



Foreign Affairs, Trade and  
Development Canada

Affaires étrangères, Commerce  
et Développement Canada



## **FULL REPORT: 2018 Rural Women's Summit: Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security**

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**Held at Hotel Intercontinental, Lusaka from 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

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# Day one – Evening Launch

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## Background and Introduction

Women for Change (WfC) is a Non-governmental organization that was established in 1992 and whose vision is “A society that upholds gender equity and equality”. The organization works with rural communities with a focus on women and girls in five provinces of Zambia, namely Central, Southern, Eastern, Western and Lusaka. Women for Change organized a Rural Women’s Summit in Lusaka from 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018, whose participants were drawn from female and male leaders from WfC operational areas, heads of Civil Society organisations (CSOs) and Cooperating partners. The theme of the summit was, **Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security**. The summit was designed to give an opportunity for the participants to meet with and interact with Government officials, representatives of NGOs in seeking to address the challenges of economic empowerment and food security as well as to provide a space for mutual learning and sharing of experiences.

## Official Opening Ceremony



The meeting was officially opened on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October with Dr Auxilia Ponga, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender as guest of honour. In her welcoming remarks, the Chairperson of the Board of Women for Change, Dr Rose Fumpa-Makano noted that the launch of the Rural Women’s Summit was to commemorate the International Day of the Rural Woman, which falls on 15<sup>th</sup> October annually. She gratefully acknowledged the presence of all at the function and appreciated the support from Government, cooperating partners and other Civil Society Organisations of the work the organization is undertaking.

She noted that the theme, Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security would be evident throughout the summit as participants through talking about their concerns and their aspirations for development will be manifesting ‘Her Voice’. ‘Her Strength’ will be made visible in the sharing of experiences by participants, which would reveal the resilience of rural communities. The summit would also learn the impact of the

work of the organization in addressing economic empowerment and food security and its effects on gender-based violence, thus responding to 'Her Security'. She noted that in the last 26 years of the organization's existence, it had created and engaged with over 1,000 community-based organisations in the five provinces where they are operating. She called for more support from Government and Cooperating partners especially as the work of Women for Change is in accord with the government's theme in its 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan of leaving no one behind. In conclusion she presented the guest of honour with the strategic plan from 2018 – 2022, which will guide the work of the organization.

The Guest of Honour, Dr Ponga started by thanking Women for Change for organizing the summit to coincide with the celebration of the International Rural Women's Day. She observed that despite the challenges faced by rural women, yet they play a leading role in improving food security and eradicating poverty. In addition, women are caregivers and leaders in their homes and communities. She noted that this year marked the tenth anniversary of International Day for Rural Women, which in her view coincided with the strides that the Government has made in addressing the plight of women and girls. This is evidenced in the creation of the Ministry of Gender, the many projects that are in place to address women and girls' developmental needs as well as the enactment of the Gender Equity and Equality Act. She added that her ministry was working hard to mainstream gender at all levels to reduce disparities and contribute to the full realization of women's rights.

She observed that even though women were the backbone of the rural economy, yet they did not benefit equally from the productive resources such as land, credit and agricultural training and information. This had resulted in high poverty levels among women. She said that she was particularly pleased with the work that Women for Change was undertaking in improving the lives of rural women. She particularly took note of the project that Women for Change has been working on in the last six years in partnership with the Coady International Institute of Canada, the Organisation of Women in Self Employment from Ethiopia and the Ghanaian University of Development Studies, supported by Global Affairs Canada. The project that seeks to empower women's economic leadership and food security was in line with the Zambian Government's desire for women not to be left out in the economic development of the country. She was encouraged by the theme of the Summit which spoke to the levels of women's empowerment which was a prerequisite to sustainable development. She declared the summit officially open.

The Chairperson of the Kaoma District Development Association, Ms Mirriam Monde Sikaenyi, in her Key note address gave a personal testimony of what it has meant for her and her community to work with Women for Change. She started by explaining that the Kaoma District Development Association was formed in 2005 to coordinate the work of 11 Area Associations supported by Women for Change since 1996. She was a founding member of the district association and brought nine years of experience as a leader in the area association at that time. The capacity building, she received from the organization had enabled her to be a seasoned Fish Farmer, Bee Keeper and Seed Grower. She was a well-established entrepreneur who understood the business aspects of farming. In addition, she has had exposure through visits to Kenya to attend the 2007 World Social Forum; Canada in 2015 to attend 2 training courses with support from Coady International Institute. She was identified by the government to be trained in aqua culture at Mwekela Training Institute for 6 weeks.

At community level, she participated in bringing health services to the community through the building of a mother's shelter at Kahare Rural Health Centre in Nkeyema district. Through a joint programme between Zambia National Women's Lobby and Women for Change, she promoted female participation in politics at a community level which saw 12 women come forward to participate in the 2016 elections at local government level.

# Day Two

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## **Introductions, Welcome Remarks and Overview of Programme**

The Summit opened with a word of prayer given by one of the participants. The facilitator, Dr Charity Musamba welcomed all participants to the workshop and encouraged them to feel free to speak in the local languages or English. She informed the participants that the official opening ceremony was held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and the theme of the summit was “**Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security**”. The theme was a summary of the work that Women for Change had been doing. Participants introduced themselves.

## **Key Note Address: - Program Manager; EMPOWER Project**

The facilitator stated that Ms Vicky Schreiber – Program Manager of the EMPOWER Project at Coady International Institute, Canada was unable to travel to attend the summit, but she sent her speech, which was read by Ms Lumba Siyanga, Executive Director at Women for Change. The presentation started by welcoming all participants to the Rural Women’s Summit on behalf of the Coady International Institute in Canada and acknowledged that it was the tenth year since the United Nations declared 15<sup>th</sup> October, the International Day for the Rural Woman. She noted that since that time much had been achieved but there were still challenges.

Ms Schreiber was invited as program manager of the Women’s Leadership for Economic Empowerment and food security program being implemented in Ethiopia, Ghana and Zambia since 2013 with funds from Global Affairs Canada and she had been asked to speak to the question of “Why the focus on Women’s Leadership?” She observed that even though women’s leadership was evident in everyday life, the aim was to make it more visible in all aspects of life through capacity building thus facilitating women’s ability to claim spaces and influence decisions from their perspective and make their contributions.

She further noted that although women are under- represented at all levels whether politically, economically or in the media, they are the main producers of food in many regions of the world and especially in Africa. This is despite the many hurdles such as patriarchy, lack of access to land, education and training to mention a few. She stated that through the EMPOWER program, their partners were using a holistic approach to ensure women’s leadership is enhanced by building social empowerment and life skills, together with practical skills and tools linked to economic initiatives, producer value chains and food security. She shared the following stories from the EMPOWER programme based on the theme of the summit.

## **Her Strength**

EMPOWER’s focus on women’s leadership was accomplished through working in partnership with civil society actors such as Women for Change (Zambia); the Organisation for Women in Self Employment [Ethiopia] and Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Organisational Development, and academic institution University for Development Studies in Ghana. Overall approximately 200 leaders – 70% women leaders have received training at the Coady Institute. This has resulted in women leaders strengthening their approaches and training to ensure community driven and asset-based approaches are furthering women’s economic empowerment.

