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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Population Issues

* The population of Zambia was estimated to be about 10.2 million persons in 1998.
* 62 percent of the population were in the rural areas and 38 percent in the urban areas.
* Though Zambia is one of the most highly urbanized countries in Africa, most of its population live in the rural areas.
* Copperbelt & Lusaka Province are the most urbanized.
* 45 percent of Zambia’s population are children aged 0-14 years.
* Under-five children constitute 15 percent of Zambia’s population.
* 24 percent of the population constitute youths aged between 15 and 24 years.
* The population aged 25 – 59 years, the most productive age group, constitute only 29 percent of Zambia’s population.
* The aged (aged 60 years and above) constitute only 3 percent of the population.
* In 1998, 15 percent of the households experienced at least one death.
* The highest number of deaths occurred in the age group – 5 years (51 percent) followed by the age-group 25 – 44 years (among the most productive age groups).

Orphans

* Child orphans aged 10 – 14 years (that is either mother only dead, father only dead, or both parents dead) were about 561,000 in number while those aged 15 – 19 years were about 400,000 in number in 1998.
* Child full orphans (that is both parents dead) aged 10 – 14 years were about 96,000 and those aged 15 – 20 years were about 84,000 in 1998.

Education

* In the age group 5 – 6 years, 16 percent were attending school in 1998.
* In the age group 7 – 13 years, 68 percent were attending school.

* In the age group 14 – 18 years, 54 percent were attending school.

* In the age group 19 – 22 years, 17 percent were attending school.

* In the age group 5 – 6 years the proportion of girls attending school was higher than that of boys.

* In the age group 7 – 13 years (the primary school age) the proportion of girls attending school was equal to that of boys.

* In the age-group 14 – 18 (the secondary school age) the proportion of girls attending school was lower than that of boys by a high margin depicting that at secondary school stage girls drop out at a higher rate than do boys.

* At tertiary education level the disparity of school attendance between girls and boys is even higher.

* Urban areas have a much higher school attendance rate than rural areas but in both cases girls attendance at primary school age is equal to that of boys but lower to that of boys in secondary and tertiary education levels.

* The single most important reason given for not currently attending school for those who have ever attended school is ‘not selected/failed/couldn’t get a place’ (34 percent) followed by lack of support (23 percent).

* For those who have never attended school – the most prominent reasons for all age groups – groups are ‘under age’ (30 percent and ‘was never enrolled’ (26 percent).

**Health**

* 11 percent of the population were found to be either ill or injured at the time of the survey.

* Rural households had higher incidences of illness/injury than urban households.

* In rural areas, small scale farmers had the highest incidence of illness/injury.

* In urban areas, the low cost residential areas had the highest incidence of illness/injury.

* The most prevalent illness/injury among the sick population were fever/malaria (32 percent), cough/cold/chest infection (15 percent), headache (9 percent), diarrhoea without blood (7 percent).

**Economic Activities**
In 1998, 62 percent or 4 million persons of the population aged 12 years and above were in the labour force, that is either working/running a business/farming, or looking for work/means to do business/or means to start farming, or wishing to do so.

Of the 4 million persons aged 12 years and above, 88 percent were employed. That is either working, running a business, farming, or fishing etc.

12 percent of the labour force, about 483,000 persons aged 12 years and above, were unemployed in 1998.

Most of the unemployed persons were in the age-group 12 – 19 years (25 percent), 20 – 24 years (21 percent) and 25 – 29 years (13 percent). The unemployment rates become progressively lower with increasing age.

Most of the employed persons are employed in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industry (70 percent of the employed).

Most of the employed persons are self-employed (55 percent of the employed) followed by unpaid family workers (27 percent). Government employees constitute about 7 percent and parastatal organisations about 2 percent.

**Household Income**

In 1998 the average household income (from all sources combined) was K204,621.

The average household income in urban areas was almost 3 times higher than that of rural households.

Lusaka Province had the highest average household income (K417,280) followed by Copperbelt Province (K275,359) and Western Province had the least (K82,044).

The most important sources of income for households were regular salaries/wages (33 percent of total national income) and non-farming businesses (32 percent).

In rural areas the most important source of household income is own-produce consumed (26 percent) and non-farming business (23 percent).

In urban areas the most important source of household income was regular salaries/wages (47 percent) and non-farming businesses (37 percent).

The most prominent assets owned by household are radios (54 percent), bicycles (30 percent), television (26 percent), stove/cooker (23 percent) and electric iron (21 percent).

In rural areas the most prominent assets owned by households are radios (38 percent and bicycles (36 percent).

In urban areas the most prominent assets owned by households are radios (71 percent), television (48 percent), stove/cooker (44 percent), electric iron (40 percent),
refrigerator/deep freezer (25 percent), bicycle (23 percent) and video player (16 percent).

**Household Expenditure**

* Most of household expenditure goes towards food, 59 percent of total expenditure in 1998.
* Proportion of expenditure towards food from total expenditure is higher in rural areas (72 percent) than in urban areas (48 percent).
* The higher the expenditure on food from total expenditure, the more constrained or low income a household is (Engels curve).
* Households in rural areas depend to a large extent on own-produced food. This amounted to 43 percent of total expenditure (consumption), compared to only 3 percent for urban households.

