



# ZAMBIA RESOURCE TENURE AND GOVERNANCE REVIEW

## JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019

### INTEGRATED LAND AND RESOURCE GOVERNANCE TASK ORDER UNDER THE STRENGTHENING TENURE AND RESOURCE RIGHTS II (STARR II) IDIQ

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# LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACC	Anti-Corruption Commission
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CSO	Central Statistics Office
COMACO	Community Markets for Conservation
DNPW	Department of National Parks and Wildlife
ECZ	Electoral Commission of Zambia
EIA	Environmental Investigative Agency
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ILRG	Integrated Land and Resource Governance Program
LCC	Lusaka City Council
MP	Member of Parliament
MVCM	Mineral Value Chain Monitoring
PF	Patriotic Front
SAWC	Southern African Wildlife College
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
ZACL	Zambia Airports Corporation Limited
ZAFFICO	Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation
ZIFL-P	Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project
ZRA	Zambia Revenue Authority
ZTP	Zambia Tax Platform

# INTRODUCTION

Over the course of a year, newspapers report on a broad range of topics reflecting the issues that rise to the surface of public discourse. Conflict, court cases, and scandals are among the most common narratives reaching the papers, but these are also complemented by positive development gains around new infrastructure, public and private investment, or victories in longstanding challenges. Because of the centrality of land to urban and rural livelihoods, tenure security is a major topic of interest that arises almost daily. Over the course of 2019, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Integrated Land and Resource Governance Program (ILRG) documented 721 newspaper articles that referenced tenure security and governance of land and other natural resources. These articles were then classified across a range of issues and between state and customary land areas. This analysis tracks these issues both across specific stories that continue throughout the year, as well as trends that are seen between different parts of the country. The review follows four major papers, the Daily Mail, Times of Zambia, the Nation, and Mast. An appendix to this report provides a short summary of each article that was reviewed.

The report demonstrates the broad range of challenges within the sector, particularly around boundary disputes, corruption, deforestation, displacements, encroachments, illegal allocation of land, land policy, mining, poaching, succession wrangles, titling, and the protection of natural resources.

# LAND GOVERNANCE

## LAND POLICY

Consultations on the draft land policy continued in 2019 but were not fully concluded. Civil society organizations led by the Zambia Land Alliance engaged with citizens to get input on the draft policy. The organizations were appreciative of the government's commitment to cooperate with them during the consultative process (Daily Nation, 5/20/2019).

Although the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Jean Kapata, declared that the policy would be finalized and submitted to Cabinet by the end of 2019 following the presentation and adoption of recommendations from the House of Chiefs (Daily Nation, 8/2/2019), there were still numerous concerns raised by various stakeholders regarding the process and content of the draft policy.

One of the most important discussions surrounded the alienation of land to non-Zambians. Chiefs Madzimawe and Chanje welcomed the draft policy's proposed restrictions on the sale of land to foreigners by traditional leaders. The two chiefs hailed the proposed consultation process that requires consent from 50 headmen for a chief to sell land, especially to investors. They said this would bring sanity and regulate the land acquisition and accord Zambians access to the resource (Daily Nation, 3/4/2019). Also, the Civil Society for Constitution Agenda Chairperson, Bishop John Mambo, also called for the finalization of the land policy to be expedited to ensure that non-Zambians were restricted from owning land in the country (Daily Nation, 8/28/2019). Minister of Lands and Natural Resources Jean Kapata confirmed that the draft Land Policy restricted non-Zambians from owning land, only being allowed to lease for economic purposes (Daily Nation, 8/21/2019).

The escalating land price was also a concern, with Kantashi MP Anthony Mumba calling for laws that banned real estate agents from quoting property prices in foreign currency. Mumba said that the practice excluded many Zambians from acquiring land (Daily Nation, 8/3/2019) and was described as predatory by the Real Estate Association (Daily Nation, 9/12/2019). Small-Scale Farmers Development Agency Director Boyd Moobwe even called for the suspension of all land sales until the policy was finalized. He argued that current laws were being abused by technocrats to the disadvantage of small-scale farmers in rural areas (Daily Mail, 7/4/2019). To this effect, Minister of Lands Jean Kapata announced that the state would regulate land prices after finalizing the revised land policy (Daily Nation, 9/12/2019).

The current land acquisition process was described as inadequate by Zambia Social Forum National Chairperson Charles Mulila, who said that the draft Land Policy was not clear on tenure and land alienation processes. He said that the revised policy needed to address these concerns and provide for the decentralization of the Ministry of Lands to enable poor Zambians to have access to information on land matters (Daily Nation, 6/28/2019).

## GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S LAND RIGHTS

Gender remained an important topic in politics, land rights, and agriculture, among others. On the political side, the Non-governmental Gender Organization Coordinating Council (NGOCC), advised various political parties to commit to the principle of gender agenda as a practice for national development. The NGOCC appealed to President Lungu to prioritize the appointment of more women in decision making positions for the transformation of the country (The Mast, 6/6/2019). In mayoral elections, Minister of Local Government Vincent Mwale urged councilors from the 116 local authorities to promote gender equality by voting for a female candidate in areas where there is a male mayor or council chairperson (Daily Mail, 7/19/2019).

Programs to improve women's participation in agriculture were undertaken in various parts of the country. The launch of the *Zambian Women in Agriculture Research and Development Secretariat* in Lusaka aimed to improve the gender empowerment gap in agriculture and to enable the community to share information, and document women's contribution to Zambia's agriculture sector. The Secretariat's objectives of sharpening skills in science, research, mentorship, leadership, and ultimately gender responsiveness were envisaged to create a cadre of female agricultural professionals who are more technically competent, confident and better networked to effect change for both women and men across the agriculture sphere (*Times of Zambia*, 5/20/2019). Also, the *Cashew Infrastructure Development Project* made mainstreaming gender a key consideration in its implementation in 10 districts of Western Province (*Daily Mail*, 6/11/2019).

Despite these positive initiatives, gender-based violence (GBV) and early marriages were a considerable challenge for women across the country. Chief Liteta was convicted by the *Kabwe Magistrate Court* for assaulting his second wife and caused her bodily harm. The chief had accused his wife, *Prisca Malembeka*, of being dishonest about their marriage after failing to disclose to the *Lusaka High Court* that she is a second wife. Chief Liteta asked the court to dismiss *Ms. Malembeka's* application for an injunction to restrain him from evicting her. He said the application made by his wife was an abuse of court process because there were currently divorced proceedings in the *Bwacha Local Court* in *Kabwe*, and the same will make orders for settlement of properties. Gender activist *Elmadah Mwitwa* said that Chief Liteta should have gone to jail for assaulting his wife. However, conviction alone is a major breakthrough in the fight against GBV (*Daily Nation*, 1/14/2019).

Efforts to curb GBV and early marriages included the establishment of a GBV secretariat in Chief *Bunda-Bunda's* chieftom (*Other*, 5/20/2019); championing programs surrounding GBV, safe motherhood, and the fight against child marriages in the rural areas by traditional leaders and their spouses (*Daily Mail*, 5/27/2019); and the construction of a "GBV safe house" at Chief *Nyampande* of *Petauke District's* palace.

## **STATE/CUSTOMARY INTERFACE**

The interaction of the state and traditional leaders in governance was observed in instances of collaboration and government support. The Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development, *Ronald Chitotela*, urged traditional leaders to partner with the government by coming up with community-based projects to improve people's livelihood in their chieftoms (*Daily Mail*, 2/3/2019). The government also pledged to continue supporting traditional leaders through the timely provision of subsidies to enable them to conduct their duties effectively for the benefit of the people in their chieftoms. Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs *Lawrence Sicalwe* said that of the 30 palaces that were under construction, 12 had been completed (*Daily Nation*, 1/7/2019). Through the Ministry of Tourism and Arts, the government further offered to open more than ten community game ranches in various chieftoms. Ministry of Tourism and Arts Permanent Secretary *Howard Sikwela* said the benefits of the game ranches would include community development by empowering chieftoms with wildlife resources and reduce the pressure of demand for special licenses during traditional ceremonies (*Daily Nation*, 1/26/2019).

However, this interaction was still restricted to the mandate placed on each institution. Chief *Nkambo* of *Masaiti District* was criticized for reportedly collecting ZMW200 on behalf of the government for post-natal services at *Matipa Health Centre* for women who deliver at home. Ministry of Health Spokesperson *Dr. Abel Kabalo* has said chiefs have no authority to impose service charges on behalf of the government despite being key stakeholders at the community level (*Daily Nation*, 12/13/2019). On the government's part, the *Constitutional Court* ruled that five sections of the *Chiefs Act*, which allow the president to appoint a sub-chief, are unconstitutional and should be deleted from the statute book. The court ruled that permitting the head of state to appoint a sub-chief, who may likely assume the role



of a chief, goes against the principle of non-involvement of the presidency in selecting traditional leaders. This happened when Chief Mwene Mutondo Mulubisha of Western Province petitioned the Constitutional Court for a declaration that sections 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Chiefs Act are inconsistent with Article 165 of the Constitution (Daily Mail, 11/29/2019).

President Edgar Lungu also discouraged traditional leaders from participating in partisan politics, saying that they are critical in governance, and their conduct may bring division among the community they serve (Times of Zambia, 2/22/2019). Acting Chief Sinazongwe Melvin Mwiinde has distanced himself from partisan politics, saying he will not condone any partisan agendas that will derail development in his chiefdom. The acting chief observed that some parts of the country have remained underdeveloped due to traditional leaders in those areas advancing their political interests at their subjects' expense (Daily Nation, 1/15/2019).

