



#### FOREWORD BY RESIDENT COORDINATOR



Dear Reader,

It is a great pleasure to share with you this report, that summarizes the substantive support the UN in Zambia provides to the Government and the Zambian people through its Agencies, Funds and Programmes. Amid implementation of our supported interventions throughout the year, we may not always inform you about the difference that we make daily in the life of that mother, child, farmer or youth. The successes that we share here came despite the challenges occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic and Climate Change, among other factors that affected our working environment.

This report, therefore, serves to share key achievements for 2022, working in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Zambia and many other key partners, from civil society to Development Partners, academia and private sector. I hope you will be able to note our results across five pillars as structured in the Zambia United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework that has been our vehicle of delivering support to Zambia from 2016 to date. From 2023, our support will be made through the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

Here are a few highlights across the five Partnership Framework pillars:

Economic Diversification and Job Creation - Hundreds of thousands of smallholder farmers benefitted from equipment, climate smart agricultural techniques and information on Disaster Risk Reduction to increase their resilience to climate shocks. Other support included procurement of equipment for weather observation to enable farmers effectively plan agriculture production and management of water resources. Further, we supported within the areas of policy, legal and regulatory sector and strengthening value chain in gemstone and industrial minerals through improved capacity to conduct market analysis and investment promotion.

Poverty and Vulnerability Reduction - The UN supported development of an information system for a major agriculture intervention, Food Security Pack, as well as the expansion of the GRZ-UN Joint Programme on Social Protection to cover over 970,000 households in all 116 districts, including households with people with disabilities.

**Reduction of Development Inequalities -** Among other areas, the UN contributed to the adoption by the Zambian Parliament of the Children's Code, the Social Worker's Act and Anti-Human Trafficking Act, ensuring increased Gender responsive planning, budgeting and implementation and economic empowerment programmes.

Enhanced Human Development - The UN supported Zambia in maintaining the continuum of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) essential services while also reaching 5.8 million children under five with polio vaccination and reaching over 8.2 million people (over 70 percent) 12 years and above with COVID-19 vaccines, supporting the Government efforts to achieve +70% immunization coverage, a major milestone for the country in its fight against the pandemic.

In education, the UN supported the Government to undertake a series of provincial and national consultations on Transforming Education in Zambia, which informed Zambia participation at the Transforming Education Summit (TES), at its highest level, with Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, making bold commitments to improve the education sector in Zambia, one of them already translated into practice – free education until Grade 12 to all.

#### A Conducive Governance Environment and Human Rights

- The UN supported the development of the National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Policy; and the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) to conduct the main enumeration for the 2022 Census of Population and Housing, which was successfully completed with resource to modern digital means and used an inclusive, disability -friendly questionnaire aiming at capturing the reality of all people in Zambia, Leaving No One Behind. In 2022, we ended with an historical achievement for Zambia.

with the abolishment of the Death Penalty, as well as the Defamation of the President as criminal offence, which constitute key milestones for advancing human rights.

Overall, the implementation of the UNSDPF was relevant to and highly aligned with Zambian national development priorities and international commitments. The areas of the partnership were strongly aligned to the five strategic objectives of the Government's 7NDP (2017-2021) as well as to the Country's vision 2030 (2005-2030) of being a prosperous middle-income country.

The UN's Delivering as One (DaO) approach was consolidated throughout the programme, particularly through the joint initiatives targeted at emergencies that enhanced the joint work for more impactful results and more cost-effective interventions. The mechanisms and systems put in placed have helped improving coordination, in the spirit of the UN reform.

In 2023, we will focus on implementing our new UNSDCF that is premised on four pillars – Prosperity, People, Peace and Planet, which are aligned with the four priority areas of the Eight National Development Plan (8NDP), namely Economic Transformation and Job Creation, Human and Social Development, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance Environment.

The success of our work would not have been possible without the leadership and partnership of the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the generous financial and technical contributions of our donors and cooperating partners whom we greatly appreciate.

Now and going forward, the UN in Zambia will through its agencies, funds and programmes continue to Deliver as One in supporting Zambia to achieve its development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

> Beatrice Musimbi Mutali United Nations Resident Coordinator Zambia





#### **UN COUNTRY TEAM IN ZAMBIA**

In 2022, the United Nations in Zambia comprised 20 Resident and Non-Resident agencies, working together in support of Zambia's development priorities. The support of the UN System in Zambia is coordinated under Zambia United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework 2016-2022.

From 2023, UN Zambia support will be delivered through the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023–2027, developed in close partnership with the Government of the Republic of Zambia and in consultation with development partners, enables a coherent UN response supporting Zambia to achieve the 2030 Agenda, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the country's National Vision 2030.

Under the UNSDCF, three new Agencies will officially join the Zambia United Nations Country Feam (UNCT) for the period 2023-2027. These are:

- 1 International Trade Centre (ITC
- 2. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- 3 World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Thus, the reconfigured UNCT Zambia for 2023-2027 is composed of a total of 23 Agencies. Funds and Programmes, 12 with resident status and 11 with non-resident status. Several Non-Resident Agencies have technical staff in country, to support programme implementation. Therefore, drawing on its cross-agency synergistic advantage, the UN in Zambia will support the realization of Agenda 2030 in line with the country's vision and national priorities. In its reconfigured shape, the United Nations System in Zambia, working with other development partners, is well-placed to support the Government of the Republic of Zambia to achieve the nation's Vision 2030 of making Zambia a "Prosperous Middle-income Nation by 2030" and improving people's lives, leaving no one behind.















































## **KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND REGIONAL CONTEXT**

A landlocked low-income country in Southern Africa, Zambia has abundant natural resources including minerals, particularly copper. The economy has been facing significant macroeconomic challenges as reflected in low growth, high fiscal deficits, rising inflation and debt service obligations as well as low international reserves. In 2022, sectorial economic developments in Zambia were mixed, with some sectors registering a contraction while others grew by minimum percentages. The outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has compounded the situation, resulting in unprecedented global public health and economic crises. In addition to COVID-19, lower global demand, closure of borders and social distancing measures were the main contributors to the poor macroeconomic situation of the country.

Several sectors suffered because the supply chains were greatly disrupted due to the impact of COVID 19. Poverty levels are high with over 60 percent of the population living on less than \$2 a day. Manufacturing, which is key to the economy has been impacted by intermittent supply of electricity, resulting from low water levels in the Kariba Dam. Youth unemployment rate at 26 percent (2021) is high noting that over 70 percent of the population is below 30 years. The agricultural sector, from which large portions of the population especially in the rural areas are dependent on, is being recurrently affected by the climate change impact. However, the economy rebounded from the historic contraction in 2020 to grow by 3.6 percent in 2021 attributed to high copper prices, increased investor confidence after the peaceful election, and continued

recovery in key sectors of the economy including agriculture, construction, mining, and infrastructure.

Total external debt stood at 14.2 billion (June 2022) which continues to impact on economic development and national priorities, resulting into reduced spending on social-economic sectors requiring massive investments such as health and education. The performance of the economy is expected to be boosted by the approval of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of a \$1.3 billion loan programme, the new Extended Credit Facility.

Zambia met the graduation criteria for the first time in 2021 after an assessment by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) and next review will be in 2024. If it meets all the criteria, Zambia could be recommended for graduation planned for 2027. The graduation criteria include per capita Gross National Income (GNI), the Human Assets Index (HAI), and Economic and Environmental Vulnerability Index (EVI). However, in 2022, the World Bank downgraded Zambia due to income performance (GNI), and this will be reflected in the next triennial review in 2024.

Zambia is neighbouring eight other countries (Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe), making the country vulnerable to cross-border challenges, particularly peace and security, that have implications for its progress.









#### **HIGHLIGHTS**



**27,000** farmers (49 percent women) reached with Disaster Risk Reduction activities



**158,210** smallholder farmers trained in postharvest technologies



Provided **10,670** rippers to 72,784 farmers in 5,805 groups for conservation agriculture leading to increasing area cultivated



Provided technical support to Electric Battery Value Chain

#### **AGRICULTURE**

### Climate smart agriculture technologies practices developed and disseminated

- Member States, including Zambia, agreed on the urgent need to ensure that issues of greening industrialization become more visible in national industrialization and development through more explicit elaboration in national development frameworks. Experiences on green industrialization among governments and the private sector from across the region were shared.
- 212 government extension staff and 194 rain gauge minders were trained on climate information services with WFP support. The development and dissemination of seasonal forecasts and weather information was translated into four major local languages and shared among farmers to inform their agricultural decisions.
- Guides for drought tolerant crops namely cowpeas, sorghum, orange maize and cassava were designed and produced in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. The materials were targeted at strengthening capacities of district level staff and lead farmers in Monze, Gwembe, Kalomo, Sioma and Shangombo districts under the Early Drought Recovery Project (EDRP) KfW funded project.
- ⇒ 38,011 farmers (30,750 follower farmers and 7,261 lead farmers) were trained in conservation agriculture in readiness for the farming season, this led to a total of 3,038.75 ha of land prepared using ripping by 4,997 (1,439 male and 1,570 female).
- UNDP facilitated capacity development for 76 (21 percent females and 79 percent males) camp extension officers in interpreting of agrometeorology to enhance community level weather information dissemination and 20 (80 percent males and 20 percent females) staff from the Meteorology office on the use of the modelling system for the assessment of agricultural impacts of climate change (MOSAICC) Platform.
- To improve weather observation network, 220 manual rain gauges were procured for 16 districts, UNDP facilitated the generation and dissemination of 2022/2023 weather forecast that was disseminated to 176,735 (65 percent females and 35 percent males) beneficiaries to enable effective planning in agriculture production and management of water resource.
- The UNDP Accelerator Lab launched the Climate Change and Energy Experimentation Programme in 2021. As a continuation of the NII process to empower innovations through experimentation, in

2022 the AccLab continued to test the approach to embed experimentation in government institutions to support innovations by partnering with two national research institutions, namely the National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research (NISIR) and the Copperbelt University (CBU) to provide research and development mentorship. Since inception the programme has supported 13 innovations focused on energy and climate change. The Experimentation programme is part of the Innovators journey- a pathway to scale by generating evidence to support the commercialization and investment for scale.

## Access to agricultural finance and insurance services increased credit, insurance, trade finance insurance

- ⇒ 3,568 savings groups were formed with a total membership of 78,177 farmers (58,601 female), with cumulative savings of ZMW34,307,639.1 (USD 2,079,250.8). The savings groups formed are across 42 districts and have since become a hub for the delivery of nutrition related trainings and gender education.
- ⇒ 348 extension staff were trained as resource persons on the Savings for Change Methodology and positioned as master trainers to cascade the trainings to other field-based staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. This master training resulted in 174 (51 male; 123 female) animators trained and provided localized technical support to new and already established savings groups in each district by the end of the reporting period.
- ⇒ WFP provided technical assistance to the Government to improve the design and management of the insurance product under the national Farmer Input Support Programme reaching over a million farmers on the input support programme.
- Support was provided to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL), through WFP, IFAD, Pula Advisors, and a consortium of four insurance companies support to launch a new Index-based Livestock Insurance (IBLI) scheme targeting 5,000 livestock farmers. The scheme protects livestock farmers from the risk of drought, fire, delayed rainfall, and widespread destruction of grasslands by pests and diseases and integrates livelihood and resilience building support.

### Agribusiness services provision and small-scale farmers entrepreneurial capacity strengthened

- About 390 aggregators bulked aggregated commodities from an estimated 29,228 farmers (female 13,320, youth 11,978) across the 42 districts. The total monetary value of the aggregated commodities was at USD 3,226,892.1 (ZMW 52,269,334).
- ⇒ 158,210 smallholder farmers trained (49 percent women) in Lusaka, Northern, Southern, Western, Eastern, Central, Muchinga, Luapula and Northwestern provinces in creating opportunities for smallholders to technology retailers to enhance access and affordability to post-harvest technologies through the aggregation network.
- To facilitate increased farmers' access to markets and commercialization of resilient agricultural products, 4,143 (56 percent females and 44 percent males) beneficiaries trained in virtual market access and aggregation, capacity development in post-harvest loss management to 67,896 (49 percent female and 51 percent male), 1,723 (44 percent female and 56 percent males) farmers linked to the markets through aggregation model and sold 30 tonnes of cowpeas, 1,020 tonnes of sorghum, 1,078 tonnes of maize generating revenue of about US\$455,402. 792 savings groups completed their saving cycles and successfully shared out to their members, with cumulative savings amounting to US\$1.1 million.

#### **National Innovation Initiative (NII)**

UNDP has leveraged on its Accelerator Lab and worked with UNFPA to provide financial and technical support over the past three years to the National Innovation Initiative (NII) spearheaded by the National Technology Business Centre (NTBC) under the Ministry of Science and Technology, in close collaboration with Universities, Local Research Institutes and agencies specialized in Information and Communications Technology (ZICTA) and Patents and Companies Registration (PACRA). Since the innovation call was launched in 2020, at least 130 innovators have been shortlisted for financial awards and technical assistance including 36 female innovators. Under the theme "Growth through Innovation & Technology" the 2022 NII has supported innovations that grow business and entrepreneurship while ensuring inclusion and diversity in the target beneficiaries. With a start-up investment of ZMW100,000 combined

with business acceleration programme, young innovators including young women and people living with disabilities have managed to make progress on solutions and prototypes, developing their projects through experimentation into potentially viable businesses.

#### TRADE FACILITATION

The 12th Extraordinary summit of the African Union was a momentous occasion for Africa, as it saw the successful launching of the operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The AfCFTA agreement was adopted and opened for signature on 21 March 2018 in Kigali and entered into force on 30 May 2019. The agreement establishing AfCFTA is critical for the achievement of trade in goods and services beyond Southern African Development Community, the Common market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the (East African Community) Tripartite Free Trade area. Zambia has deposited the instruments of ratification for both the Tripartite Free Trade area and the AfCFTA.

The UNDP Accelerator Lab in collaboration with the UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre launched a proof of concept study in 2021 to 2022 that aimed to improve trading practices of Small Scale Cross Border Traders along the Livingstone Border. In partnership with Village Savers, a local digital innovation that supports the management savings groups and links them with formal financial institutions through their online digitized savings data. The evidence from the proof of concept showed that the SSCBTs savings improved by over 300 percent during the study period with most SSCBTs borrowing from pooled savings to restart and grow their businesses.

#### Policy, legal and regulatory sector support

Technical support to Zambia and Zimbabwe on the development of the Policy, legal, regulatory, and institutional framework for the establishment and management of the Common Agro-Industrial Park (CAIP). The Framework was validated together with the study on maize and dairy value chains in the two countries. The next phase of the CAIP initiative is to roll out a detailed feasibility study to build a business case for value chains for development.

# Value chain in gemstone and industrial minerals strengthened through improved capacity to conduct market analysis and investment promotion

- → Technical support to Zambia and the DR Congo (DRC) on the initiative to develop the Electric Battery Value Chain, through ECA in collaboration with the Afreximbank, research institutions and other partners.
- ⇒ Launch of a Centre of Excellence for Advanced Battery
  Research in Lubumbashi involving the University of
  Zambia, the Copperbelt University, the University of
  Lubumbashi, and other training institutions in the
  two member States will anchor capacity building,
  innovation and research along the battery value chain.
- The Governments of Zambia and the DRC signed a historical cooperation Agreement to facilitate the development of a value chain in electric battery and clean energy sector. The Cooperation Agreement, signed by President Hichilema and President Tshisekedi, provides a framework for bilateral cooperation on the initiative as well as strengthens collaboration between Zambia and DRC.
- Supported the development of a pre-feasibility study on the Electric Battery Value Chain project. Technical details are under consideration for the cooperation agreement to anchor the initiative which is in line with one of the key policy priority measures identified in the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Road for accelerated industrialization through natural resource-led growth. This includes minerals beneficiation and processing linked to regional and global value chains.
- Through the ACP-EU Development Minerals programme UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development supported 23 groups (associations) with 781 (60% females and 40% male) of artisanal and small-scale miners, which is expected to enhance productivity, create jobs, increase income and put in place environmental and social safeguards in and around mining areas of Eastern and Copperbelt Provinces where the associations are operating from.
- Supported 23 ASMEs with capacity building and formalisation process of their mining businesses, as most of the ASME have been operating without legal mandate. This will ensure that their enterprises become sustainable and have improved linkages with other players within the mining value chain.
- Further, grants were provided to some of the associations, to enable the ASMEs improve their production by helping them acquire equipment as well as space for undertaking their day-to-day business. The programme has ensured that there is

sufficient coverage of all 23 ASMEs operations and that deliberate support from government and other partners will be directed to them as their operations are now well documented

### Investments in renewable and alternative energy increased

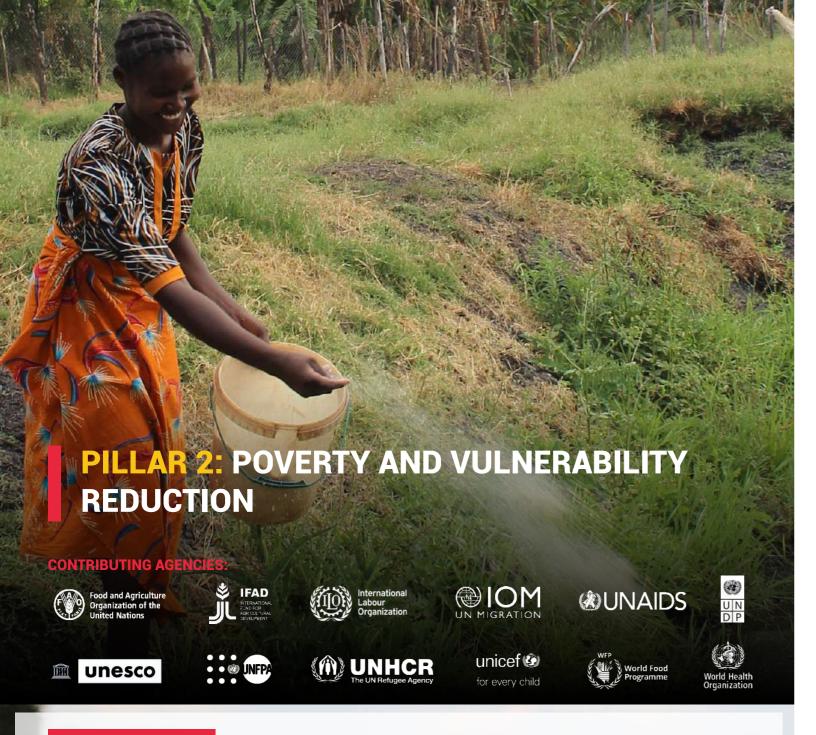
Through ILO with support from SIDA and in collaboration with the Kafue Gorge Regional Training Centre (KGRTC), 19 quality courses through the regional Public-Private Development Partnership (PPDP) "Skills for Energy in Southern Africa" (SESA) project were developed, targeting to train over 1,600 technicians, engineers and energy managers in Renewable Energy (RE), Energy Efficiency (EE) and Regional Energy Integration (REI) over the next three years. So far, 277 participants have been trained of which 128 were female and 149 male.

