



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

IN

COLLABORATION WITH

CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION (CSPR)

**CIVIL SOCIETY SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON MILLENIUM  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS)**

**NGULU HOTEL, MONGU, ZAMBIA**

**23rd NOVEMBER 2004**

**WORKSHOP REPORT**

CIVIL SOCIETY FOR POVERTY REDUCTION (CSPR) AND UNITED NATIONS  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

**WORKSHOP REPORT ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS HELD  
ON 23rd NOVEMBER 2004 AT NGULU HOTEL, MONGU, ZAMBIA.**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The MDGs are the outcomes of various UN International Conferences, culminating in the Millennium Summit of September 2000. In the Millennium Declaration, the international community set itself a number time bound and measurable key development goals for combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women, all to be achieved by 2015. The eight Goals, its targets and indicators, have been agreed upon by 190 countries and international organisations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), placing the Millennium Development Goals at the heart of the development agenda.

To monitor and sensitise the public on progress towards achievement of the MDGs in Zambia, the UNDP in collaboration with Government has been focusing on raising awareness of the MDGs among government, civil society, parliamentarians, the private sector, academia and other development partners. It was in this regard that the Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR), as facilitator, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning and UNDP organised the workshop

## **WORKSHOP ORGANISATION**

The civil society sensitisation workshop on Millennium Development Goals targeted 70 participants draw from the surrounding areas of Mongu District; The participants were draw from Community Based organization (CBOs), Non-governmental organization (NGOs), youth Organization, Farmers Clubs, Church Organization, traditional leaders etc. (See annex 4)

## **WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES**

The overall workshop objective was to sensitise and broaden the knowledge and understanding among civil society on the MDGs and the role that civil society can play in attaining them.

## **WORKSHOP PRESENTERS**

Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) organised the sensitisation workshop on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the role of civil society, which

was held on 23rd November 2004 at Ngulu Hotel, Mongu. The workshop was organised in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning (MoFNP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The workshop moderator was Mr. Phaniel Chibala, Provincial Planner for Western Province in Mongu. Other resource persons were: -

- ❖ Dr. France Chigunta UNZA- University of Zambia; Development Studies Department
- ❖ Elizabeth Mulamfu – Ministry of Health
- ❖ Mr. Gijs Koop - Economist UN systems
- ❖ Mr. Gregory Chikwanka – Assistant Coordinator, CSPR

## WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

### **1.0 Start of workshop**

The facilitator Mr. Phanel Chibala welcomed the participants, the team from UNDP and CSPR from Lusaka and then welcomed the District commissioner Mrs Namakau Kalaluka for taking time off from her busy schedule to officially open the workshop. He then called upon Mr. Gijs Koop, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Economist, to give welcome and introductory remarks.

### **2.0 Gregory Chikwanka CSPR Assistant Coordinator**

Mr. Chikwanka introduced himself as the Assistant co-coordinator of CSPR and apologized for the delay in commencing the workshop as this was due to unforeseen circumstances. He thanked the people of Mongu for their warm welcome and for attending the meeting. Further, he thanked the Mongu CSPR team for the hard work, which could be seen from the large number of participants in the conference room. He then gave the outline for the afternoon session, which would mainly make participants familiar with issues of MDGs, what MDGs are in general. A presentation on how realistic these MDGs are would be given by Dr. Chigunta while a specialist from the Ministry of health, Ms. Elizabeth Mulamfu would share a perspective MDG goal number 5 which relates to Maternal Health.

### **3.0 Official Opening Remarks. Mrs Namakau Kalaluka District Commissioner officially opened the workshop on behalf of the deputy Permanent Secretary for Western Province (See annex 2)**

### **4.0 Gijs Koop-National Economist UN Systems Role of Civil societies in the Millenniums Development Goals – (see annex 3)**

### **5.0 Dr. Francis Chigunta, University of Zambia - How realistic are the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Zambia: Challenges being faced in meeting them and the way forward, (see annex 4)**

## PLENARY

### (QUESTION AND ANSWER SECTION)

During the plenary participants raised a number of issues to which presenters responded. Below is an outline of the deliberations during the plenary session.

#### QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO MR GIJS KOOP - ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETIES IN THE MILLENNIUMS DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Question:** Mr. Masiye Mule from Western Province Farmers Association wanted to find out how the UN systems will effectively reach out to all district, looking at the cost attached to the sensitization programme. And the tendency of targeting only few NGOs at provincial level was not helpful because most of them don't exist at district level.

