

# **Conference on Land Policy in Africa- 2017 (Addis Ababa-Ethiopia)**

**Title: Empowering the Zambian youth with  
land information for sustainable development**

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# Outline

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# Introduction

- Zambia is a landlocked country in Southern Africa, surrounded by 8 neighbours
- It has a population of more than 17 million
- Economic activities include mining, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing
- All these economic activities have land as major production factor
- Has size of 752,618 km<sup>2</sup>

# Land administration in Zambia

## State land (leasehold)

- Constitutes 6% of land
- Well documented with clear guidelines
- Ministry of Lands responsible for administration (Commissioner of Lands)
- Other ministries have planning authority (agriculture, tourism, mines, water & energy)
- Long and cumbersome land acquisition procedures
- Costly for the common person
- Corruption in land allocation
- Encroachment by political cadres
- Requires production of key documents (employment, pay slip, bank A/C)

## Customary land (traditional)

- Constitutes 94% of the land in Zambia (old stats)
- Managed according to traditional norms and practices
- Characterised by poor documentation (allocation, ownership & boundary)
- Gender inequalities in allocation (cultural practices)
- Limited transparency in allocation
- Some traditional leaders sale land (can't be challenged by subjects)
- Most customary land inhabitants have limited knowledge on land (laws, policies, rights)
- Mostly allocated to families (Head and spouse & children depend on him)
- Easier to acquire compared to state land

# Problem statement-general

- Zambia's population is predominantly young, 36.7% of the population (2010 census report)
- Majority of youth unemployed, struggle in life
- Zambia's average unemployment rate is 7.8%, higher than global average of 6% (ILO, 2013)
- Youth unemployment estimated at 10%, higher than average (Afrobarometer, 2014)
- The majority of those that are in productive activities (domestic, entrepreneurship etc.), still struggle
- Youth frustrated and resort to illicit activities (alcohol, drugs & prostitution)

# Problem statement-land

- Land allocation doesn't favour youth
- Allocation structures under customary composed of elders-youth interests missing
- Youths largely expected to access land through parents
- State land too long & costly for youth
- No deliberate policy to reserve land for youth
- Youth lack land information (acquisition, laws, rights)
- Limited interest in land issues
- Youth not deliberately targeted in land policy review/development

# Intervention

## *Developed National Youth Policy (2015)*

- Themed “*Towards a Skilled, Enlightened, Economically Empowered and Patriotic Youth Impacting Positively on National Development.*”
- Policy gives due priority to youth development and empowerment, underscores importance of youth participation and involvement in National Development
- Not much been implemented to realise progressive provisions (e.g. land policy consultative process)

# Intervention cont'd

## *National Land Policy development (on-going)*

- Aimed to address various land challenges
- Has a number of positive provisions (draft)
- Youth not adequately and deliberately targeted and consulted
- Yet to establish with certainty the level of youth participation, but the roadmap in policy formulation gives an idea
- Youth not seen and appreciated the value of land due to limited participation
- Will be challenge to monitor implementation of policy

# Intervention cont'd

## *Seventh National Development Plan*

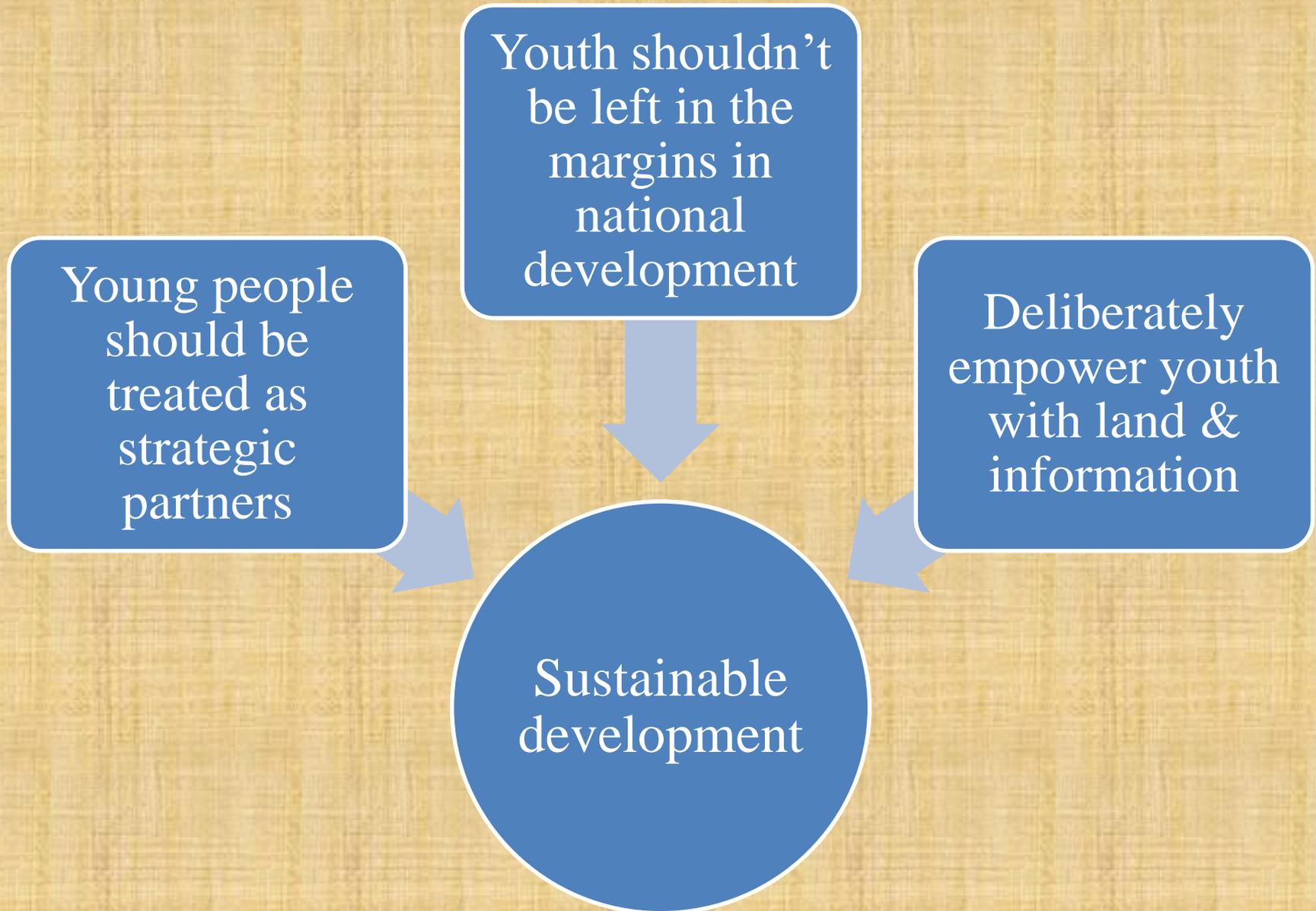
- Themed “*Accelerating development efforts towards the Vision 2030 without leaving anyone behind.*”
- Key outcomes include; economic diversification and job creation; poverty and vulnerability reduction; reduced developmental inequalities; enhanced human development
- Yet to see how progressive provisions will be realised, given the past experience on the previous plan

# Intervention cont'd

## *Monitoring and Evaluation of Land Governance in Africa (MELA)*

- Among 10 countries being piloted
- Aimed to establish progress in the implementation of land policy
- Study to establish the extent to which youth have been engaged in formulation of the land policy and management of land in general

# Conclusion



Thank you for listening!