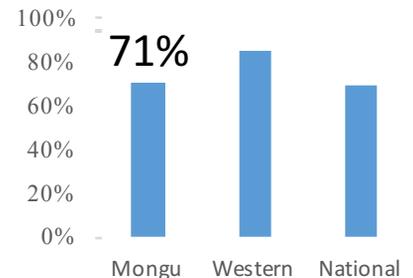
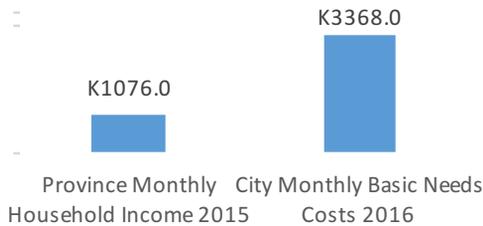
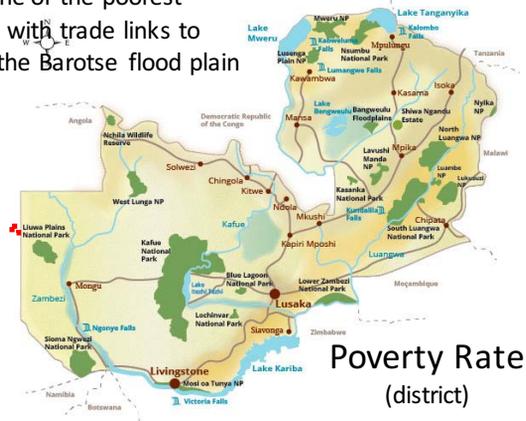
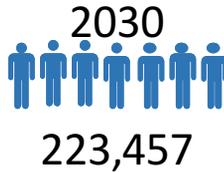
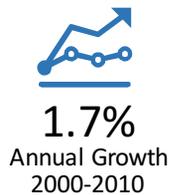
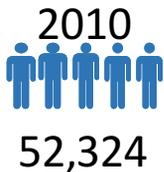


Mongu

Inclusive Urban Economic Development Diagnostic

Mongu municipality is the provincial centre for western Zambia, one of the poorest regions of the country. Mongu's economy is primarily agricultural, with trade links to Angola and Lusaka. There is potential for tourism as a gateway to the Barotse flood plain and Luiwe Plains National Park.



Economy

Mongu District is predominately rural with the majority of employment found in agriculture and fisheries, with potential for growth of the tourism sector.

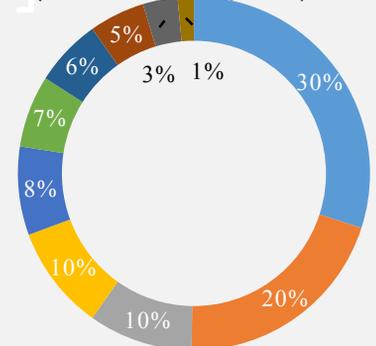
Agriculture: The majority of households farm only at a subsistence level and crop production is threatened by prolonged dry spells, floods and increasing climate variation, leading to high levels of household vulnerability. (See slide on climate and environment challenges and opportunities). Tree crops are highly productive, but an under supply of processing facilities means produce goes unused. Agricultural and fisheries sectors are all under-served by infrastructure, with poor canal maintenance and local roads hampering urban-rural growth and trade.

Manufacturing: Mangos, Cassava, Reeds, Cashew and Timber crops all have potential for processing. Mongu town has a growing number of value addition industries which include:- APG milling, Zambeef, Mongu Cashew company, Mongu joinery, Country Aqua, Country Milling company, Hmm Milling Limited, Kasima Water company, Adastra Fruit Juice and Kasima Mango company. An area 8km from the town has been denoted for Cassava processing.

Retail/Trade: For information on regional and cross-border trade see overleaf. Small retail is a common livelihood for those without agricultural assets.

