social protection policies in the country and how accessible these were to women. The purpose of this research was to understand the issues faced by women in the informal sector and create a platform for women to be able to share their views and constraints in accessing social protection. This was done to amplify women's voices at the national and global levels in order to ensure that they are included in the development of the various policies and programs designed to reduce their vulnerabilities. CUTS and NGOCC shared the issues raised at the global forum, specifically the Commission on the Status of Women which is a structured program within the United Nations dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.*

*An in depth analysis of social protection programs revealed that social security systems are largely targeted towards workers in the formal sector. This is a concern as a vast majority of workers in the country are located in the informal economy. Further to this, a large proportion of the country's population live in rural areas where they are largely dependent on subsistence agriculture and are therefore unable to participate in formal social security schemes. Informal workers are ineligible for*

*social protection that is tied to formal employment status, particularly contributory social insurance, such as pensions, maternity benefits, unemployment benefits and health insurance. Given women's disproportionate representation among informal workers, they are less likely to benefit from employment-related social protection, leading to low social protection coverage, and failing to meet SDG target 10.4 which focuses on the role of social protection policies to achieve greater gender equality.*

**Assessing Social Protection Case Study: What can we learn?**

- *Engaging policy makers to work towards gender responsive policy and practice help ensures that inequalities are not maintained as a result of labour market structures*
- *Research can reveal multiple inequalities – across rural/urban divides, or between men and women – that social protection programs need to be more sensitive towards*
- *Ringfencing funds and ensuring that monies reach the intended beneficiaries can help mitigate poverty; speaking to beneficiaries themselves can confirm that inequalities are being tackled more comprehensively*

**Tackling Inequalities in Zambia: Summing Up**

As Case Studies 3 and 5 highlight, campaigns and assessments of existing social policies which focus on inequalities can reveal some of the ways in which inequalities are reproduced across generations and within communities. Inequalities of income, gender and across the urban/rural divide are all shaped by unequal power hierarchies, but can be challenged

by community organisation and use of legislation, as case study 4 shows. Working to challenge these power hierarchies requires political will and well-targeted funds, ensuring that elites do not only support their own interests.

## PRINCIPLE 3:

# Integrating the Environment and Development



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for a new approach, where protecting the planet from degradation and tackling poverty and inequality must work together, balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development – social, economic and environmental. Agenda 2030 reaffirms that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our common home. The Pope describes this as ‘integral ecology’ and emphasises that everything is interconnected: ‘we are faced with not two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental’. As Agenda 2030 argues, the complete range of development activities – including ending food security (SDG 2), access to water and sanitation (SDG 6), access to energy (SDG 7), building infrastructure (SDG 9), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), and responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) – must be met by sustainably managing our natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that the planet can support the needs of both present and future generations. Agenda 2030 highlights the need for a world in which consumption and production patterns and use of all natural resources are sustainable – from rivers, lakes and aquifers to oceans and seas (SDG 14), and from air to land (SDG 15). In *Laudato Si’*, this is understood as inter-generational justice: we need to recognise the impact of human activity on the planet, and protect the environment as our common good.

Within the 2030 Agenda, action on climate change (SDG 13) is singled out as an issue that demands decisive global action and the widest possible international cooperation. For the Pope, rich countries have an ‘ecological debt’ towards poor ones: climate change impacts the poorest communities the hardest. To act against climate change, we need greater political will, and to challenge powerful vested interests who work to conceal the impact of their activities.

## Integrating the Environment and Development: Zambian Perspectives

Aligned with the 2030 Agenda, Zambia’s 7th National Development Plan acknowledges the effects of climate change, particularly on the agriculture sector. In this plan,

