

PRSP POVERTY MONITORING No. 1

**SUMMARY REPORT
&
DISTRICT REPORTS**

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PRSP POVERTY MONITORING NO. 1

SUMMARY REPORT

SPONSORED BY

THE CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

Compiled by

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Lusaka

June 2003

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) is Zambia's national plan for reducing poverty which has reached very high and unacceptable levels. It was drawn up by the combined efforts of all key stakeholders in the country's development efforts. These stakeholders included the government which led the process, collaborating partners and civil society which included non-governmental organizations (NGOs), churches, the academia, professional associations and the poor themselves together with their leaders. The purpose of these wide consultations was to create a sense of ownership of the document, and more importantly of its contents, namely the poverty reduction strategies which are aimed at revamping and improving the performance of the following sectors: macro-economics, agriculture, tourism, industry, mining, education, health, HIV/AIDS, gender, energy, environment, transport and communications, water and sanitation, roads infrastructure and governance.

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) were envisaged to be part and parcel of the PRSP. This was "in order to ensure that the implementation of the PRSP is on course and the desired results are achieved (PRSP, p. 136). The PRSP also worked out an appropriate mix of both intermediate and final indicators that were to be used in monitoring its interventions. However, the monitoring team did not go out with a list of already worked out indicators and set them up before the research participants. Rather, using qualitative participatory research/monitoring tools and techniques the various study communities brought out in their own words their own concerns which often were identical to the PRSP objectives and desired results; the communities made appropriate additions and emphasis to these objectives. For the qualitative participatory research tools which were used in the monitoring exercise bring out community perceptions as well as issues that are specific to the different contexts.

In October, 2002, the Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR), the umbrella organization of civil society organizations which focus on poverty eradication, took this challenge of monitoring PRSP interventions seriously and together with government, through the Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF), sponsored a qualitative participatory District Poverty Assessment whose overall objective was to generate baseline data which would be used as benchmark for subsequent monitoring and evaluation exercises of the PRSP interventions.

In May 2003 the CSPR commissioned a follow-up qualitative participatory study aimed at identifying and monitoring changes and developments which may have taken place since the October Baseline Study and which may be attributable to PRSP interventions.

1.2 Study Objectives

As already stated in Section 1.1 above, the overall purpose of PRSP monitoring "is to ensure that the implementation of the PRSP is on course and the desired results are achieved (PRSP, p. 136). The objective of the May 2003 monitoring exercise was precisely to perform this function by assessing the developments that have taken place since the October 2002 Baseline Study. It must here be mentioned that it is often difficult to disaggregate impacts that are specifically due to PRSP interventions from those that are wrought by other programmes and projects. The present study did not try to discriminate between impacts by their source.

Specific objectives were:

- To monitor the impacts of the PRSP interventions on people's lives;
- To generate and assess levels of community participation and perceptions of the poverty situation in relation to the PRSP since the last (2002) Baseline Poverty Assessment;
- To come up with information and data for updating the PRSP.
- To come up with community-bred recommendations on how best to fill the gaps and inadequacies of the interventions.

1.3 PRSP-Monitoring – I Study Methods

The monitoring methods used in this monitoring process was participatory. It used Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques, listed in the table below. Different techniques were used to capture specific issues from specific respondent groups, which included men, women, youth groups and traditional authorities and leaders at community level and government official and politicians at district level. The table below shows the tools used together with the people they were used with and the issues they explored.

Table 2: PRA techniques used in the PRSP monitoring, the issues they explored and the informants

PRA technique	Group	Poverty Issues
1. Semi-Structured Interviews (SSIs)	Health personnel, Teachers, Traditional leaders, Heads of government departments, ward councilors	General poverty issues according to specific PRSP sectors
2. Social maps	Men, women and youth groups	Child headed households, female headed households, number of widows, households headed by the aged
3. Ranking and scoring	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, prevalent diseases
4. Gender Analysis matrix	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, access to land, control of productive natural resources, control of household incomes, access to credit facilities and agricultural extension services
5. Seasonality analysis	Men, women and youth group	Diseases, food security
6. Wealth ranking	Men, women and youth groups	Perceptions of poverty and categorizing poverty levels in respective communities
7. Trend analysis	Men, women and youth groups	Income levels, crop yields, rainfall, agricultural input provision, food security
8. Flow charts	Men and women	Poor farming, water and sanitation
9. Sequence ranking	Men and women	Disease treatment

Besides the above research activities, the Monitoring Team also monitored receipt and use of any funds like those from the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, which may have been released for specific development/poverty reduction purposes. The issues the Team explored in this connection were:

- whether or not and how much was allocated and disbursed (input);
- the use the money was put to, i.e., any visible/tangible product that be credited to the use of the money (output); and
- impacts these funds and related activities have had on the quality of people's lives (outcomes). This was done with the understanding that impacts of quality of life do often take time to be felt and/or seen and that there may be several other factors and/or programmes that may have been partly responsible for these impacts.

The table below shows the issues that were monitored, the monitoring tools that were used, the sources of information and the expected outcomes.

Table 2: Issues that were monitored

ISSUES	INFORMATION SOURCES	MONITORING TOOLS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
4.1 HIPC/PRSP funds received	DA, Heads of Depts, civic leaders, community members, civic society organizations (CSOs), Churches, SSIs	SSI, FGD records triangulations	
4.2 Outputs from above inputs	Same as above		Whether intended activities have taken place
4.3 Outcomes from above inputs	Same as above		Quality of product of activities transparency & accountability on use of funds

The study being reported in this document was carried out in five poorest provinces of Zambia; these were (alphabetically) Eastern, Luapula, Northwestern, Southern and Western provinces. The fieldwork was carried out in the same districts in each of these provinces and the same three study communities in each district which were visited and studied during the October, 2002 Baseline Study was carried out. The two exceptions were two study communities, one is Samfya and the other in Senanga districts which could not be reached because of too much water in the river and lake to reach them. Table 3 below shows the study provinces, districts and communities.

Table 3: Poverty Monitoring Study Provinces, Districts and Communities

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	STUDY SITES
Eastern	Petauke	Nyanje Chikuse Petauke township
Luapula	Samfya	Mpanta Mwafuli Miponda
Nothwestern	Mwinilunga	Kanongesha Kabanda Kanongesha

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	STUDY SITES
Southern	Kalomo	Mawaya (township) Nkandanzovu Siampondo
Western	Senanga	Siite Namalangu Nambwae
Total -5	Total -5	Total -15

1.4 The Monitoring Team

The May 2003 PRSP Monitoring exercise was conducted by a team of 21 field researchers, six women and 15 men, all drawn from civil society organizations. These divided themselves into five sub-teams consisting of between three to five members. At least two members of each sub-team had participated in the October 2002 Baseline Study.

The team started with some orientation during which, among other things, it went through the issues which were to be explored and monitored and the methods and tools that were going to be used during fieldwork. Their names are indicated in each District report which they wrote after fieldwork.

1.5 Study Experiences and Limitations

The study teams experienced a number of limitations which included the following:

- Inadequate access to transport greatly limited the movements of the study teams, as getting lifts from other departments and well-wishers did not always work well. Often the teams lost considerable amounts of time waiting for transport which came late. However, the study teams, especially the Kalomo one, greatly benefited by being given a lift and/or being escorted by the Zambia Police Service to one of the study sites for the team saw the police in action addressing one of PRSP's objectives, namely the promotion of tourism.
- Poor communications denied the Monitoring Teams the ability to inform communities on time about their going to visit the latter.
- Research fatigue on the part of some of the study communities. Thus one District Report says: "Respondents were also holding information indicating that they were tired of releasing information and the developments take so long to be seen".
- Too much rain the previous rain season prohibited two district teams to reach one site (each) which had been studied during the October Baseline Survey as the sites were still flooded and hence unreachable.
- People were still too busy harvesting their crops, and
- Lack of uniformity and perhaps full understanding of the whole purpose of the monitoring exercise on the part of some of the teams. The monitoring aspect, i.e., the idea of identifying changes and developments since the October 2002 Baseline Survey did not come out very clearly in some of the District Reports.

1.6 Organization of the Report

The rest of the Report discusses the findings of the monitoring exercise. It tackles one sector at a time, starting with agriculture, then industry, then tourism, mining and so on, following the order the sectors are found in the PRSP. On each sector the Report first gives the PRSP objectives and desired results for the sector, then discusses community concerns on the sector. The latter are often identical with PRSP objectives and desired results although couched in less sophisticated language. The third sub section lists PRSP monitoring indicators. The last sub section identifies changes and developments, if any which have taken place since the October 2002 Baseline Survey. Cross cutting issues of gender, HIV/AIDS, environment and governance are brought when appropriate during the discussion on the various sectors.

2. FINDINGS

2.1 Agriculture

2.1.1 PRSP Desired Results/Objectives and Indicators

The overall objective of the proposed interventions in the agricultural sector are “to promote a self-sustaining export-led agricultural sector, which ensure increased household income and food security,” (PRSP, p.157). The sector was expected “to generate income and employment through increased agricultural production and productivity, to contribute to production and productivity through land and infrastructure development, to ensure national and household food security.... and to ensure that the existing agricultural resource base is maintained and improved upon,” (Ibid. 157f).

2.1.2 Community Concerns in the Agricultural Sector

The table below shows the concerns expressed by the study communities regarding the agricultural sector.

Table 4: Major Community Concerns Regarding Agriculture by Study Site

Concern	Kalomo	Petauke	Mwinilunga	Samfya	Senanga
Food security	x	X	x	x	x
Farm implements	x		x	X	x
Produce markets		X	x	x	x
Extension services	x	X	x		
Farm inputs			x	x	x
Access to credit			x	x	x
Poor roads	x	X		x	
Farm power	x			x	x

Source : Field data.

Food security was a major concern in all the study communities. The PRSP has set out to specifically address it. So are inadequate access to farm implements, farm power, inputs, credit and markets for without these food security cannot be realized. By inputs here was meant cost, timely delivery and/or availability. Poor roads were often associated with and blamed for inadequate access to markets, farm inputs and extension services. The PRSP has specifically identified trunk and feeder roads as being some of the issues it would address. Other concerns include problems of transport in terms of both availability of motor vehicles and cost, floods which hit one of the Senanga study sites and access to land in Senanga which stems from an old

ethnic conflict between the Lozi who settled in the area earlier than the Mbunda and who, therefore, claim better and bigger portions of land than the recent arrivals. In as much as the PRSP proposes to ensure food security and more incomes to the rural people it is bound to address these issues. Indeed the document has specifically mentioned land and transport as issues its interventions will look into.

2.1.3 Some PRSP indicators

These include increase in production, smallholder farmers practicing crop rotation, contour ridging, conservation farming, and using green manure and animal draft power.

2.1.4 Changes and Developments

Food security which is the main objective of both the communities and the PRSP was said to have improved considerably in at least three study districts, namely, Petauke, Kalomo and Senanga. This was attributed to the timely delivery of farm inputs. This adequately addressed community concerns and fulfilled PRSP indicators. Two study sites in two different districts also talked very positively of crop diversification which had enabled the farmers earn more money than the previous year.

The above developments were in their turn attributed partly to the active roles development agencies like CLUSA, DUNAVANT and PAM were playing in the areas visited.

One negative impact, namely unfair and corrupt practices in distributing farm inputs was reported several times. Here are some verbatim statements of complaining informants:

....the Agricultural Officer is selective in providing services to beneficiaries. In most cases it is only his friends or close relatives who benefit. (Nyanje research participant during an FGD.

The Petauke Report goes on to say:

There was no proper system in place to ensure equitable and transparent distribution of inputs. The community complained that the heads of various government departments benefited more from the input distribution than the communities and targeted social groups, (p. 5).

The Report goes on to give a very sad example:

.....the Agricultural supervisor....'grabbed' fertilizer inputs from a child-headed household without proper explanation, (Ibid.).

People also complained that only individuals with money and not the poor benefited from the input distribution.

Other issues of community concern which are also PRSP objectives were said to have remained as they were in 2002 since they had not been addressed. These include inadequate market arrangements for both farm inputs and produce, inadequate market information and access to credit, farm implements and draft power, poor extension services and poor access roads. The deforestation which was reported in study sites like Nkandanzovu in the October 2002 Baseline Survey had not been abated. Neither has HIV/AIDS which was said to adversely affect the Agricultural Extension Services by taking away qualified manpower had not decreased, if anything it had increased.

No changes had been seen in the way gender relations negatively affect farming. The Petauke October 2002 Baseline Study had given a rather detailed account of how gender relationships and revealed a number disparities between men and women.

With only a few modifications these issues obtain in other study sites, and negatively affect farming like in Petauke. The issues were:

1. women had less access to productive resources like land, credit, inputs and extension services;
2. women were more involved in growing food crops while the men concentrated on cash crops whose cash incomes they controlled;
3. women kept less lucrative types of livestock like goats and chickens while the men reared cattle which fetch more money when sold;
4. the men control financial resources, even those generated with large contributions from the women; and
5. men do most of the decision-making at household and community levels.

The May 2003 Poverty Monitoring exercise did not note any positive changes with regards the issues listed above. It is the author's view that these issues have not at all been specifically addressed in any of the study communities, not even by the District Women's Association (DWA) which is very active especially in the Eastern Province. Secondly, a considerable amount of time is require for change to take place in the above issues which are very deeply embedded in people's culture.

2.2 Industry

The monitoring exercise concentrated on medium, small and micro enterprises (MSMEs).

2.2.1 PRSP Objectives and Expected Results

The overall PRSP objective is to promote growth of an export-led industry leading to employment creation and poverty reduction. The sector also intends to improve industrial skills and craftsmanship, to improve the application of science, technology and research and development to manufacturing activities and to develop and improve the operations of the (MSMEs) especially rural-based industrial enterprises together with the development of entrepreneurs in business management and technical skills.

2.2.2 Community Concerns

The concerns of the people involved in the sector included the following:

1. Lack of capital to purchase appropriate tools for MSME activities such as carpentry and welding;
2. Bureaucracy in licensing policies,
3. Poor markets for MSME products,
4. Poor road network.
5. Unconducive environment and
6. Low incomes accruing from the sector.

2.2.3 PRSP Indicators

Monitoring indicators spelt out by the PRSP and relevant here are:

- Increased employment in the manufacturing MSME sector,
- Increased number of entrepreneurs receiving training in business management and technical skills, and
- Increased number of rural-based based industries.

2.2.4 Changes and Developments since October 2002

Except for Siampondo study site in Kalomo District where a few more grocery shops have been built and were operative no changes and developments were reported or seen by the Monitoring Team (MT) in the rest of the study sites. The Senanga report notes: “The (MSMEs) strategies look at supporting technical training, business skills, credit facilities..... However, communities feel very little has been done in this sector. None of the above mentioned strategies were having an impact on poverty reduction,” Senanga Report, p.14).

2.3 Tourism

2.3.1 PRSP Objectives and Expected Results

The PRSP envisaged an enhancement of the tourism sector’s contribution to economic growth and poverty reduction by, among other things, development of infrastructure in tourism areas, encouraging community participation in wildlife conservation and promoting investment in the tourism industry by encouraging joint ventures between locals and foreign investors and sensitizing local authorities on the importance of the availability of land for tourism development.

2.3.2 Community Concerns

Issues related to tourism came out in only one of the five study districts. This was in the rural study sites of Kalomo District, namely Nkandanzovu and Siampondo. Major concerns regarding tourism were:

1. Poor road infrastructure connecting the areas with tourism potential to the rest of the country,
2. Presence of armed poachers and bandits, both local Zambians and foreigners, in both sites; these terrorize the local inhabitants and are a threat to would be tourists,
3. Inadequate tourist facilities in terms of lodges and guesthouses both in the areas with tourism potential and in urban Kalomo and Choma the nearest urban centers to the tourist attractions; and
4. Inadequate staffing of the Zambia Wild Life Authority (ZAWA), the agency responsible for wild life.

2.3.3 PRSP Indicators

PRSP interventions are to be monitored by assessing the following:

- Increase in numbers of tourist arrivals,
- Number of access roads upgraded;
- Increases in number of people employed by the tourism sector; and
- Increase in number of people trained in tourism by the private sector.

2.3.4 Changes and Developments since October 2002

The biggest positive development since the 2002 Baseline Study has been the crack down on the armed bandits in Nkandanzovu. This was done by a combined force of Kalomo police, the Zambian army, ZAWA staff and (assisted by) the local community who provided the army and police with the required information. The authorities have confiscated 38 illegally possessed guns and have destroyed the trenches and tunnels in which the illegal hunters and bandits used to hide themselves, their guns and the game meat which was their main economic activity.

The above mentioned achievement is obviously not a direct result of the PRSP but an indirect one in that the crackdown was sparked off by the verbal report of the October 2002 DPPA made by the study team to the district authorities.

On the other hand, the security situation in Siampondo, the second study site which also has some tourist potential has deteriorated. October 2002 DPPA reported that the people of Siampondo felt neglected and sidelined by the rest of the nation. By May 2003 armed bandits of disgruntled youths had formed and had started to terrorize the local communities as well as any would be tourist. The Monitoring Team had the rare opportunity of witness the police fighting and apprehending the bandits and confiscating some of the property they had stolen. The police had accompanied, or rather given ride to, the MT which had been warned of the existence of these armed youths and the dangers they posed.

It is hoped that now that they are aware and have actually come into contact with the armed bandits in both sites which have tourist potential, all concerned will continue to make a concerted effort to completely get rid of this menace and threat to tourism in the two, and indeed in other, areas.

No developments have taken place with regards to other issues that relate to tourism and which are planned for in the PRSP. These include:

- Upgrading access roads,
- Training people in tourism by the private sector,
- Increased employment provided by the tourism sector and
- Creation of tourism facilities in the form of lodges and guesthouses.

2.4 Mining

Once again, among the five districts visited only Kalomo was involved in some mining activities. This was done at Mapatizya, some 35 kilometres from Siampondo study site. The mining activities were employing as many as 2,000 people at the mining site and in Kalomo town. Where the precious minerals are cleaned and polished.

2.4.1 PRSP Objectives and Desired Results

The overall objective of the PRSP is to “promote investments in the mining industry and ensure the development of a self-sustaining mineral-based industry, (PRSP, p. 188). The document has a especial comment on small-scale mining when it adds: “to revitalize and ensure the realization of the potential of the small-scale mining sub-sector,” (ibid.).

2.4.2 Community Concerns

The major concern expressed in the October 2002 Baseline Study was the involvement of illegal miners most of whom are of foreign origin. These did not pay any tax to government. They only extracted the nation’s wealth in exchange for the HIV virus which was beginning to spread out in and near the mining areas. In summary, the concerns are that the nation does not benefit much from this otherwise very lucrative economic activity

2.4.3 Monitoring Indicators

PRSP monitoring indicators which refer to small-scale mining are:

- Number of small-scale mining licenses issued,
- Number of gemstone licenses issued,
- Number of artisan mining rights issued,
- Number of prospecting permits issued,
- Persons employed in small-scale mining operations and
- Export earnings from gemstones.

2.4.4 Changes and Developments since 2002

Although very clearly and articulately stated in the PRSP, the issue of licensing gemstone miners has not been addressed. As a consequence of this the majority of small-scale miners, mostly foreigners, are still operating illegally; they are not paying any tax and the country is still not fully benefiting from its own resources as others extract it away.

On the other hand, the jobs and incomes that the properly registered PGM mine operates are still being held and enjoyed respectively by the inhabitants of Mawaya, the urban Kalomo study site as indeed the other Kalomo urban residents. These people are employed to clean and polish the small precious stones.

2.5 Education

2.5.1 PRSP Objectives and Desired Results

“The provision of relevant, equitable, efficient and quality education for all” is the ultimate aim of the PRSP as far as the education sector is concerned. The nation, through the PRSP, intends to increase access to Upper Basic education, improve its quality and relevance, increase access, quality and relevance of skills and reduce disparities in education, including those based on gender.

2.5.2 Community Concerns in Education

Community concerns regarding the education sector, some of which are identical to the issues the PRSP planned to address are spelt out in table form below.

Table 5: Community Concerns in the Education Sector by Study Site

	CONCERN	KALOMO	PETAUKE	MWINILUNGA	SAMFYA	SENANGA
1	School infrastructure	x	x	x		x
2	Inadequate staffing	x	x	X	x	x
3	Inadequate teaching materials	x	x		x	x
4	HIV/AIDS		x	x	x	x
5	Few female Teachers		x		x	x
6	Poor teacher morale		x	x	X	
7	Costs	x		x		x
8	Early pregnancies	x		x	x	
9	Pressure for marriage			x	x	
10	Home chores			x	x	

Poor school infrastructure includes teachers living in poor, often temporally structures often made of grass thatched roofs that often leak, turning classrooms and offices into teachers' accommodation and classrooms that allow wind and rain during the cold and wet seasons respectively. Pupils sit on the ground; there are hardly any teaching/learning materials. The latter issue was singled out and mentioned by four of the five districts. This demoralizes both the teachers and the pupils.

Staffing is a big concern also. This appears in a number of forms. One is inadequate numbers. Teachers are just too few to run the school. Sometimes one teacher is responsible for the whole school, that is teaching four different classes or grades and doing the administration as well.

Another form the problem appears is that of unqualified teachers who are made to teach classes they were not trained for. Drunkenness on the part of some, especially male teachers was also mentioned as a negative factor to successful school performance yet another aspect of the problem of teachers is the critical shortage of female teachers in rural schools.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic was said to negatively affect the education system in two ways, namely, the reduction of the number of trained teachers and secondly, the proliferation of orphans who lack parental support.

Cost of education, especially of the Grade VII examinations still came up as a big concern. Other factors which constrain successful school performance were distance to school, poor sanitation at the school, physical work and punishment administered to pupils, household chores which pupils, especially the girls have to undertake before and after school, thus making them tired and perform badly and community attitudes which weigh heavily against the girl child.

2.5.3 Monitoring Indicators

The indicators by which achievements would be monitored include the following:

- Increased enrolment rates and progression rates at all levels of education, including skills training,

- Decrease in dropout and repetition rates,
- Improved pupil/teacher ratio,
- Improved pupil/class ratio,
- Improved pupil/textbook ratio and
- Improved female/male ratios.

2.5.4 Changes and Developments since October 2002

The biggest positive change mentioned in all the study sites, although probably not directly a result of PRSP interventions was the abolition of school fees for Grades 1 to 7. This was said to have greatly eased the burden of parents and guardians as they were now able to send all their children to school, thus achieving one of the PRSP's objective, namely that of increased school enrolments. However, examination fees still apply. One site complained about this in the October 2002 Baseline Study. The number of complaining study sites had increased to three by May 2003.

Receipt of the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative funds was acknowledged in Samfya. The funds, a total of one hundred and twenty two million kwacha (K122 million) were intended to be used in rehabilitating the water and sanitation system at Samfya Secondary School. The work was still in progress at the time of the monitoring team's visit in May 2003.

The Gwembe Tonga Development Project (GTDP) was still constructing the school it had started before the October 2002 Baseline Study. This was expected to open before the end of the year (2003) and to greatly improve both the pupil and teachers' morale considerably.

Other negative developments include the increased intensity of the devastating impacts of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. For instance, during the October 2002 study it was estimated that 10 teachers were lost to the school system every year due to the pandemic. The figure had rises to 15 by May 2003. In addition, while the concern in October 2002 was only with regards to losing teachers through high mortality rates, in May 2003 the concern had explicitly extended to include HIV/AIDS orphans who could not access education.

2.6 Health, Water and Sanitation

2.6.1 PRSP Objectives and Expected Results

The overall objective of the PRSP regarding the health sector is "to improve the health status of all people in Zambia, especially the poor. This is to be achieved by ensuring equity of access to health facilities, improving the quality of health services and encourage lifestyles which support health.

In the Water and Sanitation sector the PRSP wishes to ensure that Zambia's water resources are effectively developed and managed in order to contribute to poverty reduction through increased access to safe water and sanitation, increased food production and food security for low-income people.

2.6.2 Community Concerns

A number of concerns, which often coincide with the issues the PRSP intends to address, were raised by the study communities. These included the following:

- Insufficient water supplies in the form of boreholes, wells, piped water and even natural sources like rivers and streams and when accessible the water is often not of good safe quality for human consumption,
- Long distances to water sources,
- The long distances patients have to travel to reach health facilities,
- Erratic and often unavailable transport to health centers and when available it is exorbitantly expensive,
- Understaffing of health centers; often they are run by under qualified personnel,
- Cost of health services compounded by rampant poverty and
- Inadequate space in health centers; often patients of different age groups, sex and suffering from different diseases share the same wards, if not beds!

2.6.3 Monitoring Indicators

Some of the indicators that the PRSP developed for the monitoring of the two sectors are:

Increased access to safe water and improved sanitation facilities, increased number of water wells, of people trained in water and sanitation, increase in life expectancy, decrease in infant and maternal mortality rates, increased number of rural households within five kilometers of a health facility, adequate staffing and drug supplies at health centers.

2.6.4 Changes and Developments since October 2002

Several positive developments were reported in the May 2003 Poverty Monitoring exercise. One which was directly attributed to the PRSP was the rehabilitation of rural health centers (RHCs), especially in Senanga district. This was made possible by receipt and use of HIPC funds.

Senanga district also reported having achieved some measure of decentralization and autonomy in terms of being able to make and implement its own plans, thereby minimizing the otherwise long bureaucracy which previous characterized and debilitated the health system.

Petauke district reported a remarkable increase (of 17.4 per cent) of staffing levels since October 2002. A trained nurse had been appointed at Chikuse clinic. This was an improvement from the previous year when the clinic was headed by an untrained and unqualified person.

Although not yet operational Nkandanzovu settlers/residents expressed some sense of satisfaction at the clinic that was still under construction in their midst. The Gwembe Tonga Development Project was funding it.

No other changes and developments were reported in the five study sites. Thus all the study communities were still complaining of high and unaffordable health costs, shortage of drugs, distance to the health center –some communities were 30 kilometers and more to the nearest health center. Qualified health staff still eluded many health facilities.

3. SUMMARY, OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

A few positive changes, some very important and desirable, have been noted during the monitoring exercise. These include the disbursement and effective use of HIPC funds which have resulted in better social infrastructure which will serve the communities better than is currently the case. Food security, which is the prime concern of the various communities and of the PRSP, has been attained in a number of study communities. This was largely due to early delivery of farm inputs and was despite the rains, which for a certain period of the season was not as good as desirable.

Despite these improvements, research participants noted that poverty levels had not reduced since the previous year. Factors which militate against poverty reduction and wealth creation are still strong and operative. Cross cutting issues have been found to be particularly effective in frustrating poverty reduction efforts. These are HIV/AIDS which is negatively affecting all the sectors, especially agriculture, health and education in that it is robbing the sectors of qualified staff. It is also creating heavy burdens on the families which cannot support the growing numbers of orphans.

