



NATIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION COMMISSION OF ZAMBIA



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

25TH MARCH, 2014

Executive Directors Remarks

The 2013 Plan of action and Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC) were developed to accelerate implementation of the National Food and Nutrition Policy of 2006 as articulated in the National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan (NFNSP 2011-2015). The NFNSP solicits commitment from partners and has shown this through the coordinated and effective multi-sectoral response that is advocated for.

The finalization of the NFNSP was a clear indication of the Government's commitment to tackling nutritional problems in the country. The plan focused on strengthening sectoral interrelationships that key line Government ministries and partners would take to promote high impact nutrition actions within the common goal of reducing the high levels of stunting. Much as there were efforts of mobilizing a pooled funding for driving the Scaling Up Nutrition movement to accelerate the implementation of the first 1000 Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP), there was also a need to encourage partners who cannot put funds into a pooled fund to make their resources available.

Thus, during the 2013 programme year, the NFNC continued working with partners and stakeholders to accelerate scaling up of nutrition actions. With the NFNSP and the MCDP being key tools, NFNC appealed to the international community, cooperating partners, and other stakeholders to continue complementing government efforts. Combined efforts were needed to promoting nutrition on the developmental agenda, investing in it and facilitating realization of the NFNC vision of ensuring optimal nutritional status for all Zambians.

This report, therefore aims to share some outputs and outcomes generated as a result of the implementation of the 2013 MTEF.

Cassim Masi, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The National Food and Nutrition Commission of Zambia (NFNC) is a Statutory Board established in 1967 through an Act of Parliament specifically to provide leadership on matters of food and nutrition. It is situated on Plot 5112, Lumumba Road in the light industrial Area. The Act of Parliament, No. 41 of 1967 amended in 1975, guides the Commission in the daily execution of its mandate. The NFNC is under the Ministry of Health (MoH) for administrative purposes.

The NFNC is composed of five members of the Commission including the Chairperson. Its secretariat comprises the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director. These are supported by the Heads of Units, professional and administrative staff. The NFNC functions through six (6) units, namely:

- 1. Nutrition Education and Communication**
- 2. Training and Collaboration**
- 3. Research and Planning**
- 4. Public Health and Community Nutrition**
- 5. Accounts and Finance**
- 6. Administration**

The NFNC is funded by the Government through monthly grants released through the Ministry of Health. However, as a Statutory Board, NFNC is free to mobilize resources including funding from other local and international institutions in accordance with government laid down procedures.

1.1 Mission Statement

To provide leadership on food and nutrition matters in order to achieve optimal nutritional status of the people of Zambia and contribute to the attainment of a healthy and productive nation.

1.2 Goal

To increase accessibility to food and nutrition services in order to improve the nutritional status of the Zambian population.

1.3 Functions of the Commission

The overall objective is to promote, support and facilitate the improvement of nutritional status of the population of Zambia through sector ministries of Health, Agriculture and Livestock,

Community Development Mother and Child Health, Ministry of Education Science Vocational Training and Early Childhood and other Government and Non-Governmental, public and private organizations.

The main functions of the Commission are:

1. To facilitate formulation and periodic review of the National Food and nutrition Policy.
2. Advise relevant agencies of Government and other organizations on Food and Nutrition Policy implementation.
3. Monitor and evaluate implementation of Food and Nutrition Policy.
4. Facilitate improvement in human resource development for the nutrition sector
5. Promote, support, facilitate and coordinate implementation of programs and activities aimed at contributing to the improvement of the food security and nutrition status of the Zambian population.
6. Establish and maintain a National Food and Nutrition Information System and Data Bank.
7. Mobilize and orient resources according to government laid down procedures, for implementation of the food and nutrition programs.

2.0 STAFFING SITUATION

2.1 Commissioners (The Board)

During the period under review, the portfolio of commissioners rested with the Minister of Health being the appointing authority for commissioners for the National Food and Nutrition Commission as the tenure of office for the previous Commissioners had expired.

2.2 Commission Secretariat

The Commission secretariat was headed by the Executive Director and Management which included the Deputy Executive Director and (Six) Heads of Units as follows:



Dr. Cassim Masi , Ph.D
Executive Director



Mr. Musonda J. Mofu
Acting Deputy Executive Director



Mrs. Funny Kondolo
Administrations' Manager



Mrs. Eustina Mulenga Besa
Head of Nutrition Education
and Communications



Mrs. Muleya Maimbo
Accountant



Mr. Freddie Mubanga
Head of Public Health



Mr. Mike Mwanza
Acting Head of Research
and Planning



Mrs. Raider H. Mugode
Acting Head of Training
and Collaboration

2.3 Staffing by unit

The staffing levels by unit are indicated below:

Administrations Unit

Name	Position
Mrs. Funny B. Kondolo	Administration Manager
Mr. Peter C. Ndalama	Administrative Officer
Mrs. Betty Bwalya	Personal Secretary
Mr Bwalya Mulenga	Transport Officer
Mr Bernard Phiri	Stores Officer
Mr Saviour Mwenifumbo	Purchasing Officer
Mr William Kabaso	Auto Mechanic
Mrs. Majory M. Mukalula	Typist
Ms. Moddy Siakalima	Receptionist
Mrs. Mable Mwansa	Registry Clerk
Mr. Lawrence Mulwangi	Registry Clerk
Mr. Lawrence Mwazampando	Driver
Mr. Kelvin Sichilima	Driver
Mr. Peter Zulu	Driver
Mr. Mumbuwa Muyenga	Driver
Mr. Mukena Mukelebai	Office Orderly
Ms Patricia Mwape	Office Orderly
Mr. Shadreck Chanda	Day Guard
Mr. Sitali J. Sikayo	Day Guard

