



Self Help  
Africa



[selfhelpafrica.org](http://selfhelpafrica.org)

**ZAMBIA**  
**2019**



# ZAMBIA

## COUNTRY PROFILE

### 2019



Andrew MPundu, Meheba, Zambia.

Self Help Africa's programme focus in Zambia is on two key areas: rural enterprise development and sustainable agricultural and rural livelihoods.

Projects address a selection of integrated issues: sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition security, research into and production of improved varieties of seed, rural enterprise development and income generation, and environmental rehabilitation.

The country programme works primarily through commodity producer groups, seed producer groups, research stations, local NGOs, civil society organisations and local government to reach smallholder farmers.

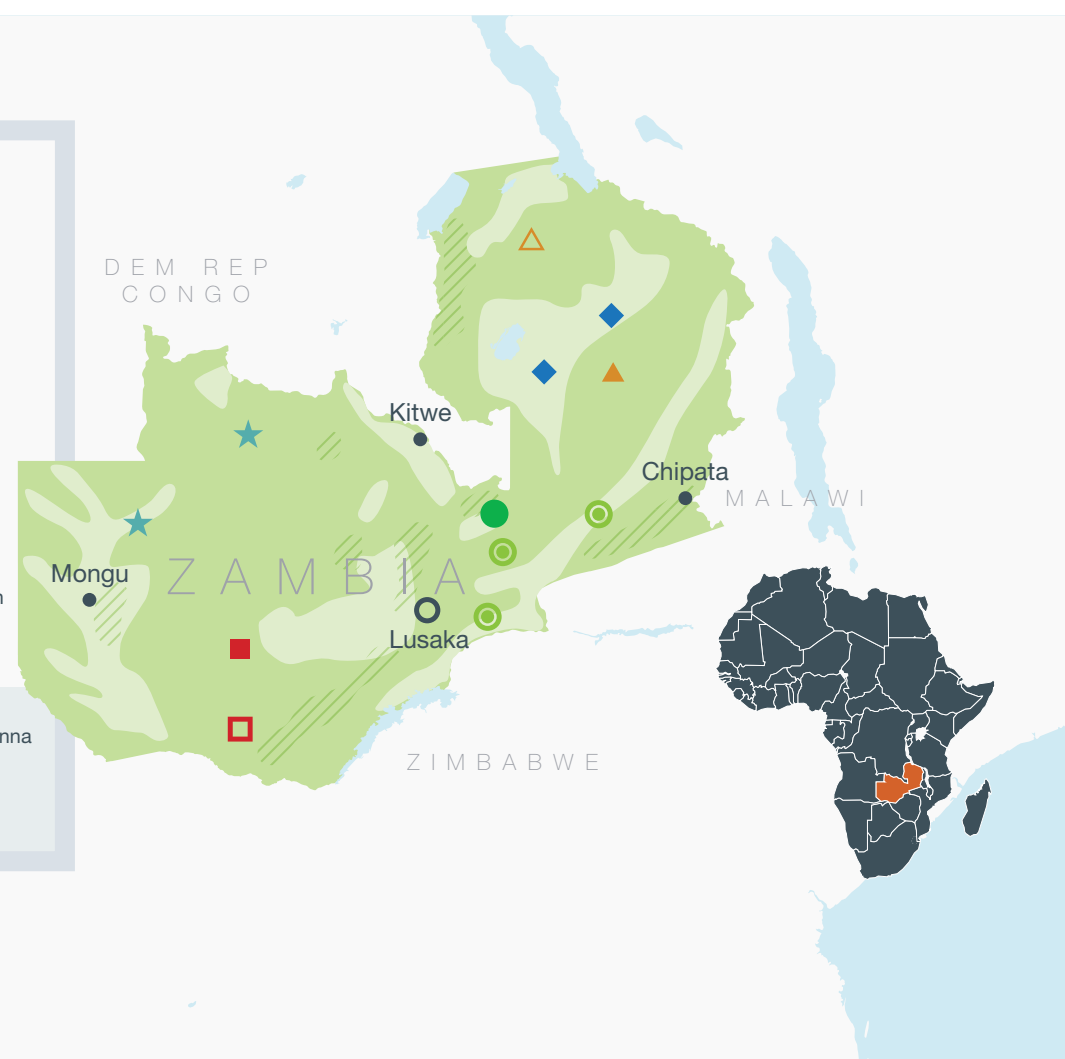
Self Help Africa also provides support and capacity building to local government departments in planning, monitoring, evaluation and training.