Governance issues are also contributing to increasing poverty at local levels as people entrusted to alleviate and reduce it use the resources for their own good.

Environmental degradation is still rampant and needs addressing. The inequalities between men and women in all the sectors also need addressing as they impact negatively on production, mining, health and education.

Specific attention and efforts need to be given to these issues by all stakeholders at all levels. In particular, there is need for specific sensitization of development workers on how cross cutting and other issues affect development.

Top down approaches are still the rule of the day. This denies communities and to a large extent even districts to have a say in poverty reduction and growth promoting activities; this denies them the sense of ownership of these activities. Senanga district seems to be on the right track in this area. Other districts should emulate it. Study tours could be helpful in this regard.

At higher national levels, responsible ministries should ensure that PRSP objectives are at least attempted to be aimed at. There is need to create enabling environments in mining and tourism sectors to enable even local people to participate. Small-scale mining is still in the hands of foreigners most of whom operate illegally and hence do not benefit the country. Peace needs to reign in areas with tourism potential. Only higher authorities can do something about this. There are too few women involved in mining operations.

**MWINILUNGA DISTRICT POVERTY MONITORING
REPORT**

COMMISSIONED BY

**THE CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION
(CSPR)**

RESEARCH TEAM

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21 JUNE 2003

ACRONYMS

CDE	Classified daily employee
CHW	Community health worker
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CSPR	Civil Society for Poverty Reduction
DACO	District Agricultural Coordinator
DHMT	District Health Management Team
FGD	Focus group discussion
HIPC	Highly Indebted Poor Countries
PAM	Programme Against Malnutrition
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper
RHC	Rural Health Centre
SAO	Senior Agricultural Officer
SSI	Semi structured interviewing
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
ZAMSIF	Zambia Social Investment Programme
ZEN	Zambia Enrolled Nurse.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

The Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) in May 2003 commissioned a Rapid Poverty Assessment Survey in Mwinilunga District following the Poverty Assessment Baseline Survey which was jointly undertaken by Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) and the Government of the Republic of Zambia through Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF) in October, 2002. The purpose of the 2002 study was to establish baseline data on which to base monitoring exercises like the one being reported in this document.

1.2 Study Objectives

The May 2002 study was a follow-up of the October one and it was intended to find identify developments that had taken place since then thereby assessing poverty levels and monitoring the impact of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) interventions. In particular the study being reported here sought to:

- Monitor the impacts of the PRSP interventions on people's lives;
- Come up with information and data for updating the PRSP; and
- Generate and assess community participation and perceptions of the poverty situation in the relation to HIPC resources and the PRSP.

1.3 Study Methods used

Qualitative participatory research methods have been used in generating the data being analysed and reported in this document. The table below lists the participatory tools used and the issues they explored.

Table 1: List of PRA techniques used in the PRSP monitoring

PRA technique	Group	Poverty Issues
• Semi-Structured Interviews (SSIs)	Health personnel, Teachers, Traditional leaders, Heads of government departments, ward councilors	General poverty issues according to specific PRSP sector
• Social maps	Men, women and youth groups	Child headed households, female headed households, number of widows, households headed by the aged
• Ranking and scoring	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, prevalent diseases
• Gender Analysis matrix	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, access to land, control of productive natural resources, control of household incomes, access to credit facilities and agricultural extension services
• Seasonality analysis	Men, women and youth groups	Diseases, food security
• Wealth ranking	Men, women and youth groups	Perceptions of poverty and categorizing poverty levels in respective communities

PRA technique	Group	Poverty Issues
• Trend analysis	Men, women and youth groups	Income levels, crop yields, rainfall, agricultural input provision, food security
• Flow charts	Men and women	Poor farming, water and sanitation
• Sequence ranking	Men and women	Disease treatment

1.3 Research Sites

Prior to giving a brief profile of the three study sites a brief description of Mwinilunga district is first given.

Mwinilunga district lies in the extreme north west of North Western Province. It covers an area of 20 910 square kilometres. The district shares boundaries with Solwezi in the east, Mufumbwe and Kabompo to the South. The district has two international borders, Angola to the north and Congo DR to the north-east. It lies between longitudes 24 degrees east and 25 degrees east and latitudes 10 degrees and 13 degrees. The distance between Lusaka the capital of Zambia and Mwinilunga is about 872 km and about 290 km from Solwezi the provincial headquarters of North Western Province.

Topography

Kaleni Hills which rises to a peak of about 1524m above sea level is the highest point in the district. The altitude faces to a level of 458 meters above sea level in the southern parts. There is a watershed to the north separating the Zambezi and the Congo river. There are various escarpments where the watersheds between the streams fall away into deep valleys. The watershed is flat with wide expanses of plains. West Lunga and Kabompo rivers have steep escarpment and deep valleys in the southern part, with characteristic river gorge vegetation and have minor rapids that make them unsuitable for navigation.

The Soils

The District Agriculture Officer described the soils in the district as being of two distinct groups; those derived from the Kalahari sands and those derived from ancient soil geology. Most of the Kalahari soils are found in the valleys. The area in the northern part of Mwinilunga has a lower PH which makes the soil acidic, primarily because it receives more rain than the rest of Mwinilunga. Whereas the southern part has a normal PH, and makes it more suitable for crops like maize. Mwinilunga soils range from sand to pour clay. The district has all the soil types these are Pure sand, Laamy sand, Sand loam, Heavy sand day loam, Silt, Silt day, and Clay. Areas laying in the northern part of the district are sandy, these are Ikelenge, Jimbe, Nyakasaseya, Mwininyilamba, Kanyama and part of Kanongesha. The northern part of the district is highly acidic with 3.5-5.0 ph levels. This is due to high rainfall and excessive leaching. The southern part of the district which is in the maize belt, Soils are heavy sandy loam, sand day loam and clay. These soils are found in Siachunga, Chibwika, part of Kanongesha, Ntambu and Nyileba. Others are Chiwaona and Kansense.

The Climate

The district has a relatively moderate climate that is determined by the humid Congo air that brings rain from October to April.

Rainfall Patterns

Mwinilunga experiences rainfall from October through April, although the number of rainfall days are more between November and March. The average annual rainfall in Mwinilunga District is 1386mm. On the average they are 119 rain days which is usually from October to April, this makes Mwinilunga one of the wettest districts in Zambia. Such amounts of rain has negative and positive implications on the district. The abundance of water means enough resources for streams and rivers but it has effects on the texture of the soil. The rains begin in September and reach intensity between December and March.

Information for the period 2002/ 2003 rain patterns could not be obtained as the Data is not yet ready.

The Temperature

The mean monthly temperature varies from 15.7 to 27.2 degrees Celsius. The annual mean maximum temperature is 27.2 degrees Celsius while the annual mean minimum temperature is 12.8 degrees Celsius.

Humidity

The mean annual relative humidity is 68 per cent. It varies from a monthly minimum of 46 per cent in September to a monthly maximum of 84 per cent in December and January.

Demography

The Mwinilunga district office of the Central Statistics Office (CSO) estimated the population of the district to be 124,485. The males comprise 59,753 (48%) of the population and females comprise the remaining 52 per cent (64,732). The population is concentrated between the age of 15 years and 49 years which constitute 43 per cent of the population. The district has a population density of 6 people per square kilometre. The current growth rate is 3 per cent per year.

The main population centres are the district centres, around the chiefs capitals, along the main roads and areas with the potential for production. Specific areas of high population are those along the Solwezi road, Mwinilunga -Jimbe road and Mwinilunga Kabompo. About 10 per cent (12,000) of the population live in Mwinilunga town, i.e., the district headquarters.

Ethnic composition

The main ethnic group found in Mwinilunga are the Lunda. Other tribes such as Luvale and Kaonde are also found mainly in Mwinilunga town. One of the defining cultural features of the Lunda people is Mukanda ceremony which is a boys' initiation ceremony.

Site selection

Three sites were sampled in Mwinilunga. These were the same sites as those of the October 2002 Baseline Study. They were: Kabanda, Kanongesha and Kakoma.

Kabanda is a pre-urban area situated within the boma of Mwinilunga whilst Kanongesha and Kakoma are rural parts of the district. Kanongesha is 52 kilometres (kms) away from Mwinilunga boma while the distance between Kakoma and Mwinilunga Boma is 150 kms. Kanongesha

shares international boundaries with Angola whilst Kakoma is bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kanongisha was chosen due to:

- a) Proximity to the Boma
- b) Residence of senior chief of the Lunda people
- c) Perceived Catholic mission influence

Kakoma was chosen due to:

- a) distance from the Boma - 154 KM
- b) shares boundaries with Congo DR
- c) experiences high rainfall

Kabanda was selected based on the following criteria:

- a) location in the Boma
- b) lacks social services
- c) mode of livelihood beyond subsistence farming

The sectors that were monitored were agriculture, health, education.

2. FINDINGS

2.1 Sources of Livelihoods

According to the information gathered during the study, the inhabitants of Mwinilunga seem to have uniform sources of livelihood. The major source of livelihood for the people of Mwinilunga is subsistence farming. Crops grown are maize, cassava, beans, pineapple, millet and sweet potatoes. Others are groundnuts and rice grown, especially in Kakoma. What has just been said is also true of the Kabanda township community whose residents largely depend on farming.

In addition to subsistence farming people living in Kabanda are also engaged in charcoal burning, an activity dominated by men, though selling of charcoal is by both gender. The returns to this activity are very low. Others earn their livelihood through low paying part-time jobs, small scale trading at local markets and brewing beer. Kabanda has high levels of youths dependant on parents and relatives for their livelihood.

Crops grown are Maize, Rice, Finger-millet, sorghum, sun flower, beans, groundnuts, cassava, pineapples and sweet potatoes.

Cassava is allocated more land than others. This is because it is the main staple food for the rural community. This was confirmed by farmers talked to in Kanongesha and Kakoma, who stated that they eat mainly Cassava.

A Senior Agriculture Officer (SAO) stated that there was no gender difference between women and men. The only difference was that men till separate fields from those of their spouses. According to information obtained through Focus Group Discussions (FGD,s) it is preferable

for men and women having separate fields as a safeguard in case one field belonging either husband or wife fails they are able to subsist from the field not affected.

Crop diversification programme in the district is in the form of seed multiplication and distribution. This program is sponsored by the government and Program Against Malnutrition (PAM). The support involves promoting seed growing locally. Crops promoted include beans, i.e., *chambeshi* variety; Groundnuts and cassava i.e., Bangweulu, Nalumino, and Mweru varieties. The program is relatively new and has not reached some areas. For example farmers in the sites visited Kanongesha, Lwau and Kakoma in the northern part of Mwinilunga have never heard of the program. This could be due to the inadequate supply of Agriculture Extension Officers.

The crops grown vary according to the rainfall and soil. Cassava is grown in all areas. Maize growing depends on the availability of fertilizers and lime, especially in the area lying in the northern side of Mwinilunga e.g Kakoma area.

Fishing

The area is very suitable for fish farming because of its several rivers, streams and abundance of ground water. However, the rivers do not offer a wide variety of fish species. In order to compliment the fish stocks in rivers, the community has engaged in fish farming with the help of government and other agencies.

The District has had a long history of culturing fish in fish ponds. When a large number of refugees first settled in the district, the government and other stakeholders saw the need to support them by teaching them the art of fish-culture. The impact of this was the spill-over to the rest of the indigenous community which has adopted it as a source of livelihood.

According to the Provincial fisheries office the district has 1,420 fish farmers owning 2,536 fish ponds. The larger portion of the ponds were constructed and stocked between 1992-1996 by AFRICARE and International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD).

HIPIC funds have been used, more recently, to construct fish ponds in Kweseka, Mukoma, Kambombu, Kamakanga, Kamukembi, Kutenga, Kalezu, Kabanga, Chingazi and Kawiko. These funds have been managed through the Rural Investment Fund (RIF).

A great number of fishponds are, however, not functioning due to technical problems. The community attributed this to the lack of extension services.

We are willing to engage in fish farming, but the problem is that the other people catch fish in our ponds. We also have a problem of transport; we can't take fish for sell at the Boma. The Fisheries Extension Officer left the area several years ago fearing witchcraft said an interviewee at Kahan'u Village.

The clergy at a Lwawu Catholic Mission confirmed that in spite of all these problems the communities were eager to engage in fish farming if supported by government according to a SSI with a Catholic Clergy at Lwawu Mission. The dam at the mission which once was well stocked with fish, was not any more. The community had harvested the fish illegally!

We do not blame the community entirely because the local streams and rivers did not contain sufficient fish to assist them. It was impossible to secure the dam against theft at night. The solution was to encourage more modern fish farming in the community advised a Catholic Brother.

Bee keeping

Mwinilunga has a good climate and vegetation for honey and wax production. The Forestry Department plays an advisory and supervisory role in the exploitation of the forests for Honey production. The Forestry Department in Mwinilunga estimates that the District has the potential of producing honey and wax amounting to 900,000 tones and 102 tones per year respectively. The district produces about 300,000 tones of honey and 85 tones of wax every year.

The communities were being helped to engage in bee keeping by Forestry Fruits and North Western Bee Products companies. These two companies buy honey and wax from the local people at an agreed price.

Crop growing is not doing fine we need to engage in other activities like bee keeping to raise money to pay for the Hospital and School fees. We don't grow enough maize to sell an informant at Jendo Kamboyi-ulazhi Village

A Daily Calendar with a group of women in Chinkonja Village revealed that bee keeping is the men's role. The main constraint in Bee Keeping according to an FGD with a group of men in Sakapoti village was insufficient market for the Honey produce and the bad road network to transport the Honey to the Boma.

Both the FGD and SSI with a group of men and a Forestry Officer revealed that the two companies did not have the capacity to buy all the honey and wax. The community and the Forestry Department acknowledged the need for a bigger market and good road network to attract buyers.

In order to enhance technical assistance to the community, the Government has launched the Forestry Resources Management Project which is being administered by Keepers (Zambia) Foundation. The aim of the project is to create linkages for the local community with Honey Markets. The project has been running since 2002 and shall end in the year 2008. The project shall also build the capacity of local bee keepers on the best practices of bee keeping in order to achieve quality honey and wax production.

The Mwinilunga Forestry Officer was optimistic that the project will eventually improve the livelihoods of the communities in the areas

Food Security

Discussions and exercises conducted with different groups indicated that cassava is the main crop grown for consumption followed by beans and maize. Other supplementary crops are sunflower, sweet potatoes and vegetables. Despite bad yields due to exhaustion of land most households still have enough reserves of cassava which is the staple food.

As for the seasonality of food security and it was generally agreed that most households have food throughout the year. The problem was however, experienced in the rain season. Cassava is said to be difficult to process during rain season because drying of cassava becomes difficult. This, therefore, creates temporary food shortages.

Apart from residents in the townships who depend on maize as the food staple, the rest of the population depend on cassava. Food insecurity is prevalent during floods as this damages the cassava crop fields. The insecurity has been exacerbated by pest attacks on the food staple.

Generally households depending on cassava have only problems of processing cassava during the rain season. Households depending on maize for consumption have shortages from December to March and have to depend buying maize or cassava to sustain themselves.

Other types of food stuff on which people depend are millet, rice, vegetables, meat, fish and mushrooms.

Credit Facilities

Most farmers in Mwinilunga do not access credit facilities either financially or in form of stock. The few that receive agriculture inputs on credit have difficulties in paying back due to bad yields attributed to mainly to poor soils especially in the Kakoma area. In addition, a group of farmers co-operative members revealed through an FGD that the communities needed lime to mix in the soils due the acidic levels of soils in the area for them to improve the yields of maize. The Program Against Malnutrition (PAM) did not deliver farm inputs on time. This has affected this years maize yields.

Availability of Markets

Inadequate market for agriculture produce has been cited as one of the major constraints in the agriculture sector. The problem is also caused by poor roads and poor public transport to and from the villages to the town of Mwinilunga. There are no organised markets for both wholesale and retail businesses. Farmers, therefore, depend on brief-case businessmen who determine the price of produce. Lack of organisation on the part of the farmers does not enable them to bargain for better prices. A number of farmers have realised the need of working together by forming co-operatives.

The absence of an agriculture commodity exchange whose function would be to assist farmers with information on produce price and availability of markets has resulted into failure by farmers to make rational decisions. Farmers in Kakoma which a boarder area between Zambia and Congo DR engage in cross-border barter trading. They mainly exchange farm produce with items such as soap and sugar from Congo DR.

Feeder Roads

Most of the feeder roads are in a very poor condition and require extensive rehabilitation. Those requiring urgent attention are Mukingi, Ntambu, Kakoma -Kanyama - Lumwana west. Farmers in the areas cited face severe transport problems as transporters do not reach the areas due to bad state of the road. A Road Contractor who was awarded the tender to rehabilitate the feeder roads has had his contract terminated because the poor quality of the road work construction.

Farmers Groups

The district has 51 registered co-operatives. Most of the inputs from the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) are channelled through these organisations. Farmers who are not members cannot access these inputs. A large number of the farmers are, however, not aware of these co-operatives and can not therefore access farm inputs. In Kakoma there are two registered co-operatives whilst in Kanongesha the farmers expressed total ignorance of the existence of the co-operatives.

Extension Services

The district has eight Agricultural Blocks; three of these have Block Supervisors. There are 31 agriculture camps and only 10 Camp Extension Officers (CEOs). All the 10 officers are males.

The only female is stationed in the Boma and is responsible for youths and women programs. The farmers attributed the lack of agriculture information to the unavailability of extension officers in their communities and expressed need for CEOs in the communities.

Livestock

Livestock kept by the farmers in the area include cattle, goats, sheep, rabbits, guinea fowls, ducks and chickens. Cattle account for the highest number of livestock followed by goats and then sheep. Rabbits are very few. The population of chickens is higher than that of ducks and guinea fowls put together. Sheep is mainly found in Kanongesha area

Livestock Diseases

Cattle are more prone to diseases than other animals like sheep and goat. Among the diseases prevalent in cattle are senkobo (skin diseases) and contagious bovine, preura-pneumonia (CBPPP). CBPP is a relatively new diseases in the district. According to the staff of the Animal Health and Production section of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the diseases come from Zambezi district through uncontrolled cattle movements. New Castle disease is common among chickens.

Control of the diseases is by vaccination and dipping. The district has three dip tanks built by government in Kanongesha, Kanyama and Ikelenge. The government has handed over the control of these dip tanks to farmers. The cost of veterinary service is borne by the farmers only, however, veterinary services are free during outbreak of diseases. The costs for veterinary services include K10,000 for transport, They is no fee if a farmer provides his or her own transport to her or his farm.

Commercial Farming

The district has one Commercial farmer. His farming enterprises include coffee production, dairy farming and game ranching. The farm offers employment to residents of the surrounding villages.. The residents of Mwinilunga looked forward to a time when the area shall have investors more especially in agriculture. The residents complained over the lack of employment. The need for investors was seen as the only solutions to the financial problems affecting the people.

Land Issues

Most of the agricultural land in Mwinilunga is under Traditional Authorities who through their representatives allocate land to community members. Both women and men are eligible to own land which is currently under customary law. There are no gender considerations when allocating land. Men and women, however, cultivate separate fields. This is seen as a safe guard in times of crop failure for when fields from are field are low there may be chances of getting better fields from another field. Despite couples having different fields control of food is by women. Men are perceived to be wasteful. Nevertheless, consultation between wife and husband on how to manage yields are regular.

Only land belong missionaries and land allocated by the council has Title deeds. Those who would want to obtain title deeds on traditional land are allowed to do so upon the approval of the traditional authorities However this has proven difficult due to the fact that most villagers do not have money to process title deeds. Most women usually get land close to their brothers and

sons because of difficulties in land clearing. Most of the land near the villages has lost its fertility. Farm land is, therefore, situated far away from the settlements.

Constraints

There are number of constraints which affect agriculture in the study sites. Below is a Ranking and Scoring Matrix conducted with a mixed group of men and women which indicate the constraints faced by the farmers in Kanongesha. The more the stars, here represented by stars, the participants put against a constraint the bigger the latter was and vice versa.

CONSTRAINTS	SCORES	RANKING
Lack of farm implements	***** ****	3
Lack of markets	***** **	4
Lack of extension services	*****	5
Lack of credit facilities	***** ***** ****	1
Lack of inputs	***** ***** ***	2

Inadequate credit facilities were identified as the biggest constraint to farming. It was followed by lack of inputs, then lack of farm implements, inadequate marks and lastly poor extension services. Another important constraint which were mentioned during the focus group discussions was lack of a storage shed. They stated that in view of lack of market there was need to have a market storage shed where they could store farm produce before being sold..

2.2 The Health Sector

The provision of health services in Mwinilunga district is very poor. Health services are provided by the Ministry of Health through the District Health Management Board (DHMT). The current records at DHMT revealed that the district has two hospitals, twenty four Rural Health Centres, five Sub-Health Centres, one hundred and twenty four Community Health Workers (CHWs) and several Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) located in all the villages of the district (DHMT could not provide the actual number of TBAs in the Area). In addition to the above institutions the district has a good number of traditional healers providing traditional medical services. The institutions cited comprise the health sector in Mwinilunga. There were, however, no Home Based Care groups.

Funding

The Mwinilunga District Health Management Team (DHMT) Office receives four types of funding, namely:

- Government grants,
- Donor funding
- HIPC funding
- User fees

The Rural Health Centres attends to patients with illnesses that are not serious and refer serious patients to the hospitals main hospital in Mwinilunga which is 152 KM away from the furthest Health Centre . The community health workers are highly utilised in area by the communities . These CHWs are accessible by the communities as the reside within the community. The CHWs can only attend to minor diseases and refer cases which they are not competent to handle to Rural Health Centres. However owing to the long distance to the Health Centre , The CHWs

attend even to these serious patients despite not being competent to handle such cases. TBAs provide maternity and birth delivery services to the women in the communities. Both the CHWs and TBAs are trained community volunteers

Cost

The CHWs and TBAs do not charge anything for the services while patients have to pay medical fees amounting to K500.00 and K750.00 for admission at Lwawu Rural Health Centre which operates as a referral centre in the area. Medical services are free for children under the age of 5 and senior citizens above 65 years. Chronically ill patients are also exempted from paying medical fees

Diseases

The most common disease in the area is malaria. This is followed by sexually transmitted diseases (STD) which are very common among young people aged between 15 and 25 years. The other diseases are, diarrhoea, chest infections, swelling on the knees, coughing, knee infections, bilharzia and malnutrition.

HIV/AIDS

There are no screening facilities at Lwawu Health Centre for HIV/AIDS; hence there is no definite information regarding the magnitude of the problem. The clinical staff at the Health Centre, however, could not rule out the presence of HIV/AIDS because of the alarming increase in STDs cases in the area. The HIV/AIDS campaigners are reaching out to schools to create awareness on the scourge to pupils. In line with the Catholic policy on condoms, the distribution of condoms is not officially permitted at the health centre because the centre is owned by the Catholics. The staff seconded from the main hospital, however, distributes condoms contrary to the Catholic policy. Apart from the pupils, most of the people in the area are not conversant on the issues pertaining HIV/AIDS.

Availability of Drugs

Since the introduction of the medical kits system the Health Centre and CHWs do not have a problem with the availability of drugs for minor illnesses. The health centre receives monthly allocations of drugs from DHMT. The health centre also distributes drugs to the community health workers and traditional birth attendants. Most of the people interviewed in the area stated that they do not have problems with drugs at the health centre.. The latter only has problems with availability of drugs with regards to serious illnesses that need to be attended at the hospital but due to lack of transport at the health centre to transfer serious patients to the main hospital the clinical staff is compelled to attend to such patients though without appropriate medical treatment. The same situation commonly applies with CHWs .

Staffing

Lwawu Mission Health Centre was initially managed by the Catholic nuns who were trained as nurses. Due to dispute between the local communities and the nuns the latter withdraw their services and temporally closed the centre until the DHMT took it over. At the moment the staff at the health centre is temporal . The centre is run by a male nurse who is assisted by an Environmental Health Technician. Both the male nurse and the technician are seconded from the main hospital. The Health Centre is supplemented by the services of the CHWs in the communities .

Barriers to Quality Health Services

The Kanongesha community has easy access to the Community Health Workers but the CHWs are not competent to attend to serious diseases. Patients have consequently to travel long distances to Lwawu Mission Health Centre. The health centre does not have sufficient medical equipment such as malaria slides and X-rays. Patients have to be referred to the hospital for diagnosis of the diseases. In most cases most of the patients do not receive adequate medical attention. The people cited the following factors as barriers to quality health service:

- a) Long distance to health facilities
- b) Lack of transport when referred to the hospital
- c) High cost of medical services i.e., hospital

Constraints faced by Health Providers

Communication

Communication between the health centre and the main hospital in Mwinilunga Boma is very difficult. The health centre does not have communication facilities; it relies on radio message facility at the Catholic Mission in sending messages to the main hospital in Mwinilunga Boma.

Transport

The Health Centre has no vehicle to ferry patients that may need urgent attention at the hospital. Like on communication the Centre relies on the Catholic Mission in the provision of transport. There is no guaranty that the Catholic missionaries can provide transport all the time it is required. The two hospitals in Mwinilunga are referred to as 1st referral hospitals. Rural Health Centres refer serious patients to these hospitals. The community health workers are highly utilised in Mwinilunga by the communities. These CHWs are accessible by the communities as they reside within the community. As already indicated the CHWs can only attend to minor diseases and refer serious patients to the rural health centres. However owing to the long distance to the RHC the CHWs attend to these serious patients despite not being competent to handle such cases. TBAs provide maternity and birth delivery services to the communities.

Cost

The cost of medical services varies in the district. The community Health Workers do not charge anything for the services while for the Hospitals and Rural Health Centre medical fees from K500.000 to K1500.00. TBAs provide free services to the Pregnant women in the Communities.

Staffing

Staffing at both hospitals and RHC,s is very poor. The entire district relies on two Doctors who are stationed at the main Hospital in the Boma. Most of the Rural Health Centres (RHC) are manned by under-qualified staff. Only two health centres are manned by Clinical Officers, the rest are manned by either Zambia Enrolled Nurses (ZEN) nurses or classified Daily Employees (CDE).

2.3. The Water and Sanitation Sector

2.3.1 Water

Sources of Water

Being in the equatorial region which is an extension of the rain forest off Congo, Mwinilunga is endowed with abundant water supplies. It receives high rainfall ranging from 120 to 1400mm a year. In addition the district has a good network of slow flowing perennial streams such as Kasampa, Chinkobolu, Kewumba, kaboli, Mantochi, Jobeka, Kachitochi, Kambulu, Kamwenji, Wandondo, Isongela and Lushiba. All these stream from Lwawu river and their sources are within Kanongesha. Many villages are located near streams. This enhances easy accessibility to water. Other villages are situated far away from the streams and draw water from their wells.