### Safeguarding the environment for efficient sustainable economic diversification

The ILO- SESA Project is mainstreamed for gender in an effort of leaving no one behind and is supporting females with scholarships so as to increase the number of females skilled in Renewable Energy (RE), Energy Efficiency (EE) and Regional Energy Integration (REI) with the aim of increasing uptake of technologies in these three broad areas.



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#### **HIGHLIGHTS**



**13,831** persons with disabilities on the SCT programme issued with disability cards for continuation on the programme



A joint fund of **US\$300,000** for GRZ-UN collaboration on the youth set up



**4,642,000** people reached across the country on the national radio broadcaster through the roll out of the regional 'Let's Talk EUP' radio series to help prevent early and unwanted pregnancies



**15,000** working men and women reached with HIV prevention and HIV self-testing messages

#### **Social Protection**

- The UN through FAO supported the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services to improve information systems of the Food Security Pack (FSP), define the business processes of FSP in order to clearly spell out what improvements are needed to be incorporated in the FSP information management module and to be incorporated in the Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information Management System (ZISPIS).
- Supported validation of business processes for interventions under the Food Security Pack (FSP) leading to a series of well-defined processes and a conceptual framework that defined the functionalities of the MIS.
- ➡ Trained staff from MCDSS and Smart Zambia Institute on business processes and ICT system specifications for the FSP MIS.
- Collaboration between FAO and the Ministry of Community Development and Social Service will continue in 2023 in order to finalize the development of the information system which will include an eligibility criterion for three key categories of beneficiaries i.e. those targeted under the (1) rain fed support (2) wetland cropping and (3) the alternative livelihood interventions.
- Supported the expansion of the GRZ-UN Joint Programme on Social Protection to cover 973,323 households across all 116 districts.
- ⇒ 13,831 Persons with Disabilities on the Social Cash Transfer (SCT) programme were issued with disability cards thereby facilitating their continued enrollment in the programme.
- ⇒ The UN supported the strengthening of data and M&E systems of the SCT in general as well as its shock-responsive functions, thereby increasing the ability of Government to provide timely responses to shocks and disasters.
- Supported the commencement of flagship linkage across social cash and nutrition (SUN-II) in four districts which enrolled 12,913 beneficiaries. The pilot targets 1000 days households with pregnant women and adolescents and children under 24 months and uses a community case management approach to link beneficiaries to nutrition and relevant services.
- Government and civil society organizations advocacy efforts have enhanced social protection financing through facilitation of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and Civil Society

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK ANNUAL REPORT 2022 I ZAMBIA

- for Poverty Reduction (CSPR). This partnership has been forged to undertake the social protection budget tracking and service delivery-monitoring exercise.
- Supported the Ministry of Education (MoE) to operationalise the Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) programme strategy into a sustainable safety-net that contributes to children's nutrition and education while enhancing linkage to smallholder farmers through decentralised procurement by facilitating the expansion to reach 1.9 million in 70 districts from 1.6 million in 53 districts.
- Supported system development of the 1,000 days nutrition pilot module as part of the integrated MIS to support on-boarding and payment of beneficiaries under a nutrition sensitive cash plus initiative of the Social Cash Transfer programme.
- ⇒ Trained 240 community rain gauge minders in 12 districts to manage the weather stations established in 2021 as part of strengthening community early warning systems to support effective shock responsive social protection programming.
- Persons of concern (PoC) and host communities' members were reached through UNHCR in the implementation of livelihoods and economic inclusion activities that include enabling access to agricultural inputs, business grants and skills development.



- ⇒ 132 people (118 PoCs and 14 host community members) received grants to start or expand their existing businesses and a total 472,000 ZMW was disbursed through UNHCR as part of diversification of livelihoods sources and empowerment of vulnerable but viable people. And nine (9) youths were trained in financial management and transparency for start-ups and established business.
- ⇒ Enhancing food security through enabling access to agricultural inputs: Crop production is the mainstay of most persons of concern dwelling in refugee settlements and their host communities. To enhance the food security of these households.
- ⇒ UNCHR provided support to 433 farmers in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements to access agricultural inputs under the government's farmers input programme (FISP) for the 2022/23 farming season.
- ⇒ 140 farmers were trained in agronomic practices to produce nutrition-dense crops like Orange fleshed, Vitamin A-rich sweet potatoes and Iron/Zinc rich beans
- Enhanced diversification of livelihoods opportunities through skills development and enabling access to markets through Good Neighbours partners, Tribal Textiles and Made 51 through supporting artisan and securing markets. A total of 100 items (curved pots, wall hangings, baskets etc) were produced and sold in local and overseas markets.
- Four (3 for PoCs, 1 for host community) savings and credit groups were supported with credit from Agora Microfinance (AMZ) in Meheba refugee settlement. A total of 114 individuals received loans and the loans amounted to ZMW172,784.00. Additionally, two savings groups of 34 people in Mayukwayukwa were supported.
- ➡ With the support from Caritas Czech Republic and in collaboration with Good Neighbours, Tribal Textiles, FREE, Bee Sweet Company, Agora Microfinance Zambia (AMZ) and World Vision International, among other institutions, UNHCR worked closely with various government line ministries and departments to achieve the livelihoods and economic inclusions outputs.
- ⇒ UNDP led the set-up a joint fund of US\$300,000 for GRZ-UN collaboration on the youth. This helped organize the National Youth Indaba opened by the republican president and the provincial consultations to gather youth voices for future interventions. The provincial consultation report is guiding the revision of

- the National Youth Policy, the repealing of the National Youth Act and the launch of the Phase 1 of GRZ-UN Joint Programme.
- UNDP with UNICEF, ECA, UNFPA, ILO, supported the development of the INFF resulting in the review of the national budget, a policy brief on social sectors that informed planning and programming for UN agencies and a budget analysis toolkit used to train parliamentarians and permanent secretaries on budget analysis and management. The JP has been critical in supporting the finalization of the 8NDP and its implementation plan by undertaking a Rapid Integrated Assessment while strengthening evidence-based policy formulation such as the Living Conditions Monitoring Survey and the Census.



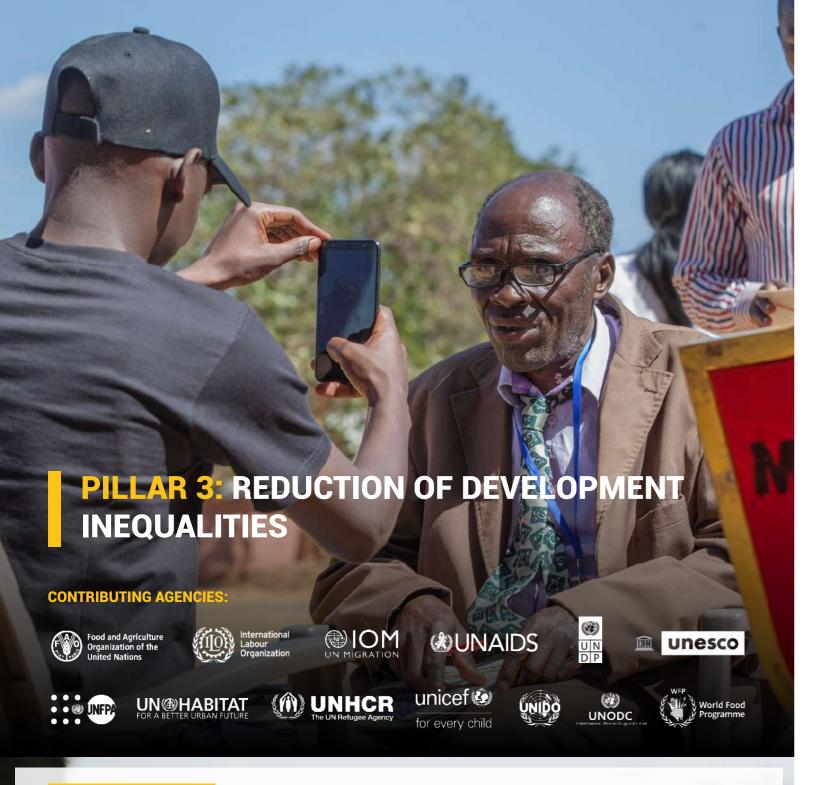
### Economic opportunities that are decent and promote sustainable livelihoods

Supported the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) in trainings and other capacity development support activities in business development services to 198 beneficiaries (190 women and 9 men) who are victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV), those at risk and members of communities of the 6 districts (Chililabombwe, Choma, Kalumbila, Kabwe, Lundazi and Mumbwa). The interventions contributed towards improving entrepreneurship skills, gender causality and managing sustainable enterprises as well as supporting and strengthening the formation of Savings and Credit Groups.

#### **HIV/AIDS and access to RH services**

- Reached more than 4,642,000 people across the country, representing 60 percent of the total population, of which 53 percent is male and 47 percent is female on the national radio broadcaster, Zambia National Broadcasting Cooperation (ZNBC) through the roll out the regional 'Let's Talk!' the campaign was in five focus provinces namely, Southern, Eastern, Lusaka, Central and North-Western. This also included conducting 13 weekly programmes of the 'Let's Talk EUP' radio series
- Stimulated discussions from the 'Let's Talk!' the campaign among gate keepers and young people around preventing early and unintended pregnancies (EUPs) and affording girls who fall pregnant an opportunity to continue with their education, as well as facilitating parent-child communication around issues of adolescent SRHR at household level in the target districts.
- Facilitated a technical discussion for partners including the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, and the National HIV/AIDS/STI/TB Council (NAC) that resulted into the development of an HIV/AIDS/TB workplace wellness policy for Zambia, and its implementation plan. The Policy is aimed at effectively strengthening the contribution of the World of Work to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support for persons living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and contains provisions on potentially life-serving prevention programmes and anti-discrimination measures at national and workplace levels.
- This intervention has provided for a multi-sectoral response approach with appropriate measures that are disaggregated in respect of those which fall under

- the mandate of Government and those meant for implementation by workplaces. It is being formulated in line with ILO's Recommendation concerning HIV and AIDS and the World of Work, 2010 (No.200), Code of Practice on HIV and AIDS and, the Convention No. 190 and Recommendation No.206 on Violence and Harassment. The draft policy is in the final stage of development in readiness for submission to Cabinet.
- ➡ Enhanced the capacity of 62 (46 were female and 16 males) HIV Self-Test Workplace Champions from 9 sub-districts of Lusaka District's Informal sector through the ILO Programme on HIV/AIDS (ILOAIDS) in Zambia.
- ⇒ 15,000 working men and women were reached with HIV prevention and testing particularly HIV self-testing messages. 8000 HIV self-Test kits and 45,000 male condoms were distributed in both the formal and the informal sectors particularly, the Zambia Sugar Company, Kascol Limited and Nanga farms in the formal sector, and all the 9 sub districts of Lusaka district for the informal sector (Markets, Bus stops and other trading areas). About 22 reactive results were recorded, and all linked to health facilities for confirmatory testing and treatment where necessary.
- Supported civil Society Organisations Pride Community Health Organisation (PRICHO) and collaborated with the Key Populations Consortium, the Network of Zambian People Living with HIV and the Zambia congress of trade Unions through the Market Associations to Implement combination prevention programmes through a Socio-Economic Empowerment initiative that is aimed at reducing HIV Vulnerability among Adolescent Girls, Young Women (AGYW), and Key Populations (KPs).
- ⇒ 85 community gate keepers, community members and young people were trained in HIV gender transformation. The initiative also included empowering of AGYW and KPs with entrepreneurship training using the ILO's Get Ahead for Youth in Enterprise; provision of catalytic funds for their existing livelihood activities; linkage to markets; and skills development through apprenticeship, approximately, 90 ADGYW and KPs benefited from this support.
- ⇒ IOM facilitated the shared learning and knowledge exchange among traditional leaders regarding their roles in adolescent HIV, SRH and human rights and how they influence health seeking behavior. The event brought together 11 traditional leaders from the six project countries (Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and South Africa) to learn from the Zambia experience.



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**



Supported the adoption of the Social Workers' Act which formalises the professional practice of social work



African Women Leaders' Network (AWLN) launched to enhance women's participation in political processes



Supported the finalization of the Gender Policy that recognizes the need to address harmful norms and practices



**737,446** to have access to safe SEA reporting channels



**31,262** households accessed postharvest services

#### Migration and human trafficking

- Supported the adoption by Parliament, Children's Code, the Social Worker's Act and Anti-Human Trafficking Act. The Children's Code provides for mandatory child-safeguarding in all settings; bans facilitation of child marriage, harmful practices, and corporal punishment as well as coercing children into sexual activity and their use/abuse in digital pornography.
- IOM supported the development and launch of the National Migration and Human Trafficking and Smuggling Policies. The Human Trafficking and Smuggling Policy outlines the challenges being faced in combating human trafficking and smuggling of migrants including the objectives and measures that will be implemented. The National Migration Policy provides the basis for mainstreaming migration in national development plans, improved comprehensive and coherent migration management, harnessing the migration - development relationship, enhancing national security and strengthening the protection of migrants. The National Migration Policy will also contribute towards poverty alleviation, improved remittance flows, data collection, analysis, utilization and dissemination.
- Development and Social Welfare (MCDSS) to develop a plan for implementing the Children's Code by social-welfare/prosecution/judiciary/law-enforcement to be used for fundraising. The Social Worker's Act formalizes the professional practice of social work and introduces an independent quality assurance system. The amended Anti-human Trafficking Act eases prosecution of child-traffickers through no longer requiring proof that the perpetrator used force or coercion.
- ➡ UNICEF supported the finalization the Statutory Case Management Handbook and Guidance Notes on VAC/ GBV, migrant children, circumstantial children, child offenders, alternative care, child marriage and the Handbook is now being aligned to the Children's Code through the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services with support from UNICEF.
- To finalize the Statutory Case Management Handbook and Guidance Notes on VAC/GBV, migrant children, circumstantial children, child offenders, alternative care, child marriage and the Handbook is now being aligned to the Children's Code. The accompanying Information Management System (IMS) has been approved by the government's IT authorities but is only

- operational in the domain of children in formal care.
- Strengthened the social welfare system for 7,620 children in alternative care (of which 899 in fostercare) with better case-management and district oversight. The developed Guidelines for Intensive Family Support to prevent family separation or enable kinship are being piloted in 20 districts and 5,500 community-members participated in dialogues on family-based care.
- ➡ The launched Minimum Standards on Protection of Child Victims/Witnesses were piloted in 16 districts reaching and applied in 634 cases, a total of 408 child migrants were supported with protection services in 10 pilot districts.
- Piloted the Minimum Standards on Protection of Child Victims/Witnesses in 16 districts and applied in 634 cases, a total of 408 child migrants were supported with protection services in 10 of the pilot districts.
- UNODC supported the Government of Zambia with development of the National Policy on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants 2022. The Policy outlines the challenges being faced in combating human trafficking and smuggling of migrants including the objectives and measures that will be implemented. In line with international and national laws.
- In order build the capacity of law enforcement officers in the screening, detection, identification and investigation of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants cases, using a victim centered approach, two (2) training workshops were conducted to build the capacity of law enforcement officers on combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants targeting Criminal Justice Practitioners from across the 10 provinces. The first training included participants included 30 Senior Enforcement Officers, 15 each from Zambia Police Service and the Department of Immigration, of which 10 were Criminal Investigations Division/Head Risk Management and Compliance officers from the 10 Provinces as well as five (5) officers from districts identified as key routes for Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants. While the second training had 30 Law Enforcement Officers who were investigators fifteen (15) each from the Zambia Police Service and the Department of Immigration from Districts located in the Copperbelt Province of the Republic of Zambia.
- Through the EU funded joint project for Global Promotion of Best Practices for children in migration, UNHCR in collaboration with UNICEF and the Government Departments (Social Welfare and

- Immigration) worked to strengthen the capacity of Government and NGO staff in refugee hosting districts namely Kaoma, Solwezi, Mansa and Nchelenge. 187 staff in contact with children were trained to mitigate child detention and improve case management for alternative care arrangements for children at risk in refugee settlements.
- Through implementation of the project, the operation is working to mitigate the challenge of traditional fostering of children to formal care arrangements according to the provisions of the Children's Code Act of 2022. As of 31st December 2022, there were 35 applications for finalization of formal fostering of children before the courts of law.
- To strengthen community-based child protection mechanisms in refugee settlements, 15 (8 females: 7 males) staff from COR, MCDSS, UNHCR and Community Child and Youth Care Workers (CYCWs) received a TOT training in Basic Qualification in Child and Youth Care Work (BQCC). The training which was facilitated by the Zambia Association of Child and Care Workers (ZACCW) equipped participants with knowledge on providing child protection services that promotes development in children and their families in a safe and therapeutic environment. Newly recruited CYCW's that work under the ISIBINDI program will be trained in 2023.
- To enhance the protection of children and reduce the risk of abuse, child friendly spaces in Mantapala, Meheba, Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements and at Makeni transit centre in Lusaka were rehabilitated and stocked with recreational materials. These spaces have proved to be safe for children since they are free to report incidences of abuse, and services are being provided to them in a timely manner.

