

PMRC NEWSLETTER

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Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC)
Corner of Nationalist and John Mbita Roads, Ridgeway, Lusaka - Zambia.
Private Bag KL 10
Tel: +260 211 269 717 | +260 979 015 660



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Acting Executive Director's Remarks

IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INFRASTRUCTURE IN ZAMBIA: POSSIBLE POLICY OPTIONS FOR MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

Dear Friends & Colleagues

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 on climate action encourages the implementation of urgent strategies to combat climate change and its impacts. **The sub-target of the SDG goal emphasises the need to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change related hazards and natural disasters. Zambia is among countries where climate change has continued to pose critical threats to its development,** particularly in rural areas where poverty is widespread and key assets such as infrastructure are underdeveloped and sparse due to wide geographical location.

Infrastructure, particularly roads are a lifeline for economic and agricultural livelihoods in rural areas and as a **key for access to health, education, credit finance, political participation and many other human needs.** However, extreme weather variability has over the years posed a costly hazard to roads, bridges, schools and health facilities in terms of degradation and collapse resulting in decreased lifespan of the critical infrastructure in the country. In view of these challenges, **Zambia needs a robust strategy to finance and invest in climate resilient and sustainable infrastructure.**

As stated, climate change impacts have continued to pose a huge cost to the treasury with regards to maintenance and rebuilding of infrastructure as a result of damages from heavy rainfall and rise in temperatures leading to loss in connectivity thus compromising access to essential services. However, these impacts can be mitigated and avoided by implementing pro-active adaptation measures with a well spelt out plan. **It is important to note that for the period 1996-2017, the total cost of direct rainfall related damage to road infrastructure alone was estimated at K2,205 million and annual estimates of indirect costs of climate change (temperature and rainfall) related damages to the road infrastructure network amounted to K295 million of which, K210 million was attributed to rainfall events while K85million was due to the rise in temperature.** This cost is projected to increase to K303 million by the year 2030.

In view of these projections, it is imperative that **Government considers implementing measures key to the protection and building of resilience to current and future infrastructure investments as well as the socio-economic functions they serve as acquisition of road infrastructure requires huge capital investments.**

In order to respond to the impacts of climate change on infrastructure especially roads, **Government with support from various cooperating partners have been implementing several initiatives to combat climate-related hazards as well as ensuring that vulnerable sensitive industries, such as agriculture, may continue to flourish amid climate change.** A crucial step towards realizing this is to ensure that the existing and future infrastructure is climate-proofed. While progress is being made in this regard, a number of bottlenecks continue to exist that need to be addressed in order to reduce the vulnerability of infrastructure countrywide. **Some of these bottlenecks include: low funding towards infrastructure maintenance and the lack of a harmonized maintenance framework to support the preservation of existing and new infrastructure countrywide.**

In order to attain climate change resilience and adaptive capacities on the various infrastructure in the country, the Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) proposes the following policy options for consideration by Government and other key stakeholders:

- 1) **Harmonization of policy framework for infrastructure maintenance:** as the country develops an infrastructure policy through the Ministry of Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, there is need for harmonization of the of the policy framework guiding infrastructure maintenance **of various sectors in the wake of climate change. In March 2021 Government through the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Works and Supply developed and launched a Public Asset Maintenance Policy to provide a framework for maintaining public assets both movable and non-movable.**

It is important to note that while the policy is in place, evidence shows that maintenance of infrastructure especially non-movable assets is project and sector based which has proved to be unsustainable in the long term as most sectors have other competing needs such as expansion of infrastructure thus not prioritizing maintenance needs. Within these sectors most of the infrastructure built is project based implying that

the contractor supports the maintenance of a particular project within the first year. Thereafter, the maintenance is left to the beneficiaries with no proper long-term sustainability and maintenance plan.

For example road maintenance is done by the Road Development Agency (RDA) through the Road Maintenance Strategy 2015-2024, which was developed to create a clear pathway for the provision of maintenance activities on the core road network in the country. However, most of health infrastructure is maintained under the Ministry of Health that has other competing needs leading to the dilapidation status of most health facilities countrywide and this is similar for other sectors such as agriculture, education and livestock and fisheries.

It is therefore important that harmonization of the policy framework for maintenance of infrastructure is done to facilitate for timely execution of maintenance activities. **Zambia is one of the fastest growing economies in Africa and its sustained development is dependent on a well-functioning infrastructure sector.**

- 2) **Increased funding towards infrastructure maintenance:** although the need for infrastructure maintenance is widely recognised, it has not been prioritised by most developing countries, Zambia inclusive. **This is evidenced by the worn-out state of most old infrastructure in Zambia and the current low budgetary allocation towards infrastructure maintenance. For example the 2012 Maintenance Needs Report by the Road Development Agency indicated that a minimum of US\$721 million on an annual basis was needed for maintenance activities in order to bring the road network into a sustainable condition between 2012 and 2016.** However, in 2014, only 21.5 per cent of the required yearly maintenance funding was allocated. This status of low funding has subsequently led to the deterioration of existing infrastructure, especially roads and bridges, leading to their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

Further another limitation towards funding for maintenance of infrastructure is that the funding is activity based and in an event funding for maintenance has not been released, the department cannot move funding from rehabilitation or construction to carry out maintenance and this has left infrastructure maintenance deprived over the years as the country has been concentrating on construction and rehabilitation.