In most cases unprotected water from these wells found in the villages is used for domestic purposes. Drinking water is specially sourced from shallow wells dug along the banks off the streams. Despite the abundance of water in Kanongesha, accessibility to safe water still remains a nightmare. About 10 wells were sunk by Rural Water for Health Project three years ago to alleviate water problems the villagers were experiencing. However many more wells need to be constructed that are protected from foreign matters. The only set back is that these wells dry up between September and December every year. Waterborne diseases in the such of diarrhoea and Bilharzia are prevalent in the area because the inhabitants use streams for bathing, washing and soaking cassava which is the staple food in this region. The water fetched from these same streams is used for both drinking and cooking. The inhabitants access water from rivers and streams. Usually the streams are seasonal hence unreliable shallow scoop wells dug near the rivers or streams are also a source of water. They are locally called "ishima" and water drawn from these water points is taken to be safe and clean by the indigenous people in the area. The water is normally used for domestic purposes such as drinking, cooking, washing, bathing and watering their gardens along the river banks. Streams and rivers are commonly used as a source of water. This is a factor which causes waterborne diseases

2.3.2 Sanitation

A good number of villages have toilets and bathing shelters; the condition of these facilities, however, may not always be good. The toilets and bathing shelters are commonly thatched without roof tops on the toilets. Villages without toilets take to the bush to help themselves. The rains also sweep these human wastes into the streams thereby contaminating water. It is, therefore, obvious that polluted water in the streams could be a source of waterborne diseases. The three day survey are conducted in Lwawu, Kayeyi and villages around senior Chief Kanongesha revealed that very few refuse pits and dish racks were constructed. The situation is different in Kakoma where it was revealed during the focus group discussions with 15 women that toilet facilities are not common and that most of the people use the forest and bush for human waste disposal. They added that there were no refuse pits into which to throw garbage. The toilets and the rare bathing structures collapse during the rainy season forcing the population to use kitchens for bathing.

Environmental Health Education

Other than Lwawu and Kanongesha Health Centres, there are no other organisations that are dealing in health, water and sanitation matters. People in these areas desperately need health education so that they get released from diseases that are affecting them as a result of not observing hygiene. With the presence of the Environment Health Technicians, who has just

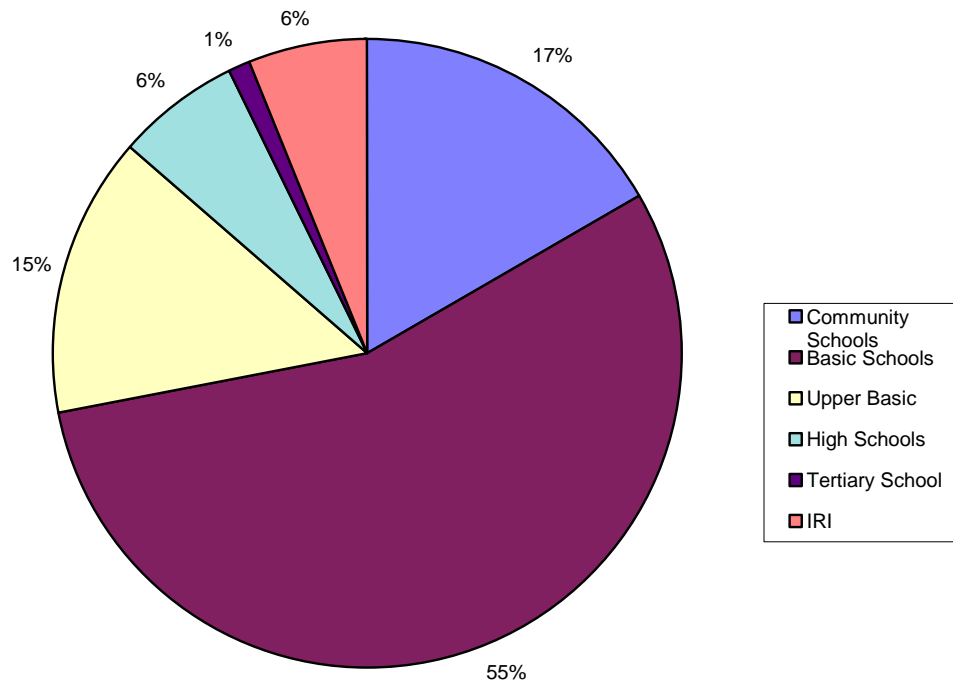
been posted to Lwawu Health Centre aggressive health education campaigns have to be mounted covering all the areas. Senior Chief Kanongesha is keen and ready to work with health institutions in his chieftom in promoting hygiene.

2.4 The Education Sector

The provision of education services is very poor in Mwinilunga. These services are provided by the Ministries of Education, that of Technical Education and Vocational Training (TEVET), and the Ministry Community Development and Social Services as well as private entities.

The current records at the District Education Office revealed that the district has 69 middle and upper basic schools providing primary education , six high schools providing secondary education , 16 community schools , one nursery school ,one tertiary institution and one international school.

The chart below indicates the categories and the percentage of the facilities in the education sector.



The community schools have been established mainly because of the inadequate number of public schools in the area and the long distance it takes for pupils to go to school.

In an effort to enhance the quality of education being delivered to the pupils and improve pupil enrolment levels the District Education Office has implemented various education intervention programs such as :

- a) Interactive Radio Instructions (IRI) programs.
- b) New Break Through To Literacy (NBTL)

- c) Program for the advancement of girl child (PAGE)
- d) Inclusive Schooling Program (INSPRO)

Enrolment levels and Gender

The school enrolment levels are generally very high in grade one, eight and ten. The average enrolment rate for grade one and eight classes is about sixty (60) pupils in a class, whilst that of grade ten is about forty five pupils in class. The numbers of pupils in grade one is normally gender balanced. The enrolment levels by gender in grade eight and ten are, however, not balanced. On average the girl child comprises about 25 per cent of pupils enrolled in grade eight and ten. The progression rate for the girl-child is very low compared to that of the boy-child. The female pupils tend to drop out of school as the grades at school progress. The examination classes which are Grades Seven, Nine and Twelve comprise approximately 80 per cent male pupils and 20 per cent female pupils. A focus group discussion (FGS) conducted with the youth at Kayeyi village sited early marriage as the main cause of high school dropout rates among the girls, and hence the lower numbers of pupils in examination classes. The head teacher at Mulumbi Basic school in the same area stated that the girl child drops out of school normally during Grade Five, Six and Seven mostly because during this period most of females would have reached the adolescent stage, and therefore being attractive for marriage. A ranking and scoring matrix conducted with the same youths attributed long distances to school as one of the major factors which encourage the girl-child to drop out of school.

Progression by Gender

The progression of pupils to high grades is generally very low among the pupils of both gender, however they are more girl-child pupils dropping out school in higher grades. The records reviewed at Mulimbi Basic School indicated that a Grade Five class that had 22 pupils comprising 13 boys and 9 girls in the year 2000 had 14 pupils in the year 2002 in grade seven comprising 11 boys and 3 girls. It was noted that at least 3-5 pupils dropped out of school per class every year at the school. It was further noted through record review that the girl child accounts for at least 75 per cent of the school drop out. The progression of the female pupils is very low in comparison to the boy child. A focus group discussion with pupils at Lwawu attributed the lower progression levels among the girls to early marriages and lack of role models.

With the exception for one school the staffing levels at the schools in Kanongesha are not gender balanced. The area has a high presence of male teachers compared to female teachers.

Infrastructure

Apart from the Secondary School, all the schools are in a deplorable state with regards their physical infrastructure. The classrooms neither have doors nor window pains. Sanitation is poor as they do not have proper toilets nor source of clean water. The schools lack accommodation for teachers. Except for the secondary school and Lwawu primary school other schools accommodate their teachers in grass thatched houses with pit latrines and without running water. A focus group discussion conducted with a group of teachers at Lwawu Day Secondary school revealed that the deplorable state of schools are demoralizing the teachers and consequently having a negative effect on the quality of education being provided to pupils. The respondents further revealed that their school lacked a staff room in which to prepare for lessons. All the teachers' houses in the area are not electrified though in the case of Lwawu Day Secondary School and Lwawu basic school the school premises are electrified leaving while the teachers' houses have been left out. The schools have very few desks for the pupils.

Teaching Materials

The schools in the area experience shortages of teaching materials. This problem was not as big in the primary schools as it was as at the secondary school level. The head teacher at Mulumbi Basic School stated that his school had received a lot of reading materials from the District Education Office but still had inadequate teachers' hand books and teaching aids. The teachers at Lwawu day secondary school stated that they had problems teaching because of lack of teaching materials and teaching aids. The science laboratory at the secondary school are not functional due to lack of laboratory apparatus.

Cost of Education

In line with government policy of free education all the primary schools do not charge any school fees to primary school pupils. The latter are, however, required to pay fees at secondary school levels. Lwawu Day Secondary School the only secondary school in the area charges a total of fifteen thousand Kwacha per term for school fees and Parents Teachers Association (PTA) fees. Most of the pupils cannot afford to pay this amount in cash. Hence the school has encouraged the parents who cannot afford to pay cash to pay in kind, especially in the form of stocks such as maize, cassava or any other farm produce that can easily be converted to cash by the school authorities. The brother in charge of the Catholic mission where the secondary school is situated provides some form of part time employment for pupils during weekends and holidays. The pupils engaged to work for the brother are not paid cash but instead the brother pays the school directly as school fees for the pupils.

According to both the pupils and the teachers at the school they are very few incidents of pupils dropping out school as the result of failure to pay school fees. However, most of the pupils have difficulties in paying for their examination fees at grade nine and grade twelve. This prevents some pupils from writing examinations despite having reached grade nine or twelve.

Pupils at primary schools in the area are not obliged to wear school uniforms. Hence, pupils who cant afford to buy uniforms can still attend school. The secondary school requires all its pupils to wear uniforms. It is, however, very tolerant of pupils who cannot afford to buy uniforms especially for the first term of the academic year and specifically for new entrants into the school.

HIV/AIDS

All the schools have incorporated HIV/AIDS education in their curricula. As a result of this most of the pupils are aware of the epidemic though the area has high levels sexually transmitted disease (STD). The secondary school which is situated in the Catholic mission is highly affected by this scourge. The distribution of condoms is not permissible at the local clinic which is situated in the same Catholic Mission premises as the secondary school. During the focus group discussion conducted with the students at the secondary school the students acknowledged receiving enough information on HIV/AIDS. They also pointed out that the use of condoms among the sexually active pupils was minimal.

School Committees

The communities in Chiefs Kanongesha and Kakoma's areas are highly involved in the school activities through the Parents Teachers Association (PTA) and school projects committees. The PTAs play an advisory role in the running of the schools whilst the School Projects Committees are involved in the maintenance of the school infrastructure, building new classrooms and

teachers accommodation. The gender composition of these committees is 50/50. The PTA as the Secondary School is inactive . The teachers interviewed on the PTA committee expressed ignorance on the latter’s activities.

Factors limiting access to Education

The Matrix reproduced below was done by a group of pupils at Kakoma; it indicates the difficulties faced by the pupils in accessing quality education. The higher the score the bigger the constraint.

ISSUES	SCORES	MARKS	RANKING
Poor infrastructure	***** *'	6	2
Shortage of teachers	*****	5	3
Poor Sanitation/No toilets and Drinking water	***	3	5
Pressure for marriage	*****	5	3
House hold chores	****	4	4
Pregnancies		0	6
Long distance	*****	7	1
Lack of Secondary school in the area	*****	5	3
Initiation ceremony	****	4	4
Physical work at	***	3	5

Source: Drawn by a group of pupils at Kakoma.

2.5 The Mining Sector

Mining activities in Mwinilunga district are confined mainly to exploration of minerals, especially gold and diamonds. The area has attracted mining investors both local and international. The District has no government department co-ordinating mining activities. The District Administrator’s Office is currently responsible for the coordination these activities. A Semi - Structured interview with on of the explorers revealed that the area has some presence precious mineral deposits and explores have already discovered some minute deposits of gold and diamonds.

2.6 The Tourism Sector

Mwinilunga district has one major traditional ceremony that attracts tourists especially local tourists from within Zambia. The ceremony is referred to as the *Chisemwa cha Lunda*. The Monitoring Team learnt that male adults make a lot of money during this ceremony. They go out into the bush and hills to hunt game for sale during the ceremony. Some wild game comes from across Angola and sold to visitors who attend this ceremony. The women said that they normally make very little money for their capacity to raise income is limited.

The preservation of the Lunda culture was said to be the most outstanding purpose and advantages of the Chisemwe Cha Lunda traditional ceremony. The ceremony serves the purpose of enabling people to learn more about their culture and helps the people to pass cultural traditions and values from one generation to another. The ceremony was said to provide an opportunity for the local people market their local produce. The people in the area pointed out that there were no disadvantages of the Chisemwa Cha Lunda Ceremony.

They are other potential tourist attractions in Mwinilunga such as

- a) the source of the Zambezi River

- b) the Zambezi Rapids and
- c) Kabompo Gorge on the Kabompo River and
- d) the Chisemwa Chalunda Traditional Ceremony.

Lack of publicity has been the major constraint in the Tourism sector.

2.7 The Energy Sector

Wood and hydro-electricity are the main two sources of energy used in. The most widely used source of energy. It is used for cooking and lighting purposes. The wood is collected from the forest. There was an awareness that long term effects of forest depletion were negative. These effects include increased incidents of wind, increased soil erosion and reduction in mushrooms.

It was also noted that there was not much commercial exploitation of trees for charcoal production. The respondents indicated that firewood collection is done by all irrespective of gender. However, female, argued that they collect wood more frequently than their male counterparts. The use of thermo electricity is localised at the Boma. only.

3. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mwinilunga district was one of the five that were selected for the first phase of the PRSP monitoring which took place in May 2003. The research exercise was a follow-up to the October 2002 Baseline Study which generated benchmark data on which to base subsequent monitoring exercises.

Except for the HIPC funds which were reported to have been used in the promotion of the fishing industry through fish pond farming not much else had taken place in the agricultural sector since October 2002. Cassava was still the main crop. Maize, rice, sorghum finger millet, pineapples and sweet potatoes were also grown. Major constraints being faced in the agricultural sector were inadequate farm implements, limited access to farm credit, markets, extension services and poor condition of the roads. In addition there is hardly any commercial farmer from whom the indigeneous subsistence farming community can learn from.

It is here recommended that the above mentioned constraints, particularly farm credit, markets, extension services be addressed. The credit could include a component which will enable farmers to access farm implements which were perceived to be their biggest constraint.

Malaria, diarrhoea, sexually transmitted diseases, chest pains, malnutrition, bilharzias and coughing were reported to be the main health problems in Mwinilunga district. The latter has two hospitals and a number of health centres. A number of trained community health workers, namely, TBAs, CHWs supplement qualified health personnel in the health centres.

One positive reality was that drugs were not problematic. The drug kit ensures adequate drug supplies in health centres. Distance to the health centres and consequent high costs of both the transport and the health centres were noted as barriers to quality health services in the two rural study sites. Another issue which has adverse effects on the health of the population is inadequate access to good quality and safe drinking water. Most of the water used is from rivers and streams.

There is, therefore, urgent need to address the water supply system in the district. PRSP interventions which were hardly heard of in the course of field work should be used in providing boreholes to the population.

The major findings on the education sector were:

- inadequate number of public schools in the district,
- high dropout rates of pupils, particularly female pupils in the high grades,
- poor and dilapidated school infrastructure,
- poor sanitation at school, i.e. very few or no toilets,
- Distance to school,
- Poor school infrastructure and shortage of qualified teachers

Factors responsible for the above should be addressed. Community sensitisation on early marriages and the value given to girl education which were said to be responsible for girl-pupil high dropout rate should be mounted. PRSP/HIPC interventions and funding should be seen and should be used to rehabilitated the dilapidated school infrastructure as well as build more schools, thereby reduce distances to school which were perceived to be the biggest constraint to quality education in the district.

Mwinilunga district has a number of tourist attractions which need development. They include the source of the mighty Zambezi river and the rapids on it, the Kabompo Gorge and the Chisemwa Chalunda Traditional Ceremony. These potential tourist attractions are hardly known by the rest of the country. An effort to publicise and develop them will go a long way in reducing poverty in the district since it will bring in employment and money..

POVERTY MONITORING REPORT

PETAUKE DISTRICT

**COMMISSIONED BY CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION
(CSPR)**

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May 2003

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the Zambia's classification as a Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) in 1999, it was obliged to prepare a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper or PRSP in short. The process of preparing the PRSP was concluded in 2002 and implementation begun started the same year.

In order to ensure that the implementation in the PRSP is successful, civil society, through Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) has embarked on monitoring how the PRSP is being implemented and what impact the strategies are having on communities. As a starting point, a joint baseline survey on poverty was conducted by CSPR and ZAMSIF in October 2002 in the nine provinces.

To track changes between 2002 and 2003, CSPR undertook a rapid poverty assessment survey in five of the nine provinces namely Luapula, Eastern, Western and North – Western provinces. This report is for Petauke district in Eastern province where the rapid assessment was undertaken from 12 May 2003 to 24 May 2003.

As regards findings, the survey revealed that the agriculture is still faced with a number of constraints. To start with, there is limited availability and hence access to credit to allow for adequate investment in the sector. Extension services for both veterinary and crops are not favourable due to inadequate staff, lack of transport and protective clothing for the available staff, among other constraints. Furthermore, the road infrastructure including feeder roads is very bad and makes transportation of inputs and produce very difficult. Other problems in the sector include soil infertility, lack of markets for agriculture produce and HIV/AIDS.

However, both the community and agriculture staff highlighted a notable improvement in relation to input delivery. It was mentioned that for the first time in five years, the district received inputs on time and at a subsidised cost. This has resulted in improved food security this year due to a high crop yield.

In the health sector, the survey revealed that the major prevalent diseases in the district are malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory infections, TB and HIV/AIDS. The sector has a number of problems ranging from infrastructure to drug availability. The three hospitals and 26 RHCs in the district are not adequate for the population. This is coupled with inadequate bed spaces, mortuaries, transport and very few communication facilities such as radios. It was discovered that staffing levels are very low especially for nursing cadres while drugs were said to be rarely available.

Water and sanitation equally was found not to have improved from the baseline survey. The districts suffer from an erratic supply of water while sanitation facilities are very few.

With respect to the education sector, the survey revealed that the free primary education has eased the burden on parents to secure school requisites such as exercise books, pencils, uniforms and textbooks among others. Together with the New Break Through to Literacy (NBTL) programme, enrolment ratios at grade one level have significantly improved. This improvement might however be hindered by lack of poor physical infrastructure, low staffing levels as well as teacher morale. While the primary level is recording some improvements, the secondary level seem not to be getting better. Apart from one school, which is being rehabilitated through HIPC resources, the rest of the schools do not have adequate resources to undertake rehabilitation work.

In order to improve the above situation, a number of interventions need to be put in place. In the agricultural sector, government should continue and improve on the timely and distribution delivery of inputs to the district. Extension services need improvement while soil conservation methods existing in the district should be encouraged and expanded. The road infrastructure in the district is a disaster and requires urgent attention starting from the main road (Great East Road) to feeder roads.

In the health sector, there is need to build at least more health centres while infrastructure and bed spaces at the existing hospitals should be upgraded. The disease burden for the district seems to have a similar trend and can therefore be greatly reduced if preventive measures were focused on. Improving the water and sanitation situation would assist in reducing the disease burden particularly for diseases such as diarrhoea.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	HUMAN IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME
CEMP	COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME
CLUSA	
CSPR	CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION
DACO	DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL COORDINATOR
DEO	DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICIAL
D-WASHE	DISTRICT WATER AND SANITATION HEALTH
ESP	ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME
FAO	FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION
FGD	FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS
HIPC	HIGHLY INDEBTED POOR COUNTRIES INITIATIVE
HIV	HUMAN IMMUNE VIRUS
IFIS	INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
IMF	INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
LWF	LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION
MACO	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES
MBT	MICRO BANKERS TRUST
NGO	NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
NGOCC	NON-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
OPD	OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT
PAM	PROGRAMME AGAINST MALNUTRITION
PRA	PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL
PRSP	POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY PAPER
RCF	RURAL CREDIT FACILITY
RHC	RURAL HEALTH CENTER
RTI	RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION
SRP	SOCIAL RECOVERY PROJECT
SSIS	SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS
T.B	TUBERCULOSIS BACILLI
WB	WORLD BANK
YMCA	YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA
ZAMSIF	ZAMBIA SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND
ZARTEC	
ZAW	ZAMBIA ALLIANCE OF WOMEN
ZHDI	ZAMBIA HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

PERSONS INTERVIEWED

Mr. Pelekamoyo	District Education Officer
Mr. Elijah Siame	Acting District Agriculture Coordinating Officer
Mr. S. Goma	Manager- Administration, District Health Management (DHMT)
Mr. Valentine B. Mushipi	Internal Auditor, Petauke District Council
Ms. Sandra M. Katamba	Clerical Officer, Department of Water of Affairs, Urban Water Supply
Mr. Japhet M. Zulu	Administrator, Nyanje Mission Hospital
Mr. Emmanuel Phiri	Information Officer, Nyanje Mission Hospital
Ms. Alibes Phiri	Teacher, Nyanje Middle Basic School
Chieftainess Nyanje	Chieftainess, Nyanje Study Site
Mr. Davies Siwo	Block Extension Officer, Nyanje Study Site
Mr. Thomas Mwale	Councilor, Nyanje Ward
Mr. Donald Sakala	Councilor, Nyika Ward
Mr. Alick Banda	Councilor, Chilimanyama Ward
Mr. Chanda Zulu	Nurse In Charge, Chikuse Rural Health Center
Mr. Joseph Y. Phiri	Headmaster, Monde High School

CHAPTER ONE

1. BACKGROUND

Zambia's economic down turn begun in the mid 1970s with the increase in world oil prices and a fall in the price of copper. In the mid 1980s, the country experienced one the most rapid economic decline in Sub Sahara Africa and now ranks as one of the Least Developed Countries in the world. According to the 1999/2000 Zambia Human Development Report, Zambia's Human Development Index (ZHDI) started to decline in 1985 and accelerated in the 1990s. Some of the factors that led to this decline include life expectancy, which fell drastically from 55 years in 1990 to 37 years in 1998 while the full education enrollment ratio for school children dropped. Additionally, per capita income fell from USD451 in 1976 to USD300 in 1997 due to low economic activity, high inflation rates and population growth rates experienced in the 1980s and 1990s. The debt burden together with unfavorable terms of trade compounded the situation leading to unprecedented poverty.

As a result of the declining economy and the resultant poverty levels, Zambia qualified for the decision point of the Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Initiative in December 1999 and was required to prepare a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP). PRSPs are currently core to the anti poverty framework announced earlier in 1999 by the World Bank (WB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and are designed to ensure that debt relief provided under the HIPC Initiative, and concessional loans from the International Financial Institutions (IFIs), are directed towards poverty reduction efforts in the poorest and most indebted countries. Consequently, all HIPC countries including Zambia are required to prepare a PRSP outlining poverty reduction goals and plans for attaining them and, demonstrate progress towards these goals before deeper debt relief can be released.

In June 2000, Zambia embarked on the preparation of the PRSP through a very consultative process involving different stakeholders, among them civil society. Zambia's PRSP was approved by Cabinet in April 2002 and was submitted to Boards of the WB and IMF in May 2002. The two institutions endorsed the document as a robust platform for addressing issues of poverty in Zambia and the Government has since started implementing policies in this document.

In order to track progress being made by the implementation of the PRSP and assure its success, civil society through the Civil Society for Poverty reduction (CSPR) has undertaken to monitor the implementation process. The CSPR would be monitoring implementation of the PRSP two times in a year: in mid- year and towards the end of the year. The two periods have been selected because they will be able to reflect the seasonality dimension of poverty since the first period is a harvesting period while the second period is usually a period when majority of the people have run oare just running out of food stuffs. Undertaking poverty assessments during only one of the periods is unlikely to reflect the true picture of poverty situations throughout the year.

As a starting point, a baseline survey on the poverty situation was undertaken in September and October 2002 covering all the nine provinces in the country. This study was conducted in conjunction with the Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF). As a follow up to the 2002 baseline survey, CSPR conducted rapid poverty assessments in five of the nine provinces involving Eastern, Luapula, Northwestern, Western and Southern Provinces. The purpose of this survey was to track any changes between 2002 when PRSP implementation begun and now (May 2003).

1.1 Objectives

The main objective of this research is as follows;

- To monitor the impacts of the PRSP interventions on people's lives;
- To generate and assess levels of community participation and perceptions of the poverty situation in relation the PRSP since the last (2002) Baseline Poverty Assessment;
- To come up with information and data for updating the PRSP.
- To come up with community-bred recommendations on how best to fill the gaps and inadequacies of the interventions.

1.2 Methods

The monitoring methods used in this monitoring process was participatory using Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques, listed in the table below. Different techniques were used to capture specific issues from specific respondent groups, which included men's group, women's group, youth groups and traditional authorities or leaders at community level and government official and politicians at district level.

Table 1: List of PRA techniques used in the PRSP monitoring

PRA technique	Group	Poverty Issues
• Semi-Structured Interviews (SSIs)	Health personnel, Teachers, Traditional leaders, Heads of government departments, ward councilors	General poverty issues according to specific PRSP sector
• Social maps	Men, women and youth groups	Child headed households, female headed households, number of widows, households headed by the aged
• Ranking and scoring	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, prevalent diseases
• Gender Analysis matrix	Men, women and youth groups	Crops grown, access to land, control of productive natural resources, control of household incomes, access to credit facilities and agricultural extension services
• Seasonality analysis	Men, women and youth groups	Diseases, food security
• Wealth ranking	Men, women and youth groups	Perceptions of poverty and categorizing poverty levels in respective communities
• Trend analysis	Men, women and youth groups	Income levels, crop yields, rainfall, agricultural input provision, food security
• Flow charts	Men and women	Poor farming, water and sanitation
• Sequence ranking	Men and women	Disease treatment

1.3 Sampling

Sampling of monitoring sites was based on the selection or sampling criterion that was used in the October 2002 PRSP Baseline Study in which the following sites were sampled on the basis of different sources of livelihoods. The study sites were:

1.3.1 Nyanje Site

Nyanje site was purposively selected based on the high poverty levels, growing of paprika as cash crop, distance away from Petauke Central and proximity to the Mozambique border.

1.3.2 Chikuse Site

Chikuse grows a much wider variety of cash crops including cotton, groundnuts and sunflower. Chikuse has also well-established education and health centers built with the assistance of the then Social Recovery Project (SRP).

1.3.3 Petauke Peri-urban Site

The peri-urban community largely depends on the informal economic sector, which is supplemented with maize growing around the township.