**Poverty & Coping Strategies of Households**

* The incidence of poverty was 72.9 percent, (or about 7.4 million persons), in 1998, as compared to 69.2 percent in 1996.
* 58 percent of the population were extremely poor, 15 percent moderately poor, and 27 percent not poor in 1998.
* The incidence of poverty was highest in Western Province (89 percent), and lowest in Lusaka Province (52 percent) and Copperbelt Province (65 percent), in 1998.
* The increase in poverty between 1996 and 1998 is attributed mainly to the increase in urban poverty. The incidence of poverty in urban areas increased by 10 percentage points, from 46 percent in 1996 to 56 percent in 1998 while that in rural areas remained about the same.
* There was a negative economic growth rate in 1998 compared to a high positive growth rate in 1996.
* The incidence of poverty does not correlate one-to-one with the actual numbers of poor people, because the population bases are different per province.
* The highest number of poor people were on the Copperbelt in 1998, about 328,000 persons and North-Western Province had the least, about 27,000 persons.
* The most prominent coping strategies of households during times of need were; Reducing number of meals (64 percent of the households used this coping strategy), Reducing other household items (62 percent), Substituting ordinary meals with items
such as mangoes, pumpkins and sweet potatoes (51 percent), and Asking from relatives, friends or neighbours (58 percent).

**Household Access to Facilities**

* 55 percent of households in Zambia had access to clean and safe water in 1998.
* In urban areas, 89 percent of households had access to clean and safe water while in rural areas it is only 37 percent.
* Most households in Zambia use kerosene/paraffin for lighting (62 percent of households).
* Electricity for lighting is used by 19 percent of households.
* The majority of households in Zambia use firewood for cooking and this amounted to 61 percent of households in 1998. Charcoal is the second largest source of energy for cooking used by 23 percent of the households in 1998 and the rest used electricity (15 percent).
* Most households in Zambia use pit latrines as a toilet facility (62 percent of households in 1998). Flush toilets were used by 17 percent of households. Three percent of households used other types of toilet facilities and 19 percent of households did not have any kind of toilet facility in 1998.
* Most households dispose of their garbage by digging a pit. Only 3 percent of households had their refuse collected for the proper disposal in 1998.
* Urban households are on average closer to facilities such as a food market, post office, health facility, etc, than rural households but both rural and urban households have equally easy access to a primary school and a hammermill, and to a smaller extent, to a public transport facility.

**Household Food Production**

* The majority of Zambian households are engaged in agriculture, that is either growing of crops, or raising of livestock or raising of poultry, or fish farming or game ranching or any combination of these.
* In 1998, 71 percent of households in Zambia were engaged in agriculture.
* Almost all households in the rural areas were engaged in agriculture in 1998 (91 percent).
* A substantial proportion of urban households were also engaged in agriculture in 1998.
About 71 percent of agricultural households grew maize in 1998.

About 9.4 million bags of maize were produced in 1997/98 agricultural season (about 0.9 90kg bags of maize per capita).

The majority of maize growers grew local maize (59 percent of maize growers). The rest (41 percent) grew hybrid maize.

The majority of maize was produced in rural areas, 8,277,000 90kg bags or 88 percent of total production.

Urban households produced 12 percent of total maize production.

Eastern Province was the highest producer of maize (2,421,000 90kg bags), followed closely by Central Province (2,345,000 90kg bags) and Southern Province (1,800,000 90kg bags) in 1998.

Eastern Province was the single most (largest) producer of local maize (2,126,000 90kg bags), which accounted for about 89 percent of the provinces’ total maize production in 1998.

Most cassava was produced in Northern Province (1,071,000 90kg bags of cassava flour) followed by Luapula Province (573,000 90kg bags), North-Western Province (267,000 90kg bags), Western Province (164,000 90kg bags) and Central Province (161,000 90kg bags). The remaining four provinces produced insignificant amounts of cassava.

Northern Province was the largest producer of millet and sorghum in 1998.

Western, Eastern and Northern provinces were the largest producers of rice in 1998.

Child Nutrition

Almost half (46 percent) of under-five children who had started receiving food supplements were fed three times a day in 1998.

Children in urban areas were on average fed more times than those in rural households. The nutritionists recommend children under the age of five to be fed five times a day.

Children with educated mothers were on average fed more times than the less educated.

In 1998, 98 percent of the children aged 12-23 months had received the vaccine against tuberculosis (BCG), over 70 percent had received the DPT3 vaccine (Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus), over 70 percent had received the polio vaccine and about 91 percent had received the measles vaccine.

In 1998, 53 percent of the children aged 3-59 months were stunted (too short for their
age), 24 percent were underweight (having low weight for their age), and 5 percent were wasted (having low weight for their height).

* The higher the household income the lower the incidence of stunting, underweight and wasting.

* The higher the educational level of the mother of the child, the lower the incidence of stunting, underweight and wasting.

**Community Developmental Issues**

* Most households in Zambia ranked agriculture requirements as their most needed development activities in 1998. These include agricultural inputs, credit facilities to purchase agricultural inputs, markets for their agricultural produce and extension services.

* The second most important requirement desired by households was water supply.

* The third most important requirement desired by households was food.

* The fourth most important requirement desired by households was provision of health facilities or improvement on the existing ones.

* When compared on a rural/urban basis, the most important requirement desired by rural households were agricultural, food, health facilities provision and water supply in that order of ranking.

* For urban households the most important developmental requirements desired were water supply followed by food.

* The most prominent development changes that had occurred in the communities during the five year period prior to 1998 were as follows: Rehabilitation of school, provision of transport service, rehabilitation of health facility, provision of hammermill, availability of consumer goods, sinking of borehole, rehabilitation of roads, building of schools and availability of police services.

* The most prominent developmental changes that had occurred in the communities in Zambia during the five year period prior to 1998 were about the same in both rural and urban areas except for availability of housing which was very prominent in urban areas.

* Most households recorded being satisfied with development projects that have been undertaken in their communities, with more than half of the households being very satisfied with most of the projects.