- WISE – Ethiopia’s expertise in entrepreneurship and business skills and financial literacy training has been adapted and used in training in Zambia and Ghana;
- In Zambia – citizen-led advocacy and social accountability training has been adapted for use in rural communities;
- In Ghana – women leaders are advancing with productive value chains and craft markets from an asset approach;

Further she noted that graduates at International forums were sharing their expertise as indicated below;

- Linda Atibilla from Ghana – engaged in shea production attended a high-level meeting at the World Bank – she was the only women on a panel of experts;
- Salome Nakazwe has attended Council on the Status of Women meetings held at the United Nations in New York and recently attended a Pan-African event on land issues in Kenya.
- Tsigie Haile has been recognized for her support of women’s economic empowerment by the Government of Ethiopia and worked with her team to further develop and expand training on asset-based community development approaches in the region;
- At Coady during training, women leaders also had the opportunity to collaborate and speak during Government of Canada consultations that have led to their launch of the Feminist International Assistance Program that informs development assistance over the next years.

### Her Security

Questions of gender and power are integral to Coady training and adult education approaches. Similarly courses on financial inclusion and resilient communities seek to find alternatives that are built on endogenous development and sustainable practices. For example;

- Partners in Ghana – including the Rural Women Farmers Association have collaborated on blocking the plant breeders bill that limits options for seed and food sovereignty and opens the door to GMO crops.
- Financial inclusion of marginal and under employed women in Ethiopia is the focus of savings and credit cooperatives approach of WISE
- In Zambia – gender analysis and power inform the social empowerment and popular education approaches of Women for Change.

### 3.2 Highlights from the speeches by the Facilitator

The facilitator made the following highlights from the speeches;

- The 15<sup>th</sup> October The International day for the Rural Woman was our day as rural women;
- The participants were celebrating a long period of working together as operational areas focusing on women’s economic empowerment and women’s leadership, a period of six years; The participants were celebrating the successes achieved;
- The programme was part of the four key areas Women for Change has focused on, namely;
  - Capacity building;



- Economic Empowerment;
- Women and Girls' Human Rights;
- Sustainable livelihoods;
- The priority was on economic empowerment initiatives;
- Women for Change are happy with the Government's theme for the 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan, which states, "**Accelerating development efforts towards Vision 2030 without leaving anyone behind**". Women for Change will ensure that in their work they will continue with ensuring that no one is left behind.
- Women for Change will need the support of the Zambian Government and Cooperating partners as they forge ahead in their work;
- The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender showered praise on the work of Women for Change and indicated she recognized the work and was proud of it;
- There was need for continued efforts to fight gender inequalities and Gender Based Violence;
- The Permanent Secretary pledged Government's commitment to support the work of Women for Change;
- The message from Coady brought out the following;
- Coady recognizes and appreciates the work done in communities;
- The participants are not alone, there are colleagues from Ghana, Ethiopia and Zambia;
- Participants to remember the theme, ***Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security***;
- Coady was looking forward to the outcome of this meeting;

#### 4.0 Financial Inclusion for Women and Girls: Implications





#### 4.1 Strategic Plan

The presenter was Mr Walusungu Banda, Acting Planning M&E Manager from Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC). He started by explaining the focus of the strategic plan 2017 -2021 for his organization, whose goal was, Increased **Participation in the Economy** and had the following strategic objectives;

- More Conducive, Policies, Laws and Regulations;
- Improved Business Development Services;
- Increased Access to Finance;
- Increased Access to Competitive Markets

The goal and the strategic objectives were to be attained **With Geographic, Gender and Social Equity.**

#### 4.2 Focus and Priorities

The presenter shared a map of Zambia showing the priority areas of focus in each province. In the five provinces where Women for Change operates the following are the priorities;

- Central Province – Dairy, Cotton, Poultry, Fish and Stock feed;
- Eastern – Dairy, Stock feed, Groundnuts, Cotton, Tourism, Rice, Edible Oils;
- Lusaka – Dairy, Stock Feed, Poultry, Aquaculture, Beef;
- Southern – Dairy, Beef, Tourism, Fish, Stock Feed;
- Western – Mango, Beef, Rice, Timber, Cassava;

#### 4.3 Social Distribution of Approved Projects

The summit learnt that it was a requirement that 90% of the CEEC resources should go to the rural areas; however, the rural share of approved empowerment projects stood at 91.8%. The following categories received the following:

- Women – 43%
- Youth – 40%
- Disabled – 2%
- Men – 29%

#### 4.4 Industrial Yards

Industrial yards have been developed at the following places;

- Kasama
- Kitwe
- Chipata
- Mansa
- Ndola
- Lusaka
- Mongu
- Solwezi

The CEEC was encouraging agro-processing, light manufacturing, metal fabrication, welding gemstone and auto mechanics. Women participation is targeted at 40% and 30% for youths.

#### 4.5. Breaking barriers: Women involvement in Construction Industry

CEEC is encouraging women to go into non -traditional areas. In Mansa, one woman is involved in the construction industry. She is making 600 blocks per day and the blocks are certified by the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS).

- Cassava Commercialisation - The target areas are Solwezi, Mansa and Kasama 12,000 farmers will be supported (Women-40%: Youths-30%). CEEC works with the Zambia Agriculture Research Institute to improve the quality of the cassava seed. Cassava has multiple functions apart from the traditional practice of being food. It has many qualities which are required in processing various industrial goods. CEEC expects that the country will produce 120,000 tons of cassava.
- Dairy Value Chain in Choma District - In Choma district, women are supplying milk to Choma Dairy project, who in turn supply it to Parmalat, the company whose headquarters is based in Lusaka and sells milk and milk products country wide.
- Agriculture Value Chain - The CEEC will be implementing a project on fish harvesting which, will come from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. The project will target 30 districts and 3,000 fish farmers. CEEC is working on improving the quality of fingerlings.
- Poultry Value Chain - There was one woman who was producing 60 trays of eggs per day.
- Groundnut Value Chain - The Chibusa Cooperative is a group of women based in Mungwi district, Northern province who make peanut butter for sale.
- Beef fattening at Shafro farm - The beef fattening enterprise is undertaken by a husband and wife team. It takes three months to fatten cattle, which they then supply to ZAMBEEF. Their target is 66 kilogrammes of beef.

### Challenges

- Poor packaging, labelling and branding
- Poor quality

The presenter proposed that the following organisations can help enterprises facing the above challenges;

- Zambia Bureau of Standards;
- Kaizen Institute of Zambia;
- Cooperatives Department under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

### Questions and comments

The following questions and comments were raised;

1. How could we be assured that the fattening ingredients in the fattening cattle enterprise are free of GMOs?
2. Does CEEC give grants or loans?
3. How can one apply and where are the application forms to be found?
4. How can fingerlings be accessed?
5. Can CEEC assist people from Kapiri Mposhi?
6. Does CEEC have offices in the newly created district of Lusangazi in the Eastern province?

In response the presenter said;

- Cooperatives should not be only restricted to the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP). Cooperatives were more about improving one's business;
- GMOs are not allowed in Zambia. CEEC works with the Livestock department who check on the type of feed and chemicals given to cattle;

- CEEC supports innovative ideas. The organization was formed to support Zambians. It runs a revolving fund and gives loans at 12% interest with a five-year repayment period. However, for micro finance enterprises in aquaculture, they give K80,000.00 and no collateral is required, however CEEC undertakes due diligence. Only loans are given;
- The process for accessing loans starts with advertisements and participants were advised to listen to radio broadcasts. In addition, CEEC works with local authorities, i.e. the district councils. Application forms can be found at the councils. CEEC will extend to Kapiri Mposhi once funding is provided. The funding is provided by Government. The funding for aquaculture enterprises is provided by the African Development Bank;
- Where the demand for a product is big as in the case of supermarkets, it is advisable for enterprises to consider working together as the demand may be too big for a single producer;

### More Questions

1. Why are there no CEEC offices in Rufunsa?
2. Where can skills on packaging be obtained?
3. Can CEEC teach participants skills for filling in the application forms?
4. How long does it take for a group to be approved?
5. If one lives where there is no water, how can one be involved in an aquaculture project?
6. There is not much publicity about CEEC?
7. What is meant by innovative ideas?