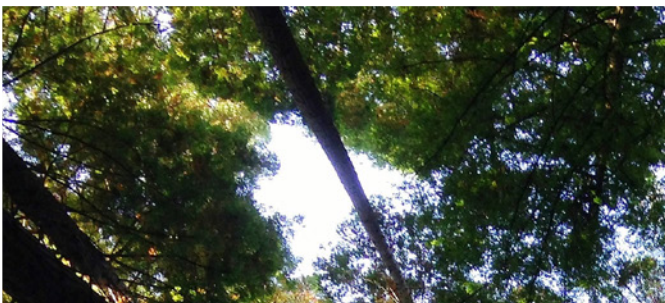
Government aims to ‘promote the adoption of agricultural environmentally-friendly practices’, as well as to mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, speaking to target SDG 13.2. For the Zambian government, these measures reduce environmental risks such as water shortages (SDG 6) and air pollution, at the same time as ‘promoting social wellbeing, including better health, and growth of the economy’ (SDG 3, SDG 8). In the Plan, unsustainable use of resources – which the government names as forests, land, water and minerals – is a ‘binding constraint to the socio-economic transformation of the country’. The Zambian Government define unsustainable use of resources as a ‘lack of patriotism’.

*“Definitely deforestation is one of the issues. When you look at how reckless we are in terms of the cutting of trees in a way that we do not think of how to replenish these trees. It’s quite scandalous – so this could be cutting of trees because of charcoal burning, commercial farming or even industrial activity. But also in the name of development – we want to develop this area and we cut the entire vegetation. It brings into play the climate change and even around Lusaka you can see how we have devastated some forest reserves. It appears there is no law to protect those areas – once an investor comes it’s like whenever we look at money then we forget about the integrity of creation and the need to preserve some vegetation in some areas.”*

Male, Church

One of the key problems that our research participants identified in relation to environmental degradation and the tensions with development was deforestation. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FOA), Zambia is

the country with the second highest deforestation per capita in the world, and the country is losing approximately 8,000 hectares of forest a year. Zambia's Government therefore launched the Plant a Million Trees Initiative in 2018, aiming to plant two billion trees by 2021. A second policy initiative led by the Forestry Department, 'cut one, plant two' allows communities to collect new saplings for planting. As a woman from an urban NGO emphasised, however, these initiatives need to take better account of inequalities of income and the urban/rural divide: "you know, this information is only within town. Those in the rural areas, where the proper charcoal burners are... how do they come to town? They do not even know where this forest is, and maybe even that information has not reached them. They have no radios; they have no access to any information."



*“With the reduction in rainfall amounts, there has been load shedding in the country, hence people have to access cheap alternatives like charcoal. Hydroelectricity has also become more expensive, out of the reach of poor families hence even urban people are now using charcoal.”*

Male, Government

Other research participants made explicit links between environmentally damaging practices and socio-economic disadvantage in the context of increasing energy prices, linking to SDG 7. These issues compounded the lack of alternative sources of livelihoods for those at risk of being left behind, particularly for disadvantaged women and youth or rural farmers. The following case study explores some ways to sustainably address deforestation, taking into account these complex issues to work across the transformative principles of the SDGs, and bringing to life the Government aim to shift towards 'agricultural environmentally-friendly practices'.



Photo By Angela Benito

## Case Study 6:

**Sustainable Reforestation in Mufulira**

SDG 2; SDG 4; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 15; // Integrating Environment and Development; Tackling Inequalities; Leave No-One Behind

*In the Mufulira area of the Copperbelt Province, the Forestry Department has put the rate of deforestation at around 15% annually. The deforestation and consequent climate change has resulted in a change in the local ecosystem, a loss of biodiversity, and increased incidence of both drought and flooding. It also means a decline in food security due to a reduction of agricultural yields and the loss of forest resources, such as wild fruits.*

*A project by FPSZ in Zambia aims to plant 5000 or more indigenous and fruit trees in Mufulira, a rural village on the outskirts of Mufulira, at subsistence farms, and at local schools and community centres. To enhance the sustainability of the deforestation work, the project is collaborating with the Department of Education to develop an educational programme about the natural environment, speaking to target 12.8 of the SDGs which is focused on education for sustainable development, and improving food security by planting fruit trees at under-privileged schools. The project will also work with local subsistence farmers to promote conservation farming methods that reduce land degradation and desertification, and start micro-nurseries with twenty of these farmers to support*

*ongoing reforestation projects, and helping to meet SDG targets 15.2 and 15.3 which aim to progress towards sustainable forest management and reduce the proportion of degraded land, as well as SDG target 15.5 which aims to halt the loss of biodiversity.*

