

EIGHTH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (8NDP) 2022 - 2026

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT AREA 4: GOOD GOVERNANCE ENVIRONMENT

AUGUST 2022



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING

ADAPTED BY



A. OVERVIEW

- This strategic development area focuses on **strengthening the policy, legal and institutional framework for good governance as well as enhancing the rule of law, human rights and constitutionalism.**



- Good governance is an important **precursor for transforming the economy, sustaining economic growth and promoting human dignity, thereby safeguarding lives and livelihoods.**
- Good governance also entails respect for **human rights and freedoms, entrenching transparency and accountability, participation, strengthening the democratic process, enhancing access to justice, observance of the rule of law and upholding national values and principles.**

B. THE MAJOR CONSTRAINTS TO REALISING A CONDUCTIVE GOVERNANCE ENVIRONMENT

The realisation of a conducive governance environment has largely been constrained by the slow pace of implementation of key reforms.

- Slow implementation of e-government.
- Inadequate implementation of performance management.
- Inadequate infrastructure.
- Limited utilisation of ICT solutions.
- The slow pace of decentralization.
- Inadequate capacities of oversight institutions.
- Inadequate knowledge among citizens on the existing platforms to engage elected representatives and other governance agencies.

C. PILLARS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME AND THEIR STRATEGIES

1. Improved Policy and Governance Environment

- Government will ensure that a **conductive and stable policy and governance environment is enhanced during the Plan period.**
- Government will continue to strengthen the existing policy, legal and institutional framework.
- Government will also establish inclusive consultative processes and undertake reforms that will improve the interactions of the citizens, the private sector, civil society and the public sector.

This will enhance certainty and instill confidence among citizens, businesses and investors.

Strategies to achieve this outcome

Decentralize public service delivery systems



- In line with the National Decentralisation Policy and its implementation framework, local authorities will play a major role in service delivery at the district level and will coordinate development at that level.

Strengthen national data and information systems

- Government will fully operationalise the Statistics Act No. 13 of 2018 for an integrated National Statistical System to increase the coverage, production, access to and use of quality data as well as statistics for national development during the Plan period.

Strengthen transparency and accountability mechanisms

- Governance and investigative institutions, such as the Office of the Auditor-General and the Anti-Corruption Commission, will be capacitated to enhance transparency and accountability. In an effort to take services closer to the people, the Office of the Public Protector will be decentralised to provincial centres.

Strengthen democratic and political governance

- An enhanced separation of powers will be promoted among the three arms of Government. The Government will review the National Governance Policy to coordinate the promotion and application of governance principles that will harmonize the operations in the governance sector. Participation of marginalised groups such as the youths, women and persons living with disabilities in governance will be promoted.

Strengthen public service performance management systems

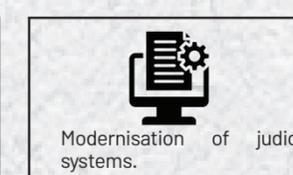
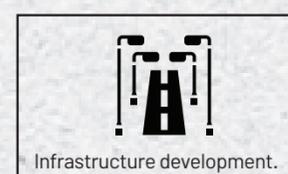
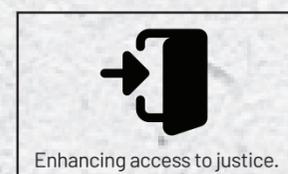
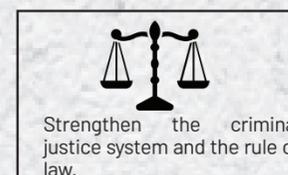
- To support economic transformation, Government will strengthen public service management systems to promote effective and efficient delivery of public goods and services during the Plan period.

Strengthen land management and administration

- Land reforms will be undertaken to fully operationalise the Land Policy. Review of various statutes relating to land management systems will be undertaken to ensure enhanced access to land.

2. Improved Rule of Law, Human Rights and Constitutionalism

To achieve improved rule of law, human rights, and constitutionalism, the Government will strengthen the criminal justice system and enhance the rule of law. The Plan will:



Strategies to achieve this outcome

Strengthen human rights and constitutionalism

- Comprehensive constitutional reforms will be undertaken to enhance good governance and strengthen the protection of human rights which are critical ingredients to the wellbeing of citizens. Government will also progressively decentralize governance institutions to enhance access to services and improve the quality of service delivery as well as enhance their capacity.

Strengthen the criminal and justice system and enhance rule of law.

- Efforts will be made to progressively decentralize the judicial system to enhance speedy dispensation of Justice. Offender management will be enhanced and reforms to review and decentralize the Parole framework undertaken.