Sydney Mwamba

PMRC Acting Executive Director

Lastly, the Policy Monitoring and Research Centre is of the view that with the creation of the infrastructure maintenance fund, enough resources will be realised to fund the various maintenance needs to reduce the vulnerability of the sector to the impacts of climate change.



EQUITABLE LAND ACCESS AND OWNERSHIP AMONG WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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Equitable access to and ownership of land is cardinal in fostering socio-economic development that results in empowerment for all citizens. However, key sections of society such as women, youth and persons with disabilities have continued to face barriers in the acquisition and ownership of land. This is partly attributed to social practices and beliefs as well as the lack of economic inclusion, which have excluded certain sections of society from owning land by virtue of their socio-economic status, physical ability and gender.

The United Nations Charter of 1945 which Zambia is signatory to, recognises human rights and economic and social development as closely interrelated. The Charter acknowledges the implications of insecure land tenure on people's livelihoods, dignity and survival. Hence, there is need for changes in societal norms to ensure that vulnerable groups have unrestricted access to land, secure land rights and are empowered to make their own decisions about land use.

Given the dual nature of Zambia's land tenure, women, youth and persons with disabilities tend to hold land on customary tenure because it is cheaper and relatively easier to access than state land. However, the lack of security of land due to inadequate documentation to claim ownership has made it easier for people to be displaced. Recognising this challenge, Government has been rolling out a National Land Titling Programme in order to secure land ownership rights to land holders. However, there is an urgent need to amend the 1995 Lands Act in order to guarantee customary land rights.

As a fulfilment to Government's commitment to uphold human rights, the 2021 National Lands Policy was instituted to address the various challenges related to access and control over land and its resources with special recognition to women, youth and persons with disabilities. This is especially important since securing land rights reduces their vulnerability through increased individual agency and socio-economic status.

Several policy measures have been put in place in order to allow for equitable land distribution. These include; facilitating ownership of land by Zambian citizens in order to promote decent livelihoods and socio-economic development, regulating the land ownership of non-Zambians in order to facilitate reasonable access to land, achieving a gender sensitive and youth friendly land sector which is inclusive of persons living with disabilities and other socially marginalized groups, strengthening the land allocation mechanisms in order to improve security of tenure, among others.

Additionally, land distribution quotas have been effected in order to improve access and ownership of the resource. Government has revised land distribution quotas to 50% of available land for alienation being reserved for women and 20% for the youth and Persons with Disabilities. This pronouncement is also in line with promoting gender equality and socio-economic inclusion of women, the youth and persons with disabilities as envisaged in the National Gender Policy, National Youth Policy and National Disability Policy. It has also aided in uplifting livelihoods and enhancing greater participation of all citizens in national development.

Furthermore, Government's revision of the contractual age for youths to own land from 21 to 18 years will make land more accessible to young people and enable them to contribute to the growth of the economy by venturing in agricultural and entrepreneurial activities. This affirmative step will empower women, youths and persons with disabilities through ownership of assets, which can be used as collateral to obtain financing from formal financial lending institutions such as banks. These policy measures need to be implemented effectively in order to enhance access and ownership of land to key groups and other marginalised persons in line with Government's aspirations of promoting gender equality, inclusivity as well as equitable distribution of the country's resources.



Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA)

THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

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The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a flagship project of the African Union's Agenda 2063, which is a blueprint for attaining inclusive and sustainable development across the continent over the next 50 years. **The AfCFTA aims to boost Intra-African trade by providing a comprehensive and mutually beneficial trade agreements among the member states, covering trade in goods and services, investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy.** The private sector will play a pivotal role in boosting intra-African trade through the AfCFTA.

According to the Trade Law Centre, in **Africa, the private sector accounts for 80% of total production, 66% of investment, 75% of credit and employs 90% of the working age population. In addition, 90% of the firms within the African private sector are Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).** This is also the case for Zambia where Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) employ the majority of the country's workforce

The private sector is the **engine for innovation, investment, job creation, poverty alleviation and sustainable economic growth for any economy.** However, the sector's participation in cross-border trade is often hindered by tariff and non-tariff barriers (including complex customs and trade procedures), high transportation costs and a lack of access to information. These are some of the issues that the AfCFTA will seek to address. **It will progressively remove tariffs on 90 % of goods (with 10% of sensitive items to be phased in later) as well as resolve the challenges of multiple and overlapping memberships, both of which will make it easier for businesses to trade across the continent.** The AfCFTA is also expected to enhance competitiveness of local enterprises and promote industrial development. None of this will be possible, however, unless the legal instruments of the Agreement are fully implemented. These legal instruments represent an opportunity to establish strong governance structures as well as a stable and predictable business climate when trading or investing across borders.