### Gender responsive planning, budgeting and implementation increased

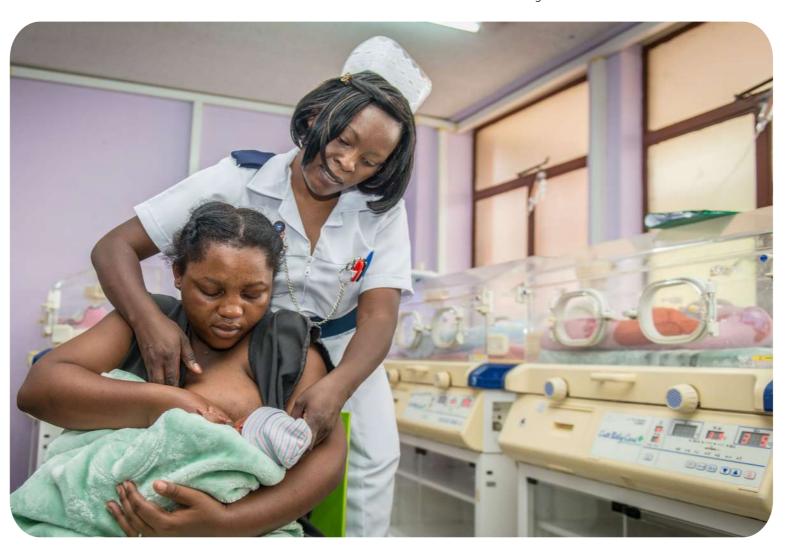
- ⇒ 30 senior planners from Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Green Economy, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Ministry of Information and Media Services, among others and 3 institutions; National AIDS Council (NAC), Zambia Statistical Agency (ZamStats), National Assembly of Zambia (NAZ) participated in the training on gender responsive budgeting tools developed by UN Women. Facilitators were from Gender Division, UNICEF and UNFPA. The National Assembly of Zambia also facilitated the budgeting process from budget development to the time that budgets are approved by the parliament.
- ⇒ The ILO through the GRZ-UNJP on GBV Phase II

- continued to mainstream gender equality in its programming encouraging the participation of women in various trainings and other capacity development interventions in the communities. In addition, the GTG has been supporting the Gender Division to work with other line Ministries to ensure that they adhere to principles of gender responsive planning, budgeting and implementation.
- UNDP contributed to a sustained multi-sectoral coordination among stakeholders in Gender Equality, GBV, Women participation, and Women Empowerment through the National GBV TWG led by Gender Division, which contributes to leveraging of resources, information sharing, and reducing duplication. Supported the development and operationalization of National Gender Policy and Village Led One Stop Centers, and GBV Shelter Guidelines which improves the quality of services for GBV survivors. UNDP working with UNICEF also supported the enactment of the Children's Code Act.
- The UN also supported the launch of African Women Leaders' Network, a movement that works to enhance women's participation in political processes.

### Negative cultural and social norms practices reduced

- ⇒ 34,719 (31,071 females and 3,649 males) adolescents were reached through structured mentorship programme delivered through the safe space model, after graduation, the adolescent girls and boys will be motivated to delay marriage and to seek SRH services at the nearest facilities.
- ⇒ 30 CBOs from Katete, Senanga and Lusaka districts were reached with capacity building and information on resource mobilization and leadership. Additionally, the CBOs have been encouraged to apply for various social programmes under the Constituency Development Fund (CDF).
- In order to prevent GBV and address negative gender norms, a total of 28 (4 Females and 24 males) traditional leaders and 4 (3 females 1 male) religious leaders were engaged. These leaders were reached with information on zero tolerance to GBV so that they can be anti-GBV change champions in their communities and denounce negative gender norms. The chiefs developed and signed a communiqué which strongly opposes acts of gender-based violence and child marriage.

- Supported the Gender Division for finalization of the Gender Policy that recognizes the need to address harmful norms and practices that negatively impact on girl's health and development. The piloting of the Ending Child Marriage Programme was expanded from 2 to 6 districts.
- Development and Social Services to implement community-based case management and identify girls at risk and refer them to education, health and protection services in an effort to reduce teen pregnancy and child marriage.
- A total of 1,009 community-volunteers were capacitated in 6 ECM districts and reached 13,706 children through community-case management. Social and behavior change on harmful gender norms was prioritized.
- A total of 5,920 community-members were reached through gender transformative dialogues while 6,576 boys were reached through the Coaching Boys into Men programme that sensitizes boys engaged in sports on gender through their coaches taking a lead in discussions.
- ⇒ 18,000 children were reached through health-facility outreach to schools on sexual reproductive health.
- ⇒ 105,000 community members were reached through local radio (estimated 10 percent of total radio-reach) programmes on child marriage and teen pregnancy; while of 8,284 girls were reached through UNFPAsupported safe-spaces.
- ⇒ 1,279 adolescent girls, at risk of child-marriage/teen pregnancy/or pregnant received education bursaries or social-cash transfers.
- ⇒ 101,604 (44,197 males and 57,407 females) children and 229,627 (108,707 males and 120,920 females) adults received psycho-social support through free toll-lines providing counselling support (Child-line/ Lifeline) and supported by UNICEF.
- ⇒ 5,640 UNICEF and partner staff/consultants/volunteers benefited from GBV risk-mitigation capacity-building. Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) has been mainstreamed in programming and strives to make sure that communities are sensitized on the risk of sexual exploitation in aid/development context and have safe channels to report such cases.
- Supported 737,446 (365,036 males and 372,410 females) to have access to safe SEA reporting channels and 466,032 community-members benefited from awareness raising sessions across UNICEF-programming.
- ⇒ Approximately 60,000 refugees and others of concern



- in the three refugee settlements and Lusaka had access to SRH and GBV services. 601 (427F: 174M) GBV Incidents were reported and managed in 2022, indicating an 8% increase when compared to 553 cases managed in 2021.
- All survivors received appropriate GBV services, while those with specific physical insecurities were provided with safe shelter. Vulnerable and Viable GBV survivors and women at risk were referred for livelihood support to the responsible partner. To enhance capacity of responders in delivering quality GBV services, 15 partner staff were trained in GBV survivor centered approaches. Community awareness programs on prevention, GBV drivers and response services available reached 29,315 individuals. To fast track GBV cases and have survivors attain justice, a mobile court was established in Mantapala refugee settlement with 4 cases proceeding to court and 2 perpetrators found guilty and sentenced.
- UN agencies facilitated a PSEA and GBV orientation meeting for CSOs working on protection in humanitarian response. A total of 24 people were oriented. As part of this orientation, DMMU made presentations in the districts most likely to be affected by floods. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that CSOs were fully prepared to undertake humanitarian responsive and ensure timely protection interventions were implemented.

## Enhanced technical capacities of women and vulnerable groups for economic empowerment and greater inclusion in industrial sector

- A total of 198 (190 female and 8 male) beneficiaries were provided with trainings and other capacity development activities for business development and entrepreneurship skills, they were also provided with startup kits (Cash) to start or improve their business. The beneficiaries also engaged in Savings and Credit Groups, the have formed 10 Savings and Credit Groups, they have also started new businesses and or improving on already existing businesses.
- Over 40,000 Women of reproductive age group were engaged to participate in village savings and lending associations, across 17 districts.
- 2,200 groups were formed and a total value of ZMW 27,224,629 in savings and ZMW 32,955,062 value of loans accessed, and WFP created linkages the private sector in agricultural production and value addition technologies such as nutrient rich seed, hermetic storage bags, solar dryers, and production equipment.
- ⇒ Supported over 31,262 households to access post-

- harvest services and over 85 percent of these are women who are exposed to information on postharvest loss (PHL), linked to private sector providing PHL services and products.
- 7,566 of smallholder farming households were linked to distributors of post harvest management (PHM) products, a majority 67 percent, being female.
- Through continued WFP support to promote knowledge and optimal practices through SBCC across the agricultural value chain, 1,346 village savings and lending associations received training on nutrition integration in the women empowerment programmes.
- Strengthened capacity of 300 staff from the Education, Health, and social protection sectors in nutrition integration on issues of nutrition and health and agricultural production and productivity.
- Over 18,000 pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls, 30,000 school learners were exposed to nutrition education and nutrition social and behavior change communication.
- ⇒ WFP supported the development of training manuals including Food Processing and Preservation manuals; Nutrition Integration into Village Savings and Lending Associations; Health Diet Counselling Wards; Nutrition Education Guide, Post-Harvest Loss Manuals and Savings For Change manuals; and these are supporting dissemination of information on the various topics to all targeted beneficiaries.
- Over 5,000 copies have been distributed across the districts and being utilised by district and sub district staff including camp extension officers, community development facilitators, nurses, environmental health officers, lead farmers, animators and community health volunteers.
- As part of the SUN II programme implementation support and overall, to the SBCC strategy and toolkit development, WFP supported Ministry of Agriculture to develop and roll out a food Processing and Preservation Manual that is targeted to reach over 42,000 SUN households with capacity strengthening skills and practices in food processing and preservation. This will enhance support to access solar dryers for about 9000 women in rural areas.
- ⇒ WFP further supported the development of Nutrition Integration messages in Village Savings and Lending Associations (VSLAs) in the social protection sector to promote activities on nutrition integration in women empowerment activities.
- UNICEF supported ZamStats in processing the data and generating the LCMS report, preparations have

- started for generating multi-dimensional child poverty results based on the LCMS data.
- In 2022, UNHCR supported 85 women in Lusaka and Meheba with business grants, business skills training and counselling to empower them in the area of livelihoods and economic inclusion. Twenty-two (22) out of the 85 women were survivors of gender based violence (GBV). The purpose of the grant is to provide capital for starting new small scale enterprise and/or expand existing ones and to empower these women to reduce their exposure to violence whilst contributing to the local economy.
- Ensured enrolment of 138 beneficiaries (with 14 percent female representation) under private sector resource mobilization, across the six programs (levels 1 to 6) in automotive engineering through the Zambia Industrial Training Academy (ZAMITA) with support from UNIDO.
- ZAMITA has built positive relationships with industry and successful placement experiences of higher-level graduates, hence the employment indicator will further improve in 2023 placing more beneficiaries into the formal job stream. So far forty-two (42) students were successfully placed on industrial attachment in different companies and sixty-four (64) successfully completed their training and graduated at NORTEC, and completed their work readiness training to be absorbed by the job market.
- Provided 35 training staff with technical and pedagogical skills necessary to deliver upgraded and new training curriculum including e-learning skills, new methodologies used in developing teaching aids and training materials to competently perform skills transfer on modern automotive technology and deliver effective lessons to women and youth beneficiaries at NORTEC to ultimately address the narrowing of the skills gap demanded by industry.





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**



**8.2 million** people aged over 12 years (78 %) fully protected against COVID-19



Provided **4,000** pre-filled oxygen cylinders, oxygen delivery equipment, ventilators, PPEs and laboratory supplies



Vaccinated **5.8 million** children under the age of five years against polio virus type-1 (WPV1)



**2,221,481** learners reached with life skillsbased HIV and sexuality education information



**220,740** youth receive key messages on COVID-19, HIV, Sexual and GBV, mental health, and nutrition



**3,084** teaching and learning materials uploaded and 123 users registered on e-learning platform called Learning Passport Zambia

In line with the 8NDP, Zambia's health sector repositioned its strategic mandate of coverage, quality, equity, intersectorality, and integration in planning and delivering critical package of interventions to survive and thrive.

The health system was overwhelmed with multiple concurrent public health emergencies (PHEs) responses to protracted COVID-19 pandemic, and the re-emergence of polio and measles outbreaks, as well as the preparedness against the threats of cholera and monkeypox.

Zambia promoted and implemented a Humanitarian-Development Nexus (HDN) approach of programming for simultaneously sustaining the continuity of essential health services while responding to the PHEs. Trained 168 nurses as midwives and procured equipment for Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) and Comprehensive Abortion Care (CAC) services. Also supported the training of two fistula surgeons and two nurses as fistula surgery nurse assistants and through surgery, helped restore the dignity of 137 fistula survivors

Zambia was able to maintain minimal disruption of service coverage with less than 10 percent decline along the continuum of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) essential services while also reaching 5.8 million children underfive with polio vaccination and over 8.2 million people 12 years and above with fully protected against COVID-19.

The country also benefitted from long-term health systems strengthening support with expanded and

strengthened medical oxygen eco-system and cold chain system, as well as institutionalizing community health as an integral component of Primary Health Care (PHC) system towards attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Zambia improved policies and an enabling environment and strengthened capacities of community health workers and community-based volunteers (CBVs), and further augmented HDN approach of programming such as strengthening of the delivery platform like bi-weekly Child Health Week to deliver an integrated package of life-saving health, nutrition, immunization, HIV and AIDS, and Early Childhood Development (ECD) interventions.

Notably, the National Health Strategic Plan (NHSP) 2022–2026; the National Community Health Strategy (NCHS) 2022–2026; the National Immunization Strategy (NIS) 2022–2026; the Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child, and Adolescent Health and Nutrition Investment Case (RMNCAHN-IC) 2022–2024; the National Malaria Elimination Strategic Plan 2022-2026; and the Medical Oxygen Ecosystem Roadmap were developed.

While the integrated ECD policy and RMNCAHN roadmap were developed to provide strategic and programmatic directions on routine essential health services delivery, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), government health security and PHEs focal body, developed, coordinated, and led the implementation of Zambia's multisectoral response plans to PHEs, including COVID-19 pandemic, and cholera, polio, and measles outbreaks response.

#### **Health response to the COVID-19 pandemic**

Under the COVID-19 pandemic, Zambia faced a total of four waves with the last one in January. The key strategy to COVID-19 response has been the accelerated COVID-19 vaccines delivery repositioning national immunization programme through gradually integrating into the routine immunization and PHC systems.

- ⇒ Achieved the COVID-19 vaccination coverage among the eligible population of 12 years and above from 6 percent in January to 78 percent by November.
- ⇒ WHO provided 4,000 pre-filled oxygen cylinders, assorted oxygen delivery equipment, ventilators, assorted PPEs and laboratory supplies all valued at

US \$ 2,237,198.

⇒ WHO and UNICEF supported the MOH to prepare for the introduction of the novel polio vaccine 2 (nOPV2). Consequently, Zambia received 5,150,000 doses of the nOPV2 that were used to respond to an outbreak of vaccine-derived polio type 2.



### Zambia Records Over 70 percent vaccinations rate against COVID-19

On 1 November 2022, the United Nations in Zambia joined the Government of the Republic of Zambia in celebrating the Zambia's attainment of 70 percent full vaccination coverage of the eligible population against COVID-19. The event, which was held at State House, was graced by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr. Hakainde Hichilema.

"It was inevitable for the country to find ways of dealing with the pandemic, thus the relaunch of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in October last year, with a set target of 70 percent fully vaccinated across the country," President Hichilema said.

UN Zambia Resident Coordinator Beatrice Mutali congratulated Zambia for moving from having less than 3 percent vaccination 12 months ago to being recognised as the fastest country to achieve the needed progress on vaccination coverage from among 34 countries that were identified for concerted support under the COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Partnership.

Ms Mutali noted the importance of vaccinations in saving lives. "We have seen that countries with high vaccination rates are seeing fewer deaths from COVID-19 illness and their societies and economies opening-up. Life has become normal again, something we too are witnessing in Zambia."

And British High Commissioner to Zambia Nicholas Woolley said that the United Kingdom government would continue providing support in sectors such as health. He commended Zambia on the progress made including the health sector.

Minister of Health Sylvia Masebo commended President Hichilema for providing leadership in the vaccination campaign.

As part of the response to pandemic, the UN in Zambia purchased 20 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines, nearly a quarter million test kits, 1 million sets of personal protective equipment and 500 cold chains and solar fridges, boosting the national vaccination campaign, alongside the team's communications efforts. Other support included the training of over 260 health workers to manage cases in isolation centres.

#### Health of mothers and new-borns

- Vaccinated 5.8 million children under the age of five years against polio virus type-1 (WPV1) threat detected in neighbouring countries.
- The continuity of Maternal and New-born Health (MNH) services was maintained along the continuum of Reproductive, RMNCAH services with less than 5 percent coverage disruption and with minimal stockout of MNH commodities, despite the protracted COVID-19 pandemic coupled with polio and measles outbreak responses.
- The Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAHN) Investment Case (IC) 2022-2024 was developed and aligned with RMNCAHN roadmap.
- The Quality of Care (QoC) standards for maternal and new-born care, and the small and sick new-born care; as well as the essential new-born care and the advanced new-born care packages were developed.
- About 78 percent infants received all antigens while 84 percent received Penta-3 vaccination; 81 percent infants received first dose of measles containing vaccine (MCV-1); 92.5 percent women attended one Antenatal Care (ANC-1) visit while 90 percent women attended four times (ANC-4); 92.5 percent women delivered by a skilled health personnel while 72 percent

- women delivered at health facilities; 54 percent newborns and their mothers received a postnatal visit within 48 hours of birth;
- ⇒ 661,318 children under five years of age received treatment against childhood illness; 485,724 pregnant women protected against tetanus; and 1.3 million people benefitted from essential medicines with basic curative care.
- Enhanced knowledge and skills for family planning service provision and the use of the updated family planning registers in five District Health Offices and 12 facilities reaching 15 managers and 85 Health providers.
- 27 Provincial Maternal and Child Health programme managers were equipped with knowledge and skills for implementation of the National Antenatal Care (ANC) 2022 guidelines and the revised National Elimination Mother to Child Transmission (EMTCT) of HIV/syphilis guidance, which is expected to improve the quality and integration for Antenatal care service delivery.
- Normative guidance and technical leadership for the adaptation of the 'March 2022 WHO Abortion Care Guidelines', with stakeholders under leadership of MoH, resulted in a consensus on the National 2022 Standards and Guidelines for Comprehensive Abortion Care in Zambia' and submitted for approval.

- Coordinated and facilitate Digital Adaptation Kit (DAK) for Family planning adaptation and validation, and this has resulted in the initiation of software integration
  - into Zambia SmartCare Plus under leadership of MoH

    Basing on healthcare inclusive policy, women of childbearing age in humanitarian settings had equal access to high impact reproductive healthcare interventions just as the nationals resulting in 4,092 first antenatal visits, 7,253 revisits and 2,117 deliveries

recorded in the three refugee settlements in Zambia.

Provided resources to support Reproductive Health Commodity Security. An additional \$4.6 million was mobilized for the procurement of family planning commodities. Enhanced advocacy for achieving sustainable financing and domestic investments for reproductive health commodity security culminating in the signing of a Compact of Agreement between UNFPA and the government republic of Zambia.