**Question:** Fr. Freeborn Kibombwe from Radio Liseli wanted to find out why MDGs have only come to Mongu after 4 years, looking at the time it was launched in 2004. Why now, are you not late?

**Question:** Mr. Mwala Kalaluka from ZIS wondered how the MDGs are interpreted in the country's developmental plans.

**Question:** Mr Mooka Muuka, a Councillor with Mongu Municipal Council, wanted to find out if UNDP had carried out a SWOT analysis on the MDGs in Zambia.

**Question:** Fr. Freeborn from Radio Liseli what to find out why corruption eradication was not one of the goals.

**Question:** Pastor Muyunda wanted to find out why the international partners had not established a global fund to eradicate poverty as the case was with HIV/AIDS.

**Question:** Mr. Lewanika from Jubilee Zambia wanted to find out why the issues of debt are not addressed by the MDGs.

#### Answers session

**Response:** MDGs are a long term plan while the PRSP and TNDP are the vehicles which are being used to attain the MDGs. Most of the goals and targets overlap in these documents. Next PRSP and TNDP will be in one document and an attempt is

being made to ensure that the next planning document incorporates MDGs.

Gijs Koop said that the aim of the UN system was to target every corner of Zambia. UNDP and CSPR have so far reached out to two Provincial towns (Mansa and Mongu) and it is the duty of those who attend such workshops to share the information obtained with other partners in the district. UNDP have another programme for the private sector which is also running very well.

Are we four years late, no and yes but it is worthy mentioning that most of the work surrounding MDGs commenced in 2003 after the progress report was launched. We have had such workshops in Lusaka, Livingstone and Mansa, and now we are in Mongu. UN systems still have to go to other province. Zambia is a vast country. The role of these workshops is to share and explain the findings in the report. Again we cannot reach out in all areas at the same time due to capacity constraints.

On the issues of debt, Mr. Gijs Koop agrees with Jubilee Zambia entire. It was also the concern of UN that the debt stock is reduced to enable the country develop.

Corruption is a very critical issue now and these issues are being discussed in institutional arrangements. Corruption has a negative bearing on the progress made. Mr. Koop, however asked Dr. Chigunta and Mrs Elizabeth Mulamfu to answer the other questions.

**QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO DR. FRANCIS CHIGUNTA - HOW REALISTIC ARE THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS) FOR ZAMBIA: CHALLENGES BEING FACED IN MEETING THEM AND THE WAY FORWARD**

**Question:** Mr. Mbangu from Kuomboka Youth Group. It seems there is high level of indiscipline in the nation hence the reason we have remained poor and just pose NRCs as the only identity as Zambians. What are we going to do to reduce this indiscipline?

**Question:** Francis W. Kahande from the YWCA. What is the way forward for the nation, how do we change things in the

country when people have too much power? How do we reduce the powers of the people retarding the nation?

**Question:** A journalist from ZIS, Mr. Mwala Kalaluka, wanted to know how as youth can create wealth for the nation? We are told to work hard and not to depend on government. The question we ask is where do we start from in a country with no institutions to give loans to youth and in a country where the government has closed its doors.

**Question:** Mrs. Namangolwa Simenda informed the group that it is sad to see Mongu underdeveloped, when you travel round these other provinces you will see changes/developments though small but noticeable. In Mongu 40 years have passed without noticeable changes to be proud of. One may ask why?

**Question:** Mrs. G. Mwiimbi from the Zambia National Association of the Disabled, wanted to find out why Western province had no disability institution and if government had plans in the short term?

### **Answers session**

**Response:** In response Dr. Chigunta, said that Zambia in the past decades has undertaken huge projects with poor feasibility studies hence the failure to deliver. These projects lacked the participation of local people.

However, he was confident to say that with the emerging of strong and principled civil society pressure groups this will never be repeated in Zambia. CSO have role to keep Government on its toes and to monitor all development projects.

On the issue of credit access for the youth to engage in productive activities, he said that it was sad after 40 years of independence the country did not have a policy framework to integrate the youth into productive ventures. He mentioned that it was sad that every year the drop-out in grade seven and nine is increasing. About 200,000 youths drop out of the education system every year without any life saving skills.

He said that the government should work with the private sector to create credit lending institution for the youth. However, it was the duty of everyone to change the culture

and attitudes of failure to pay back loans. Zambians have to learn to pay back loans once we have borrowed.

On the issue of bureaucracy in the government system, he urged the government official to reduce these cumbersome administrative procedures and tendencies.