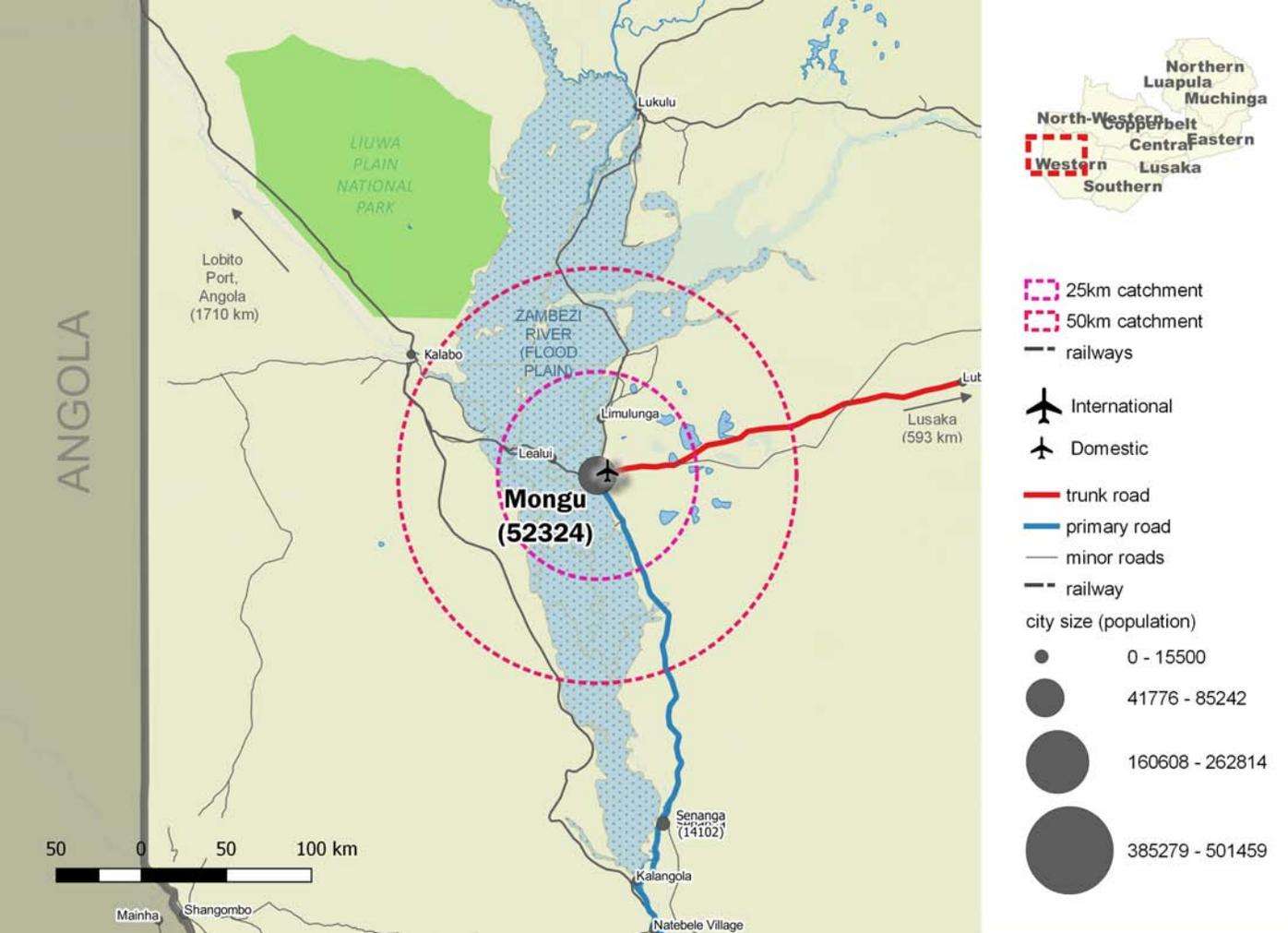
Tourism: There is strong tourism potential in the region, though currently tourism numbers are low. Fishing Safaris, or tours showcasing the wildlife and traditional livelihoods of the Barotse flood plain have potential for expansion. There is potential to grow tourism in Luiwe Plains National Park, home to Africa's second largest wildebeast migration, and growing cheetah population. Park facilities are basic, though but a permanent lodge opened in April 2017.