The AfCFTA will need to build on the work done by various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as it relates to private sector participation. For example, **the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat Directorates, with support from various committees, have established consultative mechanisms with the private sector on various topics, including infrastructure development, food security, customs and mining.** Additionally, SADC has the Support to Industrialisation and the Productive Sectors (SIPS) programme, which is supported by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development to facilitate expansion of regional value chains and promote dialogue between the private and public sectors. Such mechanisms and programmes must be infused into the AfCFTA negotiations and implementation of the Agreement. **SADC represents just one of at least 8 RECs found across the continent, all of which have approached private sector participation differently.** The progress that has been made in these RECs in terms of private sector participation is the key building block for greater private sector participation in the AfCFTA.

To further achieve success in the implementation of the AfCFTA, it will be important for the Zambian Government to actively engage the private sector at all levels because it is a key stakeholder in the Agreement. To date there has been limited direct involvement of the private sector in the negotiations of the AfCFTA, which demonstrates the importance of such engagements. To this end, it is commendable that Zambia's Minister of Commerce and Trade, Mr Chipoka Mulenga recently stated that the private sector will be briefed on the provisions of the agreement and engaged as the negotiations proceed. **This will further need to include the likely impacts of the Agreement on the sector as a result of the increase in competition that will come with open borders.**

The AfCFTA will not achieve any success without the involvement of the private sector. It is therefore critical that they receive the necessary support in order for them to have a major developmental impact in Zambia and Africa at large.



THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 2022 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY UNDER THE THEME: GENDER EQUALITY TODAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

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Every year on 8th March, women around the world celebrate this special day as an appreciation and recognition of their strength, resilience, and endless potential. **This year's theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow"** is particularly special in that it recognises the role and contributions of women and girls in driving an inclusive and sustainable development agenda in the face of evolving climate change risks, adaptation, and mitigation responses. This year's theme has come at a time when Zambia is grappling with the effects of climate change through loss of property and livelihoods leading to increased widespread poverty and vulnerability.

Although climate change affects everyone, women and girls have a unique relationship with the environment as it provides a source of livelihood, food security and income through agriculture, artisanal mining, fishing, as well as exploitation of forest and non-forest products. Globally, women are increasingly being recognized as more vulnerable to climate change impacts than men, as they constitute the majority of the world's poor. In the case of Zambia, women constitute over 60% of small-scale farmers at production level therefore their vulnerability to impacts of climate change is more pronounced.

In the face of climate change, women are also at heightened risk of health-related challenges due to compromised water and sanitation as water resources are heavily impacted during drought and flooding. Furthermore, they bear the impact of environmental, economic and social shocks, as they are more dependent on natural resources to support their livelihoods at household and community levels. Thus, when climate-related risks are rampant, women's livelihoods are negatively impacted, marginalising them further and impeding their participation and decision-making abilities in the overall development agenda.

As the global climate crisis advances, women and girls have a huge role to play in steering the discussion and providing a voice as equal players and change-makers in the development of adaptation and mitigation strategies. Also,

women are early adopters of new agricultural techniques and make key decisions about energy and waste management. Therefore, enhancing gender equality in addressing climate change risks is a critical pillar for building inclusive and gender-responsive policies for a sustainable future that recognises the unique challenges and opportunities women have in spearheading climate action. Climate action cannot be successful without the full inclusion of every section of society, especially those at the center of climate-related vulnerabilities.

Women, in particular, rural women are active participants of sustainable natural resource management through community-based initiatives, putting them at the center of climate action. Recognizing this role is essential for fostering climate justice and a sustainable future for all.

The Policy Monitoring and Research Centre underscores the need to strengthen gender-mainstreaming strategies across all Government policies and programs in order to achieve a just and equitable society that responds to global problems and offers sustainable climate change solutions to build resilience for greater environmental and economic development. **In addition, there is need to step up action for the implementation of policies that prevent discrimination, gender stereotypes, social norms that limit women's voice, gender-based violence, harassment, and the unequal distribution of care responsibilities in an effort to transform society** into one that offers equal opportunities for all through financial inclusion and the promotion of women and girls in Green and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) industries that are responsive to the current and future climate risks.

[Link for the Press Statement](#)

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022-03-pmrc-press-statement-the-commemoration-of-the-2022-international-womens-day-under-the-theme-gender-equality-today-for-a-sustainable-tomorrow-pdf/>



YOUTH DAY: ENHANCING YOUTH PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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This year, Zambia celebrated youth day under the theme “enhancing youth participation at all levels of national development”. This year’s celebrations come at a time when there is renewed hope for greater youthful participation in the national development agenda as well as a heightened expectation that Government will foster job creation, youth economic empowerment, inclusion in the governance of the country, equal education opportunities and enforcement of the rule of law.

Economically, this theme entails the need for Government’s transformation agenda to be youth-centred through the use of fiscal policies and job creation drivers in the Agricultural, Finance, Information and Communication Technology, Tourism and Manufacturing sectors that have been touted as key sectors for economic transformation.