The presenter responded as follows;

- There are industrial clusters in districts for instance aquaculture is one of the identified areas for Rufunsa district;
- Assistance with application process is something that CEEC could work with Women for Change, so that WFC can be disseminating information to the area associations. CEEC is in all the provincial centres and works with several stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Ministry of Chiefs and Traditional Affairs;
- When CEEC advertises they have sensitization meetings in one place where they discuss how to fill in an application form. They use a training of trainers' approach and it is expected that those who receive training will share the information;
- Regarding packaging, CEEC will provide information and contact details of where to get help but participants were urged to take a keen interest;
- For Supermarkets to accept goods, enterprises need a bar code;
- Innovation was explained as to do something new, creative. Value addition is part of it, but it could also be a totally new idea. Sometimes innovation is connected to the issue of money. Innovation is doing what you are doing in a smart way;
- Cassava commercialization is also innovative in the sense that it is introducing other uses of the plant. Cassava is called white gold and it will be the number one crop. In Ghana for example they produce five types of "*nshima*" from cassava

- Examples of innovation were given as follows;
  - In the Fish business some can focus on growing the fingerlings, while other focus on cleaning the fish;
  - Some can produce cabbage, others can be engaged in the transportation of cabbage;
- Participants were reminded that CEEC's mandate is to promote citizen participation in the economy. Under Gender Equity, participants were included. CEEC supports business ideas financially through loans and in some cases, collateral is not required. CEEC can also connect enterprises to markets. Participants were encouraged not to be discouraged if their idea failed the first time. CEEC is ready to partner with Women for Change.

## 5.0 Climate Change and Agriculture: Strengthening Resilience



In her presentation, Ms Chitembo Chungu the National Coordinator of the pilot program for Climate Resilience under the Ministry of National Development Planning MNDP. Ms Chitembo started by defining concepts, then explained the impact of climate change in Zambia. She then told participants about the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR Phase) being implemented by her ministry.

### Definitions

**Climate** encompasses the statistics of meteorological conditions, that is, temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, wind, rainfall, atmospheric particle count and other meteorological elements in a given region over long periods of time (usually 30 years).

**What is Climate change?** It is a change of climate which, is attributed directly or indirectly to human activities that alter the composition of the global atmosphere, and which is additional to natural variability, and observed over comparable periods of time.

**What is Climate Resilience** – It means the ability to survive and recover from the effects of climate change

- Climate change impacts are long-term and require long term interventions;
- Urgent need for resilience and

- Adaptive capacities must be built in communities, institutions and infrastructure: There is an urgent need for Mitigation and Adaptation measures to be put in place;
- Mitigate
- Adaptation

**What is climate mitigation?** Refers to efforts to reduce or prevent emission of green- house gases which cause global warming

**What is Climate change adaptation?** The initiatives put in place that reduce the vulnerability of natural environment and people to actual or expected climate hazards.

### 5.1. The impact of Climate change on Zambia's Food Security

- Over past 30 years, floods and droughts have cost Zambia US\$13.8 billion – equivalent to 0.4 % of annual GDP growth
- In the absence of adaptation, rainfall variability could keep an additional 300,000 more Zambians below the poverty line
- Climate variability could cost Zambia US\$4.3 billion in lost GDP over the next decade, reducing annual growth by 0.9%

#### The Trends 1960 to Present

- Net trend towards more floods and droughts
- Mean temperature increased by 1.3 C since 1960
- Number of hot days and nights has increased
- Mean rainfall has decreased by 2.3% per decade

#### Projected Future Trends

- Temperature projected to rise by 3-5o C by 2100
- Average precipitation not projected to change significantly; however
- Precipitation variability expected to increase: early rainy season to become drier, peak rainy season with heavier rainfall periods.
- Climate extremes to accentuate more intense floods; more frequent droughts
- The Southern part of Zambia is generally considered to be the most vulnerable

### 5.2. Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience

What is PPCR Zambia?

- PPCR is part of Zambia's national response to climate change.
- PPCR is implementing adaptation projects in the most vulnerable districts in the Barotse and Kafue Sub-Basin in 25 districts in Zambia.
- PPCR is being implement in line with the 7NDP and Vision 2030

- It is under the Ministry of National Development Planning

### **Project Development Objective**

To strengthen Zambia's institutional framework for climate resilience and improve the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities in the Barotse and Kafue sub-basin

## 5.3. Zambia Strengthening Climate Resilience in Barotse and Kafue Sub-basin Projects

### Project Components

- Strategic National Program Support
  - Institutional support to National program
  - Strengthened climate information
- Support to Participatory Adaptation
- Pilot Participatory Adaptation
  - Community Adaptation sub grants
  - Adaptation Contingency fund
  - Rehabilitation and Management of Traditional Canals
- Rehabilitation and construction of a climate proofed road

### **Agriculture is the mainstay of the economies and livelihoods of the four project provinces**

- Most livelihoods are centred on agriculture: crop cultivation, livestock and fisheries
- 90% of households are reliant on farm-related income
- These livelihoods are heavily affected by climate change and variability. Yields in most areas are generally insufficient for food and income security, business expansion and investment, and prevent farmers from breaking out of poverty

## 5.4. Women and Climate Change

- Women in rural areas were among the vulnerable groups which were negatively affected by Climate Change in Zambia.
- A large percentage of women in rural areas are subsistence farmers whose lives depend on rain fed agriculture, therefore in times of droughts or floods, the food security in their homesteads is compromised.
- Women are affected the most in times of extreme weather conditions due to Climate Change because they are the care-givers in homes; they look after children, the sick and the elderly in the communities.

## 5.5. Building resilience of Rural Women

- PPCR results framework has a targeted number of 11,000 women headed households to be reached by the end of its projects. Approximately 22,000 households were reached as at September 2018
- To ensure that women are part of decision making PPCR sees to it that 50% of all the committees in the community projects are women.

## 5.6. Project Design under PPCR

### Key Design Elements

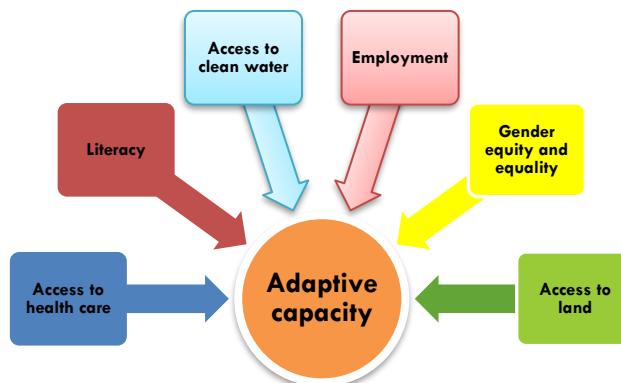
- Demand – led ((Community Participation in needs identification and project implementation);

### Specific Mechanisms

- Gender-Sensitive Climate Risk Assessment (GCRA) Tool
- Positive discrimination based on gender (women-led projects prioritized for funding; 30% of all targeted investments for women) Innovations:

### Engendering Resilience and Focus on Women

- Increases in: 1) women-led project **proposals** and 2) number of **women-led projects funded**
- More **time available** for women for household chores and personal needs
- Increase in Household income level, especially for women-headed households – social protection enhancement
- Reduction in diseases affecting women
- Diversification of income sources → more resilience overall



### Key Impacts and Success factors

#### Key impacts

Increased resilience to climatic shocks – e.g., diversification of income sources, vs. dependence on rain-fed agriculture

Increased adaptive capacity of women – e.g., alternative food sources

#### Success factors

- PPCR enhancing support to women-led adaptation projects through information and links to extension services.
- Sub-projects as integral part of Ward and District Development Plans = access to gov't budget process

### Questions and Comments

The following questions and comments followed the presentation;

1. In view of climate change and expected drought, what can be planted in Rufunsa as experience shows that what is planted dries up?
2. There should be more sensitization on climate change;
3. There are many farmers involved in tobacco growing and they use chemicals which affect the climate and they need to be sensitized;
4. There was concern regarding the teaching from the presentation that climate change was caused by the behaviour of individuals and the question was what can be done at the individual level?