Employment by sector and type (Western Province, 2008)



- Manufacturing
- Agriculture/Forestry
- Construction
- Social services
- Wholesale/Retail Trade
- Utilities
- Transportation / Storage
- Financial Services
- Hospitality
- Mining

Note: Data for this study has sourced from numerous agencies, and comprises organisational, business and institutional data, and district, provincial and national statistics. Readers should acquaint themselves further with relevant data sources to aid interpretation.



National and Regional Context

National Policy Context

The 7th National Development Plan stresses that there is need to invest in sustainable utilisation of forestry, infrastructure and human development, to increase the productivity of the Province.

The 2017-2021 Mongu District Development Plan sets clear economic, social and infrastructure development priorities. The municipality's principal officer is highly experienced, formerly Director of Planning for Kitwe.

There remain political tensions between the National government and the Barotse Royal Establishment, who do not acknowledge the legitimacy of Zambia's rule in the region and are seeking independence. This has led to civil unrest, damaging economic prospects.. The government has sought to enhance the sense of Mongu as part of a modern Zambia through infrastructure such as the Mongu – Kalabo Road and new stadium

Local and Regional Trade Connectivity

Mongu has 50km of urban, 1200km of feeder road networks, and 3 trunk roads to Lusaka, Senanga, Kalabo and Limulunga. A new tarred road and bridge connecting Mongu to Kalabo and the Angolan border has improved regional connectivity. However the road network is generally poor, constraining growth.

The district's harbour is under ownership of the Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE), and Mongu Kalabo water transport company serves flood plain communities.

Proflight Zambia operates a twice weekly 2.5-hour flight to Kalabo Airstrip from Lusaka International Airport during the operating season for King Lewanika Lodge (late October through to mid July). Mongu Airport is mainly used by the Zambian Air Force and the United Nations to transport Refugees back to Angola. However Mongu's development plan prioritises upgrading of Mongu airport to facilitate larger flights.