#### PROJECT KEY

- ◆ Irish Aid Local Development Programme
- ▲ Nutrition Sensitive Agri-Food Value Chains
- Community-based Seed Enterprises
- Home Grown School Meals
- ★ Pathway to Self-Reliance for Refugees in Zambia
- PRESERVE
- △ Sustaining Enterprise Growth in Financial Associations Project

- Extensive Agriculture and Savanna
- Intensive Agriculture
- Forest, Rainforest, Swamp



	Programme	Donor	Total Budget	Time Frame	Implementing Partner	Programme Area
01	Irish Aid Local Development Programme	Irish Aid	€ 8M	2013 ▼ 2019	Mbala and Luwingu District Council, PPU, HID	Northern Provinces
02	Community-Based Seed Enterprises and Participatory Crop Improvement	Irish Aid, Electric Aid	€ 420,000	2015 ▼ 2021	Mthlakubili Sustainable Agriculture Project SGA in Chipata and Lundazi, Shangila SGA in Mpika, Chipapa SGA in Kafua, Siavonga SGA in Siavonga and Namalundu SGA in Chinkakata. Also Zambia Agriculture Research Institute(ZARI) and Seed Control and Certification Institute (SCCI)	Lusaka, Southern, Muchinga, Central, Northern and Eastern Provinces
03	Nutrition Sensitive Agri-Food Value Chains (in Zambia and Malawi)	McGill University	€ 225,000	2016 ▼ 2019	McGill University, Biodiversity International, WorldFish, in Malawi is a producers association, SPRODETA, University of Zambia, the research stations, Ministry of Agriculture in Zambia	Luwingu, Northern Province
04	Pathways to self-reliance for Refugees in Zambia: Graduation Programme	UNHCR, Irish Aid	€ 115,000	2017 ▼ 2020	GRZ ministries (MCDSW, MoA, MFL, MHA), UNHCR	Meheba (Kalumbila district), Mayukwayukwa (Kaoma district)
05	Home Grown School Meals	WFP	€ 730,000	2018 ▼ 2019	None - but liaising with local government entities and schools	Mumbwa, Shibuyunji, Petauke, Luangwa, Sinda and Nyimba districts (Central Lusaka and Eastern Provinces)
06	Protecting and Restoring the Environment and Supporting the Emergence of a Resilient and Vibrant Economy in Kafue (PRESERVE)	Jersey Overseas Aid Commission	€ 750,000	2019 ▼ 2022	University of Worcester, Local government	Monze, Namwala and Mazabuka, Southern Province, Zambia
07	Sustaining Enterprise Growth in Financial Associations Project	Irish Aid	€ 240,000	2019 ▼ 2022		Northern Province Mbala and Luwingu





Emma Kavala, Nsunda Village, Northern Province, Zambia.

## 01 IRISH AID LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**Objective: To improve the livelihoods, health status, food and nutrition security of over 23,000 poor households.**

The programme was successfully implemented by Self Help Africa from 2013 to the end of February 2019, when it closed.

The programme achieved its intended objectives and impacted positively on its target population.

### PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Food security:** food security improved from below 50% at baseline to about 80% post active programme implementation period.
- **Resilience:** Households moved from an average of 25% in resilience at baseline to about 60% at endline.
- 372 **Livelihood Enhancement Groups** received various intervention related trainings.
- **Infant and Young Child Feeding training** given to 523 care givers from Livelihood Enhancement Groups (LEGs).
- **HIV, AIDs awareness** reaching out to 12, 200 LEG members.
- **Malaria awareness** reaching out to 6,484 LEG members.

## 02 COMMUNITY-BASED SEED ENTERPRISES

**Objective: To improve the food, nutrition and income security of smallholder households in Kafue district.**

Productivity in Zambia is held back by a lack of access to quality seed, transport and other infrastructure. Because of this, farmers often struggle to feed their families throughout the year.

As part of our response to this, Self Help Africa, in collaboration with the Zambia Agriculture Research Institute, the Seed Certification and Control Institute, and the University of Zambia, is working with Seed Grower Associations (SGA) and their smallholder farmer members to increase production of early generation indigenous legume seed and to develop a better understanding of how the different varieties perform under conservation agriculture practices in the different geographical regions of Zambia.

The Community-Based Seed Enterprises project is also building the capacity of the SGAs themselves, providing technical assistance on business planning, financial management and governance. Seed production provides a profitable business opportunity for farmers with the entrepreneurial drive and capacity to produce at consistent quality and SGAs provide essential collective purchasing, aggregation and marketing services to their members.