Respondents in the monitoring sites were sampled by availability sampling for community groups. While for government officials, traditional leaders and ward councilors and in terms of sampling were sampled purposively.

1.4 Monitoring Team

The monitoring team was composed of representatives from Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) member organizations, which included Non Governmental Coordinating Committee (NGOCC) – Chipata, Young Men Christian Association of Zambia (YMCA) – Chipata, Chalaka Development Project – Chipata, Zambia Alliance of Women (ZAW) – Lusaka and a representative from the CSPR Secretariat in Lusaka.

1.5 Limitations and Experiences

1. Transport to and from study sites was unreliable resulting in losing time meant for monitoring. The team lost a full day and a half of the study time due to transport constraints.
2. It was difficult to gather the needed number of community due to poor communication. Due to lack of own transport we were relying other people for transport to deliver the letter/ message of the monitoring exercise. This delayed the delivery of the messages hence the problem of having the needed number of community members.
3. Power failure in the township on two different days delayed the preparation of site reports.

CHAPTER TWO

2 LIVELIHOODS

2.1 Agriculture

2.1.1 Crop Farming

Agriculture is the main source of livelihoods for the people of Petauke District. This came out from Nyanje and Chikuse sites. This includes mainly crop farming and livestock rearing. Crops grown are maize, ground nuts, sunflower, cassava, beans, paprika, cotton and sweet potatoes. The three study communities ranked these crops according to perceived importance. The ranking is shown in the diagramme below:

Visual 2: Crops grown in the three study sites as ranked by the community

Crop	Nyanje	Chikuse	Petauke Urban
Maize	1	1	1
Ground nuts	2	2	2
Beans	4	6	-
Sunflower	4	5	-
Cassava	3	-	3
Cotton	-	3	4
Paprika	-	4	-
Sweet potatoes	5	-	-

Rank 1 means commonly grown crop

Rank 5 is the least commonly grown crop

Source: Drawn by communities in the respective sites

Maize and groundnuts are the major crops grown in Petauke. Maize and groundnuts are grown by almost all households largely for subsistence purposes and surplus is for sale. Other crops such as cotton, paprika and sunflower are grown as cash crops. These are supported by out-grower schemes, namely, the Cooperative League of the United States of America (CLUSA), Dunavant and Clark Cotton.

This pattern of crop farming in terms of predominant crops grown in the district does not show variations from the 2002 baseline survey. However, in terms of agricultural support to local subsistence farmers there has been a positive change as a new cash crop, namely, paprika, has been introduced. In Chikuse, for instance, the community mentioned that CLUSA is new in the area and has introduced paprika as a cash crop through its out-grower scheme for the 2002/03 growing season.

2.1.1.1 Agricultural Input

There has been a remarkable change in the delivery of farm inputs. The community mentioned that during the 2002/03 season they received inputs (fertilizer and seed) on time from the government and other input providers compared to the 2001/02 season. In fact this was mentioned to be the first time the input delivery was on time in five years. Table 2 below shows organizations that have provided input support to farmers in the district.

Table 2: Organizations providing agricultural input support to the communities in Petauke District

Organisation	Input Support Provided		
	Nyanje	Chikuse	Petauke Urban
FAO/PAM	Fertilizer	-	-
PAM	Fertilizer	-	-
Government (MACO)	Seed / fertilizer	Fertilizer/ Seed	Fertilizer/seed
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Seed	-	-
Sable Transport	Loans	-	-
Clark Cotton	Loans	Seed	-
Dunavant	Loans	Seed/ pesticides	-
CLUSA	-	Loans	-
Micro-Bankers Trust (MBT)	Loans	-	-
Rural Credit Facility (RCF)	Loans	-	-

Source: field data from the respondents

The table above shows three main categories of input providers. First are non governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations, the Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM), CLUSA and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF). Secondly is government through the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and lastly is the private sector (Sable Transport, Clark cotton, Dunavant, Micro-bankers Trust and RCF). The input by NGOs was mostly targeted to especially the vulnerable social groups such as child headed households, women headed households, widows, aged and the disabled. For example, the RCF loan facility was given to cooperative societies consisting of 10 to 20 members broken down as follows: 50 per cent women, 15 per cent youths and 35 per cent men. Government provided subsidized inputs targeted towards maize production.

The private sector provided loans for cash crop growing. The cash crops being cotton, paprika and sunflower. MBT provided general agricultural loans to two groups in Nyanje.

Though inputs were on time during the 2002/03 agricultural season farmers, however, complained that access and distribution of the inputs was not very good in all the study sites the farmers/research participants due to the following reasons:

- a. There was no proper system in place to ensure equitable and transparent distribution of inputs. The community complained that the heads of various government departments benefited more from the input distribution than the communities and targeted social groups. For example in Nyanje the community complained that the Agricultural Supervisor in the area ‘grabbed’ fertilizer inputs from a child headed household without proper explanation. They also complained that only people with money benefited from the input distribution as quoted below.

“enzo pasa a dalama kale osati o vutika” meaning that only people with money were benefiting from the input distribution instead of the poor.

- b. The inputs were insufficient to cater for the majority of households. For example the district received less than what was expected in terms of fertilizer. According to the District Agriculture Coordinator (DACO) the district requirement for fertilizer was 60,000 x 50kg bags but only 32,000 x 50 kilogramme (kg) bags were received. The councilor in Nyanje also pointed out that only 200 households benefited from the farming inputs from approximately 2000 households in his area.
- c. The 50 per cent deposit requirement as down payment by government was considered too high for the majority of the people

- d. The requirement to belong to a cooperative hindered people who do not belong to cooperatives
- e. Fertilizer for sale was more than that for loaning
- f. The politicization of the input distribution confused the process

2.1.1.2 Storage Facilities

According to the DACO Petauke District has adequate storage facilities for both agricultural produce and inputs. For example Nyanje only has six big storage sheds with a minimum capacity of 7000X50kg bags and the maximum of 16000X50kg bags. In addition to the six big storage sheds there are two smaller sheds with a capacity of 200-300X50kg bags and household granaries of varying capacities.

2.1.1.3 Extension Services

Petauke District is divided into five blocks, which are divided into 44 camps with only 20 manned by extension officers. According to the DACO the 24 camps are not manned due to lack of suitable personnel and loss of manpower due to HIV/AIDS. In terms of service provision, the community mentioned that they have no problems with extension services. They said that they do get technical services from extension officers. However, this was not the case with two rural sites visited. For example in Nyanje, of the eight camps in the block, only four are manned. The Agricultural Block Extension Supervisor explained that even those that are manned are not adequately provided with extension services due to impassable roads, lack of protective wear and of transport and in some cases absence of bridges. The community in Nyanje also stressed that the Agricultural Officer is selective in providing services to beneficiaries. In most cases he only selects his friends and close relatives. In Chikuse, there has been no replacement of the Block Supervisor since the one who was there retired.

In those areas which are not manned, however, the MACO makes use of experienced farmers to provide extension services as a coping strategy. In Nyanje the Block Extension Officer mentioned that they are also trying to sensitize the communities to organize themselves so that they can discuss agricultural issues through a participatory or peer approach.

2.1.1.4 Crop Yields

In terms of agricultural yields, the people in all the sites mentioned that the 2002/03 season will have a high crop yield compared to the 2001/02 season. The DACO confirmed this by saying that this year alone (2002/03 season) the district is expecting at least 1,500,000 bags of maize. This high yield is attributed to timeliness of inputs and good rains during the 2002/03 season. In Nyanje the people also attributed the good crop yields in the 2002/03 season to conservation farming (locally called *gampani*) by those who applied it. However, in Chikuse the men complained of heavy rains, which came too late and were destructive to their crop fields causing soil erosion and leaching of soil nutrients. This situation was feared to reduce crop yields for some people. However, compared to the 2001/02 season, the last season (2002/03) was relatively better off.

2.1.2 Livestock

Major livestock reared in the district are cattle, pigs, goats, chickens and ducks. Cattle are largely used for transport, consumption, drought power and prestige while goats, pigs and chickens are

used for consumption. However, according to the DACO the livestock industry in the area is frustrated by east coast fever. The District has limited veterinary services with some communities owning dipping facilities and others having no veterinary services at all.

2.1.3 Fisheries

The district has one dam and sixteen fishponds located in Nyanje. The District Council owns the dam while the fishponds are owned by MACO. In addition to the above there are small fishponds owned by farmers. According to the Agricultural Block Extension Supervisor and field observations only two fishponds out of sixteen are functional due to lack of canal and fishpond maintenance. Both the fishponds and the dam were said to have a lot of fish but the whole District including the surrounding community does not benefit from this resource. There is rampant poaching of fish. The district authority does, however, not appear to know about it.

Information from the community revealed that anyone harvesting fish pays a certain fee to the Block Extension Officer. Both the district officials and the community do not, however, know whom this revenue end up with. On maintenance of the canal, information obtained from the DACO revealed that K6 million from the African Development Bank (ADB) was released in the first quarter of 2003 for dredging. This contradicted the information given by the Nyanje Block Extension who claimed that no funds had been released for any maintenance work. Meanwhile, a physical check showed that no single maintenance had been carried out indicating that the allocated funds went missing along the way.

The main purpose of creating the dam and fishponds was to improve the nutrition status in the district as well as provide revenue to the Government and the local authority through selling of fish and fingerlings. In the current circumstances, this is not the case.

2.1.4 Constraint and Problems In the Agricultural Sector

The major problems and constraints experienced in the agricultural sector during the 2002/2003 farming season were:

a) Agricultural Input Provision and Distribution

There was a general complaint that there was no input distribution system in the 2002/03 input distribution and that the process of distribution lacked transparency. The people mentioned that there was no information given on the requirements for accessing the inputs.

- Example 1 A group of 27 members in Nyanje had 14 bags of fertilizer removed from their consignment without proper explanation and when the group approached the Agriculture Block Extension Officer for explanation he said that the names he had removed from the list of beneficiaries means that those people will not be accounted for as loanees. As a group they were worried because loan repayment is a group's responsibility not individual.
- Example 2 Similarly, four fertilizer bags (2 down and 2 top) were grabbed from a child headed household without explanation and advised them to buy from him if they needed fertilizer.

In addition, the inputs delivered fell far below the demand while the distribution process was politicized.

Soil Infertility

Soil infertility was cited as a major constraint due to continuous cultivation of same pieces of land for a prolonged period. This has contributed to low crop yields and over dependence on fertilizer, which is beyond the economic reach of majority households. To redress this situation, MACO is promoting soil fertility management methods such as conservation farming (*gampani*), crop rotation and fallow.

HIV/AIDS

The situation of HIV/AIDS pandemic was said to be serious in the district. According to the DACO, the department is badly hit especially the camp extension staff leading to a lot of vacancies. Small-scale farmers were equally said to have been badly hit.

b) Marketing

Due to lack of a proper marketing, brief case buyers are exploiting the communities since they set prices for purchasing their products, which are in most cases below production costs.

c) Road Infrastructure

Poor road infrastructure is a serious constraint to agriculture in the district. Most of the roads, including the Great East Road, are in deplorable state. This was reported during the October 2002 Baseline Study. The district authorities mentioned that the district had received K300 million HIPC funds towards the grading of some feeder roads (a total of three roads – one in each constituency). The following roads have benefited from these funds: *Chisenjere*, *Chikuse* and two other roads in *Musumbazi* and *Ongolwe* wards. The HIPC funds were allocated early in 2002 but due to administrative bureaucracy the money was only received in early December 2002. The grading of roads started immediately but was suspended in January due to heavy rains and only resumed in April 2003. However, the grading is hampered by lack of adequate machinery as the council has only one grader.

d) Extension Services

Extension services in the district are generally poor due to firstly inadequate staff, and then lack of protective clothing, poor road infrastructure, lack of bridges in some areas and transport. The community Nyanje also cited a tense relationship between itself and the Agricultural Block Extension Officer due to his lack of respect for traditional and civic authorities and supposedly under-hand methods in his official dealings.

The Agricultural Block Extension Officer also mentioned that the area has inadequate extension staff, a situation that has affected the servicing of other farm camps as cited earlier on.

2.2 Other sources and efforts of improving livelihoods

Other sources of livelihoods in the district include retail and other small-scale traders, vegetable gardening and beekeeping, which is being piloted in Nyanje. The beekeeping project in Nyanje is being promoted under the Community Environmental Management Programme (CEMP) of the Environmental Support Programme (ESP). The project aims at empowering women and has so far received K15,000,000. However, the women involved in the project mentioned that there is no financial accountability on the part of facilitators. For example the women in the area complained that they were coerced to sign the financial report of the first tranche of

K15,000,000 of which they did not approve. The women further stated that they are not involved in decision-making of the project.

2.3 Changes and Developments

In relation to the PRSP indicators for the agricultural sector very few farmers are accessing extension services due to the following reasons inadequate extension staff, poor road infrastructure, lack of transport and protective clothing for extension staff. Veterinary services are very limited resulting in the proliferation of livestock disease burden. government's effort towards improving soil fertility and crop yields, however, has yielded some desirable results as it has enabled a few farmers to practice conservation farming (locally known as *gampani*) and crop rotation. In addition, the private sector is promoting out grower schemes in cotton, paprika and sunflower.

Agricultural production in the district was said to be constrained among other things lack of draught power. Very few people own cattle and those that own it largely use it for transportation purposes and prestige. Small-scale farmers who largely depend on rainfall for their agricultural activities do most of the farming in the district as there is only one large-scale commercial farmer practices mechanized irrigation in the three sites visited.

As a result of government's assistance in terms of input distribution during the 2002/2003 agricultural season many households said that they have adequate food reserves to last a greater part of the year. However, they expressed fears that this food despite it being adequate will not last till the next season due desperation for money to cater for other household needs such as groceries and school fees and other school requirements.

CHAPTER THREE

3. HEALTH

This section briefly discuss the commonest diseases found in the study areas and the health facilities available to the people.

3.1 Prevalent Diseases

The most prevalent diseases in the district are malaria, diarrhoea, malnutrition, respiratory infections (pneumonia and non-pneumonia), surgical and emergency, skin infections, T.B. and HIV/AIDS. These were scored and ranked as indicated in visual 2 below.

Visual 2 Ranking and scoring of prevalent diseases

Disease	Score	Rank
Malaria	*****	1
Diarrhoea	-	2
Malnutrition/Kwashiorkor	-	-
T.B	*****	-
HIV/AIDS	*****	5
Pneumonia	-	-
Tonsils	-	3
Asthma	***	-

***** More stars (*) means scored highly in terms of prevalent.

Small number means ranked first in terms of prevalence

Source: Women and men FGD groups in Nyanje

Malaria is the most prevalent disease in the district. This was ranked highest in all the three sites. HIV/AIDS, diarrhoea and respiratory disease were also identified and scored highly prevalent in the district. Malaria was said to be more prevalent in the district during hot humid months mostly January to April as indicated in the seasonality analysis diagram below. This high prevalence of malaria around this time season was attributed to the presence tall grass, pools of stagnant water and high temperature.

Visual 3: Seasonality analysis of most prevalent diseases in Petauke Township

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Malaria	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x
Diarrhoea										x	x	x
Boils											x	x
Tonsils	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x
Cough	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x
Eye Infections	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x

(X) – Indicates seasonality of disease

Source: FGD of Women in Petauke Township

The common form of treatment for malaria patients is through administration of chloroquin. However, the clinical officer in Chikuse mentioned that most people are showing resistance to chloroquin treatment. According to the clinical officer preventive measures are not taken seriously as most people in Chikuse sell the mosquito nets that they are given to them.

Diarrhoea was said to be common among children around the dry season from around August to October when the water level is low. This was attributed to poor water quality and sanitation.

The high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the community was attributed to people especially youths, who use condoms, which they perceive are not 100 per cent

These prevalent diseases correlate with high morbidity and mortality rates in the areas with malaria recording the highest number of morbidity and mortality rates followed by respiratory tract infections as depicted in the bar chart reproduced below.:

The above levels of mortality and morbidity if compared to the current trend for the first quarter of 2003 (see table 2 below) show no significant variation in terms of trend. Malaria still accounts for high cases of mortality and morbidity.

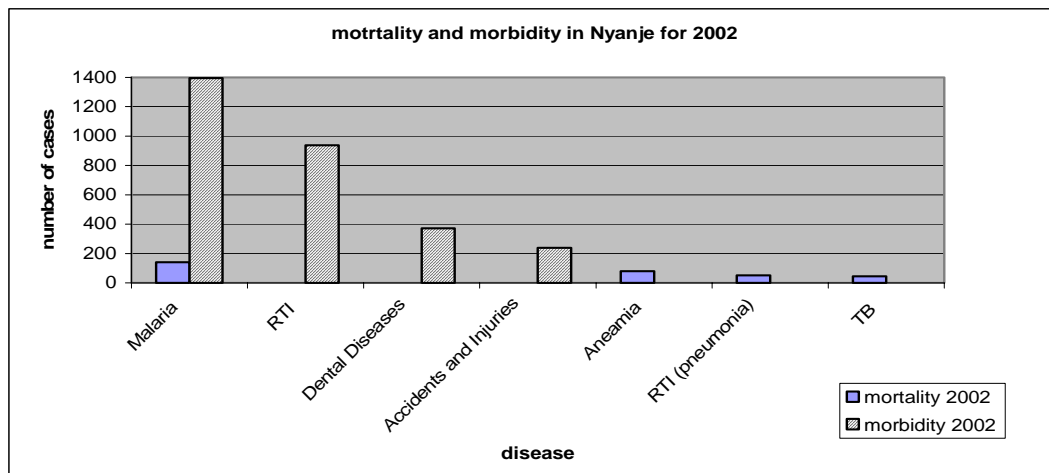
Table 3 Mortality and Morbidity cases in Nyanje for the first quarter of 2003

Disease	Morbidity	Mortality
Malaria	2593	13
Diarrhoea (non-blood)	248	-
Skin Infections	174	-
Malnutrition	-	-
RTI (pneumonia)	-	3
Cardial Vascular Diseases	-	2
Aneamia	-	2

Source: Hospital records in Nyanje

3.2 Health Facilities, Services and Constraints

The entire Petauke District has three hospitals and twenty-six rural health centers. These health centers are far below the demand of the district population. For example in Petauke Urban there is only one clinic for a population of about 26,000. This is the clinic where people are required to go first before going to the hospital. This has resulted in congestion at the clinic. The district also faces a problem of lack of transport for patients. According to the Director of Health the entire Petauke District has only one ambulance which is used for administrative purposes rather than ferrying patients. The health authorities, however, indicated that the one ambulance cannot adequately service the community and this is what has led the people to think that the ambulance is not there to serve them.



The hospitals and rural health centers have inadequate bed spaces compared to the number people admitted. In most cases more than one patient are made to share one bed space regardless of the disease one is suffering from. For example in the male admission ward at Nyanje Hospital the male patients are made to sleep on the floor and these patients are mixed in one ward regardless of disease suffered from. In Petauke Urban and Chikuse the people mentioned that children of eleven years and below are made to share one ward with expectant mothers.

Taking patients to the hospital is, therefore, the sole responsibility of their relatives. This includes even emergency cases. In Nyanje and Chikuse the community said that they use ox-carts and bicycles for transporting patients. The community in Petauke urban said that despite the existence of two ambulances at their hospital, only one is used for service delivery, while the Director of Health uses the other one as a personal to holder vehicle, hence the statement in the above paragraph that the district has only one ambulance.

In terms of communication, most of the Rural Health Centre (RHC) have no communication facilities such as radio and telephone. This makes communication with other RHCs difficult. In Nyanje the existing radio communication system at the hospital is only able to link them to the Petauke Hospital but not the rest of the rural health centers. In Chikuse the community said that in case of an emergency, their RHC sends some one to Petauke District Hospital which is 56km to report the case. This is usually by bicycle or ox-cart. Furthermore, the poor road infrastructure in the whole district is a serious constraint to effective communication by road. Distances between RHCs and referral centers are too long for patients to walk. For example in Nyanje the nearest RHC to Nyanje referral hospital is Sinda Clinic, which is about 24 kilometers (kms) away.

The furthest point is Matambazi, which is about 50kms away. People in Sinda they can book private transport (vehicles), and those from other RHCs use Ox-carts and bicycles.

The health sector in the district is also constrained by lack of adequate health personnel and lack of adequate drug supplies as this affects the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of health services in the district. This problem of inadequate health personnel was mentioned in all the sites visited. For example Nyanje Hospital was said to have a staffing level of 58 personnel. However, the normal establishment of staff is 86, meaning that the hospital is operating at 67 per cent of the normal staff establishment. This understaffing was said to be a serious problem with nursing cadres. However, according to the senior health officials at the hospital the current (2003) staffing levels show a remarkable increase in the staffing level by 17.4 kms from the 2002 level. The community also acknowledged the understaffing of the hospital but mentioned that the addition of one Medical Doctor has slightly improved the situation. In Nyanje, out of the qualified establishment level of three personnel, there is only one Zambia Enrolled Nurse who is currently in charge of the health center. In Comparison to the 2002 poverty baseline survey, the community feels there is an improvement with the deployment of the Nurse at the health center. The community mentioned that this is the first qualified personnel ever stationed at their health center in five years.

Inadequate drug supplies was mentioned in Chikuse and Petauke urban as another constraint to effective and quality health services in the areas. People in Petauke urban complained that drugs are usually not available and clients are made to buy drugs from private drug stores. This inadequate supply of drugs in the hospitals and health centers was attributed to irregular drug supply. For example the district hospital is supposed to receive drugs on a monthly basis but in most cases this is not the case. Instead drug supplies lag behind by one month or more and usually not in sufficient quantities to carter for the demand. Women during a focus group

discussion in Petauke urban cited Malaria and coughing medicines as usually unavailable at the hospital and clinic. However, the nurse at the hospital stated that drug availability is not a problem.

In all the sites visited patients pay user fees to access health services. However, there was a general complaint that the user fees are prohibitive and beyond the reach of the majority. They said that they pay about K1, 000 for registration at the Out-patients Department (OPD) and between K1, 000 and K5, 000 for admission cases. However, for chronic cases user fees do not apply, treatment becomes free of charge. Even though people are made to pay prohibitive user fees, drugs are usually not available and clients are made to buy drugs from private drug stores. This high cost, inefficient and ineffective health service was to make people follow the following sequence in terms of seeking treatment as shown in the sequence diagram below:

Visual 4: Sequence Ranking in Seeking Treatment of Diseases

Disease	Source of Treatment			
	Home	Groceries (<i>Tutemba</i>)	Hospital	Traditional Healer
Malaria	4	1	2	3
T.B	2	1	3	4
HIV/ AIDS	2	1	3	4
Asthma	1	3	2	4
Pneumonia	1	-	2	3
Chest pains	1	3	2	4
<i>Nyamakazi</i>	3	2	4	1
Score	15	11	18	23
Sequence	2	1	3	4

Sequence of seeking treatment of diseases starts with (1), then (2), (3) ending with (4)

Source: FGD with Women in Nyanje

The sequence ranking above shows that many people first try to buy medicines from groceries (*tutemba*) then seek treatment at home before going to the hospital. When it fails then they finally seek treatment from the traditional healers. This kind of sequence in seeking treatment does not guarantee quality and safe treatment in the sense that sellers of medicines from groceries is done by unqualified people making the medicine takers prone to expired, wrong medicines and incorrect dosage.

3.3 Changes and Developments

Changes and developments in terms of the PRSP indicators in the health sector include the improvement in the health facilities and services in the two rural communities visited, namely, Nyanje and Chikuse. In Nyanje the communities indicated improvement and rehabilitation of the health center; the health personnel and field observation by the monitoring team confirmed this improvement and rehabilitation. The hospital personnel also mentioned that the staffing levels of the hospital have improved by 17.5 percent from the staff establishment of 2002, though the overall staff levels is still below the required establishment. In Chikuse the communities mentioned that the clinic is now looking good in terms of the outlook and that they now have a qualified medical staff who is a nurse by profession. However, the community in Petauke Township mentioned that there have been no major positive changes and developments in the health sector from last year (2002).

Compared to the 2002 PRSP baseline survey no changes were mentioned or observed in the health sector regarding prevalent diseases such as HIV/AIDS. The communities indicated that HIV/AIDS was very high amongst the youth groups because they do not practice safe sex. The health centres or hospitals equally lack adequate bed spaces compared to the number of patients admitted. Health facilities and services such as transport (ambulances) and building structures such as admission wards are lacking. The health centres also lack efficient communication facilities. Drug supplies were also said to be inadequate. The average distances to the health centres are also very long for the majority of the people in the district to easily access health services.

