



## OVERVIEW OF Zambia

### Overview of Zambia



YEAR OF  
**1964**  
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION  
**14,222,233**  
MILLION

**69%**  
Population  
**BELOW**  
poverty line

### Languages

Bemba, Nyanja, Tonga, Lozi, Chewa, Nsenga, Tumbuka, Lunda, Kaonde, Lala, Luvale

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 83 per 1,000 live births. Zambia ranks 31 in the world.

**Human Development Index (HDI)** for 2012: 0.448 (ranked 163 out of 187, indicating low human development).

### ChildFund in Zambia

ChildFund came to Zambia: 1983

Number of enrolled children (FY13): 28,038

Number of provinces: Work in 8 of 10 provinces

Participant Reach FY13: 275,641

#### COUNTRY PROFILE

Zambia is a landlocked country in Southern Africa with a population of 14,222,233. The Zambian population experienced an annual growth rate of 2.89 percent in 2013. continues to have a young population with 66.2% of its population aged 0-24 years. There are 73 ethnic groups among the country's indigenous population. English is the official language, although there are seven other

local languages widely used, namely: Bemba, Nyanja, Lozi, Tonga, Kaonde, Luanda and Luvale. Sign language is set to become the eighth.

The country gained its independence in October 1964 from the United Kingdom (UK) and has remained a multi-party state from the time it reverted to plural politics in the 1990s. The President is both head of state and government.

The outlook for the Zambian economy remains favorable in the medium term, underpinned by robust growth and a single digit inflation rate. The economy is projected to grow from 6.9% in 2012 to about 7.3% in 2013. The steady growth in the economy is largely a result of increased copper production coupled with high copper prices on the World Market. Other sectors that have contributed to this sustained growth include increased national agricultural production, a vibrant construction industry, telecommunications, tourism and banking. Being part of sub-regional bodies such as SADC (Southern African Development Community), COMESA (Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa), NEPAD (The New Partnership for Africa's Development) and the Great Lakes Region has also helped the country benefit from regional trade protocols and development initiatives.

Despite these economic achievements, the majority of the Zambian people have remained poor with poverty levels at 64% (Central Statistics, Living Conditions Report: 2006). In rural areas, more than 80% of rural Zambians live below the poverty line, relying on subsistence agriculture on small plots of land to support their families. The high poverty levels have overstretched the extended family system leading to children and youth living in abject poverty with most of their basic needs being unmet. The high poverty levels predispose the young people to risky behavior such as prostitution, drug abuse and multiple concurrent sexual partners as a coping mechanism. This puts them at risk of contracting HIV and AIDS. The current national prevalence rate is estimated at 14.3%. The ripple effects are early marriages, child labor, school drop-out, and teen pregnancy, among others.

## **EDUCATION**

Zambia has made moderate strides towards Universal Primary Education (Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Two). Net enrollment of children in primary education increased from 8-% in 1990 (Millennium Development Goals Report—MDGR) to 101.4% in 200-9 (Annual Percentage Rate—APR), supported by the increased construction of schools, the removal of school fees in 2002, Free Basic Education and Re-entry Policies. Such policies also favored an increase of 29 percentage points in primary school completion rates, from 64% in 1990 (MDGR) to 93.2% in 2009 (APR). The primary education target is thus attainable, as the objective is 100%.

The main challenge at present is adult literacy, which declined from 79% in 1990 to 70% in 2004 (MDGR), and the 17.4% completion rate of girls in secondary school in 2009 (MOESB). Emphasis needs to be placed on making education compulsory from grades 1 to 7, achieving higher completion rates for girls in secondary education, and improving the quality of education, through enforceable incentives-cum-performance measures for teachers and school administration.

Another challenge is the fact that there are few vocational skills training centers especially in rural areas resulting in high unemployment levels among youth. Of the 4,918,788 total labor force, 1,174,057 are youth ages 15 to 24 and 29% of youth in this age group are unemployed (Labor Force Survey Report 2005).

## **HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

Access to health services is generally low especially in the rural areas. Some of the contributing factors to this include: long distance to the nearest health center, inadequate financial resources for

transport and treatment, shortage of drugs and inadequate staff at health centers.

The National Malaria Control Centre estimates that malaria is responsible for nearly 4.3 million clinical cases and an estimated 8,000 deaths per year. Malaria also contributes to about 20% of maternal mortality and 40% of infant and under five-child mortality (National Malaria Communications Strategy, p.1).

Malnutrition levels in Zambia remain quite high, accounting for 52% of under five deaths. The stunting rate of under five children stands at 45% while 5% are acutely malnourished and 19% are underweight. The lack of knowledge on proper feeding practices further worsens the underlying chronic nutritional problems among children below the age of five (World Bank indicators).

Access to safe water supplies is stilted to urban areas at a ratio of 87% to 46% of the population accessing safe water supplies, respectively. With regard to sanitation, the estimated coverage is 33% for urban areas and 4% for rural areas. Thus, there is still an under-served population, particularly in rural areas and low-income urban areas.

## Brief Program Overview



ChildFund began offering services to Zambian children in 1983. The organization is currently operating in eight of the 10 provinces. The agency seeks to provide a positive and sustainable environment for the deprived, excluded and vulnerable children. Zambia seeks to provide a positive and sustainable environment for deprived, excluded and vulnerable children. During the past 30 years, ChildFund Zambia has provided support to over one million children, youth and adults.