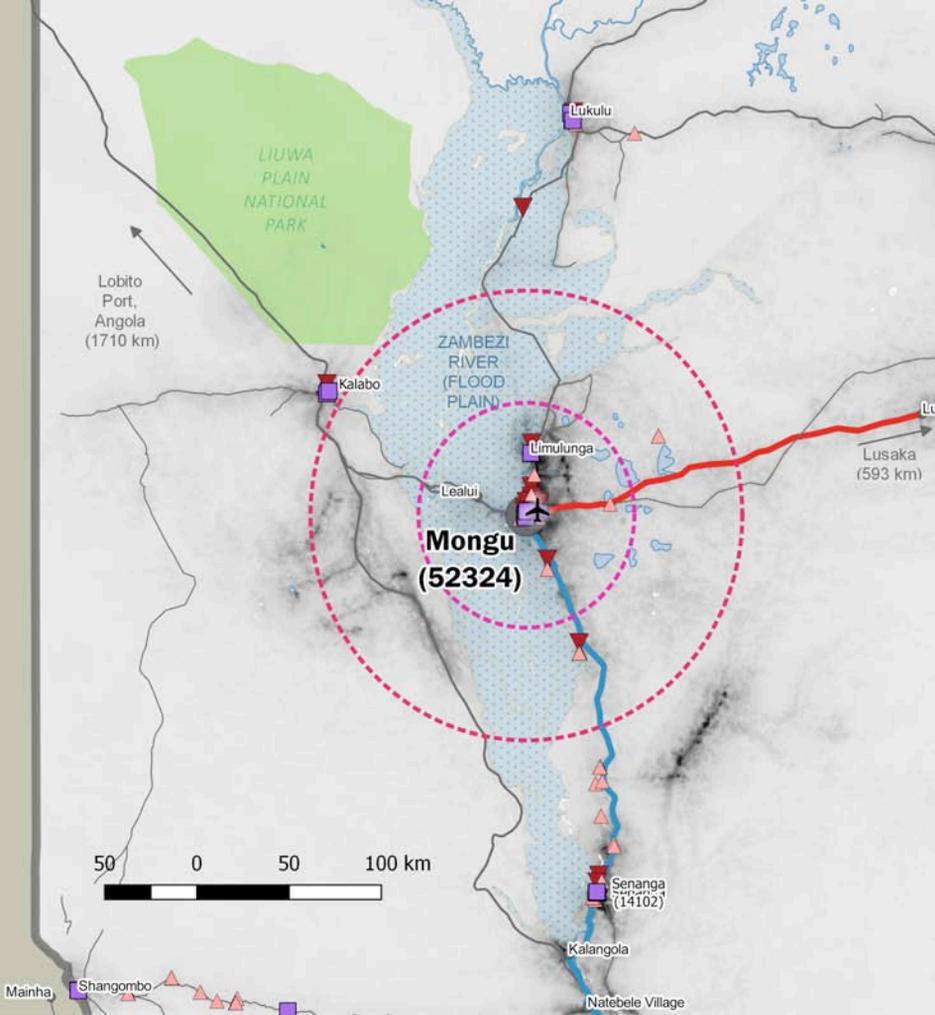
The Urban Region

Mongu town serves as the regional centre for the vast western province, and the Barotse plains. The regions communities are predominantly rural, sited across the regions floodplains, whilst a few small towns provide local services.

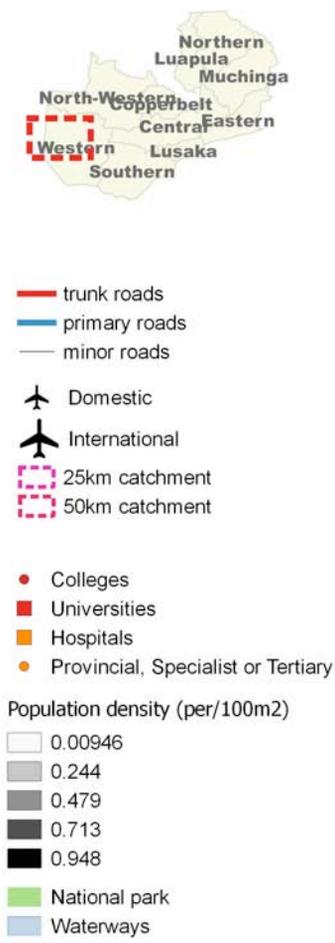
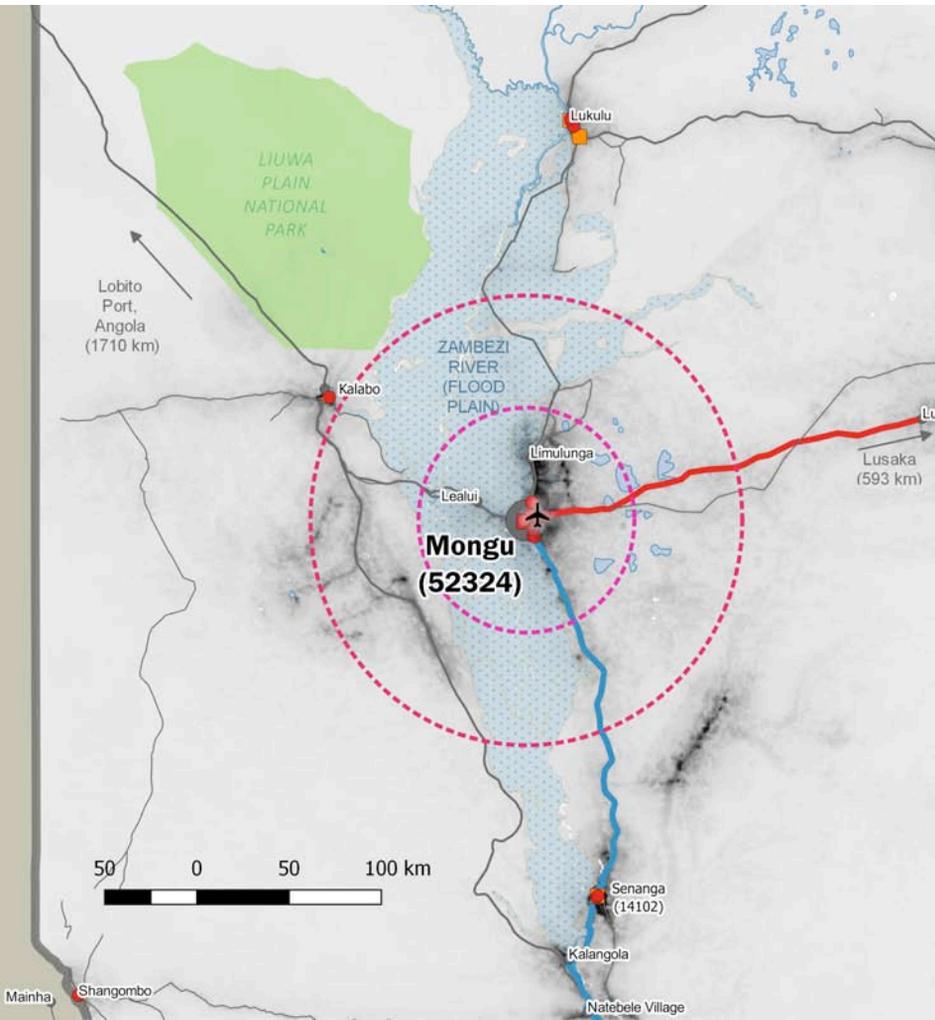
The town of Kalabo 70km from the Angolan border acts as a cross-border trading centre. The new road from Mongu to the town has decreased travel times and costs from 1-day by water (K170) to under two hours by road (K30). Kalabo is consequently growing as an urban centre with wholesalers from Lusaka coming to trade clothes, shoes and Kapenta. There is demand from Angolans for eggs, tomatoes, mealie-meal and super maheiu with sale prices rising 100%.