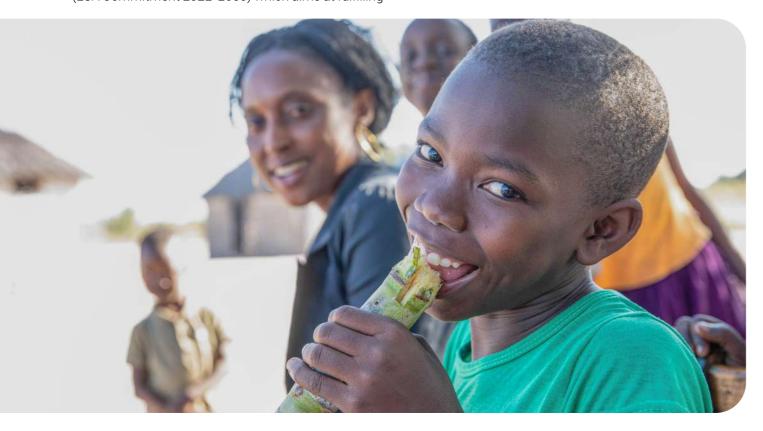
## Access to sensitive child survival primary health care services with focus on the hardest to reach and marginalized communities

- Specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were developed on the operations and maintenance of medical equipment, and the QoC standards for maternal and new-born health (MNH) and essential new-born care (ENC) to address the sustained high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality.
- ➡ UNICEF supported a hard-to-reach district (Mushindamo) in North-Western province to train 30 community-based volunteers (CBVs) to manage common childhood illnesses including 10 health workers from health facilities to supervise the CBVs.
- A total of 8,500 children received integrated ECD services in three districts (Chipata and Katete in Eastern; and Chongwe in Lusaka province) through UNICEF supported training to strengthen health care workers, CBVs, and caregivers' capacity on nurturing care practices at household level adhering to looking after children as per practices prescribed in the nurturing care framework for early childhood development.
- ➡ UNAIDS, through the 2gether 4SRHR project strengthened the policy and legal environment for increasing access to quality integrated SRHR/HIV and SGBV services by supporting the development of the new national HIV/AIDS/STI/TB Council ACT and the new National HIV/AIDS/STI/TB Policy.
- Increased availability of international sources to sustain provision of integrated quality SRHR/HIV and SGBV services through technical assistance for



- selecting and capacity building of CHAZ sub-recipients for the Global fund grant.
- ⇒ Enhanced advocacy for achieving sustainable financing and domestic investments for SRHR/HIV and SGBV services by supporting the National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA).
- ➡ Enhanced planning and budgeting capacities for integrated SRH/HIV/Gender issues of DACAs and PACAs from 5 provinces of Central, Eastern, Lusaka, Southern and Western.
- □ Increased access to SRHR/HIV services for the hearing impaired by building capacity among hearing service providers in Basic Communication skills and Deaf Culture.
- Trained 5,678 in-service and 2,909 pre-service teachers in effective delivery of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) at classroom level through UNESCO support.
- Supported MoE to reach 2,221,481 learners in Grade 5 to 12 with life skills-based HIV and sexuality education that included topics and sessions on HIV, gender, ending child marriages and reducing teenage pregnancies.
- Developed and disseminated 25,000 child and youth friendly COVID-19 booklets; 25,000 face masks and 1,000 branded foot operated hand washing stations for learners in schools in the four focus provinces: namely, Central, Eastern, North-Western, and Southern.
- Advocated and facilitated Zambia to endorse the Eastern and Southern Africa Ministerial Commitment (ESA Commitment 2022-2030) which aims at fulfilling

- the promise to education, health and well-being for adolescents and young people.
- Gave technical input for Zambia "skilled health personnel" measurement inception meeting: Operationalizing the revised definition of SDG 3.1.2 indicator; Skilled Birth attendant.
- Provided normative guidance for the finalization of the Zambia Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) guidelines and training modules participants and facilitators manuals.
- Technical Assistance was provided at the national MPDSR meetings and the analysis of weekly MPDSR data, and ongoing support and advocacy for continued capacity strengthening for the MPDSR approach.
- ➡ Provided technical support and advocacy for early ANC booking and delivery by skilled attendants.
- Child survival primary health care was provided through routine immunizations. A total of 1,570 children under 1 year (>12 months) received measles while children 18 months + were 1,279. Most of the settlements are in hard to reach areas thereby rendering provision of primary health care very important. Treatment and care of children was one of the priority activities and total of 44,591 under five children consultations were provided out of 131,106 Outpatient consultations translating to 34%.
- The UN agencies supported the Ministry of Health in its implementation and coordination of malnutrition interventions for women, adolscents and children at all levels.



#### **Adolescents and youth**

- To inform adolescent health programming to provide integrated adolescent-friendly health services, the Adolescent Health Strategic Plan 2022–2026 was developed.
- ⇒ 480,707 adolescents (10-19 years) were tested for HIV with marked gender differentials as tests among adolescent girls accounted for 63 per cent of all tests. Overall, HIV positivity rate was 1.5 percent (7,211 positive) and was higher among girls (1.7 percent than in boys (1 percent). Cumulatively, 75 percent (51,240) of the estimated 68,685 adolescents (10-19 years) living with HIV have been on Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART).
- The ART coverage among adolescents living with HIV stands at 75 percent reflecting significant shortcomings given the context of universal treatment eligibility (i.e., everybody diagnosed with HIV to be immediately initiated on treatment).
- UNICEF supported integrated Sexual Reproductive Health and HIV (SRH/HIV) services for adolescents and young people in the peri-urban areas of Lusaka and Ndola and reached 8,075 adolescents and young people with HIV testing and achieving a 98 percent coverage, establishing immediate linkage to HIV treatment for those diagnosed with HIV.
- Supported the scale-up of the Global Programme on Ending Child Marriage from two pilot districts to 10 additional districts across four provinces. The Government's strategy to respond to the health needs of adolescents and young people entails provision of adolescent friendly health services using Adolescent Friendly Space (AFS) established at health facilities.
- The UN maintained support to ensure functionality of a total 225 Adolescent Friendly Space (AFS). A total of 65 health workers and 70 peer educators were trained in adolescent-friendly health service provision and subsequently contributed to increased access to services through health-facility and community platforms.
- Supported adolescent engagement in health and HIV topical issues including climate change, mental health, and continuity of essential services in the context of COVID-19 using digital platforms such as U-Report and social media.
- ⇒ 220,740 U-Reporters have been reached with key messages on COVID-19, HIV, Sexual and Gender Based Violence, mental health, and nutrition among others.

- A U-Report poll on disability unearthed important issues including knowledge gaps in programming for adolescents with disabilities and the results are currently being used to inform programme design and implementation.
- A U-Report reboot workshop involving a total of 50 young people and other key stakeholders was conducted using human centred design thinking techniques and the output is being used to inform mobilization and content delivery on U-Report.
- Through the support from UNAIDS, Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights activities were conducted in all settlements. A total of 20 Youth Friendly sessions were conducted to discuss and share ideas on issues affecting adolescents reaching 16,128 (Male: 7,895; Female: 8,233).
- Refugees and host community accessed Sexual Reproductive Health and Gender Based Violence services through planned sessions and counseling. A total of 601 GBV cases of various nature were recorded from three refugee settlements.
- Amulti-mediacampaigntoaddressteenagepregnancy (Reduce Adolescent Pregnancy) was launched by the Vice President of the Republic of Zambia with over 300 delegates that included Members of Parliament, Cabinet Ministers, CSOs, media and adolescents from 11 secondary schools in attendance.

#### **Food and Nutrition**

- ➡ In order to address the high stunting rate of 35percent, UNICEF and WHO supported the Ministry of Health, to reach 982,777 children aged 0-24 months cumulatively were referred to health facilities (outreach and health facility) for child health services which included growth monitoring, nutrition counselling, Vitamin A and deworming services.
- ⇒ 138,035 pregnant and lactating women were also reached with cooking demonstrations. A total of 3,310,224 children aged 6-59 months were reached with Vitamin A supplementation and 1,380,355 caregivers of children less than two years old were reached with messages on optimal infant and young child nutrition and health.
- Transformation of hospital practices to support recommended Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices was done through the implementation of practices that protect, promote and support breastfeeding, including training of 2,068 health workers in Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI)

- in 161 facilities to enhance promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding within the healthcare system.
- ➡ To improve the integrated management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) services in the SUN-II supported districts and Luapula province, the capacities of 382 health workers and 941 volunteers was enhanced through training them on IMAM.
- ⇒ 490,674 children aged 6-59 months were screened for acute malnutrition. The recovery rate (77 percent) and mortality rate (4 percent) are within the recommended Sphere Minimum Standards of greater than 75 percent whilst the death rate is lower than 10 percent. Efforts around defaulter tracing and strengthening referrals and linkages are planned for 2023 to lower the defaulter rate (21 percent).

UNICEF supported the Government to strengthen the use of community structures such as Nutrition Support Groups (NSGs). NSGs have continued to be beneficial to households with pregnant and lactating women and households with children under two years of age.

- ⇒ 264 wards reached, 1,987 NSGs formed, 20,262 NSG volunteers, 850 NSG promoters and 125 NSG supervisors were trained.
- ⇒ 90,781 women and children from 1000-days households were reached with counselling and promotion activities at facility and outreach sites.
- 246,865 SUN households accessed health and nutrition interventions to include maternal, infant and young child feeding counselling, essential hygiene actions, growth monitoring and promotion.
- Through the NSG structure, dedicated peer support groups delivered specific social and behaviour change (SBC) lessons to beneficiary households, but also provided a platform to link SUN-II households to other nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive structures, services and activities at community level related to health, agriculture, and WASH.
- Supplementary Feeding targeting malnourished children was conducted in Mantapala. The SUN TA programme supported mothers in backyard gardening to promote traditional nutritious crops for malnourished children. Ministry of Health and UNICEF supported the program with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF).
- Backyard gardening and nutrition demonstrations were meant to supplement foodstuffs and increase knowledge in local food preparation and improve nutritional status among the malnourished children.

#### **Education**

To increase equitable and inclusive access to quality education, the Ministry of Education (MOE) with technical and financial support from UNICEF, developed various alternative and inclusive modes of education provision to address access to education in the area of languages and disabilities.

- Audio lessons in Literacy, Numeracy and Integrated Science for Grades 1 to 4 were developed in seven local languages. Other audio lessons were for Grades 5 to 7 in English, Mathematics and Integrated Science and 2,375 lessons were done.
- ⇒ 501 interactive e-learning materials were adapted covering subjects in English, Mathematics and Science for Grades 5 to 7 for Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (CSEND), a first of its kind, and uploaded in 1,000 tablets.
- ⇒ 3,084 teaching and learning materials were uploaded and 123 users registered on the newly launched national e-learning platform called Learning Passport Zambia, supported through partnership with Microsoft and UNICEF.
- Under the COVID-19 education emergency response programme funded by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), solar panels were installed in the remote areas of Western, Southern and Eastern province, in 12 sites.
- Developed a mentorship package for guidance and counselling teachers to enhance provision of guidance and counselling services and referral mechanism to ensure synergies and sustainability of the Zambian Girls 2030 and the Ending Child Marriage (ECM) programme.
- Supported the analysis of the skills development and career education for employability of adolescents and young people in Zambia, the study results will inform the Ministry of Education to develop the national framework on skills development and career education.
- Supported the Government to undertake a series of provincial and national consultations on Transforming Education in Zambia in readiness for its contributions to the Transforming Education Summit (TES) and AU high-level meeting held in September 2022.
- Significant progress through the UN's continuous advocacy on the importance of early years resulted in the Government setting ECD as its key priority and Zambia renewed its commitment to transforming education through curriculum review, addressing

- learning crisis, continuing teacher recruitment and strengthening digital learning.
- Supported the TES and other events and Zambia received global attention for its efforts in addressing learning crisis through scaling up the Catch-up Programme (Teaching at the Right Level) and its progressing reform agenda.
- UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of Education in strengthening systems and building capacities in evidence-generation and planning. Completion of the consultancy on School Based Continuing Professional Development generated evidence to strengthen teacher education support while progress was made on studies that looked at the identification of positive deviant schools and effective teacher allocation in Zambia.
- UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance

- to the Ministry of Education to organise a Technical Working Group for the Positive Deviance Research which is part of the Data Must Speak initiative to generate evidence on effective school management by leveraging existing resources, and teaching practices to support learners to perform well in studies.
- ➡ Ensured enrolment of 288 beneficiaries (150 under bursary and 138 self-sponsored) who received training using the upgraded curriculum. ZAMITA completed development of curriculum.
- ⇒ 35 teaching staff from the automotive and heavy equipment department participated in the trainings, including 25 Northern Technical College (NORTEC) staff from other departments. Nine staff training programs were conducted, of which five were technical Training of Trainers, two for On Job Trainings, one pedagogical training and one management training.







#### HIGHLIGHTS



**1.5 million** people reached with Birth Registration information



Supported repeal and replacement of the Public Order Act



Supported finalisation and adoption of the Children's Act which prescribes mandatory child-safeguarding, bans child marriage and harmful practices



Supported amendments to the Anti-Human Trafficking Act which increased sentencing for traffickers

#### Labour policy and legislative framework reformed

- To protect and uplift the welfare of vulnerable categories of workers in the labour market, ILO supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Security to Revise Minimum wages for domestic workers, shopkeepers and general workers effective 1 January 2023. Through Statutory Instrument No. 69 of the Domestic Workers Order of 2018, the gross pay for domestic workers was adjusted from K993.60 (USD55) to ZMW1,300 (USD72).
- ⇒ The Government initiated discussions with a view to realizing a pension system reform that is responsive to the needs of current and prospective members with the following key areas of reform:
  - i. Establishing a facility to provide partial withdrawal of pension contributions
  - ii. Establishing incentives that encourage workers to register for pension, and increase voluntary contributions:
  - iii. Diversifying sources of retirement income for pensioners;
  - iv. Ensuring the adequacy of retirement benefits;
  - v. Improving the administrative efficiency of the national pension framework to minimize costs;
  - vi. Enhancing prudent investment of pension assets.
- ILO supported work on the National Pension Scheme Amendment Bill No. 21 of 2022 which was assented to by the Republican President. This has facilitated access to pension to members of the defunct Zambia National Provident Fund (ZNPF). The amendment has allowed ZNPF members to claim age benefits instead of waiting for the eligibility age of 50 years.

#### National data and information systems enhanced

- ⇒ UNFPA supported the development of the National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Policy which was launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security.
- ⇒ UNFPA supported the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) in conducting the main enumeration for the 2022 Census of Population and Housing. The population of Zambia stands at 19,610,769, according to Preliminary Report.
- ⇒ UNFPA also supported ZamStats on the development of the National Statistical Development Strategy II document and to convene preparatory meetings (on Questionnaire Development) on the 2023 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey.

- UNDP supported the Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MoFNP) in finalizing the 8NDP and its Implementation Plan by enhancing ministry staff capacities to plan and coordinate policies, strategies and programmes on national development and the SDGs.
- Enhanced capacities for evidence-based research and policy formulation and strengthened through support to the MoFNP and ZamStats in implementation of the Phased Integrated Socio-economic Survey, which includes: (i) The COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) on Households; (ii) Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS); and (iii) An Integrated Enterprise Survey.
- ⇒ UNDP supported the collection of data for LCMS and the 2022 Census of Population and Housing.
- ⇒ IOM contributed towards strengthening of human rights and migrants centered migration policies for national development and supported the finalization and launch of the National Migration Policy, the National Policy on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants.
- ⇒ IOM, UNODC and UNICEF supported the Government to finalize the review of the anti-human trafficking legislation leading to enactment of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act No. 16 thereby strengthening legislation on the prohibition, prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons.
- ⇒ UNICEF supported the design of an information management system to track cases of children addressed by District Social Welfare Services who are placed in alternative care in children's homes and foster families.
- Enhanced the capacity of ZamStats, Government and Civil Society Organizations on data collection, Monitoring and Evaluation systems and promoting a consolidated, responsive, accountable and wellgoverned socio-development system.

### Migration laws, policy reforms and diaspora engagement for national development

- ⇒ The Government adopted the National Migration Policy, which outlines the way forward in tackling migration. Unaccompanied migrant children are recognized as children 'in need of care and protection' in the newly adopted Children's Code meaning they have access to social services and protection.
- ⇒ IOM supported the Government to undertake a labour migration assessment to inform evidence-based formulation of the Labour Migration Strategy.
- ⇒ IOM supported Government to produce knowledge

- products to facilitate evidence-based diaspora engagement including the Zambia National Remittances Study and the Diaspora Policy Legislative Review Report
- □ In the last 5 years (2017- 2021) alone, remittances inflows to Zambia have grown about fivefold, from about ZMW 800 million to almost ZMW 4.6 billion (World Bank, 2022).

### Legal identity for all and Civil Registration from birth to death

- ⇒ With the support of UNICEF, the Government through the Department of National Registration Passport and Citizenship (DNRPC) adopted the 2nd Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) National Strategic Action Plan (NSAP 2021–2025) aimed at creating a sustainable enabling environment for registration of all vital events and help achieve 50 percent registration by 2026 in line with the 8th National Development Plan and the SDGs, respectively. UNICEF also supported the development and launch of the CRVS National Policy to guide and inform legal reviews and define the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.
- To enable birth notification to be transmitted electronically to the civil registry office for registration, a new system linking the National Registration and Information System (INRIS) and the Health Management Information System (SmartCare Plus) was developed.
- Contributed to the roll out of the new birth to death INRIS which is operational in 40 districts. The plan is to link all the 116 districts by December 2023.
- ⇒ 10 districts had the INRIS equipment installed and

- connected. This addressed challenges resulting from the manual system and its failure to respond to demands arising from continued population growth, integrity of the electoral system, and technological changes. Aim is to enroll 10 million people by 2024.
- UNICEF delivered enrolment kits for government to support the INRIS roll-out to the remaining districts and 25 selected health facilities where 113 health workers were trained on birth registration procedures based on the development Birth Registration Health Facility Guidelines. A person's unique identity number is now allocated at birth registration and used for the registration of subsequent vital events thereby making birth registration the foundation of INRIS.
- ⇒ 60 civil registrars were trained at provincial level on the new INRIS and birth registration Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed and implemented for use by civil registrars and health workers countrywide.
- UNICEF supported joint monitoring programmes in Luapula, Northern and Lusaka provinces involving key government partners to strengthen evidence-based planning/implementation of birth registration and reporting and monitoring mechanisms.
- As part of the government's efforts to raise awareness among communities, UNICEF continued to support implementation of the National Advocacy and Communication Strategy for birth registration through 240,000 IEC materials, regional radio and national television programmes as well as social media reaching an estimated 1.5 million people (about 10 percent of accumulated coverage). A total of 152,162 (76,543 males and 75,619 females) births were notified and 84,349 (42,691 male and 41,658 female) registered and certificates issued.