5. How did the project address the issue of women who lacked security of land tenure?

The facilitator asked the presenter to respond to the questions which she summarized as follows:

1. How can people access information on climate change?
2. How can people change their behaviour to deal with climate change?

In response the presenter stated that her Ministry was working with many stakeholders in scaling up sensitization on climate change and they include the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Gender and others. She explained that there was a programme, known as “Think 2044”, which people can access by calling 2044 on Zamtel. The people can obtain answers to questions on climate change; however, there is need to translate the information into local languages. Churches could also be used to disseminate information.

On the question of appropriate crops to plant in the various areas, the presenter referred the participants to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The presenter said regarding the issue of ownership of land, they worked with traditional leaders to give women security of tenure for a given period of 10 -15 years and this depended on the location. If it was an area falling under the local authorities, the process was even easier.

On the question of how people can change their behaviour to address climate change, Mr Banda from CEEC, who informed the meeting that he worked with the PPCR project in Western province said people should revert to old ways of farming and practice conservation farming. Farmers should avoid the use of chemical fertilisers and instead use cow manure or chicken manure. In addition, participants were encouraged to plant trees and stop burning forests and stop the indiscriminate disposal of waste

There was concern with the many chemicals used in farming especially in growing cotton and the question was why didn't the Ministry of Agriculture consider banning the use of chemicals?

Yet another concern was with the disposal of containers after the use of herbicides.

### **Recommendations**

- It was proposed that radio programmes disseminating information on climate change should consider that the farmer's day starts at 05:00 hours to 14:00 hours. Radio programmes should be organized in such a way as to facilitate access to information given the life style of the farmer.
- Participants were encouraged to strengthen their links with the District Agricultural Offices as it was clear that people were not making a connection between the way they lived and changes in the climate.
- It was resolved that CEEC should share information on how to apply for the loans. CEEC advised that they work with the District Agricultural offices and the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and both institutions can assist prospective applicants with information on how to apply for CEEC loans

## 6.0 Role Play

Participants watched a role play by some of the participants, which depicted that women face challenges in participating in development programmes when husbands do not allow them to do so. In the role play the persistent visits to such a woman yielded results when the husband appreciated the benefits of women's involvement in such activities.

### Lessons from the Role play

- A male participant said sometimes, we, the men do not allow the women to attend such meetings;
- The community showed concern for the woman whose husband did not allow to join them in their activities;
- There should not be oppression of the youth and children;
- Men should let women participate in such activities;
- The play depicted a situation before Women for Change started working with them in their respective areas. Before that was the situation that women were not allowed by husbands to participate in such activities, however; the situation had since changed;
- The situation before was that of women being oppressed and they missed a lot even on learning. However, due to the work of Women for Change women said they were able to express themselves and they have learnt about women's rights, gender and many other issues including the river code;



## 6.1 Testimonies from some participants

- One female participant shared her testimony as follows; *“My husband retired in April this year. She has been involved with the Seed Growers’ Association and he was able to see the changes in their life style and he said to her, “Nakupela umucinshi”*
- *I give you all the respect)” She added that Women for Change have produced results as a result of their work and the government should facilitate their work;*
- Yet another female participant shared her story, thus; *“I stopped school in grade 9 but I went back to school and wrote the grade 9 examinations. Currently, I am preparing to sit for the grade 12 examinations this year. I am the Chief Executive Officer in the Seed Growers’ Association. I am a widow, but my life style, one would think there is a man. Even the name Women for Change depicts the reality on the ground. One cannot remain the same.”* She added Women for Change is contributing to changing the lives of women positively.

## 7.0. Experience sharing by five Participants



The workshop learnt that five people were going to share their experiences and the purpose of this exercise was to learn how they had been strengthened for economic empowerment.

**Witty Christabel Ngoma** shared her story thus; “She introduced herself as Chairperson of Mutasa Area Association in Kapiri Mposhi and gave her narration as follows;

*“When Women for Change came to Kapiri Mposhi, we thought they were playing. We learnt about the development tree, Gender Based Violence, seed growing and trained as paralegals. My husband died in 2006 and I am no longer a sad widow. “Natusela” (we have made progress) Women for Change “bali bomba” (WFC has done great work). I thank you Women for Change. I can identify different seeds and regarding early marriages, we would marry off girls at the age of 12 years. This is in the past. Pregnant school girls go back to school. Before I would not accept leadership positions when offered but now, I am the Vice Chairperson of The School Parent Teachers’ Association.”*

**Ruth Masuwa** introduced herself as a member of the Lusumpuko Area Association, Nangoma, Mumbwa She shared her story thus,

*“I did not know I could stand in public and speak. I am a widow with five children and three of them are working. I learnt about leadership, gender among other things. I own land and it is in my name. I own cattle, goats and chickens. I teach on Gender based Violence and discourage early marriages. My daughter got pregnant in grade 12, after she gave birth she went back to school and completed her grade 12.*

**Naomi Sakala** introduced herself as coming from the newly created Lusangazi district. Previously they were under Petauke district. She said she came from Chief Sandwe’s Chiefdom, which she said was rich in natural resources such as wild life, gold etc. she narrated her story thus;

*“In the past when we were advised not to kill wild life, we went ahead and killed them because we did not understand. Our husbands were arrested for being found in possession of game meat. Women for Change formed Community Based Natural Resources*

*Management Board and sensitized the community. We did not know how to work together as husband and wife in the past. Men used to take most of the property and women were only entitled to kitchen utensils. We learnt about human rights, advocacy and we also trained in business studies. We now have women's clubs and we have learnt about village banking and so we give each other soft loans. My husband has been unemployed for a long time. My daughter got pregnant in grade 9 and I encouraged her to return to school. She has completed grade 12. Her daughter was part of her school's delegation that visited parliament with their area Member of Parliament.*

**Samson Mwale** said he was from Mumbwa. In his narration, he stated the following;

*"I learnt about gender and how women and men can work together well. I am involved in business as an agent for ZAMSOLAR, a company promoting the use of solar energy in a rural setting. I am one of the paralegals and organized workshops with village headmen where the topics covered included early marriages and Gender Based Violence. Before village headpersons did not know how to handle GBV cases but with training their capacity to handle such issues has been enhanced. For those cases that go to court, my concern is mainly regarding the delays in judgements. We shared this concern with the District Commissioner. Women own land following training given to village head persons. Men allow women to take part in business ventures and even men join Women for Change groups.*