#### **Sustainable Reforestation Case Study: What can we learn?**

- *For deforestation and land degradation to be halted in the long-term, creative planning is needed that includes educational programmes for children and youth on deforestation and climate change, as well as involving local farmers and other stakeholders*
- *Partnerships between local NGOs and government can extend the reach of initiatives to tackle climate change and diversify livelihoods*
- *Some top-down policies and incentives such as 'plant a million trees' or 'cut one, plant two' introduced by the Government of Zambia can help shift attitudes at local levels*

***“The nation is highly dependent on mining for revenue generation to fund education, health, social protection etc, but it comes with negative environmental externalities.”***

Male, NGO

In our research, participants further identified the reliance on the mining sector as one of the key tensions between economic growth and environmental protection. Participants felt that the mechanisms to challenge these multinational companies needed to be strengthened, with effective oversight and funding for monitoring from the Zambian Environmental Monitoring Agency, and transparent use of Environmental Impact Assessments. The work of mining companies was also seen to lead indirectly to deforestation, as local farmers were displaced, then cutting down forests for agricultural activities.

In some provinces this was seen to lead to significant changes in rainfall patterns, increasing food insecurity and drought at some times in the year, with flooding at other times. In response to the damage that extractive industries could do, partnerships with the private sector were seen to offer opportunities, if linked to tackling inequalities and working towards environmental protection

## Case Study 7:

## Green Charcoal

SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 12; SDG 15 // Integrating the Environment and Development; Tackling Inequalities

In Solwezi and Kasempa districts, a project by the Kansanshi Mining PLC in 2010, partnered with Caritas, aims to discourage deforestation by introducing green charcoal technology. Kansanshi mine is encouraging burners and small-scale farmers to instead make briquettes by burning the stalks of maize leftover from agricultural processes, mixed with cassava porridge and then pounded into a mould to form a brick which can be used for cooking. Community members are trained in the process of making these briquettes at the mine, which are sold for K120 rather than the K40 that is the market-rate for a 25Kg bag of charcoal. In the years of its implementation, the initiative has been able to train over 2000 members of the communities within the province in green charcoal production.

The challenges of this project have been the dominant reliance on charcoal burning as a source of income and fuel for cooking. This alone makes it tough to sway a community dependent on conventional charcoal fuel for domestic use and earning to a whole new method of doing things, even if it may prove more beneficial in the long run. High levels of illiteracy and education about the environment means that the communities lack awareness of the effects of charcoal burning.



Converting maize stalks into green charcoal



A training session at Kansanshi Mine

### Green Charcoal Case Study: What can we learn?

- Providing alternative sources of energy to charcoal are very important for Zambia to reduce deforestation, and meet the requirements of SDG 7
- Providing alternative sources of livelihoods for the poorest can help reduce their reliance on practices which degrade the environment, but this work needs to be supported by extensive awareness raising
- Private multinational companies can be encouraged by government to fund corporate social responsibility activities that can meet multiple SDG targets at the same time, but need simultaneously to be monitored for the effects that their own industries can have on the environment

***“A few years ago, a policy of some sort was passed that no one was allowed to have a rubbish pit in their yard. The local authority introduced a waste management system where people pay K15 or 20 per week (depending on the size of the bag) and have their rubbish collected.***

***For those that are unable to pay, they end up disposing their waste illegally at night, usually in the streets, and this poses a threat to the environment. For those that wish to cut down on costs they end up burning part of their waste.”***

Female, Academia

Zambia’s 7th National Development Plan emphasises that environmental degradation is not only a rural issue, which our research participants also highlighted. In the 7th National Development Plan the Government acknowledges that ‘urbanisation in Zambia... has come with major development challenges that impinge on human and economic development and result in environmental degradation. In urban contexts too, there are links between leaving no-one behind and integrating the environment and development: poor rubbish disposal and flooding affect the poorest communities most severely. In 2017 Zambia suffered one of the worst cholera outbreaks in the country, particularly spread through street vendors selling food in unsanitary conditions. Government policies such as the ‘Keep Zambia Clean and Green’ campaign supports the maintenance of a clean environment for all. The following case study highlights a partnership between the Government and international donors to further this work.