Public Health and Community Nutrition Unit

Mr. Freddie Mubanga	Head of Unit
Mrs. Gladys Kabaghe	Acting Principal Nutritionist
Mrs. Idah Chama Mulenga	Nutritionist

Research and Planning Unit

Mr. Mike Mwanza	Acting Head of Unit
Mr. Charles Banda	Agricultural Economist
Ms. Chisela Kaliwile	Sociologist
Mr. Kabaso Kabwe	Senior Nutritionist
Ms. Patricia Sakala	Nutritionist

Nutrition Education and Commission Unit

Mrs. Eustina Mulenga Besa	Head of Unit
Mrs. Lynn K. Tembo	Librarian
Mr. Jossy Phiri	Media Officer
Ms. Phililo Nambeye	Nutritionist
Mr. Koji Soneka	Graphic Artist
Mr. Brian Kunda	Assistant Librarian
Mrs. Betty S. Kalaluka	Radio Programme Organizer

Training and Collaboration Unit

Mrs. Raider H. Mugode	Acting Head of Unit
Mr. Vincent Chowa	Senior Nutritionist
Mrs. Albertina M. Kapeshi	Nutritionist
Mrs. Joyce N. Mbewe	Nutritionist

Accounts Unit

Mrs. Muleya Maimbo	Head of Unit
Mrs. Annie Chikampa	Assistant Accountant
Mrs. Helen M. Chilobwa	Senior Accounts Assistant
Mr. Anthony Muntanga	Accounts Assistant

1.0 INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

During the period under review, the NFNC planned for a number of capacity building actions. These actions, include, short and long term training for staff in various fields as well as infrastructure related capacity building.

1.1 Long term Training

The institution continued to support Ms Phililo Nambeye a nutritionist in the Nutrition Education and Communications Unit, who is pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition at the University of Zambia.

1.2 Short term Trainings

- a. As a way of operationalizing the HIV/AIDS workplace policy, two officers were sent for a two months training course on HIV/AIDS counseling at Kara counselling Centre in Lusaka.
- b. The library Assistant attended two workshops; a five day training workshop in KOHA library software at Barn Motel from 8th to 12th July, 2013 and another Zambia HIV prevention e-toolkit workshop that was organized by the National Aids Council (NAC) with support from USAID from 21st to 23rd August, 2013.

1.3 Local and International Conferences

The following members of staff represented the institution at various conferences as follows

Name of Staff	Conference	Location
Dr. Cassim Masi	UN Nutrition conference	New York
Ms Chisela Kaliwile	Infant and Young Child Feeding workshop	Zimbabwe
Ms Patricia Sakala	CIAT/PABRA Beans research	Congo
Dr Cassim Masi	CIAT/PABRA steering committee meeting	Arusha, Tanzania
Mr. Musonda Mofu	CAADP regional workshop on Mainstreaming nutrition in agriculture Development	Gaborone, Botswana
Ms. Muleya Maimbo	Annual conference for accountants	Livingstone
Ms. Betty Bwalya	Secretaries' Annual Conference	Livingstone
Mike Mwanza	Technical Updates for National Nutrition Focal Points and WHO Nutrition Focal points for East and Southern African Countries	Entebbe, Uganda
Freddie Mubanga	SUN Global Conference	New York
Freddie Mubanga	UN SUN Network Meeting	Nairobi, Kenya
Freddie Mubanga	ECSA HC Food and Nutrition Strategy Development	Nairobi, Kenya

4.0 INSTITUTION COMMUNICATION

Facility	No./ Address
Telephone	+ 260-1-227803, +260-1-236819,+260-221098,
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Post Box	Lumumba Road, Plot 5112,P.O.Box 32669,Lusaka ,Zambia

5.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR NUTRITION PROGRAMMES

5.1 Nutrition Governance, Capacity Building and Partnerships

Goal	To increase accessibility to food and nutrition services in order to improve the nutrition status of Zambian population.
Objective	By 2013, the framework and modalities for a multi-sector approach to food and nutrition will have been strengthened both at policy and operational level.

5.2 Food and Nutritional Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

Goal	To increase accessibility to food and nutrition services in order to improve the nutrition status of the Zambian population.
Objective	By the year 2015, policy formulation and programming using evidence based information from research will have been strengthened.
	By the year 2015, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the food and nutrition programmes in the strategic plan will have been strengthened.

5.3 Nutrition Education, Communication and Advocacy

Goal	To increase accessibility to food and nutrition services in order to improve the nutrition status of the Zambian population.
Objective	Advocate and create a higher value for 1000 days among the general public.
	Advocate for support from stakeholders and policy makers in the prevention of stunting in children under 2 years of age.
	Increase knowledge among communities and other stakeholders in Zambia on the prevention of stunting in children under the age.
	Raise awareness on Institution's existence and functions and create a positive image among stakeholders and the general public.

6.0 PROGRESS ON PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

6.1 Nutrition Governance, Capacity Building and Partnerships

Nutrition governance in Zambia is anchored in the National Food and Nutrition Commission Cap 308 of the Laws of Zambia which gives the NFNC the mandate to spearhead and coordinate the food and nutrition sector. In addition, the government adopted the National Food and Nutrition Policy in 2006 which has articulated the need for multi-sector approach to food and nutrition issues in the country.

In addition, the Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP) has provided a direction for nutrition programming. The National Food and Nutrition Commission Medium Term Expenditure Framework (NFNC-MTEF), was thus based on this policy guidance.

