

ZAMBIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT: LEVERS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROWTH

INTRODUCTION

- Infrastructure development is a key driver for progress and a **critical enabler for productivity and sustainable economic growth**.
 - Over the last 9 years (a period that covers both the revised Sixth National Development Plan as well as the Seventh National Development Plan Zambia has pursued an **intensive infrastructure development agenda**.
 - Among others, infrastructure development has been focused on the transport, agricultural, health and education sectors.
- Below are details of few key developments in each of these sectors, in terms of infrastructure development as well as their benefits.

TRANSPORT SECTOR

Our well-functioning transport system has **reduced the overall cost of doing business in the country and increased efficiency in the movement of goods** and people within Zambia. The fact that the country is centrally located makes it well positioned to be a transportation hub. Several highlights include:

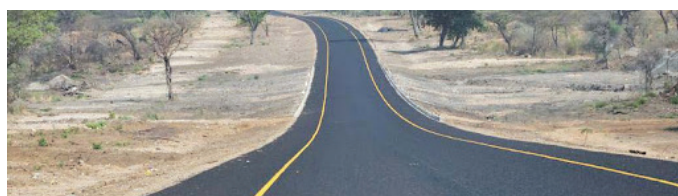
- The construction of the **Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe International Airport** and the **upgrading of the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport into ultra-modern facilities**. These two airports will enable the country to handle higher volumes of traffic, both in terms of passengers and cargo. Additionally, they will serve to boost the **tourism industry by attracting new airlines and tourists thereof**.



- The completion of the **\$298 million Kazungula Bridge linking Zambia and Botswana** has already begun to ease transportation and support trade between the two countries as well as other SADC member states.



- **Link Zambia 8000 with 5,209km of the road network currently being worked on and 830km that has been commissioned**. Road development has been key to ensuring safe connectivity across the country, **reducing travel times and costs for citizens and fostering trade and development by facilitating the movement of goods and services**.



THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

- The agricultural sector is the one of the **largest contributors to Zambia's GDP and it plays a key role in employment generation** as well as **poverty reduction**.

Key among such infrastructure will be the development of **warehousing, storage, breeding centres and irrigation**, among others. Two highlights are the following>



- The construction of **87 modern livestock breeding centers** as well as the rehabilitation of **15 livestock breeding centers countrywide** in order to increase livestock production.

87 MODERN LIVESTOCK BREEDING CENTERS

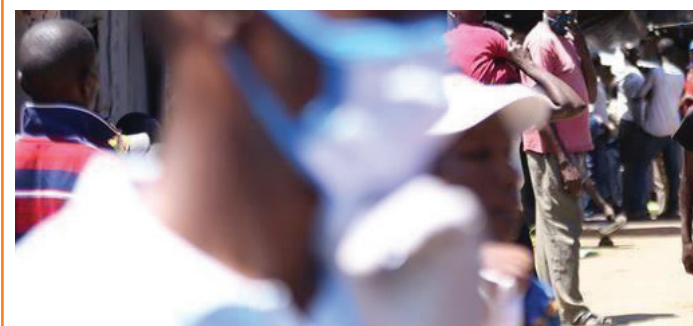
15 LIVESTOCK BREEDING CENTERS

- The completion of the **\$28.3 million dollar Mwomboshi dam in Chisamba**. This is in keeping with the Economic Recovery Programme determination to focus on irrigation development.



THE HEALTH SECTOR

- The health sector of any country is critical to the wellbeing of its citizens. The COVID-19 pandemic has served to further highlight this point.



Infrastructure development in this sector, focused on construction and modernization, includes the following:

- A total of **439 health posts (276 which are rural) and 24 mini hospitals countrywide**, including Chinsali and Kalindawalo General Hospitals.



439
HEALTH POSTS



24
MINI HOSPITALS

- A 240 in-patient bed capacity at the Cancer Diseases Hospital has been completed and is operational.
- Selected health facilities have been upgraded to first level hospitals; these are Matero, Chipata and Chilenje clinics. The upgrading of these health facilities has served to decongest UTH and other district hospitals.



- Completion of the expansion and refurbishment of Maina Soko Military Hospital as well as an **upgrade in bed capacity at Levy Mwanawasa Hospital from a 120 to 850 beds**. The modernised Maina Soko Military hospital and the expanded Levy Mwanawasa Hospital in Lusaka **have been beneficial in the fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic**.



FROM
120
BED CAPACITY

TO
850
BED CAPACITY

THE EDUCATION SECTOR



Government has demonstrated its commitment to the sector through the development of various infrastructure. This includes:

- The establishment of **2386 early childhood centres** countrywide enrolling **80,000 children**. As a result of these centres, the Country is seeing an improvement in the cognitive development of children.

2,386 ENROLLING
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRES **80,000** CHILDREN

- The **construction of 118 schools as well as the upgrading of 220 Basic Schools to secondary schools**.
- The construction of the **Levy Mwanawasa Medical University**.

