



Project status: Prepare



Assess



Commit



Act



Scale & Exit

Assess Phase Lessons Learnt - Water Risk and Solutions Assessment of the Lusaka Water Security Initiative - Zambia

Name of Partnership: Lusaka Water Security Initiative (LuWSI)

Location: Lusaka

Sectors involved: Private Sector, Public Sector and Civil Society

Partners: Water Resources Management Authority, Lusaka City Council, Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company, Zambia Environmental Management Agency, National Water and Sanitation Council, Zambia Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Zambia Breweries, The Nature Conservancy, World Wide Fund for Nature, UNICEF, Zambia Homeless and Poor People's Federation, Women for Change, Village Water Zambia, Water and Sanitation Association of Zambia, University of Zambia, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Objective: Improve water security for Lusaka's residents and businesses



Assess Phase Lessons Learnt Story - Lusaka Water Security Initiative, Zambia

LuWSI is a multi-stakeholder collaboration system inspired by and working towards the vision of water security for the residents and businesses of Lusaka. At its core, it is a multi-stakeholder partnership between public sector, private sector, civil society, and international actors that creates a platform for dialogue and governance structure for joint decision making. Currently LuWSI has 16 partners from the different sectors and hopes to expand in future.

LuWSI partners engage in dialogue, analysis and knowledge generation, advocacy and awareness-raising, project development, and resource mobilisation. This leads to LuWSI's partners collaborating with each other and other actors to implement strategic projects to concretely improve water security for Lusaka's residents and businesses.

An example of these projects is the well-field protection project, a partnership that seeks to protect two of Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company's (LWSC) critical borehole sites from encroachment, pollution, and over-abstraction. LuWSI's partners are also engaging in a school education and community awareness raising project, which will bring key-messages to peri-urban areas in Lusaka on important topics such as solid waste management, sanitation, and appropriate health and hygiene practices.

LuWSI serves four key functions, the first of which is to assess, monitor, and prioritise water security threats and solutions. Assessing water risks is also part of IWaSP's Water Risk and Action Framework, and therefore a necessary step in partnership building. On 9 December 2015, GIZ, acting in its capacity as Interim Secretariat of LuWSI, held a meeting to consult LuWSI partners and other key water sector experts to help design the Terms of Reference for a Situation Analysis as part of the Water Risk and Solutions Assessment for Lusaka, to be conducted by international Water Resources Expert, an independent consultant from South Africa. International Water Resources Expert attended the meeting and there was significant feedback from stakeholders regarding the potential focus of the Situation.

Analysis and available resources

In February 2016, international Water Resources Expert was commissioned, and in April 2016 he presented his first set of results to LuWSI partners and other stakeholders at a consultation

workshop. However, there was significantly less feedback from partners at this second meeting. This was in part due to the short time allocated for the review of the work, to no documents or raw data sent in advance, and to no real workshop style exercise to facilitate the provision of feedback. While the Situation Analysis and its accompanying Document Meta Database (which provided a synopsis of over 150 documents relating to water security in Lusaka) provided a robust summary of the work done to date on water security in Lusaka, LuWSI stakeholders were not adequately involved in its development to take ownership of its analysis.

In retrospect, the Terms of Reference for the overall Water Risk and Solutions Assessment were too ambitious given the scale and complexity of Lusaka, both in terms of the planned coordination of different specialist inputs and the amount of work to be completed within the given time and budget. This meant that most of the work was done in South Africa by the consultant from his desk, and not in a more participatory format that involved stakeholders in the collection and analysis of potential data gaps and water security risks.

If the exercise were to be repeated, it would have been done over a longer timeframe, ideally with the close involvement of a local consultant, and would have been started once LuWSI was more established, so that stakeholder participation and ownership would be much higher.

Robin Farrington
IWaSP Country Coordinator - Zambia
International Water Stewardship Programme (IWaSP)
GIZ Water Office
No.5, Chaholi Road, Rhodes Park
Private Bag RW 37X
Lusaka, Zambia
T: +260 211 252 261
M: +260 971 005 831
F: +260 211 291 946
E: robin.farrington@giz.de