However, traditional leaders demonstrated the key role they play in land matters and asked for better collaboration between their institution and the government. Chief Bunda Bunda of the Soli people advised the Chongwe Municipal Council that the community was ready to work with the council in land allocation and development but must yield mutual benefits (Daily Nation, 2/26/2019). Also, Chief Chipepo of the Tonga people of Southern Province said traditional leaders do not need orders from the government on how to give out traditional land, because they had their system of which Indunas are a part. He added that it was offensive for the government to propose that chiefs would not be permitted to give land without 50 percent signatures from indunas in their chiefdoms once the land policy was finalized (Daily Nation, 3/6/2019).

## CORRUPTION

Allegations of corruption emerge frequently in the land sector, particularly around the allocation of land and accusations of favoritism or discretionary decisions benefiting particular individuals. Proceeds from corrupt activities are also often put into the building of new infrastructure or acquiring land. Because of the particular sensitivity of corruption cases, they are not extremely prevalent in the newspapers, but when they emerge, they tend to be high profile and stay in the headlines for weeks or months. Table 1 below highlights some notable corruption cases reported in 2019.

**TABLE 1. REPORTED CORRUPTION CASES**

Newspaper and Date	Issue	Where	Status
Daily Mail, 4/26/19	Former Zambia Airforce Commander Erick Chimese was accused of concealing property suspected to be proceeds of crime. The properties were later said to belong to Chita Lodges.	Lusaka	Ongoing and frequently reported on
Daily Nation, 2/20/19	Former Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development Ronald Chitotela and co-accused Gregory Chibanga, director of Brut Holdings Limited, and Mwenya Chisala (company operations manager) were arrested for concealing property suspected to be proceeds of crime. They pleaded not guilty.	Lusaka	Case dismissed
Daily Mail, 7/19/19	The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) seized 48 flats, and 13 plots in Chalala alleged to be proceeds of crime from a	Lusaka	Ongoing, and frequently in the papers.

	Ministry of Finance official. The properties were since forfeited to the State pursuant to the ACC's regulations. Charles Loyana, who claimed to be the owner of the 48 houses, instructed his lawyers to commence legal proceedings against the ACC over the forfeiture of the properties, arguing that the ACC was irregularly getting rentals from the houses despite having complained that the whole process was foul.		
Other, 8/22/19	Tobias Nkhoma, a real estate agent, was accused of obtaining money by false pretenses.	Ndola	Found guilty of one count of obtaining money by false pretenses and two counts of uttering false documents and sentenced to two years imprisonment.

## ILLEGAL ALLOCATION OF LAND

Several government employees were involved in illegal land allocations. In Livingstone, the ACC arrested two former councilors for alleged abuse of authority in the allocation of land. The two ex-councilors were alleged to have abused their power by allocating plots to themselves (Daily Nation, 2/1/2019). This was after the ACC announced that it would arrest all 17 councilors who served under the council between 2013 and 2014 (Times of Zambia, 2/1/2019). The ACC also arrested its Livingstone officer over the fraudulent acquisition of plots. Livingstone Station Manager Harry Marko Tembo was reported by a whistleblower for suspected abuse of authority of office and possessing illegal plots. The plots that Mr. Tembo possessed were not documented in council minutes (The Mast, 5/27/2019).

In Kitwe, the ACC was requested by residents to probe dubiously acquired land by Kitwe councilors before it becomes a big issue. It is alleged that some councilors had been using their positions to grab land from poor citizens and residents who wondered why the council was still dishing out land to the council's members when they already own significant chunks of land (Times of Zambia, 4/25/2019). In Lusaka, a former Mandevu MP in the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy government, Patrick Katyoka, was sentenced to nine months imprisonment for swindling former Auditor General Anna Chifungula of US\$14,500 by lying that he had land for sale (Daily Mail, 11/2/2019).

Many illegal sales involved current or former council officials. Several actions were taken to discipline erring officers, including the dissolution of the Patriotic Front (PF's) Executive Committee in Kabwe's David Ramushi Ward, which was alleged to have been involved in the illegal allocation of land in Makandanya area (Daily Mail, 8/10/2019). Copperbelt PF Provincial Chairman Nathan Chanda said that the party would not defend any councilors involved in the illegal allocation of land following revelations at Kitwe City Council that a senior civic leader had been the mastermind behind illegal land deals (Daily Nation, 8/12/2019). In the same vein, Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo warned party cadres that anyone found allocating illegal plots would be prosecuted (Daily Nation, 9/7/2019).

Other illegal acts were building without planning permission, which was reported in Lusaka and Solwezi. Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo halted the illegal allocation of land by some suspected PF cadres who had built on the railway reserve in Lusaka's Chilenje South area (Daily Nation, 5/23/2019). The suspected cadres disobeyed the order (Daily Nation, 5/28/2019). Lusambo appealed to the residents to acquire building permits from the Lusaka City Council to avoid their structures being demolished. Solwezi Town Clerk Bornwell Lwanga said that it was sad that even though developments

were not approved by the council, developers still apply to the power and water companies, and they get serviced. The council decided to engage the water utility company and Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation to start requesting approved building permits from developers before connecting their premises to water and electricity (Times of Zambia, 7/3/2019).



Headline from the Times of Zambia, January 8, 2019

## SUCCESSION WRANGLES

Numerous succession wrangles

were recorded in chiefdoms across the country, with some turning violent and disruptive. In Luapula Province, Chiefs and Traditional Affairs Officer Chembo Munthali said that six out of 39 chiefdoms in the province had been engulfed in succession wrangles (Times of Zambia, 10/28/2019). The wrangles were attributed to the “unquenchable desire for supremacy and a need for royal benefits that include a monthly stipend, vehicle, and a house.” Chief Matebo of the Kaonde-speaking people in Kalumbila was ejected from the Provincial Chiefs Indaba after some chiefs objected to his participation, claiming that he was not properly installed, having ascended to the throne through the courts of law (Daily Nation, 9/6/2019). However, Chief Matebo vowed to stay on the throne, arguing that as he was installed according to traditional requirements (Daily Nation, 9/9/2019). He also argued that the throne was his birthright, and no one would dethrone him (Other, 9/10/2019).

In Sibuchinga Chiefdom in Lufwanyama, wrangles emerged during the succession process of Chief Shimuchinga, who died in December 2017. The royal families submitted seven names for the succession. The Lamba-Lima Royal Establishment was concerned by the continued impasse and implored the royal family to unite and choose a successor (Daily Mail, 8/8/2019).

Chief Kahare’s death in 2018 also sparked a succession wrangle, with a group of people blocking the installation of Chief Kahare’s son, Justine Kahare, as Chief of the Nkoya people by the Barotse Royal Establishment. The group claimed that Chief Stanford Mayowe was already in the palace. This prompted the Nkoya people to ask the government to intervene (Daily Nation, 8/19/2019).

Following the installation of Eston Malisopo as the new Chief Kalunkumya, Rose Manjimela and 10 others filed a suit at the Kitwe High Court to stop the installation. However, Copperbelt Minister Japhen Mwakalombe said that the amended constitution halted the government from interfering in selecting traditional leaders and advised the people of Kalunkumya Chiefdom to work together and support the new chief (Daily Mail, 9/8/2019).

Other wrangles were reported in the installation of the University of Zambia Dean in the School of Veterinary Medicine, Professor Nalubamba, as new Chief of the Mbeza Royal Establishment in Namwala (Other, 10/3/2019), and of Chieftainess Milambo of Milambo Royal Establishment (Daily Nation, 3/6/2019), among others.

The Minister of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs, Lawrence Sicalwe, addressed the wrangles and advised members of royal families to support current chiefs and any successors and not kill them (Other,

9/11/2019). This followed the burning to death of Senior Chief Tafuna and another man to death during a succession wrangle in Mpulungu in 2016 (Other, 11/11/2019).

## **TRADITIONAL CEREMONIES**

Traditional ceremonies were held in various parts of the country. The Kulamba traditional ceremony of the Chewa-speaking people of Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia under Kalonga Gawa Undi was held at Mkaika headquarters in Katete on 8/31/2019, while the 38th Nc'wala ceremony was held on February 23, 2019, at Paramount Chief Mpezeni's Mtenguleni Palace.

## **TRADITIONAL GOVERNANCE**

Traditional leaders continued to play a vital role in the governance of the country through the management of their chiefdoms. To enhance traditional leaders' governance skills, Chalimbana University introduced a degree program in traditional and good governance (Daily Mail, 2/27/2019). The program is targeted at the indunas, chief retainers, headmen, and women and aims to curb retrogressive practices such as child marriages.

Chief Chipepo of Gwembe Valley recommended introducing a leadership program aimed at traditional leaders to discourage bootlicking of politicians by traditional leaders, ahead of the 2021 General Elections. Chief Chipepo, who is also the House of Chiefs Chief Whip, also proposed the addition of "rural development" to the name of the Ministry of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs to effectively improve the lives of people in rural areas (Daily Mail, 12/17/2019).

The Lamba-Lima Royal Council of Zambia made plans to make investors in Lamba-land chiefdoms to sign contracts because the government had not helped the traditional leadership in speaking to investors. Bemoaning the underdevelopment in the area despite having many investors, Council Executive Secretary Josphat Nsundwe accused the government of taking Lambas as second-class people, through the denial of university education, fair employment, and political acceptance in national positions. He said that the executive felt dehumanized on its people's behalf, since the investors had not done enough, and only paid "lip service" to the Lamba-land community (The Mast, 4/24/2019).

# LAND ADMINISTRATION

## LAND ADMINISTRATION SYSTEMS

Improvements in land administration saw a move from manual to an online system in the process of acquiring and reviewing building permits at the LCC. The automation of the construction permit system at LCC aimed at achieving sustainable improvement in the issuance of construction and other related permits (Daily Nation, 1/11/2019). LCC also phased out hard copy applications for permission to develop, subdivide, and change of land use. The council advised clients to submit their applications online and monitor the progress online at their convenient time and place (Times of Zambia, 7/3/2019). The new system was applauded by Lusaka residents, who anticipated more efficient land administration and a reduction in corruption (Daily Nation, 7/7/2019).