#### Case Study 8:

### Bombay Drainage

SDG 6; SDG 11; SDG 3 // Integrating Environment and Development; Participation and Dialogue

Every year in Zambia the capital city of Lusaka floods during the rainy season, which normally falls between October and April. The flooding of streets affects the country’s economy because most of the businesses in the central business district have been forced to close, as well as increasing the risk of water borne diseases such as cholera.

In response to this flooding, the Zambian government with the support of the American Government has constructed 29.6 kilometres of improved drainage, designed to reduce flooding downstream into the city. The project also included upgrades of sewerage treatment and garbage disposal works, as well as an increase in the number of boreholes within the Iolanda water treatment plant, increasing access to clean water. A secondary activity of the project was to educate citizens on the need to promote clean and healthy environments, informing people on how to dispose of refuse like plastics, helping to meet SDG target 12.8 that focuses on ensuring that all people

everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development, and increasing spaces for dialogue between government and communities. The project estimates that close to a million people in Lusaka will directly benefit from these improved systems.

#### Bombay Drainage Case Study: What can we learn?

- Ensuring that drainage systems in cities are adequate can cut across multiple SDGs at the same time, improving health outcomes for citizens as well as boosting economic productivity
- Large-scale projects, including partnerships between national governments and donors, should sensitise and involve local communities for interventions to be sustainable, helping citizens to be aware and supported to keep their environments clean



## Integrating the Environment and Development in Zambia: Summing Up

*“There is also the issue of proper legislation. The governing Acts to environmental aspects i.e. the Wildlife Act, Agricultural Act and Forestry Act don’t correlate. Despite these three having the common environmental interest, they operate as separate entities which would bring to question exactly in what capacity environmental issues are handled. Therefore, in order to bridge this gap, Government should come up with deliberate mechanisms to ensure that these laws are merged and also raise awareness in the communities.”*

Male, NGO

Throughout the case studies, and in our research, the ‘information gap’ around integrating environmental protection with development was seen to be a key constraint to the sustainability of initiatives. Our research participants argued that laws protecting the environment were disconnected from each other, and at times contradictory, with the result that implementation and monitoring were hampered. They also emphasised that without advocacy work to translate laws into local languages rather than jargon, these laws did not reach into the communities they were designed to protect, and were not ‘user-friendly’. Finally, some participants emphasised the importance of different forms of education, including literacy classes or climate-change curricula in schools, to extend the reach of information.

Our research also highlighted that integrating the environment and development in Zambia is a pressing issue in both urban and rural contexts, but that approaches need to take account of the differences in these contexts, as case studies 6 and 8 particularly highlight. Ensuring that environmental work takes account of inequalities, and reaches out to left behind populations will ensure that this work is sustainable, as the case studies in this report each show in different contexts.

## PRINCIPLE 4:

# Participation and Dialogue



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is defined as a document ‘of the people, by the people and for the people’ (UN 2015, 52). It was developed in a way that promoted participation, in much more inclusive ways than the Millennium Development Goals, involving national dialogues and thematic working groups as well as engagements with civil society and other stakeholders in many countries across the world. In the Agenda, the UN encourages member states to conduct ‘regular and inclusive reviews of national progress’ (UN, 2015, p. 79) that draws on key stakeholders such as civil society or the private sector, but that also pays particular attention to the voices of the poorest and most vulnerable. The targets for SDG 16 facilitate these inclusive processes, by encouraging governments to ‘develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions’ (target 16.6) and ‘ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making’ (target 16.7). It is these participatory processes that are believed to ensure the success of this ambitious and transformative agenda, because sustainable development is both enriched by, and depends upon, diverse perspectives. In *Laudato Si’*, the Pope affirmed this importance, calling for new forms of dialogue that are based on open encounters in which there is a willingness to change and no individual or group is left behind, especially those who are most affected..

