

2022: CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF PROMOTING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING THROUGH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



Saturday, 1st January, 2022.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Management and Staff of Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC), I wish you all a Prosperous 2022. I am pleased to announce that PMRC will be turning 10 years this year. **As the institution celebrates a decade of promoting public understanding through research and education, we will continue to complement the Government of the Republic of Zambia in evidence-based social economic research across sector Ministries and monitor coherence and implementation of policies through collaborations with Government Ministries, Government Agencies, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) among others.**

As a way of achieving our stated aims, which include informing policy and reform proposal, the institution has developed and will endeavour to develop annual work plans with particular focus on National Development Plans and international protocols (Sustainable Development Goals and the African Continental Free Trade Area), taking into account the institution's four thematic areas which comprise; **economic development, social development and livelihood, natural resources and the environment** as well as **governance**. Our research focus areas will be anchored on National Development Plans, while international protocols act as supporting pillars.

The year 2022 is an exciting year for the institution as we await the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP). **The 8NDP will outline the programmes and strategies Government will put in place for the next five years, which will feed into the aspirations of achieving Vision 2030.** Going forward, our work will be aligned to the vision of the 8NDP, our Researchers will make deliberate efforts to comprehensively analyse the development strategies in the 8NDP as well as explain their implications on the general citizenry in a simplified manner. As PMRC we have lined up several programmes for the year and we value your continued partnership in complementing our efforts. Some of the major programmes lined up this year are;

- Country wide sensitization on the 8NDP.
- International Conference for Persons with Disabilities.
- Hard talk series on socio-economic issues.

- Study on the Ownership of Mining Rights: Gender Disparities in the Mining Sector.
- Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Seed Value Chains and Policy Responses.
- Climate Change Financing in Zambia; Opportunities and Challenges for Private Sector Investment in Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience.
- Beyond social protection: Linking Social Safety Nets to Empowerment Programmes..
- Strategies to Enhance the Financial Performance of Parastatals in Zambia.
- Strategies to Improve Efficiency in the Administration of and Delivery of CDF.
- The Role of Multi-facility Economic Zones in Revitalizing Zambia’s Manufacturing Industry.
- A Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Sustainable Development Goals for Children’s wellbeing in Zambia.
- Weather Index Insurance as an Innovative Approach to Managing Climate Related Risks: Challenges and Opportunities in the Agricultural Sector.

PMRC will also produce various evidence based policy analyses and research outputs aimed at increasing the levels of awareness of key policy issues in the country. I would like to urge our stakeholders to partner with us in these programmes as collectivism has the power to yield better results. **We commit to continue providing policy analysis to complement the Government in the pursuit of prudent macroeconomic policies, to increase the economy’s resilience to shocks, and achieve higher and inclusive growth.** As an institution we shall do our outmost best to engage almost every Government Ministry and Institution; local as well as international research institutions, in order to foster research and educational programmes that will guarantee the achievements of our national developmental goals.

As we look to the future, many opportunities exist to confront our challenges and this calls for constant engagement with a wide range of societal groups, each with their own needs, interest and levels of influence. In the same trajectory, as we enter a new year, it is important that we reflect on our collective efforts in our different capacities to address various key paths aimed at national building and development.

Wishing you all a prosperous 2022.

Mrs. Margaret Mwanakatwe
PMRC Board Chair

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