Mapping exercises were conducted by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) and the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development. CSO carried out pilot mapping to determine the use of satellite imagery and technology. Acting Director Goodson Sinyenga said the main objectives of the census mapping were to compile a frame or list of all housing units, and other structures within an enumeration area for the enumerators to have easy access. He added that the methodology would be a success in the 2020 Census (Daily Nation, 4/30/2019). At the Ministry of Mines, 61 percent of the country was geologically mapped to ascertain the country's available resources. The Chinese geological survey completed the mapping in Northern, Luapula, and Muchinga Provinces. However, the program stalled due to a lack of funding to the Geological Department (Daily Nation, 6/18/2019).

## LAND OFFERS

Local authorities across the country advertised land in their jurisdictions within the papers, and traditional leaders were asked by councils to avail customary land for development. While not all councils offers were recorded in the paper, publishing the opening of newly planned plots in the major papers was common. Land was advertised by the district councils of Chibombo, Chitambo, Choma, Kabompo, Kalulushi, Lavushimanda, Livingstone, Luanshya, Manyinga, Nalolo, Ndola, Nyimba, Senga, and Shang'ombo. The plots offered ranged from low to high cost. However, In Ndola, the city council was advised to desist from selling land because it already has a massive backlog of other fully paid up developers yet to be allocated land. Activist for Justice and Development said it was illegal, and unacceptable for the local authority to float plots when it had a backlog of applicants with legal documents still on the waiting list (Times of Zambia, 5/9/2019). In the same city, applicants attending interviews complained about the slow pace of the selection process. Some suspected that agents were trying to cash in on the situation by promising to quicken the process for any applicant willing to pay them (Daily Nation, 5/17/2019).

## SPECIAL OFFERS OF LAND

The country's president was reported to have received land as a gift from King Mswati of Eswatini. Patriots for Economic Progress President Sean Tembo sued the state over the matter. Tembo sued the state over alleged contravention of the Anti-Corruption Act when President Lungu received a gift of land from King Mswati without declaring it to the state (Other, 1/10/2019). However, Tembo applied to have the case withdrawn in what he called the spirit of reconciliation, but Chief Advocate Mr. Joe Simachela objected to the withdrawal of the case (Daily Nation, 1/25/2019).

Other special offers of land were given to civil servants, ex-miners, and local authorities. The Police Service in Kalumbila received five hectares from Chief Mumena of the Kaonde people for the construction of houses for police officers (Daily Mail, 4/17/2019). In Chilanga, the National Institute for

Scientific Research allocated 2.6 hectares of its land to the Chilanga Council for construction of a district hospital (Daily Mail, 4/15/2019), while Chief Nkula of the Bemba people in the Chinsali District of Muchinga province gave 500 hectares of land to the government for the construction of an airport (Daily Mail, 4/23/2019). Other offers included Royal Highness Senior Chief Kalilele's grant of land on which to build housing units for a civil servant to Mushindano District Administration (Daily Nation, 7/10/2019). Former miners were also offered land in Lufwanyama. About 3,000 miners that were retrenched in 2015 on the Copperbelt were allocated land under the second phase of the Presidential Empowerment Programme (Daily Mail, 10/3/2019).

## **TITLING**

The National Titling Programme was piloted in Bauleni, where residents paid ZMW1 for their offer letters. Residents were also required to pay 20 percent of the total title deed fee of ZMW3,122.10. The balance could then be paid over three years. Title deeds would be ready 14 days after the payments had been made (Daily Nation, 7/8/2019). Since the program's launch, 60,000 title deeds had been issued by the end of 2018, according to the Minister of Lands, Jean Kapata. She said that the ministry planned on issuing 75,000 title deeds per quarter, with processing expected to take two weeks. However, Ms. Kapata added that the Ministry's capacity to produce more title deeds was hampered by inadequate information on an applicant's file, and in some cases, land officers are unable to reach the applicants (Daily Mail, 7/22/2019). The issuance at only two locations, Lusaka and Ndola, further slowed the process (Times of Zambia, 5/1/2019).

Ms. Kapata also urged councils to ensure that they submit all the required documents to the Ministry of Lands to avoid delays in the issuance of title deeds. She said this when she discovered that Siavonga and Chirundu councils had not submitted site plans to the ministry for ten years.

Not everyone welcomed the issuance of title deeds, with many arguing that the process was expensive and only aimed at benefitting local authorities in revenue collection. In Mkushi, the local authority started issuing land records as a prelude to the acquisition of title deeds. The land records cost ZMW500 for low cost, ZMW 700 for medium cost, and ZMW 1,000 for high cost, and are valid for 30 years, renewable.

## **DECENTRALIZATION AND NEW DISTRICTS**

The government of Zambia has been undertaking decentralization activities to improve service delivery across the country. Minister of Local Government Vincent Mwale said that the government had made decentralization key in its governance strategy to enhance citizens' participation in national development. The creation of new districts has resulted in particular land challenges that are not often reported on. Councils negotiate with chiefs for the allocation of land to build new district centers, which often results in conflicts. On other occasions, residents surrounding these new centers complain that they do not benefit from the district's creation, as they are moved off of their land.

The creation of Lusangazi District in Eastern Province elated Chief Nyamphande of the Nsenga people in Petauke District, who was hopeful that employment would be created for the local people once the construction of government departments commenced. In contrast, Chief Chanje of the Chewa people in Eastern Province expressed his disappointment at the Electoral Commission of Zambia's failure to consult chiefs in the delimitation of Chipangali District (Daily Nation, 8/2/2019) and called on the Commission to consult traditional leaders who are custodians of the land (Daily Mail, 8/2/2019).

President Edgar Lungu said the government was committed to developing all newly created districts in line with the decentralization program. However, he implored traditional leaders to avoid being selfish by suggesting that all the projects be undertaken in their chiefdoms.

## **REVENUE COLLECTION AND OPERATIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

Local authorities engaged in various revenue collection activities to both improve the collection rate and to explore innovative sources of revenue to run their operations. The Minister of Local Government, Vincent Mwale, said that the government had intensified the collection of land rates and other council levies by ensuring that all building and business owners were captured whether they were on the title or not (Times of Zambia, 2/20/2019). Further, Local Government Association of Zambia President Christopher Kang'ombe said that to increase the revenue base, councils, would require property owners with only offer letters to pay rates, deviating from the Rating Act's provision that property rates were only collectible from those with title deeds (Times of Zambia, 4/25/2019). Local authorities were further advised to partner with the private sector to sustain their operations. Muchinga Province Minister Malozo Sichone implored local authorities to establish businesses and improve service delivery to enhance their revenue collection (Daily Nation, 6/24/2019).

Other sources of revenue were hailed for their contribution to income for local authorities. The Land Development Fund was said to have aided service delivery in Rufunsa, Chilanda, Chikankata, Chirundu, and Siavonga (Times of Zambia, 1/11/2019). Different strategies were employed by local authorities to improve revenue collection. For example, Solwezi Municipal Council offered a 30 percent waiver on unpaid rates to encourage property owners to settle their bills. The council complained about non-compliance by commercial property owners, which resulted in the council being owed over ZMW 5 million, and hoped that the waiver would encourage many to settle their bills (Daily Nation, 6/26/2019).

However, rates remained a key source of revenue for the local authorities, and many undertook rating valuation rolls in 2019. The rolls were conducted in Chavuma and Kasempa, North-Western Province (Daily Nation, 8/13/2019); Kabwe, Central Province where the number of rateable properties increased from 11,411 to 15,234, signifying an increase in collectible rates from ZMW4,632,800 to ZMW84,000,000 (Times of Zambia, 2/22/2019); and Isoka, Muchinga Province (Times of Zambia, 3/13/2019).

Some districts reported an increase in revenue, with Livingstone City Council collecting over ZMW58.5 million out of the ZMW74.9 million budget estimate of 2018, signifying a 78 percent collection rate (Daily Mail, 2/27/2019). In Chipangali, the Town Council resolved to award an annual 2.5 percent of collected rates to Paramount Chief Kalonga Gawa Undi and Paramount Chief Mpezeni's Royal Establishments in royalties in recognition of the challenges of acquiring land within this area (The Mast, 12/9/2019).

A misapplication of funds was noted at the Ministry of Lands, according to the 2018 Auditor General's report. Over ZMW500,000 meant for the survey of properties was redirected to the international boundary reaffirmation exercise. Ministry of Lands Permanent Secretary Ndashe Yumba said that the Ministry had planned on reimbursing the money once it received its funding (Daily Nation, 12/5/2019).

## **RESETTLEMENT**

Resettlement issues were discussed from both historical perspective and as current events. Historically, the impact of resettlements spurred by the building of the Kariba Dam drew concerns about the inadequacy of the compensation paid to those who were displaced, including the socio-economic impacts of the resettlement (Daily Nation, 2/12/2019; 1/3/2019; 1/14/2019; 1/11/2019). The Zambia Air Force made plans to resettle retired officers to prevent destitution. The Air Force intended to secure land in different parts of the country for this purpose (Daily Mail, 7/10/2019).

## **COMPULSORY ACQUISITION**



Cases of compulsory acquisition of land for public use have risen to the surface in numerous cases, where leaseholds are taken back by the government, but the resulting use of the land is argued to not be for public use. A long-standing compulsory acquisition case that dominated the headlines was the Baobab land that was acquired in 1987 for public use – the construction of a housing estate and residential plots for civil servants. However, the land has subsequently been used for private purposes. Jonathan Van Blerk had for more than 30 years fought against the parceling and selling of the acquired land to Legacy Holdings Ltd, a private entity, for the construction of a hotel and golf course. Mr. Van Blerk argued that the land was being used for purposes other than for which it was acquired. The Court of Appeal dismissed Mr. Van Blerk's attempt to reopen his challenge against the compulsory acquisition. The court said that the matter had already been heard and determined (The Mast, 1/21/2019).