Politically, the large youth turnout during the 2021 general elections demonstrated that the young population have a key role to play in driving Zambia’s democracy. This year’s theme therefore calls for enhanced youth participation in the political sphere through the deliberate inclusion of a clause in the electoral policy framework that mandates political parties to adopt the youth in all their organizational structures, especially with regards to nominating members of parliament.

At a cultural and social level, this year’s theme calls for the abolishment of social and cultural norms that exclude young girls from attaining their full potential as a result of teenage pregnancies and early marriages. This therefore calls for the enhancement of equal opportunities in access to education and economic empowerment.

The Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) is elated by the strides that Government has made to ensure youths are empowered through the establishment of the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises as well as the Ministry of Science and Technology. This is a positive step towards encouraging the Zambian young population to venture into entrepreneurship and innovative skills. Entrepreneurship

and innovation in the private sector are the engine for investment, job creation, poverty alleviation and sustainable economic growth for any economy. The promotion of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) schools will ensure that students are thoroughly equipped with the necessary knowledge to be better able to support the development of science and technology industries across the country.

Furthermore, the decision by Government to allocate over K2.5 million towards Youth Empowerment Programmes under the K25.7 million Constituency Development Fund (CDF) in the 2022 National Budget is an opportunity for the youth to shape the development of their communities through the establishment of businesses that foster job creation and income generation, which is key for poverty reduction.

PMRC urges young people to stay away from vices that could derail their full participation in the national development agenda such as drug and alcohol abuse, theft and graft and the abuse of social media. PMRC encourages all youth to take care of their physical and mental health this year.

[Link for the Press Statement](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022-03-pmrc-press-statement-youth-day-enhancing-youth-participation-at-all-levels-of-national-development-pdf/)

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022-03-pmrc-press-statement-youth-day-enhancing-youth-participation-at-all-levels-of-national-development-pdf/>



PMRC EXPECTATIONS FOR THIS SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH ASSEMBLY

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As Members of Parliament officially resume business for the First Session of the Thirteenth Assembly, the Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) as a stakeholder in the sphere of policy and legal framework has high expectations of the Honourable Members. It is our expectation that the Honourable Members will provide a clear road map on the legal and policy pronouncements made in the 2022 Budget speech and those contained in the Medium-Term Budget Plan 2022-2024 as well as tackle pieces of legislation that respond to the current problems the country is grappling with. These include;

Debt Management

As of end of September 2021, Zambia's external debt stock was at \$12.99 billion while domestic debt in terms of securities and bonds and arrears being at K193 billion and K76.6 billion respectively. This debt was unsustainable and needed to be restructured in order to provide some form of relief on the economy. Additionally, the news of Zambia reaching a Staff Level Agreement with the International Monetary Fund which is expected to be finalized mid 2022 provides a basis through which Parliament must hasten the review and repeal of the Loans, Grants and Guarantees Act Cap 366 of 1969 which is key in providing a framework for debt negotiations with its creditors as well as guide the development and implementation of the Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy covering the period 2023-2025.

Pensions

In the 2022 Budget speech, Government pledged to review and amend the legal framework that governs the operations of various pensions schemes to make them for suitable and responsive to the prevailing needs of the beneficiaries. Therefore, PMRC's expectations are that, the house will table the Public Service Pensions Act Cap 260 of the Laws of Zambia, the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Act Cap 284 of the Laws of Zambia and the Amended National Pensions Scheme Regulation No.7 of 2015.

Climate Change

As the country is grappling with climate change effects that have seen the 2021/2022 season adversely affecting the

agricultural sector and infrastructure, PMRC expects the House to devise a robust and progressive Climate Change Management legal framework to govern the establishment of the Climate Change Fund, framework for climate change financing especially for the private sector and how environmental assessment must be conducted.

Public Private Partnership Act No. 14 of 2009

According to the 2022 Budget speech Government plans to repeal and replace the Public Private Partnership Act No.14 of 2009 in order to provide an enabling environment for investment from both local and foreign investors. In view of this, PMRC expects the House to consider this pronouncement in order to address the infrastructure needs of the country in view of the limited Country's resource envelope.

Access to Information Bill of 2019

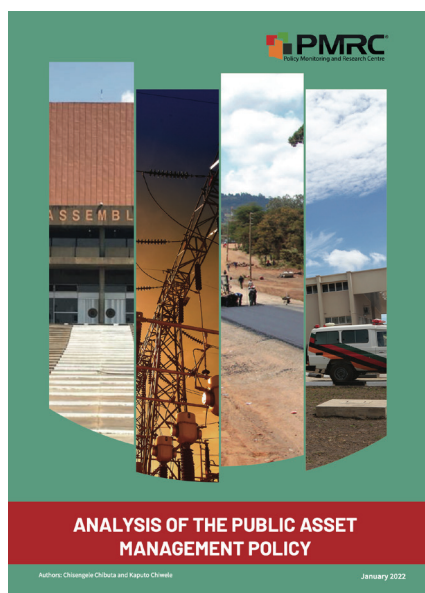
As the Government is working towards improving accountability and transparency in the country, PMRC expects Members of Parliament to expedite the enactment of the Access to Information Bill into law as a step towards empowering citizens to hold Government accountable and demand for transparency.