He agreed with the participants that Zambia had the decentralization and centralization which was running concurrently and that this was causing confusion and problems in the system.

The councillor, Mr Muuka said that the workshop had come at the right time when the decentralization was coming into force. He said that it was both disappointing and frustrating that the council and councillors and MPs are not given enough support to contribute in the existing structures. They have been reduced to opinion makers only. With the coming of this decentralization the people's role will be appreciated in the development process.

## **QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO MRS. ELIZABETH MULAMFU MINISTRY OF HEALTH - PRESENTATION ON MDG GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH**

**Question:** Ms. Joanna Muliokela from NGOCC wondered if nurses were trained in public relations. She asked this question because nurses have tended to use abusive language towards the patients. She also wondered whether the ministry of health has a programme to incorporate civic education or human rights studies in their training programmes. She also asked why the people in Mongu opted to elect people in parliament who stayed outside the province.

**Question:** Ms. Josephine from NGOCC said that it was terrible that despite not having drugs in the hospitals and clinics. We have terrible nurses with terrible attitude towards work. Imagine a patient walking 15km or more to seek medical help and he is told to go back because the nurses are having a staff meeting, what kind of Zambia are we leaving in?

- Question: Joseph Kumweda from DATF wondered if the Ministry of Health was doing anything about the youth patronising taverns.
- Question: Mrs Musonda from VSU Zambia Police wanted to find out why the Ministry of Health is asking the abused women to pay for Medical reports. You all well know that cases without a medical report cannot be passed in the courts of Zambia. Most of the women are poor and depend on their husbands who abuse them, hence would rather not go for the medical check up and reports.
- Question: David Kaseba wanted to find out why the under 5 years children pay medical fee when government has made a policy that which says that children under five should not pay?
- Question: Why is it that the government does not train more nurses to meet the short fall?
- Question: Why is it that the in the whole of Western province there is only one nurses' training college?
- Question: Does the council have any mechanism to regulate the sell of drugs on the street or to monitor the activities of the mushrooming drug stores, which are now selling antibiotics?

### **Answers session**

**Response:** In response Mrs Mulamfu said that she was happy and glad to learn that civil society organisations are now identifying them selves with maternal health issues. The attitude of nurse is very bad hence the reason why youth and women shun health institutions. When a person falls sick they do not turn into stupid beings, they expect to be treated well. And that is why when they receive anything less than expected the walk out. It is for this reason that the ministry of health is trying to change this attitude. But the major question to ask is why this attitude?

Nurses are stressed because of poor working condition, low incomes, lack of drugs in the hospitals and above all the public who are not appreciating their services.

On the issue of youth frequenting bar halls she said the Ministry of health was working with other line ministry to establish youth friendly policies.

Further, Ms. Mulamfu said that the government was not recruiting and training more nurses because the infrastructure could not allow. However Dr Chigunta said even if more nurses were trained the government was not employing because under the HIPC conditions it had a role to reduce the wage bill to a certain level. Even if they are employed the wages are too low to maintain them hence they leave for greener pasture to Botswana or South Africa

## **7.0 WRAP UP**

In his wrap up comments, the moderator, Mr. Phaniel Chibala, urged people of Western province and Mongu in particular not to sit and wait for somebody else to do their work. He said that issues of maternal health were very important. The figures in Western province are very high. One wonders why our sisters, mothers and daughters die in our hands. We need to reduce these figures below the expected standard; we have the capacity as a province. Look at India it is now better than Zambia.

We should not forget at all times that development is very body's challenge, Issues of building colleges for nurses, teachers and all kinds of professionals should never be left to government alone, we should learn to partner with the government of the day.

The people of Mongu should take up the challenge and responsibility. Above all we should demand to be part of both the making and sharing of the national cake. I personally thank CSPR for spearheading this crusade, a very important and challenging one. As we close we should ask God to bless the work of CSPR and the UNDP

## **SPECIAL REMARKS FROM THE INDUNA NAWALA OF KATONGO SILALO**

We as a people have lost the value of hard work, we are now talking too much, but with no action. Hence, why National budgets are not respected and honoured by our leaders. Projects are not completed yet they are paid for. Look at our roads, our water supplies, houses, hospitals and clinics. From the time I retired from civil service in 1983, there has never occurred any change at the hospital I

can term development. We have been paying medical fees but the situation is the same everyday.

We are very thankful to the organisers for inviting us to this meeting, it is also important that we join in the fight. We thank the presenters for the work well done.