Another controversial compulsory acquisition was of Horizon Schools. Controversy surrounded threats of acquisition of this high-value property in Lusaka, with allegations of influence from the Turkish government (Daily Nation, 12/13/2019). According to the Daily Nation, the school was allegedly run by the Gülen Movement, an organization run by Fethullah Gülen, who had been accused of attempting a 2016 coup d'état in Turkey. Horizon Education Trust Board Chairperson Leslie Mbula said there were also allegations of political interest in the private acquisition of the land. Minister of Lands and Natural Resources Jean Kapata dismissed these and other allegations of the school being given to a private investor. Mbula demanded that US\$4.3 million, the value of the school's fixed assets and land, be paid to the school's investors. The school was built on Ministry of Education land at the Kabulonga Secondary School site.

## **DELIMITATION**

Delimitation activities across the country caused some land disputes, particularly in relation to boundaries. In Luapula Province, chiefs were concerned that delimitation exercises by the government would result in their land being taken over by neighboring chiefdoms (Daily Nation, 7/23/2019).

In Rufunsa, residents differed over the names of the two constituencies (Rufunsa West and Rufunsa East) that were created and on the proposed boundary. Kenneth Chipungu, a representative of Rufunsa West, suggested that the area be called Chinyunyu because of the significance of the name, pointing to the Chinyunyu Hot Springs, which is a national heritage site (Daily Nation, 8/8/2019).

The exercise turned violent between Kalulushi and Chambishi residents, prompting those tasked with getting submissions to abandon the process. Confuse arose when Chambishi residents accused Kalulushi residents of trying to change boundaries that separate Kalulushi Central and Chambishi (Daily Mail, 9/3/2019). The Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) also suspended the delimitation exercise in Zambezi District because of the tribal confusions that erupted between the Lundas and Luales during the meeting. ECZ's Director for Information and Communications Technology, Dylan Kasonde, said that the Zambezi District would not be demarcated because ECZ would not have time and resources to re-conduct the exercise (Daily Mail, 9/11/2019).



# LAND-RELATED CONFLICT

## LAND ALLOCATION DISPUTES

Various disputes regarding land allocation were reported reflecting reported corruption, poor management of records, and challenges in coordination between local councils and the Ministry of Lands, as presented in Table 2 below.

**TABLE 2. LAND ALLOCATION DISPUTES**

Newspaper and Date	Dispute	Where	Resolved?
Daily Nation, 8/31/19	Zambia Police senior officers were accused of demarcated and shared plots at the place which used to be a rifle range.	Lilayi, Lusaka	The Ministry of Lands, Provincial Planning Office, and Kafue Town Council documents showed that the right procedures were followed in acquiring the land.
Daily Mail, 5/13/19	Residents of Zambezi Ward in Livingstone complained about the land allocation processes, which they claimed was marred by nepotism and partisan politics in favor of the United Party for National Development. Zambezi Ward Task Force chairperson Declaine Chaiwila alleged that out of the 38 beneficiaries, more than 30 were party members.	Zambezi Ward, Livingstone	Livingstone City Council Public Relations Manager Melvin Mukela refuted the claims, saying that the local authority follows strict guidelines in the allocation of plots.
Daily Mail, 5/30/19	Two Lusaka residents were allocated the same piece of land. Muhammed of Cardinal Distributors obtained the land from the Ministry of Lands while Luo Zhiuing of Far Eastern Restaurant acquired the land from LCC.	Kafue Road, Lusaka	Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo directed the Ministry of Lands and LCC to coordinate land allocation processes.
Daily Mail, 7/9/19	Livingstone Mayor Eugene Mapuwo and two United Party for National Development councilors were beaten by angry youths in Kasiya ward over land allocation. According to a police source, the youth also beat two land surveyors at Livingstone City Council.	Kasiya Ward, Livingstone	The matter was reported to the police for investigations.
Times of Zambia, 4/25/19	Forty-eight people took the Ndola City Council to Ndola High Court, claiming that they were the rightful owners of the Dola Hill area plots. The claim was made to restrain the council from repossessing or reselling the plots to other people. The council later re-advertised the land when it had already been offered to the 48 plaintiffs.	Dola Hill, Ndola	Unknown
Daily Nation, 11/27/19	Political Adviser to the President Kaizer Zulu was involved in a land dispute in which	Mikango, Lusaka	Unknown

	he claimed that he owned the land in the Mikango area which Anderson Phiri was claiming to be his. Mr. Zulu said that Mr. Phiri, together with some Ministry of Lands officials, allegedly connived and were under probe for fraud. Zulu said he applied for the land in 2013. However, he was informed by the Ministry of Lands that the file for the disputed land had gone missing.		
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Chief Justice Ireen Mambilima appealed to the Appeals Tribunal to speedily resolve existing land wrangles in many parts of the country. Justice Mabilima said that the Appeals Tribunal should diligently serve the interests of the nation by promoting orderly development. She added that the decentralization of the Appeals Tribunal would help speed up the adjudication of planning disputes (Daily Mail, 8/29/2019).

## BOUNDARY DISPUTES

Conflicts over customary boundaries are ubiquitous across Zambia, particularly during the planting and field preparation season, and around new building efforts within district municipalities. Most of these are only reported at the national level when they reach a particularly large scale. In general boundary disputes are resolved at the local level, either between families, with the support of traditional courts, or through discussions with the council. Boundary disputes were reported in both urban and rural areas. Across the country, the lack of nationally agreed chiefdom boundaries has resulted in numerous longstanding disputes among traditional leaders. In Kalumbila District a dispute between Chief Matebo and Chief Mumena's subjects became violent. The dispute arose when Chief Mumena was conducting a routine inspection of the Lunsala area along the boundary between Matebo and Mumena Chiefdoms. A fight broke out when Chief Mumena's entourage reached the new Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation (ZAFFICO) plantation; four houses and some kiosks were burned (Daily Nation, 9/13/2019).

In Libuyu Ward in Livingstone, a boundary dispute between the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and Libuyu Market Committee was resolved after it was established that the church was claiming more land than it was allocated. However, it was also discovered that charcoal traders had encroached on a part of the church's land. Libuyu Ward Councillor Isaac Lichaha said that the church would be compensated with alternative land (Daily Mail, 7/31/2019).

Senior Chief Kalilele of Mushindano District in North-Western Province advised traditional leaders to resolve boundary disputes without causing bitter rivalries.

## DISPLACEMENTS

Over 2,000 people were displaced in different circumstances across the country that were reported in the papers. The cases span protected areas, leasehold land within customary areas, and urban disagreements. There are undoubtedly numerous additional displacements that have not been reported in the papers. Table 3 below details the displacement cases identified in the papers.

**TABLE 3. CASES OF DISPLACEMENT**

Newspaper and Date	Case	Where	Number Displaced	Action
Times of Zambia, 1/4/19	Ricardo Farm obtained a court order to evict squatters	Vubwi, Eastern Province	219	Vubwi District Commissioner Enelesi Banda said the government had engaged

				Chief Pembamoyo of the Chewa people in Eastern Province to help allocate land to the victims.
Times of Zambia, 7/9/19	Families displaced from a national park. Chief Hamusonde of the Tonga people of Monze said that the security team did not consult him as the custodian of the affected families.	Likeng'a Fishing Camp, Lochinvar National Park	610	Monze District Commissioner Cyprian Hamanyanga assured the affected families that the government would ensure the needs of the affected families are met. The Commissioner advised people to avoid settling in the protected areas and adhere to the government's directives to relocate from national parks and move to a piece of land the chief would provide.
Daily Mail, 7/11/19	Over 500 people were displaced from land belonging to a private developer in Soweto Township, Chingola. The residents had settled on the land in 2012 and had been ordered by the courts to vacate in 2016. Attempts to resolve the matter out of court did not work.	Chingola	500	Chingola Municipal Council Mayor, Titus Tembo, said that the local authority was looking for a piece of land to relocate the residents. He said the local authority was waiting for officials from the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to meet the affected people and urged the affected residents not to panic while their relocation to a permanent area was being handled.
Daily Mail, 9/7/19	Squatters asked the Lusaka High Court to grant them an order of injunction restraining John Kelly (a farmer), Kwathu Farms, and Attorney General Likando Kalaluka from evicting them from the land they have occupied for over 40 years until September 4, 2019, when unknown people, directed by a senior police officer, entered their houses and threw their personal possessions. The residents sought a declaration that the certificate of title linking to the farm be canceled because its issuance was done without their consideration.	Lusaka West	400	Unknown
Daily Mail, 10/1/19	Over 100 farmers who had settled on land across Kafue River in Kitwe for allegedly over 20 years were displaced following the Kitwe City	Kitwe	100	The farmers appealed to the government to find them alternative land where they could continue farming and were relocated

	Council's subdivision of the said land into commercial and residential plots.			
Times of Zambia, 6/14/19	100 Chiyaba villagers in the Nampundwe area under Chief Shakumbila in Shakumbila district were displaced after a man who claimed to own 100 hectares of land visited the area with two police officers and claimed to have a court order to evict the villagers. The police officers and some cadres burned down thatched houses and destroyed their properties.	Shakumbila	100	The victims called on the government to intervene in the matter and provide alternative land and help compensate them.