#### **Electoral processes and systems strengthened**

- ⇒ UNDP and OHCHR contributed to the extensive consultative review process of the Public Order Act (POA) which led to the development of legal framework that regulates public assemblies and meetings anchored on constitutionally guaranteed fundamental rights and freedoms.
- ⇒ UNDP supported the development of an online citizen consultation platform which will promote sustained interactions between the 156 MPs and their constituents. To promote inclusive participation for women, youth and other marginalized groups, the system will be accessible through various channels such as smart phones, the National Assembly of Zambia website, and a USSD application.
- □ In partnership with Panos Institute Southern Africa (PSAf), UNDP supported the development of a communication strategy for the National Assembly which will enhance engagement between citizens and MPs. UNDP and PSAf also developed iVerify Zambia, a mechanism to counter misinformation, disinformation and hate speech during elections. About 185 fact checkers were trained from private and government media agencies. The iVerify System factchecked and published over 200 stories suspected to contain misinformation, disinformation or hate speech.
- ⇒ Production and broadcast of the 12 TV and 14 radio programmes featuring MPs as a result of the development and roll out of the Communication Strategy (2022-2026) of the National Assembly.
- ⇒ Trained 50 (14 females and 36 males) Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) staff in promoting internationally accepted principles of democracy and good electoral practice.
- ⇒ UNDP supported the repeal and replacement of the Public Order Act Public Order Act Chapter 113 of the Laws of Zambia (POA). This piece of legislation has been cited by political stakeholders as non-progressive and contradictory to the spirit of multipartyism and tenets of democratic society.
- ⇒ UNDP commenced work to develop a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy for the Electoral Commission of Zambia. The policy is designed to make the electoral management body more inclusive in its internal processes and procedures.

#### **Human rights systems and structures strengthened**

⇒ With support from UNICEF, the Government participated in the Dialogue with the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva. The

- Government submitted the State Party Report on Child Rights in 2021. Online dialogues were held with the Committee with UNICEF programme team as well as with Children themselves that submitted a Shadow Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child the previous year.
- ⇒ The Government received Concluding Observations from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child that will guide UN/Government priorities of priorities in child rights. A major outcome of the Dialogue Session with the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child was the Government's prioritization of the finalization and adoption of the Children's Code - Act 12 of 2022. This legislation has now domesticated many aspects of the Convention on the Rights of the Child with special focus on protection. The Children's Code provides for mandatory child-safeguarding in all settings; prioritizes kinship/family care over institutionalization; bans facilitation of child marriage, harmful practices, and corporal punishment as well as coercing children into sexual activity and their use/abuse in digital pornography; it enhances the protection of child

- witnesses, prioritizes diversion and non-custodial sentencing, raises age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12 years and recognizes migrant/refugee children for access to protection/care.
- ⇒ UN Human Rights (OHCHR) continues its advocacy with the Government to domesticate and give effect to the human rights treaties and engage with the UN on upcoming Constitutional Reform to expand the Bill of Rights to include Economic, Social and Cultural and third generation rights. Some positive developments such as the country's engagement at a very high level (Minister of Justice) in the CRC and UPR were seen.
- With respect to Zambia's 4th cycle UPR, eight UNCT entities made submissions, complementing reports from the Zambia Human Rights Commission (ZHRC), individual submissions from 14 international and national civil society organizations as well as 14 joint submissions from numerous NGOs. UN Human Rights, with UPR Info and the ZHRC organized a briefing for CSOs on how to engage with the 4th cycle UPR process, resulting in several submissions.

- UN, with support from OHCHR and UNDP advocacy and reiteration of technical assistance and cooperation to the Zambian authorities partly contributed to the President's abolishment of the death penalty and assent to the repeal of a 1965 law on Defamation of the President.
- ⇒ UN Human Rights contributed human rights-based inputs to the Government's review of legislation including the long-standing and controversial Public Order Act (POA), as well as the Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Law. Analysis and inputs on reform of the Public Order Act and Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Law were submitted to Government in September 2022. Actions included disseminating and raising awareness of Zambia's legal obligations under the ICCPR; liaising within the UNCT and OHCHR to prepare and submit comments to the Zambia Law Development Commission on the new Public Gathering Bill to ensure that it would conform to General Comment 37 on the right of peaceful assembly; sharing comments and partnering with the ZHRC which is given a chance to review bills to ensure their conformity with human rights. The new Public Gathering Bill has been finalized and will be tabled in Parliament. Earlier, OHCHR's monitoring and reporting and engagement with stakeholders were key to understanding and documenting how the POA was being used to curtail freedoms and rights. The information fed risk analysis and outreach with various policymakers and influencers as well as internal UN responses.
- ⇒ Launch of the first Phase of a Surge Supported Seeding Change Project on advancing the rights to food and education in Zambia. It was completed in December 2022. Phase II which covers a macroeconomic, debt and budget analysis of realization of these rights has started. The final report is expected to influence future policy and budgets.
- To address barriers that hinder the participation of women as UN peacekeepers, UNDP supported an assessment and skills development training for 60 police women who were equipped with skills in driving, computer literacy and other capacities. The results of the training showed 55 of the 60 participants qualified for all or the unarmed missions, which gives a success rate of 91.7 per cent (armed and unarmed missions).
- Supported the establishment of a DNA laboratory to deal with Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases in collaboration with the United States Government and Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security.





- ⇒ The Government adopted the Children's Code in August 2022. The process was supported by UNICEF to ensure practitioners from the judiciary, prosecution and social welfare can input into the legal provisions and ensure the operational ability.
- ⇒ Provided technical assistance to ensure provisions were aligned to international standards on access to justice for children. The main advancement achieved through this legislation included the protection of child victims witnesses in criminal proceedings and the protection of child offenders. The process of interviewing a child victim by law enforcement authorities and giving statements in court is accompanied by social welfare to ensure the questioning is aligned to age/maturity of the child, the child is prepared for the process, care decisions are made to protect the child from reprisal and a video link is made available so as to avoid direct confrontation with the accused. Deprivation of liberty of child offenders is a measure of last resort and the law prioritizes diversions that divert a child offender to restorative justice programmes and social welfare (away from criminal proceedings). In addition, noncustodial sentencing such as probation is prioritized over custodial sentencing including reformatory schools and correction facilities.
- ⇒ Provided free legal-aid and psycho-social support to child-offenders, out of 515 children (437 males and 78 females) arrested in pilot districts (Lusaka, Ndola, Kitwe, Kapiri Mposhi) 216 (178 male and 38 female) were diverted which constitutes 42 percent out of which girls presented 17 and 21 percent respectively. This included 23 child-offenders who were represented at court-level and 40 who received

- ⇒ Crime prevention campaigns were implemented in 13 communities reaching 1,500 people.
- ⇒ A total of 411 practitioners (160 male and 251 female) from law-enforcement/prosecution/social welfare/judiciary/health were trained, and 634 child victims/witnesses were supported after the launch of the Guidelines for the Protection of Child Victims/ Witnesses and piloted in 16 districts.
- ⇒ UNICEF provided child-friendly supplies for 10 Fast Track Courts and five One Stop Centres to ensure children feel safe when they are interviewed about violence experienced. An additional 2,008 cases of GBV (an estimated 49 percent girls-1,000) were prosecuted through applying the UNICEF-supported Prosecutor's Handbook on Cases of Sexual Abuse.
- ⇒ Leveraging the Anti-GBV and User-Friendly fasttrack courts and village-led one-stop centers, UNDP supported the strengthening and harmonization of the legal framework for gender equity to provide a more comprehensive and systemic approach to GBV response and timely and accessible services and legal redress to victims.
- ⇒ UNDP supported the finalization and enactment of Gender and GBV related laws and policies such as Anti GBV Act, Adjudicators Manual for Subordinate courts. Minimum Standards for Safe Shelters and the Children's Code Act, working together with IOM and UNICEF, and guidelines in the areas of community centres, child witnessing in judicial processes, and the prosecutor's handbook for addressing sexual violence. Significant case withdrawals by victims due to party reconciliations and the non-availability of witnesses are among reasons for the challenges faced, which contributed to case acquittals at judgement stage. Further, limited quantitative data made it difficult in

The establishment of robust tracking mechanisms are expected to help overcome these issues.

Through the Women Parliamentary Caucus, UNDP supported the mobilization of women in Parliament and other champions to build consensus on legal and constitutional reforms that promote gender empowerment. This was complemented by engagement with political parties to ensure clear strategic choices and commitments towards more meaningful engagement of women in political structures.

#### **Prevention and Protection for victims of trafficking**

- ⇒ The Government adopted amendments to the Antihuman Trafficking Act 16 of 2022. The new provisions increased sentencing for traffickers and removed barriers that were previously in place and hampered prosecution. This legislation will play a key role in reducing the trafficking and exploitation of children. For example, there is no longer a need to prove force or coercion in a court case against a child trafficker. Facilitation of child exploitation is no longer legal if it is voluntary by the child. This is a great step forward for the protection of child rights and it is anticipated that it will reduce child trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation, domestic labour and in agriculture. The development of action plans that preceded the adoption of this law were supported by UN agencies including IOM, UNICEF and UNODC.
- ⇒ IOM, UNODC, UNICEF and civil society partners supported the Government of Zambia to finalize the review of the national anti-TIP legislation. Accordingly, the Government enacted the Anti-Human Trafficking (Amendment) Act, 2022, which among others,

- establishment of a fully-fledged department to handle TIP issues. The Government has since established the Anti-TIP Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security.
- ⇒ Further, IOM supported ongoing capacity building of front, law enforcement and immigration officials, media practitioners as well as police, social workers, prosecuting authorities on TIP and human smuggling. Further, IOM provided direct assistance to victims of trafficking including reintegration assistance, protection of victims of trafficking and psycho-social support and counselling.
- ⇒ Supported a safe migration campaign which contributed towards raising awareness on the dangers of irregular migration including human trafficking and human smuggling as well as the benefits of safe, regular migration.
- Some of the challenges noted during this fiscal year are resource constrains to undertake nationwide safe migration campaigns as well as capacity building of frontline officials, law enforcement agents, media practitioners despite the growing prevalence of trafficking in persons, human smuggling, and mixed migration population movements. The other challenge was the increased prevalence of mixed migration flows originating from the east, horn and central Africa on a southward journey. Zambia recorded cases of dumped migrants who reportedly died of suffocation in transit as they tried to cross Zambia.
- ⇒ UNDP working with IOM under the GRZ-UN Joint Programme supported the development of the minimum standards for safe shelters, Human Trafficking, and establishment of the GBV Fund, as provided for in the Anti GBV Act.

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#### **Partnership for the SDG acceleration**

The UN in Zambia continued to nurture partnerships for acceleration of the SDGs with the Government, Cooperating Partners, Civil Society, Private Sector, Academia, Philanthropy, Media, and Trade Unions among others. The UNCT, delivering as one, supported the government under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator to formulate the Implementation Plan for the 8th National Development Plan (2022 – 2026) to ensure that SDGs were mainstreamed in the plan. The UN also supported the Rapid Integration Assessment (RIA) which revealed that there was significant alignment of the 8NDP to the SDGs. The UN as a trusted partner to the Government and through its convening power supported the government under its Zambia Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) Joint Programme financed by the Joint SDG Fund to undertake a Development Finance Assessment (DFA). The DFA report is intended to inform the development of the Integrated National Financing Framework for the 8NDP.

Developing an integrated national financing framework in Zambia is timely and seeks to improve development financing to ensure the SDGs are actualized at national and subnational levels. Key to the integrated national financing framework programme is to develop an SDG-aligned financing strategy for the country to mobilize and effectively manage additional domestic and international resources, both public and private, seeking innovative financial solutions and broadening partnerships.

Financing requirements for implementation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in Zambia is from a combination of financing sources. This includes domestic revenues, domestic and foreign borrowing, private sector engagement through mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, foreign direct investment (FDI) and support from cooperating partners through official development assistance (ODA).

The UN in Zambia through collaborative efforts of ILO, UNFPA and UNICEF trained 90 participants from 18 partners implementing the single window service delivery initiative to enhance the capacity of Ministry of Community Development and Social Services in monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of progress on Social Protection indicators (SDG1.3) from sub-national, national, and global level indicators. This capacity building intervention was conducted through partnership with the University of Zambia, and it has enhanced effective tracking of progress made.

Through FLAG (Fisheries, Livestock and Agriculture Group) which consists of donors, government line ministries, and UN agencies, the UN in Zambia under the technical lead of FAO used this as opportunity to accelerate implementation of policy reforms for the new Government on agriculture, livestock, and fisheries to contribute to the country's efforts in achieving the SDGs for the agriculture sector and other related SDGs.

#### **Partnership with Private Sector**

The UN in Zambia continued to work with the private sector in several development areas. Through ILO, the UN worked with the Zambia Federation of Employers on skills development and promotion of employability of Persons with Disabilities. This partnership enabled the UN in Zambia to engage the private sector and raise awareness about Disability Inclusion and how Persons with Disabilities can be supported in the workplace.

The UN in Zambia through ILO, using the Public Private Development Partnership (PPDP) approach which facilitates a pooling of resources from both public and private institutions, supported increased deployment of renewable energy, energy efficiency and regional energy integration technologies through skills development in Zambia and the SADC region. This was achieved in collaboration with Kafue Gorge Regional Training Centre (KGRTC) as Centre of Excellence in the region to increase the number of power technicians, engineers and managers that are skilled in renewable energy, energy efficiency and regional energy integration. This partnership with private sector enabled skills development in the renewable energy sector. An estimated value of US\$300.055 was realised from private sector partners in contributions towards course development and delivery, expert provision, and equipment.

Through FAO support, a new private sector engagement strategy was developed and will be rolled out in Zambia from April 2023. Further engagement with the private sector had already started for the Sustainable Intensification of Smallholder Farming Systems in Zambia (SIFAZ) Project with over 10 private sector partners supporting FAO resilient agriculture and mechanization initiatives.

FAO in collaboration with GIZ engaged consultants to develop the second-generation National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP), which is meant to enhance public and private investment in the sector as a critical overarching framework to guide the sector.

The UN in Zambia through WFP as co-convenor of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network, in collaboration with the NFNC continued to provide technical support trainings, and tools to increase private sector engagement and shared knowledge on how the SUN Business Network (SBN) members can contribute towards improved nutrition reaching 137 private sector entities. In addition, the WFP-led Healthy Diets Campaign

(HDC) and Good Food Logo (GLF) initiatives continued to strengthen partnerships with various stakeholders including the Private Sector, the Ministry of Health, host communities, government-managed health and nutrition facilities and structures at both district and provincial level.

The UN in Zambia through WFP worked with various private sector actors including input companies such as AFRI Seed and Syngenta, agro-dealers, aggregators and off-takers such as Zambia Breweries PLC (ZBL) and local financial institutions such as the Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO) and Vision Fund Zambia. Through these partnerships, WFP supported smallholder farmers to implement interventions that promote the adoption of climate-smart agriculture practices that increase productivity and resilience whilst facilitating access to markets and finance thereby improving the food and nutrition security challenges faced by the country's small holder farmers.



#### **Partnership with Regional entities**

The UN through ILO in collaboration with the Southern African Migration Management (SAMM) Project continued to promote effective migration management and governance. ILO provided technical support to COMESA to promote the implementation of the COMESA Treaty, COMESA Protocols, and Decisions of the COMESA Council of Ministers and Ministers Responsible for Immigration under the COMESA Free Movement of Persons Programme.

The main achievements include:

- ⇒ Establishment of the first phase of the COMESA regional database on labour migration.
- Publication of the first COMESA Labour Migration Statistics Report.
- Development of a Strategy and Action Plan for the COMESA Task Force on the implementation of the COMESA Protocols and Council of Ministers Decisions.
- Publication of COMESA Protocols on Migration and Reports of COMESA Ministers Responsible for Immigration.
- Review of the COMESA Model Law on Immigration to include emerging issues and aspects of labour migration.
- ⇒ Revision of Awareness Creation and Capacity Building Tools on COMESA Protocols and COMESA Council of Ministers Decisions on Free Movement of Persons.

In the agriculture sector, the UN through FAO collaborated with SADC on the operationalization of the SADC fertilizer regulatory framework. FAO continued to work in partnership with the African Development Bank on the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development initiative to enhance aquaculture development in Zambia.

In addition, FAO collaborated with the AU and NEPAD through the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) to enhance public and private investment in the sector as a critical overarching framework to guide the sector.

#### **Partnership with Development Partners**

The UN System in Zambia continued to partner with development partners in funding and implementing interventions in several development areas such as social protection (extension of coverage), agriculture and food security, nutrition, environment and climate change, renewable energy, energy efficiency and regional energy integration technologies and gender-based violence (GBV) among others.

The UN continued to enhance its partnership with development partners in the agriculture sector through the Livestock and Agriculture Group (FLAG) which was formed to bring together donors and development institutions and UN agencies. Through the FLAG, the UN under the technical lead of FAO, the Cooperating Partners engaged Government on reform of Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) to a more diversified and demand driven input giving system to meet the need of different farmers. This reform is meant to enhance transparency, accountability, and result monitoring.

The UN through WFP continued to participate in strategic alliance for Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) initiative and worked closely with public and private sector partners to invest in viable value chains and strengthen smallholder farmer incomes by providing last mile services to smallholder farmers. In addition, WFP partnered with WHO and the Ministry of Agriculture on the Alternative Livelihood's Project targeted at tobacco farmers in Eastern Province who opted out of tobacco production to venture into alternative value chains that would enhance their income and nutrition security.

The UN supported the government through MCDSS to integrate nutrition into the government's social protection interventions aimed to enhance good nutrition practices among Social Cash Transfer (SCT) beneficiaries as part of the integrated information management system for the national SCT programme.



45



#### 2.3.1. Working together through Joint Programmes

The UNCT in Zambia has a total of 15 joint programmes which are all coordinated by the UN Resident Coordinator Office with a combined total budget of US\$91,671,628. These Joint Programmes are centered around critical national priorities as well as the priorities of the Partnership Framework. The joint programmes are implemented by UN agencies, delivering as one, in collaboration with the Government and address issues around financing frameworks, agriculture value chains, climate smart agriculture, youth empowerment, gender and women empowerment, GBV, Disability Inclusion, Ending Child Marriage, resilience and livelihoods, social protection, health and HIV, and legal identity. The Joint Programmes continued to provide catalytic resources that in turn facilitated the mobilization of additional resources from Cooperating Partners for addressing the development challenges around the targeted thematic areas.

In addition, the UNCT in Zambia under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator has six joint initiatives at the development stage on decentralization, mining, digital transformation, children on the move, youth development and internship, nutrition and food Systems, and transforming education which directly support Government efforts to accelerate progress in these thematic areas.

Strengthening climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II in Zambia (SCRALA)

#### Participating agencies:







WFP working closely with FAO, UNDP and various private sector actors supported smallholder farmers to implement interventions that promoted the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices that increase productivity and resilience while facilitating access to markets and finance thereby improving the food and nutrition security challenges faced by the country's small holder farmers.