During the period under review implementation of programmes under Nutrition Governance and Capacity Building were based on the above directives. **Figure 1** below details the objective of programme implementation under nutrition governance and the outputs that were expected to be generated:

Governance area:

- Establishing a functional food and nutrition multi -sector steering committees at national, provincial and district levels (Including all relevant sub-committees)
- Facilitating appropriate legislative/legal framework that support implementation of food and nutrition programmes.
- Implementing the HIV and AIDS work place policy Mainstream

Mainstreaming area:

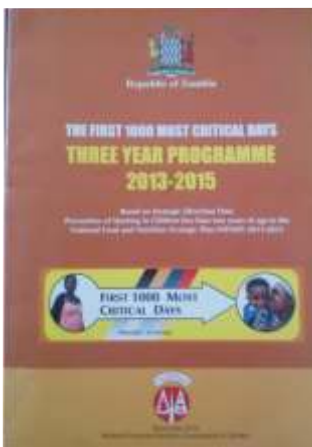
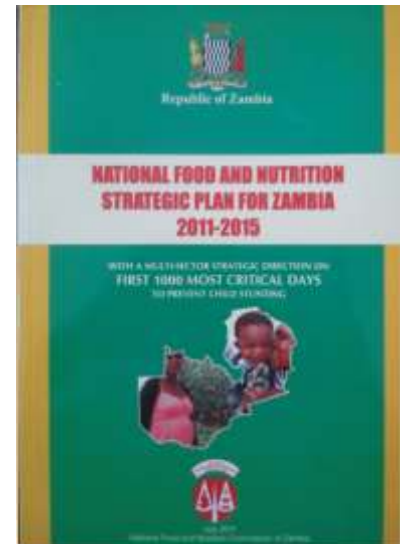
- Mainstreaming appropriate food and nutrition issues in relevant sector policies and strategies.
- Lobbying ministries for the establishment of position for food and nutrition officers in key ministries (i.e. MCDMCH, MLGH, MOE, Capacity building.

Capacity building

- Facilitating institutional capacity building in NFNC and key sector departments involved in food and Nutrition in line with the current National Food and Nutrition Sector Strategic Plan.

6.1.1 Nutrition governance structures

During the year under review, the National Food and Nutrition Commission of Zambia being the secretariat for nutrition governance and coordinator for food and nutrition programmes in the country facilitated the development and finalization of a national Strategy for food and nutrition (2011-2015). This strategy provides directives for nutrition governance and was launched by government on 3rd April, 2013 at the Ministry of Community Development Mother and Child Health Conference Centre in Lusaka.



During the launch of the strategy, government also launched the first ever Scaling Up Nutrition Programme for the country; the 1000 Most Critical Days Programme document. This programme document aims to scale up nutrition interventions during the period of pregnancy, delivery, up to the time when a child is 24 months. This also aims at reducing the nutrition problem of stunting in the country.

As a way of creating a framework for implementing the strategic plan, the NFNC established a number of partnerships in order to put in place mechanisms for nutrition governance and coordination. At National Level in different ministries; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Community Development Mother and Child Health, Ministry of Local Government and Housing, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, the NFNC with facilitation from the Ministry of Health spearheaded the creation of food and nutrition focal points that are responsible for mainstreaming nutrition in their respective ministries.

The same position was created at District level, except that food and nutrition coordination was placed under the responsibility of the District Coordinator's office. However, this creation was only done for fourteen districts with a view to scale up to 30 districts in 2014.

HIV/AIDS work place policy

During the period under review the NFNC finalized its HIV/AIDS workplace policy. This policy is aimed at providing institutional policy framework for handling the welfare of staff with respect to HIV/Aids issues.

In order to facilitate the implementation of this policy two staff were appointed as peer counsellors in the quest to implement this policy. The staff was also sent for training in Counselling and ethics.

6.1.2 Nutrition groups

Nutrition Groups are community based organizations operating at community level in various districts of our country that undertake nutrition activities at household level with a view to improving food security and fighting malnutrition. The NFNC Act Cap 308 of the Laws of Zambia requires that community based organizations involved in food and nutrition voluntarily register with the NFNC.

As at the close of 2013 80 Nutrition Group were registered with the NFNC. Five Nutrition Groups were audited during the year under review. The Nutrition Groups that were audited are Chipata Dzithandizeni Nutrition Group, Chadiza nutrition group, Petauke Nutrition Group, Chipepo Nutrition Group and Siavonga Nutrition Group.

Nutrition groups in various districts undertook a number of activities in promoting nutrition improvement at community and household level.

Kitwe Nutrition Group

Kitwe nutrition group continued its garden demonstration activities and farming at its farm. In addition, the group also continued with the rehabilitation of malnourished children at its nutrition centre in Chimwemwe Township.

Petauke Nutrition Group

Petauke nutrition group continued to receive discharge referrals of malnourished children from Petauke District Hospital. The group also continued its growth monitoring and promotion activities. The food security programme also reached a lot of people with ground nut seeds and extension. The group also continued to run its harmer mill project as an income generation project.

Chipata Nutrition Group

Chipata Nutrition Group undertook a number of activities during the year; the group continued with maize and sunflower growing. The activity is used to demonstrate best agricultural practices to members who are deeply involved in the management of crops. In addition, the group started the

growing of bio-fortified beans for seed multiplication. The bean is bio-fortified with iron and zinc. This is done to promote bean consumption as a strategy to fight malnutrition in the catchment areas. Stakeholders have trained some volunteers how to prepare bean based recipes to promote beans consumption. In addition, the group also continued its growth monitoring and promotion as well as cooking demonstrations.

Siavonga Nutrition Group

During the period under review, Siavonga nutrition group continued its partnerships with women groups in promoting income generating activities using fishing strategy. Under this approach the group procured fishing cages which were placed in Lake Kariba. The captured fish was sold out to local market outlets as way on not only generating income but as a way of promoting fish consumption.

Chipepo Nutrition Group

Chipepo nutrition group continued with its community gardening project during the 2013 period. A number of community members were reached with community gardening incentives. In addition, the group also undertook fish farming activities in addition to promoting fish capture as a business. As an income generating venture, the group also undertook broiler chicken production as income generating activities.

