



**THE GLOBAL  
MECHANISM**  
United Nations Convention  
to Combat Desertification

## **Government of the Republic of Zambia**



**MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT, SANITATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
**Land Degradation Neutrality**  
**High Level Note**

**2019**



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The views and content expressed in this document are solely those of the authors of this document and do not necessarily represent the views of the LDN TSP or any of its partners.

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**MWDSEP/6/6/6**

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT, SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

OFFICE OF THE HONORABLE MINISTER  
P. O. BOX 50288  
LUSAKA

17<sup>th</sup> January, 2019

Your Excellency, Ms. Monique Barbut  
Executive Secretary  
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification  
P.O BOX 260129  
**53113 Bonn,**  
**GERMANY**

Your Excellency,

**SUBMISSION OF THE VOLUNTARY LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY  
(LDN) TARGETS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES FOR THE REPUBLIC OF  
ZAMBIA**

The Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection (MWDSEP) takes pleasure to officially submit the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets and associated measures as part of its contribution towards the achievement of the LDN by 2030 by country Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

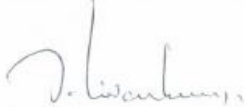
As Party to the UNCCD, Zambia commits itself to implement the LDN targets and associated measures in accordance with the decisions of Twelfth Session of the Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNCCD that endorsed Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 15.3 and the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) as a strong vehicle for driving the implementation of the Convention.

You may wish to note that the LDN targets and associated measures were developed and agreed by all stakeholders through a broad-based consultative process. They represent the country's vision to combat land degradation and achieve ecosystem integrity in support of attainment of the overall objectives of its development strategies such as the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP) and the Vision 2030.

I am therefore, confident that once implemented, these measures will contribute significantly to the attainment of the objectives of the Convention that focuses on combating drought, desertification and land degradation.

As a beneficiary of the Global Mechanism (GM) LDN Target Setting Support Programme, I wish on behalf of my Government to express our profound gratitude to the UNCCD Secretary and the Global Mechanism for providing technical and financial support that enabled our country to successfully complete this important assignment.

Please accept, Your Excellency, assurances of our highest consideration.



Hon. Dennis Mukuyu Wanchinga, MP

**MINISTER OF WATER DEVELOPMENT, SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE LDN TARGETS SET AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES IDENTIFIED, WITH PROPOSED TIMELINES**

**LDN NATIONWIDE TARGETS**

	<b>Target</b>	<b>Proposed Measures</b>
1.	LDN is achieved by 2030 (no net loss)	All measures applicable
2.	By 2030, the deforestation rate in Zambia is reduced by at least 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and enhance sustainable forest management</li> <li>• Forest enhancement including natural regeneration and afforestation/reforestation</li> <li>• Sustainable charcoal production to include improved kilns</li> <li>• Improved cooking devices to include improved biomass stoves, use of ethanol and LPG stoves, and switch to electric stoves</li> <li>• Participatory forest management (CFM, JFM, PFM)</li> <li>• Forest fire management</li> <li>• Promote registration of community forests</li> </ul>
3.	By 2030, 40% of households adopt appropriate alternative energy sources from fuel wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel switch (diesel/HFO to biodiesel)</li> <li>• Fuel switch (coal to biomass)</li> <li>• Switch from existing isolated diesel to mini-hydro</li> <li>• Introduce and increase blending of bio-fuels with fossil fuels and where possible substitution with bio-fuels</li> <li>• Off-grid RE to non-electrified rural P.V and wind</li> <li>• On-grid expansion program to support economic growth and grid extension through inter-basin water transfer</li> <li>• Grid extension to non-electrified rural areas</li> <li>• Promote alternative renewable energy sources (e.g., mini hydro, solar, biogas, geothermal, wind, etc.)</li> <li>• Promotion of smart incentives for alternative energy sources adoption</li> <li>• Promote CPPPs in renewable energy technology development and utilization</li> <li>• Develop models for sustainable and regulated wood fuel production</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote energy-efficient wood fuel utilization technologies.</li> <li>• Support certification of feedstock supply, improved production systems and capacity along wood fuel value chains.</li> <li>• Develop incentive mechanisms for sustainable wood fuel production and utilization</li> <li>• Build capacity of charcoal producers and communities</li> </ul>
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030 Maintain and/or improve the SOC content (no net loss)</li> <li>• By 2030 good agricultural practices that mitigate loss of forest cover and SOC are increased from 6000 Km<sup>2</sup> in 2015 to 10,000 Km<sup>2</sup> in 2030.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote farm-based natural regeneration practices to increase forest cover</li> <li>• Promote minimum/zero tillage, composting, mulching and less use of inorganic fertilizers</li> </ul>
5.	By 2030, Zambia shall seek to halt land use change of wetlands and ecologically sensitive areas and normal functions of these areas shall be achieved (no net loss).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of ecologically sensitive areas and landscape-level planning</li> <li>• Develop and implement conservation plans, programs and guidelines for sustainable management of wetlands</li> <li>• Define wetlands management areas and develop a wetlands classification system</li> <li>• Establish, implement and maintain wetlands ecosystems restoration mechanisms</li> <li>• Promote education and public awareness on wetlands</li> <li>• Support traditional leadership and communities to develop local level rules and regulations to facilitate effective management of wetlands.</li> </ul>

