



THE NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

INFOGRAPHIC

PREPARED BY JANUARY 2018



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On the 3rd of March 2017, Zambia launched the long-awaited National Climate Change Policy aimed at stemming the impact of climate change and subsequent reduction of the country's annual economic growth due to crop failure and the impact of climate change on energy production. The National Climate Change Policy is an important policy development that introduces a well-structured and coordinated national strategy to effectively tackle the adverse effects of climate change. The policy is driven by the Ministry of National Development Planning and includes special consideration towards vulnerable groups such as poor rural women, children and the youth in Zambia.

CLIMATE CHANGE IN ZAMBIA

What studies have demonstrated;

- An increase in floods and droughts over the past 40 years.
- Shorter and more intense rainy season.
- Increase in temperature in cooler and warmer seasons (mean annual temperature increase by 1.3 degrees celsius between 1960 and 2003).



FLOODS & DROUGHTS



INTENSE RAINY SEASON



INCREASE IN TEMPERATURE

GREENHOUSE GASES (GHG) EMISSIONS

Year	Activity	Contribution
2000	Land use change and forestry	73.7%
2000	Agriculture	18.9%
2000	Energy	4.8%
2000	Industrial processes	1.8%
2000	Waste	0.8%

Projected total GHG emissions from all sectors if measures to reduce GHG emissions are not put in place:



IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

THE WATER SECTOR



Major rivers, tributaries and lakes in Zambia provide **40%** of water resources in the Southern African region.



Water sources have experienced **floods and droughts** due to rainfall variability.



Increased incidences of **water borne diseases and reduced access to safe drinking water** due to extreme weather conditions.



Increase in labour burden on women and girls who are responsible for drawing water for their households.

AGRICULTURE SECTOR



1. Employs **67% labour force**.
2. Contributes **16 to 20% of national GDP**.
3. Sensitive to climate change due to reliance on water sources, specific temperature conditions and stable weather conditions.

TOURISM SECTOR



1. Potential to be major contributor to socio-economic development.
2. Dependence on wildlife and water resources makes it especially vulnerable to effects of climate change.

HEALTH SECTOR

1. Rising temperatures & rainfall variability result in the expansion of disease vector habitats (e.g. malaria).
2. Outbreaks of bilharzia during floods & epidemic incidences of cholera, typhoid and dysentery.
3. Flooding and reduced access to safe water has resulted in water-borne diseases being more widespread (worsened by inadequate/absent sanitary infrastructure).

FORESTRY SECTOR



1. Cover ~ **66% of land in Zambia**.
2. Forested watersheds are Zambia's primary source of water resources.
3. Deforestation rate estimated at **250,000-300,000 hectares per year (2008)**.

MINING SECTOR



1. Principle driver of the **Zambian economy**.
2. Negatively **affected by floods**.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES



1. Traditional roles in society make women and children most vulnerable to health impacts.
2. Climate change negatively effects vulnerable groups who depend on natural resources.
3. Vulnerable groups (also agents of climate change) are under-represented in decision making on climate change.

WILDLIFE SECTOR



1. Wildlife resources play a big role in the tourism sector.
2. Drought conditions reduce soil moisture, resulting in poor quality fodder, stress, uncontrolled migration and wildlife-human conflicts.
3. Wetland animals could be negatively affected due to excessive rainfall.

ENERGY SECTOR



1. Biomass (charcoal and firewood) makes up 75% of energy source .
2. 99.9% of electricity is produced from hydroelectric power.
3. 25% of national population has access to electricity.
4. Droughts and floods reduce availability of fuel wood. This results in increased labor for women and girls who collect it.

9 MAJOR OBJECTIVES

1. Implementation of adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures.
2. Implementation of sustainable land-use management practices.
3. Mainstreaming of climate change into policies, plans and strategies.
4. Institutional and human resource (HR) capacity.
5. Communication and dissemination of climate change information.
6. Investments in climate resilient and low carbon development pathways.
7. Research and development.
8. Inclusion of gender equality and equity in the implementation climate change programs.
9. Appropriate technologies to build national capacity to benefit from climate change technological transfer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The National Policy on Climate Change needs to include Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which is a set of analytical and participatory processes for incorporating environmental considerations, at early stages of decision making, into policies, plans, and programs that affect natural resources.
2. SEA evaluates, at the highest strategic level, a project's environmental impacts in the context of social and economic factors. This extends traditional Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), which focus solely on physical environmental impacts.
3. The policy must foster and provide critical systematic considerations at the sectoral, regional, and national levels to promote environmental sustainability, smart growth, and pollution prevention.
4. The policy must encompass a spectrum of analytical processes such as Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Strategic Social Environmental Assessment (SSEA), Country Environmental Analysis (CEA), Combined Strategic Impact Assessment (CSIA), and Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA).
5. Zambia must ensure that adequate provision of resources for climate change initiatives are available to successfully achieve objectives which were enshrined in the policy.