6.1.3 Mainstreaming

Although most national development plans in different sectors have included nutrition considerations for decades, they have traditionally been framed only as outcomes of economic growth. A growing body of evidence indicates that, although economic development does improve nutrition outcomes, it often does so at a very slow pace, and that direct reductions in income poverty do not imply proportional reductions in under nutrition.

During the 2013 MTEF, one of the objectives was to mainstream nutrition into different sectors with a view of nutrition being an input into development. During the provincial planning sessions for 2014, the NFNC prioritized a number of interventions for different sectors. These interventions were presented to provinces during the MTEF Launches. At the same time, the NFNC spearheaded, the development of the Field Workers Reference Guide (FWRG), this is a document that provides directives and guidelines incorporating nutrition in different sectors.

6.1.4 Capacity building

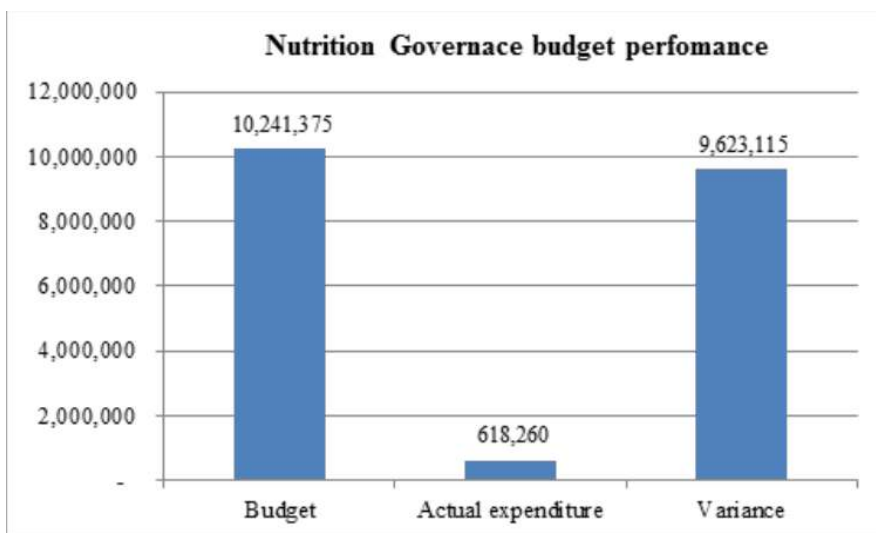
An assessment of 2012 showed that in order for the NFNC to deliver on its mandate, there was a need to build the capacity of the institution in terms of collaborative skills, coordination management and

programme management. In view of this, the NFNC developed three capacity development partnerships through Memorandum of understanding with the North West University, World Health Organization and the World Bank.

With the North West University of South Africa, a series of capacity building workshops were planned for over a two year period. The first workshop was held 2nd to 8th November, 2013. The workshop had participation of nutrition focal point persons from five line Ministries; Health, Agriculture and Livestock, Local government, Education and early education and Community development Mother and Child Health. It also had participation from the NFNC staff. The focus was on developing leadership and partnerships to oversee nutrition actions in Zambia.

6.1.5 Nutrition governance budget performance

The budget performance for nutrition governance is indicated below. Although at the planning stage the budget was set. The funds were not released as the source of funds was the Scaling Up Nutrition Pool fund which never became operational during the period under review. Thus budgetary support to the programme area was mainly from government. Figure 2 below shows the budget, actual expenditure and variance.



For the World Health Organization, the agreement is on Accelerating nutrition Improvements in Zambia. This focusses on strengthening the Nutrition Surveillance and the Zambia Nutrition Information System. A number of consultative meetings were held during the 2013 period to harmonize nutrition indicators as well as developing mechanisms for tracking nutrition indicator performance in the country. Two workshops to come up with an inventory of nutrition indicators and nutrition baseline questionnaires were held in March 2013 and December, 2013. The participants were from the Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Local government, Education and Community development and district administrative officers from Zambezi, Kasama, Chipata, Mongu and Mumbwa districts.

6.1.6 Food and nutrition Mapping, Gap Analysis and Planning

Following endorsement of the first 1000 Most Critical Days Programme by the Ministers of the five key line ministries (Health, Agriculture, Community Development, Mother and Child Health, Education, and Local Government), the NFNC with stakeholders and partners embarked on an assessment to understand the current nutrition situation in the districts in terms of establishing sectors' nutrition related problems and interventions; Identification of capacities and partnerships in addressing the nutrition problems in the districts and assessing multi-sector strengths, and challenges in programme implementation at district, sub-district levels. This analysis was aimed at identifying areas for scaling up nutrition. A detailed report showing the gaps in the targeted districts was generated.

Before gap analysis orientation meetings were held for provincial and district heads of key line ministries as well as their technical staff on the 1st 1000 MCDP. Following up on this gap analysis, each of the assessed districts generated district multi-sector plans which were to receive funding from the Nutrition Pool fund managed by a consortium of organizations. The plans will focus on scaling up nutrition interventions in these districts.

6.1.7 Development of the Maternal Infant and Young Child Feeding Framework and Guidelines

During the 2013 period, the NFNC with support from WHO, UNICEF, ZISSP and other stakeholders, embarked upon a process of developing Maternal Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy and guidelines. This was in the wake of emerging scientific evidence that suggest the need for optimal nutrition for women before, during and after pregnancy. At the same time evidence has shown the need for optimal nutrition for infants and young children if they are to grow healthy. The strategy and the guidelines are aimed at providing strategic guidance in the provision of nutrition services for women and children. The documents were expected to be finalized in 2014.

6.1.8 Development of administrative systems

Having adequate administrative systems in an organization has been identified as an important step towards providing an environment in which employees operate effectively and efficiently. During the 2013 period the NFNC drafted a number of administrative systems. These include Procurement, registry, transport and stores. It is expected that in 2014 these will be operationalized.