## Understanding Participation and Dialogue: Zambian Perspectives

Zambia’s 7th National Development Plan is closely aligned with the focus in Agenda 2030 on Participation and Dialogue. The Plan argues that ‘inadequate citizen’s participation is a hindrance to the progress of the nation at all fronts, namely political, economic, social and environmental,’ and holds that ‘to successfully achieve the long-term Vision of being a prosperous middle-income country, Zambia has to be inclusive in its development trajectory by harnessing people’s voices in augmenting the nation’s development agenda.’ This inclusive approach includes capacity development at national, provincial and local levels, as well as the explicit aim to ‘promote citizens’ participation in issues that are pertinent to their wellbeing’. Building on the focus of SDG 16, the Government aims to continue to implement policies that promote transparency, accountability and

citizen participation, as well as strengthening governance institutions.

*“I think people need to know the process around decision-making. Obviously, you need to know that a decision is being made on something of importance. And then secondly, you need to know how the process works and where exactly you can influence the decision making process. But then also lastly, people are not going to participate in decision making processes unless they feel that their contribution is actually going to have an impact on the outcome and the result. And I think for many people, I can say for many people, and average woman and man on the road, I don’t think that they do, right? I think they feel that, you know, for example we may speak to something else but at the end of the day policy makers go ahead and take the decision that they had wanted to do in the first place and really that they are just kind of rubber stamping whenever they do consultation processes.”*

Female, NGO

In our research, participants emphasised that for participation to be meaningful it needs to be relevant, strategic and regular, but that it also needs to lead to real change and not just ‘rubber-stamping’. Going beyond the understandings of participation in the Plan, research participants emphasised that in addition to governance structures and elected representatives, participation might also be through protests, challenging decisions in court or public campaigns. An example of this was the ‘sanitary pads for female pupils’ public campaign, which led to specific budget provision in the national budget, through participation on social media that targeted the principle budgeting and planning offices.

*“As young people have gained increasing prominence on the international development agenda, so too is the issue of their participation in decision-making. Globally, there is increasing recognition that young people not only have the right to decide how resources are allocated, but that they also have valuable knowledge and viewpoints to bring to governance processes.”*

Male, NGO

*“Today because of the implementation of decentralization, there is a great opportunity for the community to participate and influence decision-making. What is happening now is that in District Development Coordinating Committees, for example, in ward development committees, there is a deliberate intention to ensure that in the ward development committee, which is a lowest decision making body, there must be youths, there must be women, there must be disabled people represented.”*

Male, NGO

Our research participants emphasised that changes in governance structures (such as moves towards decentralisation) and shifts in global agendas as represented by the SDGs together offered opportunities for changes in how participation and dialogue in national agendas took place. This was felt to make clearer spaces for the interests of marginalised groups to be represented and to hold duty-bearers to account and to increase national accountability. These changes together speak to SDG target 16.8, which emphasises that governments should aim to increase the proportion of the population who believe that decision-making is inclusive and responsive.

*“We have seen, at community level especially, where we have seen women participate in the actual monitoring of service delivery at community level. They will go to a health centre, and they will see that there are inadequate drugs, inadequate health personnel. And so they will bring this to the attention of duty bearers, to say in the next plan, these are the issues that we found.”*

Female, NGO

*“You know, when there is a PTA meeting, it’s only those who have a means who travel. Most of the poor people will not even attend. And those will say, yeah let’s increase the school fees, oh, yeah, yeah, you know our children are not eating well. But they forget that there are those poor children.”*

Male, NGO

Links between the principle of participation and dialogue and the first principle of leaving no-one behind were thus seen in our research to be particularly effective, as the following case study highlights.

## Case Study 9:

**Silica Mining**

SDG 1; SDG 3; SDG 5 // Participation and Dialogue; Leave No-One Behind

Silica mining is an activity dominated by women, with trade facilitated by middle men (silica stone traders) who act as intermediaries between the vulnerable women and unemployed youths who do this artisanal mining and the mining companies who buy the stones for use in the processing of copper. The silica stone crushers use hand tools to extract silica without use of any protective clothing which makes them highly vulnerable to silica-related ailments. Although these silica stone crushers were organised under a registered co-operative, they were operating without legal licences and did not have the marketing skills or capital to negotiate with the silica stone traders who came to negotiate with them. Stones were being sold at K65 or K70 per tonne to these middle men, who then sold on to the mines for K800 per tonne.

