

Zambia's National Development Plan 2006-11: A Co-operating Partner's Perspective

**Richard Montgomery, UK DFID
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Overview

- **A Co-operating Partner's (CP) view on why the NDP is important**
- **CP engagement in the process & support to NDP implementation**
- **Views on the roles of Civil Society in the NDP process**
- **Some concluding observations**



Why the NDP is important: in broad terms

- **Building on Zambia's present PRSP:
strengthening poverty reduction efforts**
- **Meeting PRSP principles:**
 - providing a long-term vision
 - setting priorities
 - defining results against which to monitor
 - broadening ownership of poverty reduction efforts
 - Providing a basis for partnership with stakeholders, including the donor community



Why the NDP is important: for more effective co-operation

NDP as the basis for a Joint Assistance Strategy by CP's to Zambia:

- Re-balancing CP support (reducing 'congestion' in some sectors, gaps in others)
- Reducing administrative burdens of 'too many donors' on Government
- Increasing the use of more effective funding agreements



CP engagement in the NDP process: Overview

- **MoU in support of the Road Map**
- **Co-ord' & Technical Group, to liaise with MoFNP, contribute to some costs**
- **CP representation in SAGs**
- **Mini-CG: Issues Paper**



CP engagement: selected issues raised

- Integrating new thinking since PRSP
- Integrating MDGs & human rights issues
- Being clear on priorities
- Developing the MTEF (priorities into practice)
- Import of monitoring indicators & systems



CP views on the roles of civil society

- **Civil society as 'voices for the poor'**
- **Welcomed by Government in the NDP process**
- **Has a legitimate role in influencing priorities, within and between sectors**
- **Has the potential to be a decisive influence on the quality and legitimacy of the NDP**



Concluding observations

- **Time & human constraints**
- **Co-ordination between Government & civil society is a challenge**
- **Co-ordination within civil society also a challenge**
- **Civil society can demand but it also has to deliver its ideas**
- **Can demand of Co-operating Partners**