6.1.9 Compendium of Food and Nutrition Research

With a mandate to document available research evidence in the country, the NFNC initiated a process of documenting food and nutrition research that had been undertaken in the past. The basis of this

compilation was to make available scientific evidence for policy formulation, learning and understanding research gaps. The compendium put together past research in form of abstracts into one document which can serve as a reference document. The NFNC is expected to print and disseminate this compendium in 2014.

6.2 Nutrition Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

The framework for coordinating nutrition research, monitoring and evaluation activities in Zambia is delegated, by legislation, to the National Food and Nutrition Commission. The goal of nutrition research, monitoring and evaluation priority programme is to increase accessibility to food and nutrition services in order to improve the nutrition status of the Zambian population. The priority programme has two main objectives which are;

Nutrition research, monitoring and evaluation

- Develop a food and nutrition research agenda and protocols to generate evidence based information
- Strengthen a food and nutrition surveillance system
- Facilitate the strengthening of the national multi sector monitoring and evaluation framework

One of the strategic directions in the National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan focuses on research, monitoring and evaluation.

6.2.1 Orange maize feeding trial among pre-school children in Nyimba district

During the year under review, data analysis and dissemination of results of a feeding trial among Zambian children aged 60 to 80 months undertaken in Nyimba district between May 18th May and 4th November 2012 was conducted. The overall objectives of the trial were to determine the vitamin A liver reserves between the orange and white maize group. The trial was conducted in partnership with NFNC, Tropical Diseases Research Centre (TDRC), Harvest Plus and University of Wisconsin. A final report will be finalized and shared with stakeholders in 2014.



6.2.2 Food Consumption and Micronutrient Study

The National Food and Nutritional Commission and the Tropical Diseases Research Centre conducted a Food Consumption and Micronutrient Study in 2012. The overall goal of the Food Consumption and Nutrition Survey was to assess the macro- and micronutrient deficiencies status of the rural populations in Zambia.

During the year under review, data entry, validation and analysis of the study was conducted. The University of Arizona in the USA provided technical assistance during data analysis. The final report and dissemination was planned for 2014.

6.2.3 Research on Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Pregnant women

The survey to determine Iodine deficiency among pregnant women was a follow up on the IDD Impact Survey that was conducted on school children in 2011. It was a collaborative study with Tropical Diseases Research Centre and was technically and financially supported by UNICEF, Zambia Office. The survey involved the collection of urine samples from pregnant women and salt samples from their respective households. This survey took place in 28 districts. The aims of the survey were to; assess iodine status in pregnant women by measuring iodine urinary excretion; estimate the proportion of pregnant women using adequately iodized salt; and assess awareness of pregnant women on iodine deficiency, the existence and benefits of iodized salt. The survey report was planned to be finalized in 2014.

6.2.4 Dissemination of Bio-fortified beans products baseline survey results in Chipata district

As a result of the burden of Zinc and iron deficiency among communities in Chipata district, the NFNC with the partnership of the Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI), Harvest Plus and CIAT developed a programme to support consumption of bio fortified beans. The ZARI have developed varieties of beans that are rich in Zinc and Iron. Before the promotion was commenced the NFNC, undertook a baseline survey to understand the prevailing situation with respect to knowledge, food consumption and nutrition status. The results of this baseline were disseminated in 2013. It is expected that in 2014, the promotion in communities will commence.

6.2.5 Strengthen a food and nutrition surveillance system

All service providers and programmers benefit from having a well-planned, problem- based research agenda that includes routine operations research to monitor trends, to understand behaviors and learn how to keep programmes relevant and effective.

During the year under review, the **National Nutritional Surveillance Programme (NNSP)** implementation strategy was reviewed and a protocol was developed with a new approach **which is sentinel site based**. The main objective of NNSP is to gather, analyze and interpret data about nutritional status and its determinants, to identify populations at risk, target and evaluate interventions, and facilitate action-oriented decisions that improve nutritional status. The NNSP has three specific objectives which are to; aid long-term planning in nutrition and development; provide input for programme management and evaluation; give timely warning of the need for intervention to prevent critical deteriorations in food consumption and Nutrition status. The NNSP will be implemented in 2014 in selected districts.

6.2.6 Facilitate the Strengthening of National Multi sector Monitoring and Evaluation System

In order to strengthen the national multi sector monitoring and evaluation system at all levels of programme coordination and implementation, sub committees on monitoring and nutrition are essential. These committees will be mandated to oversee the monitoring and evaluation aspects of nutrition programmes and will in turn report to the district nutrition development Committee (DNNC).

During the year under review, two national and one district monitoring and evaluation meetings were held. A national level monitoring and evaluation sub – committee and five district level monitoring and evaluation sub committees were established in Chipata, Mongu, Mumbwa Kasama and Zambezi. The established committees at both national and district level comprised of staff from the six government departments from the five Key line ministries.

6.2.7 Establishment of a Functional Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

During the year under review, two technical assistance missions were provided to NFNC on the development of an integrated Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation framework. The World Bank and World Health Organization conducted two technical assistance missions to NFNC. The two missions provided technical support in the development of the draft compendium of indicators for the integrated monitoring and evaluation framework. The World Bank pledged to hire a consultant in 2014 to assist in the development of an integrated nutrition monitoring and evaluation system.

The purpose of integrated monitoring and evaluation is to track progress and performance as a basis for decision-making at various levels in the process of a programme. The framework will also be used to create and maintain an inventory of nutrition activities in the country. Information from the integrated Monitoring and evaluation framework will assist the NFNC in advocacy, policy development and revision, as well as developing recommendations that focus and prioritize nutrition programmes.

6.2.8 Development of Annual Report on Food and Nutrition Situation in Zambia

During the period under review, workshops were held to generate the annual Food and Nutrition Situation report in Zambia for 2012. A draft report was generated and awaits a consensus meeting with stakeholders before finalization and printing in 2014.