Future-preneur/STS Zambia (FPSZ) therefore worked to increase dialogue between these women and the mining companies, cutting out the need for the middle men. They were organised to meet with local government officials to raise their concerns, and provided with training to effectively negotiate on behalf of the 488 members of the cooperative. As a result of meetings with the Mopani mine, the women now sell directly to the mining company at K400 per tonne. With the increased price for silica stones they are now saving to buy their own machine to wash and crush the silica, and continue to increase profit.



Silica mining without protective clothing

**Silica Mining Case Study: What can we learn?**

- Organising marginalised groups into cooperatives and providing training to help identify and access markets and negotiate for themselves can help to ensure that they are not left behind
- Governments and multinational companies can play an important role in designing and funding local empowering programmes which communities can profit from
- The principle of participation and dialogue can work at multiple levels – between communities and multinational companies, as well as between local communities and governments – to enhance outcomes for the poorest

## Participation and Dialogue in Zambia: Summing Up

Our research highlights the different spaces and contexts in which participation might take place. Some of these are opening in new directions, and need to be monitored carefully by NGOs and civil society so that real change can be levered. This includes the role of new and more traditional forms of media, but also includes the changes in governance structures associated with the work of SDG 16. Within these spaces, inclusion of groups who are often excluded is important, linking to the principle of leaving no-one behind. Participation and dialogue is not just a question of engagement with elected representatives and governance structures, but also includes holding a range of elites to account, as Case Study 9 reveals.



Photo By Avel Chuklanov

## APPENDIX:

# Research Participants

This list of participants is organised by date of participation in the study.

| Name                       | Organisation and Role   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ms. Chenai Mukumba         | Coordinator, Consumer Unity Trust Society                           |
| Mr. Emmanuel Mali          | Public Policy Specialist, Government                                |
| Father Cleophas Lungu      | Secretary General, Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops            |
| Mr. Eugene Kabilika        | Executive Secretary, Caritas Zambia                                 |
| Ms. Mwamba Chituta         | Principle Officer, Government                                       |
| Father Clifford Kaumba     | Bishop of Solwezi, Caritas Solwezi                                  |
| Mr. Ginwell Yooma          | Director of Programme, Development Education Community Project      |
| Mr. George Meja            | CCJP Monze, Caritas Monze   |
| Ms. Natasha Sakala         | Student, Copperbelt Univeristy                                      |
| Mrs. Milejo Ireen          | Gender Officer, Caritas Solwezi                                     |
| Mr. Martin Bwalya Kampamba | Executive Director, Future Entrepreneur                             |
| Ms. Lucy Munthali          | Programme Officer, Human Rights commission                          |
| Ms. Mukupa Nsenduluka      | Programme Officer, Counterpart                                      |
| Mr. Anderson Zulu          | Programme Officer, Council of Churches in Zambia                    |
| Ms. Mundia Mutukwa         | Justice and Peace Coordinator, Livingstone, Street vendor           |
| Mr. Partner Siabutuba      | Executive Director, Youth Development Organisation.                 |
| Mr Lewis Mwape             | Executive Director, Zambia Council for Social Development           |
| Ms. Juliet Ilunga          | Programme Manager, Civil Society for Poverty Reduction              |
| Mr. David Kalemba          | Development Facilitator, World Vision                               |
| Mr. Ceaser Michelo         | Lecturer, Runsungu University                                       |
| Mr Vladmire Chilinya       | Deputy Director, FIAN International, Zambia                         |
| Mr. Mtwalo Msoni           | Coordinator, Publish What You Pay                                   |
| Ms. Prisca Mushondwa       | Coordinator, Solwezi Office Non-governmental Coordinating Committee |
| Ms. Natalie Mwila          | Programme Officer, Centre for Trade Policy and Development          |
| Ms. Kaalu Mubita           | Programme Officer, Zambia National Education Coalition              |
| Mr. Eslony Hatimbula       | Provincial Coordinator, Zambia land Alliance                        |
| Ms. Gertrude Simakampa     | Caritas Monze   |
| Ms Sheba Chikombo          | Caritas Unza  |
| Ms Kangwa Muyunda          | Policy Analyst, Consumer Unity Trust Society                        |
| Mr. John Kalusa            | Justice and Peace Cordinator, Caritas Solwezi                       |
| Mr. Viso Chakuhampa        | Caritas Solwezi   |
| Mr. Emmanuel Musonda       | Programme Accompanier Zambia, CAFOD                                 |
| Ms. Mwila Mulumbi          | Country Representative Zambia, CAFOD                                |
| Mr Collins Simugwenkwe     | Food First Information and Action Network                           |
| Ms. Esther Mukumbuta       | Government  |
| Mr. Arthur Muyunda         | Youth Alliance for Development                                      |
| Ms. Priyanshi Naik         | Civil Society for Poverty Reduction                                 |