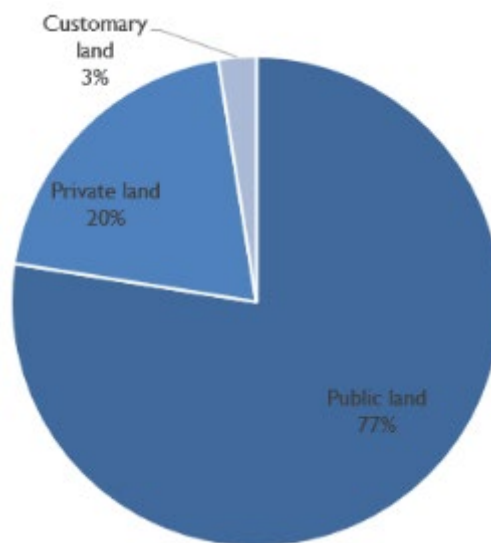
## ENCROACHMENTS

During the year, encroachments were reported in various parts of the country and occurred mostly on public land. Of the 40 incidences reported, 77 percent were on public land, while 20 percent were on private land and three percent on customary land. Public land encroached included road reserves, rail lines, riverbanks, national parks and forests, water, and electric lines. Several of the incidences led to demolitions in Kitwe, Lusaka, Ndola, and Siavonga. Figure 1 below represents the reported encroachments in 2019.

Some highly debated encroachments included activities at Munali Secondary School where the government expressed anger and indignation at the encroachments. It was not clear under what circumstances the land was allocated, but Munali Ward 33 Councillor, Sylvester Mulenga, said that he was surprised that the government was not aware of the development yet the developers claimed they have title to the land (Times of Zambia, 11/4/2019). The Minister of Local Government, Charles Banda, said investigations by the ministry and other relevant authorities revealed that the structures were built illegally and should, therefore, be demolished (Daily Mail, 12/6/2019). However, other investigations revealed that the private developments had been legalized by the Lusaka City Council on instructions from the Ministry of General Education. Lusaka Town Clerk Alex Mwansa said the local authority was asked to redesign and re-plan the land and incorporate the encroachers. Mr. Mwansa said that those who had encroached on the land, which had been reserved for expansion, were now legal owners; however, he confirmed that new instructions to reverse the decision had been received from the Ministry of General Education (Daily Nation, 11/5/2019). This case continued well into 2020.

In another incident, Zambia Airports Corporation Limited (ZACL) sued the Ministry of Defence through the Attorney General for allegedly trespassing on its land at Lusaka's Kenneth Kaunda International Airport. This was in a claim made by ZACL that on March 1, 2015, a certificate of title was issued in its name, but the Ministry of Defence constructed pillars on the land, amounting to trespassing.

**FIGURE 1: INCIDENTS OF ENCROACHMENT**



In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, ZACL seeks an order stating that the Ministry of Defence immediately demolish all developments made and vacate the land for expansion works of the airport without disruption, hindrance, or disturbance (Daily Nation, 1/10/2019).

Several structures that were erected on water infrastructure in Minsundu area in Ndola were demolished by Ndola City Council. Ndola Town Clerk Wisdom Bwalya said residents in the area were erecting buildings on land that held the Kafubu Water and Sewerage Company (KWSC) installations with 11 commercial boreholes. Mr. Bwalya said the commercial boreholes were supplying water to half the population of Ndola and that if the area was not protected, the city risked running out of underground water (Daily Nation, 12/4/2019).

The Lusaka City Council (LCC) demolished illegal structures built around the Bombay Drainage. LCC Public Relations Manager George Sichimba said that owners of the affected structures were issued with enforcement notices but refused to comply. The demolished structures were illegally constructed around the drainage buffer zone, which made it difficult for free movement of equipment during drainage cleaning (Daily Mail, 11/11/2019).

Other encroachments and demolitions were reported in Kitwe when a combined team of Kitwe City Council and state police demolished three structures that had been constructed on Zambia Army land at Mawlaik Barracks (Daily Nation, 8/23/2019).

Some developments encroached on water lines as the case was in Ndola. Kafubu Water and Sewerage Company Distribution Manager Godfrey Malwa said works to install water pipes in Ndola's Hillcrest residential area behind Levy Mwanawasa Stadium had been interrupted by approximately 30 to 50 residents that have illegally constructed buildings along water lines (Daily Nation, 10/15/2019).

A Ward Councillor of Kamulanga Ward, Jonas Phiri, was accused of illegally demarcating land in Lilayi, Lusaka. The Councillor was alleged to have deceptively informed the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources that the residents had consented to the demarcation. The demarcations were alleged to have occurred on road reserves and land where beacons had already been mounted. The act was revealed following reports to the ACC by the community and when a Lusaka resident, Mwansa Mbulakulima, who is also a member of parliament (MP) for Milenge, and Kabwata MP Given Lubinda visited the area (Daily Mail, 5/8/2019). However, Jonas Phiri challenged the claims in a May 10, 2019 Daily Nation article (Councillor challenges illegal land sale claims) where he claimed that the reports by Mr. Mbulakulima were false. He argued that the land allocation was approved by LCC through the Planning Committee in 2017 and ratified by a full council meeting without his involvement. He added that he had no powers to influence the plot allocation as claimed by Mr. Mbulakulima, further stating that those who were allocated plots in the area followed the required procedures. Mr. Phiri added that the LCC and the Ministry of Lands operate independently and could not be influenced by individuals.

Similarly, the Minister of Tourism and Arts, Charles Banda, disclosed that some senior people occupying influential political and traditional leadership positions were hindering efforts to address encroachments in national parks. Some reports revealed that politicians had been illegally allocating land while some traditional leaders are encouraging encroachments to compensate for lack of land for agriculture and resettlement. Mr. Banda said that the encroachments have led to human-animal conflicts. He added that the Ministry of Tourism was developing a master plan that will provide a platform for stakeholders to find means of safeguarding national parks through conservation and protection of the resources (Daily Nation, 6/14/2019).

However, founding Patriotic Front member Beatwell Chisala advised local authorities to be proactive and tactful in how they dealt with issues related to encroachments and demolishing illegal structures. He said that the councils should ensure that people do not acquire land illegally as it is wrong to demolish a

structure at the completion level when people had wasted their resources, and yet the situation could have been prevented at the foundation level (Daily Nation, 8/7/2019).

# NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Several programs aimed at protecting natural resources were initiated and underway in 2019, as highlighted in Table 4.

**TABLE 4. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

Newspaper and Date	Project	Beneficiaries/Aim	Funder	Value
Times of Zambia, 5/3/19	Purchase of 12 brand new Nissan patrol pickups	DNPW, conservation, management, research, and veterinary activities in Chilanga, Chongwe, Lusaka National park, Kabwe, Serenje, Lochinvar, Blue Lagoon, Kaputa, Chembe in Kalulushi, Chunga, and Ngoma	Zambian government	ZMW5 million
Daily Mail, 4/23/19	Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project (ZIFL-P) <sup>1</sup>	Reducing deforestation and unsustainable agricultural expansion, nine Eastern Province districts of Sinda, Katete, Petauke, Lundazi, Chipata, Mambwe, Chadiza, Nyimba, and Vubwi. The ZIFL-P partnered with the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture and DNPW	World Bank	USD32.8 million
Daily Mail, 4/26/19	Memorandum of understanding between the Zambian government and the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC)	Provide conservation education, training, and skills development in southern Africa. establishment of the Chunga Ranger Training Base in Kafue National Park as a satellite training site for SAWC. In partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and Arts staff, stakeholders in the wildlife management sector, and future conservation leaders.	Zambian government and SAWC	-
Daily Mail, 5/20/19	Transforming Landscape for Resilience and	To improve natural resources management in communities and	World Bank	USD100 million

<sup>1</sup> Eastern Province Permanent Secretary, Buleti Nsemukila is concerned that ZIFL-P has failed to use the US\$32.8 million money that government borrowed from the World Bank to improve the livelihood of people in the rural communities in the region. Speaking during a meeting with small-scale farmers in Lumezi District, Dr. Nsemukila said the money was lying idle in the bank, adding that the government project was ending in three years' time, but people in the province had not been empowered (Daily Mail, 11/25/2019).

	Development (TRALAD)	supporting the sustainable use of natural resources for livelihoods. activities are designed to reverse forest, and land degradation and will improve infrastructure for communities' resilience enhancement to climatic shock. Across 16 districts: Chifunabuli, Kawambwa, Lunga, Nchelenge, Samfya, Chama, Lavushimanda, Mpika, Mafinga, Isoka, Kanchibaya, Chilubi, Mbala, Mungwi, Mpulungu, and Nsama		
Daily Mail, 7/5/19	Forest plantation	To set up a 5,000-hectare forest plantation to contribute to natural resources protection and employment creation. In Mwinilunga, Mushindano, and Mufumbwe in the North-western province	ZAFFICO	5,000 jobs
Daily Mail, 7/9/19	COMACO carbon crediting scheme	Forest protection by promoting climate-smart agriculture, value addition, and the transformation of poachers into conservation farmers. Focused on small-scale farmers in Chipata, Eastern Province	COMACO	USD400,000
Daily Mail, 6/26/19	Rehabilitation and long-term management of Liuwa Plain in Western Province	Supporting 28 schools that provide education to more than 11,000 students; and offering 89 scholarships.	African Parks	123 full-time and 104 seasonal workers (90 percent local)
Times of Zambia, 1/10/19	ZIFL-P	To support enterprises in agriculture, forestry, and wildlife management focused on small enterprises in Eastern Province	World Bank	USD1.5 million
Daily Nation, 6/27/19	Kasanka French Facility for Global Environment Project	Support for wildlife protection in Kasanka National Park in Serenje	US and French governments	USD1.7 million
Daily Nation, 2/25/19	Conservancy Project	Ensuring viable natural resource management and	Project Wildlife	1,600 wild species; 26 locals employed as game scouts



		support wildlife conservation in Simahala Wildlife Conservancy		
Times of Zambia, 10/3/19	Donation of 2,240 solar charging and lighting kits	To alleviate the energy challenges that affected the efficient delivery of wildlife conservation services with DNPW	Atlas Mara	ZMW500,000
Daily Nation, 9/13/19	Memorandum of understanding between the Zambian and Israeli governments	Conservation of biodiversity and protection of wildlife and nature in the two countries of Zambia and Israel	Zambian and Israeli governments	-

### DEGAZETTED FOREST RESERVE

The degazetting of Forest Reserve 27 in Lusaka East in Lusaka sparked intense debates, not only regarding the conservation of the forest but also concerning the allocation of plots on the degazetted portion. According to Ministry of Lands Permanent Secretary Ndashe Yumba, 477 hectares of the 1,764 hectares forest were partially degazetted, with 716 hectares retained to preserve Chalimbana River and its tributaries (Other, 8/16/2019). The beneficiaries of the plots included high-ranking officials in the government such as Vice President Inonge Wina, Chief Justice Ireen Mambilima, Speaker of the National Assembly Patrick Matibini, and Minister of Lands Jean Kapata.