- 400 farmers (50% women)

## 03 NUTRITION SENSITIVE AGRI-FOOD VALUE CHAINS

**Objective: To improve the nutritional status of members of farming households.**

Over the past two decades, the prevalence of stunting has persistently been above 40% in Zambia, which impedes human development, productivity and economic growth.

Self Help Africa is the Zambian-based implementing partner in a research consortium led by McGill University, with sub-grantees WorldFish Centre and Bioversity International. The Nutrition Sensitive Agri-Food Value Chain project's objective is to promote the availability, accessibility and consumption of diverse, safe and nutritious foods for improved household nutrition and health.

These objectives will be delivered through linkages formed with the private sector, trainings on food quality and nutrition, and knowledge dissemination through multimedia.

Through assessments of the opportunities to add value to, and improve the nutrient content of, selected commodities throughout the value chain, SHA, partners and project participants will be able to develop contextually appropriate methods of processing these foods in ways that maintain or enhance their nutrition content.

The project will collaborate with a variety of Zambian actors, including the University of Zambia, agro-dealers, government extension staff, cooperatives and smallholder farmers, as building local capacity and harnessing existing local knowledge are key to the success of the project.

- 2,400 (960 women, 1,440 men)

## 04 PATHWAYS TO SELF-RELIANCE FOR REFUGEES IN ZAMBIA

**Objective: To increase self-reliance for 300 refugee households and local host communities in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlement areas.**

Zambia currently hosts around 58,000 refugees and displaced people, the majority of whom reside in the country's two officially designated settlements: Meheba and Mayukwayukwa. Both settlements are remote with limited access to infrastructure, and their inhabitants are currently reliant on UNHCR and other agencies for subsistence.

Self Help Africa is leading a pilot project with UNCHR to design and implement a graduation programme to foster a spirit of self-reliance in refugees and other vulnerable local families in the host community. SHA staff are working closely with the UNHCR livelihoods team and relevant government ministries.

The graduation approach supports households over an 18-month period, through providing training on agriculture, setting up savings and credit groups, providing a productive asset chosen by the participant and facilitating links to potential markets. In addition, each participant is assigned a case worker who mentors them throughout the project.

The Pathway to Self-Reliance for Refugees project will work with 300 vulnerable households from the refugee and host communities to increase self-reliance.

This will reduce dependency on UNHCR hand-outs and enable these vulnerable households to meet their food and nutrition requirements, as well as basic social and economic needs such as school fees, medical fees and food requirements.

- 300 households

### THE PROJECT IN NUMBERS:

- 17,000 households in Mbala and Luwingu districts benefit from the project
- 60% of beneficiaries are women
- 5,400 members in 120 savings and credit associations
- 372 farmer groups





## 05 HOME GROWN SCHOOL MEALS

**Objective: To build links between schools and local producers, strengthen the link between nutrition and agriculture and facilitate the development of nutrition-sensitive and inclusive value chains.**

**M**alnutrition remains a serious problem in Zambia, with a 2017 Global Hunger Index score of 38.2, the food situation in the country is ranked as Alarming.

40% of Zambian children are affected by stunting – well above the average for African countries with similar national income – and there is a high prevalence of anaemia, with one in two children and one in three women of reproductive age affected. Malnutrition is closely linked with poverty, and with 60% of the population living below the poverty line diets are over-reliant on staple crops such as maize.

The link between educational attainment and nutrition is well documented, with international bodies including the World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the World Bank recognising that good health and nutrition are not only essential inputs but also important outcomes of basic, good quality education; learners must be healthy and well-nourished to gain the maximum benefit from education, and early childhood care and primary school programmes which improve learners' health and nutrition can enhance educational outcomes, while good quality education can lead to better health and nutrition outcomes for learners, particularly girls.

Governments and donors all over the world have therefore invested in school meals programmes, which both directly improve children's nutrition but also facilitate access to education, as they have been shown to increase enrolment, attendance and completion.

Linking school meals programmes to local producers has the added benefit of strengthening local food systems and economies and more broadly supporting poverty reduction.

In Zambia, the Ministry of General Education has developed a School Health and Nutrition programme to improve and provide services in schools.

The government's Seventh National Development Plan (7ND) recognises that poor nutrition erodes human capital potential and perpetuates the vicious cycle of poverty.

Home Grown School Feeding programmes are identified as a key strategy for enhancing welfare and livelihoods for the poor and vulnerable, and for enhancing food security and nutrition in order to improve the health of the population.

Self Help Africa is implementing activities in six districts of Zambia (Mumbwa, Shibuyunji, Petauke, Luangwa, Sinda, and Nyimba) focusing on building community, school and government capacity and ownership of the programme so that it can begin the transition towards independence from World Food Programme (WFP) support, while developing an evidence-based model for programme delivery that can easily be scaled up and out across Zambia.