Public Order Act

Zambia is a signatory to International Convention on Human Rights and the Constitution under Article 20 and 21 empowers people to enjoy the freedom of expression and assembly. These freedoms have been an issue of contention by various members of society, therefore, PMRC expects that Parliament will review and repeal of the old and out-dated Zambia Public Order Act No. 39 of 1955 in line with international protocols and the national Constitution on the freedom of expression and assembly.

[Link for the Press Statement](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PMRC-Press-Statement-Expectations-for-this-Session-of-the-Thirteenth-Assembly.pdf)

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PMRC-Press-Statement-Expectations-for-this-Session-of-the-Thirteenth-Assembly.pdf>



ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

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Each year, the Zambian Government spends significant sums of money on the construction of various types of infrastructure such as roads, schools, bridges, office buildings, hospitals and the like. However, little emphasis has been placed on the maintenance of such assets and this has led to their rapid deterioration, increased costs and health and safety risks. Assey et al. (2017) remarks that such assets are important because they are the basis of the provision of important services. Therefore, a failure to properly maintain them can have detrimental effects on service delivery. Given that they require a lot of money during their initial investment or purchase, ensuring their sustainability is a must. Without a strong policy framework, the life span of public assets can be significantly shortened.

For many years, Zambia lacked a policy framework that governed the acquisition, usage and management of public assets. This hindered the Government's coordination and systematic management of public assets in the country. It is well known that **Governments around the world have a wide variety of assets, ranging from capital or fixed assets such as major Government facilities, infrastructure, and equipment to non-capital items such as computers and tools that are considered small and attractive assets. Each of these assets is essential to the delivery of services, quality of life, health, and safety of its citizens.** The Zambian Government, like every other, has an inherent responsibility to safeguard its assets as well as to develop a system of asset management that considers oversight and control in addition to short-term and long-term maintenance, repair, and replacement of these assets for continued performance and reduced life cycle costs.

It is with this in mind that the Public Asset Management Policy (PAMP) was launched on the 30th of March 2021 by then Minister of Finance, Dr Bwalya Ng'andu. The development of the Policy started in 2017 and it was approved by Cabinet on October 26, 2020. As its name suggests, the Policy provides guidance on the entire process of asset management including identification, acquisition, valuation, utilisation, maintenance, redevelopment, accounting and disposal of

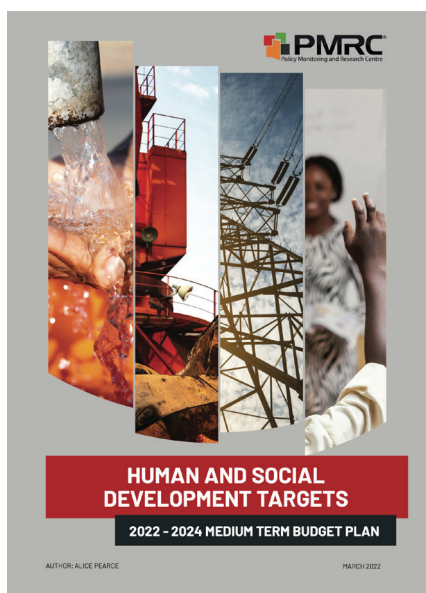
national assets. As defined by the policy; an asset is any tangible and/or intangible property owned by a public body to which a value can be assigned. The Policy was jointly developed by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Works and Supply but its use will spread across all Government institutions.

The Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (2021) suggests that an effective asset management policy should, at a minimum, address the following areas: scope and purpose; definitions; capitalization threshold; additions, transfers, disposals, and losses; inventory and periodic assessment of condition; and maintenance and repair. A brief perusal of the PAMP reveals that these areas are sufficiently covered by it.

The purpose of this policy analysis is to provide an in-depth understanding of the Public Asset Management Policy and its benefits for the country. The Policy is discussed, as well as an analysis of its objectives and strategies for implementation. This includes a consideration of what other countries with similar policies have done and what Zambia can learn from them. Lastly, a discussion of what it will take to successfully implement the policy is made followed by PMRC's recommendations.

[Link for the Analysis](https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Analysis-Of-The-Public-Asset-Management-Policy.pdf)

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Analysis-Of-The-Public-Asset-Management-Policy.pdf>



HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT TARGETS 2022 - 2024 MEDIUM TERM BUDGET PLAN

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Human and social development are critical aspects within society and a pre-condition for economic growth. Cardinal to the fulfilment of human, cultural and social rights is the human and social development agenda which encompasses critical issues such as education, health care, nutrition, water and sanitation and social protection among others. In acknowledging the roles these sectors play in the wider development agenda, the Government has set out medium term targets for social sector spending as outlined in the 2022-2024 Budget Plan White Paper.