## 7.1 Summary of Presenters

### 7.1.2 Mr. Gijs Koop - Economist United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- CSPR is commended for working in constructive partnership with the UNDP
- The MDGs are time bound unlike the previous international Development Goals which were open ended and the power of the MDGs lies in their simplicity
- MDGs represent a global consensus of what needs to be done by when and by whom.
- MDGs are equally important for both northern countries and southern countries.
- Goal 8 is important. For developed countries to contribute to the achievement of MDGs, they ought to attain the 0.7% of their GDP commitment in aid to developing countries.
- Goal 3 On Universal Primary Education, there is optimism that this can be achieved by the year 2015.
- The MDG status report highlights areas that require further attention. There is also need to improve on the budget process. Zambians should use this as a basis for negotiation.
- In Sub Saharan Africa the trend in terms of extreme poverty has worsened and requires new strategies.
- There are several instruments for implementing the MDGs
- There is need for conducive policy environment
- PRSP and TNDP are the operational framework for achieving the MDGS
- On linking MDGs to the PRSP, UNDP is working with Government on this issue.
- MDG Campaign will include the following:
  - Costing will take place in 2004 until early 2005 and would take into account the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).
  - Monitoring will be at national level and provincial levels.
- Sensitisation on MDGs is very important and UNDP and MoFNP will work with CSPR to sensitise civil society members.
- Localising will start in September 2004 while financing would require the MoFNP
- Annual MDGs race is also planned for October 2004.
- MDGs are not the responsibility of Government alone. Everybody has a responsibility.
- Civil society organisations should act as social watchdog to achieving MDGs.
- Implementation of civil society's programme should systematically and consciously link MDGs to the use of your own programmes.
- There must be ownership of the MDGs by CSOs in Zambia
- CSOs should exert pressure on political leadership to meet their commitment

- CSOs should provide alternative ways of budgeting
- Mr. Chuma also gave examples on what CSOs in other countries have done in other countries on MDGs sensitization

### **7.1.3 Dr. Francis Chigunta- Department of Development Studies, University of Zambia**

- Has the Zambian Government prioritised expenditure in dealing with poverty?
- PRSP in relation to three issues is crucial. These are: allocation, disbursement and proportion of this allocation as a percentage of the overall national Budget.
- The Budget structure also needs to be reformed.
- Need for all Zambians to prioritise on what government is spending money on.
- What is it that needs to be done to prioritise social spending?
  1. Government needs to lead the way in self sacrifice such as reducing the size of Cabinet while bold decisions and structural reforms would be necessary to re-orient the budget in a manner that will increase social spending.
  2. Improve the management and utilization of public resources. Leadership by example is important on public resources management.
- Partnership is vital on the issue of conditionalities. When Government slips on agreed benchmarks; the ones who suffer are the poor. Is there a possibility to guarantee that the poor do not get punished for the misdeeds of their Government?
- MDGs are a welcome shift from the usual focus of development thinking on statistics. The challenge is in translating these MDGs into implementable actions.
- Dr. Chigunta presented the following scenario:
  1. Economic growth must be broad based and pro-poor. This growth should come from a diversified base and should exceed population growth rate
  2. The performance of the Zambia economy still leaves much to be desired. The current 4.2 percent growth rate should go up to 6 or 8% economic growth to make deference in the poverty situation.
  3. For the economy to grow at that rate we need to make capital investments and reduce both inflation and interest rates to affordable digits.



**CIVIL SOCIETY SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON MILLENIUM  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)**

**23<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2004, NGULU HOTEL  
PROGRAMME**

**WORKSHOP FACILITATOR: MR PHANUEL CHIBALA**

13:45-14:00	Registration
14:00-14:10	Introductory Remarks-Mr. Gregory Chikwanka
14:10- 14:30	Official Opening <b>The District Commissioner- Mongu District</b>
14:30 - 14:40	MDGs in Zambia and the Role of Civil Society <b>Mr Gijs Koop UNDP</b>
14:40- 15:00	How Realistic Are the MDGs For Zambia, Challenges Being Faced in Meeting them and the Way Forward. <b>Dr. Francis Chigunta, University of Zambia</b>
15:00-15:30	Presentation on Maternal Health – MDG 5 <b>Elizabeth Mulamfu, Ministry of Health</b>
<b>15:30 -15:45</b>	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
15:45 - 16: 30	Plenary
16:30 – 17:00	Key points of the workshop & wrap up Workshop Facilitator <b>Mr. PHANUEL CHIBALA</b>

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