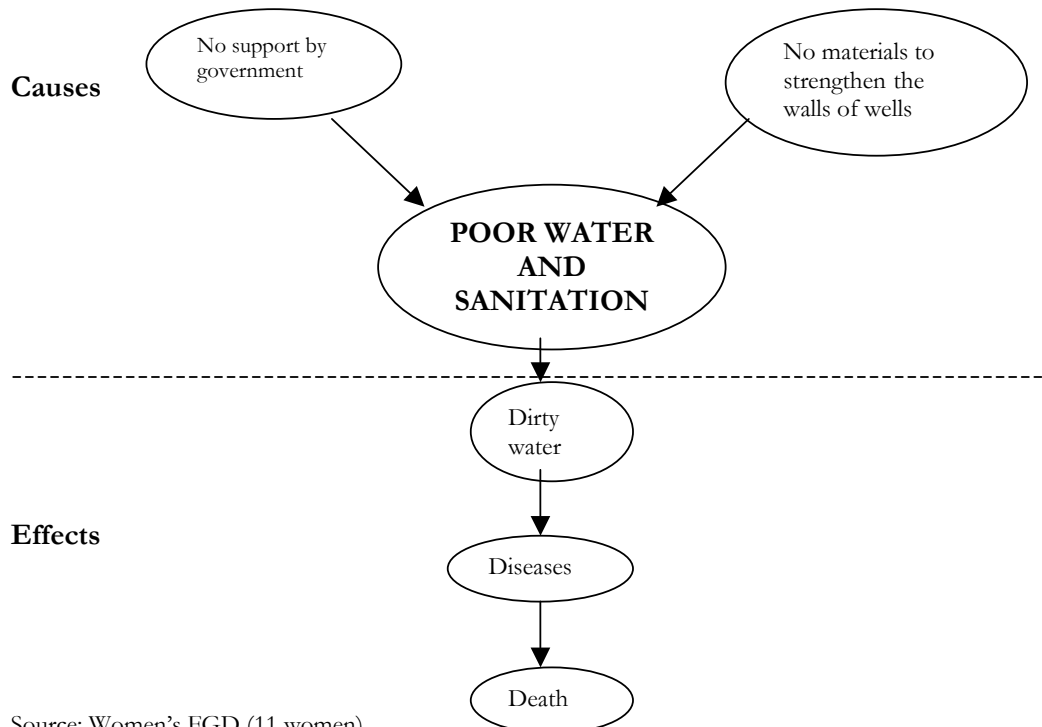
CHAPTER FOUR

4.1 Water and Sanitation

The water and sanitation situation in the area is poor due to lack of adequate boreholes, clean water and pit latrines. The two rural study sites of Chikuse and Nyanje have four boreholes each. One of the four boreholes in Chikuse provides clean water, another provides salty water, the other one was vandalised while the fourth one does not function. All the four boreholes in Nyanje are situated in the chieftness' palace grounds and these water facilities are not accessible to ordinary community members due to the local tradition. In Petauke urban the councillor said that there is one borehole per compound of more than 2000 people indicating limited clean water supplies. In addition the water reticulation system is very poor and usually not maintained resulting in constant shortages of water in the whole township. The township has not benefited from the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme by the Government and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

The other cause of poor sanitation in the district is lack of pit latrines by many households. Most of the households in the area have no proper toilet facilities which promote good sanitary conditions. The community in Nyanje mentioned that they do not have pit latrines because they are not assisted with cement for construction of proper pit latrines. They mentioned inadequate support from Government and lack of materials to strengthen the walls of wells as major causes of poor water and sanitation in their area while diseases and death are its effects. These are indicated in the flow chart reproduced below:

Visual 5 Flow chart showing the causes and effects of poor water and sanitation in Nyanje



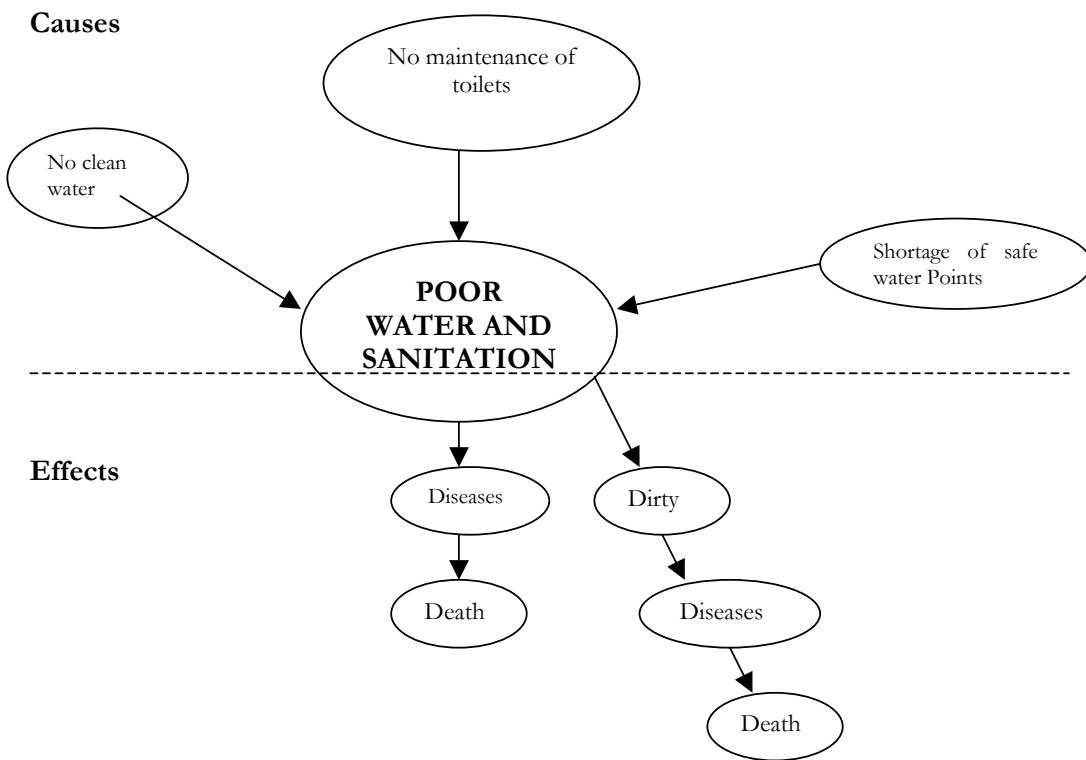
Source: Women's FGD (11 women)

The flow chart shows that poor water and sanitation is perceived to be caused by lack of materials to strengthen the walls of the water wells. This situation leads to dirty and unsafe water

that causes diseases such as diarrhoea which often leads to death. Diarrhoea was mentioned to one of the most prevalent disease in the area during the men’s FGD, which they attributed to hunger, unclean water and lack of proper water sources such as boreholes for the local people. The women also mentioned that they have not received any help from government regarding provision of adequate, clean and safe water as indicated in the flow chart above.

As a coping strategy people have now resorted to using shallow wells (*mchela*) that also pose a danger to their health. The flow chart reproduced below is about using shall wells which produce poor quality water. The digging of shallow wells which are often contaminated with pit latrine contents and is, therefore, not clean and safe for drinking, was attributed to shortage of safe water points. In its turn poor water and sanitation produces diarrhoea and death.

Visual 6 Flow Chart showing the causes and effects of poor water and sanitation in Petauke



Source: Drawn by a Women’s FGD in Petauke urban

4.2 Changes and Developments

No notable changes and developments in the water and sanitation sector in the district were reported by the study communities. The status of the water and sanitation sector is still very poor in the whole district. There was no indication of an improved water and sanitation situation in the district. PRSP indicators have not been achieved. Communities are still lacking access to clean and safe drinking water sources due to lack of adequate boreholes. In the town area of the district there is reduced supply of water now compared to the 2002 baseline survey when water was supplied 24 hours a day. At the time of the last survey, water was being supplied two times a day early morning and evening. This situation was attributed to the fact that some of the boreholes were not functioning: In two other study sites, there were as many as four boreholes out of which only two were operational.

In Petauke urban the councilor mentioned that there was one borehole per residential compound of more than 2000 people. In addition, most people especially in the rural communities as mentioned earlier collect their drinking water from shallow and unsafe water sources called '*Mchela*' in Nsenga language. Furthermore, people walk long distances to fetch water. Many households in the area have no proper or hygienic pit latrines. Despite having the D-washe committees in their areas the communities mentioned that nothing is happening to improve the water and sanitation situation in their areas. The councilor in the urban area of Petauke complained that last year (2002) the District Council engaged a private firm to improve the water reticulation system of the township but up to now no improvements have been made. He said that the company just dug up the trenches to lay the water pipes but did not go further to install the water reticulation system of the township up to now. No reason for their work stoppage has been given.

Clearly, this sector has lagged behind in relation to nearly all sectors in terms of PRSP activities. Access to safe drinking water for both urban and rural; volume of treated water and water facilities provided are still problematic. In addition, water and sanitation has not received any funding from poverty reduction programmes in the district.

Changes and Developments

CHAPTER FIVE

5. EDUCATION

Petauke district has 98 primary schools, 10 secondary schools and 44 community schools. The district also has 23 interactive radio stations to help bring down the high illiteracy levels obtaining in the district. Overall, schools, especially primary schools, are well spaced out with only 10 per cent of school going children having to walk long distances.

5.1 Infrastructure

Most of the school infrastructure in the district is generally poor and inadequate. At best, it needs intensive rehabilitation and at worst, construction of completely new infrastructure especially classroom blocks, teachers' accommodation and administration block. According to the District Inspector of School, most schools in the district have a minimum of two teachers' houses despite the number of teachers available. As an illustration, at Nyanje Middle Basic School, only three teachers' houses are available against eight teachers currently serving at the school. In addition, the available houses are in a dilapidated state and have no electricity despite power lines passing on the houses' roofs. In other instances, pupils are learning in grass thatched mud and pole rooms with virtually no teacher accommodation. In general, the district has a shortage of desks with higher grades such as grade seven pupils having to sit on floor mats.

There are some limited community efforts aimed providing infrastructure such as classroom blocks and teachers' accommodation but very little assistance is being rendered to these efforts. For instance, at Monde High School in Chikuse, the community has been able to construct a 1x4 classroom block and six teachers' houses. Plans are underway to have an administration block built but the school will require a lot more assistance than is currently being received in order to complete the construction. Some assistance has been received from World Vision International (construction of a laboratory) as well Government (roofing sheets). Other efforts to improve infrastructure are underway at Tata, Wakara, Batunjeand, Dambwe, Mbwindi, Sonja High School and Wadimaira. The Catholic was said to be funding some of the works while at Sonja High School HIPC funds are being used.

5.2 Staffing and Teacher Morale

With a shortage of 105 teachers in 2003 which has reduced from 179 in 2002, the staffing situation in the district was said by the District Education Office (DEO) to be improving. The improvement was attributed to the ZARTEC program being implemented by the Ministry of Education. Records show that there are more male teachers in the district compared to females. The district has qualified teachers except in community schools, which has volunteer teachers. To help maintain teaching standards, the DEOs office provides inspection services to these schools.

Despite the said improvements, however, the situation still remains poor especially for rural schools. The most hit schools are community schools, which are largely being manned by unqualified and volunteer teachers. The poor staffing levels has led to a high teacher to pupil ratio averaging 1 to 56.5 for both primary and secondary schools against the recommended ratio of 1 to 42 for primary schools and 1 to 35 for secondary schools.

In Petauke urban, the total number of teachers available is 28 against an establishment of 40 teachers.

The poor staffing levels especially in rural schools was attributed to lack of accommodation for teachers and inaccessibility of some schools due to poor road infrastructure. In Chikuse, for instance, the road to the Boma is nearly non-existent making it impossible for vehicles to reach the area. Consequently, teachers are made to cycle a distance of 30 kilometers to collect salaries and buy basic necessities. This situation is a hindrance to would be teachers particularly female teachers who might find it difficult to cycle a distance of 30 kilometers. Where there is accommodation, most of the houses are in a dilapidated state and lack water supply and any form of power for a decent living. Besides being a hindrance to sending of new teachers, the cited factors play a significant role in diminishing the morale of the already available teachers. The morale is dampened further by what was called poor conditions of service obtaining at the moment. Teachers complained that while rural hardship was meant to mitigate some of these problems, it is not given on time while salaries are normally received late. For new teachers, the procedure for starting getting this allowance is cumbersome and long. Teachers complained about the fact that some of their colleagues who started work as far back as 1998 have not yet started receiving hardship allowance.

The district is heavily affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic with, on average, 15 teachers die every year from the pandemic. This high mortality rate could be a contributing factor to the low staffing levels in the district.

5.3 Teaching and Learning Materials

The procurement of teaching and learning (including those for HIV/AIDS) has improved in the last three years. The materials are sent to the DEO's office for distribution to primary schools. In addition, a grant of K2.6 million from the Ministry per term assists in the acquisition of school requisites. The grant however has been static for some time now and hence has lost buying power originally envisaged due to the persistent rise in prices. For secondary schools, there was no evidence that these materials were being delivered. For example, a check in the stock book at Monde High School revealed that no such materials had been received in the last five years. A further check revealed that for the grade eight class, there was only one textbook for the teacher and one for pupils.

The research team discovered that while the storeroom at the district level was packed to capacity with teaching and learning materials for primary schools, the situation in schools visited was not as expected. While there is an appreciation that some materials are being received, the stocks are not adequate to meet the demand for both teachers and pupils. It was further discovered that certain schools face storage problems for the materials due lack of storage facilities such as cupboards.

5.4 Enrolment, Retention and Progression Rates

The enrolment rates at primary level have dramatically gone up in the last one-year in the district following the introduction of the free primary education policy. According to the community, this policy has eased some burden on parents who previously had to buy school requisites such as pencils, books, uniforms. In addition they are now not required to pay school fees.

According to the DIS, retention rates have improved with grade one classes recording 100 per cent in 2002 while the retention for grades two to seven averaged 86 per cent. Besides the free

primary education policy, improvements in the retention rates have been attributed to the New Break Through to Literacy (NBTL), which is enabling pupils, start reading and writing in the early grades. The following were cited as major hindrances to achieving higher retention rates for grades 2 and above:

- *Chinammali* – a traditional initiation ceremony for girls who have attained puberty age
- For the last two years, the hunger situation kept children out of school as they had move with parents to distant places where they could find food
- Limited furniture for pupils
- Lack of adequate number of teachers due to poor or lack of accommodation and inaccessibility of some schools

Progression rates however were described as the main worry to the district particularly at grade seven where many pupils were unable to proceed to grade eight due to limited funds. The K17 million provided for vulnerable children falls far short of the required funds.

5.5 Changes and Developments

Compared with the baseline of October 2002, not much progress has been achieved in the education sector in Petauke district. The policy of free education has continued to work well resulting in an increased enrolment ratio estimated at 100 per cent in some primary schools. While some improvement was noticed in the availability of teaching and learning materials, a lot still needs to be done here especially in relation to distribution. Another change observed was a marginal increase in the staffing levels. In May 2003, the district had a shortfall of 105 teachers as compared to 179 in October 2002. However, teacher to pupil ratio averaging 1 to 56.5 for primary schools remain one of the highest in the country. On HIV/AIDS, there has been an increase in the number of teachers being lost due to the pandemic from around 10 in 2002 to 15 in 2003 per year.

School physical infrastructure has deteriorated in the district while progression rates have remained poor. With the exception of lower grades, there was a general complaint from education officials about the low progression rates in the higher grades. This was attributed largely to traditional practices, high cost of education especially beyond primary school and the hunger situation experienced by the nation in the last three years. The grant given to the DEOs office to assist the vulnerable children has remained small and has, therefore, not reduced the number of such children from staying away from school.

Comparing the findings to the PRSP, the education sector is lagging behind on most of the indicators outlined in the document. With the exception of the enrolment and pupil text book ratios, the district has remained static on most of the indicators such as progression rates, literacy rates, teacher pupil ratio to mention but a few.

CHAPTER SIX

6.1 Poverty Levels

In all three sites a poor person was said to be characterized by lack of basic necessities for his/her well-being. Therefore, poverty was defined as in the local language as '*keusowa zo funika pa umoyo wathu*,' translated as "leaning what is required in our life".

The communities identified the following as the key characteristics associated with poor persons: lack of clothes and money, laziness and not being married, lack of food and farming implements and/or inputs, inability to access health facilities, ignorance, having no grainary, wear rags and doesn't bath with soap, has a make shift house and so on. Others characteristics include inability to have reliable transport, lack of friends and inability to afford to meet all basic needs in life.

Following the above definition of poverty or characterisation of a poor person the communities in the respective sites indicated that the levels of poverty in their areas are very high. The Wealth Ranking exercise drawn in Chikuse are reproduced below illustrates this point.

Visual 7: Wealth Ranking of the Community in Chikuse

Category	Characteristics	Perceive Number (%)
Poor (<i>Onutika</i>)	Sleeps on the mat; puts on rags; bathes without soap; eats same diet every day; lacks proper accommodation facilities; eats once a day	95
Non- poor (<i>alikhobwino</i>)	Eats throughout the year; uses animal draft power, has good clothing; changes diet; eats more than three times a day; owns some livestock; puts on clean clothes	04
Rich (<i>Olemra</i>)	Owens a tractor, owns a house made of bricks; has a garage; has a grinding mill	01

Source: Drawn by 12 men in Chikuse during an FGD

As indicated in the wealth ranking above the majority of the people are poor. Only about four out of a hundred are non-poor. They said only one person is rich in the area. This person was said to own a house made out of bricks; he also owns a tractor and that he also resides in Paetauke township.

6.2 Changes and Developments

There are no significant indications of the reduction poverty levels in the district. The majority people are still wallowing in abject poverty as indicated under the wealth ranking above. This trend or perceived level of poverty was also observed in the 2002 baseline survey. Meaning that poverty levels in the area have remained the same since the implementation of the PRSP.

CHAPTER SEVEN

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Conclusions

Considering the local people's perception and the general understanding of poverty it can be concluded that poverty levels Petauke District are very high as indicated by the wealth rankings in the preceding paragraph. These high poverty levels do not seem to have significantly changed since the operationalisation of the PRSP in 2002.

The PRSP input indicators on poverty reduction in the various thematic areas or sectors show that very little is being done to reduce the poverty levels in the district and this trend has not changed significantly over the last few years. A number of communities, both urban and rural, in the district do not access to basic requirements for their welfare such as quality health and education facilities and services, safe and clean water; proper sanitation facilities, proper infrastructure such as roads and bridges; and adequate food supplies (food security).

However, some notable changes and developments in poverty reduction according to the PRSP intermediate indicators include the improvements of health facilities and services such as the general rehabilitation of the hospital in Nyanje, which is a referral hospital for a population of over 10,000 people. The hospital has also been beefed up in terms of health personnel by 17.5 per cent from 2001, personnel establishment.

In Chikuse the community mentioned that they have received a qualified health personnel for the first time in five years.

In the education sector the construction of a secondary school with a modern laboratory facility in Chikuse is an intermediate indicator of poverty reduction in the area. Other interventions include school rehabilitation work being undertaken by the Catholics and through HIPC resources and the free primary education policy currently underway. A lot remains to be done in order to improve the situation in the sector.

In terms of food security the increased agricultural sector support in the last farming season (2002/03) in terms of inputs by the government and private sector was seen as a remarkable development towards poverty reduction in all the communities visited. The communities indicated that this year they have harvested enough food to cover a greater part of the year.

On road infrastructure, it was mentioned that three feeder roads would be rehabilitated in the district using HIPC resources as well as ZAMSIF funds. The newly introduced system of employing people from local communities to clear drainages and other works that go with road construction and rehabilitation is expected to put money in people's pockets, thereby leading to poverty reduction.

No notable changes and developments in terms of poverty reduction were mentioned or observed in the water and sanitation, road infrastructure and communication sectors. These sectors are undeveloped and have not received much attention compared to the other sectors since the implementation of the PRSP.

To improve the peoples access to basic requirements for their welfare and reduce poverty in the area the following were recommended:

7.2 Recommendations

7.2.1 Agriculture

1. Agriculture, inputs should be delivered on time and in right combinations. Sufficient quantities to district requirement should be delivered.
2. There should be clearly defined guidelines on who should benefit from subsidized inputs and how much an individual should benefit.
3. Conditions of accessing and repayment plans should be clearly explained to beneficiaries in order to avoid suspicions of underhand methods by those responsible for giving out loans.
4. Distribution of inputs should be free from political interference.
5. Providing adequate extension officers to the district and providing extension officers with the required tools to carry out their function should improve extension service.
6. Livestock farming should be encouraged by providing public, affordable and adequate dipping facilities in the districts.
7. Government should take full control of the man and fishponds available in the districts in order to arrest illegal fishing currently going on while the fishponds should be immediately filled and restocked.
8. Soil conservation methods should be encouraged to reduce on the over reliance on fertilizer.
9. Road infrastructure should be improved immediately to improve inputs distribution and access to production point for buyers.
10. HIV/AIDS preventive messages should be incorporated in the agricultural extension services to serve the lives of the farmers.

7.2.2 Health

11. Health facilities should be improved by constructing more hospitals and rural health centers.
12. Preventive as opposed to curative measures should be emphasized in order to reduce on the morbidity rates as well as the cost that go with curative measures.
13. The district should be provided with at least four ambulances to improve on the acute transport problems found by the hospitals when attending to emergencies and other critical service cases.
14. Radio facilities should be provided to all rural health centers.
15. The low staff levels, particularly the nursing staff, should be attended to as soon as possible.
16. Drug supplies should be improved to avoid a syndrome of patients ending up with prescriptions at the health centers instead of medicines.
17. User fees should be standardized in government hospitals and rural health centers and made available.

7.2.3 Water And Sanitation

18. Government should help the local people to have affordable materials for the construction of proper pit latrines to improve the sanitation of the people
19. More boreholes should be put up both in rural and urban areas in order to mitigate the critical water shortage in the districts and improve access to clean and safe water.
20. Communities should be sensitized on the need to have pit latrines.

7.2.4 Education

21. School physical infrastructure in the districts should be urgently rehabilitation as a starting point. New infrastructure will also need to be constructed especially for rural schools.
22. Teachers' accommodation should be built to improve on staff levels in rural schools and where they existed, they should be electrified or provided with solar power. This will attract teachers to rural schools.
23. Staffing situation should be improved by sending more teachers to the district. The gender balance should be taken into account in order to reverse the current situation where there are more male teachers than female.
24. Community schools should be provided with qualified teachers and have their infrastructure properly built.
25. HIV/AIDS preventive messages should not only be targeted at pupils, but teachers as well.
26. Government should continue providing teaching and learning materials to primary schools but a distribution method should be put in place to ensure that these materials are taken to various schools upon arrival at the district office.
27. Assistance should be extended to secondary schools.
28. Community efforts relating to construction of infrastructure should be encouraged by being recognised and assisted not only by government but cooperating partners as well.
29. The policy of free primary education should be continued and improved upon in order to improve enrolment and retention rates at primary school level.
30. Retention and progression problems at higher grades need to be solved by tackling their cost causes.

7.2.5 Happenings in the PRSP

31. PRSP should be decentralized up to district levels in order to allow district-planning officials to incorporate poverty reduction programs in their plans.
32. HIPC resources (and indeed any other resources) should be used prudently with results visible for everyone to see.

**SAMFYA DISTRICT POVERTY REDUCTION
MONITORING**

COMMISSIONED BY

CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

WRITTEN BY

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Lusaka

9th July 2003

DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to the community members and local authorities who made it possible for us to conduct the monitoring and evaluation exercise in Samfya District in May 2003. We would like to express our gratitude specifically, the Local Council and residents of Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda communities. Their openness, willingness and commitment to inform, discuss and advise us on how poverty can best be reduced in their district was a great eye-opener to the monitoring team.

The note below must serve as a reminder to us as monitors, Samfya residents, civil society, the Government of Zambia and development partners that we all have a key responsibility and that it is:

To make Zambia a better place for all, including the people of Samfya District in Luapula Province

As expressed by Bana Chama;

We have become discouraged and tired because people like you! You take a long time to come and assess how we live. It is true we are poor but you do not provide any form of tangible assistance – “starter packs” or “starter motors” for us to engage in some business activities so that we develop ourselves and live a better life like you! People have been making promises but nothing is being done. We are really suffering

Bana Chama – Mwafuli Focus Group Discussion, Samfya District

CHAPTER 1

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Every year, the Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) network conducts a national poverty reduction monitoring and evaluation survey. These surveys are conducted in order for CSPR to establish the actual poverty situation on the ground. The information generated from these surveys is then used to inform wider civil society, Government and other stakeholders on the poverty situation in the country and what needs to be done. Since 2002, CSPR has been monitoring and evaluating the poverty situation of Zambia within the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) framework.

1.2 Study Objectives

General

- To monitor the implementation of poverty reduction strategies

Specific

- To find out the impact of the poverty reduction programmes
- To identify factors influencing the poverty situation
- To analyse the trends of poverty

1.3 Study Methods

The following tools were used in this monitoring exercise,

- The Now and Then Matrix
- Social Mapping
- Resource Mapping
- Flow Chart
- Transect Walk
- Gender Analysis Matrix
- Preference Ranking
- Institutional Analysis
- Seasonal Calendar or seasonal analysis
- Venn Diagram
- Trend Analysis
- Semi-structured Interviews and questionnaires

These tools were selected and utilised based on the following rationale:

- **Resource Endowment:** Visualise economic and social resources.
- **Trends in Poverty** - Find out what or not there has been change has taken place since the last monitoring exercise in the sites, namely Mwafuli and Miponda
- **Identifying influencing factors on poverty** – bring out issues that are influencing the poverty situation in these areas.
- **Poverty reduction strategies/programmes** – find out what type of activities are being implemented in order to address the problem of poverty in these areas.

Respondent Groups

The monitoring exercise covered three sites, namely Mpanta, Mwafuli and Miponda. The selection was based on the following points:

- High poverty levels
- Miponda and Mwafuli were monitored in the previous exercise
- Mpanta was selected as a replace for Mbabala Island but has similar characteristics with Mbabala. The team could not reach the Island because there was no reliable transport (boat) available for hire.

The total number of participants was 246 and is broken down as follows (field data)

Site	Women	Men	Youth
Mwafuli	20	55	16
Mpanta	45	53	0
Miponda	16	18	23
Sub Total	81	126	39

1.4 Time Frame

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE
12 th May 2003	Field Planning	Mansa
Morning	Questionnaire Distribution	
Afternoon		
13 th May – 15 May 2003	Mwafuli	Samfya
Morning	Questionnaire Distribution	
	Meeting Arrangement	
Afternoon	Meeting – Women Group	
14 th May 2003		
Morning	Meeting – Men Group	
	Meeting – Youth Group	
Afternoon	Questionnaire collection	
	Meeting Arrangement – Mpanta	
Evening	Recap and Notes writing	
15 th May 2003	Arrangements for Miponda	Samfya
Morning	Meeting Mpanta – Men and Women	
Afternoon	Transect Walk	
Evening	Recap and Notes writing	

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE
16 th May 2003		Miponda
Morning	Travel to Miponda	
Afternoon	Meeting Arrangements	
17 th May 2003	Meeting – Men and Youth	Miponda
Morning	Meeting – Women	
Afternoon	Transect Walk Interviews	
18 th May 2003		On the Road
Morning	Travel to Mansa	
Afternoon	Break – Organise Individual Notes	Mansa
19 th May 2003		
Morning to Afternoon	Notes sharing and organising team report	Mansa
20 th May to 24 th May 2003	Report Writing	Lusaka

1.5 Study Sites

MWAFULI

Mwafuli was selected to reflect the view of the peri-urban setting. This is an ancient village situated right in the centre of Samfya urban. At present, Mwafuli village consists of 600 households and has had about 5 headmen ruling with an average period of rule ranging from 40 to 50 years. Majority of the residents of Mwafuli village are engaged in fishing and agriculture. A few residents are in formal employment and private business. Only a few houses have access to electricity and piped water.

MPANTA

Mpanta is located about 40 kilometres from Samfya central. It lies along the shores of Lake Bangweulu, at the point where the Luapula River breaks off from the Lake. Mpanta is the trading centre where fishmongers from the swamps and fish traders from urban areas conduct their business.

MIPONDA

Miponda is located in senior Chief Mwewa. Miponda is a big village made up by 4 settlements namely Miponda, Chibose, Kabati, Poleni. It is located about 80km from Samfya Boma. Miponda is located on the plateau of Samfya district and is considered a “food belt” in district. It is a predominantly farming community.

1.6 Location of the district and its physical features

Samfya District is located in the south east of Luapula Province. The district is approximately 10, 000 square kilometres. The following are some of the key features of the district as obtained from the District Agricultural Offices.

1.6.1 Climate

The district has clay and loam soils around the lakeshores and has sandy soils loam soils on the plateau. There are also dambo soils around the dambos. The weather is hot to cool and the district experiences heavy rainfall.

1.6.2 Population

According to the records of Samfya District Council, the population of Samfya District is 170,000.