**Julia Mvula** said she was from Rufunsa and gave her narration as follows;

*"Before Women for Change came to our area we lagged behind. The challenges we faced were oppression, child abuse, defilement, silence on gender-based violence because we did not know where to report such cases. Today we can report. In cases of early marriages, we were by standers, but today we can intervene and allow children to go back to school. Pregnant school girls were not allowed to continue with their education but today we counsel them and send them back to school after delivery. My daughter got pregnant in grade 10, we counselled her, and she agreed to return to school and she is now in grade 12. My daughter was among school pupils who visited Parliament, the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation and the presidential grave yard.*

*I have entered the Hotel Inter -Continental for this summit (the first-time experience). We used to drink dirty water and today we can complain as a result we have boreholes. Women for Change has taught us many things. The youth received training in agriculture and were given a pair of goats. We used to be poor, but there is a reduction in the levels of poverty. God bless Women for Change and I am grateful to them! It is true that we have voice, strength and security. We have learnt about human rights and how to demand for accountability from the leaders and how to reject bad practices like keeping pregnant girls out of school.*

## **Comments**

Some participants shared their own experiences as follows;

One female participant said she was coming from the old Area Associations and gave her narration as follows; *"I thank Women for Change for the training in seed growing. My gift is farming, and I grow maize. I started Pache Pache Seed Growers' Association with ten women. I registered the organization with the Patents and Companies Registration Agency (PACRA). I have attended workshops in Swaziland and Kenya.*

*We are now receiving support from the World Bank. We have a big market for our seeds, and we are also supplying to commercial farmers who require 30 to 40 bags of seed. She and her association participated at the recently held Central Province Expo.*

## **8.0. Summary for Day Two**

The Facilitator in summarizing the activities for the day made the following observations;

- The 2018 Rural Women's Summit on the theme Her Voice, Her Strength, Her Security was also a celebration of ten years since the United Nations launched the International Rural Women's Day, which is celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> October annually;
- It is also evident that the main producers of food in the rural areas are women and 70% of the labour force are women;
- Women are keeping families together in the face of so many challenges as attested to in earlier presentations; However, women are on the other hand contributing so much in the face of so many challenges such as lack of access to finance and Gender Based Violence;
- There is need to promote the rights of women;
- There is need to ensure women have access to economic and political power;
- Women must demand for more political space;
- More work needs to be done on the gendered nature of ownership;
- There is need for more access to information;

### **8.1. Key Lessons from the proceedings of Day Two**

- The Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) focus on women and girls is a programme for all the participants;
- Information on climate change is required as well as knowing what to do to deal with climate change;
- Information on climate change can be accessed through government offices;
- The sharing of life experiences by participants was meant as an encouragement to each other;
- The theme for the International Rural Women's Day is "**Sustainable Infrastructure Services**"



# DAY Three

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The day started with a prayer given by one of the participants. This was followed by a recap of the previous day done in groups according to the tables. Participants were asked to come up with three key points from the previous day.



## 9.0 Recap of Day Two

### Table 1

- Learnt about Climate change and its causes such as garbage disposal, agriculture chemicals, burning waste;
- As a group they did not know their voice, their strength, their security;
- Learnt that cassava is a priority crop because of its multiple uses;

### Table 2

- Learnt from CEEC the importance of innovative ideas;
- Learnt that this year Zambia will experience drought as part of climate change which is caused in part by indiscriminate disposal of waste;
- Learnt from CEEC where to go for information in rural areas such as the District Agricultural office and the Councils (Local Authorities);

### Table 3

- Learnt about how to grow cassava because of unpredictable rainy season;
- Cutting trees and burning forests or waste contributes to climate change
- Learnt good business ideas from CEEC for women such as dairy farming, chicken rearing;

### Table 4

- Learnt about how to adapt to climate change;
- Learnt how burning adversely contributes to climate change;

- Learnt that CEEC gives loans at 12% interest and they do not give grants. We learnt about importance of innovation, packaging and competition;

#### **Table 5**

- Learnt that CEEC seeks to increase the participation of citizens in the economy by among other things empowering women to grow cassava and they give loans at 12% interest;
- People contribute to climate change through indiscriminate disposal of waste, burning and poor disposal of empty containers of chemicals;
- Women for Change has empowered women and youths;

#### **Table 6**

- Learnt about climate change – what it is and what causes it such as deforestation resulting in changed rainfall patterns;
- Innovation is important for business enterprises. Women for Change must be smart and have a business head for innovation;
- Learnt from CEEC where to look for information, help to access loans;

#### **Table 7**

- Learnt how to sell goods, innovation and smart business;
- CEEC gives loans and they explained where to get help from including the importance of listening to the radio to know what is happening. In addition, the District Agriculture office and the Councils can be approached for information;
- Farmers need early maturing varieties of seeds because of climate change;

#### **Table 8**

- Learnt that climate change caused by indiscriminate cutting of trees which affects rainfall patterns as well as burning forests and indiscriminate disposal of waste;
- CEEC loans are repayable over a five-year period at 12% interest;
- Learnt how to package goods and where to get help regarding packaging i.e. Kaizen Institute;

## **10.0 Government Agenda: No One Left Behind**

### **10.1 MNDP - Rebecca Lubinda Ndowa, Senior Planner**

Ms Rebecca Lubinda Ndowa from Ministry of National Development and Planning (MNDP) started her presentation by asking participants to define Government's agenda for the rural woman. She observed that the rural population comprises 60% of Zambia's population and that rural areas are characterized by;

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • high poverty levels (74.4%)  | • Majority of small-scale farmers are women |
| • Inadequate infrastructure (schools, health facilities, roads, etc) | • Early marriages                           |
| • Majority of rural farmers are small scale                          | • Low literacy and education levels         |
|  | • Lower progression levels in schools       |



In her continued presentation she stated that Government's agenda on women's economic empowerment and response to inequalities affecting rural women is captured in the following national documents;

- Vision 2030;
- 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan
- The Integrated Rural Development Strategy, which is in the process of development and will feed into the 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan.

### **Gender and Vision 2030**

She noted that under gender and the vision 2030, the aspirations for the nation were;

- Zambians, by 2030, aspire to live in a strong and dynamic middle-income industrial nation that provides opportunities for improving the well-being of all, embodying values of socio-economic justice, underpinned by the principles of, among other things, gender responsive sustainable development;
- Reduce and ultimately eliminate gender imbalances and inadequacies associated with the provision of education, training and development;
- Harness the types of knowledge, skills, values and competencies necessary for economic development;
- Facilitate special consideration/affirmative action to adequate allocation of funds to the Health sector in support of programmes affecting women and children;
- Facilitate and ensure appropriate health services to, and protection of women during pregnancy, confinement and post-natal period as well as adequate nutrition
- Implement measures that combat the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, particularly on women and children;
- Prevent and combat the existing Gender Based Violence scourge, particularly against women and girl children;
- Economically empower women through acquisition and ownership of titled land;
- Enact and enforce a law that will facilitate the allocation of at least 30 percent of available land to women as an affirmative action by the year 2030; and
- Facilitate and provide economic support to institutions that offer credit facilities to women for land development, etc.
- The 7NDP has mainstreamed gender and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- SDG 4: By 2030 ensure that all men and women, particularly the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership, and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services including microfinance

### **10.2 Ministry of Gender - Dr Evelyn Tembo, Assistant Director**

In giving a background to the Government's Women's Economic Empowerment programme, Dr Evelyn Tembo explained that the mandate for this work under the ministry is drawn from the following;

- The National Gender Policy of 2014;

- The Gender Equity and Equality Act No.22 of 2015;
- Strategic Plan OBJECTIVE 6: *“To develop and implement gender empowerment programmes in order to enhance effective participation of men and women in economic activities”.*

She further explained that in 2012 it became policy to support women’s economic empowerment through women’s clubs> The support was mainly for projects that did not require much financing such as chicken rearing, market restaurants, grocery shops and goat rearing. In 2015, the Ministries of Gender, Commerce, Agriculture and Livestock, Chiefs, Youth and Sport, and Community Development agreed to harmonize empowerment programmes with a focus on women, through agriculture.