As required by the Scope of Work, SHA will work closely with key programme stakeholders at school, district and national level, it will mobilise communities in the target districts building their knowledge and skills on nutrition and nutrition-sensitive agriculture while raising awareness of the Home Grown School Meals programme.

SHA will work to align activities with WFP's country framework and priorities, with a particular focus on monitoring and evaluation systems.

- 200,000 primary schoolchildren from 6 districts, across 435 primary schools

## 06 PRESERVE KAFUE

**Objective: To improve the resilience, food, income and nutrition security of 3,000 households in the Monze, Namwala and Mazabuka districts of Zambia.**

**P**rotecting and Restoring the Environment and Supporting the Emergence of a Resilient and Vibrant Economy in Kafue (PRESERVE) is a three-year project (March 2019- February 2022) to improve the resilience, food, income and nutrition security of 3,000 households in the Monze, Namwala and Mazabuka districts of Zambia.

The project will use the Functional Landscape Approach (FLA) to promote the sustainable use of natural resources for diversified livelihoods and increased incomes, whilst protecting and restoring essential eco-systems within the Kafue Sub-Basin.

The project builds on Self Help Africa Zambia's previous experience implementing Strengthening Climate Resilience in the Kafue Sub-Basin (SCRiKA) in the targeted districts from 2016 to 2018. Funded by the Government of Zambia through the African Development Bank (AFDB), SCRiKA assisted community groups in 11 districts of Zambia to design and implement projects that would enable them to adapt to the long-term consequences of climate change.

SHA has used learning from SCRiKA and feedback from project beneficiaries to inform the design of PRESERVE Kafue. Where possible, the project will utilise structures already established by SCRiKA, such as reorientating Project Committees into Village Natural Resource Management Committee's.

The targeted beneficiaries are smallholders and other vulnerable groups that are disproportionately affected by climate related shocks.

- 3,000 smallholder farmers directly targeted (40% women from female-headed households, 20% will be young people (18-35 years), 40% vulnerable groups (elderly, persons with disabilities, households without productive assets)
- 15,000 family members indirectly targeted

## 05 SUSTAINING ENTERPRISE GROWTH IN FINANCIAL ASSOCIATIONS PROJECT

**Objective: To enhance the capacity of financial associations to provide improved services to the Enterprise Groups to enable them to operate sustainably through improved production and market linkages.**

**T**he Irish Aid Local Development Programme (IALDP) came to an end in February 2019. This programme had been implemented since October 2013 in the Northern Province of Zambia in Luwingu and Mbala districts. Enterprise development was seen as a key component to ensure sustainability after the end of the project and within this component, access to finance and financial inclusion stood out as the most cardinal.

This prompted the establishment of six Financial Associations (FAs), three in each district, (Mukulu, Mamfumba and Bwacha in Luwingu and Intulo, Omba and Ubunonshi in Mbala) which would serve as village banks to offer financial services to the communities.

To avoid negating the work that went into establishing these entities, it is therefore necessary that Self Help Africa continue, to some extent, to facilitate in the mentoring, coaching, and market linkage activities that should see the FAs culminating into self-reliant autonomous institutions.

The Sustaining Enterprise Growth in Financial Associations (SEGIFA) project aims to enhance the capacity of financial associations to provide improved services to the Enterprise Groups to enable them to operate sustainably through improved production and market linkages.

These services will include financial services (loans, Business Development Services and product financing) as well as market services (which include bulking, value addition and facilitating market linkages). Most of the Accumulated Savings and Credit Associations (ASCAs) members are part of the Enterprise Groups therefore these services are, by association, meant for the ASCAs as well. Product development for the FAs will be key as they will be able to tailor products to meet the different requirements of their clientele.

The project, in addition to providing financial services, also aims to promote and develop grain marketing/trading by the FAs, who will absorb the grain grown by smallholder farmers within their catchment areas, benefitting from quality seed provided by the Seed Grower Associations. The Enterprise Groups should benefit from the products provided by the FAs, which could range from traditional loans to equipment lease or hire.

- 1,000 households

## ZAMBIA

87 Provident Street,  
Fairview, Lusaka  
tel +260 211 236 595  
E-mail: [zambia@selfhelpafrica.org](mailto:zambia@selfhelpafrica.org)  
.....

July 2019

Mary Ndlovu, Kalonga Village, Lundazi District, Eastern Province, Zambia,  
Photo credit: Ken O'Halloran, 2015.