1.6.3 Ethnic Groups

There are three major ethnic groups in Samfya district. These are:

- Kabende – in southern mainland and parts of the swamps
- Unga – in the swamps
- N’gumbo – North of Samfya and lake areas

1.7 Organisation of the Report

This report is a compilation of site reports on the poverty monitoring and evaluation exercise undertaken in Mpanta, Mwafuli and Miponda catchment areas of Samfya district in Luapula province. This exercise was undertaken between 12th to 18th May 2003. To monitor poverty, the team focused on the 5 issues namely health, education, livelihoods, agriculture with gender and HIV/AIDS as cross cutting issues.

The first part of this report gives background information on the monitoring exercise. The second part of the report focuses on the findings (results) of the monitoring exercise and is broken down into four (5) chapters on the major poverty reduction issues tackled namely agriculture, livelihoods, health, education and institutional support. Finally, the report gives a summary of the findings, concludes and makes some key recommendations.

Monitoring Team

The team comprised 5 monitors. Four members of the team were came from the Luapula CSPR Provincial group and 1 member from the national office. The Provincial members were drawn from Church, private sector, women group and education

Limitation of the Exercise

- Transport and Travel
- Limited time for planning
- Organising for Meetings
- Hesitancy by people to participate
- Inadequate Materials
- Limited Time -Frame

The monitors were only able to access official information on agriculture, education and district planning. It was impossible to obtain this type of information on health.

2 LIVELIHOODS

The communities of Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda have common main sources of livelihood. These are agriculture of crops and animals and fishing. There is also a developing trade enterprise, which is closely linked to the fishing business. In farming business, most households grow crops and keep animals for both home consumption and sale. The table shows the proportion (%) of what is sold or consumed when produced

Table 1 The consumption and sale volume of major farm produce in Samfya District (Obtained from DACO))

Crop/livestock	Sold	Consumed
Cassava	40	60
Maize	50	50
Ground nuts	50	50
Cattle	90	10
Goats	90	10

The communities have parted from “barter” type of trade to “cash” because they have to pay for health, education, housing and food in monetary terms. However, the common major constraint in relation to livelihood has been poor production (yield), huge production costs and low prices for produce. According to these communities, a combination of these factors has contributed to poverty.

There have been attempts to expand the base or source of livelihoods in these communities. The following are some of the examples:

Werner Farmers’ Training Centre:

For instance in Miponda, the Werner Community Farming Skills Training Centre located 12km from Miponda community has been providing training in sustainable farming methods. These methods have enabled a few members of the community to engage in growing other crops such as maize and groundnuts. For livestock, the community members are now able to keep cattle for consumption and cultivation. But the Centre needs more support in terms of management.

Youth Resource and Skills Training Centre:

There is training Centres in Mwafuli community targeting the Youth in skills development. The Centre called Youth Resource and Skills Centre is looked upon as an important institution in the community because it has been offering many courses such as nutrition, business management, thatching, carpentry and joinery. These courses are considered relevant to immediate practical livelihoods in Samfya.

Trade in form of small enterprise (stores, market stands, shops) is growing and is closely linked to local activities such as fishing and farming.

There is also a recognisable presence of formal employment in form of Government employers in education, health and local government. The major problem faced by this group of people in

terms of livelihood is low and late salaries. Most of them complained of bad working conditions and high cost of living.

A gender issue raised in relation to livelihoods is that women are mostly involved in beer brewing, selling of fish and groundnuts. They complained of suppression by their husbands, especially in form of misusing profits realised from such business as well as lack of financial support once they see that their wives are engaging in some business. The women also complained that livelihood activities are an added responsibility to their domestic roles. They also explained that they lack skills in trading and most often sell their produce at a loss.

This sector shows some shrinking signs especially when compared to the findings in the CSPR Baseline Survey in 2003. The major livelihoods seem to be narrowing down to two major activities selling of agricultural and fish. Activities identified in the baseline survey such as moulding of bricks, sewing, bicycle repairing, selling of thatching grass, basket making and hair braiding were not mentioned.

3. AGRICULTURE

Geographically, Samfya District is part of the Northern Province in Zambia. But administratively, culturally and socially, Samfya is part of Luapula province. Most of the inhabitants of this district are engaged in farming and fishing. Farming is mostly in form of growing crops and keeping livestock. Both males and females grow similar crops and are usually within the age range of 21 to 60 years. For livestock, cattle are mostly kept by males from the age of 40 and above. While it is usually the adults (both male and female) of the age 30 and above who keep goats and sheep. The female population seem to dominate poultry keeping.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Samfya district was implementing some poverty reduction programmes. These are the district food security, PACK under the Programme Against Malnutrition and the Rural Investment Fund. This ministry has also received funds from the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative. According to the District Agricultural Co-ordinating Officer (DACO), these funds have been used for the construction and improvement of infrastructure and the whole community has benefited.

Table 2 Major Crops Grown by People in the Site areas (obtained from the DACO)

Crop/Livestock	Men	Women
Cassava	4000 hectares	3,200 hectares
Maize	2000 hectares	1,650 hectares
Groundnuts	5,000 hectares	4,250 hectares
Cattle	1,7560 cattle	800 cattle
Goat/Sheep	5,420	3,900
Poultry	13,110	21,000

MWAFULI

Agriculture is one of the major economic activity in Mwafuli. Both women and men in Mwafuli are actively involved in farming. The crops grown are maize, sweet potatoes, groundnuts, cassava, sorghum, beans, rice, Irish potatoes, bambara nuts and finger millet.

The following were identified as the major constraints in farming

- Farming was tedious because people use hoes and family labour only. This limits the capacity to cultivate.

- Lack of credit and other financing facilities
- Lack of animal drought power
- Lack of farm inputs (fertiliser, seeds, chemicals)
- Absence of mechanised power
- Poor marketing opportunities caused by price fluctuations

MPANTA

Apart from fishing, the people of Mpanta are heavily involved in agriculture. As in other sites, both men and women are actively involved in this sector. The main crops produced are maize, sweet potatoes, groundnuts, cassava and some traditional vegetables. The community also rears some animals such as goats, chickens and few pigs.

The following are the major problems faced by the community in agriculture

- Lack of finance
- Lack of access to fertilisers
- Late receipt of seed
- Inadequate seed and fertiliser

MIPONDA

Miponda is considered the “food belt” in Samfya district. The community is actively involved in agriculture. At this site, we observed that all the groups, men, women and the youth were involved in agriculture for both consumption and sale. The crops grown in this site are cassava, groundnuts, beans, sweet potatoes, millet and maize. These are grown for both consumption and sale. The types of livestock found in this community are chickens, ducks, goats, pigs and a few cattle and pigs.

The major constraints encountered in agriculture are

- Poor prices for products
- Poor marketing and sales system
- Bad transport facilities
- Bad feeder roads
- Lack of transport
- Lack of access to fertilisers
- Limited farming methods
- Limited farming land
- Soils are not fertile (exhausted)
- Late receipt of inputs when available
- Lack of access to available inputs due to limited quantities

- High prices of inputs
- Lack of agriculture equipment and tools
- Poverty

Table 3 Major Constraints To Agriculture Activities (Obtained from respondents)

SITE	Miponda	Mwafuli	Mpanta
CONSTRAINT			
Poor prices	x	x	
Poor marketing and sales	x	x	
Bad Transport facilities	x		
Bad feeder roads	x		
Lack of transport	x		
Lack of access to fertilisers	x		x
Limited farming methods	x		
Exhausted soils	x		
Late receipt of inputs (seed and fertilisers)	x		x
Lack of access to available inputs	x		
High prices of inputs	x		
Lack of agriculture equipment and tools	x		
Lack of finances/credit		x	x
Inadequate seed and fertiliser			x
Lack of mechanised/animal drought power		x	

There seems to be no significant improvement in the sector since 2002. These were the same constraints identified in the previous monitoring and evaluation exercise (CSRP Baseline survey 2002).

But the District Agricultural Co-ordinating Officer (DAC) explained that Government was providing extension services to both men and women. The agricultural services were given to crop production, livestock, fisheries and co-operative development.

Table 4: Services Provided to people engaged in farming by the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives in Samfya District (Obtained from the DACO)

Support Service	Gender	Age
Credit (finance)	Males and females	21 years and above
Markets	Males and females	21 years and above
Inputs – seed, chemicals	Males and females	21 years and above
Infrastructure	Males and females	21 years and above

The DAC also explained the major constraints faced in the agricultural sector:

- Unreliable crop marketing system
- Unreliable agro input services/distribution
- Limited extension coverage/limited information access by users
- Inadequate sources of credit
- Poor infrastructure – feeder roads/storage

For these communities, most of the land is owned by men and only very few women own their own land. It is mostly the men that sell farm produce, especially when the market is far from the

community. Women are involved at the level of deciding how much must be kept for consumption and how much should be sold. Women also complained that the cases of men misusing money after selling the produce have become common. This was a major issue in Mpanta community.

4. HEALTH

MWAFULI

Mwafuli has one health centre located right in the community. But this centre is not adequately equipped. The community wants the clinic to be upgraded to a hospital level because the current catchment area for the centre is too big. The centre lacks drugs, and the level of staffing is poor. Nursing and clinical care is poor. The attitude of the staff to the patients is also bad, especially to older people. One man in the group narrated how a nurse responded to him when he went to seek for medical assistance.

Why do you old people want here, you are just finishing the few drugs we have in this clinic, just go home and let us keep these drugs for children

The most common problems mentioned were malaria, cholera, diarrhoea, tuberculosis, chest infections, HIV/AIDS, dysentery, worms, scabies, small pox and sexually transmitted diseases. The respondents complained that it was not easy to get treatment for these diseases because the clinic rarely has medicines. For HIV/AIDS related cases, a lot of people prefer to go to the traditional doctors.

Table 5 Show preferences in seeking treatment for the diseases mentioned above (drawn by women in Mwafuli)

Disease	Home	Clinic	Grocery	Inganga
Cholera	2	1	3	
HIV/AIDS	1			
Asthama	1	2		3
Malaria	3	1	2	
Diarrhoac	1	2	3	
Disentry	1	2	3	
Worms	1	3	2	
Scabies	1			
Small Pox	1			
STDs	1	2		

The respondents also complained that water supply by the council was erratic. The water is not properly treated. This has forced people to dig wells. But these wells are not safe and protected. They explained that this was one cause of most water-borne diseases and the unhygienic living conditions.

MPANTA

There is no health facility in Mpanta and nearest facility is found at Kapende Community People walk and use wheelbarrow to ferry the patients to Kapende. So for most health problems, the community depends on a traditional healer who operates from his home and is paid in kind. There have been plans to complete the building of the clinic, which was a window level by the time of monitoring.

The respondents explained that lack of a clinic has led to the following problems in the community,

- High death rates
- Lack of medicines
- Lack of hygiene
- Poor health

The main health problems mentioned were cholera, malaria, meningitis, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, diarrhoea, dysentery, sexually transmitted diseases, scabies and dental. The main source of water is the river. The respondents also complained about lack of access to clean water. The river was used for multipurpose – drinking water, washing bathing and a toilet. Most of the households in this community did not have toilets. The main reason given was that the toilets collapse during rain season. The community did not have wells too. The only well was found at the school premise.

MIPONDA

There is only one health centre in Miponda. The community does not find the nearest clinic helpful because of the two main reasons. The clinic lacks required drugs and equipment most of the time. And when available, the drugs are inadequate. For example, the clinic does not have a maternity wing and lacks proper materials to handle births. The same problem was raised in the last monitoring exercise.

For emergencies, the community uses the phone services from the Agriculture office to contact Lubwe Hospital for transport assistance. There are intentions to build a maternity wing under Zambia Social Investment Fund, which will employ people from the community. The respondents also complained that nurses (staff) are also very cruel and arrogant.

The major complaints were that the clinical officer and the nurse report at 10:00hrs for work. Specifically, the clinic officer chases patients from the clinic especially the old and even insults people's wives. The community were happy with the work of the cleaner. They described her as a hard worker; pleasant and explained that sometimes she performs the role of a nurse.

The most common health problems in Miponda are malaria, diarrhoea, marasmas, sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS/HIV, tuberculosis, coughing and fits. Majority of the people preferred to stay home. This was followed by seeking treatment from hospital (outside Miponda at Lubwe Mission), then clinic and lastly traditional healer.

The main sources of water are the river, stream and village wells. The cleanest and most safe water is from the river and stream. The respondents explained that water from the wells was not clean because it was stagnant and contains a lot of mosquitos. They explained that the river water is safe because it was always flowing, thereby carrying away all the dirt. Only a few households have toilet facilities and most of them are in a poor state. Many of these toilets collapse during the rainy season. Children are not allowed to use the toilets for fear of falling into them. So children are taught to use the nearest bush as toilets.

From all the sites, the common diseases are malaria, diarrhoea, Tuberculosis, scabies, coughing and HIV/AIDS. Lack of drugs and treatment were emphasised in this survey too. These were the same problems identified during the Baseline Survey in 2003. For this survey (2003), scabies

and malnutrition were not mentioned. From these communities, this is the general picture that can be drawn about people's preferences when seeking assistance on health problems.

Table 6 Sequence Ranking Seeking Health Assistance

Community	Clinic	Traditional Healer	Home
Mwafuli	1	3	2
Mpanta	3	2	1
Miponda	2	3	1

These are similar finding to the CSPR baseline survey of 2003. People in the study sites seem to prefer home treatment first, followed by clinic or hospital as in the case of Miponda and lastly, traditional healers.

5. EDUCATION

Under the Ministry of Education, Samfya district does not have any programmes focused on poverty reduction. However, the Ministry has received funds from the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries' (HIPC) Initiative. These funds have been used to rehabilitate two primary schools namely Kakote and Mungulube. Kaishe Basic School has also been constructed using HIPC funds. According to District Education Board Secretary, communities around these schools have benefited.

According to the Secretary of the Education Board, there have been a lot of developments in the education sector in Samfya. The Ministry was now providing variety materials such as books (exercise books), science kits, chalk, pens, pencils, textbooks, and manila papers.

The following table shows the type of education facilities found in Samfya District.

Table 7 Education facilities available (Obtained from the Secretary of the Education Board)

Available	Type	Number	Levels
Infrastructure	Buildings	308 classrooms	Basic
Furniture	Desks	-	Basic
Learning Materials	Text books	Quite many	Basic
Transport	Vehicles	3	Basic
Communications	Telephone, fax	2,1	

The sources of funding for the education sector in Samfya are from the Government, BESSIP, NGOs, CAMFED, Barclays Bank, ZAMSIF, ADB, IDA and OPEC. Specifically relating to the monitoring sites, the Secretary to the Board explained that Samfya Secondary School received K122, 000, 000 for the water and sanitation rehabilitation project under HIPC. The project is still in process.

He also explained that there has been improvement in the enrolment rates of pupils. He attributed this to the new policy of "free education" and parents' commitment to educating their children. The table below shows that current levels of enrolment in Samfya District.

Table 8 Shows enrolment levels (obtained from the Secretary to the Education Board)

School level	Girls	Boys
Primary	12,341	19,747
Secondary	694	964
Total	13, 035	20 711

The Secretary of Education Board further explained that Samfya district did not have adequate number of teachers. The table below shows the number of teachers in the district and the Teacher/pupil ratio.

Table 9: shows the teacher/pupil ratio (obtained from the Secretary to the Education Board)

Trained/Untrained	Ratio- Teacher/Pupil
735/24	1:44

On the impact of HIV/AIDS on the education sector, the Secretary to the Board explained that it has had very devastating impact. He explained that HIV/AIDS has affected the staffing levels as many teachers have died.

He further complained that HIV/AIDS has also damaged the image of the education system especially at Secondary level where the sector continues to lose promising and productive citizens of the country.

On major constraints in the sector, the Secretary mentioned lack of accommodation for staff, desks for pupils, inadequate staffing levels, unmotivated staff, and low enrolment levels in some schools, poor infrastructure and high poverty levels.

MWAFULI

There are two schools in Mwafuli namely Chibolya Basic School and Samfya Secondary School. At both schools, some are trained but others are untrained. In Mwafuli, members of the community were happy with the introduction of “free education policy.” However they had major complaints such as;

- The books given to pupils are not enough. So parents are forced to buy books.
- There are still substantial costs incurred under the Parents’ Teachers’ Association (P.T.A). Respondents who sent children to Chibolya Basic School raised this issue. They explained that all parents or guardians were expected to pay K40, 000 per child each year as contribution to the Security Guard’s salary and electricity bill.

But one parent had this complaint

How can we paying electricity bills for a school that does not have night classes because all our children came back by afternoon. So who uses lights at night? The school does not cook food for our children during the day, so which electricity bill am I paying for

Another person in the group responded: *It is the electricity bill for teachers.*

One major inhibiting factor in education mentioned was the attitude of the teachers to their work. The respondents complained that most teaching were paying more attention to “tuition” than usual teaching sessions. Most teachers were also missing a lot of classes. Parents and

guardians were concerned about the number of times their children were turned back because “the teacher has not come.” Teachers were spending most of the time drinking in the villages or on business trips.

Another inhibiting factor was the role of parents. The respondents explained that some parents were still pulling their children from school into marriages (girls) and into fishing (boys). This problem has been worsened by lack of employment and absence of role models in the communities. Most parents find school a waste of time because Mwafuli has a lot of school leavers who cannot find employment. Most parents ask this question “what is the use?”

The youth respondents explained that female students still faced a disadvantage in comparison to male students. They explained that this was worse for female students who attended day school. The girls have an overload of housework and usually come to school late or tired.

The youth also complained that parents and guardians were still marrying off the girls at an early age. The issue of pregnancies were also common among school going girls. Most of them left school and got married.

Others stayed at home or went into the streets. None of the Youth respondents had ever heard of the “go back to school” policy.

The respondents had the following positive issues about the education in their community;

One major point of appreciation about the “free education” policy was that many parents were now able to send their children to school. It was mentioned that the Chief in this area has taken it upon himself to promote this policy. Parents who fail to send their children to school face punishment.

The role of the P.T.A was appreciated from the point that it had become a forum where parents and teachers shared information and exchanged ideas about education. For instance the sensitisation of parents on the importance of the “girl-child” education and the dangers of early pregnancies and marriages have been promoted through the P.T.A

MPANTA

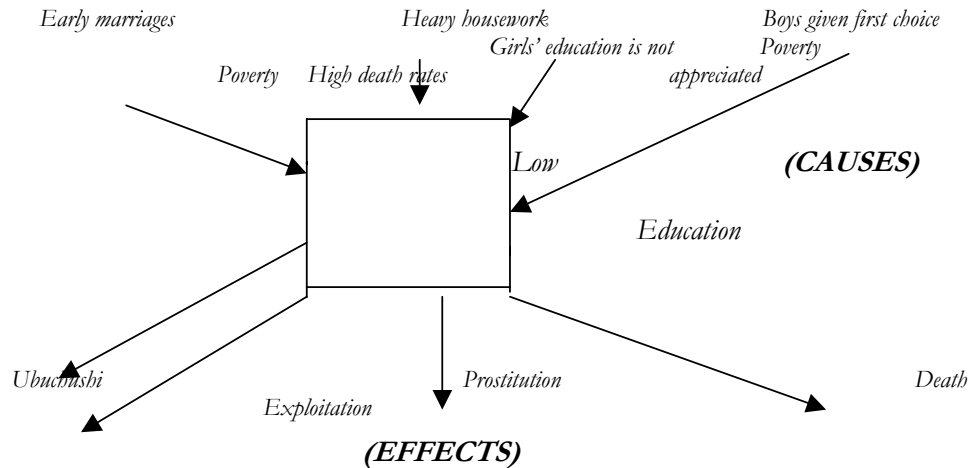
There is only one basic school in Mpanta. This school caters for the entire community and the surrounding areas. This school only has four (4) teachers and the members were expecting four (4) more teachers at the beginning of the second term. According to the members of the community, there were numerous constraints faced in education.

The school did not have adequate number of teachers. The teachers always ran away because life in Mpanta was tough. There are no social amenities, lack of proper housing (teachers live in the huts amongst villagers) no health and transport services. The school did have electricity and there are only 3 toilets to cater for the school.

Parents usually send their children to school but only a few go as far as grade 8 because parents cannot afford to meet the school requirements at this level of school. Only a few girls also go beyond grade 7 because of pregnancies and early marriages.

The community does not have any models in education because school came “late” to the community. This is worse for girls because most of them end up in marriages and the community only receives a few female teachers. These few female teachers fail to live in the community

Table 10 Flow Chart on causes and effects of low education in women (drawn by women in Mpanta)



According to the respondents, the relationship between the teachers and pupils is good. Parents and teachers also share a good relationship. The Parents' Teachers Association (PT.A.) was playing a key role in society especially in terms of promoting the importance of education children.

The respondents would want to see more girls become educated and get employed because women are usually good at looking after their parents, brothers and sisters than men.

MIPONDA

There is only one school in Miponda called Miponda Basic School (grade 1 to grade 9). The school has 7 trained teachers and 3 untrained teachers. This school caters for all the school going children in Miponda and surrounding areas.

The adult respondents' (men and women) major complaint was that the teaching standards at Miponda Basic School were too low. Teachers were cited as the main source of these low standards. They blamed the teachers for discouraging children from appreciating the importance of school and also producing poor results. They gave an example of last year that only 2 pupils passed to grade 8 and these were children of some teachers. The following were the reasons given for this view:

- Teachers were spend more time drinking beer in the village than attending to school matters
- Teachers usually reported to school drunk and in dirty clothes. Sometimes, without shoes or unpolished shoes.

The respondents also complained that school was losing its importance in Miponda because there was no employment for school leavers. That is why most of them are engaged in farming, fishing and marriages at an early age.

Case: Early Marriage

Evelyn Musonda is 16year old. She got married in July 2002 to a man aged 22 when she became pregnant. She became pregnant in grade 7. She did not want to get married but her Uncle, who is a teacher at Miponda Basic School insisted that she gets married. Her mother was later informed about this decision and she also agreed. She is now a mother of Grace who is 7 months old.

The community also explained that it was good that parents were not required to pay for their children's school at primary. However, they complained that it was difficult for them to pay K15, 000 per term for the children in grades 8 and 9.

The main issue raised in relation to gender was that there was need to encourage parents to send their girl-children to school. The major concern was that cases of early pregnancies and marriages were still common in these communities. Men dominated the P.T.A and teaching staff.

The major and positive development in this sector identified by communities visited, has been the introduction of the "Free Education Policy." In the last survey, education costs and requirements such as books and uniforms were identified as some of the major constraints to sending children to school. The removal of these fees and provision of some learning materials has encouraged guardians to send their children to school.

6 INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

It was observed that these communities have little institutional support and community-based initiatives. Though the Samfya District Administration Report presented to the Provincial Development Co-ordinating Committee in 2002 shows a lot of activities by agencies such as Rural Investment Fund (FID), ROADSIP, CHIF, IDA, BESSIP, the members of the community were only able to identify a few from this list. The members of these communities easily identified themselves with locally based institutions such as the Church, traditional leaders and School.

MWAFULI

Zambia Social Investment Fund: According to the respondents, the Zambia Social Investment Fund has been playing a key role in developing the community. The role of ZAMSIF was mentioned in the building of schools and roads. Some of the community members took part in these projects.

Chief: The royal establishment has continued to play a key role especially in keeping the community together. However, the members of the community complained that the modern society was ignoring the importance of this institution. They gave the following examples:

- **Beer drinking:** The Chief has been in the forefront of discouraging drinking beer in the morning so that people can concentrate on producing food but people have been ignoring him. Beer drinking has made most of our people lazy and has greatly contributed to poverty in Mwafuli because people are not working.
- **Municipal Council:** The Council no longer consults the Chief over important issues concerning the district. The members explained that the Council was giving out plots to

people coming from town without the permission or knowledge of the Chief. The Council was also getting taxes from the fishmongers but were not giving any portion to the Chief.

- **Assistance:** In the traditional society, the Chief was looked after by the people. People would give the Chief part of their harvest, fish and even clothes. That is how the Chief sustained himself. But now, the Chief goes around to ask for assistance.

Church: The community members appreciated the role of the Church in their community. They explained that apart from giving spiritual guidance, the Church has been in the forefront of providing training in skills such as nutrition, carpentry and farming. The Youth showed great appreciation for the social amenities and guidance in life services offered by the Church.

They community members complained about the following institutions:

Area Member of Parliament (MP): The community felt that their MP had neglected them for a long time. They complained that he never visits them and that he did not come back to inform them whether their development requests have been met by Government. They also accused the MP for exploiting the forest reserve in Samfya.

Councillor: For the community, their representative to the Council was failing to perform his duty. They complained that he does not hold any meetings with them. According to the community members, these meetings are important because that is the only way the councillor would know the desires of the community.

Municipal Council: The community did not see any benefits of the Council to the District. They explained that the Council was only interested in collecting taxes from fishmongers and allocating plots to people come from towns. They also complained that the council was failing to provide services such as tap water.

MPANTA

In Mpanta, the community members complained about lack of support from agencies, NGOs especially those dealing in agriculture and women empowerment. They explained that because of this problem, the community was not united and thus was failing to develop. They narrated how other communities around the districts had developed because of assistance from NGOs. However, they were able to identify attempts made by some NGOs such as:

Programme Against Malnutrition: In the last farming season, PAM had given the “club” a few sacks of seed for distribution. Only people who belonged to the “club” and could pay K6, 000 were eligible to get the seed. Some members of the community complained that a few people benefited because the people in charge of distributing this seed were only giving it to their relatives. Others complained that men benefited more than women because they were the majority in the club. People wanted more seed.

Society for family health: SFH distributed condoms to villagers through members of the “club.” The members of the community complained that these condoms were simply “dumped” and people did not know what to do with them. The women complained that the condoms had contributed to promiscuity in the community.

Area Member Parliament: The members of the community explained that they did not appreciate their Member of Parliament. They complained that he had failed to complete the clinic building after encouraging the community to bake bricks for its construction. They also complained that he does not visit the area ever since he was elected.

Clubs: The community members explained that there was a farmers' group in Mpanta. The purpose of this group was to assist members of the community in farming. However, the group was dominated by some families and most these were men. The club was serving the interests of the community members especially the young farmers.

MIPONDA

Wena Family Farming Skill Training Centre: The community highly praised the existence of this training centre. The centre was identified as the main source of farming skills and also farming inputs such as fertilisers and seed. The community members explained that in the past, the centre used to provide oxen for ploughing to the community members. The members explained that the farm was now facing some problems and so had cut off the oxen-plough programme.

Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM): The community explained that PAM had provided some credit in form of fertilisers. The community members were supposed to pay back in form of produce. They said that this kind of assistance was very helpful but complained that it came late and was not adequate.