The annual report on food and nutrition situation in Zambia emanates from the nutrition monitoring and evaluation framework. The information from the annual food and nutrition situation report in Zambia is designed for advocacy, policy development and revision.

6.2.9 Review of the Performance of NFNC in all programmes

During the year under review, an annual programme and financial performance review and team building meeting was conducted. The aim of the review was have a holistic analysis of the performance of the institution and this involved all NFNC staff. In addition, team building was also conducted in order to improve the coordination and implementation of the programmes.

6.2.10 Technical Supportive Supervision during Child Health Week

During the period under review; two Child Health Weeks were conducted in July and December in all the districts in Zambia. In each of the two rounds, nine districts were monitored by NFNC staff. The national vitamin A supplementation and deworming coverage for the first round was 93% and 91% respectively. The results for the second round are not yet ready since not all the districts had submitted their reports. Data entry was ongoing for the districts that submitted.

6.2.11 Maize Meal fortification under the Home Grown School Feeding

During the year under review, National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC the Ministry of Education Science Vocation and Early Education (MoESVTEE), with support from the World Food Programme Initiated a pilot study on fortified maize flour for the Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP) food basket. This pilot was undertaken in four districts, namely Mkushi, Mumbwa, Siavonga and Masaiti. The pilot was supported by Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) with the following objectives:

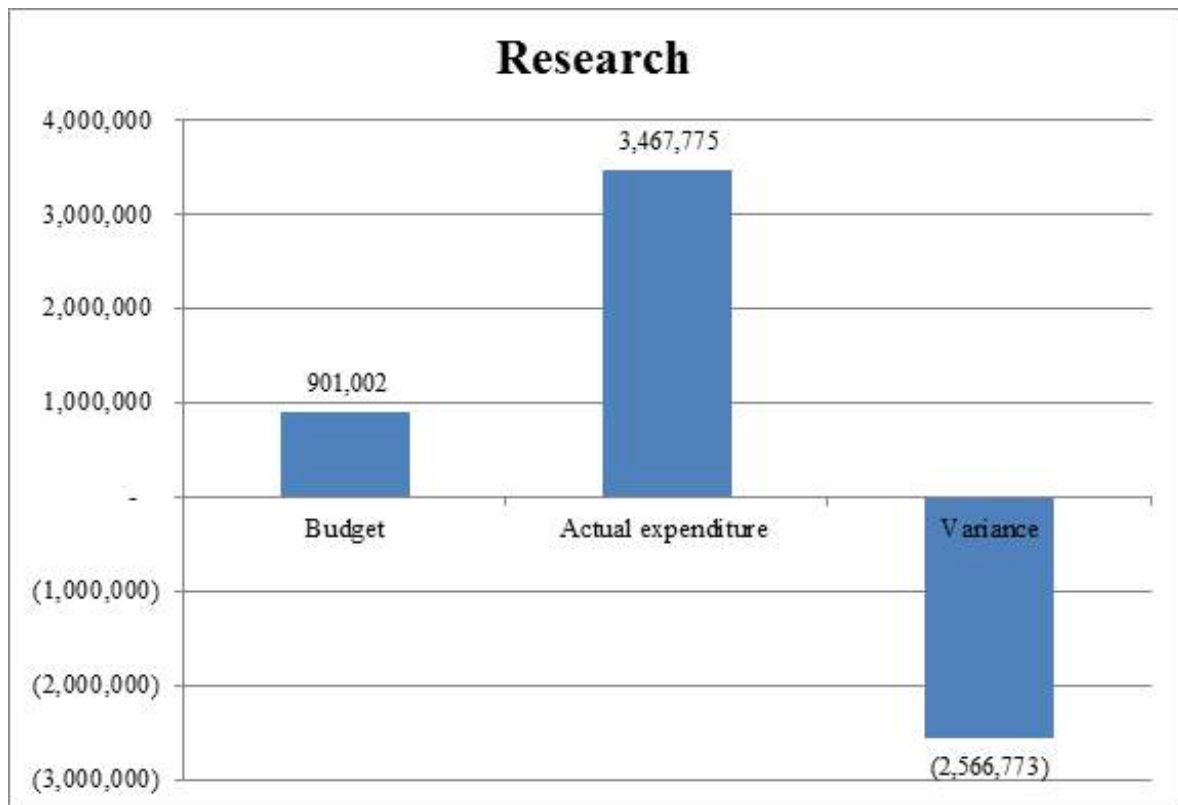
- Capacity building and awareness rising among stakeholders in the four pilot districts and Journalists from various media institutions;
- Procurement of maize flour premix and sample analysis;
- Study to generate baseline information on community acceptability and awareness on use of fortified maize meal in the HGSFP;
- Technical support visits to the districts and schools during the actual implementation and

6.2.12 Evaluation and dissemination of results and the end of the project cycle

Accordingly, during the year under review, community mobilization was undertaken among the School authorities prior to implementation of the programme. Preparations to undertake the baseline survey had reached an advanced stage. The actual survey would be undertaken in 2014.

6.2.13 Research budget performance

The over expenditure seen under research is as a result of external funding that came in to support the implementation of the Orange maize trial in Nyimba and the food consumption and micronutrient study. During the same period the NFNC also received funds to undertake research on Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Pregnant women. These were the main sources of the variance



6.3 Communication and Advocacy

The priority planned activities during the year under review was to implement the communication strategy. The implementation of the strategy was guided by the following objectives:

- Advocate for a higher value of 1000 days among the general public.
- Advocate for support from stakeholders and policy makers in the prevention of stunting in children less than 2 years of age.
- Increase knowledge among communities and other stakeholders in Zambia on the prevention of stunting in children less than 2 years.
- Raise awareness on Institution's existence and functions and create a positive image among stakeholders.
- Enhance documentation and information exchange for the first 1000 MCDP.