Although progressive strides have been made within these sectors, securing the fiscal space within which human and social development must thrive are key considerations for success. **Over the years, the Government has experienced a strain on its fiscus due to an unsustainable debt burden, high inflation and an under-performing economy, among others which contributed to the huge financing gaps that have negatively impacted the social sector and in some cases, eroded the progress made¹.** In addition, the recent challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic have heightened vulnerabilities, impacting different sections of society in various ways. Thus, a greater focus on the social sectors remains imperative.

Moreover, securing social sector spending also provided a backdrop for sustainable debt management, thus prompting the Government to seek an IMF bailout with the view of freeing up more resources that could be channelled towards the social sectors². Achieving this will not only provide room for investment needed to grow the productive sectors of the economy but will also offer the necessary conditions to safeguard the country's social aspirations such as reducing developmental inequalities and delivering a people centred growth agenda.

This briefing document will highlight the set targets, successes and challenges in various social sectors as well as policy options for Government to be implemented in 2022-2024.

[Link for the Briefing Document](https://pmrczambia.com/human-and-social-development-targets-2022-2024-medium-term-budget-plan/)

<https://pmrczambia.com/human-and-social-development-targets-2022-2024-medium-term-budget-plan/>

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

PMRC team submitted their findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Health, Community Development and Social Services on the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry in Zambia: Challenges and Opportunities.

The presentation bordered around;

- Potential Opportunities for Promoting the Local Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry.
- Adequacy of the Policy and Legal Framework Governing the Sector.
- The Role of Non-State Actors in Complementing Government's Efforts to Promote the Local Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry.
- Measures by Government to Enhance the Local Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry.
- Challenges faced by Government to heighten Manufacturing in the Local Pharmaceutical Industry.
- Recommendations.

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads-2022-01-the-pharmaceutical-manufacturing-industry-in-zambia-pdf/>



The PMRC team appeared before the Parliamentary Committee on Energy, Water Development and Tourism. The team presented on Water Resource Management in Zambia.

The presentation bordered around;

- Policy and legal framework governing water resource management.
- Major challenges impeding effective water management.
- Measures to protect and harness water resources.

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads-2022-01-water-resource-management-in-zambia-pdf/>



PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

PMRC team appeared before the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources and presented on the Review of the Implementation of the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP)

The presentation bordered around;

- Adequacy of the Policy and Legal Framework Governing FISP.
- Governance Structures on the Implementation of FISP.
- The Impact of FISP on the Small – Scale Farmers.
- Measures put in place to ensure only deserving Farmers benefit from FISP.
- Private Sector Involvement in the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP).
- Budgetary Allocations for (FISP) in the Last Five Years.
- Strategies put in place by Government to Improve the implementation of FISP.
- Challenges faced in the Implementation of FISP.
- Recommendations.

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/submission-to-the-committee-on-agriculture-lands-and-natural-resources-topic-review-of-the-implementation-of-farmer-input-support-programme-parliamentary-presentation/>



The PMRC team submitted their findings to the Committee on National Security and Foreign Affairs. The team presented on the Administration of Parole and Correctional Supervision Vis-a-Vis the Decongestion of Correctional Facilities In Zambia.

The presentation bordered around;

- Legal framework.
- The Constitution, Amendment Act No.2 of 2016.
- Zambia Correctional Service Act No.37 of 2021.
- Probation of Offenders Act, Chapter 93 of the Laws of Zambia.
- United Nations Minimum Standard Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).
- Role of Civil Society and Non-State Actors.
- Efficiency of Parole and Correctional Supervision.
- Challenges in Administration of Parole and Correctional Supervision.
- Enhancement of Parole and Correctional Supervision.

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Submission-To-The-Committee-On-National-Security-And-Foreign-Affairs.pdf>



PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

The PMRC team submitted their findings to the Committee on National Security and Foreign Affairs and they presented on Economic Diversification: the Case of the Zambian Mining Sector.

The presentation bordered around;

- The Adequacy of the Policy and Legal Framework Governing the Diversification of the Zambian Mining Sector.
- Mineral Resources In Zambia.
- Extent of Mineral Exploitation and their Contribution to the Economy.
- Suitability of the Investment Climate for Non-Copper Mining Subsector.
- Challenges faced by Non-Copper Mining Subsector.
- Opportunities that are available in the Non-Copper Mining Subsector.
- Impediments to Growing the Non-Copper Sectors Contribution to the Economy.
- Strategies for Enhanced Contribution of the Non-Copper Mining Sub Sector to the Economy.

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/PMRC-Parliament-Submission-The-Committee-On-National-Economy-Trade-And-Labour-Matters.pdf>





**SUBMISSION TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL
ECONOMY, TRADE AND LABOUR MATTERS.
ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION: THE CASE OF THE
ZAMBIAN MINING SECTOR**

Date: 02nd February 2022

Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC)
Corner of John Mbita & Nationalist Roads, Ridgeway, Lusaka - Zambia.
Private Bag KL 10
Tel: +260 211 269 717 | +260 979 015 660
Email: info@pmrczambia.net
www.pmrczambia.com

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

PMRC Acting Executive Director Mr. Sydney Mwamba met with Mr. Lai Bo, Minister-Charge d' Affaires of the Chinese Embassy to Zambia to discuss collaboration themes for the year 2022.

