

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CAPSTONE

**FOSTERING
ACCOUNTABILITY AND
TRANSPARENCY
(FACT) ZAMBIA**

COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL

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BACKGROUND

- Historical colonial extraction due to what is known as the Copper Belt
 - Zambia shares historical vulnerabilities for political, social and economic instability with other sub-Saharan countries due to the colonial past that continues to impact the structures of the country
- Considered one of the lowest ranking countries in the Human Development Index due to a history of civil unrest, poverty rates, diseases, and corruption in all private, public and government sectors
 - Overlapping deprivation by individuals in health, education, and standard of living
 - HIV/AIDS prevalence in the population impacting human development
- Gender inequality due to men historically dominating control in households and as local, regional and national authorities.
 - Disproportionate impact on women's health, education, standard of living and lack of civic engagement
- Public services do not sufficiently provide necessary resources and opportunities for marginalized groups
 - Lack of efficient accessibility to communities has led local, regional and international organizations to address the needs
 - less than 1/3 of Zambians are engaged with CSOs

THE SECTORS

- **Education**

- Literacy rate: 83%
- Mean Years of Schooling
 - Female - 6.7 years
 - Male - 7.5 years

- **Health/HIV/Child**

- Malnutrition (% under 5 yrs. old): 40%
- HIV/AIDS Prevalence: 11.5%
- Malaria Incidence (per 1,000 people at risk): 203.3

- **Sustainable rural livelihoods**

- Agricultural laborers: 53.9%

- **Extractive industry**

- 75% of exports are extracted natural resources (copper, cobalt, zinc, lead, emeralds, etc.)
- Extractive projects have been illegally done and linked to public health concerns, heavily impacting the youth and women

- **Environment**

- Extractive industry harms the environment due to the exploitation of resources and waste mismanagement

INCLUSIVE SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY (ISA)

Building Blocks Framework developed by Counterpart International

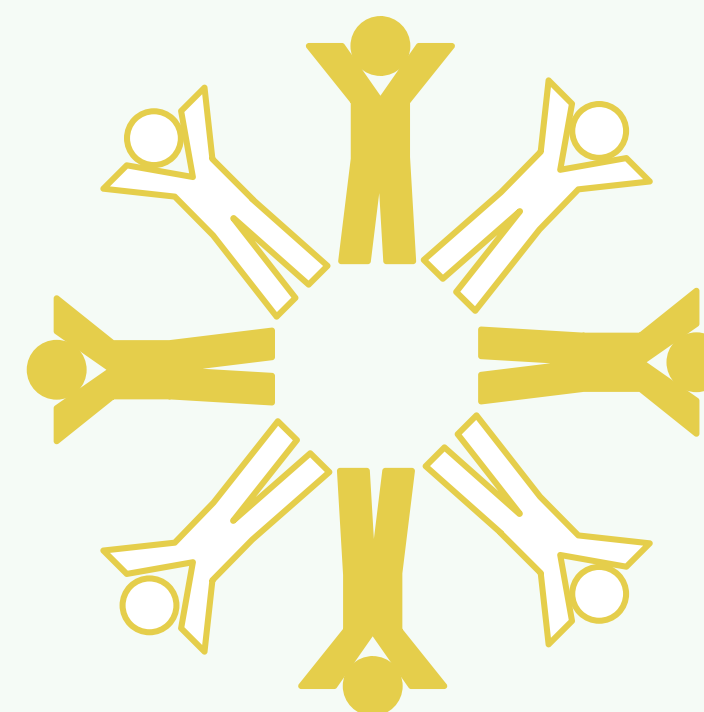
- Operationalize local knowledge
 - Looks at how various exclusionary factors work in conjunction to amplify marginalization
- Strengthen capacity for collective action
 - Incentivizes relationships amongst CSOs to expand the capacities of the organizations
- Form inclusive, accountable, and transparent social partnerships
 - Aims to build partnerships between and within public, civic, and private spheres with the goal of promoting inclusive accountability
- Promote responsive government through effective citizen monitoring
 - Provides lasting mechanisms and tools for monitoring community-level service delivery, ensuring that these tools are locally-driven and do not require extensive external support.
- Learning, adapting, and scaling up
 - Promotes the continual adaptation and innovation of CSOs to properly serve the needs of stakeholders as they arise.

PROJECT GOALS

GOAL ONE: Strengthen capacity of local civil society organizations (CSOs) to improve the delivery, transparency, and civic oversight of public services in the education, health/HIV, sustainable rural livelihoods, extractive industry transparency, and environment sectors



GOAL TWO: Improved engagement between citizens and government service providers in the education, health/HIV, sustainable rural livelihoods, extractive industry transparency, and environment sectors to improve service delivery



SUCCESSSES

- Expanded government & citizen partnerships by holding the first-ever national Social Accountability Symposium to collaborate on improving HIV/AIDS services
- Organized 17 mobilization meetings to raise awareness on issues of governance, promote transparency and accountability in the environment sector, reaching 957 people
- Mobilized the Parent Community Schools Committees (PCSC) to form the District Education Board the District Advocacy Group to advocate for higher levels of govt spending on schools and monitor community schools' integration policy.
- Ensured comprehensive management of information regarding health governance issues to address inadequacies in rural health facilities
- Facilitated an information sharing and exchange meeting for 28 members of the Solwezi Municipal Council and the Kasempa Local Council civic leadership and technical staff to explore the potential effects of the 10% Mineral Revenue Sharing Mechanism (MRSM) by-law passed by the Solwezi Municipal council

CHALLENGES

- Counterpart International as an implementing partner
 - Expectations of international organizations can disturb the objectives of local CSOs
- Local CSOs heavy dependence on donor community leading to a tendency of tailoring their objectives to the needs of the donor more so than the needs of the stakeholders
- Inability to foster partnerships between public and private organizations beyond the networking space created by Counterpart International
 - Lack of trust of intentions between the objectives of the organizations
- Project didn't lead to sustainable systemic change that Counterpart wanted to implement
 - Local CSOs fear of projecting "anti-government" dialogue or initiatives

CONCLUSIONS

- Operationalize local knowledge
 - Seek out local donors who have more stake in sustaining relevant and locally supported projects in Zambia.
- Strengthen capacity for collective action
 - Being intentional in how they share accumulated knowledge in order to better support CSOs in Zambia, beyond the expectations of USAID.
 - Providing comprehensive documentation of the impact a project like FACT has in the communities to the communities
- Form inclusive, accountable, and transparent social partnerships
 - Creating a physical network for ease in sharing information and collaboration among CSOs that are working in different districts.
- Promote responsive government through effective citizen monitoring
 - Increasing guidance on the tools to promote social inclusion to increase participation from CSOs and citizens in government decisions.
- Learning, adapting, and scaling up
 - Providing support for the network of CSOs to continue to increase transparent, consistent, and inclusive collaboration to expand their capacities beyond the termination of the project.

FACT ZAMBIA

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

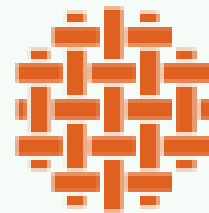
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In partnership for
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