The agency implements programs and projects through partnerships with fully registered community based Local Partners called Child Development Agencies.

# 2013 Program Achievements



During FY13, ChildFund Zambia implemented programs in the areas of health, HIV and AIDS, education, food security and economic empowerment. All of the interventions by the organization targeted the three life stages: healthy and secure infants, educated and confident children and skilled and involved youth.

Highlighted below are the major successes scored by ChildFund Zambia during FY13.

Zambia was awarded a USD \$7.6M grant by the Master Card Foundation, over a five year period, to train 6,000 young people to become nurses. All of the relevant staff for this project are now in place and e-learning modules have been developed for both registered and enrolled nurses that will be trained through this project. The first cohort is scheduled to start their training in January 2014.

The office secured authority from the Zambian Government to purchase water treatment sachets from the US. The treatment of water, which will be done in the Nyimba and Mumbwa Districts, is aimed at increasing access to safe drinking water. The office received a total of USD \$639,799 for this project.

ChildFund Zambia received a USD \$99,997 quality improvement fund for the documentation of various youth projects in Luangwa, Chongwe and Kafue districts. A consultant was hired to document the outcomes for various youth projects. As a focus country for life stage three, Zambia is documenting youth related activities, lessons learned, and best program practices for shared learning with other ChildFund program countries.

Additionally, the New Zealand Government, through ChildFund New Zealand, under the Sustainable Development Programme (SDP), awarded ChildFund Zambia a USD \$660,894 grant for the Luangwa Integrated Agriculture Project. The project is aimed at improving the economic situation for 1,500 rural households.

ChildFund Zambia began awarding scholarships to orphans and vulnerable children in FY13, through the US \$1M grant received from the Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ). The grant targets HIV and AIDS prevention and mitigation for orphans and vulnerable children. Over 1,000 children have been supported thus far.

Further, ChildFund Zambia shared lessons learned from the family planning project, which has been in operation since 2006, with various stakeholders. The sharing meeting was aimed at lobbying government to certify Community Based Distributors (CBDs) as legitimate providers of the injectable Depo-Provera to women in their communities. ChildFund has been using trained CBDs to provide this kind of contraceptive to women, especially those that live far way from health centers.

## 2013 Program Achievements (continued)



In FY13, ChildFund Zambia began implementing an Early Childhood Development (ECD) model that incorporates income generating activities for the ECD Management Committees. The model started with a pilot in two districts with a view to making provision of ECD, especially community-based, more sustainable. The initiative is benefiting about 800 young children.

### **Disability Inclusion at ChildFund Zambia**

ChildFund Zambia has continued to sensitize communities on the importance of promoting, protecting and ensuring that the voice of children with disabilities is heard. Children with disabilities have also been integrated in different areas of our programming so that they can fully participate in their own personal development and in contributing to the improvement of their communities.

To ensure that their right to education is promoted, ChildFund has opened a school for children with special education needs in the Luangwa District. The New Zealand High Commission in South Africa, through the Head of Mission Fund (HOMF), released NZ \$52,329 for the purchase of teaching and learning materials. Currently the school has 21 children enrolled (13 boys and 8 girls).

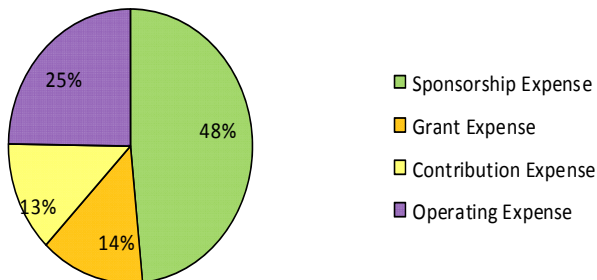
### **Integration of Mobile Technology in ChildFund Zambia's Work Across the Three Life Stages**

ChildFund Zambia has started promoting the use of mobile technology to improve communication and the turnaround time for different materials. For the youth who are engaged in various agricultural activities, the use of mobile phones gives them an opportunity to get professional advice from relevant government departments on time. They also use mobile phones to market their products and obtain the latest prices.

ChildFund is also exploring the use of mobile banking to pay out the Designated Funds (DFCs) to children.

# Financial Report

## Zambia Total FY13 Expenses: \$9,556,849



## Zambia FY13

Sponsorship Expense	4,626,667	48%
Grant Expense	1,315,154	14%
Contribution Expense	1,250,333	13%
Operating Expense	2,364,696	25%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,556,849</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Challenges

ChildFund Zambia faces challenges of high cancel rates and this is negatively impacting on the budget. This in turn limits the number of children being supported.

## Why Sponsorship Is Important

In spite of making serious strides in grant funding, sponsorship has remained ChildFund Zambia's traditional source of funding, accounting for about 80% of the total inflow of funds. Sponsorship supports the national program activities so as to motivate active participation of children and the communities where ChildFund works. Sponsorship therefore ensures Local Partners involve children as the main players in achieving sustained and long term development. Through sponsorship, ChildFund Zambia seeks to demonstrate achievements through accountability and assurance of quality program delivery as well as engagement of children and youth as agents of their own growth and development.



# Where We Work