The strongest opposition came from environmentalist and former Environment and Natural Resources Minister, William Harrington, and climate change activist Robert Chimambo. The two called for the constitution of a tribunal to investigate allegations against Minister of Lands Jean Kapata's breach of the Parliamentary and Ministerial Code of Conduct Act Chapter 16 of the Laws of Zambia when she acquired a plot in the area (Other, 8/2/2019). Ms. Kapata denied that she had allocated herself a plot, saying that as a minister, she had no authority to allocate land as that was the duty of the Commissioner of Lands (Daily Nation, 8/14/2019).

The Ministry of Lands also defended not having advertised the land before plots were allocated. Land Permanent Secretary Ndashe Yumba explained that no law states that the Commissioner of Lands should advertise whenever land is available as this was only required of local authorities, according to the Land Administration Circular of 1985. He added that the Ministry of Lands, through the Commissioner of Lands, administers or allocates property directly to those who apply through the office and is not obliged to advertise plots (Other, 8/22/2019).

Despite the opposition and public outcry, construction in the degazetted forest commenced with Lusaka Town Clerk Alex Mwansa confirming that seven developers were authorized to begin construction on the controversial land (Daily Nation, 11/25/2019). However, Lusaka City Council councilors expressed shock at revelations that the local authority had authorized some developers to commence construction on the controversial Forest 27 land. The councilors claimed that they did not sit to approve the development applications and wondered what the criteria for what Mr. Mwansa referred to as approval for seven developers to go ahead with construction (Daily Nation, 11/26/2019).

### MUKULA

The intense debate on mukula logs led to their confiscation by the government and a ban on their exportation. The seized mukula logs were sold and exported by ZAFFICO (Times of Zambia, 1/12/2019). The government raised over US\$4 million from the auctioned mukula logs and invested the funds into revamping ZAFFICO and expanding the Kawambwa Tea project (Daily Mail, 6/20/2019). Following a report by the Financial Intelligence Centre, which revealed that illegal export trade of mukula amounted to ZMW4.4 million in 2017, the government planned on setting up a platform for trading in timber, especially mukula, to help in diversifying the revenue base (Daily Mail, 5/3/2019). The government also targeted the country's transit position to benefit more than K8 million for facilitating the transportation of 3,400 40-foot containers loaded with mukula logs from the Democratic Republic of Congo destined for export to China. The program was expected to promote sustainable forest management by ensuring that no local illegally harvested timber was exported under the arrangement. She further said that defense and security officers would continue to monitor timber harvesting and transportation in Zambia (Daily Nation, 3/13/2019).

Minister of Lands and Natural Resources Jean Kapata said that no single mukula log could leave Zambia without the knowledge of the Central Joint Operations Committee on Mukula and a special team of officers from different security wings constituted to ensure accountability. Ms. Kapata said the committee had also put in strict measures for mukula transiting through Zambia, which was escorted by the joint security team from the point of entry up to the exit borders (Daily Nation, 12/7/2019).

Despite the ban, many traders continued to trade in timber illegally. In Manyinga, Acting District Forestry Officer Anthony Mwewa disclosed that illegal traders of timber terrorized the district. He said that the government had only issued five timber licenses to timber traders, but several truckloads of timbers had been transporting the logs secretly outside the district without permission. The Forestry Department in the district arrested about 20 illegal traders and confiscated and auctioned 400 blocks of timber (Times of Zambia, 7/3/2019). In Lusaka, a Chinese national sued a businessman for failing to honor their agreement, which was made on April 15, 2017, to procure and process the shipment of mukula logs to China. Yi Shi Lei paid Emmanuel Jay Banda US\$117,150 to supply the mukula logs, which Banda failed to honor.

One of the biggest controversies regarding illegal trade in mukula logs was the implication of President Edgar Lungu and other senior officials in the act by the Environmental Investigative Agency (EIA). Others implicated were the president's daughter, Tasila, Justice Minister Given Lubinda, Lands Minister Jean Kapata, and Senior Chief Nkula. Washington DC-based EIA warned that if the mukula cartel was not derailed, the rosewood species would soon be extinct in Zambia (The Mast, 12/7/2019). However, Chief Nkula allegedly told the Mast that President Lungu permitted him to export 100 containers of mukula because he had earlier allowed politicians to cut the tree in his chieftom without his knowledge (The Mast, 12/7/2019).

The "mukula cartel" allegations were denied by those implicated with threats of a court action. Young African Leaders Initiative President Andrew Ntewewe defended the president, saying the EIA's agenda and that of its opposition partners was to incite the Zambian public to rise against a legitimately elected administration led by President Lungu. Mr. Ntewewe said the EIA was simply an economic hitman preying on the minds of innocent institutions and inciting Zambians to rise against each other and to link the Zambian presidency to the mukula trade (The Mast, 12/20/2019).

## **LAND FOR INVESTMENT**

Various land-based investments were undertaken during the year. Correctional facilities in Lusaka were leased to investors. The move was made to modernize the facilities with the capacity to house skills training centers for inmates (Daily Nation, 1/3/2019). In Ndola, Mayor Amon Chisenga said the city was

ready to offer land and infrastructure to investors who could contribute to economic development (Times of Zambia, 3/1/2019).

In Southern Province, Edify Hamukale urged council secretaries in the region to secure land for investment projects that would emanate from hosting the provincial investment expo, which was to be held from September 9th to 15th, 2019. He said the province could specialize in timber processing in Kazungula, maize processing in Kalombo, cage fishing in Gwembe and Sinazongwe, and milk, cheese, and butter processing in Namwala, Mazabuka, and Monze (Daily Mail, 3/13/2019). Chiefs in North-Western Province pledged to avail land to investors to encourage development. Chief Ishima Sakeni of Zambezi District said the North-Western traditional leaders were ready to provide land for the investment (The Mast, 5/15/2019).

## **WILDLIFE & POACHING**

Poaching was reported in various parts of the country. According to Ministry of Tourism and Arts Public Relations Officer Sakabilo Kalebwe, the illegal trade in bush meat is the biggest threat to wildlife in Zambia in comparison to the trade in rhino horns and ivory. Kalebwe hoped that jailing and fining offenders would deter those involved in the practice (Daily Nation, 2/8/2019).

To control poaching, several initiatives were introduced. The DNPW launched the “This is not a Game” campaign in 2017. The campaign was aimed at educating the public on the dangers of illegal trade in bush meat and encouraging Zambians to say no to illegal bush meat (Daily Nation, 2/8/2019). The Department also recruited 18 village scouts in West Lunga National Park in Manyinga. The scouts were provided with the necessary equipment to enable them to conduct patrols effectively in game management areas (Times of Zambia, 7/3/2019). In Nkeyama district, NutriAid Trust, a local organization providing enterprise development to agricultural small and medium-sized enterprises, spearheaded a program aimed at curbing poaching in the Kafue National Park. Targeted at women and youths, the program’s 300 beneficiaries each received two goats (male and female) to increase goat farming in the area and discouraging poaching (Daily Mail, 7/5/2019). Also, through a UNDP initiative, 30 former poachers in Mumbwa were provided with farming implements to enable them to engage in other sources of livelihood (Daily Mail, 8/4/2019).

Despite these initiatives, poaching was reported in various parts of the country: a farmer of Itezhi-Tezhi’s Samudengo area of Chief Shimbizi in Central Province, George Mabuku, 60, was found with a case to answer in a matter in which he was accused of possessing a lion’s skeleton and a piece of elephant tusk worth ZMW142,000 (Times of Zambia, 2/22/2019). A 33-year old fisherman from Hanyimbo village in Chief Munyumbwe in Monze District pleaded not guilty to unlawful possession of a live pangolin (Daily Nation, 5/31/2019). Officers from law enforcement agencies found fresh Lechwe skins from law enforcement agencies during the displacement of 610 people from Lochinvar National Park in Monze District (Daily Mail, 6/19/2019). Further, a 57-year-old security guard at Sikoongo Health Post in Chirundu District was sentenced to five years imprisonment with hard labor after he pleaded guilty to being in possession of two live pangolins (Daily Nation, 6/21/2019), while the Court of Appeal upheld the five-year jail sentence imposed on Chrispin Mukuka of Mongu for being in possession of civet skin (Times of Zambia, 9/6/2019). A suspected poacher was killed by security officers of HKY Security Services at Wangwa Farms in Chibombo District of Central Province (Times of Zambia, 2/12/2019).

Cross-border poaching was also reported; the Chipata Magistrate’s Court sentenced a Malawian and a Mozambican to six years imprisonment with hard labor for unlawful possession of a live pangolin worth ZMW35,000 (Other, 8/6/2019). In a more elaborate operation, the government observed that a well-organized international syndicate was airlifting wildlife from Zambia and trafficking it to other countries (Daily Mail, 2/15/2019).

Some poachers fought back by burning down a house belonging to COMACO's Cooperative Chairperson, Webster Kaira, whom they suspected of informing the DNPW on poaching of animals in the District (Daily Mail, 8/5/2019). However, Minister of Tourism and Arts Dr. Charles Banda encouraged the exposure of poachers when he urged Southern Province Minister Dr. Edify Hamukale to report individuals involved in poaching activities. Some government officials and civic and traditional leaders were suspected of poaching (Daily Mail, 4/17/2019). Dr. Banda warned poachers and illegal wildlife traders that law enforcement officers would soon catch them (The Mast, 5/27/2019).