To reduce crop losses that usually occur between harvesting, transportation and storage, WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO trained 158,402 smallholder farmers (49.5 percent women) in post-harvest loss (PHL) management and the use of low-cost improved storage solutions. Compared to the over 200,000 trained in 2021, the reduction was due to the closure of WFP's early recovery interventions in the first half of 2022 implemented for two years across five districts.

To enhance smallholder farmers' incomes and improve their resilience against shocks, WFP supported 100,826 smallholder farmers (79.4 percent women) including people living HIV and youth in 42 districts to save part of their incomes through village savings and loans associations. The number of smallholder farmers supported, and the total amounts saved were twice the number reached the previous year and above the 2022 planned targets. This was mainly because WFP established more savings groups not planned for under its early recovery intervention as a sustainability mechanism, and increased demand among smallholder farmers to participate in savings groups upon seeing transformative impact on their counterparts.







#### **Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA)**

#### Participating agencies:





The UN through FAO and UNIDO, delivering as one, and working in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC) developed the Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA) programme which answers to a dedicated call for accelerating efforts in the area of job creation for African youth, especially through agribusiness and entrepreneurship development.

The multi-level approach (continental, sub-regional, national) reflects the need for concerted efforts between public institutions and the private sector on capacity development, access to resources, improved coordination and linkages, and knowledge generation and dissemination.

OYA works towards removing access barriers for young entrepreneurs by developing activities at the micro, meso and macro levels through OYA's areas of intervention that include capacity building, incubation services, market access, finance access, inclusive value chains and policy support.

#### **Incubation Services**

The Next Generation National Youth Incubation Challenge (NextGen) prepared more than 500 young entrepreneurs, including 134 agripreneurs (28 percent women), for jobs of the future by providing them with the skills necessary to plan and develop their ventures. NextGen focused on capacity building, skills development, investor readiness, innovation and seed funding. This virtual programme facilitated beneficiaries' participation in different regions of Zambia through IT equipment in 25 local training spaces.

OYA IDEA App connected 22 young Zambian entrepreneurs (33 percent women) with mentors from all over the world to accelerate the growth of new entrepreneurial communities whilst facilitating access to financing by organizing Venture Capitalist pitch sessions. The incubated agribusinesses are expected to generate more than 200 jobs within two years. To ensure sustainability, members of two local incubation centers in Zambia were trained and became incubation managers of IDEA App in the country.

OYA ExoLab: Research in Space for Life on Earth, inaugurated by the Minister of Youth, Sports, and Arts, introduced the importance of innovative solutions in agriculture to 122 students (60 percent girls) from 4 schools. After growing alfalfa crops on Zambian soil based on scientific protocols they designed, students are comparing crop growths with alfalfa grown in Space, in OYA branded ExoLabs carried on the Space rocket SpX-26. By familiarizing students with the carbon cycle and the importance of smart agriculture, OYA engages youth and women as drivers of change and accelerates entrepreneurship promotion in agribusiness and agriculture.

OYA interactive seminar on "Agri-Preneurship: Key challenges, opportunities and concrete solutions for the youth" gathered 79 participants (65 percent women) from eight countries to facilitate an effective promotion of entrepreneurial capacity building and knowledge sharing. The seminar highlighted the need to encourage and support young women and men from rural and urban areas across the African continent in agriculture and agribusiness, emphasizing the importance of their contribution.

OYA Executive e-marketing course equipped 28 young entrepreneurs (75 percent women) from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia with tools and analytical techniques that helped them strengthen and expand their businesses. The beneficiaries improved the visibility of their business on social networks and deepened their knowledge of the digital environment, hence facilitating the reach of customers and dramatically increasing sales. The training also included the training of trainers for two Zambian institutions (Jacaranda Hub and SensXAfrica), so the course can be duplicated and reach more beneficiaries.

#### **Market Access**

OYA offers acceleration opportunities for youth-led agribusinesses. Every incubation training ends with pitching sessions during which agripreneurs put into practice the knowledge they acquired and present their startups to potential investors and/or mentors.

As such, the IDEAS Convention concluded NextGen. During this event, attended by the Minister of Science and Technology, beneficiaries presented their business models to potential investors in the country.

OYA is developing training and investor readiness sessions that will equip entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills to access financing. Throughout the programme, beneficiaries will get familiar with accounting software, pitch decks and financial models.

OYA will identify potential investors for each startup accelerator and organize a pitching event as well as oneonone investor readiness sessions to effectively raise funds. Local meso-level institutions will also be trained to ensure the replicability and viability of the activity.

#### **Developing Inclusive Value Chains**

OYA also contributes to fostering youth engagement in these value chains through the development of specific trainings, in collaboration with national authorities. As such, OYA organized an aquaculture incubation training programme in Solwezi, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. 60 young agripreneurs (38 percent women) benefited from capacity-building sessions and field experiments and were provided with 28,000 fingerlings, fish feed and four fish ponds (two of them built by the beneficiaries) stocked with fingerlings. This activity was broadcast on national television and radio, reaching 3 million viewers countrywide. The youth are expected to harvest over 25,000 fingerlings in early 2023. Arrangements are in place to place the 60 youth under support of Jacaranda Hub for further training in post-harvest and market access capacity building programmes.

#### **Policy Support**

OYA Entrepreneurial Mindset Podcast celebrates successful young African entrepreneurs and their journeys that will inspire other young African entrepreneurs who will identify with shared experiences. Nine episodes have been recorded of which seven have been published, reaching over 1,300 listeners. Two episodes featured guests based in Zambia: Mara Zhanet from Jacaranda Hub and Zindaba Hanzala from Mulimi Farmers Scheme. OYA actively participates in the development of the National Youth Policy.

Represented in the UN Youth Group of Focal Point Persons for UN Agencies, OYA has actively participated in national consultative meetings with the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Arts in preparation for the National Youth Indaba as well as in the Provincial Consultations.

Zambia organized a National Youth Indaba that had 500 youth in attendance and with the participation and engagement with youth by the Republican President and Vice President of Zambia. OYA participated in the event along with UN agencies highlighting its commitment to

accelerating efforts in the area of job creation for Zambian youth.

#### **Outreach activities**

OYA Entrepreneurial Mindset Podcast celebrates successful young African entrepreneurs and their journeys that will inspire other young African entrepreneurs who will identify with shared experiences. Nine episodes have been recorded, of which seven have already been published and reached over 1,300 listeners. Two episodes featured guests based in Zambia.

The OYA programme also raised awareness about the importance of youth employment and entrepreneurship promotion, as well as about its successful initiatives in multiple global and regional fora.

The OYA side event on the margins of TICAD8 "Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA): Accelerating Job Creation and Youth Entrepreneurship in Agriculture and Agribusiness through Innovative Solutions and Digitalisation", which gathered 200 participants, included two panel members from Zambia: Mr. Mulunga J. Shimbela, Director of the Department of Planning and Information of the Ministry of Technology and Science and Ms. Mara Zhanet Michelo, CEO of Jacaranda Hub.





### Joint Programme Integrated National Financing Framework for Sustainable Development

#### Participating agencies:













The participating agencies continued to provide technical and financial support the Government towards the development and realization of the INFF. Through the Joint Programme (JP), a consultancy was initiated, data collected and analysed to produce a DFA report which was due for validation by the end of 2022.

The UN in Zambia also supported the Government to develop the national budget analysis toolkit and undertook training which enhanced the capacity of Members of Parliament and Permanent Secretaries to facilitate the roll out and implementation of the tool kit. Through the JP, the UN supported the Government to conduct the Rapid Integrated Assessment of the 8th National Development Plan and a Zero draft report was produced pending review and validation. These efforts were meant to ensure that the SDGs were integrated into the 8NDP to advance achievement of Global Goals in the 2022-2026 national development cycle. The Government was also supported to undertake survey on the socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 on the Tourism Sector which is one of the critical sources of revenue for the Government to inform the planning process from the revenue perspective.

The JP also supported reforms to migrate local authorities from Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) to the more accountable and transparent Output Based Budgeting (OBB). Staff in all the country's 116 local authorities were trained in OBB. Through this enhanced capacity, the local authorities started using OBB for their 2023 budget preparations. To improve local financing and support prudent budget decisions, the programme supported local authorities with budget analysis, which will lead to the production of the first-ever local authorities budget briefs. As part of enhancing monitoring, the JP supported the development of the M&E Framework for Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development.

As part of enhancing the capacity of key stakeholders on SDG financing, the JP through Gender Division at Cabinet Office supported the validation of the National Gender Policy and a Gender Budgeting Training Workshop. Government officers' skills and knowledge were enhanced, creating linkages between policy making, programming, and budgeting and the added value of gender-responsive budgeting approaches to policy outcomes; gender analysis in elaborating a gender-aware policy appraisal as well as advocacy for gender responsive budgeting using costing models as a strategic entry point, including costing methodologies for reproductive health and other gender equality targets.

Having accurate data from national population-based surveys plays a critical role in developing sound INFFs and therefore the JP through the Zambia Statistics Agency supported the 2022 Census of Population and Housing pre-enumeration activities with census publicity materials.





### United Nations Joint Programme on Gender Based Violence Phase II (UNJPGBV II)

#### Participating agencies:











The UN System in Zambia through its specialized agencies, delivering as one, continued to contribute to a sustained multi-sectoral coordination among stakeholders in Gender Equality, GBV, Women participation, and Women Empowerment. These efforts are through the National GBV TWG led by Gender Division, underpin the joint programmes which contribute to leveraging of resources, information sharing, and reducing duplication. Through the Joint Programme on GBV, the UN in Zambia under the technical lead of UNDP supported the development and operationalization of the National Gender Policy and Village Led One Stop Centres, and GBV Shelter Guidelines which improved the quality of services for GBV survivors. UNDP also supported the enactment of the Children's Code Act, which has progressive provisions on the protection of children and harmful practices.

Additionally, the programme also was central in influencing Amendments of the Anti-human Trafficking Law – Act no.16 of 2022. This entails that perpetrators of child sexual trafficking can be prosecuted without proving that a child victim was forced or coerced. Any child sex trafficking without force or coercion is a crime. Further, the programme contributed to strengthening the Anti-GBV Act no.1 of 2011 to provide for penalties, guidelines for shelters and the Anti-GBV Fund – in place.



A total of 634 Child survivors of GBV received child friendly services offered by frontline workers trained on child friendly victims and witness support which included: (police, prosecutors, social welfare, health). Provision of child friendly supplies to OSCs and FTCs, 227,892 (139,621 females, 88,271 males) direct beneficiaries reached with various services including: GBV/COVID-19 information, economic empowerment, psychosocial counselling, policing and legal services. (Against a Target of 10,000) - Mass sensitizations accelerated the target.

In addition, the UN through UNDP supported the construction and refurbishment of Village Led One Stop Centres, and shelters for increased access to post GBV services by survivors; built the capacity of 461 females and 33 males in business development, startup tool kits for IGAs and group savings and credit formation to increase their incomes. UNDP supported the strengthening of 16 Anti-GBV Shelters with food, beddings, and supplies, resulting in 166 all-female GBV survivors accessing specialized GBV services (counselling, legal services, referrals).



#### **UN Legal Identity Taskforce**

#### Participating agencies:













UNICEF and UNDP supported the development of the new Integrated National Registration and Integrated System (INRIS)/SmartCare integrated system connecting health facilities to the health Information Management System. This allows the health sector to play a bigger and more important role in civil registration of birth notification at the point of occurrence for births at the health facility.

The Government innovatively combined the birth record and the birth notification so that the health workers only fill in one form when collecting information from the mother of a newly born child. The same information will be used by the civil registrar to register a child and issue a birth certificate.

Under the UNLIA, the UN sponsored a government study tour of Livingstone and Maramba Hospitals, where the Government has been piloting an integrated civil registration/health services system. Among the key findings of the tour was that internet reliability and connectivity are key in efficient system's operation and sustainability. The internet challenges experienced at the two pilot projects negatively impacted the electronic birth notification. One of the recommendations from the Joint study tour is that as INRIS/SmartCare is rolledout to the health facilities across the country, the health facilities should be connected by SMART ZAMBIA to the Government Wide Area Network (GWAN) to ensure stable and reliable Internet connectively. Under the UNLIA, UNICEF and UNDP also contributed through the procurement of ICT enrolment kits for all the 116 districts and 25 selected health facilities of Lusaka Province which will be used as a model when rolling out the INRIS/SmartCare system to other provinces.

#### Government of the Republic of Zambia- UN Joint Programme on Social Protection (GRZ-UNJPSP-II)

#### Participating agencies:









The JP brought together key stakeholders in government and the UN to strengthen the social protection programme implementation comprehensively, while strategically prioritizing the consolidation of the programme and its systems (while it continues undergoing scale-up to bring coverage of the poor population well over 50 percent), and the integration of the programme with resilience building, income generating activities (graduation pathways), social services addressing the multiple dimensions of poverty, as well as shock-responsiveness.

Recognizing the strategic value addition, the programme was extended by two years (to 2024) with support by multiple cooperating partners and under the leadership of the Ministry Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS). The joint effort has allowed for leveraging of comparative advantages, and even more so for collaboration of complementary strengths to allow for more comprehensive and more efficiently delivered results in cross-cutting areas like disability mainstreaming, systems strengthening and policy review.

The UNJPSP has enhanced collaboration among the UN agencies and the World Bank to streamline their support to the government resulting in improved and effective social protection programme delivery in the country.



#### The 2gether4SRHR

#### Participating agencies:









The 2gether 4 SRHR programme successfully contributed to the attainment of significant progress in various health and HIV indicators. The programme was premised on joint contributions to Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 5. Evidently, Zambia is one of eight countries to have achieved the 90:90:90 global HIV targets, its maternal mortality ratio has declined from as high as 591/1000, 000 live births in 2007, to 398/100,000 in 2013, and 278/100,000 in 2018. Despite an estimated 9 percent of maternal deaths caused by abortion complications, the programme was pivotal in reducing maternal deaths attributable to abortion, by reducing unintended pregnancies and unsafe abortion through the implementation of quality family planning and comprehensive abortion care interventions.

The programme noted that young people (15-24 years old) bore most of the burden of new HIV infections. Furthermore, compared with older women, adolescents and young mothers have been underserved at various points along the eMTCT of HIV continuum of care, including high unmet need for contraception, lower rates of retention in HIV care and treatment and higher new infections of HIV during pregnancy and breastfeeding,

posing risks to their health and increasing the likelihood of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. The programme prioritized the scaling up of targeted eMTCT of HIV interventions targeting AGYW informed by evidence through investments in a Knowledge Attitude and Practices (KAP) study on access to integrated SRHR/HIV and SGBV services by AGYW supported through the 2gether 4SRHR programme, provided insights pertaining to barriers, including lack of knowledge on comprehensive HIV prevention, negative attitude of health workers, lack of peer support, challenges in navigating pregnancy and HIV in societies where stigma and discrimination

Service integration and strengthening cross-sectoral networks represented some key strategies to address challenges and improve health and HIV outcomes. In this regard, with funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), Government of Zambia in collaboration with four UN agencies namely UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO implemented an integrated SRHR/HIV and SGBV programme anchored on the Delivering As One Modality providing complementarities of the UN joint team. The primary targets for the programme were adolescents and young people, women of reproductive age, key populations, and marginalized populations as part of the efforts to harness and realize the demographic dividend. Premised on an integrated platform, the programme provided technical assistance, catalytic service delivery and capacity building support to the Ministry of Health towards ensuring improved health seeking behaviour and service delivery outcomes.



#### **Scaling Up Nutrition II**

#### Participating agencies:







SUN II Programme contributed to reaching several beneficiaries with different interventions reaching 72 percent of targeted beneficiaries in all 17 districts. The following table summarizes the main achievements.

The results achieved were through various processes which include:

- Provision and access to quality nutrition counselling on infant and young childcare feeding practices improved with a total of 90,781 households reached with lessons provided through 20,262 trained Nutrition Support Group (NSG) volunteers and 138,035 pregnant and lactating women, and caretakers of children under 2 years of age reached.
- Referrals for and quality treatment of acute malnutrition were strengthened with a monthly average of 127,636

SN	Targeted Beneficiaries	Type of Interventions	Target	Achievement (In-progress)
1	SUN Most Vulnerable Households	Homestead food production interventions (Agriculture, Livestock, and fisheries input)	60,706	35,795 (59%)
2	SUN Agri Intense Households	Agriculture Production Interventions	143,077	127,691 (89%)
3	SUN Households	Health and Nutrition- Specific Interventions	697,766	826,865 (118%)
4	Women of Reproductive Age	Saving for Change Interventions	120,598	68,034 (56%)
5	All Households	WASH Interventions	1,000,000	406,810 (41%)

<sup>\* 688,830</sup> includes pregnant, lactating and children under 2 years of age who were reached through health facility, outreach sites and nutrition support groups



children aged 0-23 months reached with Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) services. A total of 1,202 children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM were treated in the Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP).

- Quality nutrition counselling to adolescents and pregnant and lactating women was enhanced. A total of 32,060 adolescent girls were reached with nutrition assessment and counselling including integrated sexual reproductive health services, through health facilities and outreach sites.
- Access to diversified nutritious food improved with 5,111 households engaged in small livestock production (excluding chickens). A total of 79,308 SUN households were trained in diverse agriculture crop production (including legumes, vegetables, fruits, and cereals).
- Access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services improved with a total of 146 new boreholes drilled and equipped with handpumps and 212 existing boreholes rehabilitated, Hygiene promotion benefited an estimated 80,315 people, cumulatively benefiting a total of 201,800 people (102,918 women and girls and 98,882 men and boys), against the planned target of 1,000,000.
- Linkages to early childhood development and social protection programmes were enhanced with a total of 9,414 vulnerable households referred to various social protection programmes. Furthermore, a total of 10,578 community members (of which 81 per cent are women) were reached with sensitization on "Savings for Change" with 1,477 "Savings for Change" groups formed and 30,438 members trained.

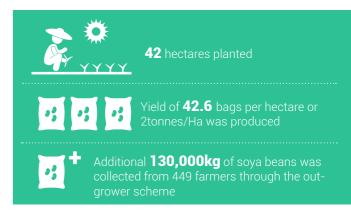
### Enhanced soya bean production and processing programme

#### Participating agencies:





The UN in Zambia through IFAD supported the implementation of the Enhanced Soya bean production project (ESB3P) through the Muchinga Agriculture Development Company (MADECO). The project aims to contribute to poverty reduction and food security in rural Zambia through increased soya beans productivity, enhanced value chains and improved incomes of rural households in the project area. The project promotes intensification and diversification of the existing cropping system and improvement to the marketing system to enhance production, productivity and incomes of the smallholder farmer whilst improving household nutrition and environmental management of natural resources at the same time.