The Agriculture Development through Value Chain Enhancement project is an initiative intended to harmonize the design, programming and implementation of programmes targeting women and youth in agriculture. The project uses chiefdoms as the basis for jobs and wealth creation. It was also decided to move away from women’s clubs as the avenue for supporting women and youth to cooperatives and It was critical for women to form or belong to co-operatives. The discussion around co-operatives was to re-align the women groups so that they operate as business entities that can create employment and income generating activities as espoused in the 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan. Membership would entail 70% women and 30% youth and men. Application forms and guidelines on how to access this form of empowerment were developed.

To date 71 Tractors and 94 Tillers had been given to 118 chiefdoms and the idea is for all the 288 chiefdoms to be empowered in this project irrespective of their value chain and geographical location. The equipment comes with other implements such as reapers, harrows, trailers, planters, harvesters etc. Project uses a mix of approaches to create synergies in uplifting primary producers to becoming small and medium scale. The project goes beyond primary production and promotes value addition.

### **Objectives**

- Strengthen local capacity for mobilisation of communities and farmer groups to participate in the agriculture value chains
- Build capacity to increase agricultural productivity in rice, cassava, dairy, aqua-culture, maize, groundnuts and soya value chains
- Stimulate Local Economic Development through creation of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) among Youths and Women especially in value chains identified and supported by the CEEC
- Increase market linkages through increased participation of the private sector in the identified value chains

In each province and district, the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC) has already identified value chains and livestock to be supported based on the comparative advantage of the region.

### **Questions/ Comments**

The following questions and comments were raised;

1. Was the Ministry of Gender considering linking farmers to markets?
2. How does the Ministry train cooperatives on procedures for accessing export markets?

In response the presenter said that the project works with many ministries and the Ministry of Commerce and Trade has the responsibility for the issue of market linkages. Participants were encouraged to check and monitor the progress in implementation of the 7<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan and to find out what the plan said about their respective districts.

### 10.3 A CSO Perspective - Edward Musosa, Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR)

Mr Edward Musosa started by giving an overview of his presentation as follows;

- What we are doing as Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)
- Highlights of 7NDP 2017 Performance
- Stumbling Blocks and Recommendations

He stated that the CSOs were focused on making sure that two focus areas were addressed namely

- Leaving no one behind;
- Poverty and reduced inequalities

He shared CSOs concerns on the general lack of action among citizens on matters that affected people's daily lives; which led to citizens accepting sub-standard products and services as well a gross violation of their rights. He challenged the participants especially the women leaders from the rural areas to build a spirit of alertness, activism and active engagement based on appropriate and relevant knowledge. He shared the thematic areas of influence the CSOs were working on to influence the development agenda which he encouraged the participants to take active interest in:

- |                                    |                          |  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| • Gender                           | • Macro Economics        | • Education                                      |
| • HIV&AIDS                         | • Mining                 | • Environment                                    |
| • Health                           | • Housing and Settlement | • Youth and Development                          |
| • Manufacturing and Value Addition | • Social Protection      | • Employment, Labour and Sustainable Livelihoods |
| • Nutrition                        | • Water and Sanitation   |  |
| • Agriculture                      | • Governance             |  |
| • Commerce and Trade Industry      | • Land                   |  |

The presenter shared the different interventions done to raise awareness on the 7NDP across the country which included the use of radio to raise public awareness on government's performance in the implementation of the 7NDP. He informed participants that posters to call had been developed to sensitise rural communities on the 7NDP and the need to advocate for the implementation of the plan. Reducing developmental inequalities aims at reducing income and gender inequality and the rural-urban divide by contributing to the attainment of the following:



- Promoting integrated rural development
- Promoting urban and peri-urban economies
- Reducing gender inequality
- Enhancing income opportunities for poor and marginalised groups

### **Stumbling Blocks to successful implementation**

- Gender Focused/Sensitive Budgeting criteria remains unclear in terms of financing the 7NDP
- The rural communities and vulnerable groups are still left behind in the implementation and monitoring of the Plan (due to weak community structures).
- Very slow rate of localising the 7NDP at Sub-national level (as shared from the Nchelenge and Mumfumbwe District Case).
- Unfavourable macroeconomic environment threatens financing of the Plan
- Youth remain inadequately informed on the 7NDP which continues to fuel a cynic perception of NDPs.
- National Budget Consultations remain exclusive to groups such as women and the disabled.

### **Recommendations**

- Timely release of funds
- Enactment of Legislation to promote poor people's participation in decision making e.g. National Planning and Budgeting Act, Access to Information, Social Protection Bill;
- Plug public finance leakages through enforcement of both preventive and punitive regulations;
- Improve the governance perception so that Pillar 5 achieves its outcomes
- Invest in poverty reduction
- Actualise the Decentralisation policy at the desired rate.
- Improve economic performance by increasing transparency and accountability in sound economic management of the country.
- Continue with the inclusiveness approach of monitoring the 7NDP.

### **Questions/ Comments**

1. The presenter asked participants how many had seen the national budget for 2019?  
The response was that as rural people they need to see the budget as an illustration or picture. The budget should be simplified and made accessible to ordinary people.
2. There was an observation that this was the first time someone had attended a workshop where CSO was complimenting Government. Government and CSOs need to work together to sensitise the public. Women for Change has a voice and they can push the agenda for Zambia;
3. Simplified and translated documents should be shared with participants;

#### 10.4. Ministry of Finance

Ms Kapoma N Hansoma the Acting Senior Budget Analyst begun her presentation by sharing the country's Vision 2030 - "To be a Prosperous middle-income nation by the year 2030". The first of the 7 principles of the Vision 2030 are, "to have sustainable development that is gender responsive" and a brief overview of the 7NDP:

- To attain the Vision 2030, the Government devises National Development Plans every 5 years in consultation with the Zambian public. Currently, the 7NDP for the period 2017 to 2021 is being implemented. As such, the SDG's and all of Government's efforts to ensure gender responsiveness in Zambia's national development are enshrined in the 7NDP
- The theme of the seventh National development Plan is "Accelerating development efforts towards Vision 2030 without leaving anyone behind".
- In the 7NDP, Government has a planned strategy for reducing gender inequalities and inequities across all pillars of the plan with most targets explicitly elaborated in Pillar 3 on reducing developmental inequalities.
- The 5 pillars or clusters of the 7NDP, with Gender Equality and Equity matters cutting across them all are,
  - Diversification and job creation
  - Poverty Reduction
  - Reduced Developmental Inequalities
  - Enhanced Human Development
  - Conducive Governance Environment
- The 2019 Budget theme is Delivering Fiscal Consolidation for Sustainable And Inclusive Growth";
- Total of 84.6 billion by function
- Government will continue to direct its money towards the ten categories called "Functions of Government", and these are;
  - General Public Services
  - Defence
  - Public Order and Safety
  - Economic Affairs
  - Environmental Protection
  - Housing and Community Amenities
  - Health
  - Recreation, Culture and Religion
  - Education
  - Social Protection