Micro Projects: The community explained that Miponda Basic School was looking much better now because of the assistance given to the community through the Micro projects. Before then, the structures were in a very bad state.

Churches: The community explained that apart from giving spiritual guidance, the Church was playing a key role in looking after orphans in the community. The problem of orphans was growing because of high death rates amongst parents in the village. The community explained that most of the parents who died are those who came to the village from the urban areas. According to the respondent, grandparents who go for funerals to the urban areas come back with orphans to the village because there is no one in town to look after the children of the deceased.

Sub-Chief: The community appreciated the role of the Sub-Chief because he has been able to maintain peace in Miponda. They explained that the Sub-Chief has also been key to ensuring that people in the community worked hard to produce food for consumption and sale. That is one way in which the community has been trying to prevent severe poverty.

Fish traders: The community in Miponda explained that trade in fish was very important because it was the main source of employment. Many members of the community were feeding, clothing and sending their children to school through this trade. However, the members of the community complained that number of fish in most rivers and lakes has greatly reduced. This is because of bad fishing method (even small fish was killed) and poor enforcement of law during the fish ban period.

Neighbourhood Watch: The community appreciated the role of the Neighbourhood Watch especially as regards assisting people to access hospital services, maintaining order and keeping peace in the community. The community also explained that the level of crime was low because of the presence of the Neighbourhood Watch in the community.

Table 11: Institutional Analysis

Institution	Mwafuli	Miponda	Mpanta
Church	x	x	
Council			
Counsellor			
Chief	x	x	
Member of Parliament			
School	x		x
Clinic			
NGOs		PAM Micro Projects	
Any other		Werner Training Centre Neighbourhood Watch	

7 POVERTY

According to the respondents in Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda, more people are becoming poorer in their communities. To them, the rich people in their communities are those who:

- Have money for most parts of the year (including non-harvest time)
- Have brick and iron-roof houses
- Have a lot of livestock
- Have a lot of crops
- Have stores
- Can send their children to school without any problems
- Have good and strong toilets and water wells

And in all the communities, the respondents emphasised that the number of rich people is reducing at a very fast rate.

The poor people can be identified by the following

- Do not money
- Poor housing
- Inadequate food
- Poor clothing
- Cannot afford to meet their children's health and education needs
- Share or do not have toilet facilities
- Draw water from the river or lake for use at home

Table 12: Wealth Ranking – drawn by a group of men in Miponda

Category	Characteristics	Now	Before	No.
Poor	Poor clothing Have one or no meal at all in a day Live in weak and shabbily built houses Some do not even have houses Livestock Can not afford to go the clinic Inadequate crops and harvest Do not have excess products to sell Can not send their children to school Do not have toilets	*****	***	82
Medium	Eat twice a day Have houses build out of bricks but covered with grass Have toilets but weak ones Can send their children to school Can afford to go the clinic	****	*****	6
Rich	Have houses made out of bricks covered with zinc sheets Eat three meals a day – good food such as meat and fish Can afford maize meal Can afford to go to the clinic Can send their children to schools Have a lot of livestock and crops Have big farming land Have good toilets	**	*****	4

The following were given as the major causes of poverty:

Poor agriculture production: Exhausted soils and limited farming methods coupled with lack of access to inputs such as fertilisers and seed has led to low and poor production. Lack of support from Government in form of extension and credit services has also contributed to poor production. So people have little to consume or sale.

Lack of employment: Retrenchments and privatisation have robbed people a source of income. People need employment in order to earn money. This money can then be used to buy food, health and education.

Low prices trading prices: Traders from urban areas exploit people in rural areas. So rural people are always making a loss and thus fail to buy fertilisers or seed. They are also failing to meet their domestic needs such as food, health and education.

Selfish Leaders: Leaders especially MPs and Councillors are not doing much to develop rural communities. The leaders always rush to rural areas during campaigns to make promises, which they never fulfil, once elected.

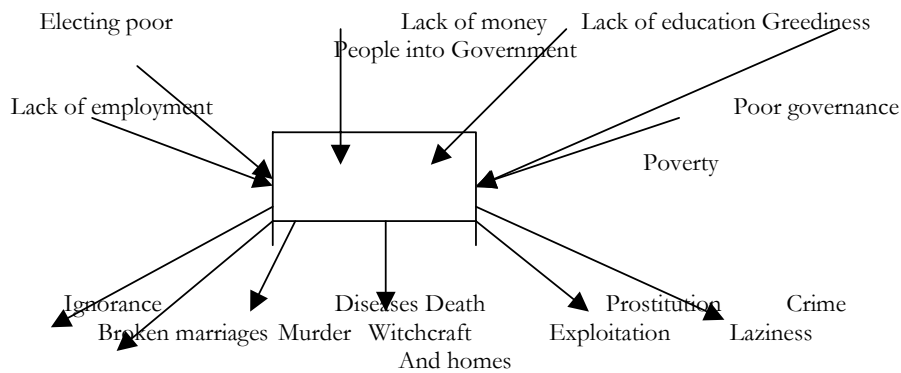
The table below illustrates some of the factors that people used to describe their worsening living conditions. They measure their living conditions using the following factors – education, agriculture, health, sanitation, water and poverty.

Table 13 Now and Before in the living conditions of the people (drawn by a group of men in Mpanta)

Factor	Now (Nomba)	Before (Kale)
Amasambilo (Education)	0	000000000
Ubulimi (Agriculture)	0	000000000
Ubumi (Health)	0000	000000
Ubusaka (sanitation)	000	0000000
Amenshi (water)	000	0000000
Ubupina (poverty)	00	00000000

The main issue identified was that people felt poverty as lack of “money.” Lack of money constrained people from farming, trading and travelling effectively. The major result of such a situation has been that parents have been failing to send their children to better schools and clinics. They have also failed to feed their families and this has caused a lot of problems namely destruction of family values as members resort to theft and prostitution.

Table 14 shows the overall analysis of poverty as understood by the communities (drawn by a group of men in Miponda)



8 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SUMMARY

The following were the major findings of the poverty reduction monitoring and evaluation survey

Agriculture: This sector faces a lot of constraints that are impacting negatively on the economic, food and social status of Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda communities. There are very little interventions, especially by Government to ensure that expectations of the people are met. The major problems identified are lack of access to farming inputs such as seed, fertilisers and extension services. Where these services are available, they are delivered late and are usually inadequate. Support services to farming such as markets, good prices and transport are also missing. The general picture is that the situation in this sector is becoming worse.

Health: This sector is facing several constraints. Whilst the health problems are increasing, services to deal with these problems are reducing. Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda communities

are located around water sources in form of rivers, dambos, swamps and lakes. This make them easily prone to water –bone diseases. Yet there are no health and sanitation services available. The health system is failing to cope with the increasing demand from communities. In all the communities, drugs are rare and when available, are inadequate. Staffing levels are low and lowly trained. The capacity of health points to accommodate clients is small.

Education: Unlike the other sectors monitored and evaluated, this sector showed significant improvement. Both the service providers and the clients can see these improvements. The “Free Education Policy” was highly appreciated. The major constraints that seem to be affecting this policy are low levels of staffing in schools, low motivation to work amongst teachers and the attitude of teachers to their work. The workforce in this sector needs to be motivated.

Livelihoods: This sector is actually a combination of activities that form the sources of income and trade for communities in Samfya. Specifically, the people in Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda earn their livelihoods mainly from agriculture and fishing. They engage in trade by selling agriculture and fishing products for other goods and services. There is a small but recognisable formal and self-help employment segment.

Institutional Support: Whilst document found at the local authority office (Samfya District Council) show a lot of institutional arrangements and networks to develop the district, very little is found in the communities. There is little organised or significant community based initiatives in Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda. The major institutional support to these communities is the Church and traditional authority. The members of these communities did not seem to appreciate the role of the Members of Parliament and Councillors in their development and specifically poverty reduction.

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding of the monitoring and evaluation exercise, there is very little being done to implement specific poverty reduction strategies in Samfya District. The reduction in poverty, specifically in Mwafuli, Mpanta and Miponda communities is insignificant. Neither Government nor civil society (organised and community-based) seem to be implementing significant poverty reduction strategies and programmes. Out of all the sectors monitored, namely health, education, agriculture, livelihood and institutional support, only the education sector showed definite improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Agriculture Sector

Government Support:

In order to promote the agriculture sector, improve the quality and quantity of production, Government must support the farming communities by providing

- Information – on policy, programme and available inputs. This information must be provided timely.
- Inputs – especially in form of fertilisers, seeds and ploughing equipment.
- Credit – especially in form of fertilisers and seed
- Market – create a sustainable and stable market for small-scale farmers products. This market must operate on fair regulations.

- Critical analysis of Gender issues in the sector: Government through the Gender In Development (GID) Department must ensure that the needs of the women are catered for as Government designs its policies and programmes. Government must also ensure that women are actively involved in all its programmes in agriculture.

Co-operatives:

Government must bring back the co-operative system. The system must be well organised and not manipulated by a few politicians. These co-operatives must operate as a basis for Government and small-scale farmers engagement. It is mandatory that women are members of co-operatives and also that they take up some of the leadership responsibilities.

Strengthen Extension Support:

To promote good and sustainable methods in agriculture, Government must strengthen the current extension service system. Extension officers must be motivated and equipped in order to assist the small-scale farmers effectively. These extension officers must be adequately trained in gender in order to ensure that they capture and address the needs of the women as they deal the general farming communities.

Health Sector

Proper Drug Delivery System:

Government must put in place a good and effective systems to facilitate timely deliver the drugs. This system must also ensure that there are adequate drugs in the health centres at all times. Government must involve local communities, especially the women members in designing these systems.

Extension and Increase of Health Centres:

Government must extend some clinics into hospitals and also increase the number of health posts. This will reduce the pressure on the current few health centres in the District. Clinics that were initially set-up to cater for certain services and a certain number of clients are now stretched and are operating like hospitals. The health centres and posts must also be adequately equipped. Government must also ensure that health centres (posts, clinics and hospitals) cater for the special health needs of women and children.

Motivate Health Staff:

Government must address the working conditions of the health staff. This will boost their motivation and improve their performance and attitude towards their responsibility.

Promote Community-Based Health and Sanitation Programmes:

Stakeholders in this sector, namely Government, civil society and external partners must initiate activities that will promote health-focused activities. These activities must aim at raising health and sanitation awareness, HIV/AIDS, home-based care and treatment in the communities.

Education Sector

Motivate Teaching Staff:

Government must address the working conditions of the teachers. This is important in building a sense of responsibility and in improving their performance. The Ministry must also develop an effective teacher- performance monitoring system for teaching staff.

Improve School Infrastructure:

Government, external partners and civil society must work towards improving school infrastructure. Rehabilitations, construction and repair works must be closely supervised to ensure that proper work is done.

Develop Education Promotion Programmes:

Government and civil society should develop community-based activities that will aim at revitalising the importance of school in communities. Such an intervention is critical in order to ensure that parents and children become more committed to school. On-going programmes such as “role modelling” should be intensified in the rural areas. Government should send more female teachers to rural schools as well as ensure that more women from communities in school development projects

Livelihoods Sector

Government Support: Government must show commitment to its people by performing the following duties. It is also very important that women’s concerns are addressed within the general framework of improving this sector.

Regulation: The local authority must play a key role of providing guidance on how this sector must operate. This is important especially as it relates to trade and activities such as fishing. Government must assist these communities to come up with economic and profitable prices for their commodities. It is also important to safeguard the fishing industry against over-fishing by reinforcing the fish-ban. The local authority must also improve facilities at the fish harbour using the tax received from fishmongers and traders.

Finance And Training: Government and NGOs must assist this sector by providing small and group credits and training. These two factors will assist in improving the operations and productivity in this sector. The salaries and training opportunities for civil servants in the rural areas must be increased. Ensure that women are participants

Improve Transport Systems and Communication Facilities: Government must improve transport (road, water and air) and communication facilities (broadcast, print and telephones) in the district. This will facilitate effective linkages to other parts of the country and will promote efficiency in information generation and dissemination. Specifically, improvement in transport and communication will facilitate trade and access to markets. Better transport and communication systems will encourage more women to reach market sources.

Employment Creation: Government must develop a strategy on creating employment in the rural areas. Apart from self-employment in small-scale farming, there is a need to tap and promote the potential human resource. Unemployment in the rural communities is high and this is causing a lot of stress on families. It will be solution to heavy drinking, prostitution and crime, especially among the Youth.

Institutional Support

Promote civil society action: Civil Society in form of organised NGOs and CBOs must be set up to foster community action on development and poverty reduction. It is important to organise these communities around issues of poverty reduction, human and civil rights, good political and economic governance. Specifically, CSPR must strengthen its Provincial programme in order to link up with communities in more effective manner.

Role of MP and Councillor: Members of Parliament and Councillors must take up their responsibilities to facilitate development and reduce poverty in these communities. It is important that MPs and Councillors establish a reliable and mutual relationship with their constituencies. Specifically, they must sensitise their constituencies about development policies and programmes. They must also be constantly in touch with their people in order to share concerns and solutions to the challenges raised in the survey.

SENANGA DISTRICT POVERTY MONITORING REPORT

COMMISSIONED BY

THE CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

Research Team

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1 BACKGROUND

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper is a national plan to reduce poverty and increase incomes for all Zambians. The PRSP plans to give all Zambians a chance to engage in farming, to get employment, or to start their own businesses. The PRSP supports better access to basic services, especially education and health. PRSP also focuses on improving infrastructure – like roads, water and fuel for all citizens. The PRSP adopted a sectoral focus and Government constituted working groups with a broad based membership, which included the civil society representative. The identified sectors were selected based on criteria that these have strong potential for economic growth or are critical for social development. These sectors are; macroeconomics, agriculture, tourism, Mining, Industry, Governance, Health, Education and cross cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, Gender and Environment. In September/October 2003 a baseline Senanga District poverty assessment survey was carried out by ZAMSIF in collaboration with Civil Society for Poverty Reduction. Similarly, in May 2003, Civil Society for Poverty Reduction carried out an independent rapid assessment survey as a follow up to the initial September 2003 baseline study. This document brings out the findings.

2 OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this research is as follows;

- To monitor the impacts of the PRSP interventions on people's lives;
- To come up with information and data for updating the PRSP; and
- To gather and assess community participation and perceptions of the poverty situation in relation to HIPC resources and the PRSP.

3 STUDY AREA

This research was done in Senanga district of Western Province. Senanga district is located on the southern part of Mongu the capital of western province. It derives its name from 'munanga' a Lozi term meaning extensive high bank'. The district shares boundaries with shangombo on the west, Mongu on the north, Kalabo on the northwest, Sesheke on the south-east and Kaoma on the northeast.

The district covers a total surface area of 14,954 Square km. divided into two main physical features namely the uplands, which include the forest and the low lands (wetlands), which has the flood plains and rivers such the Zambezi and its tributaries.

The district population in the 2000 census is 110,634 (52,821 being female) with an approximate density of 6 persons per square kilometer.

Study sites visited were:

Namalangu

A peri-urban area that is five Km north of Senanga Boma. People's livelihood is mainly micro small-scale medium business, livestock rearing, and cultivation. Social amenities available in the area are hospital, shops, two abattoirs, water taps, grinding mill, market and in Siite area an incomplete primary Health Care Unit.

Sinungu

This area has a poor road infrastructure and lacks a road transport system to connect it to Senanga or Kalabo. An alternative means of transport is the river and canal. Many residents depend on boats to ferry them to Senanga but this mode of transportation was said to have a lot of limitations and risks. The community covered in the study was Nambwae. The cropping area is available on both the flood plains and upper land. Main crops grown are cassava, sorghum and maize while livestock include goats, chickens and cattle.

Nambwae has one basic school, which is yet to go on rehabilitation funded by Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF). It has primary Health Care. Mainly people's livelihood is fishing, cattle rearing and reed making.

4 MONITORING METHODS USED

The methodology used in conducting this research was participatory rural appraisal. The table reproduced below shows the participatory research tools used.

Table 1: PRA Tools Used and the Issues they Explored

PRA TOOL	OUTCOMES
Social Mapping	Visual representation of the area
Focus group discussions, semi-structured interviews	To explore all issues in the terms of reference
Ranking and Scoring matrices	Community identify, list, reflect on and prioritize their resources, constraints, priorities, concerns, etc
Gender Analysis	Explore differences and similarities between boys and girls, men and women's workloads in relation to various issues
Institutional Analysis	To analyse people's perceptions of the importance, relevance and effectiveness of the various institutions working in an area and the contributions they make towards the welfare of this community
Well-being/wealth ranking	Community members to identify well-being and wealth categories in a community. They also described the wealth categories and gave them their characteristics.
Transect Walk	As a research tool which enables the researchers to take note of the physical appearance of the infrastructure, natural resources, and agricultural productivity.

PRA TOOL	OUTCOMES
Flow Chart	There are a number of factors that influence situations in the society. Problems like hunger, poverty, farm yields or HIV/AIDS have their particular causes, which are often inter-related and influence each other. A flow chart explores these inter relationships.
Seasonal calendar or seasonality analysis	Explores changes that occur throughout the year in such vital issues as food security, morbidity. Labour demand, school attendance, incomes, expenditure and so on.
The “now and before” matrix	PRA tool designed to generate people’s perceptions of developments or deterioration on one or another aspect of life, e.g, food security, morbidity rates, farm inputs, etc.

The above briefly described tools are most ideal and effective in getting the views and perceptions of the people on the effectiveness of the interventions for addressing poverty and on the poverty situation in general and how it affects the people.

5 STUDY LIMITATIONS

The study had it several limitations in the context that the Senanga plain was flooded and it was so difficult to use the water transport. Respondents were also holding information indicating that they were tired of releasing information and the developments take so long to be envisaged. The period of the study was wrong, as most people were busy with their harvest.

6 REPORT ORGANISATION

The report bring out the findings looking at various sectors namely, livelihood encompassing agriculture, livestock, fishing, medium, small and micro economic enterprises and formal employment. The report then discusses the social sectors of education, health and water and sanitation. Cross cutting issues of HIV/AIDS, gender are discussed briefly towards the end of t he report as well as within the rest of the text. Finally the conclusions and recommendations are made.

CHAPTER 2

STUDY FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

1 LIVELIHOODS

A number of economic activities from which people obtain their sources of livelihoods in Senanga district were mentioned. The biggest was fishing and crop farming. Others were livestock rearing and small, medium and micro enterprises.

2 FARMING

Senanga district mainly has two types of soils – sandy and clay loamy. The rainfall has been good in the last two seasons except for short dry spells. The terrain is composed of stretches of upper land and a vast wetland (Barotse plain and Lui valley). The major crops grown in Senanga District are maize, cassava, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, rice, groundnuts and sorghum. Table 2 below shows these crops together with gender most concerned with their cultivation.

Table 2 Crops grown by Gender.

Crop	Men	Women
Maize	X	X
Cassava	X	X
Rice	X	x
Sweet potatoes	-	x
Cowpeas	-	x
Groundnuts	-	x
Sorghum	X	x

Source: Drawn by eight youths of Siite (Senanga)

While women are involved in growing all the crops men do not take part in growing groundnuts, cowpeas and sweet potatoes. Men are involved in maize, rice, cassava and sorghum cultivation. The first two are both cash and food crops. These are regarded women's crops. There is no specific age attributed to types of crops grown as youths work with their parents.

Diversification of crops:

In the past people concentrated on growing of maize but now they are growing other drought resistant crops such as millet and sorghum. Sweet potatoes are now grown in bulk as food security measure. Similarly cassava was mainly grown by the "Mbunda" people but now even the indigenous people (Lozi) have also started growing it. The seasonally analysis reproduced below shows that only cassava, sweet potatoes and vegetables are available throughout the year. The other crops are seasonal

Cassava, sweet potatoes and vegetables seem to be the only crops, which people have through out the year. Most people are peasant farmers and therefore tend to consume more and sell less. The main crops for sell were maize and rice. Food security is prevalent with crops which were not meant for sell. The diagram above shows that only sun-hemp, cassava, sweet potatoes and vegetables are available throughout the year. The other crops are available only during certain periods of the year, especially from January to May.

Visual 1: Seasonality of crop availability in Siite

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Maize	x	xx	xxxx	Xxxx	xxxxx	-	-	-	-	-	-	x
P- Millet	xx	xxxx	xxxx	Xxxxx	xxx	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sorghum	-	-	xxx	Xxxx	xxxx	xxxxx	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cow peas	xxx	xxx	xxx	Xxx	xxx	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cassava	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	Xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx
Groundnuts	xx	xxx	xxx	Xxx	xxx	xxx	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sweet potatoes	xxx	xxx	xxx	Xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Rice	-	-	-	-	-	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	-	-	-	-
Sun Hemp	xxx	xxx	xxx	Xxx	xxx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Bambara nuts	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	Xxxx	xxxx	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	Xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx

Source: Drawn by 13 Women of Siite area, Senanga

Control and ownership of crops:

The crop production and income realized there from is mainly controlled by men, especially maize and rice. The other crops grown on small scale were controlled by women including the income realized.

Food Security:

There has been a positive progression in terms of food security, this season mainly because of crop diversification that included sweet potatoes and cassava among others. However, people still feel five years ago they had more food than this year. They further indicated that about five years ago people used to harvest 60 x 90 kg bags of maize. Meanwhile the biggest volume of harvest (maize) is 25 bags x 90 kg. The situation was worse for the people who live in the plains where the floods had adversely affected their food security. Most of their fields were completely washed away by the torrential rains and the floods. This was why the People of Nambwae said “**njimo ifelile mwa Senanga**” meaning agriculture is finished in Senanga. The people of Namalangu attributed the poverty situation to poor agriculture production

3 FISHING

Fishing is one of the major economic activities for people’s livelihood in Senanga district. However a semi structured interview (SSI) with the District Administrator (DAO) revealed that it was an area that has not received any funds from the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) resources. The main area that needs funding was the refrigeration at the District level. Limited small freezers were limiting the volumes of the fish being sold out. Fishmongers transport the fresh fish to Lusaka. Hence the fish goes bad by the time it reaches in Lusaka.

A focus group discussion (FGD) with eight men in Nambwae, indicated that the area has plenty of fish but the industry does not make enough money due to poor water transport. Interviewees further indicated that prices of fish were determined by outside buyers and note the local fishermen. Therefore, They, therefore appealed to Government to improve on fish pricing policies.

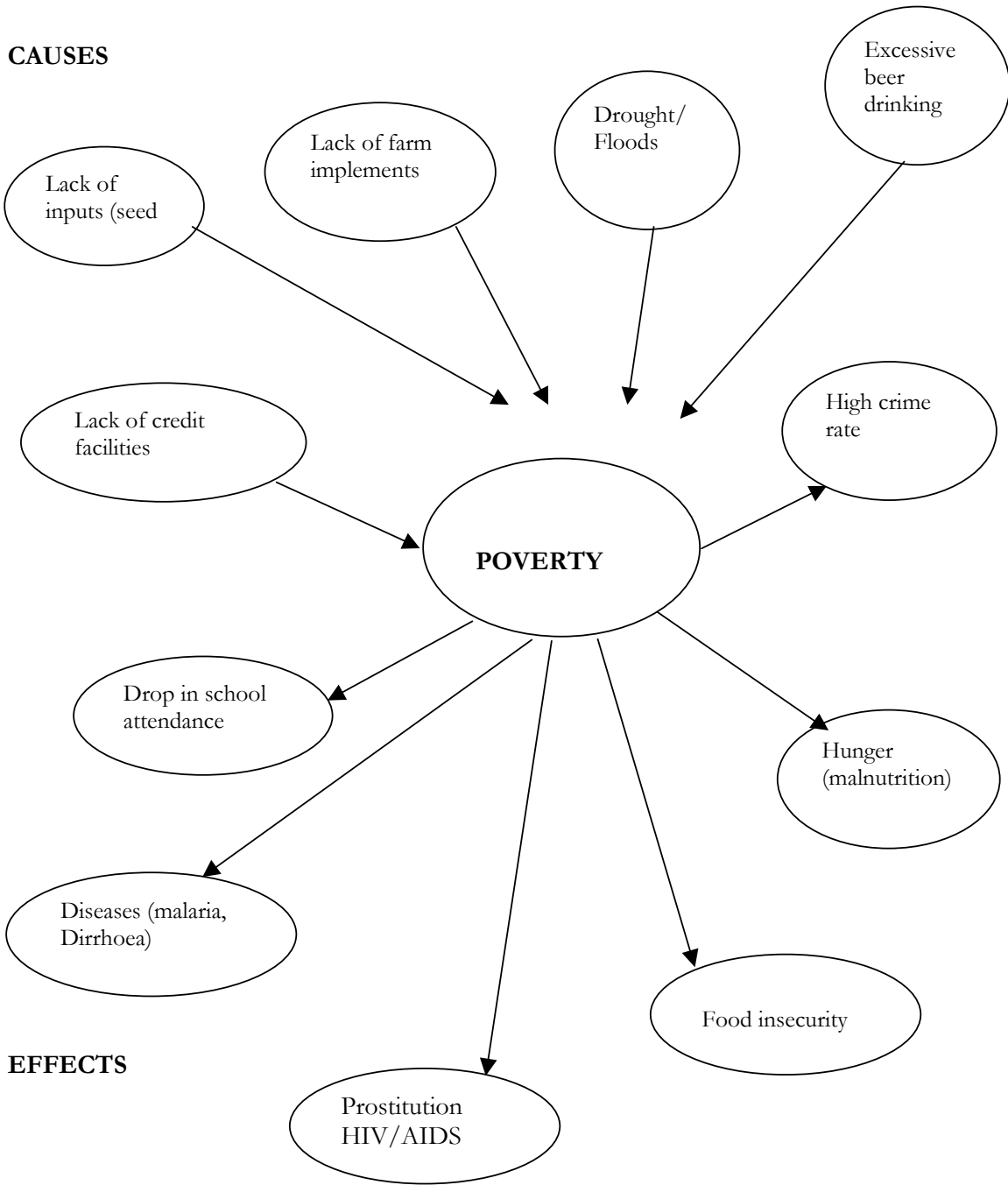
Poor proceeds from both farming and fishing was said to be the major causes of poverty in the study areas. Below are two flow charts exploring the causes and effects of poverty in **Namalangu** and poor farming in **Siite**

Flow charts were used to generate discussion and information on causes and effects of poverty. Visual 2 below was drawn in Siite study site.

Lack of farm inputs, implements and credit were identified as the three major causes of poverty. These are compounded by droughts and floods which periodically visit the area. Excessive beer drinking was also acknowledged as contributing to poverty since it withdraws people away from working in their fields.

In its turn poverty causes hunger and malnutrition. It brings about high crime rates; it promotes diseases, particularly malaria and diarrhoea. It brings about high crime rates and prostitution which lead to sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Poverty was also seen to adversely affect school attendance.