#### **Climate Smart Livestock Project**

#### Participating agencies:





Working with IFAD and the private sector, WFP supported the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock to implement a hybrid livestock insurance product following its successful piloting the year before. The product is protecting 5,000 livestock smallholder farmers from climate-related shocks including droughts and floods that may affect pasture availability for their livestock during the 2022/23 farming season, with plans to scale up to 600,000 smallholder farmers across the country.

Supported the private sector to provide crop insurance to 6,506 smallholder farmers for soya beans and maize to cover their crops against climate risks and support their recovery from shocks like droughts and floods. The farmers accessed the insurance services through the Maano Virtual Farmers' application, an e-commerce platform for exchanging market information and trading agricultural commodities, redeveloped with WFP support, and launched in 2021 with expanded features including weather information, e-wallet, e-extension, transport, and micro insurance services. Additionally, WFP and the private sector supported the Government to sensitize smallholder farmers on the importance of insurance to increase uptake as part of transforming the way they do business.



### UN Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS

#### Participating agencies:





















The Zambia United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (JUNTA) consisting of 11 Co-sponsors, successfully leveraged and had an impact across multiple sectors and platforms for an integrated SDG agenda. Whilst agencies implement the Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) activities based on comparative advantages, the strength has been noted as a Joint Team in cross-cutting and intersectional ability to advocate, influence and inform the national HIV response - results that were clearly highlighted in the evaluation of the Country Envelope (2018-2022).

The added value of the Joint HIV Programming and Joint Team is evident in Zambia's participation in the regional Education Plus initiative, and the Global Alliance to End AIDS in Children - as well as the inclusion of HIV services that have been integrated in the humanitarian refugee response and transport sectors.

The JUNTA actively participated in Zambia's development of multiple key strategic documents: (1) National Development Plan 8 (2022-2027); (2) UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022-2027); (3) National Health Strategic Plan (2022-2027); (4) Zambia Key Population Communication and Advocacy Strategic Plan (2022 -2027); (5) 2022 Zambia Consolidated Guidelines for Treatment and Prevention of HIV Infection; (6) 2022 Ministry of Health National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Programme Consolidated Tuberculosis Guidelines; (7) National Plan for the Triple Elimination of MTCT of HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B and the Adolescent Strategic Plan (2022–2026); (8) Zambia Correctional Service Health strategic and Operation Plan (2022-2027); (9) HIV/AIDS and Wellness Workplace Policy.

#### Children on the Move

#### Participating agencies:





UNICEF and UNHCR continued to provide technical support to legislation and policies. The UN supported the adoption of the Children's Code that recognizes unaccompanied children on the move as children "in need of care and protection". Through this joint programme, the UN also supported the adoption of amendments to the Anti-human Trafficking Act that enables fast-tracking of cases involving child trafficking was adopted, increases punitive measures for child traffickers and no longer requires for it to be proven that a child was forced into trafficking. In addition, adoption of the National Migration Policy and the National Policy on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants as well as the development of the National Refugee Policy was supported.

There was continued support to the Government to improve district level procedures for the protection of child migrants. This was achieved through the finalization/validation of the Statutory Case Management Handbook and the special Guidance Note on implementing the Handbook in cases of Child Migration. The 10 priority districts participated in drafting the procedures and piloting them. These procedures assist Social Welfare in leading the district level Best Interest Determination Panels that address individual cases of child migrants.

Another area of focus under this joint programme is to improve coordination in addressing cross-border cases of child migrants. The National Committee on Human Trafficking provided guidance and support to border districts so that they establish cross-border district coordination committees that include law enforcement and social welfare from at least two countries. These have been critical in addressing individual cases of child migrants, placed in detention or in safe spaces and then returned to their countries of origin.

Through UN support, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security commenced to set up Human Trafficking Desks in police stations across the country, to ease implementation of new laws and policies.

UNHCR continued to support vulnerable child refugees

in three refugee settlements, including support to child-headed households, foster and kinship care models.

In collaboration with UNICEF and the departments of Social Welfare and Immigration, UNHCR helped to strengthen the capacity of government and NGO staff in refugee hosting districts of Kaoma, Solwezi, Mansa and Nchelenge. A total of 187 staff in contact with children were trained to mitigate child detention and improve case management for alternative care arrangements for children at risk in refugee settlements.

The project mitigated the challenge of traditional fostering of children through formal care arrangements according to the provisions of the Children's Code Act of 2022. There were 35 applications for finalization of formal fostering of children before the courts of law.

To enhance the protection of children and reduce the risk of abuse, child friendly spaces in Mantapala, Maheba, Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements and at Makeni Transit Centre in Lusaka were rehabilitated and stocked with recreational materials. These spaces proved to be safe for children who have been free to report incidences of abuse, and services are being provided to them in a timely manner.





#### **Ending Child marriage**

#### Participating agencies:





The UN in Zambia through UNICEF continued to provide technical support to the Government to finalize the Children's Code and align it with international standards. This Act which was adopted in August 2022 prohibits persons from facilitating child marriage and traditional practices that can negatively affect a child's health and wellbeing. The Act also recognizes children at risk of child marriage and exposure to harmful practice as "children in need of care and protection", meaning that social services are mandated to get involved and conduct risk assessment and care decision making for these children.

The Global Programme on Ending Child Marriage expanded from two to six districts and reached 102,103 children through community care consisting of community case management, integrating gender awareness in football training (coaching boys into men) health facility outreach to schools on sexual reproductive health, safe spaces, and education bursaries. A total of 15,920 adults were reached through community dialogues (compared to 10,371 in 2021) and 105,000 community members reached through community radio (i.e., 10 per cent of radio coverage) on gender norms that perpetuate child marriage and sexual coercion.

#### 2.3.2. Operations Management Team

The Business Operations Strategy (BOS) was developed at a critical juncture for the country, falling between the end of the Partnership Framework (2016-2022) and the preparation of the first ever UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) covering the period 2023-2027.

The implementation of the BOS has been accelerated with a 450% increase in the number of fully implemented common service lines from two in 2021 to eleven (11) in 2022. However, the realized cost avoidance for 2022 is \$67,637, about 46% decrease from 2021, bringing the overall realized cost avoidance for the period 2021-2022 to \$192,519 i.e. 9% of the 5-year period cost avoidance (both monetary and staff time converted in monetary terms) of \$2,154,575. This means that there is much work to be done to achieve the full implementation of the 33 common service lines and achieve the expected cost avoidance. It requires all Technical Working Groups (TWGs) working hand-in-hand to develop cost-effective and realistic strategies and viable options to accelerate especially the implementation of the remaining eight (08) common services with their projected cost avoidance.

Over the past two years, the expected results were not fully achieved due to strengthening the accountability for the active participation from UN agencies, in particular, non-resident agencies and setting up realistic cost avoidance in the Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA).

In order to address these challenges, the Annual Review Exercise for 2022 agreed to remove nine (09) entities from the BOS implementation (Funds and Programmes: UNCDF, UNCTAD, UN-HABITAT, UN-Women; Specialized Agencies: IFAD, IMF, UNIDO, World Bank; Other UN Entities: UNECA) with sixteen (16) entities continuing the implementation (9 Funds and Programmes: IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS and WFP, 4 Specialized Agencies: ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO and 3 other UN entities: UNDSS, UNIC and UNRCO).

While the BOS platform has maintained a 5-year period for all service lines, the OMT is expected to review the timeframe of implementation of all service lines in 2023 to align the BOS activities with the implementation of the UNSDCF.

As the first year of implementation of the Cooperation Framework commences, the successful implementation of the BOS is expected to yield several results, including economies of scales, customer service orientation of the service delivery, cost savings and quality enhancements and digitalization of operations.



#### 2.3.3. Joint Communication and Advocacy

- Through 100 school-based UN clubs in schools and universities across nine provinces of Zambia, close to 4,000 children and youth were reached with information about the SDGs and other key messages on countering hate speech and misinformation and disinformation. Apart from club-driven activities in line with workplans developed by the UN through UNIC, children and youth were also reached by various UN agencies, funds and programmes during in-person and virtual outreach activities.
- Through the UN Communication Group (UNCG), the UN in Zambia promoted key UN messages aligned to global communication priorities leading increased efforts to fight misinformation by the government-led Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) team on COVID-19. Further, a wide range of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were produced and disseminated, reaching over 6.5 million people.
- ⇒ UN advocacy on gender equality, human rights and disability inclusion strengthened along 2022.
- Continued advocacy with government and civil society for increased participation of women in decision making positions including political processes through initiatives such as the African Women Leadership Network (AWLN) and the Gender Empowerment and Women's Initiative project.
- ⇒ Through the Leave no one Behind Theme Group and the UNCG, the UN in Zambia conducted training of partners on disability inclusive communications. Further, the UNCG embarked on production of disability friendly information formats including braille and audio pieces.
- The UN in Zambia served as human rights champion and impartially supported UN Human Rights work to assist the Government to implement its obligations to respect, protect and promote human rights. In 2022, the UNCT under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator actively advocated for and acted on key and sensitive human rights issues internally and externally. These actions and support catalysed and contributed to key achievements such as abolishment of the Death Penalty in Zambia



through a Presidential decision in December 2022. Further, key areas where outreach and capacity-building for Heads of Agencies was needed, such as to protect and promote the rights of at-risk groups including asylum-seekers, migrants, and refugees, were identified. As a result, materials and messaging were shared with the UNCT to enable it to respond to emerging issues.

- ⇒ The UN Migration Network which had ceased functioning, was also reconvened, and served as a forum for more systematic contacts and coordination, including between IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF who are principal actors on PoM.
- Advocated with senior government officials on the status of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up which had been lagging behind for at least 3 years. As a result, UN Zambia learned of Cabinet's approval, on 22 August 2022, of the establishment, ToRs and membership of the NMRFU.
- ⇒ On Human Rights Day 2022, delivered advocacy messaging to national and other stakeholders, students and the UNCT on inter alia, the rights and protection of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants.
- Opportunities were created for engagement at senior Government level to discuss and follow-up on key human rights issues, such as on prevention,

protection and remedy in respect of contamination linked to mining.

- ⇒ Continued advocacy for youth empowerment through participation in national-level commemorations and delivering key messages. Further, nine UN agencies collaborated on develop a joint programme on youth which will support youth empowerment.
- ⇒ To facilitate the inclusion of youth voices from all 10 provinces of Zambia, the UN in Zambia supported the Government to develop a National Youth Policy including provision of over USD300,000 for countrywide consultations to gather the views of youth.
- ⇒ In the lead up to the 'Transforming Education Summit' held at the United Nations on 19 September 2022, the UN in Zambia supported national consultations involving Government, civil society organisations, religious leaders, teachers, students and international development partners. The findings of the consultation were integrated into a report which Zambia submitted to the UN Summit.
- ⇒ Further, Zambia's President spoke at the Leaders'
  Roundtable and called for need to elevate
  education to the top of the global agenda and
  highlighted the country's steps to make education
  free and accessible to all, the training of over 3,200
  teachers in digital literacy and recruitment of over

- 30,000 new teachers in 2022.
- ⇒ Using UN Calendar days, the UN in Zambia disseminated key messages and promoted global campaigns. Additionally, the UNCG used the UNCT website to communicate UN support through Human Interest stories and serving as a depository for key reports and other publications.

#### UN Zambia Supports Zambia Undertake 2022 Census of Population and Housing

In 2022, the UN in Zambia, through the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supported the Government of the Republic of Zambia to undertake the first-ever electronic Census of Population and Housing.

The UN provided technical and financial support to the exercise, including the mapping exercise and other Census processes, as well as procurement of equipment such as bicycles, motorbikes, tablets and printers, among others.

More than just a head count, the Census remains a key source of data for the country as it informs decision-making, planning, implementation, monitoring and resource allocation at national and sub-national levels. The data collected also plays a prominent role in providing the demographic surveillance necessary for monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which place the highest priority on leaving no one behind and serving the furthest behind first.



#### 2.3.4. Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment

#### Overview of UNCT-SWAP Cumulative Results in 2022



Overview of UNCT-SWAP Cumulative Results in 2022

⇒ The UNCT-SWAP Gender Scorecard indicated continued efforts to ensure accountability and transparency on SDG 5 – Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming. The findings indicate the ratings scored by the UNCT for the different Performance Indicators across the different dimensions.

#### Gender Mainstreaming in the New Cooperation Framework

- The country progressed on planning indicators and met minimum requirements for Gender Equality Mainstreamed in Cooperation Framework outcomes as gender equality and the empowerment of women is visibly mainstreamed across all outcome areas in line with SDG priorities, including SDG 5. Additionally, the requirements for Cooperation Framework indicators to measure changes on gender equality exceeded minimum requirement.
- ⇒ The Gender Analysis was done during the development of the CCA and the UNSDCF. The UNSDCF emphasizes enhancing the spirit of partnership to drive transformative change. It reinforces the commitment to focus on those left behind and to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women is visibly mainstreamed across all outcome areas in line with SDG priorities, including SDG 5.



#### Gender Equality and Women's Participation Initiative

The UN inter-agency Gender Theme Group, with specific support from UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, and UNICEF, actively engaged in designing and planning the Gender Equality and Women's Participation Initiative funded by the Irish Embassy.

The Initiative is centred around the need to enhance existing strategies and programmes towards a more integrated and strategic approach that responds to gender inequalities and emerging megatrends at country level. This includes supporting the Government to address current gaps in existing coordination mechanism across government and non-governmental stakeholders, UN Agencies and Development Partners (DPs) in the Gender area.

The Government in partnership with the UN GTG, UN Women's Regional Office, African Union, and the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) launched the Zambian Chapter of the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN). This marked a significant milestone for Zambia in terms

of the country's commitment to meet human rights and development goals, promote peace, and foster a conducive environment for women in leadership. Additionally, this event emphasized the important role of men by encouraging all men everywhere to support women's leadership in all spheres and become champions of change.





#### 2.3.5. Leaving No one Behind and disability inclusion

- ⇒ The Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023-27), was developed using an inclusive and participatory approach to ensure no one is left behind, persons with disabilities, youths, women refugees were consulted throughout the elaboration of the CF.
- ⇒ To facilitate capacity building for LNOB, the UNCT with support from the RCO convened a capacity building workshop for the LNOB theme group members with an overarching aim to re-strengthen the theme group coherent and collective response towards the priorities and expected outcomes as outlined in the UNSDCF.
- ⇒ Projects triggering on the principle of LNOB were initiated starting with the Leaving no one behind through improved Legal Identity Management Joint Project, which is being implemented by UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, IOM supporting vulnerable populations to be equally recognized before the law and the project shall be a catalytic for achieving at least ten of the SDGs.
- ⇒ Practical measures on LNOB were integrated in the GRZ-UN joint programme on Social Protection phase II, which is being implemented by UNICEF, ILO, WFP, UNDP. The project targeted households of persons with disabilities for social assistance and works in partnership with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD) and Organizations for Persons with Disabilities.
- ⇒ The UN Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (with annual financial allocation from Secretariat and Agencies) which is being implemented by UNAIDS, WHO, ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNWOMEN, UNFPA, IOM, UNODC, UNDP, WB also mainstreams disability inclusion.
- ⇒ The Together 4SRHR joint project which is being implemented by UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF, UNAIDS, equally applies a LNOB lens in its implementation.
- ⇒ The UNCT managed to reach the inception phase to implement the UNPRPD-MTPF Joint programme on disability inclusion which is led by UNICEF, with technical support from ILO, UNDP, UNFPA. The UNPRPD-MTPF project aims to support the country commitment to implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

### Reflect on overall progress on the "promise to leave no one behind", include:

- ⇒ 129, 100 households on the Social Cash Transfer were households with disabilities, thereby representing 13 percent of the caseload. The proportional caseload has been reducing over the years, due to the restrictive definitions applied, and the UN supported the Ministry in creating more inclusive and rights-based standards, which might lead to increasing enrollment in future years.
- ⇒ 53 OPDs of Kalabo, Chipata, Mwinilunga, Mongu, Ndola, Chinsali and Mpika Districts were trained in the grievance redress mechanisms and Gender Based Violence (GBV) case management in social protection programmes.
- ⇒ To facilitate reduction of stigma and discrimination in communities using social media platforms, skills training in digital story telling was provided for 45 youths with disabilities in Chipata and Katete districts.
- ⇒ The HGSM programme coverage increased to 70 districts reaching 1.9 million school learners from 53 districts feeding 1.6 million learners the previous year.
- ⇒ The MIS nutrition module to support the 1,000 days pilot was developed and intends to be integrated with the Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information System to support effective SCT delivery to beneficiaries.
- ⇒ Capacity of the community early warning strengthened to support shock responsive social protection programming.
- ⇒ Efforts and results in building and supporting national statistics offices capacities to move beyond national averages, with a strengthened focus on inclusion and tackling inequalities.
- ⇒ Supported by the UN, both Census and LCMS have included the Washington Group set of Questions to provide for disability disaggregation of the data according to international rights-based standards.
- Access to services by persons with disabilities remains sketchy with significant exclusion errors. Therefore, the government is in the process of developing comprehensive strategies around community based inclusive development and assistive technology provision for persons with disabilities.
- ⇒ The UN agencies will continue to collaborate with UNHCR in its advocacy inclusion of refugees in mainstream economy through removal of movement restrictions and permits requirements.
- ⇒ The national response remains weak in the area of key

- populations as programming and service delivery for KPs (MSM, Sex workers and Persons who inject drugs) remain virtually exclusively funded by development partners which makes programming unsustainable.
- ⇒ UNDP supported the development and operationalization of the INFF to improve development financing for SDG advancement. In the same vein, the Ministry of Finance and National Planning was supported to integrate SDGs into the 8NDP through the Rapid Integrated Assessment. In partnership with UN agencies, ZamStats was supported to implement the Phased Integrated Socio-economic Survey, which includes: (i) Covid-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) on Households; (ii) Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS); (iii) An Integrated Enterprise Survey.
- ⇒ In line with the principle of Leaving no-one behind, UNDP also led the joint-UN collaboration to prepare a national report on COVID-19 impact on persons with disabilities aimed at identifying their health and socio-economic challenges with the formulation of recommendations to the Government on COVID-19 disability-inclusive response and recovery needs.