Senanga town, south of Mongu, has a hotel and good road connectivity, acting as a base for fishing tours, though there are also issues with illegal fishing which are significantly impacting the important breeding grounds of nembwe, tigerfish and slidejaw.

ANGOLA



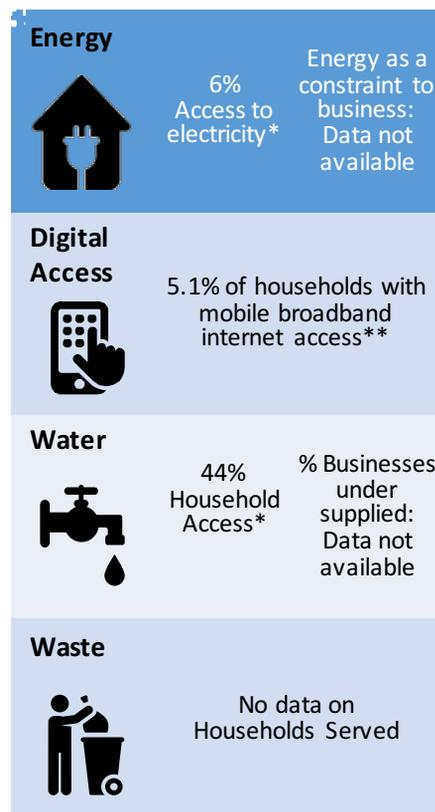
ANGOLA



Mongu - Urban Infrastructure and Services

Key statistics / information:

- **Municipal Finance:** During the period from 2013 to 2015, the Council received grants and generated funds in amounts totaling K25,995,727 (Audit Report). K2.5m is owed in unpaid retirement benefits. Prior to the appointment of the new principal officer in 2017 the council failed to prepare a strategy, financial statements or maintain title deeds. However management appears to be improving.
- **Energy access for households:** 6.3% of households have electricity (compared to 27.9% national average). 97.4% of household use solid fuel for cooking (compared to 87.6% at national level).
- **Energy access for business:** No data available
- **Transport infrastructure:** 2.1% of households own a car compared with 7% nationally. No data on public transport available.
- **Mobile digital connectivity:** 3G data services available only in central Mongu/Kalabo – voice/gsm only services for surrounding communities.
- **WASH to support households/SMEs:** 44.2% of households have access to an improved water source; and 10.6% have access to improved, non-shared toilet facilities, compared with the national averages of 63.4% and 27.3% respectively (North-Western Province - DHS, 2013-14). 13.4% of the population is connected to the sewer network.
- **WASH constraints for business:** No data available.
- **Access to housing and services:** Average number of occupants per room is 3.1 compared with 2.6 nationally.
- **Cost of basic services:** There are 5,142 water connections, of which 55% are metered. Domestic tariffs range from 3.8-7.29 per m³, and commercial from 4.98 to 7.72 – lower than tariffs in Mansa, Luapula.