6.3.1 Radio and Television

The Production of the 26 weekly series of a 30 minutes' radio programme on national radio (ZNBC 2) called Nutri-scan, was used as a platform to engage various stakeholders on matters of nutrition and also specifically on the 1000 MCDP. This platform was also used to articulate the institution's mandate and activities to the public. Apart from national broadcasts, two specific spots/jingles were developed and these were used during the year to broadcast and inform the various stakeholders



on the importance of the first 1000 most critical days. The two jingles were also translated into Bemba, Lozi, Luvale and Nyanja. Through partnerships with other stakeholders, the Institution was able to make several appearances on both radio and Television to discuss nutrition activities.

6.3.2 Trade Fairs and Commemorations



As part of the creating a higher value of the 1000 days and raising the profile of the institution, the NFNC made appearances at the Intercompany Relay, and annual event that brings together more than 65 companies from around the country. Although this is a Lusaka based activity it provided a good opportunity for the institution to sell itself and to sell the programmes of the institution.

The Institution also participated at the International Trade Fair which is yet another annual event held to show-case the different private and government

activities and programmes. With more than 1000 people passing through the stand from all walks of life, this also provided a lot of exposure to the institution and provided an opportunity to engage with a lot of the clients and stakeholders. Among the most exciting attractions for the stand visitors, was the nutrition counselling, particularly for the adults that was provided to the people who visited the stand.



The institution also participated at both the International Women's Day and Labour Day celebrations.

6.3.3 Production and Distribution of Nutrition education Materials



The Institution managed to produce various materials both as promotional materials and education and communication materials on different subject matters. 1000 copies of expressed breast milk brochure, the Body Mass Index (BMI) Fliers, and 3 Corex Boards. These were distributed during the Shows and to other districts. A further 5000 brochures and 6000 posters on Vitamin A on Child Health Week were produced and distributed around the country with the financial support from CSH.

The development of the Field Workers reference guide continued during the year under review. The content was finalized and the book was pretested among the end users on the Copper belt, Kitwe and Southern Province, Monze. As at the close of the year, the book was awaiting editing.



During the year under review, 3000 copies of a revised version of the institutional brochure were printed. Distribution is on-going.

6.3.4 Communication Support to the Other Programmes

The Institution was part of the team that managed to provide technical backstopping in community mobilization for the research on Micronutrient Powders in Mbala district, Northern Province. The

institution also provided support in pilot testing of the materials that were developed.

Media personnel from Community Radio stations and the national Radio, TV 2 were trained on Home grown School Feeding and Iodine Deficiency Disorders. A total of 15 journalists attended this four day orientation. However, the number of media personnel oriented was not sufficient to enhance increased reporting on nutrition issues.

The Institution spearheaded social mobilization activities prior to the national research on Iodine Deficiency Disorders in various districts of the country in the first part of the year.

As part of advocacy and raising awareness on Iodine Deficiency Disorders to salt traders, sensitization meetings with salt importers, re-packers were conducted in five districts, namely Lusaka, Ndola, Kitwe, Livingstone and Choma. A total of about 119 traders were oriented during these meetings in the last part of the year.

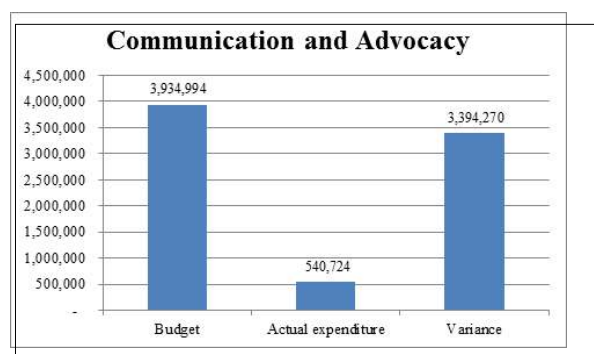
6.3.5 Library – Resource Centre

The library still remains an important arm of the Communication which hosts various Food and Nutrition materials, reports and other documents for the institution. It was planned that we create a resource Centre within the library to enhance access to reference materials; restock the library with some resources materials for use by the staff and other stakeholders. To this effect, such equipment as computer, table and TV set.

However this output had challenges in the implementation in the sense that much of government funding was not adequate to support the purchase of the various resource materials planned. This activity is however ongoing and requires continuous updates.

6.3.6 Nutrition education and advocacy budget performance

The budget performance for nutrition communication and advocacy is indicated below. Although at the planning stage the budget was set. The funds were not released as the source of funds was the Scaling Up Nutrition Pool fund which never became operational during the period under review. Thus budgetary support to the programme area was limited. The **Figure** shows the budget, actual expenditure and variance.



6.4 NFNC's Partnerships

Communication Support for Health

During the year under review, the NFNC worked with the Communication Support for Health (CSH) in several areas. Among them, the development of the communications strategy which was targeted in their operational areas. The institution also provided input into redefining the current 'Your Health matters' Television programme. Further the institution provided input into the revision of a radio series called 'Imiti ikula empanga'.

The First 1000 Days Most Critical Days Programme is branded by a logo which will be used on all print and visual media. The logo, which captures the essence of the Programme was developed with funding from Communication Support for Health.



Civil Society Alliance for Scaling up Nutrition (CSO-SUN)

The institution collaborated on a lot with the CSO- SUN especially on issues to do with advocacy for nutrition. The institution made several joint appearances on the media as a way of raising the profile of nutrition in the country and more so promoting the 1000 Most Critical Days Programme in the country.

Zambia Systems Strengthening Programme (ZISSP)

ZISSP financially supported the Institution to finalize the advocacy policy briefs. The briefs were developed as part of the advocacy efforts to raise the profile of nutrition agenda in the country. ZISSP was also instrumental in providing financial and technical support in the development of the IYCF operational strategy and guidelines, among other areas of support.