## **DEFORESTATION AND CHARCOAL PRODUCTION**

Between 2000 and 2014, Zambia lost more than 270,000 hectares of forestry annually (Times of Zambia, 2/1/2019) and continued to record deforestation due to charcoal burning and other purposes. One of the most devastating acts of deforestation was recorded in Siavonga's Mutolong'ana Bird Sanctuary, which was invaded by charcoal burners. The sanctuary is one of the few remaining areas of intact Mopane woodland in the Zambezi Valley and is a breeding ground of the African Pitta.

Various government, civic, and traditional leaders denounced the growing trend of tree cutting in many parts of the country. House of Chiefs committee chairperson Senior Chief Inshindi of Zambezi District, told the parliamentary committee that there is a need to closely monitor the timber business by introducing forest rangers from within the community to mitigate the fast depleting forests and appreciate the importance of planting more trees to sustain the environment (Times of Zambia, 2/1/2019). Chikupili of Mkushi District called on collaboration between the government and traditional leaders in discouraging the practice. Siavonga District Commissioner Lovemore Kanyama encouraged charcoal producers to engage in farming and directed the Forestry Department to apprehend charcoal burners. At the same time, Copperbelt Permanent Secretary Bright Nundwe ordered the eviction of the peasant farmer Miyengwe Resettlement Scheme in Masaiti District for alleged indiscriminate cutting of trees on a 20-hectare piece of land and selling them to charcoal burners. The Permanent Secretary thanked Chief Nkambo for sensitizing his subjects on the dangers of deforestation in his area. The traditional leader has since supported the government's stance to evict the farmer because his action is destroying the environment. Lamba-Lima Royal Council of Zambia Executive Chairperson Josphat Nsundwe expressed concern at the loss of thousands of hectares of land to charcoal burning and proposed the creation of "forest creation awareness centers" in every chiefdom.

In addition, Headman Hantumbu of Mazabuka called on the introduction of sensitization and awareness programs to empower locals with knowledge on forest protection. Chief Hamaundu of Pemba imposed a tree fine to discourage the cutting down of trees. Senior Chief Kanongesha of Mwinilunga also warned settlers in North-Western Province to desist from indiscriminate cutting down of trees for charcoal production and called for collaboration between the government and traditional leadership in curbing deforestation.

Several programs aimed at curbing charcoal production and deforestation were introduced in the papers this year. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-supported, Global Environment Facility-funded Forest Regeneration Project offered residents opportunities to diversify from traditional forest-based incomes such as charcoal burning and timber harvesting. Residents have taken up alternative income-earning activities, such as beekeeping, fish farming, conservation farming, gardening, briquette production, and wild mushroom drying. Another program is implemented through a memorandum of understanding between Emerging Cooking Solutions Zambia Limited and the Non-Governmental Organisations' Coordinating Council. The program is aimed at empowering rural women in promoting sustainable sources of energy in the fight against deforestation. Their integrated business model targeted 200 women who were inducted as agents of change and were given the opportunity to earn an income by retailing ECS products, such as SupaMoto (a stove with a battery and solar panel).

The government also partnered with the private sector in protecting biodiversity. In collaboration with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), the Zambia conservation organization BioCarbon Partners provided training to 30 community scouts selected from 10 chiefdoms in the Luangwa-Zambezi ecosystem to help reduce wildlife crimes and deforestation.

## MINING

Discussions on mining ranged from taxation, illegal mining, revocation of licenses for dormant mines, and small-scale mining. This report mainly focuses on small-scale mining issues, as well as issues in and around customary areas.

In Eastern Province, more than 300 small-scale in Petauke District of Eastern Province applied for mining licenses. Federation of Small-Scale Miners Association of Zambia Joseph Kanyama said the miners signed up for cooperative certificates that would enable them to obtain mining licenses from the government (Times of Zambia, 1/3/2019).

Over 800 inactive mining licenses were canceled, with 874 more facing a similar fate if holders did not exculpate themselves. Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development Permanent Secretary Barnaby Mulenga said the licenses were being revoked from those holding them for speculative purposes (Daily Nation, 1/20/2019). Chief Katyetye of Isoka District welcomed the revocation of the licenses, saying that some firms involved in explorations were a drawback to the development of the mining industry. The chief also called on the Ministry of Mines and Natural Resources to consider canceling the exploration license for African Consolidated Resources Limited, which had been exploring Nkombwa Hills since 2012 without operationalizing it. He urged the ministry to consult traditional leaders before awarding exploration or mining licenses to investors (Daily Nation, 8/12/2019).

Chief Katyetye of Isoka also stopped operations at Nkombwa Mine, pending a review of the sale of the mine, which was previously owned by locals, to a Chinese firm. The chief said he felt undermined that the Ministry of Mines facilitated the transfer of ownership without consulting the traditional leadership in the area (Daily Nation, 1/29/2019).

In Kitwe's Chachacha Township, about 150 houses were on the verge of collapse due to the impact of explosions at the mines in the area. The 150 houses believed to have started cracking years before, but the government did not know which mine was responsible. Kitwe District Commissioner Binwell Mpundu said that Mopani Mines informed the government that it is not responsible for the impending calamity (The Mast, 5/30/2019).

## MINING IN LOWER ZAMBEZI NATIONAL PARK

Mwembeshi Resources Limited's proposed mining project in Lower Zambezi National Park elicited mixed reactions from different sections of society. Although many were opposed to the proposal, others argued that the economic benefits of the operations far outweighed the perceived destruction of natural resources in the park. First Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said mining operations in the

**Dormant mining licences cancelled**

By BUSINESS REPORTER  
GOVERNMENT has cancelled all non-functioning licenses for gold mining in three districts and has since issued new ones to other investors.

Permanent Secretary, Paul Chanda, said the affected districts were Vubwa, Petauke, and Rufunsa.

Mr Chanda explained that the non-functioning licenses had to be cancelled as they had been encouraging illegal gold mining in the areas.

He said the cancelled licenses had since been given to serious investors and that some had moved on site for operations.

Mr Chanda was speaking in an interview in Lusaka yesterday.

"These mining areas were given out to different prospecting miners and investors but they did not move into their areas so as a result, illegal miners invaded those areas because no one was taking care of them and no one was mining.

"So we cancelled all non-functioning mining licenses and exploration licenses. So we have cancelled and now we are giving serious prospecting miners licenses to go and explore these areas and start mining," he said.

Mr Chanda said that Government was also in the process of cancelling dormant mining licenses for other minerals in some areas.

"Initially we intended just to go in and flush out all the illegal miners in those areas we spoke about which are Vubwa, Petauke, and Rufunsa but we could not find resources. The treasury could not give us the resources we needed so we could not go in.

"So we cancelled the licenses and in certain places we have even formed cooperatives. Actually the process is ongoing and by the end of this year we would have a correct picture of what we have done and the successes we have scored," Mr Chanda said.

AVERAGE EXCHANGE RATES		
Currency	Buying	Selling
USD	10.8564	10.9064
GBP	14.2588	14.3332
EUR	12.6879	12.7518
ZAR	0.7267	0.7306

Article from the Daily Nation, January 20, 2019

Lower Zambezi valley pose a considerable threat to the wildlife and the ecosystem (Times of Zambia, 10/31/2019). In agreement, former Cabinet Minister Dipak Patel said the mining license granted to Mwembeshi Resources Limited needed to be canceled in the public interest and put an end to what he called “the unfathomable sordid saga” (The Mast, 10/28/2019). Others opposed to the project included Chief Nduka of the Nsenga people of Nyimba; Chief Chanje of the Chewa people of Chipangali; Chief Nyampande of the Nsenga people of Petauke; Zambia National Tourism Board member Richard Kachingwe (Daily Nation, 11/1/2019); the Civil Society Organizations Environmental Hub (Times of Zambia, 10/30/2019); Southern Africa Resource Watch Governance Research and Advocacy Officer Edward Lange (The Mast, 10/28/2019); and the Zambia National Student Union (The Mast, 10/31/2019). Green Party President, Peter Sinkamba, Worldwide Fund for Nature, and the Kakumbi Community Resource Board all opposed the project (Times of Zambia, 10/28/2019).

In contrast, Senior Chief Mburuma of the Nsenga-Luzi speaking people supported mining in the park, arguing that it would create employment (Daily Nation, 11/18/2019). Chief Mpuka also endorsed the project, saying that illegal mining would deplete minerals in the park and only benefitted selfish individuals, while the proposed legal mining operations would benefit the whole country (Daily Nation, 1/21/2019).

However, Minister of Tourism and Arts Ronald Chitotela said there would be no mining activities in Lower Zambezi National Park because Mwembeshi Resources Limited had no authority to begin mining activities in the area as it had not applied to the ministry to obtain authority for special conditions to begin mining in the national park. Mr. Chitotela also said the reports which Mwembeshi Resource Limited obtained from the Zambia Environmental Management Agency in 2014 expired in 2017. Mines Minister Richard Musukwa added that his ministry could not allow mining operations to take place in the Lower Zambezi as it had special considerations for game parks and forests (Daily Nation, 11/7/2019).

## MINING TAXATION

Mining companies protested the introduction of the new tax regime by threatening to scale back on operations by retrenching some employees. Finance Minister Margaret Mwanakatwe said the proposed new tax regime would enable Zambia to benefit from the upward metal prices on the international market. The minister said the measure intended to increase the take for the government by adjusting the sliding scale for mineral royalty, thereby allowing Zambia to benefit from exceptionally higher metal prices. Minister Mwanakatwe added that this would increase mineral royalty rates by 1.5 percentage points at all levels of the sliding scale, with mineral royalty currently paid on the gross value range on a sliding scale starting from four to six percent. She said the measure was intended to enhance revenue collection from mineral resources by making mineral royalty a final tax, to increase the taxable base for company income tax and thus, improve revenue collection from the mining sector (Daily Nation, 1/4/2019)

Engineering Institute of Zambia President Sydney Matamwandi called on mining companies to reconsider their position and asked them to re-examine their cost and apply chain prices (Daily Nation, 1/15/2019). Mines and Minerals Development Minister Richard Musukwa told Konkola Copper Mines not to use the new tax regime as a scapegoat given its history of struggling with operations (Daily Nation, 1/7/2019). The minister threatened to revoke the mine’s license if failed to revamp stalled operations, which the mine alluded to be due to unavailability of copper concentrates imported from other countries on account of the new tax regime (Daily Nation, 1/10/2019).