6.	By 2030 integrated land-use planning adopted and practiced across the nation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote integrated land use planning systems</li> <li>• Promote dialogue and collaboration between government private sector and communities on planning processes</li> <li>• Promote education and public awareness on integrated planning</li> <li>• Promote local area planning systems</li> <li>• Institutionalize integrated land use planning compatible with management of natural resources and infrastructure development.</li> </ul>
7.	By 2030 Land Degradation Neutrality Values have been integrated in the Eight National Development plan, Programmes and other planning processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote mainstreaming of LDN into the national planning and budgeting processes</li> <li>• Conduct awareness and mainstreaming of LDN in educational programs</li> <li>• strengthen an inter-departmental and sectoral coordination mechanism.</li> </ul>

8.	By 2030, 50% of agricultural land is under sustainable agricultural practices compared to 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Conservation/ Climate Smart agriculture</li> <li>• Promote Rural biogas plants</li> <li>• Promote Rural biomass electricity generating facilities</li> <li>• Promote climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices related to production including uptake of agroforestry.</li> <li>• Incentivise climate-smart agricultural practices that mitigate carbon emissions through market linkages</li> <li>• Promote investment into reducing post-harvest losses</li> <li>• Support land use planning to enable optimal location of agro-business concessions (farm blocks) and community climate smart agriculture.</li> <li>• Promote livestock CSA practices through: improved feed management, animal health, rangeland management and use of drought-tolerant breeds.</li> <li>• Promote sustainable and or CSA, aquaculture practices.</li> </ul>
9.	All land Degraded rehabilitated in mining and quarrying areas by 2030 compared to 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and restore/rehabilitate degraded land areas across the focal landscapes.</li> <li>• Enhance natural regeneration and re-vegetation of degraded areas through assisted natural regeneration (ANR)17 and tree planting.</li> </ul>
10.	By 2030 Increase forest cover by 5% compared to 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote afforestation and reforestation</li> <li>• Promote natural and assisted regenerations</li> <li>• Promote establishment of community forests</li> <li>• Support traditional leadership and communities to develop local level rules and regulation to facilitate effective management of forestry resources.</li> <li>• Expand the forest -protected area systems to include Joint forest management areas, community and private forests.</li> </ul>



11.	By 2030 the production of timber wood fuel (charcoal & firewood) Strengthened and regulated compared to 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote implementation of the Coupe systems</li> <li>• Strengthen and regulate the harvesting of trees for charcoal production</li> <li>• Promote energy-efficient wood fuel production and utilization technologies.</li> <li>• Enhance capacity building among stakeholders</li> </ul>
12.	By 2030 the mining industry contribute to management of surrounding indigenous Forests and establishment of forest plantations for local community's timber needs compared to 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threatened and sensitive protected areas identified and legislated</li> <li>• Promote establishment of woodlots by mining companies.</li> <li>• Support the operationalization of the environmental fund under the Environmental Management Act</li> </ul>
13.	By 2030 Catchment Management Plans for the six (6) catchments of Zambia that incorporate measures to mitigate against or prevent land degradation developed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Integrated water resources planning</li> <li>• Promote implementation of flood and drought management plans</li> <li>• Strengthen protection and management of aquifers</li> <li>• Promote the protection of upstream catchment areas</li> <li>• Promote efficiency in water use and allocation.</li> </ul>
14.	Increasing national water storage by at least 10 % by 2030 (i.e. from 188 km <sup>3</sup> to 207 km <sup>3</sup> ).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop small water storage facilities to support irrigation, aquaculture, and livestock development to improve rural livelihoods and mitigate against poverty related land degradation</li> <li>• Promote rain water harvesting.</li> </ul>

#### National Reference Documents:

1. Strategic Plan 2014 to 2016, Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection in conjunction with the management Development Division, Cabinet Office
2. Zambia's Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (Nbsap-2) (2015), Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
3. National Strategy to Reduce Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Forestry Department

4. The Seventh National Development Plan 2017-2021 (Volume 2), Ministry of National Development Planning
5. National REDD+ strategy
6. National Environmental policy (2007)
7. National agriculture policy.