



Project status: Prepare



Assess



Commit



Act



Scale & Exit

Prepare Phase Success story - Zambia

Name of Partnership: Lusaka Water Security Initiative: Wellfield Protection Project

Location: Lusaka

Sectors involved: Water Security (Local Government, Development Planning, Water Resources Management, Water Supply and Sanitation, Disaster Management and Mitigation, Community empowerment and Social Inclusion)

Partners: Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company (LWSC), Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA), Lusaka City Council (LCC), Lusaka Province Planning Authority (LPPA), Professional Landscapers Association (PLAZA), Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR), United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF), GIZ



Prepare Phase Success story - Zambia

The objective of this partnership is to protect LWSC wellfields, at Shaft 5 and Mass Media, in an environmentally, socially, and financially sustainable manner securing groundwater supply for Lusaka's residents and businesses.

Between March and December 2016, the International Water Stewardship Programme (IWaSP) in Zambia developed the Wellfield Protection Project (WPP) under the Lusaka Water Security Initiative (LuWSI). During stakeholder consultations on shared water risks on 9 December 2015, the project was identified as a quick-win. Two of Lusaka Water and Sewerage Company's most important wellfields, accounting for 27% of groundwater supply (which is 60% of the total water supply to the city), were threatened by encroachment from human settlements. Resulting threats such as groundwater pollution and depletion from pit latrines, poorly managed waste, and unregulated water abstraction from private boreholes would negatively impact the wellbeing of about 78,000 people and the productivity of one third of water dependent industries. A multi-layered strategy was therefore developed. Firstly, the wellfield sites would be developed into community recreation parks; secondly, groundwater protection zones would be legally declared to enable effective monitoring and regulation of all threats to groundwater; and thirdly, capacity for multi-stakeholder collaboration (including empowerment of community structures) would be enhanced to ensure sustainable outcomes.

The Water Risk and Action Framework guided the project development process; the Prepare Phase involved participatory context, stakeholder, and problem analysis, as well as work and strategy implementation planning. Between January and April 2016, stakeholders met twice and agreed on the project development process. On 27 April 2016, stakeholders constituted a Task Team of eight members from GIZ, LWSC, WARMA, PLAZA, MLNR, and a consultant. The team met from 17 to 19 May 2016 and developed key project elements in a participatory manner. It examined the relevance and connection of the project to global Sustainable Development Goals, as well as identified and analysed the political, economic, social, technological, environmental, and legal elements key to the success of the project. The team used the Capacity Works Guidelines and Logical Framework Approach to characterise and analyse stakeholder interests, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, as well as their rights, resources, and power. The team used the problem and solutions tree to analyse the causes and effects of threats to groundwater and to identify / prioritise strategic options.

This process helped the team put together the project Logframe and a project development workplan. The Task Team continued developing the project strategy and seeking stakeholder input and approval up to December 2016 when the strategy implementation plan up to 2019 was finalised. During meetings between April and October 2016, public sector partners resolved to be bound by the LuWSI MOU rendering the need for a project MOU or Letter of Intent unnecessary. All partners instead agreed to minute their commitments and sign a joint Strategy and Workplan. Not all partners could be involved from the beginning; the team resolved to adopt an emergent approach and to develop a strategy that was sufficiently high-level, broad, and flexible to allow meaningful adaptation and change as the partnership grows. The team further resolved to adopt a Human Rights Based approach to focus on the rights and duties of all stakeholders, enhance social inclusion, and better enable the empowerment of communities to build a more sustainable partnership based on equitable power sharing.

The foregoing approach helped partners develop a common understanding of the objectives, strategies, and main actions, which included the development of a community engagement strategy, capacity building, planning and sustainability, and exit / transition planning. It also helped partners agree on shared principles and partnership behaviours get to know each other better, develop friendships, build a culture of shared responsibility, and progressively define best ways of steering the project.

The key lesson from this experience is that the demands of project concept development and cooperation management (partnership building) require a lot of time and patience, but also the willingness to adapt procedures to the unique circumstances of the partnership.

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
Skype name: [robinfarrington](#)