Economic Association of Zambia president Lubinda Haabazoka argued that the new tax regime was the best for the country and would bring much needed foreign exchange with special compliance from taxpayers such as the mines (Daily Nation, 1/16/2019), and was supported by his vice president, Dr.

Austin Mwangi, who said that the new regime would increase government revenue and employment (Daily Nation, 1/11/2019).

The mining industry was implored to avail accurate information on their operations to the government to ensure there was a fair share of taxes from the sector. Zambia Tax Platform (ZTP) representative Chenel Mukumba indicated that the Mineral Royal Tax at 1.5% to 10% on band increase was justifiable, especially with reductions in the corporate income tax and removal of windfall and verifiable tax. Ms. Mukumba said that it was against the backdrop of growing concerns and reports suggesting some mining companies had been concealing and deliberately giving inaccurate information and adopting aggressive tax planning and complex institutional structures to advantage them that prompted ZTP's reiteration that mining firms should pay their fair share of taxes and should refrain from taking advantage of deficiencies in state agencies tasked with monitoring them (Daily Nation, 1/18/2019).

Similarly, two chiefs called for a metallurgical audit to account for all metals leaving the country following the insufficiency of current government financial audits to determine values of ores extracted and subsequent minerals produced and exported. This followed revelations of mining companies exporting composites hiding valuable metals such as gold, cobalt, and emeralds, among others. Chief Chikwanda of Mpika said the local people should benefit from all the country's resources, while Chief Chanje of the Chewa people in Chipata backed the move to implement metallurgical audit (Daily Nation, 1/30/2019). Additionally, Zambia Republican Party and 3rd Liberation Movement leaders Wright Musoma and Enock Tonga, respectively, both demanded transparency in mine operations (Daily Nation, 1/17/2019).

In response, the government invested US\$10 million in the implementation of phase one of the Mineral Value Chain Monitoring (MVCM) as a part of the Mineral Output Statistical System, requiring mines to make online submissions of their mandatory monthly production reports to the Ministry of Mines and other government agencies. State-of-the-art equipment was installed at the Geological department under the Ministry of Mines, Zambia Bureau of Standards, and at Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA). ZRA Commissioner for Corporate Strategy Dingani Banda said the government was implementing the MVCM with the Norwegian government's and World Bank's support. Mr. Banda said the system improved compliance levels with mining companies on reporting production figures monthly with 100 percent compliance achieved at 12 major mines, and the system is to be applied next on small scale mines (Daily Nation, 1/9/2019).

## WOMEN IN MINING

Chief Nkana of the Lamba people of Lufwanyama District said it was difficult for women to work in emerald mines because they were always accused of stealing stones and hiding them in their private parts. The chief said this in response to a question from the African Peer Review Mechanism team, who wanted to know why few women were working in emerald mines in the district. The traditional leader added that some women were accused of committing adultery with their fellow employees and that others would allegedly abandon their husbands and neglect their families after getting jobs at the mine (Daily Mail, 11/26/2019).

## ILLEGAL MINING

Illegal mining activities were reported in various parts of the country. Chief Sandwe of the Nsenga people of Lusangazi District said illegal mining was still rampant in his chiefdom. The traditional leader said that the government, through Vice President, Inonge Wina, had promised that it would legalize mining in his area and that people needed to form cooperatives, but nothing much had happened since then (The Mast, 1/10/2019). Also, Chief Chanje of the Chewa people in Chipata District directed his subjects to effect a citizen's arrest on foreigners found extracting minerals at gold sites in his area. The chief said the invasion of gold sites by Malawian and Mozambicans was upsetting and urged serious



government intervention. Chief Chikwanda of Mpika District also called on the Ministry of Defence to get involved in the protection of gold sites, adding that foreign miners were taking advantage of the porous and corrupt police officers deployed at the sites (Daily Nation, 1/16/2019).

In Central Province, Chief Chitina of the Lala people of Mkushi said that prospective mining investors were invading chiefdoms. Central Province Permanent Secretary Bernard Chomba bemoaned the high levels of illegal mining in the region, while Kapiri Mphoshi District Commissioner Peter Mwiinde said there was a need to formulate a legal framework that would ensure that chiefs and district commissioners are engaged before any mining activities commenced in any district (The Mast, 2/21/2019).

The illegal miners were reported to have contaminated the water in Chang-wena Stream in Mkushi's Kanili area, rendering it unsafe for consumption. Gold and other minerals were mined and washed for purification along the Chang-wena Stream. Upper Lunsemfwa Ward Development Chairperson Golden Musoko appealed to the local authority, the Ministry of Mines, and the Ministry of Energy and Water Development to rectify the situation before it worsened (Daily Nation, 5/2/2019).

The Emerald and Semi-Precious Mining Association of Zambia's Victor Kalesha advised the government to legalize illegal mining because if left unchecked, it would seriously become a danger to the country's economy. Kalesha advised the government to identify areas affected by illegal mining and formalize such illegal activities and find means of empowering the illegal miners into artisanal small-scale miners and encourage them to form cooperatives (Daily Nation, 4/13/2019).

However, Minister of Mines and Minerals Development Richard Musukwa said the government had declared all gold sites no-go areas and was in the process of upgrading the security on all gold mines in the country (Daily Nation, 11/29/2019).

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Zambia has numerous climate change programs; the influence of these often extends into land and resource management. This report highlights a few of these, particularly those where forest, biodiversity, and water management are concerned. The government launched a climate change project called "Operationalizing the landscape approach for biodiversity benefits" in Kalabo District in Southern Province. The project, aimed at alleviating poverty through proper management of natural resources, was initiated by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and funded by the German government (Daily Mail, 5/15/2019). Eastern Province Permanent Secretary, Buleti Nsemukila, said that there was a need to scale up Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO) innovations to mitigate climate change. Dr. Nsemukila was speaking with COMACO's Country Director Dr. Lewis Dale and Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Green Innovation Centre Project Coordinator Ariana Riemann. Dr. Nsemukila said there was a need to work together and complement each other's efforts. GIZ has implemented several climate change projects in the province and has been very instrumental in integrated development plans accommodating issues of climate change in the districts. The two organizations were working on a project in Luapula, Northern, and Muchinga and planned on using the COMACO innovation from Eastern Province for conservation and mitigating environmental interventions across the country (The Mast, 6/10/2019).

## **AGROFORESTRY**

ILRG observed a range of projects/initiatives across Zambia during the year related to plantation forestry and agroforestry. This list is likely a large under-representation of the information that emerged in the newspapers, as this area was somewhat peripheral to the program goals. Nevertheless, we present a table below to highlight some of the experiences identified.



**TABLE 5. PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN THE FORESTRY AND AGROFORESTRY SECTOR**

<b>Newspaper and Date</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Aim</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Funder</b>	<b>Benefits and Value</b>
Daily Nation, 5/27/19	Zoona and Musika partnership	To expand the digital financial services as the agriculture financial market	Small-scale businesses	Norad	Collaborate with 200 small businesses across rural and peri-urban Zambia
Daily Mail, 7/9/19	Agro-forestry project	To promote agroforestry for wood and non-wood forest products	Lead farmers, government extension officers, traditional leaders, district forestry staff, and Msekere Research Institute in Katete	German government	To improve household income, and promote nutrition for both human and livestock – €1.8
Daily Nation, 5/29/19	Modern sugar plantation in Limulunga, Western Province.	Create employment, improve livelihoods, and transform Limulunga	Residents of Limulunga	The Rosenthal Group	10,000 houses to be constructed, a University in Kalabo, and 500 out-grower schemes in the Province - US\$13billion
Daily Mail, 6/11/19	10,000 hectares plantation	Create employment	Luapula Province	NAPSA	200 jobs for the locals
Daily Mail, 11/30/19	Initial Public Offering for ZAFFICO (40% floatation)	Raise capital to expand and grow plantations	Forestry sector	Public	
Daily Mail, 12/11/19	20 hectares for a coconut plantation	Boost agriculture in Southern Province	Residents of Kazungula	Local investor	USD30m
Daily Mail, 11/8/19	50,000 farmers embark on seedling planting program	To restore soil nutrients and enhance crop yields in Eastern Province	Farmers in Eastern Province	COMACO	26 million agro-forestry seedlings

## CONCLUSION

This summary has highlighted key events in tenure and resource governance in Zambia. While a select few stories dominated the front pages for weeks and months at a time, like the mukula investigation, Forest Reserve 27, the Baobab land dispute, and the Munali encroachments, many other stories emerged for a single day or in a single paragraph from across districts and chiefdoms. Yet these individual stories tell an equally consistent story, for example on chiefdom succession wrangles, or district revenue from property and land taxation, or small-scale mining licenses. Discretionary decisions on land allocation and administration, as well as a lack of transparent information available between ministries, between the district and national authorities, and between customary and state institutions, has led to numerous gaps that result in conflict among poor rural stakeholders as well as wealthy urban investors. The newspapers tend to focus on the conflicts that flare up, and there are certainly stories of success to share, such as the launching of the national titling program, and various government and civil society efforts on resource management and the rural economy. This series in upcoming years is likely to demonstrate similar issues, but hopefully, some positive advances related to the land and resource governance challenges afflicting Zambia.

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