

PMRC GOVERNANCE SERIES: SEVENTH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Explaining Critical Features of The 7NDP – Part 2A | Theme: Economic Diversification and Job Creation

Focus: Understanding the Development Outcomes: Agriculture, Mining, Research and Development



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INFOGRAPHIC

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME 1

A DIVERSIFIED AND EXPORT –ORIENTED AGRICULTURE SECTOR



- The Agriculture sector is the fourth largest contributor to GDP (8.7 percent) and the largest contributor to employment. The sector is critical for achieving diversification, economic growth and poverty reduction in Zambia.
- Diversification within the agriculture sector is central in improving productivity, providing inputs to agro-processing and the manufacturing sector, for increased contribution to foreign exchange earnings among others.
- Agro-diversification and development will be based on comparative and competitive advantages in line with the Government's Green Revolution agenda.

SELECTED STRATEGIES



Strategy 1: Improve production and productivity

Production and productivity improvement will be undertaken along the entire product value chain from farm to agro-processing and manufacturing at the sector and enterprise levels.



Strategy 2: Improve access to finance for production and exports

This strategy focuses on enhancing access to affordable finance for farmers, agri-business MSMEs and exporters of high value agricultural products.



Strategy 3: Enhance agriculture value chains

Development in the sector value chains will include investment in production, agro-processing and marketing, including export market and distribution mechanisms. A notable development is that; Agro-processing parks will be established to support the processing of primary agricultural products into value added products.



Strategy 4: Promote diversification within the agriculture sector

Focus will be placed on agricultural diversification in crops, fisheries, livestock and forestry products based on comparative and competitive advantage of each product and agro-ecological zones.

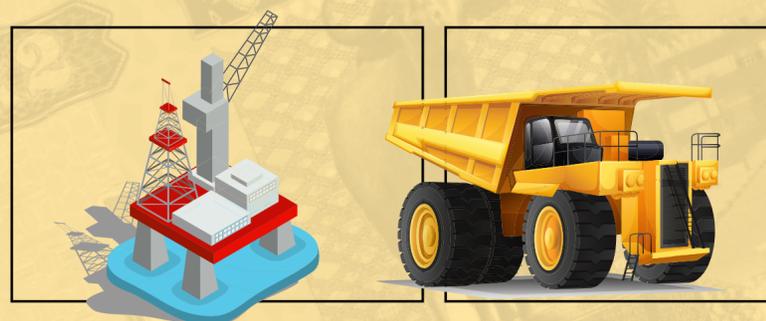


Strategy 5: Enhance investment in agricultural infrastructure

Investments in agricultural infrastructure will be prioritized to create a conducive environment for a vibrant agriculture sector. Key among such infrastructure will be warehousing, storage, breeding centres and irrigation, among others.

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME 2

A DIVERSIFIED AND EXPORT –ORIENTED MINING SECTOR



- Under the 7NDP, emphasis will be on broadening the range of minerals to cover non-traditional mining of gemstones, gold and industrial minerals as well as promotion off value addition to mining products.



- Under the 7NDP a programme will be set up which will be financed through the Environmental Protection Fund and will be invested into productive jobs for environmental restoration, notably reforestation.

SELECTED STRATEGIES



Strategy 1: Promote exploitation of gemstones and industrial minerals

Focus will be on increasing exploration, mining, processing and promoting use of industrial minerals and gemstone products, to increase contribution to the growth of other sectors. The Government has resolved to strengthen policy implementation and regulatory enforcement that does not stifle exploration of new mineral deposits.



Strategy 2: Promote local and foreign participation in mining value chains and industrialization

Under this strategy, efforts will be made to facilitate mining-based value addition and industrialization by supporting the development of manufacturing industries to produce inputs for other sectors, to contribute to the growth of other sectors.



Strategy 3: Promote petroleum and gas exploration

The strategy will facilitate the establishment and capacity development of relevant institutions to monitor and regulate petroleum exploration. In addition, a governance framework for the sector will be established to attract investment and ensure efficient, safe and environmentally friendly petroleum exploration.



Strategy 4: Promote small-scale mining

As part of the diversification agenda within the mining sector, the Government will focus on building the productive capacity of small-scale miners involved in the exploration of gemstones and industrial minerals.

DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME 10

ENHANCED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D)



As a public policy research think tank, PMRC welcomes this development outcome, as it underscores the critical role and importance that Research and Development (R&D) plays in the development of the country.

- Research is a key element of many developmental agendas and, when well-planned and used, enables a government to formulate evidence-based policies that lead to massive economic gains over a period of time.
- The 7NDP clearly provides that in Zambia's development agenda R&D is expected to play a critical role in the diversification process and explore opportunities that will enhance the productive capacities of the various sectors of the economy.
- During the Plan period, R&D will be given priority.
- It is through research that evidence to inform cost-effective programming and policy changes can be generated to allow positive contributions to economic diversification and creation of decent jobs.

SELECTED STRATEGIES



Strategy 1: Enhance research and development, and innovation capacity

The strategy will focus on *developing a high quality research base with a critical mass of highly qualified human resource, modern adequately equipped infrastructure and a technology development structure* that will popularise science and technology for promoting and creating a national culture of research and innovation.



Strategy 2: Enhancing policy formulation and analysis

To drive the economic diversification agenda, the Government will focus on strengthening policy-making processes by investing in research and analysis.

Therefore, capacities in R&D will be *strengthened to produce evidence-based analytical studies* that will adequately inform policy development and a subsequent paradigm shift.