#### **Notable Government Interventions for the period 2016 to 2020**

- The Government secured USD 65 million financing in 2016 to implement the Girls Education and Women Empowerment and Livelihood (GEWEL) project, of which: 75,000 vulnerable but productive women aged between 16 – 65 years old are should benefit from the Supporting Women Livelihood (SWL) by December 2019;
- 23,000 girls will be supported by the "Keeping Girls in School" (KGS) project targeted at secondary school going girls from grades 8 – 12. The targeted number has been revised to 23,000 by December 2019 from 14,000. Accordingly, 27 districts will be targeted in 2019 from 16.
- To reduce developmental inequalities, in respect of gender, as espoused in pillar 3 of the 7NDP, Gender Audits for the following policies have been implemented:
  - National Aging;

- National Social Protection
- Zambia Development Cooperation; and
- Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
- To reduce poverty among women especially in rural areas as espoused in pillar 1 of the 7NDP, the Government implemented the Agricultural Development programme through the Value Chain Enhancement (ADVANCE) Project.
- Accordingly, a total of; 71 tractors, 20 combine harvesters and 94 tillers were procured and distributed to 120 chiefdoms to support women cooperatives
- Also, to reduce gender inequalities in Education, Government launched the National Plan of Action on Ending Child Marriage under the Ministry of Gender. As a first step, actions for ending Child Marriage are currently being piloted in Katete and Senanga Districts.
- Other Social Protection and other empowerment programmes also in other ministries:
  - Food Security Pack
  - Village Banking
  - Public Welfare Assistance Scheme
  - Social Cash Transfer
- She concluded by noting that monies for communities are there, but they are about to be returned because of lack of applications.

### **Questions/ Comments**

The following questions were posed;

1. Where can application forms be accessed?
2. Rural women are not aware that there are such funds, why doesn't the government utilise NGOs to disseminate such information?
3. How can a group such as this one participates in the national planning process?

In response the presenter said the following;

- The application forms can be accessed at the District Planning unit at the District Council;
- In order to be aware of what the plan is about, take the time to read the plan and know what it says;
- Planning should start at the Ward level and feed into the district. The district has five committees that are in line with the five pillars of the 7NDP;
- Women for Change members could seek to be part of these committees;

The facilitator added that all participants should take this important information to the local level. There are translated copies of these national documents like Vision 2030, which can be shared. Women for Change should collect such documents and distribute them. She also asked Government representatives in the lower structures to open their doors to NGOs.

## 11.0 Financial Management and Savings Training - Agova

Participants underwent training a short training on financial management and savings on the afternoon of the last day to reinforce the importance for women's economic empowerment and leadership. Attached is the training content shared with participants.

## 12.0 Rural Women Summit Wrap-Up

The proceedings of this Summit focused on four major topics, namely

- Financial Inclusion for Women: Implications
- Gender and Agriculture: Climate Change and Implications for Women
- Strengthening Women's Economic Leadership
- No One Left Behind

### 12.1. Observations and Outcomes

The following were the major observations and key recommendations for each of the focus areas mentioned above;

#### 12.1.1. Financial Inclusion for Women: Implications

##### a) Key Observations

- Low levels of knowledge (e.g. application processes and guidelines) among women about economic and financial empowerment initiatives provided by Government – Citizen Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC), Zambia Development Agency (ZDA), Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) and the Ministries of Gender (MoG), National Development Planning (MNDP) and Community Development (MCD)
- Lack or limited access to information about economic and financial empowerment initiatives provided by Government. This information does not reach most of the local communities
- Lack of knowledge about and working relations with public institutions at the local level (Ward, District) mandated with responsibilities related to women economic and financial empowerment under Government

##### b) Major recommendations

- Institutions such as the CEEC should establish closer working relations with WfC for the purpose of sharing and distribution information on the various initiatives provided by the institution as well as information regarding the application processes and guidelines
- The Ministries of Gender and National Development should ensure that information on the various support provided is simplified, made available in the most appropriate language and in a timely manner
- WfC should establish close working relations with local institutions that are targeted by Government institutions in providing economic and financial support to women at the local level. Some of these



institutions include the traditional establishment, the District Commissioners (DCs) and the local municipalities

- There is need to provide capacity building support tailored towards helping local women groupings to improve the branding of their products and services as well as to undertake innovative business endeavours
- There is need to build the capacities of the local women (clubs and cooperatives) on the operations and programmes of initiatives such as the CEEC (Industrial Parks, Value Addition Chains, financial programmes etc)

### 12.1.2. Gender and Agriculture: Implications of Climate Change for Women and Empowerment

#### a) Key Observations

- Low levels of knowledge about the topic of climate change and how it affects the economic activities and livelihoods of rural communities
- Lack of knowledge about the Climate Change Pilot Programme under the Ministry of National Planning and Development
- Lack or limited access to information as well as sources of information on the subject on climate change and its impact on rural livelihoods
- Huge interest to engage in behavioural change by adopting environmentally smart livelihood activities e.g. in agricultural and energy practices
- Most farmers in the rural areas were practising methods that were climate change insensitive because those were the most available methods
- There is need to provide adequate information in the most appropriate languages and in a timely fashion
- Need to use the most appropriate modes and means of communication in disseminating information on climate change in the rural areas – through institutions such as the Zambia National Information Services, the National Agriculture Information System, education, health, religious and traditional establishments and community radio stations

#### b) Major recommendations

- There is need to provide alternatives to the current climate change insensitive agricultural and livelihood activities for rural communities since the most available methods and information does not take climate change concerns into consideration e.g. cotton growing methods
- There is need to provide the necessary information and training for the processes of transiting from the current methods of farming to climate change sensitive methods
- There is need to build the capacities and provide resources for institutions such as the Camp Extension Officers and the District Agriculture Officers (DACOs) in disseminating information on climate change and in providing training in the rural communities

### 12.1.3. Strengthening Women's Economic Leadership

#### a) Key Observations

- There is little national recognition and publicity about the development work of rural women associations, including limited coverage and access to media
- The absence, limited and poor quality economic and social infrastructure in the rural areas, has inhibited the extent and opportunities to which women, individually and collectively, are able to excel in both business and public life
- Women in the rural areas have limited links or connections to the relevant institutions that provide economic and financial empowerment support
- Women associations in the rural areas have limited access to capacity building and trainings on leadership and development
- Women associations in the rural areas have limited networking opportunities with relevant institutions and like minded organisations particularly at provincial and national level

#### **b) Major recommendations**

- There is need for Government to recognise the role that women in the rural areas are playing in improving themselves as individuals, their households and communities – recognise the IRWD
- There is need to publicise the work, experiences, challenges and achievements of women clubs and cooperatives in the rural areas - ensure media coverage (local and national)
- There is need for Government to support civil society organisations that are working with women in rural areas in the areas of economic and leadership
- There is need to encourage leadership careers among women and the youth, especially the female youth, in the rural areas

#### **12.1.4. No One Left Behind**

##### **a) Key Observations**

- Women in the rural areas are not aware of Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP), National Vision 2030
- Women in the rural areas have not been participating in the public consultative process on the 7NDP and budgeting processes
- Women in the rural areas do not know where to obtain information on the 7NDP and budgeting offices
- Women in the rural areas have not been participating in the District Council meetings
- Women in the rural areas do not have close working relations with local Government institutions, such as the DCs' offices or municipality, that have a strong focus on public service delivery

##### **b) Major recommendations**

- There is need to provide information, in the most appropriate language and a timely manner, on national development processes such as the National Development Plans, the Vision 2030, including the public consultation processes and timelines
- There is need to develop monitoring and tracking mechanisms that women in the rural areas can use to monitor the implementation and outcomes of national development programmes