Mr. Mwamba was accompanied by the Head of Communication & Grants – Ms. Melody Simukali, Acting Head of Monitoring and Evaluation Mrs Esther Besa. -Communications Specialist Mr. Chiti Nkunde .



PMRC Acting Executive Director Mr. Sydney Mwamba met with ZIPAR Executive Director Dr. Herrick Mpuku to discuss future research collaborations key to the country's development agenda.

They conferred on issues bordering on the need for more evidence-based research critical to policy making decisions. Key issues of discussion included:

- Economic Policy Dialogue;
- Trade and Investment; and
- Cross cutting issues (private sector participation, climate change).



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

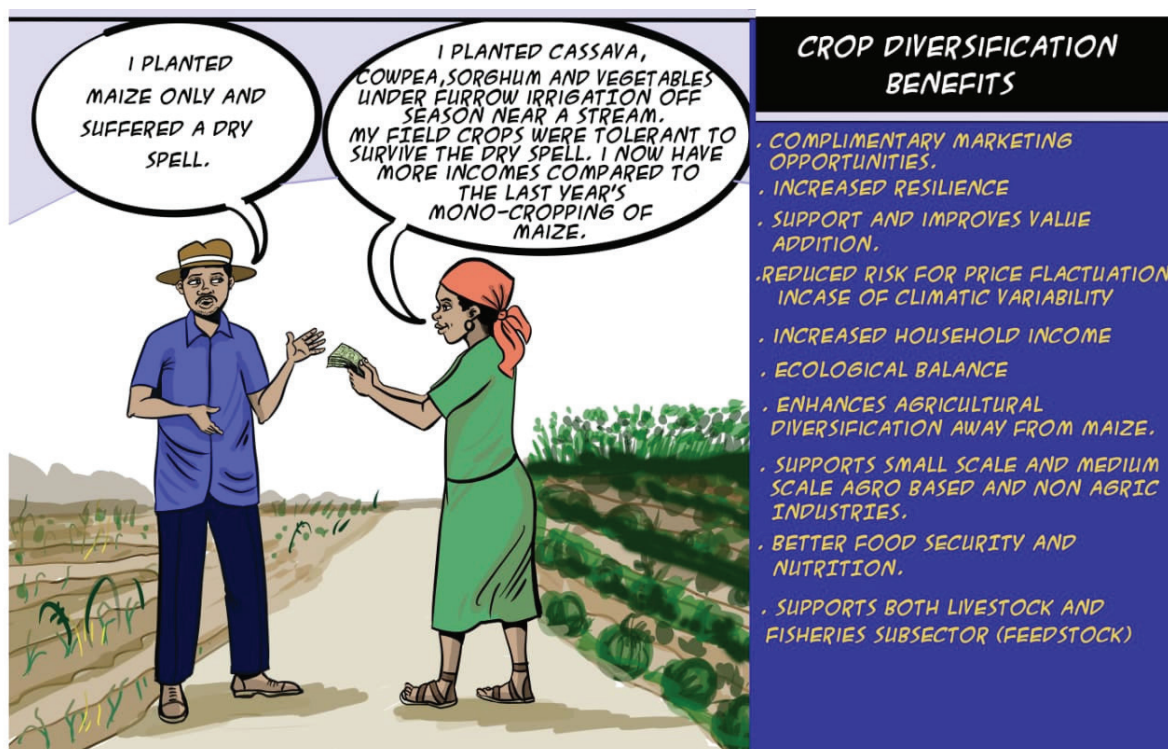
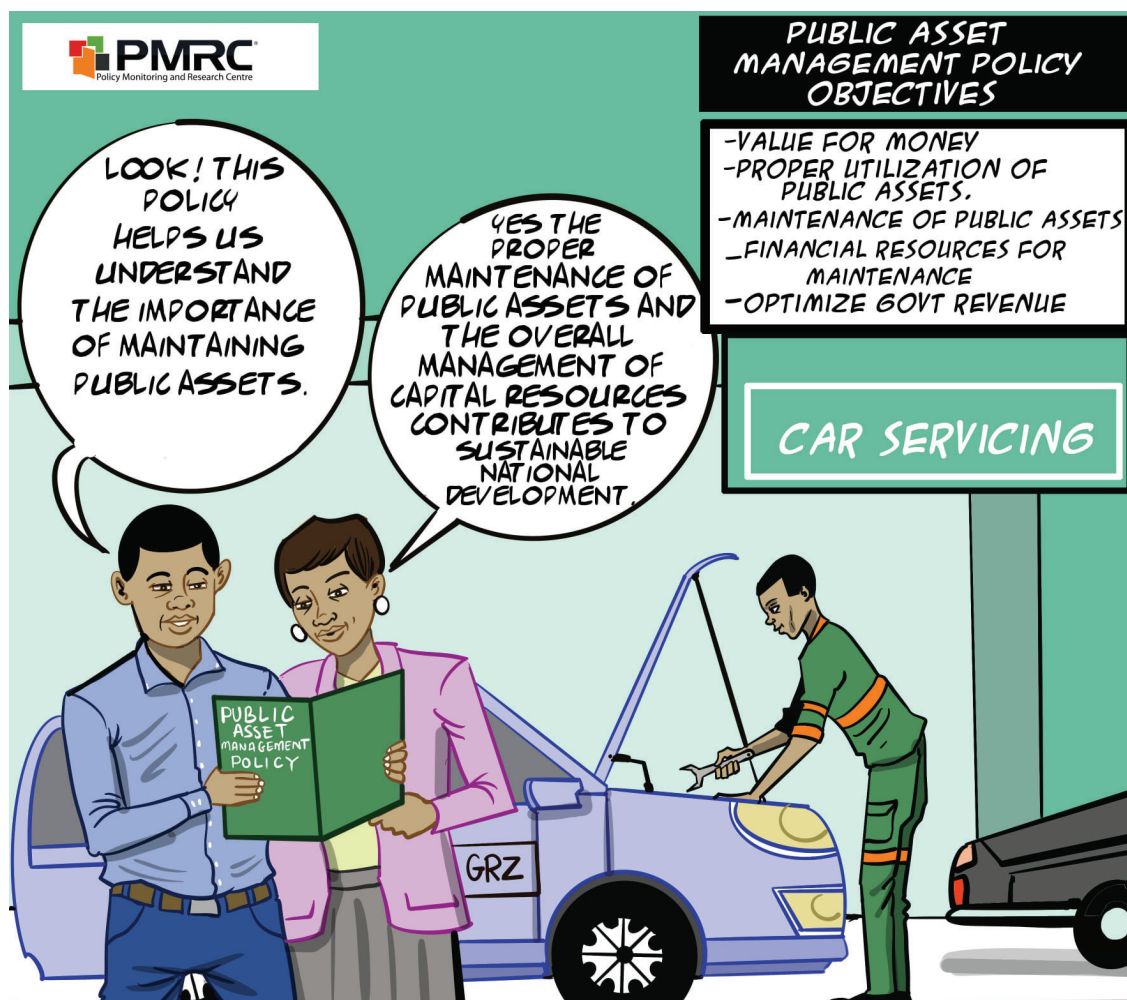
PMRC team met with the Rural Finance Unit at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning and discussed the Rural Finance Policy Implementation and Strategy.