Visual 2: Flow Chart showing the causes and effects of poverty

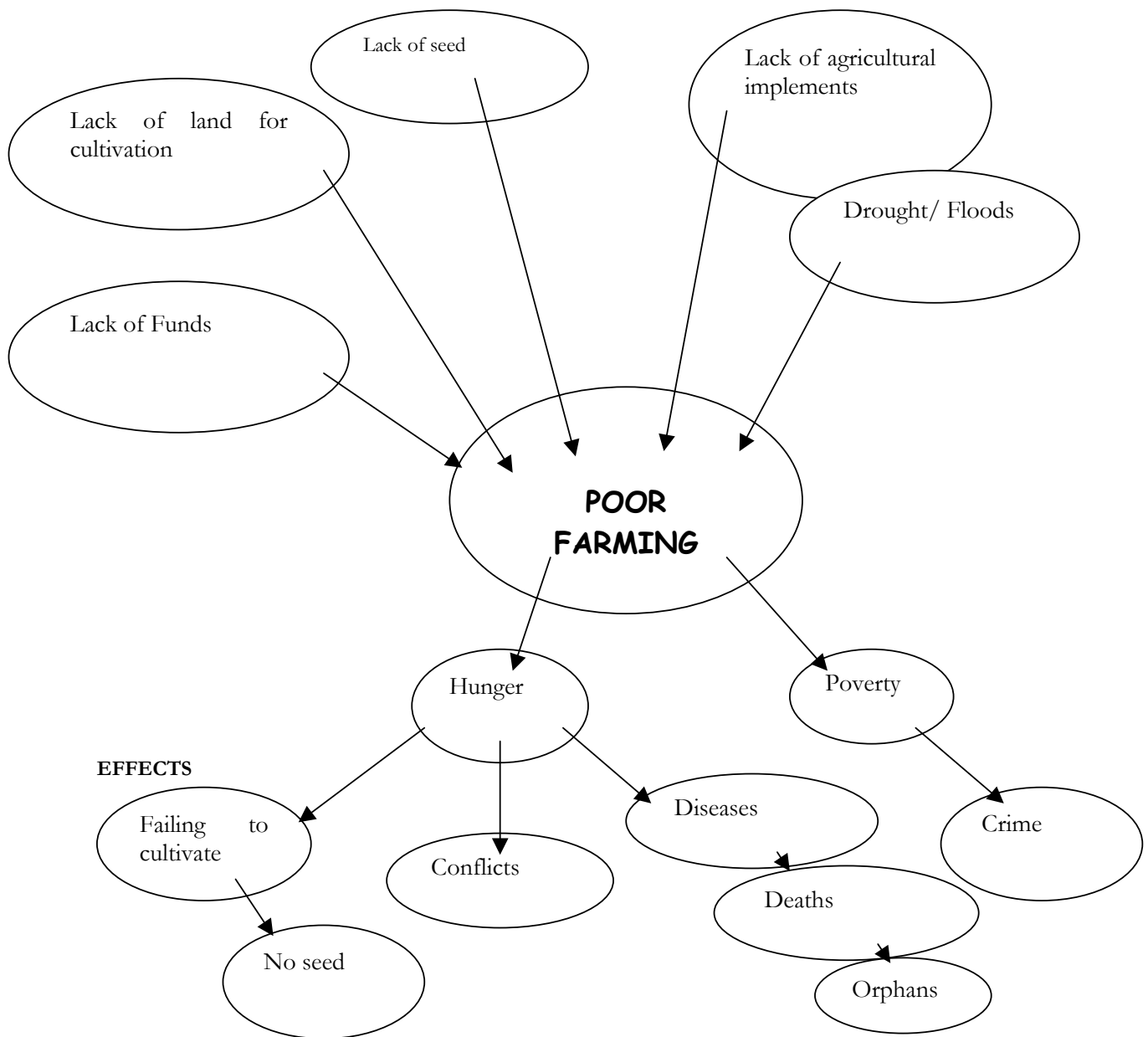


Source: Drawn by 13 Men of Namalangu

The views of the people of Namalangu were shared by those of Siite as the Flow Chart below shows. The chart explores further the farming situation which was said to be the major cause of poverty.

Visual 3: Flow Chart showing the causes and effects of poor farming

CAUSES



EFFECTS

Source: Drawn by six youths of Siite

As highlighted in the above flowchart, the major cause of low agriculture production in Senanga was due to floods, droughts and lack of agriculture inputs. An SSI with one of the peasant farmers revealed that “**ni salibelala mukamo mapulu hasa patehile, hakayo funamenaha mubu kele oma**”. Translated as “I wait for the agriculture equipments which I have to borrow, by the time I access them the moisture would have dried up. What is killing us is lack of farm equipment (ploughs, oxen).

Bad road infrastructure was also attributed to the poor agriculture production. People of Nambwae complained that they do not access fertilizer and seeds in time due to poor roads and the flood plains. Crop marketing too has been a major constraint. Outsiders dictated most of the prices of food produce.

4 CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

Below is a trend analysis diagram, which is indicating high levels in food security this year as compared to last year. This was attributed to the massive seed distribution by Government and Non-Governmental (NGOs) such as Care and Oxfam in Senanga district during last farming season. Women of Siite feel that if this exercise can be enhanced, the food security will stabilize.

The value attached to education, the performance of NGOs and the quality of life in general were said to have improved since the previous year. On the other hand sanitation and the availability of farm credit had deteriorated. Other factors including poverty levels, access to information on markets and incomes and expenditure levels had remained the same. So did poverty and mortality rates.

Visual 4: Trend Analysis on key life issues

#	ISSUE	NOW (2003)	BEFORE (2002)
1	Food security	xxxxx	Xx
2	Poverty levels	xxx	Xxx
3	Levels of employment		
4	Income and expenditure	x	X
5	Performance of NGOs and other agencies	xx	-
6	Credit	xx	Xxx
7	Deaths	xxx	Xxx
8	Value of Education	xxxxx	Xx
9	Sanitation	x	Xxx
10	Access to information on markets, crop and livestock production, release and utilization of funds	xxx	Xxx
11	Quality of life in general	xxxx	X

Source: Drawn by 18 Women of SIITE

Poverty reduction strategies aimed at providing agriculture inputs for household food security was the notable strategy that people of Senanga recognized. For example, one respondent in Nambwae thanked those responsible for bringing in the inputs and wished the programme would continue.

It was, however, noted that other strategies like policies on crop marketing, land utilization and infrastructure development and trade- agric business have not been implemented in the district. If they had, then people were ignorant about strategies or rather they have not had any impact on poverty reduction.

5 LIVESTOCK

Cattle rearing is one of the major economic activity and livelihoods source of the people in Senanga district. The well being of a person is attributed to how many cattle he/she poses. Below is reproduced the results of a Wealth Ranking exercise which shows the categories of well being and their characteristics. The wealth ranking indicate that very rich people have a lot of

cattle whilst very poor people have no cattle. Suffice to say cattle are major agricultural input in terms of ploughing.

Visual 5: Wealth Ranking in Siite

Category	Issues	Score
Very rich	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who have a lot of cattle • Those who have agriculture implements 	Xx
Rich	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who have large portions of land • Those who able to take their children to school 	x
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who can manage to eat atleast 2 meals a day 	Xxx
Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who do not have fields 	Xx
Very poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orphans • Without children • Without fields • Those without cattle 	xxxx

Source: Drawn by eight Siite youths.

However most people viewed the depletion of cattle due to diseases such as CPBBP, back leg and anthrax as a threat to their livelihood security. Communities explained that the disease prevalence has also increased their poverty levels, as in some cases; some families have been left without cattle.

The respondents in Nambwae felt that the Government has not taken the prevalence of cattle diseases seriously. An average one cattle is lost in a day. The respondents further indicated that despite informing the Government about the anthrax disease, there has been no intervention at all.

“ we cannot afford to buy the vaccine, we do not have any money hence we foresee a situation where our cattle is gong to diminish” said one respondent in Nambwae (Sinungu), in reference to the cost of livestock medicine.

The other concern that came out from all the sites visited was cattle selling, marketing and cattle rustling. Despite the proliferation of abattoirs in the area (Senanga), the price of cattle has remained low. Senanga has five abattoirs namely, ZAMZAM, Kembe, Twikatane, Halla and Fresh Trade. In all the sites visited, people indicated that the abattoir owners were buying their cattle at very low prices. Meat is sold at K3, 000 per kilogramme (kg) to the abbatoirs, which they sell in Lusaka at K12, 000. This was said to be exploitation. The researchers were further informed that these abattoir owners determine the prices without consultation with the local communities. The coming of abattoirs has increased stock theft as thieves find it easy to steal and sell immediately to these abattoirs.

Changes and Development

Poverty Reduction strategies include animal draft power, techniques to reduce livestock diseases and increased livestock production. However, there has been very little impact on this sector. Communities in Senanga feel the strategies have not been implemented ever since the inception of the PRSP.

6 MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

The major income generating activities in Senanga are fish mongering, makeshift shops, carpentry, welding, timber industry and cash crops sells.

In fish mongering the women outnumber the men. Mostly it is women who are involved in this exercise. An SSI with one of the fishmongers in Nambwae said that women walk very long distances in order to buy and sell the fish. Sometimes they walk long distances with children on their backs. *Tuntamba* (makeshift shops) are common in both the peri-urban (Namalangu) and (Nambwae) rural. The enterprises involve both men and women on equal levels of participation (a respondent of Namalangu Village”.

Constraints

The major constraints in carpentry and welding is lack of capital for improved tools, particularly electrical, this results into low quality products, which were sold at very low prices; hence low incomes were generated in this industry.

Timber production is one growing income generating activity in the study areas. However, the people in Nambwae (Senanga East) indicated that their constraints were lack of capital and bureaucratic licencing policies by the Forestry Department. The other problem was marketing which was restricted locally. The quantities of timber produced and income generated relies on the number of people building and constructing.

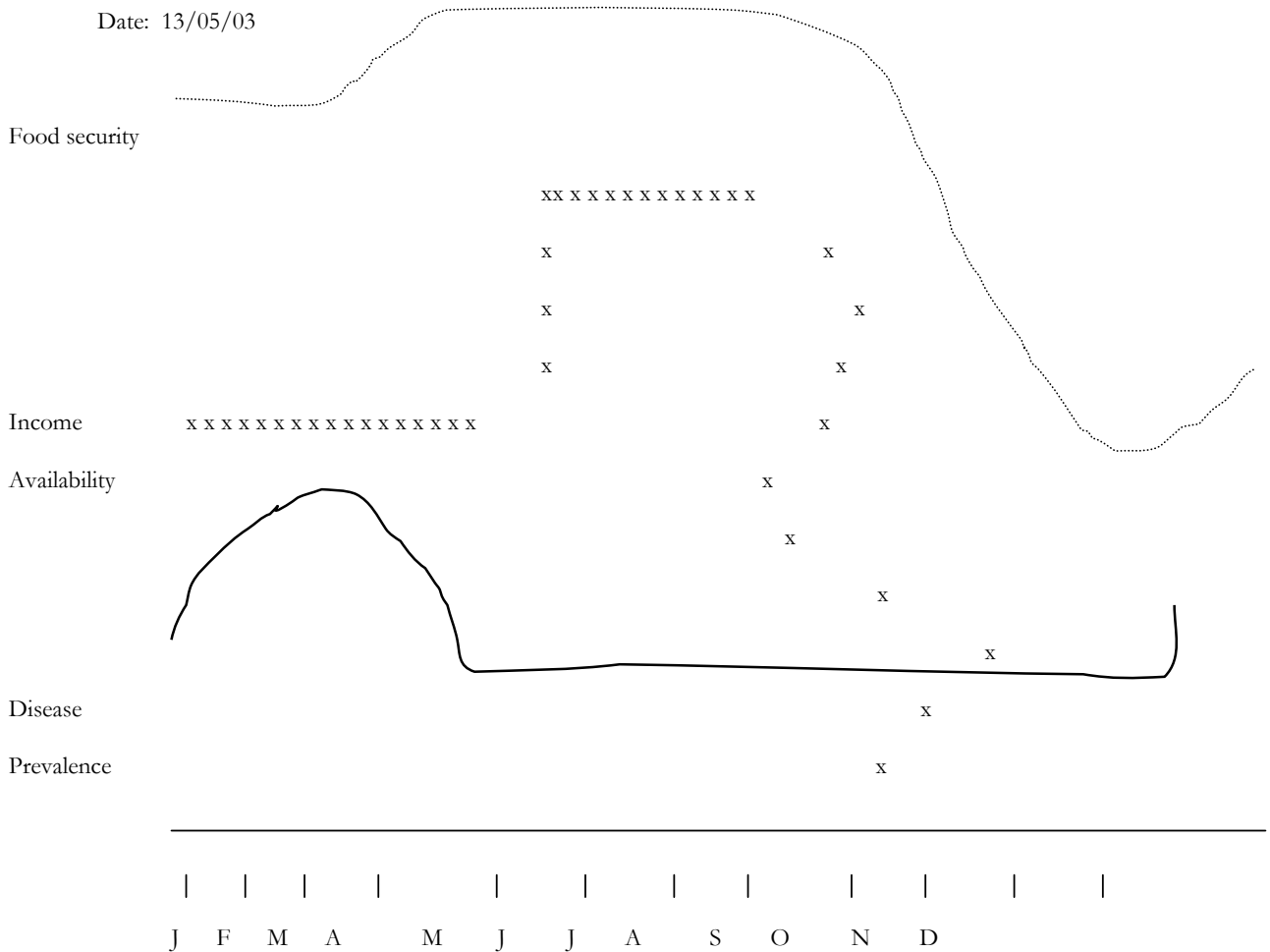
7 CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT

Poverty Reduction strategies emphasize on small business as essential for poverty reduction. The strategies look at supporting technical training, business management skills, credit facilities, product marketing and provisions of necessary land/sites for various enterprises. However, communities in Senanga feel very little has been done in this sector. None of the above mentioned strategies were having an impact in the poverty reduction.

“Luna ma Mbunda aluna mubu, a balufi likoloti ba muso kakuli luba zwahuli”, SSI statement from a respondent in (Siite) Namalangu. The statement indicates that the “Mbunda” people were denied land and access to credit just because they are believed to be from Angola.

Below is a diagram illustrating the seasonally availability of income. The diagram indicates that people had incomes only between July and October, an indication that most of the micro small medium enterprise businesses flourish during the harvest period or rather when people are food secure. This is also the time when food security is at its best. However, a lean period is experienced between end of November till April when diseases are very common and incomes are low.

Visual 6: Seasonality Analysis of food security, incomes availability and disease prevalence



MSME

Source: Drawn by eight youths of SITE

8 FORMAL EMPLOYMENT

In the formal sector, the major employers are Government, NGOs, the beef industry (abattoirs), retail shops, guest houses and parastatal companies like ZESCO, ZAMTEL and ZAMPOST.

The proliferation of NGOs involved in poverty mitigation projects have enhanced the formal employment, though at a very minimal level. Similarly, abattoirs have employed quite a number of youths. However in Siite, most people complained that salaries from the abattoirs were very little to sustain ones livelihood. They said that the highest paid worker gets about K150,000.

The informal sector is the largest employer. These are in the areas of timber production, carpentry, welding, makeshift shops (tuntembas) and reed and mat making which are most common in (Nambwae). The transport sector is one area which is developing. In Namalangu) a group of men indicated that it was interesting that the youth were the ones accessing and owning minibuses and other vehicles.

CHAPTER 3

SOCIAL SECTORS

1 EDUCATION

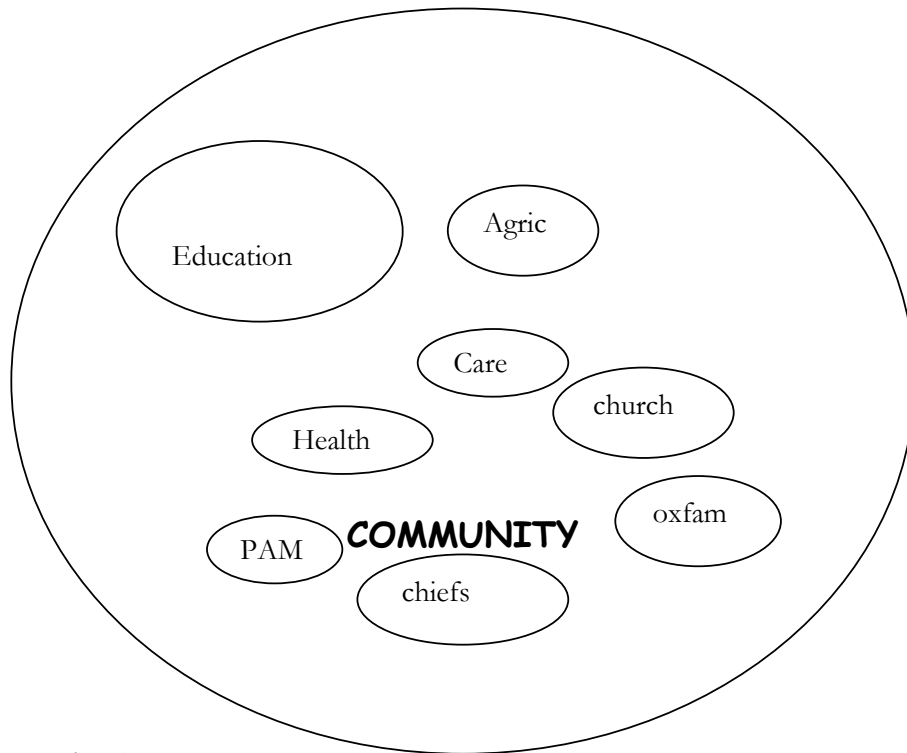
Senanga district has 72 government schools and 15 community schools. The distance of these schools from the communities is between 15 and 20 kilometres. The current enrollment of pupils in the district is about 22,000. Most schools in Senanga have poor infrastructure, inadequate teaching materials and inadequacy of teachers especially in rural areas. The district has a total of 529 teachers of which 310 are male and 219 female.

In all the study sites, the issues of access to education were translated in terms of school infrastructure, distance to school and poverty, while those of quality of education were expressed in terms of adequacy of teachers, classrooms and books as well as quality of teaching. The value of education is perceived in different ways ranging from its usefulness in helping the young people to obtain formal employment to just being able to read and write.

In **Nambwae**, education ranks as the most valued in terms priority as compared to other institutions. This is clearly shown in the Venn Diagramme drawn by 15 men of Nambwae and reproduced below. However, the school infrastructure leaves much to be desired. The community expressed dissatisfaction at the state of the school, which has not been renovated since it was built in 1971. Nambwae basic school has only three teachers, two trained and one untrained handling grades 1 – 9 classes. This inadequacy of teachers has led to poor quality of education in the area. Another issue of significance, which came out strongly in Nambwae is that when the Barotse plain is flooded, pupils who stay in the plain also stop going to school because there are no boats to ferry them to school.

Other institutions include the government departments of health and agriculture, the Church, two international NGOs, namely Oxfam and CARE International. The Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM) received the smallest circle indicating least importance.

Visual 7: Venn Diagramme showing the institutions found in Nambwae.



Source: Drawn by 15 Namwae men.

In **Siite**, the community sited distance to school and the cost of education as some of the factors affecting the quality and value of education. HIV/AIDS, which has continued to ravage many communities in the area, has resulted in the increase of orphans in the area and this has increased the number of the out of school children.

2 CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS

The Government of Zambia’s policy on free education from grade one to seven has somehow helped in that the burden felt by the community to pay school fees has been eased. This has resulted in an increase in terms of school going children. The school attendance rate has been further boosted by the fact that girls who drop out of school as a result of pregnancies are being readmitted.

In **Nambwae**, the school has received some funding from the Zambia Social Investment Fund (ZAMSIF) and will soon be undergoing a face-lift. This will include the construction of two by one classroom block, an office and two teachers’ houses.

In **Siite**, a community school has been constructed and this has enabled the community to send their children to a nearby school.

3 HEALTH

Health issues in all sites visited in Senanga are perceived to be related to poverty and to the effectiveness of health services.

Health Facilities

Senanga district has 13 health centers and one hospital. Most people get services through periodic outreach services. Inadequacy staff, distance to health centers and lack of medicine in most of the clinics were cited as contributing factors to poor health delivery in all the sites visited.

Major Constraints on access to good health

- I. Understaffing of health workers in Rural Health Centres.
- II. Lack of qualified Health Workers.
- III. Long distances to Health Centres.
- IV. Lack of income to manage the health costs.
- V. Lacks of beds and cots in health facilities.
- VI. Poor physical infrastructure and equipment.
- VII. Non-drug availability in health centres, e.g., AIDS drugs.

Diseases

Malaria, backache, abdominal pains, diarrhoea, coughs, eye infections, tuberculosis (TB) and rheumatic fever were said to be the most prevalent diseases in all the three sites visited. Except for HIV/AIDS which is perceived to have remained the same as it was during the October 2002 Baseline Survey and for malnutrition which has reduced largely because of better crop yields, the prevalence and intensity of all the other diseases are perceived to have increased as the trend analysis done by the men of Namalangu and reproduced below shows.

Visual 8 Trend analysis of disease prevalence in Namalangu area.

Diseases	Now (2003)	Before (2002)
Malaria	xxx	xx
Diarrhoea	xxx	xx
TB	xxxx	xx
HIV/AIDS	xxx	xxx
Malnutrition	xx	xxx
Ring worms	xxx	xx

Source: Drawn by 15 men from Namalangu.

4 WATER AND SANITATION

Access to Water is considered a priority in all the sites visited. The major sources of water in Senanga district are streams, hand pumps, wells and taps. Sanitation is not really considered a priority. Pit latrines are not common in all the sites visited. Most people go in the nearby bush to answer the call of nature. Rubbish pits are also not visible in all the sites. Most people argued that it is not realistic to build a shelter for human waste disposal.

Health Constraints

Drug shortages and the fact that when available the drugs are very expensive deter people from enjoying good health status.

5 CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS

The district grants have had a positive impact on the health service delivery. For instance, the hospital has been rehabilitated. Part of HIPC funds were used for rehabilitation of Rural Health Centres. The general infrastructure of both the hospital and health centers have improved. The other factor that has helped in achieving some of the District objectives is the autonomy the district enjoys in terms of being able to make plans and implement health delivery services. There is minimal beurocracy, which is a recipe for efficiency

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector of the PRSP strategies focus at supporting WASHE activities where they are on going, and will establish new rural water programmes where none exist. The strategy further indicates that rural areas that do not have safe water and sanitation will be targeted.

Communities in Senanga East (Nambwae) said this was one strategy of the PRSP, which was visible and having an impact. They sited a D-washe project funded by UNICEF, which was under implementation with the participation of the community. The project involves construction of pit latrines, water wells and community sensitization in sanitation.

CHAPTER 4

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

1 HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS was sited as a real threat to human life and contributed greatly to the disintegration of social and economic life of the people. The HIV/AIDS situation, in all the sites visited, has increased household poverty and long term food insecurity. During a mapping exercise in Siite, respondents indicated that there are many households keeping orphans. One woman in Nambwae (Sinungu) had this to say “ most energetic and productive young people are dying or too weak to engage in farming. This has increased poverty in our area because we now spend most of our time looking after the sick children”. Community sensitization on HIV/AIDS was being carried out in all the sites but the impact of these interventions seems not to be bearing any fruits.

2 GENDER

Gender perspective on various issues such as access to land, access to income, decision making and access to credit indicated that men were in a better situation than the women. The latter were still marginalized. Below is a diagram illustrating key areas that hold back women in National Development. While men and women have equal access to incomes and credit facilities, women are very disadvantaged with regards decision-making and access to land.

Visual 9: Gender Analysis Matrix

ISSUES	MEN	WOMEN
Access to Land	15	5
Access to Income	10	10
Decision making	18	2
Access to Credit	10	10

Source: Drawn by 18 Women of Nambwae

The PRSP strategies look at promoting women’s economic activities through targeted programmes. The strategies look at strengthening and expanding women’s businesses by ensuring access to credit, training and market support. However, none of these strategies were being implemented in Senanga. 18 women in Nambwae at FGD indicated this.

3 POVERTY LEVELS

The monitoring exercise found that poverty reduction strategies have not reduced the poverty levels in Senanga District. Poverty can often still be seen in terms of poor health and low educational status. Limited access to clean and safe water can also be attributed to poor conditions communities live in.

The major criterion which distinguishes a poor person from a non poor in Senanga District, was whether or not someone has enough food to eat. Whoever ate less than two meals a day was described as poor. The poor people in Senanga were further described as those who do not have access to food production resources like labour, animal draft power, and farming implements, large fields. Ownership of cattle is another determinant of wealth/poverty in the district as

already shown in Visual 5 above. Communities in Senanga suggested that poverty can only be reduced if they were to access loans for acquiring the above mentioned food production resources.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. CONCLUSION

The findings of the monitoring exercise seem to point to the fact that people in Senanga are still adversely affected by poverty despite the PRSP Strategies. Similarly respondents expressed concern with the HIPC resources which they said were not reaching the target beneficiaries.

The information collected from the September 2002 Baseline Study when compared to the current survey shows very little activities and development tailored at poverty reduction. The respondents however, appreciated the agricultural input distribution for the last season, which has boosted the food security in the District.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Agriculture

Agricultural inputs like seed and fertilizer should be delivered before the rainy season, preferably between April and September.

Agricultural input distribution should be done without any corruption and nepotism.

Crop diversification should be intensified in order to maintain soil fertility and food security.

Agro-forestry should be emphasized as a cost saving and natural way to reduce acidity of soils. This will eventually fade out the traditional slash and burn *chitemene* system of cultivation. In turn, deforestation will be minimal in Senanga District.

Government should enforce the fish ban and effect policy measures on fish pricing.

Government should help the pricing of cattle by the abattoirs that are terribly exploiting cattle owners.

2.2 Health, Water And Sanitation.

More funding and support is needed in the D-WASHE Water and Sanitation Project in Senanga District.

Government should recognize the important role the water sector has in overall socio-economic development of the District and vest control of water resources in the people.

Government should support and accelerate the D-Washe project so that the activities could cover all the rural areas in Senanga.

2.3 Education

The BESSIP program, which is tackling issues such as infrastructure, staffing, education materials should be exposed to secondary schools.

Government's free education policy should be clearly defined and extended to secondary school level.

National literacy program should be revamped and revised to meet the current literacy requirements.

2.4 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise

Government should support technical entrepreneurship training in business management.

- Credit facilities should be improved by, among other things, introducing cooperative banks.

2.5 Other Issues

Sufficient funds should be allocated to road rehabilitation and construction in order to improve accessibility to markets, communications and transportation.

HIPC resources distribution should be decentralized to grass root level such as Neighbourhood Health Committees, PTAs etc.

There should be intensive education on HIV/AIDS and provision of ARVs in Rural Health Centres.