*Provincial level data used (DHS, 2013)

** 2013 ICT Country Survey Report, ZICTA

Inclusive Growth Opportunities

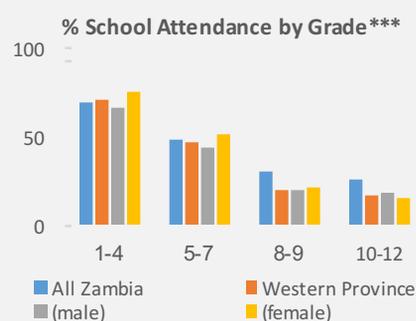
Employment, Skills and Youth Opportunity: Little formal employment opportunity. Youth unemployment high and slightly above national average. Secondary education attendance very low (half of national average). Need to attract investment in agricultural value chains, agro-processing and tourism to create jobs. Attendant investments in education and skills will also be needed to ensure young people are able to benefit from increased economic activity. Potential to use cash for work, or work-intensive road or canal rehabilitation programmes to create jobs and promote skills. Mongu has a trades institution, but there is little information on programmes available.

Women's Economic Empowerment: Women are at significant economic disadvantage due to traditional asset ownership structures, which restrict ability to save, invest and start businesses. However bottom-up livelihoods and climate programming has demonstrated that women-led initiatives are key to driving economic-growth and regional resilience. Any programmes focusing on infrastructure development, or investment promotion should be explicit in ensuring investments create benefit for women in a region where women and particularly young women experience extreme disadvantage.

Poverty: Mongu is extremely poor, with district poverty rates of 71%, approximately 10% less than the provincial rate, but very high for an urban centre. Costs of living in Mongu are also three times the average provincial household, implying that urban residents may find it extremely difficult to access basic services and afford food.

	Western Province	Zambia
Economic Inactivity *	19%	23%
Unemployment*	10%	7.8%
Formal employment*	6%	15%
Informal employment	94%	85%
**Youth Unemployment	56%	53%
**Female youth unemployment	58%	59%

*2013 Labour Survey ** 2008 Labour Survey
*** 2015 Living Conditions Survey





Climate and Environment

Context

Mongu is situated on the Zambesi (Barotse) flood plain, a designated Ramsar site. The site is regarded as being of internationally high conservation value and the majority of potential economic activities for Mongu town inhabitants, and communities in its rural hinterland rely on protecting the flood plain habitat.

Challenges

- **Environmental degradation** around the Ramsar site;
 - Within site, overfishing, riverbank cultivation, canal dredging and wetland poaching all degrade natural resources
 - In the surrounding area, damming of some streams, road construction across the wetland, poaching in the adjacent Game Management Areas, poor agricultural practices (increased clearance and livestock grazing) and settlements and cause environmental damage.
 - Land degradation due to sand mining; infrastructure also affected.
- **Barotse floodplain canals in disrepair** causing waterlogging;
 - Cultivation therefore impossible affecting communities' ability to produce food.
 - Zambia's intricate canal system was built in the mid-1800s for transport and as an adaptive mechanism for the seasonal flood and drought.
 - Since the 1970s, the canals have been in chronic disrepair, unable to cope with flood returns.
 - Where canals have been rehabilitated there have been transformational effects.
- **Poor access to clean water and sanitation** services:
 - Only 21.5 percent of Mongu's population has access to clean and safe water (2008)
 - 69% of the District's population uses the "bush" for sanitation purposes.
 - Water pollution emanates from human encroachment and domestic activities.
 - Other sources include indiscriminate waste disposal and untreated effluent from sewage facilities.
- **Waste management challenges** include:

- Inadequate waste collection services by Mongu Municipal Council (MMC);
- Growth of unplanned settlements in the township;
- Inadequate coordination among stakeholders on waste management;
- Undeveloped landfill for disposal; and
- Lack of adequate disposal options.
- **Unsustainable agricultural practices.**
 - Most farmers in the district use inorganic agricultural inputs (pesticides, fertilizer)
 - grow certain crops only on virgin land (cassava) and poor land preparation through tree cutting
 - removal of all plant material from fields and burning which also leads to bush fires.
- **Negative climate change effects** clearly visible;
 - increase in atmospheric temperature and excessive heat in the plains (Mongu recording high temperatures of 38 degrees Celsius in recent years (MTENR, 2007));
 - floods; prolonged dry spells; reduction in precipitation; unexpected changes in seasons;
 - reduction in food production, food security, water supply, energy and income;
 - increase in diseases (both humans and livestock) including malaria and diarrhoea among humans;
 - extinction of plants, insects, birds and fish;
 - erosion of indigenous cultural social life – periodic suspension of Lozi people annual Kuomboka (to come out of water) ceremony due to insufficient water (Banda et al)

Opportunities

- Best approach to implementation of programmes is grassroots / bottom up given the very traditional way of life of communities.
- Gender issues and traditional festivals / events particularly relevant in addressing climate and environmental challenges. An example is Mbeta Island, where women are taking the lead to improve access to safe water and diversify their income through climate-smart farming. Mbeta Island is surrounded by the Zambezi River and faces increasingly unpredictable floods. The island has seen floods that can turn communities into swamps.

Major Investments

Project	Sector	Value (USD)	Project sponsors	Status
Mongu – Kalabo Road	Transport	287 million	Government of China, Central government	Complete
Cashew Infrastructure Development Project	Agriculture / Agriprocessing	55 million	ADB, Central government	In progress
Mongu Sports Stadium	Urban	31 million	Central government (Ministry of Sport)	In progress
Integrated Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Program	Water	42 million	ADB (loan), Central government	Planned
Hybrid power to support sugar production (in Shangombo – near Mongu)	Energy / agriprocessing	200 million	Central government (Programme Against Discrimination In Communities – PADIC)	Planned
Briquette production programme	Energy / forestry	N/A	CELIM (Centro Laici Italiani per le Missioni)	In progress
Multiple road projects (upgrading / construction)	Transport	100,000-13 million	Central government (Roads Development Authority)	N/A
Milk processing plant	Agriprocessing	150,000	Zambeef	Complete
3x milling plants	Agriprocessing	N/A	HM Milling, APG Milling,	Complete

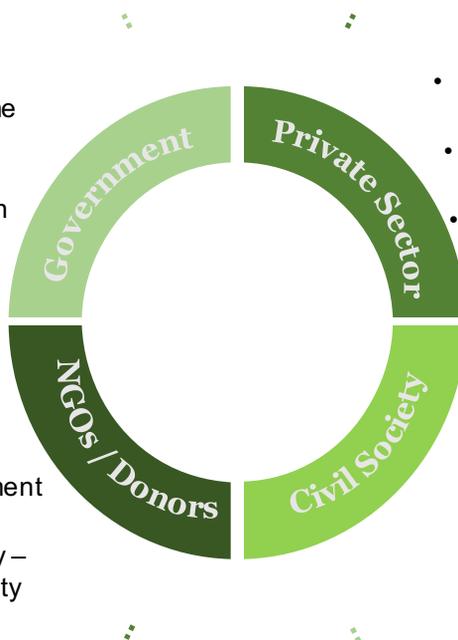
City stakeholders

Government

- Mongu Municipal Council (held by opposition UNPD, the same party as the MP for Mongu Central)
- Central Government, through district commissioner and ministries
- Mongu is aiming to achieve city status

NGOs / Donors

- ADB – supporting water and cashew programmes
- Diocese of Mongu Development Centre
- Danish Development Agency – recently completed community WASH engagement



Private Sector

- Small and subsistence farmers (rice is a key crop)
- Milling companies (HM Milling, APG Milling etc.)
- Retailers (Shoprite, Zambeef)
 - Mongu Joinery Sawmill

Civil Society

- Traditional leaders (Litunga) are highly powerful in Mongu, it is difficult for local government to act without their support
 - Mongu Consumer Watch Group (established by energy regulators to monitor energy industry)

Donor programmes active in city

Programme	Sector	Delivery Agency	Status
Cashew Infrastructure Development Project	Agriprocessing	ADB (loan)	In progress
Integrated Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Program	Water	ADB (loan)	Planned

Multiple national level projects

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