PMRC team met with Mr. Albert Mundike Tovek Country and Southern African Sales and Marketing Coordinator and discussed available research packages that enable quick research analysis.



CARTOONS



INFOGRAPHICS



Presidential Speech to Parliament- Progress Made in the Application of National Values and Principles **Infographic Page 1 & 2.**

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/infographics-by-pmrc/>



PREPARED BY **PMRC**
Policy Monitoring and Research Centre
802/2770000 (Tel) 802/2770000 (Fax)
802/2770000 (Email) info@pmrczambia.net
www.pmrccambia.net

SUBSCRIBE NOW: info@pmrczambia.net

SOCIAL PROTECTION

 SET TARGET SET TARGET

- 
1,024,000 households in 2022
- 
 - Increase Social Cash Transfer funds from €190 to €200 per month and €100 to €150 per month for households with a severely disabled member.
- 
Social Cash Transfer increased to €200 & €150
- 
 - Increase beneficiaries under the Food Security Pack from 20,870 to 320,066 households in 2022.
- 
320,066 HOMES
- 
 - Increase beneficiaries on the Keeping Kids in School Support Programme from 25,964 to 43,520 in 2022.
- 
43,520 beneficiaries on the Keeping Kids in School Support Programme



- encourage pension benefits directly owed to retired public service workers to improve their livelihoods.
- implement **pension reforms** to ensure viability of the pension system and enable retirees to access accrued benefits before retirement.

CHALLENGES

- The high cost of living exerting pressure on many households as pushing poorer households into increased levels of poverty.
- The constrained fiscal space posing greater challenge for the provision of essential infrastructure to **attract investments** to promote

- *For*

15 POLICY OPTIONS



- Link beneficiaries on various social protection programmes empowerment programmes in order to sustainably uplift the livelihoods of vulnerable households.
- Improve basic social protection or strengthen the political will reach the most vulnerable.

PREPARED BY **PMRC** MARCH 2022
Policy Monitoring and Research Centre
Research and analysis and communications
Contact: Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC)
info@pmrc.org.uk or www.pmrccentre.org.uk

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3. Increased funding for climate change interventions as the country heightens the fight against climate change.

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LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

Medium Term Budget Plan - **infographic**

LINK FOR THE PRESENTATION

<https://pmrczambia.com/infographics-by-pmrc/>

PMRCNEWSLETTER



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Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC)
Corner of Nationalist and John Mbita Roads, Ridgeway, Lusaka.
Private Bag KL 10 Tel: +260 211 269 717 | +260 979 015 660