## Organisations Involved

**Caritas Zambia** is a department of the Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops. Its mandate is to foster human dignity through programmes that endeavour to uplift the poor and marginalized from their situation, and to confront structures that deprive and oppress the weak in the Zambian societies such as unjust laws and poor policies. The structure and programmes of Caritas Zambia are formulated from its overall vision, which is 'A Zambian society where every person attains integral human development'. Caritas is spread across the whole of Zambia with offices in all Provincial Headquarters and the National Office in Lusaka. Its activities endeavour to achieve transformation of communities, conversion of the hearts, building of better values and positive perception towards life and human rights.

**CAFOD.** The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development is the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. CAFOD reaches out to people living in hard-to-reach places, in war zones and those who are discriminated against. CAFOD believes that if one of us is hurt, hungry or abandoned, we all are hurt, hungry and abandoned. No one should be beyond the love and support they need to live a dignified life. We are part of a global Church network with a local presence in 165 countries and territories. Together we make up one of the largest aid networks in the world. Because of our global reach and local presence, we have the potential to reach everyone.

**The Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU)** conducts world-leading research and postgraduate teaching that helps to build the capacity of national governments, local authorities, NGOs, aid agencies and businesses working towards socially just and sustainable development in the global south. We are part of The Bartlett faculty, ranked the world's top institution for built environment subjects in the renowned QS World Ranking. The DPU has over 65 years of experience in academic teaching, research, policy advice and capacity building in the field of international development.

As part of its mission to build the capacity of professionals and institutions, the DPU undertakes a range of action-oriented work with partners in different parts of the world. Regular contact with policy and planning practice through capacity building and advisory work is viewed as an important part of challenging and developing the theoretical and methodological debates pursued in our teaching and research.

**University College London.** UCL is London's leading multidisciplinary university, with more than 13,000 staff and 42,000 students from 150 different countries. Founded in 1826 in the heart of London, UCL was founded to open up education to those who had previously been excluded from it. UCL's founding principles of academic excellence and research aimed at addressing real-world problems continue to inform our ethos to this day. UCL is consistently ranked amongst the top 10 universities in the world.

## Research Team

**Edmond Kangamungazi** is the Economic and Social Accountability Specialist and Head of the Economic and Social Accountability Programme (ESAP). He was in charge of the SDG research in Zambia. His programme is designed to research, conscientize, advocate, inspire, empower, train and involve communities throughout the country on economic and social justice issues with an aim of promoting and influence the formulation of sound economic policy, which aims to eradicate poverty.

**Dr Charlotte Nussey** was awarded her PhD at the Institute of Education, University College London in April 2019. She has worked as an international development researcher and advisor in several countries, with particular expertise in sub-Saharan Africa. Her current research interests include gender, education, violence and interconnected forms of development that cut across the sectors of the SDG goals.

**Dr Andrea Rigon** is a Lecturer at The Bartlett Development Planning Unit of University College London with a background in development studies and research, consultancy and project management experience in several countries. His research work focuses on how power relations affect the participation of different people and social groups in decision making processes that have an impact on their lives. Andrea is a co-founder of the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre, and is also the Chair of the Board of Catalytic Action, an NGO which creates learning and play spaces for women, men and children affected by conflict or disaster.

**Diego Martinez-Schütt** is Policy Analyst at the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development based in London. He leads CAFOD's international policy and advocacy work on SDGs, providing support to CAFOD partners in designing and implementing SDG strategies globally with particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa. Diego has a background in environmental and climate research and is the co-founder and Vice-chair of Carbon Market Watch, an NGO providing policy expertise on carbon policies across the world.