- There is need to develop communication strategies that women in the rural areas can use to provide their feedback to the appropriate authorities on the performance and outcomes of national development programmes
- There is need to mobilise women in rural areas to participate and make submissions to the national budgeting and development processes
- There is need to link women associations in the rural areas to institutions mandated with the responsibility of implementing development programmes and providing public services and goods
- There is need to embark upon nationwide advocacy campaign aimed at ensuring the prioritisation of development sectors, in both the national plans and budgets, that are highly beneficial to the rural communities e.g. renewable energy, agriculture, infrastructure, sanitation, health and education
- There is need to lobby for the introduction of a Gender Responsive Budget

## **CONCLUSION**

This Summit was concluded with the key point for the need to ensure that the International Rural Women's Day (IRWD) that falls on 15<sup>th</sup> October every year was given national recognition. The Day should be commemorated with visible activities spearheaded by Government and its local and international partners in various rural areas of Zambia. It was agreed that this would be the most significant way of drawing national and international attention to the situation of the women in the rural areas of Zambia. Most importantly, decentralising and giving national prominence to this Day would provide an opportunity to publicise the great works, achievements, hardships and challenges that women in the rural areas of Zambia encounter on a day to day basis.

## **Closing ceremony**

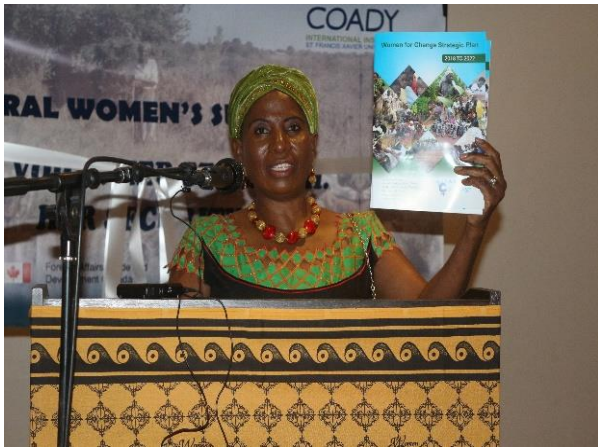
The Chairperson of Women for Change closed the summit and thanked all participants for attending. She observed that it took courage, commitment and sacrifice to participate in such a meeting. She stated that in envisioning the summit, the plan was to allow for interaction among the representatives from the area associations, government officials and Civil Society organisations to learn about the Vision 2030 and the 7<sup>th</sup> national Development Plan. She hoped that participants learnt something new and obtained information that they would take to their respective areas and share with others. She noted that knowledge is something that one internalizes, while information was news which was meant to be shared with others. Information was something that one may not know much about, but they would know where to get it. Both knowledge and information should be shared for them to be useful. She thanked the facilitator, resource persons and the participants. This summit was the first part and the second part were to check on progress regarding the lessons learnt. She noted that the summit objectives were met.

## Attendance List

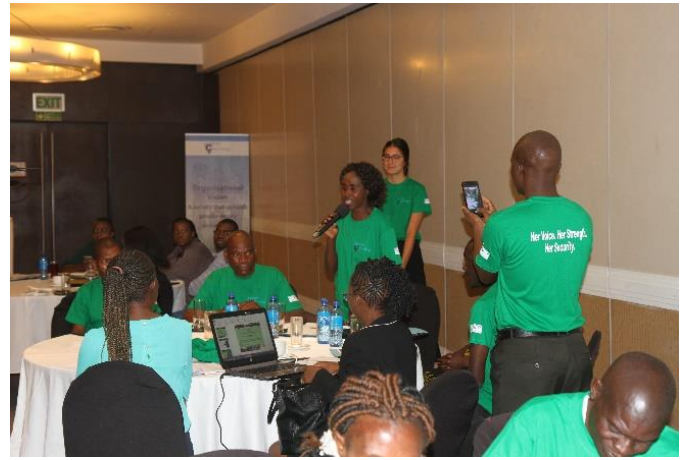
<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
1. Etedy Munachoonga	- Mumbwa	35. Fridah Nkonde	- NGOCC Lusaka
2. Getrude Ngoma	- Mumbwa	36. Ruth Beremauro	- Kapiri Mposhi
3. Juliet Mutebe	- Mumbwa	37. Chris Singelengele	- VIDEA Lusaka
4. Ruth Masuwa	- Mumbwa	38. Violet Malama	- Lusaka
5. Steven Lupenga	- Mumbwa	39. Nicholas Bwalya	- Metro FM94.5
6. Samson Mwale	- Mumbwa	40. Edward Musonda	- CSPR Lusaka
7. Rurh Mukumbi	- Mumbwa	41. Charity Mushanga	- KZF Lusaka
8. George Muvuli	- Mumbwa	42. Mungo Nathan	- YWCA Lusaka
9. Peter Zulu	- Mumbwa	43. Clive Mtonga	- WfC Lusaka
10. Getrude Chomba	- Kapiri-Mposhi	44. Chrissy Simukonda	- MCTI Lusaka
11. Sarah Chikatula	- Kapiri-Mposhi	45. Isabel Hamabuyu	- WfC Lusaka
12. Richard Muzyamba	- Kapiri-Mposhi	46. Shupe C Makashinyi	- UNDP Lusaka
13. Witty Ngoma	- Kapiri-Mposhi	47. Dyles Mbewe	- ZLA Lusaka
14. N Kaunga	- Kapiri-Mposhi	48. Astrida N Kunda	- DRW Lusaka
15. Mirriam Waya	- Kapiri-Mposhi	49. Elna M C Halwindi	- Counterpart
16. Doris Kalembula	- Kapiri-Mposhi	50. John Sapwe Mwaba	- NUSFZA
17. Mike Supaile	- Kapiri-Mposhi	51. Wilson Sandala	- ZLW Lusaka
18. M Lungu	- Kapiri-Mposhi	52. Dr Charity Musamba	- UNZA Lusaka
19. Brenda Nachibanga	- Kapiri-Mposhi	53. Prisilla Chileshe	- Lusaka
20. Asaida Phiri	- Kapiri-Mposhi	54. Lumba Siyanga	- WfC Lusaka
21. Clement Chisha	- Rufunsa	55. Kennedy Tembo	- Journalist
22. Jukia Mvula	- Rufunsa	56. Dr Evelyn Tembo	- MoG Lusaka
23. Triphonia	- Rufunsa	57. Evelyn Mbewe	- ZANIS Lusaka
24. Doreen Banda	- Petauke	58. Stephen Chisokwe	- ZANIS Lusaka
25. Margate Phiri	- Petauke	59. Manyando Chungu	- Lusaka
26. Etala Phiri	- Petauke	60. Walusungu Banda	- CEEC Lusaka
27. Patrick Mwale	- Petauke	61. Patrick Mumba	- WfC Lusaka
28. Christopher Mwale	- Petauke	62. Joseph Tembo	- ZANIS Lusaka
29. Joseph Tembo	- ZANIS Lusaka	63. Chitembo K Chunga	- Lusaka
30. Charity Tembo	- ZAPCD Lusaka	64. Chama N Zimba	- Lusaka
31. Ruth Musonda	- WfC Lusaka	65. Musanda Mudenda	- We Effect Lusaka
32. Rebecca L Nkonde	- MNDP Lusaka	66. Gloria Silonde	- ZCEA Lusaka
33. Kapoma N Hansoma	- MoF Lusaka	67. Miriam M Sikaenji	- Kaoma
34. Shadrack Chembe	- WfC Lusaka	68. Charlotte Saunga	- Lusaka



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