#### 2.3.6. Humanitarian and Development Nexus

Humanitarian relief, sustainable development and peace nexus have continued to increasingly become more complex, inter-linked, simultaneous imperatives for Zambia. It was evident that the pattern had become repetitive with climate-related shocks, pest infestations, and animal diseases more intense and frequent. The country continued to experience some dry spells in some areas in the Southern parts, with floods in some areas in the Northern part of the country, and some pest invasion from armyworms and African Migratory Locusts (AML), including the livestock diseases outbreaks, such as foot-and-mouth disease. This situation has continued to exacerbate disaster losses and humanitarian needs, and more people and assets at risk than ever before.

The UN continued to support the Government in collaboration with Cooperating Partners and other key stakeholders which contributed to enhanced preparedness and strides towards strengthening the nexus between development and humanitarian to better reposition the country to respond to these potential humanitarian crises.

Some parts of the country experiencing extreme drought conditions leading to the payout of USD 5.377 by the African Risk Capacity (ARC) to the government to contribute to



response efforts to the affected population. The insurance payout to the Government of Zambia enabled the country to finalize and validate its Final Implementation Plan (FIP) and carry out emergency response activities in the affected districts, through provision of cash transfers to acquire prescribed food basket to ensure food is available for the targeted households during the lean season period. The UN in Zambia supported the Government through the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit in actualising the application of these financial resources.

In addition, the UN in Zambia in collaboration with OCHA was working with the African Risk Capacity (ARC) supported the Government through DMMU to work towards the development, testing, and independently evaluating the concept and potential impact of anticipatory insurance that could pay out ahead of predicted shocks. One of the anticipatory insurance products that ARC and OCHA wanted to test was a crop, parametric product that can make an early pay out at the end of the sowing window, as a result of below average rainfall conditions (drought), rather than waiting for the end of the season, like ARC's current product.

The vulnerability assessments conducted by the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee with support from

the UN revealed that gains made towards attainment of self-reliance by communities were generally reversed by the floods, droughts, and COVID-19, thus enhancing their vulnerability further and requiring life-saving support, early recovery assistance and long-term investments in building resilience. The UN continued dialogue with the Government on the need to develop a disaster risk framework that would enhance prevention, preparedness and overall mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in planning and budgeting processes. This work will commence in 2023.

Lesson from COVID-19 is that development-humanitarian-peace programming should be designed to enhance people's absorptive, adaptive, and transformative capacities to manage, navigate and sustain change in complex systems. The UN ensured that interventions continued to be preceded by holistic, integrated contextual analyses that safeguarded that there was space for stand-alone, needs-based humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding assessments.

In line with the Economic Recovery Programme (2020-2023), the UN continue to focus on supporting national efforts to restore growth and safeguarding livelihoods through macroeconomic stability, economic diversification, and debt sustainability as well as on supporting Government's efforts on building the private sector as the key driver of economic growth.



### 2.3.7. COVID 19 and HIV/AIDS Assessment in Refugee Settings in Zambia

UNHCR with the leadership and technical guidance of the assessment technical team composed of representatives from UNAIDS, IOM, UNFPA, National HIV/AIDS/STI/TB Council (NAC), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security, successfully undertook an assessment of the COVID and HIV and AIDS needs

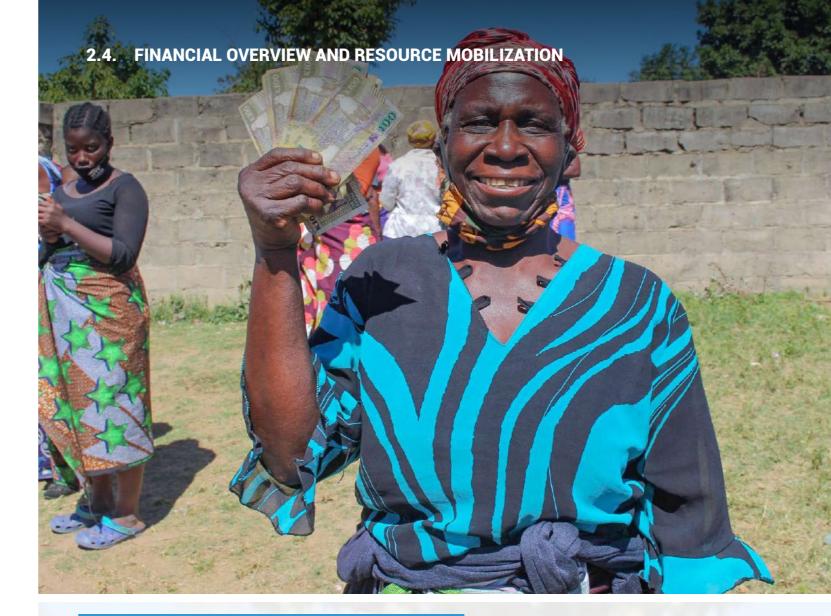
assessment in Mayukwayukwa, Maheba and Mantapala refugee settlements between November and December 2022 using the UBRAF funds under the Joint United Nations Team on HIV and AIDS (JUNTA).

The overall objective of the assessment was to determine HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 needs for refugees, asylum seekers and others of concern living with HIV in Zambia thereby enabling progress towards meeting their minimum threshold requirements for "decent living standards" (DLS) across a range of domains including shelter (housing, cooling, heating), nutrition (food, food preparation, food conservation), health care), socialization (communication and information, education) and mobility (transport infrastructure).

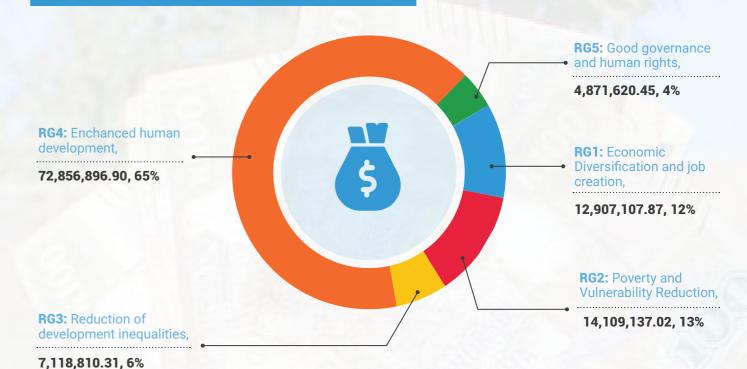
The assessment showed that the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted most of the health service delivery mechanisms due to movement restricts by the Ministry of Health. This challenge was addressed by the introduction of Multi-Month Dispensation (MMD) of ARV. Most of the respondents (74.59%) reported receiving ARV treatment for a period of six (6) months while 34.8% reported receiving for a three (3) months period to avoid any disruption in accessing the drugs. However, more than 50% reported having less than 2 weeks' of stock at the time of the assessment.

Furthermore, the assessment showed evidence of refugees, migrants and crisis affected populations having limited access to basic needs, experiencing isolation and stress. This exacerbated the risk of being infected as they turned to high-risk behaviours such as unprotected sex. The Ministry of Health (HMIS, 2021) reported that there was an increase in sexually transmitted infections as well as teen pregnancies during the COVID period.

In view of the above, the report has provided recommendations to address identified bottlenecks around the COVIDS-19 and HIV responses. Some of the recommendations include the need for UNHCR supported by the JUNTA to invest in the development and distribution of COVID-19 IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials to address some of the rumours, myths and misconceptions around COVID-19 in refugee settlement camps. On HIV, there is need to focus on the use of voluntary HIV testing, index testing and HIV screening tools and approaches that will offer universal testing within populations where there is likely to be a higher positivity rate.







In 2022, the UN in Zambia planned to spend US\$156.9 million on development interventions while the actual expenditure was US\$107 million, which translate to 68 percent financial resources mobilized. These financial resources were drawn from UN core resources and from the donors. The top six donors for the UN in Zambia in 2022 included Germany, United Kingdom, Sweden, European Union, and Ireland. Other donors included Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, and Canada. In this fiscal year, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Green Climate Fund contributed considerable amounts of over US\$5 million for development interventions to advance achievement of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in Zambia.

In the previous partnership framework cycle, which ended in 2022, the UN planned to utilise US\$1.116 billion in Zambia over seven years, including a 2-year extension of the partnership framework. Estimates of actual expenditure to the end of 2022 stand at US\$842 million, representing a 25 percent shortfall on the planned amount. On average, the UN planned to spend US\$159 million per year (or US\$142 million in the pre-COVID-19 period). Actual expenditures (pre-COVID-19 and during the COVID-19 period) were consistently above 70 percent and averaged 75 percent.

Planned and actual expenditures for UNSDPF - 2016 - 2022

Fiscal Year	Planned (US\$)	Expenditure (US\$)	Percentage spent		
2016	154,528,179.65	125,663,177.41	81%		
2017	133,745,306.50	114,207,123.70	85.%		
2018	163,043,117.49	119,381,765.65	73%		
2019	124,431,638.43	\$92,306,970.33	74%		
2020	168,402,896.27	121,080,302.76	72%		
2021	215,474,409.68	157,665,111.89	73%		
2022	156,934,025.76	111,863,572.35	71%		
Average	159,508,510.54	120,309,717.73	75%		
Total	1,116,559,573.78	842,168,024.09	75%		

The UN in Zambia continued to undertake joint resource mobilization around joint programmes. There were 15 joint programmes amounting to a budget value of US\$ 91,671,628. This includes a new joint programme with a budget of USD 200,000 from locally mobilized resources focusing on gender equality and women's participation launched in 2022 for implementation. Joint resource mobilization and programming continued to show its added value in enhancing coordination, coherence,

efficiency, and accountability for UNCT Zambia in implementing national priorities to achieve the desired impact in improving the lives of the people of Zambia.

However, the donor and financing landscape has been rapidly changing in recent years, with declining ODA and an increased focus on leveraging private sector financing for development. This has led to a growing recognition of the need to diversify sources of funding for sustainable development initiatives in Zambia.

To address this changing landscape, the UN system in Zambia has been exploring new approaches to resource mobilization, including engaging non-traditional donors such as private foundations and philanthropists, promoting greater private sector engagement in sustainable development initiatives, and strengthening coordination among stakeholders to avoid fragmented funding and ensure alignment with national development priorities. As a result, during this fiscal year the UN in Zambia started the process of formulating its joint partnerships and resource mobilization strategy.





The time of transitioning from the Partnerships Framework, which ended in December 2022, to the new Cooperation Framework, which will frame the UN support to Zambia in the next five years, is certainly key to learn from the challenges and experience of the previous cycle. The Partnership Framework 2016-2022 was deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore the UN in Zambia is drawing lessons from these exceptional times, in terms of remaining ready to stay and deliver in case of other unexpected major events, being of public health or other nature.

Using the several studies and evidence generated during this period, the UN in Zambia supported the Government through the Socio-Economic Response Report which was a response and contribution to the Government's Covid-19 Multi-sectoral Contingency which aimed at providing a coordinated, multi-sectoral, preparedness and response mechanism in the context of the threat from the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 Recovery Needs Assessment, among others was undertaken to inform decision making and implementation plans to address the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the socio-economic spheres of the country, with a particular focus on lives and livelihoods of local communities and most vulnerable groups.

Additionally, the UN has also taken in consideration for the new cycle the findings, conclusions and recommendation

from the independent Final Evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF) that was commissioned by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) under the coordination support of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) and undertaken by an external evaluation team. The ultimate goal of UNSDPF's evaluation was to assess the progress made towards the results formulated in order to provide lessons and recommendations for the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027.

The full report and a short policy brief with the key results and findings of this external evaluation are publicly available and the key findings and recommendations were integrated in the new Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 elaboration process.

The evaluators concluded that the Zambia-UNSDPF was relevant to and highly aligned with Zambian national needs, development priorities and international commitments. It was also noted that the UNCT has been generally effective in delivering results and contributing to progress under all UNSDPF outcomes confirmed by positive changes in relevant statistical indicators. The UN Country Team in Zambia will continue monitoring and ensuring implementation of the recommendations aiming at improving the UN support to the country and the impact of its interventions.

•••••• 69



#### **UN Zambia Launches Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework**

The Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, Mrs. W.K. Mutale Nalumango, on 4 November 2022 launched the Government of Zambia United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, that defines United Nations support to Zambia's development for the period 2023-2027.

The Cooperation Framework is aimed at supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and delivering the 2030 Agenda in an integrated manner, as well as to support the country's development priorities as outlined in the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP). The Cooperation Framework was co-signed by Her Honour the Vice President on behalf of the Zambian Government and by Ms Mutali on behalf of the United Nations System in Zambia.

The German Ambassador to Zambia H.E. Anne Wagner-Mitchell represented the Cooperating Partners Group, and emphasized the importance of this historic ceremony, as well as the UN Reform.

Speaking at the ceremony, that was witnessed by over 300 guests that included Government officials, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Heads of UN Agencies and staff, Civil Society, and the media, the Vice President noted continued commitment by the United Nations in the improvement of the lives of the Zambian people and

the value of the Cooperation Framework in the country's development.

"The Zambian people value the support and partnership of the United Nations towards Zambia's development agenda. This new Cooperation Framework is welcome because it will complement Zambia's development agenda as contained in the recently launched Eight National Development Plan," said Mrs Nalumango.

The Vice President also called on both the Zambian Government and the United Nations to ensure successful implementation of the Cooperation Framework.

For her part, the RC, Beatrice Mutali underscored the importance of ownership and partnership to ensure the success of the Cooperation Framework. "The Cooperation Framework does not belong to the United Nations. It is a joint commitment by the Government of the Republic of Zambia and the United Nations to work in close partnership, with the support of cooperating partners and other key stakeholders, including civil society, to contribute to ensuring better lives for the people of Zambia," she said.

Through the work of 23 UN agencies in Zambia, the new Cooperation Framework will provide interventions across four pillars, namely Prosperity, People, Peace, and Planet which align to the four strategic Priority Areas of the 8NDP. It will be implemented based on the core principles on the United Nations which are Leaving no One Behind, Human Rights, Gender Equality and Women's empowerment, sustainability and Resilience and Accountability.

The Cooperation Framework was formulated through a consultative process with the involvement of UN agencies, Government, Civil Society, Private Sector, Development Partners, Academia, Trade Unions, and Regional Bodies, among other stakeholders.

In the spirit of Leaving No One Behind, several groups were also extensively consulted which included the youth, women, refugees, former refugees, immediate host communities, migrants, Persons with Disabilities, People Living with HIV/AIDS and key populations, among others. Implemented following UN General Assembly resolution 72/279, the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is a strategic, medium-term results framework that describes the collective vision in support of national development priorities and results.



Zambia-UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework together with Government. Belonging to the new generation of Cooperation Frameworks sitting at the heart of the UN reform, it is expected that the Zambia-UN Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 is governed by a Steering Committee co-chaired by the UN and the Government,

As we are well into the Decade of Action (2020-2030) in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at a time of multiple global crises, it will also be critical to enhance the UN readiness to respond to emergencies and crises, including floods and draughts given Zambia's risk profile for climate change impacts. This will imply strengthening the Peace-Humanitarian-Development Nexus in Zambia.

In 2023, the UN will equally dedicate particular attention to supporting the Government to prepare and present its making the data analysis and full use for decision making of key statistical exercises, like the Census conducted in 2022, the Living Conditions Survey, among other key surveys.

Finally, the UN will keep on monitoring regional and sub-regional context and trends, with several neighbor countries having elections in 2023 and 2024, illegal migratory flows passing through Zambia's territory, the terrorism in Mozambique and the socio-political instability in DRC having the potential to impact Zambia.

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#### **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

**AFCFTA** African Continental Free Trade Area

AFDB African Development Bank
AFS Adolescent Friendly Spaces
AWLN African Women Leaders Network
BOS Business Operations Strategy
CAC Comprehensive Abortion Care
CAIP Common Agro-Industrial Park
CBO Community Based Organisations

**CBV** Community-Based Volunteers

**COMESA** Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

COVID-19 Coronavirus Disease
CF Cooperation Framework
DAK Digital Adaptation Kit

**DMMU** Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit

ECA Economic Commission for Africa
ECD Early Childhood Development

**ECM** End Child Marriage

**EMTCT** Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care
Elimination of Mother-to-child Transmission

**EU** European Union

**FAO** Food and Agricultural organization

GBV Gender Based Violence
GLTN Global Land Tool Network

**GRZ** Government of the Republic Of Zambia

**GTG** Gender Theme Group

**IFAD** International Fund for Agricultural Development

**ILO** International Labour Organization

**IMAM** Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition

**IMNCI** Integrated Management Neonatal of Childhood Illnesses

**INFF** Integrated National Financing Framework

**INRIS** Integrated National Registration and Information System

IOM International Organization for Migration
ITC International Training Centre (ITC)
IYCF Infant and Young Child Feeding

**KPs** Key Populations

MPDSR Maternal and Perinatal Death and Surveillance and Response
 MCDSS Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
 MOSAICC Modelling System for Agricultural Impacts of Climate Change

NHSP National Health Strategic Plan
NII National Innovation Initiative

**NISIR** National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research

**NTBC** National Technology Business Centre

**OHCHR** Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights

OBB Output-Based Budgeting
OYA Opportunities for Youth in Africa

**PACRA** Patents and Companies Registration Agency

PHL Post-Harvest Loss

**PHM** Post-Harvest Management

**POC** Persons of Concern

**PSEA** Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

**RCO** Resident Coordinator's Office

**SADC** Southern African Development Community

**SAM** Severely Acutely Malnourished

**SBCC** Social and Behavior Change Communication

SCRALA Strengthening Climate Resilience of Agricultural livelihoods in Agro-Ecological Regions I and II in Zambia

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV Sexual and Gender Based Violence

SIDA Swedish International Development Agency

SOPsStandard Operating ProceduresSRHSexual and Reproductive HealthSRHRSexual Reproductive Health and RightsSSCBTSmall Scale Cross Boarder Traders

**TIP** Trafficking in Persons

**UBRAF** Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework

**UHC** Universal Health Coverage

**UNAIDS** Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS

**UNCG** United Nations Communications Group

**UNCT** United Nations Country Teams

**UNCDF** United Nations Capital Development Fund

**UNCTAD** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDP United Nations Development ProgrammeUNECA United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

**UNESCO** United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund

**UNHCR** United Nations High Commission for Refugees

**UNICEF** United Nations Children's Fund

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS United Nations Office for Project Services

**UNSDCF** United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

**UNTFHS** UN Trust Fund for Human Security

**USAID** United States Agency for International Development

**WB** World Bank

WFP World Food Programme
WHO World Health organization

**ZANACO** Zambia National Commercial Bank

ZAPD Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities
ZDHS Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS)

ZICTA Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority
ZISPIS Zambia Integrated Social Protection Information Management System



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