“Development of a Framework and Roadmap for a National Innovation System to foster low-carbon and climate resilient economic development in Zambia”

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OUTLINE

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Introduction

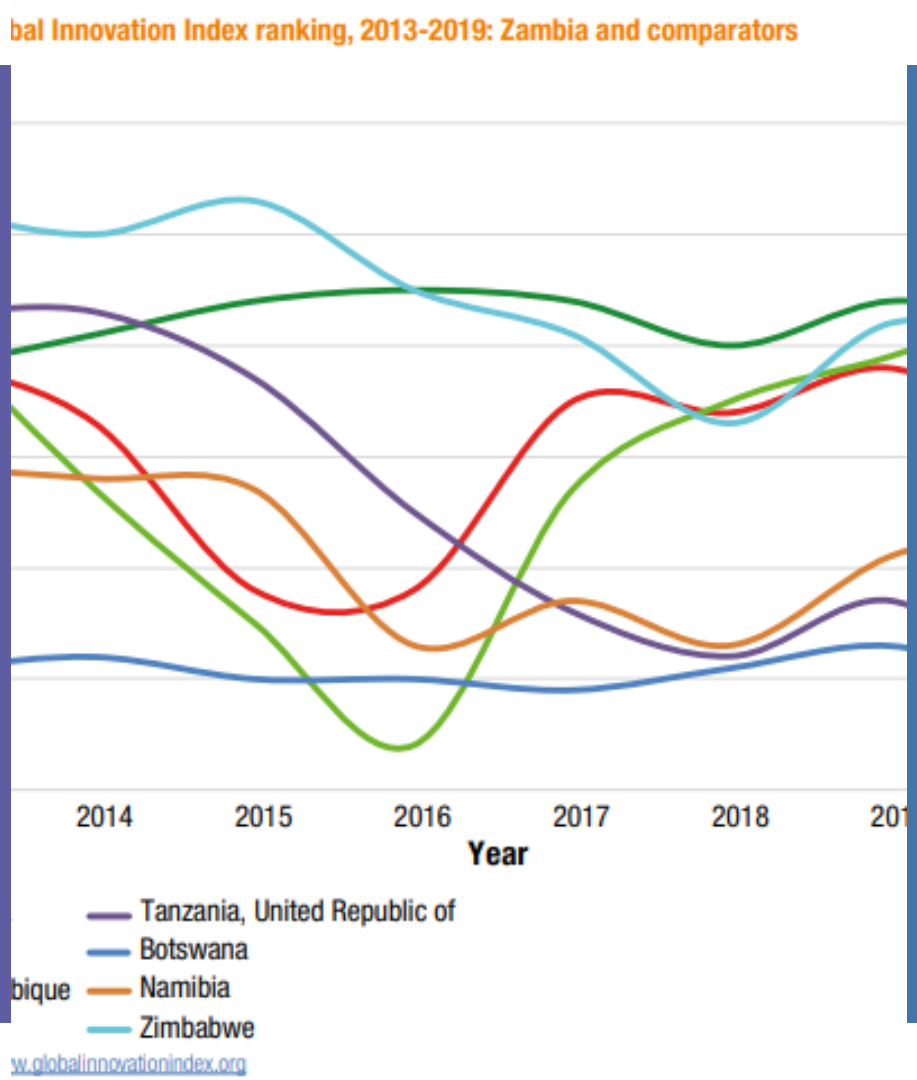
- Zambian Government recently updated its Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy, as promulgated in November 2020
- STI Policy outlines the national Innovation System (NIS), including current public support institutions and programmes.
- Technical Assistance (TA) proposes to analyse STI environment
- TA to facilitate dvpt of a framework & roadmap for establishment of a NIS

Problem Statement

- Climate variability & change has become a major threat to sustainable development
- Country already experiencing climate induced hazards which include drought & dry spells, seasonal and flash floods & extreme temperatures
- Aggregated estimated total GDP loss by sector is in the range of USD 4,330-5,440 million
- Innovation is seen as a relevant tool with a double benefit, to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change, and to generate economic growth.
- Zambia has communicated clear ambitions of fostering innovation & aspires to become a prosperous low carbon and climate resilient middle income country by 2030 as enshrined in the Vision 2030. However, to date, most initiatives to increase its innovative capacities were uncoordinated and with limited success.

Past and On – Going Efforts to address the problem

- The presence of an engaged private sector, active through organizations such as the Private Sector Alliance and its broad membership of business associations, contributes to maintaining a good business climate
- Zambia in 2020 developed the National STI Policy repealing the 1996 National Policy on S&T that did not adequately cover the innovation component
- The country has been implementing the Science, Technology Innovation Youth Fund (STIYF) since 2009



- However, increased funding has been a challenge that has made the STIYF not to absorb the increased number of innovators trying to access the fund
- Dvpt of NIS will help to define the road map that will guide the enhancement of the innovation space in the country

Specific Technology Barrier

- Oriented related barriers e.g. Univ. undertaking Basic Research weaker link to private enterprises
- Transaction related barriers e.g. IPR or patents potential royalty payments conflicts in Univ
- Limited Technology Incubation Facilities leading innovators independence potential
- Limited State of the Art Scientific and Innovation Infrastructure Barriers leading into low cutting edge R&D products being produced

Conclusion

- Analysis of the STI environment in Zambia
- Dvpt of a framework and roadmap for the establishment of a NIS
- Introduction of STI platforms for continuous engagement and exchange specifically focusing on climate change
- Dvpt of schemes for incentivising and promoting innovations through incubators and accelerators