HarvestPlus

HarvestPlus continued to support the NFNC on the bio-fortification of crops programme.

UN Systems

The UN systems continued to be a major partner and supported the NFNC on the food consumption survey, IDD survey, among other areas of support. UNICEF was instrumental on these, while the Nutrition baseline survey and nutrition information system through WHO and nutrition technical support through WFP was commendable.

Others

Other partners include CARE International, Concern Worldwide, government departments and other NGOs, Irish AID and DFID, the later who was instrumental in providing support during the preparatory activities for the development of the 1000 MCDP.

7. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

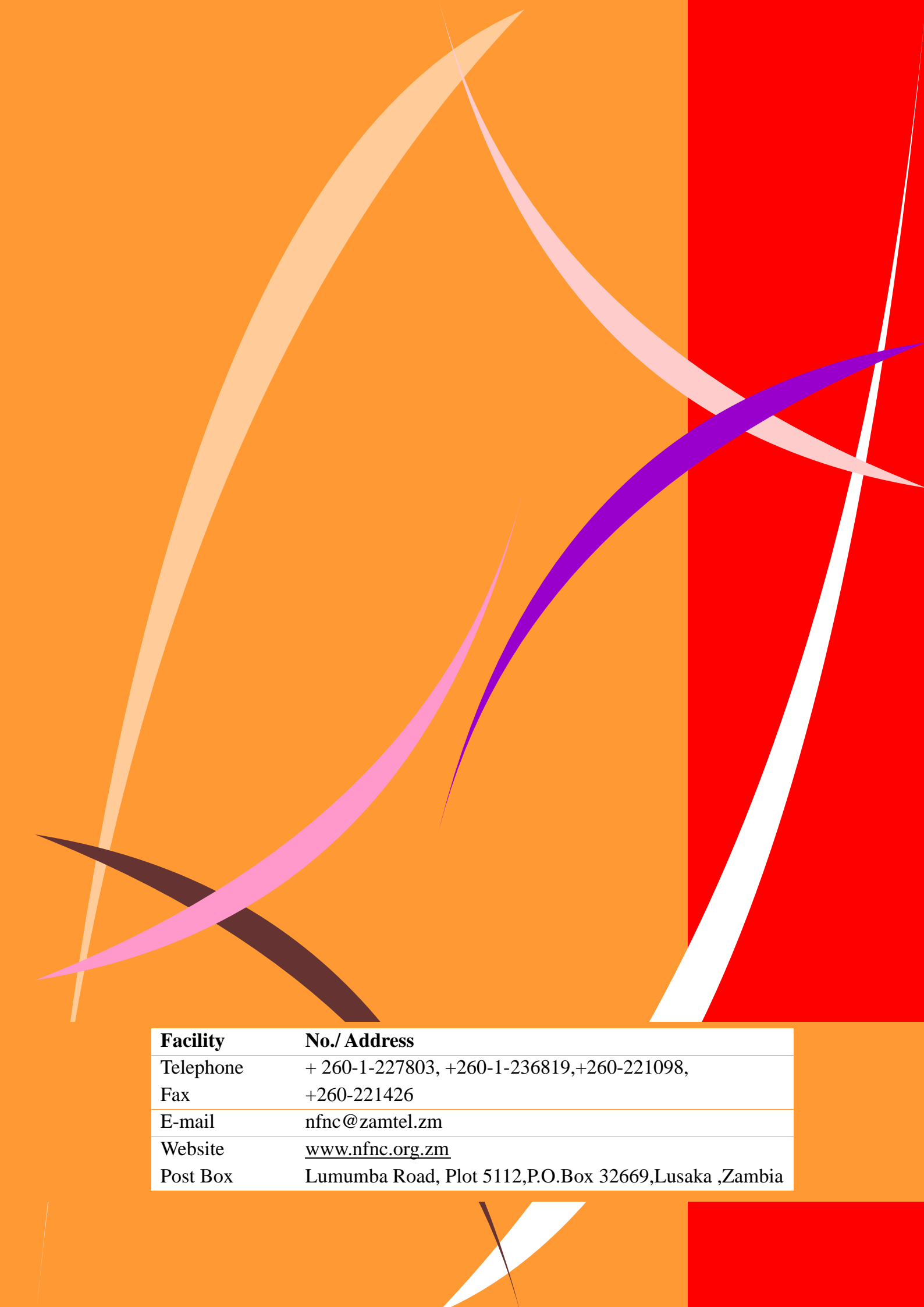
The overall income, expenditure and balance sheet is indicated below

7.1 EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2013

	2013	2012
	K	K
INCOME		
GRZ grants	6 052 452	4 071 560 463
Other	13 534	39 140 870
Project Funds	3 883 703	2 265 790 119
	9 949 689	6 376 491 452
EXPENDITURE		
Personnel emoluments	3 432 848	3 145 306 118
Operating expenses	6 207 131	4 534 732 750
	9 639 979	7 680 038 868
TOTAL	309 710	(1 303 547 416)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		

7.2 BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2013

	2013	2012
ASSETS	K	K
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	3 256 994	3 282 213
Current Assets		
Receivables	726 838	984 057
Cash and Bank	2 565 165	1 903 017
Total Current Assets	3 292 003	2 887 074
Total Assets	6 548 997	6 169 287
 ACCUMULATED FUND AND LIABILITES		
Accumulated fund		
Revenue Reserves	5 268 216	4 389 320
Profit/ (Deficit) for the Year	309 710	878 896
Total Accumulated fund	5 577 926	5 268 216
 Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	971 071	901 071
Total current Liabilities	971 071	901 071
 Total Liabilities	971 071	901 071
Total Accumulated fund & Liabilities	6 548 997	6 169 287



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